Package ‘lme4’

Version 1.1-21

Title Linear Mixed-Effects Models using ‘Eigen’ and S4

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Description Fit linear and generalized linear mixed-effects models.

The models and their components are represented using S4 classes and methods. The core computational algorithms are implemented using the ‘Eigen’ C++ library for numerical linear algebra and ‘RcppEigen’ `glue`.

Depends R (>= 3.2.0), Matrix (>= 1.2-1), methods, stats

LinkingTo Rcpp (>= 0.10.5), RcppEigen

Imports graphics, grid, splines, utils, parallel, MASS, lattice, boot,
nlme (>= 3.1-123), minqa (>= 1.1.15), nl0ptr (>= 1.0.4)

Suggests knitr, rmarkdown, PKPDmodels, MEMSS, testthat (>= 0.8.1),
ggplot2, mlmRev, optimx (>= 2013.8.6), gamm4, pbkrtest, HSAUR2,
numDeriv, car, dfoptim

VignetteBuilder knitr

LazyData yes

License GPL (>= 2)

URL https://github.com/lme4/lme4/

BugReports https://github.com/lme4/lme4/issues

Encoding UTF-8

NeedsCompilation yes

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Description

lme4 provides functions for fitting and analyzing mixed models: linear (lmer), generalized linear (glmer) and nonlinear (nlmer).

Differences between nlme and lme4

lme4 covers approximately the same ground as the earlier nlme package. The most important differences are:

- lme4 uses modern, efficient linear algebra methods as implemented in the Eigen package, and uses reference classes to avoid undue copying of large objects; it is therefore likely to be faster and more memory-efficient than nlme.
- lme4 includes generalized linear mixed model (GLMM) capabilities, via the glmer function.
- lme4 does not currently implement nlme’s features for modeling heteroscedasticity and correlation of residuals.
- lme4 does not currently offer the same flexibility as nlme for composing complex variance-covariance structures, but it does implement crossed random effects in a way that is both easier for the user and much faster.
- lme4 offers built-in facilities for likelihood profiling and parametric bootstrapping.
- lme4 is designed to be more modular than nlme, making it easier for downstream package developers and end-users to re-use its components for extensions of the basic mixed model framework. It also allows more flexibility for specifying different functions for optimizing over the random-effects variance-covariance parameters.
- lme4 is not (yet) as well-documented as nlme.

Differences between current (1.0.+) and previous versions of lme4

- [gn]lmer now produces objects of class merMod rather than class mer as before
- the new version uses a combination of S3 and reference classes (see ReferenceClasses, merPredD-class, and lmResp-class) as well as S4 classes; partly for this reason it is more interoperable with nlme
- The internal structure of [gn]lmer is now more modular, allowing finer control of the different steps of argument checking; construction of design matrices and data structures; parameter estimation; and construction of the final merMod object (see modular)
- profiling and parametric bootstrapping are new in the current version
- the new version of lme4 does not provide an mcmcsamp (post-hoc MCMC sampling) method, because this was deemed to be unreliable. Alternatives for computing p-values include parametric bootstrapping (bootMer) or methods implemented in the pbkrtest package and leveraged by the lmerTest package and the Anova function in the car package (see pvalues for more details).
Caveats and trouble-shooting

• Some users who have previously installed versions of the RcppEigen and minqa packages may encounter segmentation faults (!!!); the solution is to make sure to re-install these packages before installing lme4. (Because the problem is not with the explicit version of the packages, but with running packages that were built with different versions of Rcpp in conjunction with each other, simply making sure you have the latest version, or using update.packages, will not necessarily solve the problem; you must actually re-install the packages. The problem is most likely with minqa.)

**allFit**

*Refit a fitted model with all available optimizers*

**Description**

Attempt to re-fit a [g]lmer model with a range of optimizers. The default is to use all known optimizers for R that satisfy the requirements (do not require explicit gradients, allow box constraints), in three categories; (i) built-in (minqa::bobyqa, lme4::Nelder_Mead, nlminbwrap), (ii) wrapped via optimx (most of optimx’s optimizers that allow box constraints require an explicit gradient function to be specified; the two provided here are really base R functions that can be accessed via optimx, (iii) wrapped via nloptr; (iv)

**Usage**

```r
allFit(m, meth.tab = NULL, data=NULL, verbose = TRUE, show.meth.tab = FALSE, maxfun = 1e5, parallel = c("no", "multicore", "snow"), ncpus = getOption("allFit.ncpus", 1L), cl = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

- **m**
  - a fitted model
- **meth.tab**
  - a matrix (or data.frame) with columns
    - **method** the name of a specific optimization method to pass to the optimizer (leave blank for built-in optimizers)
    - **optimizer** the optimizer function to use
- **data**
  - data to be included with result (for later debugging etc.)
- **verbose**
  - logical: report progress in detail?
- **show.meth.tab**
  - logical: return table of methods?
- **maxfun**
  - passed as part of optCtrl (see lmeControl)
- **parallel**
  - The type of parallel operation to be used (if any). If missing, the default is taken from the option "boot.parallel" (and if that is not set, "no").
ncpus integer: number of processes to be used in parallel operation: typically one would choose this to be the number of available CPUs.

c1 An optional parallel or snow cluster for use if parallel = "snow". If not supplied, a cluster on the local machine is created for the duration of the boot call.

Value

a list of fitted merMod objects (unless show.meth.tab is specified, in which case a data frame of methods is returned)

Note

If you are using parallel="snow", you will need to run clusterEvalQ(cl,library("lme4")) before calling allFit to make sure that the lme package is loaded on all of the workers

See Also

slice,slice2D from the bbmle package

Examples

library(lme4)
gm1 <- glmer(cbind(incidence, size - incidence) ~ period + (1 | herd),
  data = cbpp, family = binomial)
## show available methods
allFit(show.meth.tab=TRUE)
gm_all <- allFit(gm1)
ss <- summary(gm_all)
ss$fixef ## extract fixed effects
ss$lik ## log-likelihoods
ss$sdcor ## SDs and correlations
ss$theta ## Cholesky factors
ss$which.OK ## which fits worked

Arabidopsis Arabidopsis clipping/fertilization data

Description

Data on genetic variation in responses to fertilization and simulated herbivory in Arabidopsis

Usage

data("Arabidopsis")
Format

A data frame with 625 observations on the following 8 variables.

- **reg**: region: a factor with 3 levels NL (Netherlands), SP (Spain), SW (Sweden)
- **popu**: population: a factor with the form n.R representing a population in region R
- **gen**: genotype: a factor with 24 (numeric-valued) levels
- **rack**: a nuisance factor with 2 levels, one for each of two greenhouse racks
- **nutrient**: fertilization treatment/nutrient level (1, minimal nutrients or 8, added nutrients)
- **amd**: simulated herbivory or "clipping" (apical meristem damage): unclipped (baseline) or clipped
- **status**: a nuisance factor for germination method (Normal, Petri. Plate, or Transplant)
- **totalNfruits**: total fruit set per plant (integer)

Source

From Josh Banta

References


Examples

data(Arabidopsis)
summary(Arabidopsis[,"total.fruits"])
table(gsub("\[0-9].\","",levels(Arabidopsis[,"popu"])))
library(lattice)
stripplot(log(total.fruits+1) ~ amd|nutrient, data = Arabidopsis,
groups = gen,
strip=strip.custom(strip.names=c(TRUE,TRUE)),
type=c('p','a'), ## points and panel-average value --
## see ?panel.xypol
scales=list(x=list(rot=90)),
main="Panel: nutrient, Color: genotype")

---

**bootMer**

*Model-based (Semi-)Parametric Bootstrap for Mixed Models*

Description

Perform model-based (Semi-)parametric bootstrap for mixed models.
Usage

bootMer(x, FUN, nsim = 1, seed = NULL, use.u = FALSE, re.form=NA,
type = c("parametric", "semiparametric"),
verbose = FALSE, .progress = "none", PBargs = list(),
parallel = c("no", "multicore", "snow"),
ncpus = getOption("boot.ncpus", 1L), cl = NULL)

Arguments

x a fitted merMod object: see lmer, glmer, etc.
FUN a function taking a fitted merMod object as input and returning the statistic of
interest, which must be a (possibly named) numeric vector.
nsim number of simulations, positive integer; the bootstrap B (or R).
seed optional argument to set.seed.
use.u logical, indicating whether the spherical random effects should be simulated /
bootstrapped as well. If TRUE, they are not changed, and all inference is condi-
tional on these values. If FALSE, new normal deviates are drawn (see Details).
re.form formula, NA (equivalent to use.u=FALSE), or NULL (equivalent to use.u=TRUE):
alternative to use.u for specifying which random effects to incorporate. See
simulate.merMod for details.
type character string specifying the type of bootstrap, "parametric" or "semiparametric":
partial matching is allowed.
verbose logical indicating if progress should print output
.progress character string - type of progress bar to display. Default is "none"; the function
will look for a relevant *ProgressBar function, so "txt" will work in general;
"tk" is available if the tcltk package is loaded; or "win" on Windows systems. Progress bars are disabled (with a message) for parallel operation.
PBargs a list of additional arguments to the progress bar function (the package authors
like list(style=3)).
parallel The type of parallel operation to be used (if any). If missing, the default is taken
from the option "boot.parallel" (and if that is not set, "no").
ncpus integer: number of processes to be used in parallel operation: typically one
would choose this to be the number of available CPUs.
cl An optional parallel or snow cluster for use if parallel = "snow". If not
supplied, a cluster on the local machine is created for the duration of the boot
call.

Details

The semi-parametric variant is only partially implemented, and we only provide a method for lmer
and glmer results.

The working name for bootMer() was “simulestimate()”, as it is an extension of simulate (see
simulate.merMod), but we want to emphasize its potential for valid inference.
• If `use.u` is FALSE and `type` is "parametric", each simulation generates new values of both the "spherical" random effects $u$ and the i.i.d. errors $\epsilon$, using `rnorm()` with parameters corresponding to the fitted model $x$.

• If `use.u` is TRUE and `type`=="parametric", only the i.i.d. errors (or, for GLMMs, response values drawn from the appropriate distributions) are resampled, with the values of $u$ staying fixed at their estimated values.

• If `use.u` is TRUE and `type`="semiparametric", the i.i.d. errors are sampled from the distribution of (response) residuals. (For GLMMs, the resulting sample will no longer have the same properties as the original sample, and the method may not make sense; a warning is generated.) The semiparametric bootstrap is currently an experimental feature, and therefore may not be stable.

• The case where `use.u` is FALSE and `type`="semiparametric" is not implemented; Morris (2002) suggests that resampling from the estimated values of $u$ is not good practice.

Value

an object of S3 class "boot", compatible with `boot` package's `boot()` result.

Note

If you are using `parallel="snow"`, you will need to run `clusterEvalQ(cl,library("lme4"))` before calling `bootMer` to make sure that the `lme4` package is loaded on all of the workers; you may additionally need to use `clusterExport` if you are using a summary function that calls any objects from the environment.

References


See Also

- `confint.merMod`, for a more specific approach to bootstrap confidence intervals on parameters.
- `refit()`, or `PBmodcomp()` from the `pbkrtest` package, for parametric bootstrap comparison of models.
- `boot()`, and then `boot.ci` from the `boot` package.
- `profile-methods`, for likelihood-based inference, including confidence intervals.
- `pvalues`, for more general approaches to inference and p-value computation in mixed models.

Examples

````
fm01ML <- lmer(Yield ~ 1|Batch, Dyestuff, REML = FALSE)
## see ?"profile-methods"
mySumm <- function(.) { s <- sigma(.)
```
c(beta = getME(. , "beta"), sigma = s, sig01 = unname(s * getME(. , "theta")))
(t0 <- mySumm(fm01ML)) # just three parameters

## alternatively:
mySumm2 <- function(.) {
  c(beta=fixef(.),sigma=sigma(.), sig01=sqrt(unlist(VarCorr(.))))
}

set.seed(101)

## 3.8s (on a 5600 MIPS 64bit fast(year 2009) desktop "AMD Phenom(tm) II X4 925"):
system.time( boo01 <- bootMer(fm01ML, mySumm, nsim = 100) )

## to "look" at it
if (requireNamespace("boot")) {
  boo01
  ## note large estimated bias for sig01
  ## (~30% low, decreases _slightly_ for nsim = 1000)

  ## extract the bootstrapped values as a data frame ...
  head(as.data.frame(boo01))

  ## ------ Bootstrap-based confidence intervals --------

  ## warnings about "Some ... intervals may be unstable" go away
  ## for larger bootstrap samples, e.g. nsim=500

  ## intercept
  (bCI.1 <- boot::boot.ci(boo01, index=1, type=c("norm", "basic", "perc"))) # beta

  ## Residual standard deviation - original scale:
  (bCI.2 <- boot::boot.ci(boo01, index=2, type=c("norm", "basic", "perc")))

  ## Residual SD - transform to log scale:
  (bCI.2L <- boot::boot.ci(boo01, index=2, type=c("norm", "basic", "perc"),
                          h = log, hdot = function(.) 1/., hinv = exp))

  ## Among-batch variance:
  (bCI.3 <- boot::boot.ci(boo01, index=3, type=c("norm", "basic", "perc"))) # sig01

  confint(boo01)
  confint(boo01, type="norm")
  confint(boo01, type="basic")

  ## Graphical examination:
  plot(boo01, index=3)

  ## Check stored values from a longer (1000-replicate) run:
  (load(system.file("testdata", "boo01L.RData", package="lme4"))) # "boo01L"
  plot(boo01L, index=3)
  mean(boo01L$[,"sig01"]==0) # note point mass at zero!
} ## if boot package available
Breakage Angle of Chocolate Cakes

Description

Data on the breakage angle of chocolate cakes made with three different recipes and baked at six different temperatures. This is a split-plot design with the recipes being whole-units and the different temperatures being applied to sub-units (within replicates). The experimental notes suggest that the replicate numbering represents temporal ordering.

Format

A data frame with 270 observations on the following 5 variables.

- replicate: a factor with levels 1 to 15
- recipe: a factor with levels A, B and C
- temperature: an ordered factor with levels QWU < QXU < QYU < RPU < RQU < RRU
- angle: a numeric vector giving the angle at which the cake broke.
- temp: numeric value of the baking temperature (degrees F).

Details

The replicate factor is nested within the recipe factor, and temperature is nested within replicate.

Source

Original data were presented in Cook (1938), and reported in Cochran and Cox (1957, p. 300). Also cited in Lee, Nelder and Pawitan (2006).

References


Examples

str(cake)
## 'temp' is continuous, 'temperature' an ordered factor with 6 levels

(fm1 <- lmer(angle ~ recipe * temperature + (1|recipe:replicate), cake, REML= FALSE))
(fm2 <- lmer(angle ~ recipe + temperature + (1|recipe:replicate), cake, REML= FALSE))
(fm3 <- lmer(angle ~ recipe + temp + (1|recipe:replicate), cake, REML= FALSE))
Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) is a major disease of cattle in Africa, caused by a mycoplasma. This dataset describes the serological incidence of CBPP in zebu cattle during a follow-up survey implemented in 15 commercial herds located in the Boji district of Ethiopia. The goal of the survey was to study the within-herd spread of CBPP in newly infected herds. Blood samples were quarterly collected from all animals of these herds to determine their CBPP status. These data were used to compute the serological incidence of CBPP (new cases occurring during a given time period). Some data are missing (lost to follow-up).

### Description

Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) is a major disease of cattle in Africa, caused by a mycoplasma. This dataset describes the serological incidence of CBPP in zebu cattle during a follow-up survey implemented in 15 commercial herds located in the Boji district of Ethiopia. The goal of the survey was to study the within-herd spread of CBPP in newly infected herds. Blood samples were quarterly collected from all animals of these herds to determine their CBPP status. These data were used to compute the serological incidence of CBPP (new cases occurring during a given time period). Some data are missing (lost to follow-up).

### Format

A data frame with 56 observations on the following 4 variables.

- **herd**: A factor identifying the herd (1 to 15).
- **incidence**: The number of new serological cases for a given herd and time period.
- **size**: A numeric vector describing herd size at the beginning of a given time period.
- **period**: A factor with levels Q to T.

### Details

Serological status was determined using a competitive enzyme-linked immuno-sorbent assay (cELISA).

### Source

checkConv

```r
## GLMM with individual-level variability (accounting for overdispersion)
cbpp$obs <- 1:nrow(cbpp)
(m2 <- glmer(cbind(incidence, size - incidence) ~ period + (1 | herd) + (1|obs),
            family = binomial, data = cbpp))
```

---

**checkConv**

**Extended Convergence Checking**

**Description**

Primarily internal code for checking optimization convergence, see *convergence* for a more detailed discussion.

**Usage**

```r
checkConv(derivs, coefs, ctrl, lbound, debug = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

- **derivs**: typically the "derivs" attribute of `optimizeLmer()`; with "gradients" and possibly "Hessian" component
- **coefs**: current coefficient estimates
- **ctrl**: list of lists, each with `action` character strings specifying what should happen when a check triggers, and `tol` numerical tolerances, as is the result of `lmerControl()$checkConv`.
- **lbound**: vector of lower bounds for random-effects parameters only (length is taken to determine number of RE parameters)
- **debug**: enable debugging output, useful if some checks are on "ignore", but would "trigger"

**Value**

A result list containing

- **code**: The return code for the check
- **messages**: A character vector of warnings and messages generated by the check

**See Also**

*convergence*
**confint.merMod**

*Compute Confidence Intervals for Parameters of a [nlmer](https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=lme4) Fit*

**Description**

Compute confidence intervals on the parameters of a `*lmer`() model fit (of class "merMod").

**Usage**

```r
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
confint(object, parm, level = 0.95, method = c("profile", "Wald", "boot"),
         zeta = 500, boot.type = c("perc","basic","norm"),
         FUN = NULL, quiet = FALSE,
         oldNames = TRUE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'thpr'
confint(object, parm, level = 0.95,
         zeta, non_mono_tol=1e-2,
         ...)
```

**Arguments**

- `object` a fitted `[nlmer]` model or profile
- `parm` parameters for which intervals are sought. Specified by an integer vector of positions, character vector of parameter names, or (unless doing parametric bootstrapping with a user-specified bootstrap function) "theta_" or "beta_" to specify variance-covariance or fixed effects parameters only: see the which parameter of `profile`.
- `level` confidence level < 1, typically above 0.90.
- `method` a character string determining the method for computing the confidence intervals.
- `zeta` (for method = "profile" only;) likelihood cutoff (if not specified, as by default, computed from level).
- `nsim` number of simulations for parametric bootstrap intervals.
- `FUN` bootstrap function; if NULL, an internal function that returns the fixed-effect parameters as well as the random-effect parameters on the standard deviation/correlation scale will be used. See `bootMer` for details.
- `boot.type` bootstrap confidence interval type, as described in `boot.ci`. (Methods 'stud' and 'bca' are unavailable because they require additional components to be calculated.)
- `quiet` (logical) suppress messages about computationally intensive profiling?
- `oldNames` (logical) use old-style names for variance-covariance parameters, e.g. ".sig01", rather than newer (more informative) names such as "sd_(Intercept)\|Subject"? (See signames argument to `profile`).
Details

Depending on the method specified, confint() computes confidence intervals by

"profile": computing a likelihood profile and finding the appropriate cutoffs based on the likelihood ratio test;

"Wald": approximating the confidence intervals (of fixed-effect parameters only; all variance-covariance parameters CIs will be returned as NA) based on the estimated local curvature of the likelihood surface;

"boot": performing parametric bootstrapping with confidence intervals computed from the bootstrap distribution according to boot.type (see bootMer, boot.ci).

Value

a numeric table ( matrix with column and row names) of confidence intervals; the confidence intervals are computed on the standard deviation scale.

Note

The default method "profile" amounts to

    confint(profile(object, which=parm), signames=oldNames, ...),
    level, zeta)

where the profile method profile.merMod does almost all the computations. Therefore it is typically advisable to store the profile(.) result, say in pp, and then use confint(pp, level=*) e.g., for different levels.

Examples

```
fm1 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (Days|Subject), sleepstudy)
fm1W <- confint(fm1, method="Wald")# very fast, but ....
fmlW
(fm2 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (Days || Subject), sleepstudy))
(C12 <- confint(fm2, maxpts = 8)) # method = "profile"; 8: to be much faster

testLevel <- if (nzchar(s <- Sys.getenv("LME4_TEST_LEVEL"))) as.numeric(s) else 1
if(interactive() || testLevel >= 3) {
    ## ~20 seconds, MacBook Pro laptop
    system.time(fm1P <- confint(fm1, method="profile", ## default
        oldNames = FALSE))
    ## ~ 40 seconds
    system.time(fm1B <- confint(fm1, method="boot",
        .progress="txt", PBargs=list(style=3)))
} else
```
Assessing Convergence for Fitted Models

Description

[glmer] fits may produce convergence warnings; these do not necessarily mean the fit is incorrect (see “Theoretical details” below). The following steps are recommended assessing and resolving convergence warnings (also see examples below):

- double-check the model specification and the data
- adjust stopping (convergence) tolerances for the nonlinear optimizer, using the optCtrl argument to [glmerControl] (see “Convergence controls” below)
- center and scale continuous predictor variables (e.g. with scale)
- double-check the Hessian calculation with the more expensive Richardson extrapolation method (see examples)
- restart the fit from the reported optimum, or from a point perturbed slightly away from the reported optimum
- use allFit to try the fit with all available optimizers (e.g. several different implementations of BOBYQA and Nelder-Mead, L-BFGS-B from optim, nlminb, ...). While this will of course be slow for large fits, we consider it the gold standard; if all optimizers converge to values that are practically equivalent, then we would consider the convergence warnings to be false positives.

Details

Convergence controls:

- the controls for the nloptwrap optimizer (the default for lmer) are
  - ftol_abs (default 1e-6) stop on small change in deviance
  - ftol_rel (default 0) stop on small relative change in deviance
  - xtol_abs (default 1e-6) stop on small change of parameter values
  - xtol_rel (default 0) stop on small relative change of parameter values
  - maxeval (default 1000) maximum number of function evaluations

Changing ftol_abs and xtol_abs to stricter values (e.g. 1e-8) is a good first step for resolving convergence problems, at the cost of slowing down model fits.

- the controls for minqa::bobyqa (default for glmer first-stage optimization) are
  - rhobeg (default 2e-3) initial radius of the trust region
  - rhoend (default 2e-7) final radius of the trust region
  - maxfun (default 10000) maximum number of function evaluations

rhoend, which describes the scale of parameter uncertainty on convergence, is approximately analogous to xtol_abs.
• the controls for Nelder_Mead (default for glmer second-stage optimization) are
  FtolAbs (default 1e-5) stop on small change in deviance
  FtolRel (default 1e-15) stop on small relative change in deviance
  XtolRel (default 1e-7) stop on small change of parameter values
  maxfun (default 10000) maximum number of function evaluations

**Theoretical issues:** lme4 uses general-purpose nonlinear optimizers (e.g., Nelder-Mead or Powell’s BOBYQA method) to estimate the variance-covariance matrices of the random effects. Assessing the convergence of such algorithms reliably is difficult. For example, evaluating the Karush-Kuhn-Tucker conditions (convergence criteria which reduce in simple cases to showing that the gradient is zero and the Hessian is positive definite) is challenging because of the difficulty of evaluating the gradient and Hessian.

We (the lme4 authors and maintainers) are still in the process of finding the best strategies for testing convergence. Some of the relevant issues are

• the gradient and Hessian are the basic ingredients of KKT-style testing, but (at least for now) lme4 estimates them by finite-difference approximations which are sometimes unreliable.
• The Hessian computation in particular represents a difficult tradeoff between computational expense and accuracy. At present the Hessian computations used for convergence checking (and for estimating standard errors of fixed-effect parameters for GLMMs) follow the **ordina**l package in using a naive but computationally cheap centered finite difference computation (with a fixed step size of $10^{-4}$). A more reliable but more expensive approach is to use Richardson extrapolation, as implemented in the **numDeriv** package.
• it is important to scale the estimated gradient at the estimate appropriately; two reasonable approaches are
  1. scale gradients by the inverse Cholesky factor of the Hessian, equivalent to scaling gradients by the estimated Wald standard error of the estimated parameters. lme4 uses this approach; it requires the Hessian to be estimated (although the Hessian is required for reliable estimation of the fixed-effect standard errors for GLMMs in any case).
  2. use unscaled gradients on the random-effects parameters, since these are essentially already unitless (for LMMs they are scaled relative to the residual variance; for GLMMs they are scaled relative to the sampling variance of the conditional distribution); for GLMMs, scale fixed-effect gradients by the standard deviations of the corresponding input variable
• Exploratory analyses suggest that (1) the naive estimation of the Hessian may fail for large data sets (number of observations greater than approximately $10^5$); (2) the magnitude of the scaled gradient increases with sample size, so that warnings will occur even for apparently well-behaved fits with large data sets.

**See Also**

lmerControl, isSingular

**Examples**

```r
fm1 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (Days | Subject), sleepstudy)

### 1. decrease stopping tolerances
strict_tol <- lmerControl(optCtrl=list(xtol_abs=1e-8, ftol_abs=1e-8))
```
devcomp

Extract the deviance component list

Description

Return the deviance component list
Usage

devcomp(x)

Arguments

x a fitted model of class merMod

Details

A fitted model of class merMod has a devcomp slot as described in the value section.

Value

a list with components
dims a named integer vector of various dimensions
cmp a named numeric vector of components of the deviance

Note

This function is deprecated, use getME(., "devcomp")

Description

The deviance is profiled with respect to the fixed-effects parameters but not with respect to sigma; that is, the function takes parameters for the variance-covariance parameters and for the residual standard deviation. The random-effects variance-covariance parameters are on the standard deviation/correlation scale, not the theta (Cholesky factor) scale.

Usage

devfun2(fm, useSc,
   transfuns = list(from.chol = Cv_to_Sv,
      to.chol = Sv_to_Cv, to.sd = identity), ...)

Arguments

fm a fitted model of class ‘merMod’
useSc (logical) whether a scale parameter is used
transfuns functions for converting parameters to and from the Cholesky-factor scale
... arguments passed to the internal profnames function (signames=TRUE to use old-style .sigxx names, FALSE uses (sd_cor|xx); also prefix=c("sd","cor"))
drop1.merMod

Value

Returns a function that takes a vector of standard deviations and correlations and returns the deviance (or REML criterion). The function has additional attributes

- **optimum**: a named vector giving the parameter values at the optimum
- **basedev**: the deviance at the optimum (not the REML criterion, even if the original model was fitted using REML=TRUE)
- **thopt**: the optimal variance-covariance parameters on the “theta” (Cholesky factor) scale
- **stderr**: standard errors of fixed effect parameters

Examples

```r
m1 <- lmer(Reaction~Days+(Days|Subject),sleepstudy)
dd <- devfun2(m1,useSc=TRUE)
pp <- attr(dd,"optimum")
## extract variance-covariance and residual std dev parameters
sigpars <- pp[grep("\\.sig",names(pp))]
all.equal(unname(dd(sigpars)),deviance(refitML(m1)))
```

Description

Drop allowable single terms from the model: see drop1 for details of how the appropriate scope for dropping terms is determined.

Usage

```r
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
drop1(object, scope, scale = 0,
      test = c("none", "Chisq", "user"),
      k = 2, trace = FALSE, sumFun, ...)
```

Arguments

- **object**: a fitted merMod object.
- **scope**: a formula giving the terms to be considered for adding or dropping.
- **scale**: Currently ignored (included for S3 method compatibility)
- **test**: should the results include a test statistic relative to the original model? The \( \chi^2 \) test is a likelihood-ratio test, which is approximate due to finite-size effects.
- **k**: the penalty constant in AIC
- **trace**: print tracing information?
sumFun

a summary function to be used when test="user". It must allow arguments scale and k, but these may be ignored (e.g. specified in dots). The first two arguments must be object, the full model fit, and objectDrop, a reduced model. If objectDrop is missing, sumFun should return a vector of with the appropriate length and names (the actual contents are ignored).

... other arguments (ignored)

Details

drop1 relies on being able to find the appropriate information within the environment of the formula of the original model. If the formula is created in an environment that does not contain the data, or other variables passed to the original model (for example, if a separate function is called to define the formula), then drop1 will fail. A workaround (see example below) is to manually specify an appropriate environment for the formula.

Value

An object of class anova summarizing the differences in fit between the models.

Examples

```r
fm1 <- lmer(Reaction~Days+(Days|Subject),sleepstudy)
## likelihood ratio tests
drop1(fm1,test="Chisq")
## use Kenward-Roger corrected F test, or parametric bootstrap,
## to test the significance of each dropped predictor
if (require(pbkrtest) && packageVersion("pbkrtest")>="0.3.8") {
  KRSumFun <- function(object, objectDrop, ...) {
    krnames <- c("ndf", "ddf", "Fstat", "p.value", "F.scaling")
    r <- if (missing(objectDrop)) {
      setNames(rep(NA,length(krnames)),krnames)
    } else {
      krtest <- KRmodcomp(object,objectDrop)
      unlist(krtest$stats[krnames])
    }
    attr(r,"method") <- c("Kenward-Roger via pbkrtest package")
  }
  drop1(fm1,test="user",sumFun=KRSumFun)
}
if(lme4:::testLevel() >= 3) { ## takes about 16 sec
  nsim <- 100
  PBSumFun <- function(object, objectDrop, ...) {
    pbnames <- c("stat","p.value")
    r <- if (missing(objectDrop)) {
      setNames(rep(NA,length(pbnames)),pbnames)
    } else {
      pbtest <- PBmodcomp(object,objectDrop,nsim=nsim)
      unlist(pbtest$test[2,pbnames])
    }
    attr(r,"method") <- c("Parametric bootstrap via pbkrtest package")
  }
```
## dummy

**Dummy variables (experimental)**

### Description

Largely a wrapper for `model.matrix` that accepts a factor, `f`, and returns a dummy matrix with `nlevels(f)-1` columns (the first column is dropped by default). Useful whenever one wishes to avoid the behaviour of `model.matrix` of always returning an `nlevels(f)`-column matrix, either by the addition of an intercept column, or by keeping one column for all levels.

### Usage

```r
dummy(f, levelsToKeep)
```

### Arguments

- **f**: An object coercible to `factor`.
- **levelsToKeep**: An optional character vector giving the subset of `levels(f)` to be converted to dummy variables.

### Value

A `model.matrix` with dummy variables as columns.

### Examples

```r
data(Orthodont, package="nlme")
lmer(distance ~ age + (age|Subject) +
      (0+dummy(Sex, "Female")|Subject), data = Orthodont)
```
Description

The `Dyestuff` data frame provides the yield of dyestuff (Naphthalene Black 12B) from 5 different preparations from each of 6 different batches of an intermediate product (H-acid). The `Dyestuff` data were generated data in the same structure but with a large residual variance relative to the batch variance.

Format

Data frames, each with 30 observations on the following 2 variables.

- **Batch**: a factor indicating the batch of the intermediate product from which the preparation was created.
- **Yield**: the yield of dyestuff from the preparation (grams of standard color).

Details

The `Dyestuff` data are described in Davies and Goldsmith (1972) as coming from “an investigation to find out how much the variation from batch to batch in the quality of an intermediate product (H-acid) contributes to the variation in the yield of the dyestuff (Naphthalene Black 12B) made from it. In the experiment six samples of the intermediate, representing different batches of works manufacture, were obtained, and five preparations of the dyestuff were made in the laboratory from each sample. The equivalent yield of each preparation as grams of standard colour was determined by dye-trial.”

The `Dyestuff` data are described in Box and Tiao (1973) as illustrating “the case where between-batches mean square is less than the within-batches mean square. These data had to be constructed for although examples of this sort undoubtably occur in practice, they seem to be rarely published.”

Source

- O.L. Davies and P.L. Goldsmith (eds), *Statistical Methods in Research and Production, 4th ed.*, Oliver and Boyd, (1972), section 6.4

Examples

```r
require(lattice)
str(Dyestuff)
dotplot(reorder(Batch, Yield) ~ Yield, Dyestuff,
      ylab = "Batch", jitter.y = TRUE, aspect = 0.3,
      type = c("p", "a"))
dotplot(reorder(Batch, Yield) ~ Yield, Dyestuff2,
```
expandDoubleVerts

Description

From the right hand side of a formula for a mixed-effects model, expand terms with the double vertical bar operator into separate, independent random effect terms.

Usage

expandDoubleVerts(term)

Arguments

term a mixed-model formula

Value

the modified term

Note

Because || works at the level of formula parsing, it has no way of knowing whether a variable is a factor. It just takes the terms within a random-effects term and literally splits them into the intercept and separate no-intercept terms, e.g. (1+x+y|f) would be split into (1|f) + (0+x|f) + (0+y|f). However, || will fail to break up factors into separate terms; the dummy function can be useful in this case, although it is not as convenient as ||.

See Also

formula, model.frame, model.matrix, dummy.

Other utilities: mkRespMod, mkReTrms, nlformula, nobars, subbars

Examples

m <- ~ x + (x || g)
expandDoubleVerts(m)
set.seed(101)
dd <- expand.grid(f=factor(letters[1:3]),g=factor(1:200),rep=1:3)
dd$y <- simulate(~f + (1|g) + (0+dummy(f,"b")|g) + (0+dummy(f,"c")|g),
newdata=dd,
newparams=list(beta=rep(0,3),
theta=c(1,2,1),
sigma=1),
factorize

family=gaussian)

m1 <- lmer(y~f+(f|g), data=dd)
VarCorr(m1)

m2 <- lmer(y~f+(1|g) + (0+dummy(f,"b")|g) + (0+dummy(f,"c")|g),
  data=dd)
VarCorr(m2)

factorize

Attempt to convert grouping variables to factors

Description

If variables within a data frame are not factors, try to convert them. Not intended for end-user use; this is a utility function that needs to be exported, for technical reasons.

Usage

factorize(x,frloc,char.only=FALSE)

Arguments

x a formula
frloc a data frame
char.only (logical) convert only character variables to factors?

Value

a copy of the data frame with factors converted

findbars

Determine random-effects expressions from a formula

Description

From the right hand side of a formula for a mixed-effects model, determine the pairs of expressions that are separated by the vertical bar operator. Also expand the slash operator in grouping factor expressions and expand terms with the double vertical bar operator into separate, independent random effect terms.

Usage

findbars(term)

Arguments

term a mixed-model formula
Value

pairs of expressions that were separated by vertical bars

Note

This function is called recursively on individual terms in the model, which is why the argument is called `term` and not a name like `form`, indicating a formula.

See Also

`formula`, `model.frame`, `model.matrix`.

Other utilities: `mkRespMod`, `mkReTrms`, `nlformula`, `nobars`, `subbars`

Examples

```r
findbars(f1 <- Reaction ~ Days + (Days | Subject))
## => list( Days | Subject )
## These two are equivalent:
findbars(y ~ Days + (1 | Subject) + (0 + Days | Subject))
findbars(y ~ Days + (Days || Subject))
## => list of length 2: list ( 1 | Subject , 0 + Days | Subject)
findbars(~ 1 + (1 | batch / cask))
## => list of length 2: list ( 1 | cask:batch , 1 | batch)
```

---

**fixef**

*Extract fixed-effects estimates*

**Description**

Extract the fixed-effects estimates

**Usage**

```r
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
fixef(object, add.dropped=FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

- `object` any fitted model object from which fixed effects estimates can be extracted.
- `add.dropped` for models with rank-deficient design matrix, reconstitute the full-length parameter vector by adding NA values in appropriate locations?
- `...` optional additional arguments. Currently none are used in any methods.

**Details**

Extract the estimates of the fixed-effects parameters from a fitted model.
Value

a named, numeric vector of fixed-effects estimates.

Examples

```r
fixef(lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (1|Subject) + (0+Days|Subject), sleepstudy))
fm2 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + Days2 + (1|Subject),
            data=transform(sleepstudy,Days2=Days))
fixef(fm2,add.dropped=TRUE)
## first two parameters are the same ...
stopifnot(all.equal(fixef(fm2,add.dropped=TRUE)[1:2],
                   fixef(fm2)))
```

fortify

add information to data based on a fitted model

Description

add information to data based on a fitted model

Usage

```r
fortify.merMod(model, data = getData(model),
               ...)```

Arguments

- `model`: fitted model
- `data`: original data set, if needed
- `...`: additional arguments

Details

`fortify` is a function defined in the `ggplot2` package, q.v. for more details. `fortify` is not defined here, and `fortify.merMod` is defined as a function rather than an S3 method, to avoid (1) inducing a dependency on `ggplot2` or (2) masking methods from `ggplot2`. This is currently an experimental feature.
Extract or Get Generalized Components from a Fitted Mixed Effects Model

**Description**

Extract (or “get”) “components” – in a generalized sense – from a fitted mixed-effects model, i.e., (in this version of the package) from an object of class "merMod".

**Usage**

```r
getME(object, name, ...)  
```

## S3 method for class 'merMod'

```r
getME(object,  
   name = c("X", "Z", "Zt", "Ztlist", "mmList", "y", "mu", "u", "b",  
            "A", "RX", "RZX", "sigma", "flist",  
            "fixef", "beta", "theta", "ST", "REML", "is_REML",  
            "n_rtrms", "n_rfacs", "N", "n", "p", "q",  
            "p_i", "l_i", "q_i", "k", "m_i", "m",  
            "cnms", "devcomp", "offset", "lower", "devfun", "glmer.nb.theta"),  
   ...)  
```

**Arguments**

- `object` a fitted mixed-effects model of class "merMod", i.e., typically the result of `lmer()`, `glmer()` or `nlmer()`.
- `name` a character vector specifying the name(s) of the “component”. If `length(name) > 1` or if `name = "ALL"`, a named `list` of components will be returned. Possible values are:
  - "X": fixed-effects model matrix
  - "Z": random-effects model matrix
  - "Zt": transpose of random-effects model matrix. Note that the structure of Zt has changed since `lme4.0`; to get a backward-compatible structure, use `do.call(Matrix::rBind,getME(.,"Ztlist"))`
  - "Ztlist": list of components of the transpose of the random-effects model matrix, separated by individual variance component
  - "mmList": list of raw model matrices associated with random effects terms
  - "y": response vector
  - "mu": conditional mean of the response
  - "u": conditional mode of the “spherical” random effects variable
  - "b": conditional mode of the random effects variable
"Gp": groups pointer vector. A pointer to the beginning of each group of random effects corresponding to the random-effects terms, beginning with 0 and including a final element giving the total number of random effects

"Tp": theta pointer vector. A pointer to the beginning of the theta sub-vectors corresponding to the random-effects terms, beginning with 0 and including a final element giving the number of thetas.

"L": sparse Cholesky factor of the penalized random-effects model.

"Lambda": relative covariance factor $\Lambda$ of the random effects.

"Lambdat": transpose $\Lambda'$ of $\Lambda$ above.

"Lind": index vector for inserting elements of $\theta$ into the nonzeros of $\Lambda$.

"Tlist": vector of template matrices from which the blocks of $\Lambda$ are generated.

"A": Scaled sparse model matrix (class "dgCMatrix") for the unit, orthogonal random effects, $U$, equal to getME(.,"Zt") %*% getME(.,"Lambdat")

"RX": Cholesky factor for the fixed-effects parameters

"RZX": cross-term in the full Cholesky factor

"sigma": residual standard error; note that sigma(object) is preferred.

"flist": a list of the grouping variables (factors) involved in the random effect terms

"fixef": fixed-effects parameter estimates

"beta": fixed-effects parameter estimates (identical to the result of fixef, but without names)

"theta": random-effects parameter estimates: these are parameterized as the relative Cholesky factors of each random effect term

"ST": A list of $S$ and $T$ factors in the TSST' Cholesky factorization of the relative variance matrices of the random effects associated with each random-effects term. The unit lower triangular matrix, $T$, and the diagonal matrix, $S$, for each term are stored as a single matrix with diagonal elements from $S$ and off-diagonal elements from $T$.

"n_rtrms": number of random-effects terms

"n_rfacs": number of distinct random-effects grouping factors

"N": number of rows of $X$

"n": length of the response vector, $y$

"p": number of columns of the fixed effects model matrix, $X$

"q": number of columns of the random effects model matrix, $Z$

"p_i": numbers of columns of the raw model matrices, mmList

"l_i": numbers of levels of the grouping factors

"q_i": numbers of columns of the term-wise model matrices, ZtList

"k": number of random effects terms

"m_i": numbers of covariance parameters in each term

"m": total number of covariance parameters

"cnms": the "component names", a list.

"REML": 0 indicates the model was fitted by maximum likelihood, any other positive integer indicates fitting by restricted maximum likelihood

"is_REML": same as the result of isREML(.)
"devcomp": a list consisting of a named numeric vector, cmp, and a named integer vector, dims, describing the fitted model. The elements of cmp are:

- **ldL2**: twice the log determinant of L
- **ldRX2**: twice the log determinant of RX
- **wrsr**: weighted residual sum of squares
- **ussq**: squared length of u
- **pwrss**: penalized weighted residual sum of squares, “wrsr + ussq”
- **drsum**: sum of residual deviance (GLMMs only)

REML: REML criterion at optimum (LMMs fit by REML only)
- **dev**: deviance criterion at optimum (models fit by ML only)
- **sigmaML**: ML estimate of residual standard deviation
- **sigmaREML**: REML estimate of residual standard deviation
- **tolPwrss**: tolerance for declaring convergence in the penalized iteratively weighted residual sum-of-squares (GLMMs only)

The elements of dims are:

- **N**: number of rows of X
- **n**: length of y
- **p**: number of columns of X
- **nmp**: n-p
- **nth**: length of theta
- **q**: number of columns of Z
- **nAGQ**: see glmer
- **compDev**: see glmerControl
- **useSc**: TRUE if model has a scale parameter
- **reTrms**: number of random effects terms
- **REML**: 0 indicates the model was fitted by maximum likelihood, any other positive integer indicates fitting by restricted maximum likelihood

GLMM: TRUE if a GLMM
- **NLMM**: TRUE if an NLMM

"offset": model offset
- **lower**: lower bounds on model parameters (random effects parameters only).
- **devfun**: deviance function (so far only available for LMMs)
- **glmer.nb.theta**: negative binomial θ parameter, only for glmer.nb.
- **ALL**: get all of the above as a list.

... currently unused in lme4, potentially further arguments in methods.

**Details**

The goal is to provide “everything a user may want” from a fitted “merMod” object as far as it is not available by methods, such as fixef, ranef, vcov, etc.
**Value**

Unspecified, as very much depending on the name.

**See Also**

`getCall()`. More standard methods for "merMod" objects, such as `ranef`, `fixef`, `vcov`, etc.: see `methods(class="merMod")`

**Examples**

```r
## shows many methods you should consider *before* using getME():
methods(class = "merMod")

(fm1 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (Days|Subject), sleepstudy))
Z <- getME(fm1, "Z")
stopifnot(is(Z, "CsparseMatrix"),
          c(100, 36) == dim(Z),
          all.equal(fixef(fm1), beta <- getME(fm1, "beta"),
                     check.attributes=FALSE, tolerance = 0))

## A way to get *all* getME()s:
## internal consistency check ensuring that all work:
parts <- getME(fm1, "ALL")
str(parts, max=2)
stopifnot(identical(Z, parts $ Z),
          identical(beta, parts $ beta))
```

---

**Description**

Create a univariate Gauss-Hermite quadrature rule.

**Usage**

```r
GHrule(ord, asMatrix = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

- **ord**
  - scalar integer between 1 and 25 - the order, or number of nodes and weights, in the rule. When the function being multiplied by the standard normal density is a polynomial of order 2k-1 the rule of order k integrates the product exactly.

- **asMatrix**
  - logical scalar - should the result be returned as a matrix. If FALSE a data frame is returned. Defaults to TRUE.
Details

This version of Gauss-Hermite quadrature provides the node positions and weights for a scalar integral of a function multiplied by the standard normal density.

Originally based on package SparseGrid's hidden GQN().

Value

a matrix (or data frame, is asMatrix is false) with ord rows and three columns which are z the node positions, w the weights and ldnorm, the logarithm of the normal density evaluated at the nodes.

See Also

a different interface is available via GQdk().

Examples

(r5 <- GHRule(5, asMatrix=FALSE))
## second, fourth, sixth, eighth and tenth central moments of the
## standard Gaussian density
with(r5, sapply(seq(2, 10, 2), function(p) sum(w * z^p)))

---

glmer

Fitting Generalized Linear Mixed-Effects Models

Description

Fit a generalized linear mixed-effects model (GLMM). Both fixed effects and random effects are specified via the model formula.

Usage

glmer(formula, data = NULL, family = gaussian, control = glmerControl(),
start = NULL, verbose = 0L, nAGQ = 1L, subset, weights, na.action,
offset, contrasts = NULL, mustart, etastart,
devFunOnly = FALSE, ...)

Arguments

formula a two-sided linear formula object describing both the fixed-effects and random-effects part of the model, with the response on the left of a ~ operator and the terms, separated by + operators, on the right. Random-effects terms are distinguished by vertical bars ("|") separating expressions for design matrices from grouping factors.
data an optional data frame containing the variables named in formula. By default the variables are taken from the environment from which lmer is called. While data is optional, the package authors strongly recommend its use, especially when later applying methods such as update and drop1 to the fitted model (such methods are not guaranteed to work properly if data is omitted). If data is omitted, variables will be taken from the environment of formula (if specified as a formula) or from the parent frame (if specified as a character vector).

family a GLM family, see glm and family.

control a list (of correct class, resulting from lmerControl() or glmerControl() respectively) containing control parameters, including the nonlinear optimizer to be used and parameters to be passed through to the nonlinear optimizer, see the *lmerControl documentation for details.

start a named list of starting values for the parameters in the model, or a numeric vector. A numeric start argument will be used as the starting value of theta. If start is a list, the theta element (a numeric vector) is used as the starting value for the first optimization step (default=1 for diagonal elements and 0 for off-diagonal elements of the lower Cholesky factor); the fitted value of theta from the first step, plus start["fixef"], are used as starting values for the second optimization step. If start has both fixef and theta elements, the first optimization step is skipped. For more details or finer control of optimization, see modular.

verbose integer scalar. If > 0 verbose output is generated during the optimization of the parameter estimates. If > 1 verbose output is generated during the individual penalized iteratively reweighted least squares (PIRLS) steps.

nAGQ integer scalar - the number of points per axis for evaluating the adaptive Gauss-Hermite approximation to the log-likelihood. Defaults to 1, corresponding to the Laplace approximation. Values greater than 1 produce greater accuracy in the evaluation of the log-likelihood at the expense of speed. A value of zero uses a faster but less exact form of parameter estimation for GLMMs by optimizing the random effects and the fixed-effects coefficients in the penalized iteratively reweighted least squares step. (See Details.)

subset an optional expression indicating the subset of the rows of data that should be used in the fit. This can be a logical vector, or a numeric vector indicating which observation numbers are to be included, or a character vector of the row names to be included. All observations are included by default.

weights an optional vector of 'prior weights' to be used in the fitting process. Should be NULL or a numeric vector.

na.action a function that indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The default action (na.omit, inherited from the ‘factory fresh’ value ofgetOption("na.action")) strips any observations with any missing values in any variables.

offset this can be used to specify an a priori known component to be included in the linear predictor during fitting. This should be NULL or a numeric vector of length equal to the number of cases. One or more offset terms can be included in the formula instead or as well, and if more than one is specified their sum is used. See model.offset.

contrasts an optional list. See the contrasts.arg of model.matrix.default.
mustart  optional starting values on the scale of the conditional mean, as in glm; see there for details.
etastart  optional starting values on the scale of the unbounded predictor as in glm; see there for details.
devFunOnly  logical - return only the deviance evaluation function. Note that because the deviance function operates on variables stored in its environment, it may not return exactly the same values on subsequent calls (but the results should always be within machine tolerance).

... other potential arguments. A method argument was used in earlier versions of the package. Its functionality has been replaced by the nAGQ argument.

Details
Fit a generalized linear mixed model, which incorporates both fixed-effects parameters and random effects in a linear predictor, via maximum likelihood. The linear predictor is related to the conditional mean of the response through the inverse link function defined in the GLM family.

The expression for the likelihood of a mixed-effects model is an integral over the random effects space. For a linear mixed-effects model (LMM), as fit by lmer, this integral can be evaluated exactly. For a GLMM the integral must be approximated. The most reliable approximation for GLMMs is adaptive Gauss-Hermite quadrature, at present implemented only for models with a single scalar random effect. The nAGQ argument controls the number of nodes in the quadrature formula. A model with a single, scalar random-effects term could reasonably use up to 25 quadrature points per scalar integral.

Value
An object of class merMod (more specifically, an object of subclass glmerMod) for which many methods are available (e.g. methods(class="merMod"))

See Also
lmer (for details on formulas and parameterization); glm for Generalized Linear Models (without random effects). nlmer for nonlinear mixed-effects models.
glmer.nb to fit negative binomial GLMMs.

Examples
## generalized linear mixed model
library(lattice)
xyplot(incidence/size ~ period|herd, cbpp, type=c('g','p','l'),
layout=c(3,5), index.cond = function(x,y)max(y))
(gl1 <- glmer(cbind(incidence, size - incidence) ~ period + (1 | herd),
data = cbpp, family = binomial))
## using nAGQ=0 only gets close to the optimum
(glma <- glmer(cbind(incidence, size - incidence) ~ period + (1 | herd),
cbpp, binomial, nAGQ = 0))
## using nAGQ = 9 provides a better evaluation of the deviance
## Currently the internal calculations use the sum of deviance residuals,
## which is not directly comparable with the nAGQ=0 or nAGQ=1 result.
Fitting Negative Binomial GLMMs

Description

Fits a generalized linear mixed-effects model (GLMM) for the negative binomial family, building on glmer, and initializing via theta.ml from MASS.

Usage

```r
glmer.nb(..., interval = log(th) + c(-3, 3),
         tol = 5e-5, verbose = FALSE, nb.control = NULL,
         initCtrl = list(limit = 20, eps = 2*tol, trace = verbose,
                          theta = NULL))
```

Arguments

... arguments as for glmer(.) such as formula, data, control, etc, but not family!
interval

interval in which to start the optimization. The default is symmetric on log scale around the initially estimated theta.

tol
tolerance for the optimization via `optimize`.

verbose

`logical` indicating how much progress information should be printed during the optimization. Use `verbose = 2` (or larger) to enable `verbose = TRUE` in the `glmer()` calls.

nb.control

optional `list`, like `glmerControl()`, used in `refit(*, control = control.nb)` during the optimization.

initCtrl

`(experimental, do not rely on this:) a `list` with named components as in the default, passed to `theta.ml` (package `MASS`) for the initial value of the negative binomial parameter theta. May also include a theta component, in which case the initial estimation step is skipped.

Value

An object of class `glmerMod`, for which many methods are available (e.g. `methods(class = "glmerMod"))`, see `glmer`.

Note

For historical reasons, the shape parameter of the negative binomial and the random effects parameters in our (G)LMM models are both called theta (\( \theta \)), but are unrelated here.

The negative binomial \( \theta \) can be extracted from a fit `g <- glmer.nb()` by `getME(g, "glmer.nb.theta")`.

Parts of `glmer.nb()` are still experimental and methods are still missing or suboptimal. In particular, there is no inference available for the dispersion parameter \( \theta \), yet.

To fit a negative binomial model with known overdispersion parameter (e.g. as part of a model comparison exercise, use `glmer` with the `negative.binomial` family from the `MASS` package, e.g. `glmer(..., family = MASS::negative.binomial(theta = 1.75))`.

See Also

`glmer`; from package `MASS`, `negative.binomial` (which we re-export currently) and `theta.ml`, the latter for initialization of optimization.

The ‘Details’ of `pnbinom` for the definition of the negative binomial distribution.

Examples

```r
set.seed(101)
dd <- expand.grid(f1 = factor(1:3),
                  f2 = LETTERS[1:2], g=1:9, rep=1:15,
                  KEEP.OUT.ATTRS=FALSE)
summary(mu <- 5*(-4 + with(dd, as.integer(f1) + 4*as.numeric(f2))))
ddsy <- rnbinom(nrow(dd), mu = mu, size = 0.5)
str(dd)
require("MASS")## and use its glm.nb() - as indeed we have zero random effect:
## Not run:
m.glm <- glm.nb(y ~ f1*f2, data=dd, trace=TRUE)
summary(m.glm)
```
m.nb <- glmer.nb(y ~ f1*f2 + (1|g), data=dd, verbose=TRUE)
m.nb
## The neg.binomial theta parameter:
getME(m.nb, "glmer.nb.theta")
LL <- logLik(m.nb)
## mixed model has 1 additional parameter (RE variance)
stopifnot(attr(LL, "df") == attr(logLik(m.glm), "df") + 1)
plot(m.nb, resid(.) ~ g)# works, as long as data 'dd' is found

## End(Not run)

---

**glmerLaplaceHandle**  
*Handle for glmerLaplace*

**Description**

Handle for calling the `glmerLaplace` C++ function. Not intended for routine use.

**Usage**

```r
glmerLaplaceHandle(pp, resp, nAGQ, tol, maxit, verbose)
```

**Arguments**

- **pp**: `merPredD` object
- **resp**: `lmResp` object
- **nAGQ**: see `glmer`
- **tol**: tolerance
- **maxit**: maximum number of pwrss iterations
- **verbose**: display optimizer progress

**Value**

Value of the objective function
glmFamily-class

glmFamily

Generator object for the glmFamily class

Description

The generator object for the glmFamily reference class. Such an object is primarily used through its new method.

Usage

glmFamily(...)

Arguments

... Named argument (see Note below)

Methods

new(family=family) Create a new glmFamily object

Note

Arguments to the new method must be named arguments.

See Also

glmFamily

glmFamily-class

Class "glmFamily" - a reference class for family

Description

This class is a wrapper class for family objects specifying a distribution family and link function for a generalized linear model (glm). The reference class contains an external pointer to a C++ object representing the class. For common families and link functions the functions in the family are implemented in compiled code so they can be accessed from other compiled code and for a speed boost.

Extends

All reference classes extend and inherit methods from "envRefClass".
**golden-class**

Note

Objects from this reference class correspond to objects in a C++ class. Methods are invoked on the C++ class using the external pointer in the `Ptr` field. When saving such an object the external pointer is converted to a null pointer, which is why there is a redundant field `ptr` that is an active-binding function returning the external pointer. If the `Ptr` field is a null pointer, the external pointer is regenerated for the stored `family` field.

See Also

`family, glmFamily`

Examples

```r
str(glmFamily$new(family=poisson()))
```

---

**golden-class**

Class "golden" and Generator for Golden Search Optimizer Class

Description

"golden" is a reference class for a golden search scalar optimizer, for a parameter within an interval. `golden()` is the generator for the "golden" class. The optimizer uses reverse communications.

Usage

```r
golden(...)
```

Arguments

... (partly optional) arguments passed to `new()` must be named arguments. `lower` and `upper` are the bounds for the scalar parameter; they must be finite.

Extends

All reference classes extend and inherit methods from "envRefClass".

Examples

```r
showClass("golden")
golden(lower= -1e00, upper= 1e+00)
```
Description

Generate the sparse multidimensional Gaussian quadrature grids.

Currently unused. See \texttt{GHrule()} for the version currently in use in package \texttt{lme4}.

Usage

\begin{verbatim}
GQdk(d = 1L, k = 1L)
GQN
\end{verbatim}

Arguments

- \texttt{d} integer scalar - the dimension of the function to be integrated with respect to the standard $d$-dimensional Gaussian density.
- \texttt{k} integer scalar - the order of the grid. A grid of order \texttt{k} provides an exact result for a polynomial of total order of \texttt{2k} or less.

Value

\texttt{GQdk()} returns a matrix with $d + 1$ columns. The first column is the weights and the remaining $d$ columns are the node coordinates.

\texttt{GQN} is a list of lists, containing the non-redundant quadrature nodes and weights for integration of a scalar function of a $d$-dimensional argument with respect to the density function of the $d$-dimensional Gaussian density function.

The outer list is indexed by the dimension, \texttt{d}, in the range of 1 to 20. The inner list is indexed by \texttt{k}, the order of the quadrature.

Note

\texttt{GQN} contains only the non-redundant nodes. To regenerate the whole array of nodes, all possible permutations of axes and all possible combinations of $\pm 1$ must be applied to the axes. This entire array of nodes is exactly what \texttt{GQdk()} reproduces.

The number of nodes gets very large very quickly with increasing \texttt{d} and \texttt{k}. See the charts at \url{http://www.sparse-grids.de}.

Examples

\begin{verbatim}
GQdk(2,5) # 53 x 3
GQN[[3]][[5]] # a 14 x 4 matrix
\end{verbatim}
Data on red grouse ticks from Elston et al. 2001

Description

Number of ticks on the heads of red grouse chicks sampled in the field (grouseticks) and an aggregated version (grouseticks_agg); see original source for more details.

Usage

data(grouseticks)

Format

INDEX (factor) chick number (observation level)
TICKS number of ticks sampled
BROOD (factor) brood number
HEIGHT height above sea level (meters)
YEAR year (-1900)
LOCATION (factor) geographic location code
cheIGHT centered height, derived from HEIGHT
meanTICKS mean number of ticks by brood
varTICKS variance of number of ticks by brood

Details

grouseticks_agg is just a brood-level aggregation of the data

Source

Robert Moss, via David Elston

References

Examples

```r
data(grouseticks)
## Figure 1a from Elston et al
par(las=1,bty="l")
tvec <- c(0,1,2,5,20,40,80)
pvec <- c(4,1,3)
with(grouseticks_aggd_plot(1+meanTICKS-HEIGHT,
pch=pvec[factor(YEAR)],
log="y",axes=FALSE,
xlab="Altitude (m)",
ylab="Brood mean ticks")
axis(side=1)
axis(side=2,at=tvec+1,label=tvec)
box()
abline(y=405,lty=2)
## Figure 1b
with(grouseticks_aggd_plot(varTICKS-meanTICKS,
pch=4,
xlab="Brood mean ticks",
ylab="Within-brood variance")
curve(1+x,from=0,to=70,add=TRUE)
## Model fitting
form <- TICKS~YEAR+HEIGHT+(1|BROOD)+(1|INDEX)+(1|LOCATION)
(full_mod) <- glmer(form, family="poisson",data=grouseticks)
```

hatvalues.merMod

**Diagonal elements of the hat matrix**

**Description**

Returns the values on the diagonal of the hat matrix, which is the matrix that transforms the response vector (minus any offset) into the fitted values (minus any offset). Note that this method should only be used for linear mixed models. It is not clear if the hat matrix concept even makes sense for generalized linear mixed models.

**Usage**

```r
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
hatvalues(model, fullHatMatrix = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

- `model` An object of class `merMod`.
- `fullHatMatrix` Return full hat matrix (not just diagonal values)?
- `...` Not currently used

**Value**

The diagonal elements of the hat matrix.
Examples

```r
m <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (Days | Subject), sleepstudy)
hatvalues(m)
```

Description

These functions compute deletion influence diagnostics for linear (fit by `lmer`) and generalized linear mixed-effects models (fit by `glmer`). The main functions are methods for the `influence` generic function. Other functions are provided for computing `dfbeta`, `dfbetas`, `cooks.distance`, and influence on variance-covariance components based on the objects computed by `influence.merMod`.

Usage

```r
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
influence(model, groups, data, maxfun=1000, do.coef = TRUE, ...)  
## S3 method for class 'influence.merMod'
cooks.distance(model, ...)  
## S3 method for class 'influence.merMod'
dfbeta(model, which = c("fixed", "var.cov"), ...)  
## S3 method for class 'influence.merMod'
dfbetas(model, ...)
```

Arguments

- `model`: in the case of `influence.merMod`, a model of class "merMod"; in the case of `cooks.distance`, `dfbeta`, or `dfbetas`, an object returned by `influence.merMod`.
- `groups`: a character vector containing the name of a grouping factor or names of grouping factors; if more than one name is supplied, then groups are defined by all combinations of levels of the grouping factors that appear in the data. If omitted, then each individual row of the data matrix is treated as a “group” to be deleted in turn.
- `data`: an optional data frame with the data to which `model` was fit; `influence.merMod` can usually retrieve the data used to fit the model, unless it can’t be found in the current environment, so it’s usually unnecessary to supply this argument.
- `maxfun`: The maximum number of function evaluations (for `influence.merMod`) to perform after deleting each group; the defaults are large enough so that the iterations will typically continue to convergence. Setting to `maxfun=20` for an `lmer` model or `100` for a `glmer` model will typically produce a faster reasonable approximation. An even smaller value can be used if interest is only in influence on the fixed effects.
- `which`: if "fixed.effects" (the default), return influence on the fixed effects; if "var.cov", return influence on the variance-covariance components.
influence.merMod

do.coef if FALSE, skip potentially time-consuming computations; return just a list containing hat values

Details

influence.merMod start with the estimated variance-covariance components from model and then refit the model omitting each group in turn, not necessarily iterating to completion. For example, maxfun=20 takes up to 20 function evaluations step away from the ML or REML solution for the full data, which usually provides decent approximations to the fully iterated estimates.

The other functions are methods for the dfbeta, dfbetas, and cooks.distance generics, to be applied to the "influence.merMod" object produced by the influence function; the dfbeta methods can also return influence on the variance-covariance components.

Value

influence.merMod returns objects of class "influence.merMod", which contain the following elements:

"fixed.effects" the estimated fixed effects for the model.
"fixed.effects[-groups]" a matrix with columns corresponding to the fixed-effects coefficients and rows corresponding to groups, giving the estimated fixed effects with each group deleted in turn; groups is formed from the name(s) of the grouping factor(s).
"var.cov.comps" the estimated variance-covariance parameters for the model.
"var.cov.comps[-groups]" a matrix with the estimated covariance parameters (in columns) with each group deleted in turn.
"vcov" The estimated covariance matrix of the fixed-effects coefficients.
"vcov[-groups]" a list each of whose elements is the estimated covariance matrix of the fixed-effects coefficients with one group deleted.
"groups" a character vector giving the names of the grouping factors.
"deleted" the possibly composite grouping factor, each of whose elements is deleted in turn.
"converged" for influence.merMod, a logical vector indicating whether the computation converged for each group.
"function.evals" for influence.merMod, a vector of the number of function evaluations performed for each group.

For plotting "influence.merMod" objects, see infIndexPlot.

Author(s)

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References

InstEval

University Lecture/Instructor Evaluations by Students at ETH

Description

University lecture evaluations by students at ETH Zurich, anonymized for privacy protection. This is an interesting “medium” sized example of a partially nested mixed effect model.

Format

A data frame with 73421 observations on the following 7 variables.

- s a factor with levels 1:2972 denoting individual students.
- d a factor with 1128 levels from 1:2160, denoting individual professors or lecturers.
- studage an ordered factor with levels 2 < 4 < 6 < 8, denoting student’s “age” measured in the semester number the student has been enrolled.
- lectage an ordered factor with 6 levels, 1 < 2 < ... < 6, measuring how many semesters back the lecture rated had taken place.
- service a binary factor with levels 0 and 1; a lecture is a “service”, if held for a different department than the lecturer’s main one.
- dept a factor with 14 levels from 1:15, using a random code for the department of the lecture.
isNested

`y` a numeric vector of *ratings* of lectures by the students, using the discrete scale 1:5, with meanings of ‘poor’ to ‘very good’.

Each observation is one student’s rating for a specific lecture (of one lecturer, during one semester in the past).

**Details**

The main goal of the survey is to find “the best liked prof”, according to the lectures given. Statistical analysis of such data has been the basis for a (student) jury selecting the final winners.

The present data set has been anonymized and slightly simplified on purpose.

**Examples**

```r
str(InstEval)
head(InstEval, 16)
xtabs(~ service + dept, InstEval)
```

---

**isNested**

Is `f1` nested within `f2`?

**Description**

Does every level of `f1` occur in conjunction with exactly one level of `f2`? The function is based on converting a triplet sparse matrix to a compressed column-oriented form in which the nesting can be quickly evaluated.

**Usage**

```r
isNested(f1, f2)
```

**Arguments**

- `f1` factor 1
- `f2` factor 2

**Value**

TRUE if factor 1 is nested within factor 2

**Examples**

```r
with(Pastes, isNested(cask, batch))  ## => FALSE
with(Pastes, isNested(sample, batch))  ## => TRUE
```
Description

Check characteristics of models: whether a model fit corresponds to a linear (LMM), generalized
linear (GLMM), or nonlinear (NLMM) mixed model, and whether a linear mixed model has been
fitted by REML or not (isREML(x) is always FALSE for GLMMs and NLMMs).

Usage

isREML(x, ...)

isLMM(x, ...)

isNLMM(x, ...)

isGLMM(x, ...)

Arguments

x a fitted model.

... additional, optional arguments. (None are used in the merMod methods)

Details

These are generic functions. At present the only methods are for mixed-effects models of class
merMod.

Value

a logical value

See Also

glmer

glmmTMB

Examples

fm1 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (Days|Subject), sleepstudy)
gm1 <- glmer(cbind(incidence, size - incidence) ~ period + (1 | herd),
               data = cbpp, family = binomial)
nm1 <- nlmer(circumference ~ SSlogis(age, Asym, xmid, scal) ~ Asym|Tree,
             Orange, start = c(Asym = 200, xmid = 725, scal = 350))

isLMM(fm1)
isGLMM(gm1)

## check all :
isSingular <- function(x) c(LMM = isLMM(x), GLMM = isGLMM(x), NLMM = isNLMM(x))
stopifnot(cbind(is.MM(fm1), is.MM(gm1), is.MM(nm1))
== diag(rep(TRUE,3)))

isSingular Test fitted model for (near) singularity

Description
Evaluates whether a fitted mixed model is singular, i.e. the parameters are on the boundary of the feasible parameter space: variances of one or more linear combinations of effects are (close to) zero.

Usage
isSingular(x, tol = 1e-05)

Arguments
x a fitted merMod object (result of lmer or glmer)
tol numerical tolerance for detecting singularity

Details
Complex mixed-effect models (i.e., those with a large number of variance-covariance parameters) frequently result in singular fits, i.e. estimated variance-covariance matrices with less than full rank. Less technically, this means that some "dimensions" of the variance-covariance matrix have been estimated as exactly zero. For scalar random effects such as intercept-only models, or 2-dimensional random effects such as intercept+slope models, singularity is relatively easy to detect because it leads to random-effect variance estimates of (nearly) zero, or estimates of correlations that are (almost) exactly -1 or 1. However, for more complex models (variance-covariance matrices of dimension >=3) singularity can be hard to detect; models can often be singular without any of their individual variances being close to zero or correlations being close to +/-1.

This function performs a simple test to determine whether any of the random effects covariance matrices of a fitted model are singular. The repCA method provides more detail about the singularity pattern, showing the standard deviations of orthogonal variance components and the mapping from variance terms in the model to orthogonal components (i.e., eigenvector/rotation matrices).

While singular models are statistically well defined (it is theoretically sensible for the true maximum likelihood estimate to correspond to a singular fit), there are real concerns that (1) singular fits correspond to overfitted models that may have poor power; (2) chances of numerical problems and mis-convergence are higher for singular models (e.g. it may be computationally difficult to compute profile confidence intervals for such models); (3) standard inferential procedures such as Wald statistics and likelihood ratio tests may be inappropriate.

There is not yet consensus about how to deal with singularity, or more generally to choose which random-effects specification (from a range of choices of varying complexity) to use. Some proposals include:
• avoid fitting overly complex models in the first place, i.e. design experiments/restrict models a priori such that the variance-covariance matrices can be estimated precisely enough to avoid singularity (Matuschek et al 2017)

• use some form of model selection to choose a model that balances predictive accuracy and overfitting/type I error (Bates et al 2015, Matuschek et al 2017)

• “keep it maximal”, i.e. fit the most complex model consistent with the experimental design, removing only terms required to allow a non-singular fit (Barr et al. 2013), or removing further terms based on p-values or AIC

• use a partially Bayesian method that produces maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimates using regularizing priors to force the estimated random-effects variance-covariance matrices away from singularity (Chung et al 2013, blme package)

• use a fully Bayesian method that both regularizes the model via informative priors and gives estimates and credible intervals for all parameters that average over the uncertainty in the random effects parameters (Gelman and Hill 2006, McElreath 2015; MCMCglmm, rstanarm and brms packages)

Value

a logical value

References


See Also

gtME, rePCA
**lmer**

*Fit Linear Mixed-Effects Models*

**Description**

Fit a linear mixed-effects model (LMM) to data, via REML or maximum likelihood.

**Usage**

```r
lmer(formula, data = NULL, REML = TRUE, control = lmerControl(),
     start = NULL, verbose = 0L, subset, weights, na.action,
     offset, contrasts = NULL, devFunOnly = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

- **formula**: a two-sided linear formula object describing both the fixed-effects and random-effects part of the model, with the response on the left of a `~` operator and the terms, separated by `+` operators, on the right. Random-effects terms are distinguished by vertical bars (`|`) separating expressions for design matrices from grouping factors. Two vertical bars (`||`) can be used to specify multiple uncorrelated random effects for the same grouping variable. (Because of the way it is implemented, the `||`-syntax works only for design matrices containing numeric (continuous) predictors; to fit models with independent categorical effects, see `dummy` or the `lmer_alt` function from the `afex` package.)

- **data**: an optional data frame containing the variables named in `formula`. By default the variables are taken from the environment from which `lmer` is called. While `data` is optional, the package authors strongly recommend its use, especially when later applying methods such as `update` and `drop1` to the fitted model (*such methods are not guaranteed to work properly if data is omitted*). If `data` is omitted, variables will be taken from the environment of `formula` (if specified as a formula) or from the parent frame (if specified as a character vector).

- **REML**: logical scalar - Should the estimates be chosen to optimize the REML criterion (as opposed to the log-likelihood)?

- **control**: a list (of correct class, resulting from `lmerControl()` or `glmerControl()` respectively) containing control parameters, including the nonlinear optimizer to be used and parameters to be passed through to the nonlinear optimizer, see the `*lmerControl` documentation for details.

- **start**: a named list of starting values for the parameters in the model. For `lmer` this can be a numeric vector or a list with one component named "theta".

- **verbose**: integer scalar. If > 0 verbose output is generated during the optimization of the parameter estimates. If > 1 verbose output is generated during the individual penalized iteratively reweighted least squares (PIRLS) steps.

- **subset**: an optional expression indicating the subset of the rows of `data` that should be used in the fit. This can be a logical vector, or a numeric vector indicating which observation numbers are to be included, or a character vector of the row names to be included. All observations are included by default.
weights an optional vector of ‘prior weights’ to be used in the fitting process. Should be NULL or a numeric vector. Prior weights are not normalized or standardized in any way. In particular, the diagonal of the residual covariance matrix is the squared residual standard deviation parameter \( \sigma \) times the vector of inverse weights. Therefore, if the weights have relatively large magnitudes, then in order to compensate, the \( \sigma \) parameter will also need to have a relatively large magnitude.

na.action a function that indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The default action (\texttt{na.omit}, inherited from the ‘factory fresh’ value of \texttt{getOption("na.action")}) strips any observations with any missing values in any variables.

offset this can be used to specify an \textit{a priori} known component to be included in the linear predictor during fitting. This should be NULL or a numeric vector of length equal to the number of cases. One or more \texttt{offset} terms can be included in the formula instead or as well, and if more than one is specified their sum is used. See \texttt{model.offset}.

contrasts an optional list. See the \texttt{contrasts.arg} of \texttt{model.matrix.default}.

devFunOnly logical - return only the deviance evaluation function. Note that because the deviance function operates on variables stored in its environment, it may not return \texttt{exactly} the same values on subsequent calls (but the results should always be within machine tolerance).

... other potential arguments. A method argument was used in earlier versions of the package. Its functionality has been replaced by the \texttt{REML} argument.

Details

- If the \texttt{formula} argument is specified as a character vector, the function will attempt to coerce it to a formula. However, this is not recommended (users who want to construct formulas by pasting together components are advised to use \texttt{as.formula} or \texttt{reformulate}); model fits will work but subsequent methods such as \texttt{drop1}, \texttt{update} may fail.

- When handling perfectly collinear predictor variables (i.e. design matrices of less than full rank), \texttt{[gn]lmer} is not quite as sophisticated as some simpler modeling frameworks such as \texttt{lm} and \texttt{glm}. While it does automatically drop collinear variables (with a message rather than a warning), it does not automatically fill in \texttt{NA} values for the dropped coefficients; these can be added via \texttt{fixef(fitted.model, add.dropped=TRUE)}. This information can also be retrieved via \texttt{attr(getME(fitted.model,\"X\"),\"col.dropped")}.

- The deviance function returned when \texttt{devFunOnly} is \texttt{TRUE} takes a single numeric vector argument, representing the \texttt{theta} vector. This vector defines the scaled variance-covariance matrices of the random effects, in the Cholesky parameterization. For models with only simple (intercept-only) random effects, \texttt{theta} is a vector of the standard deviations of the random effects. For more complex or multiple random effects, running \texttt{getME(.,\"theta\")} to retrieve the \texttt{theta} vector for a fitted model and examining the names of the vector is probably the easiest way to determine the correspondence between the elements of the \texttt{theta} vector and elements of the lower triangles of the Cholesky factors of the random effects.

Value

An object of class \texttt{merMod} (more specifically, an object of subclass \texttt{LmerMod}), for which many methods are available (e.g. \texttt{methods(class="merMod")})
See Also

- `lm` for linear models; `glmer` for generalized linear; and `nlmer` for nonlinear mixed models.

Examples

```r
## linear mixed models - reference values from older code
(fm1 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (Days | Subject), sleepstudy))
summary(fm1)# (with its own print method; see class?merMod % ./merMod-class.Rd

str(terms(fm1))
stopifnot(identical(terms(fm1, fixed.only=FALSE),
   terms(model.frame(fm1))))
attr(terms(fm1, FALSE), "dataClasses") # fixed.only=FALSE needed for dataCl.

fm1_ML <- update(fm1,REML=FALSE)
(fm2 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (Days || Subject), sleepstudy))
anova(fm1, fm2)
sm2 <- summary(fm2)
print(fm2, digits=7, ranef.comp="Var") # the print.merMod() method
print(sm2, digits=3, corr=FALSE) # the print.summary.merMod() method

(vv <- vcov.merMod(fm2, corr=TRUE))
as(vv, "corMatrix")# extracts the ("hidden") 'correlation' entry in @factors

## Fit sex-specific variances by constructing numeric dummy variables
## for sex and sex:age; in this case the estimated variance differences
## between groups in both intercept and slope are zero ...
data(Orthodont,package="nlme")
Orthodont$nsex <- as.numeric(Orthodont$Sex=="Male")
Orthodont$nsexage <- with(Orthodont, nsex*age)
lmer(distance ~ age + (age|Subject) + (0+nsex|Subject) +
   (0 + nsexage|Subject), data=Orthodont)
```

### lmerControl

**Control of Mixed Model Fitting**

Description

Construct control structures for mixed model fitting. All arguments have defaults, and can be grouped into

- general control parameters, most importantly optimizer, further restart_edge, etc;
- model- or data-checking specifications, in short “checking options”, such as check.nobs.vs.rankZ, or check.rankX (currently not for nlmerControl);
- all the parameters to be passed to the optimizer, e.g., maximal number of iterations, passed via the optCt rl list argument.
Usage

lmerControl(optimizer = "nloptwrap",

restart_edge = TRUE,
boundary.tol = 1e-5,
calc.derivs = TRUE,
use.last.params = FALSE,
sparseX = FALSE,
## input checking options
check.nobs.vs.rankZ = "ignore",
check.nobs.vs.nlev = "stop",
check.nlev.gtreq.5 = "ignore",
check.nlev.gtr.1 = "stop",
check.nobs.vs.nRE = "stop",
check.rankX = c("message+drop.cols", "silent.drop.cols", "warn+drop.cols",
               "stop.deficient", "ignore"),
check.scaleX = c("warning", "stop", "silent.rescale",
               "message+rescale", "warn+rescale", "ignore"),
check.formula.LHS = "stop",
## convergence checking options
check.conv.grad = .makeCC("warning", tol = 2e-3, relTol = NULL),
check.conv.singular = .makeCC(action = "message", tol = 1e-4),
check.conv.hess = .makeCC(action = "warning", tol = 1e-6),
## optimizer args
optCtrl = list())

glmerControl(optimizer = c("bobyqa", "Nelder_Mead"),
restart_edge = FALSE,
boundary.tol = 1e-5,
calc.derivs = TRUE,
use.last.params = FALSE,
sparseX = FALSE,
tolPwrss = 1e-7,
compDev = TRUE,
nAGQ0initStep = TRUE,
## input checking options
check.nobs.vs.rankZ = "ignore",
check.nobs.vs.nlev = "stop",
check.nlev.gtreq.5 = "ignore",
check.nlev.gtr.1 = "stop",
check.nobs.vs.nRE = "stop",
check.rankX = c("message+drop.cols", "silent.drop.cols", "warn+drop.cols",
               "stop.deficient", "ignore"),
check.scaleX = "warning",
check.formula.LHS = "stop",
check.response.not.const = "stop",
## convergence checking options
check.conv.grad = .makeCC("warning", tol = 1e-3, relTol = NULL),
check.conv.singular = .makeCC(action = "message", tol = 1e-4),
check.conv.hess = .makeCC(action = "warning", tol = 1e-6),
## optimizer args
optCtrl = list())

nlmerControl(optimizer = "Nelder_Mead", tolPwrs = 1e-10,
optCtrl = list())

.makeCC(action, tol, relTol, ...)

Arguments

optimizer character - name of optimizing function(s). A character vector or list of functions: length 1 for lmer or glmer, possibly length 2 for glmer). The built-in optimizers are Nelder_Mead and bobyqa (from the minqa package). Any minimizing function that allows box constraints can be used provided that it

(1) takes input parameters fn (function to be optimized), par (starting parameter values), lower and upper (parameter bounds) and control (control parameters, passed through from the control argument) and

(2) returns a list with (at least) elements par (best-fit parameters), fval (best-fit function value), conv (convergence code, equal to zero for successful convergence) and (optionally) message (informational message, or explanation of convergence failure).

Special provisions are made for bobyqa, Nelder_Mead, and optimizers wrapped in the optimx package; to use the optimx optimizers (including lMbfgsMb from base optim and nlminb), pass the method argument to optim in the optCtrl argument (you may need to load the optimx package manually using library(optimx)). For glmer, if length(optimizer)==2, the first element will be used for the preliminary (random effects parameters only) optimization, while the second will be used for the final (random effects plus fixed effect parameters) phase. See modular for more information on these two phases.

If optimizer is NULL (at present for lmer only), all of the model structures will be set up, but no optimization will be done (e.g. parameters will all be returned as NA).

calc.derivs logical - compute gradient and Hessian of nonlinear optimization solution?
use.last.params logical - should the last value of the parameters evaluated (TRUE), rather than the value of the parameters corresponding to the minimum deviance, be returned? This is a "backward bug-compatibility" option; use TRUE only when trying to match previous results.
sparseX logical - should a sparse model matrix be used for the fixed-effects terms? Currently inactive.
restart_edge logical - should the optimizer attempt a restart when it finds a solution at the boundary (i.e. zero random-effect variances or perfect +/−1 correlations)? (Currently only implemented for lmerControl.)
boundary.tol numeric - within what distance of a boundary should the boundary be checked for a better fit? (Set to zero to disable boundary checking.)
tolPwrss numeric scalar - the tolerance for declaring convergence in the penalized iteratively weighted residual sum-of-squares step.

compDev logical scalar - should compiled code be used for the deviance evaluation during the optimization of the parameter estimates?

nAGQ@initStep Run an initial optimization phase with nAGQ = 0. While the initial optimization usually provides a good starting point for subsequent fitting (thus increasing overall computational speed), setting this option to FALSE can be useful in cases where the initial phase results in bad fixed-effect estimates (seen most often in binomial models with link="cloglog" and offsets).

check.nlev.gtr.5 character - rules for checking whether all random effects have >= 5 levels. See action.

check.nlev.gtr.1 character - rules for checking whether all random effects have > 1 level. See action.

check.nobs.vs.rankZ character - rules for checking whether the number of observations is greater than (or greater than or equal to) the rank of the random effects design matrix (Z), usually necessary for identifiable variances. As for action, with the addition of "warningSmall" and "stopSmall", which run the test only if the dimensions of Z are < 1e6. nobs > rank(Z) will be tested for LMMs and GLMMs with estimated scale parameters; nobs >= rank(Z) will be tested for GLMMs with fixed scale parameter. The rank test is done using the method="qr" option of the rankMatrix function.

check.nobs.vs.nlev character - rules for checking whether the number of observations is less than (or less than or equal to) the number of levels of every grouping factor, usually necessary for identifiable variances. As for action. nobs<nlevels will be tested for LMMs and GLMMs with estimated scale parameters; nobs<=nlevels will be tested for GLMMs with fixed scale parameter.

check.nobs.vs.nRE character - rules for checking whether the number of observations is greater than (or greater than or equal to) the number of random-effects levels for each term, usually necessary for identifiable variances. As for check.nobs.vs.nlev.

check.conv.grad rules for checking the gradient of the deviance function for convergence. A list as returned by .makeCC, or a character string with only the action.

check.conv.singular rules for checking for a singular fit, i.e. one where some parameters are on the boundary of the feasible space (for example, random effects variances equal to 0 or correlations between random effects equal to +/- 1.0); as for check.conv.grad above.

check.conv.hess rules for checking the Hessian of the deviance function for convergence.; as for check.conv.grad above.

check.rankX character - specifying if rankMatrix(X) should be compared with ncol(X) and if columns from the design matrix should possibly be dropped to ensure that
it has full rank. Sometimes needed to make the model identifiable. The options can be abbreviated; the three "drop.cols" options all do drop columns, "stop.deficient" gives an error when the rank is smaller than the number of columns where "ignore" does no rank computation, and will typically lead to less easily understandable errors, later.

check.scaleX character - check for problematic scaling of columns of fixed-effect model matrix, e.g. parameters measured on very different scales.

check.formula.LHS check whether specified formula has a left-hand side. Primarily for internal use within simulate.merMod; use at your own risk as it may allow the generation of unstable merMod objects

check.response.not.const character - check that the response is not constant.

optCtrl a list of additional arguments to be passed to the nonlinear optimizer (see Nelder_Mead, bobyqa). In particular, both Nelder_Mead and bobyqa use maxfun to specify the maximum number of function evaluations they will try before giving up - in contrast to optim and optimx-wrapped optimizers, which use maxit. (Also see convergence for details of stopping tolerances for different optimizers.)

action character - generic choices for the severity level of any test. "ignore": skip the test. "warning": warn if test fails. "message": print a message if test fails. "stop": throw an error if test fails.

tol (numeric) tolerance for checking the gradient, scaled relative to the curvature (i.e., testing the gradient on a scale defined by its Wald standard deviation)

relTol (numeric) tolerance for the gradient, scaled relative to the magnitude of the estimated coefficient

... other elements to include in check specification

Details

Note that (only!) the pre-fitting "checking options" (i.e., all those starting with "check.") but not including the convergence checks ("check.conv.*") or rank-checking ("check.rank*") options may also be set globally via options. In that case, (g)1merControl will use them rather than the default values, but will not override values that are passed as explicit arguments. For example, options(lmerControl=list(check.nobs.vs.rankZ = "ignore")) will suppress warnings that the number of observations is less than the rank of the random effects model matrix Z.

Value

The *Control functions return a list (inheriting from class "merControl") containing

1. general control parameters, such as optimizer, restart_edge;
2. (currently not for n1merControl) "checkControl", a list of data-checking specifications, e.g., check.nobs.vs.rankZ;
3. parameters to be passed to the optimizer, i.e., the optCtrl list, which may contain maxiter.
.makeCC returns a list containing the check specification (action, tolerance, and optionally relative tolerance).

See Also

convergence

Examples

str(lmerControl())
str(glmerControl())
## fit with default "bobyqa" algorithm ...
fm0 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (1 | Subject), sleepstudy)
fm1 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (Days | Subject), sleepstudy)
## or with "Nelder_Mead" (the previous default) ...
fm1_bobyqa <- update(fm1, control = lmerControl(optimizer="Nelder_Mead"))
## or with the nlmib function used in older (<1.0) versions of lme4;
## this will usually replicate older results
if (require(optimx)) {
  fm1_nlmib <- update(fm1,
    control = lmerControl(optimizer = "optimx",
      optCtrl = list(method="nlmib")))
  ## The other option here is method="L-BFGS-B".
}
## Or we can wrap base::optim():
optimwrap <- function(fn,par,lower,upper,control=list(), ...)
  {
    if (is.null(control$method)) stop("must specify method in optCtrl")
    method <- control$method
    control$method <- NULL
    ## "Brent" requires finite upper values (lower bound will always
    ## be zero in this case)
    if (method="Brent") upper <- pmin(1e4, upper)
    res <- optim(par=par, fn=fn, lower=lower, upper=upper,
      control=control, method=method,...)
    with(res, list(par = par,
      fval = value,
      feval = counts[1],
      conv = convergence,
      message = message))
  }
fm0_brent <- update(fm0,
  control = lmerControl(optimizer = "optimwrap",
    optCtrl = list(method="Brent")))
## You can also use functions from the nloptr package.
if (require(nloptr)) {
  fm1_nloptr_NM <- update(fm1, control=lmerControl(optimizer="nloptrwrap",
    optCtrl=list(algorithm="NLOPT_LN_NELDERMEAD")))
  fm1_nloptr_COBYLA <- update(fm1, control=lmerControl(optimizer="nloptrwrap",
    optCtrl=list(algorithm="NLOPT_LN_COBYLA",
      xtol_rel=1e-6,
      xtol_abs=1e-10,}
Fit List of \texttt{lm} or \texttt{glm} Objects with a Common Model

\textbf{Description}

Fit a list of \texttt{lm} or \texttt{glm} objects with a common model for different subgroups of the data.

\textbf{Usage}

\begin{verbatim}
lmList(formula, data, family, subset, weights, na.action, offset, pool = !isGLM || .hasScale(family2char(family)), warn = TRUE, ...)
\end{verbatim}

\textbf{Arguments}

- \texttt{formula} a linear \texttt{formula} object of the form \( y \sim x_1+\ldots+x_n \mid g \). In the formula object, \( y \) represents the response, \( x_1, \ldots, x_n \) the covariates, and \( g \) the grouping factor specifying the partitioning of the data according to which different \texttt{lm} fits should be performed.

- \texttt{family} an optional \texttt{family} specification for a generalized linear model (\texttt{glm}).

- \texttt{data} an optional data frame containing the variables named in \texttt{formula}. By default the variables are taken from the environment from which \texttt{lmer} is called. See Details.

- \texttt{subset} an optional expression indicating the subset of the rows of data that should be used in the fit. This can be a logical vector, or a numeric vector indicating which observation numbers are to be included, or a character vector of the row names to be included. All observations are included by default.

- \texttt{weights} an optional vector of `prior weights` to be used in the fitting process. Should be \texttt{NULL} or a numeric vector.

- \texttt{na.action} a function that indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The default action (\texttt{na.omit}, inherited from the `factory fresh` value of \texttt{getOption("na.action")}) strips any observations with any missing values in any variables.

- \texttt{offset} this can be used to specify an \textit{a priori} known component to be included in the linear predictor during fitting. This should be \texttt{NULL} or a numeric vector of length equal to the number of cases. One or more \texttt{offset} terms can be included in the formula instead or as well, and if more than one is specified their sum is used. See \texttt{model.offset}.

- \texttt{pool} logical scalar indicating if the variance estimate should pool the residual sums of squares. By default true if the model has a scale parameter (which includes all linear, \texttt{lmer()}, ones).

- \texttt{warn} indicating if errors in the single fits should signal a “summary” \texttt{warning}.

- \texttt{...} additional, optional arguments to be passed to the model function or family evaluation.
Details

- While data is optional, the package authors strongly recommend its use, especially when later applying methods such as update and drop1 to the fitted model (such methods are not guaranteed to work properly if data is omitted). If data is omitted, variables will be taken from the environment of formula (if specified as a formula) or from the parent frame (if specified as a character vector).

- Since lme4 version 1.1-16, if there are errors (see stop) in the single (lm() or glm()) fits, they are summarized to a warning message which is returned as attribute "warnMessage" and signalled as warning() when the warn argument is true. In previous lme4 versions, a general (different) warning had been signalled in this case.

Value

an object of class lmList4 (see there, notably for the methods defined).

See Also

lmList4

Examples

```r
fm.plm <- lmList(Reaction ~ Days | Subject, sleepstudy)
coef(fm.plm)
f.m.2 <- update(fm.plm, pool = FALSE)
## coefficients are the same, "pooled or unpooled":
stopifnot( all.equal(coef(f.m.2), coef(fm.plm)) )

(ci <- confint(fm.plm)) # print and rather *see* :
plot(ci) # how widely they vary for the individuals
```

lmList4-class

Class "lmList4" of 'lm' Objects on Common Model

Description

Class "lmList4" is an S4 class with basically a list of objects of class lm with a common model (but different data); see lmList() which returns these.

Package nlme's lmList() returns objects of S3 class "lmList" and provides methods for them, on which our methods partly build.

Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form new("lmList4", ...) or, more commonly, by a call to lmList().
Methods

A dozen methods are provided. Currently, S4 methods for `show`, coercion (`as(.,.)`) and others inherited via "list", and S3 methods for `coef`, `confint`, `fitted`, `fixef`, `formula`, `logLik`, `pairs`, `plot`, `predict`, `print`, `qqnorm`, `ranef`, `residuals`, `sigma`, `summary`, and `update`.

`sigma(object)` returns the standard deviation \( \hat{\sigma} \) (of the errors in the linear models), assuming a common variance \( \sigma^2 \) by pooling (even when `pool = FALSE` was used in the fit).

See Also

`lmList`

Examples

```r
if(getRversion() >= "3.2.0") {
  (mm <- methods(class = "lmList4"))
  ## The S3 ("not S4") ones :
  mm[attributes(mm)["info"][, "isS4"]]
}
## For more examples: example(lmList) i.e., ?lmList
```

Description

The generator objects for the `lmResp`, `lmerResp`, `glmResp` and `nlsResp` reference classes. Such objects are primarily used through their new methods.

Usage

`lmResp(...)`

Arguments

`...` List of arguments (see Note).

Methods

`new(y=y)`: Create a new `lmResp` or `lmerResp` object.
`new(family=family, y=y)`: Create a new `glmResp` object.
`new(y=y, nlmol=nlmod, nlenv=nlenv, pnames=pnames, gam=gam)`: Create a new `nlsResp` object.
**lmResp-class**

**Note**

Arguments to the new methods must be named arguments.

- y the numeric response vector
- family a *family* object
- nlmod the nonlinear model function
- nlenv an environment holding data objects for evaluation of nlmod
- pnames a character vector of parameter names
- gam a numeric vector - the initial linear predictor

**See Also**

*lmResp, lmerResp, glmResp, nlsResp*

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>lmResp-class</th>
<th>Reference Classes for Response Modules,</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;(lm</td>
<td>glm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Reference classes for response modules, including linear models, "lmResp", generalized linear models, "glmResp", nonlinear models, "nlsResp" and linear mixed-effects models, "lmerResp". Each reference class is associated with a C++ class of the same name. As is customary, the generator object for each class has the same name as the class.

**Extends**

All reference classes extend and inherit methods from "envRefClass". Furthermore, "glmResp", "nlsResp" and "lmerResp" all extend the "lmResp" class.

**Note**

Objects from these reference classes correspond to objects in C++ classes. Methods are invoked on the C++ classes using the external pointer in the ptr field. When saving such an object the external pointer is converted to a null pointer, which is why there are redundant fields containing enough information as R objects to be able to regenerate the C++ object. The convention is that a field whose name begins with an upper-case letter is an R object and the corresponding field whose name begins with the lower-case letter is a method. Access to the external pointer should be through the method, not through the field.

**See Also**

*lmer, glmer, nlmer, merMod.*
Examples

```
showClass("lmResp")
str(lmResp$new(y=1:4))
showClass("glmResp")
str(glmResp$new(family=poisson(), y=1:4))
showClass("nlsResp")
showClass("lmerResp")
str(lmerResp$new(y=1:4))
```

---

**merMod-class**

*Class “merMod” of Fitted Mixed-Effect Models*

---

**Description**

A mixed-effects model is represented as a merPredD object and a response module of a class that inherits from class `lmResp`. A model with a `lmerResp` response has class `lmerMod`; a `glmResp` response has class `glmerMod`; and a `nlsResp` response has class `nlmerMod`.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
anova(object, ..., refit = TRUE, model.names=NULL)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
as.function(x, ...)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
coef(object, ...)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
deviance(object, REML = NULL, ...)
REMLcrit(object)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
extractAIC(fit, scale = 0, k = 2, ...)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
family(object, ...)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
formula(x, fixed.only = FALSE, random.only = FALSE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
fitted(object, ...)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
logLik(object, REML = NULL, ...)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
nobs(object, ...)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
gngrps(object, ...)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
terms(x, fixed.only = TRUE, random.only = FALSE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
vcov(object, correlation = TRUE, sigm = sigma(object),
```

```
Arguments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>object</td>
<td>an R object of class <code>merMod</code>, i.e., as resulting from <code>lmer()</code>, or <code>glmer()</code>, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td>an R object of class <code>merMod</code> or <code>summary.merMod</code>, respectively, the latter resulting from <code>summary(&lt;merMod&gt;)</code>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fit</td>
<td>an R object of class <code>merMod</code>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>formula</td>
<td>in the case of <code>model.frame</code>, a <code>merMod</code> object.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>refit</td>
<td>logical indicating if objects of class <code>merMod</code> should be refitted with ML before comparing models. The default is TRUE to prevent the common mistake of inappropriately comparing REML-fitted models with different fixed effects, whose likelihoods are not directly comparable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>model.names</td>
<td>character vectors of model names to be used in the anova table.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scale</td>
<td>Not currently used (see <code>extractAIC</code>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k</td>
<td>see <code>extractAIC</code>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REML</td>
<td>Logical. If TRUE, return the restricted log-likelihood rather than the log-likelihood. If NULL (the default), set REML to <code>isREML(object)</code> (see <code>isREML</code>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fixed.only</td>
<td>logical indicating if only the fixed effects components (terms or formula elements) are sought. If false, all components, including random ones, are returned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>random.only</td>
<td>complement of <code>fixed.only</code>; indicates whether random components only are sought. (Trying to specify <code>fixed.only</code> and <code>random.only</code> at the same time will produce an error.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>correlation</td>
<td>(logical) for <code>vcov</code>, indicates whether the correlation matrix as well as the variance-covariance matrix is desired; for <code>summary.merMod</code>, indicates whether the correlation matrix should be computed and stored along with the covariance; for</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
print\_summary\_merMod, indicates whether the correlation matrix of the fixed-effects parameters should be printed. In the latter case, when NULL (the default), the correlation matrix is printed when it has been computed by summary(\_), and when \( p \leq 20 \).

use\_hessian (logical) indicates whether to use the finite-difference Hessian of the deviance function to compute standard errors of the fixed effects, rather estimating based on internal information about the inverse of the model matrix (see getME(\_,"RX")). The default is to to use the Hessian whenever the fixed effect parameters are arguments to the deviance function (i.e. for GLMMs with nAGQ>0), and to use getME(\_,"RX") whenever the fixed effect parameters are profiled out (i.e. for GLMMs with nAGQ=0 or LMMs).

use\_hessian=FALSE is backward-compatible with older versions of lme4, but may give less accurate SE estimates when the estimates of the fixed-effect (see getME(\_,"beta")) and random-effect (see getME(\_,"theta")) parameters are correlated.

sigm the residual standard error; by default sigma(object).

digits number of significant digits for printing

symbolic.cor should a symbolic encoding of the fixed-effects correlation matrix be printed? If so, the symnum function is used.

signif.stars (logical) should significance stars be used?

ranef.comp character vector of length one or two, indicating if random-effects parameters should be reported on the variance and/or standard deviation scale.

show.resids should the quantiles of the scaled residuals be printed?

formula see update.formula.

evaluate see update.

type For weights, type of weights to be returned; either "prior" for the initially supplied weights or "working" for the weights at the final iteration of the penalized iteratively reweighted least squares algorithm. For model.matrix, type of model matrix to return (one of fixed giving the fixed effects model matrix, random giving the random effects model matrix, or randomListRaw giving a list of the raw random effects model matrices associated with each random effects term).

... potentially further arguments passed from other methods.

Objects from the Class

Objects of class merMod are created by calls to \texttt{lmer}, \texttt{glmer} or \texttt{nlmer}.

S3 methods

The following S3 methods with arguments given above exist (this list is currently not complete):

anova: returns the sequential decomposition of the contributions of fixed-effects terms or, for multiple arguments, model comparison statistics. For objects of class lmerMod the default behavior is to refit the models with ML if fitted with REML = TRUE, this can be controlled via the refit argument. See also \texttt{anova}.  

merMod-class
as.function: returns the deviance function, the same as `lmer(*, devFunOnly=TRUE)`, and `mkLmerDevfun()` or `mkGlmerDevfun()`, respectively.

`coef` computes the sum of the random and fixed effects coefficients for each explanatory variable for each level of each grouping factor.

`extractAIC` computes the (generalized) Akaike An Information Criterion. If `isREML(fit)`, then `fit` is refitted using maximum likelihood.

`family`: family of fitted GLMM. (Warning: this accessor may not work properly with customized families/link functions.)

`fitted`: Fitted values, given the conditional modes of the random effects. For more flexible access to fitted values, use `predict.merMod`.

`logLik`: Log-likelihood at the fitted value of the parameters. Note that for GLMMs, the returned value is only proportional to the log probability density (or distribution) of the response variable. See `logLik`.

`model.frame`: returns the frame slot of `merMod`.

`model.matrix`: returns the fixed effects model matrix.

`nobs,ngrps`: Number of observations and vector of the numbers of levels in each grouping factor. See `ngrps`.

`summary`: Computes and returns a list of summary statistics of the fitted model, the amount of output can be controlled via the `print` method, see also `summary`.

`print.summary`: Controls the output for the summary method.

`vcov`: Calculate variance-covariance matrix of the fixed effect terms, see also `vcov`.

`update`: See `update`.

### Deviance and log-likelihood of GLMMs

One must be careful when defining the deviance of a GLM. For example, should the deviance be defined as minus twice the log-likelihood or does it involve subtracting the deviance for a saturated model? To distinguish these two possibilities we refer to absolute deviance (minus twice the log-likelihood) and relative deviance (relative to a saturated model, e.g. Section 2.3.1 in McCullagh and Nelder 1989). With GLMMs however, there is an additional complication involving the distinction between the likelihood and the conditional likelihood. The latter is the likelihood obtained by conditioning on the estimates of the conditional modes of the spherical random effects coefficients, whereas the likelihood itself (i.e. the unconditional likelihood) involves integrating out these coefficients. The following table summarizes how to extract the various types of deviance for a `glmerMod` object:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conditional</th>
<th>Unconditional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relative deviance(object)</td>
<td>NA in lme4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute</td>
<td><code>object@resp$aic()</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This table requires two caveats:

- If the link function involves a scale parameter (e.g. Gamma) then `object@resp$aic() - 2 * getME(object, "devcomp")` is required for the absolute-conditional case.
• If adaptive Gauss-Hermite quadrature is used, then \( \text{logLik(object)} \) is currently only proportional to the absolute-unconditional log-likelihood.

For more information about this topic see the \texttt{misc/logLikGLMM} directory in the package source.

**Slots**

- \texttt{resp}: A reference class object for an \texttt{lme4} response module (\texttt{lmResp-class}).
- \texttt{Gp}: See \texttt{getME}.
- \texttt{call}: The matched call.
- \texttt{frame}: The model frame containing all of the variables required to parse the model formula.
- \texttt{flist}: See \texttt{getME}.
- \texttt{cnms}: See \texttt{getME}.
- \texttt{lower}: See \texttt{getME}.
- \texttt{theta}: Covariance parameter vector.
- \texttt{beta}: Fixed effects coefficients.
- \texttt{u}: Conditional model of spherical random effects coefficients.
- \texttt{devcomp}: See \texttt{getME}.
- \texttt{pp}: A reference class object for an \texttt{lme4} predictor module (\texttt{merPredD-class}).
- \texttt{optinfo}: List containing information about the nonlinear optimization.

**See Also**

\texttt{lmer, glmer, nlmer, merPredD, lmResp, glmResp, nlsResp}

Other methods for \texttt{merMod} objects documented elsewhere include: \texttt{fortify.merMod, drop1.merMod, isLMM.merMod, isGLMM.merMod, isNLMM.merMod, isREML.merMod, plot.merMod, predict.merMod, profile.merMod, ranef.merMod, refit.merMod, refitML.merMod, residuals.merMod, sigma.merMod, simulate.merMod, summary.merMod.}

**Examples**

```r
showClass("merMod")
methods(class="merMod") #> over 30 (S3) methods available

#> -> example(lmer) for an example of vcov.merMod()
```
Generator object for the `merPredD` class

**Description**

The generator object for the `merPredD` reference class. Such an object is primarily used through its `new` method.

**Usage**

```r
merPredD(...) 
```

**Arguments**

```r
... List of arguments (see Note).
```

**Note**

`merPredD(...)` is a short form of `new("merPredD", ...)` to create a new `merPredD` object and the `...` must be named arguments, `(X, Zt, Lambdat, Lind, theta, n)`:

- `X`: dense model matrix for the fixed-effects parameters, to be stored in the `X` field.
- `Zt`: transpose of the sparse model matrix for the random effects. It is stored in the `Zt` field.
- `Lambdat`: transpose of the sparse lower triangular relative variance factor (stored in the `Lambdat` field).
- `Lind`: integer vector of the same length as the `x` slot in the `Lambdat` field. Its elements should be in the range 1 to the length of the `theta` field.
- `theta`: numeric vector of variance component parameters (stored in the `theta` field).
- `n`: sample size, usually `nrow(X)`.

**See Also**

The class definition, `merPredD`, also for examples.

---

Class “`merPredD`” - a Dense Predictor Reference Class

**Description**

A reference class (see mother class definition “`envRefClass`” for a mixed-effects model predictor module with a dense model matrix for the fixed-effects parameters. The reference class is associated with a C++ class of the same name. As is customary, the generator object, `merPredD`, for the class has the same name as the class.
Note

Objects from this reference class correspond to objects in a C++ class. Methods are invoked on the C++ class object using the external pointer in the Ptr field. When saving such an object the external pointer is converted to a null pointer, which is why there are redundant fields containing enough information as R objects to be able to regenerate the C++ object. The convention is that a field whose name begins with an upper-case letter is an R object and the corresponding field, whose name begins with the lower-case letter is a method. References to the external pointer should be through the method, not directly through the Ptr field.

See Also

lmer, glmer, nlmepredD, merMod.

Examples

showClass("merPredD")
pp <- slot(lmer(Yield ~ 1|Batch, Dyestuff), "pp")
stopifnot(is(pp, "merPredD"))
str(pp) # an overview of all fields and methods’ names.

mkMerMod

Create a ‘merMod’ Object

Description

Create an object of (a subclass of) class merMod from the environment of the objective function and the value returned by the optimizer.

Usage

mkMerMod(rho, opt, retrms, fr, mc, lme4conv = NULL)

Arguments

rho
the environment of the objective function
opt
the optimization result returned by the optimizer (a list: see lmerControl for required elements)
reTrms
random effects structure from the calling function (see mkReTrms for required elements)
fr
model frame (see model.frame)
mc
matched call from the calling function
lme4conv
lme4-specific convergence information (results of checkConv)

Value

an object from a class that inherits from merMod.
mkRespMod

Create an lmerResp, glmResp or nlsResp instance

Description

Create an lmerResp, glmResp or nlsResp instance

Usage

mkRespMod(fr, REML = NULL, family = NULL, nlenv = NULL, nlmod = NULL, ...)  

Arguments

- fr: a model frame
- REML: logical scalar, value of REML for an lmerResp instance
- family: the optional glm family (glmResp only)
- nlenv: the nonlinear model evaluation environment (nlsResp only)
- nlmod: the nonlinear model function (nlsResp only)
- ...: where to look for response information if fr is missing. Can contain a model response, y, offset, offset, and weights, weights.

Value

an lmerResp or glmResp or nlsResp instance

See Also

Other utilities: findbars, mkReTrms, nlformula, nobars, subbars

mkReTrms

Make Random Effect Terms: Create Z, Lambda, Lind, etc.

Description

From the result of findbars applied to a model formula and the evaluation frame fr, create the model matrix Zt, etc, associated with the random-effects terms.

Usage

mkReTrms(bars, fr, drop.unused.levels=TRUE,  
          reorder.terms=TRUE,  
          reorder.vars=FALSE)
Arguments

bars       a list of parsed random-effects terms
fr         a model frame in which to evaluate these terms
drop.unused.levels (logical) drop unused factor levels? (experimental)
reorder.terms arrange random effects terms in decreasing order of number of groups (factor levels)?
reorder.vars arrange columns of individual random effects terms in alphabetical order?

Value

a list with components

Zt         transpose of the sparse model matrix for the random effects
theta      initial values of the covariance parameters
Lind       an integer vector of indices determining the mapping of the elements of the theta vector to the "x" slot of Lambdat
Gp         a vector indexing the association of elements of the conditional mode vector with random-effect terms; if nb is the vector of numbers of conditional modes per term (i.e. number of groups times number of effects per group), Gp is c(0,cumsum(nb)) (and conversely nb is diff(Gp))
lower      lower bounds on the covariance parameters
Lambdat    transpose of the sparse relative covariance factor
flist      list of grouping factors used in the random-effects terms
cnms       a list of column names of the random effects according to the grouping factors
Ztlist     list of components of the transpose of the random-effects model matrix, separated by random-effects term

See Also

Other utilities: findbars, mkRespMod, nlformula, nobars, subbars. getME can retrieve these components from a fitted model, although their values and/or forms may be slightly different in the final fitted model from their original values as returned from mkReTrms.

Examples

data("Pixel", package="nlme")
mform <- pixel ~ day + I(day^2) + (day | Dog) + (1 | Side/Dog)
(bar.f <- findbars(mform)) # list with 3 terms
mf <- model.frame(subbars(mform), data=Pixel)
rt <- mkReTrms(bar.f,mf)
names(rt)
**mkSimulateTemplate** 

Make templates suitable for guiding mixed model simulations

**Description**

Make data and parameter templates suitable for guiding mixed model simulations, by specifying a model formula and other information (EXPERIMENTAL). Most useful for simulating balanced designs and for getting started on unbalanced simulations.

**Usage**

```r
mkParsTemplate(formula, data)
mkDataTemplate(formula, data, nGrps = 2, nPerGrp = 1, rfunc = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

- `formula` A mixed model formula (see `lmer`).
- `data` A data frame containing the names in `formula`.
- `nGrps` Number of levels of a grouping factor.
- `nPerGrp` Number of observations per level.
- `rfunc` Function for generating covariate data (e.g. `rnorm`).
- `...` Additional parameters for `rfunc`.

**See Also**

These functions are designed to be used with `simulate.merMod`.

---

**mkVarCorr** 

Make Variance and Correlation Matrices from `theta`

**Description**

Make variance and correlation matrices from `theta`.

**Usage**

```r
mkVarCorr(sc, cnms, nc, theta, nms)
```

**Arguments**

- `sc` scale factor (residual standard deviation).
- `cnms` component names.
- `nc` numeric vector: number of terms in each RE component.
- `theta` theta vector (lower-triangle of Cholesky factors).
- `nms` component names (FIXME: nms/cnms redundant: nms=names(cnms)?)
Value

A matrix

See Also

VarCorr

Modular Functions for Mixed Model Fits

Description

Modular functions for mixed model fits

Usage

lFormula(formula, data = NULL, REML = TRUE, subset,
  weights, na.action, offset, contrasts = NULL,
  control = lmerControl(), ...)

mkLmerDevfun(fr, X, reTrms, REML = TRUE, start = NULL,
  verbose = 0, control = lmerControl(), ...)

optimizeLmer(devfun,
  optimizer = formals(lmerControl)$optimizer,
  restart_edge = formals(lmerControl)$restart_edge,
  boundary.tol = formals(lmerControl)$boundary.tol,
  start = NULL, verbose = 0L,
  control = list(), ...)

glFormula(formula, data = NULL, family = gaussian,
  subset, weights, na.action, offset, contrasts = NULL,
  start, mustart, etastart, control = glmerControl(), ...)

mkGlmerDevfun(fr, X, reTrms, family, nAGQ = 1L,
  verbose = 0L, maxit = 100L, control = glmerControl(), ...)

optimizeGlmer(devfun,
  optimizer = if (stage == 1) "bobyqa" else "Nelder_Mead",
  restart_edge = FALSE,
  boundary.tol = formals(glmerControl)$boundary.tol,
  verbose = 0L, control = list(),
  nAGQ = 1L, stage = 1, start = NULL, ...)

updateGlmerDevfun(devfun, reTrms, nAGQ = 1L)
**Arguments**

- **formula**: a two-sided linear formula object describing both the fixed-effects and random-effects parts of the model, with the response on the left of a \( \sim \) operator and the terms, separated by + operators, on the right. Random-effects terms are distinguished by vertical bars ("|") separating expressions for design matrices from grouping factors.

- **data**: an optional data frame containing the variables named in formula. By default the variables are taken from the environment from which lmer is called. While data is optional, the package authors strongly recommend its use, especially when later applying methods such as update and drop1 to the fitted model. *such methods are not guaranteed to work properly if data is omitted*. If data is omitted, variables will be taken from the environment of formula (if specified as a formula) or from the parent frame (if specified as a character vector).

- **REML**: (logical) indicating to fit restricted maximum likelihood model.

- **subset**: an optional expression indicating the subset of the rows of data that should be used in the fit. This can be a logical vector, or a numeric vector indicating which observation numbers are to be included, or a character vector of the row names to be included. All observations are included by default.

- **weights**: an optional vector of ‘prior weights’ to be used in the fitting process. Should be NULL or a numeric vector.

- **na.action**: a function that indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The default action (na.omit, inherited from the ‘factory fresh’ value of `getOption("na.action")`) strips any observations with any missing values in any variables.

- **offset**: this can be used to specify an *a priori* known component to be included in the linear predictor during fitting. This should be NULL or a numeric vector of length equal to the number of cases. One or more offset terms can be included in the formula instead or as well, and if more than one is specified their sum is used. See `model.offset`.

- **contrasts**: an optional list. See the contrasts.arg of `model.matrix.default`.

- **control**: a list giving

  - for [g]lFormula: all options for running the model, see `lmerControl`;
  - for mkLmerDevfun,mkGlmerDevfun: options for the inner optimization step;
  - for optimizeLmer and optimizeGlmer: control parameters for nonlinear optimizer (typically inherited from the ...argument to `lmerControl`).

- **fr**: A model frame containing the variables needed to create an `lmerResp` or `glmResp` instance.

- **X**: fixed-effects design matrix

- **reTrms**: information on random effects structure (see `mkReTrms`).

- **start**: starting values (see `lmer`; for glFormula, should be just a numeric vector of fixed-effect coefficients)

- **verbose**: print output?

- **maxit**: maximal number of Pwrss update iterations.

- **devfun**: a deviance function, as generated by `mkLmerDevfun`
nAGQ
stage
optimizer

number of Gauss-Hermite quadrature points
optimization stage (1: nAGQ=0, optimize over theta only; 2: nAGQ possibly >0, optimize over theta and beta)
character - name of optimizing function(s). A character vector or list of functions: length 1 for lmer or glmer, possibly length 2 for glmer. The built-in optimizers are "Nelder_Mead" and "bobyqa" (from the minqa package). Any minimizing function that allows box constraints can be used provided that it
1. takes input parameters fn (function to be optimized), par (starting parameter values), lower (lower bounds) and control (control parameters, passed through from the control argument) and
2. returns a list with (at least) elements par (best-fit parameters), fval (best-fit function value), conv (convergence code) and (optionally) message (informational message, or explanation of convergence failure).

Special provisions are made for bobyqa, Nelder_Mead, and optimizers wrapped in the optimx package; to use optimx optimizers (including L-BFGS-B from base optim and nlminb), pass the method argument to optim in the control argument.

For glmer, if length(optimizer)==2, the first element will be used for the preliminary (random effects parameters only) optimization, while the second will be used for the final (random effects plus fixed effect parameters) phase. See modular for more information on these two phases.

restart_edge see lmerControl
boundary.tol see lmerControl
family a GLM family; see glm and family.
mustart optional starting values on the scale of the conditional mean; see glm for details.
etastart optional starting values on the scale of the unbounded predictor; see glm for details.
...
other potential arguments; for optimizeLmer and optimizeGlmmer, these are passed to internal function optwrap, which has relevant parameters calc.derivs and use.last.params (see lmerControl).

Details

These functions make up the internal components of an [gn]lmer fit.

- [g]lFormula takes the arguments that would normally be passed to [g]lmer, checking for errors and processing the formula and data input to create a list of objects required to fit a mixed model.
- mkGlmerDevfun takes the output of the previous step (minus the formula component) and creates a deviance function
- optimizeGlmer takes a deviance function and optimizes over theta (or over theta and beta, if stage is set to 2 for optimizeGlmer
- updateGlmmerDevfun takes the first stage of a GLMM optimization (with nAGQ=0, optimizing over theta only) and produces a second-stage deviance function
- mkMerMod takes the environment of a deviance function, the results of an optimization, a list of random-effect terms, a model frame, and a model all and produces a [g]lmerMod object.
Value

lFormula and glFormula return a list containing components:

fr  model frame
X   fixed-effect design matrix
reTrms list containing information on random effects structure: result of mkReTrms
REML (lFormula only): logical indicating if restricted maximum likelihood was used (Copy of argument.)

mkLmerDevfun and mkGlmerDevfun return a function to calculate deviance (or restricted deviance) as a function of the theta (random-effect) parameters. updateGlmerDevfun returns a function to calculate the deviance as a function of a concatenation of theta and beta (fixed-effect) parameters. These deviance functions have an environment containing objects required for their evaluation.

CAUTION: The environment of functions returned by mk(Gl|L)merDevfun contains reference class objects (see ReferenceClasses, merPred-class, lmResp-class), which behave in ways that may surprise many users. For example, if the output of mk(Gl|L)merDevfun is naively copied, then modifications to the original will also appear in the copy (and vice versa). To avoid this behavior one must make a deep copy (see ReferenceClasses for details).

optimizeLmer and optimizeGlmer return the results of an optimization.

Examples

### Fitting a linear mixed model in 4 modularized steps

```r
## 1. Parse the data and formula:
log <- lFormula(Reaction ~ Days + (Days|Subject), sleepstudy)
names(log)

## 2. Create the deviance function to be optimized:
(devfun <- do.call(mkLmerDevfun, log))
ls(environment(devFun))  # the environment of 'devfun' contains objects
## required for its evaluation

## 3. Optimize the deviance function:
opt <- optimizeLmer(devfun)
order[1:3]

## 4. Package up the results:
mkMerMod(environment(devfun), opt, log$reTrms, fr = log$fr)
```

### Same model in one line

```r
lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (Days|Subject), sleepstudy)
```

### Fitting a generalized linear mixed model in six modularized steps

```r
## 1. Parse the data and formula:
glmod <- glFormula(cbind(incidence, size - incidence) ~ period + (1 | herd),
data = cbpp, family = binomial)
names(glmod)

## 2. Create the deviance function for optimizing over theta:
(devfun <- do.call(mkGlmerDevfun, glmod))
```
Nelder-Mead

### Description

Nelder-Mead optimization of parameters, allowing optimization subject to box constraints (contrary to the default, method = "Nelder-Mead", in R's `optim()`), and using reverse communications.

### Usage

```r
Nelder_Mead(fn, par, lower = rep.int(-Inf, n), upper = rep.int(Inf, n),
             control = list())
```

### Arguments

- **fn**: a function of a single numeric vector argument returning a numeric scalar.
- **par**: numeric vector of starting values for the parameters.
- **lower**: numeric vector of lower bounds (elements may be -Inf).
- **upper**: numeric vector of upper bounds (elements may be Inf).
- **control**: a named list of control settings. Possible settings are
  - `iprint` numeric scalar - frequency of printing evaluation information. Defaults to 0 indicating no printing.
  - `maxfun` numeric scalar - maximum number of function evaluations allowed (default: 10000).
  - `FtolAbs` numeric scalar - absolute tolerance on change in function values (default: 1e-5)
  - `FtolRel` numeric scalar - relative tolerance on change in function values (default: 1e-15)
  - `XtolRel` numeric scalar - relative tolerance on change in parameter values (default: 1e-7)
**NelderMead**

- **MinfMax** numeric scalar - maximum value of the minimum (default: `Machine$double.xmin`)
- **xst** numeric vector of initial step sizes to establish the simplex - all elements must be non-zero (default: `rep(0.02,length(par))`)
- **xt** numeric vector of tolerances on the parameters (default: `xst*5e-4`)
- **verbose** numeric value: 0=no printing, 1=print every 20 evaluations, 2=print every 10 evaluations, 3=print every evaluation. Sets ‘iprint’, if specified, but does not override it.
- **warnOnly** a logical indicating if non-convergence (codes -1,-2,-3) should not stop(), but rather only call warning and return a result which might inspected. Defaults to FALSE, i.e., stop on non-convergence.

**Value**

- a list with components
  - **fval** numeric scalar - the minimum function value achieved
  - **par** numeric vector - the value of x providing the minimum
  - **convergence** integer valued scalar, if not 0, an error code:
    - `-4 nm_evals`: maximum evaluations reached
    - `-3 nm_forced`: ??
    - `-2 nm_nofeasible`: cannot generate a feasible simplex
    - `-1 nm_x0notfeasible`: initial x is not feasible (?)
    - `0` successful convergence
  - **message** a string specifying the kind of convergence.
  - **control** the list of control settings after substituting for defaults.
  - **feval** the number of function evaluations.

**See Also**

The NelderMead class definition and generator function.

**Examples**

```r
fr <- function(x) {
  ## Rosenbrock Banana function
  x1 <- x[1]
  x2 <- x[2]
  100 * (x2 - x1 * x1)^2 + (1 - x1)^2
}

p0 <- c(-1.2, 1)

oo <- optim(p0, fr) # also uses Nelder-Mead by default
o <- Nelder_Mead(fr, p0)

o.1 <- Nelder_Mead(fr, p0, control=list(verbose=1)) # -> some iteration output
stopifnot(identical(o[1:4], o.1[1:4]), all.equal(o.$par, oo$par, tolerance=1e-3))
```

```
    diff: 0.003865
```
NelderMead-class

Class "NelderMead" of Nelder-Mead optimizers and its Generator

Description

Class "NelderMead" is a reference class for a Nelder-Mead simplex optimizer allowing box constraints on the parameters and using reverse communication.

The NelderMead() function conveniently generates such objects.

Usage

NelderMead(...)

Arguments

... Argument list (see Note below).

Methods

NelderMead$new(lower, upper, xst, x0, xt)

Create a new NelderMead object

Extends

All reference classes extend and inherit methods from "envRefClass".

Note

This is the default optimizer for the second stage of glmer and nlmer fits. We found that it was more reliable and often faster than more sophisticated optimizers.

Arguments to NelderMead() and the new method must be named arguments:

- lower numeric vector of lower bounds - elements may be -Inf.
- upper numeric vector of upper bounds - elements may be Inf.
- xst numeric vector of initial step sizes to establish the simplex - all elements must be non-zero.
- x0 numeric vector of starting values for the parameters.
- xt numeric vector of tolerances on the parameters.

References

Based on code in the NLopt collection.
ngrps

See Also

Nelder_Mead, the typical “constructor”. Further, glmer, nlmer

Examples

showClass("NelderMead")

ngrps object NNNI

Arguments

object an R object, see Details.
... currently ignored.

Description

Returns the number of levels of a factor or a set of factors, currently e.g., for each of the grouping factors of lmer(), glmer(), etc.

Usage

ngrps(object, ...)

Value

The number of levels (of a factor) or vector of number of levels for each “grouping factor” of a

Examples

ngrps(factor(seq(1,10,2)))
gnrps(lmer(Reaction ~ 1|Subject, sleepstudy))

## A named vector if there's more than one grouping factor :
gnrps(lmer(strength ~ (1|batch/cask), Pastes))
## cask:batch batch
## 30 10

methods(ngrps) # -> "factor" and "merMod"
nlformula

Manipulate a Nonlinear Model Formula

Description

Check and manipulate the formula for a nonlinear model, such as specified in \texttt{nlmer}.

Usage

\texttt{nlformula(mc)}

Arguments

\texttt{mc} matched call from the calling function, typically \texttt{nlmer()}. Should have arguments named

formula: a formula of the form resp ~ nlm ~ meform where resp is an expression for the response, nlm is the nonlinear model expression and meform is the mixed-effects model formula. resp can be omitted when, e.g., optimizing a design.

data: a data frame in which to evaluate the model function

start: either a numeric vector containing initial estimates for the nonlinear model parameters or a list with components

nlpars: the initial estimates of the nonlinear model parameters

theta: the initial estimates of the variance component parameters

Details

The model formula for a nonlinear mixed-effects model is of the form resp ~ nlm ~ mixed where resp is an expression (usually just a name) for the response, nlm is the call to the nonlinear model function, and mixed is the mixed-effects formula defining the linear predictor for the parameter matrix. If the formula is to be used for optimizing designs, the resp part can be omitted.

Value

a list with components

"respMod" a response module of class "\texttt{nlsResp}"

"frame" the model frame, including a terms attribute

"X" the fixed-effects model matrix

"reTrms" the random-effects terms object

See Also

Other utilities: \texttt{findbars}, \texttt{mkRespMod}, \texttt{mkReTrms}, \texttt{nobars}, \texttt{subbars}
**Description**

Fit a nonlinear mixed-effects model (NLMM) to data, via maximum likelihood.

**Usage**

```
nlmer(formula, data = NULL, control = nlmerControl(),
      start = NULL, verbose = 0L, nAGQ = 1L, subset, weights, na.action,
      offset, contrasts = NULL, devFunOnly = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

- **formula**: a three-part “nonlinear mixed model” formula, of the form `resp ~ Nonlin(...) ~ fixed + random`, where the third part is similar to the RHS formula of, e.g., `lmer`. Currently, the `Nonlin(...)` formula part must not only return a numeric vector, but also must have a “gradient” attribute, a `matrix`. The functions `SSbiexp`, `SSlogis`, etc, see `selfStart`, provide this (and more). Alternatively, you can use `deriv()` to automatically produce such functions or expressions.

- **data**: an optional data frame containing the variables named in `formula`. By default the variables are taken from the environment from which `lmer` is called. While `data` is optional, the package authors strongly recommend its use, especially when later applying methods such as `update` and `drop1` to the fitted model (such methods are not guaranteed to work properly if `data` is omitted). If `data` is omitted, variables will be taken from the environment of `formula` (if specified as a formula) or from the parent frame (if specified as a character vector).

- **control**: a list (of correct class, resulting from `lmerControl()` or `glmerControl()` respectively) containing control parameters, including the nonlinear optimizer to be used and parameters to be passed through to the nonlinear optimizer, see the `*lmerControl` documentation for details.

- **start**: starting estimates for the nonlinear model parameters, as a named numeric vector or as a list with components
  - `nlpars` required numeric vector of starting values for the nonlinear model parameters
  - `theta` optional numeric vector of starting values for the covariance parameters

- **verbose**: integer scalar. If > 0 verbose output is generated during the optimization of the parameter estimates. If > 1 verbose output is generated during the individual PIRLS steps (PIRLS aka PRSS, e.g. in the C++ sources).

- **nAGQ**: integer scalar - the number of points per axis for evaluating the adaptive Gauss-Hermite approximation to the log-likelihood. Defaults to 1, corresponding to the Laplace approximation. Values greater than 1 produce greater accuracy in the evaluation of the log-likelihood at the expense of speed. A value of zero uses a faster but less exact form of parameter estimation for GLMMs by optimizing
nlmer

the random effects and the fixed-effects coefficients in the penalized iteratively reweighted least squares (PIRLS) step.

subset an optional expression indicating the subset of the rows of data that should be used in the fit. This can be a logical vector, or a numeric vector indicating which observation numbers are to be included, or a character vector of the row names to be included. All observations are included by default.

weights an optional vector of ‘prior weights’ to be used in the fitting process. Should be NULL or a numeric vector.

na.action a function that indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The default action (na.omit, inherited from the ‘factory fresh’ value of getOption("na.action")) strips any observations with any missing values in any variables.

offset this can be used to specify an a priori known component to be included in the linear predictor during fitting. This should be NULL or a numeric vector of length equal to the number of cases. One or more offset terms can be included in the formula instead or as well, and if more than one is specified their sum is used. See model.offset.

contrasts an optional list. See the contrasts.arg of model.matrix.default.

devFunOnly logical - return only the deviance evaluation function. Note that because the deviance function operates on variables stored in its environment, it may not return exactly the same values on subsequent calls (but the results should always be within machine tolerance).

... other potential arguments. A method argument was used in earlier versions of the package. Its functionality has been replaced by the nAGQ argument.

Details

Fit nonlinear mixed-effects models, such as those used in population pharmacokinetics.

Note

Adaptive Gauss-Hermite quadrature (nAGQ>1) is not currently implemented for nlmer. Several other methods, such as simulation or prediction with new data, are unimplemented or very lightly tested.

Examples

```r
## nonlinear mixed models --- 3-part formulas ---
## 1. basic nonlinear fit. Use stats::SSlogis for its
## implementation of the 3-parameter logistic curve.
## "SS" stands for "self-starting logistic", but the
## "self-starting" part is not currently used by nlmer ... 'start' is
## necessary
startvec <- c(Asym = 200, xmid = 725, scal = 350)
(nml <- nlmer(circumference ~ SSlogis(age, Asym, xmid, scal) ~ Asym|Tree,
             Orange, start = startvec))
## 2. re-run with "quick and dirty" PIRLS step
(nmla <- update(nml, nAGQ = 0L))
```
## 3. Fit the same model with a user-built function:

### a. Define formula

```r
nform <- ~Asym/(1+exp((xmid-input)/scal))
```

### b. Use `deriv()` to construct function:

```r
nfun <- deriv(nform, namevec=c("Asym","xmid","scal"),
              function.arg=c("input","Asym","xmid","scal"))
```

```r
nm1b <- update(nm1,circumference ~ nfun(age, Asym, xmid, scal) ~ Asym | Tree)
```

## 4. User-built function without using `deriv()`:

### derivatives could be computed more efficiently

### by pre-computing components, but these are essentially

### the gradients as one would derive them by hand

```r
nfun2 <- function(input, Asym, xmid, scal) {
  value <- Asym/(1+exp((xmid-input)/scal))
  grad <- cbind(Asym=1/(1+exp((xmid-input)/scal)),
                xmid=-Asym/(1+exp((xmid-input)/scal))*2*x/1/scal*
                      exp((xmid-input)/scal),
                scal=-Asym/(1+exp((xmid-input)/scal))*2*
                      -(xmid-input)/scal*2*exp((xmid-input)/scal))
  attr(value,"gradient") <- grad
  value
}
```

```r
stopifnot(all.equal(attr(nfun2(2,1,3,4),"gradient"),
                    attr(nfun2(2,1,3,4),"gradient")))
```

```r
nm1c <- update(nm1,circumference ~ nfun2(age, Asym, xmid, scal) ~ Asym | Tree)
```

---

### Wrappers for additional optimizers

**Description**

Wrappers to allow use of alternative optimizers, from NLopt library or elsewhere, for nonlinear optimization stage

**Usage**

```r
nloptwrap(par, fn, lower, upper, control=list(),...)
nlminbwrap(par, fn, lower, upper, control=list(),...)
```

**Arguments**

- **par**
  - starting parameter vector
- **fn**
  - objective function
- **lower**
  - vector of lower bounds
- **upper**
  - vector of upper bounds
- **control**
  - list of control parameters
- **...**
  - additional arguments to be passed to objective function
Details

Using alternative optimizers is an important trouble-shooting tool for mixed models. These wrappers provide convenient access to the optimizers provided by Steven Johnson's NLOpt library (via the nloptr R package), and to the nlminb optimizer from base R. (nlminb is also available via the optimx package; this wrapper provides access to nlminb without the need to install/link the package, and without the additional post-fitting checks that are implemented by optimx (see examples below).

One important difference between the nloptr-provided implementation of BOBYQA and the minqa-provided version accessible via optimizer="bobyqa" is that it provides simpler access to optimization tolerances. minqa::bobyqa provides only the rhoend parameter ("[t]he smallest value of the trust region radius that is allowed"), while nloptr provides a more standard set of tolerances for relative or absolute change in the objective function or the parameter values (ftol_rel, ftol_abs, xtol_rel, xtol_abs).

Value

- par estimated parameters
- fval objective function value at minimum
- feval number of function evaluations
- conv convergence code (0 if no error)
- message convergence message

Author(s)

Gabor Grothendieck (nlminbwrap)

Examples

```r
environment(nloptwrap)$defaultControl
library(lme4)
## BOBYQA (default): note "nloptwrap" is now the default optimizer
## for lmer
fm1 <- lmer(Reaction~Days+(Days|Subject),
           sleepstudy,
           control=lmerControl(optimizer="nloptwrap"))
## tighten tolerances
fm1B <- update(fm1,control=lmerControl(optimizer="nloptwrap",
                                           optCtrl=list(xtol_abs=1e-8,ftol_abs=1e-8)))
## run for longer (no effect in this case)
fm1C <- update(fm1,control=lmerControl(optimizer="nloptwrap",
                                           optCtrl=list(maxeval=10000)))

logLik(fm1B)-logLik(fm1) ## small difference in log likelihood
logLik(fm1C)-logLik(fm1) ## no difference in LL
## Nelder-Mead
fm1_nloptr_NM <- update(fm1,control=lmerControl(optimizer="nloptwrap",
                                                   optCtrl=list(algorithm="NLOPT_LN_NELDERMEAD")))
## other NLOpt algorithm options include NLOPT_LN_COBYLA, NLOPT_LN_SBPLX
fm1_nlminb <- update(fm1,control=lmerControl(optimizer="nlminbwrap"))
```
\begin{verbatim}
if (require(optimx)) {
  fm1_nlmnb2 <- update(fm1, control=lmerControl(optimizer="optimx",
                                   optCtrl=list(method="nlminb", kkt=FALSE)))
}
\end{verbatim}

\begin{description}
\item[nobars]  \textit{Omit terms separated by vertical bars in a formula}
\end{description}

\section*{Description}
Remove the random-effects terms from a mixed-effects formula, thereby producing the fixed-effects formula.

\section*{Usage}
\begin{verbatim}
nobars(term)
\end{verbatim}

\section*{Arguments}
\begin{itemize}
\item term \hspace{1cm} the right-hand side of a mixed-model formula
\end{itemize}

\section*{Value}
the fixed-effects part of the formula

\section*{Note}
This function is called recursively on individual terms in the model, which is why the argument is called \texttt{term} and not a name like \texttt{form}, indicating a formula.

\section*{See Also}
\begin{itemize}
\item \texttt{formula}, \texttt{model.frame}, \texttt{model.matrix}.
\item Other utilities: \texttt{findbars}, \texttt{mkRespMod}, \texttt{mkReTrms}, \texttt{nlformula}, \texttt{subbars}
\end{itemize}

\section*{Examples}
\begin{verbatim}
nobars(Reaction ~ Days + (Days|Subject)) ## => Reaction ~ Days
\end{verbatim}
Pastes

Paste strength by batch and cask

Description

Strength of a chemical paste product; its quality depending on the delivery batch, and the cask within the delivery.

Format

A data frame with 60 observations on the following 4 variables.

- **strength** paste strength.
- **batch** delivery batch from which the sample was sample. A factor with 10 levels: ‘A’ to ‘J’.
- **cask** cask within the delivery batch from which the sample was chosen. A factor with 3 levels: ‘a’ to ‘c’.
- **sample** the sample of paste whose strength was assayed, two assays per sample. A factor with 30 levels: ‘A:a’ to ‘J:c’.

Details

The data are described in Davies and Goldsmith (1972) as coming from “ deliveries of a chemical paste product contained in casks where, in addition to sampling and testing errors, there are variations in quality between deliveries ... As a routine, three casks selected at random from each delivery were sampled and the samples were kept for reference. ... Ten of the delivery batches were sampled at random and two analytical tests carried out on each of the 30 samples”.

Source

O.L. Davies and P.L. Goldsmith (eds), *Statistical Methods in Research and Production, 4th ed.*, Oliver and Boyd, (1972), section 6.5

Examples

```r
str(Pastes)
require(lattice)
dotplot(cask ~ strength | reorder(batch, strength), Pastes,
       strip = FALSE, strip.left = TRUE, layout = c(1, 10),
       ylab = "Cask within batch",
       xlab = "Paste strength", jitter.y = TRUE)
## Modifying the factors to enhance the plot
Pastes <- within(Pastes, batch <- reorder(batch, strength))
Pastes <- within(Pastes, sample <- reorder(reorder(sample, strength),
              as.numeric(batch)))
dotplot(sample ~ strength | batch, Pastes,
       strip = FALSE, strip.left = TRUE, layout = c(1, 10),
       scales = list(y = list(relation = "free")),
       ylab = "Sample within batch",
```
Penicillin

Variation in penicillin testing

Description

Six samples of penicillin were tested using the *B. subtilis* plate method on each of 24 plates. The response is the diameter (mm) of the zone of inhibition of growth of the organism.

Format

A data frame with 144 observations on the following 3 variables.

- `diameter` diameter (mm) of the zone of inhibition of the growth of the organism.
- `plate` assay plate. A factor with levels ‘a’ to ‘x’.
- `sample` penicillin sample. A factor with levels ‘A’ to ‘F’.

Details

The data are described in Davies and Goldsmith (1972) as coming from an investigation to “assess the variability between samples of penicillin by the *B. subtilis* method. In this test method a bulk-inoculated nutrient agar medium is poured into a Petri dish of approximately 90 mm. diameter, known as a plate. When the medium has set, six small hollow cylinders or pots (about 4 mm. in diameter) are cemented onto the surface at equally spaced intervals. A few drops of the penicillin solutions to be compared are placed in the respective cylinders, and the whole plate is placed in an incubator for a given time. Penicillin diffuses from the pots into the agar, and this produces a clear circular zone of inhibition of growth of the organisms, which can be readily measured. The diameter of the zone is related in a known way to the concentration of penicillin in the solution.”

Source

O.L. Davies and P.L. Goldsmith (eds), *Statistical Methods in Research and Production, 4th ed.*, Oliver and Boyd, (1972), section 6.6
Examples

```r
str(Penicillin)
require(lattice)
dotplot(reorder(plate, diameter) ~ diameter, Penicillin, groups = sample,
ylab = "Plate", xlab = "Diameter of growth inhibition zone (mm)",
type = c("p", "a"), auto.key = list(columns = 3, lines = TRUE,
title = "Penicillin sample"))
(fml <- lmer(diameter ~ 1|plate) + (1|sample), Penicillin))
L <- getME(fml, "L")
Matrix::image(L, main = "L",
   sub = "Penicillin: Structure of random effects interaction")
```

---

**plot.merMod**  
**Diagnostic Plots for ‘merMod’ Fits**

**Description**

diagnostic plots for merMod fits

**Usage**

```r
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
plot(x, 
   form = resid(.), type = "pearson") ~ fitted(.), abline,
   id = NULL, idLabels = NULL, grid, ...)
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
qqmath(x, id = NULL, idLabels = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

- `x` a fitted `merMod` model
- `form` an optional formula specifying the desired type of plot. Any variable present in
  the original data frame used to obtain `x` can be referenced. In addition, `x` itself
  can be referenced in the formula using the symbol ".". Conditional expressions
  on the right of a `|` operator can be used to define separate panels in a lattice display.
  Default is `resid(.), type = "pearson") ~ fitted(.), corresponding
to a plot of the standardized residuals versus fitted values.
- `abline` an optional numeric value, or numeric vector of length two. If given as a single
  value, a horizontal line will be added to the plot at that coordinate; else, if given
  as a vector, its values are used as the intercept and slope for a line added to the
  plot. If missing, no lines are added to the plot.
- `id` an optional numeric value, or one-sided formula. If given as a value, it is used as
  a significance level for a two-sided outlier test for the standardized, or normalized
  residuals. Observations with absolute standardized (normalized) residuals
  greater than the `1 - value/2` quantile of the standard normal distribution are
  identified in the plot using `idLabels`. If given as a one-sided formula, its right
hand side must evaluate to a logical, integer, or character vector which is used to identify observations in the plot. If missing, no observations are identified.

**idLabels**

an optional vector, or one-sided formula. If given as a vector, it is converted to character and used to label the observations identified according to id. If given as a vector, it is converted to character and used to label the observations identified according to id. If given as a one-sided formula, its right hand side must evaluate to a vector which is converted to character and used to label the identified observations. Default is the interaction of all the grouping variables in the data frame. The special formula `idLabels=~.obs` will label the observations according to observation number.

**grid**

an optional logical value indicating whether a grid should be added to plot. Default depends on the type of lattice plot used: if `xyplot` defaults to TRUE, else defaults to FALSE.

... optional arguments passed to the lattice plot function.

### Details

Diagnostic plots for the linear mixed-effects fit are obtained. The `form` argument gives considerable flexibility in the type of plot specification. A conditioning expression (on the right side of a `|` operator) always implies that different panels are used for each level of the conditioning factor, according to a lattice display. If `form` is a one-sided formula, histograms of the variable on the right hand side of the formula, before a `|` operator, are displayed (the lattice function `histogram` is used). If `form` is two-sided and both its left and right hand side variables are numeric, scatter plots are displayed (the lattice function `xyplot` is used). Finally, if `form` is two-sided and its left had side variable is a factor, box-plots of the right hand side variable by the levels of the left hand side variable are displayed (the lattice function `bwplot` is used).

`qqmath` produces a Q-Q plot of the residuals (see `qqmath.ranef.mer` for Q-Q plots of the conditional mode values).

### Author(s)

original version in `nlme` package by Jose Pinheiro and Douglas Bates

### Examples

```r
data(Orthodont, package="nlme")
fml <- lmer(distance ~ age + (age|Subject), data=Orthodont)
## standardized residuals versus fitted values by gender
plot(fml, resid(.), scaled=TRUE) ~ fitted(.) | Sex, abline = 0)
## box-plots of residuals by Subject
plot(fml, Subject ~ resid(.), scaled=TRUE))
## observed versus fitted values by Subject
plot(fml, distance ~ fitted(.) | Subject, abline = c(0,1))
## residuals by age, separated by Subject
plot(fml, resid(.), scaled=TRUE) ~ age | Sex, abline = 0)
require("lattice")
qqmath(fml, id=0.05)
if (require("ggplot2") {  
  ## we can create the same plots using ggplot2 and the fortify() function
```
Description

Xyplot, Densityplot, and Pairs plot methods for a mixed-effects model profile.

xyplot() draws “zeta diagrams”, also visualizing confidence intervals and their asymmetry.
densityplot() draws the profile densities.
splom() draws profile pairs plots. Contours are for the marginal two-dimensional regions (i.e. using df = 2).

Usage

## S3 method for class 'thpr'
xyplot(x, data = NULL, levels = sqrt(qchisq(pmax.int(0, pmin.int(1, conf)), df = 1)),
       conf = c(50, 80, 90, 95, 99)/100,
       absVal = FALSE, scales=NULL,
       which = 1:nptot, ...)

densityplot(x, data, ...)

## S3 method for class 'thpr'
splom(x, data,
      levels = sqrt(qchisq(pmax.int(0, pmin.int(1, conf)), 2)),
      conf = c(50, 80, 90, 95, 99)/100, which = 1:nptot,
      draw.lower = TRUE, draw.upper = TRUE, ...)

Arguments

x a mixed-effects profile, i.e., of class "thpr", typically resulting from profile(fm)
where fm is a fitted model from lmer (or its generalizations).
data unused - only for compatibility with generic.
levels the contour levels to be shown; usually derived from conf.
conf numeric vector of confidence levels to be shown as contours.
absVal logical indicating if \texttt{abs()}olute values should be plotted, often preferred for confidence interval visualization.
scales plotting options to be passed to \texttt{xyplot}
which integer or character vector indicating which parameters to profile: default is all parameters (see \texttt{profile-methods} for details).
draw.lower (logical) draw lower-triangle (zeta scale) panels?
draw.upper (logical) draw upper-triangle (standard dev/cor scale) panels?
... further arguments passed to \texttt{xyplot, densityplot,} or \texttt{splom} from package \texttt{lattice}, respectively.

Value
\texttt{xyplot}: a density plot, a "trellis" object (\texttt{lattice} package) which when \texttt{print()}ed produces plots on the current graphic device.
\texttt{densityplot}: a density plot, a "trellis" object, see above.
\texttt{splom}: a pairs plot, aka \texttt{scatterplot} matrix, a "trellis" object, see above.

See Also
\texttt{profile}, notably for an example.

Examples

## see example("profile.merMod")

---

**predict.merMod**

Predictions from a model at new data values

Description

The \texttt{predict} method for \texttt{merMod} objects, i.e. results of \texttt{lmer()}, \texttt{glmer()}, etc.

Usage

## S3 method for class 'merMod'
\texttt{predict(object, newdata = NULL, newparams = NULL,}
\texttt{re.form = NULL, ReForm, REform, REform,}
\texttt{random.only=FALSE, terms = NULL,}
\texttt{type = c("link", "response"), allow.new.levels = FALSE,}
\texttt{na.action = na.pass, ...)}
Arguments

object a fitted model object
newdata data frame for which to evaluate predictions.
newparams new parameters to use in evaluating predictions, specified as in the start parameter for `lmer` or `glmer` – a list with components theta and/or (for GLMMs) beta.
re.form formula for random effects to condition on. If NULL, include all random effects; if NA or "0", include no random effects.
ReForm, REForm, REform allowed for backward compatibility: `re.form` is now the preferred argument name.
random.only (logical) ignore fixed effects, making predictions only using random effects?
terms a `terms` object - unused at present.
type character string - either "link", the default, or "response" indicating the type of prediction object returned.
allow.new.levels logical if new levels (or NA values) in `newdata` are allowed. If FALSE (default), such new values in `newdata` will trigger an error; if TRUE, then the prediction will use the unconditional (population-level) values for data with previously unobserved levels (or NAs).
na.action function determining what should be done with missing values for fixed effects in `newdata`. The default is to predict NA: see `na.pass`.
... optional additional parameters. None are used at present.

Details

• If any random effects are included in `re.form` (see below), `newdata` must contain columns corresponding to all of the grouping variables and random effects used in the original model, even if not all are used in prediction; however, they can be safely set to NA in this case.
• There is no option for computing standard errors of predictions because it is difficult to define an efficient method that incorporates uncertainty in the variance parameters; we recommend `bootMer` for this task.

Value

a numeric vector of predicted values

Examples

```r
(gm1 <- glmer(cbind(incidence, size - incidence) ~ period + (1 | herd), cbpp, binomial))
str(p0 <- predict(gm1))  # fitted values
str(p1 <- predict(gm1, re.form=NA))  # fitted values, unconditional (level-0)
newdata <- with(cbpp, expand.grid(period=unique(period), herd=unique(herd)))
str(p2 <- predict(gm1, newdata))  # new data, all RE
str(p3 <- predict(gm1, newdata, re.form=NA))  # new data, level-0
str(p4 <- predict(gm1, newdata, re.form= ~(1|herd)))  # explicitly specify RE
```
profile-methods

Profile method for merMod objects

Description

Methods for profile() of [nl]mer fitted models.

The log() method and the more flexible logProf() utility transform a lmer profile into one where logarithms of standard deviations are used, while varianceProf converts from the standard-deviation to the variance scale; see Details.

Usage

```r
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
profile(fitted, which = NULL, alphamax = 0.01,
        maxpts = 100, delta = NULL,
        delta.cutoff = 1/8, verbose = 0, devtol = 1e-09,
        maxmult = 10, startmethod = "prev", optimizer = NULL,
        control=NULL, signames = TRUE,
        parallel = c("no", "multicore", "snow"),
        ncpus = getOption("profile.ncpus", 1L), cl = NULL,
        prof.scale = c("sdcor","varcov"),
        ...)

## S3 method for class 'thpr'
as.data.frame(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'thpr'
log(x, base = exp(1))
logProf(x, base = exp(1), ranef = TRUE,
       sigIni = if(ranef) "sig" else "sigma")
varianceProf(x, ranef = TRUE)
```

Arguments

- `fitted` a fitted model, e.g., the result of `lmer(.)`.
- `which` NULL value, integer or character vector indicating which parameters to profile: default (NULL) is all parameters. For integer, i.e., indexing, the parameters are ordered as follows:
  1. random effects (theta) parameters; these are ordered as in `getME(...,"theta")`, i.e., as the lower triangle of a matrix with standard deviations on the diagonal and correlations off the diagonal.
  2. residual standard deviation (or scale parameter for GLMMs where appropriate).
  3. fixed effect (beta) parameters.
Alternatively, which may be a character, containing "beta_" or "theta_" denoting the fixed or random effects parameters, respectively, or also containing parameter names, such as ".sigma" or "(Intercept)".

**alphamax** a number in $(0, 1)$, such that $1 - \text{alphamax}$ is the maximum alpha value for likelihood ratio confidence regions; used to establish the range of values to be profiled.

**maxpts** maximum number of points (in each direction, for each parameter) to evaluate in attempting to construct the profile.

**delta** stepping scale for deciding on next point to profile. The code uses the local derivative of the profile at the current step to establish a change in the focal parameter that will lead to a step of $\delta$ on the square-root-deviance scale. If NULL, the delta.cutoff parameter will be used to determine the stepping scale.

**delta.cutoff** stepping scale (see delta) expressed as a fraction of the target maximum value of the profile on the square-root-deviance scale. Thus a delta.cutoff setting of $1/n$ will lead to a profile with approximately $2n$ calculated points for each parameter (i.e., $n$ points in each direction, below and above the estimate for each parameter).

**verbose** level of output from internal calculations.

**devtol** tolerance for fitted deviances less than baseline (supposedly minimum) deviance.

**maxmult** maximum multiplier of the original step size allowed, defaults to 10.

**startmethod** method for picking starting conditions for optimization (STUB).

**optimizer** (character or function) optimizer to use (see lmer for details); default is to use the optimizer from the original model fit.

**control** a list of options controlling the profiling (see lmerControl): default is to use the control settings from the original model fit.

**signames** logical indicating if abbreviated names of the form .sigNN should be used; otherwise, names are more meaningful (but longer) of the form (sd|cor)_(effects)|(group). Note that some code for profile transformations (e.g., log() or varianceProf) depends on signames=TRUE.

... potential further arguments for various methods.

**x** an object of class thpr (i.e., output of profile)

**base** the base of the logarithm. Defaults to natural logarithms.

**ranef** logical indicating if the sigmas of the random effects should be log transformed as well. If false, only $\sigma$ (standard deviation of errors) is transformed.

**sigIni** character string specifying the initial part of the sigma parameters to be log transformed.

**parallel** The type of parallel operation to be used (if any). If missing, the default is taken from the option "profile.parallel" (and if that is not set, "no").

**ncpus** integer: number of processes to be used in parallel operation: typically one would choose this to be the number of available CPUs.

**cl** An optional parallel or snow cluster for use if parallel = "snow". If not supplied, a cluster on the local machine is created for the duration of the profile call.

**prof.scale** whether to profile on the standard deviation-correlation scale ("sdcor") or on the variance-covariance scale ("varcov")
Details

The \texttt{log} method and the more flexible \texttt{logProf()} function transform the profile into one where \(\log(\sigma)\) is used instead of \(\sigma\). By default all sigmas including the standard deviations of the random effects are transformed i.e., the methods return a profile with all of the \(.\sigma\) parameters replaced by \(\log(\sigma)\). If \texttt{ranef} is false, only \".sigma\", the standard deviation of the errors, is transformed (as it should never be zero, whereas random effect standard deviations \(.\sigma\) can be reasonably be zero).

The forward and backward splines for the log-transformed parameters are recalculated. Note that correlation parameters are not handled sensibly at present (i.e., they are logged rather than taking a more applicable transformation such as an arc-hyperbolic tangent, \(\text{atanh}(x) = \log((1 + x)/(1 - x))/2\)).

The \texttt{varianceProf} function works similarly, including non-sensibility for correlation parameters, by squaring all parameter values, changing the names by appending \texttt{sq} appropriately (e.g. \(.\sigma\) to \(.\sigma^2\)). Setting \texttt{prof.scale=\"varcov\"} in the original \texttt{profile()} call is a more computationally intensive, but more correct, way to compute confidence intervals for covariance parameters.

Methods for function \texttt{profile} (package \texttt{stats}), here for profiling (fitted) mixed effect models.

Value

\texttt{profile(<merMod>)} returns an object of S3 class \"thpr\", which is \texttt{data.frame}-like. Notable methods for such a profile object \texttt{confint()}, which returns the confidence intervals based on the profile, and three plotting methods (which require the \texttt{lattice} package), \texttt{xyplot}, \texttt{densityplot}, and \texttt{splom}.

In addition, the \texttt{log()} (see above) and \texttt{as.data.frame()} methods can transform \"thpr\" objects in useful ways.

See Also

The plotting methods \texttt{xyplot} etc, for class \"thpr\".

For (more expensive) alternative confidence intervals: \texttt{bootMer}.

Examples

```r
fm01ML <- lmer(Yield ~ 1|Batch, Dyestuff, REML = FALSE)
system.time(
  tpr <- profile(fm01ML, optimizer="Nelder_Mead", which="beta_")
)## fast; as only *one* beta parameter is profiled over
## full profiling (default which means \texttt{\"all\"}) needs
## ~2.6s (on a 2010 Macbook Pro)

system.time( tpr <- profile(fm01ML))
## ~1s, + possible warning about bobyqa convergence

confint(tpr) -> C1pr

stopifnot(all.equal(unname(C1pr),
  array(c(12.1985292, 38.2299848, 1486.4515,
     84.0630513, 67.6576964, 1568.54849), dim = 3:2),
  tol= 1e-07))

library("lattice")
```
prt-utilities

**Description**

The *print*, *summary* methods (including the `print` for the `summary()` result) in *lme4* are modular, using about ten small utility functions. Other packages, building on *lme4* can use the same utilities for ease of programming and consistency of output.

Notably see the Examples.

`llikaic()` extracts the log likelihood, AIC, and related statics from a Fitted LMM.

`formatVC()` “format()”s the `VarCorr` matrix of the random effects – for `print()`ing and `show()`ing; it is also the “workhorse” of `.prt.VC()`, and returns a `character` matrix.

`.prt.*()` all use `cat` and `print` to produce output.
Usage

\[ \text{llikAIC}(\text{object, devianceFUN = devCrit, chkREML = TRUE, devcomp = object@devcomp}) \]

\text{methTitle}(\text{dims})

\[ \text{.prt.methTit(mtlt, class)} \]
\[ \text{.prt.family (famL)} \]
\[ \text{.prt.resids (resids, digits, title = "Scaled residuals:", ...)} \]
\[ \text{.prt.call (call, long = TRUE)} \]
\[ \text{.prt.aictab (aictab, digits = 1)} \]
\[ \text{.prt.grps (ngrps, nobs)} \]
\[ \text{.prt.warn (optinfo, summary = FALSE, ...)} \]

\[ \text{.prt.VC (varcor, digits, comp, formatter = format, ...)} \]
\[ \text{formatVC(varcor, digits = max(3, getOption("digits") - 2), comp = "Std.Dev.", formatter = format, useScale = attr(varcor, "useSc"), ...)} \]

Arguments

- **object**
  
  a LMM model fit

- **devianceFUN**
  
  the function to be used for computing the deviance; should not be changed for \text{lm} created objects.

- **chkREML**
  
  optional logical indicating if object maybe a REML fit.

- **devcomp**
  
  for \text{lm} always the equivalent of \text{object@devcomp}; here a \text{list}

- **dims**
  
  for \text{lm} always the equivalent of \text{object@devcomp$dim}, a named vector or list with components "GLMM", "NLMM", "REML", and "nAGQ" of which the first two are logical scalars, and the latter two typically are \text{FALSE} or \text{numeric}.

- **mtlt**
  
  the result of \text{methTitle}(\text{object})

- **class**
  
  typically \text{class}(\text{object}).

- **famL**
  
  a \text{list} with components family and link, each a \text{character} string; note that standard \text{R} \text{family} objects can be used directly, as well.

- **resids**
  
  numeric vector of model \text{residuals}.

- **digits**
  
  non-negative integer of (significant) digits to print minimally.

- **title**
  
  \text{character} string.

- **...**
  
  optional arguments passed on, e.g., to \text{residuals}().

- **call**
  
  the \text{call} of the model fit; e.g., available via (generic function \text{getCall}().

- **long**
  
  logical indicating if the output may be long, e.g., printing the control part of the call if there is one.

- **aictab**
  
  typically the AICtab component of the result of \text{llikAIC}().

- **varcor**
  
  typically the result of \text{VarCorr}().

- **comp**
  
  optional ...
formatter a function used for formatting the numbers.
ngroups integer (vector), typically the result of ngrps(object).
nobs integer; the number of observations, e.g., the result of nobs.
optinfo typically object @ optinfo, the optimization infos, including warnings if there were.
summary logical
useScale (logical) whether the parent model estimates a scale parameter

Value

llikAIC() returns a list with components

logLik which is logLik(object), and
AICtab a “table” of AIC, BIC, logLik, deviance and df.residual() values.

Examples

## Create a few “lme4 standard” models ------------------------------
fm1 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (Days | Subject), sleepstudy)
fM <- update(fm1, REML=FALSE) # -> Maximum Likelihood

gm1 <- glmer(cbind(incidence, size - incidence) ~ period + (1 | herd),
  data = cbpp, family = binomial)
gM <- update(gm1, nAGQ = 5)

(lA1 <- llikAIC(fm1))
(lAM <- llikAIC(fM))
(lAg <- llikAIC(gM))

(m1 <- methtitle(fm1 @ devcomp @ dims))
(mM <- methtitle(fM @ devcomp @ dims))
(mG <- methtitle(gm1 @ devcomp @ dims))
(mG <- methtitle(gmG @ devcomp @ dims))

.prt.m ethTit(m1, class(fm1))
.prt.m ethTit(mM, class(gM))

.prt.family(gaussian())
.prt.family(binomial())
.prt.family( poisson())

.prt.resids(residuals(fm1), digits = 4)
.prt.resids(residuals(fM), digits =  2)

.prt.call(getCall(fm1))
.prt.call(getCall(gm1))

.prt.aictab ( lA1$ AICtab ) # REML
.prt.aictab ( lAM$ AICtab ) # ML --> AIC, BIC, ...
Getting p-values for fitted models

Description

One of the most frequently asked questions about lme4 is "how do I calculate p-values for estimated parameters?" Previous versions of lme4 provided the mcmcsamp function, which efficiently generated a Markov chain Monte Carlo sample from the posterior distribution of the parameters, assuming flat (scaled likelihood) priors. Due to difficulty in constructing a version of mcmcsamp that was reliable even in cases where the estimated random effect variances were near zero (e.g. https://stat.ethz.ch/pipermail/r-sig-mixed-models/2009q4/003115.html), mcmcsamp has been withdrawn (or more precisely, not updated to work with lme4 versions >=1.0.0).

Many users, including users of the aovlmer.fnc function from the languageR package which relies on mcmcsamp, will be deeply disappointed by this lacuna. Users who need p-values have a variety of options. In the list below, the methods marked MC provide explicit model comparisons; CI denotes confidence intervals; and P denotes parameter-level or sequential tests of all effects in a model. The starred (*) suggestions provide finite-size corrections (important when the number of groups is <50); those marked (+) support GLMMs as well as LMMs.

- likelihood ratio tests via anova or drop1 (MC, +)
- profile confidence intervals via profile.merMod and confint.merMod (CI, +)
- parametric bootstrap confidence intervals and model comparisons via bootMer (or PBmodcomp in the pbkrtest package) (MC/CI, +)
- for random effects, simulation tests via the RLRsim package (MC, *)
• for fixed effects, F tests via Kenward-Roger approximation using `krmodcomp` from the `pbkrtest` package (MC,*)

• `car::Anova` and `lmerTest::anova` provide wrappers for Kenward-Roger-corrected tests using `pbkrtest`. `lmerTest::anova` also provides t tests via the Satterthwaite approximation (P,*).

• `afex::mixed` is another wrapper for `pbkrtest` and `anova` providing “Type 3” tests of all effects (P,*,+)

`arm::sim`, or `bootMer`, can be used to compute confidence intervals on predictions.

For `glmer` models, the summary output provides p-values based on asymptotic Wald tests (P); while this is standard practice for generalized linear models, these tests make assumptions both about the shape of the log-likelihood surface and about the accuracy of a chi-squared approximation to differences in log-likelihoods.


**ranef**

Extract the modes of the random effects

Description

A generic function to extract the conditional modes of the random effects from a fitted model object. For linear mixed models the conditional modes of the random effects are also the conditional means.

Usage

```r
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
ranef(object, condVar = TRUE,
     drop = FALSE, whichel = names(ans), postVar = FALSE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'ranef.mer'
dotplot(x, data, main = TRUE, transf = I, ...)
## S3 method for class 'ranef.mer'
qqmath(x, data, main = TRUE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'ranef.mer'
as.data.frame(x, ..., stringsAsFactors = default.stringsAsFactors())
```

Arguments

- `object` an object of a class of fitted models with random effects, typically a `merMod` object.
- `condVar` a logical argument indicating if the conditional variance-covariance matrices of the random effects should be added as an attribute.
- `drop` should components of the return value that would be data frames with a single column, usually a column called ‘(Intercept)’, be returned as named vectors instead?
whichel character vector of names of grouping factors for which the random effects should be returned.

postVar a (deprecated) synonym for condVar

x a random-effects object (of class ranef.mer) produced by ranef

main include a main title, indicating the grouping factor, on each sub-plot?

transf transformation for random effects: for example, exp for plotting parameters from a (generalized) logistic regression on the odds rather than log-odds scale

data This argument is required by the dotplot and qqmath generic methods, but is not actually used.

stringsAsFactors see data.frame

... some methods for these generic functions require additional arguments.

Details

If grouping factor i has k levels and j random effects per level the ith component of the list returned by ranef is a data frame with k rows and j columns. If condVar is TRUE the "postVar" attribute is an array of dimension j by j by k (or a list of such arrays). The kth face of this array is a positive definite symmetric j by j matrix. If there is only one grouping factor in the model the variance-covariance matrix for the entire random effects vector, conditional on the estimates of the model parameters and on the data, will be block diagonal; this j by j matrix is the kth diagonal block. With multiple grouping factors the faces of the "postVar" attributes are still the diagonal blocks of this conditional variance-covariance matrix but the matrix itself is no longer block diagonal.

Value

• From ranef: An object of class ranef.mer composed of a list of data frames, one for each grouping factor for the random effects. The number of rows in the data frame is the number of levels of the grouping factor. The number of columns is the dimension of the random effect associated with each level of the factor.

  If condVar is TRUE each of the data frames has an attribute called "postVar".

  – If there is a single random-effects term for a given grouping factor, this attribute is a three-dimensional array with symmetric faces; each face contains the variance-covariance matrix for a particular level of the grouping factor.

  – If there is more than one random-effects term for a given grouping factor (e.g. (1|f) + (0+x|f)), this attribute is a list of arrays as described above, one for each term.

(The name of this attribute is a historical artifact, and may be changed to condVar at some point in the future.)

When drop is TRUE any components that would be data frames of a single column are converted to named numeric vectors.

• From as.data.frame:

  This function converts the random effects to a "long format" data frame with columns

  grpvar grouping variable

term random-effects term, e.g. “(Intercept)” or “Days”

grp level of the grouping variable (e.g., which Subject)

condval value of the conditional mean

condsd conditional standard deviation
Note

To produce a (list of) “caterpillar plots” of the random effects apply \texttt{dotplot} to the result of a call to \texttt{ranef} with \texttt{condVar = TRUE}; \texttt{qqmath} will generate a list of Q-Q plots.

Examples

\begin{verbatim}
require(lattice)
fm1 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (Days|Subject), sleepstudy)
fm2 <- lmer(Reaction ~ Days + (1|Subject) + (0+Days|Subject), sleepstudy)
fm3 <- lmer(diameter ~ (1|plate) + (1|sample), Penicillin)
ranef(fm1)
str(rr1 <- ranef(fm1))
dotplot(rr1)  ## default
## specify free scales in order to make Day effects more visible
dotplot(rr1, scales = list(x = list(relation = 'free')))[["Subject"]]
ranef(fm2)
op <- options(digits = 4)
ranef(fm3, drop = TRUE)
options(op)
## as.data.frame() provides RE's and conditional standard deviations:
str(dd <- as.data.frame(rr1))
if (require(ggplot2)) {
  ggplot(dd, aes(y=grp, x=condval)) +
    geom_point() + facet_wrap(~term, scales="free") +
    geom_errorbarh(aes(xmin=condval -2*condsd,
                      xmax=condval +2*condsd), height=0)
}
\end{verbatim}

\section*{refit}

\textbf{Refit a (merMod) Model with a Different Response}

\subsection*{Description}

Refit a model, possibly after modifying the response vector. This makes use of the model representation and directly goes to the optimization.

\subsection*{Usage}

\begin{verbatim}
refit(object, newresp, ...)
\end{verbatim}

## S3 method for class 'merMod'
refit(object, newresp = NULL, rename.response = FALSE,
       maxit = 100, ...)

\subsection*{Arguments}

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textbf{object} a fitted model, usually of class \texttt{lmerMod}, to be refit with a new response.
  \end{itemize}
newresp

an (optional) numeric vector providing the new response, of the same length as the original response (see Details for information on NA handling). May also be a data frame with a single numeric column, e.g. as produced by simulate(object).

rename.response

when refitting the model, should the name of the response variable in the formula and model frame be replaced with the name of newresp?

maxit

scalar integer, currently only for GLMMs: the maximal number of Pwrss update iterations.

... optional additional parameters. For the merMod method, control.

Details

Refit a model, possibly after modifying the response vector. This could be done using update(), but the refit() approach should be faster because it bypasses the creation of the model representation and goes directly to the optimization step.

Setting rename.response = TRUE may be necessary if one wants to do further operations (such as update) on the fitted model. However, the refitted model will still be slightly different from the equivalent model fitted via update; in particular, the terms component is not updated to reflect the new response variable, if it has a different name from the original.

If newresp has an na.action attribute, then it is assumed that NA values have already been removed from the numeric vector; this allows the results of simulate(object) to be used even if the original response vector contained NA values. Otherwise, the length of newresp must be the same as the original length of the response.

Value

an object like x, but fit to a different response vector Y.

See Also

update.merMod for more flexible and extensive model refitting; refitML for refitting a REML fitted model with maximum likelihood (‘ML’).

Examples

```r
## Ex. 1: using refit() to fit each column in a matrix of responses
set.seed(10)
Y <- matrix(rnorm(1000),ncol=10)
## combine first column of responses with predictor variables
d <- data.frame(y=Y[,1],x=rnorm(100),f=rep(1:10,10))
## (use check.conv.grad="ignore" to disable convergence checks because we
## are using a fake example)
## fit first response
fit1 <- lmer(y ~ x+(1|f), data = d,
             control= lmerControl(check.conv.grad="ignore",
             check.conv.hess="ignore"))
## combine fit to first response with fits to remaining responses
res <- c(fit1,lapply(as.data.frame(Y[-1]), refit, object=fit1))
```
refitML

Refit a Model by Maximum Likelihood Criterion

Description

Refit a (merMod) model using the maximum likelihood criterion.

Usage

refitML(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'merMod'
refitML(x, optimizer = "bobyqa", ...)

Arguments

- x: a fitted model, usually of class "lmerMod", to be refit according to the maximum likelihood criterion.
- ...: optional additional parameters. None are used at present.
- optimizer: a string indicating the optimizer to be used.

Details

This function is primarily used to get a maximum likelihood fit of a linear mixed-effects model for an anova comparison.

Value

an object like x but fit by maximum likelihood

See Also

refit and update.merMod for more extensive refitting.
Description

PCA of random-effects variance-covariance estimates

Usage

rePCA(x)

Arguments

x

a merMod object

Details

Perform a Principal Components Analysis (PCA) of the random-effects variance-covariance estimates from a fitted mixed-effects model. This allows the user to detect and diagnose overfitting problems in the random effects model (see Bates et al. 2015 for details).

Value

a prcomplist object

Author(s)

Douglas Bates

References


See Also

isSingular

Examples

fm1 <- lmer(Reaction~Days+(Days|Subject), sleepstudy)
rePCA(fm1)
rePos

**Description**

The generator object for the `rePos` class used to determine the positions and orders of random effects associated with particular random-effects terms in the model.

**Usage**

```r
rePos(...) 
```

**Arguments**

```r
... 
```

Argument list (see Note).

**Methods**

```r
new(mer=mer) 
```

Create a new `rePos` object.

**Note**

Arguments to the `new` methods must be named arguments. `mer`, an object of class "merMod", is the only required/expected argument.

**See Also**

`rePos`

---

**rePos-class**

**Class** "rePos"

**Description**

A reference class for determining the positions in the random-effects vector that correspond to particular random-effects terms in the model formula.

**Extends**

All reference classes extend and inherit methods from "envRefClass".

**Examples**

```r
showClass("rePos")
```
residuals.merMod

residuals.merMod
residuals of merMod objects

Description

residuals of merMod objects

Usage

```r
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
residuals(object, 
  type = if (isGLMM(object)) "deviance" else "response", 
  scaled = FALSE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'lmResp'
residuals(object, 
  type = c("working", "response", "deviance", "pearson", "partial"), 
  ...)

## S3 method for class 'glmResp'
residuals(object, 
  type = c("deviance", "pearson", "working", "response", "partial"), 
  ...)
```

Arguments

- **object**: a fitted [g]lmer (merMod) object
- **type**: type of residuals
- **scaled**: scale residuals by residual standard deviation (=scale parameter)?
- **...**: additional arguments (ignored: for method compatibility)

Details

- The default residual type varies between lmerMod and glmerMod objects: they try to mimic `residuals.lm` and `residuals.glm` respectively. In particular, the default type is "response", i.e. (observed-fitted) for lmerMod objects vs. "deviance" for glmerMod objects. type="partial" is not yet implemented for either type.
- Note that the meaning of "pearson" residuals differs between `residuals.lm` and `residuals.lme`. The former returns values scaled by the square root of user-specified weights (if any), but *not* by the residual standard deviation, while the latter returns values scaled by the estimated standard deviation (which will include the effects of any variance structure specified in the weights argument). To replicate lme behaviour, use type="pearson", scaled=TRUE.
sigma

**Extract Residual Standard Deviation 'Sigma'**

**Description**

Extract the estimated standard deviation of the errors, the “residual standard deviation” (also mis-named the “residual standard error”), from a fitted model.

**Usage**

```r
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
sigma(object, ...)```

**Arguments**

- `object` a fitted model.
- `...` additional, optional arguments, passed from or to methods. (None currently in our two methods.)

**Details**

Package `lme4` provides methods for mixed-effects models of class `merMod` and lists of linear models, `lmlist4`.

**Value**

Typically a number, the estimated standard deviation of the errors (“residual standard deviation”) for Gaussian models, and - less interpretably - the square root of the residual deviance per degree of freedom in more general models.

**Examples**

```r
methods(sigma)# from R 3.3.0 on, shows methods from pkgs 'stats' *and* 'lme4'
```

---

**simulate.merMod**

**Simulate Responses From merMod Object**

**Description**

Simulate responses from a “merMod” fitted model object, i.e., from the model represented by it.
Usage

```r
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
simulate(object, nsim = 1, seed = NULL,
         use.u = FALSE, re.form = NA, ReForm, REform, REform,
         newdata=NULL, newparams=NULL, family=NULL,
         allow.new.levels = FALSE, na.action = na.pass, ...)

## S3 method for class 'formula'
simulate(object, nsim = 1, seed = NULL,
          family, weights=NULL, offset=NULL, ...)

.simulateFun(object, nsim = 1, seed = NULL, use.u = FALSE,
             re.form = NA, ReForm, REform, REform,
             newdata=NULL, newparams=NULL,
             formula=NULL, family=NULL, weights=NULL, offset=NULL,
             allow.new.levels = FALSE, na.action = na.pass,
             cond.sim = TRUE, ...)
```

Arguments

- **object** (for `simulate.merMod`) a fitted model object or (for `simulate.formula`) a (one-sided) mixed model formula, as described for `lmer`.
- **nsim** positive integer scalar - the number of responses to simulate.
- **seed** an optional seed to be used in `set.seed` immediately before the simulation so as to generate a reproducible sample.
- **use.u** (logical) if TRUE, generate a simulation conditional on the current random-effects estimates; if FALSE generate new Normally distributed random-effects values. (Redundant with `re.form`, which is preferred: TRUE corresponds to `re.form == NULL` (condition on all random effects), while FALSE corresponds to `re.form ~ 0` (condition on none of the random effects).)
- **re.form** formula for random effects to condition on. If NULL, condition on all random effects; if NA or ~0, condition on no random effects. See Details.
- **ReForm, REform, REform** deprecated: `re.form` is now the preferred argument name.
- **newdata** data frame for which to evaluate predictions.
- **newparams** new parameters to use in evaluating predictions, specified as in the `start` parameter for `lmer` or `glmer` – a list with components `theta` and `beta` and (for LMMs or GLMMs that estimate a scale parameter) `sigma`
- **formula** a (one-sided) mixed model formula, as described for `lmer`.
- **family** a GLM family, as in `glmer`.
- **weights** prior weights, as in `lmer` or `glmer`.
- **offset** offset, as in `glmer`. 
allow.new.levels
(logical) if FALSE (default), then any new levels (or NA values) detected in newdata will trigger an error; if TRUE, then the prediction will use the unconditional (population-level) values for data with previously unobserved levels (or NAs).

na.action
what to do with NA values in new data: see na.fail

cond.sim
(experimental) simulate the conditional distribution? if FALSE, simulate only random effects; do not simulate from the conditional distribution, rather return the predicted group-level values

... optional additional arguments: none are used at present.

Details

• ordinarily simulate is used to generate new values from an existing, fitted model (merMod object): however, if formula, newdata, and newparams are specified, simulate generates the appropriate model structure to simulate from.

• The re.form argument allows the user to specify how the random effects are incorporated in the simulation. All of the random effects terms included in re.form will be conditioned on—that is, the conditional modes of those random effects will be included in the deterministic part of the simulation. (If new levels are used (and allow.new.levels is TRUE), the conditional modes for these levels will be set to the population mode, i.e. values of zero will be used for the random effects.) Conversely, the random effect terms that are not included in re.form will be simulated from—that is, new values will be chosen for each group based on the estimated random-effects variances.

The default behaviour (using re.form=NA) is to condition on none of the random effects, simulating new values for all of the random effects.

• For Gaussian fits, sigma specifies the residual standard deviation; for Gamma fits, it specifies the shape parameter (the rate parameter for each observation i is calculated as shape/mean(i)). For negative binomial fits, the overdispersion parameter is specified via the family, e.g. simulate(..., family=negative.binomial(theta=1)) to simulate from a geometric distribution (negative binomial with overdispersion parameter 1).

• For binomial models, simulate.formula looks for the binomial size first in the weights argument (if it's supplied), second from the left-hand side of the formula (if the formula has been specified in success/failure form), and defaults to 1 if neither of those have been supplied. Simulated responses will be given as proportions, unless the supplied formula has a matrix-valued left-hand side, in which case they will be given in matrix form. If a left-hand side is given, variables in that expression must be available in newdata.

• For negative binomial models, use the negative.binomial family (from the MASS package) and specify the overdispersion parameter via the theta (sic) parameter of the family function, e.g. simulate(..., family=negative.binomial(theta=1)) to simulate from a geometric distribution (negative binomial with overdispersion parameter 1).

See Also

bootMer for “simulestimate”, i.e., where each simulation is followed by refitting the model.

Examples

## test whether fitted models are consistent with the
## Observed number of zeros in CBPP data set:

```r
gml <- glmer(chbind(incidence, size ~ incidence) ~ period + (1 | herd),
             data = cbpp, family = binomial)
gg <- simulate(gml, 1000)
zeros <- sapply(gg, function(x) sum(x[, "incidence"] == 0))
plot(table(zeros))
abline(v = sum(cbpp$incidence == 0), col = 2)
```

## Simulate from a non-fitted model; in this case we are just replicating the previous model, but starting from scratch.

```r
params <- list(theta = 0.5, beta = c(2, -1, -2, -3))
simdat <- with(cbpp, expand.grid(herd = levels(herd), period = factor(1:4)))
simdat$size <- 15
simdat$incidence <- sample(0:1, size = nrow(simdat), replace = TRUE)
form <- formula(gml)[-2]  # RHS of equation only
simulate(form, newdata = simdat, family = binomial,
         newparams = params)
```

## Simulate from negative binomial distribution instead.

```r
simulate(form, newdata = simdat, family = negative.binomial(theta = 2.5),
         newparams = params)
```

--

### sleepstudy

**Reaction times in a sleep deprivation study**

#### Description

The average reaction time per day for subjects in a sleep deprivation study. On day 0 the subjects had their normal amount of sleep. Starting that night they were restricted to 3 hours of sleep per night. The observations represent the average reaction time on a series of tests given each day to each subject.

#### Format

A data frame with 180 observations on the following 3 variables.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reaction</td>
<td>Average reaction time (ms)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days</td>
<td>Number of days of sleep deprivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Subject number on which the observation was made.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Details

These data are from the study described in Belenky et al. (2003), for the sleep-deprived group and for the first 10 days of the study, up to the recovery period.

#### References

subbars

"Substitute Bars"

Description

Substitute the '+' function for the '|' function in a mixed-model formula, recursively (hence the argument name `term`). This provides a formula suitable for the current `model.frame` function.

Usage

`subbars(term)`

Arguments

term  a mixed-model formula

Value

the formula with all '|' operators replaced by '+'

See Also

`formula`, `model.frame`, `model.matrix`.

Other utilities: `findbars`, `nobars`, `mkRespMod`, `mkReTrms`, `nlformula`.

Examples

```
subbars(Reaction ~ Days + (Days|Subject)) ## => Reaction ~ Days + (Days + Subject)
```
Troubleshooting

Description

This page attempts to summarize some of the common problems with fitting \texttt{glmer} models and how to troubleshoot them.

- **failure to converge in (xxxx) evaluations** The optimizer hit its maximum limit of function evaluations. To increase this, use the \texttt{optControl} argument of \texttt{glmerControl} – for \texttt{Nelder_Mead} and \texttt{bobyqa} the relevant parameter is \texttt{maxfun}; for \texttt{optim} and \texttt{optimx}-wrapped optimizers, including \texttt{nlminbwrap}, it’s \texttt{maxit}; for \texttt{nloptwrap}, it’s \texttt{maxeval}.

- **Model failed to converge with max|grad| ...** The scaled gradient at the fitted (RE)ML estimates is worryingly large. Try
  - refitting the parameters starting at the current estimates: getting consistent results (with no warning) suggests a false positive
  - switching optimizers: getting consistent results suggests there is not really a problem; getting a similar log-likelihood with different parameter estimates suggests that the parameters are poorly determined (possibly the result of a misspecified or overfitted model)
  - compute values of the deviance in the neighbourhood of the estimated parameters to double-check that \texttt{lme4} has really found a local optimum.

- **Hessian is numerically singular: parameters are not uniquely determined** The Hessian (inverse curvature matrix) at the maximum likelihood or REML estimates has a very large eigenvalue, indicating that (within numerical tolerances) the surface is completely flat in some direction. The model may be misspecified, or extremely badly scaled (see "Model is nearly unidentifiable").

- **Model is nearly unidentifiable ...** Rescale variables? The Hessian (inverse curvature matrix) at the maximum likelihood or REML estimates has a large eigenvalue, indicating that the surface is nearly flat in some direction. Consider centering and/or scaling continuous predictor variables.

- **Contrasts can be applied only to factors with R or more levels** One or more of the categorical predictors in the model has fewer than two levels. This may be due to user error when converting these predictors to factors prior to modeling, or it may result from some factor levels being eliminated due to NAs in other predictors. Double-check the number of data points in each factor level to see which one is the culprit: \texttt{lapply(\texttt{na.omit(df[,vars]), table})} (where \texttt{df} is the \texttt{data.frame} and \texttt{vars} are the column names of your predictor variables).

\texttt{Extract Variance and Correlation Components} (\texttt{VarCorr})

Description

This function calculates the estimated variances, standard deviations, and correlations between the random-effects terms in a mixed-effects model, of class \texttt{merMod} (linear, generalized or nonlinear). The within-group error variance and standard deviation are also calculated.
Usage

```r
## S3 method for class 'merMod'
VarCorr(x, sigma=1, ...)
```

```r
## S3 method for class 'VarCorr.merMod'
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL,
               optional = FALSE, order = c("cov.last", "lower.tri"), ...)
```

```r
## S3 method for class 'VarCorr.merMod'
print(x, digits = max(3,getOption("digits") - 2),
      comp = "Std.Dev.", formatter = format, ...)
```

Arguments

- `x` for `VarCorr`: a fitted model object, usually an object inheriting from class `merMod`. For `as.data.frame`, a `VarCorr.merMod` object returned from `VarCorr`.
- `sigma` an optional numeric value used as a multiplier for the standard deviations.
- `digits` an optional integer value specifying the number of digits
- `order` arrange data frame with variances/standard deviations first and covariances/correlations last for each random effects term ("cov.last"), or in the order of the lower triangle of the variance-covariance matrix ("lower.tri")?
- `row.names`, `optional` Ignored: necessary for the `as.data.frame` method.
- `...` Ignored for the `as.data.frame` method; passed to other `print()` methods for the `print()` method.
- `comp` a character vector, specifying the components to be printed; simply passed to `formatVC()`.
- `formatter` a function for formatting the numbers; simply passed to `formatVC()`.

Details

The print method for `VarCorr.merMod` objects has optional arguments `digits` (specify digits of precision for printing) and `comp`: the latter is a character vector with any combination of "Variance" and "Std.Dev.", to specify whether variances, standard deviations, or both should be printed.

Value

An object of class `VarCorr.merMod`. The internal structure of the object is a list of matrices, one for each random effects grouping term. For each grouping term, the standard deviations and correlation matrices for each grouping term are stored as attributes "stddev" and "correlation", respectively, of the variance-covariance matrix, and the residual standard deviation is stored as attribute "sc" (for `glmer` fits, this attribute stores the scale parameter of the model).

The `as.data.frame` method produces a combined data frame with one row for each variance or covariance parameter (and a row for the residual error term where applicable) and the following columns:

```
grp grouping factor
```
vcconv

var1 first variable
var2 second variable (NA for variance parameters)
vcov variances or covariances
sdcor standard deviations or correlations

Author(s)

This is modeled after VarCorr from package nlme, by Jose Pinheiro and Douglas Bates.

See Also

lmer, nlmer

Examples

data(Orthodont, package="nlme")
fm1 <- lmer(distance ~ age + (age|Subject), data = Orthodont)
(vc <- VarCorr(fm1))  ## default print method: standard dev and corr
## both variance and std.dev.
print(vc, comp=c("Variance","Std.Dev."), digits=2)
## variance only
print(vc, comp=c("Variance"))
as.data.frame(vc)
as.data.frame(vc, order="lower.tri")

vcconv

Convert between representations of (co-)variance structures

Description

Convert between representations of (co-)variance structures (EXPERIMENTAL). See source code for details.

Usage

mlist2vec(L)
vec2mlist(v, n = NULL, symm = TRUE)
vec2STlist(v, n = NULL)
sdcor2cov(m)
cov2sdcor(V)
VV_to_Cv(v, n = NULL, s = 1)
Sv_to_Cv(v, n = NULL, s = 1)
Cv_toVV(v, n = NULL, s = 1)
Cv_toSv(v, n = NULL, s = 1)
Arguments

L  List of symmetric, upper-triangular, or lower-triangular square matrices.

v  Concatenated vector containing the elements of the lower-triangle (including the
diagonal) of a symmetric or triangular matrix.

n  Number of rows (and columns) of the resulting matrix.

symm  Return symmetric matrix if TRUE or lower-triangular if FALSE.

m  Standard deviation-correlation matrix.

V  Covariance matrix.

s  Scale parameter.

Details

• mlist2vecConvert list of matrices to concatenated vector of lower triangles with an attribute
  that gives the dimension of each matrix in the original list. This attribute may be used to
  reconstruct the matrices. Returns a concatenation of the elements in one triangle of each
  matrix. An attribute "clen" gives the dimension of each matrix.

• vec2mlistConvert concatenated vector to list of matrices (lower triangle or symmetric). These
  matrices could represent Cholesky factors, covariance matrices, or correlation matrices (with
  standard deviations on the diagonal).

• vecSTlistConvert concatenated vector to list of ST matrices.

• sdcor2covStandard deviation-correlation matrix to covariance matrix convert ‘sdcor’ format
  (std dev on diagonal, cor on off-diag) to and from variance-covariance matrix.

• cov2sdcorCovariance matrix to standard deviation-correlation matrix (i.e. standard devia-
tions on the diagonal and correlations off the diagonal).

• Vv_to_CvVariance-covariance to relative covariance factor. Returns a vector of elements from
  the lower triangle of a relative covariance factor.

• Vv_to_CvVariance-covariance to relative covariance factor. Returns a vector of el-
  ements from the lower triangle of a relative covariance factor.

• Cv_to_VvRelative covariance factor to variance-covariance. From unscaled Cholesky vector
  to (possibly scaled) variance-covariance vector. Returns a vector of elements from the lower
  triangle of a variance-covariance matrix.

• Cv_to_SvRelative covariance factor to standard-deviation-correlation. From unscaled Chol to
  sd-cor vector. Returns a vector of elements from the lower triangle of a standard-deviation-
correlation matrix.

Value

(Co-)variance structure

Examples

vec2mlist(1:6)
mvec2vec(vec2mlist(1:6)) # approximate inverse
Description

These are the item responses to a questionnaire on verbal aggression. These data are used throughout De Boeck and Wilson, *Explanatory Item Response Models* (Springer, 2004) to illustrate various forms of item response models.

Format

A data frame with 7584 observations on the following 13 variables.

- **anger**: the subject’s Trait Anger score as measured on the State-Trait Anger Expression Inventory (STAXI)
- **gender**: the subject’s gender - a factor with levels M and F
- **item**: the item on the questionnaire, as a factor
- **resp**: the subject’s response to the item - an ordered factor with levels no < perhaps < yes
- **id**: the subject identifier, as a factor
- **btype**: behavior type - a factor with levels curse, scold and shout
- **situ**: situation type - a factor with levels other and self indicating other-to-blame and self-to-blame
- **mode**: behavior mode - a factor with levels want and do
- **r2**: dichotomous version of the response - a factor with levels N and Y

Source

[http://bear.soe.berkeley.edu/EIRM/](http://bear.soe.berkeley.edu/EIRM/)

References


Examples

```r
str(VerbAgg)
## Show how r2 := h(resp) is defined:
with(VerbAgg, stopifnot( identical(r2, {  
  r <- factor(resp, ordered=FALSE); levels(r) <- c("N","Y","Y"); r}))

xtabs(~ item + resp, VerbAgg)
xtabs(~ btype + resp, VerbAgg)
round(100 * ftable(prop.table(xtabs(~ situ + mode + resp, VerbAgg), 1:2), 1))
person <- unique(subset(VerbAgg, select = c(id, Gender, Anger)))
require(lattice)
densityplot(~ Anger, person, groups = Gender, auto.key = list(columns = 2),
```
xlab = "Trait Anger score (STAXI)"

if(lme4::testLevel() >= 3) {  ## takes about 15 sec
print(fmVA <- glmer(r2 ~ (Anger + Gender + btype + situ) ^ 2 +
  (1|id) + (1|item), family = binomial, data = VerbAgg), corr=FALSE)
}  

## much faster but less accurate
print(fmVA0 <- glmer(r2 ~ (Anger + Gender + btype + situ) ^ 2 +
  (1|id) + (1|item), family = binomial, data = VerbAgg, nAGQ=0L), corr=FALSE)
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