

MATLAB.2

Minimization

To find where a function attains its minimum on an interval we use the `fminbnd` command.

Example

First we make an M-file.

```
*****  
function w=f(x)  
w=exp(-x^2+2*x)-.5;  
*****
```

To find where f attains its minimum on $[-1,3]$ go to the command window and type:

```
*****  
xm=fminbnd('f(x)',-1,3)  
*****
```

To find the minimum value type:

```
*****  
f(xm)  
*****
```

NOTE $f(x)$ maximizes where $-f(x)$ minimizes. To find the maximum value of $f(x)$ on $[-1,3]$ type:

```
*****  
xM=fminbnd('-f(x)',-1,3);  
f(xM)  
*****
```

To find the maximum of $\text{abs}(f(x))$ on $[-1,3]$ type:

```
*****  
xM=fminbnd('-abs(f(x))',-1,3);  
abs(f(xM))  
*****
```

ASSIGNMENT 2:

Let

$$h(x) = x^3 - 6x^2 + x.$$

Graph $h(x)$ on $[-1, 5]$.

Find where $h(x)$ maximizes on $[-1, 5]$ and its maximum value.

Find where $h(x)$ minimizes on $[-1, 5]$ and its minimum value.