nlmixr: an R package for fitting PK and PKPD models

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### Introduction

nlmixr is an R package for fitting general dynamic models, pharmacokinetic (PK) models and pharmacokinetic-pharmacosynamic (PKPD) models in particular, with either individual data or population data. nlmixr has five main modules: 1) dynmodel() and its mcmc cousin dynmodel.mcmc() for nonlinear dynamic models of individual data; 2) nlme\_lin\_cmpt() for one to three linear compartment models of population data with first order absorption, or i.v. bolus, or i.v. infusion; 3) nlme\_ode() for general dynamic models defined by ordinary differential equations (ODEs) of population data; 4) saem\_fit() for general dynamic models defined by ordinary differential equations (ODEs) of population data by the Stochastic Approximation Expectation-Maximization (SAEM) algorithm; 5) gnlmm() for generalized non-linear mixed-models (optionally defined by ordinary differential equations) of population data by adaptive Gaussian quadrature algorithm.

A few utilities to facilitate population model building are also included in nlmixr.

```
library(nlmixr, quietly = TRUE)
source("print.summary.lme.R") #suppress data printout
```

### Non-population dynamic model

The dynmodel() module fits general dynamic models, often expressed as a set of ODEs, of individual data with possible multiple endpoints. This module has similar functionality as the ID module of ADAPT 5.

We use two examples from the ADAPT 5 User's Guide to illustrate the usage of non-population dynamic model with dynmodel().

# Inverse Gaussian Absorption Model

This example illustrates the use of the inverse Gaussian (IG) function to model the oral absorption process of a delayed release compound. It is assumed that the plasma drug concentration following oral administration of the drug can be decomposed into an independent input process (representing dissolution, transit and absorption processes) followed by the disposition process. It is further assumed that the parameters of a linear two compartment model used to describe the disposition process have been estimated following intravenous drug administration to an individual. The model shown in Figure 1 will then be used to describe the plasma kinetics of an oral formulation of the drug delivered to the individual.

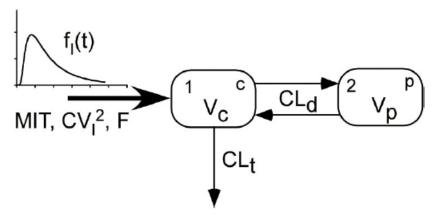


Figure 1. Two compartment disposition model with IG function input..

This system of two-compartment disposition model with IG absorption is defined in the following string:

```
ode <- "
    dose=200;
    pi = 3.1415926535897931;

if (t<=0) {
        fI = 0;
    } else {
        fI = F*dose*sqrt(MIT/(2.0*pi*CVI2*t^3))*exp(-(t-MIT)^2/(2.0*CVI2*MIT*t));
    }

    C2 = centr/V2;
    C3 = peri/V3;
    d/dt(centr) = fI - CL*C2 - Q*C2 + Q*C3;
    d/dt(peri) = Q*C2 - Q*C3;

"
sys1 <- RxODE(model = ode)</pre>
```

In the model above the systemic drug input function,  $f_i(t)$ , is assumed to be a single inverse Gaussian function defined as:

$$f_i(t) = D \cdot F \sqrt{\frac{MIT}{2\pi C V_t^2 t^3}} \exp\left[-\frac{(t - MIT)^2}{2C V_t^2 MITt}\right]$$

where MIT represents the mean input time and  $CV^2$  is a normalized variance ( is the standard deviation of the density function  $f_i(t)/(D \cdot F)$  divided by MIT, i.e., the relative dispersion of input times). The factor F is the bioavailability of the orally administered dose.

In this example, disposition parameters are assumed known. The three parameters related to the delayed absorption, MIT, CVI2 and F, are to be estimated.

dynmodel() takes the following arguments: an RxODE object (compiled ODE solver), a list of formulae that relates system defined quantities and measurement(s) with either or both addive error add() and proportional error prop(), an event table object that defines the inputs and observation schedule, a named vector with initial values of system parameters, a data.frame contains the data, optional known system parameters (fixPars) not to be estimated, and other optional control parameters for optimization routines.

```
dat <- read.table("invgaussian.txt", header=TRUE)
mod <- cp ~ C2 + prop(.1)
inits <- c(MIT=190, CVI2=.65, F=.92)
fixPars <- c(CL=.0793, V2=.64, Q=.292, V3=9.63)
ev <- eventTable()
ev$add.sampling(c(0, dat$time))
(fit <- dynmodel(sys1, mod, ev, inits, dat, fixPars))</pre>
```

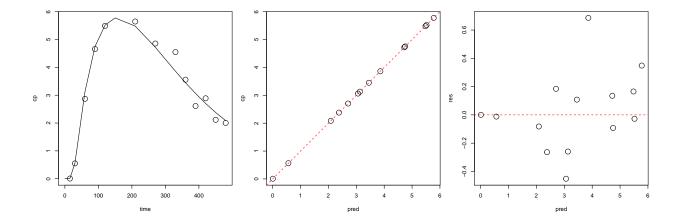
```
##
                est
                            %cv
## MIT
       191.9428628
                     0.1543739
## CVI2
          0.6555526
                     0.9141670
## F
          0.9060619
                     2.2309059
          0.0786291 18.9836400
## err
##
      -loglik
                     AIC
## -5.5422991 -3.0845982 -0.5283689
```

More information about the model (convergence information and number of function evulation of the optimization process) is displayed by calling the summary() function. Basic goodness-of-fit plots are generated by calling plot().

### summary(fit)

```
##
                                         %cv
                est
                              se
## MIT
        191.9428628 0.296309668
## CVI2
          0.6555526 0.005992846
                                  0.9141670
## F
          0.9060619 0.020213388
                                  2.2309059
## err
          0.0786291 0.014926666 18.9836400
##
##
      -loglik
                      AIC
                                 BIC
##
   -5.5422991 -3.0845982 -0.5283689
##
## iter: 165
## NELDER_FTOL_REACHED
```

```
par(mar=c(4,4,1,1), mfrow=c(1,3))
plot(fit, cex=2)
```



## Parent/Metabolite (multiple endpoints)

Figure 2 shows the model used to describe the kinetics of a parent compound and its metabolite used in this example. The model relating dose of the parent compound to the plasma concentrations of parent drug and its metabolite can be rewritten in terms of the ratio Vm/fm along with the other model parameters  $Kp, Vp, K_{12}, K_{21}$  and fm.

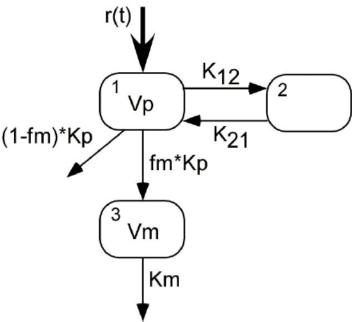


Figure 2. Model for example pmetab.

Kp is the total elimination rate of the parent compound, while fm represent the fraction metabolized.

Note the list that specifies the statistical measurement models for concentrations of both parent and its metabite.

```
ode <- "
Cp = centr/Vp;
Cm = meta/Vm;
d/dt(centr) = -k12*centr + k21*peri -kp*centr;
d/dt(peri) = k12*centr - k21*peri;
d/dt(meta) = kp*centr - km*meta;
"
sys2 <- RxODE(model = ode)

dat <- read.table("metabolite.txt", header=TRUE)
mod <- list(y1 ~ Cp+prop(.1), y2 ~ Cm+prop(.15))
inits <- c(kp=0.4, Vp=10., k12=0.2, k21=0.1, km=0.2, Vm=30.)
ev <- eventTable()
ev$add.dosing(100, rate=100)
ev$add.sampling(c(0, dat$time))
(fit <- dynmodel(sys2, mod, ev, inits, dat))</pre>
```

```
## est %cv
## kp 0.38362979 5.092584
## Vp 10.71097520 5.976756
## k12 0.17878774 8.415824
## k21 0.10020406 13.669766
## km 0.20962035 7.223518
## Vm 28.59650129 8.488434
## err 0.07706082 22.648616
## err 0.14501513 22.974311
##
```

```
## -loglik AIC BIC
## -27.31560 -38.63120 -30.66534
```

Alternative error models can be tested and compared without re-compilation of the system. For instance, a combo-error structure with both additive and proportional errors for the parent compound concentration is easily re-fitted with the following code:

```
mod <- list(y1 ~ Cp+add(.2)+prop(.1), y2 ~ Cm+prop(.15))
(fit <- dynmodel(sys2, mod, ev, inits, dat))</pre>
```

```
##
                            %cv
                est
## kp
        0.379652225
                       4.764781
## Vp
       10.759771690
                       4.905665
        0.175326233
                       7.816279
## k12
## k21
        0.096208347
                      14.905049
## km
        0.209364068
                      7.094367
## Vm
       28.482949275
                      8.458955
        0.004999634 117.382974
##
       0.061440884
                     31.876548
   err
##
        0.146165651
                      23.044552
##
##
     -loglik
                    AIC
                              BIC
## -27.68870 -37.37741 -28.41582
```

Although the combo error produces a slightly higher likelihood, the previous proportional error model has smaller AIC and BIC, hence, is preferred.

### Parent/Metabolite (continued - mcmc estimation)

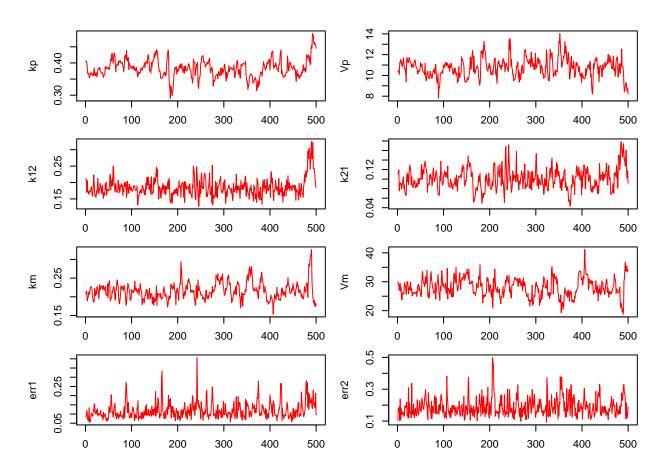
The dynmodel.mcmc() has similar functionality and user interface as dynmodel() for general dynamic models, except it uses Bayesian Markov Chain Monte-Carlo (mcmc) for estimation. The underlying sampling algorithm is Neal's efficient slice sampling algorithm.

```
mod <- list(y1 ~ Cp+prop(.1), y2 ~ Cm+prop(.15))
(fit <- dynmodel.mcmc(sys2, mod, ev, inits, dat))</pre>
```

```
##
              mean
                           sd
                                     cv%
         0.3831135 0.02754457
## kp
                               7.189662
## Vp
        10.7457581 0.89146183 8.295942
## k12
         0.1853772 0.02741360 14.788007
         0.1007913 0.02206588 21.892647
## k21
## km
         0.2157396 0.02269206 10.518263
## Vm
        28.0270414 3.18531987 11.365166
## err1 0.1190089 0.04452630 37.414267
##
        0.1881154 0.05883149 31.274152
##
## # samples: 500
```

dynmodel.mcmc() returns a matrix of raw mcmc samples. This matrix can be further manipulated for further plots and inferences. For instances, trace plots can be easily generated by the following:

```
par(mfrow=c(4,2), mar=c(2,4,1,1))
s <- lapply(1:dim(fit)[2], function(k)
    plot(fit[,k], type="l", col="red", ylab=dimnames(fit)[[2]][k]))</pre>
```



### Linear compartment models

nlme\_lin\_cmpt() fits a linear compartment model with either first order absorption, or i.v. bolus, or i.v. infusion. A user specifies the number of compartments (up to three), route of drug administrations, and the model parameterization. nlmixr supports the clearance/volume parameterization and the micro constant parameterization, with the former as the default. Specification of fixed effects, random effects and intial values follows the nlme notations.

We use an extended version of the Theophiline PK data <sup>1</sup> accompanied with the NONMEM distribution (also an example in the nlme documentation) as an illustration of nlme\_lin\_cmpt. We model the Theophiline PK by a one-compartment model with first order absorption and with default clearance/volume parameterization. All model parameters are log-transformed; random effects are added to KA and CL.

```
dat <- read.table(system.file("examples/theo_md.txt", package = "nlmixr"), head=TRUE)
specs <- list(fixed=lKA+lCL+lV~1, random = pdDiag(lKA+lCL~1), start=c(lKA=0.5, lCL=-3.2, lV=-1))
fit <- nlme_lin_cmpt(dat, par_model=specs, ncmt=1)</pre>
```

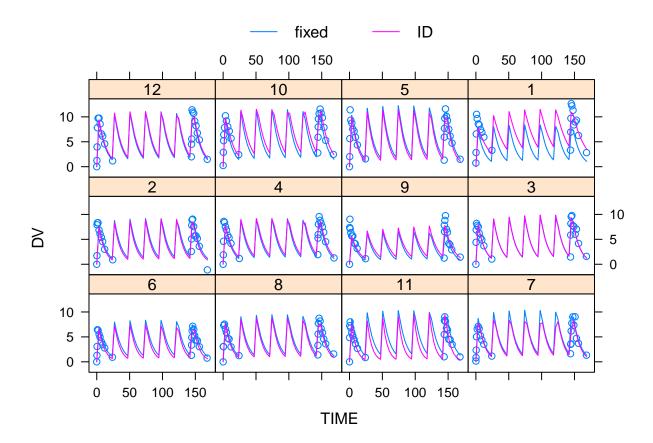
### ## Loading required package: parallel

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>To demonstrate/test the capability of handling multiple doses by  $nlme_lin_mpt$ , we simulated the Day 7 concentrations with a once daily (q.d.) regimen for 7 days, in addition to the Day 1 concentrations of the original Theophiline data.

## summary(fit)

plot(augPred(fit,level=0:1))

```
## Nonlinear mixed-effects model fit by maximum likelihood
##
     Model: DV ~ ..ModList$user_fn(1CL, 1V, 1KA, TIME, ID)
##
                  BIC
                         logLik
##
     859.5037 880.9594 -423.7518
##
## Random effects:
## Formula: list(lKA ~ 1, lCL ~ 1)
## Level: ID
## Structure: Diagonal
##
                lKA
                          1CL Residual
## StdDev: 0.4761767 0.2484193 1.065936
##
## Fixed effects: 1KA + 1CL + 1V \sim 1
           Value Std.Error DF
                                t-value p-value
## 1KA 0.261483 0.14793530 250
                                1.76755 0.0784
## 1CL -3.183560 0.07521599 250 -42.32557 0.0000
## 1V -0.825241 0.02591327 250 -31.84626 0.0000
## Correlation:
##
       lKA
              1CL
## 1CL -0.010
## 1V 0.230 -0.106
## Standardized Within-Group Residuals:
         Min
                     Q1
                               Med
                                           QЗ
## -4.9720710 -0.3943890 0.0629013 0.4122894 2.8119726
## Number of Observations: 264
## Number of Groups: 12
```



I.v. bolus can be specified by setting oral=FALSE, i.v. infusion by oral=FALSE and infusion=TRUE. To use micro parameterization, one simply sets parameterization=2. Covariate analyses can be performed with the nlme() notations. In the following sample code, WT is a covariate to the log-transformed CL and V.

```
specs <- list(
    fixed=list(lKA~1, lCL+lV~WT),
    random = pdDiag(lKA+lCL~1),
    start=c(0.5, -3.2, 0, -1, 0))
fit <- nlme_lin_cmpt(dat, par_model=specs, ncmt=1)
#plot(augPred(fit,level=0:1))
#fit</pre>
```

Additional arguments/options to nlme() can be passed along via calls to nlme\_lin\_cmpt. For instance, if information on the iteration processs of optimization is of interest, one may pass verbose=TRUE to nlme() when calling nlme\_lin\_cmpt.

```
fit <- nlme_lin_cmpt(dat, par_model=specs, ncmt=1, verbose=TRUE)</pre>
```

## Parameterization in nlme\_lin\_cmpt

Depending on the model selection and parameterization selection, for internal calculations, nlme\_lin\_cmpt uses a particular set of parameterization from the following list, the first three being the clearance/volume parameterizations for one-three compartments, and the last three the corresponding micro constant parameterizations. TLAG is excluded when tlag=FALSE, KA and TLAG excluded when oral=FALSE.

```
pm <- list(
    c("CL", "V", "KA", "TLAG"),
    c("CL", "V", "CLD", "VT", "KA", "TLAG"),
    c("CL", "V", "CLD", "VT", "CLD2", "VT2", "KA", "TLAG"),
    c("KE", "V", "KA", "TLAG"),
    c("KE", "V", "K12", "K21", "KA", "TLAG"),
    c("KE", "V", "K12", "K21", "K13", "K31", "KA", "TLAG"))
)
dim(pm)<-c(3,2)</pre>
```

Model parameters in the par\_model argument and the parameters used for internal calculations are bridged by a function supplied to the par\_trans argument. A user can do any parameter transformation deemed necessary within such a function, however, symbols defined in the environment of the par\_trans function (including the formal arguments and the derived variables) have to be a superset of parameters required by a particular model with the chosen route of administration, parameterization and tlag flag. For instance, with ncmt=1, oral=TRUE, and parameterization=1, the environment of the par\_trans function has to contain CL, V and KA; whereas with ncmt=1, oral=TRUE, parameterization=2, and tlag=TRUE, the environment of the par\_trans function has to have KE, V, KA, and TLAG.

To facilitate models with the clearance/volume parameterization and the micro parameterization, nlmixr provides a set of predefined par\_trans functions with log-transformed parameters of linear compartment models with different routes of administration and parameterizations. Arguments ncmt, oral, parameterization, and tlag to function nlme\_lin\_cmpt uniquely determine a proper par\_trans function via an internal utility. Below is such a function for ncmt=1, oral=TRUE, parameterization=1, and tlag=TRUE.

```
par.1cmt.CL.oral.tlag <- function(1CL, 1V, 1KA, 1TLAG)
{
   CL <- exp(1CL)
   V <- exp(1V)
   KA <- exp(1KA)
   TLAG <- exp(1TLAG)
}</pre>
```

With this model, a user needs to specify the fixed-effects, random-effects and initial values of the fixed effects for parameters 1CL, 1V, 1KA, and 1TLAG.

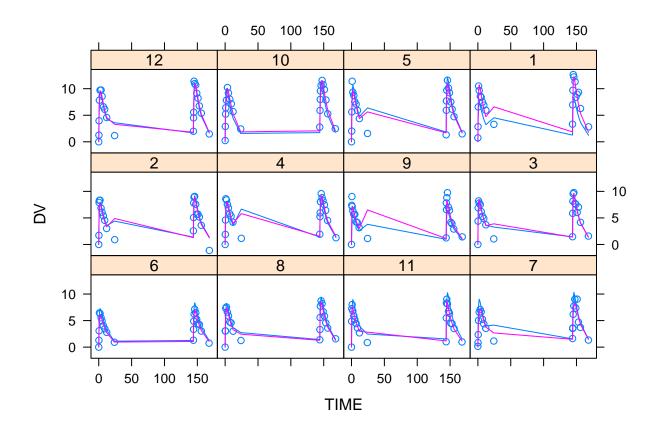
If a user perfers to parameterize a linear compartment model other than the supported parameterizations, he/she needs to write a cutomized parameterization function and supply the par\_trans argument when calling nlme\_lin\_cmpt. Note that in the following example, the customized par\_trans function defines KE, V, and KA — parameters needed for ncmt=1, parameterization=2 with the default options oral=TRUE and tlag=FALSE.

```
mypar <- function(1KA, 1KE, 1CL)
{
    KA <- exp(1KA)
    KE <- exp(1KE)
    CL <- exp(1CL)
    V <- CL/KE
}
specs <- list(
    fixed=1KA+1CL+1KE~1,
    random = pdDiag(1KA+1CL~1),
    start=c(0.5, -2.5, -3.2)
)</pre>
```

```
fit <- nlme_lin_cmpt(</pre>
    dat, par_model=specs,
    ncmt=1, parameterization=2, par_trans=mypar)
#plot(auqPred(fit,level=0:1))
fit
## Nonlinear mixed-effects model fit by maximum likelihood
     Model: DV ~ ..ModList$user_fn(1KA, 1KE, 1CL, TIME, ID)
##
##
     Log-likelihood: -415.5953
##
     Fixed: 1KA + 1CL + 1KE ~ 1
##
          lKA
                     1CI.
                                 1KE
##
    0.3049943 -3.2084427 -2.4163560
##
## Random effects:
   Formula: list(lKA ~ 1, lCL ~ 1)
##
##
    Level: ID
##
   Structure: Diagonal
##
                 lKA
                           1CL Residual
## StdDev: 0.4681407 0.168249 1.031414
## Number of Observations: 264
## Number of Groups: 12
```

### Models defined by ordinary differential equations

nlme\_ode() fits a general population PKPD model defined by a set of ODEs. The user-defined dynamic system is defined in a string and provided to the model argument. The syntax of this mini-modeling language is detailed in the appendix. In addition to the par\_model and par\_trans arguments as before, a user specifies the response variable. A response variable can be any of the state variables or the derived variables in the system definition. Occasionally, the response variable may need to be scaled to match the observations. In the following example, we model the afore-mentioned Theophiline PK example by a set of ODEs. In this system, the two state variables depot and centr denote the drug amount in the absorption site and the central circulation, respectively. Observations are the measured drug concentrations in the central circulation (not the drug amount) at times. Hence, the response variable is the volume-scaled drug amount in the central circulation.



fit

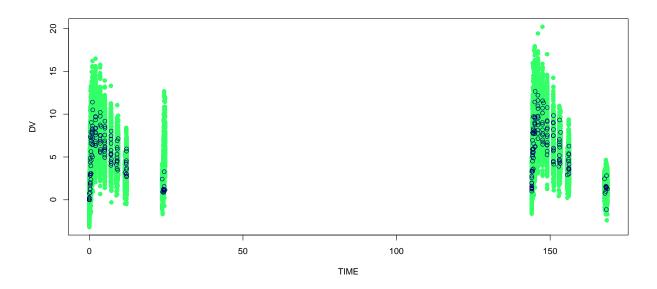
```
## Nonlinear mixed-effects model fit by maximum likelihood
     Model: DV ~ ..ModList$user_fn(1KA, 1KE, 1CL, TIME, ID)
##
##
     Log-likelihood: -415.595
     Fixed: 1KA + 1KE + 1CL ~ 1
##
##
          lKA
                     1KE
    0.3050693 -2.4163748 -3.2084408
##
##
## Random effects:
   Formula: list(1KA ~ 1, 1CL ~ 1)
##
##
    Level: ID
##
   Structure: Diagonal
##
                 lKA
                          1CL Residual
## StdDev: 0.4681084 0.168246 1.031418
## Number of Observations: 264
## Number of Groups: 12
```

# Population modeling utilities

# Visual Predictive Checks (VPC)

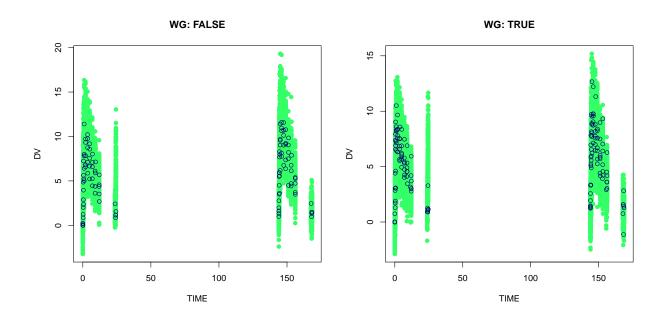
VPC plots can be produced by calling vpc():

vpc(fit, 100)



Conditional VPC can be easily generated:

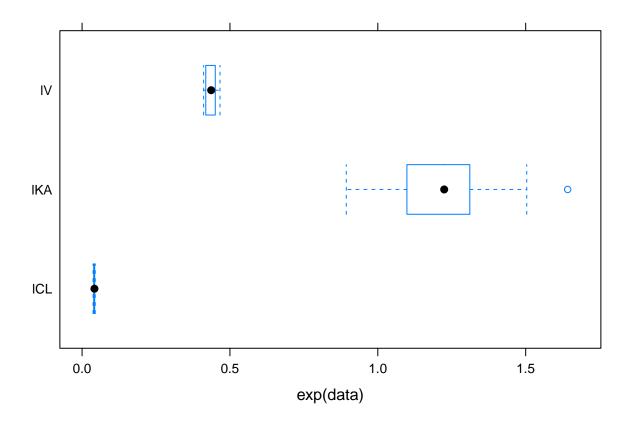
```
par(mfrow=c(1,2))
vpc(fit, 100, condition="WG")
```



# ${\bf Boostrap}$

```
dat <- read.table("theo_md.txt", head=TRUE)
specs <- list(fixed=1KA+1CL+1V~1, random = pdDiag(1KA+1CL~1), start=c(1KA=0.5, 1CL=-3.2, 1V=-1))</pre>
```

```
set.seed(99); nboot = 20;
cat("generating", nboot, "bootstrap samples...\n")
## generating 20 bootstrap samples...
cmat <- matrix(NA, nboot, 3)</pre>
for (i in 1:nboot)
    #print(i)
    bd <- bootdata(dat)</pre>
    fit <- nlme_lin_cmpt(bd, par_model=specs, ncmt=1)</pre>
    cmat[i,] = fit$coefficients$fixed
dimnames(cmat)[[2]] <- names(fit$coefficients$fixed)</pre>
print(head(cmat))
##
               lKA
                          1CL
## [1,] 0.17007860 -3.159300 -0.8454881
## [2,] 0.40783953 -3.203716 -0.8235642
## [3,] 0.01032742 -3.291500 -0.8786744
## [4,] 0.19120988 -3.146474 -0.7917586
## [5,] 0.19590298 -3.169079 -0.8151188
## [6,] 0.49588394 -3.131458 -0.8080344
require(lattice)
## Loading required package: lattice
df <- do.call("make.groups", split(cmat, col(cmat)))</pre>
df$grp <- dimnames(cmat)[[2]][df$which]</pre>
print(bwplot(grp~exp(data), df))
```



### Covariate selection

## WT added to 1V

##

## adding WT to lV : p-val = 0.001122798
## adding TG to lV : p-val = 0.0495326
## adding LOGWT to lV : p-val = 0.002160107

## adding WT to 1CL : p-val = 0.4261532

```
dat <- read.table("theo_md.txt", head=TRUE)</pre>
dat$LOGWT <- log(dat$WT)</pre>
datTG \leftarrow (datTD < 6) + 0
                                 #dummy covariate
specs <- list(</pre>
    fixed=list(lKA=lKA~1, lCL=lCL~1, lV=lV~1),
    random = pdDiag(lKA+lCL~1),
    start=c(0.5, -3.2, -1))
fit0 <- nlme_lin_cmpt(dat, par_model=specs, ncmt=1)</pre>
cv <- list(lCL=c("WT", "TG", "LOGWT"), lV=c("WT", "TG", "LOGWT"))</pre>
fit <- frwd_selection(fit0, cv, dat)</pre>
## covariate selection process:
##
## adding WT to 1CL : p-val = 0.2434705
## adding TG to 1CL : p-val = 0.2783598
## adding LOGWT to 1CL : p-val = 0.2761787
```

```
##
  LOGWT added to 1V
##
## adding WT to 1CL : p-val = 0.4593683
## adding TG to 1CL : p-val = 0.2183384
## adding LOGWT to 1CL : p-val = 0.4892345
## adding TG to 1V : p-val = 0.09987725
## covariate selection finished.
print(summary(fit))
## Nonlinear mixed-effects model fit by maximum likelihood
     Model: DV ~ ..ModList$user_fn(1CL, 1V, 1KA, TIME, ID)
##
##
          AIC
                   BIC
                          logLik
##
     845.8469 874.4545 -414.9234
##
## Random effects:
  Formula: list(lKA ~ 1, lCL ~ 1)
##
   Level: ID
##
   Structure: Diagonal
                           1CL Residual
                 lKA
## StdDev: 0.4048949 0.2347384 1.037429
## Fixed effects: structure(list(lKA = lKA ~ 1, lCL = lCL ~ 1, lV = lV ~ 1 + WT + LOGWT), .Names = c("l
##
                       Value Std.Error DF
                                              t-value p-value
## 1KA
                    0.250343 0.128089 248
                                              1.95445 0.0518
                   -3.179805
                              0.071520 248 -44.46009
                                                       0.0000
## 1V.(Intercept) -22.666028
                              8.481362 248
                                             -2.67245
                                                       0.0080
## 1V.WT
                   -0.110324
                              0.038267 248
                                             -2.88298
                                                       0.0043
## 1V.LOGWT
                    6.970555
                              2.630665 248
                                              2.64973 0.0086
  Correlation:
                                1V.(I) 1V.WT
##
                  lKA
                         1CL
## 1CL
                  -0.012
## 1V.(Intercept) -0.010 0.004
                  -0.008 0.003 0.996
## 1V.WT
## 1V.LOGWT
                   0.010 -0.004 -1.000 -0.998
##
## Standardized Within-Group Residuals:
##
           Min
                        Q1
                                   Med
                                                 Q3
                                                            Max
## -4.95120077 -0.34388312
                            0.08881133
                                        0.44882478
##
## Number of Observations: 264
## Number of Groups: 12
```

## Stochastic Approximation Expectation-Maximization (SAEM)

## adding TG to lCL : p-val = 0.2445977
## adding LOGWT to lCL : p-val = 0.4696535
## adding TG to lV : p-val = 0.1322862
## adding LOGWT to lV : p-val = 0.007955083

saem\_fit() fits a nonlinear mixed-effect model by the SAEM algorithm. saem\_fit() is a compiled function that changes when the structure model changes. Before running this function, a user needs to generate a configuration list by calling the function configsaem(). Standard inputs to this function are: 1) a compiled

saem model 2) a data.frame; 3) a list of covariates (covar) and residual model with additive (res.mod=1), proportional (res.mod=2) and combination of additive and proportional (res.mod=3); 4) initial values for the fixed effect and residual error.

```
\#ode \leftarrow \#ode \leftarrow \#ode = 
\#ode \leftarrow "C2 = centr/V; d/dt(depot) = -KA*depot; d/dt(centr) = KA*depot - KE*centr;"; m2 = RxODE(ode, model)
PKpars = function()
{
    CL = exp(1CL)
    V = \exp(1V)
    KA = exp(1KA)
    KE = CL / V
    xxx = 0;
    #initCondition = c(0, xxx)
}
PRED = function() centr / V
PRED2 = function() C2
saem_fit <- gen_saem_user_fn(model=lincmt(ncmt=1, oral=T))</pre>
#saem_fit <- gen_saem_user_fn(model=m1, PKpars, pred=PRED)</pre>
#saem_fit <- gen_saem_user_fn(model=m2, PKpars, pred=PRED2)</pre>
#--- saem cfq
nmdat = read.table("theo_sd.dat", head=T)
model = list(saem_mod=saem_fit, covars="WT")
inits = list(theta=c(.05, .5, 2))
cfg = configsaem(model, nmdat, inits)
cfg$print = 50
#cfg$Rfn = nlmixr:::Ruser_function_cmt
#dyn.load("m1.d/m1.so");cfg$Rfn = nlmixr:::Ruser_function_ode
fit = saem_fit(cfg)
## 1:
                      -3.3578
                                              -0.4721
                                                                         0.3392
                                                                                                  6.1542
                                                                                                                          3.8000
                                                                                                                                                   3.8000
                                                                                                                                                                         14.6177
## 50:
                     -3.1984 -0.9246
                                                                    0.3069
                                                                                           0.4985
                                                                                                                0.5607
                                                                                                                                       0.7941
                                                                                                                                                             0.5127
## 100:
                       -3.2131 -0.8776
                                                                      0.3614
                                                                                            0.0628
                                                                                                                   0.4145
                                                                                                                                         0.5660
                                                                                                                                                               0.5004
## 150:
                       -3.2135 -0.8746
                                                                      0.3782
                                                                                             0.0668
                                                                                                                   0.3598
                                                                                                                                         0.5493
                                                                                                                                                               0.5110
## 200:
                        -3.2224 -0.7873
                                                                      0.4067
                                                                                             0.0677
                                                                                                                   0.0185
                                                                                                                                         0.3082
                                                                                                                                                               0.4966
## 250:
                       -3.2259 -0.7767
                                                                      0.4617
                                                                                             0.0775
                                                                                                                   0.0170
                                                                                                                                         0.4208
                                                                                                                                                               0.4870
## 300:
                       -3.2201 -0.7794
                                                                      0.4585
                                                                                             0.0742
                                                                                                                   0.0171
                                                                                                                                         0.4264
                                                                                                                                                               0.4836
                       -3.2206 -0.7806
## 350:
                                                                      0.4579
                                                                                             0.0729
                                                                                                                   0.0175
                                                                                                                                         0.4268
                                                                                                                                                               0.4831
## 400:
                       -3.2178 -0.7816
                                                                      0.4570
                                                                                            0.0722
                                                                                                                   0.0178
                                                                                                                                         0.4314
                                                                                                                                                               0.4814
## 450:
                       -3.2178 -0.7810
                                                                      0.4569
                                                                                             0.0710
                                                                                                                   0.0181
                                                                                                                                         0.4285
                                                                                                                                                               0.4808
## 500:
                        -3.2176 -0.7817
                                                                       0.4562
                                                                                             0.0709
                                                                                                                   0.0179
                                                                                                                                         0.4296
                                                                                                                                                                0.4801
fit
## THETA:
##
                                                 log(th) se(log_th)
                                  th
## CL 0.04005116 -3.2175976 0.08185220
## V 0.45760821 -0.7817419 0.04195414
```

```
## KA 1.57806680 0.4562006 0.19308887

## DMEGA:

## [1,] 0.07088993 0.00000000 0.00000000

## [2,] 0.00000000 0.01785336 0.0000000

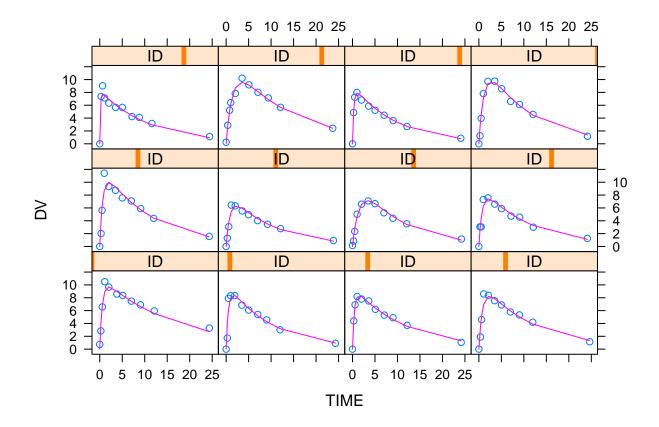
## [3,] 0.00000000 0.04295701

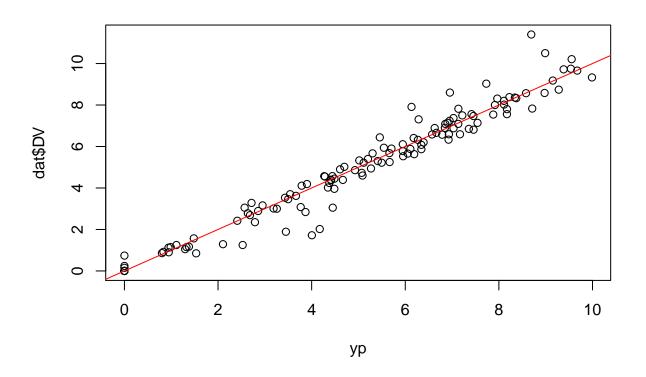
##

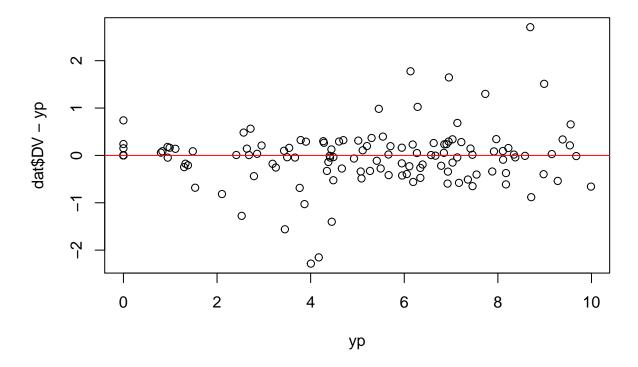
## SIGMAA:

## [1] 0.4801045

df = simple.gof(fit)
```







### Generalized non-linear mixed-models (gnlmm)

Generalized non-linear mixed-models (gnlmm) find many useful applications in different fields, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics in particular.

gnlmm() calculates the marginal likehood by adaptive Gaussian quadrature. For a description of this method, please find an excellent discussion in the documentation of SAS PROC NLMIXED.

At minimum, gnlmm() takes three arguments: the user-defined log-likehood function, the data frame and initial values. Initial values take the form of a named list: THTA for fixed effects, OMGA for random effect. The latter is a list of formuae; the lhs of a formula specifies the block of correlated random effects (ETAs), the rhs of the formula gives the initial values of the lower half of the variance matrix.

Read in demo data:

```
load("/home/wangwez/nlmixr/vignettes/.RData")
```

### Count data

This example uses the pump failure data of Gaver and O'Muircheartaigh (1987). The number of failures and the time of operation are recorded for 10 pumps. Each of the pumps is classified into one of two groups corresponding to either continuous or intermittent operation.

```
llik <- function()
{
   if (group==1) lp = THETA[1]+THETA[2]*logtstd+ETA[1]</pre>
```

Covariance matrix of fixed-effect parameters can be calculated with calcCov() after a fit.

# Binary data

gnlmm() fit matches well of PROC NLMIXED.

For this example, consider the data from Weil (1970), also studied by Williams (1975), Ochi and Prentice (1984), and McCulloch (1994). In this experiment 16 pregnant rats receive a control diet and 16 receive a chemically treated diet, and the litter size for each rat is recorded after 4 and 21 days.

```
llik <- function()
{
    lp = THETA[1]*x1+THETA[2]*x2+(x1+x2*THETA[3])*ETA[1]
    p = pnorm(lp)
    dbinom(x, m, p, log=TRUE)
}
inits = list(THTA=c(1,1,1), OMGA=list(ETA[1]~1))
gnlmm(llik, rats, inits, control=list(nAQD=7))</pre>
```

```
## $par
## [1] 1.2920759 0.9574611 3.7752148 1.9313475
##
## $value
## [1] 105.296
##
## $counts
## function gradient
## 83 NA
```

```
##
## $convergence
## [1] 0
##
## $message
## NULL
gnlmm() fit matches well of PROC NLMIXED.
gnlmm with ODEs
ode <- "
d/dt(depot) =-KA*depot;
d/dt(centr) = KA*depot - KE*centr;
sys1 = RxODE(ode)
pars <- function()</pre>
{
    CL = exp(THETA[1] + ETA[1]) #; if (CL>100) CL=100
    KA = \exp(THETA[2] + ETA[2]) \#; if (KA>20) KA=20
    KE = exp(THETA[3])
    V = CL/KE
    sig2 = exp(THETA[4])
llik <- function() {</pre>
    pred = centr/V
    dnorm(DV, pred, sd=sqrt(sig2), log=TRUE)
inits = list(THTA=c(-3.22, 0.47, -2.45, 0))
inits$OMGA=list(ETA[1]~.027, ETA[2]~.37)
#inits$OMGA=list(ETA[1]+ETA[2]~c(.027, .01, .37))
theo <- read.table("theo_md.txt", head=TRUE)</pre>
fit = gnlmm(llik, theo, inits, pars, sys1,
control=list(trace=TRUE, nAQD=5))
     Nelder-Mead direct search function minimizer
## function value for initial parameters = 834.991461
## Scaled convergence tolerance is 0.834992
## Stepsize computed as 0.322000
## BUILD
                      7 902.879208 834.991461
## HI-REDUCTION
                     9 877.923419 834.991461
## HI-REDUCTION
                    11 848.107039 834.991461
## HI-REDUCTION
                    13 844.888781 834.991461
## HI-REDUCTION
                     15 841.843876 834.991461
                     17 840.846718 834.991461
## HI-REDUCTION
## REFLECTION
                    19 836.922869 833.750459
                     21 836.830579 833.443759
## LO-REDUCTION
```

23 836.582343 832.689793

25 835.610385 832.689793

27 835.554942 832.689793

29 834.991461 832.689793

## LO-REDUCTION

## LO-REDUCTION

## LO-REDUCTION

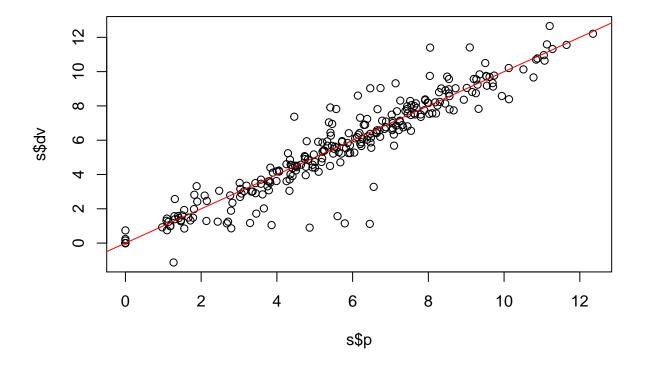
## HI-REDUCTION

```
## LO-REDUCTION
                     31 833.750459 832.689793
                     33 833.720267 832.534662
## HI-REDUCTION
## LO-REDUCTION
                     35 833.443759 832.346177
## LO-REDUCTION
                     37 833.370339 832.346177
## Exiting from Nelder Mead minimizer
       39 function evaluations used
cv = calcCov(fit)
cbind(fit$par[fit$nsplt==1], sqrt(diag(cv)))
##
               [,1]
                          [,2]
## [1,] -3.21535598 0.03904621
## [2,] 0.28169434 0.18194757
## [3,] -2.41704403 0.02980278
## [4,] 0.05843364 0.04566005
```

After convergence, prediction() can be used to calculate the prediction.

```
pred = function() {
    pred = centr/V
}

s = prediction(fit, pred)
plot(s$p, s$dv); abline(0,1,col="red")
```



#### References

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### Appendix: Techinical notes

### RxODE Syntax

An RxODE model specification consists of one or more statements terminated by semi-colons, ;, and optional comments (comments are delimited by # and an end-of-line marker). NB: Comments are not allowed inside statements.

A block of statements is a set of statements delimeted by curly braces, { ...}. Statements can be either assignments or conditional if statements. Assignment statements can be either simple assignments, where the left hand is an identifier (i.e., variable), or special time-derivative assignments, where the left hand specifies the change of that variable with respect to time, e.g., d/dt(depot).

Expressions in assignment and if statements can be numeric or logical (no character expressions are currently supported). Numeric expressions can include the following numeric operators (+, -, \*, /, ^), and those mathematical functions defined in the C or the R math libraries (e.g., fabs, exp, log, sin). (Notice that the modulo operator % is currently not supported.)

Identifiers in an RxODE model specification can refer to:

- state variables in the dynamic system (e.g., compartments in a pharmacokinetics/pharamcodynamics model);
- implied input variable, t (time), podo (oral dose, for absorption models), and tlast (last time point);
- model parameters, (ka rate of absorption, CL clearance, etc.);

• others, as created by assignments as part of the model specification.

Identifiers consists of case-sensitive alphanumeric characters, plus the underscore \_ character. NB: the dot . character is not a valid character identifier.

The values of these variables at pre-specified time points are saved as part of the fitted/integrated/solved model (see eventTable, in particular its member function add.sampling that defines a set of time points at which to capture a snapshot of the syste via the values of these variables).

The ODE specification mini-language is parsed with the help of the open source tool DParser, Plevyak (2015).

## Dosing events

A unique feature of general PKPD modeling is the ubiquity of dosing events. When a PKPD model is defined by ODEs, the ODE solver needs to recognize these discrete events and re-start the integration process if neccessary. Sheiner and Beal proposed (is it true?) and implemented the concept of using an integer variable EVID to inform the ODE solver the nature of the current event. In addition to EVID, NONMEM includes several other auxiliary variables to completely and uniquely define a general dosing event: CMT, AMT, RATE, ADDL, II.

RxODE borrows the core ideas from the NONMEM implementation but uses a more compact yet somewhat convoluted format to represent the discrete dosing events.

- EVID=0 denotes an observation event
- EVID>0 denotes an dosing event. In general, an EVID in nlmixr has five digits:
  - a. The right-most two digits are reserved for defining different events;
  - b. The next two digits point to which state vairable (or compartment) this event is applied to;
  - c. The fifth digit from the right takes a value 1 if the dosing is an infusion and 0 if the dosing is a bolus.
- AMT is the drug amount with a bolus dosing. In case of an infusion, a positive number denotes the start of an infusion at a particular time with such an infusion rate; a negative number denotes the end of a previously started infusion.

### nlmixr & NONMEM comparison

NONMEM functionality not supported by nlmixr:

- mixture model
- steady-state (SS) dosing

nlmixr functionality not supported by NONMEM:

- General nested random effects
- ARMA residual model
- anova() for model selection
- integrated GoF & VPC functionality
- integrated simulation with uncertainty

Calculating covariance matrix of fixed-effect parameter estimates

```
llik <- function()</pre>
   if (group==1) lp = THETA[1]+THETA[2]*logtstd+ETA[1]
   else lp = THETA[3]+THETA[4]*logtstd+ETA[1]
   lam = exp(lp)
   dpois(y, lam, log=TRUE)
}
inits = list(THTA=c(1,1,1,1), OMGA=list(ETA[1]~1))
fit = gnlmm(llik, pump, inits,
   control=list(
       reltol.outer=1e-4,
       optim.outer="nmsimplex",
       nAQD=5
   )
)
cv = calcCov(fit)
Rinv = attr(cv, "RinvS")$Rinv
S = attr(cv, "RinvS")$S
Rinv*2
          #inverse hessian matrix
##
                          [,2]
                                     [,3]
              [,1]
## [1,] 1.92090906 -0.982043600 0.02346553 -0.074210340
## [3,] 0.02346553 -0.029482526 0.17435419 0.077309248
## [4,] -0.07421034 0.008201758 0.07730925 0.338336769
solve(S)*4
                      #inverse of score function product sum
                     [,2]
                               [,3]
            [,1]
## [1,] 5.759594 -2.818007 0.00000000 0.00000000
## [2,] -2.818007 1.457283 0.00000000 0.00000000
## [3,] 0.000000 0.000000 0.10134670 0.02897866
## [4,] 0.000000 0.000000 0.02897866 0.31489911
Rinv %*% S %*% Rinv #sandwich estimate
##
              [,1]
                         [,2]
                                    [,3]
                                               [,4]
## [1,] 0.69011982 -0.37466452 0.05062485 -0.07520208
## [2,] -0.37466452  0.23382290 -0.06855757 -0.01661099
## [3,] 0.05062485 -0.06855757 0.30663581 0.16745935
## [4,] -0.07520208 -0.01661099 0.16745935 0.39614278
```