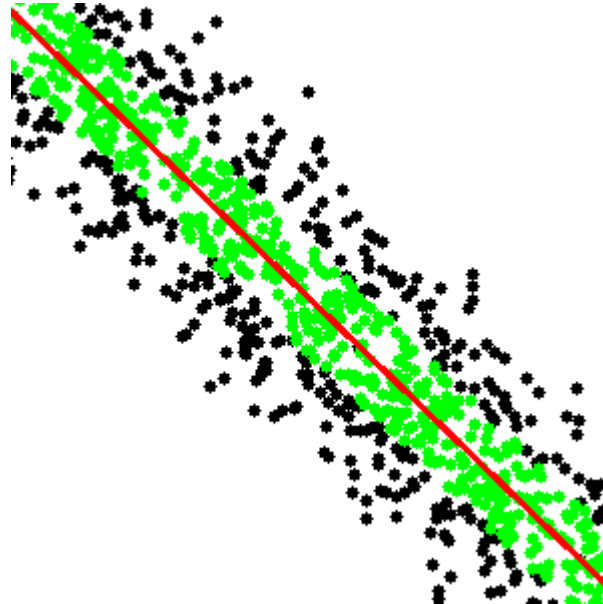


# Robust Mechatronics

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## Handling Measurement Noise



Dr Loukas Bampis, Assistant Professor  
Mechatronics & Systems Automation Lab

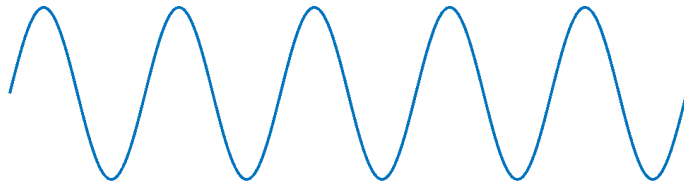
# Handling Measurement Noise

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## Noise

- All measurements are influenced by extraneous factors that are unrelated to the specific quantity being measured

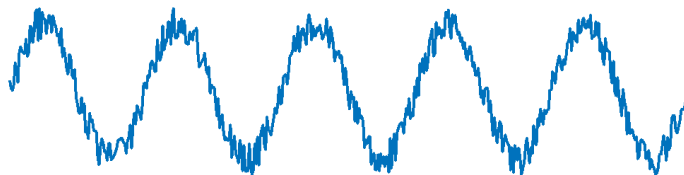
Analog Signal



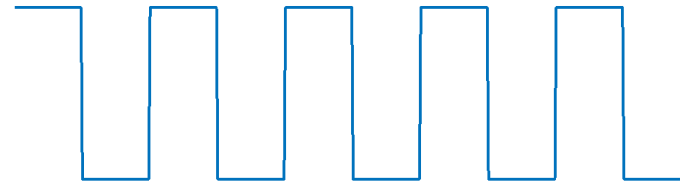
Noise



Analog Signal + Noise



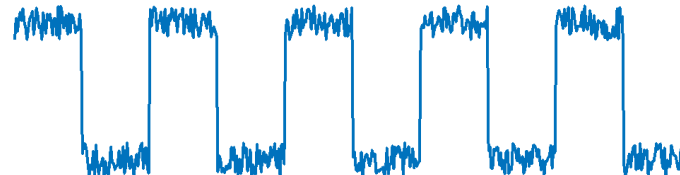
Digital Signal



Noise



Digital Signal + Noise



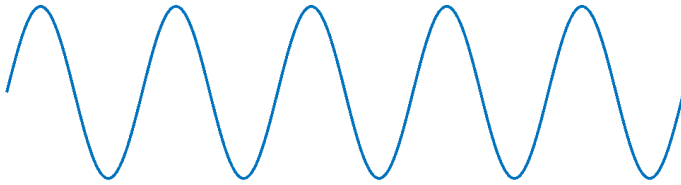
# Handling Measurement Noise

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## Noise

- Signal noise refers to time-dependent fluctuations in the instrument's output that occur randomly (or near-randomly) and are not attributable to the analyte's presence or response

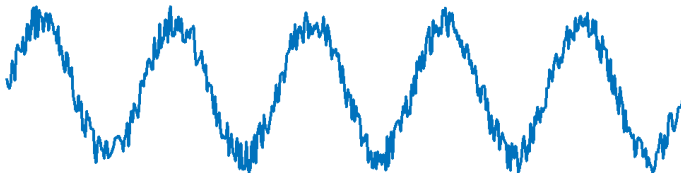
Analog Signal



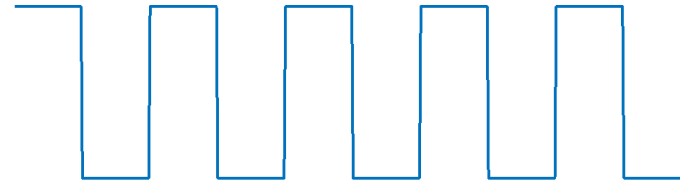
Noise



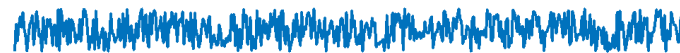
Analog Signal + Noise



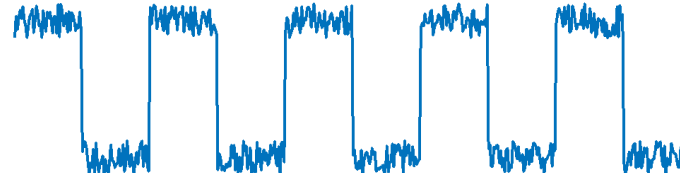
Digital Signal



Noise



Digital Signal + Noise



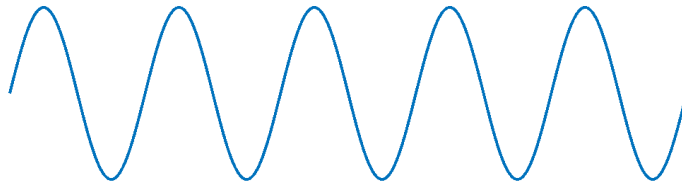
# Handling Measurement Noise

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## Noise

- Assessing the magnitude of noise relative to the magnitude of the signal is essential for evaluating measurement accuracy and establishing the minimum detectable signal level, known as the detection limit

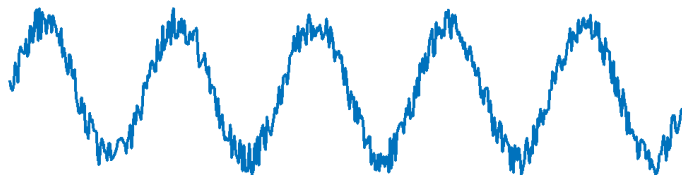
Analog Signal



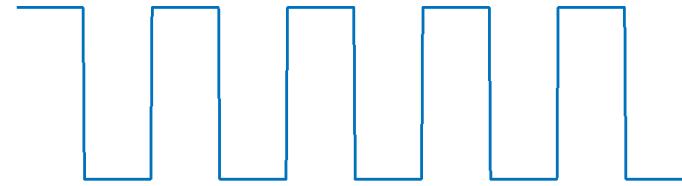
Noise



Analog Signal + Noise



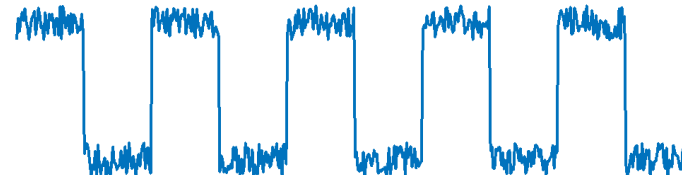
Digital Signal



Noise



Digital Signal + Noise



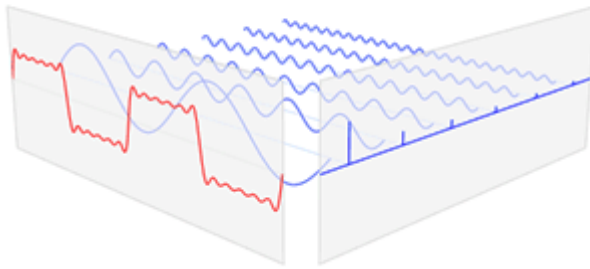
# Handling Measurement Noise

## Noise

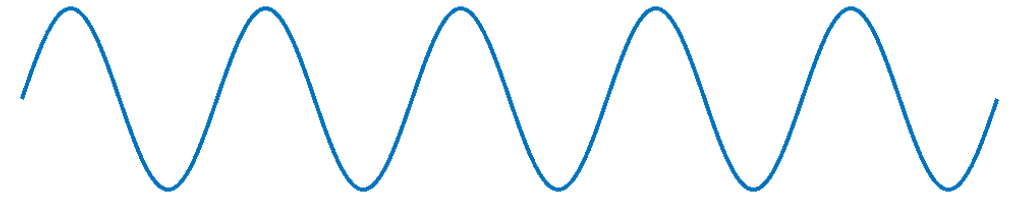
- Noise arises from many sources, and it can be treated as a sine wave, or the sum of multiple/infinite sine waves

~Fourier theory

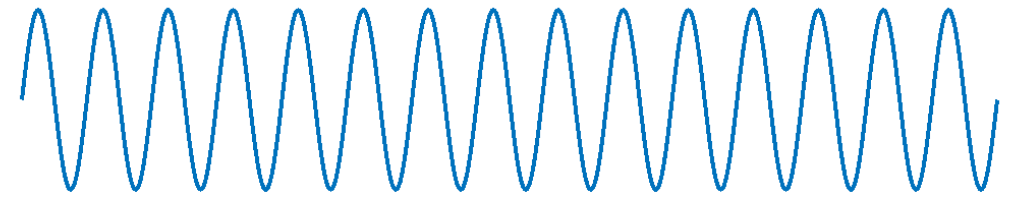
$$f(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \hat{f}^s(\xi) \sin(2\pi\xi t) d\xi + \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \hat{f}^c(\xi) \cos(2\pi\xi t) d\xi$$



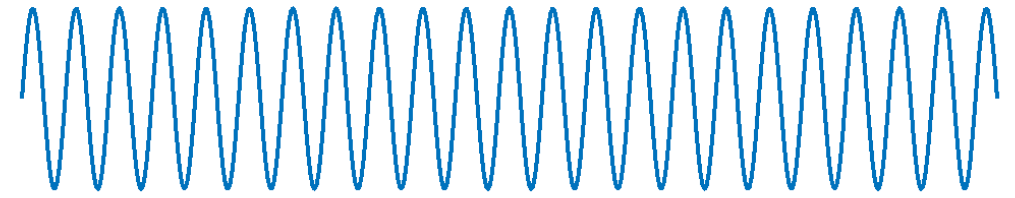
S1



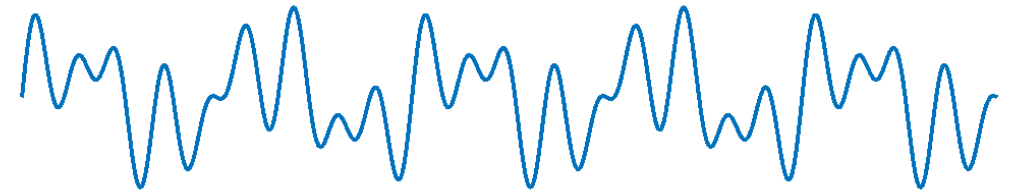
S2



S3



S1+S2+S3

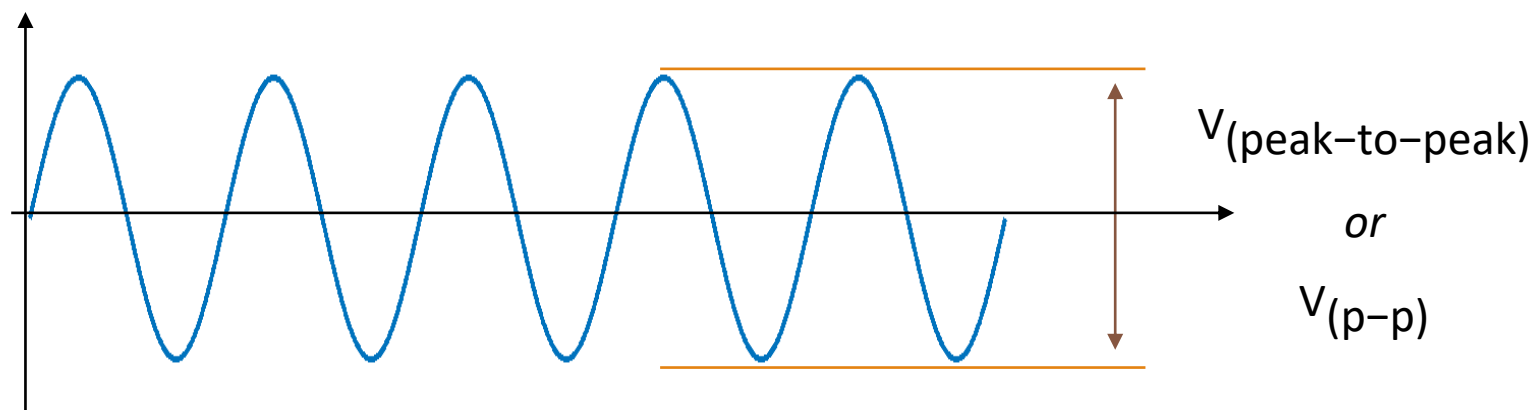


# Handling Measurement Noise

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## Noise

- Peak-to-peak amplitude

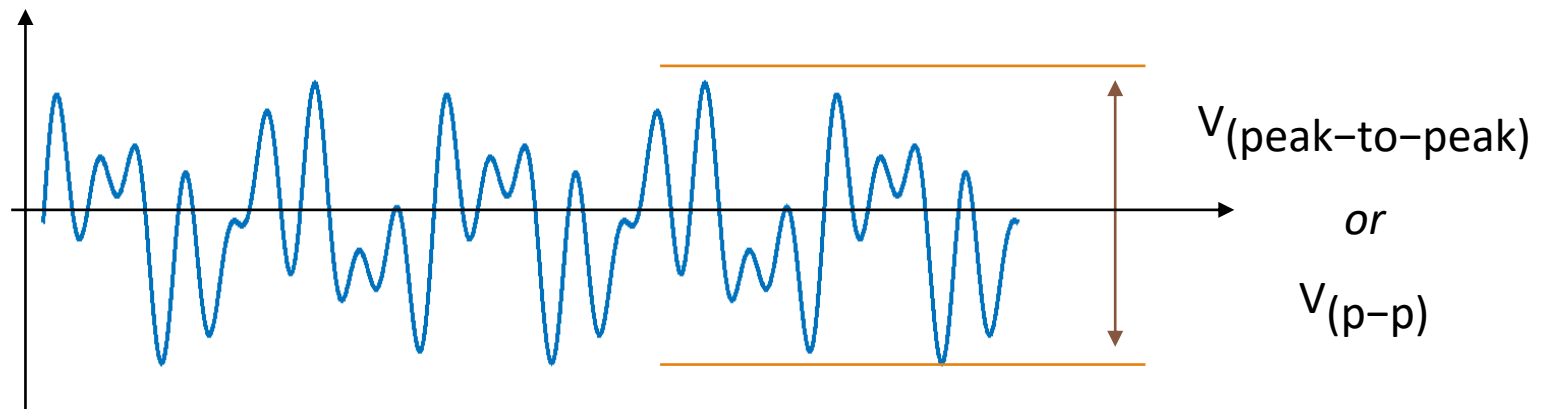


# Handling Measurement Noise

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## Noise

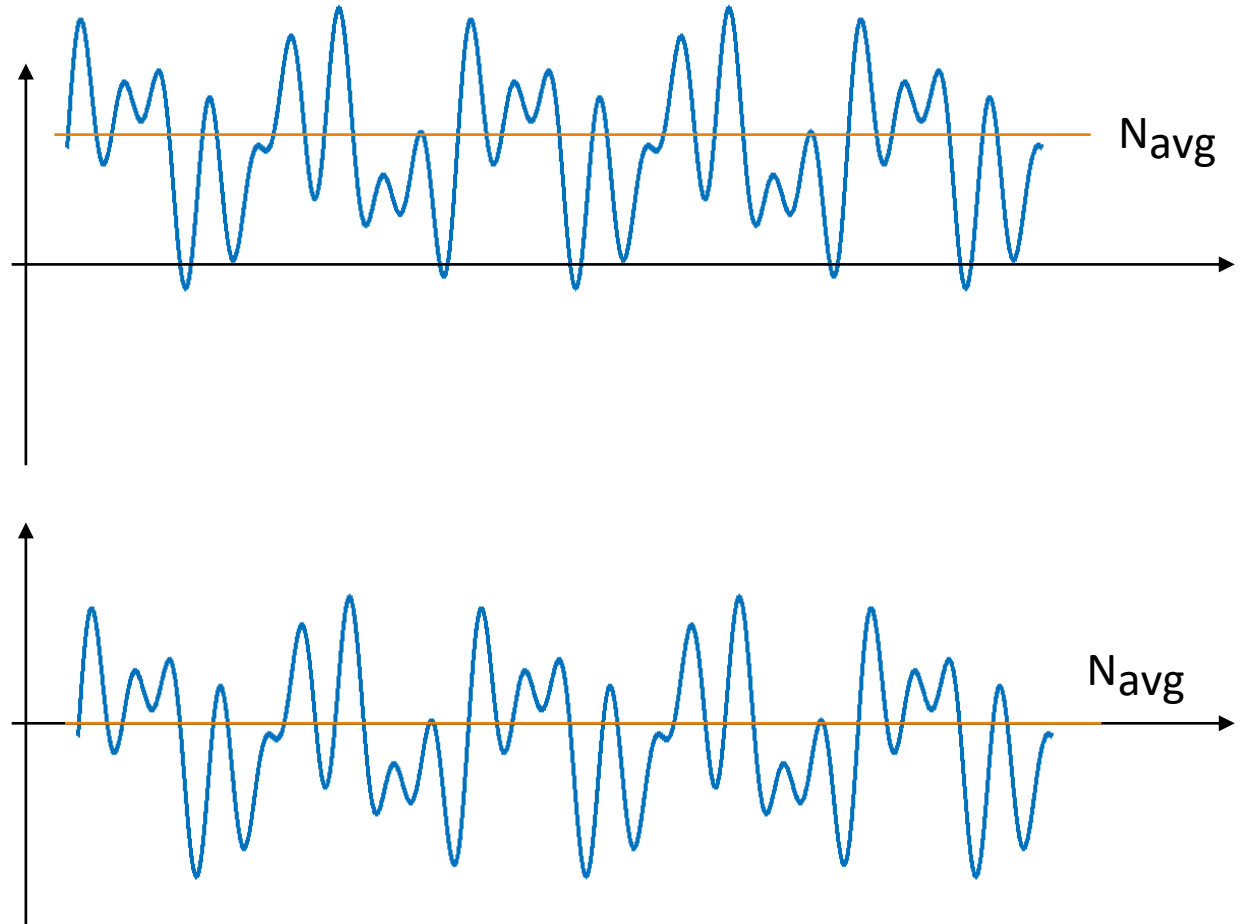
- Peak-to-peak amplitude for noise



# Handling Measurement Noise

## Noise

- Average noise
- However, if noise is truly random, it is possible that  $N_{avg} = 0$ . Therefore, Average Noise is not explicitly useful.
- If  $N_{avg} \neq 0$ , then another (constant) noise parameter is present, which can be identified, measured, and eliminated (DC constant).





# Handling Measurement Noise

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## Noise

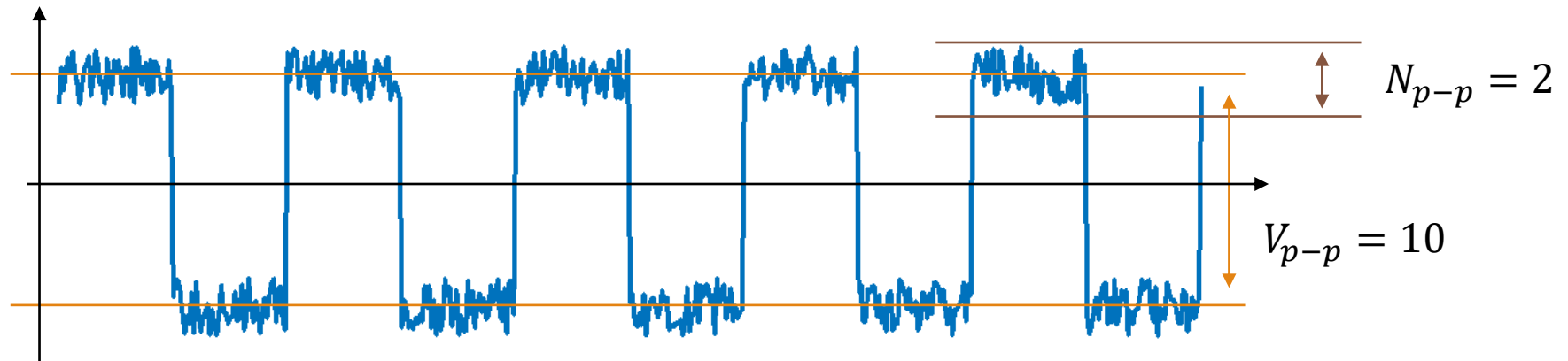
- Why  $N_{avg}$  can become zero?
  - Equally possible and similar amplitude positive and negative values
- Solution?
  - Squaring the signal → Root Mean Square (RMS)

$$N_{RMS} = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2T} \int_{-T}^T [N(t)]^2 dt} \quad \text{for sine wave} \quad \rightarrow \quad N_{RMS} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} N_{p-p} \quad \rightarrow \quad N_{RMS} \approx 0.35 N_{p-p}$$

# Handling Measurement Noise

## Noise

- Signal-to-noise ratio



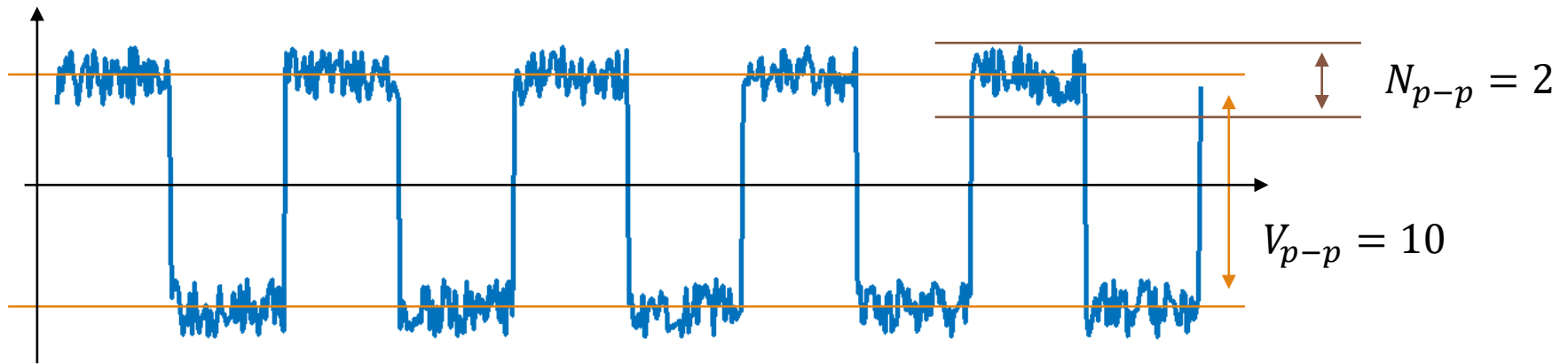
$$N_{RMS} = 0.35 N_{p-p} = 0.7$$

$$V_{RMS} = V_{p-p}/2 = 5$$

$$S/N = 5/0.7 \approx 7.14$$

# Handling Measurement Noise

## Noise



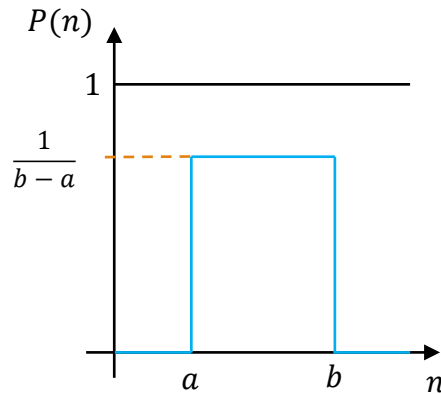
- We wish for the  $S/N$  to be high enough in order to identify correct stimulus
  - A rule of thumb is for the  $S/N$  to be at least 3

# Handling Measurement Noise

## Noise

- The probability distribution of noise can be measured and modeled

Uniform Noise

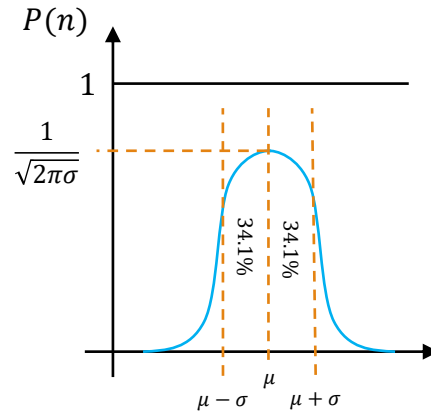


$$P(n) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a}, & \text{for } a \leq n \leq b \\ 0, & \text{for } n < a \text{ or } n > b \end{cases}$$

$$E[n] = \mu = \frac{b+a}{2}$$

$$E[(n-\mu)^2] = \sigma^2 = \frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$$

Gaussian Noise

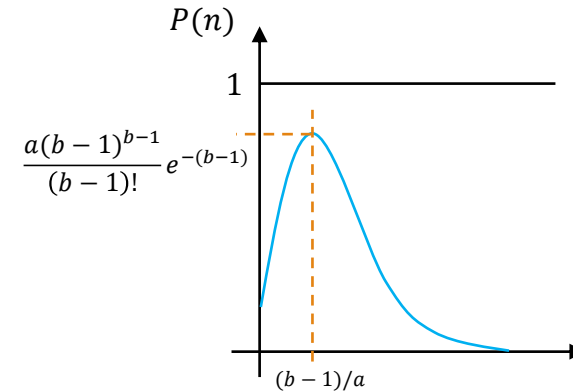


$$P(n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(n-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

$$E[n] = \mu$$

$$E[(n-\mu)^2] = \sigma^2$$

Gamma Noise

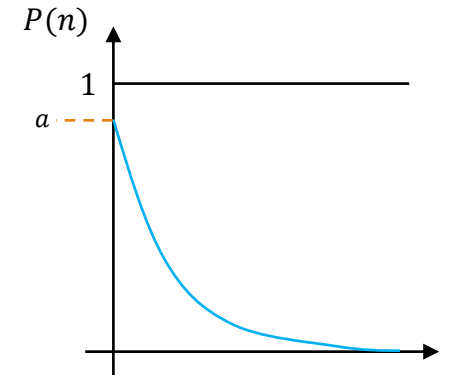


$$P(n) = \begin{cases} \frac{a^b n^{b-1}}{(b-1)!} e^{-an}, & \text{for } n \geq 0 \\ 0, & \text{for } n < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$E[n] = \mu = \frac{b}{a}$$

$$E[(n-\mu)^2] = \sigma^2 = \frac{b}{a^2}$$

Exponential Noise



$$P(n) = \begin{cases} a e^{-an}, & \text{for } n \geq 0 \\ 0, & \text{for } n < 0 \end{cases}$$

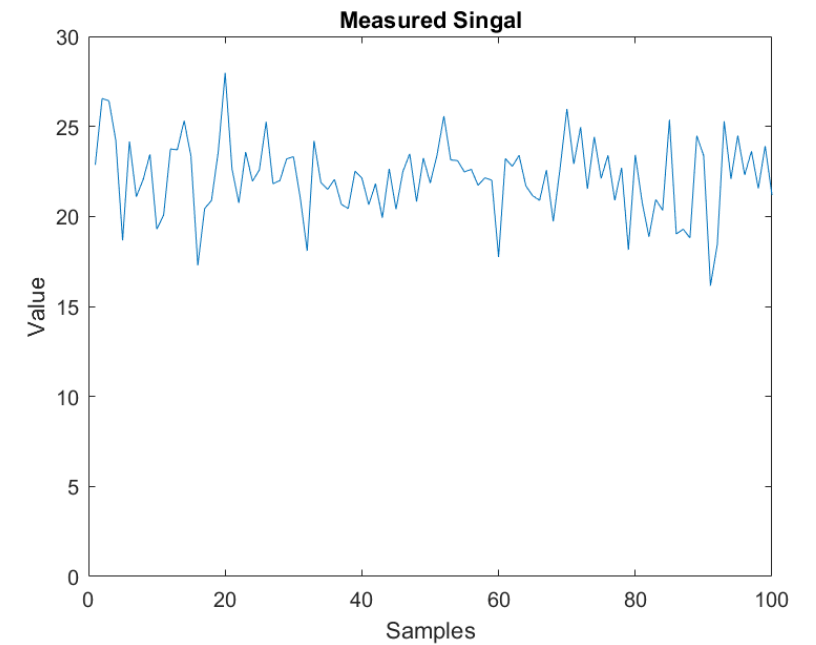
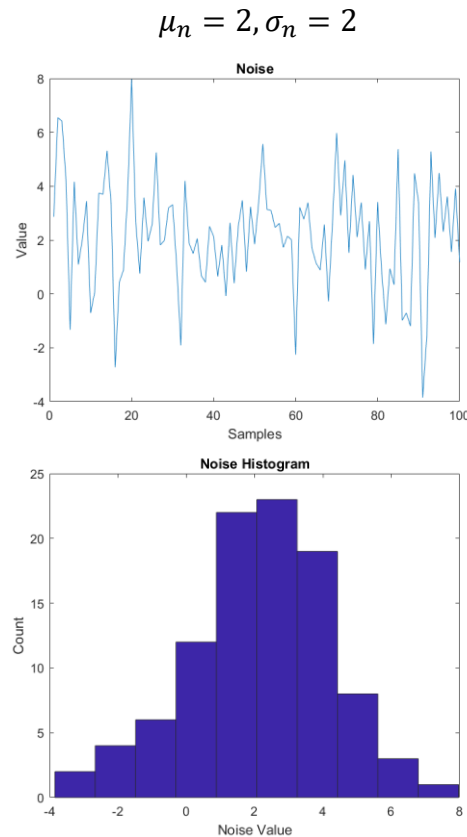
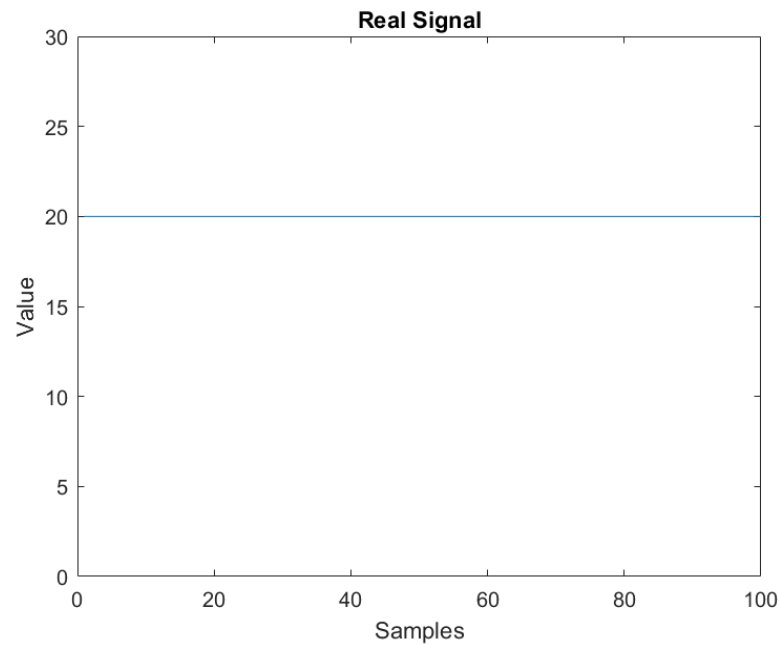
$$E[n] = \mu = \frac{1}{a}$$

$$E[(n-\mu)^2] = \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{a^2}$$

# Handling Measurement Noise

## Handling Noise

- Knowing the noise distribution yields some interesting properties for improving the accuracy of our measurements



$$\mu_m = 22.1689$$

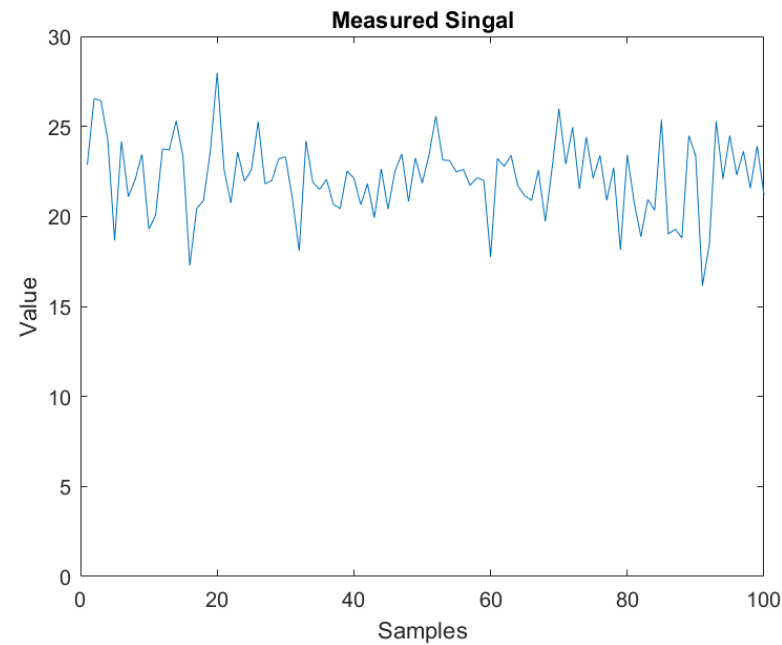
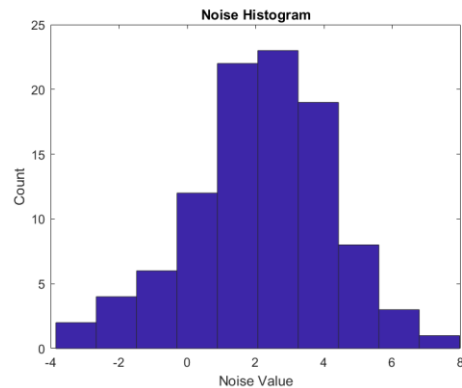
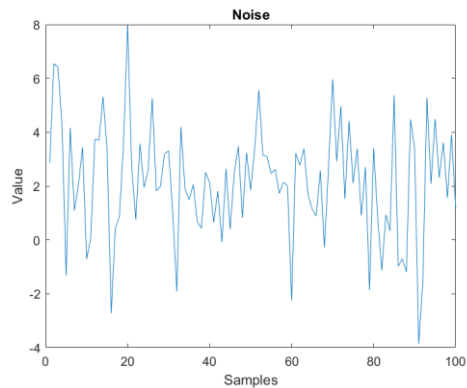
$$S = \mu_m - \mu_n = 20.1689$$

# Handling Measurement Noise

## Handling Noise

- How many measurements should I take? Answer: how certain do I need to be?

$$\mu_n = 2, \sigma_n = 2$$



$$\mu_m = 22.1689$$

$$S = \mu_m - \mu_n = 20.1689$$

# Handling Measurement Noise

---

## Handling Noise

- How many measurements should I take?

### Annex:

The variance of a random variable  $X$  is the expected value of the squared deviation from the mean of  $X$ ,  $\mu = E[X]$ :

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[X - \mu]^2$$

#### Discrete random variable

$$\text{Var}(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i (x_i - \mu)^2$$

$$\mu = E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i$$

#### Absolutely continuous random variable

$$\text{Var}(X) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^2 f(x) dx - \mu^2$$

$$\mu = E[X] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} x f(x) dx$$

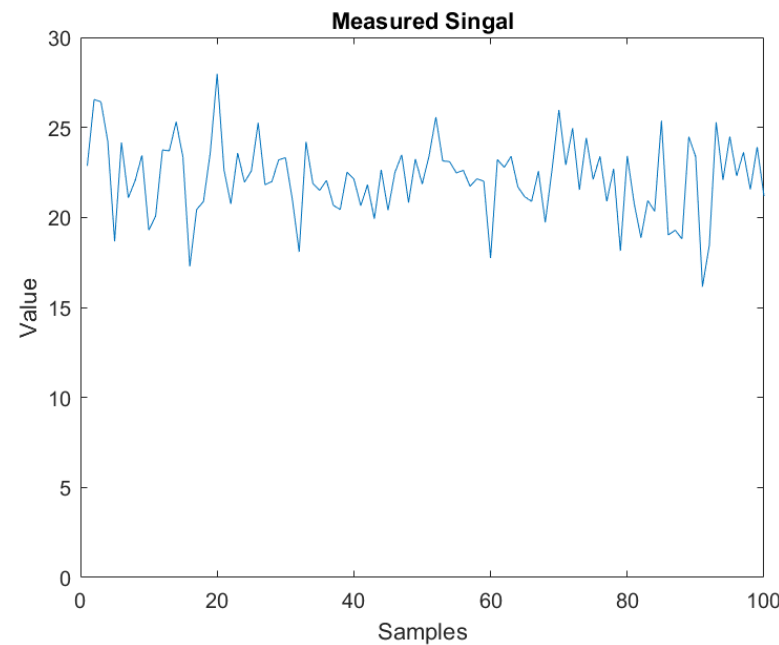
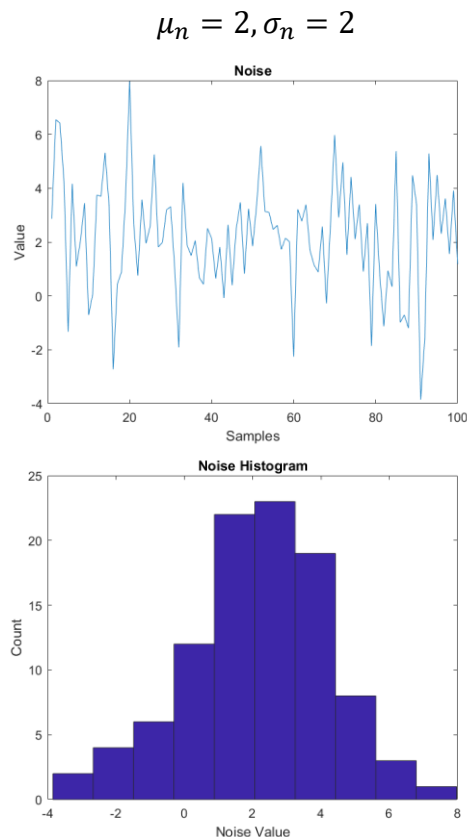
#### Properties

- $\text{Var}(X + a) = \text{Var}(X)$
- $\text{Var}(aX) = a^2 \text{Var}(X)$

# Handling Measurement Noise

## Handling Noise

- How many measurements should I take? Answer: how certain do I need to be?



$$\mu_m = 22.1689$$

$$S = \mu_m - \mu_n = 20.1689$$

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N$  be **independent** and **identically distributed** random variables, each with:

- $E[X_i] = \mu$
- $\text{Var}(X_i) = \sigma_{\text{noise}}^2$

The sample mean  $\bar{X}$  is:

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i$$

The mean value calculated from the sample will have an associated standard error on the mean:

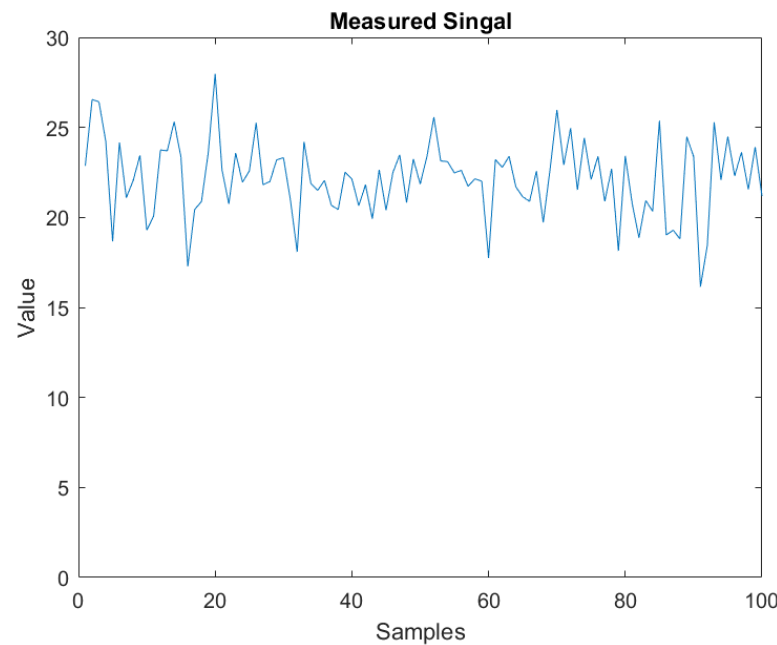
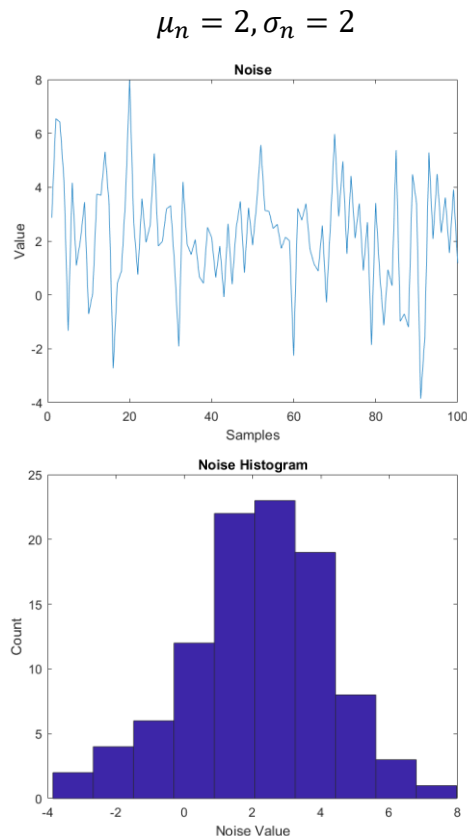
$$\sigma_{\text{mean}}^2 = \text{Var}(\bar{X}) = \text{Var}\left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i\right) = \frac{1}{N^2} \text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^N X_i\right)$$



# Handling Measurement Noise

## Handling Noise

- How many measurements should I take? Answer: how certain do I need to be?



$$\mu_m = 22.1689$$

$$S = \mu_m - \mu_n = 20.1689$$

$$\text{Var}(\bar{X}) = \frac{1}{N^2} \text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^N X_i\right) \quad E[X_i] = \mu$$
$$\text{Var}(X_i) = \sigma_{\text{noise}}^2$$

Since the  $X_i$  are **independent**, the variance of the sum is the sum of the variances:

$$\text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^N X_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^N \text{Var}(X_i) = N\sigma_{\text{noise}}^2$$

Thus,

$$\text{Var}(\bar{X}) = \frac{1}{N^2} N\sigma_{\text{noise}}^2 = \frac{\sigma_{\text{noise}}^2}{N}$$

Finally,

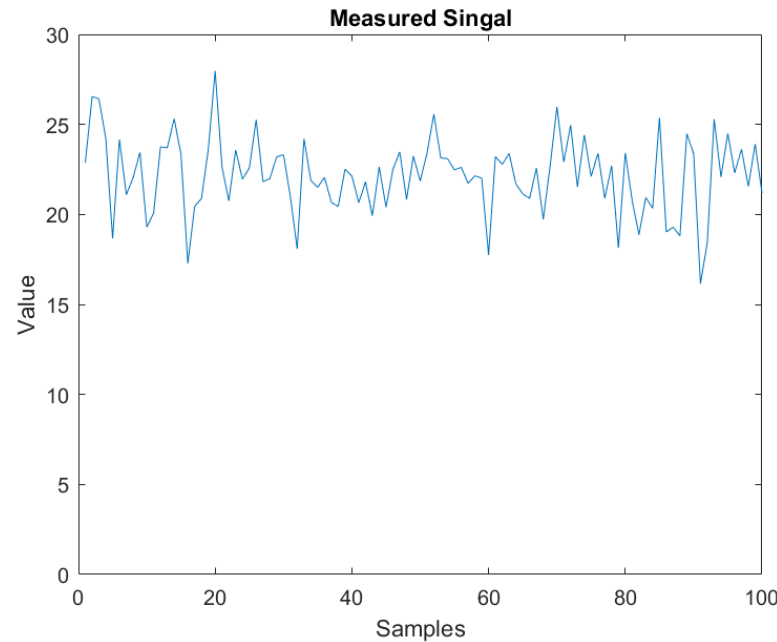
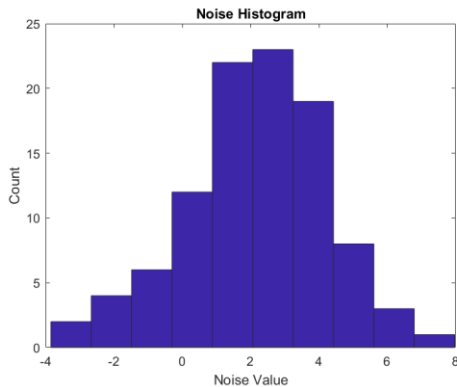
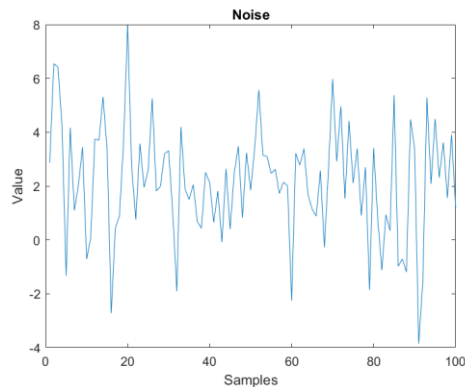
$$\sigma_{\text{mean}} = \sqrt{\text{Var}(\bar{X})} = \frac{\sigma_{\text{noise}}}{\sqrt{N}}$$

# Handling Measurement Noise

## Handling Noise

- How many measurements should I take? Answer: how certain do I need to be?

$$\mu_n = 2, \sigma_n = 2$$



$$\mu_m = 22.1689$$

$$S = \mu_m - \mu_n = 20.1689$$

$$\sigma_{mean} = \frac{\sigma_{noise}}{\sqrt{N}}$$

For a standard error of no more than  $\epsilon$ :

$$N = \left( \frac{\sigma_{noise}}{\epsilon} \right)^2$$

E.g.,:

For  $\epsilon = 0.1$  (final guess to be accurate to within  $\pm 0.1$ )

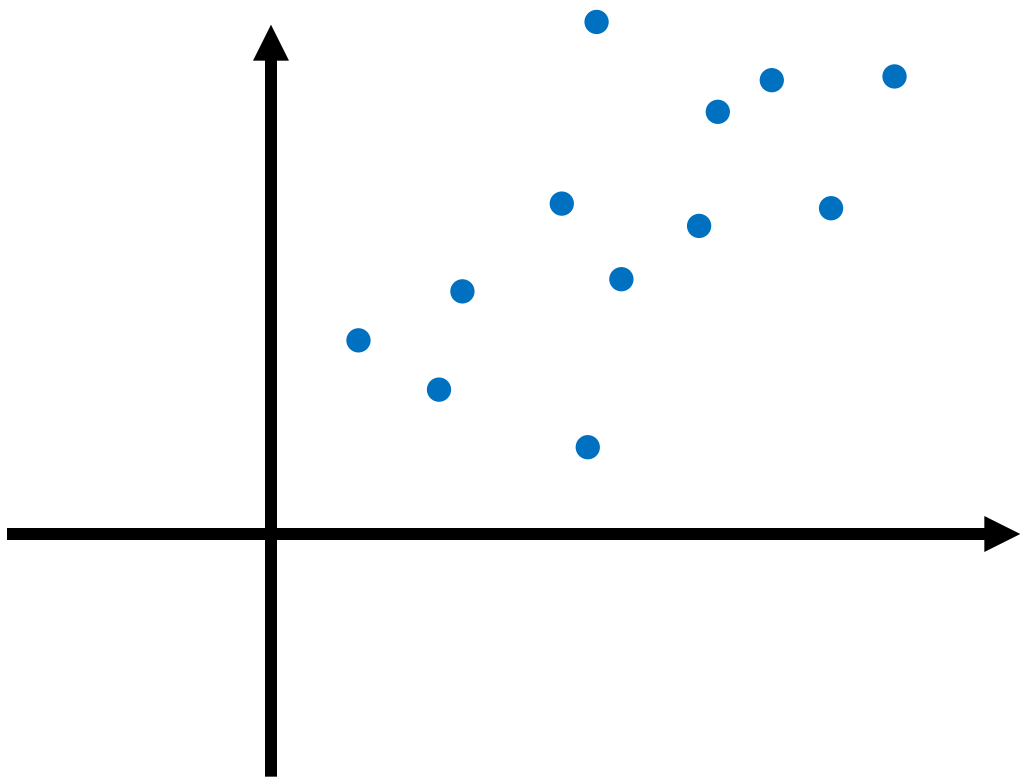
$$N = \left( \frac{\sigma_{noise}}{\epsilon} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{2}{0.1} \right)^2 = 400$$

# Handling Measurement Noise

---

## RANSAC

- Suppose that we have the following measurements, and we know that our model is a linear function:  $F(x) = ax + b$

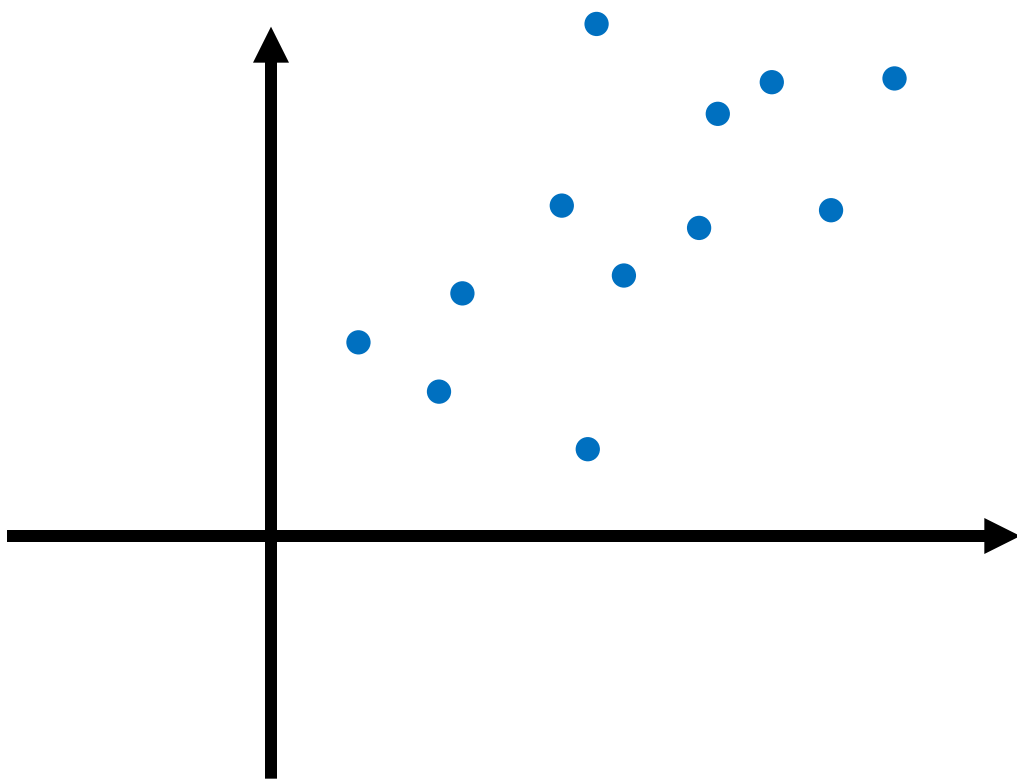


# Handling Measurement Noise

---

## RANSAC:: RANdom SAmple Consensus

- Suppose that we have the following measurements, and we know that our model is a linear function:  $F(x) = ax + b$



### RANSAC steps:

1. Randomly select  $n$  number of samples.  
 $n$  being the degrees of freedom for our model. 2 in our example.
2. Fit our model into these samples.
3. Measure the number of inliers given a tolerance distance  $d$ .  
This is our assumption's score.
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 for a different set of  $n$  samples.  
Our best hypothesis is the assumption with the most inliers.

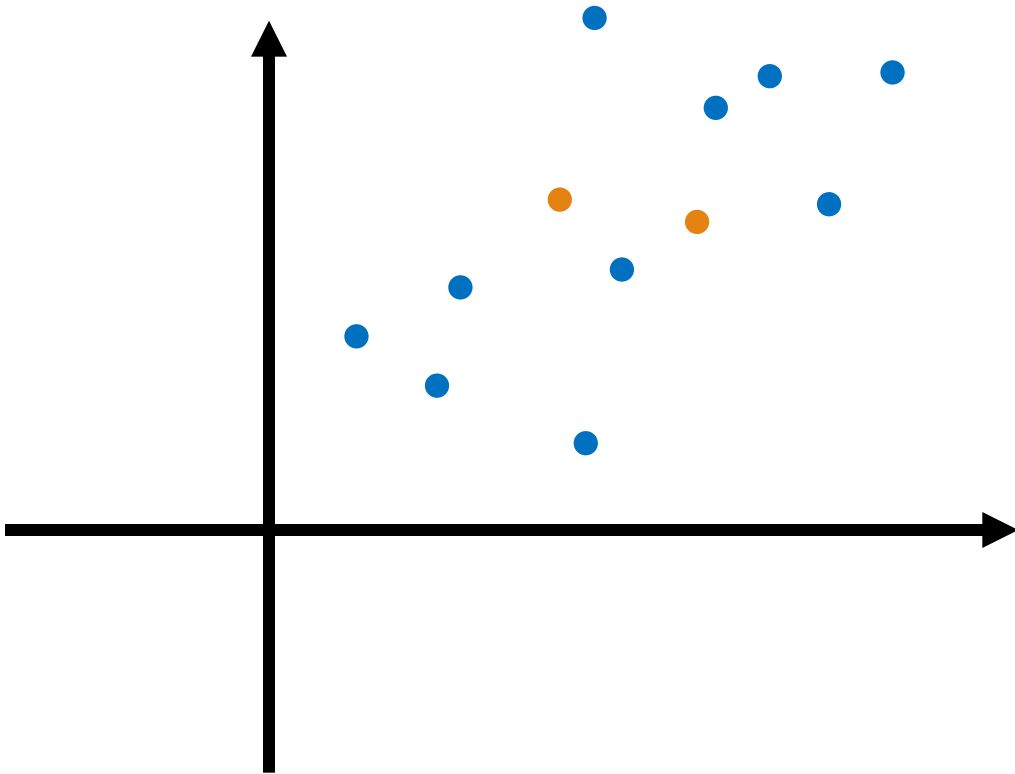
Trial and error

# Handling Measurement Noise

---

## RANSAC:: RANDOM SAmple Consensus

- Suppose that we have the following measurements, and we know that our model is a linear function:  $F(x) = ax + b$



### RANSAC steps:

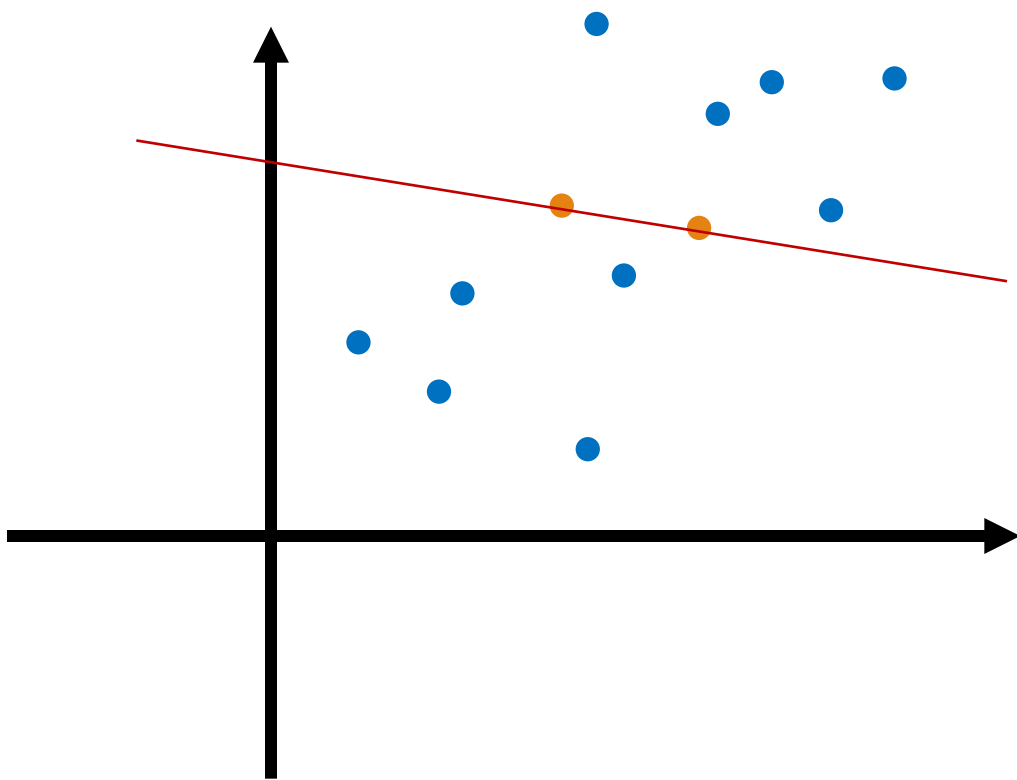
1. Randomly select  $n$  number of samples.  
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4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 for a different set of  $n$  samples.  
Our best hypothesis is the assumption with the most inliers.

# Handling Measurement Noise

---

## RANSAC:: RANDOM SAmple Consensus

- Suppose that we have the following measurements, and we know that our model is a linear function:  $F(x) = ax + b$



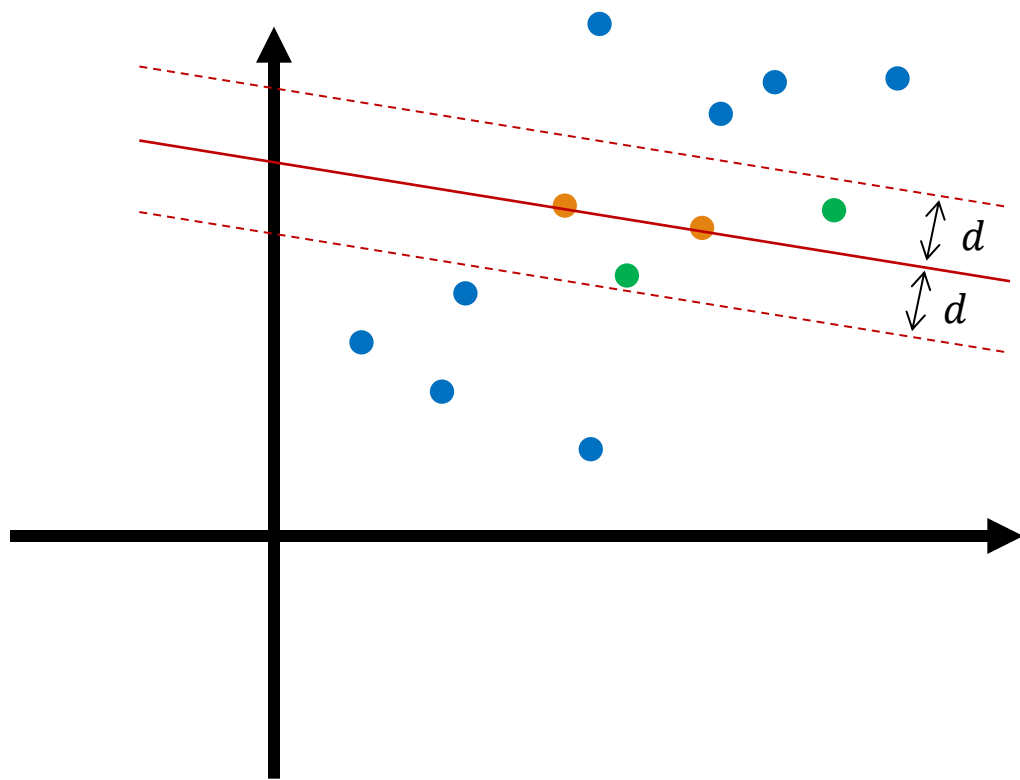
### RANSAC steps:

1. Randomly select  $n$  number of samples.  
 $n$  being the degrees of freedom for our model. 2 in our example.
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Our best hypothesis is the assumption with the most inliers.

# Handling Measurement Noise

## RANSAC:: RANDOM SAmple Consensus

- Suppose that we have the following measurements, and we know that our model is a linear function:  $F(x) = ax + b$



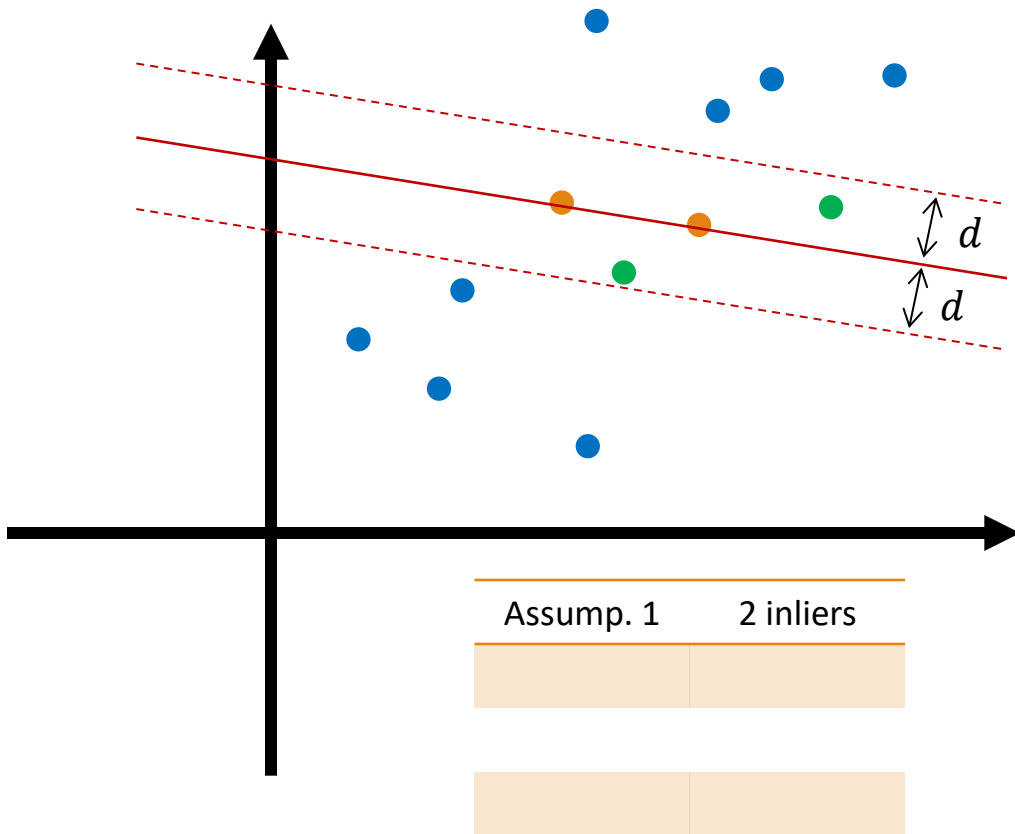
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Our best hypothesis is the assumption with the most inliers.

# Handling Measurement Noise

## RANSAC:: RANdom SAmple Consensus

- Suppose that we have the following measurements, and we know that our model is a linear function:  $F(x) = ax + b$



### RANSAC steps:

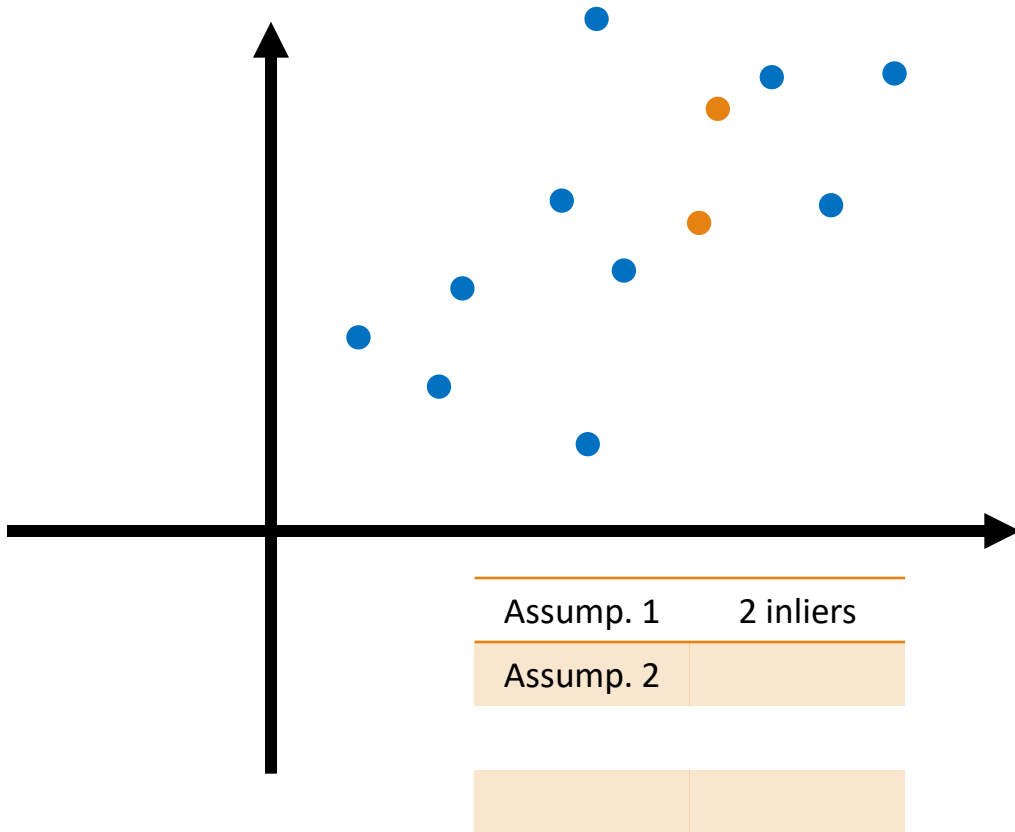
1. Randomly select  $n$  number of samples.  
 $n$  being the degrees of freedom for our model. 2 in our example.
2. Fit our model into these samples.
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4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 for a different set of  $n$  samples.  
Our best hypothesis is the assumption with the most inliers.



# Handling Measurement Noise

## RANSAC:: RANDOM Sample Consensus

- Suppose that we have the following measurements, and we know that our model is a linear function:  $F(x) = ax + b$



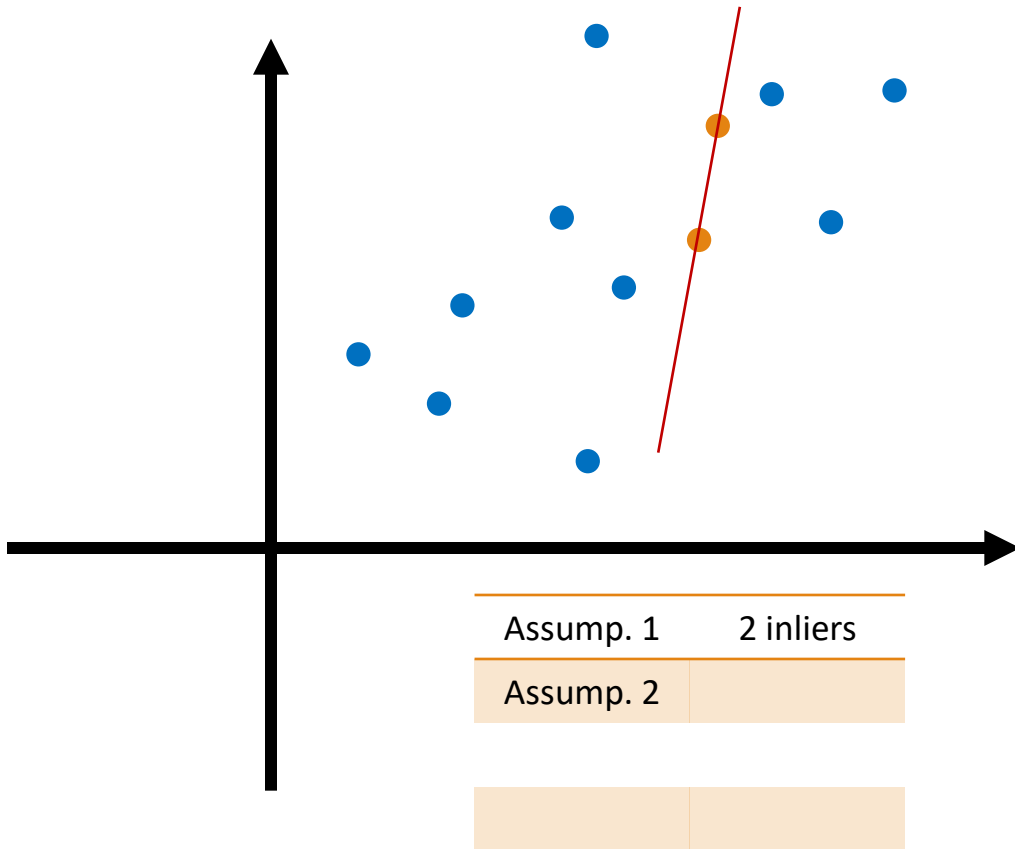
### RANSAC steps:

1. Randomly select  $n$  number of samples.  
 $n$  being the degrees of freedom for our model. 2 in our example.
2. Fit our model into these samples.
3. Measure the number of inliers given a tolerance distance  $d$ .  
This is our assumption's score.
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 for a different set of  $n$  samples.  
Our best hypothesis is the assumption with the most inliers.

# Handling Measurement Noise

## RANSAC:: RANDOM Sample Consensus

- Suppose that we have the following measurements, and we know that our model is a linear function:  $F(x) = ax + b$



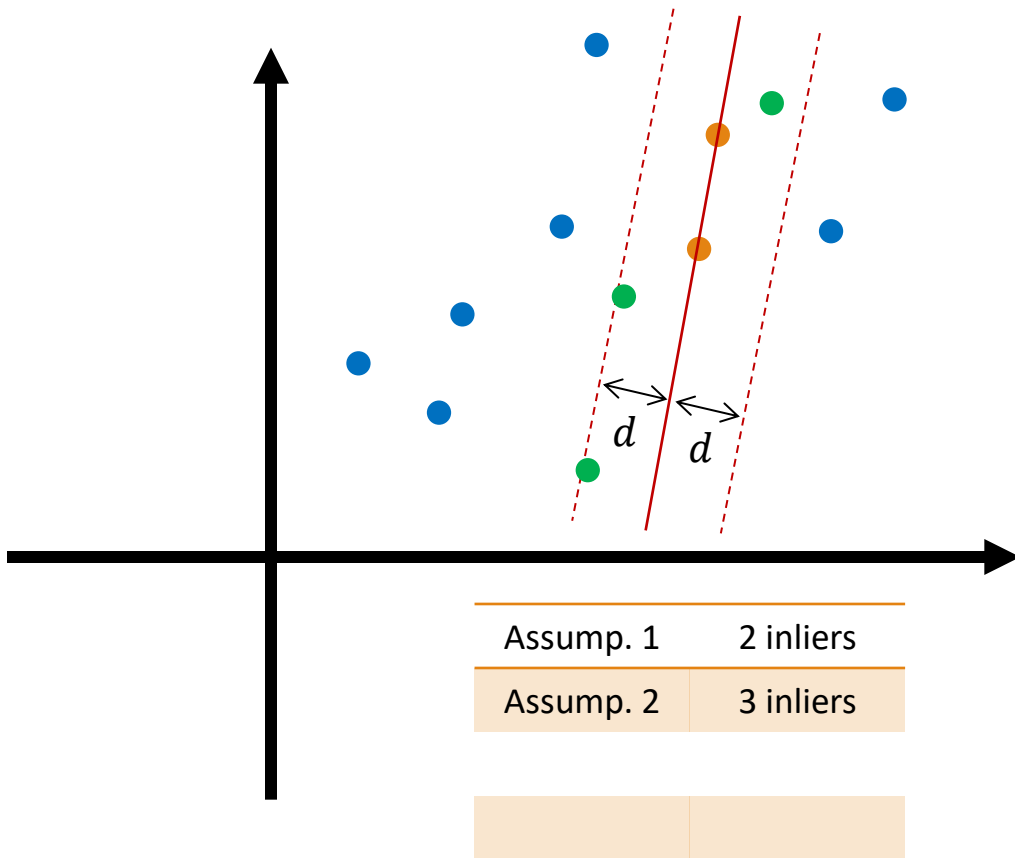
### RANSAC steps:

1. Randomly select  $n$  number of samples.  
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# Handling Measurement Noise

## RANSAC:: RANdom SAmple Consensus

- Suppose that we have the following measurements, and we know that our model is a linear function:  $F(x) = ax + b$



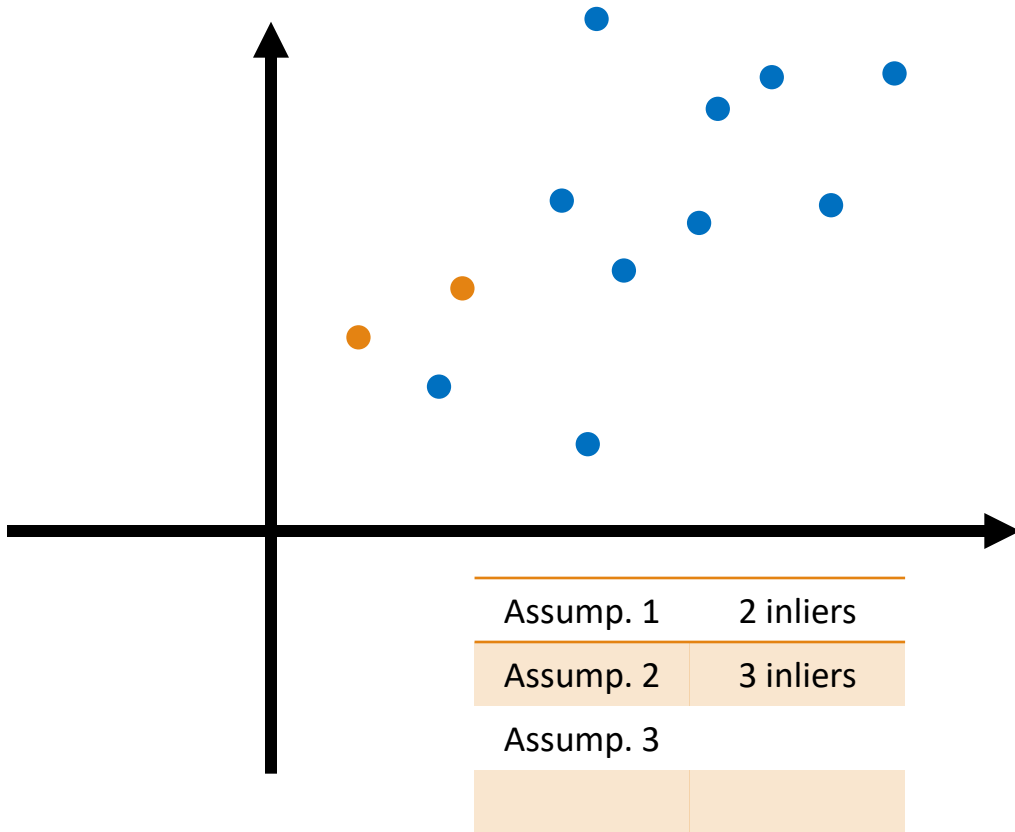
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# Handling Measurement Noise

## RANSAC:: RANDOM Sample Consensus

- Suppose that we have the following measurements, and we know that our model is a linear function:  $F(x) = ax + b$



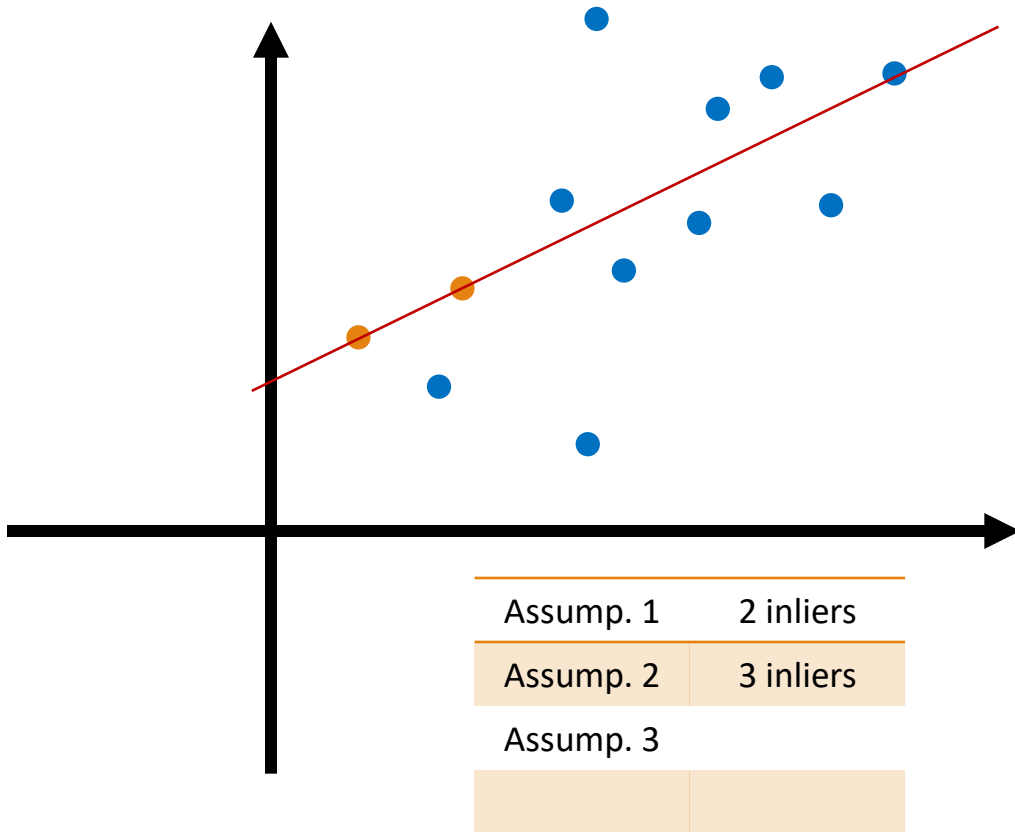
### RANSAC steps:

1. Randomly select  $n$  number of samples.  
 $n$  being the degrees of freedom for our model. 2 in our example.
2. Fit our model into these samples.
3. Measure the number of inliers given a tolerance distance  $d$ .  
This is our assumption's score.
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 for a different set of  $n$  samples.  
Our best hypothesis is the assumption with the most inliers.

# Handling Measurement Noise

## RANSAC:: RANdom SAmple Consensus

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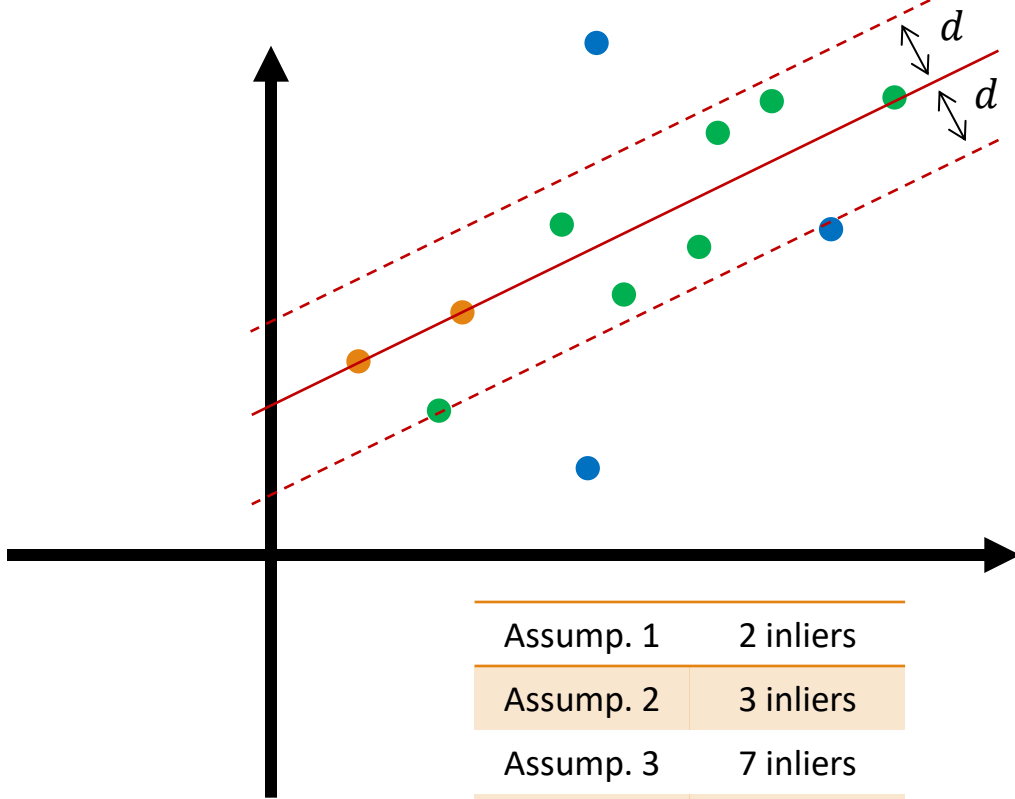
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Assump. 1	2 inliers
Assump. 2	3 inliers
Assump. 3	7 inliers

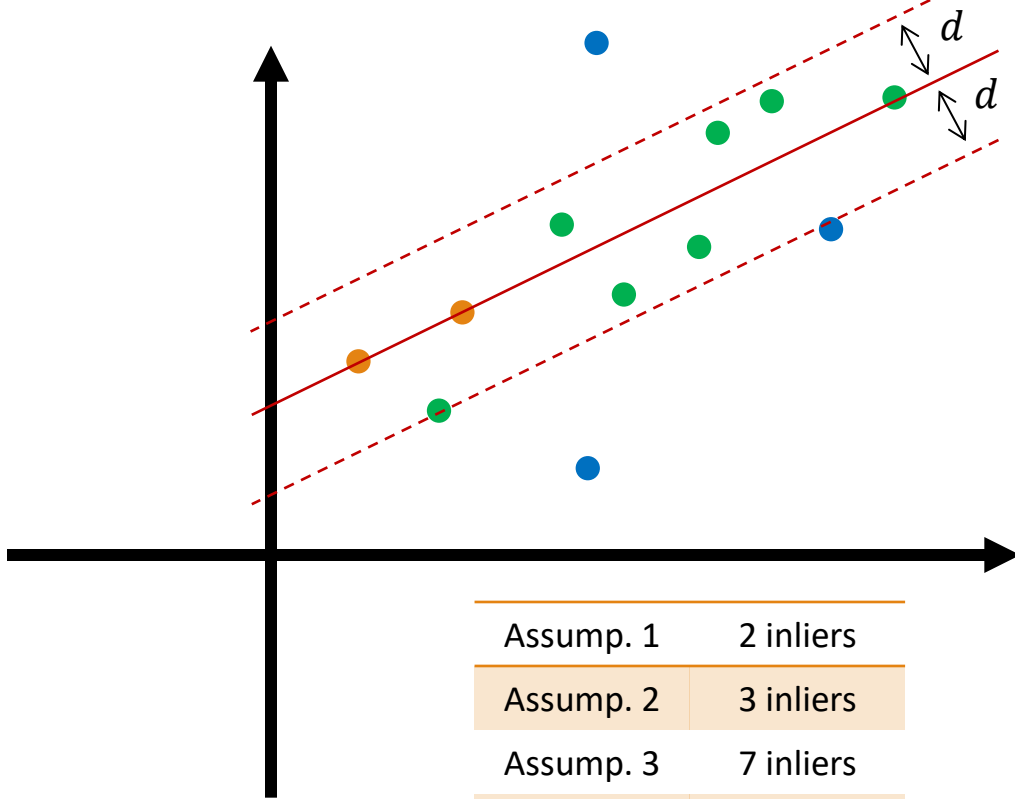
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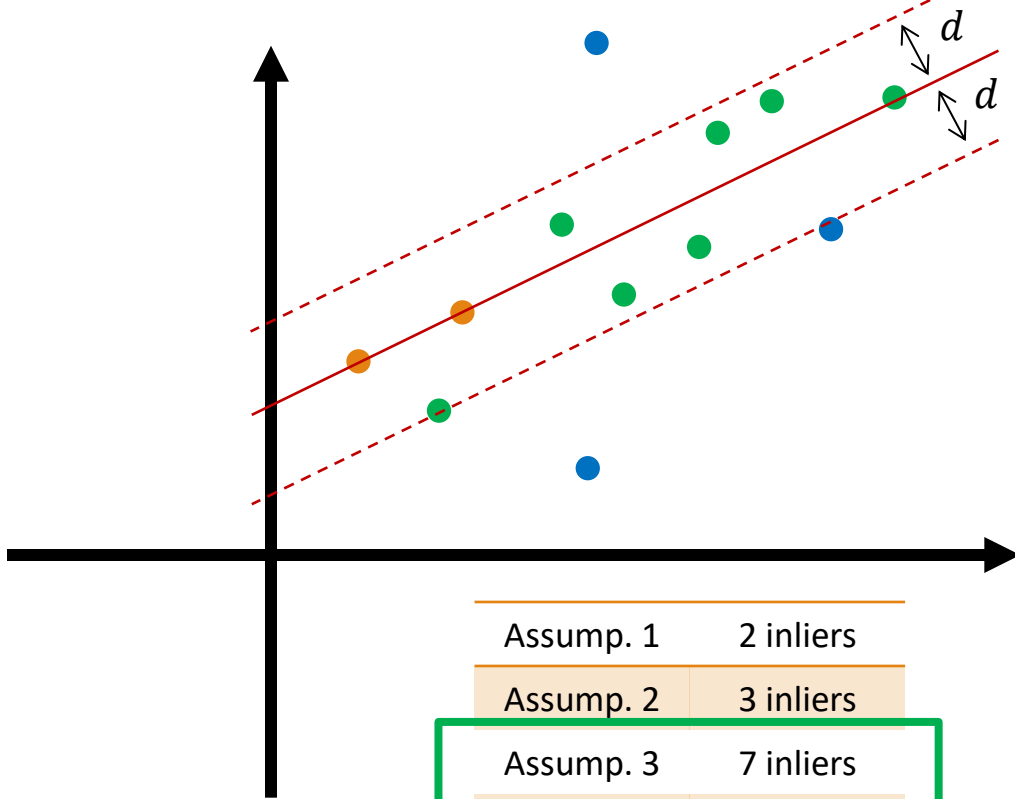
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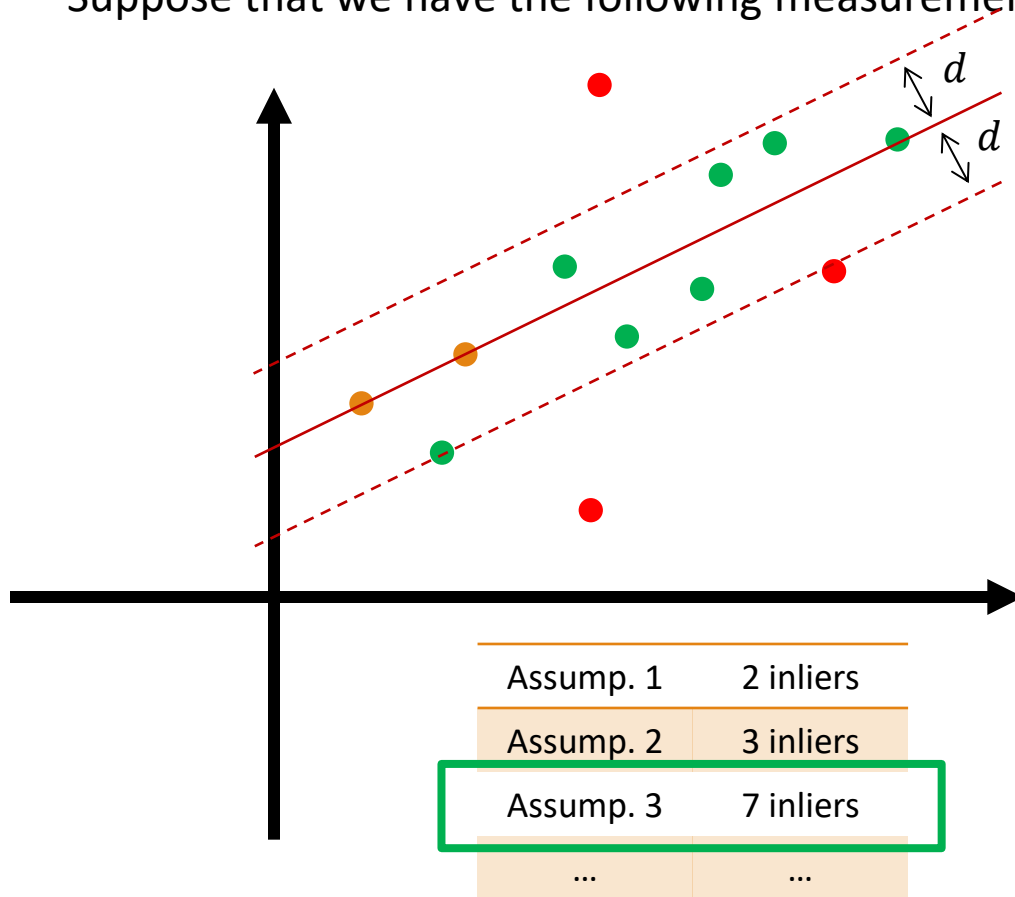
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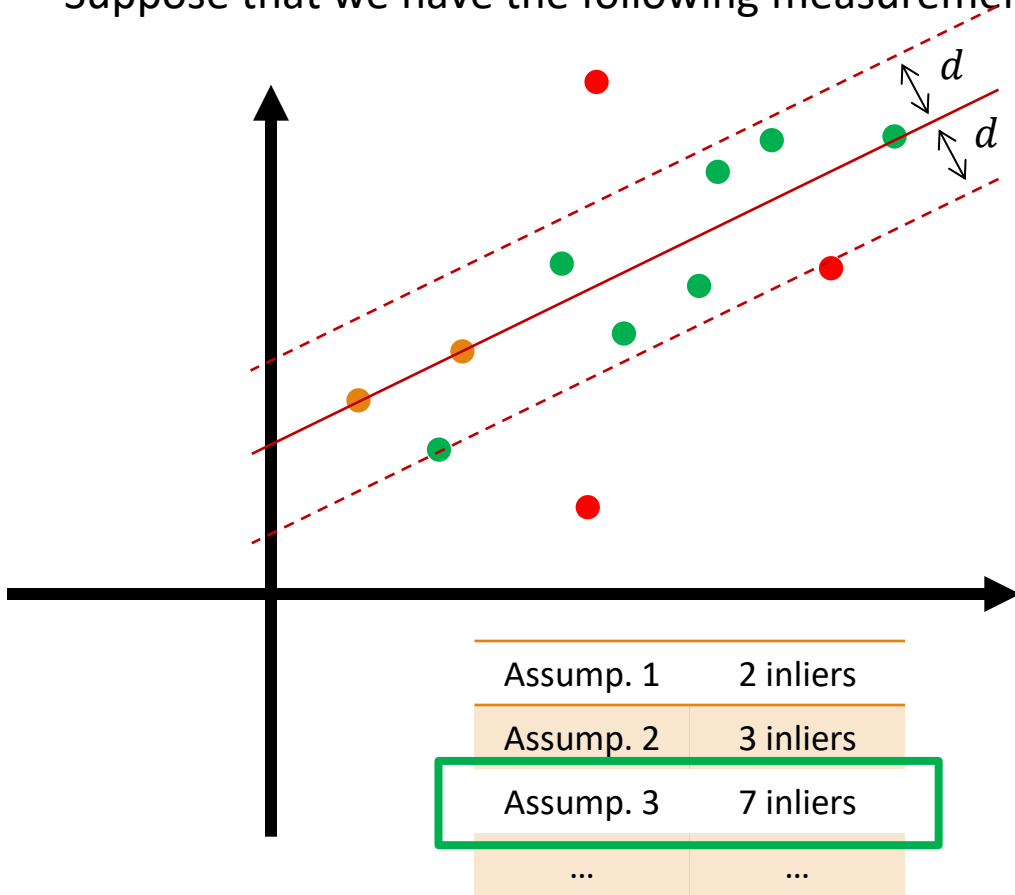
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Through RANSAC we can also identify outliers. Values that are so noisy or resulted from an external disturbance and should not be considered for our model.

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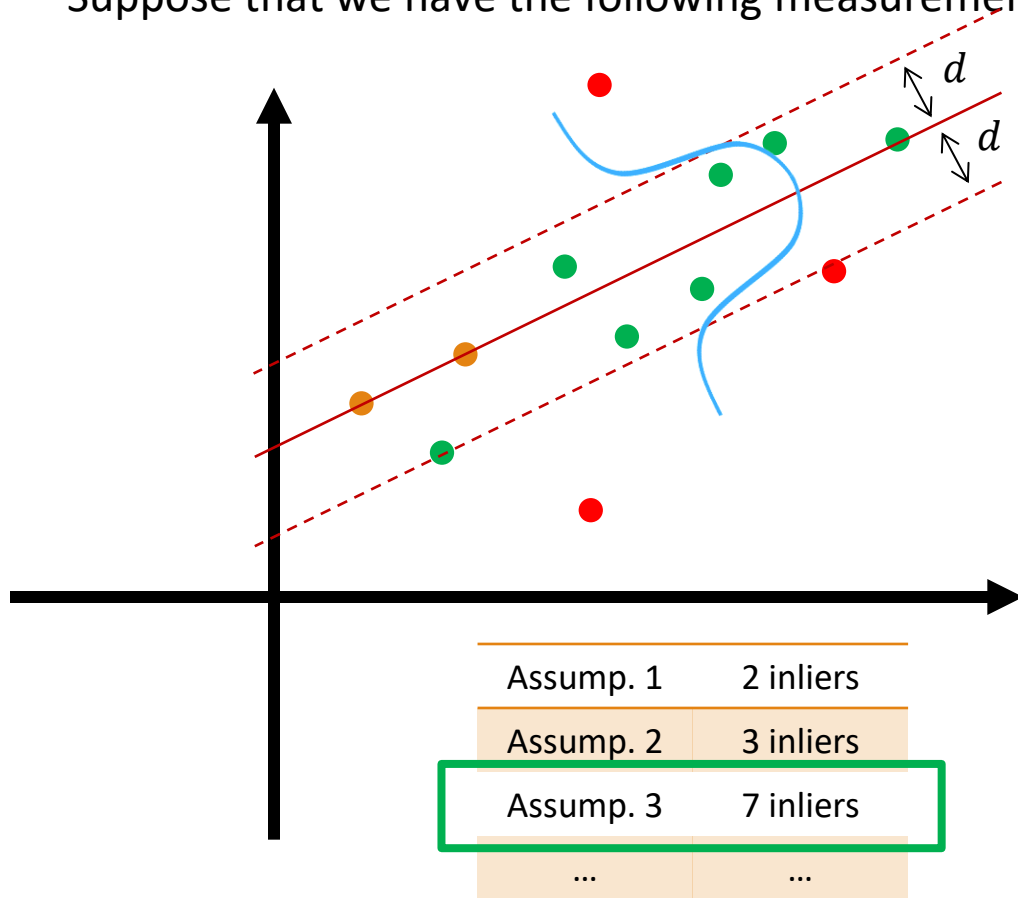
How do we define  $d$ ?

- Do we know the distribution of noise?
  - Find  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$
  - Define an acceptable noise tolerance with respect to  $\sigma$
  - Set:  $d = \kappa \cdot \sigma$

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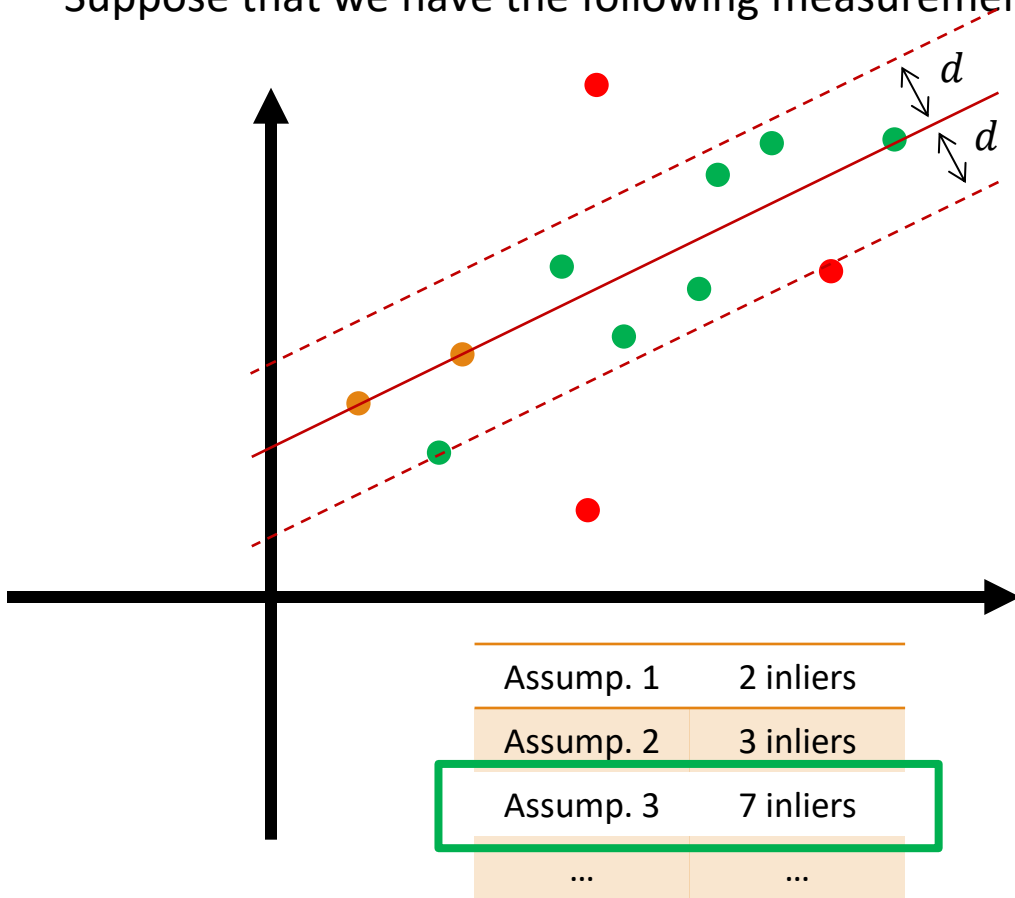
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How many iterations/assumptions to evaluate?

$$I = \frac{\log(1 - p)}{\log(1 - (1 - e)^{dof})}$$

$p$ : probability succeeding in finding a proper solution after  $I$  iterations  
(finding a sample of inliers =  $dof$ )

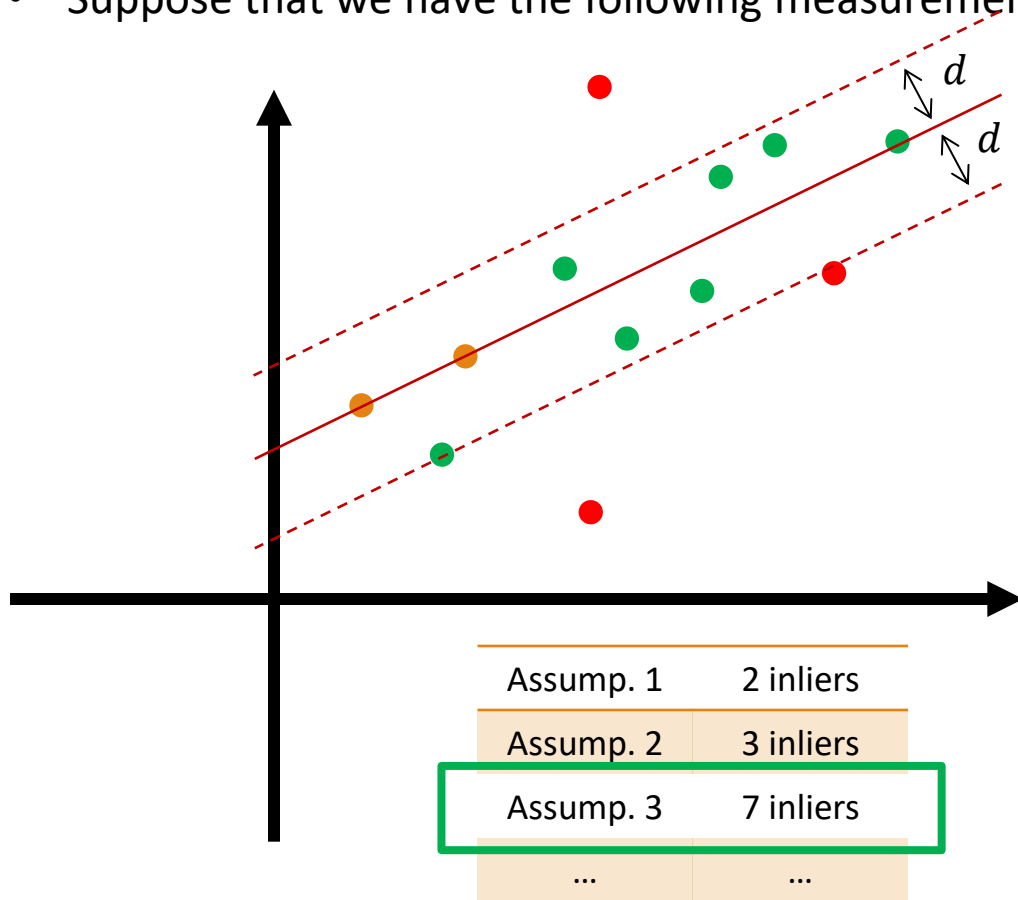
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Proof in a single sample attempt (one RANSAC iteration):

- Prob. of drawing a single inlier:  $1 - e$
- Prob. of drawing as many inliers as needed:  $(1 - e)^{dof}$
- Prob. of not drawing only inliers:  $1 - (1 - e)^{dof}$
- Prob. of failing:

$$(1 - q) = 1 - (1 - e)^{dof}$$

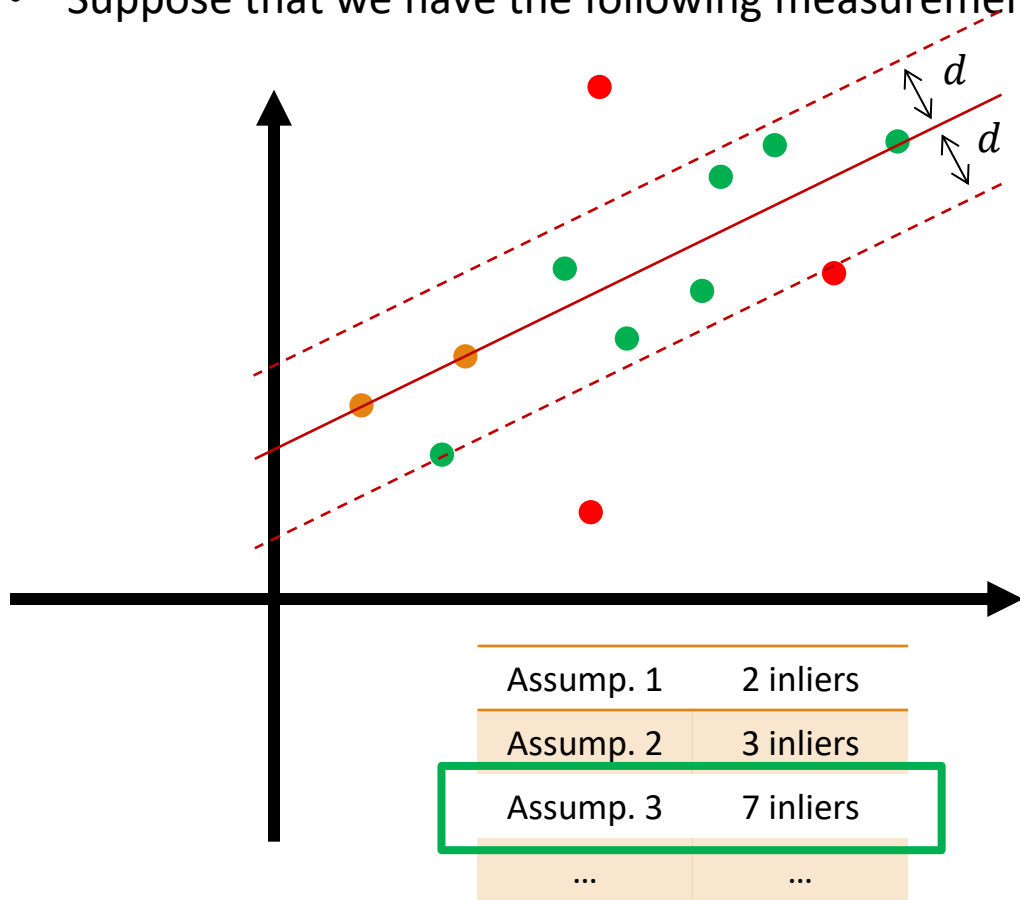
Prob. of succeeding ( $q$ )

Prob. of failing ( $1 - q$ )

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Prob. of failing in a single sample attempt (one RANSAC iteration):

$$(1 - q) = 1 - (1 - e)^{dof}$$

Prob. of failing in  $I$  sample attempts ( $T$  RANSAC iteration):

$$(1 - p) = (1 - (1 - e)^{dof})^I$$

Prob. of succeeding ( $p$ )

# Handling Measurement Noise

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## **RANSAC:: RANdom SAmple Consensus**

- Any kind of model

