

# Robust model fitting by RANSAC

Tekla Tóth

*(materials: based on Dániel Baráth's work)*

# Outline

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- Motivation
- RANdom SAmple Consensus (RANSAC) algorithm
  - Line fitting in 2D
  - General solution
- Parameter settings
- Pros and Cons
- Techniques to optimize the performance

# Motivation

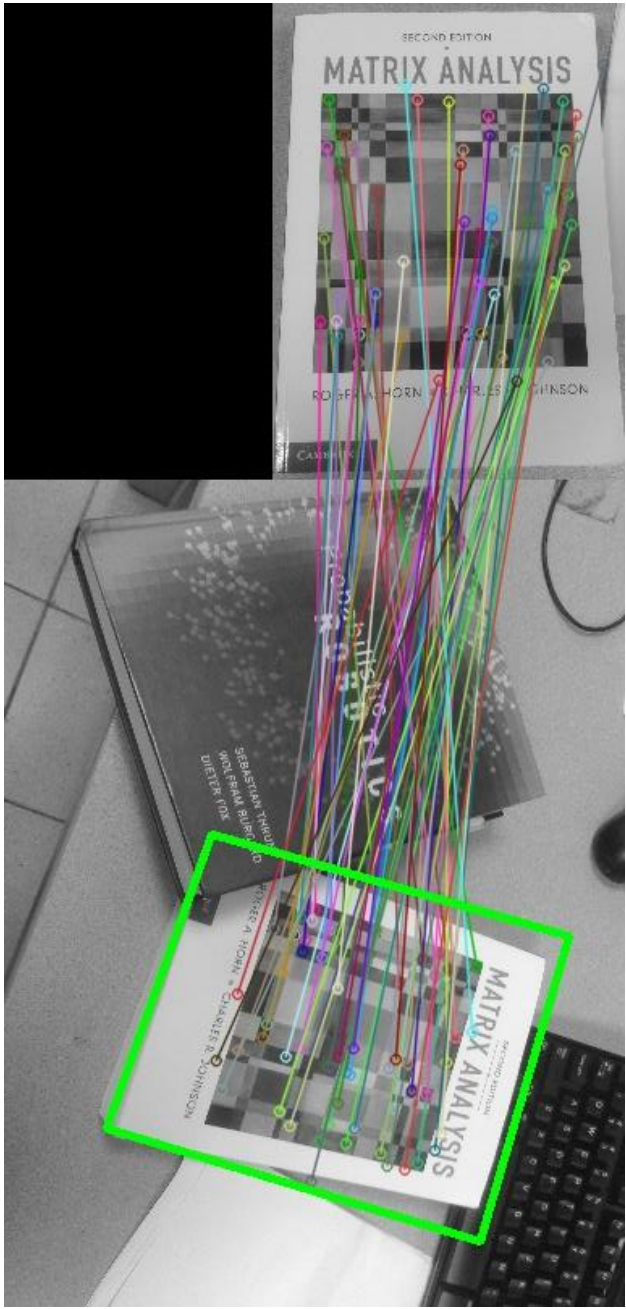
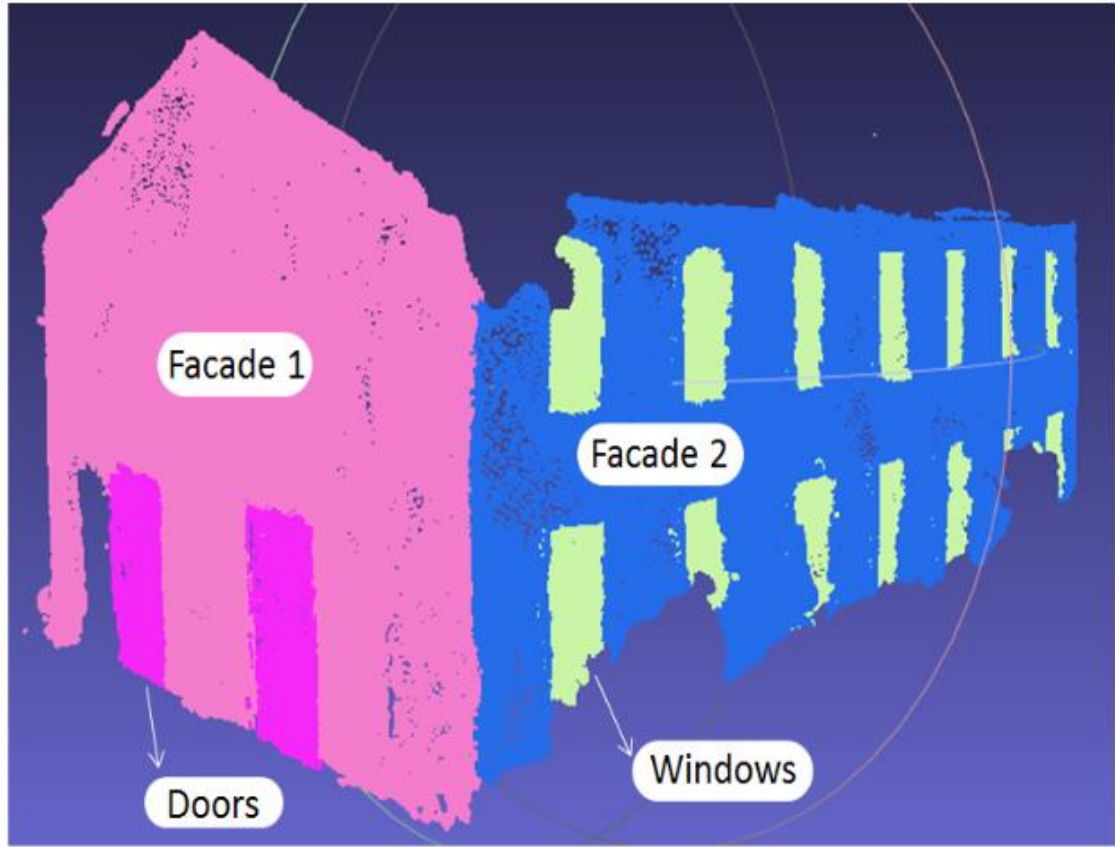


# Motivation



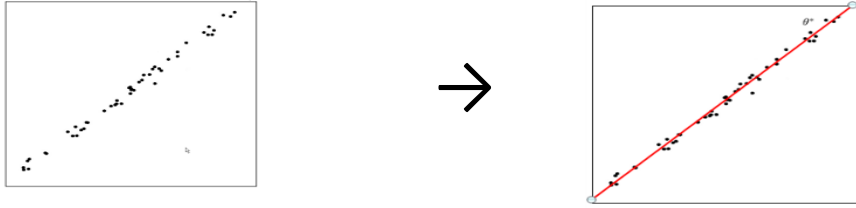


# Motivation

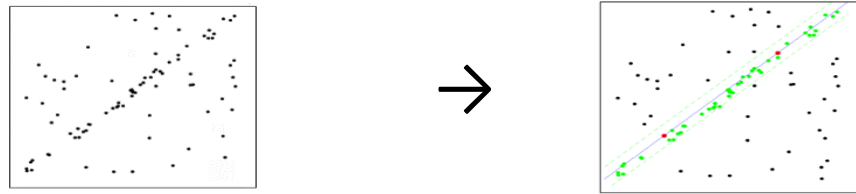


# Taxonomy of Geometric Estimation Problems

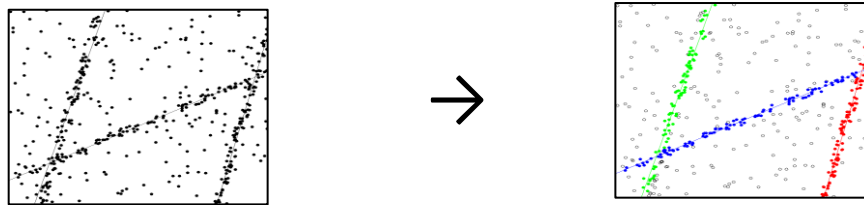
- Standard Single Class Single Instance Fitting Problem (SCSI)



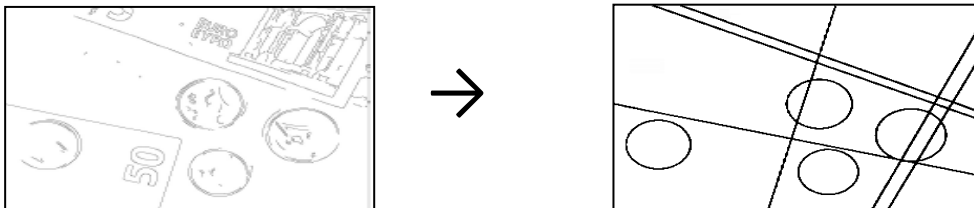
- **Robust Single Class Single Instance Fitting Problem (R-SCSI)**



- Single Class Multiple Instance Fitting Problem (SCMI)



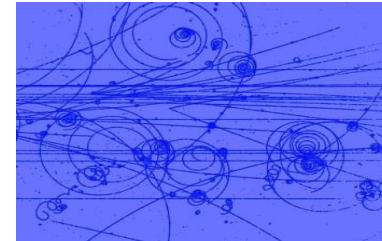
- Multiple Class Multiple Instance Fitting Problem (MCMI)



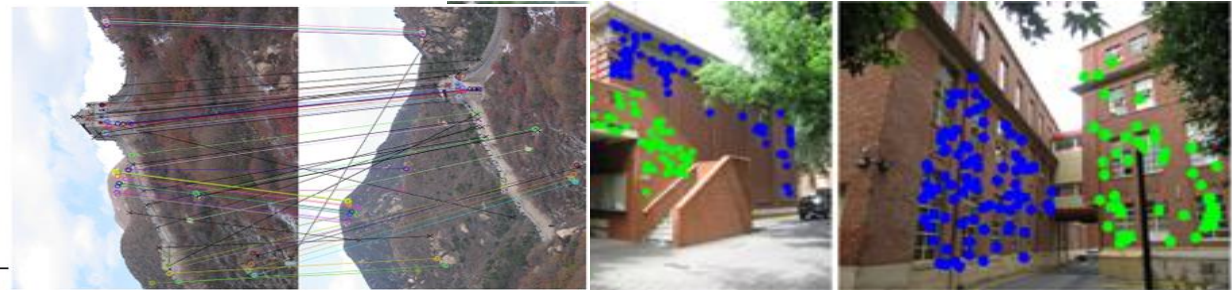


# Single/Multi-Class S/M-Instance Fitting Applications

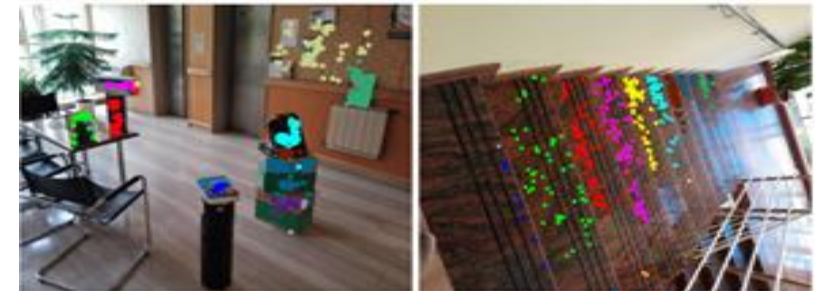
- detection of geometric primitives



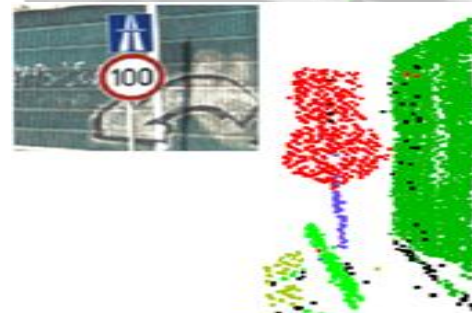
- epipolar geometry estimation
- detection of planar surfaces



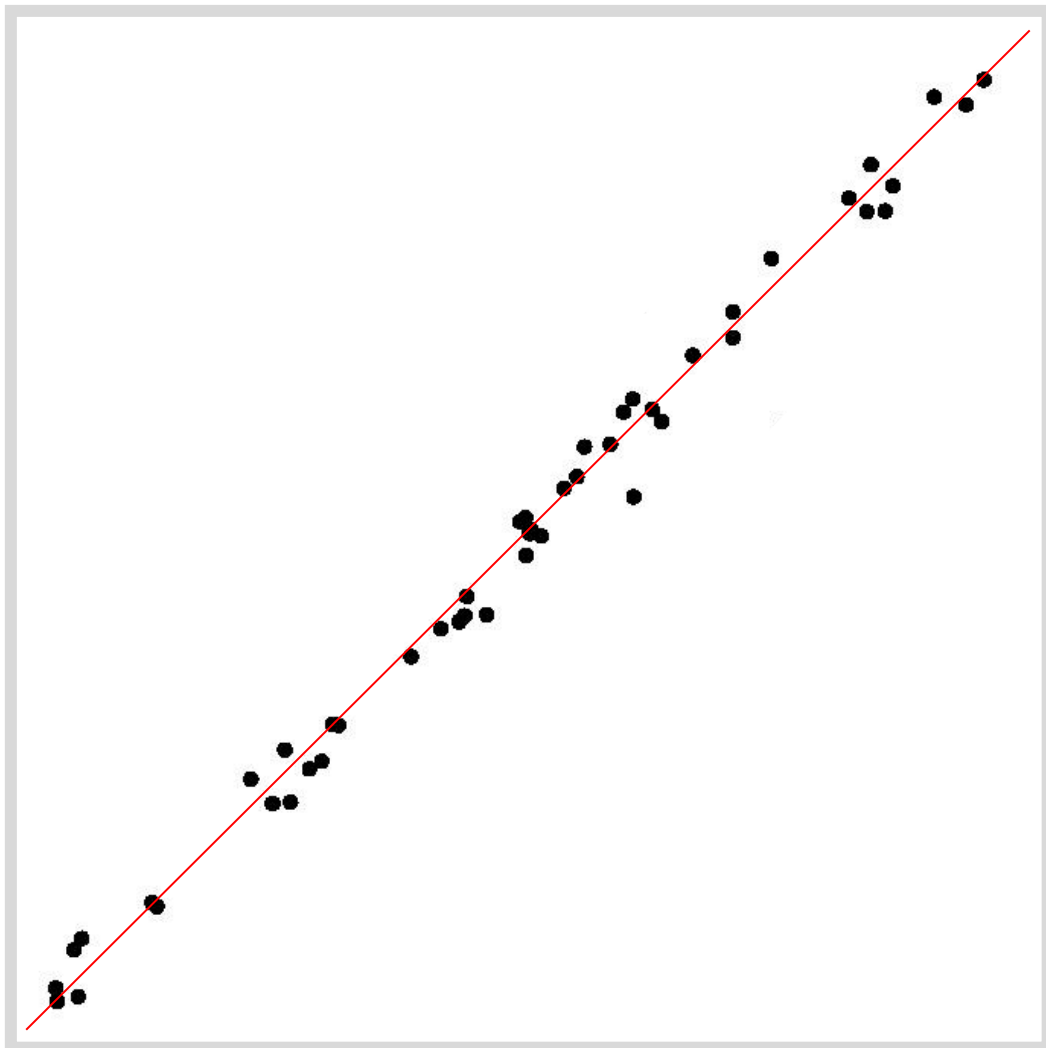
- multiple motion segmentation



- Interpretation of lidar scans



# The Standard SCSl Problem – 2D Line Fitting



- Data points:

$$\mathcal{X} = \{\mathbf{x}_j, j = 1, 2, \dots, N_p\}$$
$$(\mathbf{x}_j \in \mathbb{R}^2)$$

- **Goal:** Find the line with parameters which “best fits” these points.



# Finding Line: Line Parametrization

- Line parametrization – homogeneous

$$ax + by + c = 0, \quad (a \neq 0 \vee b \neq 0) \quad (1)$$

$$a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} : \text{line parameters} \quad (2)$$

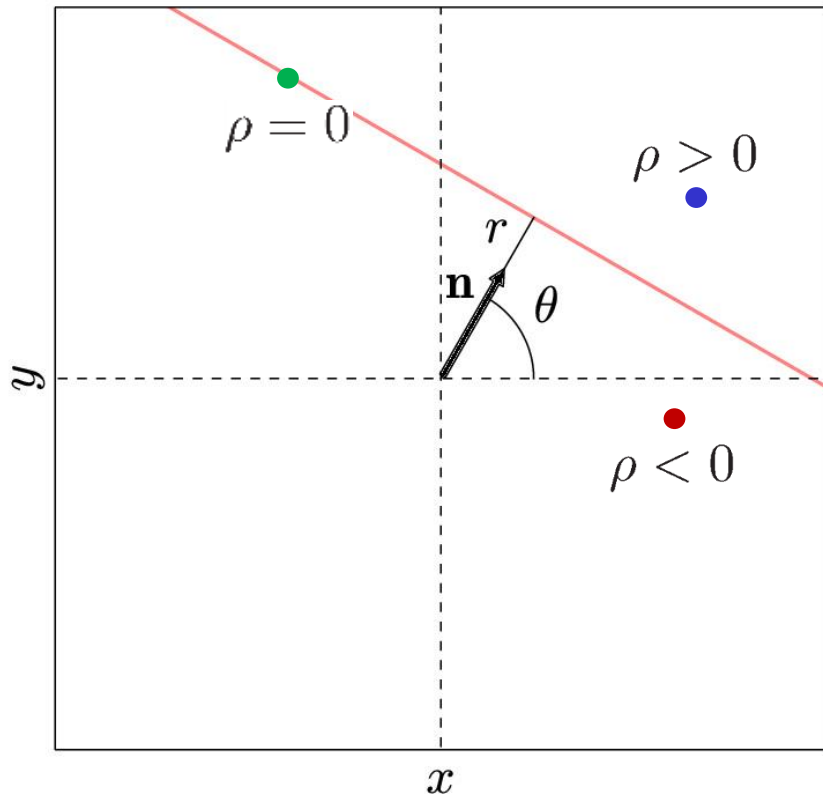
$$(x, y) : \text{point coordinates} \quad (3)$$

- **Line parametrization – radial**

$$x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta = r, \quad (4)$$

$$\theta \in [0, \pi[, r \in \mathbb{R} : \text{line parameters} \quad (5)$$

# The Standard SCSI Problem – 2D Line Fitting



Note:  $\mathbf{n} = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$  (thus  $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$ )

- Line parameters:  $\theta \in [0, \pi[$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{R}$

- Point  $\mathbf{x} = (x, y)$  on the line:

$$x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta = r$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} \cdot (\cos \theta, \sin \theta) = r$$

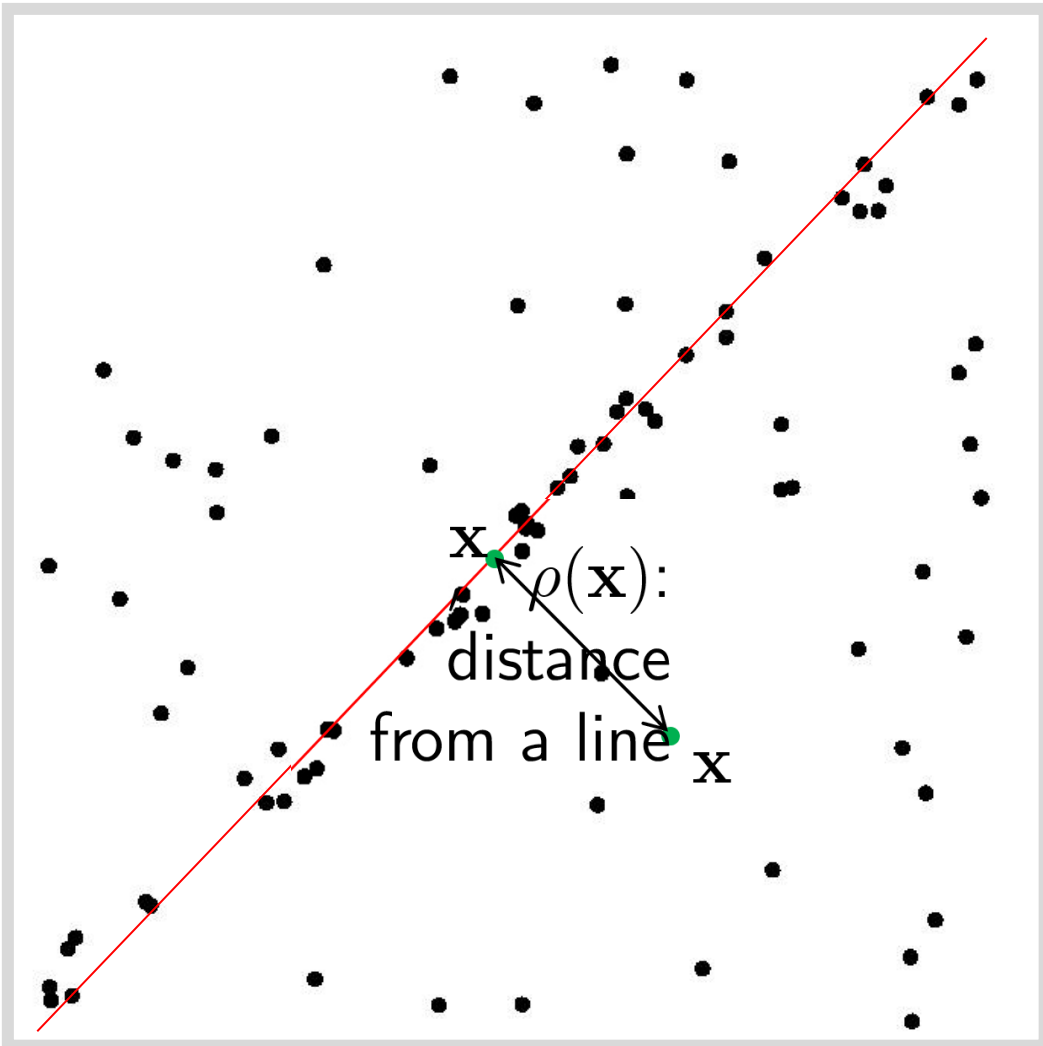
- Point  $\mathbf{x} = (x, y)$  not on the line:

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot (\cos \theta, \sin \theta) \neq r$$

- **Signed distance**  $\rho(\mathbf{x})$  from line:

$$\rho(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x} \cdot (\cos \theta, \sin \theta) - r$$

# The Standard SCSI Problem – 2D Line Fitting



- Data points:

$$\mathcal{X} = \{\mathbf{x}_j, j = 1, 2, \dots, N_p\}$$
$$(\mathbf{x}_j \in \mathbb{R}^2)$$

- **Goal:** Find the line with parameters which “best fits” these points.
- As optimization: Find best line with parameters  $\theta^*$  as:

$$\theta^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} f(\mathbf{x}, \theta)$$

- For  $f_{LSQ}(\mathbf{x}, \theta) = [\rho(\mathbf{x})]^2$  : solvable by SVD

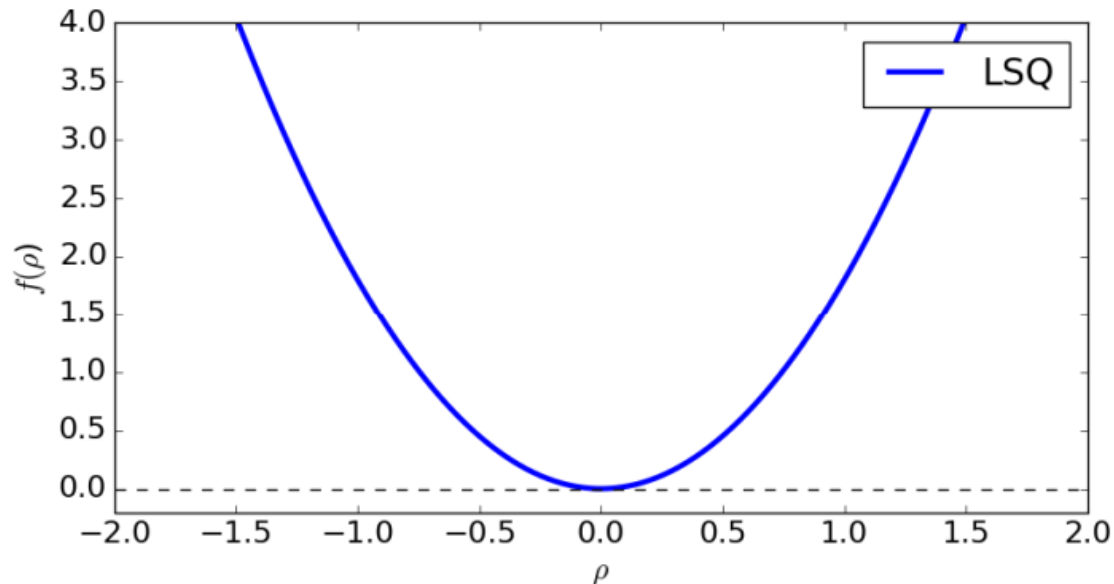


# Standard Model Fitting - Formulation

Line fitting – Least Squares:

$$\theta = (r, \phi)$$

$$f_{LSQ}(\mathbf{x}, \theta) = [\rho(\mathbf{x})]^2$$



Notes:

- justified as maximum-likelihood method for noise with normal distribution

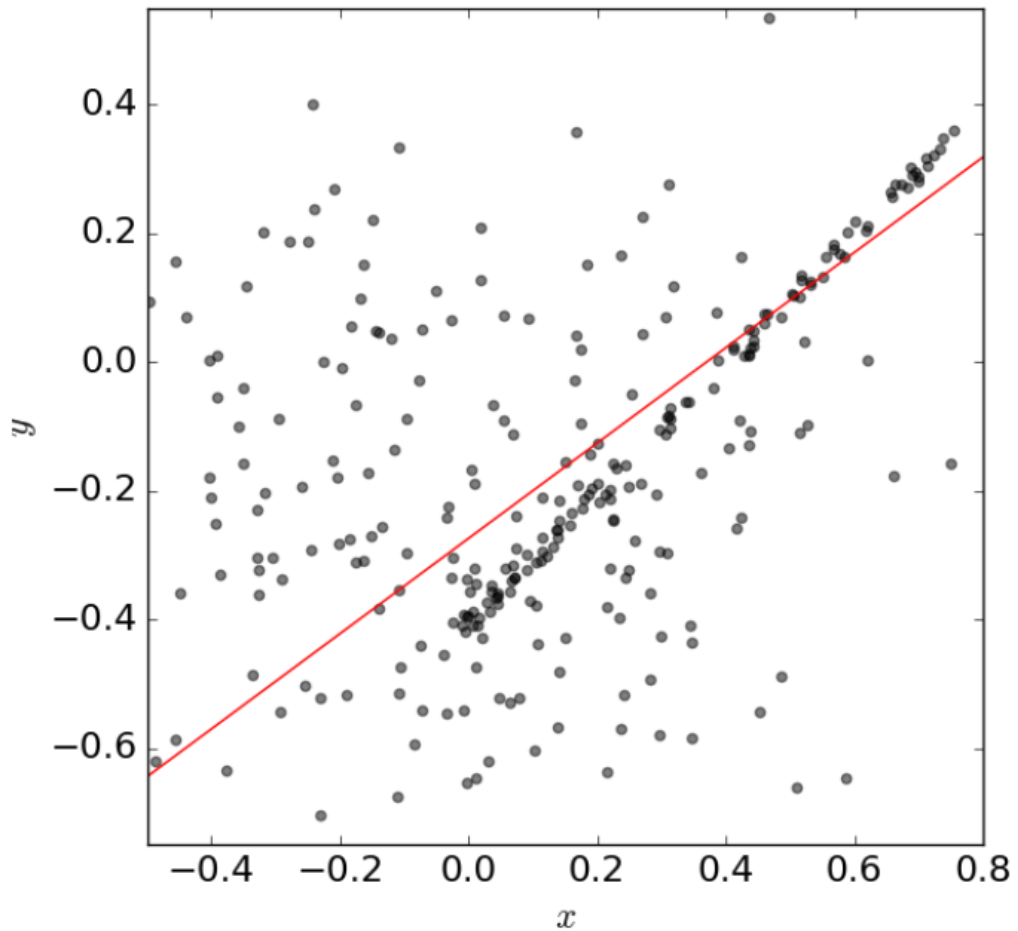
- used by Gauss ~ 1800



- Laplace considered, in the late 1700's, the sum of absolute differences  $f(x, \theta) = |\rho(\mathbf{x})|$

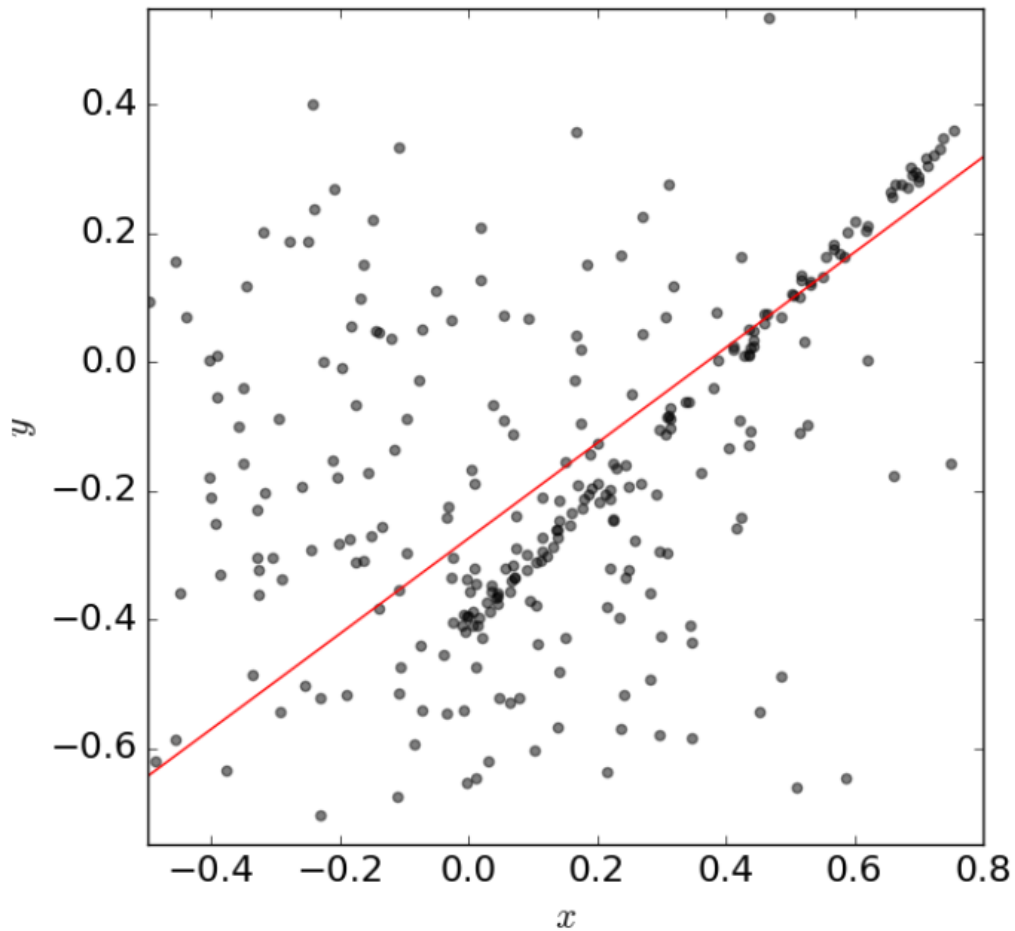
# Line Fitting with Outliers - Least squares fit

Example 1

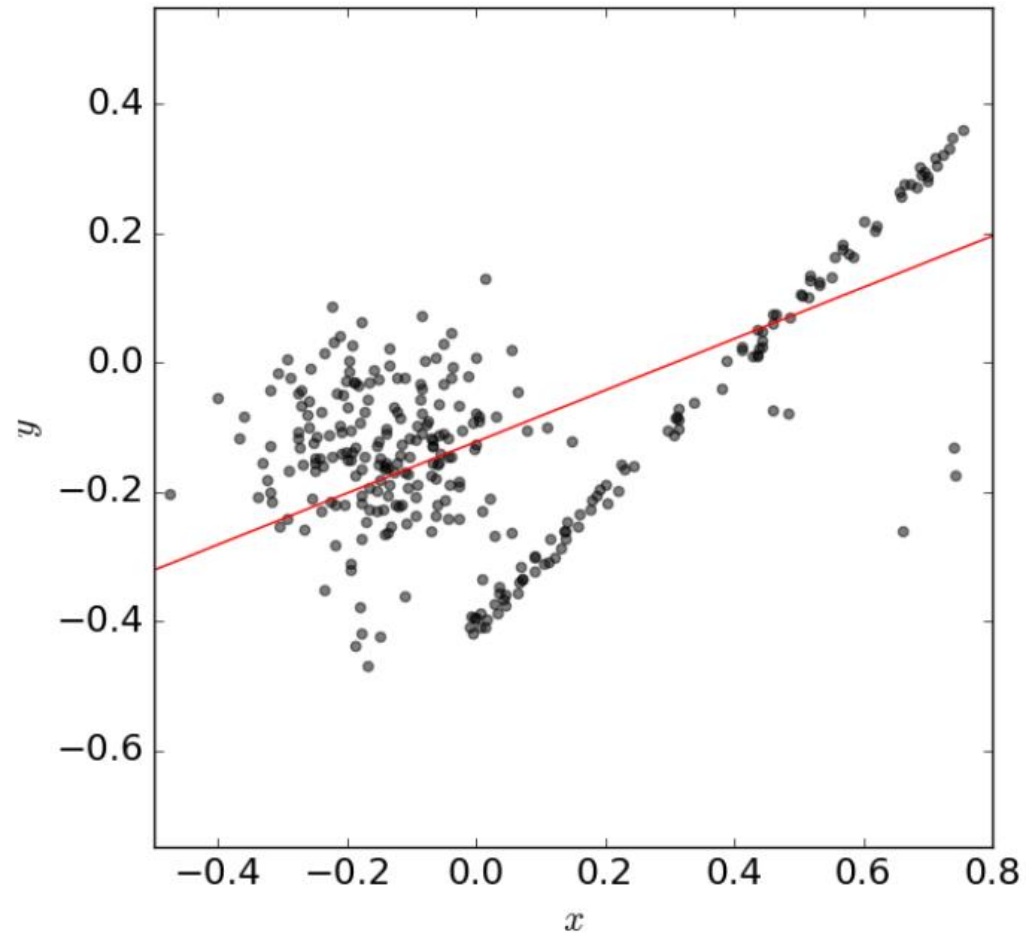


# Line Fitting with Outliers - Least squares fit

Example 1

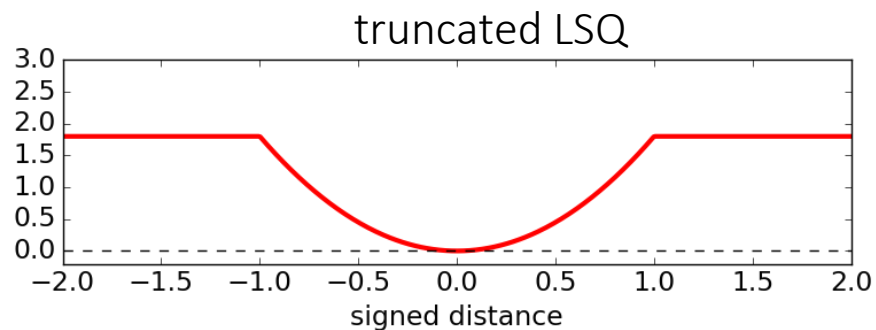
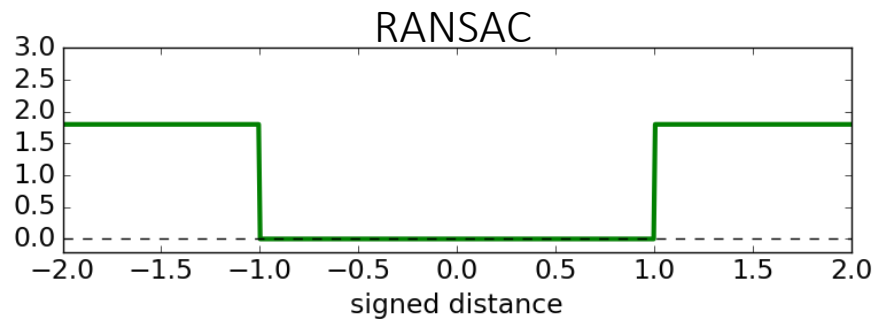
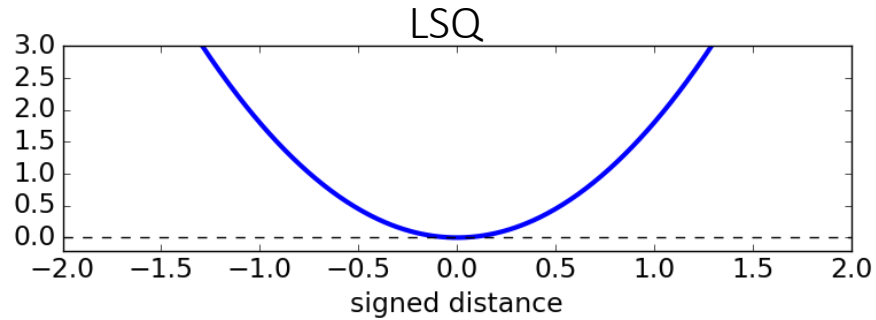


Example 2





# The SCSI Model Fitting Problem – Robust Loss



- Line fitting – Least Squares:

$$\theta = (r, \phi)$$

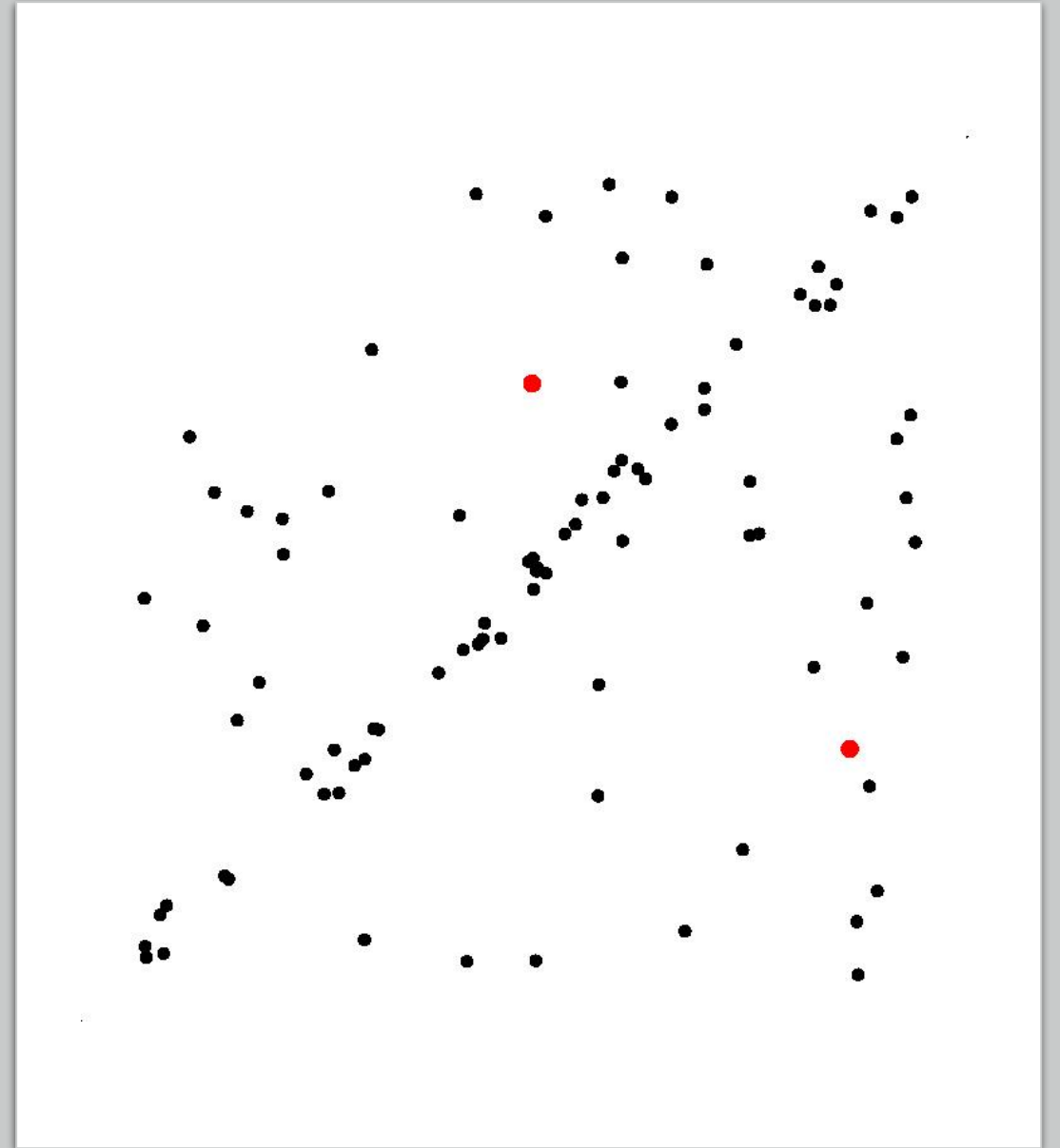
$$f_{LSQ}(\mathbf{x}, \theta) = [\rho(\mathbf{x})]^2$$

- Line fitting – Robust:

$$f_{RANSAC}(\mathbf{x}, \theta) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \rho(\mathbf{x}) \leq \text{threshold } \sigma \\ \text{const}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

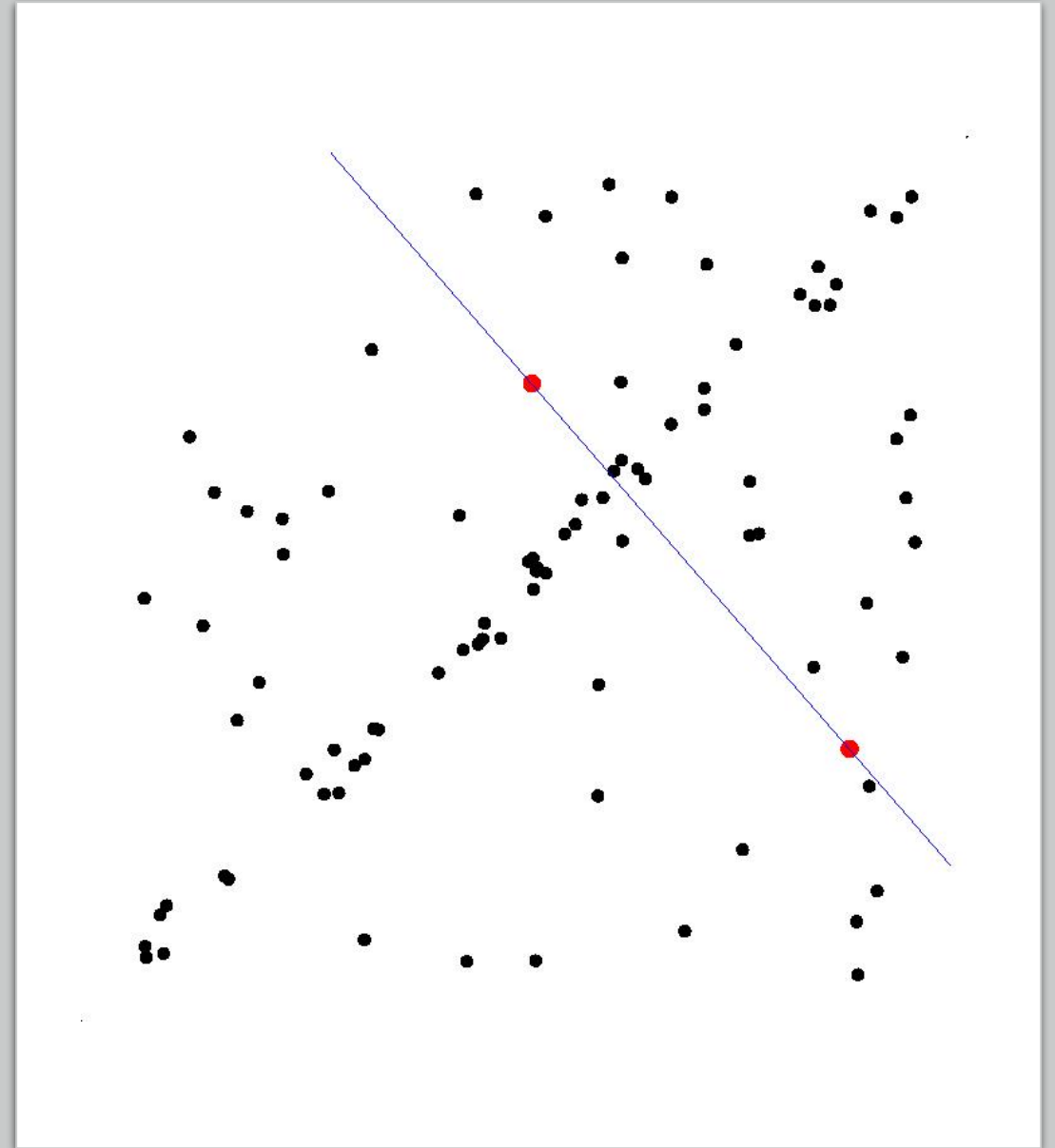
# Random Sample Consensus - RANSAC

- Select sample of  $m$  points at random



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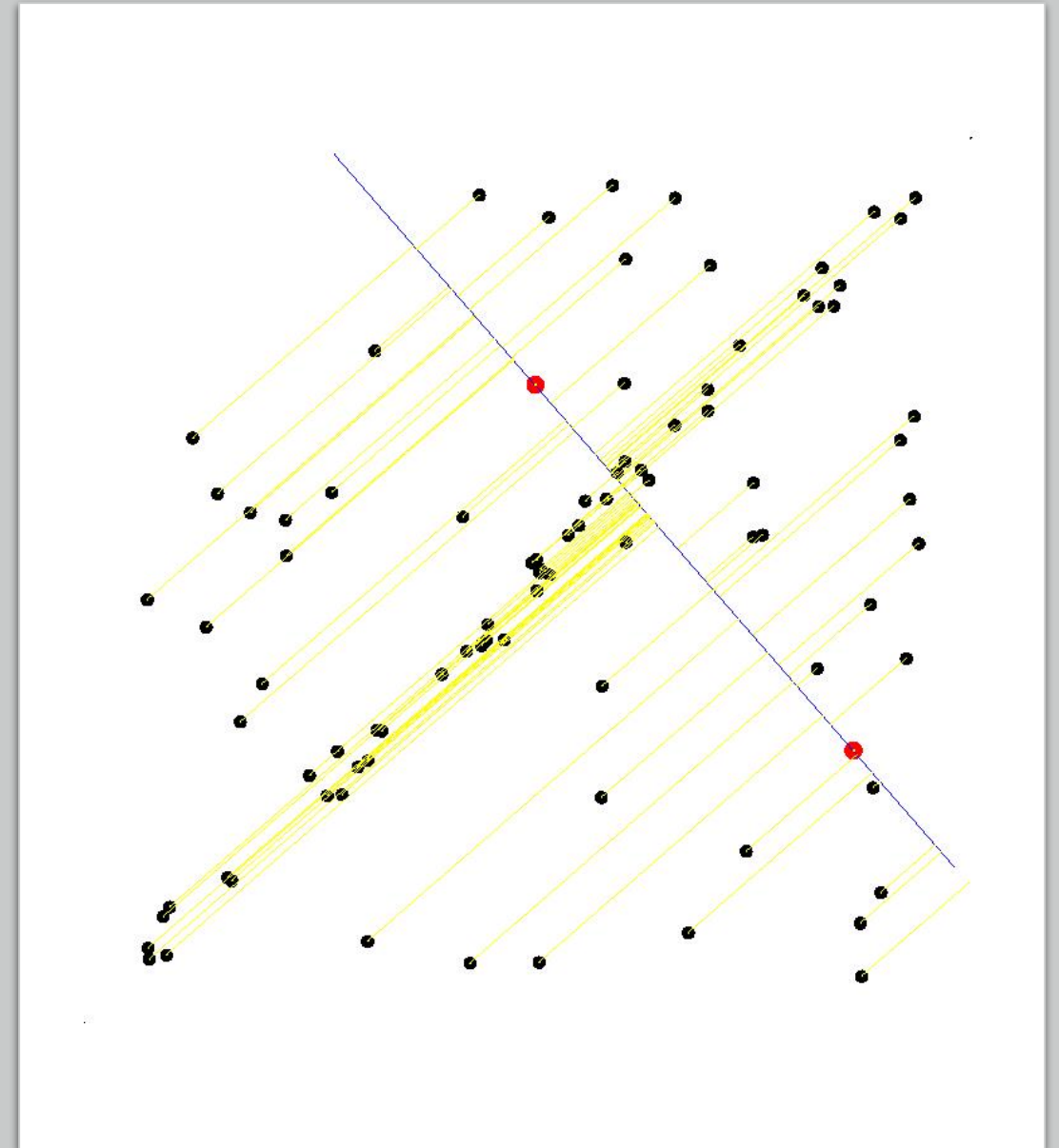
- Select sample of  $m$  points at random
- Estimate model parameters from the data in the sample





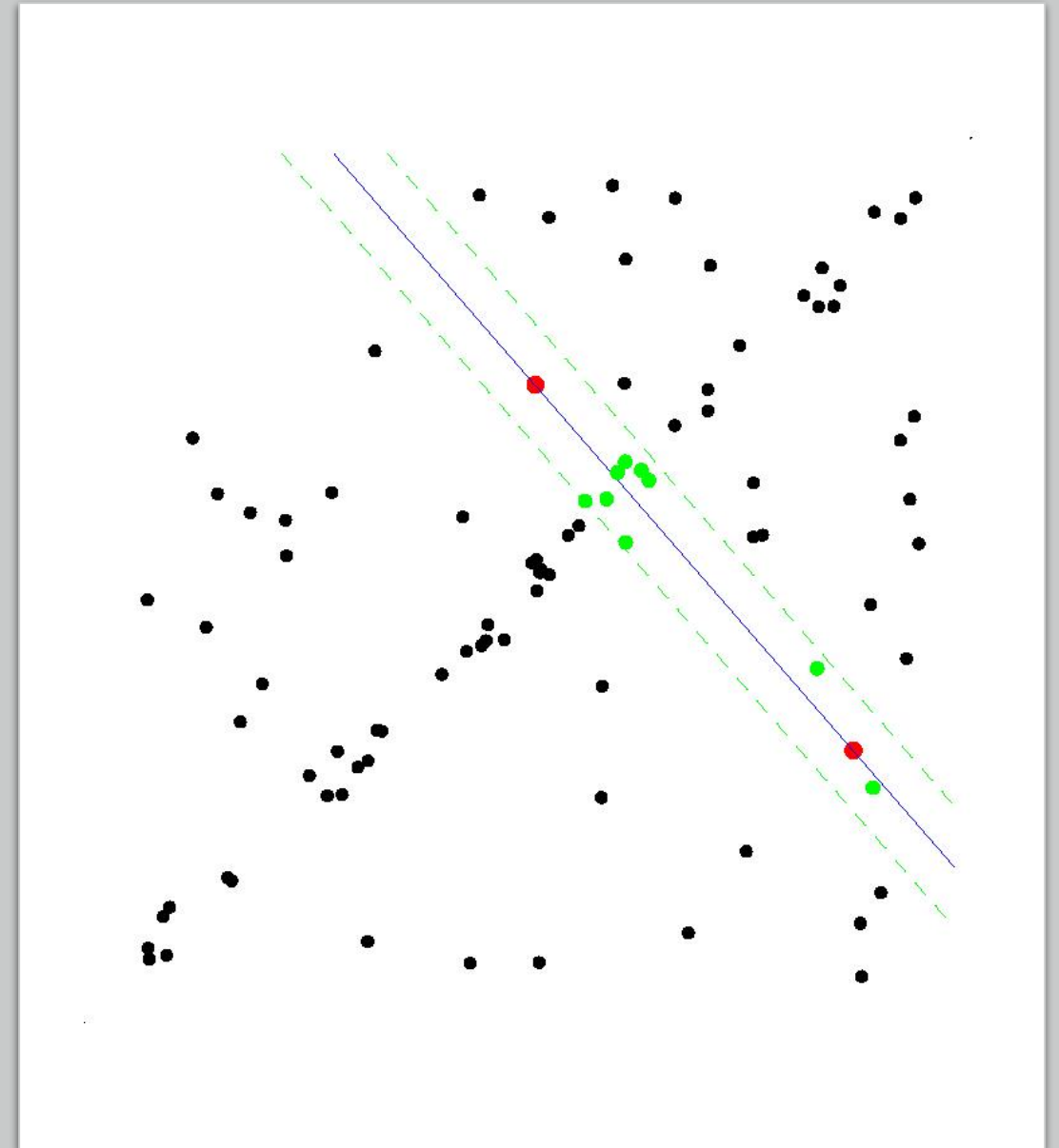
# Random Sample Consensus - RANSAC

- Select sample of  $m$  points at random
- Estimate model parameters from the data in the sample
- Evaluate the error (residual) for each data point



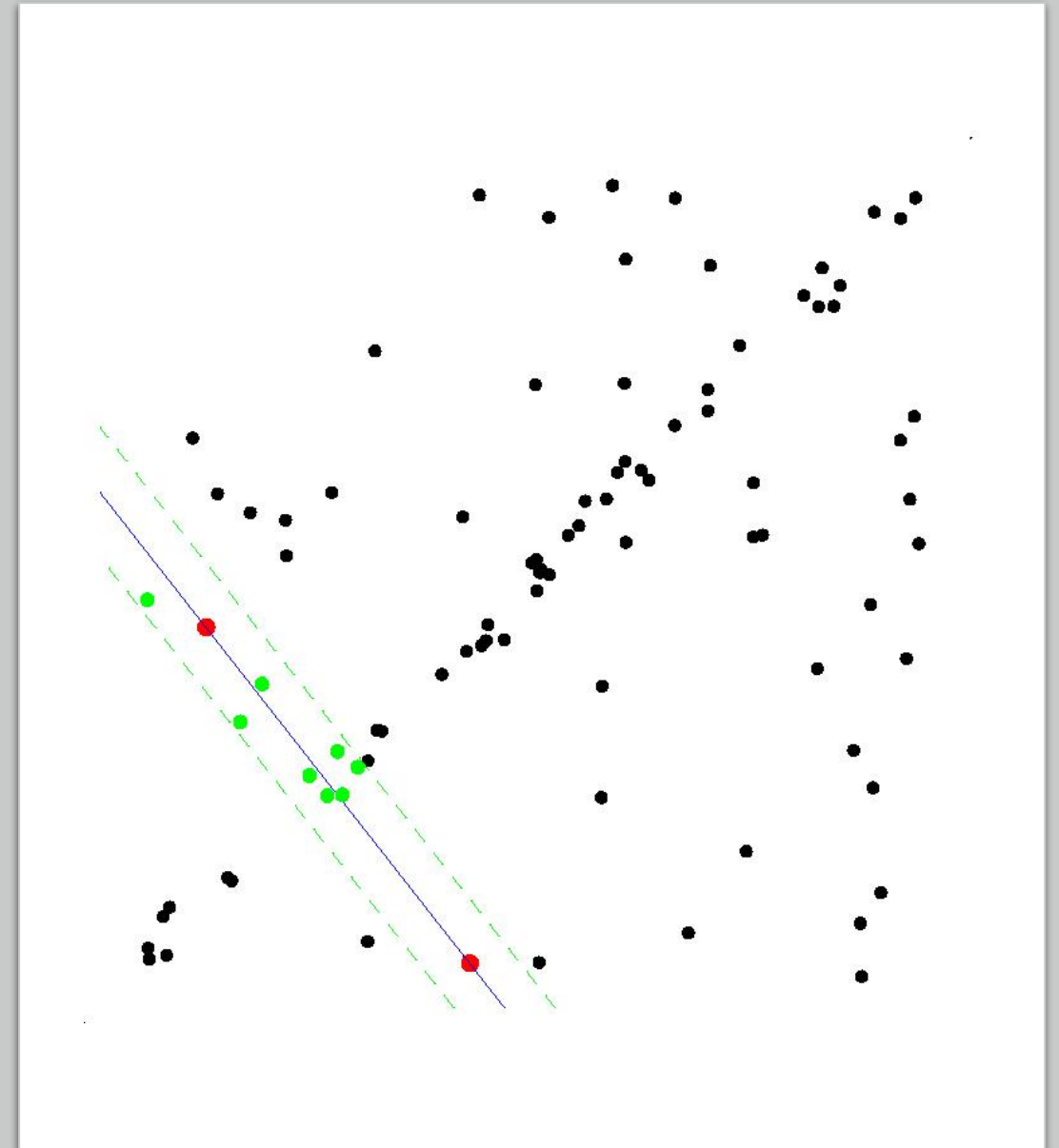
# Random Sample Consensus - RANSAC

- Select sample of  $m$  points at random
- Estimate model parameters from the data in the sample
- Evaluate the error (residual) for each data point
- Select data that support the current hypothesis



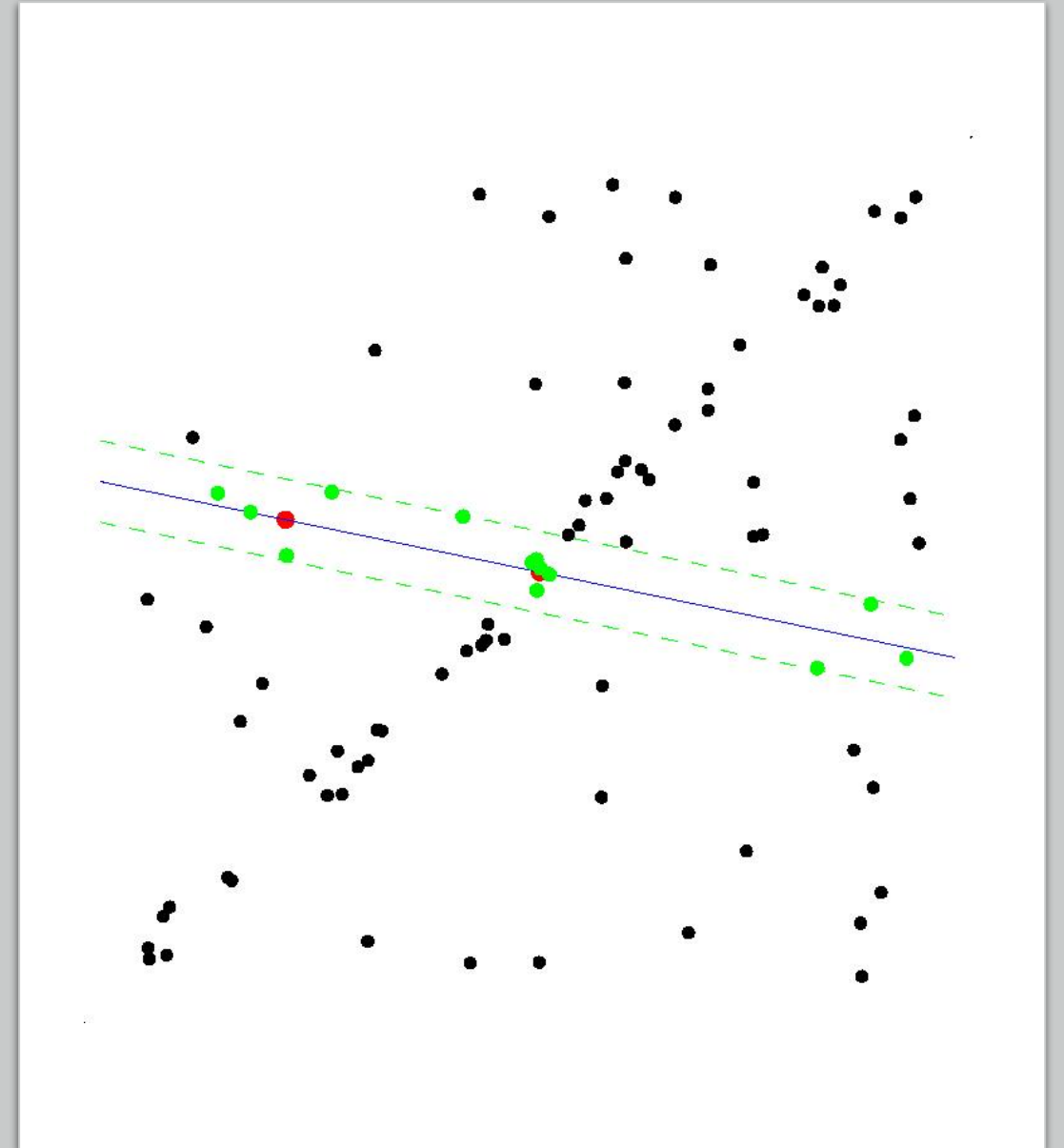
# Random Sample Consensus - RANSAC

- Select sample of  $m$  points at random
- Estimate model parameters from the data in the sample
- Evaluate the error (residual) for each data point
- Select data that support the current hypothesis
- Repeat sampling



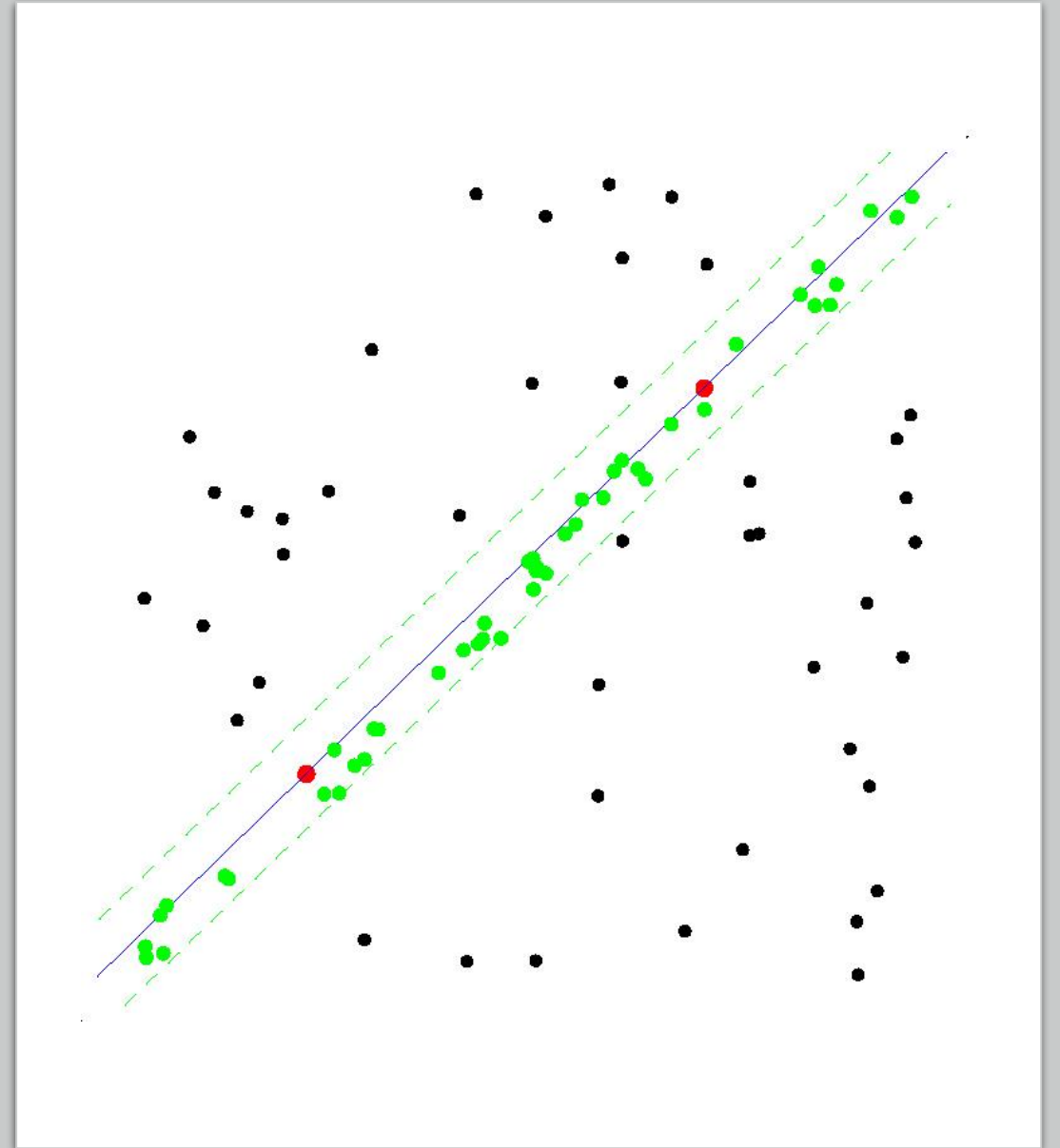
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**Input:**  $\mathcal{X} = \{\mathbf{x}_j\}_{j=1}^N$  data points

$e(S) = \theta$  estimates model parameters  $\theta$  given sample  $S \subseteq \mathcal{X}$

$$f(\mathbf{x}, \theta) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if distance to model} \leq \text{threshold } \sigma \\ 1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Cost function for single data point  $\mathbf{x}$

$$\Rightarrow J(\theta) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} f(\mathbf{x}, \theta) \text{ is \#outliers}$$

$\eta$  – required confidence in the solution,  $\sigma$  – outlier threshold

**Output:**  $\theta^*$  parameter of the model minimizing the cost function

1:  $iter \leftarrow 0, J^* \leftarrow \infty$

2: **repeat**

3: Select random  $S \subseteq \mathcal{X}$  (sample size  $m = |S|$ ) **SAMPLING**

4: Estimate parameters  $\theta = e(S)$

5: Evaluate  $J(\theta) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} f(\mathbf{x}, \theta)$  **VERIFICATION**

6: If  $J(\theta) < J^*$  then **SO-FAR-THE-BEST**  
 $\theta^* \leftarrow \theta, J^* \leftarrow J(\theta)$

7:  $iter \leftarrow iter + 1$

8: **until**  $P(\text{better solution exists}) = f(|\mathcal{X}|, J^*, iter) < \eta$

9: Compute  $\theta^*$  from all inliers  $\mathcal{X}_{in}$ :  $\theta^* \leftarrow \text{LocalOptimization}(\mathcal{X}_{in}, \theta^*)$

# RANSAC

[Fischler and Bolles 1981]



How many samples?

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# RANSAC – Probabilistic Quality Guarantee:

- $N$             Number of points
- $Q$             Number of inliers,  $Q = N - J^*$
- $m$             Size of sample
- $\epsilon = Q/N$     Inlier ratio

Probability of all-inlier (uncontaminated) sample:

$$P(\text{inlier sample}) = \frac{\binom{Q}{m}}{\binom{N}{m}} \approx \epsilon^m$$

Hitting at least one all-inlier sample with probability  $\eta$  requires drawing

$$k \geq \log(1 - \eta) / \log(1 - \epsilon^m) \quad \text{samples.}$$

On average, one in  $1/P$  samples is all-inlier.

# RANSAC termination - How many samples?

Inlier ratio  $\epsilon = Q/N$  [%]

	15%	20%	30%	40%	50%	70%
2	132	73	32	17	10	4
4	5916	1871	368	116	46	11
7	$1.75 \cdot 10^6$	$2.34 \cdot 10^5$	$1.37 \cdot 10^4$	1827	382	35
8	$1.17 \cdot 10^7$	$1.17 \cdot 10^6$	$4.57 \cdot 10^4$	4570	765	50
12	$2.31 \cdot 10^{10}$	$7.31 \cdot 10^8$	$5.64 \cdot 10^6$	$1.79 \cdot 10^5$	$1.23 \cdot 10^4$	215
18	$2.08 \cdot 10^{15}$	$1.14 \cdot 10^{13}$	$7.73 \cdot 10^9$	$4.36 \cdot 10^7$	$7.85 \cdot 10^5$	1838
30	$\infty$	$\infty$	$1.35 \cdot 10^{16}$	$2.60 \cdot 10^{12}$	$3.22 \cdot 10^9$	$1.33 \cdot 10^5$
40	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$2.70 \cdot 10^{16}$	$3.29 \cdot 10^{12}$	$4.71 \cdot 10^6$

computed for  $\eta = 0.95$

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40	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$2.70 \cdot 10^{16}$	$3.29 \cdot 10^{12}$	$4.71 \cdot 10^6$

Eg.:

- Line:  $m = 2$
- Plane:  $m = 3$
- Sphere:  $m = 4$
- Ellipse:  $m = 5$

computed for  $\eta = 0.95$

# RANSAC Notes

## Pros

- extremely popular
  - Google Scholar:

CÍM

HIVATKOZOTT RÁ

ÉV

Random sample consensus: a paradigm for model fitting with applications to image analysis and automated cartography

MA Fischler, RC Bolles

Communications of the ACM 24 (6), 381-395

26869

1981

- used in many applications
- percentage of inliers not needed and not limited
- a probabilistic guarantee for the solution
- mild assumptions: sigma is known

## Cons

- slow if inlier ratio low
- It was observed experimentally that RANSAC takes several times longer than theoretically expected
  - due to noise
  - not every all-inlier sample generates a good hypothesis

$$P(\text{inlier sample}) \neq P(\text{good model estimate})$$

**Input:**  $\mathcal{X} = \{\mathbf{x}_j\}_{j=1}^N$  data points  
 $e(S) = \theta$  estimates model parameters  $\theta$  given sample  $S \subseteq \mathcal{X}$   
 $f(\mathbf{x}, \theta) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if distance to model} \leq \text{threshold } \sigma \\ 1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$  Cost function for single data point  $\mathbf{x}$   
 $\Rightarrow J(\theta) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} f(\mathbf{x}, \theta)$  is #outliers  
 $\eta$  – required confidence in the solution,  $\sigma$  – outlier threshold

**Output:**  $\theta^*$  parameter of the model minimizing the cost function

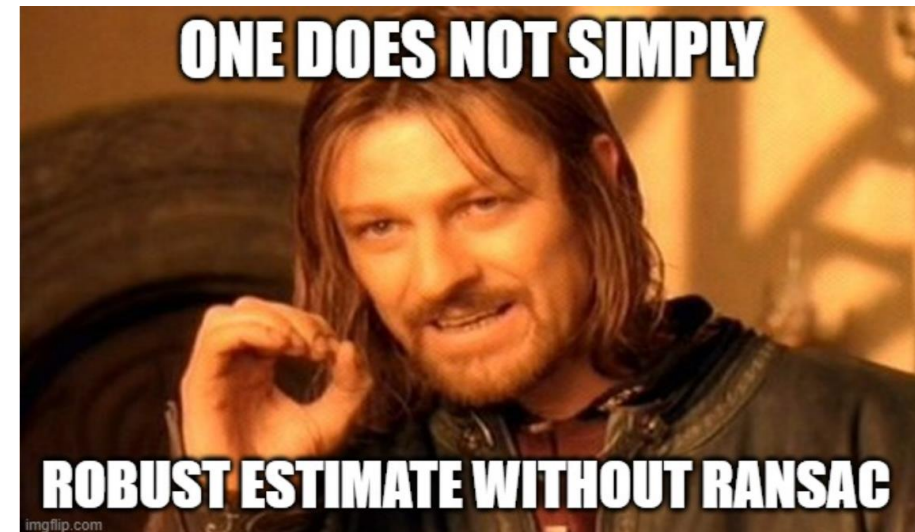
- 1:  $iter \leftarrow 0, J^* \leftarrow \infty$
- 2: **repeat**
- 3:   Select **random**  $S \subseteq \mathcal{X}$  (sample size  $m = |S|$ )
- 4:   Estimate parameters  $\theta = e(S)$
- 5:   Evaluate  $J(\theta) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} f(\mathbf{x}, \theta)$
- 6:   If  $J(\theta) < J^*$  then  
      $\theta^* \leftarrow \theta, J^* \leftarrow J(\theta)$
- 7:    $iter \leftarrow iter + 1$
- 8: **until**  $P(\text{better solution exists}) = f(|\mathcal{X}|, J^*, iter) < \eta$
- 9: Compute  $\theta^*$  from all inliers  $\mathcal{X}_{in}$ :  $\theta^* \leftarrow \text{LocalOptimization}(\mathcal{X}_{in}, \theta^*)$

State-of-the-art  
RANSAC

# RANSAC

## case closed?

## NO





# RANSAC Upgrades

- **Cost function:** MSAC, MLESAC, Huber loss, ...
- **Outlier threshold sigma:** Least median of Squares, MINPRAN, MAGSAC, ...
- **Correctness of the results. Degeneracy.**  
Solution: DegenSAC.
- **Accuracy** (parameters are estimated from minimal samples).  
Solution: Locally Optimized RANSAC, Graph-Cut RANSAC
- **Speed:** Running time grows with
  1. number of data points,
  2. number of iterations (polynomial in the inlier ratio)
    - Addressing the problem: RANSAC with SPRT (WaldSAC), PROSAC

Thank You!

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