

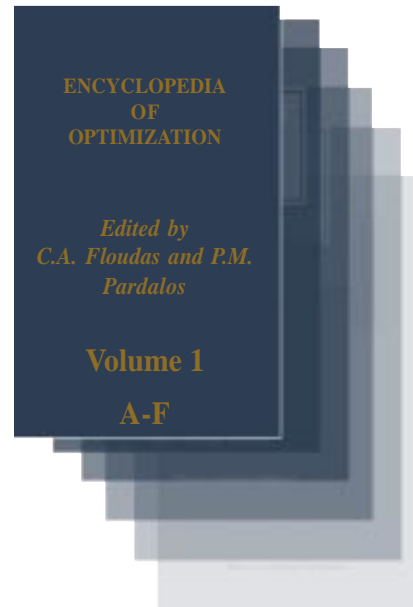
Encyclopedia of Optimization

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Optimization problems are ubiquitous in the mathematical modeling of real world systems and cover a very broad range of applications.

These applications arise in all branches of Engineering, Computer Science, Economics, Finance, Operations Research and Management Science, Chemistry, Materials Science, Astronomy, Physics, Structural and Molecular Biology, and Medicine.

The *Encyclopedia of Optimization* aims at serving as an important reference for all parts of optimization. It is directed to a diverse audience of students, scientists, engineers and in general to any decision maker and problem solver in academia, business, industry, and government who is concerned with aspects of optimization theory, algorithms, and applications.

There are two main types of articles in the *Encyclopedia of Optimization*. The first type consists of survey-expository type articles regarding various topics of optimization of general interest. The second type contains more detailed concrete problems, techniques, or applications. The *Encyclopedia of Optimization* also contains articles that provide historical perspectives and selected biographical entries.

All articles provide an introduction and motivation for the subjects, present the important contributions and illustrations, and contain a list of references that can be used as pointers for more detailed information on the subject. Besides the five volumes of articles, a separate volume of a cumulative index with thorough cross-referencing is provided that can serve as a useful tool of searching.

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