NAG Library Function Document

nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc)

1 Purpose

nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) is a comprehensive algorithm for finding an unconstrained minimum of a sum of squares of m nonlinear functions in n variables $(m \geq n)$. No derivatives are required.

nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) is intended for objective functions which have continuous first and second derivatives (although it will usually work even if the derivatives have occasional discontinuities).

2 Specification

```
#include <nag.h>
#include <nage04.h>
void nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (Integer m, Integer n,
     void (*lsqfun)(Integer m, Integer n, const double x[], double fvec[],
          Nag_Comm *comm),
     double x[], double *fsumsq, double fvec[], double fjac[],
     Integer tdfjac, Nag_E04_Opt *options, Nag_Comm *comm, NagError *fail)
```

3 Description

nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) is applicable to problems of the form:

$$\text{Minimize } F(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} [f_i(x)]^2$$

where $x = (x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)^{\mathrm{T}}$ and $m \geq n$. (The functions $f_i(x)$ are often referred to as 'residuals'.) You must supply a C function, **lsqfun**, to calculate the values of the $f_i(x)$ at any point x.

From a starting point $x^{(1)}$ nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) generates a sequence of points $x^{(2)}, x^{(3)}, \ldots$, which is intended to converge to a local minimum of $F(x)$. The sequence of points is given by

$$x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} + \alpha^{(k)} p^{(k)}$$

where the vector $p^{(k)}$ is a direction of search, and $\alpha^{(k)}$ is chosen such that $F\left(x^{(k)} + \alpha^{(k)} p^{(k)}\right)$ is approximately a minimum with respect to $\alpha^{(k)}$.

The vector $p^{(k)}$ used depends upon the reduction in the sum of squares obtained during the last iteration. If the sum of squares was sufficiently reduced, then $p^{(k)}$ is an approximation to the Gauss–Newton direction; otherwise additional function evaluations are made so as to enable $p^{(k)}$ to be a more accurate approximation to the Newton direction.

The method is designed to ensure that steady progress is made whatever the starting point, and to have the rapid ultimate convergence of Newton's method.

4 References

Gill P E and Murray W (1978) Algorithms for the solution of the nonlinear least squares problem *SIAM J. Numer. Anal.* **15** 977–992

5 Arguments

1: **m** – Integer *Input*

On entry: m, the number of residuals, $f_i(x)$.

2: **n** – Integer *Input*

On entry: n, the number of variables, x_j.

Constraint: $1 \leq \mathbf{n} \leq \mathbf{m}$.

3: **lsqfun** – function, supplied by the user *External Function*

lsqfun must calculate the vector of values $f_i(x)$ at any point x. (However, if you do not wish to calculate the residuals at a particular x, there is the option of setting an argument to cause nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) to terminate immediately.)

The specification of **lsqfun** is:

```
void lsqfun (Integer m, Integer n, const double x[], double fvec[],
     Nag_Comm *comm)
```

1: **m** – Integer *Input*
2: **n** – Integer *Input*

On entry: the numbers m and n of residuals and variables, respectively.

3: **x**[**n**] – const double *Input*

On entry: the point x at which the values of the f_i are required.

4: **fvec**[**m**] – double *Output*

On exit: unless **comm**→**flag** is reset to a negative number, on exit **fvec**$[i-1]$ must contain the value of f_i at the point x, for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$.

5: **comm** – Nag_Comm *

Pointer to structure of type Nag_Comm; the following members are relevant to **lsqfun**.

flag – Integer *Input/Output*

On entry: **comm**→**flag** contains a non-negative number.

On exit: if **lsqfun** resets **comm**→**flag** to some negative number then nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) will terminate immediately with the error indicator NE_USER_STOP. If **fail** is supplied to nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc), **fail.errnum** will be set to the user's setting of **comm**→**flag**.

first – Nag_Boolean *Input*

On entry: the value Nag_TRUE on the first call to **lsqfun** and Nag_FALSE for all subsequent calls.

nf – Integer *Input*

On entry: the number of calls made to **lsqfun** including the current one.

user – double *
iuser – Integer *
p – Pointer

The type Pointer will be `void *` with a C compiler that defines `void *` and `char *` otherwise. Before calling nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) these pointers may be allocated memory and initialized with various quantities for use by **lsqfun** when called from nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc).

Note: **lsqfun** should be tested separately before being used in conjunction with nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc). The array **x** must **not** be changed within **lsqfun**.

4: **x**[**n**] – double *Input/Output*

On entry: **x**[$j-1$] must be set to a guess at the jth component of the position of the minimum, for $j = 1, 2, \ldots, n$.

On exit: the final point x^*. On successful exit, **x**[$j-1$] is the jth component of the estimated position of the minimum.

5: **fsumsq** – double * *Output*

On exit: the value of $F(x)$, the sum of squares of the residuals $f_i(x)$, at the final point given in **x**.

6: **fvec**[**m**] – double *Output*

On exit: **fvec**[$i-1$] is the value of the residual $f_i(x)$ at the final point given in **x**, for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$.

7: **fjac**[**m** × **tdfjac**] – double *Output*

On exit: **fjac**[$(i-1) \times$ **tdfjac** $+ j - 1$] contains the estimate of the first derivative $\dfrac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j}$ at the final point given in **x**, for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$ and $j = 1, 2, \ldots, n$.

8: **tdfjac** – Integer *Input*

On entry: the stride separating matrix column elements in the array **fjac**.

Constraint: **tdfjac** $\geq$ **n**.

9: **options** – Nag_E04_Opt * *Input/Output*

On entry/exit: a pointer to a structure of type Nag_E04_Opt whose members are optional parameters for nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc). These structure members offer the means of adjusting some of the argument values of the algorithm and on output will supply further details of the results. A description of the members of **options** is given in Section 11.2.

If any of these optional parameters are required then the structure **options** should be declared and initialized by a call to nag_opt_init (e04xxc) and supplied as an argument to nag_opt_lsq_no_der iv (e04fcc). However, if the optional parameters are not required the NAG defined null pointer, `E04_DEFAULT`, can be used in the function call.

10: **comm** – Nag_Comm * *Input/Output*

Note: **comm** is a NAG defined type (see Section 2.3.1.1 in How to Use the NAG Library and its Documentation).

On entry/exit: structure containing pointers for communication to user-supplied functions; see the above description of **lsqfun** for details. If you do not need to make use of this communication feature the null pointer `NAGCOMM_NULL` may be used in the call to nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc); **comm** will then be declared internally for use in calls to user-supplied functions.

11: **fail** – NagError * *Input/Output*

The NAG error argument (see Section 2.7 in How to Use the NAG Library and its Documentation).

5.1 Description of Printed Output

Intermediate and final results are printed out by default. The level of printed output can be controlled with the option **options**.**print_level** (see Section 11.2). The default, **options**.**print_level** = Nag_Soln_Iter, provides a single line of output at each iteration and the final result. The line of results printed at each iteration gives:

`Itn` the current iteration number k.

`Nfun` the cumulative number of calls to **lsqfun**.

`Objective` the current value of the objective function, $F\left(x^{(k)}\right)$.

`Norm g` the Euclidean norm of the gradient of $F\left(x^{(k)}\right)$.

`Norm x` the Euclidean norm of $x^{(k)}$.

`Norm(x(k−1)−x(k))` the Euclidean norm of $x^{(k-1)} - x^{(k)}$.

`Step` the step $\alpha^{(k)}$ taken along the computed search direction $p^{(k)}$.

The printout of the final result consists of:

`x` the final point x^*.

`g` the estimate of the gradient of F at the final point.

`Residuals` the values of the residuals f_i at the final point.

`Sum of squares` the value of $F(x^*)$, the sum of squares of the residuals at the final point.

6 Error Indicators and Warnings

If one of NE_USER_STOP, NE_2_INT_ARG_LT, NE_OPT_NOT_INIT, NE_BAD_PARAM, NE_2_REAL_ARG_LT, NE_INVALID_INT_RANGE_1, NE_INVALID_REAL_RANGE_EF, NE_INVALID_REAL_RANGE_FF and NE_ALLOC_FAIL occurs, no values will have been assigned to **fsumsq**, or to the elements of **fvec**, **fjac**, **options**.**s** or **options**.**v**.

The exits NW_TOO_MANY_ITER, NW_COND_MIN, and NE_SVD_FAIL may also be caused by mistakes in **lsqfun**, by the formulation of the problem or by an awkward function. If there are no such mistakes it is worth restarting the calculations from a different starting point (not the point at which the failure occurred) in order to avoid the region which caused the failure.

NE_2_INT_ARG_LT

On entry, **m** = ⟨*value*⟩ while **n** = ⟨*value*⟩. These arguments must satisfy **m** ≥ **n**.

On entry, **options**.**tdv** = ⟨*value*⟩ while **n** = ⟨*value*⟩. These arguments must satisfy **options**.**tdv** ≥ **n**.

On entry, **tdfjac** = ⟨*value*⟩ while **n** = ⟨*value*⟩. These arguments must satisfy **tdfjac** ≥ **n**.

NE_2_REAL_ARG_LT

On entry, **options**.**step_max** = ⟨*value*⟩ while **options**.**optim_tol** = ⟨*value*⟩. These arguments must satisfy **options**.**step_max** ≥ **options**.**optim_tol**.

NE_ALLOC_FAIL

Dynamic memory allocation failed.

NE_BAD_PARAM

On entry, argument **options**.**print_level** had an illegal value.

NE_INT_ARG_LT

On entry, **n** = ⟨*value*⟩.
Constraint: **n** ≥ 1.

NE_INVALID_INT_RANGE_1

Value ⟨*value*⟩ given to **options.max_iter** not valid. Correct range is **options.max_iter** ≥ 0.

NE_INVALID_REAL_RANGE_EF

Value ⟨*value*⟩ given to **options.optim_tol** not valid. Correct range is ⟨*value*⟩ ≤ **options.optim_tol** < 1.0.

NE_INVALID_REAL_RANGE_FF

Value ⟨*value*⟩ given to **options.linesearch_tol** not valid. Correct range is 0.0 ≤ **options.linesearch_tol** < 1.0.

NE_NOT_APPEND_FILE

Cannot open file ⟨*string*⟩ for appending.

NE_NOT_CLOSE_FILE

Cannot close file ⟨*string*⟩.

NE_OPT_NOT_INIT

Options structure not initialized.

NE_SVD_FAIL

The computation of the singular value decomposition of the Jacobian matrix has failed to converge in a reasonable number of sub-iterations.

It may be worth applying nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) again starting with an initial approximation which is not too close to the point at which the failure occurred.

NE_USER_STOP

User requested termination, user flag value = ⟨*value*⟩.

This exit occurs if you set **comm→flag** to a negative value in **lsqfun**. If **fail** is supplied the value of **fail.errnum** will be the same as your setting of **comm→flag**.

NE_WRITE_ERROR

Error occurred when writing to file ⟨*string*⟩.

NW_COND_MIN

The conditions for a minimum have not all been satisfied, but a lower point could not be found.

This could be because **options.optim_tol** has been set so small that rounding errors in the evaluation of the residuals make attainment of the convergence conditions impossible.

NW_TOO_MANY_ITER

The maximum number of iterations, ⟨*value*⟩, have been performed.

If steady reductions in the sum of squares, $F(x)$, were monitored up to the point where this exit occurred, then the exit probably occurred simply because **options.max_iter** was set too small, so the calculations should be restarted from the final point held in **x**. This exit may also indicate that $F(x)$ has no minimum.

7 Accuracy

If the problem is reasonably well scaled and a successful exit is made, then, for a computer with a mantissa of t decimals, one would expect to get about $t/2-1$ decimals accuracy in the components of x and between $t-1$ (if $F(x)$ is of order 1 at the minimum) and $2t-2$ (if $F(x)$ is close to zero at the minimum) decimals accuracy in $F(x)$.

A successful exit (NE_NOERROR) is made from nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) when (B1, B2 and B3) or B4 or B5 hold, where

$$\text{B1} \equiv \alpha^{(k)} \times \left\|p^{(k)}\right\| < (\textbf{options.optim\_tol} + \epsilon) \times \left(1.0 + \left\|x^{(k)}\right\|\right)$$

$$\text{B2} \equiv \left|F^{(k)} - F^{(k-1)}\right| < (\textbf{options.optim\_tol} + \epsilon)^2 \times \left(1.0 + F^{(k)}\right)$$

$$\text{B3} \equiv \left\|g^{(k)}\right\| < \left(\epsilon^{1/3} + \textbf{options.optim\_tol}\right) \times \left(1.0 + F^{(k)}\right)$$

$$\text{B4} \equiv F^{(k)} < \epsilon^2$$

$$\text{B5} \equiv \left\|g^{(k)}\right\| < \left(\epsilon \times \sqrt{F^{(k)}}\right)^{1/2}$$

and where $\|.\|$, ϵ and the optional parameter **options.optim_tol** are as defined in Section 11.2, while $F^{(k)}$ and $g^{(k)}$ are the values of $F(x)$ and its vector of estimated first derivatives at $x^{(k)}$.

If **fail.code** = NE_NOERROR then the vector in **x** on exit, x_{sol}, is almost certainly an estimate of x_{true}, the position of the minimum to the accuracy specified by **options.optim_tol**.

If **fail.code** = NW_COND_MIN, then x_{sol} may still be a good estimate of x_{true}, but to verify this you should make the following checks. If

(a) the sequence $\left\{F\left(x^{(k)}\right)\right\}$ converges to $F(x_{sol})$ at a superlinear or a fast linear rate, and

(b) $g(x_{sol})^{\mathrm{T}} g(x_{sol}) < 10\epsilon$,

where T denotes transpose, then it is almost certain that x_{sol} is a close approximation to the minimum. When (b) is true, then usually $F(x_{sol})$ is a close approximation to $F(x_{\text{true}})$.

Further suggestions about confirmation of a computed solution are given in the e04 Chapter Introduction.

8 Parallelism and Performance

nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) is not threaded in any implementation.

9 Further Comments

The number of iterations required depends on the number of variables, the number of residuals, the behaviour of $F(x)$, the accuracy demanded and the distance of the starting point from the solution. The number of multiplications performed per iteration of nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) varies, but for $m >> n$ is approximately $n \times m^2 + O\left(n^3\right)$. In addition, each iteration makes at least $n+1$ calls of **lsqfun**. So, unless the residuals can be evaluated very quickly, the run time will be dominated by the time spent in **lsqfun**.

Ideally, the problem should be scaled so that, at the solution, $F(x)$ and the corresponding values of the x_j are each in the range $(-1,+1)$, and so that at points one unit away from the solution, $F(x)$ differs from its value at the solution by approximately one unit. This will usually imply that the Hessian matrix of $F(x)$ at the solution is well-conditioned. It is unlikely that you will be able to follow these recommendations very closely, but it is worth trying (by guesswork), as sensible scaling will reduce the difficulty of the minimization problem, so that nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) will take less computer time.

When the sum of squares represents the goodness-of-fit of a nonlinear model to observed data, elements of the variance-covariance matrix of the estimated regression coefficients can be computed by a

subsequent call to nag_opt_lsq_covariance (e04ycc), using information returned in the arrays **options**.**s** and **options**.**v**. See nag_opt_lsq_covariance (e04ycc) for further details.

10 Example

This example shows option values being assigned directly within the program text and by reading values from a data file. The **options** structure is declared and initialized by nag_opt_init (e04xxc). Values are then assigned directly to options **options**.**outfile** and **options**.**optim_tol** and two further options are read from the data file by use of nag_opt_read (e04xyc). The memory freeing function nag_opt_free (e04xzc) is used to free the memory assigned to the pointers in the option structure. You must **not** use the standard C function `free()` for this purpose.

10.1 Program Text

```
/* nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) Example Program.
 *
 * NAGPRODCODE Version.
 *
 * Copyright 2016 Numerical Algorithms Group.
 *
 * Mark 26, 2016.
 *
 */

#include <nag.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <nag_stdlib.h>
#include <math.h>
#include <nage04.h>
#include <nagf16.h>
#include <nagx02.h>

#ifdef __cplusplus
extern "C"
{
#endif
  static void NAG_CALL lsqfun(Integer m, Integer n, const double x[],
                              double fvec[], Nag_Comm *comm);
  static void NAG_CALL lsqgrd(Integer m, Integer n, double *fvec, double *fjac,
                              Integer ldfjac, double *g);
#ifdef __cplusplus
}
#endif

#define MMAX 15
#define TMAX 3

/* Define a user structure template to store data in lsqfun. */
struct user
{
  double y[MMAX];
  double t[MMAX][TMAX];
};

int main(void)
{
  const char *optionsfile = "e04fcce.opt";
  Integer exit_status = 0;
  Nag_Boolean print;
  Integer i, j, m, n, nt, tdfjac;
  Nag_Comm comm;
  Nag_E04_Opt options;
  double *fjac = 0, fsumsq, *fvec = 0, *x = 0, *g = 0;
  struct user s;
  NagError fail;

  INIT_FAIL(fail);
```

```
  printf("nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) Example Program Results\n");
  fflush(stdout);
#ifdef _WIN32
  scanf_s(" %*[^\n]"); /* Skip heading in data file */
#else
  scanf(" %*[^\n]"); /* Skip heading in data file */
#endif
  n = 3;
  m = 15;
  if (m >= 1 && n <= m) {
    if (!(fjac = NAG_ALLOC(m * n, double)) ||
        !(fvec = NAG_ALLOC(m, double)) ||
        !(x = NAG_ALLOC(n, double)) ||
        !(g = NAG_ALLOC(n, double)))
    {
      printf("Allocation failure\n");
      exit_status = -1;
      goto END;
    }
    tdfjac = n;
  }
  else {
    printf("Invalid m or n.\n");
    exit_status = 1;
    return exit_status;
  }

  /* Read data into structure.
   * Observations t (j = 0, 1, 2) are held in s->t[i][j]
   * (i = 0, 1, 2, . . .,  14)
   */
  nt = 3;
  for (i = 0; i < m; ++i) {
#ifdef _WIN32
    scanf_s("%lf", &s.y[i]);
#else
    scanf("%lf", &s.y[i]);
#endif
#ifdef _WIN32
    for (j = 0; j < nt; ++j)
      scanf_s("%lf", &s.t[i][j]);
#else
    for (j = 0; j < nt; ++j)
      scanf("%lf", &s.t[i][j]);
#endif
  }

  /* Set up the starting point */
  x[0] = 0.5;
  x[1] = 1.0;
  x[2] = 1.5;

  /* nag_opt_init (e04xxc).
   * Initialization function for option setting
   */
  nag_opt_init(&options); /* Initialize options structure */
  /* Set one option directly. */
  /* nag_machine_precision (x02ajc).
   * The machine precision
   */
  options.optim_tol = 10.0 * sqrt(nag_machine_precision);

  /* Read remaining option values from file */
  print = Nag_FALSE;
  /* nag_opt_read (e04xyc).
   * Read options from a text file
   */
  nag_opt_read("e04fcc", optionsfile, &options, print, "stdout", &fail);
  if (fail.code != NE_NOERROR) {
    printf("Error from nag_opt_read (e04xyc).\n%s\n", fail.message);
```

```
    exit_status = 1;
    goto END;
  }

  /* Assign address of user defined structure to
   * comm.p for communication to lsqfun().
   */
  comm.p = (Pointer) &s;

  /* nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc), see above. */
  nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv(m, n, lsqfun, x, &fsumsq, fvec, fjac, tdfjac,
                       &options, &comm, &fail);
  if (fail.code != NE_NOERROR) {
    printf("Error/Warning from nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc).\n%s\n",
            fail.message);
    if (fail.code != NW_COND_MIN)
      exit_status = 1;
  }

  if (fail.code == NE_NOERROR || fail.code == NW_COND_MIN)
    {
      printf("On exit, the sum of squares is %12.4f\n", fsumsq);
      printf("at the point");
      for (i=0; i<n; i++)
        printf("%12.4lf", x[i]);
      printf("\n");

      lsqgrd(m,n,fvec,fjac,tdfjac,g);
      printf("The estimated gradient is");
      for (i=0; i<n; i++)
        printf("%13.4e", g[i]);
      printf("\n");
      printf("                              (machine dependent)\n");
      printf("and the residuals are\n");
      for (i=0; i<m; i++)
        printf("%9.1e\n", fvec[i]);
    }

  /* Free memory allocated to pointers s and v */
  /* nag_opt_free (e04xzc).
   * Memory freeing function for use with option setting
   */
  nag_opt_free(&options, "all", &fail);
  if (fail.code != NE_NOERROR) {
    printf("Error from nag_opt_free (e04xzc).\n%s\n", fail.message);
    exit_status = 2;
    goto END;
  }
END:
  NAG_FREE(fjac);
  NAG_FREE(fvec);
  NAG_FREE(x);
  NAG_FREE(g);

  return exit_status;
}

static void NAG_CALL lsqfun(Integer m, Integer n, const double x[],
                            double fvec[], Nag_Comm *comm)
{
  /* Function to evaluate the residuals.
   *
   * To avoid the use of a global varibale this example assigns the address
   * of a user defined structure to comm.p in the main program (where the
   * data was also read in).
   * The address of this structure is recovered in each call to lsqfun()
   * from comm->p and the structure used in the calculation of the residuals.
   */

  Integer i;
  struct user *s = (struct user *) comm->p;
```

```
  for (i = 0; i < m; ++i)
    fvec[i] = x[0] + s->t[i][0] /
            (x[1] * s->t[i][1] + x[2] * s->t[i][2]) - s->y[i];
} /* lsqfun */

static void NAG_CALL lsqgrd(Integer m, Integer n, double *fvec, double *fjac,
                            Integer ldfjac, double *g)
{
  /* Function to evaluate gradient of the sum of squares */
  NagError fail;
  Integer i;
  INIT_FAIL(fail);
  nag_dgemv(Nag_RowMajor,Nag_Trans,m,n,1.0,fjac,ldfjac,fvec,1,0.0,g,1,&fail);
  for (i=0; i<n; i++)
    g[i] = 2.0*g[i];
  return;
}
```

10.2 Program Data

```
nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) Example Program Data
 0.14  1.0 15.0  1.0
 0.18  2.0 14.0  2.0
 0.22  3.0 13.0  3.0
 0.25  4.0 12.0  4.0
 0.29  5.0 11.0  5.0
 0.32  6.0 10.0  6.0
 0.35  7.0  9.0  7.0
 0.39  8.0  8.0  8.0
 0.37  9.0  7.0  7.0
 0.58 10.0  6.0  6.0
 0.73 11.0  5.0  5.0
 0.96 12.0  4.0  4.0
 1.34 13.0  3.0  3.0
 2.10 14.0  2.0  2.0
 4.39 15.0  1.0  1.0
```

```
nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) Example Program Optional Parameters

Following optional parameter settings are read by e04xyc

begin e04fcc

/* Results printout set to none */
list = Nag_FALSE
print_level = Nag_NoPrint

/* Estimate minimum will be within 10 units of the
 * starting point.
 */
step_max = 10.0

end
```

10.3 Program Results

```
nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) Example Program Results
On exit, the sum of squares is       0.0082
at the point      0.0824      1.1330      2.3437
The estimated gradient is   2.3856e-09  -1.2799e-09  -1.1286e-09
                           (machine dependent)
and the residuals are
 -5.9e-03
 -2.7e-04
  2.7e-04
  6.5e-03
 -8.2e-04
 -1.3e-03
 -4.5e-03
```

```
 -2.0e-02
  8.2e-02
 -1.8e-02
 -1.5e-02
 -1.5e-02
 -1.1e-02
 -4.2e-03
  6.8e-03
```

11 Optional Parameters

A number of optional input and output arguments to nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) are available through the structure argument **options**, type Nag_E04_Opt. An argument may be selected by assigning an appropriate value to the relevant structure member; those arguments not selected will be assigned default values. If no use is to be made of any of the optional parameters you should use the NAG defined null pointer, `E04_DEFAULT`, in place of **options** when calling nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc); the default settings will then be used for all arguments.

Before assigning values to **options** directly the structure **must** be initialized by a call to the function nag_opt_init (e04xxc). Values may then be assigned to the structure members in the normal C manner.

Option settings may also be read from a text file using the function nag_opt_read (e04xyc) in which case initialization of the **options** structure will be performed automatically if not already done. Any subsequent direct assignment to the **options** structure must **not** be preceded by initialization.

If assignment of functions and memory to pointers in the **options** structure is required, this must be done directly in the calling program, they cannot be assigned using nag_opt_read (e04xyc).

11.1 Optional Parameter Checklist and Default Values

For easy reference, the following list shows the members of **options** which are valid for nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) together with their default values where relevant. The number ϵ is a generic notation for ***machine precision*** (see nag_machine_precision (X02AJC)).

`Boolean list`	Nag_TRUE
`Nag_PrintType print_level`	Nag_Soln_Iter
`char outfile[80]`	`stdout`
`void (*print_fun)()`	**NULL**
`Integer max_iter`	$\max(50, 5\mathbf{n})$
`double optim_tol`	$\sqrt{\epsilon}$
`double linesearch_tol`	0.5 (0.0 if $\mathbf{n} = 1$)
`double step_max`	100000.0
`double *s`	size **n**
`double *v`	size $\mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{n}$
`Integer tdv`	**n**
`Integer grade`	
`Integer iter`	
`Integer nf`	

11.2 Description of the Optional Parameters

list – Nag_Boolean Default = Nag_TRUE

On entry: if **options**.**list** = Nag_TRUE the argument settings in the call to nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) will be printed.

print_level – Nag_PrintType Default = Nag_Soln_Iter

On entry: the level of results printout produced by nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc). The following values are available:

Nag_NoPrint	No output.
Nag_Soln	The final solution.
Nag_Iter	One line of output for each iteration.
Nag_Soln_Iter	The final solution and one line of output for each iteration.
Nag_Soln_Iter_Full	The final solution and detailed printout at each iteration.

Details of each level of results printout are described in Section 9.

Constraint: **options.print_level** = Nag_NoPrint, Nag_Soln, Nag_Iter, Nag_Soln_Iter or Nag_Soln_Iter_Full.

outfile – const char[80] Default = `stdout`

On entry: the name of the file to which results should be printed. If **options.outfile**[0] = '\0' then the `stdout` stream is used.

print_fun – pointer to function Default = **NULL**

On entry: printing function defined by you; the prototype of **options.print_fun** is

```
void (*print_fun)(const Nag_Search_State *st, Nag_Comm *comm);
```

See Section 9 for further details.

max_iter – Integer Default = $\max(50, 5\mathbf{n})$

On entry: the limit on the number of iterations allowed before termination.

Constraint: **options.max_iter** ≥ 0.

optim_tol – double Default = $\sqrt{\epsilon}$

On entry: the accuracy in x to which the solution is required. If x_{true} is the true value of x at the minimum, then x_{sol}, the estimated position prior to a normal exit, is such that

$$\|x_{sol} - x_{\text{true}}\| < \textbf{options.optim\_tol} \times (1.0 + \|x_{\text{true}}\|),$$

where $\|y\| = \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} y_j^2\right)^{1/2}$. For example, if the elements of x_{sol} are not much larger than 1.0 in modulus and if **options.optim_tol** $= 1.0 \times 10^{-5}$, then x_{sol} is usually accurate to about 5 decimal places. (For further details see Section 9.) If $F(x)$ and the variables are scaled roughly as described in Section 9 and ϵ is the ***machine precision***, then a setting of order **options.optim_tol** $= \sqrt{\epsilon}$ will usually be appropriate.

Constraint: $10\epsilon \leq$ **options.optim_tol** < 1.0.

linesearch_tol – double Default = 0.5. (If $\mathbf{n} = 1$, default = 0.0)

On entry: every iteration of nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) involves a linear minimization, i.e., minimization of $F\left(x^{(k)} + \alpha^{(k)} p^{(k)}\right)$ with respect to $\alpha^{(k)}$. **options.linesearch_tol** specifies how accurately the linear minimizations are to be performed. The minimum with respect to $\alpha^{(k)}$ will be located more accurately for small values of **options.linesearch_tol** (say 0.01) than for large values (say 0.9). Although accurate linear minimizations will generally reduce the number of iterations performed by nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc), they will increase the number of calls of **lsqfun** made each iteration. On balance it is usually more efficient to perform a low accuracy minimization.

Constraint: $0.0 \leq$ **options.linesearch_tol** < 1.0.

step_max – double Default = 100000.0

On entry: an estimate of the Euclidean distance between the solution and the starting point supplied. (For maximum efficiency, a slight overestimate is preferable.) nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) will ensure that, for each iteration,

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left(x_j^{(k)} - x_j^{(k-1)}\right)^2 \leq (\textbf{options.step\_max})^2$$

where k is the iteration number. Thus, if the problem has more than one solution, nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) is most likely to find the one nearest to the starting point. On difficult problems, a realistic choice can prevent the sequence $x^{(k)}$ entering a region where the problem is ill-behaved and can help avoid overflow in the evaluation of $F(x)$. However, an underestimate of **options**.**step_max** can lead to inefficiency.

Constraint: **options**.**step_max** $\geq$ **options**.**optim_tol**.

s – double * Default memory $=$ **n**

On entry: **n** values of memory will be automatically allocated by nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) and this is the recommended method of use of **options**.**s**. However you may supply memory from the calling program.

On exit: the singular values of the estimated Jacobian matrix at the final point. Thus **options**.**s** may be useful as information about the structure of your problem.

v – double * Default memory $=$ **n** $\times$ **n**

On entry: **n** $\times$ **n** values of memory will be automatically allocated by nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) and this is the recommended method of use of **options**.**v**. However you may supply memory from the calling program.

On exit: the matrix V associated with the singular value decomposition

$$J = USV^{\mathrm{T}}$$

of the estimated Jacobian matrix at the final point, stored by rows. This matrix may be useful for statistical purposes, since it is the matrix of orthonormalized eigenvectors of $J^{\mathrm{T}}J$.

tdv – Integer Default $=$ **n**

On entry: if memory is supplied then **options**.**tdv** must contain the last dimension of the array assigned to **options**.**tdv** as declared in the function from which nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) is called.

On exit: the trailing dimension used by **options**.**v**. If the Nag default memory allocation has been used this value will be **n**.

Constraint: **options**.**tdv** $\geq$ **n**.

grade – Integer

On exit: the grade of the Jacobian at the final point. nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) estimates the dimension of the subspace for which the Jacobian matrix can be used as a valid approximation to the curvature (see Gill and Murray (1978)); this estimate is called the grade.

iter – Integer

On exit: the number of iterations which have been performed in nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc).

nf – Integer

On exit: the number of times the residuals have been evaluated (i.e., number of calls of **lsqfun**).

11.3 Description of Printed Output

The level of printed output can be controlled with the structure members **options**.**list** and **options**.**print_level** (see Section 11.2). If **options**.**list** = Nag_TRUE then the argument values to nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) are listed, whereas the printout of results is governed by the value of **options**.**print_level**. The default of **options**.**print_level** = Nag_Soln_Iter provides a single line of output at each iteration and the final result. This section describes all of the possible levels of results printout available from nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc).

When **options**.**print_level** = Nag_Iter or Nag_Soln_Iter a single line of output is produced on completion of each iteration, this gives the following values:

`Itn`	the current iteration number k.
`Nfun`	the cumulative number of calls to **lsqfun**.
`Objective`	the value of the objective function, $F\left(x^{(k)}\right)$.
`Norm g`	the Euclidean norm of the gradient of $F\left(x^{(k)}\right)$.
`Norm x`	the Euclidean norm of $x^{(k)}$.
`Norm(x(k-1)-x(k))`	the Euclidean norm of $x^{(k-1)} - x^{(k)}$.
`Step`	the step $\alpha^{(k)}$ taken along the computed search direction $p^{(k)}$.

When **options**.**print_level** = Nag_Soln_Iter_Full more detailed results are given at each iteration. Additional values output are:

`Grade`	the grade of the Jacobian matrix. (See description of **options**.**grade**, Section 11.2
`x`	the current point $x^{(k)}$.
`g`	the current estimate of the gradient of $F\left(x^{(k)}\right)$.
`Singular values`	the singular values of the current approximation to the Jacobian matrix.

If **options**.**print_level** = Nag_Soln, Nag_Soln_Iter or Nag_Soln_Iter_Full the final result is printed out. This consists of:

`x`	the final point x^*.
`g`	the estimate of the gradient of F at the final point.
`Sum of squares`	the value of $F(x^*)$, the sum of squares of the residuals at the final point.

If **options**.**print_level** = Nag_NoPrint then printout will be suppressed; you can print the final solution when nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) returns to the calling program.

11.3.1 Output of results via a user-defined printing function

You may also specify your own print function for output of iteration results and the final solution by use of the **options**.**print_fun** function pointer, which has prototype

```
void (*print_fun)(const Nag_Search_State *st, Nag_Comm *comm);
```

The rest of this section can be skipped if the default printing facilities provide the required functionality.

When a user-defined function is assigned to **options**.**print_fun** this will be called in preference to the internal print function of nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc). Calls to the user-defined function are again controlled by means of the **options**.**print_level** member. Information is provided through **st** and **comm**, the two structure arguments to **options**.**print_fun**. If **comm**→**it_prt** = Nag_TRUE then the results from the last iteration of nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) are in the following members of **st**:

m – Integer

The number of residuals.

n – Integer

The number of variables.

x – double *

Points to the **st**→**n** memory locations holding the current point $x^{(k)}$.

fvec – double *

Points to the **st**→**m** memory locations holding the values of the residuals f_i at the current point $x^{(k)}$.

fjac – double *

Points to **st**→**m** × **st**→**tdj** memory locations. **st**→**fjac**$[(i-1) \times$ **st**→**tdj** $+ (j-1)]$ contains the value of $\dfrac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j}$, for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$ and $j = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, at the current point $x^{(k)}$.

tdj – Integer

The trailing dimension for **st**→**fjac**[].

step – double

The step $\alpha^{(k)}$ taken along the search direction $p^{(k)}$.

xk_norm – double

The Euclidean norm of $x^{(k-1)} - x^{(k)}$.

g – double *

Points to the **st**→**n** memory locations holding the estimated gradient of F at the current point $x^{(k)}$.

grade – Integer

The grade of the Jacobian matrix.

s – double *

Points to the **st**→**n** memory locations holding the singular values of the current approximation to the Jacobian.

iter – Integer

The number of iterations, k, performed by nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc).

nf – Integer

The cumulative number of calls made to **lsqfun**.

The relevant members of the structure **comm** are:

it_prt – Nag_Boolean

Will be Nag_TRUE when the print function is called with the result of the current iteration.

sol_prt – Nag_Boolean

Will be Nag_TRUE when the print function is called with the final result.

user – double *
iuser – Integer *
p – Pointer

Pointers for communication of user information. If used they must be allocated memory either before entry to nag_opt_lsq_no_deriv (e04fcc) or during a call to **lsqfun** or **options**.**print_fun**. The type Pointer will be `void *` with a C compiler that defines `void *` and `char *` otherwise.