Subject: Function minimization
Posted by istvan on Thu, 12 Apr 2007 17:51:23 GMT
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I wish to minimize a function, that is, to find the abscissa
corresponding to
the minimum function value. The IDL procedure minF_parabolic exists
for this express purpose, but the discussion of how to implement it
is
frustratingly vague, e.g.,

```
;             Calling mechanism should be:  F = func_name( px )
;             where:
;                   px = scalar or vector of independent
variables, input.
;                   F = scalar value of function at px.
```

I have been singularly unsuccessful on implementing a procedure/
function which implements minF_parabolic to minimize a quadratic
function. Specifically, I am not at all clear how any function gets
minimized if only a scalar - px - is being passed. Wouldn't one want
to pass an array of independent variables?

I'd appereciate any specific examples of implementation of this
procedure

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