

# Package ‘nloptr’

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**Type** Package

**Title** R Interface to NLOpt

**Version** 2.0.0

**Description** Solve optimization problems using an R interface to NLOpt. NLOpt is a free/open-source library for nonlinear optimization, providing a common interface for a number of different free optimization routines available online as well as original implementations of various other algorithms. See <[https://nloptr.readthedocs.io/en/latest/NLOpt\\_Algorithms/](https://nloptr.readthedocs.io/en/latest/NLOpt_Algorithms/)> for more information on the available algorithms. Building from included sources requires 'CMake'. On Linux and 'macOS', if a suitable system build of NLOpt (2.7.0 or later) is found, it is used; otherwise, it is built from included sources via 'CMake'. On Windows, NLOpt is obtained through 'rwinlib' for 'R <= 4.1.x' or grabbed from the 'Rtools42 toolchain' for 'R >= 4.2.0'.

**License** LGPL (>= 3)

**SystemRequirements** cmake (for building from included source, i.e. on macOS or on Linux if no system build, version >= 2.7.0, is found)

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<https://github.com/astamm/nloptr>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/astamm/nloptr/issues>

**NeedsCompilation** yes

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**Description**

nloptr is an R interface to NLOpt, a free/open-source library for nonlinear optimization started by Steven G. Johnson, providing a common interface for a number of different free optimization routines available online as well as original implementations of various other algorithms. The NLOpt library is available under the GNU Lesser General Public License (LGPL), and the copyrights are owned by a variety of authors. Most of the information here has been taken from [the NLOpt website](#), where more details are available.

**Details**

NLOpt addresses general nonlinear optimization problems of the form:

$$\begin{aligned} \min f(x) \quad & x \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n \\ \text{s.t. } g(x) \leq 0 \quad & h(x) = 0 \quad \text{lb} \leq x \leq \text{ub} \end{aligned}$$

where  $f$  is the objective function to be minimized and  $x$  represents the  $n$  optimization parameters. This problem may optionally be subject to the bound constraints (also called box constraints),  $\text{lb}$  and  $\text{ub}$ . For partially or totally unconstrained problems the bounds can take  $-\text{Inf}$  or  $\text{Inf}$ . One may also optionally have  $m$  nonlinear inequality constraints (sometimes called a nonlinear programming problem), which can be specified in  $g(x)$ , and equality constraints that can be specified in  $h(x)$ . Note that not all of the algorithms in NLOpt can handle constraints.

An optimization problem can be solved with the general nloptr interface, or using one of the wrapper functions for the separate algorithms; auglag, bobyqa, cobyla, crs2lm, direct, lbfgs, mlsl, mma, neldermead, newuoa, sbplx, slsqp, stogo, tnewton, varmetric.

Package:	nloptr
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License:	L-GPL
LazyLoad:	yes

**Note**

See ?nloptr for more examples.

**Author(s)**

Steven G. Johnson and others (C code)  
Jelmer Ypma (R interface)  
Hans W. Borchers (wrappers)

## References

Steven G. Johnson, The NLOpt nonlinear-optimization package, <https://nlopt.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>

## See Also

[optimnlmnlminb](#) [Rsolnp::Rsolnp](#) [Rsolnp::solnp](#) [nloptr](#) [auglag](#) [bobyqa](#) [coby1a](#) [crs2lm](#) [direct](#) [isres](#) [lbfgs](#) [mlsl](#) [mma](#) [neldermead](#) [newuoa](#) [sbplx](#) [slsqp](#) [stogo](#) [tnewton](#) [varmetric](#)

## Examples

```
# Example problem, number 71 from the Hock-Schittkowsky test suite.
#
# \min_{x} x1*x4*(x1 + x2 + x3) + x3
# s.t.
#   x1*x2*x3*x4 >= 25
#   x1^2 + x2^2 + x3^2 + x4^2 = 40
#   1 <= x1,x2,x3,x4 <= 5
#
# we re-write the inequality as
#   25 - x1*x2*x3*x4 <= 0
#
# and the equality as
#   x1^2 + x2^2 + x3^2 + x4^2 - 40 = 0
#
# x0 = (1,5,5,1)
#
# optimal solution = (1.00000000, 4.74299963, 3.82114998, 1.37940829)

library('nloptr')

#
# f(x) = x1*x4*(x1 + x2 + x3) + x3
#
eval_f <- function( x ) {
  return( list( "objective" = x[1]*x[4]*(x[1] + x[2] + x[3]) + x[3],
               "gradient" = c( x[1] * x[4] + x[4] * (x[1] + x[2] + x[3]),
                               x[1] * x[4],
                               x[1] * x[4] + 1.0,
                               x[1] * (x[1] + x[2] + x[3]) ) ) )
}

# constraint functions
# inequalities
eval_g_ineq <- function( x ) {
  constr <- c( 25 - x[1] * x[2] * x[3] * x[4] )

  grad <- c( -x[2]*x[3]*x[4],
             -x[1]*x[3]*x[4],
             -x[1]*x[2]*x[4],
```

```

        -x[1]*x[2]*x[3] )
    return( list( "constraints"=constr, "jacobian"=grad ) )
}

# equalities
eval_g_eq <- function( x ) {
  constr <- c( x[1]^2 + x[2]^2 + x[3]^2 + x[4]^2 - 40 )

  grad <- c( 2.0*x[1],
            2.0*x[2],
            2.0*x[3],
            2.0*x[4] )
  return( list( "constraints"=constr, "jacobian"=grad ) )
}

# initial values
x0 <- c( 1, 5, 5, 1 )

# lower and upper bounds of control
lb <- c( 1, 1, 1, 1 )
ub <- c( 5, 5, 5, 5 )

local_opts <- list( "algorithm" = "NLOPT_LD_MMA",
                  "xtol_rel" = 1.0e-7 )
opts <- list( "algorithm" = "NLOPT_LD_AUGLAG",
            "xtol_rel" = 1.0e-7,
            "maxeval" = 1000,
            "local_opts" = local_opts )

res <- nloptr( x0=x0,
              eval_f=eval_f,
              lb=lb,
              ub=ub,
              eval_g_ineq=eval_g_ineq,
              eval_g_eq=eval_g_eq,
              opts=opts)

print( res )

```

---

auglag

*Augmented Lagrangian Algorithm*


---

### Description

The Augmented Lagrangian method adds additional terms to the unconstrained objective function, designed to emulate a Lagrangian multiplier.

### Usage

```
auglag(
```

```

x0,
fn,
gr = NULL,
lower = NULL,
upper = NULL,
hin = NULL,
hinjac = NULL,
heq = NULL,
heqjac = NULL,
localsolver = c("COBYLA"),
localtol = 1e-06,
ineq2local = FALSE,
nl.info = FALSE,
control = list(),
...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>x0</code>	starting point for searching the optimum.
<code>fn</code>	objective function that is to be minimized.
<code>gr</code>	gradient of the objective function; will be provided provided is NULL and the solver requires derivatives.
<code>lower, upper</code>	lower and upper bound constraints.
<code>hin, hinjac</code>	defines the inequality constraints, $hin(x) \geq 0$
<code>heq, heqjac</code>	defines the equality constraints, $heq(x) = 0$ .
<code>localsolver</code>	available local solvers: COBYLA, LBFGS, MMA, or SLSQP.
<code>localtol</code>	tolerance applied in the selected local solver.
<code>ineq2local</code>	logical; shall the inequality constraints be treated by the local solver?; not possible at the moment.
<code>nl.info</code>	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
<code>control</code>	list of options, see <code>nl.opts</code> for help.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments passed to the function.

### Details

This method combines the objective function and the nonlinear inequality/equality constraints (if any) in to a single function: essentially, the objective plus a ‘penalty’ for any violated constraints.

This modified objective function is then passed to another optimization algorithm with no nonlinear constraints. If the constraints are violated by the solution of this sub-problem, then the size of the penalties is increased and the process is repeated; eventually, the process must converge to the desired solution (if it exists).

Since all of the actual optimization is performed in this subsidiary optimizer, the subsidiary algorithm that you specify determines whether the optimization is gradient-based or derivative-free.

The local solvers available at the moment are COBYLA" (for the derivative-free approach) and LBFGS", MMA", or SLSQP" (for smooth functions). The tolerance for the local solver has to be provided.

There is a variant that only uses penalty functions for equality constraints while inequality constraints are passed through to the subsidiary algorithm to be handled directly; in this case, the subsidiary algorithm must handle inequality constraints. (At the moment, this variant has been turned off because of problems with the NLOPT library.)

### Value

List with components:

par	the optimal solution found so far.
value	the function value corresponding to par.
iter	number of (outer) iterations, see maxeval.
global_solver	the global NLOPT solver used.
local_solver	the local NLOPT solver used, LBFGS or COBYLA.
convergence	integer code indicating successful completion (> 0) or a possible error number (< 0).
message	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

### Note

Birgin and Martinez provide their own free implementation of the method as part of the TANGO project; other implementations can be found in semi-free packages like LANCELOT.

### Author(s)

Hans W. Borchers

### References

Andrew R. Conn, Nicholas I. M. Gould, and Philippe L. Toint, "A globally convergent augmented Lagrangian algorithm for optimization with general constraints and simple bounds," SIAM J. Numer. Anal. vol. 28, no. 2, p. 545-572 (1991).

E. G. Birgin and J. M. Martinez, "Improving ultimate convergence of an augmented Lagrangian method," Optimization Methods and Software vol. 23, no. 2, p. 177-195 (2008).

### See Also

alabama::auglag, Rsolnp::solnp

### Examples

```
x0 <- c(1, 1)
fn <- function(x) (x[1]-2)^2 + (x[2]-1)^2
hin <- function(x) -0.25*x[1]^2 - x[2]^2 + 1 # hin >= 0
heq <- function(x) x[1] - 2*x[2] + 1 # heq == 0
```

```

gr <- function(x) nl.grad(x, fn)
hinjac <- function(x) nl.jacobian(x, hin)
heqjac <- function(x) nl.jacobian(x, heq)

auglag(x0, fn, gr = NULL, hin = hin, heq = heq) # with COBYLA
# $par:      0.8228761 0.9114382
# $value:    1.393464
# $iter:     1001

auglag(x0, fn, gr = NULL, hin = hin, heq = heq, localsolver = "SLSQP")
# $par:      0.8228757 0.9114378
# $value:    1.393465
# $iter      173

## Example from the alabama::auglag help page
fn <- function(x) (x[1] + 3*x[2] + x[3])^2 + 4 * (x[1] - x[2])^2
heq <- function(x) x[1] + x[2] + x[3] - 1
hin <- function(x) c(6*x[2] + 4*x[3] - x[1]^3 - 3, x[1], x[2], x[3])

auglag(runif(3), fn, hin = hin, heq = heq, localsolver="lbfgs")
# $par:      2.380000e-09 1.086082e-14 1.000000e+00
# $value:    1
# $iter:     289

## Powell problem from the Rsolnp::solnp help page
x0 <- c(-2, 2, 2, -1, -1)
fn1 <- function(x) exp(x[1]*x[2]*x[3]*x[4]*x[5])
eqn1 <-function(x)
c(x[1]*x[1]+x[2]*x[2]+x[3]*x[3]+x[4]*x[4]+x[5]*x[5],
  x[2]*x[3]-5*x[4]*x[5],
  x[1]*x[1]*x[1]+x[2]*x[2]*x[2])

auglag(x0, fn1, heq = eqn1, localsolver = "mma")
# $par: -3.988458e-10 -1.654201e-08 -3.752028e-10  8.904445e-10  8.926336e-10
# $value: 1
# $iter: 1001

```

---

bobyqa

*Bound Optimization by Quadratic Approximation*


---

## Description

BOBYQA performs derivative-free bound-constrained optimization using an iteratively constructed quadratic approximation for the objective function.

## Usage

```

bobyqa(
  x0,

```



```

    fn,
    lower = NULL,
    upper = NULL,
    nl.info = FALSE,
    control = list(),
    ...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>x0</code>	starting point for searching the optimum.
<code>fn</code>	objective function that is to be minimized.
<code>lower, upper</code>	lower and upper bound constraints.
<code>nl.info</code>	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
<code>control</code>	list of options, see <code>nl.opts</code> for help.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments passed to the function.

### Details

This is an algorithm derived from the BOBYQA Fortran subroutine of Powell, converted to C and modified for the NLOPT stopping criteria.

### Value

List with components:

<code>par</code>	the optimal solution found so far.
<code>value</code>	the function value corresponding to <code>par</code> .
<code>iter</code>	number of (outer) iterations, see <code>maxeval</code> .
<code>convergence</code>	integer code indicating successful completion ( $> 0$ ) or a possible error number ( $< 0$ ).
<code>message</code>	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

### Note

Because BOBYQA constructs a quadratic approximation of the objective, it may perform poorly for objective functions that are not twice-differentiable.

### References

M. J. D. Powell. “The BOBYQA algorithm for bound constrained optimization without derivatives,” Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, Cambridge England, technical report NA2009/06 (2009).

### See Also

[cobyqa](#), [newuoa](#)

## Examples

```
fr <- function(x) { ## Rosenbrock Banana function
  100 * (x[2] - x[1]^2)^2 + (1 - x[1])^2
}
(S <- bobyqa(c(0, 0, 0), fr, lower = c(0, 0, 0), upper = c(0.5, 0.5, 0.5)))
```

---

ccsaq

---

*Conservative Convex Separable Approximation with Affine Approximation plus Quadratic Penalty*


---

## Description

This is a variant of CCSA ("conservative convex separable approximation") which, instead of constructing local MMA approximations, constructs simple quadratic approximations (or rather, affine approximations plus a quadratic penalty term to stay conservative)

## Usage

```
ccsaq(
  x0,
  fn,
  gr = NULL,
  lower = NULL,
  upper = NULL,
  hin = NULL,
  hinjac = NULL,
  nl.info = FALSE,
  control = list(),
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

x0	starting point for searching the optimum.
fn	objective function that is to be minimized.
gr	gradient of function fn; will be calculated numerically if not specified.
lower, upper	lower and upper bound constraints.
hin	function defining the inequality constraints, that is $hin \geq 0$ for all components.
hinjac	Jacobian of function hin; will be calculated numerically if not specified.
nl.info	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
control	list of options, see <code>nl.opts</code> for help.
...	additional arguments passed to the function.

**Value**

List with components:

par	the optimal solution found so far.
value	the function value corresponding to par.
iter	number of (outer) iterations, see maxeval.
convergence	integer code indicating successful completion ( $> 1$ ) or a possible error number ( $< 0$ ).
message	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

**Note**

“Globally convergent” does not mean that this algorithm converges to the global optimum; it means that it is guaranteed to converge to some local minimum from any feasible starting point.

**References**

Krister Svanberg, “A class of globally convergent optimization methods based on conservative convex separable approximations,” *SIAM J. Optim.* 12 (2), p. 555-573 (2002).

**See Also**

[mma](#)

**Examples**

```
## Solve the Hock-Schittkowski problem no. 100 with analytic gradients
x0.hs100 <- c(1, 2, 0, 4, 0, 1, 1)
fn.hs100 <- function(x) {
  (x[1]-10)^2 + 5*(x[2]-12)^2 + x[3]^4 + 3*(x[4]-11)^2 + 10*x[5]^6 +
    7*x[6]^2 + x[7]^4 - 4*x[6]*x[7] - 10*x[6] - 8*x[7]
}
hin.hs100 <- function(x) {
  h <- numeric(4)
  h[1] <- 127 - 2*x[1]^2 - 3*x[2]^4 - x[3] - 4*x[4]^2 - 5*x[5]
  h[2] <- 282 - 7*x[1] - 3*x[2] - 10*x[3]^2 - x[4] + x[5]
  h[3] <- 196 - 23*x[1] - x[2]^2 - 6*x[6]^2 + 8*x[7]
  h[4] <- -4*x[1]^2 - x[2]^2 + 3*x[1]*x[2] - 2*x[3]^2 - 5*x[6] + 11*x[7]
  return(h)
}
gr.hs100 <- function(x) {
  c( 2 * x[1] - 20,
    10 * x[2] - 120,
    4 * x[3]^3,
    6 * x[4] - 66,
    60 * x[5]^5,
    14 * x[6] - 4 * x[7] - 10,
    4 * x[7]^3 - 4 * x[6] - 8 )}
hinjac.hs100 <- function(x) {
```

```

matrix(c(4*x[1], 12*x[2]^3, 1, 8*x[4], 5, 0, 0,
        7, 3, 20*x[3], 1, -1, 0, 0,
        23, 2*x[2], 0, 0, 0, 12*x[6], -8,
        8*x[1]-3*x[2], 2*x[2]-3*x[1], 4*x[3], 0, 0, 5, -11), 4, 7, byrow=TRUE)
}

# incorrect result with exact jacobian
S <- ccsaq(x0.hs100, fn.hs100, gr = gr.hs100,
          hin = hin.hs100, hinjac = hinjac.hs100,
          nl.info = TRUE, control = list(xtol_rel = 1e-8))

S <- ccsaq(x0.hs100, fn.hs100, hin = hin.hs100,
          nl.info = TRUE, control = list(xtol_rel = 1e-8))

```

---

check.derivatives	<i>Check analytic gradients of a function using finite difference approximations</i>
-------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---

### Description

This function compares the analytic gradients of a function with a finite difference approximation and prints the results of these checks.

### Usage

```

check.derivatives(
  .x,
  func,
  func_grad,
  check_derivatives_tol = 1e-04,
  check_derivatives_print = "all",
  func_grad_name = "grad_f",
  ...
)

```

### Arguments

.x	point at which the comparison is done.
func	function to be evaluated.
func_grad	function calculating the analytic gradients.
check_derivatives_tol	option determining when differences between the analytic gradient and its finite difference approximation are flagged as an error.
check_derivatives_print	option related to the amount of output. 'all' means that all comparisons are shown, 'errors' only shows comparisons that are flagged as an error, and 'none' shows the number of errors only.

func\_grad\_name option to change the name of the gradient function that shows up in the output.  
 ... further arguments passed to the functions func and func\_grad.

### Value

The return value contains a list with the analytic gradient, its finite difference approximation, the relative errors, and vector comparing the relative errors to the tolerance.

### Author(s)

Jelmer Ypma

### See Also

[nloptr](#)

### Examples

```
library('nloptr')

# example with correct gradient
f <- function( x, a ) {
  return( sum( ( x - a )^2 ) )
}

f_grad <- function( x, a ) {
  return( 2*( x - a ) )
}

check.derivatives( .x=1:10, func=f, func_grad=f_grad,
  check_derivatives_print='none', a=runif(10) )

# example with incorrect gradient
f_grad <- function( x, a ) {
  return( 2*( x - a ) + c(0,.1,rep(0,8)) )
}

check.derivatives( .x=1:10, func=f, func_grad=f_grad,
  check_derivatives_print='errors', a=runif(10) )

# example with incorrect gradient of vector-valued function
g <- function( x, a ) {
  return( c( sum(x-a), sum( (x-a)^2 ) ) )
}

g_grad <- function( x, a ) {
  return( rbind( rep(1,length(x)) + c(0,.01,rep(0,8)), 2*(x-a) + c(0,.1,rep(0,8)) ) )
}

check.derivatives( .x=1:10, func=g, func_grad=g_grad,
  check_derivatives_print='all', a=runif(10) )
```

---

cobyln

*Constrained Optimization by Linear Approximations*


---

### Description

COBYLN is an algorithm for derivative-free optimization with nonlinear inequality and equality constraints (but see below).

### Usage

```
cobyln(
  x0,
  fn,
  lower = NULL,
  upper = NULL,
  hin = NULL,
  nl.info = FALSE,
  control = list(),
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

x0	starting point for searching the optimum.
fn	objective function that is to be minimized.
lower, upper	lower and upper bound constraints.
hin	function defining the inequality constraints, that is $hin \geq 0$ for all components.
nl.info	logical; shall the original NLOpt info be shown.
control	list of options, see nl.opts for help.
...	additional arguments passed to the function.

### Details

It constructs successive linear approximations of the objective function and constraints via a simplex of  $n+1$  points (in  $n$  dimensions), and optimizes these approximations in a trust region at each step.

COBYLN supports equality constraints by transforming them into two inequality constraints. As this does not give full satisfaction with the implementation in NLOPT, it has not been made available here.

**Value**

List with components:

par	the optimal solution found so far.
value	the function value corresponding to par.
iter	number of (outer) iterations, see maxeval.
convergence	integer code indicating successful completion (> 0) or a possible error number (< 0).
message	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

**Note**

The original code, written in Fortran by Powell, was converted in C for the Scipy project.

**Author(s)**

Hans W. Borchers

**References**

M. J. D. Powell, "A direct search optimization method that models the objective and constraint functions by linear interpolation," in *Advances in Optimization and Numerical Analysis*, eds. S. Gomez and J.-P. Hennart (Kluwer Academic: Dordrecht, 1994), p. 51-67.

**See Also**

[bobyqa](#), [newuoa](#)

**Examples**

```
### Solve Hock-Schittkowski no. 100
x0.hs100 <- c(1, 2, 0, 4, 0, 1, 1)
fn.hs100 <- function(x) {
  (x[1]-10)^2 + 5*(x[2]-12)^2 + x[3]^4 + 3*(x[4]-11)^2 + 10*x[5]^6 +
    7*x[6]^2 + x[7]^4 - 4*x[6]*x[7] - 10*x[6] - 8*x[7]
}
hin.hs100 <- function(x) {
  h <- numeric(4)
  h[1] <- 127 - 2*x[1]^2 - 3*x[2]^4 - x[3] - 4*x[4]^2 - 5*x[5]
  h[2] <- 282 - 7*x[1] - 3*x[2] - 10*x[3]^2 - x[4] + x[5]
  h[3] <- 196 - 23*x[1] - x[2]^2 - 6*x[6]^2 + 8*x[7]
  h[4] <- -4*x[1]^2 - x[2]^2 + 3*x[1]*x[2] - 2*x[3]^2 - 5*x[6] + 11*x[7]
  return(h)
}

S <- coby1a(x0.hs100, fn.hs100, hin = hin.hs100,
           nl.info = TRUE, control = list(xtol_rel = 1e-8, maxeval = 2000))
## Optimal value of objective function: 680.630057374431
```

---

crs2lm

*Controlled Random Search*


---

### Description

The Controlled Random Search (CRS) algorithm (and in particular, the CRS2 variant) with the ‘local mutation’ modification.

### Usage

```
crs2lm(
  x0,
  fn,
  lower,
  upper,
  maxeval = 10000,
  pop.size = 10 * (length(x0) + 1),
  ranseed = NULL,
  xtol_rel = 1e-06,
  nl.info = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

<code>x0</code>	initial point for searching the optimum.
<code>fn</code>	objective function that is to be minimized.
<code>lower, upper</code>	lower and upper bound constraints.
<code>maxeval</code>	maximum number of function evaluations.
<code>pop.size</code>	population size.
<code>ranseed</code>	prescribe seed for random number generator.
<code>xtol_rel</code>	stopping criterion for relative change reached.
<code>nl.info</code>	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments passed to the function.

### Details

The CRS algorithms are sometimes compared to genetic algorithms, in that they start with a random population of points, and randomly evolve these points by heuristic rules. In this case, the evolution somewhat resembles a randomized Nelder-Mead algorithm.

The published results for CRS seem to be largely empirical.



**Value**

List with components:

par	the optimal solution found so far.
value	the function value corresponding to par.
iter	number of (outer) iterations, see maxeval.
convergence	integer code indicating successful completion ( $> 0$ ) or a possible error number ( $< 0$ ).
message	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

**Note**

The initial population size for CRS defaults to  $10 \times (n+1)$  in  $n$  dimensions, but this can be changed; the initial population must be at least  $n+1$ .

**References**

W. L. Price, "Global optimization by controlled random search," J. Optim. Theory Appl. 40 (3), p. 333-348 (1983).

P. Kaelo and M. M. Ali, "Some variants of the controlled random search algorithm for global optimization," J. Optim. Theory Appl. 130 (2), 253-264 (2006).

**Examples**

```
### Minimize the Hartmann6 function
hartmann6 <- function(x) {
  n <- length(x)
  a <- c(1.0, 1.2, 3.0, 3.2)
  A <- matrix(c(10.0, 0.05, 3.0, 17.0,
               3.0, 10.0, 3.5, 8.0,
               17.0, 17.0, 1.7, 0.05,
               3.5, 0.1, 10.0, 10.0,
               1.7, 8.0, 17.0, 0.1,
               8.0, 14.0, 8.0, 14.0), nrow=4, ncol=6)
  B <- matrix(c(.1312,.2329,.2348,.4047,
               .1696,.4135,.1451,.8828,
               .5569,.8307,.3522,.8732,
               .0124,.3736,.2883,.5743,
               .8283,.1004,.3047,.1091,
               .5886,.9991,.6650,.0381), nrow=4, ncol=6)

  fun <- 0.0
  for (i in 1:4) {
    fun <- fun - a[i] * exp(-sum(A[i,]*(x-B[i,])^2))
  }
  return(fun)
}

S <- msl(x0 = rep(0, 6), hartmann6, lower = rep(0,6), upper = rep(1,6),
        nl.info = TRUE, control=list(xtol_rel=1e-8, maxeval=1000))
```

```

## Number of Iterations....: 4050
## Termination conditions:  maxeval: 10000 xtol_rel: 1e-06
## Number of inequality constraints:  0
## Number of equality constraints:    0
## Optimal value of objective function: -3.32236801141328
## Optimal value of controls:
##      0.2016893 0.1500105 0.4768738 0.2753326 0.3116516 0.6573004

```

---

direct

*Dividing RECTangles Algorithm for Global Optimization*

---

### Description

DIRECT is a deterministic search algorithm based on systematic division of the search domain into smaller and smaller hyperrectangles. The DIRECT\_L makes the algorithm more biased towards local search (more efficient for functions without too many minima).

### Usage

```

direct(
  fn,
  lower,
  upper,
  scaled = TRUE,
  original = FALSE,
  nl.info = FALSE,
  control = list(),
  ...
)

directL(
  fn,
  lower,
  upper,
  randomized = FALSE,
  original = FALSE,
  nl.info = FALSE,
  control = list(),
  ...
)

```

### Arguments

fn	objective function that is to be minimized.
lower, upper	lower and upper bound constraints.
scaled	logical; shall the hypercube be scaled before starting.

original	logical; whether to use the original implementation by Gablonsky – the performance is mostly similar.
nl.info	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
control	list of options, see nl.opts for help.
...	additional arguments passed to the function.
randomized	logical; shall some randomization be used to decide which dimension to halve next in the case of near-ties.

### Details

The DIRECT and DIRECT-L algorithms start by rescaling the bound constraints to a hypercube, which gives all dimensions equal weight in the search procedure. If your dimensions do not have equal weight, e.g. if you have a “long and skinny” search space and your function varies at about the same speed in all directions, it may be better to use unscaled variant of the DIRECT algorithm.

The algorithms only handle finite bound constraints which must be provided. The original versions may include some support for arbitrary nonlinear inequality, but this has not been tested.

The original versions do not have randomized or unscaled variants, so these options will be disregarded for these versions.

### Value

List with components:

par	the optimal solution found so far.
value	the function value corresponding to par.
iter	number of (outer) iterations, see maxeval.
convergence	integer code indicating successful completion ( $> 0$ ) or a possible error number ( $< 0$ ).
message	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

### Note

The DIRECT\_L algorithm should be tried first.

### Author(s)

Hans W. Borchers

### References

D. R. Jones, C. D. Perttunen, and B. E. Stuckmann, “Lipschitzian optimization without the lipschitz constant,” J. Optimization Theory and Applications, vol. 79, p. 157 (1993).

J. M. Gablonsky and C. T. Kelley, “A locally-biased form of the DIRECT algorithm,” J. Global Optimization, vol. 21 (1), p. 27-37 (2001).

**See Also**

The `dfoptim` package will provide a pure R version of this algorithm.

**Examples**

```
### Minimize the Hartmann6 function
hartmann6 <- function(x) {
  n <- length(x)
  a <- c(1.0, 1.2, 3.0, 3.2)
  A <- matrix(c(10.0, 0.05, 3.0, 17.0,
               3.0, 10.0, 3.5, 8.0,
               17.0, 17.0, 1.7, 0.05,
               3.5, 0.1, 10.0, 10.0,
               1.7, 8.0, 17.0, 0.1,
               8.0, 14.0, 8.0, 14.0), nrow=4, ncol=6)
  B <- matrix(c(.1312,.2329,.2348,.4047,
               .1696,.4135,.1451,.8828,
               .5569,.8307,.3522,.8732,
               .0124,.3736,.2883,.5743,
               .8283,.1004,.3047,.1091,
               .5886,.9991,.6650,.0381), nrow=4, ncol=6)

  fun <- 0.0
  for (i in 1:4) {
    fun <- fun - a[i] * exp(-sum(A[i,]*(x-B[i,])^2))
  }
  return(fun)
}
S <- directL(hartmann6, rep(0,6), rep(1,6),
             nl.info = TRUE, control=list(xtol_rel=1e-8, maxeval=1000))
## Number of Iterations....: 500
## Termination conditions: stopval: -Inf
##   xtol_rel: 1e-08, maxeval: 500, ftol_rel: 0, ftol_abs: 0
## Number of inequality constraints: 0
## Number of equality constraints: 0
## Current value of objective function: -3.32236800687327
## Current value of controls:
##   0.2016884 0.1500025 0.4768667 0.2753391 0.311648 0.6572931
```

---

is.nloptr

*R interface to NLOptr*


---

**Description**

`is.nloptr` preforms checks to see if a fully specified problem is supplied to `nloptr`. Mostly for internal use.

**Usage**

```
is.nloptr(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    object to be tested.

**Value**

Logical. Return TRUE if all tests were passed, otherwise return FALSE or exit with Error.

**Author(s)**

Jelmer Ypma

**See Also**

[nloptr](#)

---

isres

*Improved Stochastic Ranking Evolution Strategy*

---

**Description**

The Improved Stochastic Ranking Evolution Strategy (ISRES) algorithm for nonlinearly constrained global optimization (or at least semi-global: although it has heuristics to escape local optima).

**Usage**

```
isres(  
  x0,  
  fn,  
  lower,  
  upper,  
  hin = NULL,  
  heq = NULL,  
  maxeval = 10000,  
  pop.size = 20 * (length(x0) + 1),  
  xtol_rel = 1e-06,  
  nl.info = FALSE,  
  ...  
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x0</code>	initial point for searching the optimum.
<code>fn</code>	objective function that is to be minimized.
<code>lower, upper</code>	lower and upper bound constraints.
<code>hin</code>	function defining the inequality constraints, that is $hin \geq 0$ for all components.
<code>heq</code>	function defining the equality constraints, that is $heq = 0$ for all components.
<code>maxeval</code>	maximum number of function evaluations.
<code>pop.size</code>	population size.
<code>xtol_rel</code>	stopping criterion for relative change reached.
<code>nl.info</code>	logical; shall the original NLOpt info be shown.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments passed to the function.

**Details**

The evolution strategy is based on a combination of a mutation rule (with a log-normal step-size update and exponential smoothing) and differential variation (a Nelder-Mead-like update rule). The fitness ranking is simply via the objective function for problems without nonlinear constraints, but when nonlinear constraints are included the stochastic ranking proposed by Runarsson and Yao is employed.

This method supports arbitrary nonlinear inequality and equality constraints in addition to the bound constraints.

**Value**

List with components:

<code>par</code>	the optimal solution found so far.
<code>value</code>	the function value corresponding to <code>par</code> .
<code>iter</code>	number of (outer) iterations, see <code>maxeval</code> .
<code>convergence</code>	integer code indicating successful completion ( $> 0$ ) or a possible error number ( $< 0$ ).
<code>message</code>	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

**Note**

The initial population size for CRS defaults to  $20 \times (n+1)$  in  $n$  dimensions, but this can be changed; the initial population must be at least  $n+1$ .

**Author(s)**

Hans W. Borchers

**References**

Thomas Philip Runarsson and Xin Yao, "Search biases in constrained evolutionary optimization," IEEE Trans. on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Part C: Applications and Reviews, vol. 35 (no. 2), pp. 233-243 (2005).

**Examples**

```
### Rosenbrock Banana objective function
fn <- function(x)
  return( 100 * (x[2] - x[1] * x[1])^2 + (1 - x[1])^2 )

x0 <- c( -1.2, 1 )
lb <- c( -3, -3 )
ub <- c( 3, 3 )

isres(x0 = x0, fn = fn, lower = lb, upper = ub)
```

lbfgs

*Low-storage BFGS***Description**

Low-storage version of the Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno (BFGS) method.

**Usage**

```
lbfgs(
  x0,
  fn,
  gr = NULL,
  lower = NULL,
  upper = NULL,
  nl.info = FALSE,
  control = list(),
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

x0	initial point for searching the optimum.
fn	objective function to be minimized.
gr	gradient of function fn; will be calculated numerically if not specified.
lower, upper	lower and upper bound constraints.
nl.info	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
control	list of control parameters, see nl.opts for help.
...	further arguments to be passed to the function.

**Details**

The low-storage (or limited-memory) algorithm is a member of the class of quasi-Newton optimization methods. It is well suited for optimization problems with a large number of variables.

One parameter of this algorithm is the number  $m$  of gradients to remember from previous optimization steps. NLOpt sets  $m$  to a heuristic value by default. It can be changed by the NLOpt function `set_vector_storage`.

**Value**

List with components:

<code>par</code>	the optimal solution found so far.
<code>value</code>	the function value corresponding to <code>par</code> .
<code>iter</code>	number of (outer) iterations, see <code>maxeval</code> .
<code>convergence</code>	integer code indicating successful completion ( $> 0$ ) or a possible error number ( $< 0$ ).
<code>message</code>	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

**Note**

Based on a Fortran implementation of the low-storage BFGS algorithm written by L. Luksan, and posted under the GNU LGPL license.

**Author(s)**

Hans W. Borchers

**References**

J. Nocedal, "Updating quasi-Newton matrices with limited storage," *Math. Comput.* 35, 773-782 (1980).

D. C. Liu and J. Nocedal, "On the limited memory BFGS method for large scale optimization," *Math. Programming* 45, p. 503-528 (1989).

**See Also**

[optim](#)

**Examples**

```
f1b <- function(x) {
  p <- length(x)
  sum(c(1, rep(4, p-1)) * (x - c(1, x[-p])^2)^2)
}
# 25-dimensional box constrained: par[24] is not at the boundary
S <- lbfgs(rep(3, 25), f1b, lower=rep(2, 25), upper=rep(4, 25),
          nl.info = TRUE, control = list(xtol_rel=1e-8))
```



```
## Optimal value of objective function: 368.105912874334
## Optimal value of controls: 2 ... 2 2.109093 4
```

---

mlsl

---

*Multi-level Single-linkage*


---

### Description

The “Multi-Level Single-Linkage” (MLSL) algorithm for global optimization searches by a sequence of local optimizations from random starting points. A modification of MLSL is included using a low-discrepancy sequence (LDS) instead of pseudorandom numbers.

### Usage

```
mlsl(
  x0,
  fn,
  gr = NULL,
  lower,
  upper,
  local.method = "LBFGS",
  low.discrepancy = TRUE,
  nl.info = FALSE,
  control = list(),
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

<code>x0</code>	initial point for searching the optimum.
<code>fn</code>	objective function that is to be minimized.
<code>gr</code>	gradient of function <code>fn</code> ; will be calculated numerically if not specified.
<code>lower, upper</code>	lower and upper bound constraints.
<code>local.method</code>	only BFGS for the moment.
<code>low.discrepancy</code>	logical; shall a low discrepancy variation be used.
<code>nl.info</code>	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
<code>control</code>	list of options, see <code>nl.opts</code> for help.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments passed to the function.

**Details**

MLSL is a multistart' algorithm: it works by doing a sequence of local optimizations (using some other local optimization algorithm) from random or low-discrepancy starting points. MLSL is distinguished, however by a clustering' heuristic that helps it to avoid repeated searches of the same local optima, and has some theoretical guarantees of finding all local optima in a finite number of local minimizations.

The local-search portion of MLSL can use any of the other algorithms in NLOpt, and in particular can use either gradient-based or derivative-free algorithms. For this wrapper only gradient-based L-BFGS is available as local method.

**Value**

List with components:

par	the optimal solution found so far.
value	the function value corresponding to par.
iter	number of (outer) iterations, see maxeval.
convergence	integer code indicating successful completion ( $> 0$ ) or a possible error number ( $< 0$ ).
message	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

**Note**

If you don't set a stopping tolerance for your local-optimization algorithm, MLSL defaults to `ftol_rel=1e-15` and `xtol_rel=1e-7` for the local searches.

**Author(s)**

Hans W. Borchers

**References**

A. H. G. Rinnooy Kan and G. T. Timmer, "Stochastic global optimization methods" *Mathematical Programming*, vol. 39, p. 27-78 (1987).

Sergei Kucherenko and Yury Sytsko, "Application of deterministic low-discrepancy sequences in global optimization," *Computational Optimization and Applications*, vol. 30, p. 297-318 (2005).

**See Also**

[direct](#)

**Examples**

```
### Minimize the Hartmann6 function
hartmann6 <- function(x) {
  n <- length(x)
  a <- c(1.0, 1.2, 3.0, 3.2)
```

```

A <- matrix(c(10.0, 0.05, 3.0, 17.0,
              3.0, 10.0, 3.5, 8.0,
              17.0, 17.0, 1.7, 0.05,
              3.5, 0.1, 10.0, 10.0,
              1.7, 8.0, 17.0, 0.1,
              8.0, 14.0, 8.0, 14.0), nrow=4, ncol=6)
B <- matrix(c(.1312,.2329,.2348,.4047,
              .1696,.4135,.1451,.8828,
              .5569,.8307,.3522,.8732,
              .0124,.3736,.2883,.5743,
              .8283,.1004,.3047,.1091,
              .5886,.9991,.6650,.0381), nrow=4, ncol=6)

fun <- 0.0
for (i in 1:4) {
  fun <- fun - a[i] * exp(-sum(A[i,]*(x-B[i,])^2))
}
return(fun)
}
S <- msls(x0 = rep(0, 6), hartmann6, lower = rep(0,6), upper = rep(1,6),
          nl.info = TRUE, control=list(xtol_rel=1e-8, maxeval=1000))
## Number of Iterations....: 1000
## Termination conditions:
## stopval: -Inf, xtol_rel: 1e-08, maxeval: 1000, ftol_rel: 0, ftol_abs: 0
## Number of inequality constraints: 0
## Number of equality constraints: 0
## Current value of objective function: -3.32236801141552
## Current value of controls:
## 0.2016895 0.1500107 0.476874 0.2753324 0.3116516 0.6573005

```

---

mma

*Method of Moving Asymptotes*


---

## Description

Globally-convergent method-of-moving-asymptotes (MMA) algorithm for gradient-based local optimization, including nonlinear inequality constraints (but not equality constraints).

## Usage

```

mma(
  x0,
  fn,
  gr = NULL,
  lower = NULL,
  upper = NULL,
  hin = NULL,
  hinjac = NULL,
  nl.info = FALSE,

```

```

    control = list(),
    ...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>x0</code>	starting point for searching the optimum.
<code>fn</code>	objective function that is to be minimized.
<code>gr</code>	gradient of function <code>fn</code> ; will be calculated numerically if not specified.
<code>lower, upper</code>	lower and upper bound constraints.
<code>hin</code>	function defining the inequality constraints, that is $hin \geq 0$ for all components.
<code>hinjac</code>	Jacobian of function <code>hin</code> ; will be calculated numerically if not specified.
<code>nl.info</code>	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
<code>control</code>	list of options, see <code>nl.opts</code> for help.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments passed to the function.

### Details

This is an improved CCSA ("conservative convex separable approximation") variant of the original MMA algorithm published by Svanberg in 1987, which has become popular for topology optimization. Note:

### Value

List with components:

<code>par</code>	the optimal solution found so far.
<code>value</code>	the function value corresponding to <code>par</code> .
<code>iter</code>	number of (outer) iterations, see <code>maxeval</code> .
<code>convergence</code>	integer code indicating successful completion ( $> 1$ ) or a possible error number ( $< 0$ ).
<code>message</code>	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

### Note

"Globally convergent" does not mean that this algorithm converges to the global optimum; it means that it is guaranteed to converge to some local minimum from any feasible starting point.

### Author(s)

Hans W. Borchers

### References

Krister Svanberg, "A class of globally convergent optimization methods based on conservative convex separable approximations," SIAM J. Optim. 12 (2), p. 555-573 (2002).

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

```

## Solve the Hock-Schittkowski problem no. 100 with analytic gradients
x0.hs100 <- c(1, 2, 0, 4, 0, 1, 1)
fn.hs100 <- function(x) {
  (x[1]-10)^2 + 5*(x[2]-12)^2 + x[3]^4 + 3*(x[4]-11)^2 + 10*x[5]^6 +
    7*x[6]^2 + x[7]^4 - 4*x[6]*x[7] - 10*x[6] - 8*x[7]
}
hin.hs100 <- function(x) {
  h <- numeric(4)
  h[1] <- 127 - 2*x[1]^2 - 3*x[2]^4 - x[3] - 4*x[4]^2 - 5*x[5]
  h[2] <- 282 - 7*x[1] - 3*x[2] - 10*x[3]^2 - x[4] + x[5]
  h[3] <- 196 - 23*x[1] - x[2]^2 - 6*x[6]^2 + 8*x[7]
  h[4] <- -4*x[1]^2 - x[2]^2 + 3*x[1]*x[2] - 2*x[3]^2 - 5*x[6] + 11*x[7]
  return(h)
}
gr.hs100 <- function(x) {
  c( 2 * x[1] - 20,
    10 * x[2] - 120,
    4 * x[3]^3,
    6 * x[4] - 66,
    60 * x[5]^5,
    14 * x[6] - 4 * x[7] - 10,
    4 * x[7]^3 - 4 * x[6] - 8 )}
hinjac.hs100 <- function(x) {
  matrix(c(4*x[1], 12*x[2]^3, 1, 8*x[4], 5, 0, 0,
    7, 3, 20*x[3], 1, -1, 0, 0,
    23, 2*x[2], 0, 0, 0, 12*x[6], -8,
    8*x[1]-3*x[2], 2*x[2]-3*x[1], 4*x[3], 0, 0, 5, -11), 4, 7, byrow=TRUE)
}

# incorrect result with exact jacobian
S <- mma(x0.hs100, fn.hs100, gr = gr.hs100,
  hin = hin.hs100, hinjac = hinjac.hs100,
  n1.info = TRUE, control = list(xtol_rel = 1e-8))

# This example is put in donttest because it runs for more than
# 40 seconds under 32-bit Windows. The difference in time needed
# to execute the code between 32-bit Windows and 64-bit Windows
# can probably be explained by differences in rounding/truncation
# on the different systems. On Windows 32-bit more iterations
# are needed resulting in a longer runtime.
# correct result with inexact jacobian
S <- mma(x0.hs100, fn.hs100, hin = hin.hs100,
  n1.info = TRUE, control = list(xtol_rel = 1e-8))

```

---

neldermead

*Nelder-Mead Simplex*


---

### Description

An implementation of almost the original Nelder-Mead simplex algorithm.

### Usage

```
neldermead(
  x0,
  fn,
  lower = NULL,
  upper = NULL,
  nl.info = FALSE,
  control = list(),
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

<code>x0</code>	starting point for searching the optimum.
<code>fn</code>	objective function that is to be minimized.
<code>lower</code> , <code>upper</code>	lower and upper bound constraints.
<code>nl.info</code>	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
<code>control</code>	list of options, see <code>nl.opts</code> for help.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments passed to the function.

### Details

Provides explicit support for bound constraints, using essentially the method proposed in Box. Whenever a new point would lie outside the bound constraints the point is moved back exactly onto the constraint.

### Value

List with components:

<code>par</code>	the optimal solution found so far.
<code>value</code>	the function value corresponding to <code>par</code> .
<code>iter</code>	number of (outer) iterations, see <code>maxeval</code> .
<code>convergence</code>	integer code indicating successful completion ( $> 0$ ) or a possible error number ( $< 0$ ).
<code>message</code>	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

**Note**

The author of NLOpt would tend to recommend the Subplex method instead.

**Author(s)**

Hans W. Borchers

**References**

J. A. Nelder and R. Mead, "A simplex method for function minimization," *The Computer Journal* 7, p. 308-313 (1965).

M. J. Box, "A new method of constrained optimization and a comparison with other methods," *Computer J.* 8 (1), 42-52 (1965).

**See Also**

dfoptim::nmk

**Examples**

```
# Fletcher and Powell's helic valley
fphv <- function(x)
  100*(x[3] - 10*atan2(x[2], x[1])/(2*pi))^2 +
  (sqrt(x[1]^2 + x[2]^2) - 1)^2 + x[3]^2
x0 <- c(-1, 0, 0)
neldermead(x0, fphv)    # 1 0 0

# Powell's Singular Function (PSF)
psf <- function(x) (x[1] + 10*x[2])^2 + 5*(x[3] - x[4])^2 +
  (x[2] - 2*x[3])^4 + 10*(x[1] - x[4])^4
x0 <- c(3, -1, 0, 1)
neldermead(x0, psf)    # 0 0 0 0, needs maximum number of function calls

## Not run:
# Bounded version of Nelder-Mead
lower <- c(-Inf, 0, 0)
upper <- c( Inf, 0.5, 1)
x0 <- c(0, 0.1, 0.1)
S <- neldermead(c(0, 0.1, 0.1), rosenbrock, lower, upper, nl.info = TRUE)
# $xmin = c(0.7085595, 0.5000000, 0.2500000)
# $fmin = 0.3353605
## End(Not run)
```

---

 newuoa

*New Unconstrained Optimization with quadratic Approximation*


---

**Description**

NEWUOA solves quadratic subproblems in a spherical trust region via a truncated conjugate-gradient algorithm. For bound-constrained problems, BOBYQA should be used instead, as Powell developed it as an enhancement thereof for bound constraints.

**Usage**

```
newuoa(x0, fn, nl.info = FALSE, control = list(), ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x0</code>	starting point for searching the optimum.
<code>fn</code>	objective function that is to be minimized.
<code>nl.info</code>	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
<code>control</code>	list of options, see <code>nl.opts</code> for help.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments passed to the function.

**Details**

This is an algorithm derived from the NEWUOA Fortran subroutine of Powell, converted to C and modified for the NLOPT stopping criteria.

**Value**

List with components:

<code>par</code>	the optimal solution found so far.
<code>value</code>	the function value corresponding to <code>par</code> .
<code>iter</code>	number of (outer) iterations, see <code>maxeval</code> .
<code>convergence</code>	integer code indicating successful completion ( $> 0$ ) or a possible error number ( $< 0$ ).
<code>message</code>	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

**Note**

NEWUOA may be largely superseded by BOBYQA.

**Author(s)**

Hans W. Borchers



## References

M. J. D. Powell. “The BOBYQA algorithm for bound constrained optimization without derivatives,” Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, Cambridge England, technical report NA2009/06 (2009).

## See Also

[bobyqa](#), [coby1a](#)

## Examples

```
fr <- function(x) { ## Rosenbrock Banana function
  100 * (x[2] - x[1]^2)^2 + (1 - x[1])^2
}
(S <- newuoa(c(1, 2), fr))
```

---

nl.grad

*Numerical Gradients and Jacobians*

---

## Description

Provides numerical gradients and jacobians.

## Usage

```
nl.grad(x0, fn, heps = .Machine$double.eps^(1/3), ...)
```

## Arguments

x0	point as a vector where the gradient is to be calculated.
fn	scalar function of one or several variables.
heps	step size to be used.
...	additional arguments passed to the function.

## Details

Both functions apply the “central difference formula” with step size as recommended in the literature.

## Value

grad returns the gradient as a vector; jacobian returns the Jacobian as a matrix of usual dimensions.

## Author(s)

Hans W. Borchers

**Examples**

```

fn1 <- function(x) sum(x^2)
nl.grad(seq(0, 1, by = 0.2), fn1)
## [1] 0.0 0.4 0.8 1.2 1.6 2.0
nl.grad(rep(1, 5), fn1)
## [1] 2 2 2 2 2

fn2 <- function(x) c(sin(x), cos(x))
x <- (0:1)*2*pi
nl.jacobian(x, fn2)
##      [,1] [,2]
## [1,]  1  0
## [2,]  0  1
## [3,]  0  0
## [4,]  0  0

```

---

nl.opts

*Setting NL Options*


---

**Description**

Sets and changes the NLOPT options.

**Usage**

```
nl.opts(optlist = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

optlist            list of options, see below.

**Details**

The following options can be set (here with default values):

```

stopval = -Inf, # stop minimization at this value
xtol_rel = 1e-6, # stop on small optimization step
maxeval = 1000, # stop on this many function evaluations
ftol_rel = 0.0, # stop on change times function value
ftol_abs = 0.0, # stop on small change of function value
check_derivatives = FALSE

```

**Value**

returns a list with default and changed options.

**Note**

There are more options that can be set for solvers in NLOPT. These cannot be set through their wrapper functions. To see the full list of options and algorithms, type `nloptr.print.options()`.

**Author(s)**

Hans W. Borchers

**Examples**

```
nloptr.opts(list(xtol_rel = 1e-8, maxeval = 2000))
```

---

nloptr

*R interface to NLOpt*


---

**Description**

nloptr is an R interface to NLOpt, a free/open-source library for nonlinear optimization started by Steven G. Johnson, providing a common interface for a number of different free optimization routines available online as well as original implementations of various other algorithms. The NLOpt library is available under the GNU Lesser General Public License (LGPL), and the copyrights are owned by a variety of authors. Most of the information here has been taken from [the NLOpt website](#), where more details are available.

**Usage**

```
nloptr(
  x0,
  eval_f,
  eval_grad_f = NULL,
  lb = NULL,
  ub = NULL,
  eval_g_ineq = NULL,
  eval_jac_g_ineq = NULL,
  eval_g_eq = NULL,
  eval_jac_g_eq = NULL,
  opts = list(),
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x0</code>	vector with starting values for the optimization.
<code>eval_f</code>	function that returns the value of the objective function. It can also return gradient information at the same time in a list with elements "objective" and "gradient" (see below for an example).

<code>eval_grad_f</code>	function that returns the value of the gradient of the objective function. Not all of the algorithms require a gradient.								
<code>lb</code>	vector with lower bounds of the controls (use <code>-Inf</code> for controls without lower bound), by default there are no lower bounds for any of the controls.								
<code>ub</code>	vector with upper bounds of the controls (use <code>Inf</code> for controls without upper bound), by default there are no upper bounds for any of the controls.								
<code>eval_g_ineq</code>	function to evaluate (non-)linear inequality constraints that should hold in the solution. It can also return gradient information at the same time in a list with elements "constraints" and "jacobian" (see below for an example).								
<code>eval_jac_g_ineq</code>	function to evaluate the jacobian of the (non-)linear inequality constraints that should hold in the solution.								
<code>eval_g_eq</code>	function to evaluate (non-)linear equality constraints that should hold in the solution. It can also return gradient information at the same time in a list with elements "constraints" and "jacobian" (see below for an example).								
<code>eval_jac_g_eq</code>	function to evaluate the jacobian of the (non-)linear equality constraints that should hold in the solution.								
<code>opts</code>	<p>list with options. The option "algorithm" is required. Check the <a href="#">NLOpt website</a> for a full list of available algorithms. Other options control the termination conditions (<code>minf_max</code>, <code>ftol_rel</code>, <code>ftol_abs</code>, <code>xtol_rel</code>, <code>xtol_abs</code>, <code>maxeval</code>, <code>maxtime</code>). Default is <code>xtol_rel = 1e-4</code>. More information <a href="#">here</a>. A full description of all options is shown by the function <code>nloptr.print.options()</code>.</p> <p>Some algorithms with equality constraints require the option <code>local_opts</code>, which contains a list with an algorithm and a termination condition for the local algorithm. See <code>?nloptr-package</code> for an example.</p> <p>The option <code>print_level</code> controls how much output is shown during the optimization process. Possible values:</p> <table> <tr> <td>0 (default)</td> <td>no output</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>show iteration number and value of objective function</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>1 + show value of (in)equalities</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>2 + show value of controls</td> </tr> </table> <p>The option <code>check_derivatives</code> (default = <code>FALSE</code>) can be used to run to compare the analytic gradients with finite difference approximations. The option <code>check_derivatives_print</code> (<code>'all'</code> (default), <code>'errors'</code>, <code>'none'</code>) controls the output of the derivative checker, if it is run, showing all comparisons, only those that resulted in an error, or none. The option <code>check_derivatives_tol</code> (default = <code>1e-04</code>), determines when a difference between an analytic gradient and its finite difference approximation is flagged as an error.</p> <p>...</p> <p>arguments that will be passed to the user-defined objective and constraints functions.</p>	0 (default)	no output	1	show iteration number and value of objective function	2	1 + show value of (in)equalities	3	2 + show value of controls
0 (default)	no output								
1	show iteration number and value of objective function								
2	1 + show value of (in)equalities								
3	2 + show value of controls								

## Details

NLOpt addresses general nonlinear optimization problems of the form:

$$\begin{aligned} \min & f(x) \quad x \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n \\ \text{s.t.} & g(x) \leq 0 \quad h(x) = 0 \quad \text{lb} \leq x \leq \text{ub} \end{aligned}$$

where  $f$  is the objective function to be minimized and  $x$  represents the  $n$  optimization parameters. This problem may optionally be subject to the bound constraints (also called box constraints),  $\text{lb}$  and  $\text{ub}$ . For partially or totally unconstrained problems the bounds can take  $-\text{Inf}$  or  $\text{Inf}$ . One may also optionally have  $m$  nonlinear inequality constraints (sometimes called a nonlinear programming problem), which can be specified in  $g(x)$ , and equality constraints that can be specified in  $h(x)$ . Note that not all of the algorithms in NLOpt can handle constraints.

### Value

The return value contains a list with the inputs, and additional elements

call	the call that was made to solve
status	integer value with the status of the optimization (0 is success)
message	more informative message with the status of the optimization
iterations	number of iterations that were executed
objective	value if the objective function in the solution
solution	optimal value of the controls
version	version of NLOpt that was used

### Note

See `?nloptr-package` for an extended example.

### Author(s)

Steven G. Johnson and others (C code)  
Jelmer Ypma (R interface)

### References

Steven G. Johnson, The NLOpt nonlinear-optimization package, <https://nlopt.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>

### See Also

`nloptr.print.options` `check.derivatives` `optimnlmnlminb` `Rsolnp::Rsolnp` `Rsolnp::solnp`

### Examples

```
library('nloptr')

## Rosenbrock Banana function and gradient in separate functions
eval_f <- function(x) {
  return( 100 * (x[2] - x[1] * x[1])^2 + (1 - x[1])^2 )
}
```

```

eval_grad_f <- function(x) {
  return( c( -400 * x[1] * (x[2] - x[1] * x[1]) - 2 * (1 - x[1]),
            200 * (x[2] - x[1] * x[1])) )
}

# initial values
x0 <- c( -1.2, 1 )

opts <- list("algorithm"="NLOPT_LD_LBFGS",
            "xtol_rel"=1.0e-8)

# solve Rosenbrock Banana function
res <- nloptr( x0=x0,
              eval_f=eval_f,
              eval_grad_f=eval_grad_f,
              opts=opts)
print( res )

## Rosenbrock Banana function and gradient in one function
# this can be used to economize on calculations
eval_f_list <- function(x) {
  return( list( "objective" = 100 * (x[2] - x[1] * x[1])^2 + (1 - x[1])^2,
               "gradient" = c( -400 * x[1] * (x[2] - x[1] * x[1]) - 2 * (1 - x[1]),
                              200 * (x[2] - x[1] * x[1])) ) )
}

# solve Rosenbrock Banana function using an objective function that
# returns a list with the objective value and its gradient
res <- nloptr( x0=x0,
              eval_f=eval_f_list,
              opts=opts)
print( res )

# Example showing how to solve the problem from the NLOpt tutorial.
#
# min sqrt( x2 )
# s.t. x2 >= 0
#      x2 >= ( a1*x1 + b1 )^3
#      x2 >= ( a2*x1 + b2 )^3
# where
# a1 = 2, b1 = 0, a2 = -1, b2 = 1
#
# re-formulate constraints to be of form g(x) <= 0
# ( a1*x1 + b1 )^3 - x2 <= 0
# ( a2*x1 + b2 )^3 - x2 <= 0

library('nloptr')

```

```

# objective function
eval_f0 <- function( x, a, b ){
  return( sqrt(x[2]) )
}

# constraint function
eval_g0 <- function( x, a, b ) {
  return( (a*x[1] + b)^3 - x[2] )
}

# gradient of objective function
eval_grad_f0 <- function( x, a, b ){
  return( c( 0, .5/sqrt(x[2]) ) )
}

# jacobian of constraint
eval_jac_g0 <- function( x, a, b ) {
  return( rbind( c( 3*a[1]*(a[1]*x[1] + b[1])^2, -1.0 ),
                c( 3*a[2]*(a[2]*x[1] + b[2])^2, -1.0 ) ) )
}

# functions with gradients in objective and constraint function
# this can be useful if the same calculations are needed for
# the function value and the gradient
eval_f1 <- function( x, a, b ){
  return( list("objective"=sqrt(x[2]),
              "gradient"=c(0,.5/sqrt(x[2])) ) )
}

eval_g1 <- function( x, a, b ) {
  return( list( "constraints"=(a*x[1] + b)^3 - x[2],
              "jacobian"=rbind( c( 3*a[1]*(a[1]*x[1] + b[1])^2, -1.0 ),
                               c( 3*a[2]*(a[2]*x[1] + b[2])^2, -1.0 ) ) ) )
}

# define parameters
a <- c(2,-1)
b <- c(0, 1)

# Solve using NLOPT_LD_MMA with gradient information supplied in separate function
res0 <- nloptr( x0=c(1.234,5.678),
               eval_f=eval_f0,
               eval_grad_f=eval_grad_f0,
               lb = c(-Inf,0),
               ub = c(Inf,Inf),
               eval_g_ineq = eval_g0,
               eval_jac_g_ineq = eval_jac_g0,
               opts = list("algorithm"="NLOPT_LD_MMA"),
               a = a,
               b = b )

```

```

print( res0 )

# Solve using NLOPT_LN_COBYLA without gradient information
res1 <- nloptr( x0=c(1.234,5.678),
               eval_f=eval_f0,
               lb = c(-Inf,0),
               ub = c(Inf,Inf),
               eval_g_ineq = eval_g0,
               opts = list("algorithm"="NLOPT_LN_COBYLA"),
               a = a,
               b = b )
print( res1 )

# Solve using NLOPT_LD_MMA with gradient information in objective function
res2 <- nloptr( x0=c(1.234,5.678),
               eval_f=eval_f1,
               lb = c(-Inf,0),
               ub = c(Inf,Inf),
               eval_g_ineq = eval_g1,
               opts = list("algorithm"="NLOPT_LD_MMA", "check_derivatives"=TRUE),
               a = a,
               b = b )
print( res2 )

```

---

```
nloptr.get.default.options
```

*Return a data.frame with all the options that can be supplied to nloptr.*

---

## Description

This function returns a data.frame with all the options that can be supplied to `nloptr`. The data.frame contains the default values of the options and an explanation. A user-friendly way to show these options is by using the function `nloptr.print.options`.

## Usage

```
nloptr.get.default.options()
```

## Value

The return value contains a data.frame with the following elements

name	name of the option
type	type (numeric, logical, integer, character)
possible_values	string explaining the values the option can take
default	default value of the option (as a string)



is_termination_condition	is this option part of the termination conditions?
description	description of the option (taken from NLOpt website if it's an option that is passed on to NLOpt).

**Author(s)**

Jelmer Ypma

**See Also**

[nloptr](#) [nloptr.print.options](#)

---

nloptr.print.options *Print description of nloptr options*

---

**Description**

This function prints a list of all the options that can be set when solving a minimization problem using `nloptr`.

**Usage**

```
nloptr.print.options(opts.show = NULL, opts.user = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

opts.show	list or vector with names of options. A description will be shown for the options in this list. By default, a description of all options is shown.
opts.user	object containing user supplied options. This argument is optional. It is used when <code>nloptr.print.options</code> is called from <code>nloptr</code> . In that case options are listed if <code>print_options_doc</code> is set to <code>TRUE</code> when passing a minimization problem to <code>nloptr</code> .

**Author(s)**

Jelmer Ypma

**See Also**

[nloptr](#)

## Examples

```
library('nloptr')
nloptr.print.options()

nloptr.print.options( opts.show = c("algorithm", "check_derivatives") )

opts <- list("algorithm"="NLOPT_LD_LBFGS",
            "xtol_rel"=1.0e-8)
nloptr.print.options( opts.user = opts )
```

---

print.nloptr                      *Print results after running nloptr*

---

## Description

This function prints the nloptr object that holds the results from a minimization using nloptr.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'nloptr'
print(x, show.controls = TRUE, ...)
```

## Arguments

x	object containing result from minimization.
show.controls	Logical or vector with indices. Should we show the value of the control variables in the solution? If show.controls is a vector with indices, it is used to select which control variables should be shown. This can be useful if the model contains a set of parameters of interest and a set of nuisance parameters that are not of immediate interest.
...	further arguments passed to or from other methods.

## Author(s)

Jelmer Ypma

## See Also

[nloptr](#)

---

 sbplx                      *Subplex Algorithm*


---

**Description**

Subplex is a variant of Nelder-Mead that uses Nelder-Mead on a sequence of subspaces.

**Usage**

```
sbplx(
  x0,
  fn,
  lower = NULL,
  upper = NULL,
  nl.info = FALSE,
  control = list(),
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

x0	starting point for searching the optimum.
fn	objective function that is to be minimized.
lower, upper	lower and upper bound constraints.
nl.info	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
control	list of options, see nl.opts for help.
...	additional arguments passed to the function.

**Details**

SUBPLEX is claimed to be much more efficient and robust than the original Nelder-Mead, while retaining the latter's facility with discontinuous objectives.

This implementation has explicit support for bound constraints (via the method in the Box paper as described on the `neldermead` help page).

**Value**

List with components:

par	the optimal solution found so far.
value	the function value corresponding to par.
iter	number of (outer) iterations, see <code>maxeval</code> .
convergence	integer code indicating successful completion (> 0) or a possible error number (< 0).
message	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

**Note**

It is the request of Tom Rowan that reimplementations of his algorithm shall not use the name 'subplex'.

**References**

T. Rowan, "Functional Stability Analysis of Numerical Algorithms", Ph.D. thesis, Department of Computer Sciences, University of Texas at Austin, 1990.

**See Also**

subplex::subplex

**Examples**

```
# Fletcher and Powell's helic valley
fphv <- function(x)
  100*(x[3] - 10*atan2(x[2], x[1])/(2*pi))^2 +
  (sqrt(x[1]^2 + x[2]^2) - 1)^2 + x[3]^2
x0 <- c(-1, 0, 0)
sbplx(x0, fphv) # 1 0 0

# Powell's Singular Function (PSF)
psf <- function(x) (x[1] + 10*x[2])^2 + 5*(x[3] - x[4])^2 +
  (x[2] - 2*x[3])^4 + 10*(x[1] - x[4])^4
x0 <- c(3, -1, 0, 1)
sbplx(x0, psf, control = list(maxeval = Inf, ftol_rel = 1e-6)) # 0 0 0 0 (?)
```

---

 slsqp

---

*Sequential Quadratic Programming (SQP)*


---

**Description**

Sequential (least-squares) quadratic programming (SQP) algorithm for nonlinearly constrained, gradient-based optimization, supporting both equality and inequality constraints.

**Usage**

```
slsqp(
  x0,
  fn,
  gr = NULL,
  lower = NULL,
  upper = NULL,
  hin = NULL,
  hinjac = NULL,
```

```

    heq = NULL,
    heqjac = NULL,
    nl.info = FALSE,
    control = list(),
    ...
)

```

### Arguments

<code>x0</code>	starting point for searching the optimum.
<code>fn</code>	objective function that is to be minimized.
<code>gr</code>	gradient of function <code>fn</code> ; will be calculated numerically if not specified.
<code>lower, upper</code>	lower and upper bound constraints.
<code>hin</code>	function defining the inequality constraints, that is $hin \geq 0$ for all components.
<code>hinjac</code>	Jacobian of function <code>hin</code> ; will be calculated numerically if not specified.
<code>heq</code>	function defining the equality constraints, that is $heq = 0$ for all components.
<code>heqjac</code>	Jacobian of function <code>heq</code> ; will be calculated numerically if not specified.
<code>nl.info</code>	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
<code>control</code>	list of options, see <code>nl.opts</code> for help.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments passed to the function.

### Details

The algorithm optimizes successive second-order (quadratic/least-squares) approximations of the objective function (via BFGS updates), with first-order (affine) approximations of the constraints.

### Value

List with components:

<code>par</code>	the optimal solution found so far.
<code>value</code>	the function value corresponding to <code>par</code> .
<code>iter</code>	number of (outer) iterations, see <code>maxeval</code> .
<code>convergence</code>	integer code indicating successful completion ( $> 1$ ) or a possible error number ( $< 0$ ).
<code>message</code>	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

### Note

See more infos at [https://nlopt.readthedocs.io/en/latest/NLOpt\\_Algorithms/](https://nlopt.readthedocs.io/en/latest/NLOpt_Algorithms/).

### Author(s)

Hans W. Borchers

## References

Dieter Kraft, “A software package for sequential quadratic programming”, Technical Report DFVLR-FB 88-28, Institut fuer Dynamik der Flugsysteme, Oberpfaffenhofen, July 1988.

## See Also

alabama::auglag, Rsolnp::solnp, Rdonlp2::donlp2

## Examples

```
## Solve the Hock-Schittkowski problem no. 100
x0.hs100 <- c(1, 2, 0, 4, 0, 1, 1)
fn.hs100 <- function(x) {
  (x[1]-10)^2 + 5*(x[2]-12)^2 + x[3]^4 + 3*(x[4]-11)^2 + 10*x[5]^6 +
    7*x[6]^2 + x[7]^4 - 4*x[6]*x[7] - 10*x[6] - 8*x[7]
}
hin.hs100 <- function(x) {
  h <- numeric(4)
  h[1] <- 127 - 2*x[1]^2 - 3*x[2]^4 - x[3] - 4*x[4]^2 - 5*x[5]
  h[2] <- 282 - 7*x[1] - 3*x[2] - 10*x[3]^2 - x[4] + x[5]
  h[3] <- 196 - 23*x[1] - x[2]^2 - 6*x[6]^2 + 8*x[7]
  h[4] <- -4*x[1]^2 - x[2]^2 + 3*x[1]*x[2] - 2*x[3]^2 - 5*x[6] + 11*x[7]
  return(h)
}

S <- slsqp(x0.hs100, fn = fn.hs100,      # no gradients and jacobians provided
          hin = hin.hs100,
          control = list(xtol_rel = 1e-8, check_derivatives = TRUE))
S
## Optimal value of objective function: 690.622270249131   *** WRONG ***

# Even the numerical derivatives seem to be too tight.
# Let's try with a less accurate jacobian.

hinjac.hs100 <- function(x) nl.jacobian(x, hin.hs100, heps = 1e-2)
S <- slsqp(x0.hs100, fn = fn.hs100,
          hin = hin.hs100, hinjac = hinjac.hs100,
          control = list(xtol_rel = 1e-8))
S
## Optimal value of objective function: 680.630057392593   *** CORRECT ***
```

## Description

StoGO is a global optimization algorithm that works by systematically dividing the search space into smaller hyper-rectangles.

**Usage**

```

stogo(
  x0,
  fn,
  gr = NULL,
  lower = NULL,
  upper = NULL,
  maxeval = 10000,
  xtol_rel = 1e-06,
  randomized = FALSE,
  nl.info = FALSE,
  ...
)

```

**Arguments**

<code>x0</code>	initial point for searching the optimum.
<code>fn</code>	objective function that is to be minimized.
<code>gr</code>	optional gradient of the objective function.
<code>lower, upper</code>	lower and upper bound constraints.
<code>maxeval</code>	maximum number of function evaluations.
<code>xtol_rel</code>	stopping criterion for relative change reached.
<code>randomized</code>	logical; shall a randomizing variant be used?
<code>nl.info</code>	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments passed to the function.

**Details**

StoGO is a global optimization algorithm that works by systematically dividing the search space (which must be bound-constrained) into smaller hyper-rectangles via a branch-and-bound technique, and searching them by a gradient-based local-search algorithm (a BFGS variant), optionally including some randomness.

**Value**

List with components:

<code>par</code>	the optimal solution found so far.
<code>value</code>	the function value corresponding to <code>par</code> .
<code>iter</code>	number of (outer) iterations, see <code>maxeval</code> .
<code>convergence</code>	integer code indicating successful completion ( $> 0$ ) or a possible error number ( $< 0$ ).
<code>message</code>	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

**Note**

Only bound-constrained problems are supported by this algorithm.

**Author(s)**

Hans W. Borchers

**References**

S. Zertchaninov and K. Madsen, "A C++ Programme for Global Optimization," IMM-REP-1998-04, Department of Mathematical Modelling, Technical University of Denmark.

**Examples**

```
### Rosenbrock Banana objective function
fn <- function(x)
  return( 100 * (x[2] - x[1] * x[1])^2 + (1 - x[1])^2 )

x0 <- c( -1.2, 1 )
lb <- c( -3, -3 )
ub <- c( 3, 3 )

stogo(x0 = x0, fn = fn, lower = lb, upper = ub)
```

---

tnewton

---

*Preconditioned Truncated Newton*


---

**Description**

Truncated Newton methods, also called Newton-iterative methods, solve an approximating Newton system using a conjugate-gradient approach and are related to limited-memory BFGS.

**Usage**

```
tnewton(
  x0,
  fn,
  gr = NULL,
  lower = NULL,
  upper = NULL,
  precondition = TRUE,
  restart = TRUE,
  nl.info = FALSE,
  control = list(),
  ...
)
```



**Arguments**

x0	starting point for searching the optimum.
fn	objective function that is to be minimized.
gr	gradient of function fn; will be calculated numerically if not specified.
lower, upper	lower and upper bound constraints.
precond	logical; preset L-BFGS with steepest descent.
restart	logical; restarting L-BFGS with steepest descent.
nl.info	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
control	list of options, see nl.opts for help.
...	additional arguments passed to the function.

**Details**

Truncated Newton methods are based on approximating the objective with a quadratic function and applying an iterative scheme such as the linear conjugate-gradient algorithm.

**Value**

List with components:

par	the optimal solution found so far.
value	the function value corresponding to par.
iter	number of (outer) iterations, see maxeval.
convergence	integer code indicating successful completion (> 1) or a possible error number (< 0).
message	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

**Note**

Less reliable than Newton's method, but can handle very large problems.

**Author(s)**

Hans W. Borchers

**References**

R. S. Dembo and T. Steihaug, "Truncated Newton algorithms for large-scale optimization," Math. Programming 26, p. 190-212 (1982).

**See Also**

[lbfgs](#)

**Examples**

```

flb <- function(x) {
  p <- length(x)
  sum(c(1, rep(4, p-1)) * (x - c(1, x[-p]))^2)^2
}
# 25-dimensional box constrained: par[24] is *not* at boundary
S <- newton(rep(3, 25), flb, lower=rep(2, 25), upper=rep(4, 25),
           nl.info = TRUE, control = list(xtol_rel=1e-8))
## Optimal value of objective function: 368.105912874334
## Optimal value of controls: 2 ... 2 2.109093 4

```

---

varmetric

*Shifted Limited-memory Variable-metric*


---

**Description**

Shifted limited-memory variable-metric algorithm.

**Usage**

```

varmetric(
  x0,
  fn,
  gr = NULL,
  rank2 = TRUE,
  lower = NULL,
  upper = NULL,
  nl.info = FALSE,
  control = list(),
  ...
)

```

**Arguments**

x0	initial point for searching the optimum.
fn	objective function to be minimized.
gr	gradient of function fn; will be calculated numerically if not specified.
rank2	logical; if true uses a rank-2 update method, else rank-1.
lower, upper	lower and upper bound constraints.
nl.info	logical; shall the original NLOpt info been shown.
control	list of control parameters, see nl.opts for help.
...	further arguments to be passed to the function.

**Details**

Variable-metric methods are a variant of the quasi-Newton methods, especially adapted to large-scale unconstrained (or bound constrained) minimization.

**Value**

List with components:

par	the optimal solution found so far.
value	the function value corresponding to par.
iter	number of (outer) iterations, see maxeval.
convergence	integer code indicating successful completion (> 0) or a possible error number (< 0).
message	character string produced by NLOpt and giving additional information.

**Note**

Based on L. Luksan's Fortran implementation of a shifted limited-memory variable-metric algorithm.

**Author(s)**

Hans W. Borchers

**References**

J. Vlcek and L. Luksan, "Shifted limited-memory variable metric methods for large-scale unconstrained minimization," J. Computational Appl. Math. 186, p. 365-390 (2006).

**See Also**

[lbfgs](#)

**Examples**

```
flb <- function(x) {
  p <- length(x)
  sum(c(1, rep(4, p-1)) * (x - c(1, x[-p]))^2)^2
}
# 25-dimensional box constrained: par[24] is *not* at the boundary
S <- varmetric(rep(3, 25), flb, lower=rep(2, 25), upper=rep(4, 25),
  nl.info = TRUE, control = list(xtol_rel=1e-8))
## Optimal value of objective function: 368.105912874334
## Optimal value of controls: 2 ... 2 2.109093 4
```

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