

# Using the `trouBBlme4Solver` package

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In this vignette we show an introduction to the package `trouBBlme4Solver` and some examples of how to use the `dwmw` function (whose name was motivated because of *Dealing With Model Warnings*).

In 2014, Ben Bolker wrote the publication <https://rpubs.com/bbolker/lme4trouble1>, with some hints to solve convergence warnings produced by the functions `lmer` and `glmer`. Along the past years, he also have answered several related questions on the `lme4` repository in Github and in the SO forums. He also treated these issues in the GLMM FAQ, mainly in the section Troubleshooting. This package was inspired by these documents and by the `lme4` documentation pages `troubleshooting` and `convergence`. This is the reason to make a homage to Ben Bolker in the package name, being a “Solver for (4) `lme4` troubles”, making the “troub-lme4-Solver” a “BB [Ben Bolker]-troub-lme4-Solver”, i.e., `trouBBlme4Solver`.

Let’s start by the same example explained by Ben Bolker in his 2014’s publication. Scaling and updating the optimizer to avoid model failed to converge is automatic by means of `dwmw`. Beyond that, while the final model in the publication is yet singular, the output model by `dwmw` is not.

```
> library(lme4)
> data("fly_parameters", package = "trouBBlme4Solver")
> df <- fly_parameters
> df$SUR.ID <- factor(df$SUR.ID)
> df$replicate <- factor(df$replicate)
> Rdet <- cbind(df$ValidDetections,df$FalseDetections)
> Unit <- factor(1:length(df$ValidDetections))
> m1 <- glmer(Rdet ~ tm:Area + tm:c.distance +
+           c.distance:Area + c.tm.depth:Area +
+           c.receiver.depth:Area + c.temp:Area +
+           c.wind:Area +
+           c.tm.depth + c.receiver.depth +
+           c.temp +c.wind + tm + c.distance + Area +
+           replicate +
+           (1|SUR.ID) + (1|Day) + (1|Unit) ,
+   data = df, family = binomial(link="logit"))
> summary(m1)
```

Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace Approximation) [glmerMod]  
 Family: binomial ( logit )  
 Formula: Rdet ~ tm:Area + tm:c.distance + c.distance:Area + c.tm.depth:Area + c.receiver.depth:Area + c.temp:Area + c.wind:Area + c.tm.depth + c.receiver.depth + c.temp + c.wind + tm + c.distance + Area + replicate + (1 | SUR.ID) + (1 | Day) + (1 | Unit)  
 Data: df

AIC	BIC	logLik	deviance	df.resid
252.2	316.7	-107.1	214.2	201

Scaled residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-3.1190	0.0000	0.0000	0.3486	1.2942

Random effects:

Groups Name	Variance	Std.Dev.
Unit (Intercept)	4.640e-01	0.681178
Day (Intercept)	8.082e-05	0.008990
SUR.ID (Intercept)	5.209e-05	0.007217

Number of obs: 220, groups: Unit, 220; Day, 5; SUR.ID, 3

Fixed effects:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z )
(Intercept)	-11.391900	7.144458	-1.595	0.110822
c.tm.depth	-1.020750	1.389373	-0.735	0.462532
c.receiver.depth	6.811302	8.976359	0.759	0.447970
c.temp	-5.487191	2.793898	-1.964	0.049531 *
c.wind	-6.271209	3.713372	-1.689	0.091254 .
tmPT-04	-2.147390	0.566823	-3.788	0.000152 ***
c.distance	-0.004280	0.003005	-1.425	0.154270
AreaFinger	11.585004	7.258297	1.596	0.110465
replicate2	2.695495	1.259289	2.140	0.032315 *
tmPT-04:AreaFinger	0.456378	0.689633	0.662	0.508119
tmPT-04:c.distance	-0.005865	0.003672	-1.597	0.110193
AreaFinger:c.distance	0.013074	0.004455	2.935	0.003336 **
AreaFinger:c.tm.depth	-3.049233	4.993059	-0.611	0.541402
AreaFinger:c.receiver.depth	-34.883003	16.989263	-2.053	0.040049 *
AreaFinger:c.temp	2.195607	1.868833	1.175	0.240053
AreaFinger:c.wind	8.353265	4.160630	2.008	0.044676 *

---

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

optimizer (Nelder\_Mead) convergence code: 0 (OK)

Model failed to converge with max|grad| = 0.0992467 (tol = 0.002, component 1)

Model is nearly unidentifiable: very large eigenvalue

```

- Rescale variables?
Model is nearly unidentifiable: large eigenvalue ratio
- Rescale variables?

> numcols <- grep("^c\\.\"",names(df))
> dfs <- df
> dfs[,numcols] <- scale(dfs[,numcols])
> m1_sc <- update(m1,data=dfs)
> ss <- getME(m1_sc,c("theta","fixef"))
> m3 <- update(m1_sc,start=ss,control=glmerControl(optimizer="bobyqa",
+                                               optCtrl=list(maxfun=2e5)))
> summary(m3)

```

```

Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace
Approximation) [glmerMod]
Family: binomial ( logit )
Formula: Rdet ~ tm:Area + tm:c.distance + c.distance:Area + c.tm.depth:Area +
c.receiver.depth:Area + c.temp:Area + c.wind:Area + c.tm.depth +
c.receiver.depth + c.temp + c.wind + tm + c.distance + Area +
replicate + (1 | SUR.ID) + (1 | Day) + (1 | Unit)
Data: dfs
Control: glmerControl(optimizer = "bobyqa", optCtrl = list(maxfun = 2e+05))

```

AIC	BIC	logLik	deviance	df.resid
252.2	316.7	-107.1	214.2	201

```

Scaled residuals:
  Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-3.1643  0.0000  0.0000  0.3449  1.2866

```

```

Random effects:
Groups Name          Variance Std.Dev.
Unit  (Intercept)  0.4721  0.6871
Day   (Intercept)  0.0000  0.0000
SUR.ID (Intercept) 0.0000  0.0000
Number of obs: 220, groups:  Unit, 220; Day, 5; SUR.ID, 3

```

```

Fixed effects:
              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept)   -8.0961    4.8787  -1.659 0.097021 .
c.tm.depth    -0.5121    0.6748  -0.759 0.447923
c.receiver.depth  2.1910    2.8142   0.779 0.436253
c.temp       -13.7827    6.6999  -2.057 0.039672 *
c.wind       -21.8299   12.2921  -1.776 0.075745 .
tmPT-04      -2.1344    0.5614  -3.802 0.000144 ***
c.distance    -0.5175    0.3871  -1.337 0.181296

```

```

AreaFinger          10.8986    5.8547    1.862 0.062671 .
replicate2          2.8322    1.2702    2.230 0.025764 *
tmPT-04:AreaFinger  0.4551    0.6922    0.657 0.510901
tmPT-04:c.distance -0.7847    0.4770   -1.645 0.099922 .
AreaFinger:c.distance 1.6900    0.5772    2.928 0.003411 **
AreaFinger:c.tm.depth -1.3272    2.4350   -0.545 0.585712
AreaFinger:c.receiver.depth -11.3658    5.4403   -2.089 0.036691 *
AreaFinger:c.temp    5.6156    4.4876    1.251 0.210808
AreaFinger:c.wind    28.9305    13.7852    2.099 0.035846 *

```

---

```

Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
optimizer (bobyqa) convergence code: 0 (OK)
boundary (singular) fit: see help('isSingular')

```

```

> library(trouBB1me4Solver)
> m1_new <- dwmw(m1, scale = TRUE, max_message_iter = 3)
> summary(m1_new)

```

```

Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace
Approximation) [glmerMod]
Family: binomial ( logit )
Formula: Rdet ~ c.tm.depth + c.receiver.depth + c.temp + c.wind + tm +
  c.distance + Area + replicate + (1 | Unit) + tm:Area + tm:c.distance +
  Area:c.distance + Area:c.tm.depth + Area:c.receiver.depth +
  Area:c.temp + Area:c.wind
Data: df-rescaled
Control: glmerControl(optimizer = next_optimizer, optCtrl = next_optCtrl)

```

AIC	BIC	logLik	deviance	df.resid
248.2	305.9	-107.1	214.2	203

```

Scaled residuals:
  Min      1Q  Median      3Q      Max
-3.1643  0.0000  0.0000  0.3449  1.2866

```

```

Random effects:
Groups Name      Variance Std.Dev.
Unit (Intercept) 0.4721   0.6871
Number of obs: 220, groups: Unit, 220

```

```

Fixed effects:
              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept)   -8.0962    4.8658  -1.664 0.096132 .
c.tm.depth    -0.5121    0.6748  -0.759 0.447914
c.receiver.depth  2.1910    2.8137   0.779 0.436164
c.temp        -13.7827    6.6820  -2.063 0.039145 *

```

```

c.wind                -21.8300    12.2593   -1.781  0.074963 .
tmPT-04               -2.1344     0.5614   -3.802  0.000144 ***
c.distance            -0.5175     0.3869   -1.338  0.181009 .
AreaFinger            10.8986     5.8402    1.866  0.062019 .
replicate2            2.8322     1.2674    2.235  0.025437 *
tmPT-04:AreaFinger    0.4551     0.6922    0.657  0.510895 .
tmPT-04:c.distance    -0.7847     0.4770   -1.645  0.099920 .
c.distance:AreaFinger 1.6900     0.5772    2.928  0.003411 **
c.tm.depth:AreaFinger -1.3272     2.4333   -0.545  0.585447 .
c.receiver.depth:AreaFinger -11.3658    5.4371   -2.090  0.036579 *
c.temp:AreaFinger     5.6156     4.4779    1.254  0.209817 .
c.wind:AreaFinger     28.9306    13.7482    2.104  0.035350 *
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

```

Next is an example in the `lme4` documentation, which is singular. Our function desingularizes it.

```

> if(requireNamespace("nlme")){
+   data(Orthodont,package="nlme")
+   Orthodont$nsex <- as.numeric(Orthodont$Sex=="Male")
+   Orthodont$nsexage <- with(Orthodont, nsex*age)
+   fmo <- lmer(distance ~ age + (age|Subject) + (0 + nsex|Subject) +
+             (0 + nsexage|Subject), data = Orthodont)
+   # without warnings
+   fmo_new <- dwwm(fmo)
+ }

```

```
> summary(fmo)
```

```

Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']
Formula: distance ~ age + (age | Subject) + (0 + nsex | Subject) + (0 +
  nsexage | Subject)
Data: Orthodont

```

```
REML criterion at convergence: 442.6
```

```
Scaled residuals:
```

```

      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-3.2232 -0.4938  0.0073  0.4722  3.9160

```

```
Random effects:
```

```

Groups   Name             Variance Std.Dev.  Corr
Subject  (Intercept)  5.414e+00  2.3268096
          age        5.126e-02  0.2264158 -0.61
Subject.1 nsex       2.430e-08  0.0001559
Subject.2 nsexage    0.000e+00  0.0000000

```

```
Residual          1.716e+00 1.3100560
Number of obs: 108, groups: Subject, 27
```

Fixed effects:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value
(Intercept)	16.76111	0.77523	21.621
age	0.66019	0.07125	9.265

Correlation of Fixed Effects:

```
(Intr)
age -0.848
optimizer (nloptwrap) convergence code: 0 (OK)
boundary (singular) fit: see help('isSingular')
```

```
> summary(fmo_new)
```

```
Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']
Formula: distance ~ age + (age | Subject) + (0 + nsex | Subject)
Data: Orthodont
```

REML criterion at convergence: 442.6

Scaled residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-3.2231	-0.4938	0.0073	0.4722	3.9160

Random effects:

Groups	Name	Variance	Std.Dev.	Corr
Subject	(Intercept)	5.415e+00	2.3269989	
	age	5.128e-02	0.2264469	-0.61
Subject.1	nsex	3.427e-07	0.0005854	
Residual		1.716e+00	1.3100290	

Number of obs: 108, groups: Subject, 27

Fixed effects:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value
(Intercept)	16.76111	0.77524	21.621
age	0.66019	0.07126	9.265

Correlation of Fixed Effects:

```
(Intr)
age -0.848
```

## Other examples

- SO question lme4 error: boundary (singular) fit: see ?isSingular

```

> data("plants", package = "trouBB1me4Solver")
> fit <- lmer(Weight ~ 1 + (1|Rep:PLANT), data = plants)
> summary(fit)

Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']
Formula: Weight ~ 1 + (1 | Rep:PLANT)
Data: plants

REML criterion at convergence: 2521.2

Scaled residuals:
   Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-4.8883 -0.2685  0.1935  0.6554  1.8104

Random effects:
 Groups      Name      Variance Std.Dev.
Rep:PLANT (Intercept)  0.00    0.000
Residual                18.74    4.329
Number of obs: 437, groups: Rep:PLANT, 8

Fixed effects:
              Estimate Std. Error t value
(Intercept)  25.1625    0.2071   121.5
optimizer (nloptwrap) convergence code: 0 (OK)
boundary (singular) fit: see help('isSingular')

> fit_new <- dwwm(fit)
> summary(fit_new)

Call:
lm(formula = Weight ~ 1, data = plants)

Residuals:
   Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-21.1625  -1.1625   0.8375   2.8375   7.8375

Coefficients:
              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)  25.1625    0.2071   121.5 <2e-16 ***
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 4.329 on 436 degrees of freedom
(99 observations deleted due to missingness)

```

In this case, as the package does not analyze the random effect of each of the factors in an interaction among them (Rep and PLANT), it does not try to

update the formula including them separately ((1|Rep) or (1|PLANT)), which is the final answer in the SO question, but it removes random effect specified and outputs a simple linear model.

- **lme4** issue convergence issues with continuous variables in model at Github.

In this example, scaling the continuous predictor makes the large-eigenvalue warning go away.

```
> data("issue618", package = "trouBB1me4Solver")
> fit <- glmer(outcome_dead ~ AGE + (1|ZIP), family = binomial, data = issue618)
> summary(fit)
```

```
Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace
Approximation) [glmerMod]
Family: binomial ( logit )
Formula: outcome_dead ~ AGE + (1 | ZIP)
Data: issue618
```

AIC	BIC	logLik	deviance	df.resid
953.9	968.6	-474.0	947.9	997

Scaled residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-2.9350	0.3408	0.4074	0.4664	0.9831

Random effects:

Groups Name	Variance	Std.Dev.
ZIP (Intercept)	0.3403	0.5834

Number of obs: 1000, groups: ZIP, 614

Fixed effects:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z )
(Intercept)	-0.400877	0.482552	-0.831	0.406
AGE	0.028986	0.007147	4.056	4.99e-05 ***

---

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

Correlation of Fixed Effects:

(Intr)

AGE -0.961

optimizer (Nelder-Mead) convergence code: 0 (OK)

Model is nearly unidentifiable: very large eigenvalue

- Rescale variables?

```
> fit_new <- dwww(fit, scale = TRUE)
> summary(fit_new)
```

```

Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace
Approximation) [glmerMod]
Family: binomial ( logit )
Formula: outcome_dead ~ AGE + (1 | ZIP)
Data: issue618-rescaled

```

AIC	BIC	logLik	deviance	df.resid
953.9	968.6	-474.0	947.9	997

Scaled residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-2.9350	0.3408	0.4074	0.4664	0.9831

Random effects:

Groups Name	Variance	Std.Dev.
ZIP (Intercept)	0.3403	0.5834

Number of obs: 1000, groups: ZIP, 614

Fixed effects:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z )
(Intercept)	1.60681	0.13641	11.779	< 2e-16 ***
AGE	0.34489	0.08503	4.056	4.99e-05 ***

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

Correlation of Fixed Effects:

(Intr)  
AGE 0.228

The same with the larger dataset:

```

> data("issue618large", package = "trouBB1me4Solver")
> fit <- glmer(outcome_dead ~ AGE + (1|ZIP), family = binomial, data = issue618large)
> summary(fit)

```

```

Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace
Approximation) [glmerMod]
Family: binomial ( logit )
Formula: outcome_dead ~ AGE + (1 | ZIP)
Data: issue618large

```

AIC	BIC	logLik	deviance	df.resid
9815.3	9836.9	-4904.6	9809.3	9997

Scaled residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-2.7766	0.3902	0.4546	0.5168	0.9550

```

Random effects:
  Groups Name      Variance Std.Dev.
ZIP (Intercept) 0.02448 0.1565
Number of obs: 10000, groups: ZIP, 1235

Fixed effects:
              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept) -0.376322   0.149529  -2.517   0.0118 *
AGE          0.025962   0.002183  11.891  <2e-16 ***
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Correlation of Fixed Effects:
  (Intr)
AGE -0.984
optimizer (Nelder_Mead) convergence code: 0 (OK)
Model is nearly unidentifiable: very large eigenvalue
- Rescale variables?

> fit_new <- dnmw(fit, scale = TRUE)
> summary(fit_new)

Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace
Approximation) [glmerMod]
Family: binomial ( logit )
Formula: outcome_dead ~ AGE + (1 | ZIP)
Data: issue618large-rescaled

      AIC      BIC   logLik deviance df.resid
9815.3  9836.9 -4904.6  9809.3     9997

Scaled residuals:
      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-2.7766  0.3902  0.4546  0.5168  0.9551

Random effects:
  Groups Name      Variance Std.Dev.
ZIP (Intercept) 0.02448 0.1565
Number of obs: 10000, groups: ZIP, 1235

Fixed effects:
              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept)  1.43141    0.02731   52.41  <2e-16 ***
AGE          0.29822    0.02508   11.89  <2e-16 ***
---

```

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

Correlation of Fixed Effects:

(Intr)  
AGE 0.181

- Cross Validated question lme4: glmer() warning messages with count data mixed-effects model and how to proceed with model fit

The convergence issue posted is solved by means of updating the model start parameters:

```
> data("treatments", package = "trouBB1me4Solver")  
> glmm.1 <- glmer(total_no ~ week * treatment * fzone + (1|plot), data = treatments, family  
> summary(glmm.1)
```

Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace  
Approximation) [glmerMod]

Family: poisson ( log )  
Formula: total\_no ~ week \* treatment \* fzone + (1 | plot)  
Data: treatments

AIC	BIC	logLik	deviance	df.resid
1558.4	1596.8	-766.2	1532.4	129

Scaled residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-5.3750	-1.3546	-0.0084	1.1502	9.5257

Random effects:

Groups Name	Variance	Std.Dev.
plot (Intercept)	0.236	0.4858

Number of obs: 142, groups: plot, 16

Fixed effects:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z )
(Intercept)	2.79184	0.37944	7.358	1.87e-13 ***
week	0.01590	0.02130	0.747	0.455357
treatment+3	0.73604	0.52873	1.392	0.163900
treatmentambient	0.14951	0.48660	0.307	0.758656
fzonepioneer	2.32594	0.47435	4.903	9.42e-07 ***
week:treatment+3	-0.06710	0.02823	-2.377	0.017455 *
week:treatmentambient	-0.02521	0.02668	-0.945	0.344577
week:fzonepioneer	-0.08658	0.02233	-3.876	0.000106 ***
treatment+3:fzonepioneer	-0.88456	0.66440	-1.331	0.183066
treatmentambient:fzonepioneer	-0.41838	0.63189	-0.662	0.507903
week:treatment+3:fzonepioneer	0.12520	0.02967	4.220	2.45e-05 ***

```
week:treatmentambient:fzonepioneer 0.06163 0.02844 2.167 0.030231 *
```

```
---
```

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

```
Correlation of Fixed Effects:
```

```
(Intr) week trtm+3 trtmnt fznpr wk:t+3 wk:trt wk:fzn trt+3:
week -0.399
treatment+3 -0.718 0.286
tretmntbnt -0.780 0.311 0.560
fzonepioneer -0.800 0.319 0.574 0.624
wk:trtmnt+3 0.301 -0.755 -0.369 -0.235 -0.241
wk:trtmntmb 0.319 -0.799 -0.229 -0.380 -0.255 0.603
week:fznpr 0.380 -0.954 -0.273 -0.297 -0.332 0.720 0.762
trtmnt+3:fz 0.571 -0.228 -0.796 -0.445 -0.714 0.294 0.182 0.237
trtmntbnt: 0.600 -0.240 -0.431 -0.770 -0.751 0.181 0.292 0.249 0.536
wk:trtmn+3: -0.286 0.718 0.351 0.223 0.250 -0.951 -0.573 -0.753 -0.308
wk:trtmntm: -0.299 0.749 0.214 0.356 0.261 -0.565 -0.938 -0.785 -0.186
trtmn: wk:+3:
```

```
week
treatment+3
tretmntbnt
fzonepioneer
wk:trtmnt+3
wk:trtmntmb
week:fznpr
trtmnt+3:fz
trtmntbnt:
wk:trtmn+3: -0.188
wk:trtmntm: -0.310 0.591
optimizer (Nelder_Mead) convergence code: 0 (OK)
Model failed to converge with max|grad| = 0.00276098 (tol = 0.002, component 1)
```

```
> glmm.11 <- dnmw(glmm.1, verbose = TRUE)
```

```
Iteration: 1
```

```
Try solving:
```

```
Model failed to converge with max|grad| = 0.00276098 (tol = 0.002, component 1)
```

```
UPDATING MODEL START PARAMETERS
```

```
> summary(glmm.11)
```

```
Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace
Approximation) [glmerMod]
Family: poisson ( log )
Formula: total_no ~ week * treatment * fzone + (1 | plot)
Data: treatments
```

AIC	BIC	logLik	deviance	df.resid
1558.4	1596.8	-766.2	1532.4	129

Scaled residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-5.3750	-1.3547	-0.0084	1.1502	9.5256

Random effects:

Groups Name	Variance	Std.Dev.
plot (Intercept)	0.236	0.4858

Number of obs: 142, groups: plot, 16

Fixed effects:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z )
(Intercept)	2.79177	0.37942	7.358	1.87e-13 ***
week	0.01591	0.02130	0.747	0.455035
treatment+3	0.73609	0.52871	1.392	0.163848
treatmentambient	0.14961	0.48658	0.307	0.758488
fzonepioneer	2.32590	0.47433	4.904	9.41e-07 ***
week:treatment+3	-0.06711	0.02823	-2.378	0.017424 *
week:treatmentambient	-0.02522	0.02668	-0.946	0.344387
week:fzonepioneer	-0.08659	0.02233	-3.877	0.000106 ***
treatment+3:fzonepioneer	-0.88444	0.66436	-1.331	0.183097
treatmentambient:fzonepioneer	-0.41846	0.63186	-0.662	0.507801
week:treatment+3:fzonepioneer	0.12522	0.02967	4.220	2.44e-05 ***
week:treatmentambient:fzonepioneer	0.06164	0.02844	2.167	0.030199 *

---

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

Correlation of Fixed Effects:

	(Intr)	week	trtm+3	trtmnt	fznpnr	wk:t+3	wk:trt	wk:fzn	trt+3:	
week		-0.399								
treatment+3		-0.718	0.286							
treatmentambient		-0.780	0.311	0.560						
fzonepioneer		-0.800	0.319	0.574	0.624					
wk:trtmnt+3		0.301	-0.755	-0.369	-0.235	-0.241				
wk:trtmntmb		0.319	-0.799	-0.229	-0.380	-0.255	0.603			
week:fznpnr		0.380	-0.954	-0.273	-0.297	-0.332	0.720	0.762		
trtmnt+3:fz		0.571	-0.228	-0.796	-0.445	-0.714	0.294	0.182	0.237	
trtmntmbnt:		0.600	-0.240	-0.431	-0.770	-0.751	0.181	0.292	0.249	0.536
wk:trtmn+3:		-0.286	0.718	0.351	0.223	0.250	-0.951	-0.573	-0.753	-0.308
wk:trtmntm:		-0.299	0.749	0.214	0.356	0.261	-0.565	-0.938	-0.785	-0.186

trtmn: wk:+3:  
week  
treatment+3  
treatmentambient

```
fzonepioneer
wk:trtmnt+3
wk:trtmntmb
week:fznpnr
trtmnt+3:fz
trtmntmbnt:
wk:trtmn+3: -0.188
wk:trtmntm: -0.310 0.591
```

- A bag of tips and tricks for dealing with scale issues

In this publication, the author suggests removing the convergence failing through dividing the variable price by 1000. Another option is scaling (standardizing) all the continuous predictors.

```
> if(requireNamespace("ggplot2")){
+   data("diamonds", package = "ggplot2")
+
+   # Grab the priciest diamonds
+   diamonds_subset <- diamonds[(nrow(diamonds)-10000):nrow(diamonds),]
+   # Fit the model
+   fit_1 <- lmer(carat ~ depth + table + price + x + y + z + (1 + price | cut), data
+   # Let's try dividing price by 1000
+   fit_2 <- lmer(carat ~ depth + table + I(price/1000) + x + y + z + (1 + I(price/1000)
+
+   fit_new <- dnmw(fit_1, scale = TRUE, verbose = TRUE)
+ }
```

```
Iteration: 1
```

```
Try solving:
```

```
Model failed to converge: degenerate Hessian with 1 negative eigenvalues
unable to evaluate scaled gradient
Some predictor variables are on very different scales: consider rescaling
SCALING PARAMETERS
```

```
> summary(fit_1)
```

```
Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']
```

```
Formula: carat ~ depth + table + price + x + y + z + (1 + price | cut)
```

```
Data: diamonds_subset
```

```
REML criterion at convergence: -40082.4
```

```
Scaled residuals:
```

```
      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-10.760  -0.445  -0.106   0.374   49.847
```

Random effects:

Groups	Name	Variance	Std.Dev.	Corr
cut	(Intercept)	1.213e-03	3.482e-02	
	price	5.364e-10	2.316e-05	-0.96
Residual		1.049e-03	3.239e-02	

Number of obs: 10001, groups: cut, 5

Fixed effects:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value
(Intercept)	-1.917e+00	2.838e-02	-67.550
depth	1.340e-02	2.618e-04	51.195
table	2.094e-03	1.856e-04	11.280
price	9.890e-06	1.045e-05	0.946
x	2.873e-01	1.853e-03	155.031
y	2.416e-03	1.202e-03	2.011
z	-5.778e-04	1.116e-03	-0.517

Correlation of Fixed Effects:

	(Intr)	depth	table	price	x	y
depth	-0.736					
table	-0.587	0.376				
price	-0.501	-0.014	-0.005			
x	-0.206	0.144	-0.033	-0.059		
y	-0.038	0.041	0.017	-0.003	-0.593	
z	0.115	-0.224	0.022	-0.002	-0.308	-0.073

fit warnings:

Some predictor variables are on very different scales: consider rescaling  
optimizer (nloptwrap) convergence code: 0 (OK)  
unable to evaluate scaled gradient  
Model failed to converge: degenerate Hessian with 1 negative eigenvalues

> summary(fit\_2)

Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']

Formula:

carat ~ depth + table + I(price/1000) + x + y + z + (1 + I(price/1000) |  
cut)

Data: diamonds\_subset

REML criterion at convergence: -40099.9

Scaled residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-10.736	-0.445	-0.106	0.374	49.827

Random effects:

Groups	Name	Variance	Std.Dev.	Corr
cut	(Intercept)	0.0002811	0.01677	
	I(price/1000)	0.0001138	0.01067	-0.91
Residual		0.0010498	0.03240	

Number of obs: 10001, groups: cut, 5

Fixed effects:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value
(Intercept)	-1.9175113	0.0247826	-77.373
depth	0.0134156	0.0002614	51.320
table	0.0021038	0.0001853	11.352
I(price/1000)	0.0094664	0.0049595	1.909
x	0.2872836	0.0018522	155.105
y	0.0024191	0.0012019	2.013
z	-0.0005757	0.0011167	-0.516

Correlation of Fixed Effects:

	(Intr)	depth	table	I(/100	x	y
depth		-0.840				
table		-0.669	0.374			
I(prc/1000)		-0.216	-0.031	-0.012		
x		-0.232	0.142	-0.035	-0.126	
y		-0.044	0.041	0.017	-0.005	-0.593
z		0.131	-0.224	0.022	-0.004	-0.308

> summary(fit\_new)

Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']  
 Formula: carat ~ depth + table + price + x + y + z + (1 + price | cut)  
 Data: diamonds\_subset-rescaled

REML criterion at convergence: -40096.8

Scaled residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-10.736	-0.445	-0.106	0.374	49.827

Random effects:

Groups	Name	Variance	Std.Dev.	Corr
cut	(Intercept)	7.665e-05	0.008755	
	price	3.763e-05	0.006134	0.61
Residual		1.050e-03	0.032400	

Number of obs: 10001, groups: cut, 5

Fixed effects:

Estimate	Std. Error	t value
----------	------------	---------

```

(Intercept) 0.6015549 0.0039516 152.232
depth       0.0198214 0.0003862 51.320
table      0.0048810 0.0004300 11.352
price      0.0054427 0.0028514 1.909
x          0.1372493 0.0008849 155.105
y          0.0013028 0.0006473 2.013
z          -0.0002389 0.0004634 -0.516

```

Correlation of Fixed Effects:

```

      (Intr) depth table price x      y
depth -0.038
table -0.046 0.374
price 0.576 -0.031 -0.012
x     -0.017 0.142 -0.035 -0.126
y      0.002 0.041 0.017 -0.005 -0.593
z     -0.001 -0.224 0.022 -0.004 -0.308 -0.073

```

- SO question how to use `update()` for random part in `lmer()`?

Function `fstruction` updates the formula of singular models according to a similar proceeding to which is explained in that SO question.

## 0.1 Session info

```
> sessionInfo()
```

```

R version 4.4.1 (2024-06-14)
Platform: x86_64-pc-linux-gnu
Running under: Ubuntu 24.04 LTS

```

Matrix products: default

BLAS: /usr/lib/x86\_64-linux-gnu/openblas-pthread/libblas.so.3

LAPACK: /usr/lib/x86\_64-linux-gnu/openblas-pthread/libopenblas-p-r0.3.26.so; LAPACK version

locale:

```

[1] LC_CTYPE=en_US.UTF-8      LC_NUMERIC=C
[3] LC_TIME=en_US.UTF-8      LC_COLLATE=C
[5] LC_MONETARY=en_US.UTF-8  LC_MESSAGES=en_US.UTF-8
[7] LC_PAPER=en_US.UTF-8     LC_NAME=C
[9] LC_ADDRESS=C             LC_TELEPHONE=C
[11] LC_MEASUREMENT=en_US.UTF-8 LC_IDENTIFICATION=C

```

time zone: Etc/UTC

tzcode source: system (glibc)

attached base packages:

```
[1] stats      graphics  grDevices  utils      datasets  methods    base
```

other attached packages:

[1] trouBBlme4Solver\_0.1.2 lme4\_1.1-35.5 Matrix\_1.7-0

loaded via a namespace (and not attached):

[1]	vctrs_0.6.5	nlme_3.1-166	cli_3.6.3	knitr_1.48
[5]	rlang_1.1.4	xfun_0.47	minqa_1.2.8	glue_1.7.0
[9]	colorspace_2.1-1	buildtools_1.0.0	maketools_1.3.0	sys_3.4.2
[13]	fansi_1.0.6	scales_1.3.0	grid_4.4.1	munsell_0.5.1
[17]	tibble_3.2.1	MASS_7.3-61	lifecycle_1.0.4	compiler_4.4.1
[21]	pkgconfig_2.0.3	Rcpp_1.0.13	lattice_0.22-6	nloptr_2.1.1
[25]	R6_2.5.1	utf8_1.2.4	pillar_1.9.0	splines_4.4.1
[29]	magrittr_2.0.3	tools_4.4.1	gtable_0.3.5	boot_1.3-30
[33]	ggplot2_3.5.1			