

# Package ‘nlsr’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Functions for Nonlinear Least Squares Solutions

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**Description** Provides tools for working with nonlinear least squares problems.

It is intended to eventually supersede the 'nls()' function in the R distribution. For example, 'nls()' specifically does NOT deal with small or zero residual problems as its Gauss-Newton method frequently stops with 'singular gradient' messages. 'nlsr' is based on the now-deprecated package 'nlmrt', and has refactored functions and R-language symbolic derivative features.

**License** GPL-2

**Depends** R (>= 3.0)

**Imports** digest

**Suggests** minpack.lm, optimr, Rvmmin, Rcgmin, numDeriv, knitr, rmarkdown, Ryacas, Deriv

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**NeedsCompilation** no

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nlr-package	<i>Tools for solving nonlinear least squares problems. UNDER DEVELOPMENT.</i>
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## Description

The package provides some tools related to using the Nash variant of Marquardt's algorithm for nonlinear least squares.

## Details

```

Package:  nlsr
Type:    Package
Version:  1.0
Date:    2012-03-05
License:  GPL-2

```

This package includes methods for solving nonlinear least squares problems specified by a modeling expression and given a starting vector of named parameters. Note: You must provide an expression of the form `lhs ~ rhsexpression` so that the residual expression `rhsexpression - lhs` can be computed. The expression can be enclosed in quotes, and this seems to give fewer difficulties with R. Data variables must already be defined, either within the parent environment or else in the dot-arguments. Other symbolic elements in the modeling expression must be standard functions or else parameters that are named in the start vector.

The main functions in `nlsr` are:

- nlfb** Nash variant of the Marquardt procedure for nonlinear least squares, with bounds constraints, using a residual and optionally Jacobian described as R functions.
- nlxb** Nash variant of the Marquardt procedure for nonlinear least squares, with bounds constraints, using an expression to describe the residual via an R modeling expression. The Jacobian is computed via symbolic differentiation.

- wrapnlsr** Uses `nls` to solve nonlinear least squares then calls `nls()` to create an object of type `nls`.
- model2rjfun** returns a function with header `function(prm)`, which evaluates the residuals (and if `jacobian` is `TRUE` the Jacobian matrix) of the model at `prm`. The residuals are defined to be the right hand side of `modelformula` minus the left hand side.
- model2ssgrfun** returns a function with header `function(prm)`, which evaluates the sum of squared residuals (and if `gradient` is `TRUE` the gradient vector) of the model at `prm`.
- modelexpr** returns the expression used to calculate the vector of residuals (and possibly the Jacobian) used in the previous functions.

### Author(s)

John C Nash and Duncan Murdoch  
 Maintainer: <nashjc@uottawa.ca>

### References

- Nash, J. C. (1979, 1990) *Compact Numerical Methods for Computers. Linear Algebra and Function Minimisation.* Adam Hilger./Institute of Physics Publications
- Nash, J. C. (2014) *Nonlinear Parameter Optimization Using R Tools.* Wiley

### See Also

`nls`

### Examples

```
rm(list=ls())
# require(nlsr)

traceval <- TRUE # traceval set TRUE to debug or give full history

# Data for Hobbs problem
ydat <- c(5.308, 7.24, 9.638, 12.866, 17.069, 23.192, 31.443,
         38.558, 50.156, 62.948, 75.995, 91.972) # for testing
tdat <- seq_along(ydat) # for testing

# A simple starting vector -- must have named parameters for nls, wrapnlsr.
start1 <- c(b1=1, b2=1, b3=1)
startf1 <- c(b1=1, b2=1, b3=.1)

eunsc <- y ~ b1/(1+b2*exp(-b3*tt))

cat("LOCAL DATA IN DATA FRAMES\n")
weeddata1 <- data.frame(y=ydat, tt=tdat)
weeddata2 <- data.frame(y=1.5*ydat, tt=tdat)

anlsb1 <- try(nls(eunsc, start=start1, trace=traceval, data=weeddata1))
print(anlsb1)
```



```

## End(Not run) # end dontrun

cat("BOUNDS")
st2s <- c(b1=1, b2=1, b3=1)

## Not run:

an1qb1 <- try(nlxb(escal, start=st2s, trace=traceval, data=weeddata1,
  lower=c(0,0,0), upper=c(2, 6, 3), control=list(watch=FALSE)))
print(an1qb1)
tmp <- readline("next")
ans2 <- nlfb(st2s, shobbs.res, shobbs.jac, lower=c(0,0,0), upper=c(2, 6, 3),
  trace=traceval, control=list(watch=FALSE))
print(ans2)

cat("BUT ... nls() seems to do better from the TRACE information\n")
anlsb <- nls(escal, start=st2s, trace=traceval, data=weeddata1, lower=c(0,0,0),
  upper=c(2,6,3), algorithm='port')
cat("However, let us check the answer\n")
print(anlsb)
cat("BUT...crossprod(resid(anlsb))=", crossprod(resid(anlsb)), "\n")

## End(Not run) # end dontrun

tmp <- readline("next")
cat("Try wrapnlsr\n")
traceval <- TRUE
# Data for Hobbs problem
ydat <- c(5.308, 7.24, 9.638, 12.866, 17.069, 23.192, 31.443,
  38.558, 50.156, 62.948, 75.995, 91.972) # for testing
tdat <- seq_along(ydat) # for testing
start1 <- c(b1=1, b2=1, b3=1)
escal <- y ~ 100*b1/(1+10*b2*exp(-0.1*b3*tt))
up1 <- c(2,6,3)
up2 <- c(1, 5, 9)

weeddata1 <- data.frame(y=ydat, tt=tdat)

## Not run:

an1w <- try(wrapnlsr(escal, start=start1, trace=traceval, data=weeddata1))
print(an1w)

cat("BOUNDED wrapnlsr\n")

```

```

an1wb <- try(wrapnlsr(escal, start=start1, trace=traceval, data=weeddata1, upper=up1))
print(an1wb)

cat("BOUNDED wrapnlsr\n")

an2wb <- try(wrapnlsr(escal, start=start1, trace=traceval, data=weeddata1, upper=up2))
print(an2wb)

cat("TRY MASKS ONLY\n")

an1xm3 <- try(nlxb(escal, start1, trace=traceval, data=weeddata1,
                 masked=c("b3")))
printsum(an1xm3)
#an1fm3 <- try(nlfb(start1, shobbs.res, shobbs.jac, trace=traceval,
#                data=weeddata1, maskidx=c(3)))
an1fm3 <- try(nlfb(start1, shobbs.res, shobbs.jac, trace=traceval,
                 data=weeddata1, maskidx=c(3)))printsum(an1fm3)

an1xm1 <- try(nlxb
(escal, start1, trace=traceval, data=weeddata1,
  masked=c("b1")))
printsum(an1xm1)
#an1fm1 <- try(nlfb(start1, shobbs.res, shobbs.jac, trace=traceval,
  an1fm1 <- try(nlfb(start1, shobbs.res, shobbs.jac, trace=traceval,
                 data=weeddata1, maskidx=c(1)))
printsum(an1fm1)

## End(Not run) # end dontrun

# Need to check when all parameters masked.

```

---

coef.nlsr

*Output model coefficients for nlsr object.*


---

## Description

coef.nlsr extracts and displays the coefficients for a model estimated by nlxb or nlfb in the nlsr structured object.

## Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'nlsr'
coef(object, ...)

```

**Arguments**

object            An object of class 'nlstr'  
 ...                Any data needed for the function. We do not know of any!

**Details**

coef.nlsr extracts and displays the coefficients for a model estimated by nlxb or n1fb.

**Value**

returns the coefficients from the nlsr object.

**Author(s)**

John C Nash <nashjc@uottawa.ca>

**See Also**

Function nls(), packages [optim](#) and [optimx](#).

---

 dex

*Calculate expression for derivative calculations.*

---

**Description**

Converts input to an expression suitable for use in [nlsDeriv](#) and related functions.

**Usage**

```
dex(x, do_substitute = NA, verbose = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x                    An expression represented in a variety of ways. See Details.  
 do\_substitute    Whether to use the expression passed as x, or to evaluate it and use its value.  
 verbose            Print messages describing the process.

**Details**

If do\_substitute is NA, the following rules are used:

1. An attempt is made to evaluate x. If that fails, the expression is used.
2. If the evaluation succeeds and the value is a character vector, it is parsed.
3. If the value is not a character vector and the expression is a single name, the value is used.
4. Otherwise, the expression is used.

Once the expression is determined it may be simplified, by extracting the language object from a length-one expression vector, or the right-hand-side from a formula.

Normally a warning will be issued if `x` is a formula containing a left-hand side. To suppress this, wrap the formula in `expression()`, or pass it as a character string to be parsed.

### Value

An expression or language object suitable as input to `nlsDeriv` and related functions.

### Author(s)

Duncan Murdoch

### Examples

```
aa <- dex(~ x^2)
aa
str(aa)
bb <- dex(expression(x^2))
bb
str(bb)
cc <- dex("x^2")
cc
str(cc)
```

---

findSubexprs

*Find common subexpressions*

---

### Description

This function finds common subexpressions in an expression vector so that duplicate computation can be avoided.

### Usage

```
findSubexprs(expr, simplify = FALSE, tag = ".expr", verbose = FALSE, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>expr</code>	An expression vector or language object.
<code>simplify</code>	Whether to call <code>nlsSimplify</code> on each subexpression before looking for common subexpressions.
<code>tag</code>	The prefix to use for locally created variables.
<code>verbose</code>	If TRUE, diagnostics are printed as simplifications are recognized.
<code>...</code>	Additional parameters to pass to <code>nlsSimplify</code> . Used only if <code>simplify</code> is TRUE.



**Details**

This function identifies all repeated subexpressions in an expression vector, and stores them in locally created variables. It is used by `fnDeriv` to share common subexpressions between expression evaluations and gradient evaluations, for example.

If `simplify` is TRUE, the assumptions behind the simplifications done by `nlsSimplify` must be valid for the result to match the input. With the default simplifications, this means that all variables should take finite real values.

**Value**

A language object which evaluates to an expression vector which would evaluate to the same result as the original vector with less duplicated code but more storage of intermediate results.

**Author(s)**

Duncan Murdoch

**See Also**

`deriv` in the stats package, `nlsSimplify`

**Examples**

```
findSubexprs(expression(x^2, x-y, y^2-x^2))
```

---

model2rjfun

*Create functions to calculate the residual vector or the sum of squares, possibly with derivatives.*

---

**Description**

These functions create functions to evaluate residuals or sums of squares at particular parameter locations.

**Usage**

```
model2rjfun(modelformula, pvec, data = NULL, jacobian = TRUE, testresult = TRUE, ...)
model2ssgrfun(modelformula, pvec, data = NULL, gradient = TRUE,
  testresult = TRUE, ...)
modelexpr(fun)
```

**Arguments**

<code>modelformula</code>	A formula describing a nonlinear regression model.
<code>pvec</code>	A vector of parameters.
<code>data</code>	A dataframe, list or environment holding data used in the calculation.
<code>jacobian</code>	Whether to compute the Jacobian matrix.
<code>gradient</code>	Whether to compute the gradient vector.
<code>testresult</code>	Whether to test the function by evaluating it at <code>pvec</code> .
<code>fun</code>	A function produced by one of <code>model2rjfun</code> or <code>model2ssgrfun</code> .
<code>...</code>	Dot arguments, that is, arguments that may be supplied by name = value to supply information needed to compute specific quantities in the model.

**Details**

If `pvec` does not have names, the parameters will have names generated in the form ‘p\_<n>’, e.g. `p_1`, `p_2`. Names that appear in `pvec` will be taken to be parameters of the model.

The `data` argument may be a dataframe, list or environment, or NULL. If it is not an environment, one will be constructed using the components of `data` with parent environment set to be the environment of `modelformula`.

**Value**

`model2rjfun` returns a function with header `function(prm)`, which evaluates the residuals (and if `jacobian` is TRUE the Jacobian matrix) of the model at `prm`. The residuals are defined to be the right hand side of `modelformula` minus the left hand side.

`model2ssgrfun` returns a function with header `function(prm)`, which evaluates the sum of squared residuals (and if `gradient` is TRUE the gradient vector) of the model at `prm`.

`modelexpr` returns the expression used to calculate the vector of residuals (and possibly the Jacobian) used in the previous functions.

**Author(s)**

John Nash and Duncan Murdoch

**See Also**

[nls](#)

**Examples**

```
y <- c(5.308, 7.24, 9.638, 12.866, 17.069, 23.192, 31.443, 38.558,
      50.156, 62.948, 75.995, 91.972)

tt <- seq_along(y) # for testing
mydata <- data.frame(y = y, tt = tt)
f <- y ~ b1/(1 + b2 * exp(-1 * b3 * tt))
p <- c(b1 = 1, b2 = 1, b3 = 1)
```

```

rjfn <- model2rjfn(f, p, data = mydata)
rjfn(p)
myexp <- modelexpr(rjfn)
cat("myexp:")
print(myexp)

ssgrfn <- model2ssgrfn(f, p, data = mydata)
ssgrfn(p)

```

---

nlfb	<i>Nash variant of Marquardt nonlinear least squares solution via qr linear solver.</i>
------	---

---

### Description

Given a nonlinear model expressed as a vector valued residual function `resfn` and a start vector of parameter values for that function, attempts to find the minimum of the residual sum of squares using the Nash variant (Nash, 1979) of the Marquardt algorithm, where the linear sub-problem is solved by a qr method. This is a restructured version of a function by the same name from package `nlmrt` which is now deprecated.

### Usage

```
nlfb(start, resfn, jacfn=NULL, trace=FALSE, lower=-Inf, upper=Inf,
      maskidx=NULL, weights=NULL, data=NULL, control, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>resfn</code>	A function that evaluates the residual vector for computing the elements of the sum of squares function at the set of parameters <code>start</code> . Where this function is created by actions on a formula or expression in <code>nlxb</code> , this residual vector will be created by evaluation of the 'model - data', rather than the conventional 'data - model' approach. The sum of squares is the same.
<code>jacfn</code>	A function that evaluates the Jacobian of the sum of squares function, that is, the matrix of partial derivatives of the residuals with respect to each of the parameters. If <code>NULL</code> (default), uses an approximation. The Jacobian must be returned as the attribute "gradient" of this function, allowing <code>jacfn</code> to have the same name and be the same code block as <code>resfn</code> , which may permit some efficiencies of computation.
<code>start</code>	A named parameter vector. For our example, we could use <code>start=c(b1=1, b2=2.345, b3=0.123)</code> <code>nlb()</code> takes a list, and that is permitted here also.
<code>trace</code>	Logical <code>TRUE</code> if we want intermediate progress to be reported. Default is <code>FALSE</code> .
<code>lower</code>	Lower bounds on the parameters. If a single number, this will be applied to all parameters. Default <code>-Inf</code> .

upper	Upper bounds on the parameters. If a single number, this will be applied to all parameters. Default Inf.
maskidx	Vector of indices of the parameters to be masked. These parameters will NOT be altered by the algorithm. Note that the mechanism here is different from that in nlxb which uses the names of the parameters.
weights	A vector of fixed weights. The objective function that will be minimized is the sum of squares where each residual is multiplied by the square root of the corresponding weight. Default (NULL) implies unit weights.
data	Data frame of variables used by resfn and jacfn to compute the required residuals and Jacobian.
control	A list of controls for the algorithm. These are: watch Monitor progress if TRUE. Default is FALSE. phi Default is phi=1, which adds phi*Identity to Jacobian inner product. lamda Initial Marquardt adjustment (Default 0.0001). Odd spelling is deliberate. offset Shift to test for floating-point equality. Default is 100. laminc Factor to use to increase lamda. Default is 10. lamdec Factor to use to decrease lamda is lamdec/laminc. Default lamdec=4. femax Maximum function (sum of squares) evaluations. Default is 10000, which is extremely aggressive. jemax Maximum number of Jacobian evaluations. Default is 5000. ndstep Stepsize to use to computer numerical Jacobian approximat. Default is 1e-7. roffttest Default is TRUE. Use a termination test of the relative offset orthogonality type. Useful for nonlinear regression problems. smallstest Default is TRUE. Exit the function if the sum of squares falls below $(100 * .Machine\$double.eps)^4$ times the initial sumsquares. This is a test for a “small” sum of squares, but there are problems which are very extreme for which this control needs to be set FALSE.
...	Any data needed for computation of the residual vector from the expression rhsexpression - lhsvar. Note that this is the negative of the usual residual, but the sum of squares is the same. It is not clear how the dot variables should be used, since data should be in 'data'.

## Details

nlfb attempts to solve the nonlinear sum of squares problem by using a variant of Marquardt's approach to stabilizing the Gauss-Newton method using the Levenberg-Marquardt adjustment. This is explained in Nash (1979 or 1990) in the sections that discuss Algorithm 23.

In this code, we solve the (adjusted) Marquardt equations by use of the `qr.solve()`. Rather than forming the  $J'J + \lambda D$  matrix, we augment the J matrix with extra rows and the y vector with null elements.

**Value**

A list of the following items

coefficients	A named vector giving the parameter values at the supposed solution.
ssquares	The sum of squared residuals at this set of parameters.
resid	The residual vector at the returned parameters.
jacobian	The jacobian matrix (partial derivatives of residuals w.r.t. the parameters) at the returned parameters.
feval	The number of residual evaluations (sum of squares computations) used.
jeval	The number of Jacobian evaluations used.

**Author(s)**

John C Nash <nashjc@uottawa.ca>

**References**

Nash, J. C. (1979, 1990) *\_Compact Numerical Methods for Computers. Linear Algebra and Function Minimisation.\_* Adam Hilger./Institute of Physics Publications  
others!!

**See Also**

Function `nls()`, packages `optim` and `optimx`.

**Examples**

```
cat("See examples in nls14-package.Rd\n")
```

---

nlsDeriv

*Functions to take symbolic derivatives.*

---

**Description**

Compute derivatives of simple expressions symbolically, allowing user-specified derivatives.

**Usage**

```
nlsDeriv(expr, name, derivEnv = sysDerivs, do_substitute = FALSE,
         verbose = FALSE, ...)
codeDeriv(expr, namevec, hessian = FALSE, derivEnv = sysDerivs,
          do_substitute = FALSE, verbose = FALSE, ...)
fnDeriv(expr, namevec, args = all.vars(expr), env = environment(expr),
        do_substitute = FALSE, verbose = FALSE, ...)
newDeriv(expr, deriv, derivEnv = sysDerivs)
sysDerivs
```

**Arguments**

<code>expr</code>	An expression represented in a variety of ways. See Details.
<code>name</code>	The name of the variable with respect to which the derivative will be computed.
<code>derivEnv</code>	The environment in which derivatives are stored.
<code>do_substitute</code>	If TRUE, use <code>substitute</code> to get the expression passed as <code>expr</code> , otherwise evaluate it.
<code>verbose</code>	If TRUE, then diagnostic output will be printed as derivatives and simplifications are recognized.
<code>...</code>	Additional parameters which will be passed to <code>codeDeriv</code> from <code>fnDeriv</code> , and to <code>nlsSimplify</code> from <code>nlsDeriv</code> and <code>codeDeriv</code> .
<code>namevec</code>	Character vector giving the variable names with respect to which the derivatives will be taken.
<code>hessian</code>	Logical indicator of whether the 2nd derivatives should also be computed.
<code>deriv</code>	An expression giving the derivative of the function call in <code>expr</code> .
<code>args</code>	Desired arguments for the function. See Details below.
<code>env</code>	The environment to be attached to the created function. If NULL, the caller's frame is used.

**Details**

Functions `nlsDeriv` and `codeDeriv` are designed as replacements for the **stats** package functions `D` and `deriv` respectively, though the argument lists do not match exactly.

The `nlsDeriv` function computes a symbolic derivative of an expression or language object. Known derivatives are stored in `derivEnv`; the default `sysDerivs` contains expressions for all of the derivatives recognized by `deriv`, but in addition allows differentiation with respect to any parameter where it makes sense. It also allows the derivative of `abs` and `sign`, using an arbitrary choice of 0 at the discontinuities.

The `codeDeriv` function computes an expression for efficient calculation of the expression value together with its gradient and optionally the Hessian matrix.

The `fnDeriv` function wraps the `codeDeriv` result in a function. If the `args` are given as a character vector (the default), the arguments will have those names, with no default values. Alternatively, a custom argument list with default values can be created using `alist`; see the example below.

The `expr` argument will be converted to a language object using `dex` (but note the different default for `do_substitute`). Normally it should be a formula with no left hand side, e.g. `~ x^2`, or an expression vector e.g. `expression(x, x^2, x^3)`, or a language object e.g. `quote(x^2)`. In `codeDeriv` and `fnDeriv` the expression vector must be of length 1.

The `newDeriv` function is used to define a new derivative. The `expr` argument should match the header of the function as a call to it (e.g. as in the help pages), and the `deriv` argument should be an expression giving the derivative, including calls to `D(arg)`, which will not be evaluated, but will be substituted with partial derivatives of that argument with respect to `name`. See the examples below.

If `expr` or `deriv` is missing in a call to `newDeriv()`, it will return the currently saved derivative record from `derivEnv`. If `name` is missing in a call to `nlsDeriv` with a function call, it will print a message describing the derivative formula and return NULL.

To handle functions which act differently if a parameter is missing, code the default value of that parameter to `.MissingVal`, and give a derivative that is conditional on `missing()` applied to that parameter. See the derivatives of "-" and "+" in the file `derivs.R` for an example.

### Value

If `expr` is an expression vector, `nlsDeriv` and `nlsSimplify` return expression vectors containing the response. For formulas or language objects, a language object is returned.

`codeDeriv` always returns a language object.

`fnDeriv` returns a closure (i.e. a function).

`nlsDeriv` returns the symbolic derivative of the expression.

`newDeriv` with `expr` and `deriv` specified is called for the side effect of recording the derivative in `derivEnv`. If `expr` is missing, it will return the list of names of functions for which derivatives are recorded. If `deriv` is missing, it will return its record for the specified function.

### Note

`newDeriv(expr, deriv, ...)` will issue a warning if a different definition for the derivative exists in the derivative table.

### Author(s)

Duncan Murdoch

### See Also

[deriv](#), [nlsSimplify](#)

### Examples

```
newDeriv()
newDeriv(sin(x))
nlsDeriv(~ sin(x+y), "x")

f <- function(x) x^2
newDeriv(f(x), 2*x*D(x))
nlsDeriv(~ f(abs(x)), "x")

nlsDeriv(~ pnorm(x, sd=2, log = TRUE), "x")
fnDeriv(~ pnorm(x, sd = sd, log = TRUE), "x")
f <- fnDeriv(~ pnorm(x, sd = sd, log = TRUE), "x", args = alist(x =, sd = 2))
f
f(1)
100*(f(1.01) - f(1)) # Should be close to the gradient
# The attached gradient attribute (from f(1.01)) is
# meaningless after the subtraction.

# Multiple point example
xvals <- c(1, 3, 4.123)
print(f(xvals))
# Getting a hessian matrix
```

```

f2 <- ~ (x-2)^3*y - y^2
mydf2 <- fnDeriv(f2, c("x","y"), hessian=TRUE)
# display the resulting function
print(mydf2)
x <- c(1, 2)
y <- c(0.5, 0.1)
evalmydf2 <- mydf2(x, y)
print(evalmydf2)
# the first index of the hessian attribute is the point at which we want the hessian
hmat1 <- as.matrix(attr(evalmydf2,"hessian")[1,,])
print(hmat1)
hmat2 <- as.matrix(attr(evalmydf2,"hessian")[2,,])
print(hmat2)

```

---

nlsSimplify

*Functions to simplify expressions.*


---

## Description

nlsSimplify simplifies expressions according to rules specified by newSimplification.

## Usage

```

nlsSimplify(expr, simpEnv = sysSimplifications, verbose = FALSE)
newSimplification(expr, test, simplification, do_eval = FALSE,
  simpEnv = sysSimplifications)
sysSimplifications
isFALSE(x)
isZERO(x)
isONE(x)
isMINUSONE(x)
isCALL(x, name)

```

## Arguments

expr	An expression to simplify; this should be a language object.
simpEnv	An environment holding the registered simplifications.
verbose	If TRUE, diagnostics are printed as simplifications are recognized.
test	An expression giving a test to apply to decide whether this simplification applies.
simplification	The new expression to use to replace the original one.
do_eval	Whether to evaluate the new expression (to give an even newer expression) to use as the simplification.
x	An expression to test.
name	The name of a function as a character string.



## Details

The `nlsSimplify` function uses simple rules to simplify expressions. The simplification is aimed at the needs of this package, so the built-in simplifications assume that variables and expressions have finite real values. For example,  $0 * \text{expr}$  will simplify to  $0$  regardless of the value of `expr`. (The name is `nlsSimplify` to avoid a clash with the `Simplify` function in the `Deriv` package.)

`newSimplification` adds a new simplification pattern to the registered collection. The tests are applied to function calls with the same function and number of parameters, in order as specified. Users may specify their own environment (perhaps parented by `sysSimplifications`) to hold rules if they wish to override the standard rules.

The `isFALSE`, `isZERO`, `isONE`, and `isMINUSONE` functions are simple functions to test whether expressions are simple constants, similar to `isTRUE`.

The `isCALL` function tests whether an expression is a call to a particular function.

To handle functions which act differently depending on which arguments are present, `nlsSimplify` will simplify the expression `missing(.MissingVal)` to `TRUE`. This is used in the definition of the derivative for  $x - y$ , where the unary minus is seen as a missing `y` value.

## Value

`nlsSimplify` returns a simplification of the expression, assuming that variables and functions take real values.

The `newSimplification` function is called for the side effect of recording a new simplification rule.

If `expr` or `deriv` is missing, `newSimplification()` will report on the currently saved simplifications in `simpEnv`.

## Note

The `isFALSE` function was added to base R in version 3.5.0; starting with that version, `nlsr::isFALSE` is simply a copy of it.

## Author(s)

Duncan Murdoch

## See Also

[nlsDeriv](#), which makes use of `nlsSimplify`.

## Examples

```
nlsSimplify(quote(a + 0))
nlsSimplify(quote(exp(1)), verbose = TRUE)

nlsSimplify(quote(sqrt(a + b))) # standard rule
myrules <- new.env(parent = sysSimplifications)
newSimplification(sqrt(a), TRUE, a^0.5, simpEnv = myrules)
nlsSimplify(quote(sqrt(a + b)), simpEnv = myrules)
```

---

nlxb	<i>Nash variant of Marquardt nonlinear least squares solution via qr linear solver.</i>
------	---

---

### Description

Given a nonlinear model expressed as an expression of the form  $\text{lhs} \sim \text{formula\_for\_rhs}$  and a start vector where parameters used in the model formula are named, attempts to find the minimum of the residual sum of squares using the Nash variant (Nash, 1979) of the Marquardt algorithm, where the linear sub-problem is solved by a qr method. This is a restructured version of a function by the same name from package `nlmrt` which is now deprecated.

### Usage

```
nlxb(formula, start, trace=FALSE, data, lower=-Inf, upper=Inf,
      masked=NULL, weights=NULL, control)
```

### Arguments

formula	This is a modeling formula of the form (as in <code>nls</code> ) $\text{lhsvar} \sim \text{rhsexpression}$ for example, $y \sim b1/(1+b2*\exp(-b3*tt))$ You may also give this as a string. Note that the residuals are computed within this code using <code>residual &lt;- rhsexpression - lhsvar</code> which is the negative of the usual choice, but the sum of squares is the same.
start	A named parameter vector. For our example, we could use <code>start=c(b1=1, b2=2.345, b3=0.123)</code>
trace	Logical TRUE if we want intermediate progress to be reported. Default is FALSE.
data	A data frame containing the data of the variables in the formula. This data may, however, be supplied directly in the parent frame.
lower	Lower bounds on the parameters. If a single number, this will be applied to all parameters. Default -Inf.
upper	Upper bounds on the parameters. If a single number, this will be applied to all parameters. Default Inf.
masked	Character vector of quoted parameter names. These parameters will NOT be altered by the algorithm. Masks may also be defined by setting lower and upper bounds equal for the parameters to be fixed. Note that the starting parameter value must also be the same as the lower and upper bound value.
weights	A vector of fixed weights. The objective function that will be minimized is the sum of squares where each residual is multiplied by the square root of the corresponding weight. Default NULL implies unit weights.
control	A list of controls for the algorithm. These are: <code>watch</code> Monitor progress if TRUE. Default is FALSE. <code>phi</code> Default is <code>phi=1</code> , which adds <code>phi*Identity</code> to Jacobian inner product. <code>lamda</code> Initial Marquardt adjustment (Default <code>0.0001</code> ). Odd spelling is deliberate. <code>offset</code> Shift to test for floating-point equality. Default is <code>100</code> .

`laminc` Factor to use to increase lamda. Default is 10.  
`lamdec` Factor to use to decrease lamda is lamdec/laminc. Default lamdec=4.  
`femax` Maximum function (sum of squares) evaluations. Default is 10000, which is extremely aggressive.  
`jemax` Maximum number of Jacobian evaluations. Default is 5000.  
`rofftest` Default is TRUE. Use a termination test of the relative offset orthogonality type. Useful for nonlinear regression problems.  
`smallstest` Default is TRUE. Exit the function if the sum of squares falls below  $(100 * \text{.Machine\$double.eps})^4$  times the initial sumsquares. This is a test for a “small” sum of squares, but there are problems which are very extreme for which this control needs to be set FALSE.

### Details

nlxb attempts to solve the nonlinear sum of squares problem by using a variant of Marquardt’s approach to stabilizing the Gauss-Newton method using the Levenberg-Marquardt adjustment. This is explained in Nash (1979 or 1990) in the sections that discuss Algorithm 23.

In this code, we solve the (adjusted) Marquardt equations by use of the `qr.solve()`. Rather than forming the  $JJ + \lambda D$  matrix, we augment the J matrix with extra rows and the y vector with null elements.

### Value

A list of the following items

<code>coefficients</code>	A named vector giving the parameter values at the supposed solution.
<code>ssquares</code>	The sum of squared residuals at this set of parameters.
<code>resid</code>	The residual vector at the returned parameters.
<code>jacobian</code>	The jacobian matrix (partial derivatives of residuals w.r.t. the parameters) at the returned parameters.
<code>feval</code>	The number of residual evaluations (sum of squares computations) used.
<code>jeval</code>	The number of Jacobian evaluations used.

### Author(s)

John C Nash <nashjc@uottawa.ca>

### References

Nash, J. C. (1979, 1990) *Compact Numerical Methods for Computers. Linear Algebra and Function Minimisation.* Adam Hilger./Institute of Physics Publications  
 others!!

### See Also

Function `nls()`, packages `optim` and `optimx`.

## Examples

```
cat("See examples in nlsr-package.Rd\n")
```

---

print.nlsr	<i>Print method for an object of class nlsr.</i>
------------	--

---

## Description

Print summary output (but involving some serious computations!) of an object of class `nlsr` from `nlsr` or `nlsr` from package `nlsr`.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'nlsr'  
print(x, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	An object of class <code>'nlsr'</code>
<code>...</code>	Any data needed for the function. We do not know of any!

## Details

`printsum.nlsr` performs a print method for an object of class `'nlsr'` that has been created by a routine such as `nlsr` or `nlsr` for nonlinear least squares problems.

## Value

Invisibly returns the input object.

## Author(s)

John C Nash <nashjc@uottawa.ca>

## See Also

Function `nls()`, packages [optim](#) and [optimx](#).

---

res *Evaluate residuals from an object of class nlsr.*

---

### Description

Functions `n1fb` and `n1xb` return nonlinear least squares solution objects that include (weighted) residuals. If weights are present, the returned quantities are the square roots of the weights times the raw residuals.

### Usage

```
res(object)
```

### Arguments

`object` An R object of class `nlsr`.

### Details

`resgr` calls `resfn` to compute residuals and `jacfn` to compute the Jacobian at the parameters `prm` using external data in the dot arguments. It then computes the gradient using `t(Jacobian)`. residuals.

Note that it appears awkward to use this function in calls to optimization routines. The author would like to learn why.

### Value

The numeric vector with the gradient of the sum of squares at the paramters.

### Author(s)

John C Nash <nashjc@uottawa.ca>

### References

Nash, J. C. (1979, 1990) *Compact Numerical Methods for Computers. Linear Algebra and Function Minimisation.* Adam Hilger./Institute of Physics Publications

### See Also

Function `nls()`, packages `optim` and `optimx`.

## Examples

```
shobbs.res <- function(x){ # scaled Hobbs weeds problem -- residual
  # This variant uses looping
  if(length(x) != 3) stop("hobbs.res -- parameter vector n!=3")
  y <- c(5.308, 7.24, 9.638, 12.866, 17.069, 23.192, 31.443,
        38.558, 50.156, 62.948, 75.995, 91.972)
  tt <- 1:12
  res <- 100.0*x[1]/(1+x[2]*10.*exp(-0.1*x[3]*tt)) - y
}

shobbs.jac <- function(x) { # scaled Hobbs weeds problem -- Jacobian
  jj <- matrix(0.0, 12, 3)
  tt <- 1:12
  yy <- exp(-0.1*x[3]*tt)
  zz <- 100.0/(1+10.*x[2]*yy)
  jj[tt,1] <- zz
  jj[tt,2] <- -0.1*x[1]*zz*zz*yy
  jj[tt,3] <- 0.01*x[1]*zz*zz*yy*x[2]*tt
  attr(jj, "gradient") <- jj
  jj
}

st <- c(b1=1, b2=1, b3=1)
RG <- resgr(st, shobbs.res, shobbs.jac)
RG
```

---

resgr

*Compute gradient from residuals and Jacobian.*

---

## Description

For a nonlinear model originally expressed as an expression of the form `lhs ~ formula_for_rhs` assume we have a `resfn` and `jacfn` that compute the residuals and the Jacobian at a set of parameters. This routine computes the gradient, that is, `t(Jacobian) . residuals`.

## Usage

```
resgr(prm, resfn, jacfn, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>prm</code>	A parameter vector. For our example, we could use <code>start=c(b1=1, b2=2.345, b3=0.123)</code> However, the names are NOT used, only positions in the vector.
<code>resfn</code>	A function to compute the residuals of our model at a parameter vector.
<code>jacfn</code>	A function to compute the Jacobian of the residuals at a parameter vector.
<code>...</code>	Any data needed for computation of the residual vector from the expression <code>rhsexpression - lhsvar</code> . Note that this is the negative of the usual residual, but the sum of squares is the same.

**Details**

resgr calls resfn to compute residuals and jacfn to compute the Jacobian at the parameters prm using external data in the dot arguments. It then computes the gradient using `t(Jacobian)`. residuals.

Note that it appears awkward to use this function in calls to optimization routines. The author would like to learn why.

**Value**

The numeric vector with the gradient of the sum of squares at the paramters.

**Author(s)**

John C Nash <nashjc@uottawa.ca>

**References**

Nash, J. C. (1979, 1990) *Compact Numerical Methods for Computers. Linear Algebra and Function Minimisation.* Adam Hilger./Institute of Physics Publications

**See Also**

Function `nls()`, packages `optim` and `optimx`.

**Examples**

```
shobbs.res <- function(x){ # scaled Hobbs weeds problem -- residual
  # This variant uses looping
  if(length(x) != 3) stop("shobbs.res -- parameter vector n!=3")
  y <- c(5.308, 7.24, 9.638, 12.866, 17.069, 23.192, 31.443,
        38.558, 50.156, 62.948, 75.995, 91.972)
  tt <- 1:12
  res <- 100.0*x[1]/(1+x[2]*10.*exp(-0.1*x[3]*tt)) - y
}

shobbs.jac <- function(x) { # scaled Hobbs weeds problem -- Jacobian
  jj <- matrix(0.0, 12, 3)
  tt <- 1:12
  yy <- exp(-0.1*x[3]*tt)
  zz <- 100.0/(1+10.*x[2]*yy)
  jj[tt,1] <- zz
  jj[tt,2] <- -0.1*x[1]*zz*zz*yy
  jj[tt,3] <- 0.01*x[1]*zz*zz*yy*x[2]*tt
  attr(jj, "gradient") <- jj
  jj
}

st <- c(b1=1, b2=1, b3=1)
RG <- resgr(st, shobbs.res, shobbs.jac)
RG
```

---

`resss`*Compute sum of squares from residuals via the residual function.*

---

### Description

For a nonlinear model originally expressed as an expression of the form `lhs ~ formula_for_rhs` assume we have a `resfn` and `jacfn` that compute the residuals and the Jacobian at a set of parameters. This routine computes the sum of squares of the residuals.

### Usage

```
resss(prm, resfn, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>prm</code>	A parameter vector. For our example, we could use <code>start=c(b1=1, b2=2.345, b3=0.123)</code> However, the names are NOT used, only positions in the vector.
<code>resfn</code>	A function to compute the residuals of our model at a parameter vector.
<code>...</code>	Any data needed for computation of the residual vector from the expression <code>rhsexpression - lhsvar</code> . Note that this is the negative of the usual residual, but the sum of squares is the same.

### Details

`resss` calls `resfn` to compute residuals and then uses `crossprod` to compute the sum of squares.

At 2012-4-26 there is no checking for errors. The evaluations of residuals and the cross product could be wrapped in `try()` if the evaluation could be inadmissible.

### Value

The scalar numeric value of the sum of squares at the paramters.

### Author(s)

John C Nash <nashjc@uottawa.ca>

### References

Nash, J. C. (1979, 1990) *Compact Numerical Methods for Computers. Linear Algebra and Function Minimisation.* Adam Hilger./Institute of Physics Publications  
others!!

### See Also

Function `nls()`, packages `optim` and `optimx`.



**Examples**

```

shobbs.res <- function(x){ # scaled Hobbs weeds problem -- residual
# This variant uses looping
  if(length(x) != 3) stop("shobbs.res -- parameter vector n!=3")
  y <- c(5.308, 7.24, 9.638, 12.866, 17.069, 23.192, 31.443,
        38.558, 50.156, 62.948, 75.995, 91.972)
  tt <- 1:12
  res <- 100.0*x[1]/(1+x[2]*10.*exp(-0.1*x[3]*tt)) - y
}

st <- c(b1=1, b2=1, b3=1)

firstss<-resss(st, shobbs.res)
# The sum of squares of the scaled Hobbs function at parameters
st
firstss
# now illustrate how to get solution via optimization

tf <- function(prm){
  val <- resss(prm, shobbs.res)
}
testop <- optim(st, tf, control=list(trace=1))
testop

```

rjfundoc

*Document functions that evaluate residuals at particular parameter locations.*

**Description**

Output a description of the model and the data that was used at the time of its creation to the console and optionally to a file. The purpose of this function is to provide a record of the details underlying the function fun as well as to aid users wishing to create objective functions for optimization tools.

**Usage**

```

rjfundoc(fun, savefile=NULL)
## S3 method for class 'rjfundoc'
print(x, ...)

```

**Arguments**

fun	A function produced by model2rjfun.
savefile	A character string or connection giving a location in which to record the rjfundoc output.
x, ...	Object to print, and other arguments that will be ignored.

**Details**

rjfundoc displays the contents of the environment associated with fun.

**Value**

rjfundoc returns a list of class "rjfundoc" containing values extracted from the environment of fun.

**Author(s)**

John Nash and Duncan Murdoch

**See Also**

[nls](#)

**Examples**

```
## require(nlsr)
traceval <- TRUE # traceval set TRUE to debug or give full history
# Data for Hobbs problem
ydat <- c(5.308, 7.24, 9.638, 12.866, 17.069, 23.192, 31.443,
         38.558, 50.156, 62.948, 75.995, 91.972) # for testing
tdat <- seq_along(ydat) # for testing
# A simple starting vector -- must have named parameters for nlxb, nls, wrapnlsr.
start1 <- c(b1=1, b2=1, b3=1)
weeddata2 <- data.frame(y=1.5*ydat, tt=tdat)
escal <- y ~ ms*b1/(1+b2*exp(-b3*tt))
ms <- 1
weeddata3<-weeddata2
weeddata3$y<-0
grs3<-model2rjfun(escal, start1, data=weeddata3, ms=ms)
res3<-grs3(start1)
res3
rjfundoc(grs3)

# Now a different value of ms
ms<-2
grs3b<-model2rjfun(escal, start1, data=weeddata3, ms=ms)
res3b<-grs3b(start1)
res3b
rjfundoc(grs3b)
# rjfundoc(grs3b, savefile="grs3save.txt") ## to save the output
```

---

summary.nlsr	<i>Summary output for nlsr object.</i>
--------------	--

---

## Description

Provide a summary output (but involving some serious computations!) of an object of class `nlsr` from `nlsb` or `nlsfb` from package `nlsr`.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'nlsr'  
summary(object, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>object</code>	An object of class <code>'nlsr'</code>
<code>...</code>	Currently ignored.

## Details

`summary.nlsr` performs a summary method for an object of class `'nlsr'` that has been created by a routine such as `nlsfb` or `nlsb` for nonlinear least squares problems.

Issue: When there are bounded parameters, `nls` returns a Standard Error for each of the parameters. However, this summary does NOT have a Jacobian value (it is set to 0) for columns where a parameter is masked or at (or very close to) a bound. See the R code for the determination of whether we are at a bound. In this case, users may wish to look in the `'inst/dev-codes'` directory of this package, where there is a script `'seboundsnlsrx.R'` that computes the `nls()` standard errors for comparison on a simple problem.

Issue: The `printsum()` of this object includes the singular values of the Jacobian. These are displayed, one per coefficient row, with the coefficients. However, the Jacobian singular values do NOT have a direct correspondence to the coefficients on whose display row they appear. It simply happens that there are as many Jacobian singular values as coefficients, and this is a convenient place to display them. The same issue applies to the gradient components.

## Value

returns an invisible copy of the `nlsr` object.

## Author(s)

John C Nash <nashjc@uottawa.ca>

## See Also

Function `nls()`, packages `optim` and `optimx`.

---

wrapnlr	<i>Provides class nls solution to a nonlinear least squares solution using the Nash Marquardt tools.</i>
---------	--

---

### Description

Given a nonlinear model expressed as an expression of the form `lhs ~ formula_for_rhs` and a start vector where parameters used in the model formula are named, attempts to find the minimum of the residual sum of squares using the Nash variant (Nash, 1979) of the Marquardt algorithm, where the linear sub-problem is solved by a qr method. The resulting solution is fed into the `nls()` function in an attempt to get the nls class solution.

### Usage

```
wrapnlr(formula, start, trace=FALSE, data, lower=-Inf, upper=Inf,
        control=list(), ...)
```

### Arguments

formula	This is a modeling formula of the form (as in <code>nls</code> ) <code>lhsvar ~ rhsexpression</code> for example, <code>y ~ b1/(1+b2*exp(-b3*t))</code> You may also give this as a string.
start	A named parameter vector. For our example, we could use <code>start=c(b1=1, b2=2.345, b3=0.123)</code>
trace	Logical TRUE if we want intermediate progress to be reported. Default is FALSE.
data	A data frame containing the data of the variables in the formula. This data may, however, be supplied directly in the parent frame.
lower	Lower bounds on the parameters. If a single number, this will be applied to all parameters. Default -Inf.
upper	Upper bounds on the parameters. If a single number, this will be applied to all parameters. Default Inf.
control	A list of controls for the algorithm. These are as for <code>nls()</code> .
...	Any data needed for computation of the residual vector from the expression <code>rhsexpression - lhsvar</code> . Note that this is the negative of the usual residual, but the sum of squares is the same.

### Details

`wrapnlr` first attempts to solve the nonlinear sum of squares problem by using `nlsminq`, then takes the parameters from that method to call `nls`.

### Value

An object of type `nls`.

**Author(s)**

John C Nash <nashjc@uottawa.ca>

**See Also**

Function `nls()`, packages `optim` and `optimx`.

**Examples**

```
cat("See more examples in nlmrt-package.Rd\n")
cat("kvanderpoel.R test of wrapnlsr\n")
# require(nlsr)
x<-c(1,3,5,7)
y<-c(37.98,11.68,3.65,3.93)
pks28<-data.frame(x=x,y=y)
fit0<-try(nls(y~(a+b*exp(1)^(-c*x)), data=pks28, start=c(a=0,b=1,c=1),
            trace=TRUE))
print(fit0)
cat("\n\n")
fit1<-nlxb(y~(a+b*exp(-c*x)), data=pks28, start=c(a=0,b=1,c=1), trace = TRUE)
print(fit1)
cat("\n\nnor better\n")
fit2<-wrapnlsr(y~(a+b*exp(-c*x)), data=pks28, start=c(a=0,b=1,c=1),
              lower=-Inf, upper=Inf, trace = TRUE)
```

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