

Johns Hopkins Engineering

Applied Machine Learning for Mechanical Engineers

Optimization, Part 2, C



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Introduction to Nonlinear Optimization Programming Packages

- By the end of this lecture you will be able to:
 - Address nonlinear optimization problems such to be compatible with Python and MATLAB optimization packages
 - Describe “scipy.optimize.minimize” package in Python
 - Describe ‘fmincon’ package in MATLAB

Introduction to Nonlinear Optimization Programming Packages

- Formal nonlinear optimization problem with one objective function

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize } f(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{subject to } & \begin{cases} g_j(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0 & j \in \{1, 2, \dots, J\} \\ h_k(\mathbf{x}) = 0 & k \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\} \end{cases} \quad (2-3) \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N]$ include the optimization variables (solution), $f(\mathbf{x})$, $g_j(\mathbf{x})$, and $h_k(\mathbf{x})$ are a linear/nonlinear objective function, linear/nonlinear inequality constraints, and linear/nonlinear equality constraints, respectively, and the rest is similar to Eq. 1-1.

Introduction to Nonlinear Optimization Programming Packages

- Programming packages for nonlinear programming

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} f(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{subject to} & \begin{cases} g_j(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0 \\ h_k(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \\ \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{L} \leq \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{U} \end{cases} \quad (2-4) \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N]$ include the optimization variables (solution), $f(\mathbf{x})$, $g_j(\mathbf{x})$, and $h_k(\mathbf{x})$ are a linear/nonlinear objective function, nonlinear (only) inequality constraints, and nonlinear equality constraints (only), respectively, and the rest is similar to Eq. 2-2.

Introduction to Nonlinear Optimization Programming Packages

- Programming packages for nonlinear programming
 - Different annotations

$$\min_x f(x) \text{ such that} \begin{cases} c(x) \leq 0 \\ ceq(x) = 0 \\ A \cdot x \leq b \\ Aeq \cdot x = beq \\ lb \leq x \leq ub, \end{cases}$$

Figure 2-2 Annotations used to address nonlinear optimization problems at
<https://www.mathworks.com/help/optim/ug/fmincon.html>

Introduction to Nonlinear Optimization Programming Packages

- Programming packages for nonlinear programming

- Python: “scipy.optimize.minimize” at

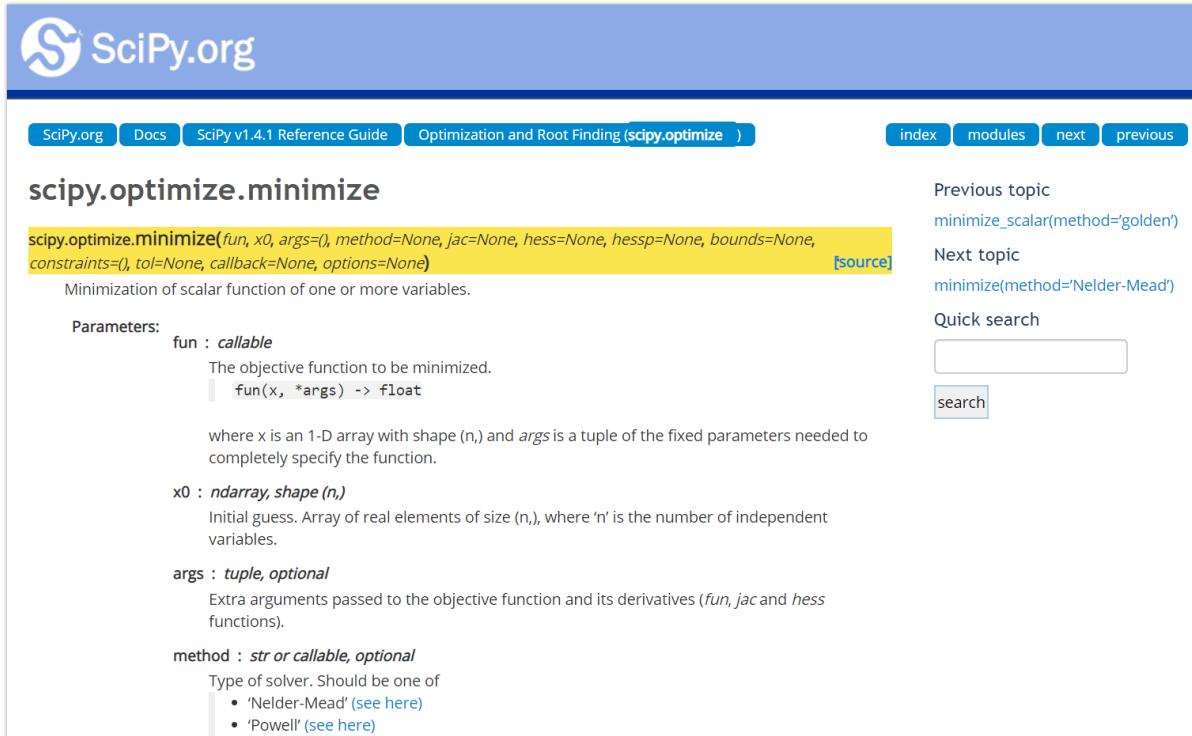
<https://docs.scipy.org/doc/scipy/reference/generated/scipy.optimize.minimize.html#scipy.optimize.minimize>

- MATLAB: “fmincon” at

<https://www.mathworks.com/help/optim/ug/fmincon.html>

Introduction to Nonlinear Optimization Programming Packages

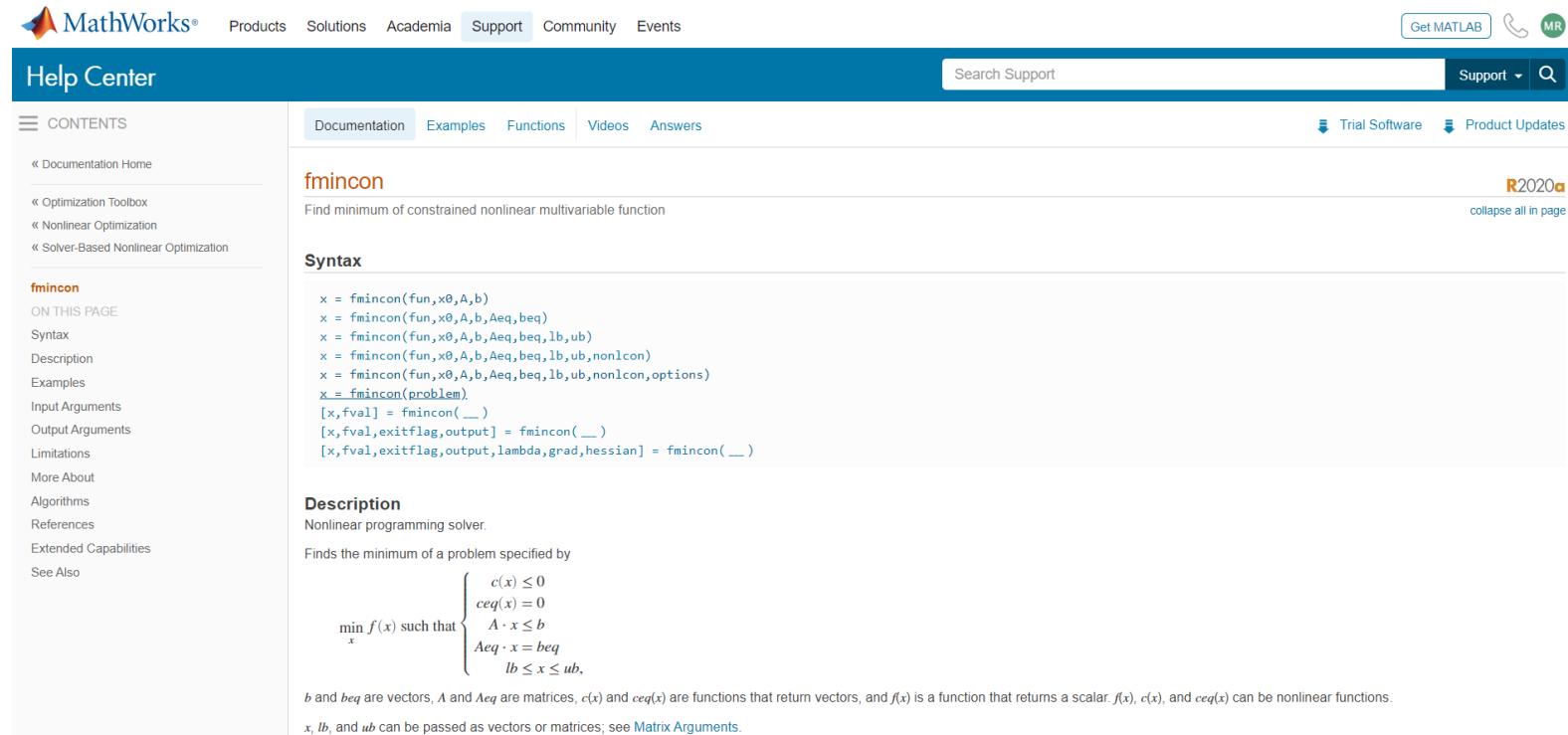
- Python: “scipy.optimize.minimize”



The screenshot shows the SciPy.org documentation page for the `scipy.optimize.minimize` function. The page has a blue header with the SciPy.org logo and navigation links for SciPy.org, Docs, SciPy v1.4.1 Reference Guide, Optimization and Root Finding (scipy.optimize), index, modules, next, and previous. The main content is titled `scipy.optimize.minimize` and shows the function signature: `scipy.optimize.minimize(fun, x0, args=(), method=None, jac=None, hess=None, hessp=None, bounds=None, constraints=(), tol=None, callback=None, options=None)`. A link to the source code is provided. Below the signature, a description states: "Minimization of scalar function of one or more variables." The `fun` parameter is described as a callable objective function. The `x0` parameter is described as an initial guess array. The `args` parameter is described as extra arguments for the objective function. The `method` parameter is described as the type of solver. To the right of the main content, there are links to "Previous topic" (`minimize_scalar(method='golden')`), "Next topic" (`minimize(method='Nelder-Mead')`), and a "Quick search" bar.

Introduction to Nonlinear Optimization Programming Packages

■ MATLAB: “fmincon”



The screenshot shows the MathWorks Help Center for the `fmincon` function. The top navigation bar includes links for Products, Solutions, Academia, Support (which is highlighted in blue), Community, and Events. There are also buttons for "Get MATLAB", a phone icon, and a "MR" badge. The main search bar contains "Search Support" and a "Support" dropdown. Below the search bar, there are links for "Documentation", "Examples", "Functions", "Videos", and "Answers". The main content area is titled "fmincon" and describes it as a function to "Find minimum of constrained nonlinear multivariable function". The "Syntax" section lists several command-line syntaxes. The "Description" section states that `fmincon` is a "Nonlinear programming solver" that finds the minimum of a problem specified by a function $f(x)$ subject to constraints. The constraints are defined by the following equations and inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x f(x) \text{ such that } & \begin{cases} c(x) \leq 0 \\ ceq(x) = 0 \\ A \cdot x \leq b \\ Aeq \cdot x = beq \\ lb \leq x \leq ub, \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

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b and *beq* are vectors, *A* and *Aeq* are matrices, *c(x)* and *ceq(x)* are functions that return vectors, and *f(x)* is a function that returns a scalar. *f(x)*, *c(x)*, and *ceq(x)* can be nonlinear functions. *x*, *lb*, and *ub* can be passed as vectors or matrices; see [Matrix Arguments](#).

Introduction to Nonlinear Optimization Programming Packages

- In this lecture, you learned about:
 - General formulations of nonlinear optimization problems in Python and MATLAB optimization packages
 - “scipy.optimize.minimize” programming package in Python
 - ‘fmincon’ programming package in MATLAB
- In the next lecture, we will practice these programming packages in Python and MATLAB



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