

Package ‘rgenoud’

May 9, 2026

Version 5.9-0.11

Date 2024-10-03

Title R Version of GENetic Optimization Using Derivatives

Maintainer Jasjeet Singh Sekhon <jas.sekhon@yale.edu>

Description A genetic algorithm plus derivative optimizer.

Depends R (>= 2.15), utils

Suggests testthat

License GPL-3

URL <https://github.com/JasjeetSekhon/rgenoud>

NeedsCompilation yes

Author Walter R. Mebane, Jr [aut],
Jasjeet Singh Sekhon [aut, cre],
Theo Saarinen [aut]

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2024-09-04 04:20:02 UTC

Contents

genoud 1

Index 14

genoud *GENetic Optimization Using Derivatives*

Description

Genoud is a function that combines evolutionary search algorithms with derivative-based (Newton or quasi-Newton) methods to solve difficult optimization problems. Genoud may also be used for optimization problems for which derivatives do not exist. Genoud, via the `cluster` option, supports the use of multiple computers, CPUs or cores to perform parallel computations.

Usage

```
genoud(fn, nvars, max=FALSE, pop.size=1000, max.generations=100,
      wait.generations=10, hard.generation.limit=TRUE, starting.values=NULL,
      MemoryMatrix=TRUE, Domains=NULL, default.domains=10,
      solution.tolerance=0.001, gr=NULL, boundary.enforcement=0, lexical=FALSE,
      gradient.check=TRUE, BFGS=TRUE, data.type.int=FALSE, hessian=FALSE,
      unif.seed=round(runif(1, 1, 2147483647L)),
      int.seed=round(runif(1, 1, 2147483647L)), print.level=2, share.type=0,
      instance.number=0, output.path="stdout", output.append=FALSE,
      project.path=NULL, P1=50, P2=50, P3=50, P4=50, P5=50, P6=50, P7=50,
      P8=50, P9=0, P9mix=NULL, BFGSburnin=0, BFGSfn=NULL, BFGShelp=NULL,
      control=list(), optim.method=ifelse(boundary.enforcement < 2, "BFGS",
      "L-BFGS-B"), transform=FALSE, debug=FALSE, cluster=FALSE, balance=FALSE,
      ...)
```

Arguments

fn	The function to be minimized (or maximized if max=TRUE). The first argument of the function must be the vector of parameters over which minimizing is to occur. The function must return a scalar result (unless lexical=TRUE). For example, if we wish to <i>maximize</i> the sin() function. We can simply call genoud by genoud(sin, nvars=1,max=TRUE).
nvars	The number of parameters to be selected for the function to be minimized (or maximized).
max	Maximization (TRUE) or Minimizing (FALSE). Determines if genoud minimizes or maximizes the objective function.
pop.size	Population Size. This is the number of individuals genoud uses to solve the optimization problem. There are several restrictions on what the value of this number can be. No matter what population size the user requests, the number is automatically adjusted to make certain that the relevant restrictions are satisfied. These restrictions originate in what is required by several of the operators. In particular, operators 6 (Simple Crossover) and 8 (Heuristic Crossover) require an even number of individuals to work on—i.e., they require two parents. Therefore, the pop.size variable and the operators sets must be such that these three operators have an even number of individuals to work with. If this does not occur, the population size is automatically increased until this constraint is satisfied.
max.generations	Maximum Generations. This is the maximum number of generations that genoud will run when attempting to optimize a function. This is a <i>soft</i> limit. The maximum generation limit will be binding for genoud only if hard.generation.limit has been set equal to TRUE. If it has not been set equal to TRUE, two soft triggers control when genoud stops: wait.generations and gradient.check.

Although the max.generations variable is not, by default, binding, it is nevertheless important because many operators use it to adjust their behavior. In essence, many of the operators become less random as the generation count gets

closer to the `max.generations` limit. If the limit is hit and `genoud` decides to continue working, `genoud` automatically increases the `max.generation` limit.

Please see `MemoryMatrix` for some important interactions with memory management.

`wait.generations`

If there is no improvement in the objective function in this number of generations, `genoud` will think that it has found the optimum. If the `gradient.check` trigger has been turned on, `genoud` will only start counting `wait.generations` if the gradients are within `solution.tolerance` of zero. The other variables controlling termination are `max.generations` and `hard.generation.limit`.

`hard.generation.limit`

This logical variable determines if the `max.generations` variable is a binding constraint for `genoud`. If `hard.generation.limit` is `FALSE`, then `genoud` may exceed the `max.generations` count if either the objective function has improved within a given number of generations (determined by `wait.generations`) or if the gradients are not zero (determined by `gradient.check`).

Please see `MemoryMatrix` for some important interactions with memory management.

`starting.values`

A vector or matrix containing parameter values which `genoud` will use at startup. Using this option, the user may insert one or more individuals into the starting population. If a matrix is provided, the columns should be the variables and the rows the individuals. `genoud` will randomly create the other individuals.

`MemoryMatrix`

This variable controls if `genoud` sets up a memory matrix. Such a matrix ensures that `genoud` will request the fitness evaluation of a given set of parameters only once. The variable may be `TRUE` or `FALSE`. If it is `FALSE`, `genoud` will be aggressive in conserving memory. The most significant negative implication of this variable being set to `FALSE` is that `genoud` will no longer maintain a memory matrix of all evaluated individuals. Therefore, `genoud` may request evaluations which it has already previously requested.

Note that when `nvars` or `pop.size` are large, the memory matrix consumes a large amount of RAM. `Genoud`'s memory matrix will require somewhat less memory if the user sets `hard.generation.limit` equal to `TRUE`.

`Domains`

This is a `nvars × 2` matrix. For each variable, in the first column is the lower bound and in the second column the upper bound. None of `genoud`'s starting population will be generated outside of the bounds. But some of the operators may generate children which will be outside of the bounds unless the `boundary.enforcement` flag is turned on.

If the user does not provide any values for `Domains`, `genoud` will setup default domains using `default.domains`.

For linear and nonlinear constraints please see the discussion in the `Note` section.

`default.domains`

If the user does not want to provide a Domains matrix, domains may nevertheless be set by the user with this easy to use scalar option. Genoud will create a Domains matrix by setting the lower bound for all of the parameters equal to $-1 \times \text{default.domains}$ and the upper bound equal to `default.domains`.

`solution.tolerance`

This is the tolerance level used by genoud. Numbers within `solution.tolerance` are considered to be equal. This is particularly important when it comes to evaluating `wait.generations` and conducting the `gradient.check`.

`gr`

A function to provide the gradient for the BFGS optimizer. If it is NULL, numerical gradients will be used instead.

`boundary.enforcement`

This variable determines the degree to which genoud obeys the boundary constraints. Notwithstanding the value of the variable, none of genoud's starting population values will be outside of the bounds.

`boundary.enforcement` has three possible values: 0 (anything goes), 1 (partial), and 2 (no trespassing):

0: *Anything Goes* This option allows any of the operators to create out-of-bounds individuals and these individuals will be included in the population if their fit values are good enough. The boundaries are only important when generating random individuals.

1: *partial enforcement* This allows operators (particularly those operators which use the derivative based optimizer, BFGS) to go out-of-bounds during the creation of an individual (i.e., out-of-bounds values will often be evaluated). But when the operator has decided on an individual, it *must* be in bounds to be acceptable.

2: *No Trespassing* No out-of-bounds evaluations will ever be requested. In this case, boundary enforcement is also applied to the BFGS algorithm, which prevents candidates from straying beyond the bounds defined by Domains. Note that this forces the use of the L-BFGS-B algorithm for `optim`. This algorithm requires that all fit values and gradients be defined and finite for all function evaluations. If this causes an error, it is suggested that the BFGS algorithm be used instead by setting `boundary.enforcement=1`.

`lexical`

This option enables lexical optimization. This is where there are multiple fit criteria and the parameters are chosen so as to maximize fitness values in lexical order—i.e., the second fit criterion is only relevant if the parameters have the same fit for the first etc. The fit function used with this option should return a numeric vector of fitness values in lexical order. This option can take on the values of FALSE, TRUE or an integer equal to the number of fit criteria which are returned by `fn`. The value object which is returned by genoud will include all of the fit criteria at the solution. The [GenMatch](#) function makes extensive use of this option.

`gradient.check`

If this variable is TRUE, genoud will not start counting `wait.generations` unless each gradient is `solution.tolerance` close to zero. This variable has no effect if the `max.generations` limit has been hit and the `hard.generation.limit`

option has been set to TRUE. If `BFGSburnin < 0`, then it will be ignored unless `gradient.check = TRUE`.

<code>BFGS</code>	This variable denotes whether or not <code>genoud</code> applies a quasi-Newton derivative optimizer (BFGS) to the best individual at the end of each generation after the initial one. See the <code>optim.method</code> option to change the optimizer. Setting <code>BFGS</code> to FALSE does not mean that the BFGS will never be used. In particular, if you want BFGS never to be used, <code>P9</code> (the Local-Minimum Crossover operator) must also be set to zero.
<code>data.type.int</code>	This option sets the data type of the parameters of the function to be optimized. If the variable is TRUE, <code>genoud</code> will search over integers when it optimizes the parameters.

With integer parameters, `genoud` never uses derivative information. This implies that the BFGS quasi-Newton optimizer is never used—i.e., the BFGS flag is set to FALSE. It also implies that Operator 9 (Local-Minimum Crossover) is set to zero and that gradient checking (as a convergence criterion) is turned off. No matter what other options have been set to, `data.type.int` takes precedence—i.e., if `genoud` is told that it is searching over an integer parameter space, gradient information is never considered.

There is no option to mix integer and floating point parameters. If one wants to mix the two, it is suggested that the user pick integer type and in the objective function map a particular integer range into a floating point number range. For example, tell `genoud` to search from 0 to 100 and divide by 100 to obtain a search grid of 0 to 1.0 (by .1).

Alternatively, the user could use floating point numbers and round the appropriate parameters to the nearest integer inside `fn` before the criterion (or criteria if `lexical = TRUE`) is evaluated. In that case, the `transform` option can be used to create the next generation from the current generation when the appropriate parameters are in the rounded state.

<code>hessian</code>	When this flag is set to TRUE, <code>genoud</code> will return the hessian matrix at the solution as part of its return list. A user can use this matrix to calculate standard errors.
<code>unif.seed</code>	An integer used to seed the random number generator for doubles called in C++. If the user wants to have reproducibility for the output of <code>genoud</code> , they should either set both this and <code>int.seed</code> or use <code>set.seed()</code> before calling <code>genoud</code> in R. See the note in the Note section below regarding backwards compatibility after Version 5.9-0.0.
<code>int.seed</code>	An integer used to seed the random number generator for integers called in C++. If the user wants to have reproducibility for the output of <code>genoud</code> , they should either set both this and <code>unif.seed</code> or use <code>set.seed()</code> before calling <code>genoud</code> in R. See the note in the Note section below regarding backwards compatibility after Version 5.9-0.0.
<code>print.level</code>	This variable controls the level of printing that <code>genoud</code> does. There are four possible levels: 0 (minimal printing), 1 (normal), 2 (detailed), and 3 (debug). If

level 2 is selected, genoud will print details about the population at each generation. The `print.level` variable also significantly affects how much detail is placed in the project file—see `project.path`. Note that R convention would have us at print level 0 (minimal printing). However, because genoud runs may take a long time, it is important for the user to receive feedback. Hence, print level 2 has been set as the default.

`share.type` If `share.type` is equal to 1, then genoud, at startup, checks to see if there is an existing project file (see `project.path`). If such a file exists, it initializes its original population using it. This option can be used neither with the `lexical` nor the `transform` options.

If the project file contains a smaller population than the current genoud run, genoud will randomly create the necessary individuals. If the project file contains a larger population than the current genoud run, genoud will kill the necessary individuals using exponential selection.

If the number of variables (see `nvars`) reported in the project file is different from the current genoud run, genoud does not use the project file (regardless of the value of `share.type`) and genoud generates the necessary starting population at random.

`instance.number`

This number (starting from 0) denotes the number of recursive instances of genoud. genoud then sets up its random number generators and other such structures so that the multiple instances do not interfere with each other. It is up to the user to make certain that the different instances of genoud are not writing to the same output file(s): see `project.path`.

For the R version of genoud this variable is of limited use. It is basically there in case a genoud run is being used to optimize the result of another genoud run (i.e., a recursive implementation).

`output.path` This option is no longer supported. It used to allow one to redirect the output. Now please use `sink`. The option remains in order to provide backward compatibility for the API.

`output.append` This option is no longer supported. Please see `sink`. The option remains in order to provide backward compatibility for the API.

`project.path` This is the path of the genoud project file. The project file prints one individual per line with the fit value(s) printed first and then the parameter values. By default genoud places its output in a file called "genoud.pro" located in the temporary directory provided by `tempdir`. The behavior of the project file depends on the `print.level` chosen. If the `print.level` variable is set to 1, then the project file is rewritten after each generation. Therefore, only the currently fully completed generation is included in the file. If the `print.level` variable is set to 2, then each new generation is simply appended to the project file. For `print.level=0`, the project file is not created.

P1

This is the cloning operator. genoud always clones the best individual each generation. But this operator clones others as well. Please see the Operators Section for details about operators and how they are weighted.

P2	This is the uniform mutation operator. One parameter of the parent is mutated. Please see the Operators Section for details about operators and how they are weighted.
P3	This is the boundary mutation operator. This operator finds a parent and mutates one of its parameters towards the boundary. Please see the Operators Section for details about operators and how they are weighted.
P4	Non-Uniform Mutation. Please see the Operators Section for details about operators and how they are weighted.
P5	This is the polytope crossover. Please see the Operators Section for details about operators and how they are weighted.
P6	Simple Crossover. Please see the Operators Section for details about operators and how they are weighted.
P7	Whole Non-Uniform Mutation. Please see the Operators Section for details about operators and how they are weighted.
P8	Heuristic Crossover. Please see the Operators Section for details about operators and how they are weighted.
P9	Local-Minimum Crossover: BFGS. This is rather CPU intensive, and should be generally used less than the other operators. Please see the Operators Section for details about operators and how they are weighted.
P9mix	This is a tuning parameter for the P9 operator. The local-minimum crossover operator by default takes the convex combination of the result of a BFGS optimization and the parent individual. By default the mixing (weight) parameter for the convex combination is chosen by a uniform random draw between 0 and 1. The P9mix option allows the user to select this mixing parameter. It may be any number greater than 0 and less than or equal to 1. If 1, then the BFGS result is simply used.
BFGSburnin	The number of generations which are run before the BFGS is first used. Premature use of the BFGS can lead to convergence to a local optimum instead of the global one. This option allows the user to control how many generations are run before the BFGS is started and would logically be a non-negative integer. However, if <code>BFGSburnin < 0</code> , the BFGS will be used if and when <code>wait.generations</code> is doubled because at least one gradient is too large, which can only occur when <code>gradient.check = TRUE</code> . This option delays the use of both the BFGS on the best individual and the P9 operator.
BFGSfn	This is a function for the BFGS optimizer to optimize, if one wants to make it distinct from the <code>fn</code> function. This is useful when doing lexical optimization because otherwise a derivative based optimizer cannot be used (since it requires a single fit value). It is suggested that if this functionality is being used, both the <code>fn</code> and <code>BFGSfn</code> functions obtain all of the arguments they need (except for the parameters being optimized) by lexical scope instead of being passed in as arguments to the functions. Alternatively, one may use the <code>BFGShelp</code> option to pass arguments to <code>BFGSfn</code> . If <code>print.level > 2</code> , the results from the BFGS optimizer are printed every time it is called.
BFGShelp	An optional function to pass arguments to <code>BFGSfn</code> . This function should take an argument named 'initial', an argument named 'done' that defaults to <code>FALSE</code> ,

or at least allow . . . to be an argument. BFGSfn must have an argument named 'helper' if BFGShelp is used because the call to `optim` includes the hard-coded expression `helper = do.call(BFGShelp, args = list(initial = foo.vals), envir = environment(fn))`, which evaluates the BFGShelp function in the environment of BFGSfn (fn is just a wrapper for BFGSfn) at `par = foo.vals` where `foo.vals` contains the starting values for the BFGS algorithm. The 'done' argument to BFGSfn is used if the user requests that the Hessian be calculated at the genoud solution.

`control` A list of control parameters that is passed to `optim` if `BFGS = TRUE` or `P9 > 0`. Please see the `optim` documentation for details.

`optim.method` A character string among those that are admissible for the method argument to the `optim` function, namely one of "BFGS", "L-BFGS-B", "Nelder-Mead", "CG", or "SANN". By default, `optim.method` is "BFGS" if `boundary.enforcement < 2` and is "L-BFGS-B" if `boundary.enforcement = 2`. For discontinuous objective functions, it may be advisable to select "Nelder-Mead" or "SANN". If selecting "L-BFGS-B" causes an error message, it may be advisable to select another method or to adjust the `control` argument. Note that the various arguments of `genoud` that involve the four letters "BFGS" continue to be passed to `optim` even if `optim.method != "BFGS"`.

`transform` A logical that defaults to `FALSE`. If `TRUE`, it signifies that `fn` will return a numeric vector that contains the fit criterion (or fit criteria if `lexical = TRUE`), followed by the parameters. If this option is used, `fn` should have the following general form in its body:

```
par <- myTransformation(par)
criter <- myObjective(par)
return( c(criter, par) )
```

This option is useful when parameter transformations are necessary because the next generation of the population will be created from the current generation in the transformed state, rather than the original state. This option can be used by users to implement their own operators.

There are some issues that should be kept in mind. This option cannot be used when `data.type.int = TRUE`. Also, this option coerces `MemoryMatrix` to `FALSE`, implying that the `cluster` option cannot be used. And, unless BFGSfn is specified, this option coerces `gradient.check` to `FALSE`, `BFGS` to `FALSE`, and `P9` to `0`. If BFGSfn is specified, that function should perform the transformation but should only return a scalar fit criterion, for example:

```
par <- myTransformation(par)
criter <- myCriterion(par)
return(criter)
```

Finally, if `boundary.enforcement > 0`, care must be taken to assure that the transformed parameters are within the `Domains`, otherwise unpredictable results could occur. In this case, the transformations are checked for consistency with `Domains` but only in the initial generation (to avoid an unacceptable loss in computational speed).

`debug` This variable turns on some debugging information. This variable may be `TRUE` or `FALSE`.

cluster	This can either be an object of the 'cluster' class returned by one of the makeCluster commands in the <code>parallel</code> package or a vector of machine names so <code>genoud</code> can setup the cluster automatically. If it is the latter, the vector should look like: <code>c("localhost", "musil", "musil", "deckard")</code> . This vector would create a cluster with four nodes: one on the localhost another on "deckard" and two on the machine named "musil". Two nodes on a given machine make sense if the machine has two or more chips/cores. <code>genoud</code> will setup a SOCK cluster by a call to makeSOCKcluster . This will require the user to type in her password for each node as the cluster is by default created via <code>ssh</code> . One can add on usernames to the machine name if it differs from the current shell: "username@musil". Other cluster types, such as PVM and MPI, which do not require passwords can be created by directly calling makeCluster , and then passing the returned cluster object to <code>genoud</code> . For an example of how to manually setup up a cluster with a direct call to makeCluster see https://github.com/JasjeetSekhon/rgenoud . For an example of how to get around a firewall by <code>ssh</code> tunneling see: https://github.com/JasjeetSekhon/rgenoud .
balance	This logical flag controls if load balancing is done across the cluster. Load balancing can result in better cluster utilization; however, increased communication can reduce performance. This option is best used if the function being optimized takes at least several minutes to calculate or if the nodes in the cluster vary significantly in their performance. If <code>cluster==FALSE</code> , this option has no effect.
...	Further arguments to be passed to <code>fn</code> and <code>gr</code> .

Details

`Genoud` solves problems that are nonlinear or perhaps even discontinuous in the parameters of the function to be optimized. When a statistical model's estimating function (for example, a log-likelihood) is nonlinear in the model's parameters, the function to be optimized will generally not be globally concave and may have irregularities such as saddlepoints or discontinuities. Optimization methods that rely on derivatives of the objective function may be unable to find any optimum at all. Multiple local optima may exist, so that there is no guarantee that a derivative-based method will converge to the global optimum. On the other hand, algorithms that do not use derivative information (such as pure genetic algorithms) are for many problems needlessly poor at local hill climbing. Most statistical problems are regular in a neighborhood of the solution. Therefore, for some portion of the search space, derivative information is useful for such problems. `Genoud` also works well for problems that no derivative information exists. For additional documentation and examples please see <https://github.com/JasjeetSekhon/rgenoud>.

Value

`genoud` returns a list with 7 objects. 8 objects are returned if the user has requested the hessian to be calculated at the solution. Please see the `hessian` option. The returned objects are:

value	This variable contains the fitness value at the solution. If lexical optimization was requested, it is a vector.
par	This vector contains the parameter values found at the solution.

gradients	This vector contains the gradients found at the solution. If no gradients were calculated, they are reported to be NA.
generations	This variable contains the number of generations genoud ran for.
peakgeneration	This variable contains the generation number at which genoud found the solution.
pop.size	This variable contains the population size that genoud actually used. See pop.size for why this value may differ from the population size the user requested.
operators	This vector reports the actual number of operators (of each type) genoud used. Please see the Operators Section for details.
hessian	If the user has requested the hessian matrix to be returned (via the hessian flag), the hessian at the solution will be returned. The user may use this matrix to calculate standard errors.

Operators

Genoud has nine operators that it uses. The integer values which are assigned to each of these operators ($P1 \cdots P9$) are weights. Genoud calculates the sum of $s = P1 + P2 + \cdots + P9$. Each operator is assigned a weight equal to $W_n = \frac{s}{P_n}$. The number of times an operator is called usually equals $c_n = W_n \times pop.size$.

Operators 6 (Simple Crossover) and 8 (Heuristic Crossover) require an even number of individuals to work on—i.e., they require two parents. Therefore, the pop.size variable and the operators sets must be such that these three operators have an even number of individuals to work with. If this does not occur, genoud automatically upwardly adjusts the population size to make this constraint hold.

Strong uniqueness checks have been built into the operators to help ensure that the operators produce offspring different from their parents, but this does not always happen.

Note that genoud always keeps the best individual each generation.

genoud's 9 operators are:

1. Cloning
2. Uniform Mutation
3. Boundary Mutation
4. Non-Uniform Crossover
5. Polytope Crossover
6. Simple Crossover
7. Whole Non-Uniform Mutation
8. Heuristic Crossover
9. Local-Minimum Crossover: BFGS

For more information please see Table 1 of the reference article: <https://github.com/JasjeetSekhon/rgenoud>.

Note

The most important options affecting performance are those determining population size (`pop.size`) and the number of generations the algorithm runs (`max.generations`, `wait.generations`, `hard.generation.limit` and `gradient.check`). Search performance is expected to improve as the population size and the number of generations the program runs for increase. These and the other options should be adjusted for the problem at hand. Please pay particular attention to the search domains (`Domains` and `default.domains`). For more information please see the reference article.

Linear and nonlinear constraints among the parameters can be introduced by users in their fit function. For example, if the sum of parameters 1 and 2 must be less than 725, the following can be placed in the fit function the user is going to have genoud maximize: `if ((parm1 + parm2) >= 725) { return(-9999999) }`. In this example, a very bad fit value is returned to genoud if the linear constraint is violated. genoud will then attempt to find parameter values that satisfy the constraint.

Alternatively, one can use lexical optimization where the first criterion is a binary variable that equals 1.0 iff $(\text{parm1} + \text{parm2}) < 725$ and the second criterion is the fit function, which should also be passed to `BFGSfn`. All candidates where $(\text{parm1} + \text{parm2}) \geq 725$ will be ranked below all candidates where $(\text{parm1} + \text{parm2}) < 725$ and within these two groups, candidates will be ranked by their fit on the second criterion. The optimal candidate is thus the one with the best fit on the second criterion among candidates that satisfy this restriction.

In Version 5.9-0.0 we have changed the implementation of the random number generator, so results from this version onward will not be backwards compatible.

Author(s)

Walter R. Mebane, Jr., University of Michigan, <wmebane@umich.edu>, <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~wmebane/>

Jasjeet S. Sekhon, Yale University, <jas.sekhon@yale.edu>, <https://github.com/JasjeetSekhon/rgenoud>

Theo Saarinen, UC Berkeley, <theo_s@berkeley.edu>

References

Mebane, Walter R., Jr. and Jasjeet S. Sekhon. 2011. "Genetic Optimization Using Derivatives: The rgenoud Package for R." *Journal of Statistical Software*, 42(11): 1-26. <https://www.jstatsoft.org/v42/i11/>

Sekhon, Jasjeet Singh and Walter R. Mebane, Jr. 1998. "Genetic Optimization Using Derivatives: Theory and Application to Nonlinear Models." *Political Analysis*, 7: 187-210. <https://github.com/JasjeetSekhon/rgenoud>

Mebane, Walter R., Jr. and Jasjeet S. Sekhon. 2004. "Robust Estimation and Outlier Detection for Overdispersed Multinomial Models of Count Data." *American Journal of Political Science*, 48

(April): 391-410. <https://github.com/JasjeetSekhon/rgenoud>

Bright, H. and R. Enison. 1979. Quasi-Random Number Sequences from a Long-Period TLP Generator with Remarks on Application to Cryptography. *Computing Surveys*, 11(4): 357-370.

See Also

[optim.](#)

Examples

```
#maximize the sin function
sin1 <- genoud(sin, nvars=1, max=TRUE)

#minimize the sin function
sin2 <- genoud(sin, nvars=1, max=FALSE)

## Not run:
#maximize a univariate normal mixture which looks like a claw
claw <- function(xx) {
  x <- xx[1]
  y <- (0.46*(dnorm(x,-1.0,2.0/3.0) + dnorm(x,1.0,2.0/3.0)) +
    (1.0/300.0)*(dnorm(x,-0.5,.01) + dnorm(x,-1.0,.01) + dnorm(x,-1.5,.01)) +
    (7.0/300.0)*(dnorm(x,0.5,.07) + dnorm(x,1.0,.07) + dnorm(x,1.5,.07)))
  return(y)
}
claw1 <- genoud(claw, nvars=1,pop.size=3000,max=TRUE)

## End(Not run)

## Not run:
#Plot the previous run
xx <- seq(-3,3,.05)
plot(xx,lapply(xx,claw),type="l",xlab="Parameter",ylab="Fit",
      main="GENOUD: Maximize the Claw Density")
points(claw1$par,claw1$value,col="red")

# Maximize a bivariate normal mixture which looks like a claw.
biclaw <- function(xx) {
  mNd2 <- function(x1, x2, mu1, mu2, sigma1, sigma2, rho)
  {
    z1 <- (x1-mu1)/sigma1
    z2 <- (x2-mu2)/sigma2
    w <- (1.0/(2.0*pi*sigma1*sigma2*sqrt(1-rho*rho)))
    w <- w*exp(-0.5*(z1*z1 - 2*rho*z1*z2 + z2*z2)/(1-rho*rho))
    return(w)
  }
  x1 <- xx[1]+1
  x2 <- xx[2]+1

  y <- (0.5*mNd2(x1,x2,0.0,0.0,1.0,1.0,0.0) +
    0.1*(mNd2(x1,x2,-1.0,-1.0,0.1,0.1,0.0) +
```

```
mNd2(x1,x2,-0.5,-0.5,0.1,0.1,0.0) +  
mNd2(x1,x2,0.0,0.0,0.1,0.1,0.0) +  
mNd2(x1,x2,0.5,0.5,0.1,0.1,0.0) +  
mNd2(x1,x2,1.0,1.0,0.1,0.1,0.0))  
  
  return(y)  
}  
biclaw1 <- genoud(biclaw, default.domains=20, nvars=2, pop.size=5000, max=TRUE)  
  
## End(Not run)  
# For more examples see: https://github.com/JasjeetSekhon/rgenoud.
```

Index

* **nonlinear**
 genoud, 1

* **optimize**
 genoud, 1

GenMatch, 4
genoud, 1

makeCluster, 9
makePSOCKcluster, 9

optim, 4, 8, 12

sink, 6

tempdir, 6