



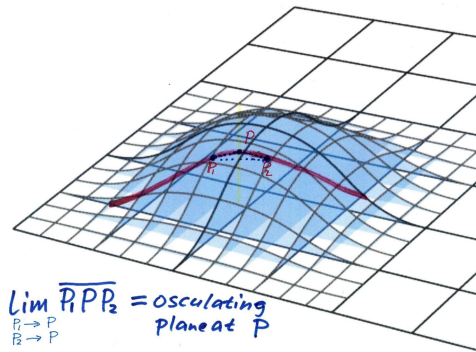
## Geodetic lines & basic geodetic problems

- Definitions: geodetic lines, geodetic triangles, geodetic azimuth, normal sections vs geodetic lines
- Three basic equations of geodetic lines
- Clairaut's equation
- Basic geodetic problems  
on the plane, on the sphere, on the reference ellipsoid
- Helmert-type differential formulas of geodetic lines
- Practical projects related to geodetic lines



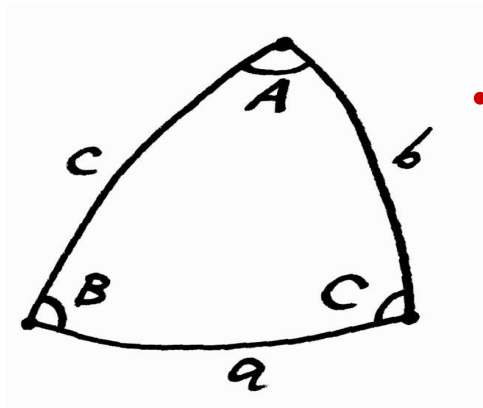
## Definition of geodetic lines

- Between two points on a curved surface, a curve which has the shortest length is called a **geodesic** or **geodetic line**
- Every point  $P$  on a curve  $\ell$  situated on a curved surface has an osculating plane
- If the osculating plane of  $P$  always contains the ellipsoidal normal at  $P$ , then  $\ell$  is a geodetic line





## Geodetic triangle and excess



- 3 geodetic lines form a *geodetic triangle*
- *geodetic excess* :

$$\mathcal{E} = A + B + C - 180^\circ$$

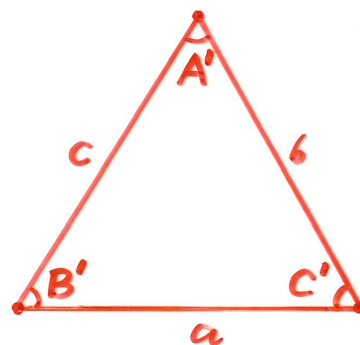
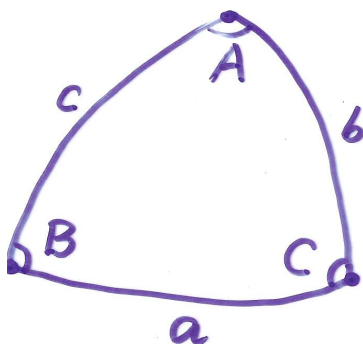
$$\varepsilon = \iint_T \frac{dT}{R_m^2} \approx \frac{T}{R_m^2}$$

$$R_m = \sqrt{MN} = \frac{a\sqrt{1-e^2}}{1-e^2 \sin^2 \phi}$$

$$\phi_m = \frac{\phi_A + \phi_B + \phi_C}{3}$$



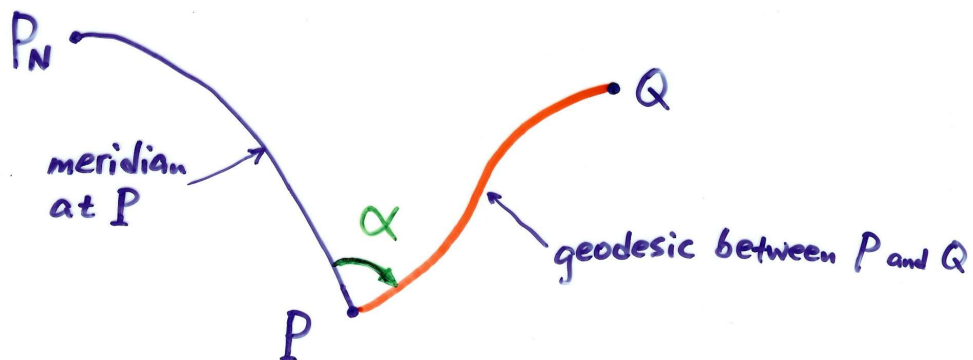
## Approximation of a geodetic triangle by a planar triangle



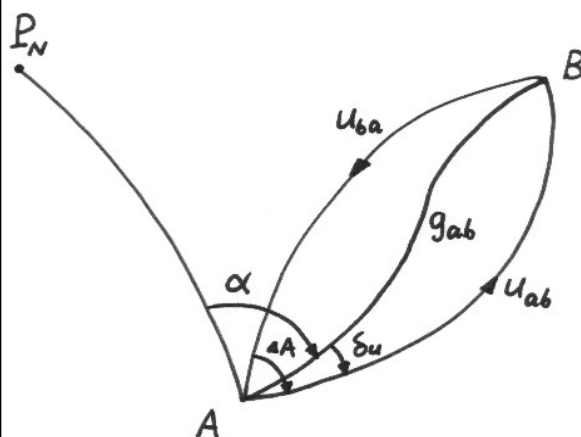
$$A' = A - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}, \quad B' = B - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}, \quad C' = C - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$$



## Geodetic azimuth



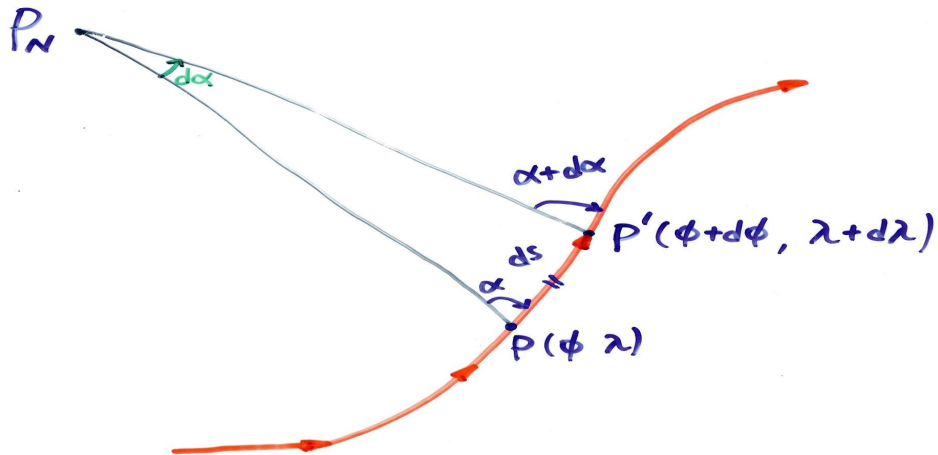
## Geodetic line & normal sections



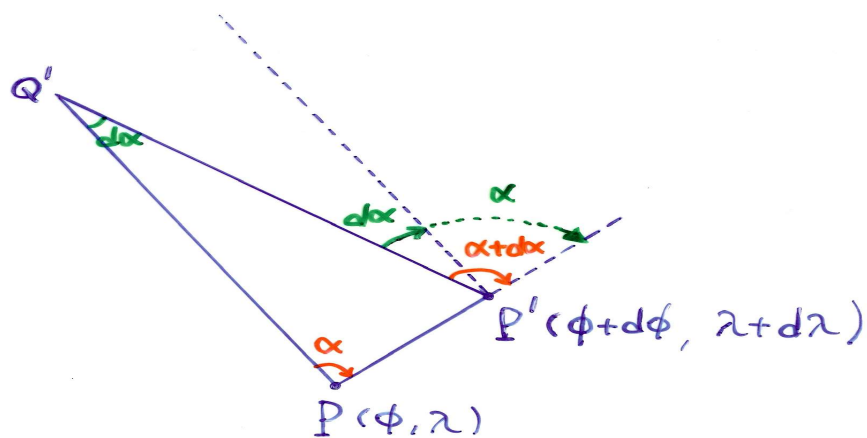
- Ellipsoidal normal, Normal plan, normal section
- Normal sections:  $U_{ab}$   $U_{ba}$
- Geodetic line:  $g_{ab}$
- Geodetic line  $g_{ab}$  does not coincide with normal sections ( $U_{ab}$ ,  $U_{ba}$ )

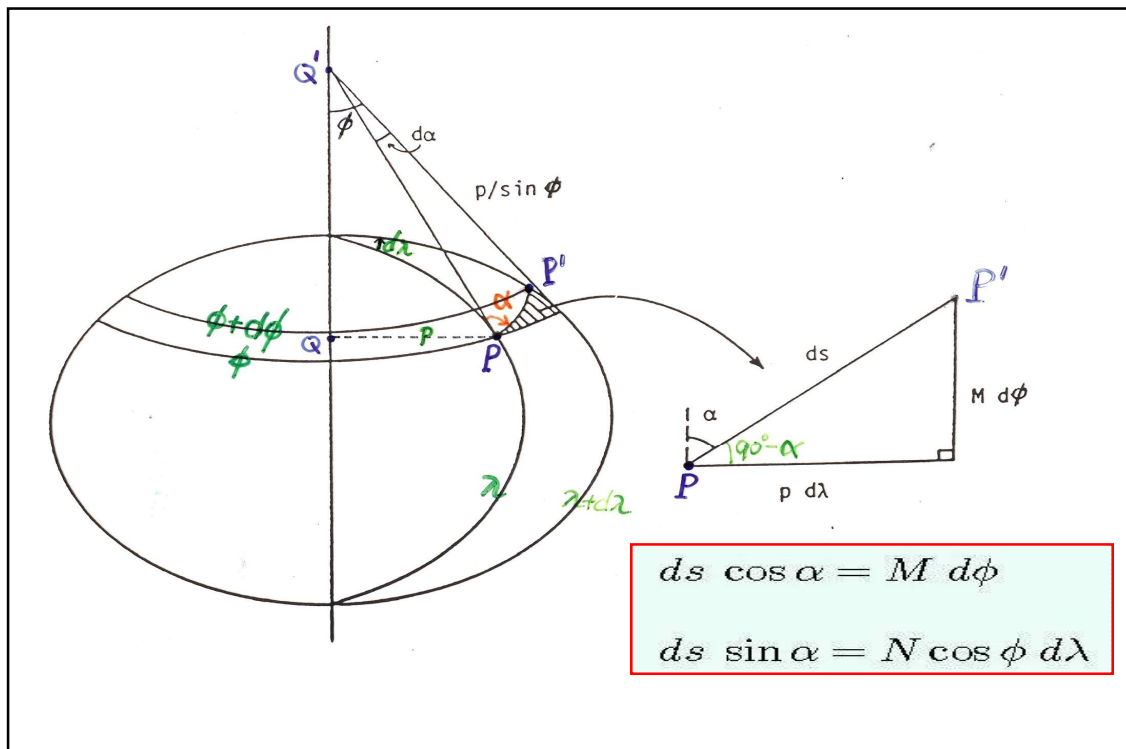


## Differential change along a geodesic line



## Azimuth change along a geodesic line





## Basic equations of Geodetic lines

$$ds \cos \alpha = M d\phi$$

$$ds \sin \alpha = N \cos \phi d\lambda$$

$$d\alpha = \sin \phi d\lambda$$

$$M = \frac{a(1 - e^2)}{(1 - e^2 \sin^2 \phi)^{3/2}} = \frac{a(1 - e^2)}{W^3}$$

$$N = \frac{a}{W} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{1 - e^2 \sin^2 \phi}}$$

$$W = \sqrt{1 - e^2 \sin^2 \phi}$$

$$p = N \cdot \cos \phi$$

$$\frac{dp}{d\phi} = -M \cdot \sin \phi$$



## Clairaut's equation of geodetic lines

$$p \cdot \sin \alpha = \text{constant} \quad (p = N \cos \varphi)$$

- Clairaut's equation can be derived from the three basic differential equations of geodetic lines
- Clairaut's equation shows how a geodetic line goes
- On a spherical surface, Clairaut's equation reduces to the sine theorem:

$$\cos \varphi \cdot \sin \alpha = \text{constant}$$

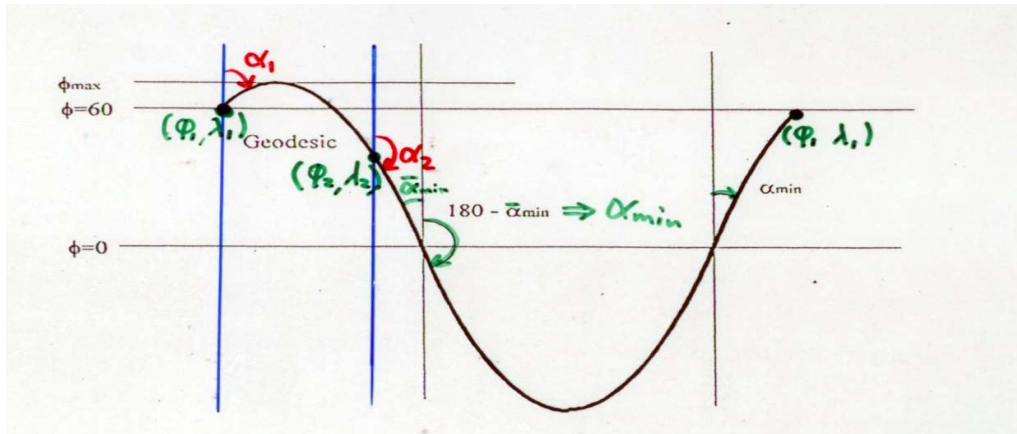


## Example of *one* geodesic

givet:  $\varphi_1 = 59^\circ 20' N$   $\varphi_2 = 39^\circ 55' N$   
 $\lambda_1 = 18^\circ 5' E$   
 $\alpha_1 = 60^\circ 51'$   
Sökt:  $\alpha_2 = ?$   
 $\alpha_{min} = ?$



## Example of *one* geodesic

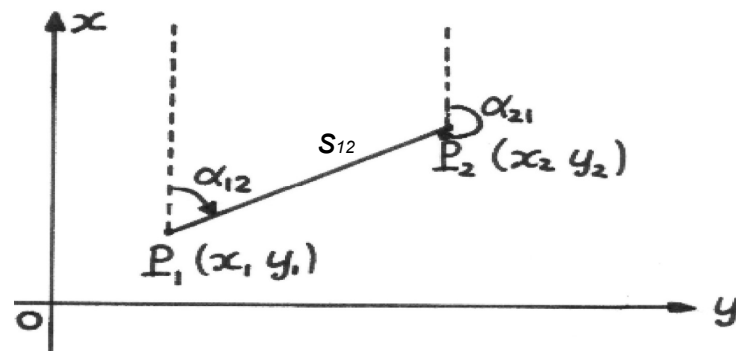


## Basic geodetic problems

- Basic problems on the plane
- Basic problems on the sphere
- Basic problems on the reference ellipsoid
  - Outline of solutions
  - Gauss method of mean arguments
  - Bessl's method for long distances
  - Example: maritime boundary delimitation
  - Example: global triangulation on the ellipsoid



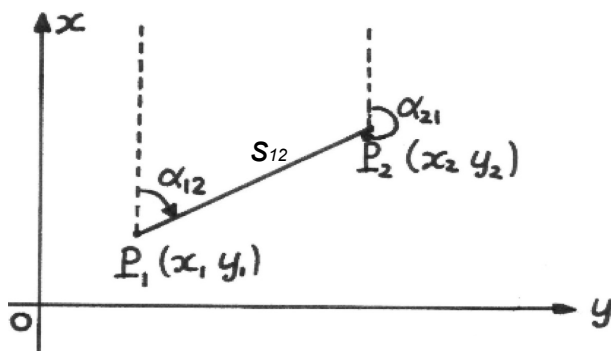
## Basic problems on the plane



- Direct problem: Find  $P_2$  when  $P_1$  and  $\alpha_{12}$ ,  $s_{12}$  are known
- Inverse problem: Find  $\alpha_{12}$ ,  $\alpha_{21}$ ,  $s_{12}$  when  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$  are known



## Basic problems on the plane



- Direct problem:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} s_{12} \cos \alpha_{12} \\ s_{12} \sin \alpha_{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

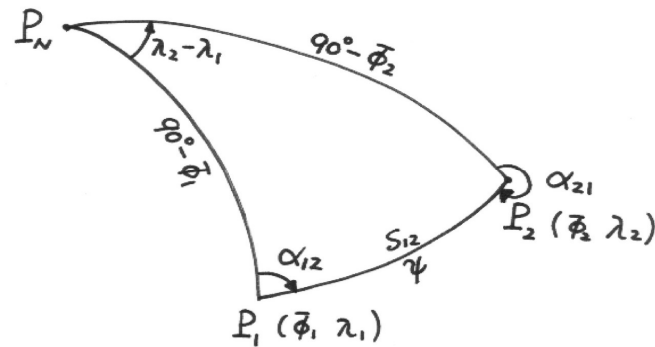
- Inverse problem:

$$\begin{bmatrix} s_{12} \\ \alpha_{12} \\ \alpha_{21} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2} \\ \arctan \{(y_2 - y_1)/(x_2 - x_1)\} \\ \alpha_{12} + 180^\circ \end{bmatrix}$$





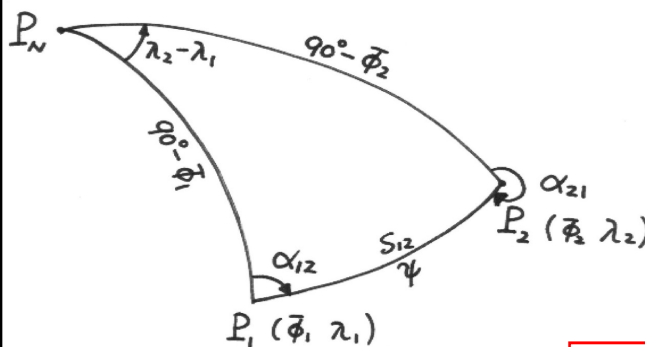
## Basic problems on the sphere



- Direct problem: Find  $P_2$  when  $P_1$  and  $\alpha_{12}$ ,  $s_{12}$  are known
- Inverse problem: Find  $\alpha_{12}$ ,  $\alpha_{21}$ ,  $s_{12}$  when  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$  are known



## Direct problem on the sphere



$$\psi = \frac{s_{12}}{R}$$

$$\sin \bar{\phi}_2 = \cos \psi \sin \bar{\phi}_1 + \sin \psi \cos \bar{\phi}_1 \cos \alpha_{12}$$

$$\cos \Delta \lambda = \frac{\cos \bar{\phi}_1 \sin \bar{\phi}_2 - \sin \psi \cos \alpha_{12}}{\sin \bar{\phi}_1 \cos \bar{\phi}_2}$$

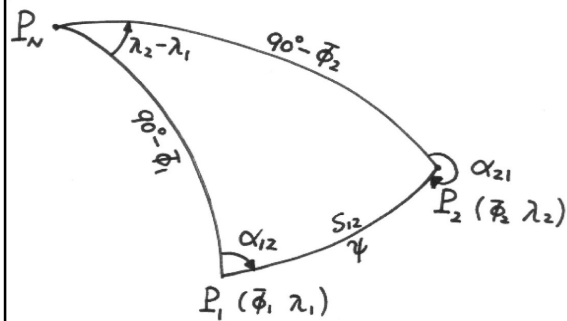
$$\lambda_2 = \lambda_1 \pm \Delta \lambda$$

$$\cos \alpha_{21} = \frac{\sin \bar{\phi}_1 \cos \bar{\phi}_2 - \cos \bar{\phi}_1 \sin \bar{\phi}_2 \cos(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)}{\sin \psi}$$

- If  $\alpha_{12} < 180^\circ$ , then take the *plus* sign
- If  $\alpha_{12} > 180^\circ$ , then take the *minus* sign



## Inverse problem on the sphere



$$\cos \psi = \sin \bar{\phi}_1 \sin \bar{\phi}_2 + \cos \bar{\phi}_1 \cos \bar{\phi}_2 \cos(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)$$

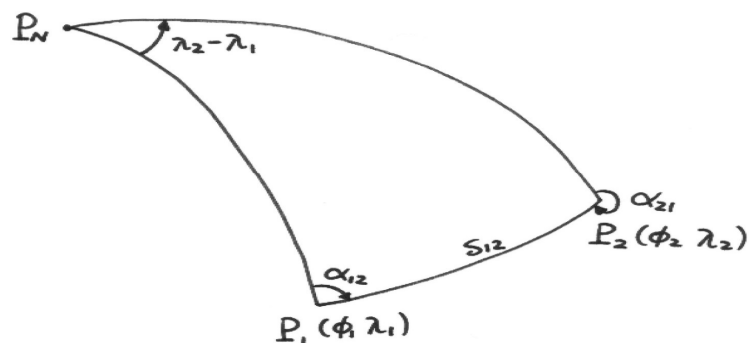
$$\cos \alpha_{12} = \frac{\cos \bar{\phi}_1 \sin \bar{\phi}_2 - \sin \bar{\phi}_1 \cos \bar{\phi}_2 \cos(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)}{\sin \psi}$$

$$\cos \alpha_{21} = \frac{\sin \bar{\phi}_1 \cos \bar{\phi}_2 - \cos \bar{\phi}_1 \sin \bar{\phi}_2 \cos(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)}{\sin \psi}$$

- If  $\lambda_2 > \lambda_1$ ,  $\alpha_{21}$  should be replaced by  $360^\circ - \alpha_{21}$
- If  $\lambda_2 < \lambda_1$ ,  $\alpha_{12}$  should be replaced by  $360^\circ - \alpha_{12}$



## Basic problems on the ellipsoid



- Direct problem: Find  $P_2$  when  $P_1$  and  $\alpha_{12}$ ,  $s_{12}$  are known
- Inverse problem: Find  $\alpha_{12}$ ,  $\alpha_{21}$ ,  $s_{12}$  when  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$  are known



## Methods for BGPs on the ellipsoid

- Series expansions

$$\phi_2 = \phi_1 + \frac{1}{1!} \frac{d\phi}{ds} s + \frac{1}{2!} \frac{d^2\phi}{ds^2} s^2 + \frac{1}{3!} \frac{d^3\phi}{ds^3} s^3 + \dots$$

$$\lambda_2 = \lambda_1 + \frac{1}{1!} \frac{d\lambda}{ds} s + \frac{1}{2!} \frac{d^2\lambda}{ds^2} s^2 + \frac{1}{3!} \frac{d^3\lambda}{ds^3} s^3 + \dots$$

$$\alpha_{21} = \alpha_{12} + \frac{1}{1!} \frac{d\alpha}{ds} s + \frac{1}{2!} \frac{d^2\alpha}{ds^2} s^2 + \frac{1}{3!} \frac{d^3\alpha}{ds^3} s^3 + \dots$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{ds} = \frac{\cos \alpha}{M}, \quad \frac{d\lambda}{ds} = \frac{\sin \alpha}{N \cos \phi}, \quad \frac{d\alpha}{ds} = \frac{\sin \alpha}{N \cot \phi}$$

$$\frac{d^n \phi}{ds^n} = \frac{\partial \left( \frac{d^{n-1} \phi}{ds^{n-1}} \right)}{\partial \phi} \frac{d\phi}{ds} + \frac{\partial \left( \frac{d^{n-1} \phi}{ds^{n-1}} \right)}{\partial \alpha} \frac{d\alpha}{ds}$$

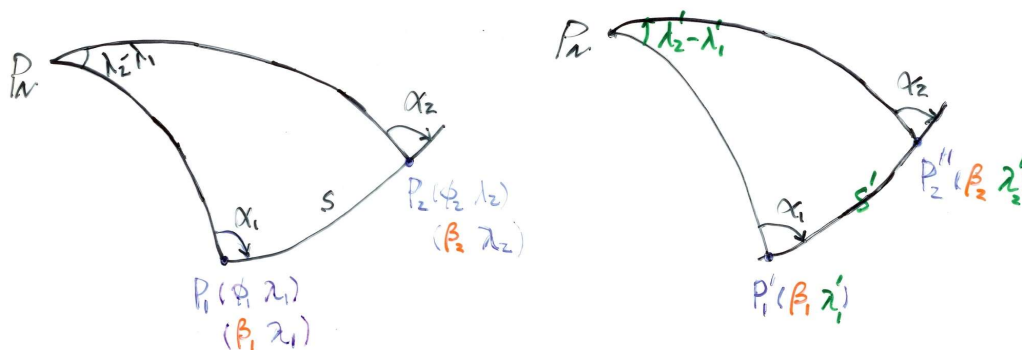
- Numerical integration

$$\frac{d\lambda}{ds} \rightarrow \infty, \quad \frac{d\alpha}{ds} \rightarrow \infty, \quad \text{as } \phi \rightarrow 90^\circ$$

- Spherical projection



## Bessel's spherical projection





## Gauss' method of mean arguments for medium distances <600km

- Series expansion around the average latitude
- Series expansion up to 4th terms
- Accurate for medium distances up to 600 km
- Solution to the inverse problem is straight-forward
- Solution to the direct problem is evaluated iteratively.
  - *Spherical solution can be the initial values*



## Gauss' method of mean arguments *Solution to the inverse problem*

$$\phi_m = \frac{\phi_1 + \phi_2}{2}, \quad \lambda_m = \frac{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}{2}, \quad \alpha_m = \frac{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \pm 180^\circ}{2}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M = \frac{a(1-e^2)}{W^3}, \quad N = \frac{a}{W}, \quad W = \sqrt{1 - e^2 \sin^2 \phi_m} \\ \eta_m = e' \cos \phi_m, \quad t_m = \tan \phi_m, \quad V_m^2 = 1 + \eta_m^2 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} C_1 = 1/M \\ C_2 = 1/N \\ C_3 = 1/24 \\ C_4 = (1 + \eta_m^2 - 9 \eta_m^2 t_m^2)/(24 V_m^4) \\ C_5 = (1 - 2 \eta_m^2)/24 \\ C_6 = \eta_m^2(t_m^2 - 1 - \eta_m^2 - 4 \eta_m^2 t_m^2)/(8 V_m^4) \\ C_7 = V_m^2/12 \\ C_8 = (3 + 5 \eta_m^2)/(24 V_m^2) \\ C_9 = 1/2880 \\ C_{10} = (4 + 15 t_m^2) \cos^2 \phi_m / 1440 \\ C_{11} = (12 t_m^2 + t_m^4) \cos^4 \phi_m / 2880 \\ C_{12} = (14 + 40 t_m^2 + 15 t_m^4) \cos^4 \phi_m / 2880 \\ C_{13} = 1/192 \\ C_{14} = \sin^2 \phi_m / 48 \\ C_{15} = (7 - 6 t_m^2) \cos^4 \phi_m / 1440 \end{array} \right\}$$



## Gauss' method of mean arguments

### *Solution to the inverse problem*

$$\begin{cases} \delta_1 = \frac{\Delta\phi \cos \frac{1}{2}\Delta\lambda}{C_1} \cdot [1 + C_5 \cos^2 \phi_m \Delta\lambda^2 - C_6 \Delta\phi^2 - (C_{10} \Delta\phi^2 \Delta\lambda^2 + C_{12} \Delta\lambda^4)] \\ \delta_2 = \frac{\Delta\lambda \cos \phi_m}{C_2} \cdot [1 - C_3 \sin^2 \phi_m \Delta\lambda^2 + C_4 \Delta\phi^2 + (C_9 \Delta\phi^4 - C_{10} \Delta\phi^2 \Delta\lambda^2 - C_{11} \Delta\lambda^4)] \\ \Delta\alpha = \sin \phi_m \Delta\lambda \cdot [1 + C_7 \cos^2 \phi_m \Delta\lambda^2 + C_8 \Delta\phi^2 + (C_{13} \Delta\phi^4 - C_{14} \Delta\phi^2 \Delta\lambda^2 + C_{15} \Delta\lambda^4)] \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} s_{12} = \sqrt{\delta_1^2 + \delta_2^2} \\ \alpha_m = \arctan(\delta_2/\delta_1) \\ \alpha_{12} = \alpha_m - \frac{1}{2}\Delta\alpha \\ \alpha_{21} = \alpha_m + \frac{1}{2}\Delta\alpha + 180^\circ \end{cases}$$

Attention:  $\Delta\phi, \Delta\lambda$  must be in radian !



## Gauss' method of mean arguments

### *Solution to the direct problem*

- Find initial values of  $\phi_2^0, \lambda_2^0$  e.g. from spherical solution
- Compute mean values and C-coefficients

$$\phi_m = \frac{\phi_1 + \phi_2^0}{2}, \quad \lambda_m = \frac{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2^0}{2}, \quad \alpha_m^0 = \frac{\alpha_1^0 + \alpha_2^0 \pm 180^\circ}{2}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} C_1 &= 1/M \\ C_2 &= 1/N \\ C_3 &= 1/24 \\ C_4 &= (1 + \eta_m^2 - 9 \eta_m^2 t_m^2)/(24 V_m^4) \\ C_5 &= (1 - 2 \eta_m^2)/24 \\ C_6 &= \eta_m^2(t_m^2 - 1 - \eta_m^2 - 4\eta_m^2 t_m^2)/(8V_m^4) \\ C_7 &= V_m^2/12 \\ C_8 &= (3 + 5\eta_m^2)/(24 V_m^2) \\ C_9 &= 1/2880 \\ C_{10} &= (4 + 15 t_m^2) \cos^2 \phi_m /1440 \\ C_{11} &= (12 t_m^2 + t_m^4) \cos^4 \phi_m /2880 \\ C_{12} &= (14 + 40 t_m^2 + 15 t_m^4) \cos^4 \phi_m /2880 \\ C_{13} &= 1/192 \\ C_{14} &= \sin^2 \phi_m /48 \\ C_{15} &= (7 - 6 t_m^2) \cos^4 \phi_m /1440 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$M = \frac{a(1-e^2)}{W^3}, \quad N = \frac{a}{W}, \quad W = \sqrt{1 - e^2 \sin^2 \phi_m}$$

$$\eta_m = e' \cos \phi_m, \quad t_m = \tan \phi_m, \quad V_m^2 = 1 + \eta_m^2$$



## Gauss' method of mean arguments

### *Solution to the direct problem*

- Compute coordinate differences:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta\phi = C_1 \frac{s_{12} \cos \alpha_m}{\cos \frac{1}{2} \Delta\lambda} \cdot [1 - C_5 \cos^2 \phi_m \Delta\lambda^2 + C_6 \Delta\phi^2 + (C_{10} \Delta\phi^2 \Delta\lambda^2 + C_{12} \Delta\lambda^4)] \\ \Delta\lambda = C_2 \frac{s_{12} \sin \alpha_m}{\cos \phi_m} \cdot [1 + C_3 \sin^2 \phi_m \Delta\lambda^2 - C_4 \Delta\phi^2 - (C_9 \Delta\phi^4 - C_{10} \Delta\phi^2 \Delta\lambda^2 - C_{11} \Delta\lambda^4)] \end{cases}$$

- Compute coordinates of  $P_2$  : 
$$\begin{cases} \phi_2 = \phi_1 + \Delta\phi \\ \lambda_2 = \lambda_1 + \Delta\lambda \end{cases}$$

- Iterate using computed coordinates of  $P_2$  as new initial values



## Helmert's differential formulas

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_2 &= \phi_2(\phi_1, \lambda_1, s, \alpha_{12}, a, f) \\ \lambda_2 &= \lambda_2(\phi_1, \lambda_1, s, \alpha_{12}, a, f) \\ \alpha_{21} &= \alpha_{21}(\phi_1, \lambda_1, s, \alpha_{12}, a, f) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{cases} d\phi_2 = \frac{\partial\phi_2}{\partial\phi_1} \cdot d\phi_1 & + \frac{\partial\phi_2}{\partial s} \cdot ds + \frac{\partial\phi_2}{\partial\alpha_{12}} \cdot d\alpha_{12} + \frac{\partial\phi_2}{\partial a} \cdot da + \frac{\partial\phi_2}{\partial f} \cdot df \\ d\lambda_2 = \frac{\partial\lambda_2}{\partial\phi_1} \cdot d\phi_1 + d\lambda_1 & + \frac{\partial\lambda_2}{\partial s} \cdot ds + \frac{\partial\lambda_2}{\partial\alpha_{12}} \cdot d\alpha_{12} + \frac{\partial\lambda_2}{\partial a} \cdot da + \frac{\partial\lambda_2}{\partial f} \cdot df \\ d\alpha_{21} = \frac{\partial\alpha_{21}}{\partial\phi_1} \cdot d\phi_1 & + \frac{\partial\alpha_{21}}{\partial s} \cdot ds + \frac{\partial\alpha_{21}}{\partial\alpha_{12}} \cdot d\alpha_{12} + \frac{\partial\alpha_{21}}{\partial a} \cdot da + \frac{\partial\alpha_{21}}{\partial f} \cdot df \end{cases}$$



## Helmert's differential formulas

$$\left. \begin{aligned}
 d\phi_2 &= p_1 \cdot d\phi_1 + p_3 \cdot ds + p_4 \cdot d\alpha_{12} + p_5 \cdot \frac{da}{a} + p_6 \cdot df \\
 \cos \phi_2 \cdot d\lambda_2 &= q_1 \cdot d\phi_1 + d\lambda_1 + q_3 \cdot ds + q_4 \cdot d\alpha_{12} + q_5 \cdot \frac{da}{a} + q_6 \cdot df \\
 \cot \phi_2 \cdot d\alpha_{21} &= r_1 \cdot d\phi_1 + r_3 \cdot ds + r_4 \cdot d\alpha_{12} + r_5 \cdot \frac{da}{a} + r_6 \cdot df
 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (s < 50 \text{ km})$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned}
 p_1 &= -\frac{M_1}{M_2} \left[ \cos \alpha_{12} \cos \alpha_{21} - \left( \frac{dm}{ds} \right)_2 \sin \alpha_{12} \sin \alpha_{21} \right] \\
 p_3 &= +\frac{\cos \alpha_{21}}{M_2} \\
 p_4 &= -\frac{m}{M_2} \cdot \sin \alpha_{21} \\
 p_5 &= -\frac{s}{M_2} \cdot \cos \alpha_{21} \\
 p_6 &= 2 \cdot \Delta\phi - \left( 3\Delta\phi - \frac{1}{2}\Delta\lambda \sin \phi_1 \cos \phi_1 \right) \sin^2 \phi_1 \\
 q_1 &= \frac{M_1}{N_2} \cdot \sin \Delta\lambda \cdot \sin \phi_2 \\
 q_3 &= \frac{N_2 \sin \alpha_{21}}{N_2} \\
 q_4 &= W_2 \cdot \sin \Delta\lambda \cdot \cos \phi_1 \cdot \cot \alpha_{21} \\
 q_5 &= -\frac{s}{W_2} \sin \alpha_{21} \\
 q_6 &= -\Delta\lambda \sin^2 \phi_1 \cos \phi_1 \\
 r_1 &= \frac{\sin \Delta\lambda}{\sin \phi_2} \cdot \left( 1 - \frac{1}{4}e^2 \sin^2 2\phi_1 \right) \\
 r_3 &= q_3 \\
 r_4 &= q_4 + \cos \frac{s}{a} \cdot \cot \phi_2 \\
 r_5 &= -\frac{s}{N_2} \sin \alpha_{21} \\
 r_6 &= q_6 + \Delta\phi \cdot \Delta\lambda \frac{\cos^4 \phi_1}{\sin \phi_1} \\
 \Delta\phi &= \phi_2 - \phi_1 \\
 \Delta\lambda &= \lambda_2 - \lambda_1
 \end{aligned} \right\}$$



## Inverse formulas

$$\left. \begin{aligned}
 s &= s(\phi_1, \lambda_1, \phi_2, \lambda_2) \\
 \alpha_{12} &= \alpha_1(\phi_1, \lambda_1, \phi_2, \lambda_2)
 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

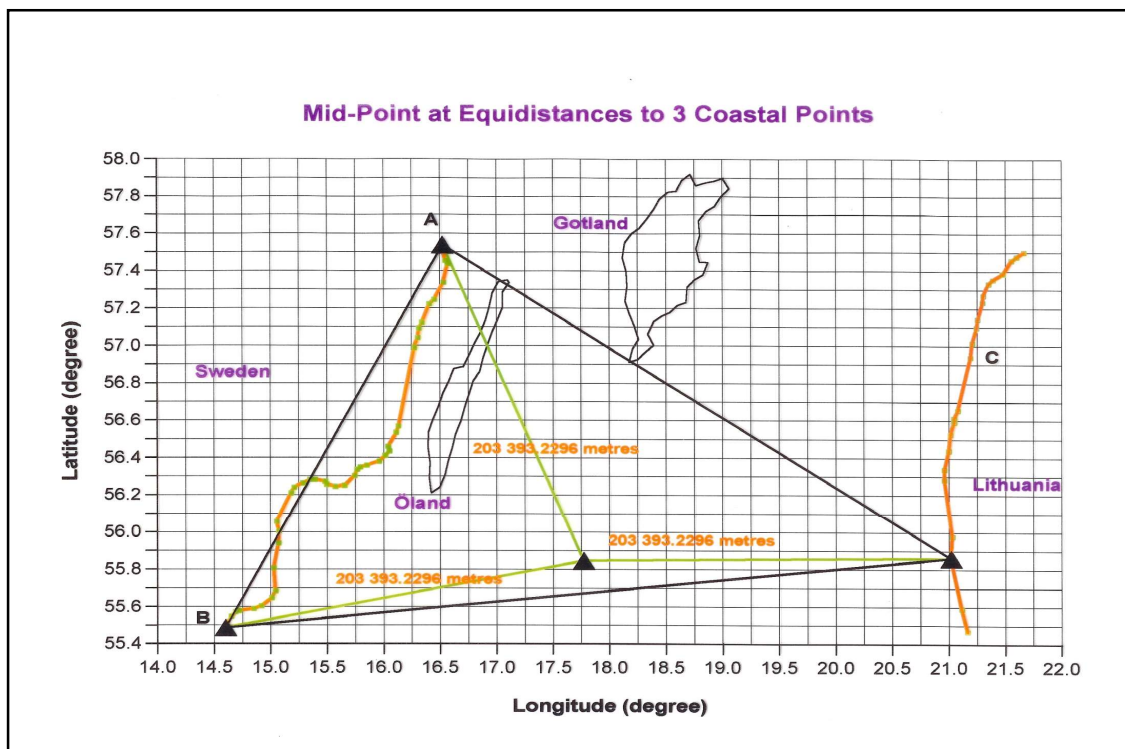
$$\begin{aligned}
 ds &= \frac{\partial s}{\partial \phi_1} d\phi_1 + \frac{\partial s}{\partial \lambda_1} d\lambda_1 + \frac{\partial s}{\partial \phi_2} d\phi_2 + \frac{\partial s}{\partial \lambda_2} d\lambda_2 = a_1 d\phi_1 + b_1 d\lambda_1 + a_2 d\phi_2 + b_2 d\lambda_2 \\
 d\alpha_{12} &= \frac{\partial \alpha_{12}}{\partial \phi_1} d\phi_1 + \frac{\partial \alpha_{12}}{\partial \lambda_1} d\lambda_1 + \frac{\partial \alpha_{12}}{\partial \phi_2} d\phi_2 + \frac{\partial \alpha_{12}}{\partial \lambda_2} d\lambda_2 = c_1 d\phi_1 + d_1 d\lambda_1 + c_2 d\phi_2 + d_2 d\lambda_2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_1 &= -M_1 \cos \alpha_{12} & c_1 &= \frac{1}{s} M_1 \sin \alpha_{12} \\
 b_1 &= N_2 \cos \phi_2 \sin \alpha_{21} & d_1 &= \frac{1}{s} N_2 \cos \phi_2 \cos \alpha_{21} \\
 a_2 &= -M_2 \cos \alpha_{21} & c_2 &= \frac{1}{s} M_2 \sin \alpha_{21} \\
 b_2 &= -N_2 \cos \phi_2 \sin \alpha_{21} & d_2 &= -\frac{1}{s} N_2 \cos \phi_2 \cos \alpha_{21}
 \end{aligned}$$



## Practical project 1: maritime boundary delimitation in the Baltic Sea

- GALOS: Geodetic Aspects of the Law of the Sea
- Find mid-points between two coastal lines
- All points are assumed to be on the ellipsoid
- Use Gauss' method of mean arguments to calculate the lengths of geodetic lines
- Differential formulas used to converge from approximate solutions to final solutions







## Practical project 2: *Numerical bisection on the reference ellipsoid*

- Global triangulation with geodetic lines
- Two points are fixed with given coordinates and azimuths to a 3rd point are also given
- How to find the geodetic/latitude/longitude of the 3rd point ?
- Spherical solution is used as a approximate solution
- Differential formulas used to correct the approximate solutions
- Numerical differentiation used (*finite differencing*)
- Iteration is used.

