
36-463/663: Multilevel & Hierarchical Models

Some Random Effects Configurations

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Outline

■ Random Effect Configurations

- Most of our models so far: Level 1 units (observations) belong to a single set of mutually exclusive Level 2 groups (clusters)
- Crossed Random Effects: Level 1 units can belong to clusters in two (or more) different sets of mutually exclusive Level 2 clusters
- Nested Random Effects: Level 1 units belong to Level 2 clusters, and Level 2 clusters belong to Level 3 clusters (and so on, perhaps...)

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Level 1 units belong to a single set of Level 2 clusters

- This is mostly what we've seen with two-level mixed models (only one cluster index j)
- For example:

Level 1:

$$y_i = \alpha_{0j[i]} + \alpha_{1j[i]}x_i + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \sigma^2)$$

Level 2:

$$\alpha_{0j} = \beta_{00} + \beta_{01}u_j + \eta_{0j}, \quad \eta_{0j} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \tau_0^2)$$

$$\alpha_{1j} = \beta_{10} + \eta_{1j}, \quad \eta_{1j} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \tau_1^2)$$

`lmer(y ~ x + u + (1 + x | group))`

Crossed Random Effects – Level 1 units belong to 2 sets of Level 2 Clusters

Level 1:

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \alpha_{1j[i]} + \alpha_{2k[i]} + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \sigma^2)$$

Level 2:

$$\alpha_{1j} = \beta_{10} + \eta_{1j}, \quad \eta_{1j} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \tau_1^2)$$

$$\alpha_{2k} = \beta_{20} + \eta_{2k}, \quad \eta_{2k} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \tau_2^2)$$

- Two cluster indices, j and k
- Can have fixed effects as well
- Note that the intercept is estimated 3 times – the three intercepts are not identifiable! Set $\beta_{10} = \beta_{20} = 0$
- Must think carefully (and some trial and error) about redundant/unidentifiable parameters...

Example: Wheat Yields

- 224 observations of yields from 56 wheat varieties, planted in 4 blocks, in Nebraska*
- Also have latitude and longitude of each plot
- Variables:
 - Block – factor 1, 2, 3, 4
 - Variety – factor ARAPAHOE, BRULE, BUCKSKIN, etc.
 - yield – measured wheat yield in each plot
 - latitude – latitude of each plot
 - longitude – longitude of each plot

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*Stroup, W. W., P. S. Baenziger, and D. K. Mulitze. (1994). Removing spatial variation from wheat yield trials: a comparison of methods. *Crop Science* **86**: 62–66.

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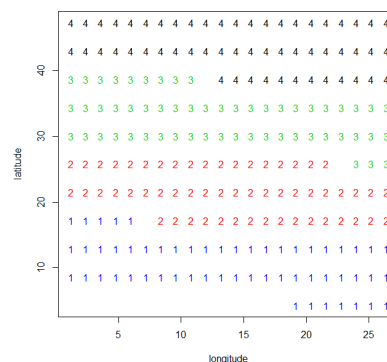
A Little Exploration...

```
library(arm) # pulls in lme4 too
library(nlme) # for data sets
data(Wheat2) # from nlme library
```

```
summary(lm(yield ~ Block,
  data=Wheat2))
#           Estimate      SE      t
# (Intcpt) 25.5270    0.4631 55.122
# Block.L   3.2840    0.9262  3.546
# Block.Q  -2.1487    0.9262 -2.320
# Block.C   4.1114    0.9262  4.439
```

```
summary(lm(yield ~ variety,
  data=Wheat2))
# only two varieties much different
# from ARAPAHOE (baseline category)
```

```
with(Wheat2, plot(latitude ~
  longitude, col=Block, pch=Block))
```



```
# so, Block seems to be trying
# to control for latitude...
```

Fitting and interpreting a crossed random effects model...

```
# try several models with the design
# factors "Block" and "variety" in
# them...
#      yield ~ ...
# fbv:    Block + variety
# fbvll:  Block + variety +
#         latitude + longitude
# rbv:    (1|Block) + (1|variety)
# rbv.fll: (1|Block) + (1|variety) +
#         latitude + longitude
# rv.fbll: Block + (1|variety) +
#         latitude + longitude
#
#      fbv fbvll rbv rbv.fll rv.fbll
# AIC 1562 1460 1520 1426 1420
# BIC 1766 1671 1534 1446 1448
#
# AIC likes rv.fbll...
# BIC slightly prefers rbv.fll
```

```
summary(rbv.fll)
# Random effects:
# Groups      Name      Variance Std.Dev.
# variety (Intcpt)  0.1643   0.4053
# Block      (Intcpt)  1.3805   1.1750
# Residual                31.3764   5.6015
# Number of obs: 224,
#      groups:  variety, 56; Block, 4
#
# Fixed effects:
#      Estimate Std. Error t value
# (Intercept) 24.42114    1.78023  13.718
# latitude    -0.21001    0.05060  -4.151
# longitude    0.48460    0.04966   9.759
#
# latitude and longitude do account for
# a lot of the variation in yield; yet we
# still get a healthy Block random
# effect... lat. & long. aren't everything...
```

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The model rbv.fll for the Wheat data:

Level 1:

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(\text{latitude})_i + \beta_2(\text{longitude})_i + \alpha_{1j[i]} + \alpha_{2k[i]} + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \sigma^2)$$

Level 2:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{1j} &= \eta_{1j} & \eta_{1j} &\stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \tau_1^2) \\ \alpha_{2k} &= \eta_{2k} & \eta_{2k} &\stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \tau_2^2) \end{aligned}$$

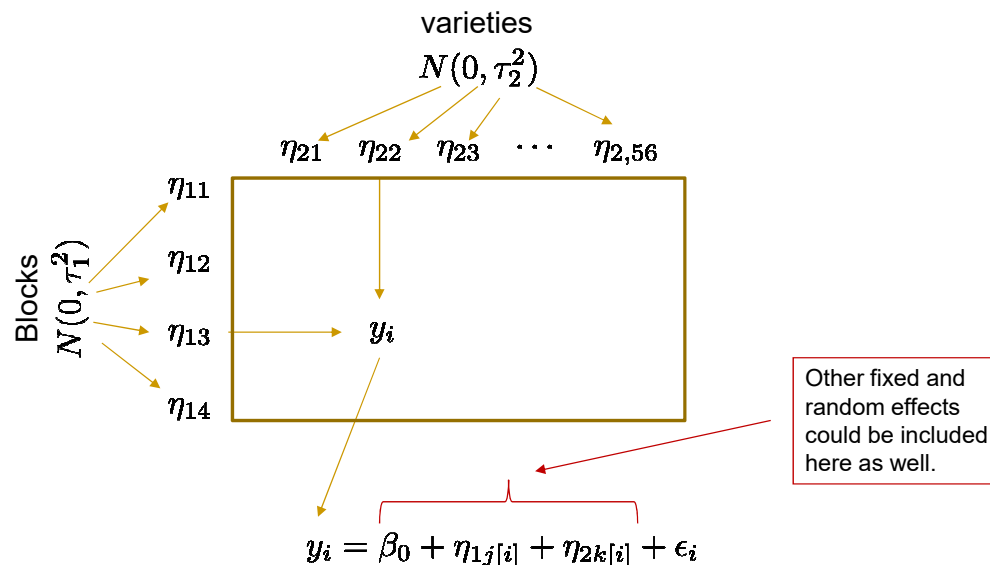
with estimates

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\beta}_0 &= 24.42 & \hat{\sigma}^2 &= 31.38 \\ \hat{\beta}_1 &= -0.21 & \hat{\tau}_1^2 &= 0.16 \\ \hat{\beta}_2 &= 0.48 & \hat{\tau}_2^2 &= 1.38 \end{aligned}$$

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The generative model for crossed random effects

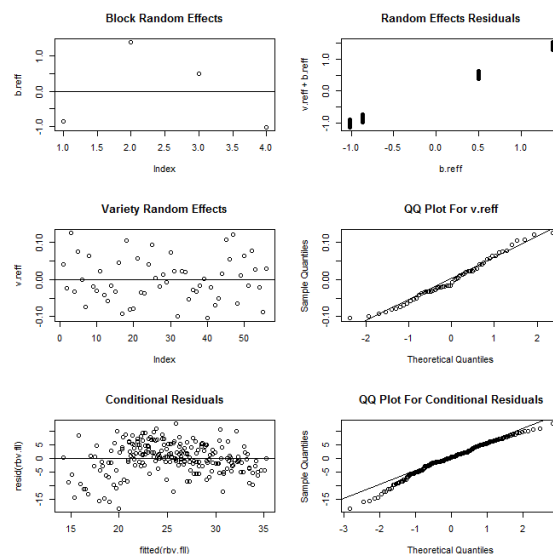


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Graphing the random effects and the residuals...

```
par(mfcol=c(3,2))
b.reff <- ranef(rbv.fll)$Block[[1]]
v.reff <-
  ranef(rbv.fll)$variety[[1]]
plot(b.reff); abline(0,0)
plot(v.reff); abline(0,0)
plot(resid(rbv.fll)~fitted(rbv.fll))
abline(0,0)
vv.reff <- v.reff
b.reff <-
  rep(ranef(rbv.fll)$Block[[1]],
      rep(56,4))
v.reff <-
  rep(ranef(rbv.fll)$variety[[1]],4)
plot(v.reff+b.reff ~ b.reff)
qqnorm(vv.reff)
qqline(vv.reff)
qqnorm(resid(rbv.fll))
qqline(resid(rbv.fll))
```



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Nested Random Effects – Level 1 units belong to Level 2 clusters, which belong to Level 3 clusters...

- We make a model for some coefficients at level 2, as also being random effects:

Level 1:

$$y_i = \alpha_{0j[i]} + \alpha_{1j[i]}x_i + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \sigma^2)$$

Level 2:

$$\alpha_{0j} = \beta_{00k[j]} + \beta_{01}u_j + \eta_{0j}, \quad \eta_{0j} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \tau_0^2)$$

$$\alpha_{1j} = \beta_{10} + \eta_{1j}, \quad \eta_{1j} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \tau_1^2)$$

Level 3:

$$\beta_{00k} = \mu_{000} + \eta_{00k}, \quad \eta_{00k} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \omega_0^2)$$

- Again, two cluster indices (j and k)
 - Can have fixed effects (or not) at any level...
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Example: Oxide Layer Thickness in Semiconductors

- We wish to estimate the variance components to determine the assignable causes of the observed variability*.
- 72 observations, 5 variables:
 - Source – one of two sources (1 or 2)
 - Lot – Unique lot identifier (nested within Source)
 - Wafer – Unique wafer I.D. (nested within Lot)
 - Site – factor (1, 2, or 3) indicating site of measurement on wafer (these are just replications on each wafer)
 - Thickness - thickness of the oxide layer on each silicon wafer

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*Littell, R. C., Milliken, G. A., Stroup, W. W. and Wolfinger, R. D. (1996), *SAS System for Mixed Models*, SAS Institute, Cary, NC.

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Looking at the data...

```
data(Oxide) # from nlme library
View(Oxide)
```

	Source	Lot	Wafer	Site	Thickness						
1	1	1	1	1	2006	16	1	2	3	1	1985
2	1	1	1	2	1999	17	1	2	3	2	1983
3	1	1	1	3	2007	18	1	2	3	3	1989
4	1	1	2	1	1980	19	1	3	1	1	2000
5	1	1	2	2	1988	20	1	3	1	2	2004
6	1	1	2	3	1982	21	1	3	1	3	2004
7	1	1	3	1	2000	22	1	3	2	1	2001
8	1	1	3	2	1998	23	1	3	2	2	1996
9	1	1	3	3	2007	24	1	3	2	3	2004
10	1	2	1	1	1991	25	1	3	3	1	1999
11	1	2	1	2	1990	26	1	3	3	2	2000
12	1	2	1	3	1988	27	1	3	3	3	2002
13	1	2	2	1	1987	.					
14	1	2	2	2	1989	.					
15	1	2	2	3	1988	.					
						70	2	8	3	1	1990
						71	2	8	3	2	1989
						72	2	8	3	3	1992

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Fitting the model...

```
# wrong model: crossed R.E.s # an R equivalent would be:
fit0 <- lmer(Thickness ~
  (1|Lot) + (1|Wafer),
  data=Oxide)
fit2 <- lmer(Thickness ~
  (1|Lot/Wafer), data=Oxide)
# one way to get right model
Summary(fit2)
Oxide$Wafer.in.Lot <-
  with(Oxide, paste(Lot,
    Wafer, sep="."))
# Random effects:
# Groups      Name      Variance SD
# Wafer:Lot (Intcpt) 35.87 5.99
# Lot (Intcpt) 129.911 1.40
# Residual 12.57 3.55
# or easier...
Oxide$Wafer.in.Lot <-
  with(Oxide,
    interaction(Lot, Wafer))
# Fixed effects:
# Estimate SE
# (Intercept) 2000.15 4.23
fit1 <- lmer(Thickness ~
  (1|Lot) +
  (1|Wafer.in.Lot),
  data=Oxide)
```

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The model fit2 for the Oxide data...

Level 1:

$$y_i = \alpha_{0j[i]} + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \sigma^2)$$

Level 2:

$$\alpha_{0j} = \beta_{00k[j]} + \eta_{0j}, \quad \eta_{0j} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \tau_0^2)$$

Level 3:

$$\beta_{00k} = \mu_{000} + \eta_{00k}, \quad \eta_{00k} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \omega_0^2)$$

with estimates

$$\hat{\mu}_{000} = 2000.5$$

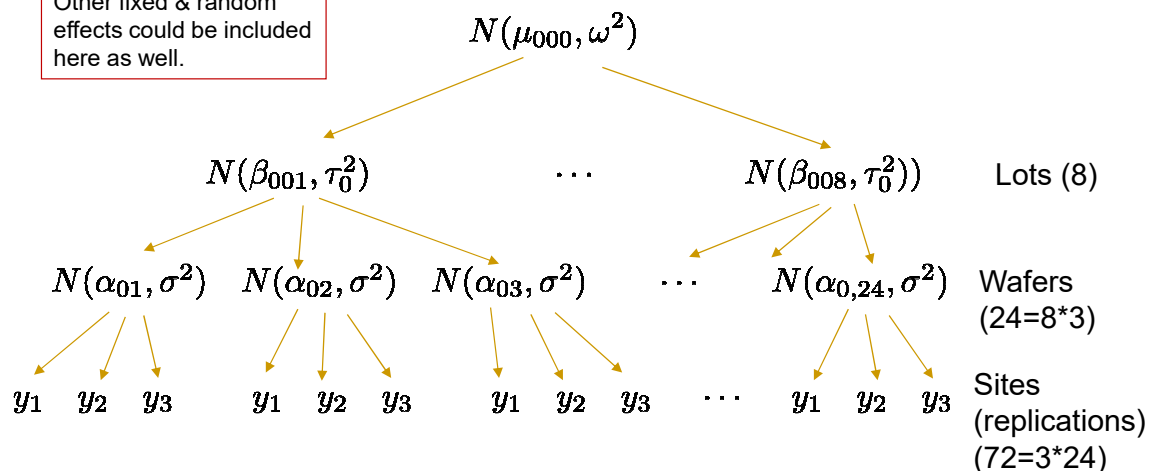
$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = 12.57$$

$$\hat{\tau}_0^2 = 35.87$$

$$\hat{\omega}_0^2 = 129.91$$

The generative model for nested random effects

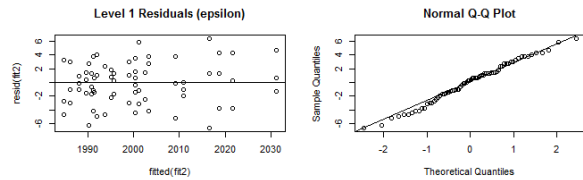
Other fixed & random effects could be included here as well.



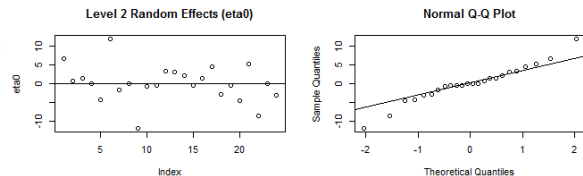
Plotting residuals and random effects for this model...

```
par(mfrow=c(3,2))
```

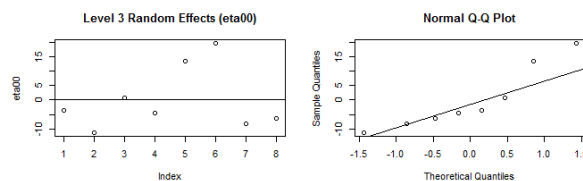
```
plot(resid(fit2) ~ fitted(fit2))
abline(0,0)
qqnorm(resid(fit2))
qqline(resid(fit2))
```



```
eta0 <- ranef(fit2)$"Wafer:Lot"[[1]]
plot(eta0)
abline(0,0)
qqnorm(eta0)
qqline(eta0)
```



```
eta00 <- ranef(fit2)$Lot[[1]]
plot(eta00)
abline(0,0)
qqnorm(eta00)
qqline(eta00)
```



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Outline

■ Random Effect Configurations

- ❑ Most of our models so far: Level 1 units (observations) belong to a single set of mutually exclusive Level 2 groups (clusters)
- ❑ Crossed Random Effects: Level 1 units can belong to clusters in two (or more) different sets of mutually exclusive Level 2 clusters
- ❑ Nested Random Effects: Level 1 units belong to Level 2 clusters, and Level 2 clusters belong to Level 3 clusters (and so on, perhaps...)

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