

Pre-course preparation:

Download the WinBUGS 1.4.3 software and key from <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/software/bugs/> in advance. The best way to do this is to download a zipped version of the whole file structure and unzip it into Program Files or wherever you want it. This includes the key for unrestricted use. Then, download and install the patch for version 1.4.3. To check that you have the patched version: open WinBUGS, go to the “Help” menu and click “About WinBUGS”. This should show the current version as 1.4.3. The software, patch and key are free.

For those using a Mac: To run WinBUGS on a Mac you will first need to install a Windows emulator (eg WINE). You can then install WinBUGS on that and it should work. For more precise instructions please check for advice online.

OpenBUGS: We strongly recommend that you use WinBUGS 1.4.3 during the course. Participants wishing to use OpenBUGS should be aware that some files may not open properly and are advised to have a copy of WinBUGS 1.4.3 on their laptops to deal with such files.

Participants are expected to read through the Tutorial in the User Manual (under Help) and run the “blocker” example (under Help Examples Vol I) in advance of the course, so that you are familiar with the operations involved in running WinBUGS programs. NB you need to use initial conditions Inits2 for this program to work.