

# Package ‘gremlin’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Mixed-Effects REML Incorporating Generalized Inverses

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**Description** Fit linear mixed-effects models using restricted (or residual) maximum likelihood (REML) and with generalized inverse matrices to specify covariance structures for random effects. In particular, the package is suited to fit quantitative genetic mixed models, often referred to as 'animal models'. Implements the average information algorithm as the main tool to maximize the restricted log-likelihood, but with other algorithms available.

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## R topics documented:

gremlin-package	2
anova.gremlin	3
covFun	4
deltaSE	6

fixef.gremlin . . . . .	9
gremlin . . . . .	9
gremlinControl . . . . .	15
logLik.gremlin . . . . .	16
Mrode11 . . . . .	17
nobs.gremlin . . . . .	18
reml . . . . .	19
remlt . . . . .	21
residuals.gremlin . . . . .	22
runtime . . . . .	22
summary.gremlin . . . . .	23
tr . . . . .	24

<b>Index</b>	<b>26</b>
--------------	-----------

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gremlin-package	<i>Mixed-Effects REML Incorporating Generalized Inverses</i>
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## Description

Fit linear mixed-effects models using restricted (or residual) maximum likelihood (REML) and with generalized inverse matrices to specify covariance structures for random effects. In particular, the package is suited to fit quantitative genetic mixed models, often referred to as 'animal models' (Henderson 1973). Implements the average information algorithm (Johnson & Thompson 1995; Gilmour et al. 1995; Meyer & Smith 1996) as the main tool to maximize the restricted log-likelihood, but with other algorithms available.

## Details

The average information algorithm combined with sparse matrix techniques can potentially make model fitting very efficient.

## Author(s)

**Maintainer:** Matthew Wolak <matthewwolak@gmail.com> ([ORCID](#))

## References

- Henderson, C.R. 1973. Sire evaluation and genetic trends. *Journal of Animal Science* 1973:10-41.
- Johnson, D.L. and R. Thompson. 1995. Restricted maximum likelihood estimation of variance components for univariate animal models using sparse matrix techniques and average information. *Journal of Dairy Science* 78:449-456.
- Gilmour, A.R., R. Thompson, and B.R. Cullis. 1995. Average information REML: An efficient algorithm for variance parameter estimation in linear mixed models. *Biometrics* 51:1440-1450.
- Meyer, K. and S.P. Smith. 1996. Restricted maximum likelihood estimation for animal models using derivatives of the likelihood. *Genetics, Selection, and Evolution* 28:23-49.
- Mrode, R.A. 2005. *Linear Models for the Prediction of Animal Breeding Values*, 2nd ed. CABI Publishing, Cambridge, MA, USA.

**See Also**

Useful links:

- <http://github.com/matthewwolak/gremlin>
- Report bugs at <http://github.com/matthewwolak/gremlin/issues>

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# Following the example from Mrode 2005, chapter 11.
library(nadiv) #<-- to construct inverse of the numerator relatedness matrix
Ainv <- makeAinv(Mrode11[, 1:3])$Ainv

gr11lmm <- gremlin(WWG11 ~ sex - 1,
random = ~ calf,
data = Mrode11,
ginverse = list(calf = Ainv),
Gstart = matrix(0.2), Rstart = matrix(0.4), #<-- specify starting values
maxit = 15, #<-- maximum iterations
v = 2, vit = 1, #<-- moderate screen output (`v`) every iteration (`vit`)
algit = "AI") #<-- only use Average Information algorithm iterations
summary(gr11lmm)

# Compare the model to a Linear Model with no random effects
## Use `update()` to update the model
gr11lm <- update(gr11lmm, random = ~ 1) #<-- `~1`=drop all random effects
summary(gr11lm)

# Do analysis of variance between the two models
## See AIC or evaluate likelihood ratio against a Chi-squared distribution
anova(gr11lm, gr11lmm)

## End(Not run)
```

---

anova.gremlin

*anova()* for gremlin objects

---

**Description**

REML Likelihood Ratio Tests for gremlin models using anova()

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'gremlin'
anova(object, ..., model.names = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

object            An object of class 'gremlin'.  
 ...              Additional objects of class 'gremlin'.  
 model.names      Optional character vector with model names to be used in the anova table

**Value**

A data.frame containing the nested comparison of model objects via a REML likelihood ratio test.

**Author(s)**

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
mod11 <- gremlin(WWG11 ~ sex - 1,
  random = ~ sire,
  data = Mrode11)
mod11red <- gremlinR(WWG11 ~ sex - 1, data = Mrode11)
anova(mod11, mod11red)
```

---

 covFun

*(Co)variance parameter transformations.*

---

**Description**

Converts lists of (co)variance parameters either between list and vector format or between the theta and nu scales.

**Usage**

```
stTrans(x)

conTrans(Gcon, Rcon)

start2theta(Gstart, Rstart, name = NULL)

matlist2vech(theta)

vech2matlist(vech, skeleton)

theta2nu_trans(theta)

nu2theta_trans(nu)

theta2nu_lambda(theta, thetaG, thetaR)
```

```
nu2theta_lambda(nu, sigma2e, thetaG, thetaR)
```

```
nuVar2thetaVar_lambda(object)
```

```
nuAI2thetaAIinv_lambda(object)
```

```
nu2theta_noTrans(nu, thetaG, thetaR)
```

### Arguments

x, theta, nu	A list of matrices containing the (co)variance parameters of the model.
Gcon, Rcon	A list of starting (co)variance constraints for the G-structure (random effects terms) or R-structure (residual).
Gstart, Rstart	A list of starting (co)variance values for the G-structure (random effects terms) or R-structure (residual).
name	An (optional) character vector containing the (co)variance component names.
vech	A vector of (co)variance parameters.
skeleton	An example structure to map vech onto.
thetaG, thetaR	A vector indexing the G-structure or R-structure components, respectively.
sigma2e	A numeric estimate of the factored out residual variance from the mixed model equations (i.e., the ‘lambda’ scale) $\sigma_e^2$ .
object	An object of class ‘gremlin’.

### Details

- `stTrans` Transform start parameters into lower triangle matrices of class `dsCMatrix`.
- `conTrans` Transformation of starting constraints to correct format.
- `start2theta` Converts lists of starting values for (co)variance parameters to a theta object used to structure the (co)variance components within gremlin.
- `matlist2vech` Converts a list of (co)variance parameter matrices to a vector with a “skel” attribute.
- `vech2matlist` Converts a vector of (co)variance parameters to a list of covariance matrices.
- `theta2nu_trans` Transforms theta to nu scale by taking the Cholesky factor of each covariance matrix and then replacing the diagonals with their (natural) logarithms. Done to ensure matrices are positive definite.
- `nu2theta_trans` Back transformation from theta2nu\_trans: exponentiates the diagonal elements of each matrix then calculates the cross-product.
- `theta2nu_lambda` Transformation that factors out a residual variance so that nu contains the ‘lambda’ parameterization: ratios of variance parameters with the residual variance.
- `nu2theta_lambda` Back transformation from theta2nu\_lambda.
- `nuVar2thetaVar_lambda` Transformation of Sampling Variances from lambda Scale for theta.
- `nuAI2thetaAIinv_lambda` Transform AI matrix from lambda Scale to AI-inverse of theta.
- `nu2theta_noTrans` Structures theta when not transformed.

**Value**

Functions are specified to mostly return either a list of matrices (structure as defined by the “skel” attribute or in the skeleton object) or a vector containing the (co)variance parameters of the model. Additional list elements returned can be:

**thetaG** A vector indexing the G-structure components.

**thetaR** A vector indexing the R-structure components.

Alternatively, nuVar2thetaVar\_lambda and nuAI2thetaAIinv\_lambda return a vector and matrix, respectively, holding the sampling (co)variances of the model (co)variance parameters both on the theta scale. These are elements of the inverse Average Information matrix.

**Author(s)**

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
# User-specified starting parameters
thetaOut <- start2theta(Gstart = list(matrix(1), matrix(2)),
  Rstart = matrix(3))
## convert to a vector and then back into a matrix list
thetav <- matlist2vech(thetaOut$theta)
theta <- vech2matlist(thetav, attr(thetav, "skel"))
  identical(thetaOut$theta, theta) #<-- should be TRUE
# lambda parameterization transformation
nu <- theta2nu_lambda(theta, thetaOut$thetaG, thetaOut$thetaR)
# back-transform from (lambda scale) nu to theta
## For example, when the sigma2e estimate=0.5
theta2 <- nu2theta_lambda(nu, sigma2e = 0.5, thetaOut$thetaG, thetaOut$thetaR)
```

---

deltaSE

*Delta Method to Calculate Standard Errors for Functions of (Co)variances.*

---

**Description**

Calculates the standard error for results of simple mathematical functions of (co)variance parameters using the delta method.

**Usage**

```
deltaSE(calc, object, scale = c("theta", "nu"))

## Default S3 method:
deltaSE(calc, object, scale = c("theta", "nu"))

## S3 method for class 'formula'
```

```
deltaSE(calc, object, scale = c("theta", "nu"))

## S3 method for class 'list'
deltaSE(calc, object, scale = c("theta", "nu"))
```

### Arguments

calc	A character expression, formula, or list (of formula or expression) expressing the mathematical function of (co)variance component for which to calculate standard errors.
object	A fitted model object of class 'gremlin'.
scale	A character indicating whether to calculate the function and standard error on the original data scale ("theta") or on the underlying scale to which (co)variance components are transformed for the model fitting calculations ("nu"). Defaults to "theta" if not specified.

### Details

The delta method (e.g., Lynch and Walsh 1998, Appendix 1; Ver Hoef 2012) uses a Taylor series expansion to approximate the moments of a function of parameters. Here, a second-order Taylor series expansion is implemented to approximate the standard error for a function of (co)variance parameters. Partial first derivatives of the function are calculated by algorithmic differentiation with [deriv](#).

Though deltaSE can calculate standard errors for non-linear functions of (co)variance parameters from a fitted gremlin model, it is limited to non-linear functions constructed by mathematical operations such as the arithmetic operators +, -, \*, / and ^, and single-variable functions such as exp and log. See [deriv](#) for more information.

### Value

A data.frame containing the "Estimate" and "Std. Error" for the mathematical function(s) of (co)variance components.

### Methods (by class)

- default: Default method
- formula: Formula method
- list: List method

### Author(s)

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

### References

Lynch, M. and B. Walsh 1998. Genetics and Analysis of Quantitative Traits. Sinauer Associates, Inc., Sunderland, MA, USA.

Ver Hoef, J.M. 2012. Who invented the delta method? The American Statistician 66:124-127. DOI: 10.1080/00031305.2012.687494

**See Also**[deriv](#)**Examples**

```

# Calculate the sum of the variance components
grS <- gremlin(WWG11 ~ sex - 1, random = ~ sire, data = Mrode11)
deltaSE(Vsum ~ V1 + V2, grS)
deltaSE("V1 + V2", grS) #<-- alternative

# Calculate standard deviations (with standard errors) from variances
## Uses a `list` as the first (`calc`) argument
### All 3 below: different formats to calculate the same values
deltaSE(list(SD1 ~ sqrt(V1), SDresid ~ sqrt(V2)), grS) #<-- formulas
deltaSE(list(SD1 ~ sqrt(G.sire), SDresid ~ sqrt(ResVar1)), grS)
deltaSE(list("sqrt(V1)", "sqrt(V2)"), grS) #<-- list of character expressions

# Additive Genetic Variance calculated from observed Sire Variance
## First simulate Full-sib data
set.seed(359)
noff <- 5 #<-- number of offspring in each full-sib family
ns <- 100 #<-- number of sires/full-sib families
VA <- 1 #<-- additive genetic variance
VR <- 1 #<-- residual variance
datFS <- data.frame(id = paste0("o", seq(ns*noff)),
  sire = rep(paste0("s", seq(ns)), each = noff))
## simulate mid-parent breeding value (i.e., average of sire and dam BV)
### mid-parent breeding value = 0.5 BV_sire + 0.5 BV_dam
#### var(mid-parent BV) = 0.25 var(BV_sire) + 0.25 var(BV_dam) = 0.5 var(BV)
datFS$midParBV <- rep(rnorm(ns, 0, sqrt(0.5*VA)), each = noff)
## add to this a Mendelian sampling deviation to get each offspring BV
datFS$BV <- rnorm(nrow(datFS), datFS$midParBV, sqrt(0.5*VA))
datFS$r <- rnorm(nrow(datFS), 0, sqrt(VR)) #<-- residual deviation
datFS$pheno <- rowSums(datFS[, c("BV", "r")])
# Analyze with a sire model
grFS <- gremlin(pheno ~ 1, random = ~ sire, data = datFS)
# calculate VA as 2 times the full-sib/sire variance
deltaSE(VAest ~ 2*V1, grFS)
# compare to expected value and simulated value
VA #<-- expected
var(datFS$BV) #<-- simulated (includes Monte Carlo error)

# Example with `deltaSE(..., scale = "nu")
## use to demonstrate alternative way to do same calculation of inverse
## Average Information matrix of theta scale parameters when lambda = TRUE
### what is done inside gremlin::nuVar2thetaVar_lambda
dOut <- deltaSE(thetaV1 ~ V1*V2, grS, "nu") #<-- V2 is sigma2e
aiFnOut <- nuVar2thetaVar_lambda(grS)[1] #<-- variance (do sqrt below)
stopifnot(abs(dOut[, "Std. Error"] - sqrt(aiFnOut)) < 1e-10)

```



---

fixef.gremlin	<i>Fixed Effect Estimates of class 'gremlin'</i>
---------------	--

---

**Description**

Extracts the fixed effect estimates from a model of class 'gremlin'.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'gremlin'  
fixef(object, add.dropped = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	An object of class 'gremlin'.
add.dropped	A logical value indicating whether fixed effects dropped by gremlin, due to rank deficiencies in the fixed effect design matrix, should be included with NA values.
...	Additional arguments.

**Value**

A numeric vector of fixed effect estimates.

**Author(s)**

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
fixef(gremlin(WWG11 ~ sex - 1, random = ~ sire, data = Mrode11))
```

---

gremlin	<i>Mixed-effect modeling functions.</i>
---------	---

---

**Description**

Fit and setup functions for linear mixed-effect model (Gaussian responses).

**Usage**

```
gremlin(  
  formula,  
  random = NULL,  
  rcov = ~units,  
  data = NULL,  
  ginverse = NULL,  
  Gstart = NULL,  
  Rstart = NULL,  
  Bp = NULL,  
  Gcon = NULL,  
  Rcon = NULL,  
  maxit = 20,  
  algit = NULL,  
  vit = 1,  
  v = 1,  
  control = gremlinControl(),  
  ...  
)  
  
gremlinR(  
  formula,  
  random = NULL,  
  rcov = ~units,  
  data = NULL,  
  ginverse = NULL,  
  Gstart = NULL,  
  Rstart = NULL,  
  Bp = NULL,  
  Gcon = NULL,  
  Rcon = NULL,  
  maxit = 20,  
  algit = NULL,  
  vit = 1,  
  v = 1,  
  control = gremlinControl(),  
  ...  
)  
  
## S3 method for class 'gremlin'  
getCall(x, ...)  
  
## S3 method for class 'gremlin'  
update(object, ...)  
  
gremlinSetup(  
  formula,  
  random = NULL,
```

```

    rcov = ~units,
    data = NULL,
    ginverse = NULL,
    Gstart = NULL,
    Rstart = NULL,
    Bp = NULL,
    Gcon = NULL,
    Rcon = NULL,
    maxit = 20,
    algit = NULL,
    vit = 1,
    v = 1,
    control = gremlinControl(),
    ...
)

## S3 method for class 'gremlin'
is(x)

## S3 method for class 'grMod'
is(x)

mkModMats(
  formula,
  random = NULL,
  rcov = ~units,
  data = NULL,
  subset = NULL,
  ginverse = NULL,
  na.action = na.pass,
  offset = NULL,
  contrasts = NULL,
  Xsparse = TRUE,
  ...
)

```

### Arguments

formula	A formula for the response variable(s) and fixed effects.
random	A formula for the random effects.
rcov	A formula for the residual covariance structure.
data	A data.frame in which to look for the terms in formula, random, and rcov.
ginverse	A list of (preferably sparse) inverse matrices that are proportional to the covariance structure of the random effects. The name of each element in the list should match a column in data that is associated with a random term. All levels of the random term should appear as rownames for the matrices.
Gstart	A list of matrices with starting (co)variance values for the G-structure or random effects terms.

Rstart	A list of matrices with starting (co)variance values for the R-structure or residual terms.
Bp	A prior specification for fixed effects.
Gcon, Rcon	A list of matrices with constraint codes for the G-structure/random effects or R-structure/residual effects terms, respectively. Must be a character of either "F" for fixed, "P" for positive, or "U" for unbounded.
maxit	An integer specifying the maximum number of likelihood iterations.
algit	A character vector of length 1 or more or an expression to be evaluated that specifies the algorithm to use for proposing (co)variances in the next likelihood iteration.
vit	An integer value specifying the verbosity of screen output on each iteration. A value of zero gives no iteration specific output and larger values increase the amount of information printed on the screen.
v	An integer value specifying the verbosity of screen output regarding the model fitting process. A value of zero gives no details and larger values increase the amount of information printed on the screen.
control	A list returned by <code>gremlinControl</code> containing specific named values from that function. See <a href="#">gremlinControl</a> .
...	Additional arguments to be passed to control the model fitting.
x, object	An object of class <code>gremlin</code> .
subset	An expression for the subset of data to use.
na.action	What to do with NAs.
offset	Should an offset be specified.
contrasts	Specify the type of contrasts for the fixed effects.
Xsparse	Should sparse matrices be used for the fixed effects design matrix.

### Value

A list containing an object of class `grMod` and, if a model was fit (`gremlin` or `gremlinR`) then an object containing details of the REML iterations (object `itMat`). An object of class `grMod` contains:

**call** The model call.

**modMats** A list of the model matrices used to construct the mixed model equations.

**y** The response vector.

**ny** The number of responses.

**ncy** The number of columns of the original response.

**X** The fixed effects design matrix.

**nb** The number of columns in X.

**Zr** The residual design matrix.

**Zg** A list of the design matrices for each random term.

**nG** The number of parameters in the G structure.

**listGeninv** A list of generalized inverse matrices.

- logDetG** The log-determinants of the generalized inverse matrices - necessary to calculate the log-likelihood.
- rfxIncContrib2loglik** A numeric value containing the sum of the log determinants of the random effects that do not change between log-likelihood iterations (i.e., the part of the log determinants of (co)variance matrices to be estimated that have been factored out).
- ndgeninv** A logical indicating which terms in the random formula have generalized inverses associated with them (non-diagonal matrices in the Kronecker product).
- dimsZg, nminffx, rfxlvls, nminfrfx** Numeric vectors or scalars describing the numbers of random effects or some function of random and fixed effects.
- conv, bounds** (Co)variance component constraints and boundaries of the allowable parameter space for each component.
- thetav** A vector of the (co)variance parameters to be estimated by REML with the attribute "skel" giving the skeleton to recreate a list of matrices from this vector.
- thetaG, thetaR** Vectors indexing the random and residual (co)variances, respectively, in a list of (co)variance matrices (i.e., theta).
- nu** A list of transformed (co)variance matrices to be fit by REML. If a residual variance has been factored out of the mixed model equations, nu contains the 'lambda' parameterization with expresses the (co)variance components as ratios of variance parameters with the residual variance. The 'nu' scale (co)variances are the ones actually fit by REML.
- sigma2e** The estimate of the factored out residual variance from the mixed model equations (i.e., the 'lambda' scale)  $\sigma_e^2$ .
- p** An integer for the total number of (co)variances to be estimated.
- lambda** A logical indicating whether the 'lambda' scale parameterization has been used.
- uni** A logical to indicate if the model is univariate or not.
- W, tWW, RHS, Bpinv** Sparse matrices of class Matrix that form the mixed model equations and do not change between iterations of REML. These are the column binded 'X' and 'Z' design matrices for fixed and random effects, the cross-product of W, the Right-Hand Side of the mixed model equations, and the inverse of the fixed effect prior matrix (zeroes on the diagonal if no priors have been specified). Note, these may be NULL if lambda=FALSE, because the NULL objects are not used or do change between REML iterations.
- sLc** A Matrix containing the symbolic Cholesky factorization of the coefficient matrix of the Mixed Model Equations.
- sln** A one column matrix of solutions in the mixed model equations.
- Cinv\_ii** A one column matrix of variances for the solutions to the mixed model equations. These are obtained from the diagonal of the inverse Coefficient matrix in the mixed model equations. If lambda is TRUE then these are on the lambda scale and must be multiplied by sigma2e to be converted to the original data scale.
- r** A one column matrix of residual deviations, response minus the values expected based on the solutions, corresponding to the order in modMats\$y.
- AI** A matrix of values containing the Average Information matrix, or second partial derivatives of the likelihood with respect to the transformed (co)variance components ('nu'). The inverse of this matrix gives the sampling (co)variances of these transformed (co)variance components.
- dLdnu** A single column matrix of first derivatives of the transformed (co)variance parameters ('nu') with respect to the log-Likelihood.

- maxit** See the parameter described above.
- algit** A character vector of REML algorithms to use in each iteration.
- vit** See the parameter described above.
- v** See the parameter described above.
- cctol** A numeric vector of convergence criteria thresholds. See [gremlinControl](#) for more details.
- ezero, einf** numeric values for the effective numbers to use as “zero” and maximum negative or positive numbers. Values less than ezero are treated as zero and fixed to this value. Values less than  $-1 * einf$  or greater than einf are restricted to these values. See [gremlinControl](#) for more details.
- step** A numeric value indicating the step-reduction to use. See [gremlinControl](#) for more details.
- itMat** A matrix of details about each iteration. Rows indicate each REML iteration (rownames reflect the REML algorithm used) and columns contain:
- nu, theta** (Co)variance parameters.
  - sigma2e** See ‘sigma2e’ described above.
  - tyPy, logDetC** Estimates for two these two components of the log of the REML likelihoods. These are obtained from Cholesky factorization of the coefficient matrix of the mixed model equations.
  - loglik** The REML log-likelihood.
  - itTime** Time elapsed for each REML iteration.

## Functions

- mkModMats: Generates model matrices.

## Author(s)

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

## Examples

```
grSire <- gremlin(WWG11 ~ sex, random = ~ sire, data = Mrode11)
# Now drop sire random effects and use the `anova` method to compare models
grLM <- update(grSire, random = ~ 1) #<-- use `~1` to drop all random effects
anova(grSire, grLM)

# Modular functions
## get model matrices for a mixed model
mM11 <- mkModMats(WWG11 ~ sex - 1, random = ~ sire, data = Mrode11)

## setup model, but do not evaluate the log-likelihood
grSetup <- gremlinSetup(WWG11 ~ sex - 1, random = ~ sire, data = Mrode11)
## maximize the restricted maximum likelihood
grOut <- remlIt(grSetup)
summary(grOut)

## Not run:
# Following the example from Mrode 2005, chapter 11.
library(nadiv) #<-- to construct inverse of the numerator relatedness matrix
```

```

Ainv <- makeAinv(Mrode11[, 1:3])$Ainv

gr11lmm <- gremlin(WWG11 ~ sex - 1,
random = ~ calf,
data = Mrode11,
ginverse = list(calf = Ainv),
Gstart = matrix(0.2), Rstart = matrix(0.4), #<-- specify starting values
maxit = 15, #<-- maximum iterations
  v = 2, vit = 1, #<-- moderate screen output (`v`) every iteration (`vit`)
  algit = "AI") #<-- only use Average Information algorithm iterations
summary(gr11lmm)

# Compare the model to a Linear Model with no random effects
## Use `update()` to update the model
gr11lm <- update(gr11lmm, random = ~ 1) #<-- `~1`=drop all random effects
summary(gr11lm)

# Do analysis of variance between the two models
## See AIC or evaluate likelihood ratio against a Chi-squared distribution
anova(gr11lm, gr11lmm)

## End(Not run)

```

---

gremlinControl

*Advanced Options for Mixed-effect modeling functions.*


---

## Description

Change default settings for gremlin models.

## Usage

```

gremlinControl(
  cctol = c(5e-04, 1e-08, 0.001, NULL),
  ezero = 1e-08,
  einf = 1e+30,
  step = 0.3,
  lambda = TRUE,
  algorithm = NULL,
  algArgs = list()
)

```

## Arguments

cctol	Convergence criteria tolerances (Meyer 2007, 2019).
ezero	Effective zero to be used, values less than this number are treated as zero and fixed to this value.
einf	Effective infinite value to be used, values are limited to a to this variable as a maximum.

step	A numeric value for scaling the proposed parameter updates.
lambda	A logical indicating whether a residual variance should be factored out of the mixed model equations.
algorithm	A character naming the function to use to decide subsequent parameters in the REML iterations.
algArgs	A list of function arguments to be given to functions named in the algorithm argument.

**Value**

A list of class `gremlinControl` to be used by `gremlinSetup` and later functions when fitting the model.

**Author(s)**

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

**References**

Meyer, K. 2007. WOMBAT - a tool for mixed model analyses in quantitative genetics by restricted maximum likelihood (REML). *Journal of Zhejiang University SCIENCE B* 8(11):815-821.

Meyer, K. 2019. WOMBAT A program for mixed model analyses by restricted maximum likelihood. *User Notes*. 27 September 2019.

**Examples**

```
str(gremlinControl())
```

---

logLik.gremlin	<i>Methods to extract log-likelihood and information criterion of a gremlin model.</i>
----------------	--

---

**Description**

Extracts the log-likelihood or AIC from a gremlin model fit.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'gremlin'
logLik(object, ...)

npar.gremlin(object)

## S3 method for class 'gremlin'
AIC(object, ..., k = 2, fxdDf = FALSE)
```



**Arguments**

object	An object of class 'gremlin'.
...	Additional arguments.
k	A numeric value for the penalty per parameter. Default is 2, as in classic AIC.
fxdDf	A logical indicating whether to penalize according to the number of fixed effect parameters. Since only models fit by REML can be compared, these must always be the same and so become a constant. Hence, the default is FALSE.

**Details**

Function `npar.gremlin` returns an object with attributes `n.fxd` and `n.bndry` which give additional information about the parameters estimated and contributing to the overall df of the model. `n.fxd` returns the total number of parameters (No. fixed effects + No. (co)variance components) minus the number of parameters constrained to a certain value. Thus, `n.fxd` represents the number of parameters that can vary and, as a consequence, affect the log-likelihood.

The attribute `n.bndry` reports the number of parameters that were restrained to stay inside the boundaries of allowable parameter space (e.g., a variance that was not allowed to be negative).

**Value**

numeric values for the log-likelihood, the number of parameters estimated by the model (sum of fixed effects and random effect (co)variance components), and Akaike's Information Criterion.

**Author(s)**

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
grS <- gremlin(WWG11 ~ sex - 1, random = ~ sire, data = Mrode11)
logLik(grS)
AIC(grS)
```

---

Mrode11

*Weight gain data.*

---

**Description**

Data from chapter 11 in Mrode 2005. The variables are as follows:

**Usage**

Mrode11

**Format**

An object of class `data.frame` with 5 rows and 5 columns.

**Details**

- calf. a factor with levels 4 5 6 7 8
- dam. a factor with levels 2 5 6
- sire. a factor with levels 1 3 4
- sex. a factor with levels male female
- WWG11. a numeric vector

**Source**

Mrode, R.A. 2005. Linear Models for the Prediction of Animal Breeding Values, 2nd ed. CABI Publishing, Cambridge, MA, USA.

**Examples**

```
data(Mrode11)
```

---

```
nobs.gremlin
```

*Number of observations in data from gremlin model fit objects*

---

**Description**

Extract the number of 'observations' in a gremlin model fit.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'gremlin'
nobs(object, use.fallback = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	An object of class 'gremlin'.
use.fallback	logical: should fallback methods be used to try to guess the value? Included for compatibility.
...	Further arguments to be passed to the methods.

**Value**

A single number, usually an integer, but can be NA.

**Author(s)**

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
grS <- gremlin(WWG11 ~ sex - 1, random = ~ sire, data = Mrode11)
nobs(grS)
```

---

reml *REML optimization algorithms for mixed-effect models.*

---

### Description

Evaluate the REML likelihood and algorithms for iterating to find maximum REML estimates.

### Usage

```
reml(
  nu,
  skel,
  thetaG,
  sLc,
  modMats,
  W,
  Bpinv,
  nminffx,
  nminfrfx,
  rfxlvls,
  rfxIncContrib2loglik,
  thetaR = NULL,
  tWW = NULL,
  RHS = NULL
)
```

```
em(nuvin, thetaG, thetaR, conv, modMats, nminffx, sLc, ndgeninv, sln, r)
```

```
ai(nuvin, skel, thetaG, modMats, W, sLc, sln, r, thetaR = NULL, sigma2e = NULL)
```

```
gradFun(
  nuvin,
  thetaG,
  modMats,
  Cinv,
  sln,
  sigma2e = NULL,
  r = NULL,
  nminfrfx = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

nu, nuvin	A list or vector of (co)variance parameters to estimate on the transformed, or nu, scale.
skel	A skeleton for reconstructing the list of (co)variance parameters.

thetaG, thetaR	Integer vectors indexing the G-structure or R-structure of the (co)variance parameters.
sLc	A sparse Matrix containing the symbolic Cholesky factorization of the coefficient matrix of the Mixed Model Equations.
modMats	A list of the model matrices used to construct the mixed model equations.
W, tWW	A sparse Matrix containing the design matrices for the fixed and random effects (W) and the crossproduct of this (tWW).
Bpinv	A matrix inverse of the matrix containing the prior specification for fixed effects.
nminffx, nminfrfx, rfxlvls	Integers specifying: (1) the difference between the number of observations and fixed effects (of the full rank fixed effects design matrix (X)), (2) nminffx minus the total number of random effects, and (3) a vector of levels for each term in the random effects.
rfxIncContrib2loglik	A numeric indicating the sum of constraint contributions to the log-likelihood across all terms in the random effects that have non-diagonal generalized inverse matrices (ginverse).
RHS	A sparse Matrix containing the Right-Hand Side to the Mixed Model Equations.
conv	A character vector of (co)variance parameter constraints.
ndgeninv	A logical vector indicating if each random term is associated with a generalized inverse (ginverse).
sln, r	Sparse Matrices containing the solutions or residuals of the Mixed Model Equations.
sigma2e	A numeric value for the residual variance estimate when it has been factored out of the Coefficient matrix of the Mixed Model Equations, thus converting the (co)variance components to ratios (represented by the variable lambda).
Cinv	A sparse Matrix containing the inverse of the Coefficient matrix to the Mixed Model Equations.

### Value

A list or matrix containing any of the previous parameters described above, or the following that are in addition to or instead of parameters above:

**loglik** The REML log-likelihood.

**tyPy,logDetC** Components of the REML log-likelihood derived from the Cholesky factor of the Coefficient matrix to the Mixed Model Equations.

**Cinv\_ii** A vector containing the diagonal elements of the inverse of the Coefficient matrix to the Mixed Model Equations (i.e., the diagonal entries of Cinv).

**AI** A matrix of values containing the Average Information matrix, or second partial derivatives of the likelihood with respect to the transformed (co)variance components (nu). The inverse of this matrix gives the sampling variances of these transformed (co)variance components.

**dLdnu** A single column matrix of first derivatives of the transformed (co)variance parameters (nu) with respect to the log-Likelihood.

**Author(s)**

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

---

remlIt	<i>Mixed-effect model Restricted Maximum Likelihood (REML) iterations.</i>
--------	--

---

**Description**

Conduct REML iterations to estimate (co)variance parameters of a linear mixed-effect model (Gaussian responses).

**Usage**

```
remlIt(grMod, ...)  
  
## Default S3 method:  
remlIt(grMod, ...)  
  
## S3 method for class 'gremlinR'  
remlIt(grMod, ...)
```

**Arguments**

grMod	A gremlin model of class grMod. See <a href="#">gremlin</a> or <a href="#">gremlinSetup</a> for the functions constructing an object of class grMod.
...	Additional arguments to be passed to control the model fitting.

**Value**

A list containing an object of class grMod and matrix containing details of the REML iterations (object itMat). See [gremlin](#) for descriptions of grMod and itMat objects.

**Methods (by class)**

- default: Default method
- gremlinR: gremlinR method

**Author(s)**

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
grSsetp <- gremlinSetup(WWG11 ~ sex - 1, random = ~ sire, data = Mrode11)  
grS <- remlIt(grSsetp)
```

---

residuals.gremlin      *Residuals of class 'gremlin'*

---

### Description

Residuals of class 'gremlin'.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gremlin'
residuals(object, type = "response", scaled = FALSE, ...)
```

### Arguments

object	An object of class 'gremlin'.
type	The type of residuals which should be returned. Only implement "response" currently. Can be abbreviated.
scaled	Logical value indicating whether to scale residuals by the residual standard deviation.
...	Additional arguments.

### Value

A numeric vector of residuals.

### Author(s)

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

### Examples

```
grS <- gremlin(WWG11 ~ sex - 1, random = ~ sire, data = Mrode11)
residuals(grS)
```

---

runtime      *Time to execute the gremlin model*

---

### Description

Extract the length of time to fit the model.

### Usage

```
runtime(object, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object            An object of class 'gremlin'.  
 ...              Further arguments to be passed to the methods.

**Value**

A numeric of class 'difftime' with an attribute of units (e.g., seconds or minutes).

**Author(s)**

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

---

summary.gremlin            *Gremlin model summary.*

---

**Description**

Summarize and print results of linear mixed model fitted with gremlin.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'gremlin'
summary(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'summary.gremlin'
print(x, digits = max(3, getOption("digits") - 3), ...)
```

**Arguments**

object, x            An object of class 'gremlin' or 'summary.gremlin'.  
 ...                  Additional arguments to be passed to control the output.  
 digits               An integer used for number formatting with 'signif()'.

**Value**

A list of class summary.gremlin or a printed value to the screen with no return values.

**logLik** Model log-likelihood.

**formulae** Function call and model fixed, random, and residual formulae.

**runtime** A numeric of class 'difftime' containing the length of time to run the model. See how this is handled in [update.gremlin](#).

**lambda** A logical indicating if the model was transformed to the variance ratio, or lambda scale.

**residQuants** A named vector listing summary output for the model residuals.

**varcompSummary** Table of variance components and approximate standard errors (calculated from the inverse of the average information matrix). If a (co)variance component is fixed or at the boundary of its parameter space then an NA is returned for the standard error and a column with constraint types is added to the table. Alternative methods (e.g., profile likelihood CIs) should be pursued for obtaining uncertainties associated with fixed or boundary parameters.

**varcompSampCor** A matrix containing the sampling correlations of the (co)variance components. Note this is on the underlying nu scale that the model is fitting.

**coefficients** Table of fixed effects and standard errors (calculated from the corresponding diagonal elements of the inverse of the coefficient matrix, transformed where necessary).

#### Author(s)

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

#### See Also

[gremlin](#)

#### Examples

```
grS <- gremlin(WWG11 ~ sex - 1, random = ~ sire, data = Mrode11)
summary(grS)
```

---

tr *Matrix trace methods.*

---

#### Description

Methods to efficiently calculate a matrix trace depending on the class of matrix.

#### Usage

```
tr(X, ...)

## Default S3 method:
tr(X, ...)

## S3 method for class 'dgMatrix'
tr(X, ...)

## S3 method for class 'dsMatrix'
tr(X, ...)
```

#### Arguments

X                    A matrix.  
 ...                  Additional arguments.



**Value**

A numeric value for the sum of the diagonal elements.

**Methods (by class)**

- `default`: Default method
- `dgCMatrix`: Method for matrix `X` of class `Matrix:::dgCMatrix`
- `dsCMatrix`: Method for matrix `X` of class `Matrix:::dsCMatrix`

**Author(s)**

<matthewwolak@gmail.com>

# Index

- \* **datasets**
  - Mrode11, [17](#)
  - \_PACKAGE (gremlin-package), [2](#)
- ai (reml), [19](#)
- AIC.gremlin (logLik.gremlin), [16](#)
- anova.gremlin, [3](#)
  
- conTrans (covFun), [4](#)
- covFun, [4](#)
  
- deltaSE, [6](#)
- deriv, [7](#), [8](#)
  
- em (reml), [19](#)
  
- fixed.effects (fixef.gremlin), [9](#)
- fixef (fixef.gremlin), [9](#)
- fixef.gremlin, [9](#)
  
- getCall.gremlin (gremlin), [9](#)
- gradFun (reml), [19](#)
- gremlin, [9](#), [21](#), [24](#)
- gremlin-package, [2](#)
- gremlinControl, [12](#), [14](#), [15](#)
- gremlinR (gremlin), [9](#)
- gremlinSetup, [21](#)
- gremlinSetup (gremlin), [9](#)
  
- is.gremlin (gremlin), [9](#)
- is.grMod (gremlin), [9](#)
  
- logLik.gremlin, [16](#)
  
- matlist2vech (covFun), [4](#)
- mkModMats (gremlin), [9](#)
- Mrode11, [17](#)
  
- nobs.gremlin, [18](#)
- npar.gremlin (logLik.gremlin), [16](#)
- nu2theta\_lambda (covFun), [4](#)
- nu2theta\_noTrans (covFun), [4](#)
- nu2theta\_trans (covFun), [4](#)
- nuAI2thetaAIinv\_lambda (covFun), [4](#)
- nuVar2thetaVar\_lambda (covFun), [4](#)
  
- print.summary.gremlin  
(summary.gremlin), [23](#)
  
- reml, [19](#)
- remlIt, [21](#)
- resid.gremlin (residuals.gremlin), [22](#)
- residuals.gremlin, [22](#)
- runtime, [22](#)
  
- start2theta (covFun), [4](#)
- stTrans (covFun), [4](#)
- summary.gremlin, [23](#)
  
- theta2nu\_lambda (covFun), [4](#)
- theta2nu\_trans (covFun), [4](#)
- tr, [24](#)
  
- update (gremlin), [9](#)
- update.gremlin, [23](#)
  
- vech2matlist (covFun), [4](#)