## Some comments on SAS proc nlmixed

## Bahjat F. Qaqish BIOS 667

The nlmixed procedure involves several complicated steps: numerical integration, differentiation, optimization, iteration, etc. Each step has a good number of controls.

A small set of options are listed below with a brief description of what they do, generate or output.

proc nlmixed data=A cov corr empirical ecov ecorr outr=B subgrad=C;

cov, corr: Estimated covariance and corr matrix of parameter estimates

empirical: The empirical (=sandwich) covariance estimator

outr=: A data set of Bayes estimates of the random effects

subgrad =: A data set of subject (cluster) contributions to the score vector

ecov, ecorr: The estimated covariance matrix for all expressions specified in estimate statements

The model statement specifies the conditional distribution of the response given the random effects. Options:

normal(mean, variance)

binary(p)

binomial(n, p)

gamma(shape, scale): Gamma with mean shape\*scale and variance shape\*scale<sup>2</sup>

negbin(n, p): Negative binomial with mean nq/p and variance  $nq/p^2$ , q:=1-p

poisson(mean)

general(lcd): lcd is a log conditional density (of the response given the random effects) computed using programming statements

The random statement specifies the distribution of the random effects. Only the normal distribution (uni- and multi-variate) is available. Examples:

random u  $\sim$  normal(0, g11) subject=id;

random u1 u2  $\sim$  normal([0,0],[g11,g21,g22]) subject=id;

random u1 u2 u3  $\sim$  normal([0,0,0],[g11,g21,g22,g31,g32,g33]) subject=id;

**ODS Table Names:** 

ODS Table Name: Description, Statement or Option

AdditionalEstimates: Results from ESTIMATE statements, ESTIMATE

Contrasts Results: from CONTRAST statements, CONTRAST

Convergence Status: Convergence status, default

CorrMatAddEst: Correlation matrix of additional estimates, ECORR CorrMatParmEst: Correlation matrix of parameter estimates, CORR CovMatAddEst: Covariance matrix of additional estimates, ECOV CovMatParmEst: Covariance matrix of parameter estimates, COV

DerAddEst: Derivatives of additional estimates, EDER

Dimensions: Dimensions of the problem, default

FitStatistics: Fit statistics, default

Hessian: Second derivative matrix, HESS IterHistory: Iteration history, default Parameters: Initial parameters, default

ParameterEstimates: Parameter estimates, default

Specifications: Model specifications, default

StartingHessian: Starting Hessian matrix, START HESS StartingValues: Starting values and gradient, START