output: pdf_document fontsize: 12pt

\thispagestyle{empty} \today

Editor The R Journal \bigskip

Dear Professor Cook, \bigskip

Please consider our article titled "Refactoring nls (): a constructive critique" for publication in the R Journal.

The manuscript reviews work carried out in a Google Summer of Code project in 2021 plus some follow-up work, particularly with selfStart models. We itemize some concerns with nls(), pointing out some actual fixes and some potential ones.

Because of the widespread use of nls() and its features, along with some important shortcomings in the underlying algorithms, we believe the readers of the R Journal will find this article helpful in guarding against possible errors in reported "solutions" as well as in the collective work to improve R and its resources.

\bigskip \bigskip

Regards,

John Nash Telfer School of Management University of Ottawa Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5 Canada profjcnash@gmail.com \bigskip