

Sta 440 Case 3

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2025-10-01

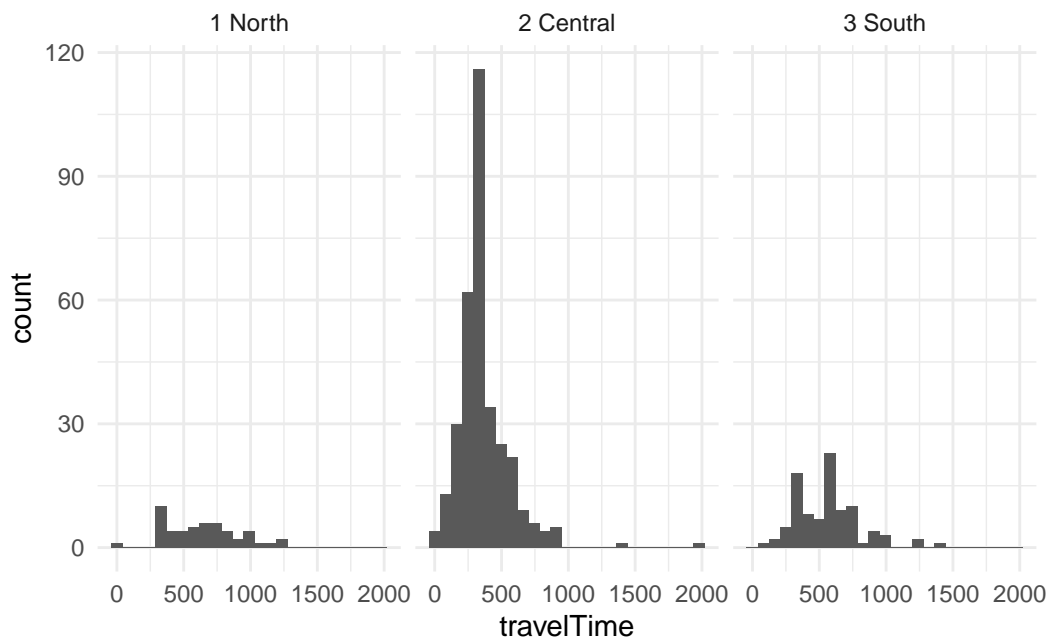
1. Background

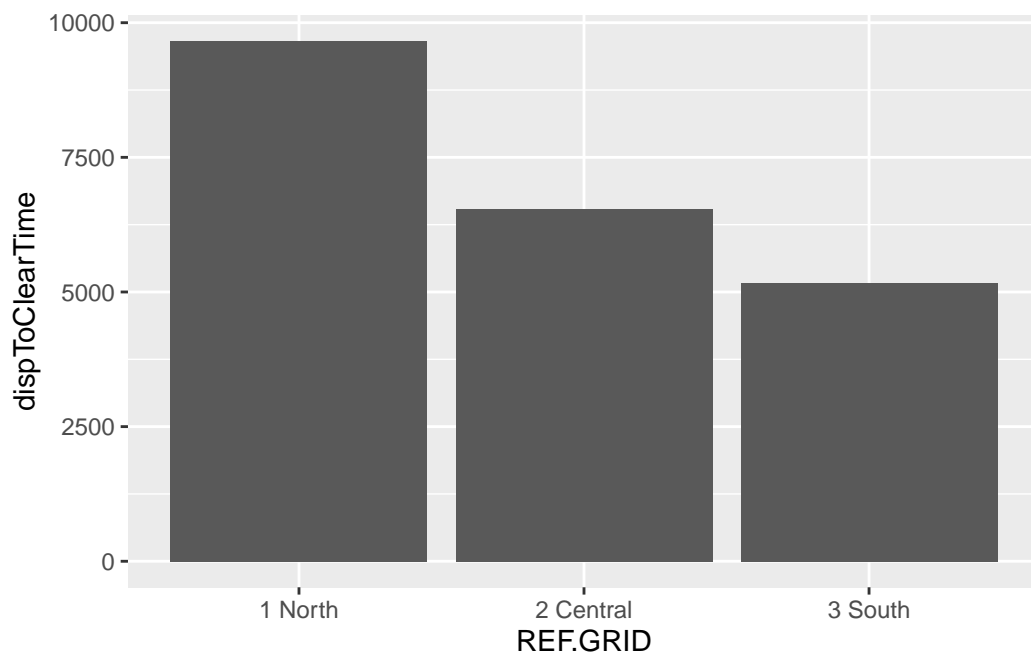
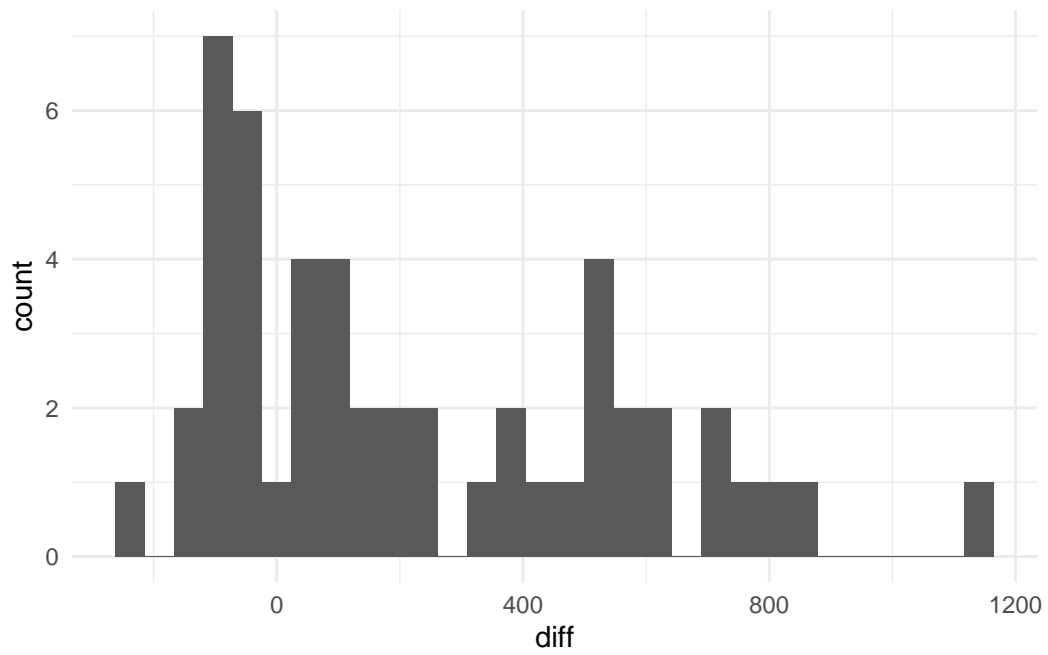
Emergency medical service (EMS) response times can drastically impact patient outcomes. Vance County, North Carolina is a growing county that is interested in evaluating their current EMS ambulance placements. The county has three major regions, the North, Central, and the South. The population is mostly concentrated in the city of Henderson, located in the Central region. There are currently 2 EMS stations, 1 in the South, and 1 in Central. The southern station has 1 ambulance, and the central station has 3. The north does not currently have a station. Thus Vance County is interested in exploring if moving an ambulance to the North would be beneficial. Finding the optimal locations for ambulances is vital because in the medical world EMS arriving seconds earlier can be the difference between life and death.

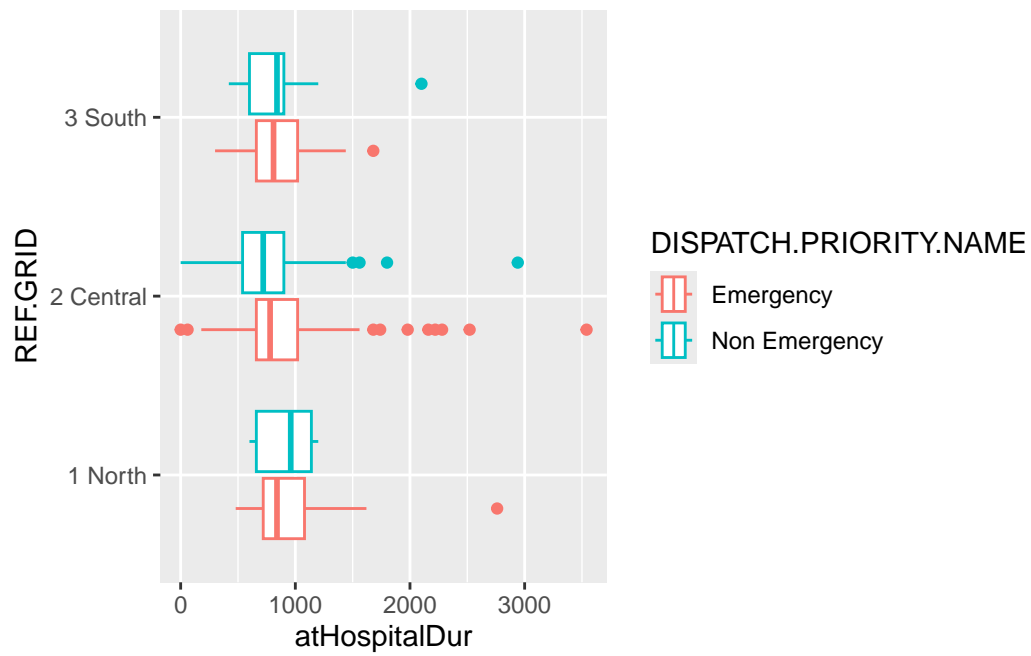
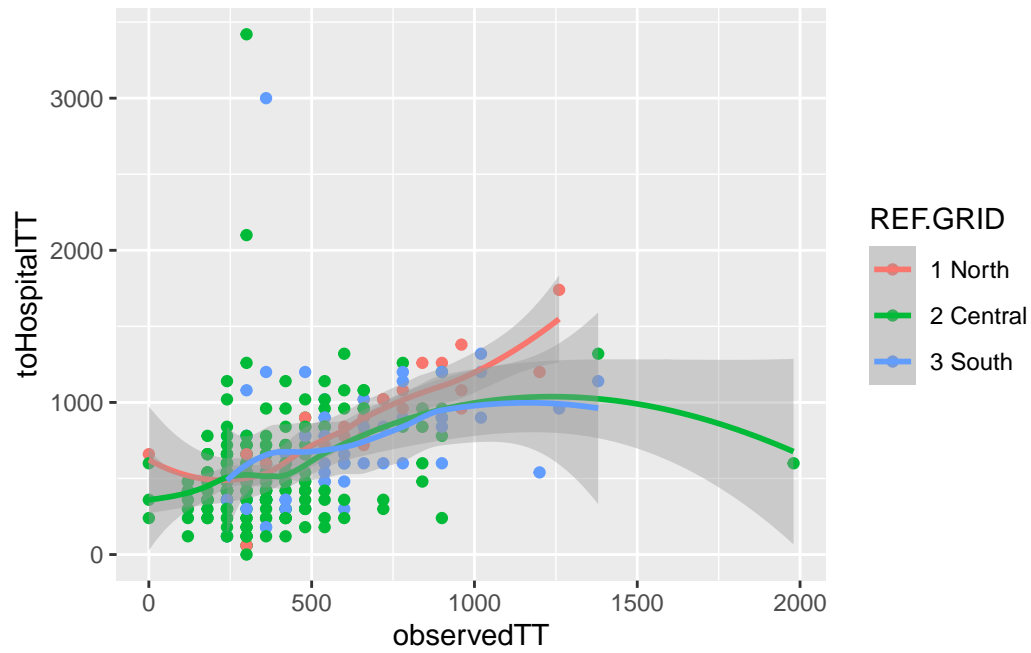
Research question: Where should the ambulances be stationed to best serve Vance county?

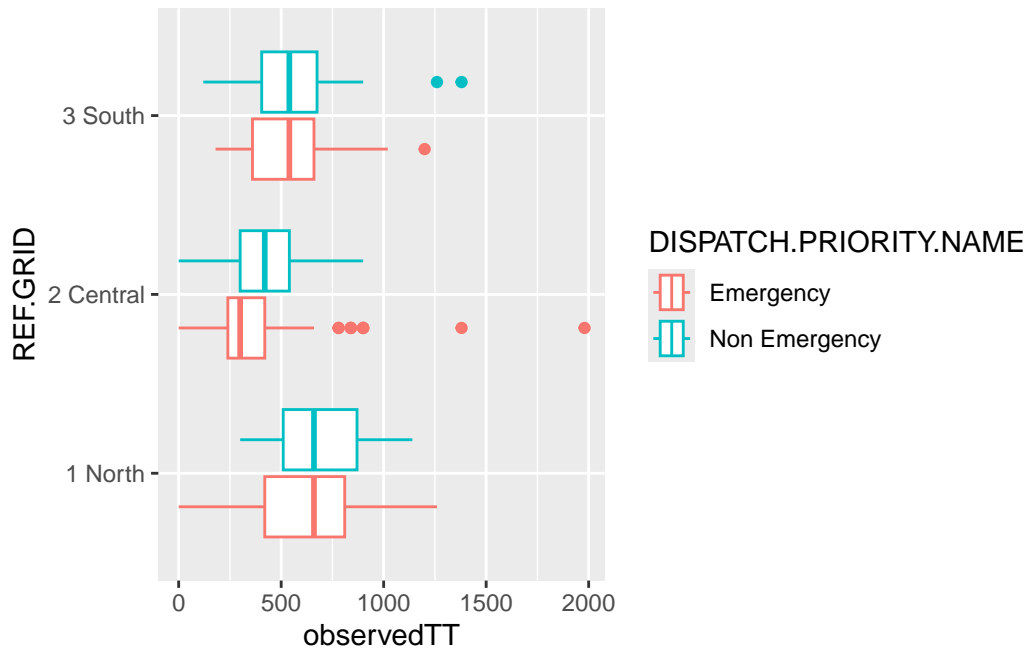
2. Data and Model Fit

EMS calls with HIPAA protected details Each row is a call including: Arrival, dispatch, and enroute times Region and modified date Google Maps travel times from proposed and existing stations



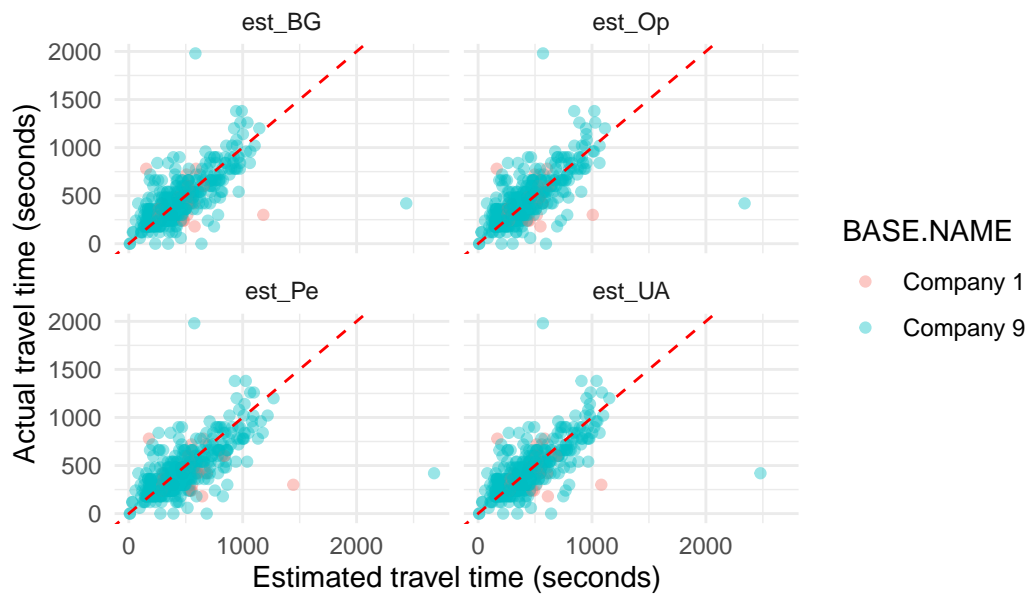


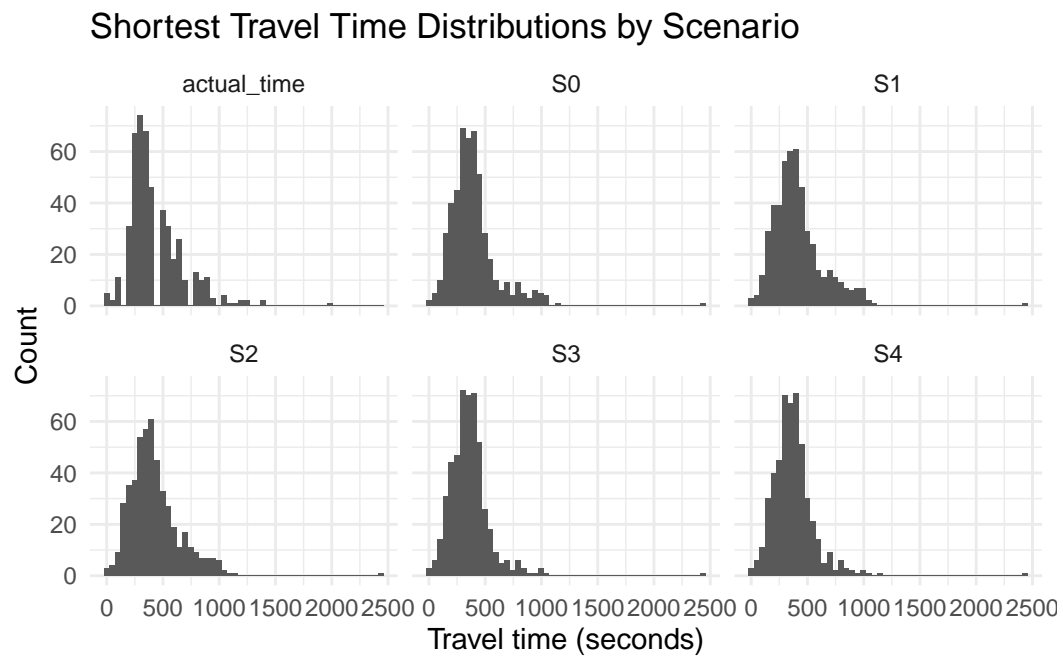
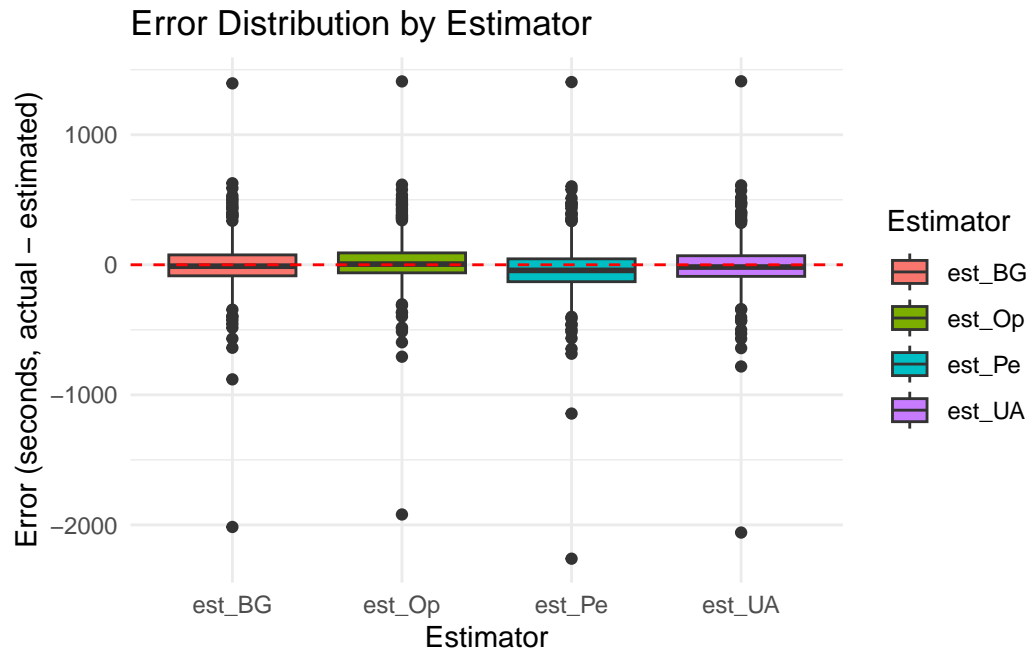




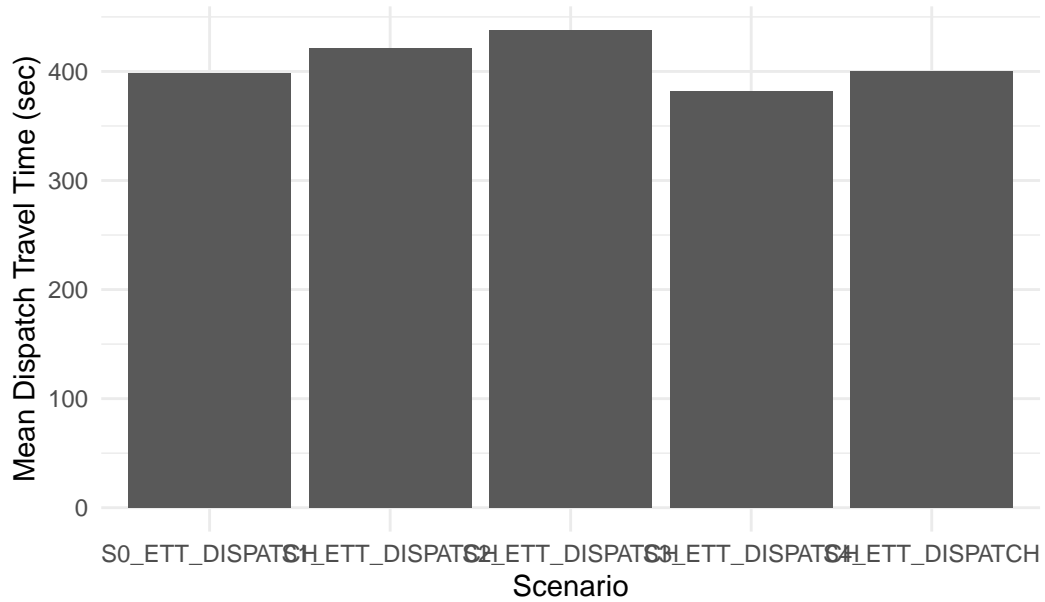
```
# A tibble: 4 x 4
  Estimator MAE RMSE Bias
<chr>      <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1 est_BG    116.  192.  -1.74
2 est_Op    112.  186.   16.3
3 est_Pe    134.  214. -41.7
4 est_UA    116.  192.  -9.14
```

Actual vs. Estimated Travel Times

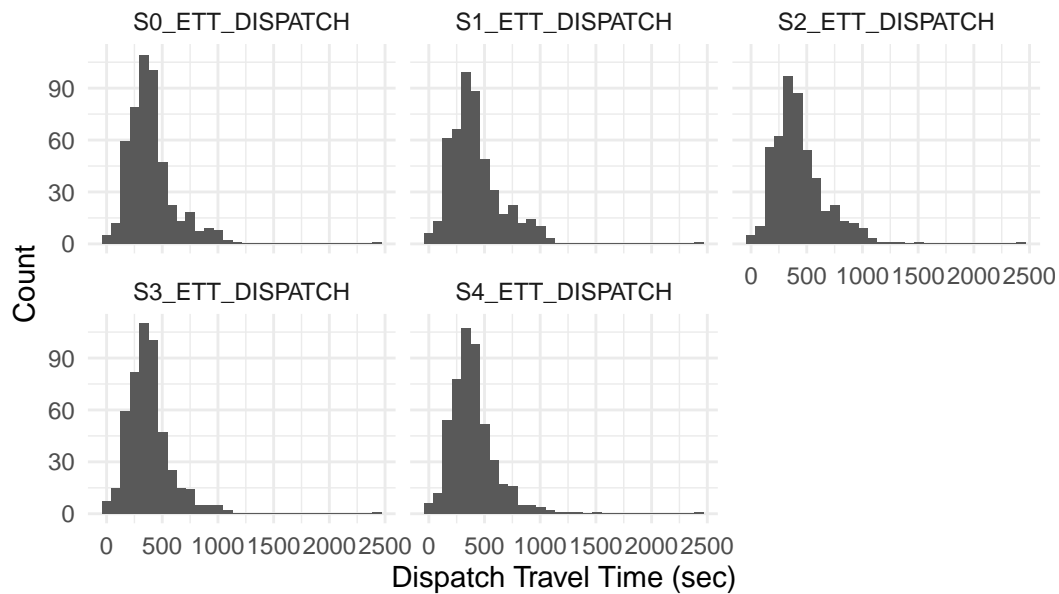




Average Dispatch ETT per Scenario



Histogram of Dispatch ETT by Scenario

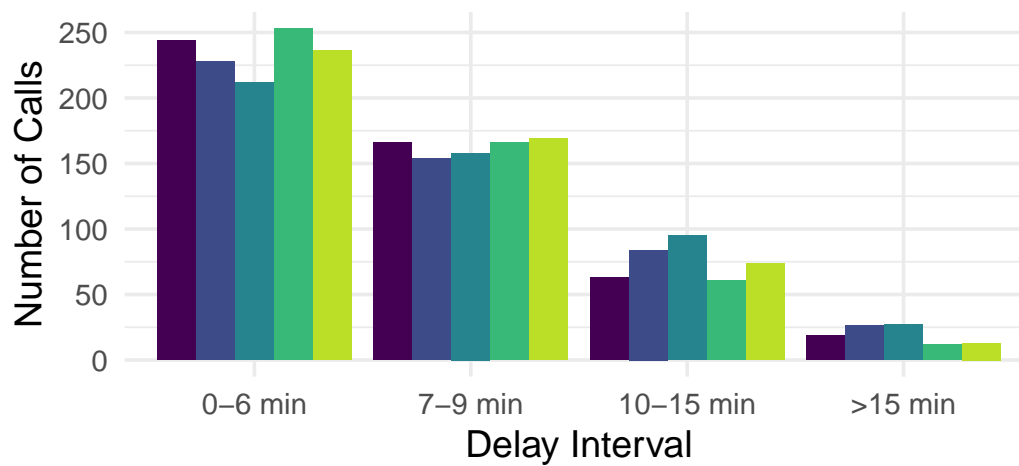


A tibble: 20 x 3

| | Scenario | DelayGroup | N |
|---|-----------------|------------|-------|
| | <chr> | <fct> | <int> |
| 1 | S0_ETT_DISPATCH | 0-6 min | 244 |
| 2 | S0_ETT_DISPATCH | 7-9 min | 166 |
| 3 | S0_ETT_DISPATCH | 10-15 min | 63 |
| 4 | S0_ETT_DISPATCH | >15 min | 19 |
| 5 | S1_ETT_DISPATCH | 0-6 min | 228 |
| 6 | S1_ETT_DISPATCH | 7-9 min | 154 |
| 7 | S1_ETT_DISPATCH | 10-15 min | 84 |
| 8 | S1_ETT_DISPATCH | >15 min | 26 |

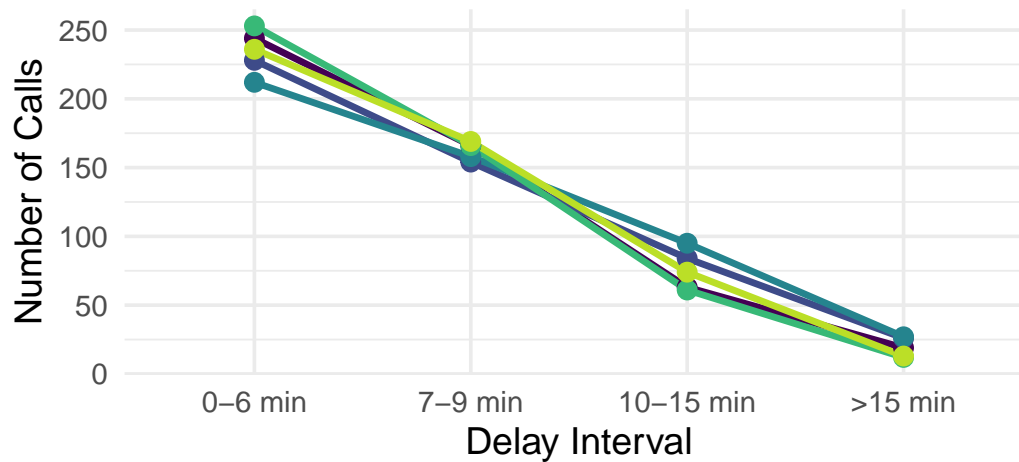
| | | | |
|----|-----------------|-----------|-----|
| 9 | S2_ETT_DISPATCH | 0-6 min | 212 |
| 10 | S2_ETT_DISPATCH | 7-9 min | 158 |
| 11 | S2_ETT_DISPATCH | 10-15 min | 95 |
| 12 | S2_ETT_DISPATCH | >15 min | 27 |
| 13 | S3_ETT_DISPATCH | 0-6 min | 253 |
| 14 | S3_ETT_DISPATCH | 7-9 min | 166 |
| 15 | S3_ETT_DISPATCH | 10-15 min | 61 |
| 16 | S3_ETT_DISPATCH | >15 min | 12 |
| 17 | S4_ETT_DISPATCH | 0-6 min | 236 |
| 18 | S4_ETT_DISPATCH | 7-9 min | 169 |
| 19 | S4_ETT_DISPATCH | 10-15 min | 74 |
| 20 | S4_ETT_DISPATCH | >15 min | 13 |

Counts of Dispatch Delays by Scenario

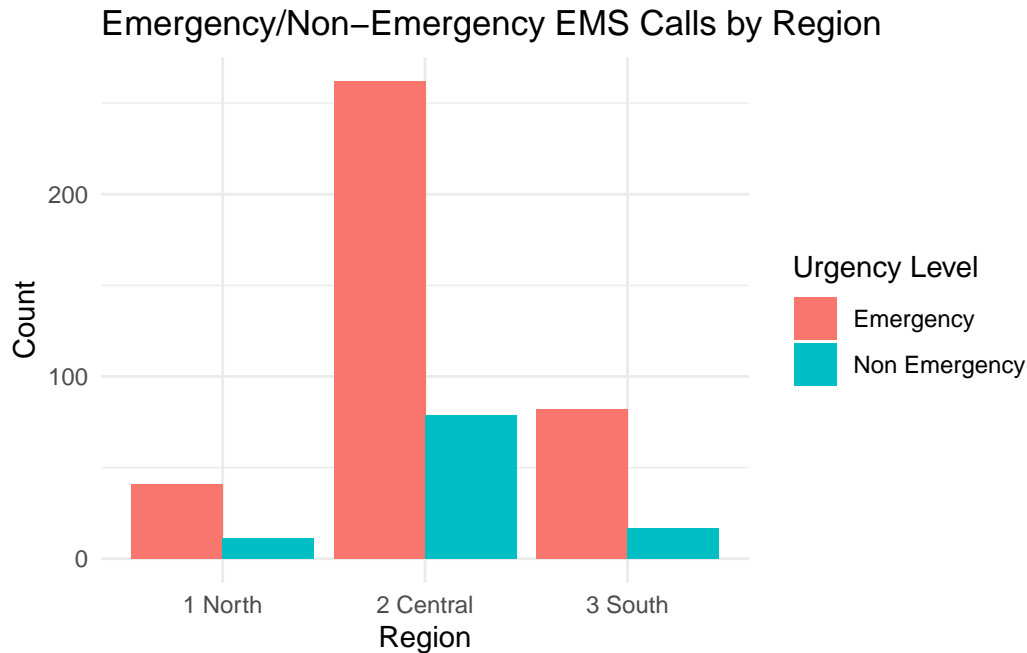


Scenario S0 S1 S2 S3 S4

Dispatch Delay Counts by Scenario



Scenario S0 S1 S2 S3 S4



Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']
 Formula: obsTTmodified ~ (1 | REF.GRID) + DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAME
 Data: x

REML criterion at convergence: 2560.9

Scaled residuals:

| Min | 1Q | Median | 3Q | Max |
|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| -2.9133 | -0.5399 | -0.2182 | 0.3473 | 7.6984 |

Random effects:

| Groups | Name | Variance | Std.Dev. |
|----------|-------------|----------|----------|
| REF.GRID | (Intercept) | 5.617 | 2.370 |
| | Residual | 12.509 | 3.537 |

Number of obs: 476, groups: REF.GRID, 3

Fixed effects:

| | Estimate | Std. Error | t value |
|-------------------------------------|----------|------------|---------|
| (Intercept) | 8.377 | 1.388 | 6.037 |
| DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAMENon Emergency | 1.138 | 0.393 | 2.896 |

Correlation of Fixed Effects:

| | (Intr) |
|-------------|--------|
| DISPATCH.PE | -0.059 |

Generalized least squares fit by REML

Model: obsTTmodified ~ DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAME
 Data: x

| AIC | BIC | logLik |
|-----|-----|--------|
|-----|-----|--------|

2568.907 2585.552 -1280.454

Correlation Structure: Compound symmetry

Formula: ~1 | region_category

Parameter estimate(s):

Rho

0.3098952

Coefficients:

| | Value | Std.Error | t-value | p-value |
|-------------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|
| (Intercept) | 8.377225 | 1.387607 | 6.037175 | 0.000 |
| DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAMENon Emergency | 1.137910 | 0.392978 | 2.895608 | 0.004 |

Correlation:

(Intr)

DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAMENon Emergency -0.059

Standardized residuals:

| Min | Q1 | Med | Q3 | Max |
|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| -2.2348794 | -1.0281062 | -0.5583537 | 0.1138833 | 5.7833057 |

Residual standard error: 4.257561

Degrees of freedom: 476 total; 474 residual

Call:

```
glm(formula = change_flag ~ region_category + DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAME,  
     family = binomial, data = model_df)
```

Coefficients:

| | Estimate | Std. Error | z value | Pr(> z) |
|-------------------------------------|----------|------------|---------|--------------|
| (Intercept) | -1.84130 | 0.07694 | -23.933 | < 2e-16 *** |
| region_categoryNorth | 1.86199 | 0.14458 | 12.878 | < 2e-16 *** |
| region_categorySouth | 3.06905 | 0.12819 | 23.942 | < 2e-16 *** |
| DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAMENon Emergency | -0.46880 | 0.13877 | -3.378 | 0.000729 *** |

Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

(Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)

Null deviance: 2965.4 on 2459 degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 2188.6 on 2456 degrees of freedom
AIC: 2196.6

Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4

Linear mixed model fit by REML. t-tests use Satterthwaite's method [
lmerModLmerTest]

Formula: log(ETT_sec) ~ Scenario + region_category + DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAME +

```
(1 | row_val)
Data: model_df
```

REML criterion at convergence: 2109.5

Scaled residuals:

| Min | 1Q | Median | 3Q | Max |
|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|
| -7.4455 | -0.1945 | 0.0088 | 0.1643 | 6.1492 |

Random effects:

| Groups | Name | Variance | Std.Dev. |
|---------|-------------|----------|----------|
| row_val | (Intercept) | 0.23670 | 0.4865 |
| | Residual | 0.07798 | 0.2793 |

Number of obs: 2460, groups: row_val, 492

Fixed effects:

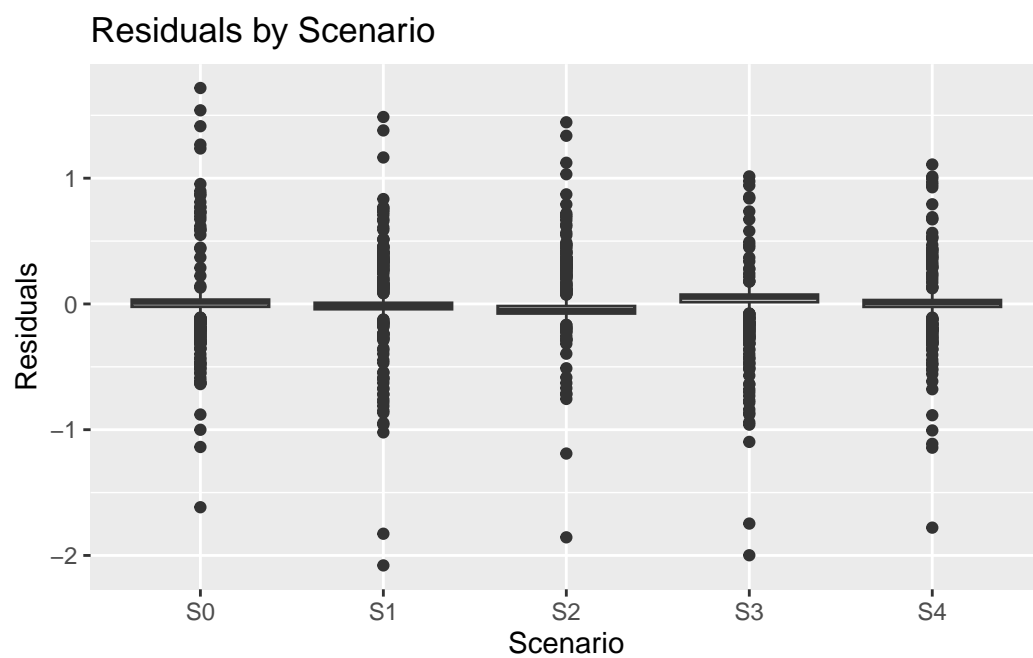
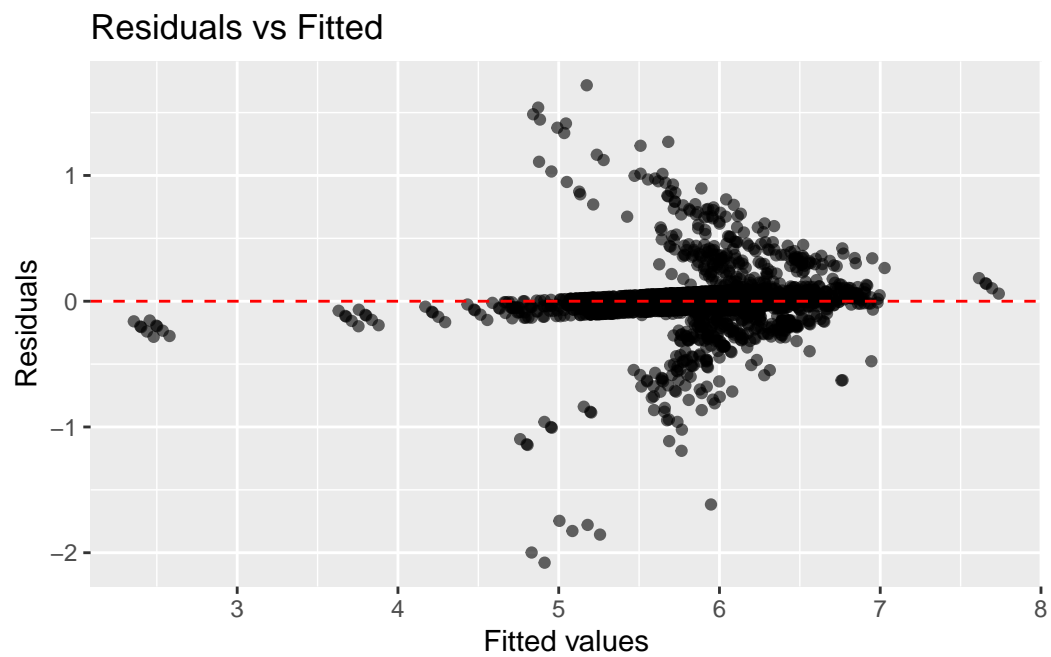
| | Estimate | Std. Error | df | t value |
|-------------------------------------|----------|------------|------------|---------|
| (Intercept) | 5.70728 | 0.03208 | 631.72338 | 177.925 |
| ScenarioS1 | 0.04018 | 0.01780 | 1964.00002 | 2.257 |
| ScenarioS2 | 0.08253 | 0.01780 | 1964.00002 | 4.636 |
| ScenarioS3 | -0.04064 | 0.01780 | 1964.00002 | -2.283 |
| ScenarioS4 | 0.00551 | 0.01780 | 1964.00002 | 0.309 |
| region_categoryNorth | 0.37144 | 0.07479 | 487.99996 | 4.967 |
| region_categorySouth | 0.44788 | 0.05744 | 487.99996 | 7.798 |
| DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAMENon Emergency | 0.04280 | 0.05498 | 487.99996 | 0.778 |

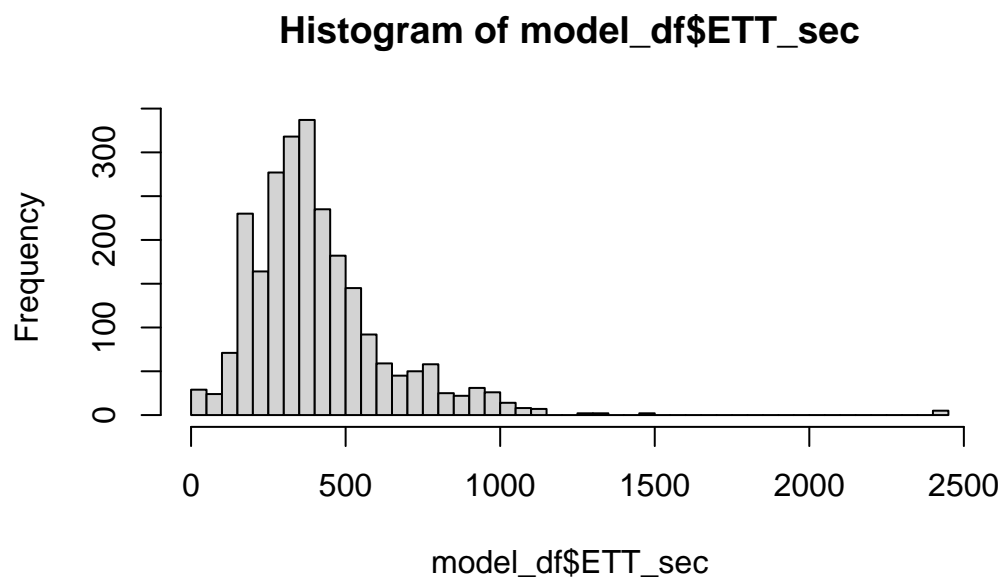
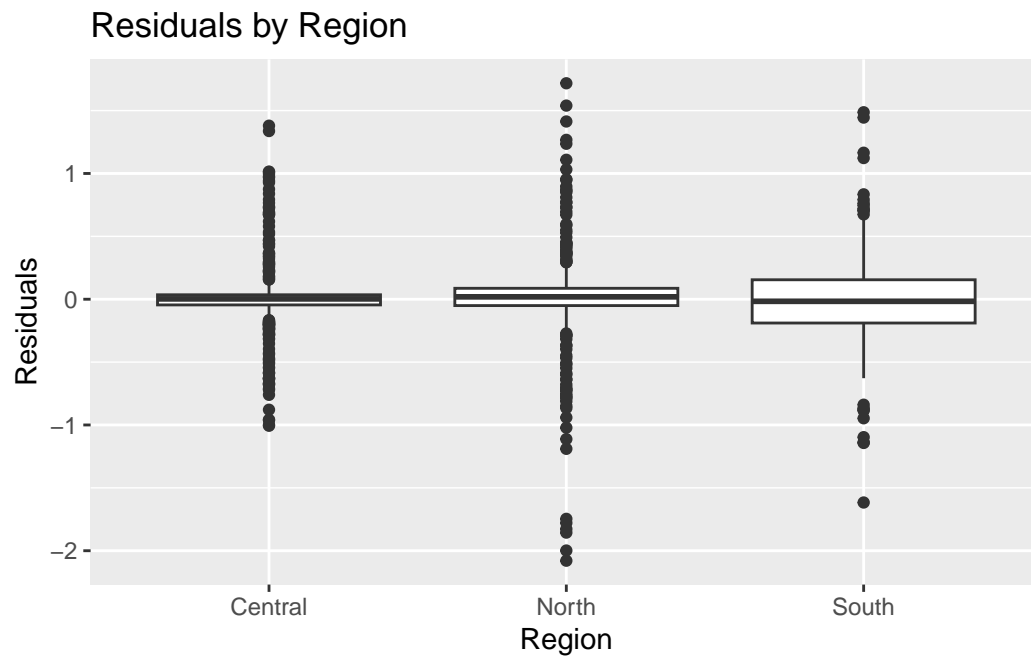
| | Pr(> t) |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| (Intercept) | < 2e-16 *** |
| ScenarioS1 | 0.0241 * |
| ScenarioS2 | 3.79e-06 *** |
| ScenarioS3 | 0.0226 * |
| ScenarioS4 | 0.7570 |
| region_categoryNorth | 9.43e-07 *** |
| region_categorySouth | 3.85e-14 *** |
| DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAMENon Emergency | 0.4367 |

Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

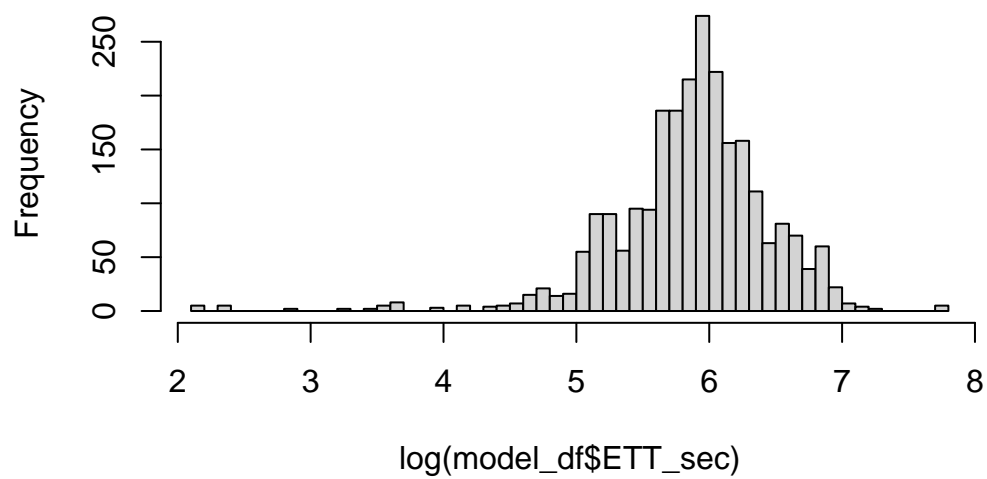
Correlation of Fixed Effects:

| | (Intr) | ScnrS1 | ScnrS2 | ScnrS3 | ScnrS4 | rgn_cN | rgn_cS |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| ScenarioS1 | -0.278 | | | | | | |
| ScenarioS2 | -0.278 | 0.500 | | | | | |
| ScenarioS3 | -0.278 | 0.500 | 0.500 | | | | |
| ScenarioS4 | -0.278 | 0.500 | 0.500 | 0.500 | | | |
| rgn_ctgryNr | -0.314 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | | |
| rgn_ctgrySt | -0.424 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.173 | |
| DISPATCH.PE | -0.397 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.015 | 0.057 |

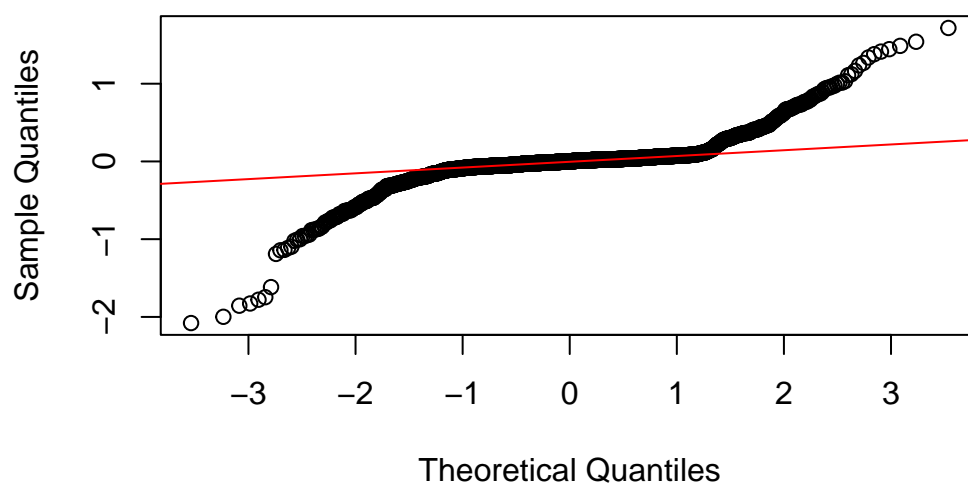




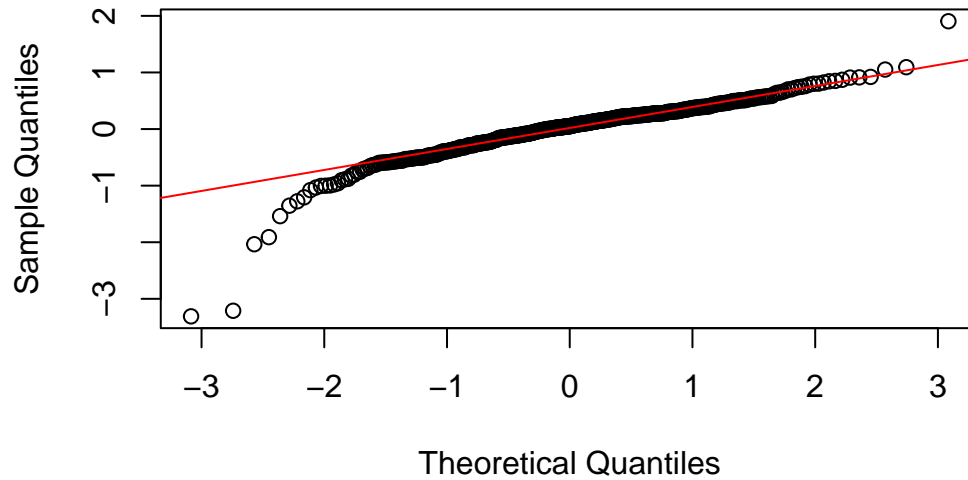
Histogram of $\log(\text{model_df\$ETT_sec})$



Residuals



Random Effects



Linear mixed model fit by REML. t-tests use Satterthwaite's method [
lmerModLmerTest]
Formula: ETT_sec ~ Scenario + region_category + DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAME +
(1 | row_val)
Data: changed_df

REML criterion at convergence: 9613

Scaled residuals:

| Min | 1Q | Median | 3Q | Max |
|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| -2.4866 | -0.5641 | -0.0985 | 0.5039 | 3.4132 |

Random effects:

| Groups | Name | Variance | Std.Dev. |
|---------|-------------|----------|----------|
| row_val | (Intercept) | 17449 | 132.1 |
| | Residual | 34793 | 186.5 |

Number of obs: 715, groups: row_val, 143

Fixed effects:

| | Estimate | Std. Error | df | t value |
|-------------------------------------|----------|------------|---------|---------|
| (Intercept) | 426.613 | 28.211 | 237.481 | 15.122 |
| ScenarioS1 | 79.252 | 22.059 | 568.000 | 3.593 |
| ScenarioS2 | 134.245 | 22.059 | 568.000 | 6.086 |
| ScenarioS3 | -56.573 | 22.059 | 568.000 | -2.565 |
| ScenarioS4 | 6.196 | 22.059 | 568.000 | 0.281 |
| region_categoryNorth | -5.336 | 39.322 | 139.000 | -0.136 |
| region_categorySouth | 72.876 | 29.886 | 139.000 | 2.438 |
| DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAMENon Emergency | 46.085 | 35.611 | 139.000 | 1.294 |

Pr(>|t|)

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| (Intercept) | < 2e-16 *** |
| ScenarioS1 | 0.000356 *** |

```

ScenarioS2                2.14e-09 ***
ScenarioS3                0.010585 *
ScenarioS4                0.778913
region_categoryNorth      0.892265
region_categorySouth      0.016012 *
DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAMENon Emergency 0.197760

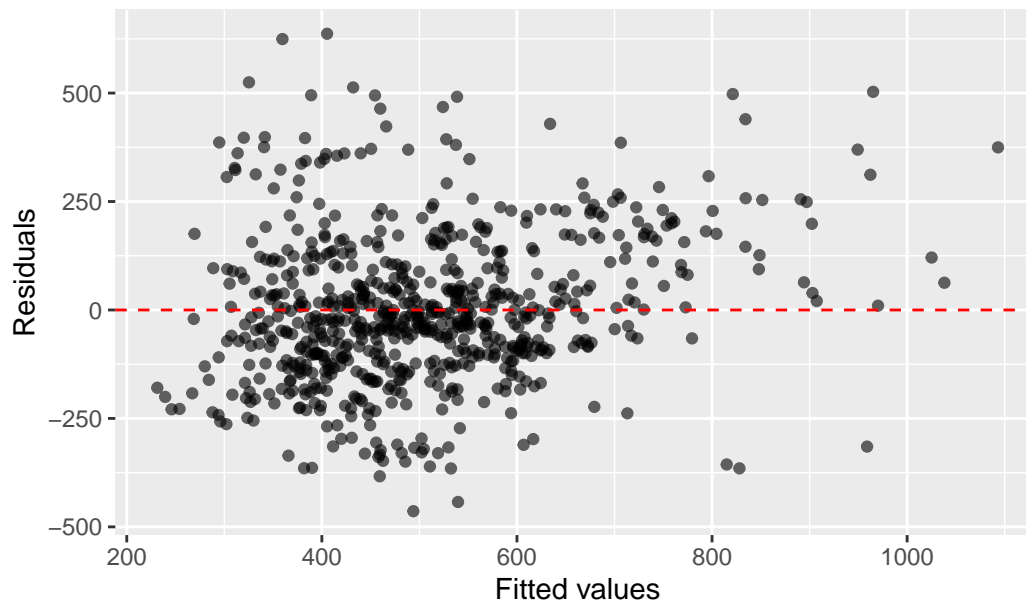
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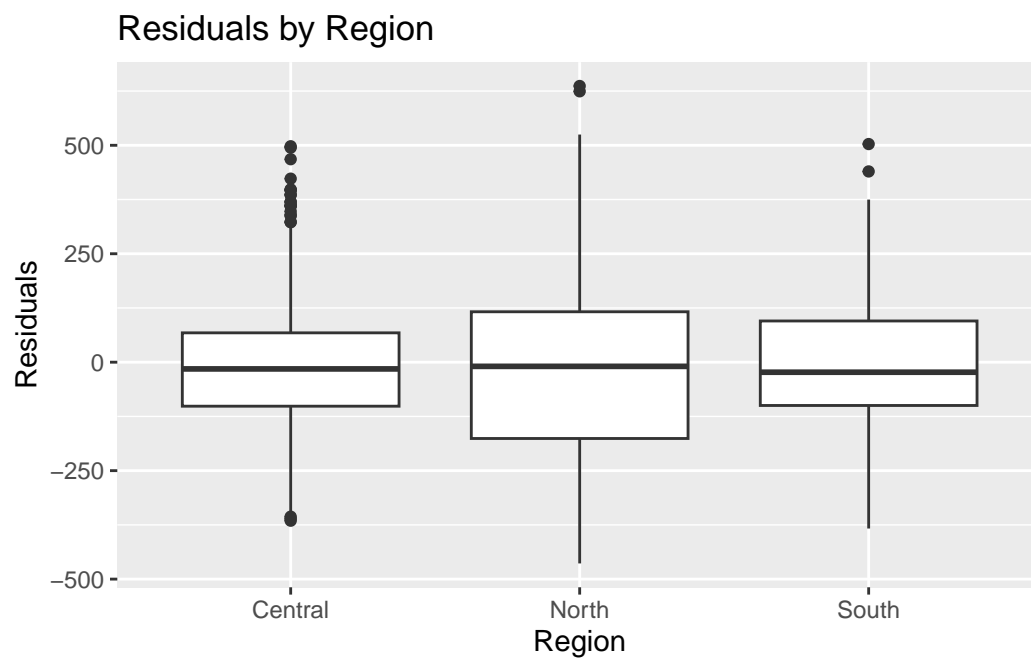
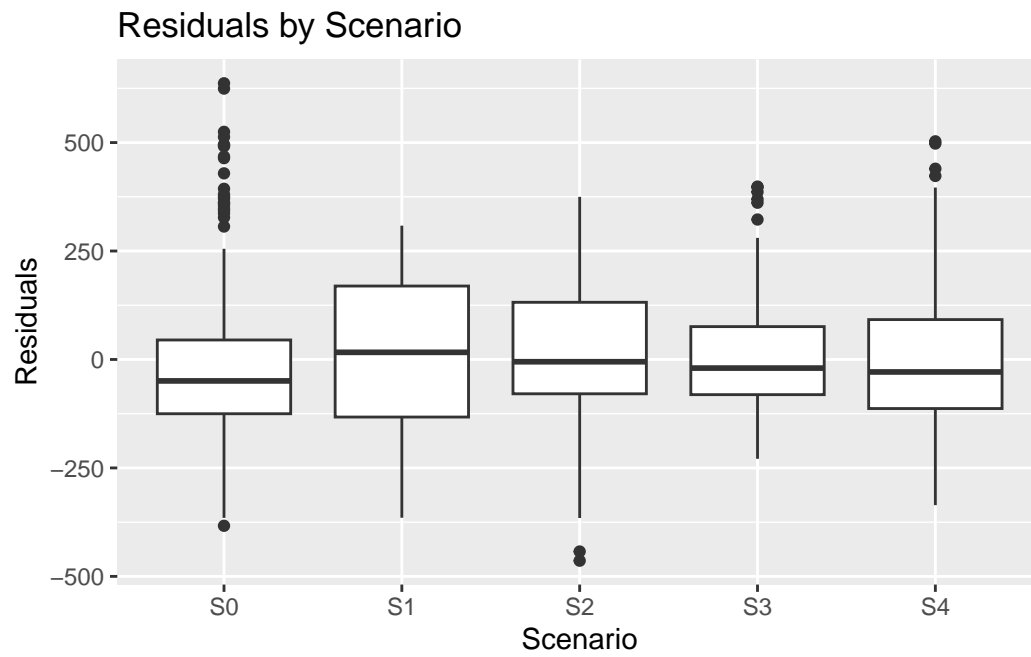
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Correlation of Fixed Effects:

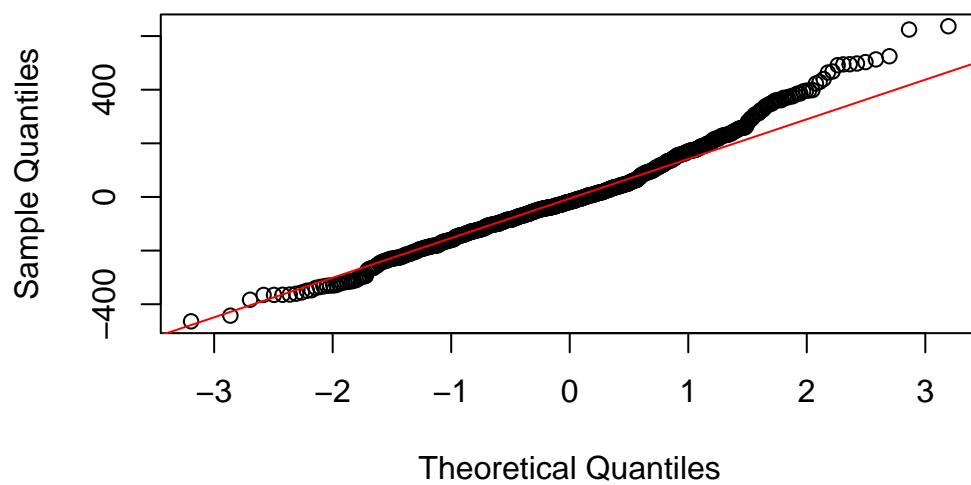
| | (Intr) | ScnrS1 | ScnrS2 | ScnrS3 | ScnrS4 | rgn_cN | rgn_cS |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| ScenarioS1 | -0.391 | | | | | | |
| ScenarioS2 | -0.391 | 0.500 | | | | | |
| ScenarioS3 | -0.391 | 0.500 | 0.500 | | | | |
| ScenarioS4 | -0.391 | 0.500 | 0.500 | 0.500 | | | |
| rgn_ctgryNr | -0.520 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | | |
| rgn_ctgrySt | -0.671 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.483 | |
| DISPATCH.PE | -0.205 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.039 | -0.013 |

Residuals vs Fitted

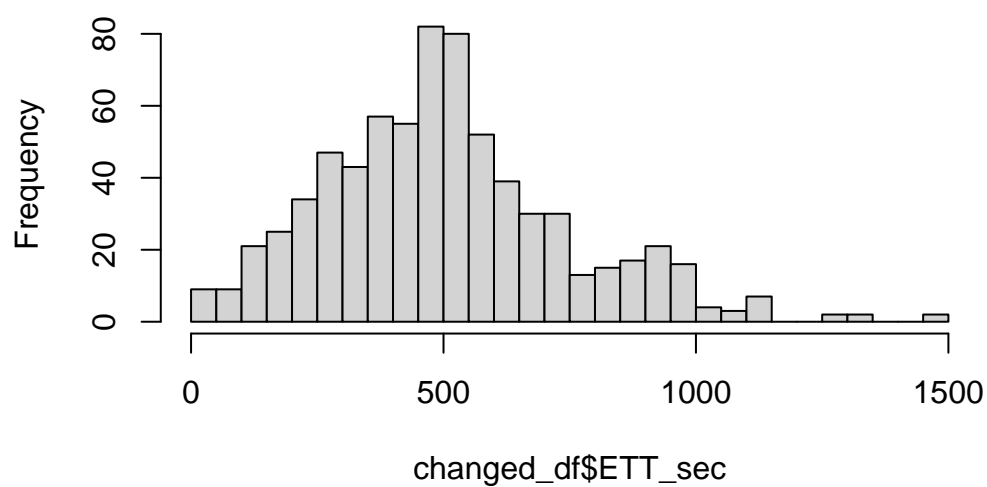


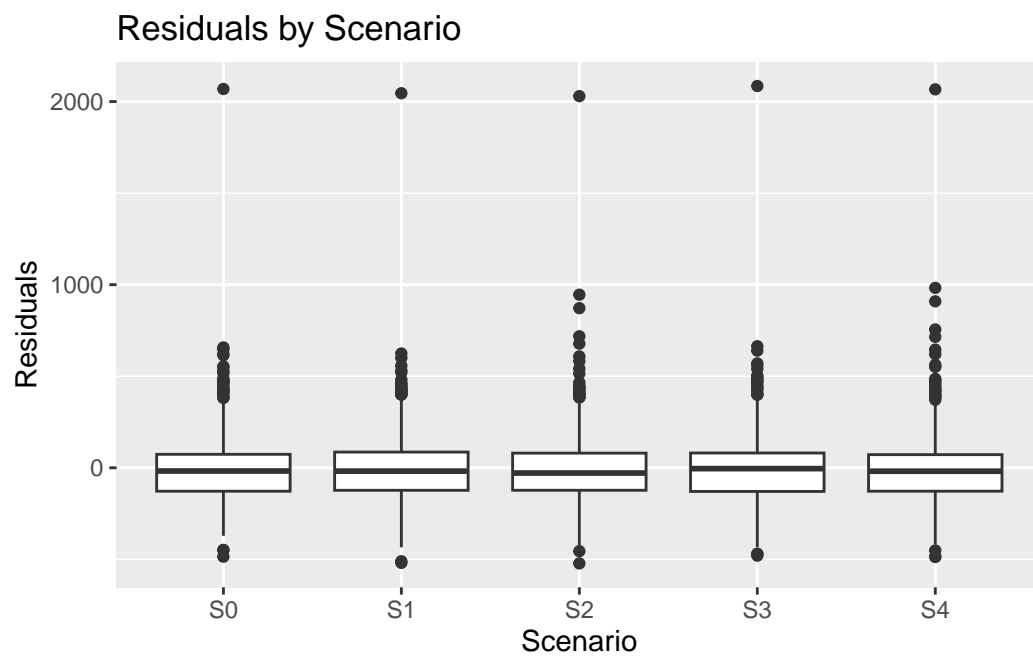
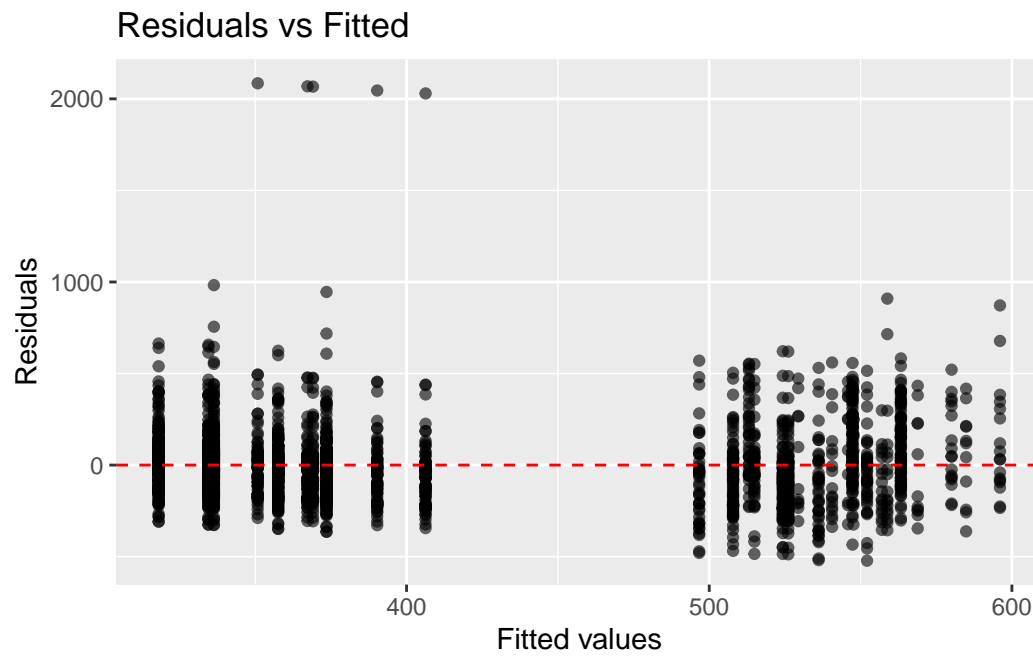


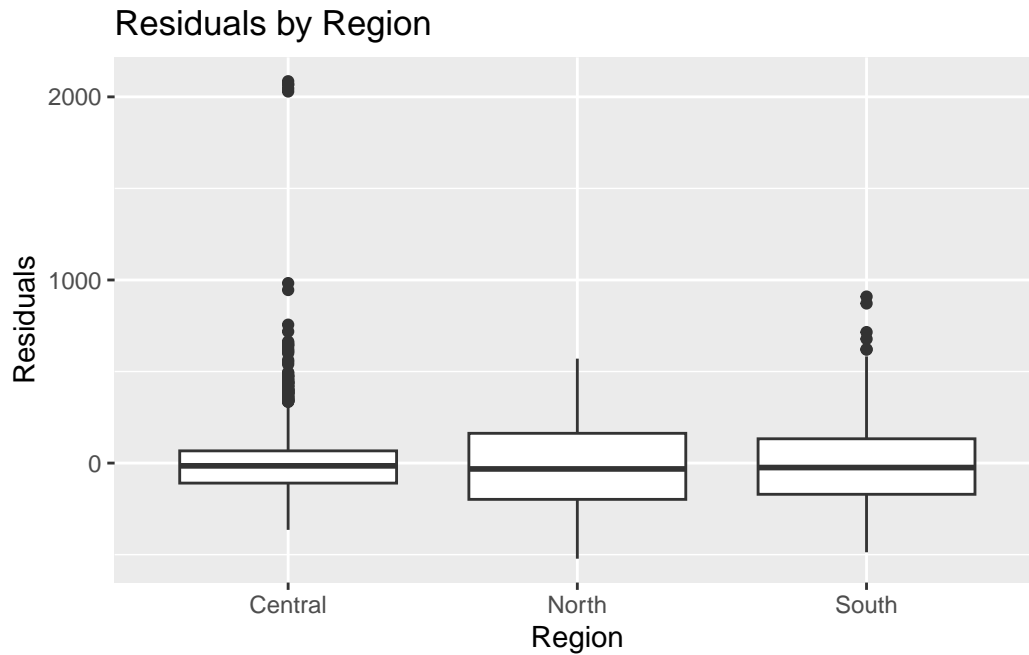
Normal Q-Q Plot



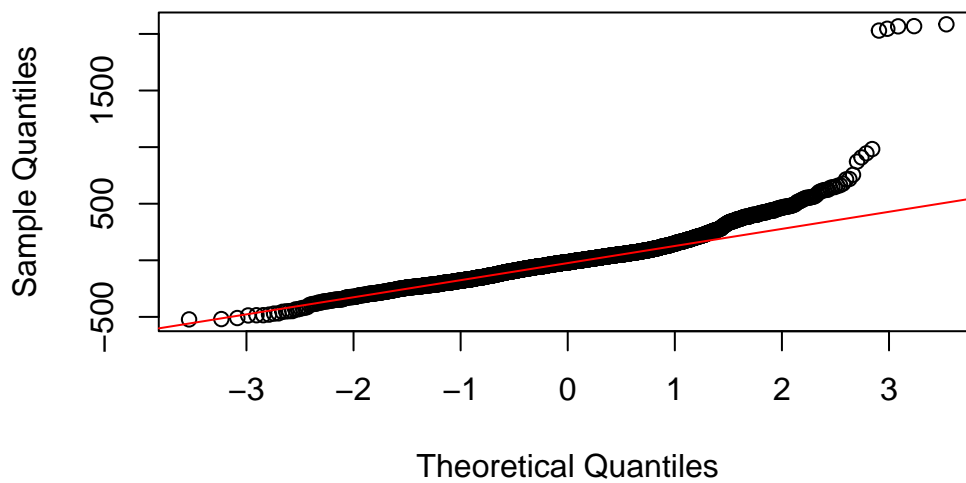
Histogram of changed_df\$ETT_sec







Normal Q-Q Plot



| | Model | df | AIC | BIC | logLik | Test | L.Ratio | p-value |
|------------------|-------|----|----------|----------|-----------|--------|----------|---------|
| gls_model | 1 | 9 | 33214.66 | 33266.90 | -16598.33 | | | |
| gls_model_region | 2 | 19 | 32977.35 | 33087.57 | -16469.67 | 1 vs 2 | 257.3084 | <.0001 |

| | Model | df | AIC | BIC | logLik | Test | L.Ratio | p-value |
|---------------|-------|----|----------|----------|-----------|--------|----------|---------|
| gls_model | 1 | 9 | 33214.66 | 33266.90 | -16598.33 | | | |
| gls_model_pow | 2 | 18 | 32954.17 | 33058.59 | -16459.08 | 1 vs 2 | 278.4893 | <.0001 |

Type III Analysis of Variance Table with Satterthwaite's method

| | Sum Sq | Mean Sq | NumDF | DenDF | F value | Pr(>F) |
|------------------------|--------|---------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| Scenario | 4.2186 | 1.05465 | 4 | 1964 | 13.5242 | 7.053e-11 *** |
| region_category | 5.7932 | 2.89661 | 2 | 488 | 37.1447 | 9.644e-16 *** |
| DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAME | 0.0472 | 0.04725 | 1 | 488 | 0.6059 | 0.4367 |

Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

```

      df      AIC
lmm_model 10 2129.54
gls_model  9 33214.66

```

```

      df      BIC
lmm_model 10 2187.619
gls_model  9 33266.898

```

Type III Analysis of Variance Table with Satterthwaite's method

| | Sum Sq | Mean Sq | NumDF | DenDF | F value | Pr(>F) |
|------------------------|--------|---------|-------|-------|---------|---------------|
| Scenario | 4.2186 | 1.05465 | 4 | 1964 | 13.5242 | 7.053e-11 *** |
| region_category | 5.7932 | 2.89661 | 2 | 488 | 37.1447 | 9.644e-16 *** |
| DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAME | 0.0472 | 0.04725 | 1 | 488 | 0.6059 | 0.4367 |

Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

```

      df      AIC
lmm_model    10 2129.54
gls_model_pow 18 32954.17

```

```

      df      BIC
lmm_model    10 2187.619
gls_model_pow 18 33058.592

```

Type III Analysis of Variance Table with Satterthwaite's method

| | Sum Sq | Mean Sq | NumDF | DenDF | F value | Pr(>F) |
|------------------------|---------|---------|-------|-------|---------|------------|
| Scenario | 3177443 | 794361 | 4 | 568 | 22.8310 | <2e-16 *** |
| region_category | 284976 | 142488 | 2 | 139 | 4.0953 | 0.0187 * |
| DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAME | 58272 | 58272 | 1 | 139 | 1.6748 | 0.1978 |

Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

```

      df      AIC
lmm_model_changed 10 9632.967
gls_model          9 33214.656

```

```

      df      BIC
lmm_model_changed 10 9678.69
gls_model          9 33266.90

```

Type III Analysis of Variance Table with Satterthwaite's method

| | Sum Sq | Mean Sq | NumDF | DenDF | F value | Pr(>F) |
|------------------------|---------|---------|-------|-------|---------|------------|
| Scenario | 3177443 | 794361 | 4 | 568 | 22.8310 | <2e-16 *** |
| region_category | 284976 | 142488 | 2 | 139 | 4.0953 | 0.0187 * |
| DISPATCH.PRIORITY.NAME | 58272 | 58272 | 1 | 139 | 1.6748 | 0.1978 |

Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

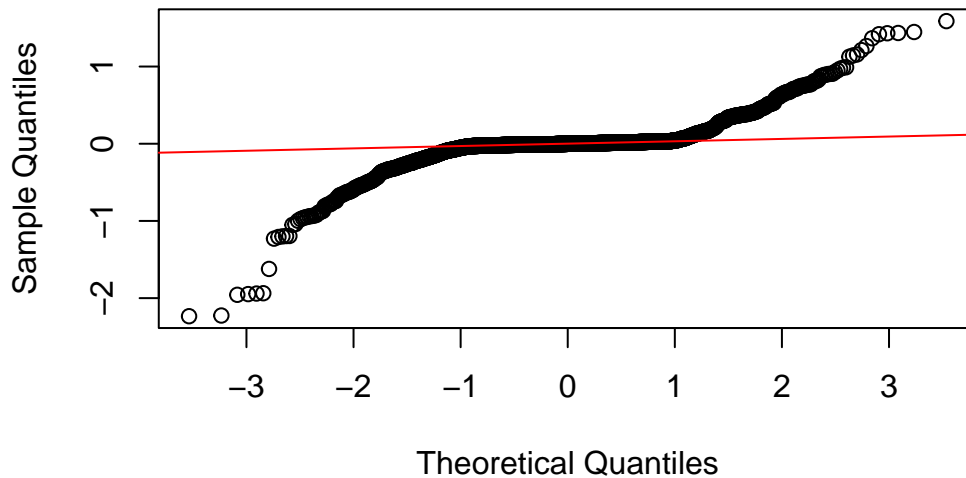
```

      df      AIC
lmm_model_changed 10 9632.967
gls_model_pow     18 32954.167

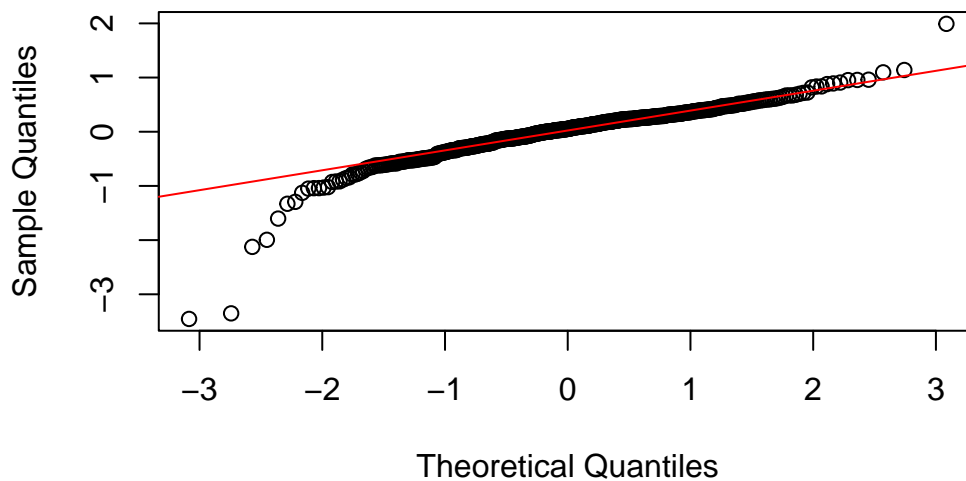
```

| | df | BIC |
|-------------------|----|----------|
| lmm_model_changed | 10 | 9678.69 |
| gls_model_pow | 18 | 33058.59 |

Residuals



Random Effects



| | Model | df | AIC | BIC | logLik | Test | L.Ratio | p-value |
|----------------|-------|----|----------|----------|-----------|--------|----------|---------|
| lmm_no_weights | 1 | 10 | 2129.540 | 2187.586 | -1054.770 | | | |
| lmm_model_ext | 2 | 12 | 1170.544 | 1240.200 | -573.272 | 1 vs 2 | 962.9957 | <.0001 |

4. Assumptions and Shortcomings

Normality of residuals was poorly met Large deviances at tails Non-constant variance across fitted values External factors not taken into consideration Traffic / Rush hours/ Road closures Time of year EMT staffing patterns ETT inputs: based on single best-guess estimates (e.g., from Google), lacking nuance or uncertainty Variance modeling: only accounted for regional differences, while

other factors may also influence variability Emergency vs non-emergency Simplicity in Dispatch Rule Better for analysis Doesn't occur in real life

5. Conclusions

Scenario 3 results in the fastest overall response times Marginal mean travel times (ETTs) are reduced by $\sim 16\%$ compared with the baseline (Scenario 0)

$\exp(-0.173) \cdot 0.84 \rightarrow$ travel times in Scenario 3 are about 84% of baseline levels