# R-package FME: inverse modelling, sensitivity, Monte Carlo - applied to a dynamic simulation model

Karline Soetaert NIOO-CEME The Netherlands

#### Abstract

Rpackage **FME** (Soetaert 2009a) contains functions for model calibration, sensitivity, identifiability, and Monte Carlo analysis of nonlinear models.

This vignette (vignette("FMEdyna")) applies the functions to a dynamic simulation model, solved with integration routines from package **deSolve**. A similar vignette, (vignette("FMEsteady")), applies **FME** to a partial differential equation, solved with a steady-state solver from package **rootSolve**. A third vignette (vignette("FMEother")), applies the functions to a simple nonlinear model. vignette("FMEmcmc") tests the Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) implementation.

Keywords: dynamic simulation models, differential equations, fitting, sensitivity, Monte Carlo, identifiability, R.

#### 1. Introduction

R-package **FME** contains part of the functions present in the software environment FEMME (Soetaert, deClippele, and Herman 2002), a Flexible Environment for M athematically M odelling the Environment. FEMME was written in FORTRAN. **FME** is – obviously – written in R.

Although **FME** can work with many types of functions, it is mainly meant to be used with models that are written as (a system of) differential equations (ordinary or partial), which are solved either with routines from package deSolve (Soetaert, Petzoldt, and Setzer 2009), which integrate the model in time, or from package rootSolve (Soetaert 2009b) which estimate steady-state conditions. With **FME** it is possible to:

- perform local and global sensitivity analysis (Brun, Reichert, and Kunsch 2001; Soetaert and Herman 2009),
- perform parameter identifiability analysis (Brun et al. 2001),
- fit a model to data,
- run a Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC, Haario, Laine, Mira, and Saksman 2006).

Most of these functions have suitable methods for printing, visualising output etc. In addition, there are functions to generate parameter combinations corresponding to a certain distribution. In this document a – very quick – survey of the functionality is given, based on a simple model from (Soetaert and Herman 2009).

# 2. The example model

The example model describes growth of bacteria (BACT) on a substrate (SUB) in a closed vessel. The model equations are:

$$\frac{dBact}{dt} = gmax \cdot eff \cdot \frac{Sub}{Sub + ks} \cdot Bact - d \cdot Bact - r_B \cdot Bact$$

$$\frac{dSub}{dt} = -gmax \cdot \frac{Sub}{Sub + ks} \cdot Bact + d \cdot Bact$$

where the first, second and third term of the rate of change of Bact is growth of bacteria, death and respiration respectively. In R, this model is implemented and solved as follows (see help pages of **deSolve**). First the parameters are defined, as a list (a vector would also do)

```
> pars <- list(gmax = 0.5, eff = 0.5,
+ ks = 0.5, rB = 0.01, dB = 0.01)</pre>
```

The model function solveBact takes as input the parameters and the time sequence at which output is wanted. Within this function, derivs is defined, which is the *derivative* function, called at each time step by the solver. It takes as input the current time (t), the current values of the state variables (state) and the parameters (pars). It returns the rate of change of the state variables, packed as a list. Also within function solveBact, the state variables are given an initial condition (state) and the model is solved by integration, using function ode from package deSolve. The results of the integration are returned, packed as a data frame.

```
> solveBact <- function(pars, times=seq(0,50,by=0.5)) {
+ derivs <- function(t,state,pars) { # returns rate of change
+ with(as.list(c(state,pars)), {
+
+ dBact = gmax*eff*Sub/(Sub+ks)*Bact - dB*Bact - rB*Bact
+ dSub = -gmax *Sub/(Sub+ks)*Bact + dB*Bact
+ return(list(c(dBact,dSub)))
+ })
+ }
+ state <- c(Bact = 0.1, Sub = 100)
+ ## ode solves the model by integration...
+ return(as.data.frame(ode(y=state,times=times,func=derivs,parms=pars)))
+ }</pre>
```

The model is then solved by calling solveBact with the default parameters:

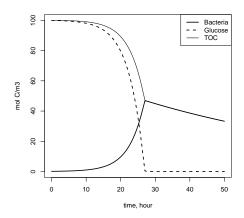


Figure 1: Solution of the simple bacterial growth model - see text for R-code

# 3. Global sensitivity

In global sensitivity analysis, certain parameters are changed over a large range, and the effect on certain model outur variables assessed. In **FME** this is done via function **sensRange**.

First the sensitivity parameters are defined and a distribution is assigned; here we specify the minimum and maximum values of three parameters in a data.frame:

```
> parRanges <- data.frame(min=c(0.4,0.4,0.0),max=c(0.6,0.6,0.02))
> rownames(parRanges)<- c("gmax","eff","rB")
> parRanges

    min max
gmax 0.4 0.60
eff 0.4 0.60
rB 0.0 0.02
```

Then we estimate the sensitivity to one parameter, rB (parameter 3), varying its values according to a regular grid (dist=grid). The effect of that on sensitivity variables Bact and Sub are estimated. To do this, the model is run 100 times (num=100). The system.time is printed (in seconds):

```
> tout
          <- 0:50
> print(system.time(
+ sR<-sensRange(func=solveBact,parms=pars,dist="grid",
                  sensvar=c("Bact", "Sub"), parRange=parRanges[3,], num=50)
+ ))
         system elapsed
   user
   1.41
           0.00
                   1.40
> head(summary(sR))
                 Mean
                                 Sd
                                          Min
                                                    Max
                                                              q05
                                                                         q25
          x
        0.0 0.1000000 0.0000000000 0.1000000 0.1000000 0.1000000 0.1000000
Bact 0.5 0.5 0.1121194 0.0003335405 0.1115597 0.1126809 0.1116155 0.1118390
        1.0 0.1257062 0.0007479668 0.1244532 0.1269674 0.1245777 0.1250770
Bact1.5 1.5 0.1409422 0.0012579439 0.1388384 0.1430668 0.1390468 0.1398836
        2.0 0.1580263 0.0018805072 0.1548863 0.1612075 0.1551964 0.1564430
Bact2.5 2.5 0.1771819 0.0026354918 0.1727886 0.1816476 0.1732211 0.1749620
              q50
                        q75
                                   q95
Bact0
        0.1000000 0.1000000 0.1000000
Bact0.5 0.1121189 0.1123996 0.1126246
        0.1257040 0.1263341 0.1268405
Bact1
Bact1.5 0.1409367 0.1419978 0.1428524
        0.1580153 0.1596034 0.1608854
Bact2
Bact2.5 0.1771627 0.1793911 0.1811941
```

The results are represented as a data frame, containing summary information of the value of the sensitivity variable (var) at each time step (x). It is relatively simple to plot the ranges, either as  $\min \pm sd$  or using quantiles:

```
> par(mfrow=c(2,2))
> plot(summary(sR),xlab="time, hour",ylab="molC/m3",
+ legpos="topright")
> plot(summary(sR),xlab="time, hour",ylab="molC/m3",
+ quant=TRUE,col=c("lightblue","darkblue"),legpos="topright")
> mtext(outer=TRUE,line=-1.5,side=3,"Sensitivity to rB",cex=1.25)
> par(mfrow=c(1,1))
```

Sensitivity ranges can also be estimated for a combination of parameters. Here we use all 3 parameters, and select the latin hypercube sampling algorithm.

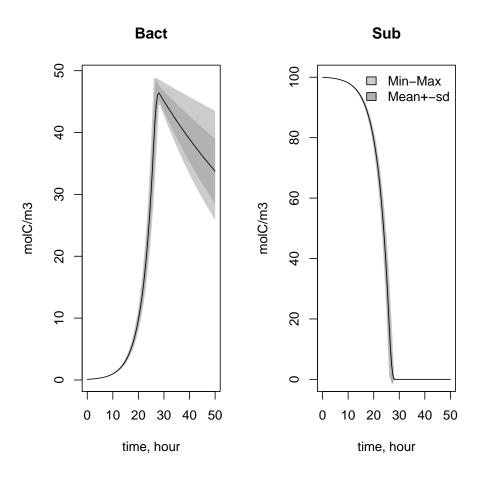


Figure 2: Sensitivity range for one parameter - see text for  $\mathsf{R}\text{-}\mathsf{code}$ 

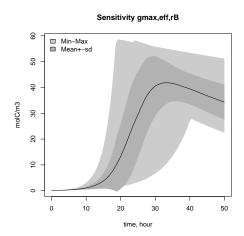


Figure 3: Sensitivity range for a combination of parameters - see text for R-code

# 4. Local sensitivity

In local sensitivity, the effect of a parameter value in a very small region near its nominal value is estimated. The methods implemented in **FME** are based on Brun *et al.* (2001) which should be consulted for details. They are based on so-called "sensitivity functions".

#### 4.1. Sensitivity functions

Sensitivity functions are generated with sensFun, and estimate the effect of a selection of parameters (here all parameters are selected) on a selection of variables (here only Bact).

```
> SnsBact <- sensFun(func=solveBact,parms=pars,
                     sensvar="Bact", varscale=1)
> head(SnsBact)
   x var
                             eff
                                            ks
                                                                        dB
                 gmax
                                                         rB
1 0.0 Bact 0.00000000 0.00000000 0.0000000000
                                               0.000000000
                                                             0.000000000
2 0.5 Bact 0.01394713 0.01394714 -0.0000703354 -0.000560559 -0.0005605588
3 1.0 Bact 0.03127214 0.03127218 -0.0001562084 -0.001257071 -0.0012570697
4 1.5 Bact 0.05259210 0.05259221 -0.0002623735 -0.002114135 -0.0021141330
5 2.0 Bact 0.07861787 0.07861810 -0.0003921211 -0.003160362 -0.0031603571
6 2.5 Bact 0.11017714 0.11017756 -0.0005495271 -0.004429033 -0.0044290250
```

They can easily be plotted (Fig. 3):

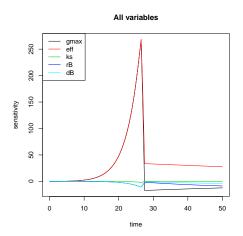


Figure 4: Sensitivity functions - see text for R-code

#### > plot(SnsBact)

# 4.2. Univariate sensitivity

Based on the sensitivity functions, several summaries are generated, which allow to rank the parameters based on their influence on the selected variables.

#### > summary(SnsBact)

	value	scale	L1	L2	Mean	Min	Max	N
gmax	0.50	0.50	29.51	5.859	16.2	-17.1	266.361	101
eff	0.50	0.50	37.12	6.212	37.1	0.0	268.408	101
ks	0.50	0.50	0.17	0.037	-0.1	-1.8	0.097	101
rB	0.01	0.01	3.47	0.463	-3.5	-10.8	0.000	101
dB	0.01	0.01	2.06	0.297	-2.1	-10.8	0.000	101

Here

- L1 is the L1-norm,  $\sum |S_{ij}|/n$
- L2 is the L2-norm,  $\sqrt{\sum (S_{ij}^2)/n}$
- Mean: the mean of the sensitivity functions
- Min: the minimal value of the sensitivity functions
- Max: the maximal value of the sensitivity functions

Sensitivity analysis can also be performed on several variables:

#### > summary(sensFun(solveBact,pars,varscale=1),var=TRUE)

```
L2
                                           Min
      value scale
                     L1
                                 Mean
                                                   Max
                                                         N
                                                            var
            0.50 29.51
                        58.88
                               16.25 -1.7e+01 2.7e+02 101 Bact
      0.50
gmax1
gmax2
      0.50
             0.50 48.40 122.95 -48.40 -5.6e+02 0.0e+00 101
eff1
       0.50
            0.50 37.12 62.43 37.12 0.0e+00 2.7e+02 101 Bact
eff2
       0.50
            0.50 39.64 102.50 -39.64 -4.8e+02 6.8e-06 101
ks1
       0.50
            0.50
                   0.17
                          0.37
                                -0.10 -1.8e+00 9.7e-02 101 Bact
       0.50 0.50 0.29
                          0.77
                                 0.29 0.0e+00 3.8e+00 101
ks2
rB1
       0.01 0.01
                   3.47
                          4.65 -3.47 -1.1e+01 0.0e+00 101 Bact
rB2
       0.01 0.01
                  1.59
                          4.12
                                 1.59 -2.8e-07 1.9e+01 101
dB1
       0.01 0.01
                   2.06
                          2.98 -2.06 -1.1e+01 0.0e+00 101 Bact
dB2
                                 1.78 0.0e+00 2.1e+01 101
       0.01 0.01
                   1.78
                          4.54
```

## 4.3. Bivariate sensitivity

The pairwise relationships in parameter sensitivity is easily assessed by plotting the sensitivity functions using R-function pairs, and by calculating the correlation.

#### > cor(SnsBact[,-(1:2)])

```
dΒ
                       eff
                                   ks
                                              rB
           gmax
gmax
      1.0000000
                 0.9184218 -0.9879349 -0.2602262 -0.7165956
      0.9184218
                1.0000000 -0.9265098 -0.5575106 -0.8883636
eff
     -0.9879349 -0.9265098
                            1.0000000 0.2878336
                                                  0.7302580
ks
rB
     -0.2602262 -0.5575106 0.2878336
                                       1.0000000
                                                  0.8599353
dΒ
     -0.7165956 -0.8883636 0.7302580 0.8599353
                                                  1.0000000
```

> pairs(SnsBact)

#### 4.4. Monte Carlo runs

Function modCRL runs a Monte Carlo simulation, outputting single variables.

This is in contrast to sensRange which outputs vectors of variables, e.g. a time-sequence, or a spatially-dependent variable.

It can be used to test what-if scenarios. Here it is used to calculate the final concentration of bacteria and substrate as a function of the maximal growth rate.

```
> SF <- function (pars) {
+ out <- solveBact(pars)
+ return(out[nrow(out),2:3])
+ }
> CRL <- modCRL(func=SF,parms=pars,parRange=parRanges[1,])
> plot(CRL)
```

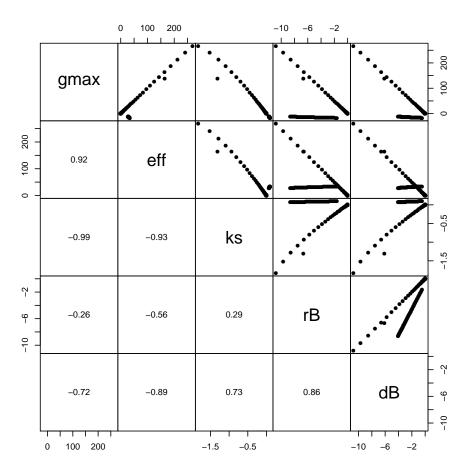


Figure 5: Pairs of sensitivity functions - see text for R-code

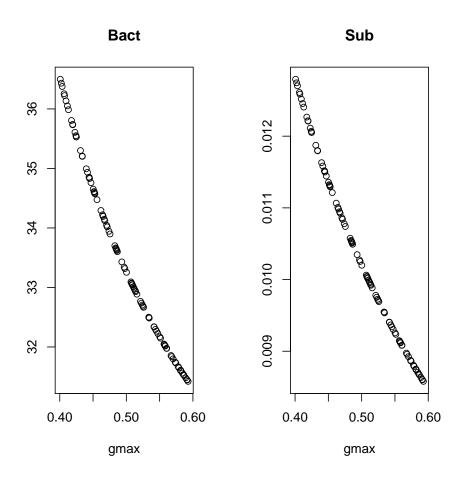


Figure 6: Monte carlo analysis - see text for  $\mathsf{R}\text{-}\mathsf{code}$ 

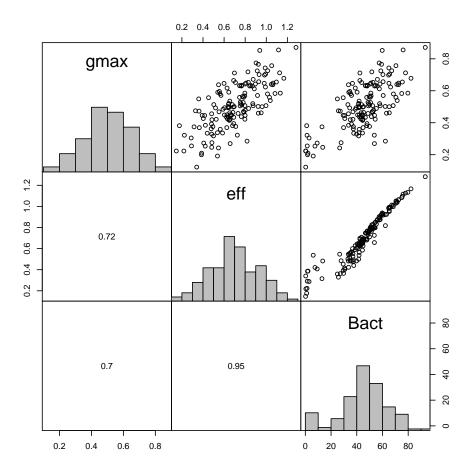


Figure 7: Multivariate Monte Carlo analysis - see text for R-code

Monte Carlo methods can also be used to see how parameter uncertainties propagate, i.e. to derive the distribution of output variables as a function of parameter distribution.

Here the effect of the parameters gmax and eff on final bacterial concentration is assessed. The parameter values are generated according to a multi-normal distribution; they are positively correlated (with a correlation = 0.63).

# 5. Multivariate sensitivity analysis

Based on the sensitivity functions of model variables to selection of parameters, function collin calculates the *collinearity* or *identifiability* of sets of parameters.

```
> Coll <- collin(SnsBact)
> Coll
```

	gmax	eff	ks	rB	dΒ	N	collinearity
1	1	1	0	0	0	2	2.8
2	1	0	1	0	0	2	9.5
3	1	0	0	1	0	2	1.3
4	1	0	0	0	1	2	1.8
5	0	1	1	0	0	2	2.9
6	0	1	0	1	0	2	2.0
7	0	1	0	0	1	2	3.7
8	0	0	1	1	0	2	1.3
9	0	0	1	0	1	2	1.8
10	0	0	0	1	1	2	3.8
11	1	1	1	0	0	3	9.5
12	1	1	0	1	0	3	7.0
13	1	1	0	0	1	3	6.8
14	1	0	1	1	0	3	9.5
15	1	0	1	0	1	3	9.5
16	1	0	0	1	1	3	2261.4
17	0	1	1	1	0	3	6.7
18	0	1	1	0	1	3	6.8
19	0	1	0	1	1	3	12.2
20	0	0	1	1	1	3	22.6
21	1	1	1	1	0	4	9.6
22	1	1	1	0	1	4	9.5
23	1	1	0	1	1	4	3631.3
24	1	0	1	1	1	4	3451.1
25	0	1	1	1	1	4	23.5
26	1	1	1	1	1	5	2421318.6

> Coll [Coll[,"collinearity"]<20&Coll[,"N"]==4,]</pre>

```
gmax eff ks rB dB N collinearity
1 1 1 1 1 0 4 9.6
2 1 1 1 0 1 4 9.5
```

> collin(SnsBact,parset=1:5)

The higher the value, the larger the (approximate) linear dependence. This function is mainly useful to derive suitable parameter sets that can be calibrated based on data (see next section).

# 6. Fitting the model to data

#### 6.1. Data structures

There are two modes of data input:

- data table (long) format; this is a two to four column data.frame that contains the name of the observed variable (always the FIRST column), the (optional) value of the independent variable (default = "time"), the value of the observation and the (optional) value of the error.
- crosstable format; this is a matrix, where each column denotes one dependent (or independent) variable; the column name is the name of the observed variable.

As an example of both formats consider the data, called Dat consisting of two observed variables, called "Obs1" and "Obs2", both containing two observations, at time 1 and 2:

name	$_{ m time}$	val	$\operatorname{err}$
Obs1	1	50	5
Obs1	2	150	15
Obs2	1	1	0.1
Obs2	2	2	0.2

for the long format and

$_{ m time}$	Obs1	Obs2
1	50	1
2	150	2

for the crosstable format. Note, that in the latter case it is not possible to provide separate errors per data point.

## 6.2. The model cost function

**FME** function modCost estimates the "model cost", which the sum of (weighted) squared residuals of the model versus the data. This function is central to parameter identifiability analysis, model fitting or running a Markov chain Monte Carlo.

Assume the following model output (in a matrix or data.frame called Mod:

$_{ m time}$	Obs1	Obs2
0	4	1
1	4	2
2	4	3
3	4	4

Then the modCost will give:

```
> Dat<- data.frame(name=c("Obs1","Obs1","Obs2","Obs2"),
                   time=c(1,2,1,2), val=c(50,150,1,2),
                   err=c(5,15,0.1,0.2))
> Mod <- Mod <- data.frame(time=0:3,0bs1=rep(4,4),0bs2=1:4)
> modCost(mod=Mod,obs=Dat,y="val")
$model
[1] 23434
$minlogp
[1] Inf
$var
  name scale N SSR.unweighted SSR.unscaled
                                             SSR
       1 2
                        23432
                                     23432 23432
2 Obs2
           1 2
                            2
                                         2
                                               2
$residuals
  name x obs mod weight res.unweighted res
1 Obs1 1 50
               4
                    1
                                  -46 -46
2 Obs1 2 150
               4
                      1
                                  -146 -146
3 Obs2 1
                                     1
4 Obs2 2
              3
                                     1
                                          1
                      1
attr(,"class")
[1] "modCost"
in case the residuals are not weighed and
> modCost(mod=Mod,obs=Dat,y="val",err="err")
$model
[1] 304.3778
$minlogp
[1] Inf
$var
  name scale N SSR.unweighted SSR.unscaled
1 Obs1
           1 2
                        23432
                                  179.3778 179.3778
2 Obs2
           1 2
                            2
                                  125.0000 125.0000
$residuals
                      weight res.unweighted
  name x obs mod
1 Obs1 1 50
               4 0.20000000
                                       -46 -9.200000
2 Obs1 2 150
               4 0.06666667
                                       -146 -9.733333
3 Obs2 1 1 2 10.00000000
                                          1 10.000000
```

```
4 Obs2 2 2 3 5.00000000 1 5.000000
attr(,"class")
[1] "modCost"
```

in case the residuals are weighed by 1/error.

#### 6.3. Model fitting

Assume the following data set (in crosstable (wide) format):

```
> Data <- matrix (nc=2,byrow=2,data=
+ c(2, 0.14,
                   4, 0.21,
                                6, 0.31,
                                              8,
                                                  0.40,
                                14, 1.42,
     10, 0.69,
                  12, 0.97,
                                             16,
                                                  2.0,
                                22, 6.5,
     18, 3.0,
                  20, 4.5,
                                             24,
                                                  9.5,
     26, 13.5,
                  28, 20.5,
                               30, 29, 35, 65, 40, 61)
+ )
> colnames(Data) <- c("time", "Bact")</pre>
> head(Data)
     time Bact
[1,]
        2 0.14
[2,]
        4 0.21
[3,]
        6 0.31
[4,]
       8 0.40
[5,]
      10 0.69
[6,]
       12 0.97
```

and assume that we want to fit the model parameters gmax and eff to these data.

We first define an objective function that returns the residuals of the model versus the data, as estimated by modcost. Input to the function are the current values of the parameters that need to be finetuned and their names (or position in par).

```
> Objective <- function(x,parset=names(x)) {
+ pars[parset] <- x
+ tout <- seq(0,50,by=0.5)
+ ## output times
+ out <- solveBact(pars,tout)
+ ## Model cost
+ return(modCost(obs=Data,model=out))
+ }</pre>
```

First it is instructive to establish which parameters can be identified based on the data set. We assess that by means of the identifiability function collin, selecting only the output variables at the instances when there is an observation.

```
> Coll <- collin(sF<-sensFun(func=Objective,parms=pars,varscale=1))
> Coll
```

	gmax	eff	ks	rB	dΒ	N	collinearity
1	1	1	0	0	0	2	4.5
2	1	0	1	0	0	2	21.1
3	1	0	0	1	0	2	2.1
4	1	0	0	0	1	2	3.7
5	0	1	1	0	0	2	4.5
6	0	1	0	1	0	2	3.3
7	0	1	0	0	1	2	9.2
8	0	0	1	1	0	2	2.1
9	0	0	1	0	1	2	3.7
10	0	0	0	1	1	2	4.5
11	1	1	1	0	0	3	21.1
12	1	1	0	1	0	3	10.2
13	1	1	0	0	1	3	10.5
14	1	0	1	1	0	3	21.1
15	1	0	1	0	1	3	21.1
16	1	0	0	1	1	3	3442.4
17	0	1	1	1	0	3	9.9
18	0	1	1	0	1	3	10.5
19	0	1	0	1	1	3	13.8
20	0	0	1	1	1	3	39.2
21	1	1	1	1	0	4	21.3
22	1	1	1	0	1	4	21.1
23	1	1	0	1	1	4	6465.5
24	1	0	1	1	1	4	4198.5
25	0	1	1	1	1	4	40.1
26	1	1	1	1	1	5	16346953.1

The larger the collinearity value, the less identifiable the parameter based on the data. In general a collinearity value less than about 20 is "identifiable". Below we plot the collinarity as a function of the number of parameters selected. We add a line at the height of 20, the critical value:

```
> plot(Coll,log="y")
> abline(h=20,col="red")
```

The collinearity index for parameters gmax and eff is small enough to enable estimating both parameters.

```
> collin(sF,parset=1:2)

gmax eff ks rB dB N collinearity
1  1  1  0  0  0  2     4.5
```

We now use function modFit to locate the minimum. It includes several fitting procedures; the default one is the Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm.

In the following example, parameters are constrained to be > 0

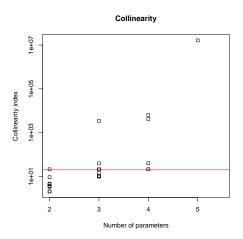


Figure 8: Collinearity analysis - see text for R-code

```
> print(system.time(Fit <- modFit(p=c(gmax=0.5,eff=0.5),</pre>
                    f=Objective,lower=c(0.0, 0.0)))
   user
         system elapsed
           0.00
                   0.95
   0.95
> summary(Fit)
Parameters:
      Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
                0.0004744
                            633.1
gmax 0.3003277
                                     <2e-16 ***
eff 0.7006292
                0.0010819
                            647.6
                                     <2e-16 ***
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
Residual standard error: 0.1531 on 15 degrees of freedom
Parameter correlation:
        gmax
                 eff
gmax 1.0000 -0.9151
eff -0.9151 1.0000
```

The best-fit model is run, the model cost function estimated and the model outcome compared to data.

```
> pars[c("gmax","eff")]<- Fit$par
> out <- solveBact(pars)
> Cost <- modCost(obs=Data,model=out)
> Cost
```

```
$model
[1] 0.3514637
$minlogp
[1] 15.79769
$var
              N SSR.unweighted SSR.unscaled
                                                    SSR
  name scale
1 Bact
           1 17
                      0.3514637
                                   0.3514637 0.3514637
$residuals
                         mod weight res.unweighted
   name
             obs
                                                               res
                                      0.0060458809
            0.14
                  0.1460459
                                  1
                                                     0.0060458809
   Bact
         2
         4
            0.21
                  0.2132921
                                      0.0032921296
2
  Bact
                                  1
                                                     0.0032921296
3
   Bact
         6
            0.31
                  0.3115005
                                  1
                                      0.0015004789
                                                     0.0015004789
            0.40
                  0.4549261
                                      0.0549260945
                                                     0.0549260945
   Bact
         8
                                  1
   Bact 10
            0.69
                  0.6643861
                                     -0.0256139211 -0.0256139211
  Bact 12
            0.97
                  0.9702790
                                      0.0002789839
                                                     0.0002789839
6
                                  1
                                     -0.0030078325 -0.0030078325
7
  Bact 14
            1.42
                  1.4169922
                                  1
8
  Bact 16
            2.00
                  2.0693334
                                  1
                                      0.0693333596  0.0693333596
9
   Bact 18
            3.00
                  3.0219120
                                  1
                                      0.0219119911
                                                     0.0219119911
10 Bact 20
            4.50
                  4.4128138
                                     -0.0871861894 -0.0871861894
                                     -0.0564896371 -0.0564896371
11 Bact 22
            6.50
                  6.4435104
12 Bact 24
            9.50
                  9.4077851
                                     -0.0922149224 -0.0922149224
                                  1
13 Bact 26 13.50 13.7335832
                                  1
                                      0.2335831982 0.2335831982
14 Bact 28 20.50 20.0429739
                                  1
                                     -0.4570261141 -0.4570261141
15 Bact 30 29.00 29.2356342
                                      0.2356342429
                                                     0.2356342429
                                  1
16 Bact 35 65.00 65.0449095
                                      0.0449094734
                                                     0.0449094734
17 Bact 40 61.00 60.9533707
                                  1
                                     -0.0466293436 -0.0466293436
attr(,"class")
[1] "modCost"
> plot(out$time,out$Bact,ylim=range(out$Bact),
       xlab="time, hour",ylab="molC/m3",type="1",lwd=2)
> points(Data,cex=2,pch=18)
Finally, model residuals are plotted:
> plot(Cost, xlab="time",ylab="",main="residuals")
```

#### 7. Markov chain Monte Carlo

We can use the results of the fit to run a MCMC (Gelman, Varlin, Stern, and Rubin 2004). Function modMCMC implements the delayed rejection (DR) adaptive Metropolis (AM) algorithm (Haario *et al.* 2006).

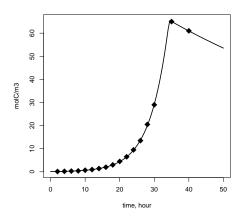


Figure 9: Fitting the model to data - see text for  $\mathsf{R}\text{-}\mathsf{code}$ 

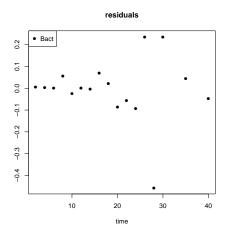


Figure 10: Model-data residuals - see text for  ${\sf R-code}$ 

The summary method of the best fit returns several useful values:

- The model variance modVariance is used as the initial model error variance (var0) in the MCMC. In each MCMC step, 1/model variance is drawn from a gamma function with parameters rate and shape, calculated as: shape = 0.5\*N \* (1 + pvar0), and rate = 0.5 \* (pvar0\*N\*var0 + SS)) and where SS is the current sum of squared residals, N is the number of data points and pVar0 is a weighing parameter, argument of function modMCMC.
- The best-fit parameters are used as initial parameter values for the MCMC (p).
- The parameter covariance returned by the summary method, scaled with  $2.4^2/length(p)$ , gives a suitable covariance matrix, for generating new parameter values (jump).

```
> SF<-summary(Fit)
> SF
Parameters:
      Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
gmax 0.3003277
                0.0004744
                            633.1
                                     <2e-16 ***
    0.7006292
                0.0010819
                            647.6
                                     <2e-16 ***
                0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
Signif. codes:
Residual standard error: 0.1531 on 15 degrees of freedom
Parameter correlation:
        gmax
                 eff
gmax 1.0000 -0.9151
eff -0.9151 1.0000
```

#### \$residuals

> SF[]

```
Bact
                    Bact
                                Bact
                                             Bact
                                                          Bact
                         0.0060458809
            0.0032921296
                                                          Bact
       Bact
                    Bact
                                Bact
                                             Bact
0.0002789839 -0.0030078325
                         0.0693333596
                                     0.0219119911 -0.0871861894
                                                          Bact
                    Bact
                                             Bact.
-0.0564896371 -0.0922149224
                         0.2335831982 -0.4570261141 0.2356342429
       Bact
0.0449094734 -0.0466293436
```

# \$residualVariance [1] 0.02343091

#### \$sigma

```
[1] 0.1530716
$modVariance
[1] 0.02067434
$df
[1] 2 15
$cov.unscaled
                             eff
              gmax
gmax 9.604559e-06 -2.004615e-05
eff -2.004615e-05 4.995865e-05
$cov.scaled
              gmax
                             eff
gmax 2.250436e-07 -4.696997e-07
eff -4.696997e-07 1.170577e-06
$info
[1] 3
$niter
[1] 7
$stopmess
[1] "ok"
$par
      Estimate
                 Std. Error t value
                                          Pr(>|t|)
gmax 0.3003277 0.0004743876 633.0850 1.274385e-34
eff 0.7006292 0.0010819320 647.5723 9.076375e-35
> Var0<- SF$modVariance
> covIni <-SF$cov.scaled *2.4^2/2</pre>
> MCMC<-modMCMC(p=coef(Fit),f=Objective,jump=covIni,
                var0=Var0, wvar0=1)
```

The plot method shows the trace of the parameters and, in Full is TRUE, also the model function.

```
> plot(MCMC,Full=TRUE)
```

The pairs method plots both parameters as a function of one another:

number of accepted runs: 344 out of 1000 (34.4%)

```
> pairs(MCMC)
```

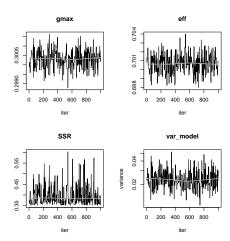


Figure 11: MCMC parameter values per iteration - see text for R-code

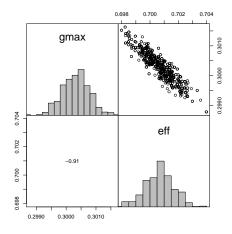


Figure 12: Pairs plot of MCMC results. See text for R-code

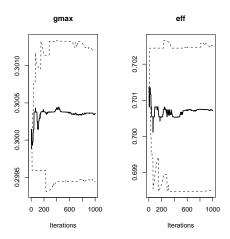


Figure 13: cumulative quantile plot from the MCMC run as from package  $\mathbf{coda}$  - see text for R-code

The MCMC output can be used in the functions from the **coda** package:

```
> MC <- as.mcmc(MCMC$pars)</pre>
```

#### > cumuplot(MC)

Finally, we compare the covariances based on generated parameters with the ones from the fit:

> cov(MCMC\$pars)

```
gmax eff
gmax 2.047909e-07 -4.114801e-07
eff -4.114801e-07 9.934252e-07
```

> covIni

# 8. Distributions

Parameter values can be generated according to 4 different distributions: Grid, Uniform, Normal, Latinhyper:

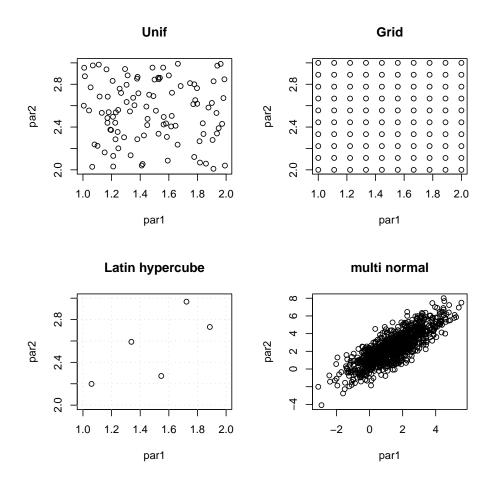


Figure 14: distributions

# 9. Examples

Several examples are present in subdirectory examples of the package. They include, a.o.:

• BODO2\_FME.R, a 1-D model of oxygen dynamics in a river. This model consists of two

coupled partial differential equations, which are solved to steady-state.

- ccl4model\_FME.R. Here the functions are applied to "ccl4model", one of the models included in package deSolve. This is a model that has been written in FORTRAN.
- Omexdia\_FME.R. Here the functions are applied to a model implemented in simecol, an object-oriented framework for ecological modeling (Petzoldt and Rinke 2007), more specifically in package simecolModels (Petzoldt and Soetaert 2008). The omexdia model is a 1-D diagenetic model.
- O2profile\_FME.R. This contains a simple model of oxygen, diffusing along a spatial gradient, with imposed upper and lower boundary concentration

# 10. Finally

This vignette is made with Sweave (Leisch 2002).

Table 1: Summary of the functions in package FME  $\,$ 

Function	Description
sensFun	Sensitivity functions
sensRange	Sensitivity ranges
modCost	Estimates cost functions
modFit	Fits a model to data
$\operatorname{modMCMC}$	Runs a Markov chain Monte Carlo
collin	Estimates collinearity based on sensitivity functions
Grid, Norm,	
Unif, Latinhyper	Generates parameter sets based on grid, normal, uniform or latin
	hypercube design

Table 2: Summary of the methods in package FME

Method	Function	Description
summary	modFit	Summary statistics, including parameter std deviations, sig-
		nificance, parameter correlation
deviance	modFit	Model deviance (sum of squared residuals)
coef	modFit	Values of fitted parameters
residuals	modFit	Residuals of model and data
df.residual	modFit	Degrees of freedom
plot	modFit	Plots results of the fitting
print.summary	modFit	Printout of model summary
plot	$\operatorname{modCost}$	Plots model-data residuals
summary	$\operatorname{modMCMC}$	Summary statistics of sampled parameters
plot	$\operatorname{modMCMC}$	Plots all sampled parameters
pairs	$\operatorname{modMCMC}$	Pairwise plots all sampled parameters
hist	$\operatorname{modMCMC}$	Histogram of all sampled parameters
summary	$\operatorname{modCRL}$	Summary statistics of monte carlo variables
plot	modCRL	Plots Monte Carlo variables
pairs	modCRL	Pairwise plots of Monte Carlo variables
hist	$\operatorname{modCRL}$	Histogram of Monte Carlo variables
summary	sensFun	Summary statistics of sensitivity functions
plot	sensFun	Plots sensitivity functions
pairs	sensFun	Pairwise plots of sensitivity functions
print.summary	sensFun	Prints summary of sensitivity functions
plot.summary	sensFun	Plots summary of sensitivity functions
summary	sensRange	Summary statistics of sensitivity range
plot	sensRange	Plots sensitivity ranges
plot.summary	sensRange	Plots summary of sensitivity ranges
print	collin	Prints collinearity results
plot	collin	Plots collinearity results

#### References

- Brun R, Reichert P, Kunsch H (2001). "Practical identifiability analysis of large environmental simulation models." WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH, **37**(4), 1015–1030.
- Gelman A, Varlin JB, Stern HS, Rubin DB (2004). Bayesian Data Analysis, second edition. Chapman and Hall / CRC, Boca Raton.
- Haario H, Laine M, Mira A, Saksman E (2006). "DRAM: efficient adaptive MCMC." *Statistical Computing*, **16**, 339–354.
- Leisch F (2002). "Sweave: Dynamic Generation of Statistical Reports Using Literate Data Analysis." In W Härdle, B Rönz (eds.), "Compstat 2002 Proceedings in Computational Statistics," pp. 575–580. Physica Verlag, Heidelberg. ISBN 3-7908-1517-9, URL http://www.stat.uni-muenchen.de/~leisch/Sweave.
- Petzoldt T, Rinke K (2007). "simecol: An Object-Oriented Framework for Ecological Modeling in R." *Journal of Statistical Software*, **22**(9), 1–31. ISSN 1548-7660. URL http://www.jstatsoft.org/v22/i09.
- Petzoldt T, Soetaert K (2008). simecolModels: Model collection for the simecol package. R package version 0.3, URL http://www.simecol.de/.
- Soetaert K (2009a). FME: A Flexible Modelling Environment for inverse modelling, sensitivity, identifiability, monte carlo analysis. R package version 1.0.
- Soetaert K (2009b). rootSolve: Nonlinear root finding, equilibrium and steady-state analysis of ordinary differential equations. R package version 1.4.
- Soetaert K, deClippele V, Herman P (2002). "Femme, a flexible environment for mathematically modelling the environment." *Ecological Modelling*, **151**, 177–193.
- Soetaert K, Herman PMJ (2009). A Practical Guide to Ecological Modelling. Using Ras a Simulation Platform. Springer. ISBN 978-1-4020-8623-6.
- Soetaert K, Petzoldt T, Setzer RW (2009). deSolve: General solvers for initial value problems of ordinary differential equations (ODE), partial differential equations (PDE) and differential algebraic equations (DAE). R package version 1.3.

#### Affiliation:

Karline Soetaert

Centre for Estuarine and Marine Ecology (CEME)

Netherlands Institute of Ecology (NIOO)

4401 NT Yerseke, Netherlands

E-mail: k.soetaert@nioo.knaw.nl

URL: http://www.nioo.knaw.nl/users/ksoetaert