

Package ‘spatialAtomizeR’

March 24, 2026

Type Package

Title Spatial Analysis with Misaligned Data Using Atom-Based Regression Models

Version 0.2.8

Date 2026-03-24

Description Implements atom-based regression models (ABRM) for analyzing spatially misaligned data. Provides functions for simulating misaligned spatial data, preparing NIMBLE model inputs, running MCMC diagnostics, and providing results. All main functions return S3 objects with print(), summary(), and plot() methods for intuitive result exploration. Methods originally described in Mugglin et al. (2000) <doi:10.1080/01621459.2000.10474279>, further investigated in Trevisani & Gelfand (2013), and applied in Nethery et al. (2023) <doi:10.1101/2023.01.10.23284410>.

License MIT + file LICENSE

Encoding UTF-8

Depends R (>= 4.0.0)

Imports nimble, sp, sf, spdep, MASS, dplyr, tidyr, ggplot2, reshape2, coda, BiasedUrn, stats, utils, grDevices, methods, raster

Suggests testthat (>= 3.0.0), knitr, rmarkdown, tigris

VignetteBuilder knitr

URL <https://github.com/bellayqian/spatialAtomizeR>

BugReports <https://github.com/bellayqian/spatialAtomizeR/issues>

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

NeedsCompilation no

Author Yunzhe Qian [aut, cre],
Rachel Nethery [aut],
Nancy Krieger [ctb] (Contributed to the project conceptualization and manuscript),
Nykesha Johnson [ctb] (Contributed to the project conceptualization and manuscript)

Maintainer Yunzhe Qian <qyzanemos@gmail.com>
Repository CRAN
Date/Publication 2026-03-24 20:10:03 UTC

Contents

coef.abrm	2
confint.abrm	3
fitted.abrm	4
get_abrm_model	5
plot.abrm	6
plot.misaligned_data	7
print.abrm	8
print.misaligned_data	10
print.summary.abrm	10
print.vcov.abrm	11
print.waic_abrm	12
run_abrm	13
run_nimble_model	16
simulate_misaligned_data	17
summary.abrm	19
summary.misaligned_data	20
vcov.abrm	21
waic	23
waic.abrm	23
Index	26

coef.abrm	<i>Extract Coefficients from ABRM Objects</i>
-----------	---

Description

Returns the posterior mean estimates for all regression coefficients as a named numeric vector.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'abrm'  
coef(object, ...)
```

Arguments

- object An object of class "abrm" returned by [run_abrm](#).
- ... Additional arguments (currently unused).

Value

A named numeric vector of posterior mean estimates. Names correspond to parameter labels (e.g., "beta_x[1]", "beta_y[1]", "beta_0_y").

Examples

```
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1, dist_covariates_x = "normal", dist_covariates_y = "normal",
  dist_y = "normal", x_intercepts = 0, y_intercepts = 0,
  beta0_y = 0, beta_x = 0.1, beta_y = -0.1
)
results <- run_abrm(
  gridx = sim_data$gridx, gridy = sim_data$gridy, atoms = sim_data$atoms,
  model_code = get_abrm_model(), norm_idx_x = 1, norm_idx_y = 1,
  dist_y = 1, niter = 1000, nburnin = 500, nchains = 2, seed = 1,
  save_plots = FALSE
)
coef(results)
```

 confint.abrm

Credible Intervals for ABRM Objects

Description

Returns the 95% posterior credible intervals for all estimated parameters. Note: these are Bayesian credible intervals from MCMC quantiles, not frequentist confidence intervals.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'abrm'
confint(object, parm = NULL, level = 0.95, ...)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class "abrm" returned by run_abrm .
parm	Optional character vector of parameter names to subset. If NULL (default), all parameters are returned.
level	Confidence level for the credible interval (default 0.95). When level = 0.95 (the default), the pre-computed 95% intervals stored during model fitting are returned directly. For other levels, intervals are recomputed from the raw MCMC posterior samples.
...	Additional arguments (currently unused).

Value

A matrix with two columns, CI.Lower and CI.Upper, and one row per parameter.

Examples

```
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1, dist_covariates_x = "normal", dist_covariates_y = "normal",
  dist_y = "normal", x_intercepts = 0, y_intercepts = 0,
  beta0_y = 0, beta_x = 0.1, beta_y = -0.1
)
results <- run_abrm(
  gridx = sim_data$gridx, gridy = sim_data$gridy, atoms = sim_data$atoms,
  model_code = get_abrm_model(), norm_idx_x = 1, norm_idx_y = 1,
  dist_y = 1, niter = 1000, nburnin = 500, nchains = 2, seed = 1,
  save_plots = FALSE
)
confint(results)
confint(results, parm = "beta_x[1]")
```

fitted.abrm

Fitted Values for ABRM Objects

Description

Computes posterior-mean fitted values at the Y-grid level by applying the estimated regression coefficients to the supplied covariate data.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'abrm'
fitted(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class "abrm" returned by run_abrm .
...	Additional arguments (currently unused).

Value

A data frame with one row per Y-grid cell and four columns:

`y_grid_id` The original Y-grid cell ID.

`observed` The observed outcome value y for each Y-grid cell. Note: the outcome is observed at the Y-grid level for all cells. This is distinct from covariates, which may be *latent* (unobserved at the Y-grid level) for cells that span multiple atoms.

`fitted` The model-predicted outcome on the original outcome scale (counts for Poisson/binomial; continuous for normal).

`residual` Observed minus fitted.

Examples

```
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1, dist_covariates_x = "normal", dist_covariates_y = "normal",
  dist_y = "normal", x_intercepts = 0, y_intercepts = 0,
  beta0_y = 0, beta_x = 0.1, beta_y = -0.1
)
results <- run_abrm(
  gridx = sim_data$gridx, gridy = sim_data$gridy, atoms = sim_data$atoms,
  model_code = get_abrm_model(), norm_idx_x = 1, norm_idx_y = 1,
  dist_y = 1, niter = 1000, nburnin = 500, nchains = 2, seed = 1,
  save_plots = FALSE
)
fitted(results)
```

`get_abrm_model`*Get ABRM Model Code for NIMBLE*

Description

Returns the NIMBLE code for the Atom-Based Regression Model with mixed-type variables. Automatically registers custom distributions if not already registered.

Usage

```
get_abrm_model()
```

Value

A `nimbleCode` object containing the NIMBLE model specification for the ABRM. Pass this directly to `run_abrm`.

Examples

```
model_code <- get_abrm_model()
print(model_code)
```

plot.abrm

*Plot Method for ABRM Objects***Description**

Displays MCMC diagnostic plots — trace plots and posterior density plots — for the parameters monitored during model fitting. If no diagnostic plots are stored in the object, a message is issued instead.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'abrm'
plot(x, ...)
```

Arguments

x An object of class "abrm" returned by [run_abrm](#).
... Additional arguments (currently unused).

Value

Invisibly returns x. Called for its side effect of rendering the MCMC diagnostic plots.

Examples

```
## Step 1: Simulate misaligned spatial data
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1,
  dist_covariates_x = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_covariates_y = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_y = "poisson",
  x_intercepts = c(0, -1),
  y_intercepts = c(0, -1),
  beta0_y = -1,
  beta_x = c(0.1, -0.05),
  beta_y = c(-0.1, 0.05)
)

## Step 2: Retrieve the NIMBLE model code
model_code <- get_abrm_model()

## Step 3: Fit the ABRM
results <- run_abrm(
  gridx = sim_data$gridx,
  gridy = sim_data$gridy,
  atoms = sim_data$atoms,
  model_code = model_code,
  true_params = sim_data$true_params,
  norm_idx_x = 1,
```

```

    pois_idx_x = 2,
    norm_idx_y = 1,
    pois_idx_y = 2,
    dist_y     = 2,
    niter      = 1000,
    nburnin    = 500,
    nchains    = 2,
    seed       = 1,
    save_plots = FALSE
  )

  ## Step 4: Display MCMC trace and posterior density plots
  plot(results)

```

plot.misaligned_data *Plot Misaligned Data Object*

Description

Visualizes the spatial layout of a misaligned_data object. By default, both grids are overlaid to illustrate the misalignment between them.

Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'misaligned_data'
plot(
  x,
  which = c("both", "gridy", "gridx", "atoms"),
  color_y = "blue",
  color_x = "orange",
  title = NULL,
  ...
)

```

Arguments

x	A misaligned_data object.
which	Character string specifying what to plot. One of "both" (default), "gridy", "gridx", or "atoms".
color_y	Color for the Y-grid boundaries. Default "blue".
color_x	Color for the X-grid boundaries. Default "orange".
title	Optional character string for the plot title. If NULL, a default title is used.
...	Additional arguments passed to ggplot2::geom_sf() when which is not "both".

Value

The input x, invisibly.

Examples

```
## Simulate misaligned spatial data
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1,
  dist_covariates_x = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_covariates_y = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_y = "poisson",
  x_intercepts = c(0, -1),
  y_intercepts = c(0, -1),
  beta0_y = -1,
  beta_x = c(0.1, -0.05),
  beta_y = c(-0.1, 0.05)
)
# Default: overlay both grids to visualise misalignment
plot(sim_data)

# Plot a single component
plot(sim_data, which = "gridy")
plot(sim_data, which = "gridx")
plot(sim_data, which = "atoms")

# Custom colours
plot(sim_data, color_y = "steelblue", color_x = "firebrick")

# Custom title
plot(sim_data, title = "Utah Spatial Misalignment")
```

print.abrm

Print Method for ABRM Objects

Description

Prints a concise summary of a fitted ABRM, including the number of parameters estimated and, when true parameter values are available, the mean absolute bias and 95% credible-interval coverage rate.

Usage

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

Arguments

x	An abrm object
...	Additional arguments (unused)

Value

Invisibly returns `x`. Called for its side effect of printing a concise ABRM model summary including number of parameters, mean absolute bias, and credible-interval coverage rate (when true parameter values are available).

Examples

```
## Step 1: Simulate misaligned spatial data
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed          = 1,
  dist_covariates_x = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_covariates_y = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_y         = "poisson",
  x_intercepts    = c(0, -1),
  y_intercepts    = c(0, -1),
  beta0_y         = -1,
  beta_x          = c(0.1, -0.05),
  beta_y          = c(-0.1, 0.05)
)

## Step 2: Retrieve the NIMBLE model code
model_code <- get_abrm_model()

## Step 3: Fit the ABRM
## (niter and nburnin are intentionally small for illustration only;
## use larger values, e.g. niter = 50000, nburnin = 30000, in practice)
results <- run_abrm(
  gridx      = sim_data$gridx,
  gridy      = sim_data$gridy,
  atoms      = sim_data$atoms,
  model_code  = model_code,
  true_params = sim_data$true_params,
  norm_idx_x = 1,
  pois_idx_x = 2,
  norm_idx_y = 1,
  pois_idx_y = 2,
  dist_y     = 2,
  niter      = 1000,
  nburnin    = 500,
  nchains    = 2,
  seed       = 1,
  save_plots = FALSE
)

## Step 4: Print a concise model summary
print(results)
# Reports: number of parameters, mean absolute bias, coverage rate
```

print.misaligned_data *Print Method for Misaligned Data Objects*

Description

Print Method for Misaligned Data Objects

Usage

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

Arguments

x	A misaligned_data object
...	Additional arguments (unused)

Value

Invisibly returns the input object x. The function is called for its side effect of printing a summary of the simulated misaligned spatial data including grid dimensions and number of atoms.

Examples

```
## Simulate misaligned spatial data
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1,
  dist_covariates_x = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_covariates_y = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_y = "poisson",
  x_intercepts = c(0, -1),
  y_intercepts = c(0, -1),
  beta0_y = -1,
  beta_x = c(0.1, -0.05),
  beta_y = c(-0.1, 0.05)
)
print(sim_data)
```

print.summary.abrm *Print Method for summary.abrm Objects*

Description

Prints the full parameter table from a [summary.abrm](#) object, including posterior means, standard deviations, credible intervals, and (when available) bias and coverage.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.abrm'
print(x, digits = 4, ...)
```

Arguments

x An object of class "summary.abrm" returned by [summary.abrm](#).
digits Integer; number of significant digits. Default 4.
... Additional arguments (currently unused).

Value

Invisibly returns x.

Examples

```
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1, dist_covariates_x = "normal", dist_covariates_y = "normal",
  dist_y = "normal", x_intercepts = 0, y_intercepts = 0,
  beta0_y = 0, beta_x = 0.1, beta_y = -0.1
)
results <- run_abrm(
  gridx = sim_data$gridx, gridy = sim_data$gridy, atoms = sim_data$atoms,
  model_code = get_abrm_model(), norm_idx_x = 1, norm_idx_y = 1,
  dist_y = 1, niter = 1000, nburnin = 500, nchains = 2, seed = 1,
  save_plots = FALSE
)
s <- summary(results)
print(s) # same as typing summary(results) interactively
print(s, digits = 2) # fewer decimal places
```

print.vcov.abrm

Print Method for vcov.abrm Objects

Description

Prints all variance-covariance matrices stored in a "vcov.abrm" object returned by [vcov.abrm](#).

Usage

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

Arguments

x An object of class "vcov.abrm".
... Additional arguments (currently unused).

Value

Invisibly returns `x`. Called for its side effect of printing the intercept variance and the X-grid and Y-grid covariance matrices.

Examples

```
## Step 1: Simulate misaligned spatial data
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1,
  dist_covariates_x = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_covariates_y = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_y = "poisson",
  x_intercepts = c(0, -1),
  y_intercepts = c(0, -1),
  beta0_y = -1,
  beta_x = c(0.1, -0.05),
  beta_y = c(-0.1, 0.05)
)

## Step 2: Retrieve the NIMBLE model code
model_code <- get_abrm_model()

## Step 3: Fit the ABRM
results <- run_abrm(
  gridx = sim_data$gridx,
  gridy = sim_data$gridy,
  atoms = sim_data$atoms,
  model_code = model_code,
  true_params = sim_data$true_params,
  norm_idx_x = 1,
  pois_idx_x = 2,
  norm_idx_y = 1,
  pois_idx_y = 2,
  dist_y = 2,
  niter = 1000,
  nburnin = 500,
  nchains = 2,
  seed = 1,
  save_plots = FALSE
)

## Step 4: Extract and print the variance-covariance matrices
vcov_mats <- vcov(results)
print(vcov_mats)
# Prints: intercept variance, X-grid and Y-grid covariance matrices
```

Description

Displays a formatted WAIC summary for a fitted ABRM.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'waic_abrm'
print(x, digits = 3, ...)
```

Arguments

x An object of class "waic_abrm" returned by [waic.abrm](#).
digits Integer; number of decimal places. Default 3.
... Additional arguments (currently unused).

Value

Invisibly returns x.

run_abrm

Run ABRM Analysis

Description

Fits an Atom-Based Regression Model (ABRM) to spatially misaligned data using Bayesian MCMC via NIMBLE. Works with both simulated and real-world data.

Usage

```
run_abrm(
  gridx,
  gridy,
  atoms,
  model_code,
  true_params = NULL,
  norm_idx_x = NULL,
  pois_idx_x = NULL,
  binom_idx_x = NULL,
  norm_idx_y = NULL,
  pois_idx_y = NULL,
  binom_idx_y = NULL,
  dist_y = 2,
  niter = 50000,
  nburnin = 30000,
  nchains = 2,
  thin = 10,
  seed = NULL,
```

```

sim_metadata = NULL,
save_plots = FALSE,
output_dir = NULL,
compute_waic = FALSE
)

```

Arguments

gridx	The X-grid sf dataframe, containing a numeric area ID variable named 'ID' and covariates named 'covariate_x_1','covariate_x_2',...
gridy	The Y-grid sf dataframe, containing a numeric area ID variable named 'ID', covariates named 'covariate_y_1','covariate_y_2',..., and an outcome named 'y'.
atoms	The atom sf dataframe, which should contain numeric variables named 'ID_x' and 'ID_y' holding the X-grid and Y-grid cell IDs for each atom, as well as an atom-level population count named 'population'.
model_code	NIMBLE model code from get_abrm_model()
true_params	The true outcome model regression coefficient parameters, if known (e.g., from simulate_misaligned_data())
norm_idx_x	Vector of numeric indices of X-grid covariates (ordered as 'covariate_x_1','covariate_x_2',...) that should be treated as normally-distributed
pois_idx_x	Vector of numeric indices of X-grid covariates (ordered as 'covariate_x_1','covariate_x_2',...) that should be treated as Poisson-distributed
binom_idx_x	Vector of numeric indices of X-grid covariates (ordered as 'covariate_x_1','covariate_x_2',...) that should be treated as binomial-distributed
norm_idx_y	Vector of numeric indices of Y-grid covariates (ordered as 'covariate_y_1','covariate_y_2',...) that should be treated as normally-distributed
pois_idx_y	Vector of numeric indices of Y-grid covariates (ordered as 'covariate_y_1','covariate_y_2',...) that should be treated as Poisson-distributed
binom_idx_y	Vector of numeric indices of Y-grid covariates (ordered as 'covariate_y_1','covariate_y_2',...) that should be treated as binomial-distributed
dist_y	Distribution type for outcome (1=normal, 2=poisson, 3=binomial)
niter	Number of MCMC iterations (default: 50000)
nburnin	Number of burn-in iterations (default: 30000)
nchains	Number of MCMC chains (default: 2)
thin	Thinning interval (default: 10)
seed	Integer seed for reproducibility. Each chain uses seed+(chain_number-1) (default: NULL)
sim_metadata	Optional named list of simulation metadata (e.g., sim_number, x_correlation, y_correlation) passed through to run_nimble_model and used to label diagnostic plot file names when save_plots = TRUE. For non-simulation use, leave as NULL.
save_plots	Logical, whether to save diagnostic plots (default: FALSE)

output_dir	Directory for saving outputs (default: NULL)
compute_waic	Logical; if TRUE, NIMBLE computes the Widely Applicable Information Criterion (WAIC) during MCMC sampling and stores it in the returned object. Retrieve it afterwards with waic . Default FALSE.

Value

An object of class "abrm": a named list with components `mcmc_results`, `parameter_estimates`, `all_parameters`, `fitted_values` (numeric vector of Y-grid-level predicted outcome values on the original outcome scale), `y_grid_ids` (integer vector of Y-grid cell IDs in model order), and `y_observed` (numeric vector of observed outcome values for directly observed Y-grid cells). Use `fitted()` to extract a formatted comparison table of observed vs. fitted values, and `waic()` to retrieve model fit criteria when `compute_waic = TRUE`.

Examples

```
# Simulate misaligned spatial data with one normal covariate per grid
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1,
  dist_covariates_x = "normal",
  dist_covariates_y = "normal",
  dist_y = "normal",
  x_intercepts = 0,
  y_intercepts = 0,
  beta0_y = 0,
  beta_x = 0.1,
  beta_y = -0.1
)

# Retrieve the pre-compiled NIMBLE model code
model_code <- get_abrm_model()

# Fit the ABRM (use small niter/nburnin for illustration only)
results <- run_abrm(
  gridx      = sim_data$gridx,
  gridy      = sim_data$gridy,
  atoms      = sim_data$atoms,
  model_code = model_code,
  true_params = sim_data$true_params,
  norm_idx_x = 1,
  norm_idx_y = 1,
  dist_y     = 1,
  niter      = 1000,
  nburnin    = 500,
  nchains    = 2,
  seed       = 1,
  save_plots = FALSE
)

print(results)    # concise model summary
summary(results)  # full parameter table
plot(results)     # MCMC trace and density plots
```

```
vcov(results)      # posterior variance-covariance matrices
```

```
run_nimble_model      Run NIMBLE Model with Diagnostics
```

Description

Run NIMBLE Model with Diagnostics

Usage

```
run_nimble_model(
  constants,
  data,
  inits,
  sim_metadata = NULL,
  model_code,
  niter = 50000,
  nburnin = 30000,
  nchains = 2,
  thin = 10,
  seed = NULL,
  save_plots = FALSE,
  output_dir = NULL,
  compute_waic = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

constants	List of model constants
data	List of data
inits	List of initial values
sim_metadata	List with simulation metadata (optional)
model_code	NIMBLE code object
niter	Number of MCMC iterations (default: 50000)
nburnin	Number of burn-in iterations (default: 30000)
nchains	Number of MCMC chains (default: 2)
thin	Thinning interval (default: 10)
seed	Integer seed for reproducibility. Each chain uses seed+(chain_number-1) (default: NULL)
save_plots	Logical, whether to save diagnostic plots (default: FALSE)
output_dir	Directory for saving plots (default: NULL)
compute_waic	Logical; if TRUE, WAIC is computed by NIMBLE and stored in the result, enabling waic() for model comparison. Default FALSE to keep fitting fast.

Value

A named list with components `samples` (per-chain MCMC sample matrices), `summary` (posterior summary statistics), and `convergence` (Gelman-Rubin statistics, effective sample sizes, and optional diagnostic plots).

Examples

```
# The recommended workflow is to call run_abrm(), which calls
# run_nimble_model() internally after preparing all inputs.
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1,
  dist_covariates_x = "normal",
  dist_covariates_y = "normal",
  dist_y = "normal",
  x_intercepts = 0,
  y_intercepts = 0,
  beta0_y = 0,
  beta_x = 0.1,
  beta_y = -0.1
)
model_code <- get_abrm_model()
results <- run_abrm(
  gridx = sim_data$gridx,
  gridy = sim_data$gridy,
  atoms = sim_data$atoms,
  model_code = model_code,
  true_params = sim_data$true_params,
  norm_idx_x = 1,
  norm_idx_y = 1,
  dist_y = 1,
  niter = 1000, nburnin = 500, nchains = 2,
  seed = 1, save_plots = FALSE
)
summary(results)
```

```
simulate_misaligned_data
```

Simulate Misaligned Spatial Data

Description

Simulate Misaligned Spatial Data

Usage

```
simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 2,
```

```

dist_covariates_x = c("normal", "poisson", "binomial"),
dist_covariates_y = c("normal", "poisson", "binomial"),
dist_y = "poisson",
x_intercepts = rep(0, 3),
y_intercepts = rep(0, 3),
rho_x = 0.6,
rho_y = 0.6,
x_correlation = 0.5,
y_correlation = 0.5,
beta0_y = NULL,
beta_x = NULL,
beta_y = NULL,
diff_pops = TRUE,
xy_cov_cor = FALSE
)

```

Arguments

seed	Random seed (default = 2)
dist_covariates_x	Vector specifying distribution type for each synthetic X-grid covariate ('poisson', 'binomial', or 'normal')
dist_covariates_y	Vector specifying distribution type for each synthetic Y-grid covariate ('poisson', 'binomial', or 'normal')
dist_y	Distribution type for synthetic outcome variable (one of 'poisson', 'binomial', or 'normal')
x_intercepts	Intercepts for X covariates
y_intercepts	Intercepts for Y covariates
rho_x	Spatial correlation parameter for X-grid covariates (0 to 1 with higher values yielding more spatial correlation, default = 0.6)
rho_y	Spatial correlation parameter for Y-grid covariates and outcome (0 to 1 with higher values yielding more spatial correlation, default = 0.6)
x_correlation	Between-variable correlation for all pairs of X-grid covariates (default = 0.5)
y_correlation	Between-variable correlation for all pairs of Y-grid covariates (default = 0.5)
beta0_y	Intercept for outcome model
beta_x	Outcome model coefficients for X-grid covariates
beta_y	Outcome model coefficients for Y-grid covariates
diff_pops	Logical, indicating whether the atoms should be generated with different population sizes (diff_pops = TRUE) or a common population size (diff_pops = FALSE)
xy_cov_cor	Logical, indicating whether the atom-level spatial random effects for X-grid and Y-grid covariates should be correlated (xy_cov_cor = TRUE) or not. When set to TRUE, the x_correlation and rho_x parameters are used to generate all covariates (separate correlation parameters are not allowed for X-grid and Y-grid covariates).

Value

An object of class "misaligned_data": a named list with components gridy (Y-grid sf data frame with outcome and Y covariates), gridx (X-grid sf data frame with X covariates), atoms (atom-level sf data frame, the spatial intersection of the two grids), and true_params (list of the true regression coefficients used for data generation).

Examples

```
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1,
  dist_covariates_x = c('normal', 'poisson', 'binomial'),
  dist_covariates_y = c('normal', 'poisson', 'binomial'),
  dist_y = "poisson",
  x_intercepts = c(4, -1, -1),
  y_intercepts = c(4, -1, -1),
  beta0_y = -1,
  x_correlation = 0.5,
  y_correlation = 0.5,
  beta_x = c(-0.03, 0.1, -0.2),
  beta_y = c(0.03, -0.1, 0.2)
)
class(sim_data)           # "misaligned_data"
print(sim_data)           # grid dimensions and atom count
summary(sim_data)         # includes true beta values
names(sim_data$atoms)     # atom-level variables
sim_data$true_params$beta_x # true X-grid coefficients
```

summary.abrm

*Summary Method for ABRM Objects***Description**

Returns a structured summary of a fitted ABRM, including posterior means, standard deviations, and 95 coefficients. When true parameter values are available (i.e., the model was fitted on simulated data via [simulate_misaligned_data](#)), mean absolute bias and credible-interval coverage are also reported.

Usage

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

Arguments

object An object of class "abrm" returned by [run_abrm](#).
 ... Additional arguments (currently unused).

Value

An object of class "summary.abrm" (a list) with components:

n_params Number of regression parameters estimated.

mean_abs_bias Mean absolute bias across parameters, or NA if true values were not supplied.

coverage Percentage of parameters whose true value falls within its 95% credible interval, or NA if unavailable.

estimates Data frame of posterior summaries.

The object is printed via `print.summary.abrm`.

Examples

```
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1, dist_covariates_x = "normal", dist_covariates_y = "normal",
  dist_y = "normal", x_intercepts = 0, y_intercepts = 0,
  beta0_y = 0, beta_x = 0.1, beta_y = -0.1
)
results <- run_abrm(
  gridx = sim_data$gridx, gridy = sim_data$gridy, atoms = sim_data$atoms,
  model_code = get_abrm_model(), norm_idx_x = 1, norm_idx_y = 1,
  dist_y = 1, niter = 1000, nburnin = 500, nchains = 2, seed = 1
)
summary(results) # full parameter table with bias and coverage
```

summary.misaligned_data

Summary Method for Misaligned Data Objects

Description

Prints grid dimensions, atom counts, and the true regression coefficients (beta_x and beta_y) used to generate the data.

Usage

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

Arguments

object An object of class "misaligned_data" returned by `simulate_misaligned_data`.
 ... Additional arguments (currently unused).

Value

Invisibly returns object. Called for its side effect of printing the data summary including the true parameter values.

Examples

```
## Simulate misaligned spatial data
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1,
  dist_covariates_x = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_covariates_y = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_y = "poisson",
  x_intercepts = c(0, -1),
  y_intercepts = c(0, -1),
  beta0_y = -1,
  beta_x = c(0.1, -0.05),
  beta_y = c(-0.1, 0.05)
)
summary(sim_data)
```

vcov.abrm

*Variance-Covariance Method for ABRM Objects***Description**

Extracts variance-covariance matrices for regression coefficients from MCMC posterior samples. Returns separate matrices for X-grid and Y-grid coefficients.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'abrm'
vcov(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object An object of class "abrm" returned by [run_abrm](#).

... Additional arguments (unused)

Details

The variance-covariance matrices are computed from the posterior samples of the MCMC chains. If multiple chains were run, samples are combined across chains before computing covariances.

Value

A list with class "vcov.abrm" containing:

vcov_beta_x	Variance-covariance matrix for X-grid coefficients
vcov_beta_y	Variance-covariance matrix for Y-grid coefficients
vcov_beta_0	Variance of the intercept (scalar)
vcov_all	Combined variance-covariance matrix for all parameters

Examples

```
## Step 1: Simulate misaligned spatial data
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed = 1,
  dist_covariates_x = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_covariates_y = c("normal", "poisson"),
  dist_y = "poisson",
  x_intercepts = c(0, -1),
  y_intercepts = c(0, -1),
  beta0_y = -1,
  beta_x = c(0.1, -0.05),
  beta_y = c(-0.1, 0.05)
)

## Step 2: Retrieve the NIMBLE model code
model_code <- get_abrm_model()

## Step 3: Fit the ABRM
results <- run_abrm(
  gridx = sim_data$gridx,
  gridy = sim_data$gridy,
  atoms = sim_data$atoms,
  model_code = model_code,
  true_params = sim_data$true_params,
  norm_idx_x = 1,
  pois_idx_x = 2,
  norm_idx_y = 1,
  pois_idx_y = 2,
  dist_y = 2,
  niter = 1000,
  nburnin = 500,
  nchains = 2,
  seed = 1,
  save_plots = FALSE
)

## Step 4: Extract posterior variance-covariance matrices
vcov_mats <- vcov(results)

# Posterior standard errors for X-grid and Y-grid coefficients
sqrt(diag(vcov_mats$vcov_beta_x))
sqrt(diag(vcov_mats$vcov_beta_y))
```

```
# Posterior correlation matrix across all beta parameters
cov2cor(vcov_mats$vcov_all)
```

waic

Generic Function for WAIC

Description

Extracts the Widely Applicable Information Criterion (WAIC) from a fitted model object.

Usage

```
waic(object, ...)
```

Arguments

`object` A fitted model object.
`...` Additional arguments passed to methods.

Value

A "waic_abrm" object for abrm models. See [waic.abrm](#) for details.

waic.abrm

WAIC for ABRM Objects

Description

Returns the Widely Applicable Information Criterion (WAIC) for a fitted ABRM. WAIC is the recommended information criterion for Bayesian models and is computed by NIMBLE when `compute_waic = TRUE` is passed to [run_abrm](#).

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'abrm'
waic(object, ...)
```

Arguments

`object` An object of class "abrm" returned by [run_abrm](#).
`...` Additional arguments (currently unused).

Details

WAIC (Watanabe 2010) is defined as:

$$\text{WAIC} = -2 \cdot \text{lppd} + 2 \cdot p_{\text{WAIC}}$$

where lppd is the log pointwise predictive density and p_{WAIC} is the effective number of parameters. Unlike AIC, WAIC is fully Bayesian and averages over the posterior distribution rather than evaluating at a point estimate.

WAIC values are only meaningful when compared between models fitted on *identical* data with the same outcome distribution. A true marginal log-likelihood is not available for ABRM, so [AIC](#) and [logLik](#) are not supported; use `waic()` instead.

Value

An object of class "waic_abrm", which is a named list with components:

`waic` The scalar WAIC value. Lower values indicate better predictive accuracy penalised for model complexity.

`lppd` Log pointwise predictive density — the goodness-of-fit component of WAIC.

`penalty` The effective number of parameters (p_{WAIC}) — the complexity penalty component.

`n_params` The number of regression parameters estimated.

Returns an error if the model was not fitted with `compute_waic = TRUE`.

References

Watanabe, S. (2010). Asymptotic equivalence of Bayes cross validation and widely applicable information criterion in singular learning theory. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 11, 3571–3594.

See Also

[waic](#), [print.waic_abrm](#), [run_abrm](#)

Examples

```
sim_data <- simulate_misaligned_data(
  seed          = 1,
  dist_covariates_x = "normal",
  dist_covariates_y = "normal",
  dist_y         = "normal",
  x_intercepts   = 0,
  y_intercepts   = 0,
  beta0_y        = 0,
  beta_x         = 0.1,
  beta_y         = -0.1
)
results <- run_abrm(
  gridx         = sim_data$gridx,
  gridy         = sim_data$gridy,
```



```
atoms      = sim_data$atoms,
model_code = get_abrm_model(),
norm_idx_x = 1,
norm_idx_y = 1,
dist_y     = 1,
niter      = 1000,
nburnin    = 500,
nchains    = 2,
seed       = 1,
compute_waic = TRUE    # required; re-fit if this was FALSE
)

w <- waic(results)
print(w)          # formatted table: WAIC, lppd, pWAIC, n_params
w$waic            # raw scalar for comparing models
w$penalty         # effective number of parameters (pWAIC)
```

Index

AIC, [24](#)

coef.abrm, [2](#)

confint.abrm, [3](#)

fitted.abrm, [4](#)

get_abrm_model, [5](#)

logLik, [24](#)

plot.abrm, [6](#)

plot.misaligned_data, [7](#)

print.abrm, [8](#)

print.misaligned_data, [10](#)

print.summary.abrm, [10](#), [20](#)

print.vcov.abrm, [11](#)

print.waic_abrm, [12](#), [24](#)

run_abrm, [2–6](#), [13](#), [19](#), [21](#), [23](#), [24](#)

run_nimble_model, [14](#), [16](#)

simulate_misaligned_data, [17](#), [19](#), [20](#)

summary.abrm, [10](#), [11](#), [19](#)

summary.misaligned_data, [20](#)

vcov.abrm, [11](#), [21](#)

waic, [15](#), [16](#), [23](#), [24](#)

waic.abrm, [13](#), [23](#), [23](#)