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**TRACKING and DETECTION in  
COMPUTER VISION**

**Non-linear optimization and robust  
estimation for tracking**

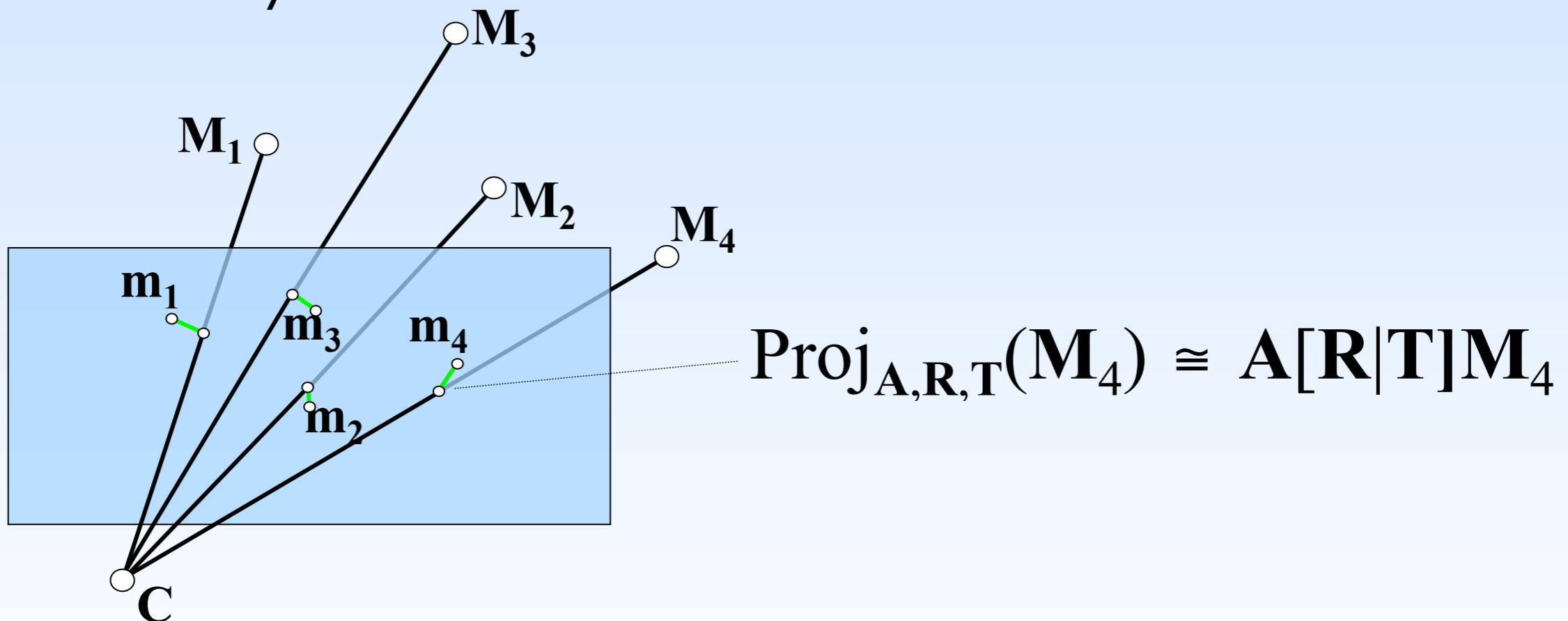
**Slobodan Ilić**

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# Minimization of the Reprojection Error

$$\min_{\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{T}} \sum_i \left\| \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{T}}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right\|^2$$

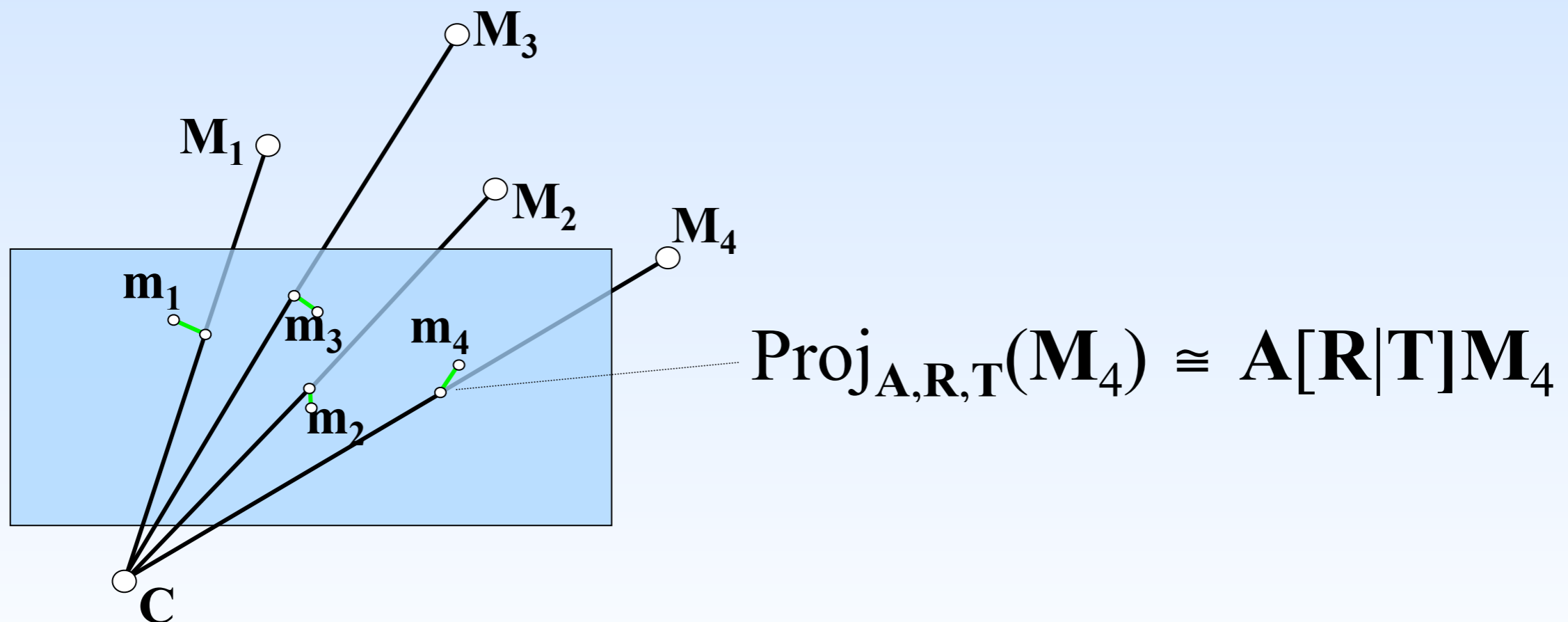
- Minimization of a physical, meaningful error (reprojection error, in pixels);
- No restriction on the number of correspondences;
- Can be very accurate.



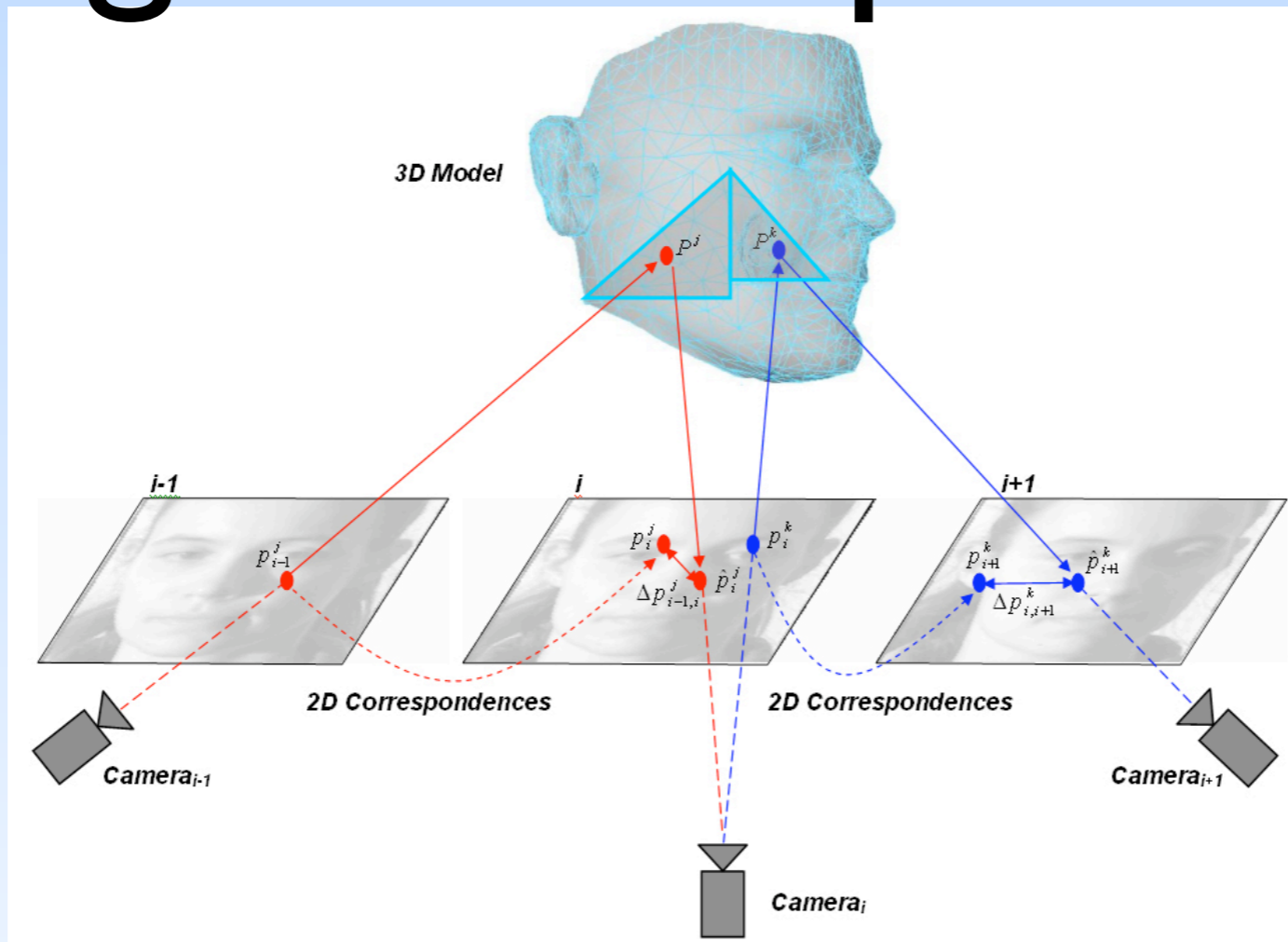
# Minimization of the Reprojection Error

$$\min_{\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{T}} \sum_i \left\| \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{T}}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right\|^2$$

- Non-linear least-squares minimization;
- Requires an iterative numerical optimization  $\rightarrow$  Requires an initialization.



# Objective function handling image correspondences

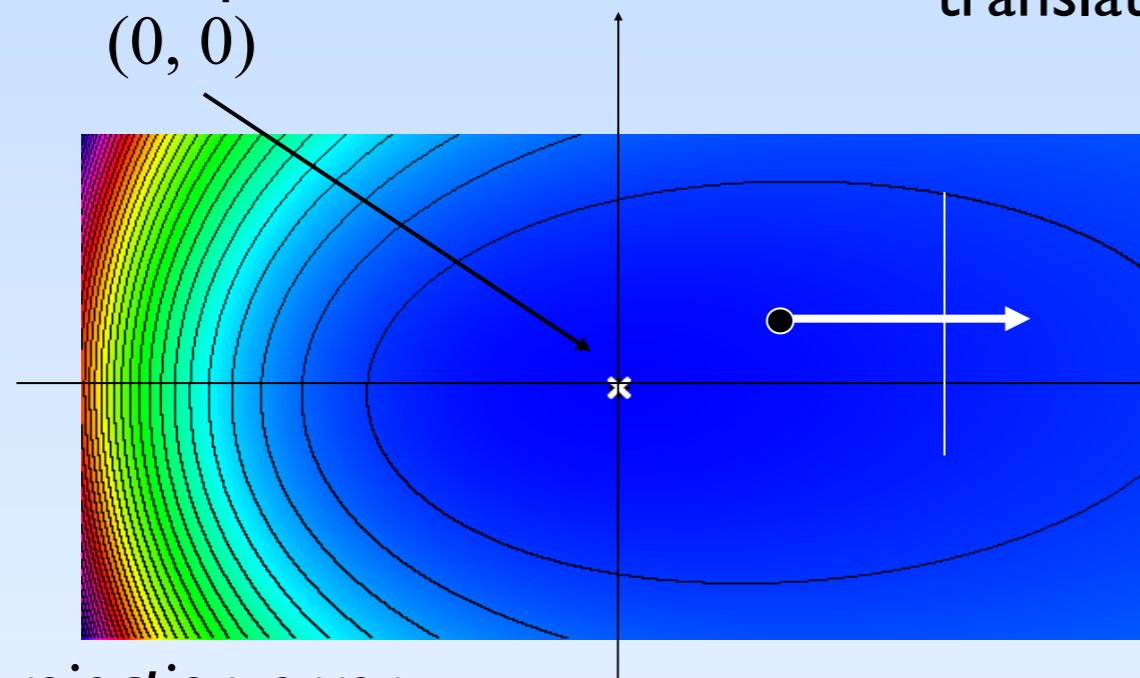


$$\min_{R,T} = \sum_{k=1}^N w_i^k \|\hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i+1}^k - \mathbf{p}_{i+1}^k\| = \sum_{k=1}^N w_i^k \|\psi(\mathbf{p}_i^k, \Theta) - \mathbf{p}_{i+1}^k\|$$

$\psi(\mathbf{p}_i^k, \Theta)$  - transfer function of a back projection

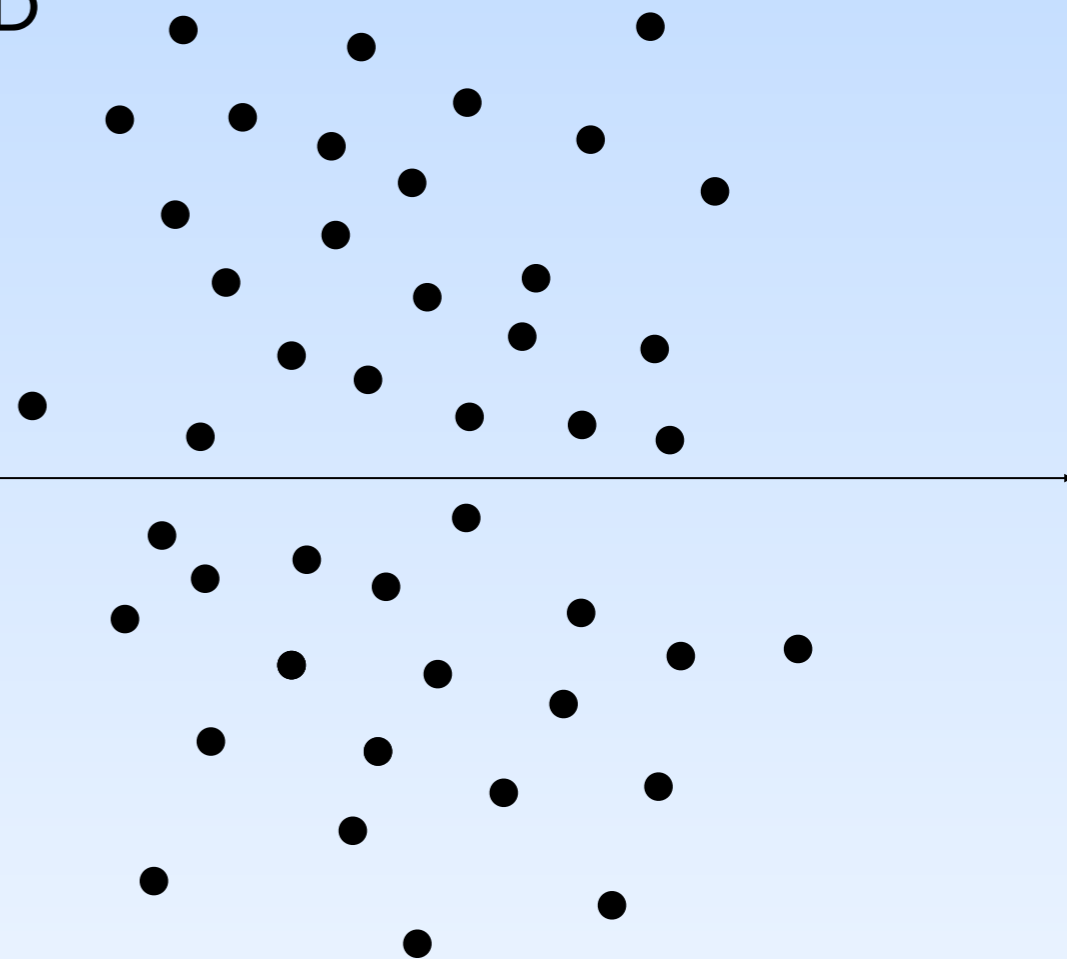
# Toy Problem

True camera position at  
 $(0, 0)$



*reprojection error*

ID camera under 2D  
translation



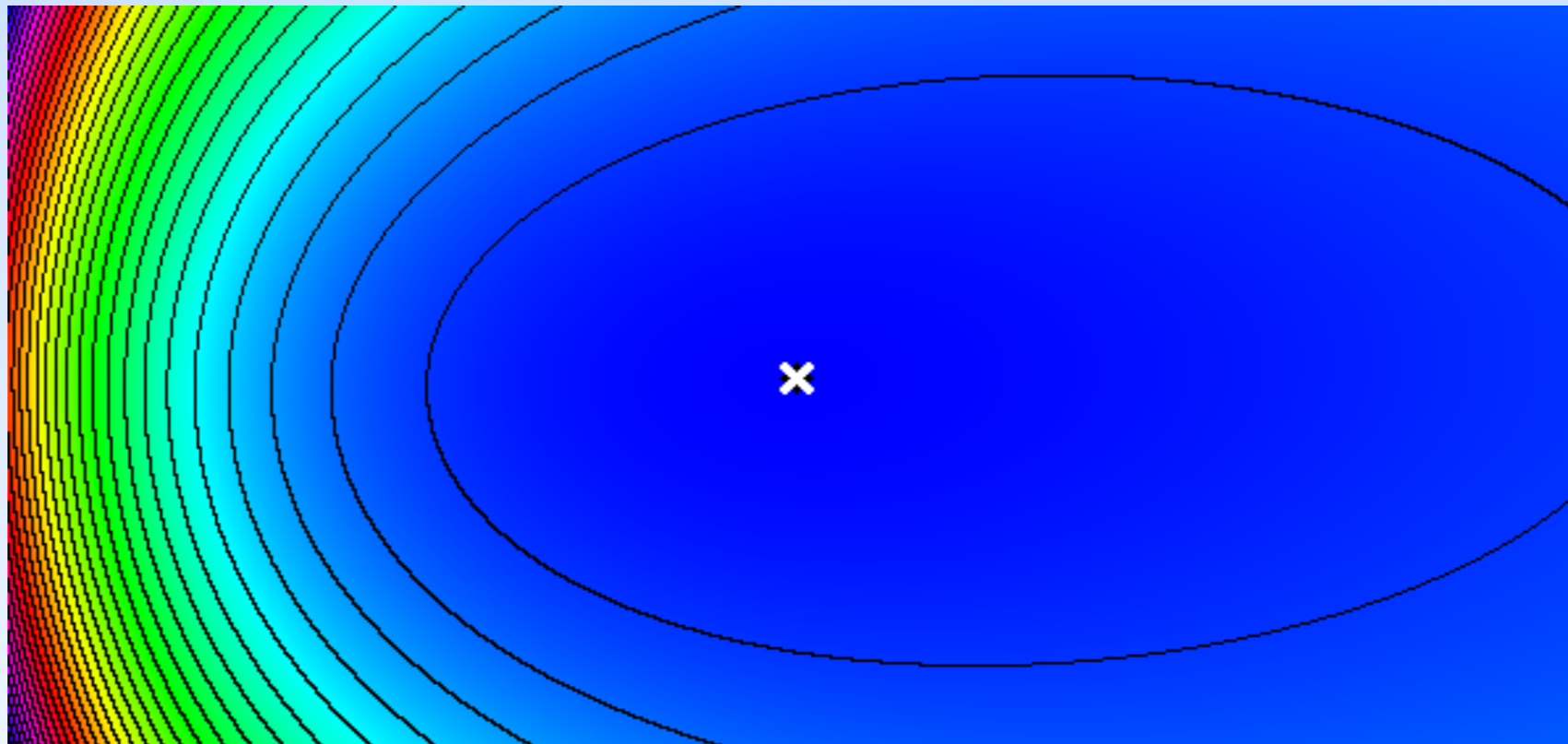
100 "3D points" taken at  
randomly in  
 $[400; 1000] \times [-500; +500]$

# Gaussian Noise on the Projections

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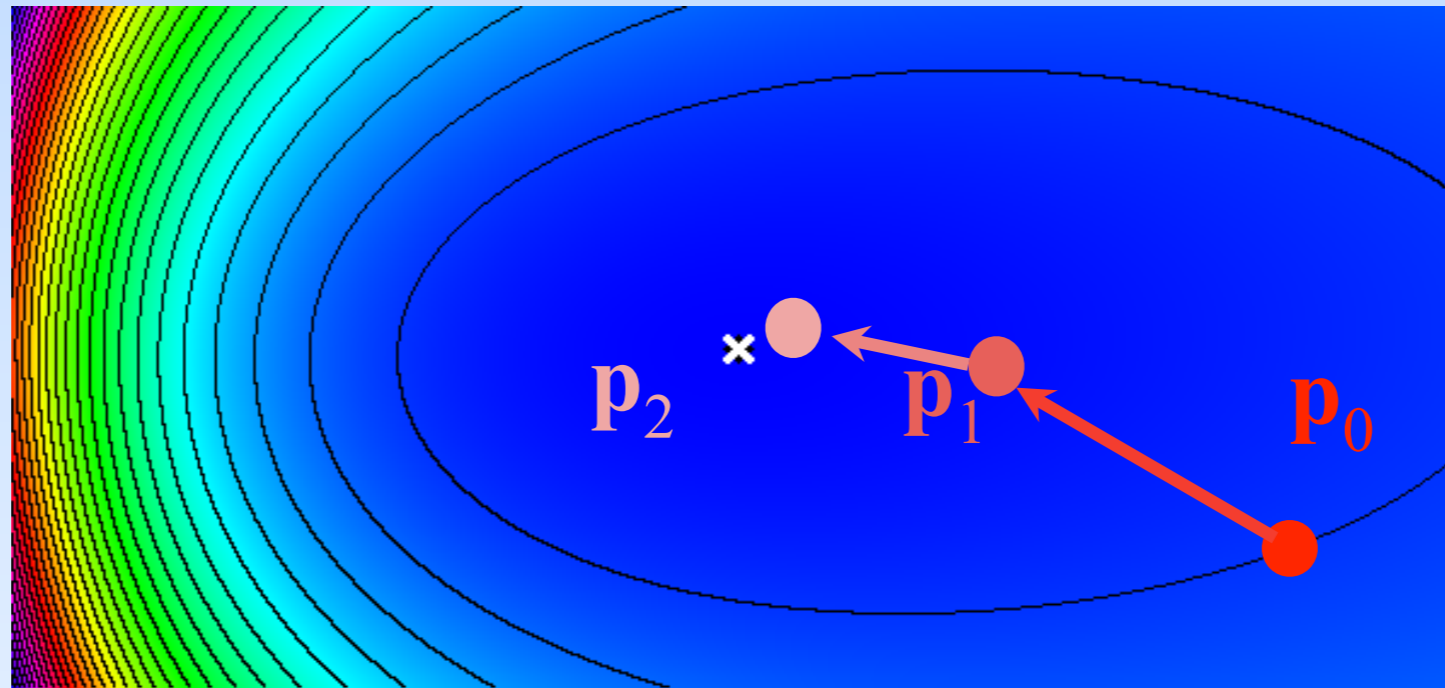
White cross: true camera position;

Black cross: global minimum of the objective function.



In case of Gaussian noise on projections, the global minimum of the objective function is very close(almost identical) to the true camera pose.

# Numerical Optimization



Start from an initial guess  $p_0$ :

$p_0$  can be taken randomly but should be as close as possible to the global minimum:

- pose computed at time  $t-1$ ;
- pose predicted from pose computed at time  $t-1$  and a motion model;
- ...

# Numerical Optimization

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General methods:

- Gradient descent / Steepest Descent;
- Conjugate Gradient;
- ...

Non-linear Least-squares optimization:

- Gauss-Newton;
- Levenberg-Marquardt;
- ...



# Numerical Optimization

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We want to find  $\mathbf{p}$  that minimizes:

$$\begin{aligned} E(\mathbf{p}) &= \sum_i \left\| \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right\|^2 \\ &= \left\| f(\mathbf{p}) - \mathbf{b} \right\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$f(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{bmatrix} u(\text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_1)) \\ v(\text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_1)) \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} u(\mathbf{m}_1) \\ v(\mathbf{m}_1) \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

- $\mathbf{p}$  is a vector of parameters that define the camera pose (translation vector + parameters of the rotation matrix);
- $\mathbf{b}$  is a vector made of the measurements (here the  $\mathbf{m}_i$ );
- $f$  is the function that relates the camera pose to these measurements.

# Gradient descent / Steepest Descent

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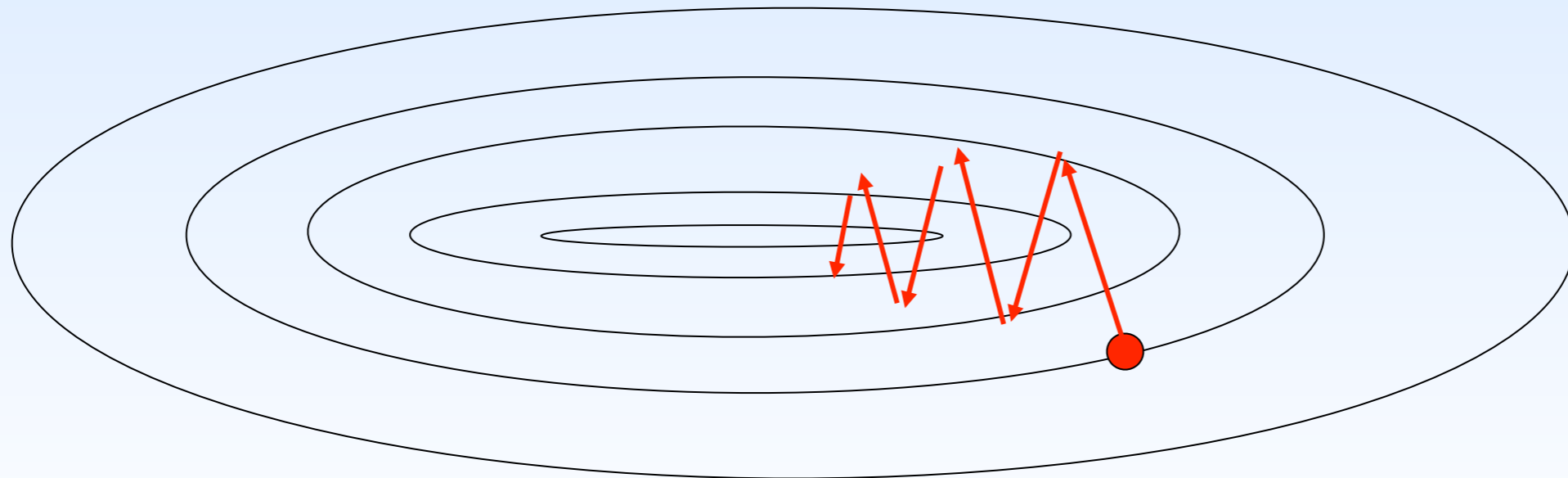
$$\mathbf{p}_{i+1} = \mathbf{p}_i - \lambda \nabla E(\mathbf{p}_i)$$

$$E(\mathbf{p}_i) = \|f(\mathbf{p}_i) - \mathbf{b}\|^2 = (f(\mathbf{p}_i) - \mathbf{b})^\top (f(\mathbf{p}_i) - \mathbf{b})$$

→  $\nabla E(\mathbf{p}_i) = 2\mathbf{J}(f(\mathbf{p}_i) - \mathbf{b})$  with  $\mathbf{J}$  the Jacobian matrix of  $f$ , computed at  $\mathbf{p}_i$

*Weaknesses:*

- How to choose  $\lambda$  ?
- Needs a lot of iterations in long and narrow valleys:



# The Gauss-Newton and the Levenberg-Marquardt alg.

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = \|f(\mathbf{p}) - \mathbf{b}\|^2$$

If the function  $f$  is linear ie  $f(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{p}$ ,  $\mathbf{p}$  can be estimated as:

$$\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{A}^+ \mathbf{b}$$

where  $\mathbf{A}^+$  is the pseudo-inverse of  $\mathbf{A}$ :  $\mathbf{A}^+ = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T$

# Non-Linear Least-Squares: The Gauss-Newton

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Iteration steps:

$$\mathbf{p}_{i+1} = \mathbf{p}_i + \Delta_i$$

$\Delta_i$  is chosen to minimize the residual  $\|f(\mathbf{p}_{i+1}) - \mathbf{b}\|^2$ . It is computed by approximating  $f$  to the first order:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_i &= \arg \min_{\Delta} \|f(\mathbf{p}_i + \Delta) - \mathbf{b}\|^2 \\ &= \arg \min_{\Delta} \|f(\mathbf{p}_i) + \mathbf{J}\Delta - \mathbf{b}\|^2 && \text{First order approximation: } f(\mathbf{p}_i + \Delta) \approx f(\mathbf{p}_i) + \mathbf{J}\Delta \\ &= \arg \min_{\Delta} \|\varepsilon_i + \mathbf{J}\Delta\|^2 && \varepsilon_i = f(\mathbf{p}_i) - \mathbf{b} \text{ denotes the residual at iteration } i \end{aligned}$$

$\Delta_i$  is the solution of the system  $\mathbf{J}\Delta = -\varepsilon_i$  in the least - squares sense :

$\Delta_i = -\mathbf{J}^+ \varepsilon_i$  where  $\mathbf{J}^+$  is the pseudo - inverse of  $\mathbf{J}$

# Non-Linear Least-Squares: The Levenberg-Marquardt Alg.

In the Gauss-Newton algorithm:

$$\Delta_i = -(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J})^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i$$

In the Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm:

$$\Delta_i = -(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i$$

Levenberg-Marquardt Algorithm:

0. Initialize  $\lambda$  with a small value:  $\lambda = 0.001$
1. Compute  $\Delta_i$  and  $E(\mathbf{p}_i + \Delta_i)$
2. If  $E(\mathbf{p}_i + \Delta_i) > E(\mathbf{p}_i)$ :  $\lambda \leftarrow 10 \lambda$  and go back to 1 [*happens when the linear approximation of  $f$  is too rough*]
3. If  $E(\mathbf{p}_i + \Delta_i) < E(\mathbf{p}_i)$ :  $\lambda \leftarrow \lambda / 10$ ,  $\mathbf{p}_{i+1} \leftarrow \mathbf{p}_i + \Delta_i$  and go back to 1.

# Non-Linear Least-Squares: The Levenberg-Marquardt Alg.

$$\Delta_i = -(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i$$

- When  $\lambda$  is small, LM behaves similarly to the Gauss-Newton algorithm.
- When  $\lambda$  becomes large, LM behaves similarly to a steepest descent to guarantee convergence.

# Possible Parameterizations of the Rotation Matrix

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Rotation in 3D space has only 3 degrees of freedom.

It would be awkward to use the nine elements as its parameters.

Possible parameterizations:

- Euler Angles;
- Quaternions;
- Exponential Map.

All have singularities, can be avoided by locally reparameterizing the rotation.

Exponential map has the best properties.

[From Grassia [GT98]]

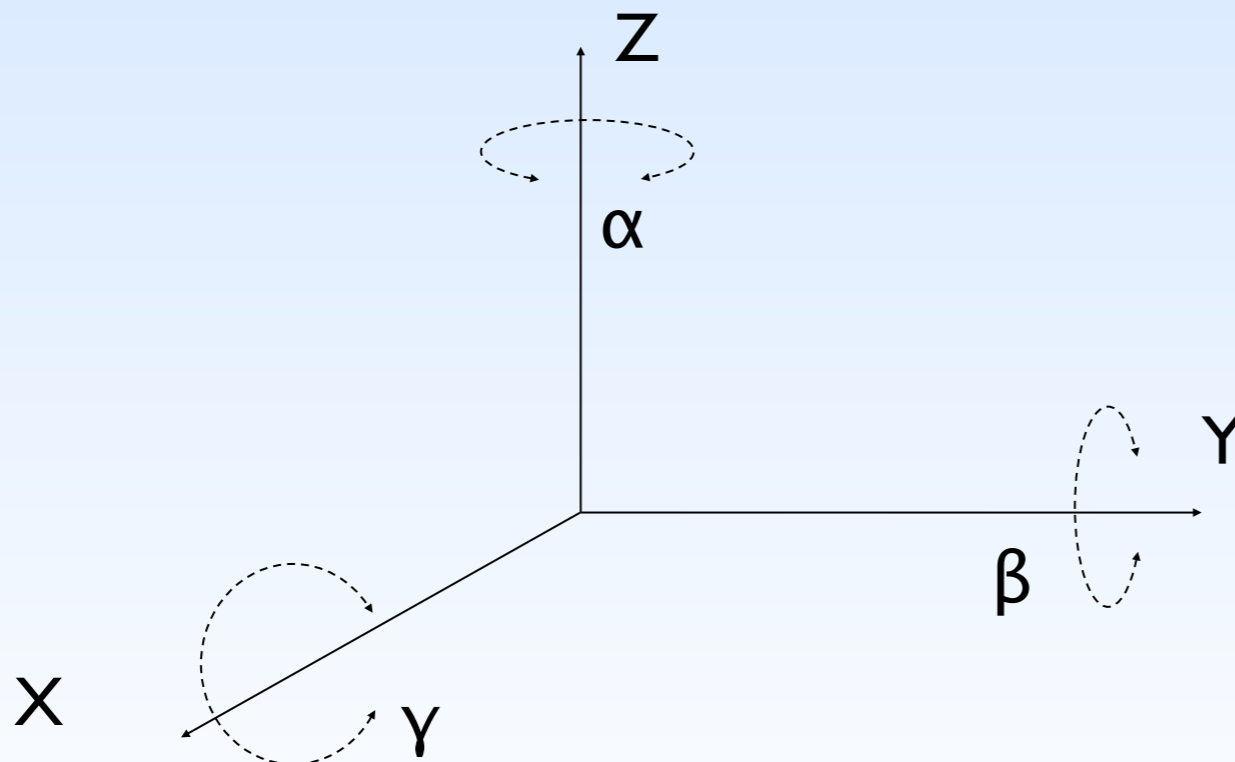
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# Euler Angles

Rotation defined by angles of rotation around the X-, Y-, and Z- axes.

Different conventions. For example:

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha & -\sin \alpha & 0 \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \beta & 0 & \sin \beta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \beta & 0 & \cos \beta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \gamma & -\sin \gamma \\ 0 & \sin \gamma & \cos \gamma \end{bmatrix}$$





# Gimbal Lock

When  $\beta = \pi/2$ ,

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha & -\sin \alpha & 0 \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \beta & 0 & \sin \beta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \beta & 0 & \cos \beta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \gamma & -\sin \gamma \\ 0 & \sin \gamma & \cos \gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha & -\sin \alpha & 0 \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \gamma & -\sin \gamma \\ 0 & \sin \gamma & \cos \gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha & -\sin \alpha & 0 \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \sin \gamma & \cos \gamma \\ 0 & \cos \gamma & -\sin \gamma \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \cos \alpha \sin \gamma - \sin \alpha \cos \gamma & \cos \alpha \cos \gamma + \sin \alpha \sin \gamma \\ 0 & \sin \alpha \sin \gamma + \cos \alpha \cos \gamma & \sin \alpha \cos \gamma - \cos \alpha \sin \gamma \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \sin(\gamma - \alpha) & \cos(\gamma - \alpha) \\ 0 & \cos(\gamma - \alpha) & -\sin(\gamma - \alpha) \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Gimbal Lock and Optimization

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When  $\beta = \pi/2$ ,

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \sin(\gamma - \alpha) & \cos(\gamma - \alpha) \\ 0 & \cos(\gamma - \alpha) & -\sin(\gamma - \alpha) \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

the rotation by  $\gamma$  can be cancelled by taking  $\alpha = \gamma$ .

That means that

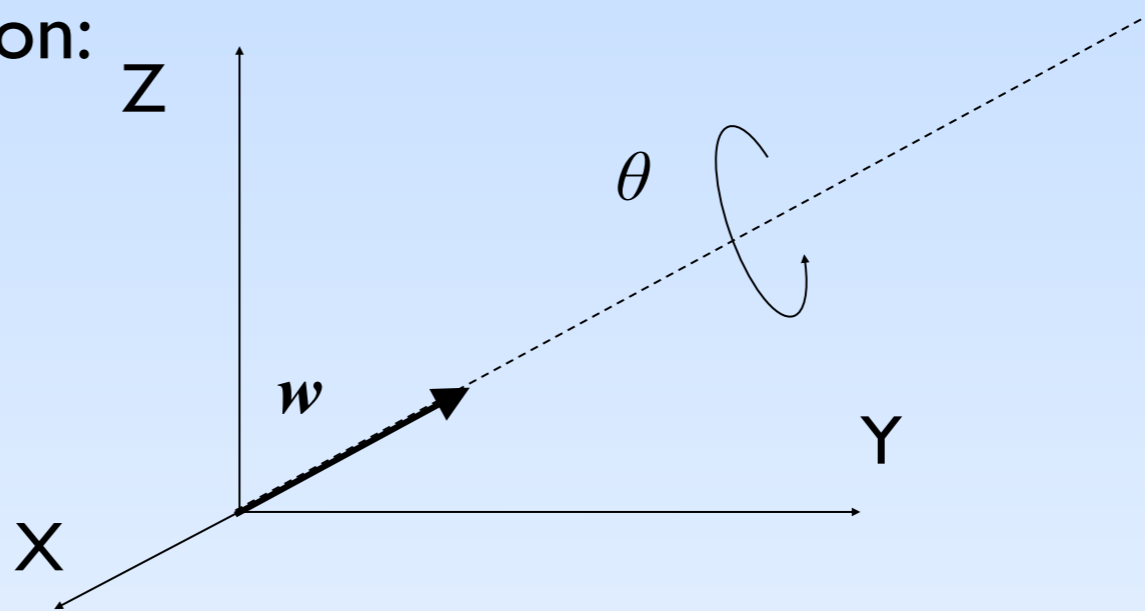
- for each possible angle  $\theta$ , all  $(\alpha, \beta = \pi/2, \gamma = \alpha + \theta)$  correspond to the same rotation matrix

=> for each possible angle  $\theta$ , there is a flat valley of axis  $(\alpha, \beta = \pi/2, \gamma = \alpha + \theta)$  in the energy to be minimized.

# Axis angle representation and quaternions

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A rotation about the unit vector  $w$  by an angle  $\theta$  can be represented by the unit quaternion:



Quaternions are hyper-complex numbers that can be written as the linear combination  $a+bi+cj+dk$ , with  $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = ijk = -1$ .

Can also be interpreted as a scalar plus a 3- vector:  $(a, v)$ .

$$q = \left( \cos \frac{\theta}{2}, w \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \right)$$

# A Unit Quaternion

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To rotate a 3D point  $\mathbf{M}$ : write it as a quaternion  $p = (0, \mathbf{M})$ ,  
and take the rotated point  $p'$  to be

$$q = \left( \cos \frac{\theta}{2}, \mathbf{w} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \right)$$

No gimbal lock.

$$p' = q \cdot p \bar{q} \quad \text{with} \quad \bar{q} = \left( \cos \frac{\theta}{2}, -\mathbf{w} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \right)$$

The norm of  $q$  must be equal to 1.  $\|q\| = 1$

In order to enforce this during optimization we have to add  
regularization term:  $k(1 - \|q\|^2)$

# Exponential Maps

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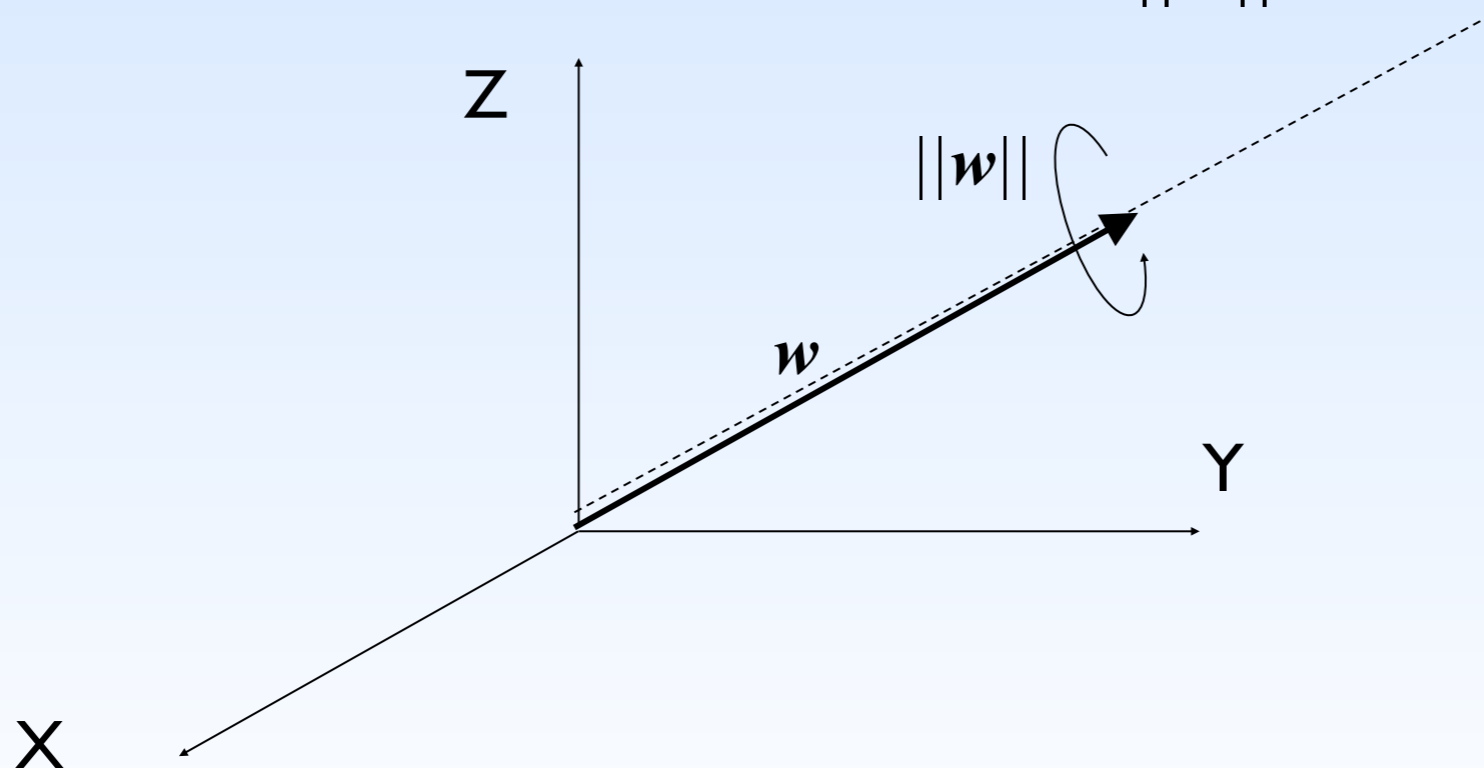
No gimbal lock;

No additional constraints;

Singularities occur in a region that can easily be avoided.



Parameterization by a 3D vector  $\mathbf{w}=[w_1, w_2, w_3]^T$ : Rotation around the axis of direction  $\mathbf{w}$  of an amount of  $\|\mathbf{w}\|$



# Rodrigues' Formula

$$\mathbf{w} \times \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{\Omega} \mathbf{c} \quad \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -w_z & w_y \\ w_z & 0 & -w_x \\ -w_y & w_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{skew symmetric matrix} \\ \mathbf{w} \text{ normalised } \frac{\boldsymbol{\omega}}{\|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|} \\ \|\mathbf{w}\|_2 = 1 \end{array}$$

The rotation matrix can be defined as an exponential map  $exp : so(3) \rightarrow SO(3)$  given by:

$$R = exp(\theta \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\theta \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}})^k}{k!} = I + \theta \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} + \frac{1}{2!} (\theta \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}})^2 + \frac{1}{3!} (\theta \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}})^3 + \dots$$

knowing  $\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}^3 = -\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}, \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}^4 = -\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}^2, \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}^5 = \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}, \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}^6 = \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}^2, \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}^7 = -\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}$

$$exp(\theta \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}) = I + \left(\theta - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} - \dots\right) \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} + \left(\frac{\theta^2}{2!} - \frac{\theta^4}{4!} + \frac{\theta^6}{6!} - \dots\right) \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}^2$$

we obtain Rodrigues formula:

$$\mathbf{R}(\boldsymbol{\Omega}) = \mathbf{I} + \sin\theta \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}} + (1 - \cos\theta) \hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}^2$$

# Rodrigues' Formula

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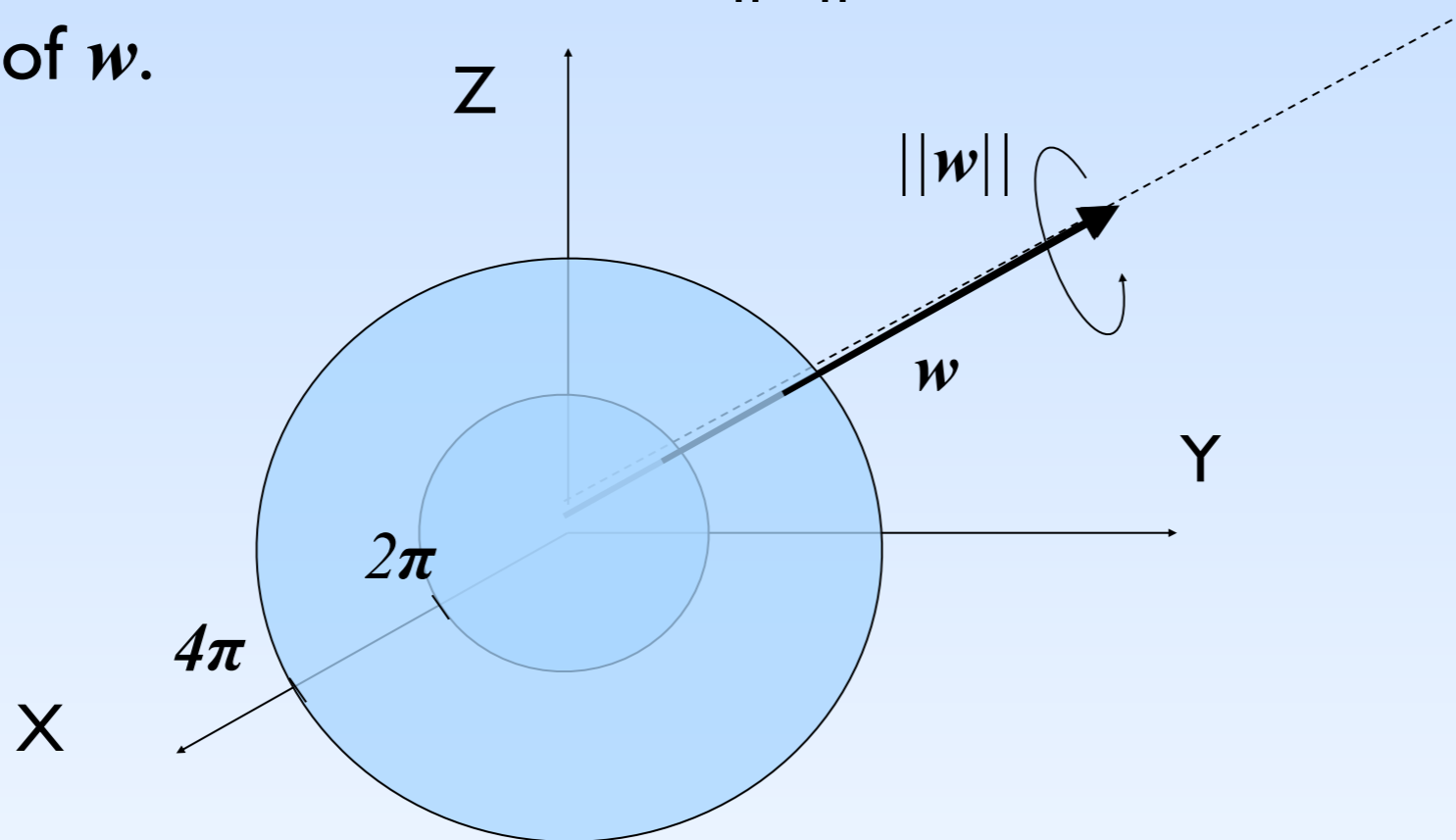
Given that  $\hat{\Omega} = \frac{\Omega}{\theta}$  we can rewrite Rodrigues formula as, where  $\Omega$  is screw symmetric matrix (not normalized) and  $\theta = \|\omega\|$

$$R(\theta\Omega) = \exp(\theta\Omega) = I + \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta}\Omega + \frac{(1-\cos(\theta))}{\theta^2}\Omega^2$$

# The Singularities of Exponential Maps

Rotation around the axis of direction  $w$  of an amount of  $\|w\|$

→ Singularities for  $w$  such that  $\|w\| = 2n\pi$  : No rotation, whatever the direction of  $w$ .



Avoided during optimization as follows: when  $\|w\|$  becomes close to  $2n\pi$ , say higher than  $\pi$ ,  $w$  can be replaced by  $\left(1 - \frac{2\pi}{\|w\|}\right)w$

[From Grassia JGT98]



# Linearization of small rotations

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In 3D tracking:

- the camera motion between consecutive frames can often be assumed to remain small along with the corresponding rotation angles
- use a first order approximation of the rotation

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{M}' &= \mathbf{R}\mathbf{M} \\ &\approx (\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{\Omega})\mathbf{M} \\ &= \mathbf{M} + \mathbf{\Omega}\mathbf{M}\end{aligned}$$

$\mathbf{\Omega}$  is skew symmetric matrix

# Quaternions with axis-angle parameterisation

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To achieve the minimum number of DOF (i.e., 3), it is necessary to revert back to the axis-angle representation, this time using the following quaternion parameterization:

$$q = \left( \cos \frac{\theta}{2}, \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \left( \frac{w_1}{\theta}, \frac{w_2}{\theta}, \frac{w_3}{\theta} \right) \right)$$

where  $w = [w_1 \ w_2 \ w_3]^T$  is the axis of rotation and  $\theta = \sqrt{(w_1^2 + w_2^2 + w_3^2)}$  is norm of the axis of rotation equivalent to the angle of rotation around the axis.

This allows parameterisation of quaternions with 3 DOF instead of 4, so to avoid necessary constraint on the unit norm of the quaternion.

This also facilitate computation of the derivatives using chain rules:

$$\frac{\partial R(q(w))}{\partial w_i} = \sum_{j=0}^3 \frac{\partial R(q)}{\partial q_j} \frac{\partial q_j(w)}{\partial w_i}$$

# Parameterization of the Rotation Matrix

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Conclusion: Use exponential maps.

More details:

[Grassia JGT98] <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.132.20&rep=rep1&type=pdf>

George Terzakis , Phil Culverhouse , Guido Bugmann , Sanjay Sharma , and Robert Sutton  
**A Recipe on the Parameterization of Rotation Matrices for Non-Linear Optimization using Quaternions**

# Computing $\mathbf{J}$

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We need to compute  $\mathbf{J}$ , the Jacobian of  $f$ :

$$f(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{bmatrix} u(\text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_1)) \\ v(\text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_1)) \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution 1: Use Maple or Matlab to produce the analytical form, AND the code.

# Solution 2

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$$f(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{bmatrix} u(\text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_1)) \\ v(\text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_1)) \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_{\mathbf{M}_1}(\mathbf{p}) \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

First, decompose  $f$ :

$$f_{\mathbf{M}_1}(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{m}(\tilde{\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}(\mathbf{p})))$$

where

- $\mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}(\mathbf{p})$  returns  $\mathbf{M}_1$  in the camera coordinates system defined by  $\mathbf{p}$ ;
- $\tilde{\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam})$  returns the projection of  $\mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}$  in homogeneous coordinates;
- $\mathbf{m}(\tilde{\mathbf{m}})$  returns the 2D vector corresponding to  $\tilde{\mathbf{m}}$ .

# Chain Rule

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$$f(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{bmatrix} u(\text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_1)) \\ v(\text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_1)) \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_{\mathbf{M}_1}(\mathbf{p}) \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \text{ with } f_{\mathbf{M}_1}(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{m}(\tilde{\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}(\mathbf{p})))$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{M}_1}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \text{ with } \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{M}_1}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \end{bmatrix}_{2 \times 6} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{m}}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{m}}} \end{bmatrix}_{2 \times 3} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{m}}}{\partial \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}} \end{bmatrix}_{3 \times 3} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \end{bmatrix}_{3 \times 6}$$

# Chain Rule

---

$$\mathbf{m}(\tilde{\mathbf{m}}) = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{U}{W} \\ \frac{V}{W} \end{bmatrix} \text{ with } \tilde{\mathbf{m}} = \begin{bmatrix} U \\ V \\ W \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{m}}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{m}}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial u}{\partial U} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial V} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial W} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial U} & \frac{\partial v}{\partial V} & \frac{\partial v}{\partial W} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/W & 0 & -\frac{U}{W^2} \\ 0 & 1/W & -\frac{V}{W^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Chain Rule

---

$$\tilde{\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{M}_{M_1}^{cam}) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{M}_{M_1}^{cam}$$

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{m}}}{\partial \mathbf{M}_{M_1}^{cam}} = \mathbf{A}$$



# Chain Rule

$$\mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{M}_1 + \mathbf{T}$$

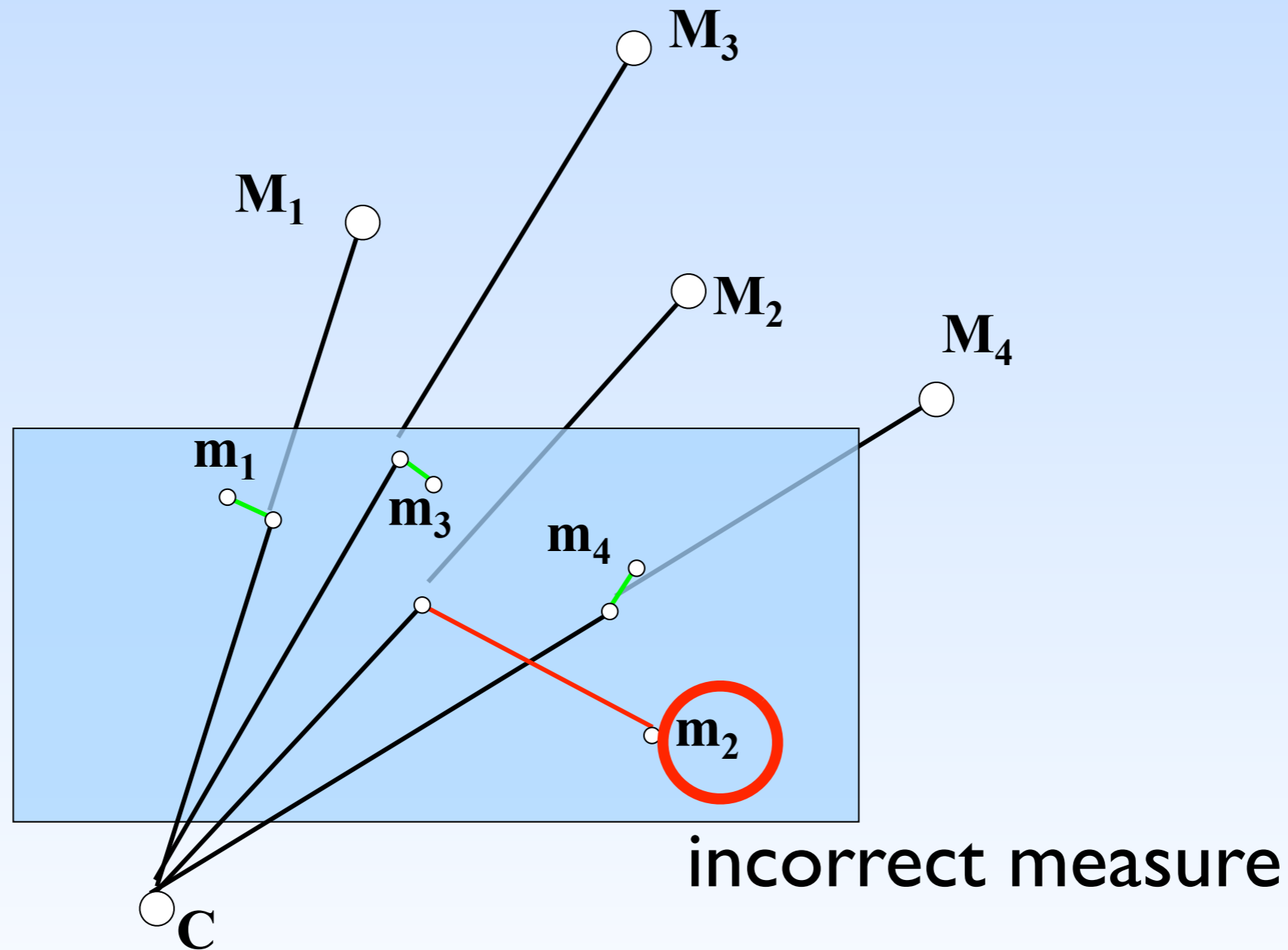
With  $\mathbf{p} = [r_1, r_2, r_3, t_1, t_2, t_3]^T$  ( $\mathbf{T} = [t_1, t_2, t_3]^T$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}}{\partial r_1} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}}{\partial r_2} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}}{\partial r_3} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}}{\partial t_1} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}}{\partial t_2} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{M}_1}^{cam}}{\partial t_3} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial r_1} \right]_{\mathbf{M}_1} & \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial r_2} \right]_{\mathbf{M}_1} & \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial r_3} \right]_{\mathbf{M}_1} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & & & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

The matrices  $\left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial r_i} \right]_{3 \times 3}$  can be computed from the expansion of  $\mathbf{R}$ .

In C, one can use the `cvRodrigues` function from the OpenCV library.

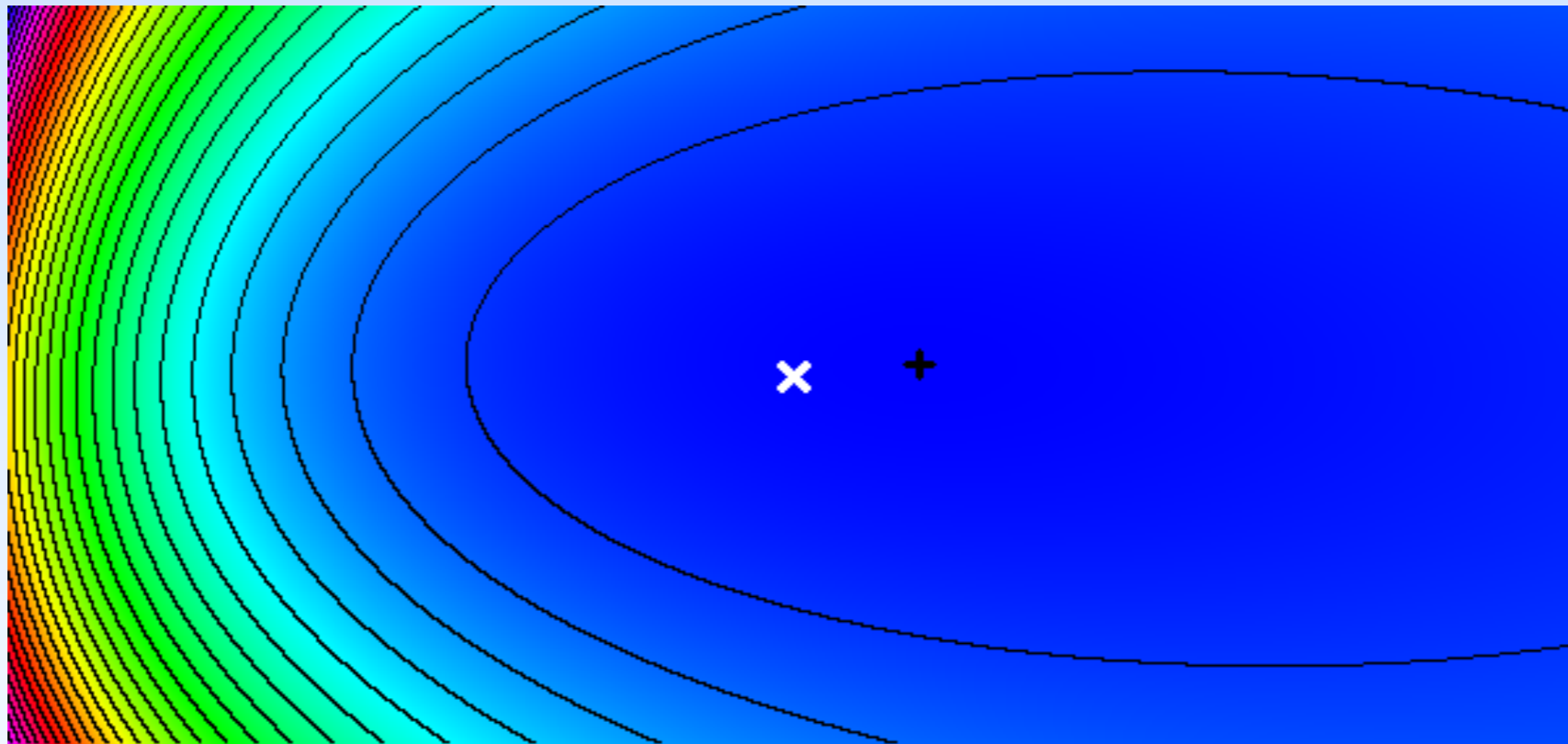
# What if there are Outliers ?



# Gaussian Noise on the Projections + 20% outliers

White cross: true camera position;

Black cross: global minimum of the objective function.



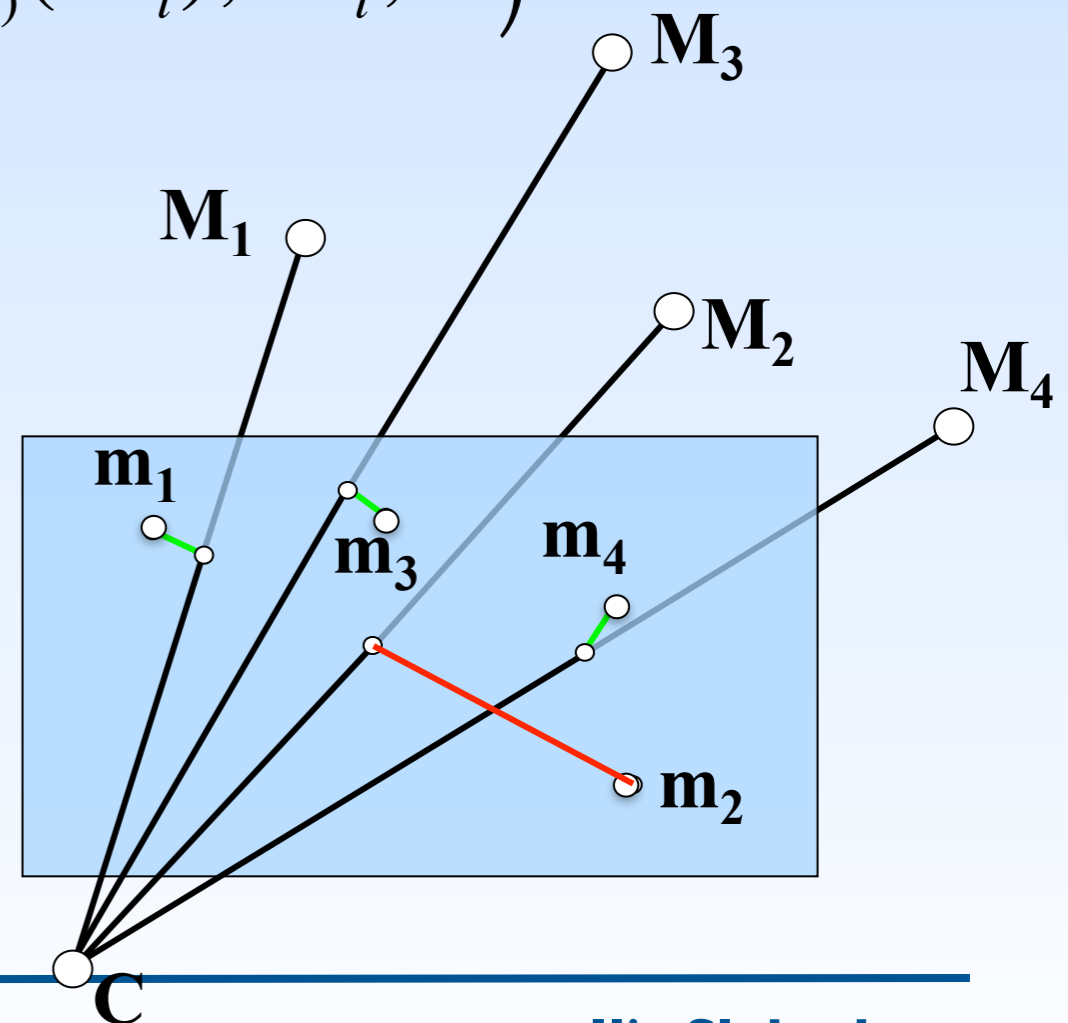
# What Happened ?

Bayesian interpretation:

$$\begin{aligned} & \arg \min_{\mathbf{p}} \sum_i \left\| \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right\|^2 \\ &= \arg \max_{\mathbf{p}} \prod_i N\left(\text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i); \mathbf{m}_i, \sigma \mathbf{I}\right) \end{aligned}$$

The error on the 2D point locations  $\mathbf{m}_i$  is assumed to have a Gaussian (Normal) distribution with identical covariance matrices  $\sigma \mathbf{I}$ , and independent;

This assumption is violated when  $\mathbf{m}_i$  is an outlier.



# (the 2 equivalent formulations)

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$$\begin{aligned}
 & \min_{\mathbf{p}} \sum_i \left\| \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right\|^2 \\
 &= \min_{\mathbf{p}} \sum_i \left( \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right)^T \left( \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right) \\
 &= \min_{\mathbf{p}} \sum_i \left( \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right)^T \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sigma & 0 \\ 0 & 1/\sigma \end{pmatrix} \left( \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right) \\
 &= \max_{\mathbf{p}} \exp \sum_i - \left( \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right)^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{m}} \left( \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right) \\
 & \quad \text{with } \Sigma_{\mathbf{m}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sigma & 0 \\ 0 & 1/\sigma \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \max_{\mathbf{p}} \prod_i \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^2 |\Sigma_{\mathbf{m}}|}} \exp \left( - \left( \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right)^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{m}} \left( \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right) \right) \\
 &= \max_{\mathbf{p}} \prod_i N \left( \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i); \mathbf{m}_i, \Sigma_{\mathbf{m}} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

# Robust estimation

---

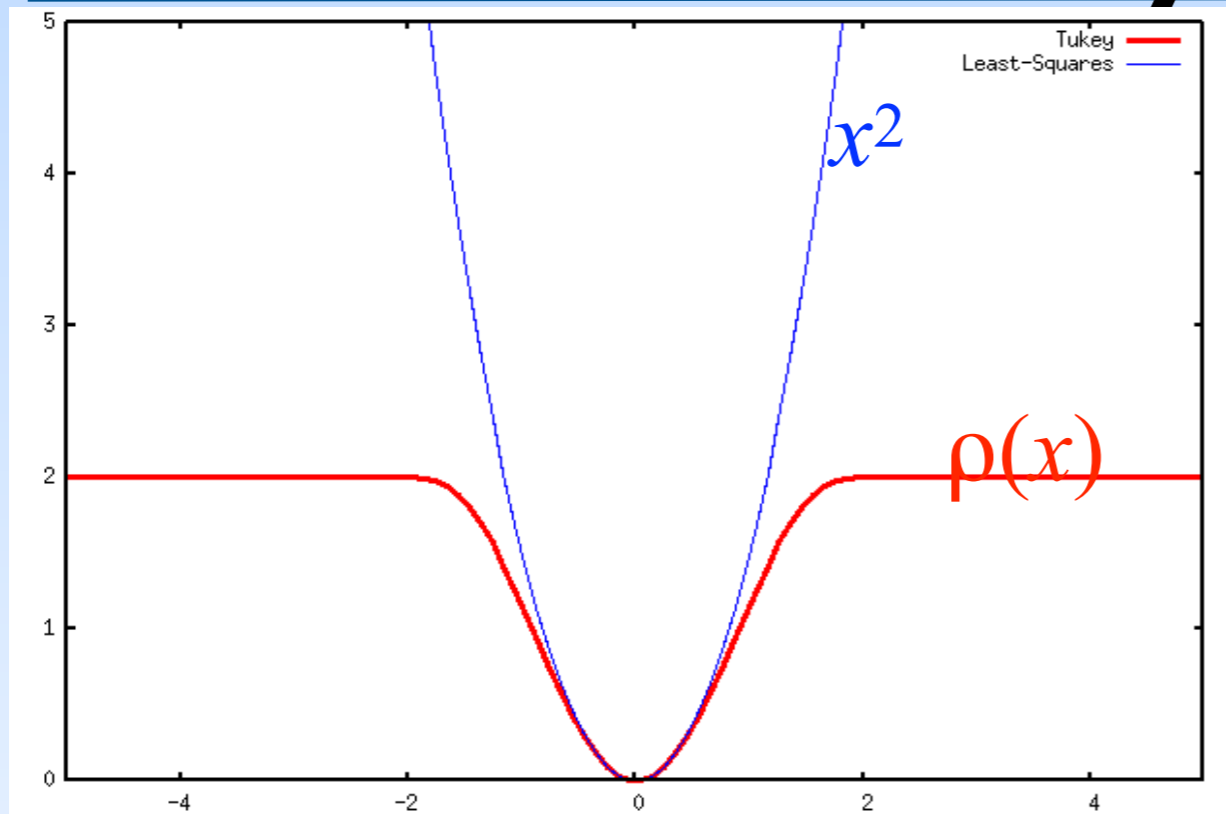
Idea:

Replace the Normal distribution by a more suitable distribution,

or equivalently replace the least-squares estimator by a "robust estimator":

$$\min_{\mathbf{p}} \sum_i \left\| \text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i \right\|^2 = \sum_i r_i^2$$
$$\rightarrow \min_{\mathbf{p}} \sum_i \rho\left(\text{Proj}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p})}(\mathbf{M}_i) - \mathbf{m}_i\right) = \sum_i \rho(r_i)$$

# Example of an M-estimator: The Tukey Estimator



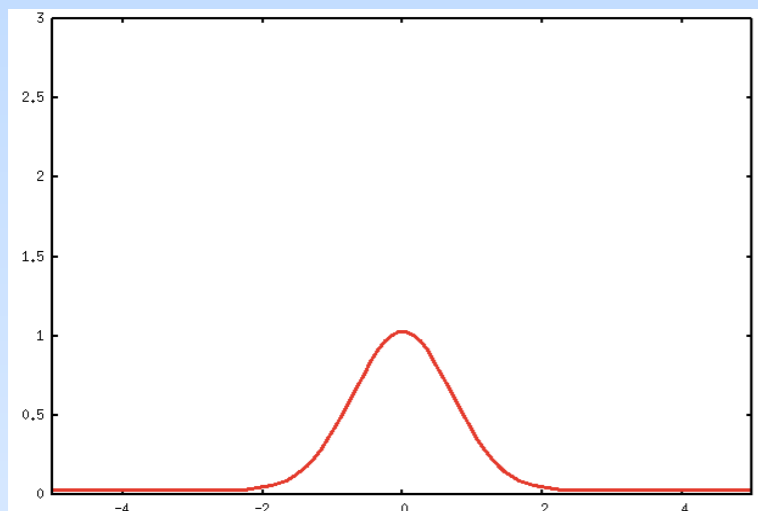
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{if } |x| \leq c \quad \rho(x) = \frac{c^2}{6} \left( 1 - \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{x}{c} \right)^2 \right]^3 \right) \\ \text{if } |x| > c \quad \rho(x) = \frac{c^2}{6} \end{array} \right.$$

The Tukey estimator assumes the measures follow a distribution that is a mixture of:

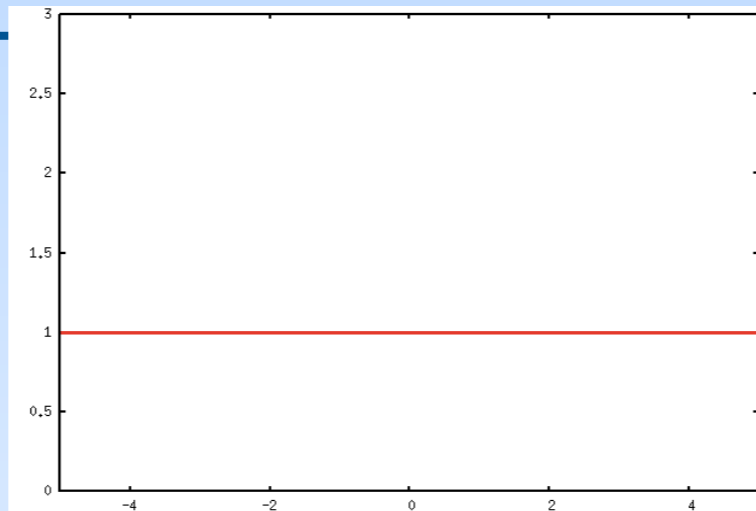
- a Normal distribution, for the inliers,
- a uniform distribution, for the outliers.

The threshold  $c$  is usually taken to be proportional to the measured standard deviation of the residual errors for inlier data.

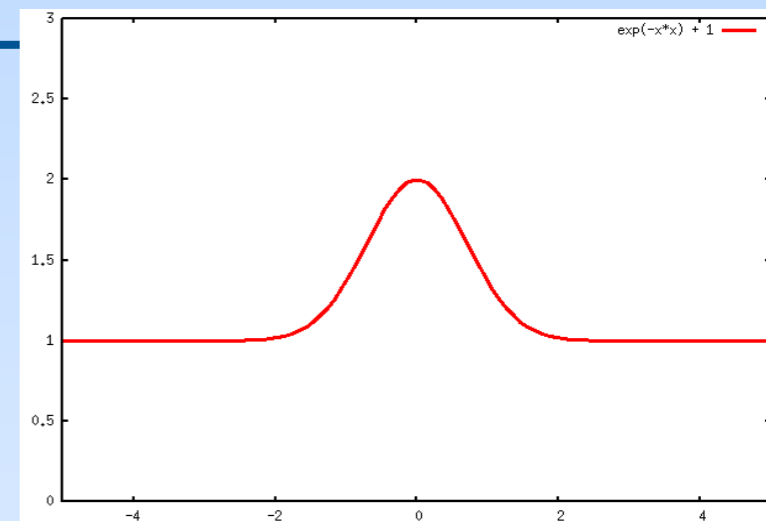
Normal distribution  
(inliers)



Uniform distribution  
(outliers)



Mixture

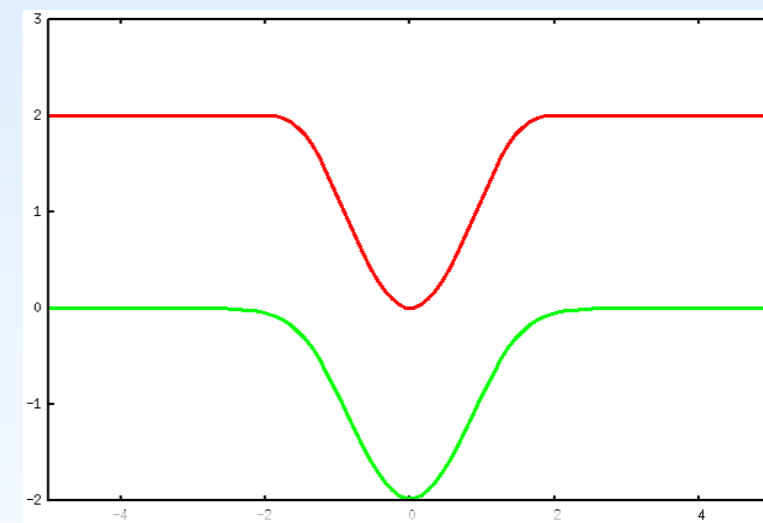
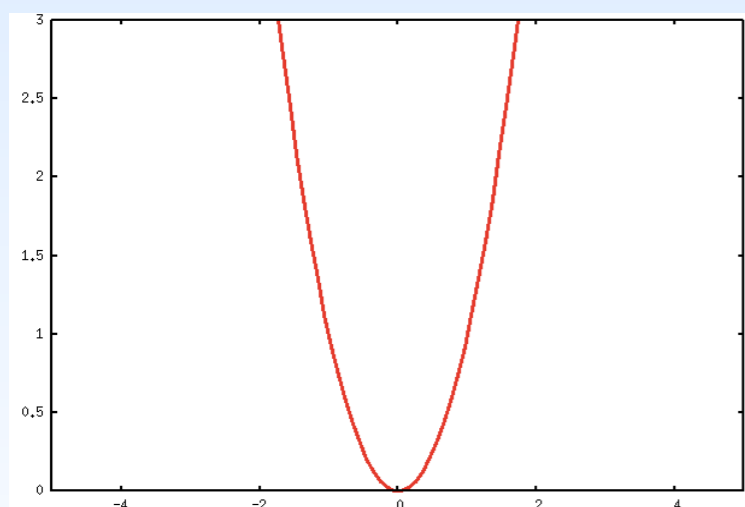


+

=

$-\log(\cdot)$

$-\log(\cdot)$



Least-squares

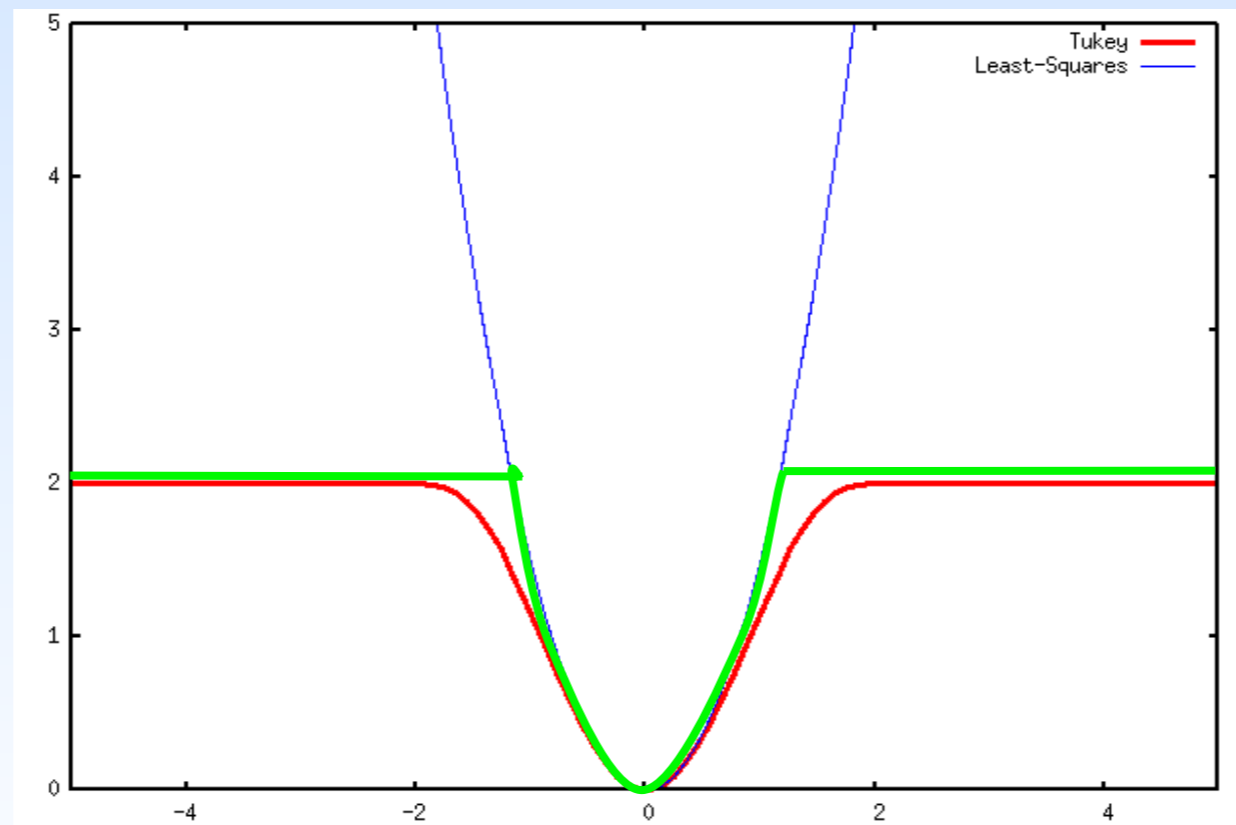
Tukey estimator



# The Tukey Estimator in Levenberg-Marquardt Optimization

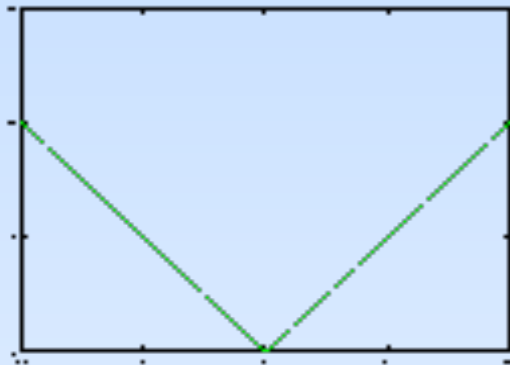
Use the following approximation:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{if } |x| \leq \tilde{c} \quad \rho(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^2 \quad (\text{least - squares}) \\ \text{if } |x| > \tilde{c} \quad \rho(x) = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{c}^2 \quad (\text{constante}) \end{array} \right.$$

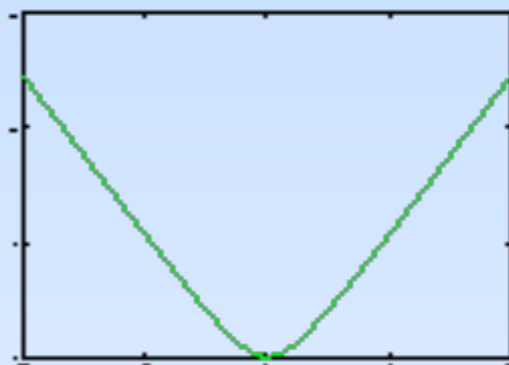


# Other M-Estimators

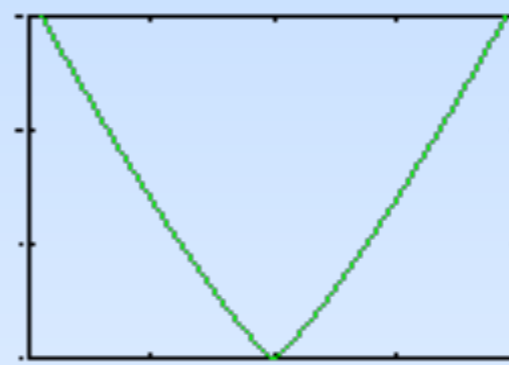
**Least-absolute**



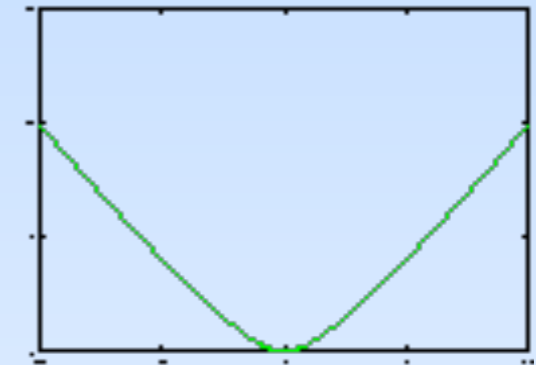
$L_1 - L_2$



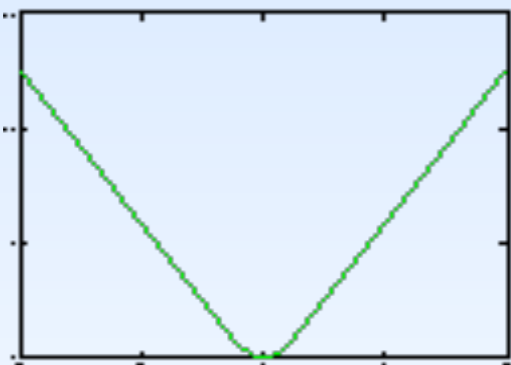
**Least-power**



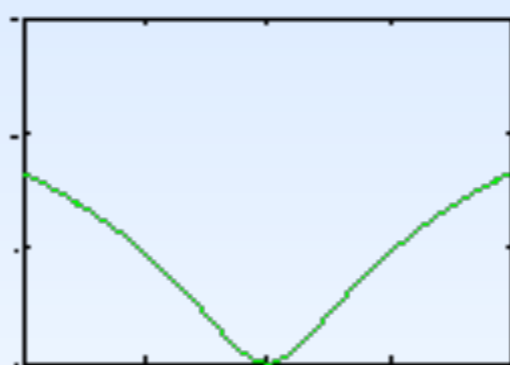
**Fair**



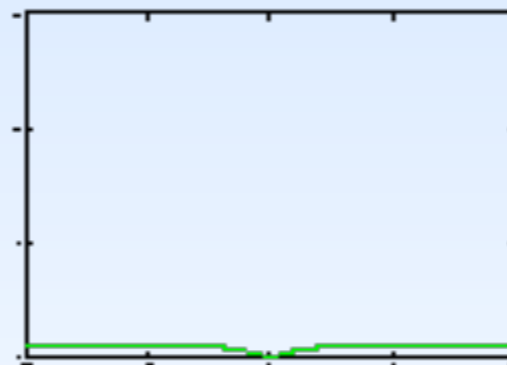
**Huber**



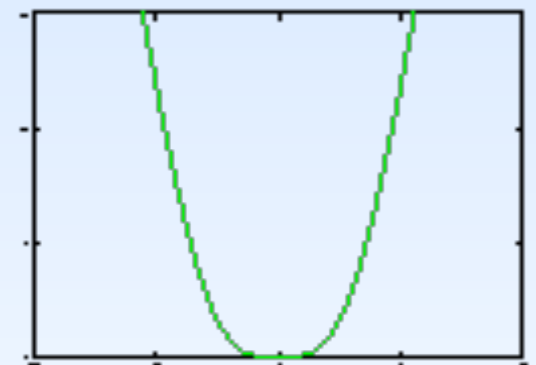
**Cauchy**



**Geman-McClure**



**Welsch**



# Use of robust estimator with GN or LM minimisation

---

The Gauss-Newton and Levenberg-Marquardt algorithms can still be applied to minimize the sum of residual errors  $E(\theta) = \sum r_i^2$  after the introduction of M-estimators  $E(\theta) = \sum \rho(r_i)$ , even if the M-estimators can be complex functions. We solve this by finding derivative of the objective function in aspect to parameters:

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial \theta} = \sum \rho'(r_i) r_i \theta_i$$

This is simply done by weighting the residuals  $r_i$  at each iteration step: Each  $r_i$  is replaced by  $w_i r_i$  therefore the weight should be chosen as:

$$w_i = \frac{\rho(r_i)}{r_i^2}$$

In the case of the LevenbergMarquardt algorithm,  $\Delta_i$  can be computed as be changed as:

$$\Delta_i = -(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{J} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{W} \epsilon_i$$

where weight matrix is  $\mathbf{W} = \text{diag}(\dots w_i \dots)$

# Scale of the residuals

---

- M-estimator (Tukey and Huber) constant  $\mathbf{c}$  has been chosen assuming that measurements have normal distribution (standard deviation of 1 and zero mean) and therefore they provide asymptotic efficiency of 95% of linear regression.  $\mathbf{c}=4.685$  Tukey and  $\mathbf{c}=1.345$  (Huber)
- However, measurements with outliers are not normally(Gaussian) distributed, so the residuals must be scaled, i.e. every  $\rho(r_i)$  should be replaced with  $\rho(r_i/s)$  where  $\mathbf{s}$  is estimated scale parameter.
- The simplest estimation of  $\mathbf{s}$  is done using median absolute deviation of the residuals:

$$MAD = \text{median}\{|r_i|\}$$

where  $\hat{s} = MAD/0.6745$ , which is based on the idea expectation of MAD being  $E(MAD) = 0.6745$  for normal distribution.

# Drawbacks of the Tukey Estimator

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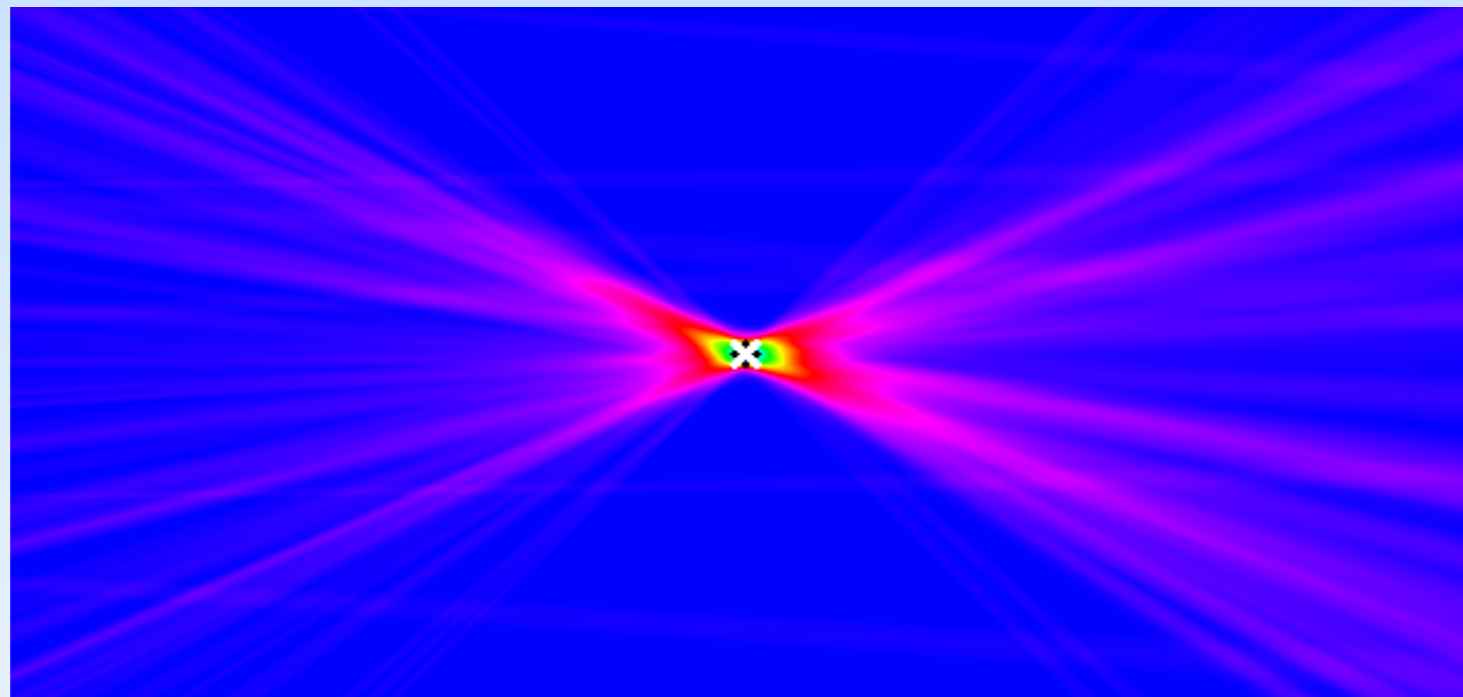
- Non-convex  $\rightarrow$  creates local minimas;
- Function becomes flat when too far from the global minimum.

# Gaussian Noise on the Projections + 20% outliers + Tukey estimator

---

White cross: true camera position;

Black cross: global minimum of the object function.



The global minimum is very close to the true camera pose.

**BUT:**

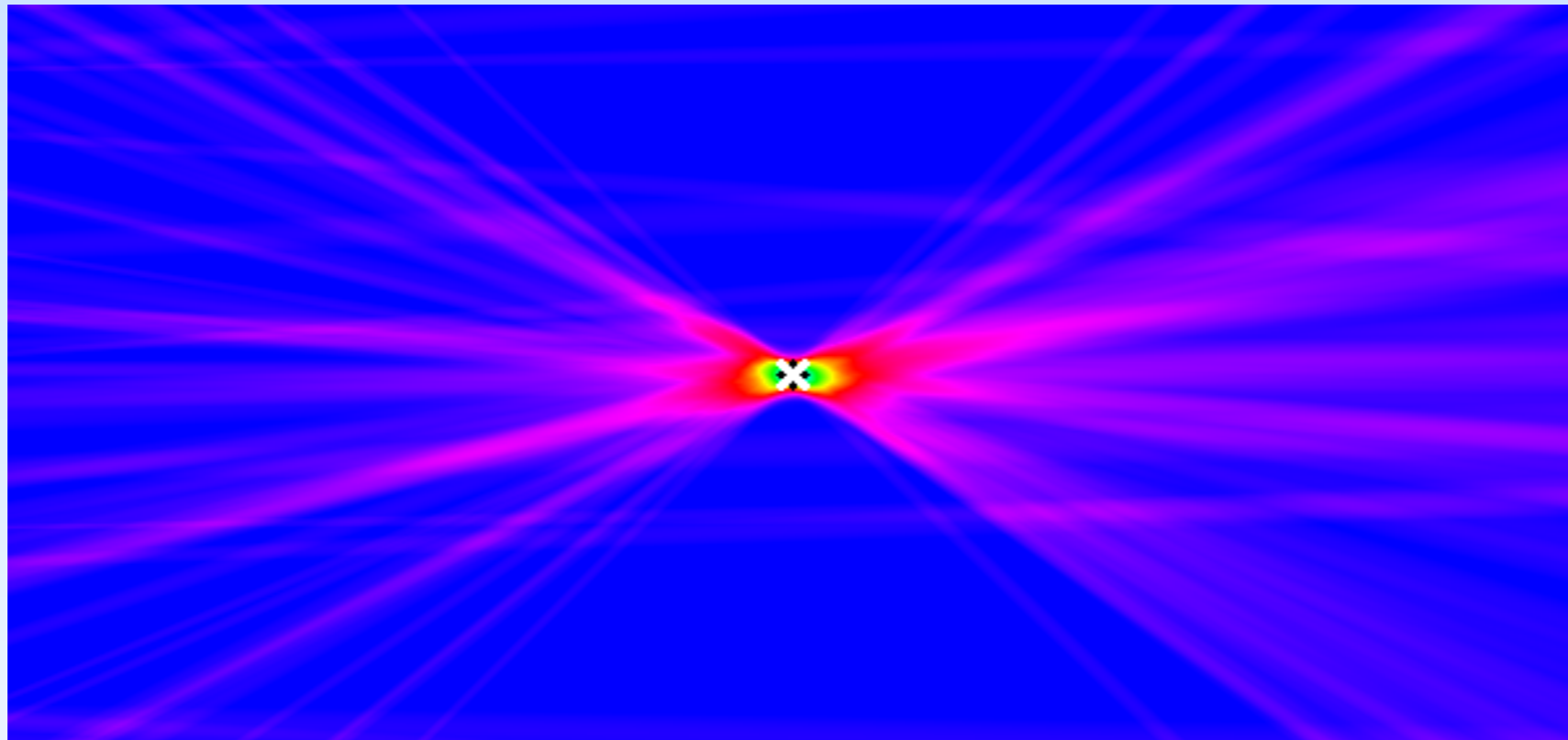
- local minima;
- the objective function is flat where all the correspondences are considered outliers.

# Gaussian Noise on the Projections + 50% outliers + Tukey estimator

---

White cross: true camera position;

Black cross: global minimum of the object function.



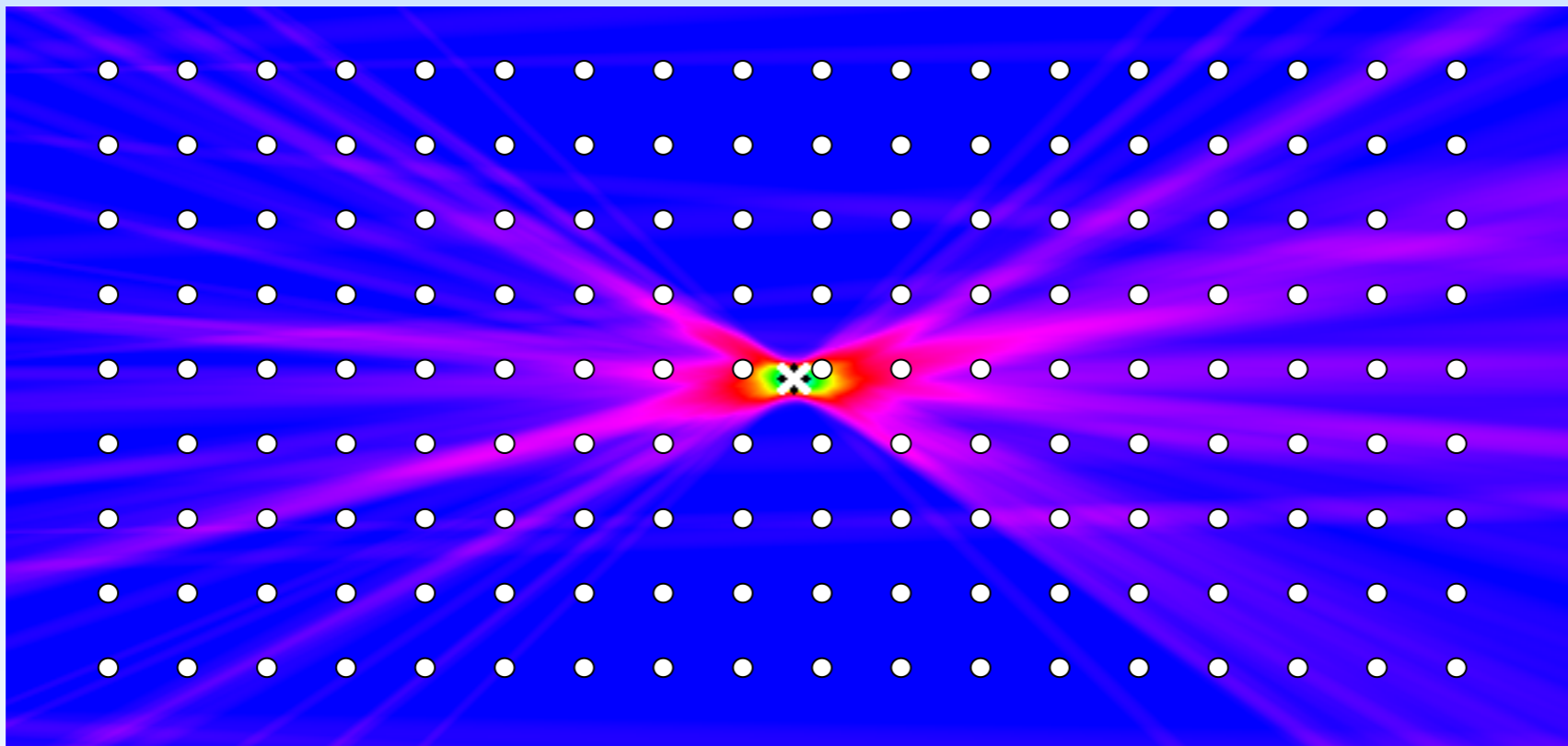
Even more local minimums.

Numerical optimization can get trapped into a local minimum.

# RANSAC

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Idea: sampling the space of solutions (the camera pose space here):



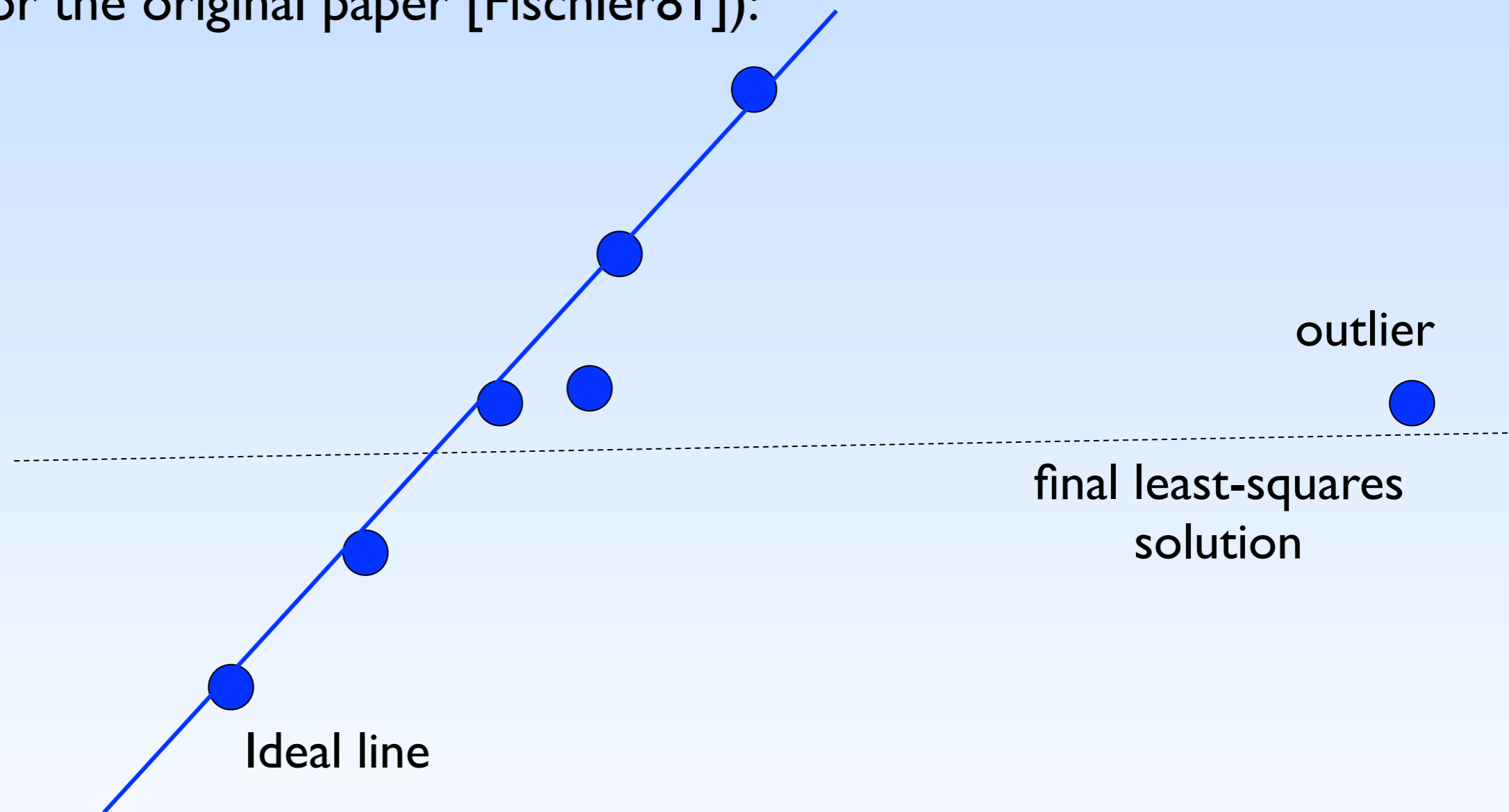


# RANSAC

## RANdOm SAmpLe Consensus

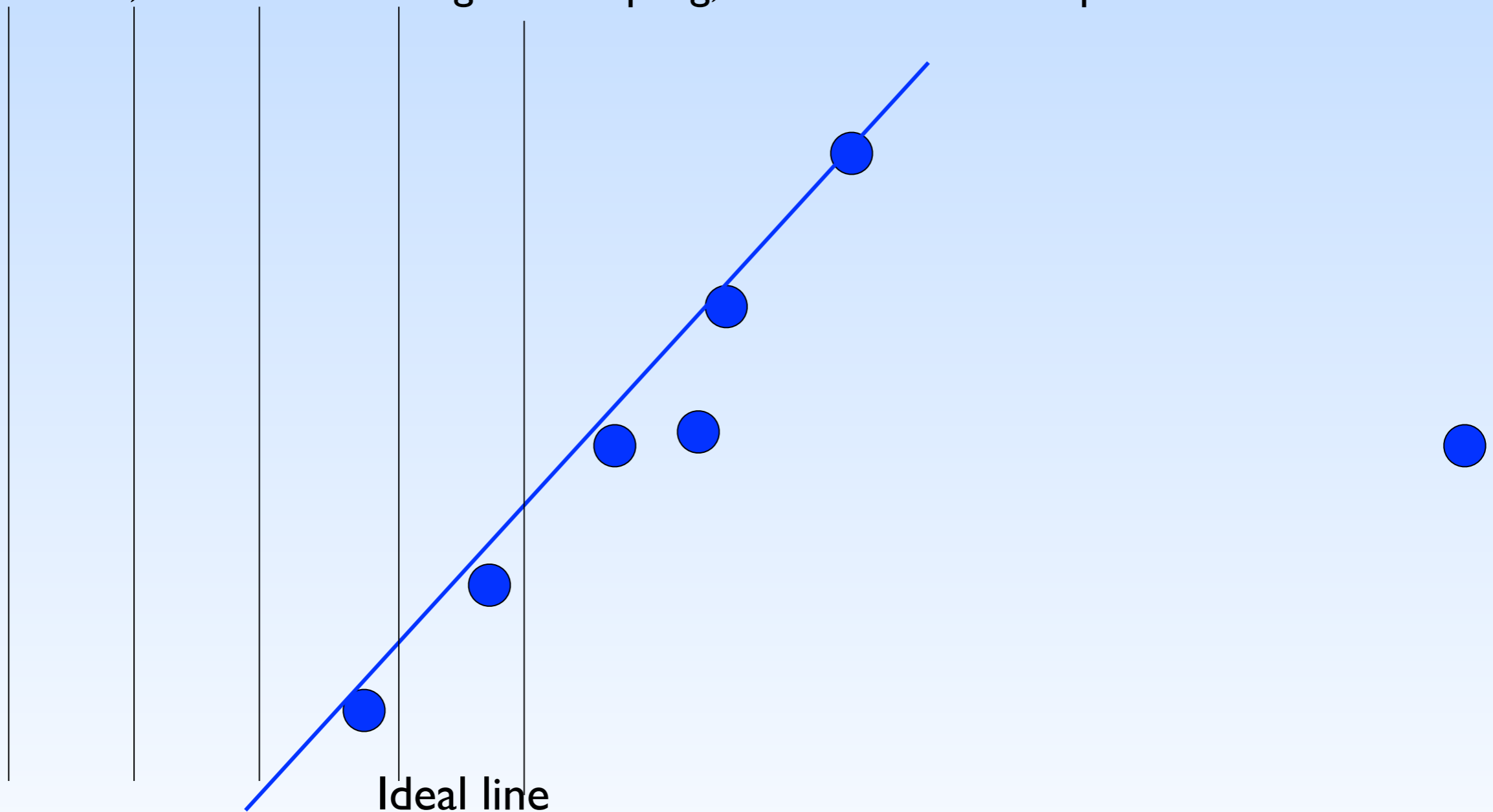
---

Line fitting: the "Throwing Out the worst residual" heuristics can fail  
(Example for the original paper [Fischler81]):



# RANSAC

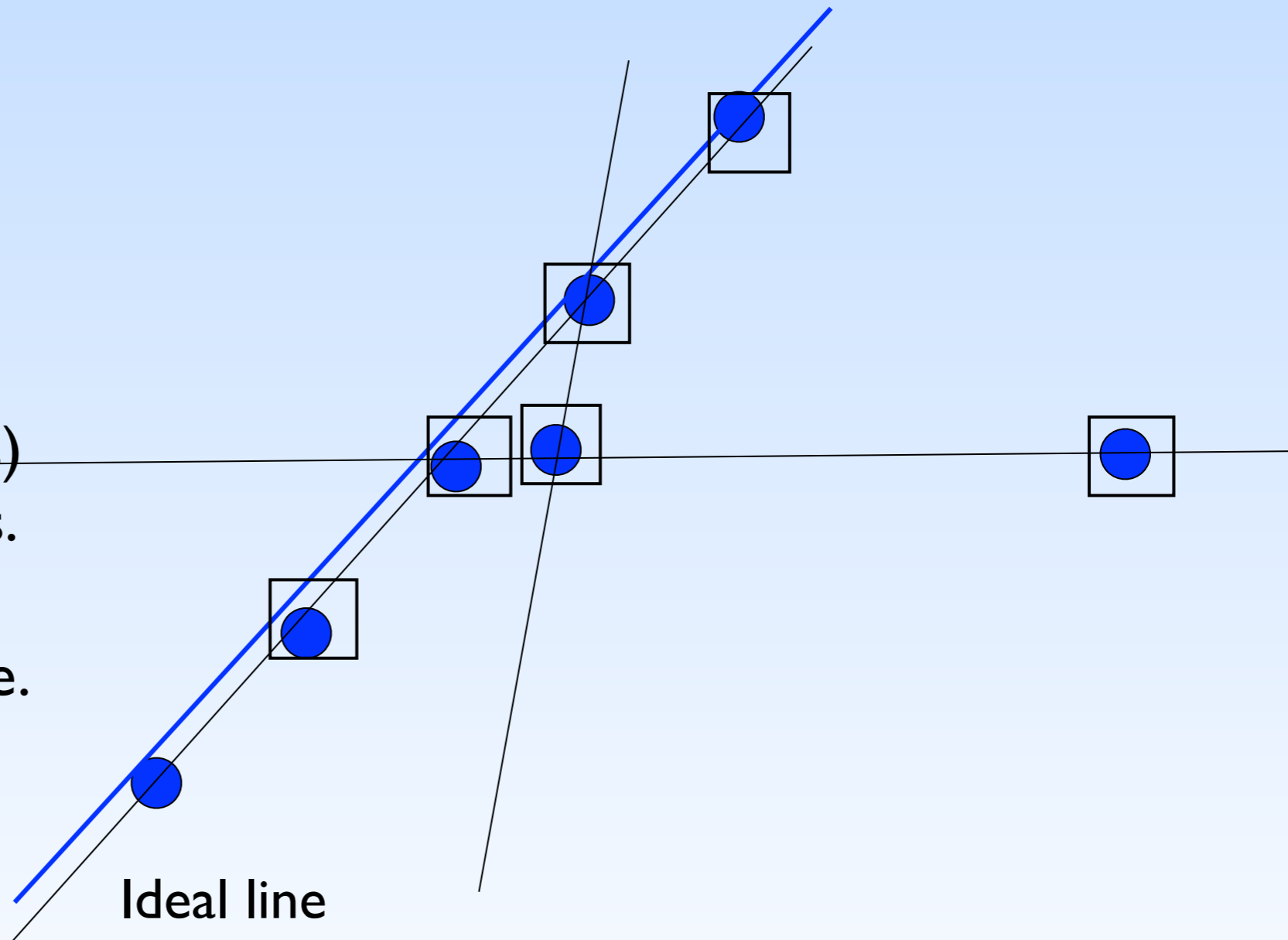
As before, we could do a regular sampling, but would not be optimal:



# RANSAC

## Idea:

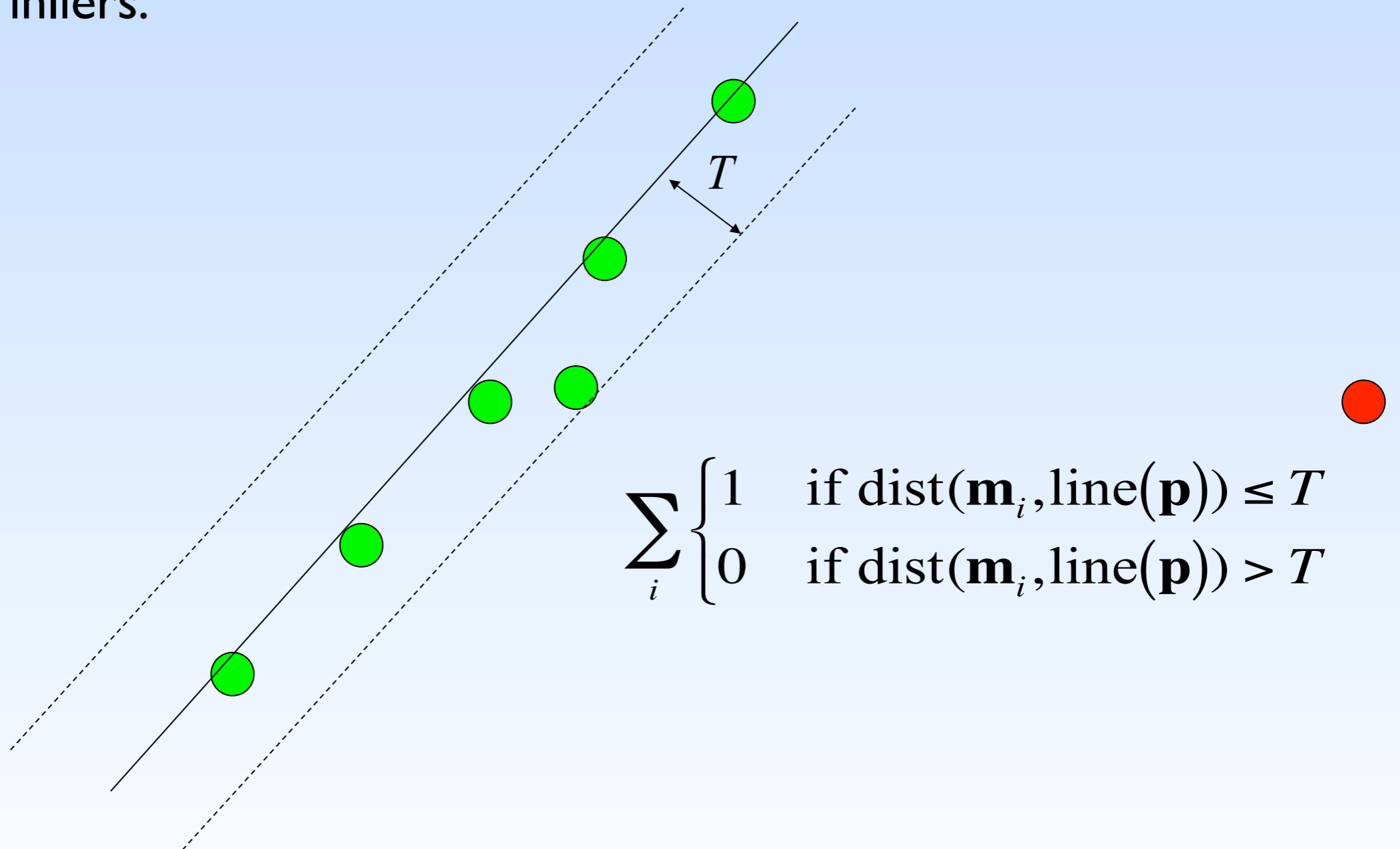
- Generate hypotheses from subsets of the measurements.
- If a subset contains no gross errors, the estimated parameters (the hypothesis) are closed to the true ones.
- Take several subsets at random, retain the best one.



The quality of a hypothesis is evaluated by the number of measures that lie "close enough" to the predicted line.

We need to choose a threshold ( $T$ ) to decide if the measure is "close enough".

RANSAC returns the best hypothesis, i.e the hypothesis with the largest number of inliers.



# How many samples to choose?

$e$  = probability that a point is an outlier

$s$  = number of points in a sample

$N$  = number of samples (we want to compute this)

$p$  = desired probability that we get a good sample

**Solve the following for  $N$ :**

$$1 - (1 - (1 - e)^s)^N = p$$

**Where in the world did that come from? ....**

From Robert Collins, Penn State University

# How many samples to choose?

---

$e$  = probability that a point is an outlier

$s$  = number of points in a sample

$N$  = number of samples (we want to compute this)

$p$  = desired probability that we get a good sample

$$1 - \left(1 - \underbrace{(1 - e)^s}_{\text{Probability that choosing one point yields an outlier}}\right)^N = p$$

**Probability that choosing one point yields an outlier**

# How many samples to choose?

$e$  = probability that a point is an outlier

$s$  = number of points in a sample

$N$  = number of samples (we want to compute this)

$p$  = desired probability that we get a good sample

$$1 - \underbrace{\left(1 - (1 - e)^s\right)}_{}^N = p$$

**Probability of choosing  
 $s$  inliers in a row (sample  
only contains inliers)**

# How many samples to choose?

---

$e$  = probability that a point is an outlier

$s$  = number of points in a sample

$N$  = number of samples (we want to compute this)

$p$  = desired probability that we get a good sample

$$1 - \underbrace{\left(1 - (1 - e)^s\right)}^N = p$$

**Probability that one or more points in the sample were outliers (sample is contaminated).**



# How many samples to choose?

---

$e$  = probability that a point is an outlier

$s$  = number of points in a sample

$N$  = number of samples (we want to compute this)

$p$  = desired probability that we get a good sample

$$1 - \underbrace{(1 - (1 - e)^s)^N}_{\text{Probability that } N \text{ samples were contaminated.}} = p$$

**Probability that  $N$  samples were contaminated.**

# How many samples to choose?

$e$  = probability that a point is an outlier

$s$  = number of points in a sample

$N$  = number of samples (we want to compute this)

$p$  = desired probability that we get a good sample

$$\underbrace{1 - (1 - (1 - e)^s)^N}_{\text{Probability that at least one sample was not contaminated}} = p$$

**Probability that at least one sample was not contaminated (at least one sample of  $s$  points is composed of only inliers).**

# How many samples?

Choose  $N$  so that, with probability  $p$ , at least one random sample is free from outliers. e.g.  $p=0.99$

$$(1 - (1 - e)^s)^N = 1 - p$$

$$N = \frac{\log(1 - p)}{\log(1 - (1 - e)^s)}$$

proportion of outliers $e$							
s	5%	10%	20%	25%	30%	40%	50%
2	2	3	5	6	7	11	17
3	3	4	7	9	11	19	35
4	3	5	9	13	17	34	72
5	4	6	12	17	26	57	146
6	4	7	16	24	37	97	293
7	4	8	20	33	54	163	588
8	5	9	26	44	78	272	1177

# Pose Estimation

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To apply RANSAC to pose estimation, we need a way to compute a camera pose from a subset of measurements, for example a P3P algorithm.

Since RANSAC only provides a solution estimated with a limited number of data, it must be followed by a robust minimization to refine the solution.