

MATLAB's `fzero` Function

A Quick Review

fzero

fzero

Root of nonlinear function

Syntax

```
x = fzero(fun,x0)  
x = fzero(fun,x0,options)
```

```
x = fzero(problem)
```

```
[x,fval,exitflag,output] = fzero( __ )
```

Description

`x = fzero(fun,x0)` tries to find a point x where $\text{fun}(x) = 0$. This solution is where $\text{fun}(x)$ changes sign—`fzero` cannot find a root of a function such as x^2 .

fzero



fun — Function to solve

function handle | function name

Function to solve, specified as a handle to a scalar-valued function or the name of such a function. `fun` accepts a scalar `x` and returns a scalar `fun(x)`.

`fzero` solves $\text{fun}(x) = 0$. To solve an equation $\text{fun}(x) = c(x)$, instead solve $\text{fun2}(x) = \text{fun}(x) - c(x) = 0$.

To include extra parameters in your function, see the example [Root of Function with Extra Parameter](#) and the section [Parameterizing Functions](#).

Example: `'sin'`

Example: `@myFunction`

Example: `@(x)(x-a)^5 - 3*x + a - 1`

fzero

▼ **x0 — Initial value**
scalar | 2-element vector

Initial value, specified as a real scalar or a 2-element real vector.

- Scalar — fzero begins at x_0 and tries to locate a point x_1 where $\text{fun}(x_1)$ has the opposite sign of $\text{fun}(x_0)$. Then fzero iteratively shrinks the interval where fun changes sign to reach a solution.
- 2-element vector — fzero checks that $\text{fun}(x_0(1))$ and $\text{fun}(x_0(2))$ have opposite signs, and errors if they do not. It then iteratively shrinks the interval where fun changes sign to reach a solution. An interval x_0 must be finite; it cannot contain $\pm\text{Inf}$.



Tip

Calling fzero with an interval (x_0 with two elements) is often faster than calling it with a scalar x_0 .

Example: 3

Example: [2,17]

Manning Equation

- Manning Equation:
- Find H given S , B , n , and Q .
- Rewrite this in “ $f(x) = 0$ form”: