

# Package: pqrBayes (via r-universe)

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**Type** Package

**Title** Bayesian Penalized Quantile Regression

**Version** 1.0.2

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**Description** The quantile varying coefficient model is robust to data heterogeneity, outliers and heavy-tailed distributions in the response variable due to the check loss function in quantile regression. In addition, it can flexibly model the dynamic pattern of regression coefficients through nonparametric varying coefficient functions. Although high dimensional quantile varying coefficient model has been examined extensively in the frequentist framework, the corresponding Bayesian variable selection methods have rarely been developed. In this package, we have implemented the Gibbs samplers of the penalized Bayesian quantile varying coefficient model with the spike-and-slab priors [Zhou et al.(2023)]<[doi:10.1016/j.csda.2023.107808](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.csda.2023.107808)>. The Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) algorithms of the proposed and alternative models can be efficiently performed by using the package.

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0)

**License** GPL-2

**Encoding** UTF-8

**URL** <https://github.com/cenwu/pqrBayes>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/cenwu/pqrBayes/issues>

**LazyData** true

**Imports** Rcpp,glmnet

**LinkingTo** Rcpp, RcppArmadillo

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.3

**NeedsCompilation** yes

**Repository** <https://cenwu.r-universe.dev>

**RemoteUrl** <https://github.com/cenwu/pqrBayes>

**RemoteRef** HEAD

**RemoteSha** fd4487991ecc8eca3ed525dbbfc33afde479fff7

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pqrBayes-package      *Regularized Bayesian Quantile Varying Coefficient Model*

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## Description

In this package, we implement a Bayesian quantile varying coefficient model for non-linear gene-environment interaction analysis. The varying coefficient functions capture the possible non-linear gene-environment interactions and they are approximated using linear combinations of B-spline basis. Quantile regression is adopted as it's robust to long-tailed distributions in the response/phenotype and provides the capability of describing the relationship between the response variable and predictors at different quantiles of the response variable. The default method (the proposed method) conducts variable selection by accounting for sparsity. In particular, the spike-and-slab priors are adopted to shrink the coefficients of unimportant effects to exactly zero. In addition to the default method, users can also choose the method without spike-and-slab priors.

## Details

The user friendly, integrated interface **pqrBayes()** allows users to flexibly choose the fitting methods by specifying the following parameter:

`sparse`: whether to use the spike-and-slab priors to impose sparsity.

The function `pqrBayes()` returns a `pqrBayes` object that contains the posterior estimates of each coefficients.

## References

- Zhou, F., Ren, J., Ma, S. and Wu, C. (2023). The Bayesian regularized quantile varying coefficient model. *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, 107808 doi:10.1016/j.csda.2023.107808
- Ren, J., Zhou, F., Li, X., Ma, S., Jiang, Y. and Wu, C. (2023). Robust Bayesian variable selection for gene-environment interactions. *Biometrics*, 79(2), 684-694 doi:10.1111/biom.13670
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- Ren, J., Zhou, F., Li, X., Chen, Q., Zhang, H., Ma, S., Jiang, Y. and Wu, C. (2020) Semi-parametric Bayesian variable selection for gene-environment interactions. *Statistics in Medicine*, 39: 617– 638 doi:10.1002/sim.8434
- Ren, J., Zhou, F., Li, X., Wu, C. and Jiang, Y. (2019) spinBayes: Semi-Parametric Gene-Environment Interaction via Bayesian Variable Selection. R package version 0.1.0. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=spinBayes>
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- Wu, C., Zhong, P.S. and Cui, Y. (2013). High dimensional variable selection for gene-environment interactions. *Technical Report. Michigan State University*.

## See Also

[pqrBayes](#)

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data

*simulated data for demonstrating the features of pqrBayes*

---

## Description

Simulated gene expression data for demonstrating the features of pqrBayes.

## Format

The data object consists of five components: g, y, u, e and coeff. coeff contains the true values of parameters used for generating the response variable  $y$ .

## Details

### The model for generating $Y$

Use subscript  $i$  to denote the  $i$ th subject. Let  $(\mathbf{X}_i, Y_i, V_i, \mathbf{E}_i)$ ,  $(i = 1, \dots, n)$  be independent and identically distributed random vectors.  $Y_i$  is a continuous response variable representing the disease phenotype.  $\mathbf{X}_i = (X_{i0}, \dots, X_{ip})^\top$  denotes a  $(1 + p)$ -dimensional vector of predictors (e.g. genetic factors) with the first element  $X_{i0} = 1$ . The environmental factor  $V_i \in \mathbb{R}^1$  is a univariate index variable.  $\mathbf{E}_i = (E_{i1}, \dots, E_{iq})^\top$  is the  $q$ -dimensional vector of clinical covariates. At a given quantile level  $\tau$ , considering the following quantile varying coefficient model:

$$Y_i = \sum_{k=1}^q E_{ik} \beta_{k,\tau} + \sum_{j=0}^p \gamma_{j,\tau}(V_i) X_{ij} + \epsilon_{i,\tau},$$

where  $\beta_{k,\tau}$ 's are the regression coefficients for the clinical covariates and  $\gamma_{j,\tau}(\cdot)$ 's are unknown smooth varying-coefficient functions. The regression coefficients of  $\mathbf{X}$  vary with the univariate index variable  $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)^\top$ . The  $\epsilon_{i,\tau}$  is the random error. For simplicity of notation, the quantile level  $\tau$  has been suppressed hereafter.

The true model that we used to generate  $Y$ :

$$Y_i = \gamma_0(v_i) + \gamma_1(v_i)X_{i1} + \gamma_2(v_i)X_{i2} + \gamma_3(v_i)X_{i3} + \epsilon_i,$$

where  $\epsilon_i \sim N(0, 1)$ ,  $\gamma_0 = 1.5 \sin(0.2\pi * v_i)$ ,  $\gamma_1 = 2 \exp(0.2v_i - 1) - 1.5$ ,  $\gamma_2 = 2 - 2v_i$  and  $\gamma_3 = -4 + (v_i - 2)^3/6$ .

## See Also

[pqrBayes](#)

## Examples

```
data(data)
g=data$g
dim(g)
coeff=data$coeff
print(coeff)
```

---

pqrBayes

*fit a regularized Bayesian quantile varying coefficient model*

---

## Description

fit a regularized Bayesian quantile varying coefficient model

**Usage**

```
pqrBayes(
  g,
  y,
  u,
  e = NULL,
  quant = 0.5,
  iterations = 10000,
  kn = 2,
  degree = 2,
  sparse = TRUE,
  hyper = NULL,
  debugging = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>g</code>	the matrix of predictors (subject to selection) without intercept.
<code>y</code>	the response variable. The current version only supports the continuous response.
<code>u</code>	a vector of effect modifying variable of the quantile varying coefficient model.
<code>e</code>	a matrix of clinical covariates not subject to selection.
<code>quant</code>	the quantile level specified by users. The default value is 0.5.
<code>iterations</code>	the number of MCMC iterations.
<code>kn</code>	the number of interior knots for B-spline.
<code>degree</code>	the degree of B-spline basis.
<code>sparse</code>	logical flag. If TRUE, spike-and-slab priors will be used to shrink coefficients of irrelevant covariates to zero exactly.
<code>hyper</code>	a named list of hyperparameters.
<code>debugging</code>	logical flag. If TRUE, progress will be output to the console and extra information will be returned.

**Details**

The model described in "data" is:

$$Y_i = \sum_{k=1}^q E_{ik} \beta_k + \sum_{j=0}^p \gamma_j(V_i) X_{ij} + \epsilon_i,$$

where  $\beta_k$ 's are the regression coefficients for the clinical covariates and  $\gamma_j$ 's are the varying coefficients for the intercept and predictors (e.g. genetic factors).

When `sparse=TRUE` (default), spike-and-slab priors are adopted. Otherwise, Laplacian shrinkage will be used. Users can modify the hyper-parameters by providing a named list of hyper-parameters via the argument 'hyper'. The list can have the following named components

- `a0`, `b0`: shape parameters of the Beta priors  $(\pi^{a_0-1}(1-\pi)^{b_0-1})$  on  $\pi_0$ .

- c1, c2: the shape parameter and the rate parameter of the Gamma prior on  $\nu$ .

Please check the references for more details about the prior distributions.

### Value

an object of class "pqrBayes" is returned, which is a list with components:

posterior	posterior samples from the MCMC
coefficients	a list of posterior estimates of coefficients

### References

Zhou, F., Ren, J., Ma, S. and Wu, C. (2023). The Bayesian regularized quantile varying coefficient model. *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, 107808 doi:[10.1016/j.csda.2023.107808](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.csda.2023.107808)

Ren, J., Zhou, F., Li, X., Ma, S., Jiang, Y. and Wu, C. (2023). Robust Bayesian variable selection for gene-environment interactions. *Biometrics*, 79(2), 684-694 doi:[10.1111/biom.13670](https://doi.org/10.1111/biom.13670)

Ren, J., Zhou, F., Li, X., Chen, Q., Zhang, H., Ma, S., Jiang, Y. and Wu, C. (2020) Semi-parametric Bayesian variable selection for gene-environment interactions. *Statistics in Medicine*, 39: 617– 638 doi:[10.1002/sim.8434](https://doi.org/10.1002/sim.8434)

### Examples

```
data(data)
g=data$g
y=data$y
u=data$u
e=data$e

## default method
fit1=pqrBayes(g,y,u,e,quant=0.5)
fit1

## non-sparse
sparse=FALSE
fit2=pqrBayes(g,y,u,e,quant=0.5,sparse = sparse)
fit2
```

---

predict.pqrBayes      *make predictions from a pqrBayes object*

---

### Description

make predictions from a pqrBayes object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'pqrBayes'
predict(
  object,
  g.new,
  u.new,
  e.new = NULL,
  y.new = NULL,
  quant = 0.5,
  kn = 2,
  degree = 2,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

object	pqrBayes object.
g.new	a matrix of new predictors (e.g. genetic factors) at which predictions are to be made.
u.new	a vector of new environmental factor at which predictions are to be made.
e.new	a vector or matrix of new clinic covariates at which predictions are to be made.
y.new	a vector of the response of new observations. If provided, the prediction error will be computed based on Y.new.
quant	the quantile for the response variable. The default is 0.5.
kn	the number of interior knots for B-spline.
degree	the degree of B-spline basis.
...	other predict arguments

**Details**

g.new (u.new) must have the same number of columns as g (u) used for fitting the model. By default, the clinic covariates are NULL unless provided. The predictions are made based on the posterior estimates of coefficients in the pqrBayes object.

If y.new is provided, the prediction error will be computed based on the check loss.

**Value**

an object of class 'pqrBayes.pred' is returned, which is a list with components:

error	prediction error. error is NULL if y.new=NULL.
y.pred	predicted values of the new observations.

**See Also**

[pqrBayes](#)

print.pqrBayes      *print a pqrBayes result*

---

### Description

Print a pqrBayes result

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'pqrBayes'  
print(x, digits = max(3, getOption("digits") - 3), ...)
```

### Arguments

x	pqrBayes result
digits	significant digits in printout.
...	other print arguments

### Value

No return value, called for side effects.

### See Also

[pqrBayes](#)

---

print.pqrBayes.pred      *print a pqrBayes.pred object*

---

### Description

Print a summary of a pqrBayes.pred object

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'pqrBayes.pred'  
print(x, digits = max(3, getOption("digits") - 3), ...)
```

### Arguments

x	pqrBayes.pred object.
digits	significant digits in printout.
...	other print arguments



**Value**

No return value, called for side effects.

**See Also**

[predict.pqrBayes](#)

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<code>print.VCselect</code>	<i>print a select.VC object</i>
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**Description**

Print a summary of a `select.VC` object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'VCselect'  
print(x, digits = max(3, getOption("digits") - 3), ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	VCselect object.
<code>digits</code>	significant digits in printout.
<code>...</code>	other print arguments

**Value**

No return value, called for side effects.

**See Also**

[VCselect](#)

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<code>VCselect</code>	<i>Variable selection for a pqrBayes object</i>
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**Description**

Variable selection for a `pqrBayes` object

**Usage**

```
VCselect(obj, sparse, iterations = 10000, kn = 2, degree = 2)
```

**Arguments**

obj	pqrBayes object.
sparse	logical flag.
iterations	the number of MCMC iterations.
kn	the number of interior knots for B-spline.
degree	the degree of B-spline basis.

**Details**

For class ‘Sparse’, the median probability model (MPM) (Barbieri and Berger, 2004) is used to identify predictors that are significantly associated with the response variable. For class ‘NonSparse’, variable selection is based on 95% credible interval. Please check the references for more details about the variable selection.

**Value**

an object of class ‘VCselect’ is returned, which includes the indices of the selected predictors (e.g. genetic factors).

**References**

- Ren, J., Zhou, F., Li, X., Ma, S., Jiang, Y. and Wu, C. (2022). Robust Bayesian variable selection for gene-environment interactions. *Biometrics*, (in press) doi:[10.1111/biom.13670](https://doi.org/10.1111/biom.13670)
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**See Also**

[pqrBayes](#)

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