

# Package ‘bayesPO’

October 12, 2022

**Type** Package

**Title** Bayesian Inference for Presence-Only Data

**Version** 0.3.1

**Date** 2021-10-25

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**Description** Presence-Only data is best modelled with a Point Process Model.  
The work of Moreira (2020) provides a way to use exact Bayesian inference to model this type of data, which is implemented in this package.

**License** GPL-3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.2

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0)

**LinkingTo** Rcpp, RcppEigen, RcppProgress

**Imports** Rcpp, coda, parallel, methods, RcppProgress, graphics, stats, tools

**Suggests** bayesplot, knitr, rmarkdown, webshot, ggplot2, MASS

**Collate** 'RcppExports.R' 'bayesPO-package.R' 'prior-class.R'  
'initial-class.R' 'model-class.R' 'fit-class.R' 'bayesPO.R'  
'covariate\_importance-class.R'

**URL** <<http://www.pg.im.ufrj.br/teses/Estatistica/Doutorado/043.pdf>>

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**NeedsCompilation** yes

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**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2021-10-26 13:20:06 UTC

**R topics documented:**

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bayesPO_fit-class	<i>Class for the result of the MCMC procedure.</i>
-------------------	--

---

**Description**

Objects of this class are the main objects of this package. They contain much information about the fitted model.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_fit'
show(object)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_fit'
print(x, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'bayesPO_fit'
print(x, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_fit'
summary(object, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'bayesPO_fit'
summary(object, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_fit'
names(x)
```

```

## S3 method for class 'bayesPO_fit'
names(x)

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_fit'
x[[i]]

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_fit'
x$name

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_fit'
as.array(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'bayesPO_fit'
as.array(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_fit'
as.matrix(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'bayesPO_fit'
as.matrix(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_fit'
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL, optional = FALSE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'bayesPO_fit'
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL, optional = FALSE, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_fit,bayesPO_fit'
e1 + e2

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_fit'
c(x, ...)

```

### Arguments

object	A bayesPO_fit object.
x	A bayesPO_fit object.
...	Ignored in this version.
i	The requested slot.
name	The requested slot.
row.names	NULL or a character vector giving the row names for the data frame. Missing values are not allowed.
optional	logical. If TRUE, setting row names and converting column names to syntactic names is optional. See help('as.data.frame') for more. Leaving as FALSE is recommended.
e1	A bayesPO_fit object.
e2	A bayesPO_fit object with the same slots (except for initial values) as e1.

**Value**

show and print: The invisible object.

summary: A matrix with the summary statistics of the fit. It is also printed in the print method. The summary can be treated as a matrix, such as retrieving rows/columns and creating tables with the xtable package.

names: A character vector with the available options for the '\$' and '[' methods.

'\$' and '[': The requested slot. Available options are not necessarily the class slots, and can be checked with the names method.

as.array: An array with dimensions  $I \times C \times P$ , where  $I$  stands for number of iterations,  $C$  for number of chains and  $P$  for total number of parameters.  $P$  is actually larger than the number of parameters in the model, as the generated sizes of the latent processes and the log-posterior are also included. This is organized so that is ready for the bayesplot package functions.

as.matrix: The dimension of the output is  $I * C \times (P + 2)$ , where  $I$  stands for number of iterations,  $C$  for number of chains and  $P$  for total number of parameters.  $P$  is actually larger than the number of parameters in the model, as the generated sizes of the latent processes and the log-posterior are also included.

Two extra columns are included to indicate to which chain and to which iteration that draw belongs.

as.data.frame: The dimension of the output is  $I * C \times P + 2$ , where  $I$  stands for number of iterations,  $C$  for number of chains and  $P$  for total number of parameters.  $P$  is actually larger than the number of parameters in the model, as the generated sizes of the latent processes and the log-posterior are also included.

Two extra columns are included to indicate to which chain and to which iteration that draw belongs. This is to facilitate the use of plotting results via the ggplot2 package if desired.

If row.names is left at NULL then row names are created as CcIi where  $c$  is the chain and  $i$  is the iteration of that row.

+: A new bayesPO\_fit object where the chains are combined into a new multi-chain object. This can be used if chains are run in separate occasions or computers to combine them into a single object for analysis.

c: A new bayesPO\_fit object where the chains are combined into a new multi-chain object. The + method is used for that, with the same arguments restrictions and results.

**Fields**

fit The actual fit from the model. It is an object of class `mcmc.list`, as generated from the coda package.

original The model used to generate the chains, an object with class `bayesPO_model`.

backgroundSummary A small summary of the original background covariates. This is to ensure that continuing the chains will use the identical background matrix. Only the summary is kept for storage efficiency.

area A positive number indicating the area measure of the region being studied.

parnames The names of the parameters. If the model used selects the covariates with column names, they are replicated here. If they are the column indexes, names are generated for identification.

mcmc\_setup The original mcmc setup used.

**See Also**[fit\\_bayesPO](#)

---

bayesPO\_initial-class *Class for the initial values for the MCMC for the bayesPO package*

---

**Description**

Class for the initial values for the MCMC for the bayesPO package

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_initial'
names(x)

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_initial'
x$name

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_initial,ANY'
e1 + e2

## S4 method for signature 'list,bayesPO_initial'
e1 + e2

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_initial,list'
e1 + e2

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_initial,numeric'
e1 * e2

## S4 method for signature 'numeric,bayesPO_initial'
e1 * e2

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_initial'
show(object)

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_initial'
print(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'bayesPO_initial'
print(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	The bayesPO_initial object.
name	The requested slot.

e1	A bayesPO_initial object.
e2	Another bayesPO_initial object or a list with bayesPO_initial objects for + and a positive integer for *. e1 and e2 can be switched (+ and * are commutative).
object	A bayesPO_initial object.
...	Currently unused.

### Value

names: A character vector with the initialized parameter names.

‘\$’: The requested initial value (in case of LambdaStar) or values (in case of Beta or Delta).

+: A list with the objects. Useful to start the fit\_bayesPO function, as it requires a list of initial values.

\*: A list with e2 random initial values.

show and print: The invisible object.

### Fields

beta Initial values for beta.

delta Initial values for delta.

lambdaStar Initial values for lambdaStar.

tag Indicates the source of the initial values.

---

bayesPO_model	<i>Build a model to be used in the bayesPO fitting function</i>
---------------	---

---

### Description

Constructor for bayesPO\_model-class objects, built to facilitate the use of the fitting function. The output of this function has the necessary signature for the fit\_bayesPO function to start the model fit.

### Usage

```
bayesPO_model(
  po,
  intensitySelection,
  observabilitySelection,
  intensityLink = "logit",
  observabilityLink = "logit",
  initial_values = 1,
  joint_prior = prior(beta = NormalPrior(rep(0, length(intensitySelection) + 1), 10 *
    diag(length(intensitySelection) + 1)), delta = NormalPrior(rep(0,
    length(observabilitySelection) + 1), 10 * diag(length(observabilitySelection) + 1)),
    lambdaStar = GammaPrior(1e-10, 1e-10)),
  verbose = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>po</code>	A matrix whose rows represent the presence-only data and the columns the covariates observed at each position.
<code>intensitySelection</code>	Either a numeric or character vector and represents the selection of covariates used for the intensity set. If numeric it is the positions of the columns and if character, the names of the columns.
<code>observabilitySelection</code>	Either a numeric or character vector and represents the selection of covariates used for the observability set. If numeric it is the positions of the columns and if character, the names of the columns.
<code>intensityLink</code>	A string to inform what link function the model has with respect to the intensity covariates. Current version accepts 'logit'.
<code>observabilityLink</code>	A string to inform what link function the model has with respect to the observability covariates. Current version accepts 'logit'.
<code>initial_values</code>	Either a single integer, a single <code>bayesPO_initial</code> -class or a list containing <code>bayesPO_initial</code> -class objects. The length of the list will inform the model how many independent chains will be run. If an integer, that many initial values will be randomly generated.
<code>joint_prior</code>	A <code>bayesPO_prior</code> object.
<code>verbose</code>	Set to <code>FALSE</code> to suppress all messages to console.

**Value**

A `bayesPO_model` object with the requested slots. It is ready to be used in the `fit_bayesPO` function.

**See Also**

[initial](#), [prior](#) and [fit\\_bayesPO](#).

**Examples**

```
# Let us simulate some data to showcase the creation of the model.
beta <- c(-1, 2)
delta <- c(3, 4)
lambdaStar <- 1000

total_points <- rpois(1, lambdaStar)
random_points <- cbind(runif(total_points), runif(total_points))

# Find covariate values to explain the species occurrence.
# We give them a Gaussian spatial structure.
Z <- MASS::mvrnorm(1, rep(0, total_points), 3 * exp(-as.matrix(dist(random_points)) / 0.2))

# Thin the points by comparing the retaining probabilities with uniforms
# in the log scale to find the occurrences
```

```

occurrences <- log(runif(total_points)) <= -log1p(exp(-beta[1] - beta[2] * Z))
n_occurrences <- sum(occurrences)
occurrences_points <- random_points[occurrences,]
occurrences_Z <- Z[occurrences]

# Find covariate values to explain the observation bias.
# Additionally create a regular grid to plot the covariate later.
W <- MASS::mvrnorm(1, rep(0, n_occurrences), 2 * exp(-as.matrix(dist(occurrences_points)) / 0.3))

# Find the presence-only observations.
po_sightings <- log(runif(n_occurrences)) <= -log1p(exp(-delta[1] - delta[2] * W))
n_po <- sum(po_sightings)
po_points <- occurrences_points[po_sightings, ]
po_Z <- occurrences_Z[po_sightings]
po_W <- W[po_sightings]

# Now we create the model
model <- bayesPO_model(po = cbind(po_Z, po_W),
  intensitySelection = 1, observabilitySelection = 2,
  intensityLink = "logit", observabilityLink = "logit",
  initial_values = 2, joint_prior = prior(
    NormalPrior(rep(0, 2), 10 * diag(2)),
    NormalPrior(rep(0, 2), 10 * diag(2)),
    GammaPrior(1e-4, 1e-4))
# Check how it is.
model

```

---

bayesPO\_model-class    *Class that defines a model for the bayesPO package.*

---

## Description

The model includes the presence-only data, all selected variables, the link functions for  $q$  and  $p$ , the initial values and the prior distribution.

## Usage

```

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_model'
names(x)

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_model'
x$name

## S4 replacement method for signature 'bayesPO_model'
x$name <- value

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_model'
show(object)

```



```
## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_model'
print(x, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'bayesPO_model'
print(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

x	The bayesPO_model object.
name	The requested slot.
value	New value.
object	The bayesPO_model object.
...	Currently unused.

### Value

names: A character vector with possible options for the `\$\$` and `\$\$<-` methods.

`\$`: The requested slot's value.

`\$\$<-`: The new object with the updated slot.

show and print: The invisible object.

### Fields

po The matrix containing the covariates values for the data.

intensityLink A string informing about the chosen link for the intensity covariates. Current acceptable choice is only "logit".

intensitySelection A vector containing the indexes of the selected intensity columns in the po matrix.

observabilityLink A string informing about the chosen link for the observability covariates. Current acceptable choice is only "logit".

observabilitySelection A vector containing the indexes of the selected observability columns in the po matrix.

init A list with objects of class bayesPO\_initial indicating the initial values for each chain. The length of this list tells the program how many chains are requested to be run.

prior An object of class bayesPO\_prior which indicates the joint prior distribution for the model parameters.

iSelectedColumns If the intensity covariates selection was made with the name of the columns, they are stored in this slot.

oSelectedColumns If the observability covariates selection was made with the name of the columns, they are stored in this slot.

### See Also

[bayesPO\\_initial-class](#) and [bayesPO\\_prior-class](#) and [bayesPO\\_model](#)

---

bayesPO\_prior-class     *Joint prior class for the bayesPO package parameters*

---

### Description

Objects of this class are the joining of independent priors for Beta, Delta and LambdaStar. They can be used in the `fit_bayesPO` function.

### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_prior'
names(x)

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_prior'
x$name

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_prior'
show(object)

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_prior'
print(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'bayesPO_prior'
print(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_prior'
x$name

## S4 replacement method for signature 'bayesPO_prior'
x$name <- value
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	The bayesPO_prior object.
<code>name</code>	The requested slot.
<code>object</code>	The bayesPO_prior object.
<code>...</code>	Ignored.
<code>value</code>	New value.

### Value

`names`: A character vector with the model parameters names.  
`‘$’`: The requested slot’s value.  
`‘$<-’`: The new object with the updated slot.

**Fields**

- beta An object of a class which inherits the BetaDeltaPrior S4 class with the appropriate Beta prior.
- delta An object of a class which inherits the BetaDeltaPrior S4 class with the appropriate Delta prior.
- lambdaStar An object of a class which inherits the LambdaStarPrior S4 class with the appropriate LambdaStar prior.

---

BetaDeltaPrior-class *Generic class for the beta and delta parameters.*

---

**Description**

Generic class for the beta and delta parameters.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'BetaDeltaPrior'
show(object)

## S4 method for signature 'BetaDeltaPrior'
print(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'BetaDeltaPrior'
print(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	The BetaDeltaPrior object.
x	The BetaDeltaPrior object.
...	Ignored.

**Value**

show and print: The invisible object.

**Fields**

family The family of distributions of the prior.

---

 covariates\_importance-class

*Class for covariates importance matrices*


---

## Description

Objects of this class is the output of the "covariates\_importance" object from the [bayesPO\\_fit-class](#). It can be plotted which uses the [graphics](#) package. The print method gives a point-wise estimation, the same seen in the `bacplot` method. Both `plot` and `boxplot` methods use the posterior distribution of the importance.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'covariates_importance'
print(x, component = "intensity", ...)

## S3 method for class 'covariates_importance'
plot(
  x,
  component = "intensity",
  y = "importance",
  quantiles = c(0.025, 0.5, 0.975),
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'covariates_importance'
barplot(height, component = "intensity", y, ...)

## S3 method for class 'covariates_importance'
boxplot(x, component = "intensity", ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	The <code>covariates_importance</code> object.
<code>component</code>	Either "intensity", "observability" or "both".
<code>...</code>	Other parameters passed to <a href="#">boxplot</a> .
<code>y</code>	Either "interval" or "density". The former gives vertical credible intervals, and the latter gives separate density plots with the specified quantiles as vertical lines.
<code>quantiles</code>	A 2- or 3-dimensional vector with the desired quantiles specified. If 3-dimensional, the middle point is drawn as a dot when the <code>y</code> parameter is set as "interval".
<code>height</code>	The <code>covariates_importance</code> object.

**Details**

Objects of this class have two matrices where the Monte Carlo samples on the rows and parameters on the columns. One matrix is for the intensity importance and the other for the observability importance.

**Value**

The invisible object.

Nothing is returned. Plot is called and drawn on the configured device.

A barplot. See `barplot` for details. If component is selected as "both", only the second barplot is returned.

A boxplot. See `boxplot` for details. If component is selected as "both", only the second boxplot is returned.

**See Also**

[barplot.](#)

[boxplot.](#)

---

 fit\_bayesPO

---

*Fit presence-only data using a Bayesian Poisson Process model*


---

**Description**

The model uses a data augmentation scheme to avoid performing approximations on the likelihood function.

**Usage**

```
fit_bayesPO(
  object,
  background,
  mcmc_setup = list(iter = 5000),
  verbose = TRUE,
  ...
)

## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_model,matrix'
fit_bayesPO(
  object,
  background,
  mcmc_setup,
  verbose = TRUE,
  area = 1,
  cores = 1,
```

```

    ...
  )

  ## S4 method for signature 'bayesPO_fit,matrix'
  fit_bayesPO(
    object,
    background,
    mcmc_setup = list(iter = object$mcmc_setup$iter),
    verbose = TRUE,
    cores = 1,
    ...
  )

```

### Arguments

object	Either a bayesPO_model or bayesPO_fit object. If a model, then the model is fit according to specifications. If a fit, then the model used to fit the model is recovered and used to continue the MCMC calculations where the previous one left off.
background	A matrix where the rows are the grid cells for the studied region and the columns are the covariates. NAs must be removed. If the function is being used on a bayesPO_fit object, the background must be exactly the same as the one used in the original fit.
mcmc_setup	A list containing iter to inform the model how many iterations are to be run. The list may optionally contain the objects.
verbose	Set to FALSE to suppress all messages to console.
...	Parameters passed on to specific methods. burnin and thin to inform these instructions as well.
area	A positive number with the studied region's area.
cores	Currently unused.

### Details

The background is kept outside of the

### Value

An object of class "bayesPO\_fit".

### See Also

[bayesPO\\_model](#) and [bayesPO\\_fit-class](#).

### Examples

```

# This code is replicated from the vignette.
## Not run:
beta <- c(-1, 2) # Intercept = -1. Only one covariate

```

```

delta <- c(3, 4) # Intercept = 3. Only one covariate
lambdaStar <- 1000

total_points <- rpois(1, lambdaStar)
random_points <- cbind(runif(total_points), runif(total_points))
grid_size <- 50

# Find covariate values to explain the species occurrence.
# We give them a Gaussian spatial structure.
reg_grid <- as.matrix(expand.grid(seq(0, 1, len = grid_size), seq(0, 1, len = grid_size)))
Z <- MASS::mvrnorm(1, rep(0, total_points + grid_size * grid_size),
  3 * exp(-as.matrix(dist(rbind(random_points, reg_grid))) / 0.2))
Z1 <- Z[1:total_points]; Z2 <- Z[-(1:total_points)]

# Thin the points by comparing the retaining probabilities with uniforms
# in the log scale to find the occurrences
occurrences <- log(runif(total_points)) <= -log1p(exp(-beta[1] - beta[2] * Z1))
n_occurrences <- sum(occurrences)
occurrences_points <- random_points[occurrences,]
occurrences_Z <- Z1[occurrences]

# Find covariate values to explain the observation bias.
# Additionally create a regular grid to plot the covariate later.
W <- MASS::mvrnorm(1, rep(0, n_occurrences + grid_size * grid_size),
  2 * exp(-as.matrix(dist(rbind(occurrences_points, reg_grid))) / 0.3))
W1 <- W[1:n_occurrences]; W2 <- W[-(1:n_occurrences)]

# Find the presence-only observations.
po_sightings <- log(runif(n_occurrences)) <= -log1p(exp(-delta[1] - delta[2] * W1))
n_po <- sum(po_sightings)
po_points <- occurrences_points[po_sightings, ]
po_Z <- occurrences_Z[po_sightings]
po_W <- W1[po_sightings]

jointPrior <- prior(
  NormalPrior(rep(0, 2), 10 * diag(2)), # Beta
  NormalPrior(rep(0, 2), 10 * diag(2)), # Delta
  GammaPrior(0.00001, 0.00001) # LambdaStar
)

model <- bayesPO_model(po = cbind(po_Z, po_W),
  intensitySelection = 1, observabilitySelection = 2,
  intensityLink = "logit", observabilityLink = "logit",
  initial_values = 2, joint_prior = jointPrior)

bkg <- cbind(Z2, W2) # Create background

fit <- fit_bayesPO(model, bkg, area = 1, mcmc_setup = list(burnin = 1000, iter = 2000))

summary(fit)

# Rhat upper CI values are above 1.1. More iterations are needed, so...

```

```

fit2 <- fit_bayesP0(fit, bkg, mcmc_setup = list(iter = 10000))

summary(fit2)
mcmc_trace(fit2)
mcmc_dens(fit2)

## End(Not run)

```

---

GammaPrior

*Create a Gamma prior object for model specification.*


---

### Description

Constructor for GammaPrior-class objects

### Usage

```
GammaPrior(shape, rate)
```

### Arguments

shape	A positive number.
rate	A positive number.

### Value

A GammaPrior object with adequate slots.

---

GammaPrior-class

*Gamma prior class for the LambdaStar parameter.*


---

### Description

This is used to represent the prior for lambdaStar individually. It still needs to be joined with the prior for Beta and Delta to be used in a model.

### Usage

```

## S4 method for signature 'GammaPrior'
names(x)

## S4 method for signature 'GammaPrior'
x$name

## S4 replacement method for signature 'GammaPrior'
x$name <- value

```



```
## S4 method for signature 'GammaPrior'
show(object)

## S4 method for signature 'GammaPrior'
print(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'GammaPrior'
print(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

x	The GammaPrior object.
name	The requested slot.
value	New value.
object	The GammaPrior object.
...	Ignored.

### Value

names: A character vector with the prior parameters.

‘\$‘ The requested slot’s value.

‘\$<-‘: The new object with the updated slot.

show and print: The invisible object.

### Fields

shape The shape parameter of the Gamma distribution.

rate The rate parameter of the Gamma distribution.

### See Also

[prior](#)

### Examples

```
GammaPrior(0.0001, 0.0001)
```

---

initial	<i>Initial values constructor for bayesPO modeling</i>
---------	--

---

### Description

Helper function to create a valid set of initial values to be used with the `fit_bayesPO` function.

### Usage

```
initial(  
  beta = numeric(),  
  delta = numeric(),  
  lambdaStar = numeric(),  
  random = FALSE  
)
```

### Arguments

beta	Either a vector or a single integer. The vector is used if the initial values are provided and the integer is used as the vector size to be randomly generated.
delta	Either a vector or a single integer. The vector is used if the initial values are provided and the integer is used as the vector size to be randomly generated.
lambdaStar	A positive number.
random	A logical value. If TRUE, then the initial values are generated from standard normal distribution for beta and delta and from a <code>Beta(lambdaStar, 1)</code> for lambdaStar. The latter is generated as a low value due to potential explosive values resulting from background area scaling.

### Value

A `bayesPO_initial` object. It can be used in the `fit_bayesPO` function by itself, but must be in a list if multiple initial values are supplied. Initial values can be combined by adding them (with the use of '+').

### See Also

[bayesPO\\_initial-class](#).

### Examples

```
# Let us create initial values for a model with, say, 3 intensity covariates  
# and 4 observability covariates. We add an initial values for both these  
# cases due to the intercepts.  
  
# This first one is  
in1 <- initial(rep(0, 4), c(0, 2, -1, -2, 3), 100)
```

```

# Then we initialize some randomly.
in2 <- initial(4, 5, 100, random = TRUE)

# We can even multiply the random one to generate more. Let us join them all
# to include in a model.
initial_values <- in1 + in2 * 3
# 4 chains are initialized.

```

---

LambdaStarPrior-class *Generic class for the LambdaStar parameters.*

---

### Description

Generic class for the LambdaStar parameters.

### Usage

```

## S4 method for signature 'LambdaStarPrior'
show(object)

```

### Arguments

object            The LambdaStarPrior object.

### Value

show and print: The invisible object.

### Fields

family    The family of distributions of the prior.

---

NormalPrior            *Create a Normal prior object for model specification.*

---

### Description

Constructor for NormalPrior-class objects

### Usage

```

NormalPrior(mu, Sigma)

```

### Arguments

mu            The mean vector for the Normal distribution.  
Sigma         The covariance matrix for the Normal distribution.

**Details**

Matrix Sigma must be square and positive definite. Its dimensions must match mu's length.

**Value**

A NormalPrior object with adequate slots.

**See Also**

[prior](#)

**Examples**

```
NormalPrior(rep(0, 10), diag(10) * 10)
```

---

NormalPrior-class      *Normal prior class for Beta and Delta parameters.*

---

**Description**

This is used to represent the prior for Beta and Delta individually. They still need to be joined to be used in a model.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'NormalPrior'
names(x)

## S4 method for signature 'NormalPrior'
x$name

## S4 replacement method for signature 'NormalPrior'
x$name <- value

## S4 method for signature 'NormalPrior'
show(object)

## S4 method for signature 'NormalPrior'
print(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'NormalPrior'
print(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	The NormalPrior object.
name	The requested slot.
value	New value.
object	The NormalPrior object.
...	Ignored.

**Value**

names: A character vector with the prior parameters.  
 '\$ ': The requested slot's value.  
 '\$<- ': The new object with the updated slot.  
 show and print: The invisible object.

**Fields**

mu The mean vector for the prior.  
 Sigma The covariance matrix for the prior.

---

prior

*Build a joint prior for bayesPO model parameters*

---

**Description**

Constructor for bayesPO\_prior objects, which is used in the bayesPO\_fit function. The generated prior is so that Beta, Delta and LambdaStar are independent a priori.

**Usage**

```
prior(beta, delta, lambdaStar)
```

**Arguments**

beta	An S4 object whose class inherits from BetaDeltaPrior.
delta	An S4 object whose class inherits from BetaDeltaPrior.
lambdaStar	An S4 object whose class inherits from LambdaStarPrior.

**Value**

A bayesPO\_prior object with the adequate slots. It is ready to be included in a model via the bayesPO\_model function.

**See Also**

[fit\\_bayesPO](#), [NormalPrior](#), [GammaPrior](#) and [bayesPO\\_model](#).

**Examples**

```
# Let us say there are 3 intensity covariates and 4 observability covariates.  
# One more element is included in both sets due to the intercepts.  
new_prior <- prior(  
  NormalPrior(rep(0, 4), 10 * diag(4)),  
  NormalPrior(rep(0, 5), 10 * diag(5)),  
  GammaPrior(0.0001, 0.0001)  
)
```

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