

# Probabilistic Inverse Theory

## Lecture 6

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## Optimization approach - direct search for best $m$

Optimization approach

$$S(\mathbf{m}) = \|\mathbf{d}^{obs} - \mathbf{d}^{th}(\mathbf{m})\| + \|\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{m}^{apr}\|$$

solution: search for  $\mathbf{m}^{ml}$  minimizing  $S(\mathbf{m})$

$$S(\mathbf{m}^{ml}) = \min$$

## Optimization approach - features

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- ◆ fully nonlinear method
  - ◆ variety of existing optimization method
  - ◆ Choice of  $S(\mathbf{m})$  - different norms + additional constraints
  - ◆ problem with error estimation
  - ◆ is solution unique ?
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Inverse problem  $\equiv$  indirect measurement  
Errors are important!

## Estimating measurement errors - what does it mean

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When measuring parameter  $p$  we provide (or should do) result in the form

$$p = p^o \pm \delta p$$

where  $\delta p$  is an error measurement.

*What this notion does it mean?*

## Uncertainties - stochastic point of view

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stochastic errors:

$$p_i = p^{true} + \epsilon$$

with given probability distribution  $\rho(\epsilon)$  (usually unknown)

if sufficient number of measurements is available

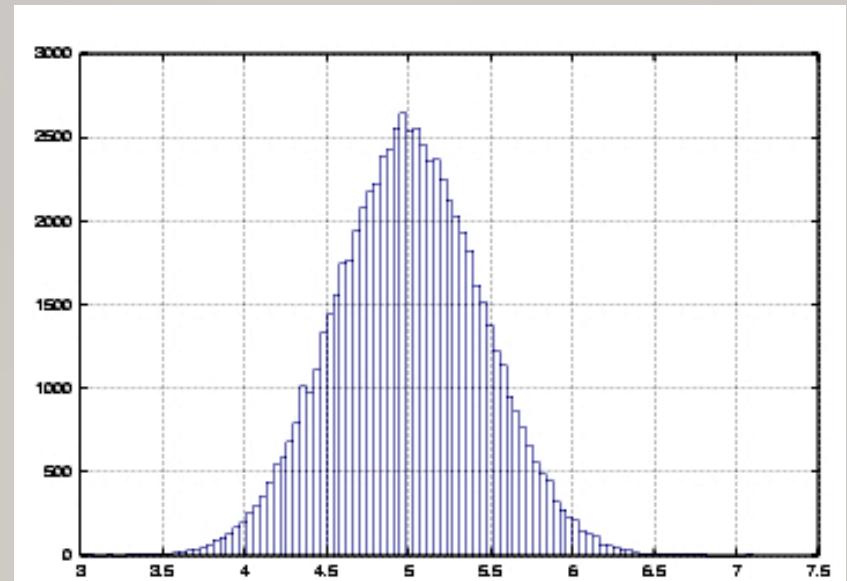
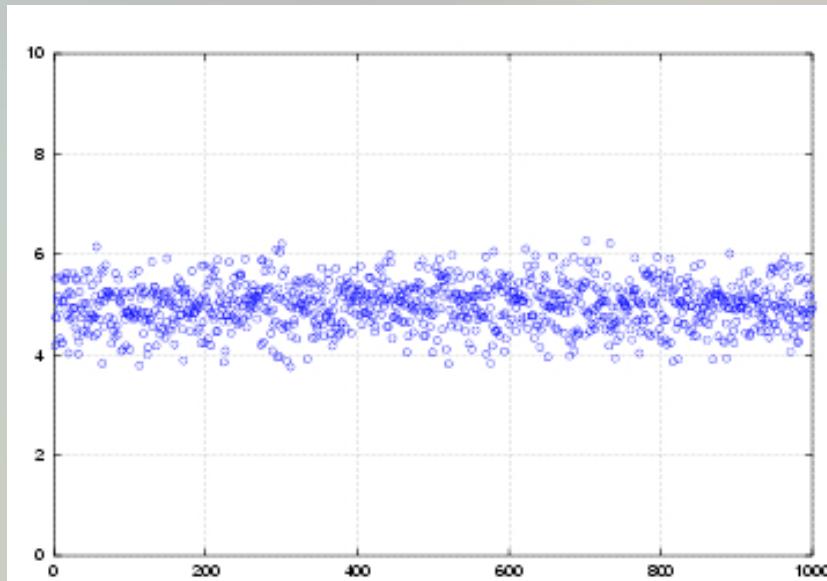
$$\rho(\epsilon) \approx H(p - \bar{p}) \quad \bar{p} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i^N p_i$$

can be a good proxy of  $\rho(\epsilon)$  and

$$\mathbf{p}^{true} = \bar{\mathbf{p}} \pm \delta \mathbf{p}$$

provided ...

# Uncertainties - Gaussian errors



$$P(\bar{p} - \delta < p^{true} < \bar{p} + \delta) = 0.68$$

## Uncertainties - non-Gaussian errors

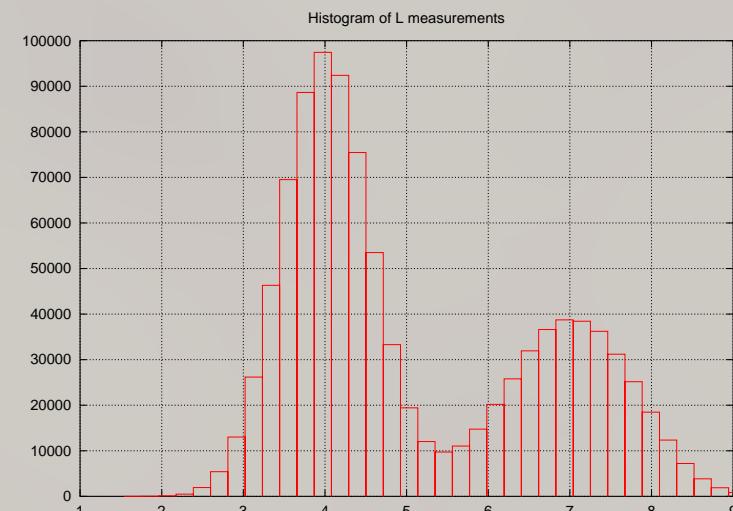
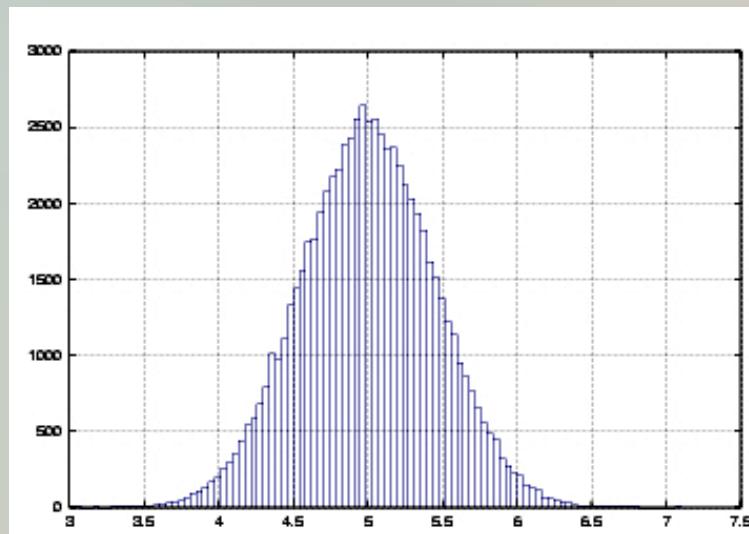
However, the error statistics can be quite complex, multi-modal, etc.



$$\mathbf{p}^{est} \neq \bar{\mathbf{p}} \pm \delta \mathbf{p}$$

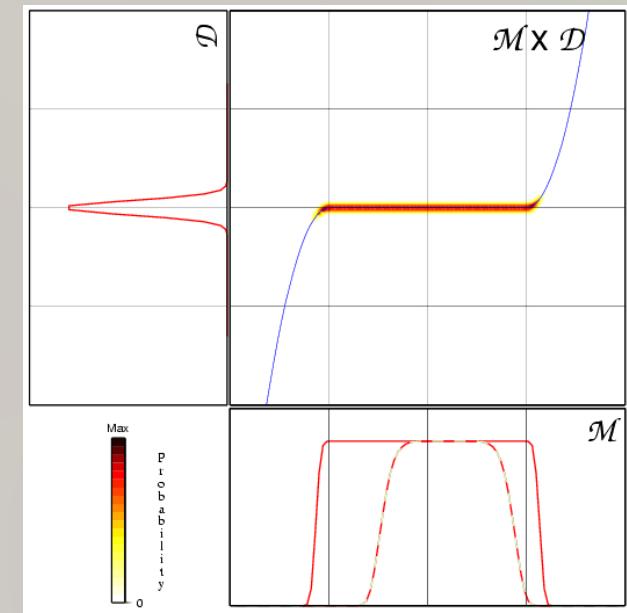
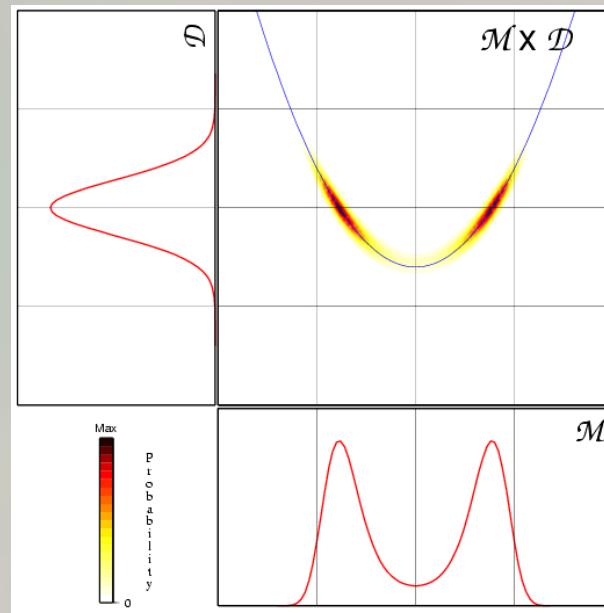
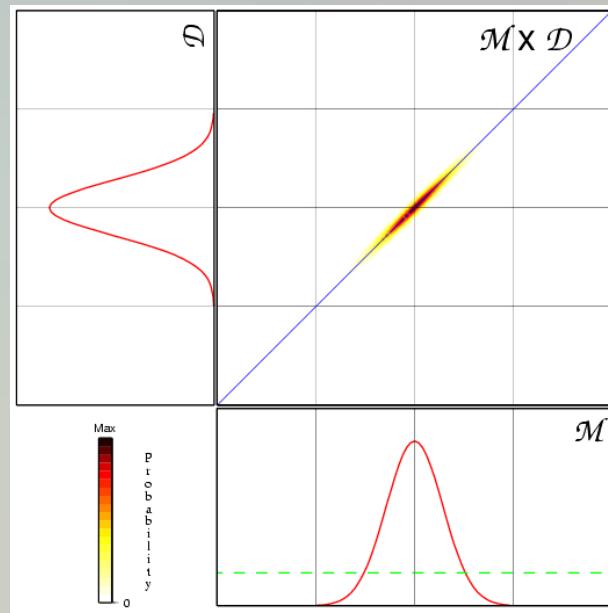
## Uncertainties - generalization

The correct error estimation requires providing the **complete** description of error statistics  $\rho(\epsilon)$



This is what we need in case of inverse problems!

# Complication due to non-linearity



## Uncertainties - conclusion

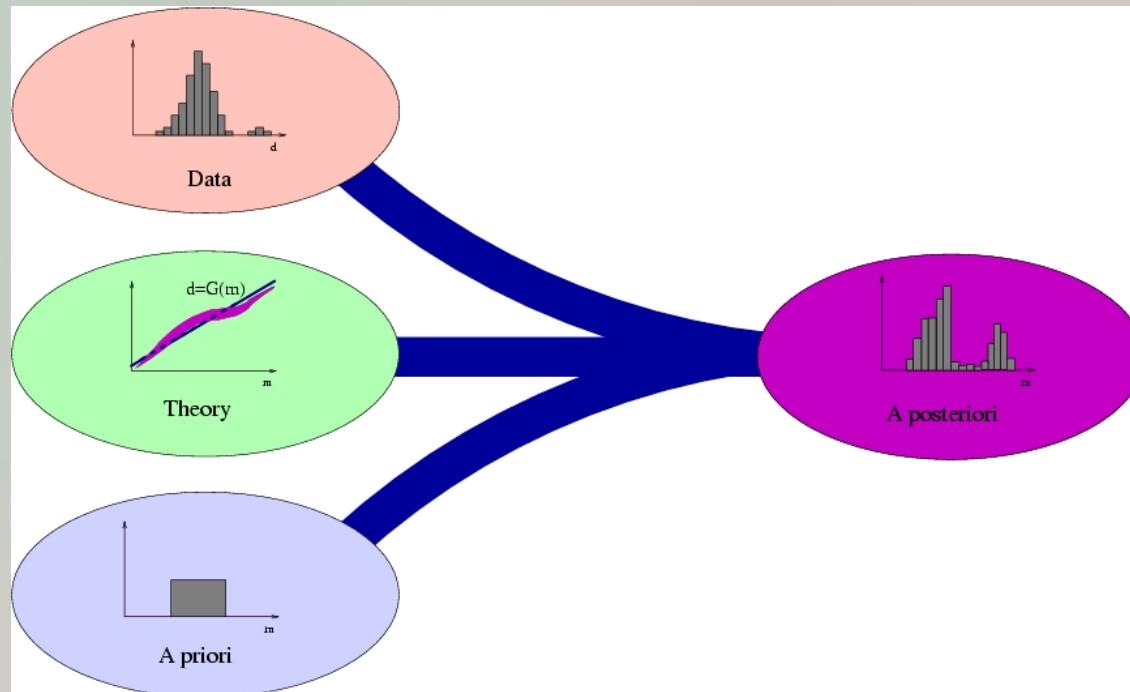
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Nonlinearity of forward problem can significantly modify “observational” errors. If, in addition we consider that forward modelling can also be imprecise (e.g. due to theoretical simplification) we conclude that **inversion errors** can have complex distribution  $\rho(\epsilon)$ . Without its full knowledge the solution of inverse problem is

INCOMPLETE

## Generalization - probabilistic approach

Solution  $\equiv$  searching for  
probability distribution  
describing *a posteriori* uncertainties



## Generalization - probabilistic approach

*Method*

Algebraic

Optimization

*Solution*

model given by math formula

single “optimum” model



Probabilistic

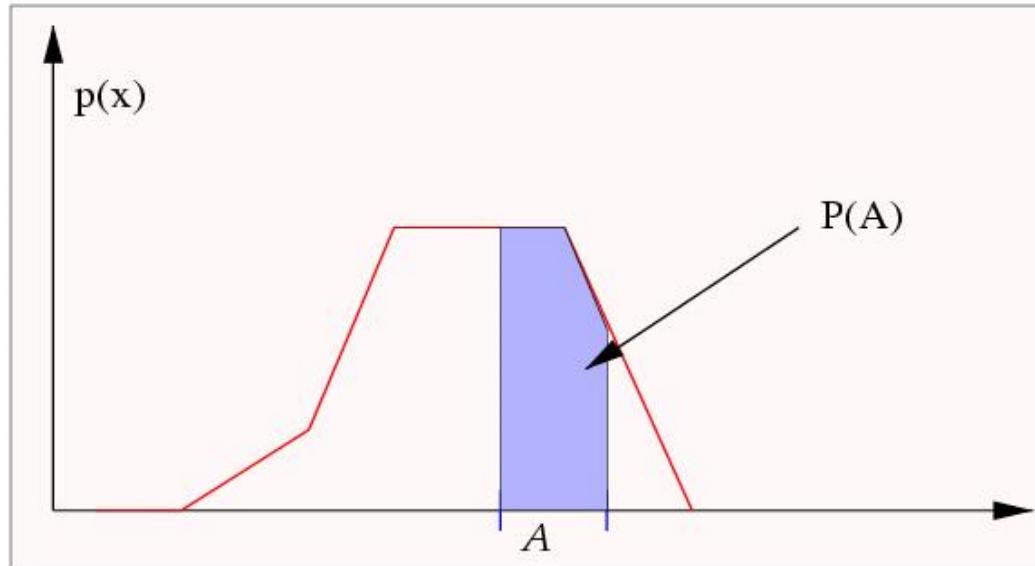
probability distribution

This *a posteriori* distribution is supposed to describe (at least) inversion errors

## Probabilistic approach

How to construct this  
*a posteriori*  
probability distribution

# Probability theory - elements



$$P(A) = \int_A p(x)dx$$

## Probability theory - elements

- ♦ Normalization [ $p(m) \geq 0$ ]

$$\int_M p(m)dm = 1$$

- ♦ Average (Expected value)

$$\bar{m} = \langle m \rangle = \int_M mp(m)dm$$

- ♦ Dispersion

$$\sigma^2 = \langle (m-\bar{m})^2 \rangle = \int_M (m-\bar{m})^2 p(m)dm$$

## Marginal and conditional probability distributions

$$p(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}): \quad \int_{MD} p(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}) d\mathbf{m} d\mathbf{d} = 1$$

$$\diamond p_{\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{m}) = \int_D p(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}) d\mathbf{d}$$

$$\diamond p_{\mathbf{d}}(\mathbf{d}) = \int_M p(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}) d\mathbf{m}$$

$$\diamond p_{\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{d}}(\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{d}) = p(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}) / p_{\mathbf{d}}(\mathbf{d})$$

$$\diamond p_{\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{m}) = p(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}) / p_{\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{m})$$

## Marginal and conditional probability distributions (2)

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$$p(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}) = p_{\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{d}}(\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{d})p_{\mathbf{d}}(\mathbf{d})$$

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## Bayes Theorem

$$p_{\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{d}}(\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{d}) = \frac{p_{\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{m})p_{\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{m})}{p_{\mathbf{d}}(\mathbf{d})}$$

## Bayes Theorem - interpretation

$\mathbf{d} \Rightarrow \mathbf{d}^{obs}$

$$p_{\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{d}}(\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{d}^{obs}) = \frac{p_{\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{d}^{obs}|\mathbf{m})p_{\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{m})}{p_{\mathbf{d}}(\mathbf{d}^{obs})}$$

## *a posteriori* probability distribution

$$p_{post}(\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{d}^{obs}) \sim p(\mathbf{d}^{obs}|\mathbf{m}) p_{apr}(\mathbf{m})$$

$$\sigma(\mathbf{m}) = f(\mathbf{m}) L(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}^{obs})$$

## Likelihood function

$$L(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}^{obs}) = p(\mathbf{d}^{obs} | \mathbf{m})$$

theory		observation	
model	prediction	data	measured value
$\mathbf{m}$	$\rightarrow$	$G(\mathbf{m})$	$\mathbf{d}^{obs}$
		$\rho_{th}(\epsilon_{th})$	$\rho_o(\epsilon_o)$
		$\rho_{th}(\mathbf{d} - G(\mathbf{m}))$	$\rho_o(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{obs})$

$$L(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}^{obs}) = \int_d \rho_{th}(\mathbf{d} - G(\mathbf{m})) \rho_o(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{obs}) d\mathbf{d}$$

## Probabilistic solution

$$\sigma(\mathbf{m}) = f(\mathbf{m}) L(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}^{obs})$$

$$L(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}^{obs}) = \int_d \rho_{th}(\mathbf{d} - G(\mathbf{m})) \rho_o(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{obs}) d\mathbf{d}$$

## Example - exact theory

$$L(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}^{obs}) = \int_d \rho_{th}(\mathbf{d} - G(\mathbf{m})) \rho_o(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{obs}) d\mathbf{d}$$

$$\rho_{th} = \delta(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{m}))$$

then

$$\sigma(\mathbf{m}) = f(\mathbf{m}) \rho_o(\mathbf{d}^{obs} - \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{m}))$$

likelihood function represents uncertainties due to measurement errors

## Example - exact measurements

$$L(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}^{obs}) = \int_d \rho_{th}(\mathbf{d} - G(\mathbf{m})) \rho_o(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{obs}) d\mathbf{d}$$

$$\rho_o = \delta(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{obs})$$

then

$$\sigma(\mathbf{m}) = f(\mathbf{m}) \rho_{th}(\mathbf{d}^{obs} - \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{m}))$$

likelihood function represents uncertainties due to modeling errors

## Example - missing theory

$$L(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}^{obs}) = \int_d \rho_{th}(\mathbf{d} - G(\mathbf{m})) \rho_o(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{obs}) d\mathbf{d}$$

$$\rho_{th}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}) = const.$$

then

$$\sigma(\mathbf{m}) = f(\mathbf{m}) \int_{\mathbf{d}} \rho_o(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{obs}) d\mathbf{d} \sim f(\mathbf{m})$$

solution is determined by *a priori* model+uncertainties

## Example - missing measurement data

$$L(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d}^{obs}) = \int_d \rho_{th}(\mathbf{d} - G(\mathbf{m})) \rho_o(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{obs}) d\mathbf{d}$$

$$\rho_o(\mathbf{d}) = const.$$

then

$$L(\mathbf{m}) = \int_{\mathbf{d}} \rho_{th}(\mathbf{d} - G(\mathbf{m})) d\mathbf{d}$$

$$\sigma(\mathbf{m}) \sim f(\mathbf{m})$$

solution is determined by *a priori* model+uncertainties

## Example - linear modelling + Gaussian errors

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$$\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{m}$$

$$f(\mathbf{m}) = \exp \left( -(\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{m}^{apr})^T \mathbf{C}_m^{-1} (\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{m}^{apr}) \right)$$

$$\rho_{th}(\mathbf{m}) = \delta(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{m})$$

$$\rho_o(\mathbf{d}) = \exp \left( -(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{obs})^T \mathbf{C}_d^{-1} (\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{d}^{obs}) \right)$$

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$$\sigma(\mathbf{m}) = \exp \left( -(\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{m}^{ml})^T \mathbf{C}_p^{-1} (\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{m}^{ml}) \right)$$


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$$\mathbf{m}^{ml} = \mathbf{m}^{apr} + \mathbf{C}_p^{-1} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{C}_d^{-1} \cdot (\mathbf{d}^{obs} - \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{m}^{apr})$$

$$\mathbf{C}_p = (\mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{C}_d^{-1} \mathbf{G} + \mathbf{C}_m^{-1})$$

## Probabilistic solution - features

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The solution: *a posteriori* probability distribution

- ◆ always exists
- ◆ fully nonlinear
- ◆ include all uncertainties
- ◆ possible full error analysis
- ◆ physical well define meaning (and role) of *a priori* term
- ◆ requires methods of exploring  $\sigma(\mathbf{m})$
- ◆ non-parametric inverse problems?

## Exploring *a posteriori* probability

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- ◆ searching for maximum of  $\sigma(\mathbf{m})$
- ◆ calculate point estimators
- ◆ marginal distributions
- ◆ sampling  $\sigma(\mathbf{m})$

## Exploring a posteriori probability: $\mathbf{m}^{ml}$ solution

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Basic characteristic of  $\sigma(\mathbf{m})$ :

location of the (global) maximum

- the most likelihood  $\mathbf{m}^{ml}$  value

$$\mathbf{m}^{ml} : \quad \sigma(\mathbf{m}) = \max$$

Problem reduced to optimization approach

## Point estimators

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Characterization of  $\sigma(\mathbf{m})$  by its moments:

- ◆ expected value:  $\mathbf{m}^{avr} = \int_M \mathbf{m} \sigma(\mathbf{m}) d\mathbf{m}$
- ◆ covariance  $C_{ij} = \int_M (m_i - m_i^{avr})(m_j - m_j^{avr}) \sigma(\mathbf{m}) d\mathbf{m}$
- ◆ higher order moments

Require efficient methods of calculation  
multi-dimensional integrals

## Marginal *a posteriori* distribution

### ◆ 1D marginals

$$\sigma_i(m_i) = \int_{\mathbf{m} \neq m_i} \sigma(\mathbf{m}) d\mathbf{m}$$

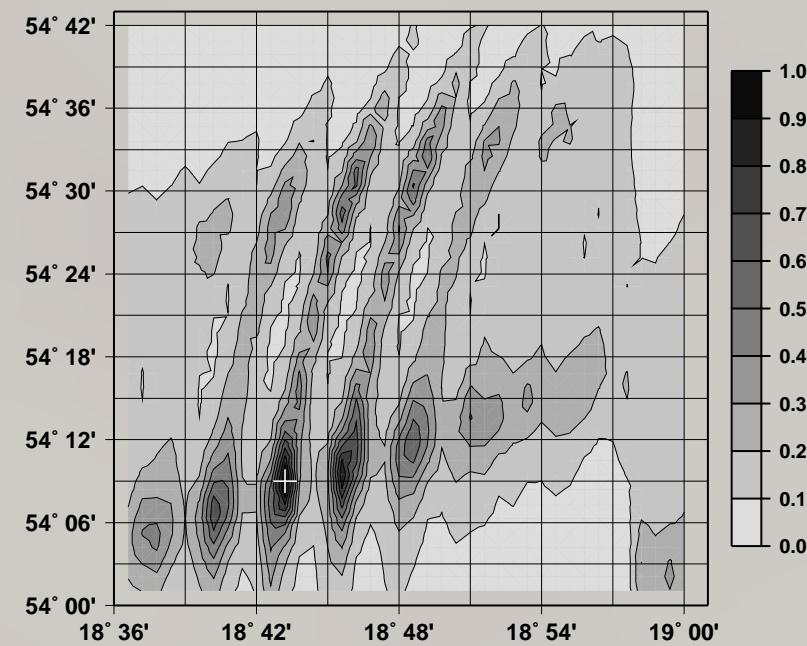
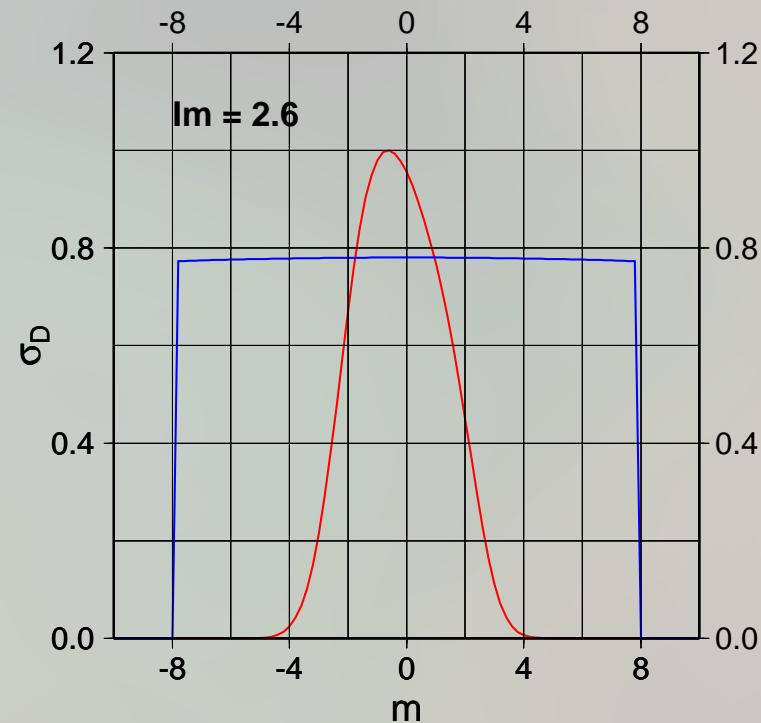
### ◆ 2D marginals

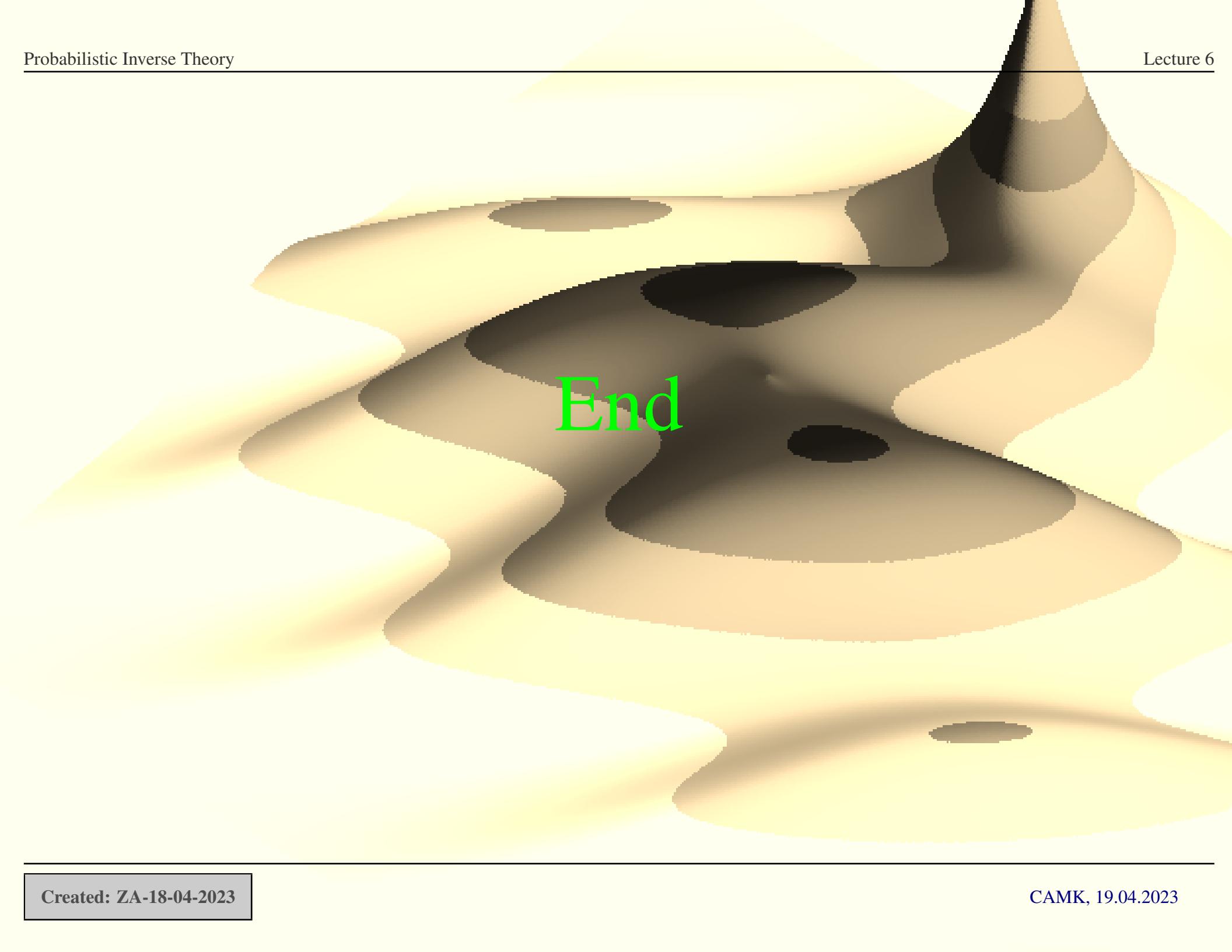
$$\sigma_{ij}(m_i, m_j) = \int_{\mathbf{m} \neq m_i, m_j} \sigma(\mathbf{m}) d\mathbf{m}$$

### ◆ higher dimension marginals

Require efficient methods of calculation multi-dimensional integrals

## Marginal *a posteriori* distribution - examples





A 3D surface plot showing a complex, multi-peaked function. The surface is colored with a gradient from dark gray to light yellow, indicating varying values across the domain. There are several local peaks and troughs, with one prominent global peak on the right side. The surface is highly textured, suggesting noise or high-frequency oscillations.

End