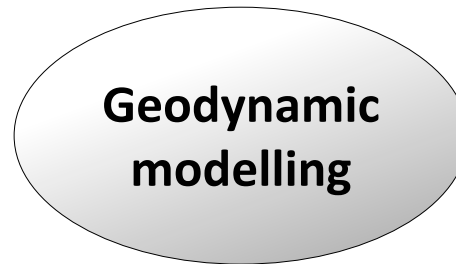


# Adjoint based inversion in geodynamic modelling: A guide

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**Georg Reuber,**  
Boris Kaus, Anton Popov

# Motivation

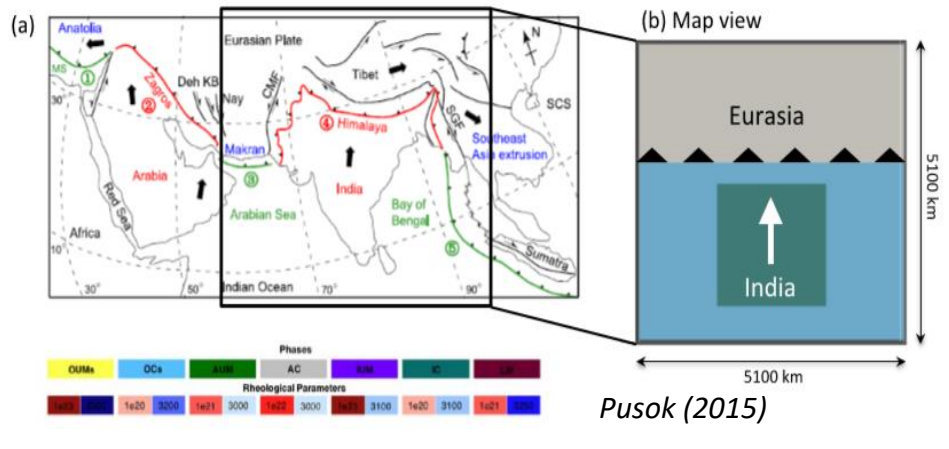


# Motivation

Geodynamic modelling

## Idealized test

- Parameterize real scenario  
→ Easy to test/quantify effects



# Motivation

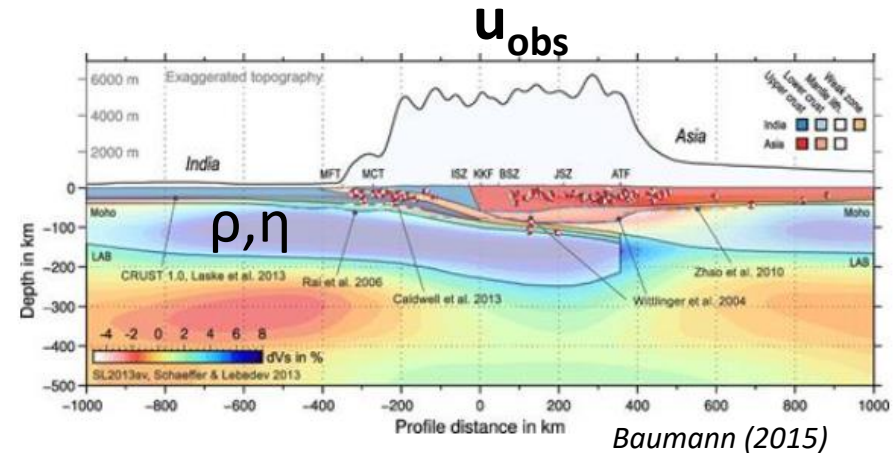
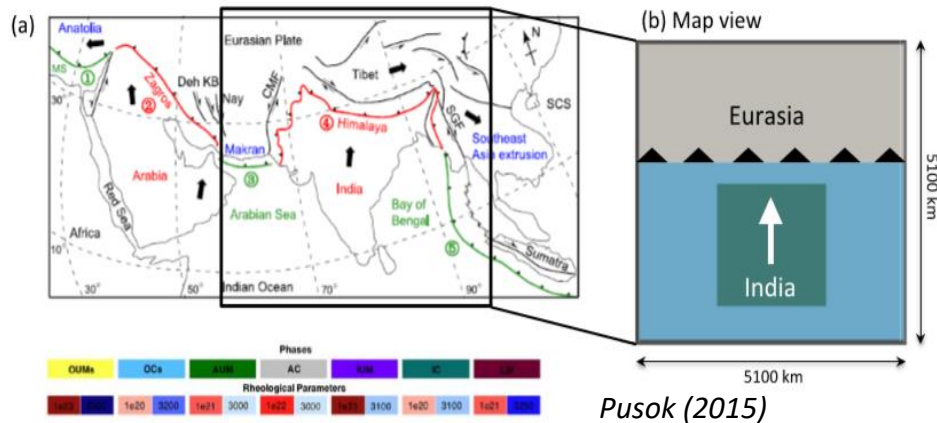
## Geodynamic modelling

### Idealized test

- Parameterize real scenario  
→ Easy to test/quantify effects

### Inversion

- Fit data  
→ Ultimately represents nature



# Motivation

Inversion

Measurement device



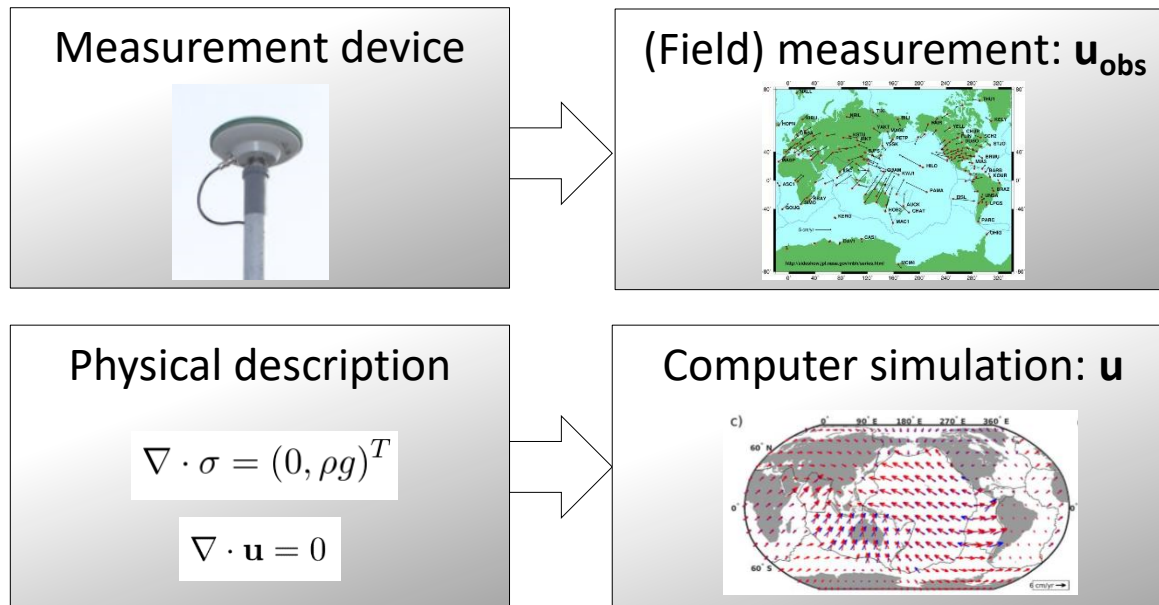
Physical description

$$\nabla \cdot \sigma = (0, \rho g)^T$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

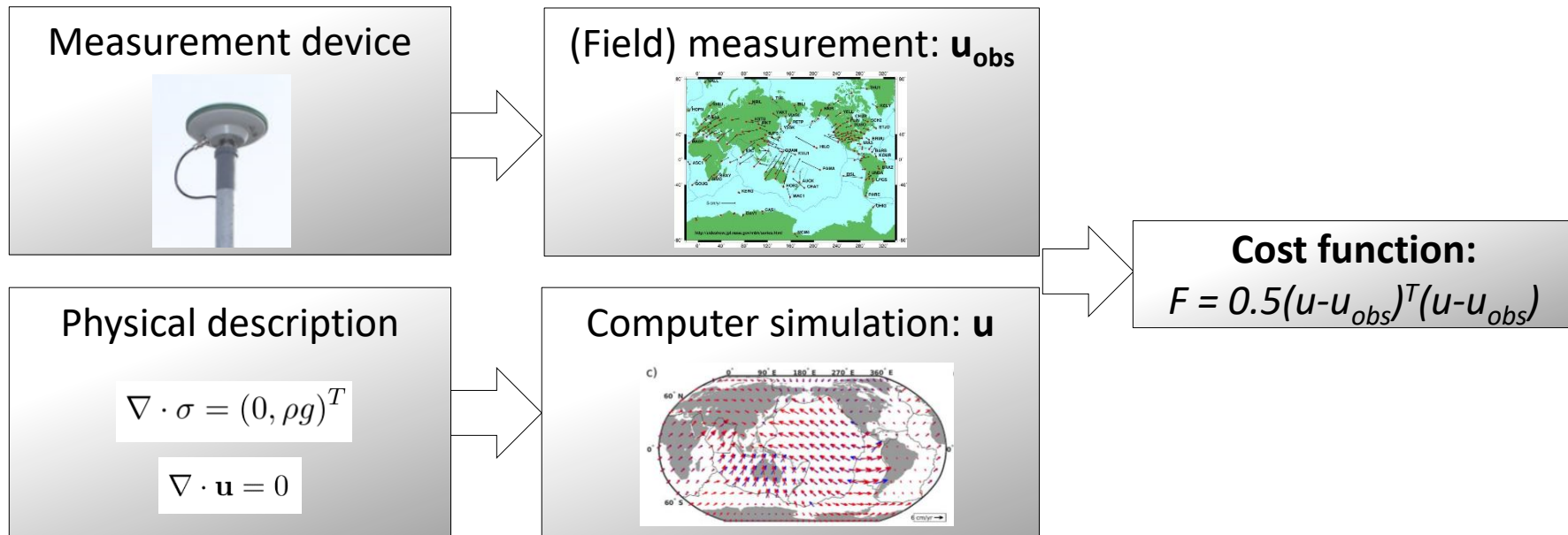
# Motivation

Inversion



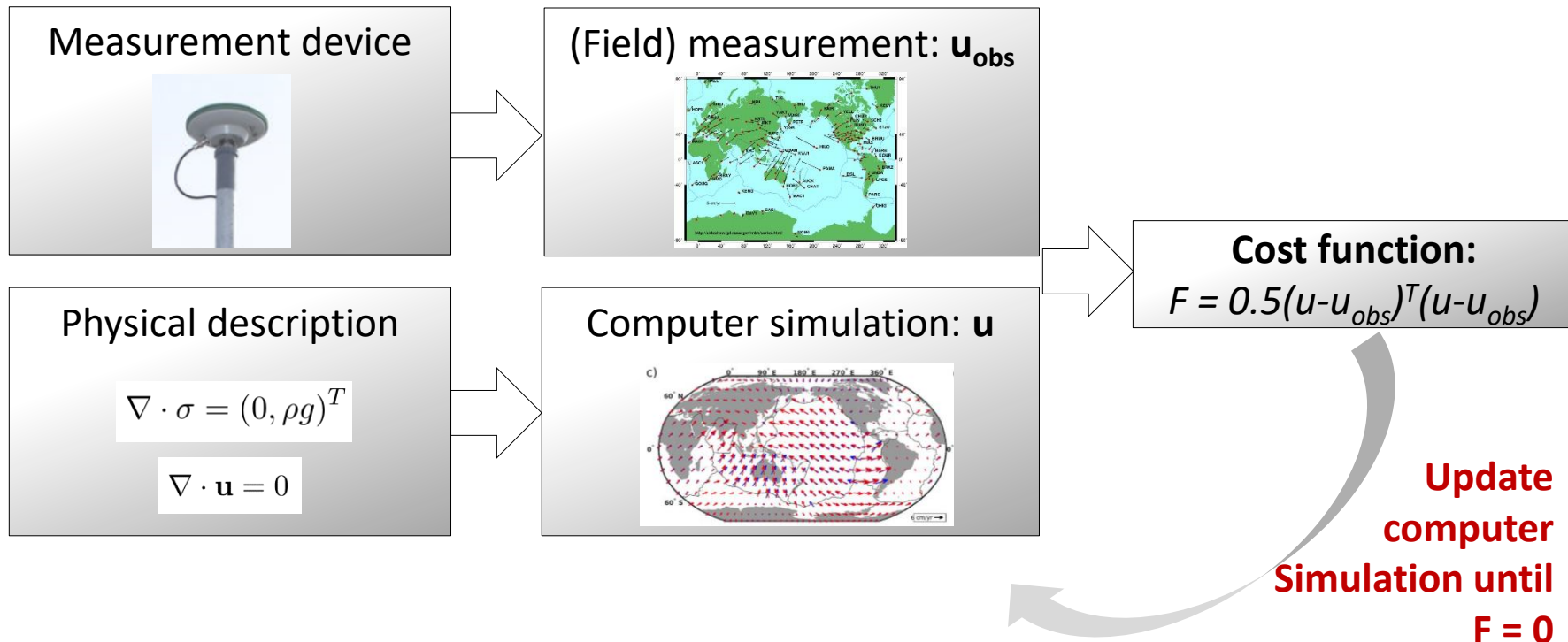
# Motivation

## Inversion



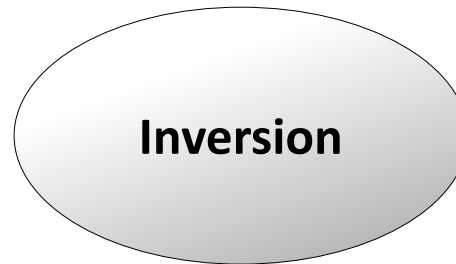
# Motivation

## Inversion





# Motivation



E.g:

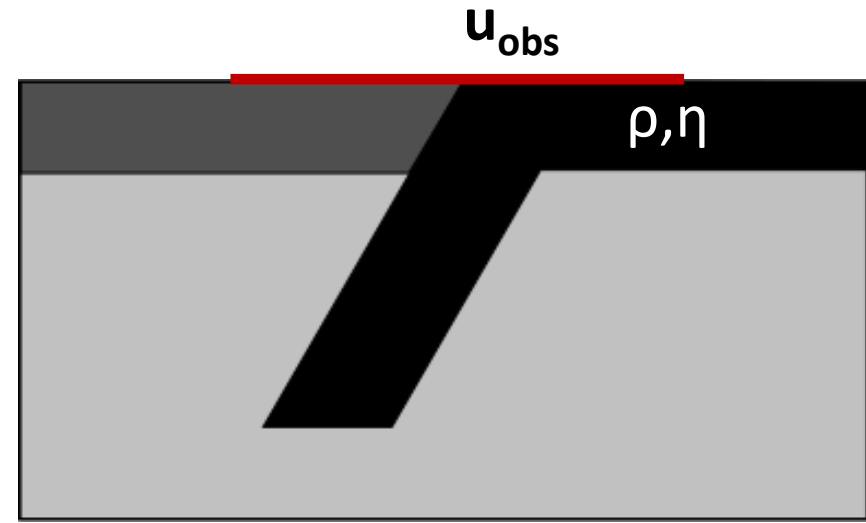
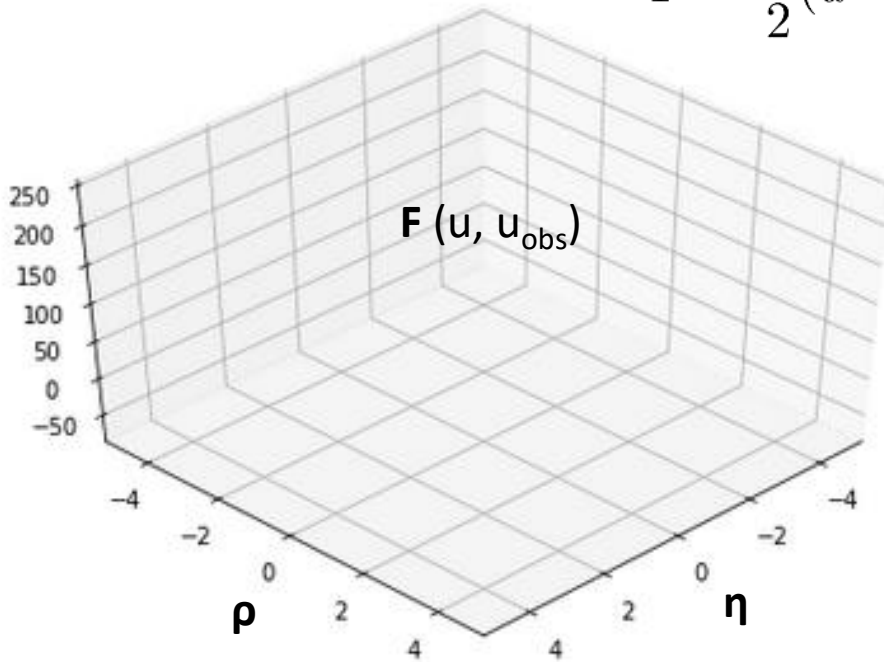
$u_{\text{obs}}$



# Motivation

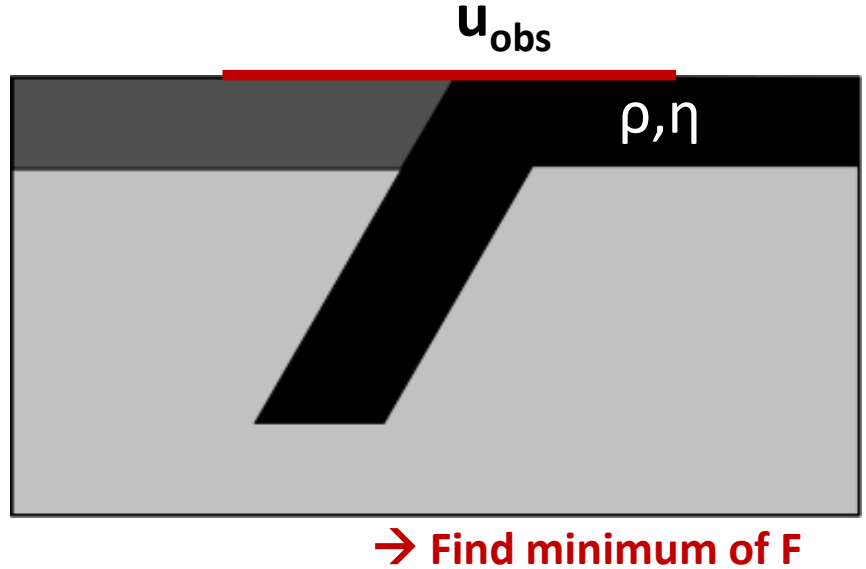
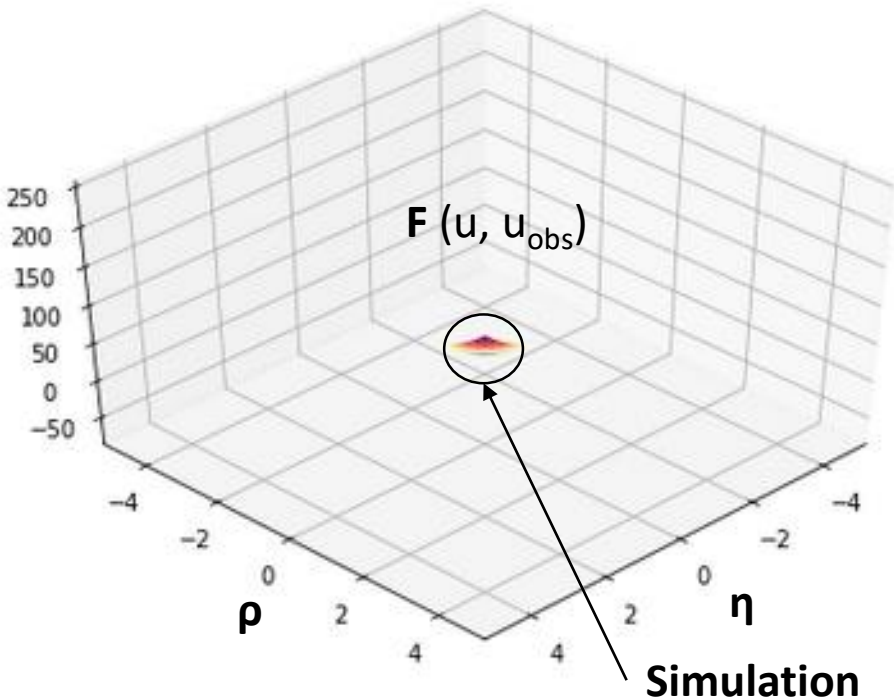
Inversion

$$F = \frac{1}{2}(u - u_{obs})^T(u - u_{obs})$$



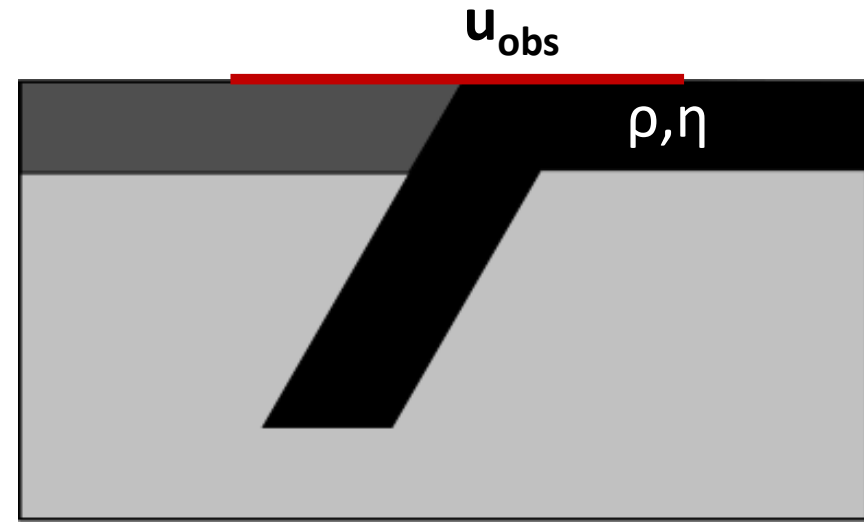
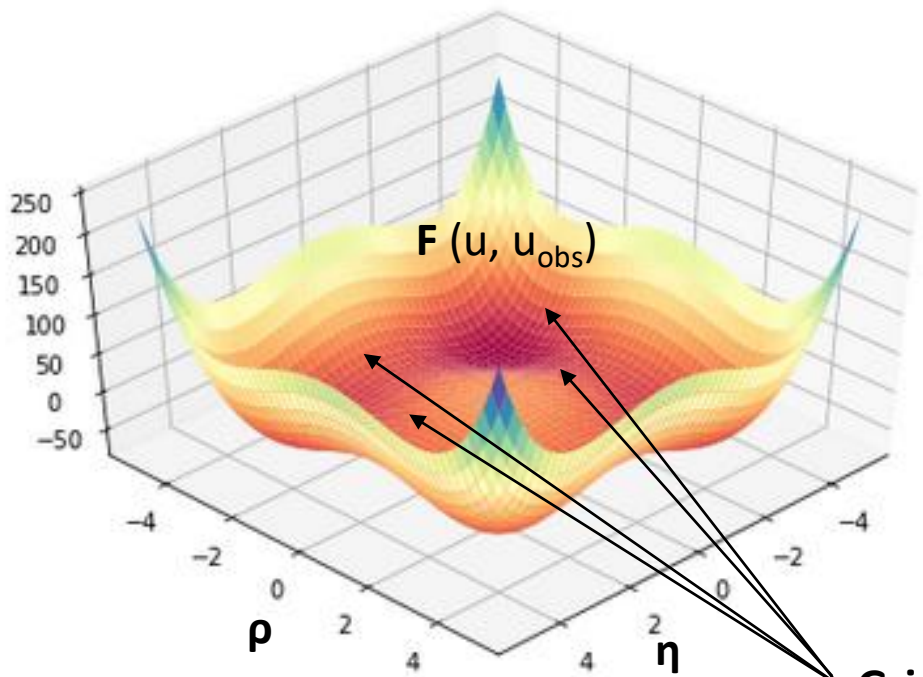
# Motivation

Inversion



# Motivation

Inversion



Grid search

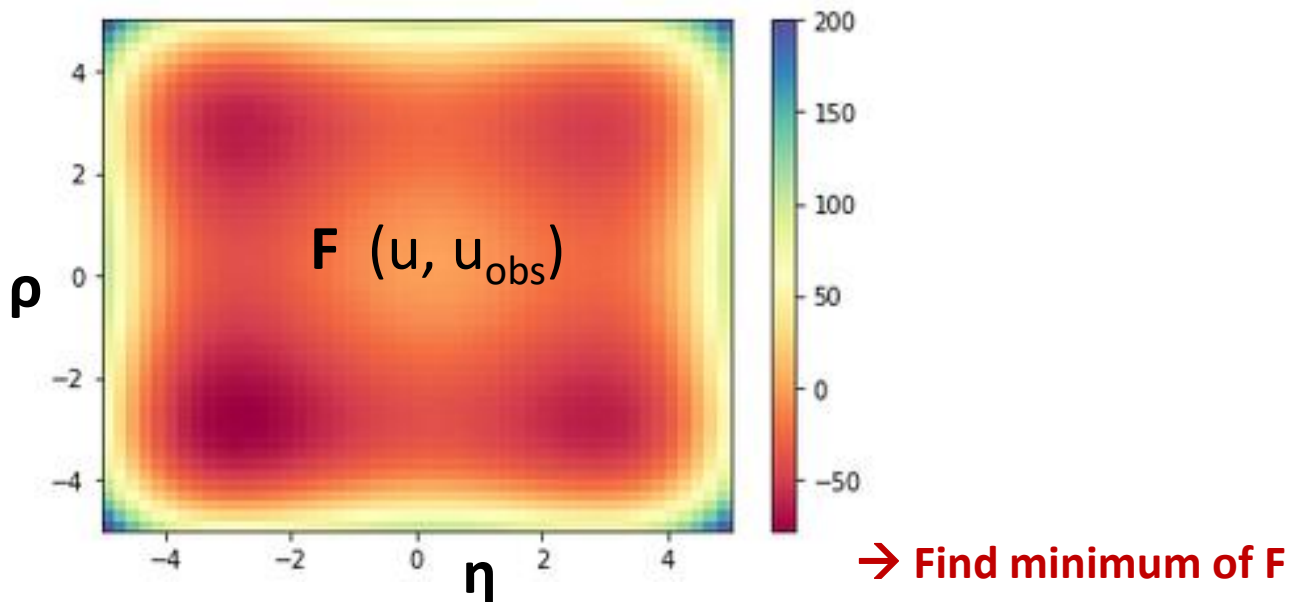
→ Find minimum of  $F$

# Motivation

Inversion

Statistical

- (Randomized) statistical search

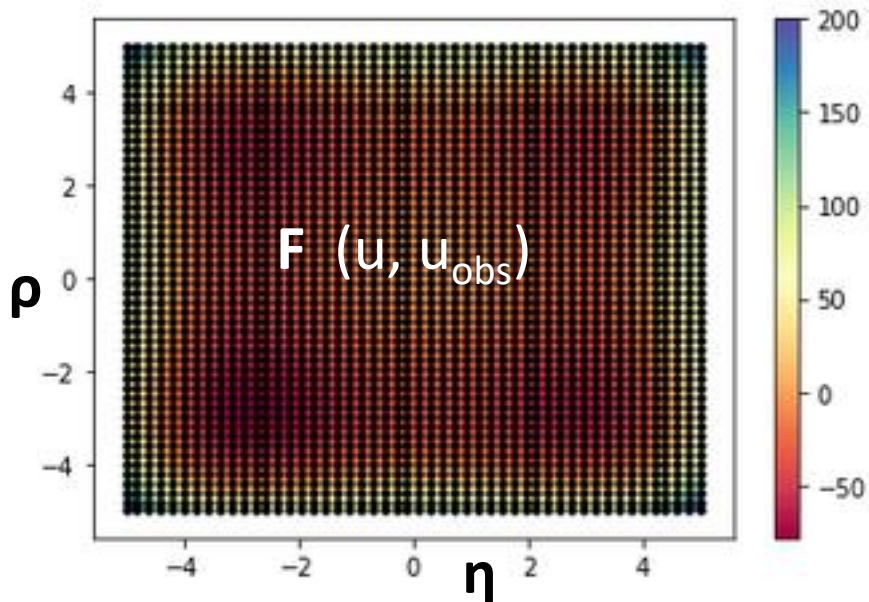


# Motivation

Inversion

Statistical

- *Grid Search Sampling*

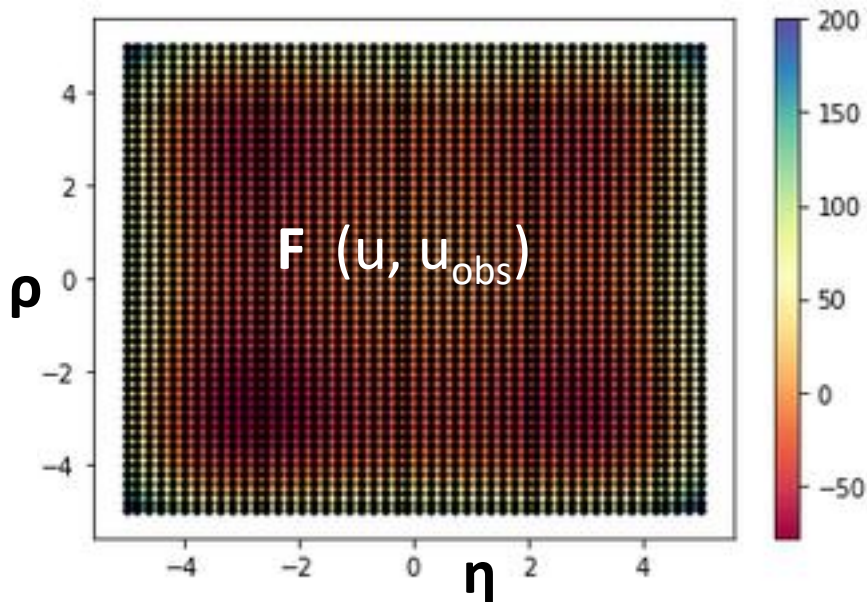


# Motivation

Inversion

Statistical

- *Grid Search Sampling*
  - Many simulations
  - Broad knowledge of cost function

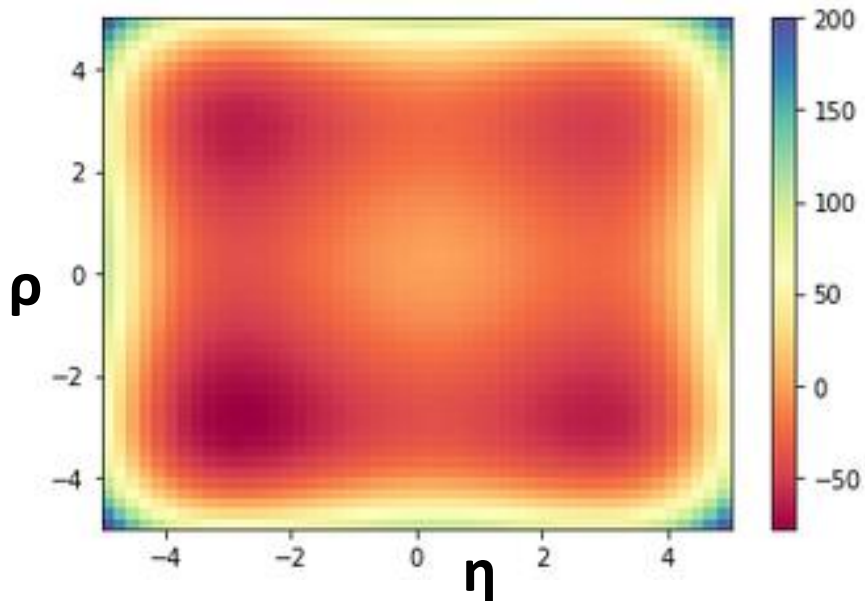


# Motivation

Inversion

Statistical

- *Monte-Carlo Sampling*





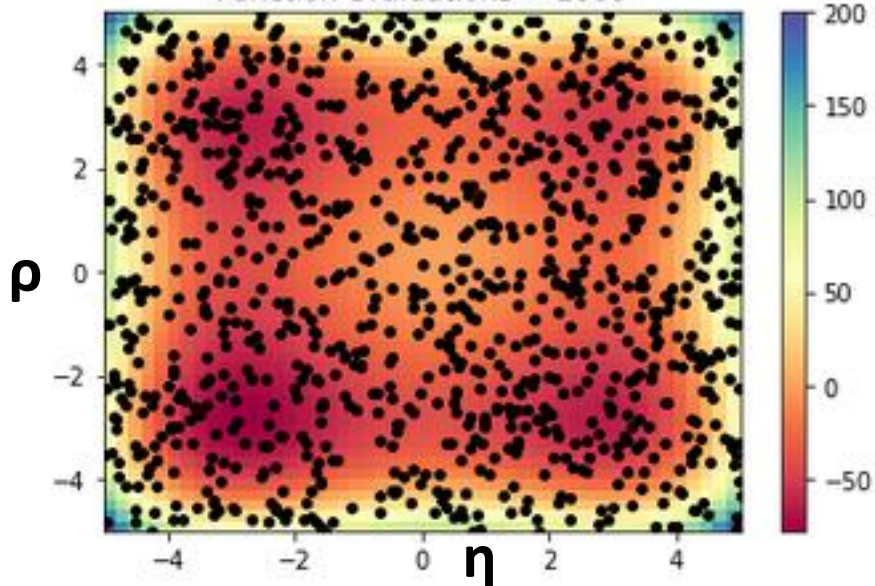
# Motivation

Inversion

Statistical

- *Monte-Carlo Sampling*

Function evaluations = 1000



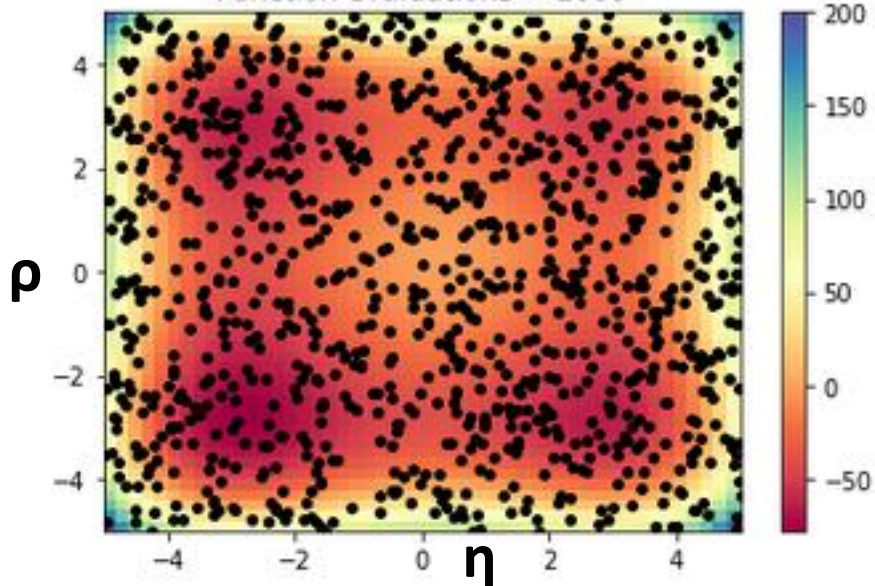
# Motivation

Inversion

Statistical

- *Monte-Carlo Sampling*
- Many simulations
- Broad knowledge of cost function

Function evaluations = 1000

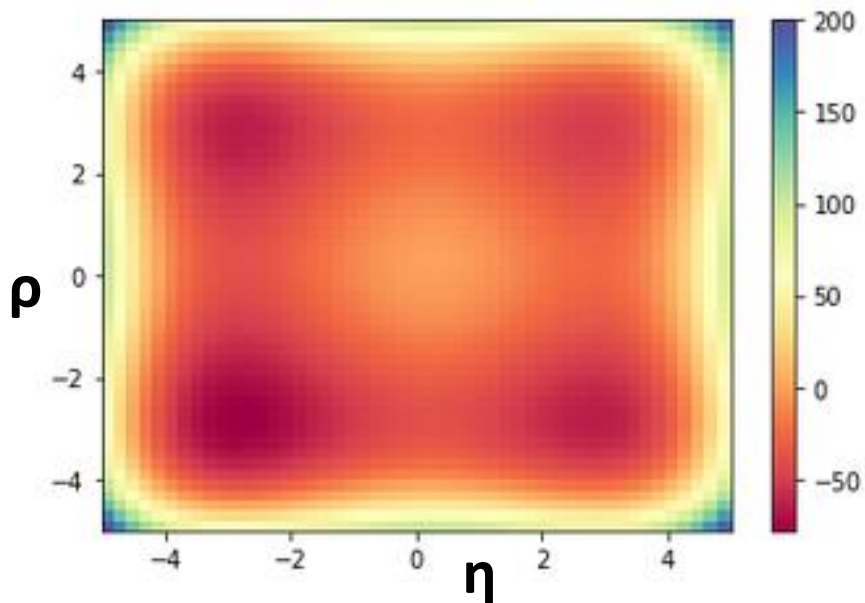


# Motivation

Inversion

Statistical

- *MCMC Sampling*



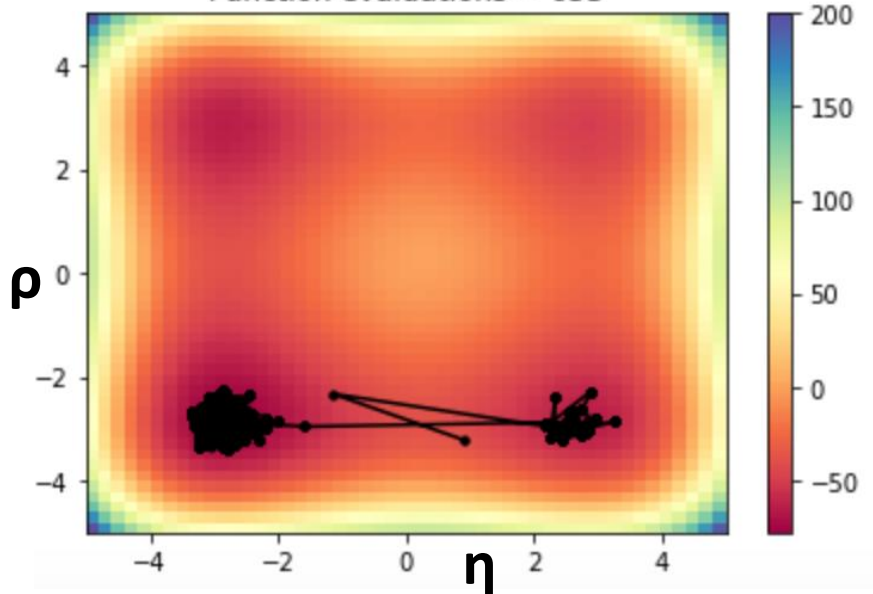
# Motivation

Inversion

Statistical

- *MCMC Sampling*

Function evaluations = 653



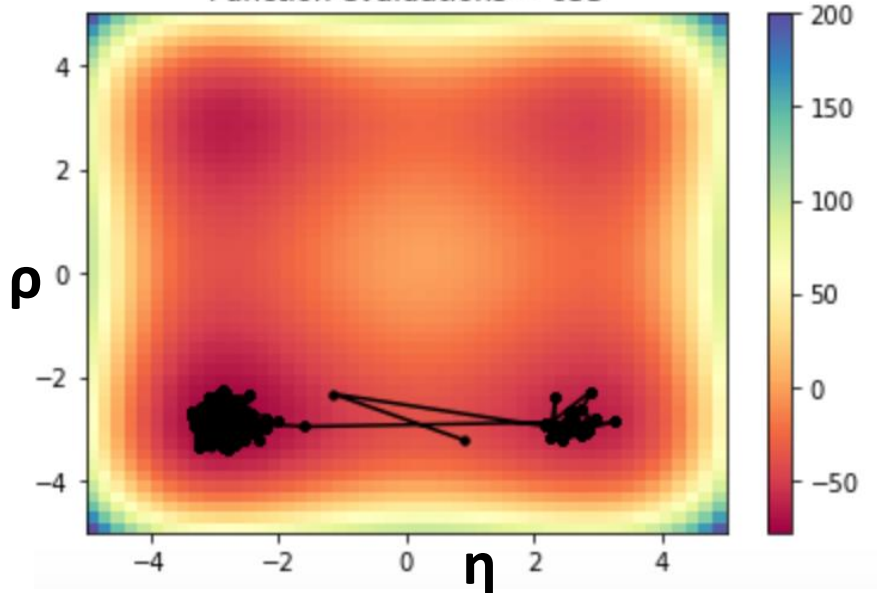
# Motivation

Inversion

Statistical

- *MCMC Sampling*
- Few simulations
- Requires fine-tuning

Function evaluations = 653

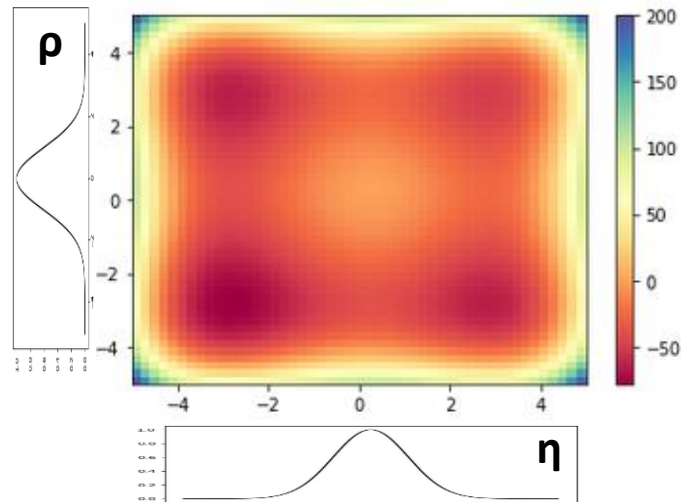


# Motivation

Inversion

Statistical

- *Bayes Theorem*
- Prior knowledge goes in sampling

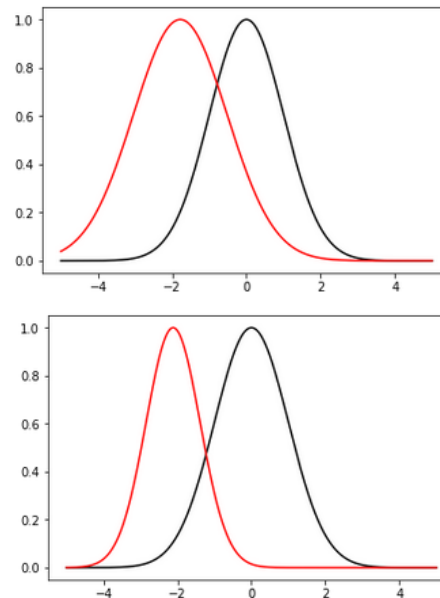
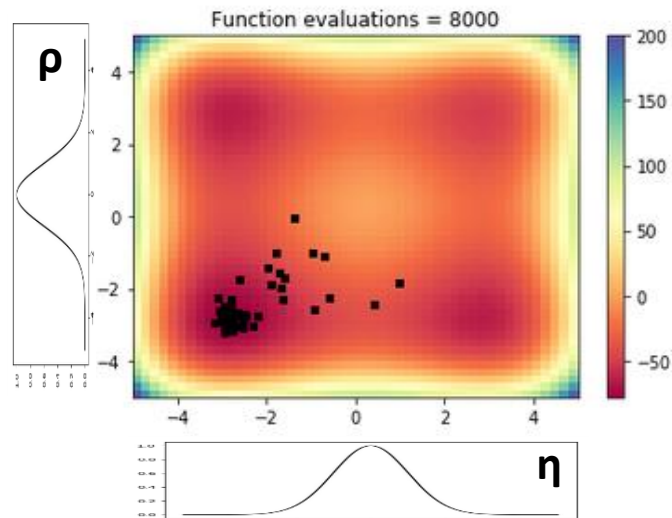


# Motivation

Inversion

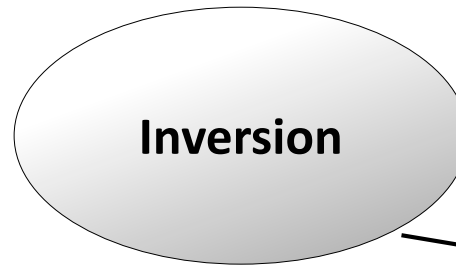
Statistical

- *Bayes Theorem*
  - Prior knowledge goes in sampling
  - Compute posterior
  - Uncertainty in parameters



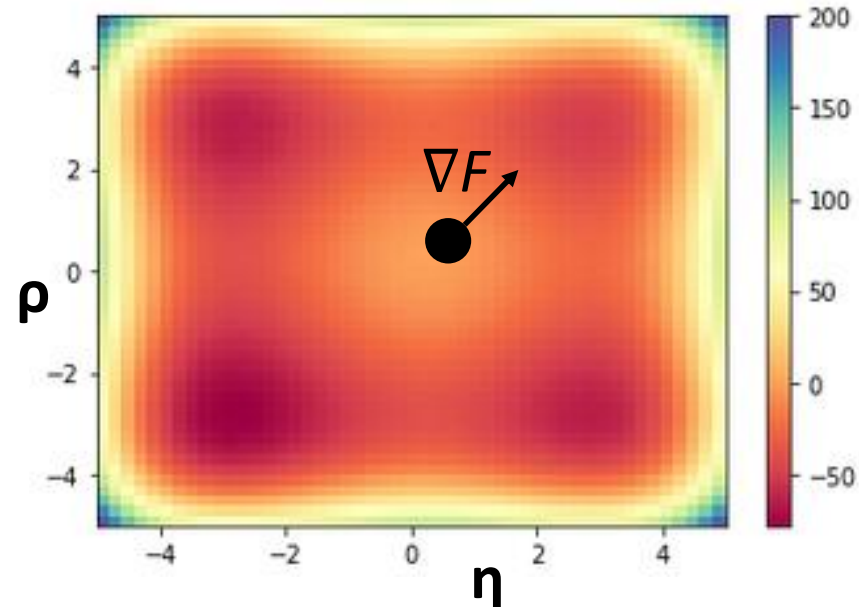
... many more methods

# Motivation



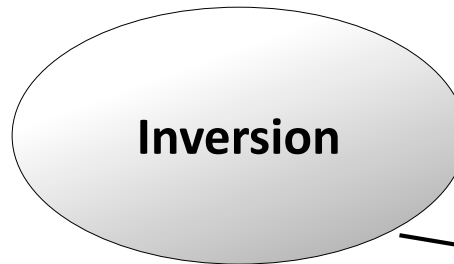
Deterministic

Gradient based:





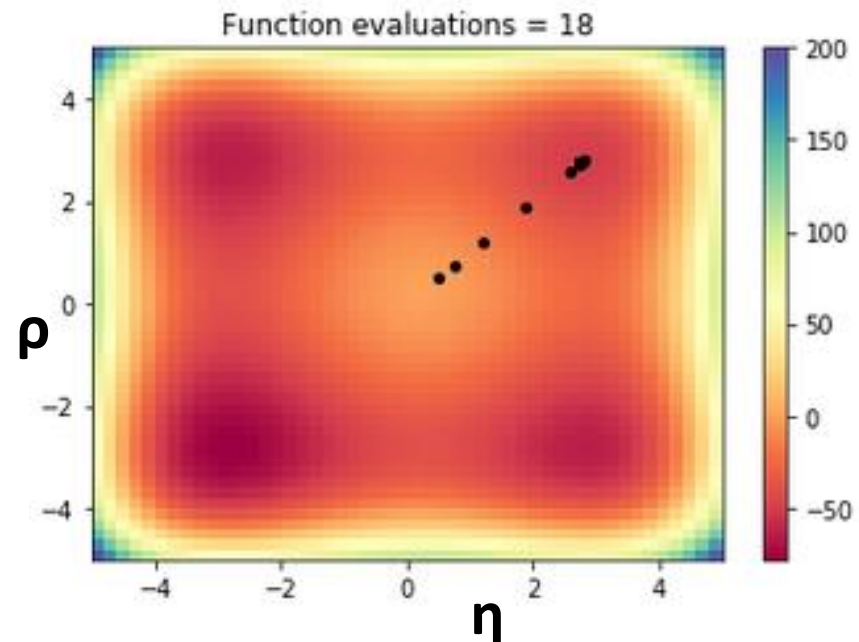
# Motivation



Deterministic

## Gradient based:

- Few ‚simulations‘
- Sensitive to local minima



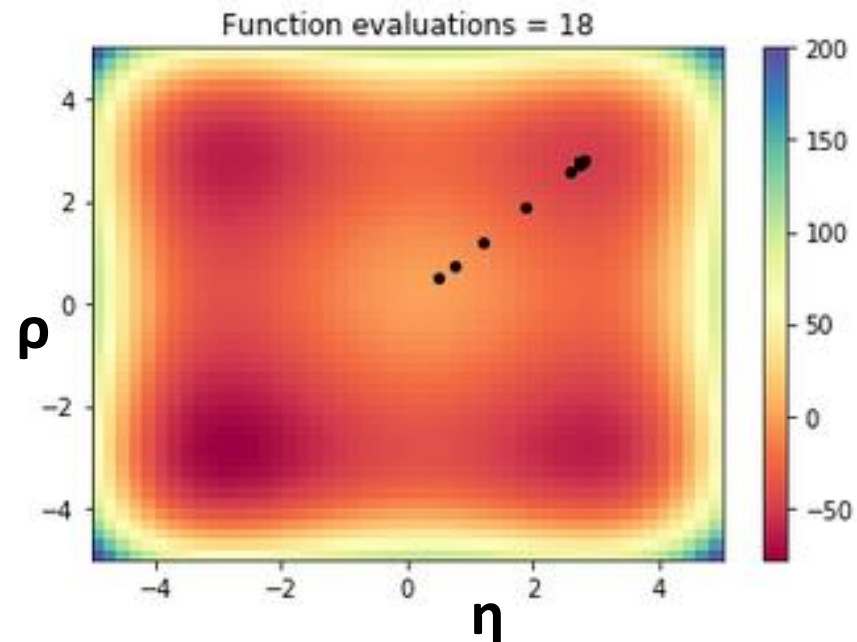
# Motivation

Inversion

Deterministic

Gradient based [gradient descent]:

$$F = \frac{1}{2}(u - u_{obs})^T(u - u_{obs})$$
$$\mathbf{p}^{n+1} = \mathbf{p}^n - \alpha \frac{dF}{d\mathbf{p}}$$



# Motivation

Inversion

Deterministic

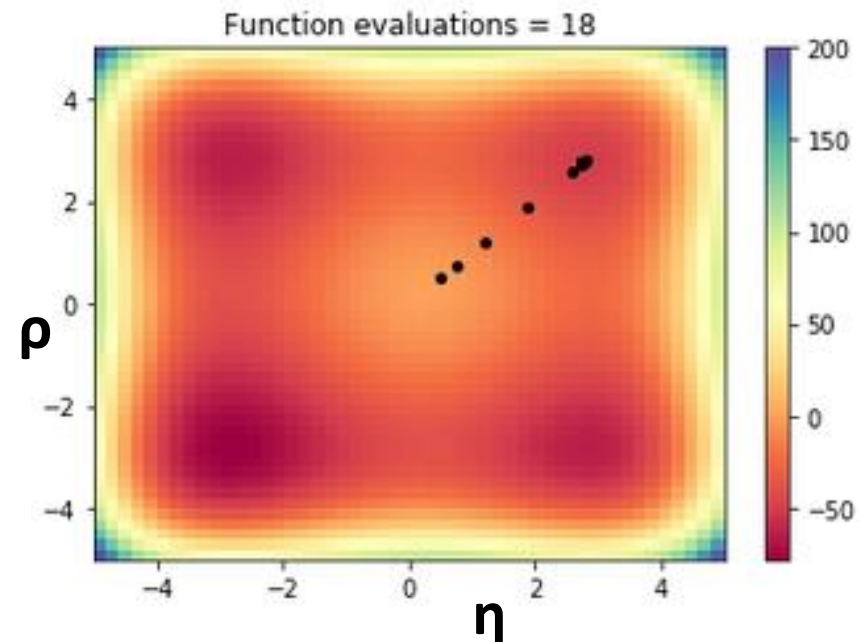
Gradient based [(Quasi)-Newton]:

$$F = \frac{1}{2} (u - u_{obs})^T (u - u_{obs})$$

$$\mathbf{p}^{n+1} = \mathbf{p}^n - \alpha \left[ \frac{d}{d\mathbf{p}} \left( \frac{dF}{d\mathbf{p}} \right) \right]^{-1} \frac{dF}{d\mathbf{p}}$$

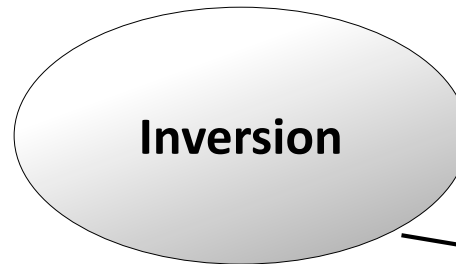
*Hessian matrix*

→ Relates to the  
covariance matrix  
in Bayesian context



... more methods

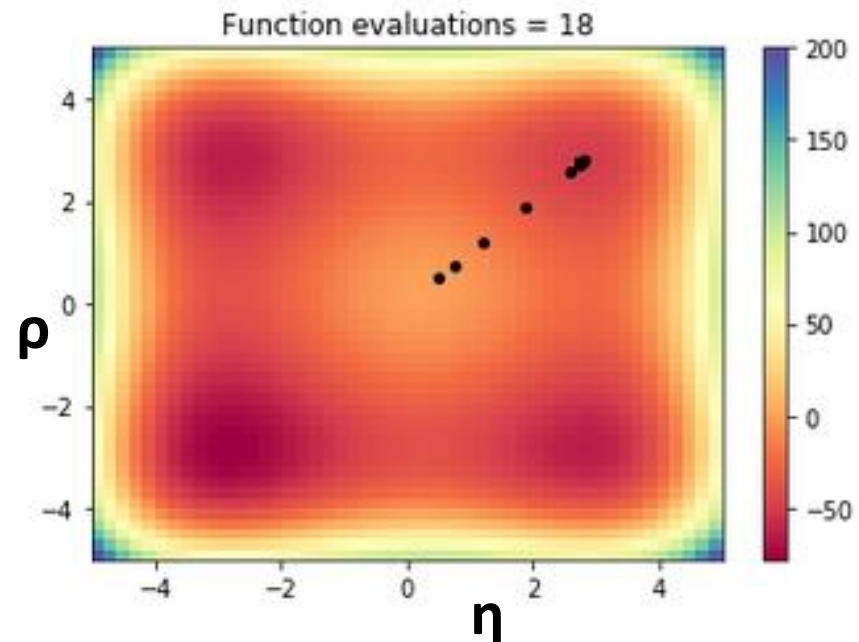
# Motivation



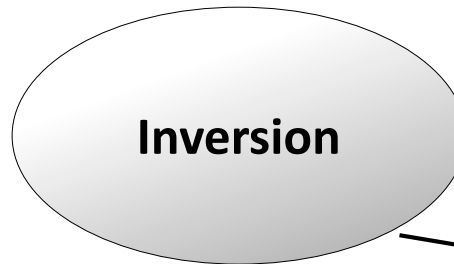
Deterministic

## Gradient based:

- Few ,simulations‘
- Sensitive to local minima
- **How to evaluate gradient?**



# Motivation



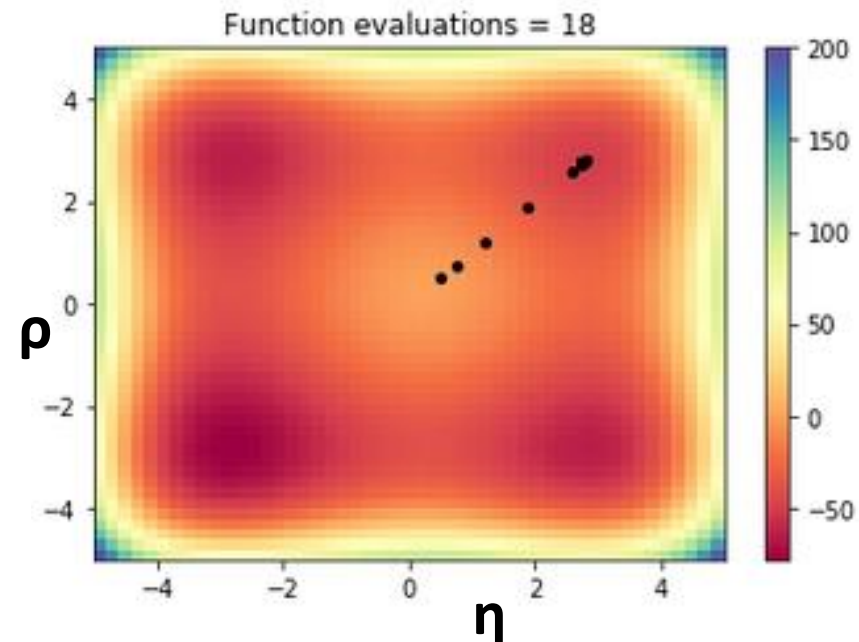
Deterministic

## Gradient based:

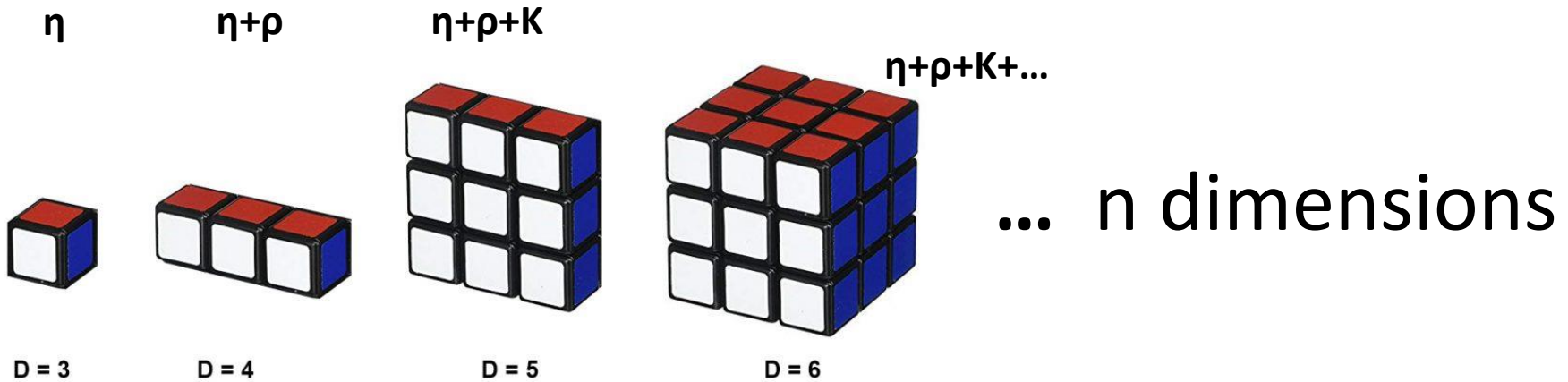
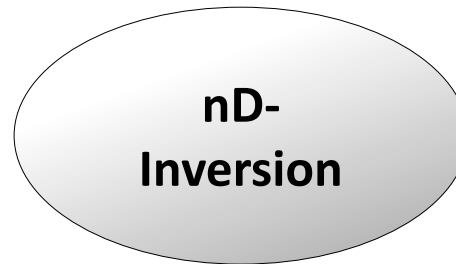
- Few ,simulations‘
- Sensitive to local minima
- **How to evaluate gradient?**

→ Here simple: analytical

→ Or FD:  $\frac{dF}{d\mathbf{p}} = \frac{F(\mathbf{p} + h) - F(\mathbf{p})}{h}$



# Motivation

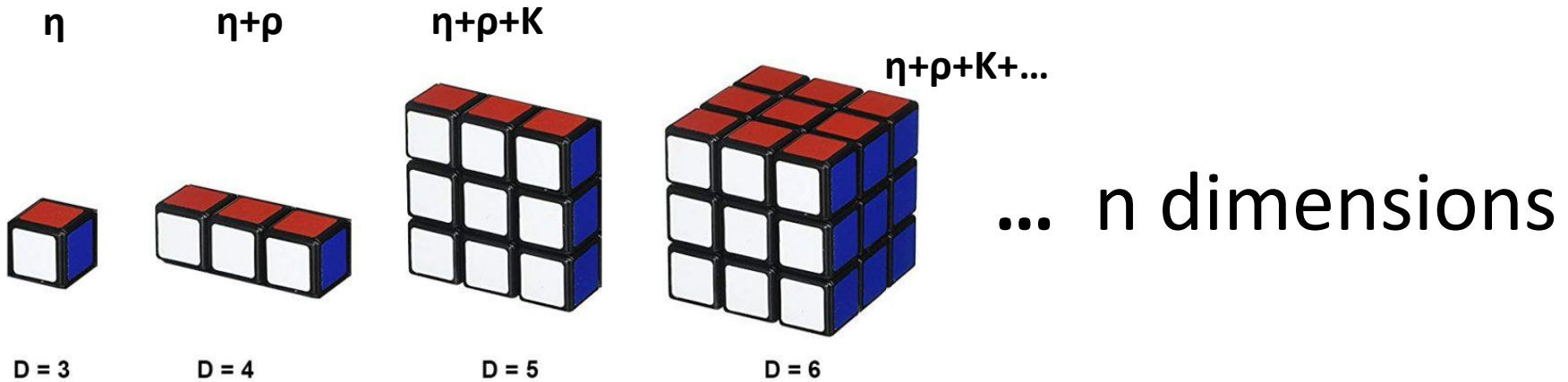


- 5 rock phases in thermo-elasto-visco-plastic model = **40 parameters** (=dimensions)
- Seismology: wavespeed at every node is a free parameter = **# nodes parameters** (billions)

→ Every viscosity free parameter = # nodes parameters

# Motivation

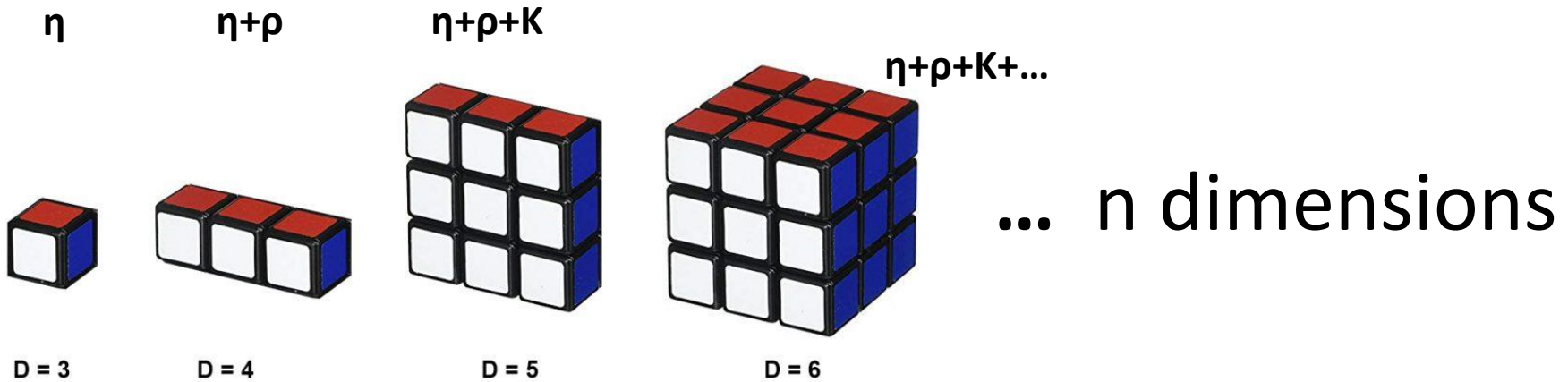
nD-  
Inversion



- **Statistical:** 40 parameters + 10 samples per parameter =  $10^{40}$  simulations
- **Deterministic:** Two solves per parameter with FD = 80 simulations (per descent iteration)

# Motivation

nD-  
Inversion

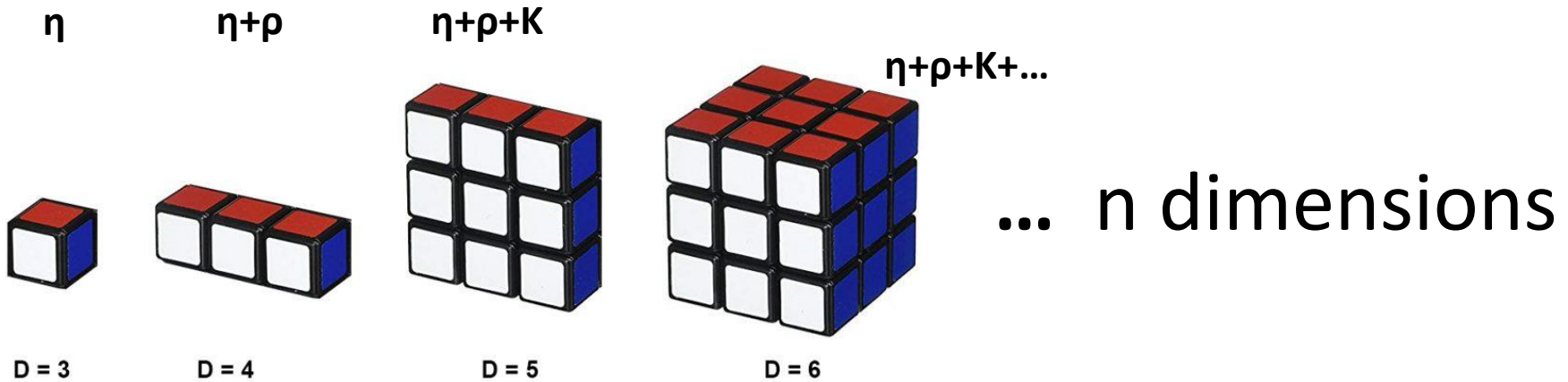
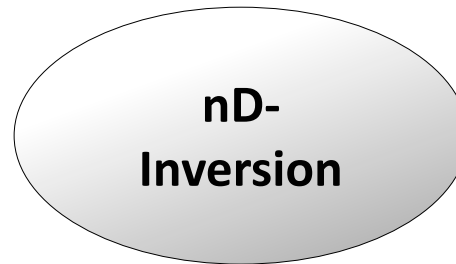


- **Statistical:** 40 parameters + 10 samples per parameter =  $10^{40}$  simulations
- **Deterministic:** Two solves per parameter with FD = 80 simulations (per descent iteration)

→ **More efficient gradient computation available?**



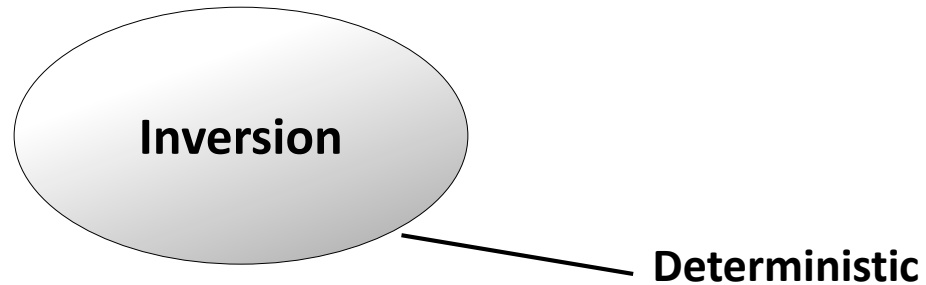
# Motivation



- **Adjoint method:**

- Independent of # parameters (very efficient)
- Requires forward (nonlinear) + adjoint solve (linear) and gradient computation
- Requires formulation of adjoint equation

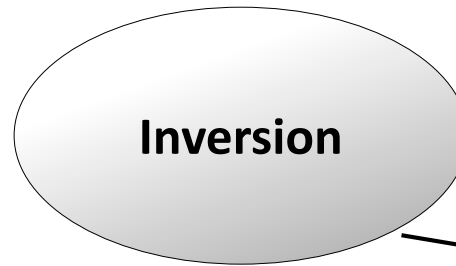
# Method



## **Constrained optimization:**

- Appears a lot:
  - E.g. Economics: Maximize profit in terms of labor hours and raw material with limited budget
  - Logistics
  - Thermodynamics
  - ...

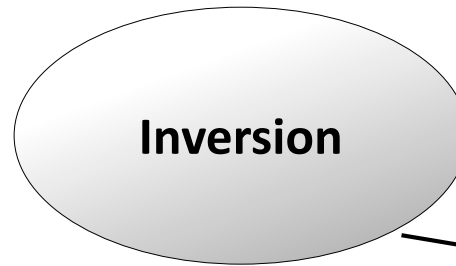
# Method



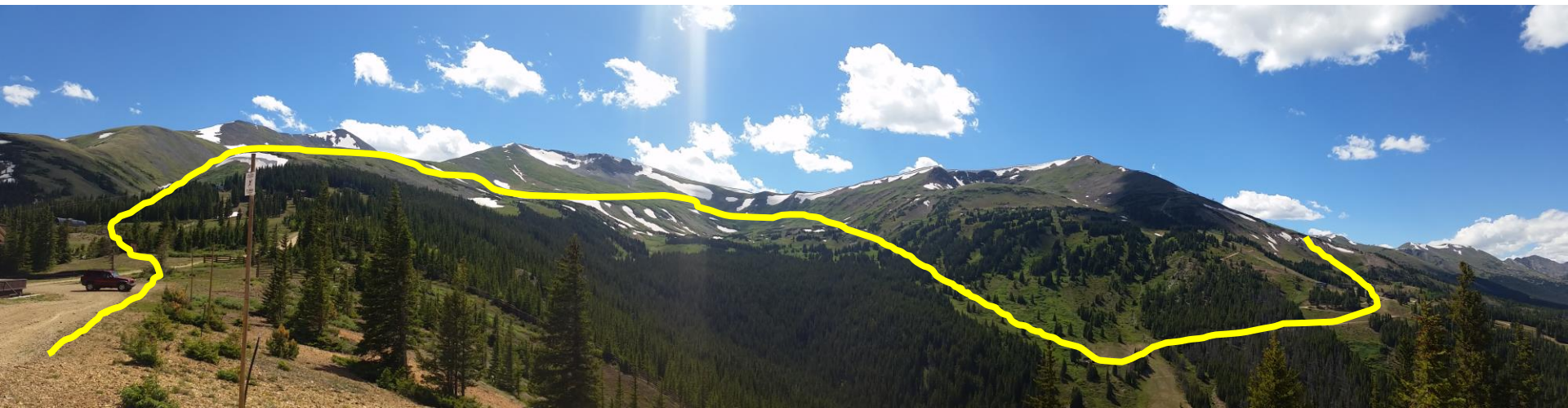
**Deterministic**



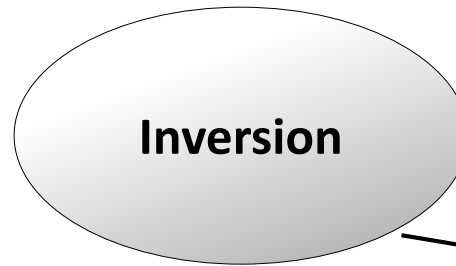
# Method



Deterministic



# Method

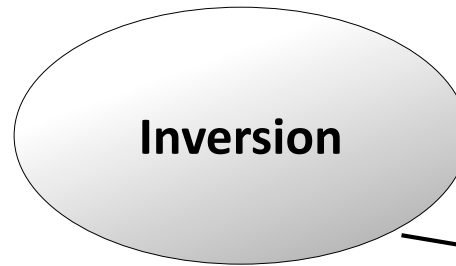


Deterministic

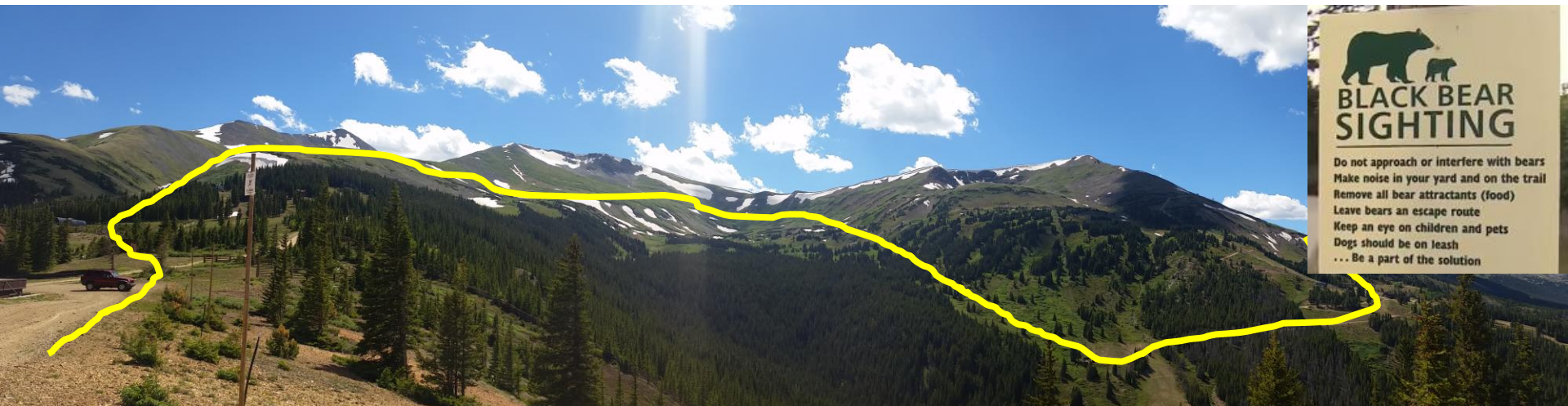


→ Find lowest point of Hike

# Method

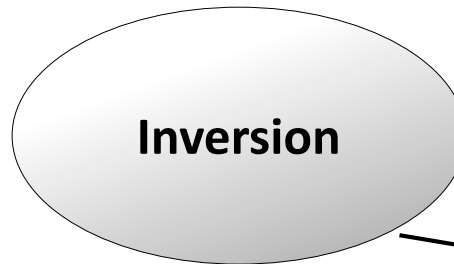


Deterministic

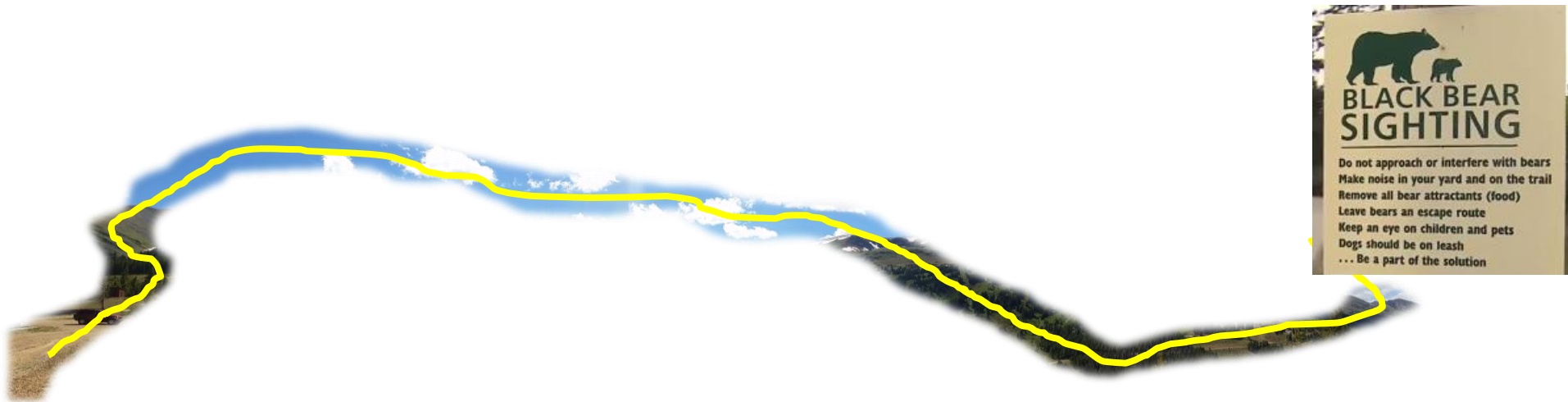


## I) National Park (with Bears)

# Method

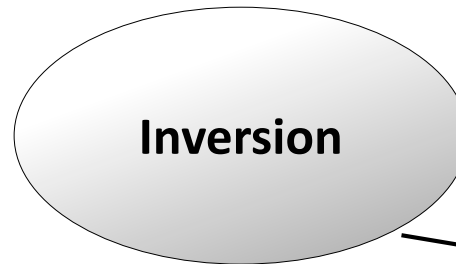


Deterministic



- I) National Park (with Bears)
- II) Foggy day

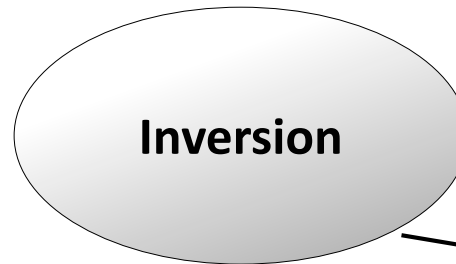
# Method



- I) National Park
- II) Foggy day



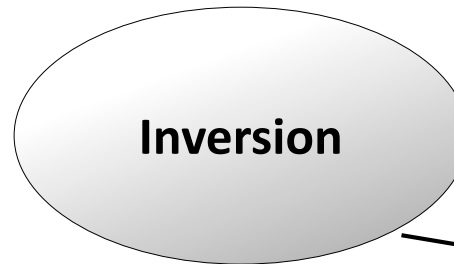
# Method



- I) National Park
- II) Foggy day

→ Find lowest point of Hike

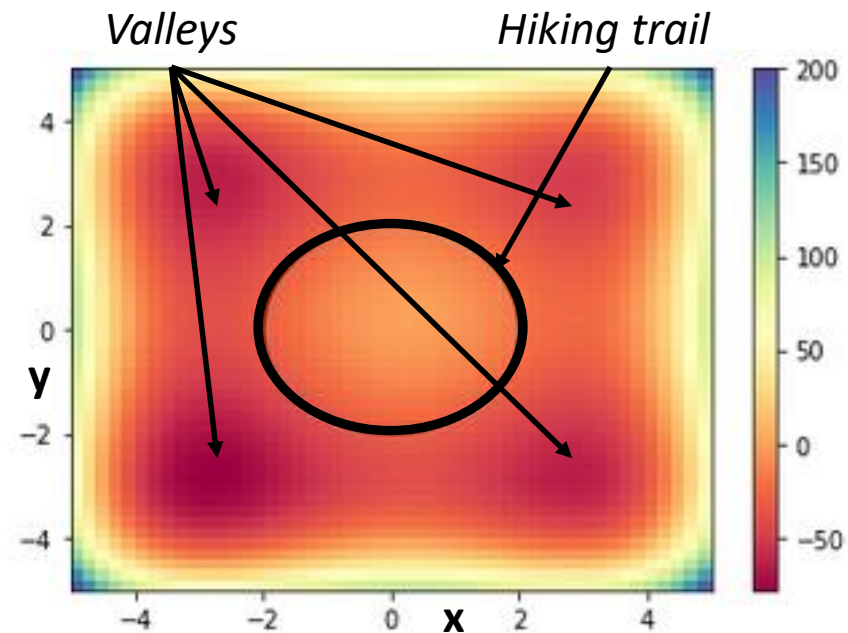
# Method



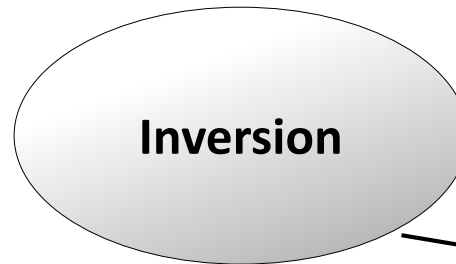
Deterministic

## Constrained optimization:

- In our example:
  1. Function represents mountain belt
  2. Find lowest point of hike



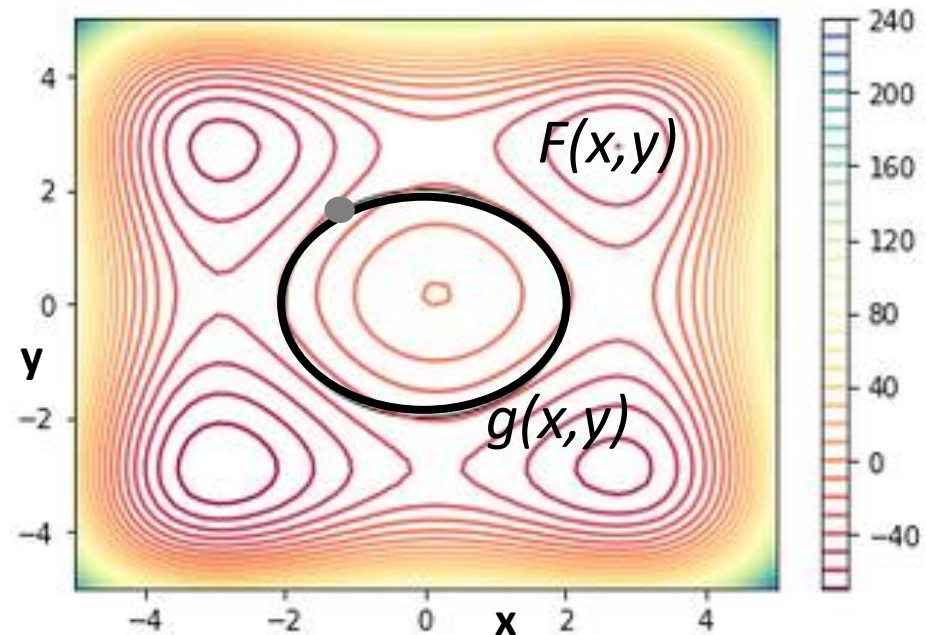
# Method



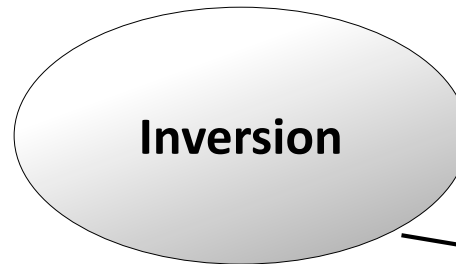
Deterministic

## Constrained optimization:

- Function  $F(x,y)$  - topography
- Constraint  $g(x,y)$  – hike



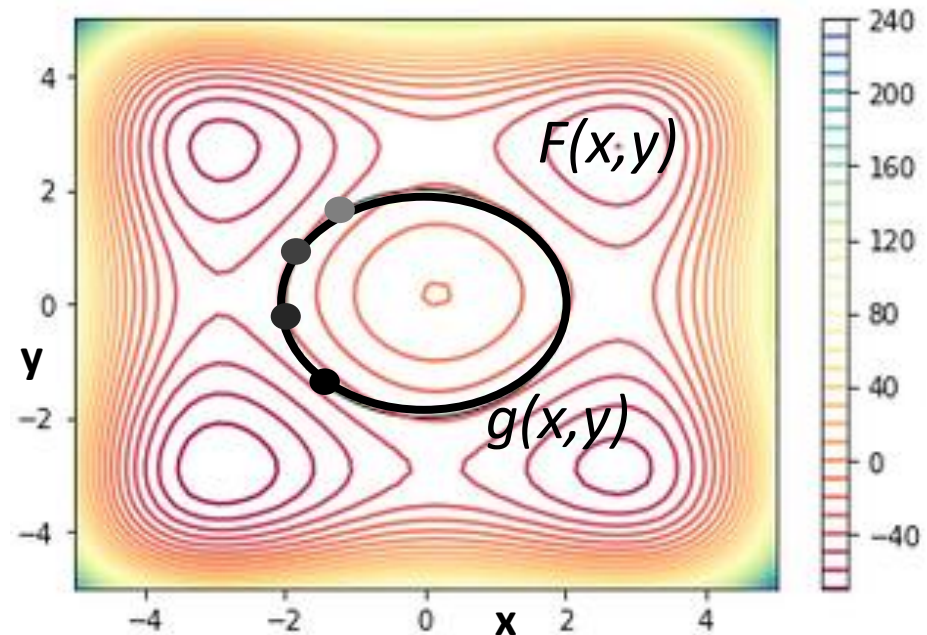
# Method



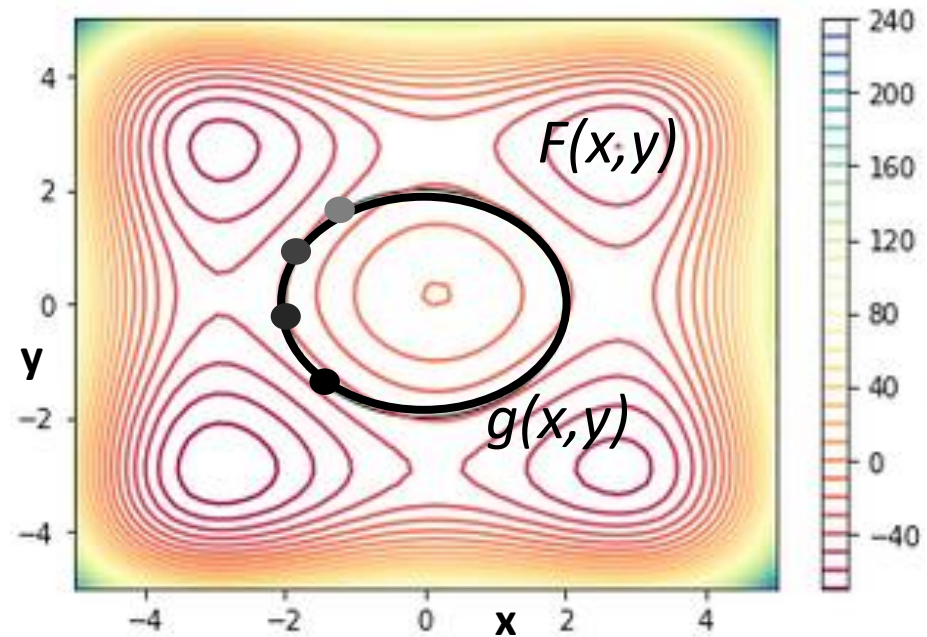
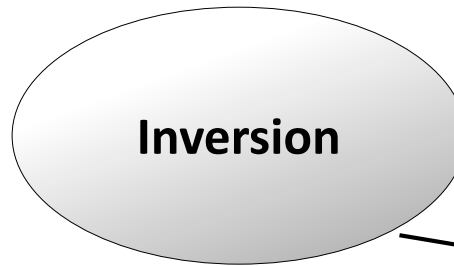
Deterministic

## Constrained optimization:

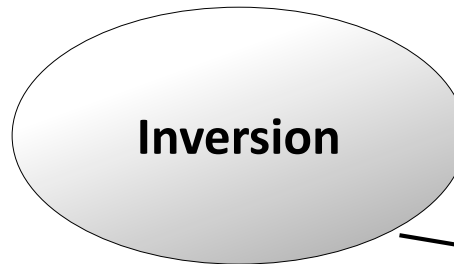
- Function  $F(x,y)$  - topography
- Constraint  $g(x,y)$  – hike



# Method



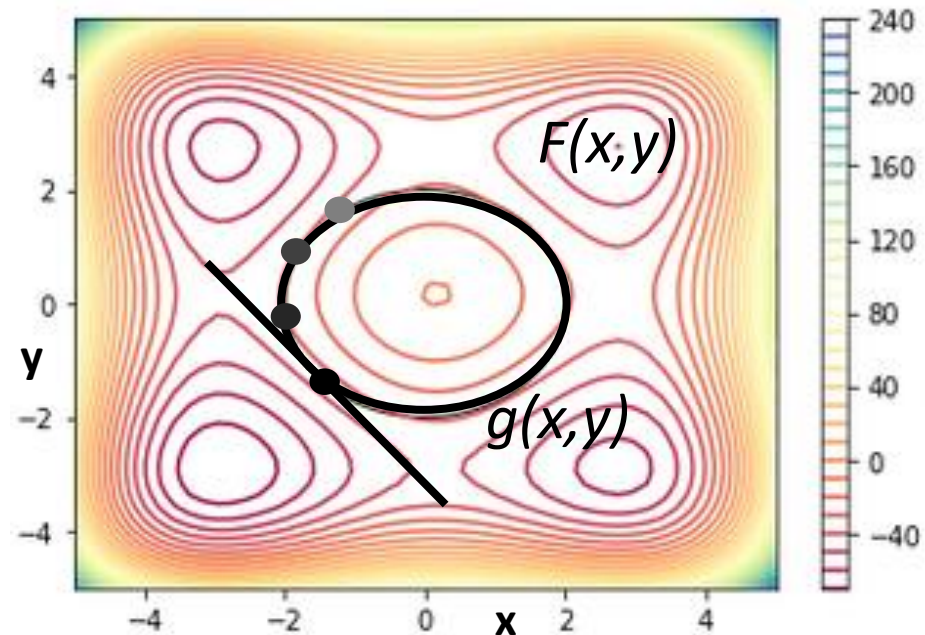
# Method



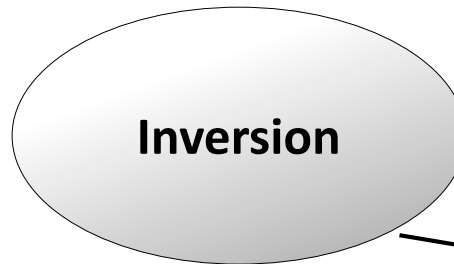
Deterministic

## Constrained optimization:

- Function  $F(x,y)$  - topography
- Constraint  $g(x,y)$  – hike



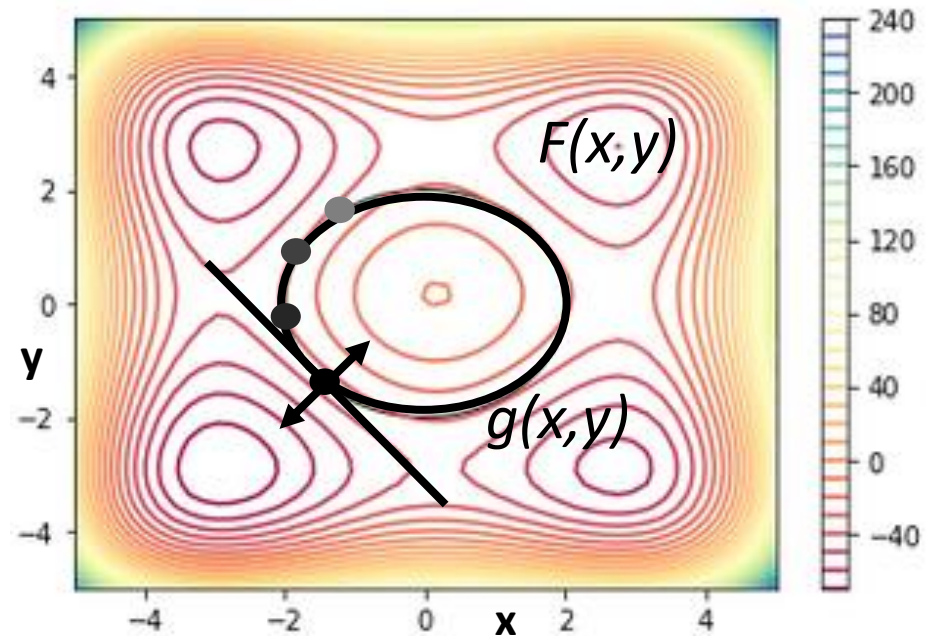
# Method



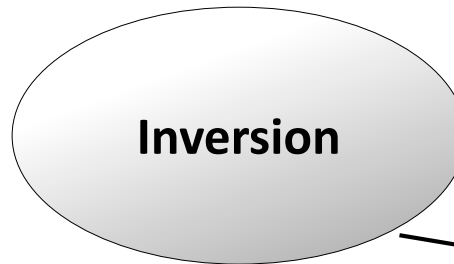
Deterministic

## Constrained optimization:

- Function  $F(x,y)$  - topography
- Constraint  $g(x,y)$  – hike



# Method

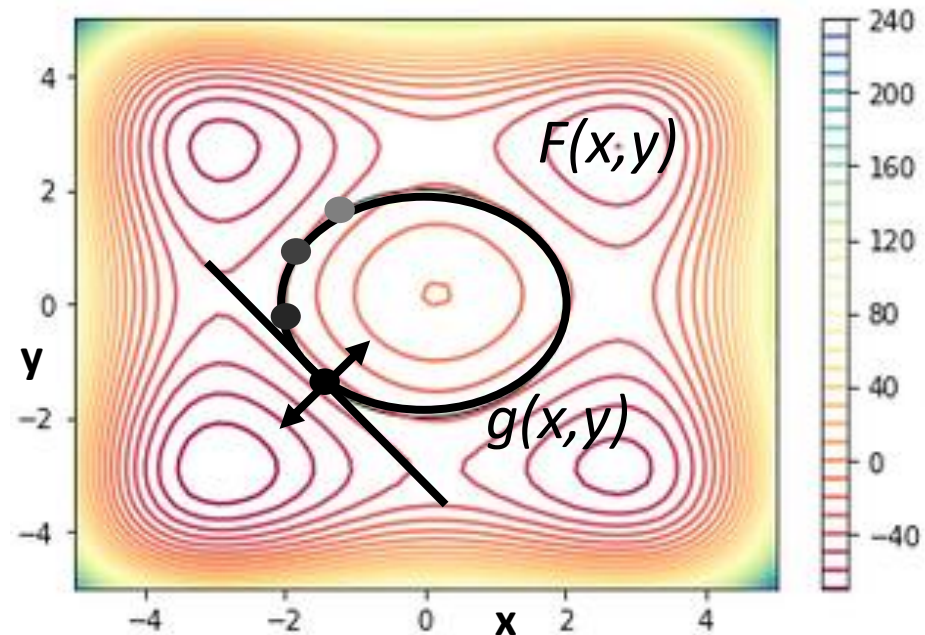


Deterministic

## Constrained optimization:

- Function  $F(x,y)$  - topography
- Constraint  $g(x,y)$  – hike

→ Find common gradient along constraint





# Method

Inversion

Deterministic

**Constrained optimization:**

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \lambda) = F(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) + \lambda g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$$

$$\nabla \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \lambda) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

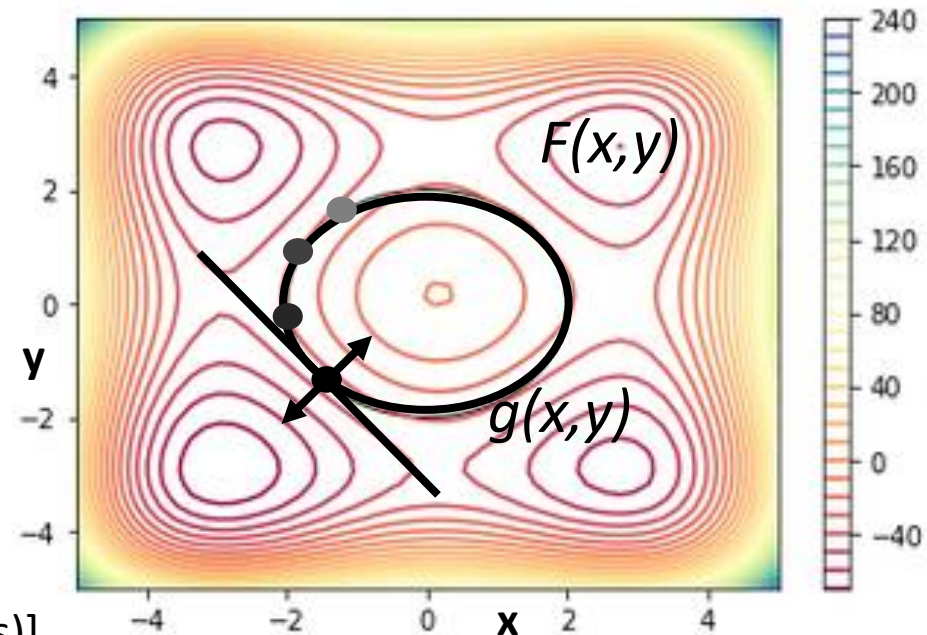
$$\overbrace{\nabla F(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \lambda \nabla g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})}$$

$$g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x}^2 + \mathbf{y}^2 - 2$$

→ Solve for  $x, y$  &  $\lambda$

→  $x$  &  $y$  = coordinates of minimum

→  $[P(x, y) = \text{lowest point} \rightarrow \lambda = d(P)/d(\text{Radius})]$



# **Adjoint method**

## **(PDE – constrained optimization)**

- I) Field inversion**
  
- II) Vector (p) inversion**

# Field

**Objective function (no regularization):**

$$F(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}(\mathbf{p}))$$

$$\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{u}, p)^T \quad (1)$$

$$F = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_{obs})^T (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_{obs}) \quad (2)$$

(3)

(4)

(5)

(6)

# Field

**Objective function** (no regularization):

$$F(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}(\mathbf{p})) \quad \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{u}, p)^T \quad (1)$$

$$F = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_{obs})^T (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_{obs}) \quad (2)$$

**Stokes** (inversion constraint, linear, no advection):

$$\nabla \cdot \sigma = (0, \rho g)^T \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\sigma = 2\eta \dot{\epsilon}(\mathbf{u}) - pI \quad \dot{\epsilon}(u) = \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^T) \quad (4)$$

(5)

(6)

# Field

**Objective function** (no regularization):

$$F(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}(\mathbf{p})) \quad \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{u}, p)^T \quad (1)$$

$$F = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_{obs})^T (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_{obs}) \quad (2)$$

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**Lagrangian** (constrained optimization):

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, p, q, \mathbf{p}) = F + (v, q) \cdot FP \quad (5)$$

$$\nabla \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, p, q, \mathbf{p}) \stackrel{!}{=} \mathbf{0} \quad \rightarrow \text{Find critical points of this function} \quad (6)$$

# Field

**Objective function (no regularization):**

*I. FP multiplied by some Lagrange multipliers (shape functions) is the weak form (FEM) of the FP*

*II. FP linear – (often) self- adjoint*

*III. If FP nonlinear – additional terms appear (e.g. viscosity derivative) – like deriving Jacobian*

*IV. Gradient of parameter at every node – ‚field‘ inversion*

*V. Independent of discretization*

*VI. Can be derived for any variable that occurs in the equation, e.g. principal stress directions:*

$$\phi_{\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{2\dot{\epsilon}_{xy}}{\dot{\epsilon}_{xx} - \dot{\epsilon}_{yy}} \right) \text{ Reuber et al. (in prep)}$$

# Vector

**Approach implemented in LaMEM (equal result):**

**1) Objective function (no regularization):**

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$$G = \frac{dF}{dp} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial p} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dp} \quad \text{First term} = 0 \text{ (!= 0 if regularization)} \quad (3)$$

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2) **Residual derivative** ( $R = 0$ ):

$$\frac{dR}{dp} = \frac{\partial R}{\partial p} + \frac{\partial R}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dp} \quad (4)$$

*Jacobian*

# Vector

3) **Substitute:**

$$\frac{dx}{dp} = -J^{-1} \frac{\partial R}{\partial p} \quad (5)$$

$$G = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dp} = -\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} J^{-1} \frac{\partial R}{\partial p} \quad (6)$$

(7)

(8)

# Vector

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$$\psi = J^{-T} \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \right)^T \quad (7)$$

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**Note:** Two options to compute gradients with the adjoint method:

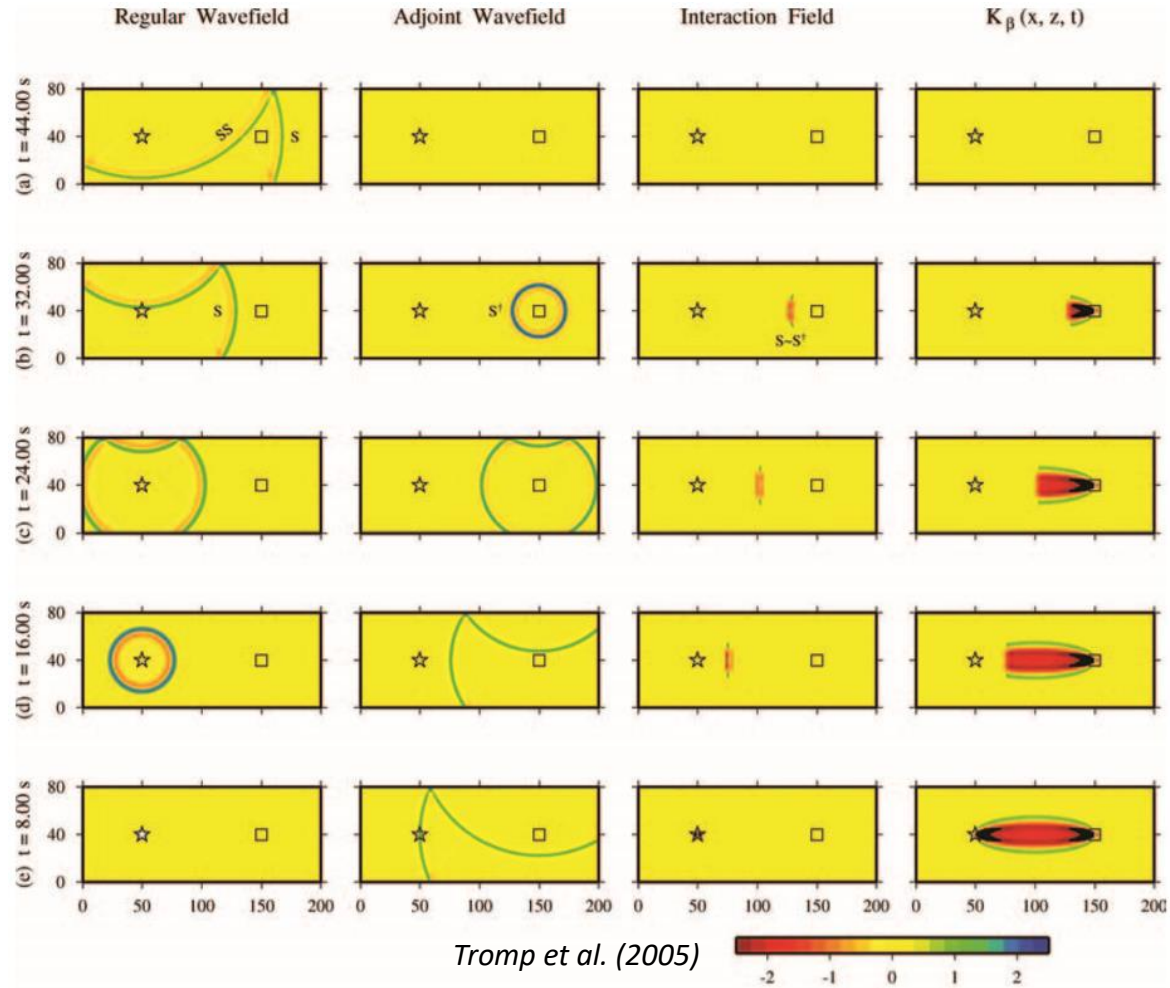
I) Converge forward problem – compute missing partial derivatives – reuse FP Jacobian - **DtO**

II) Write two codes – one for FP and one for AP – combine solution to compute Gradient - **Otd**

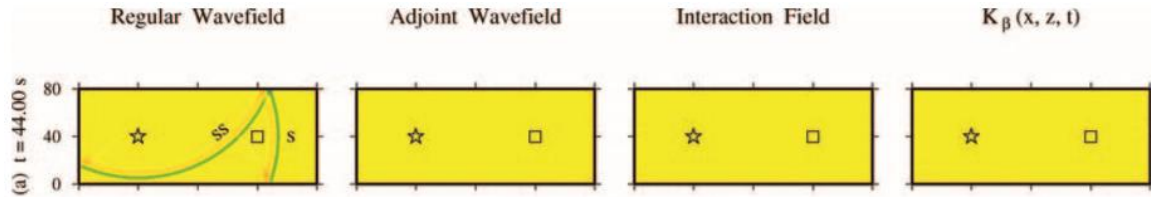
# What are these gradients good for?

- I) *Obviously for gradient based inversion*
- II) **Sensitivity kernels in geodynamics – resolution proxy**
- III) **Automatic derivation of scaling laws**

# Sensitivity

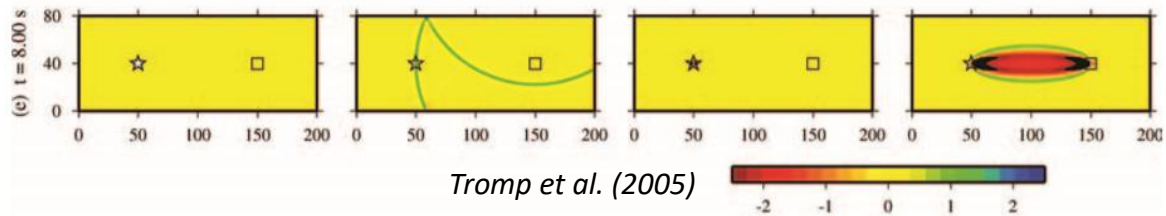


# Sensitivity



Physical resolution test

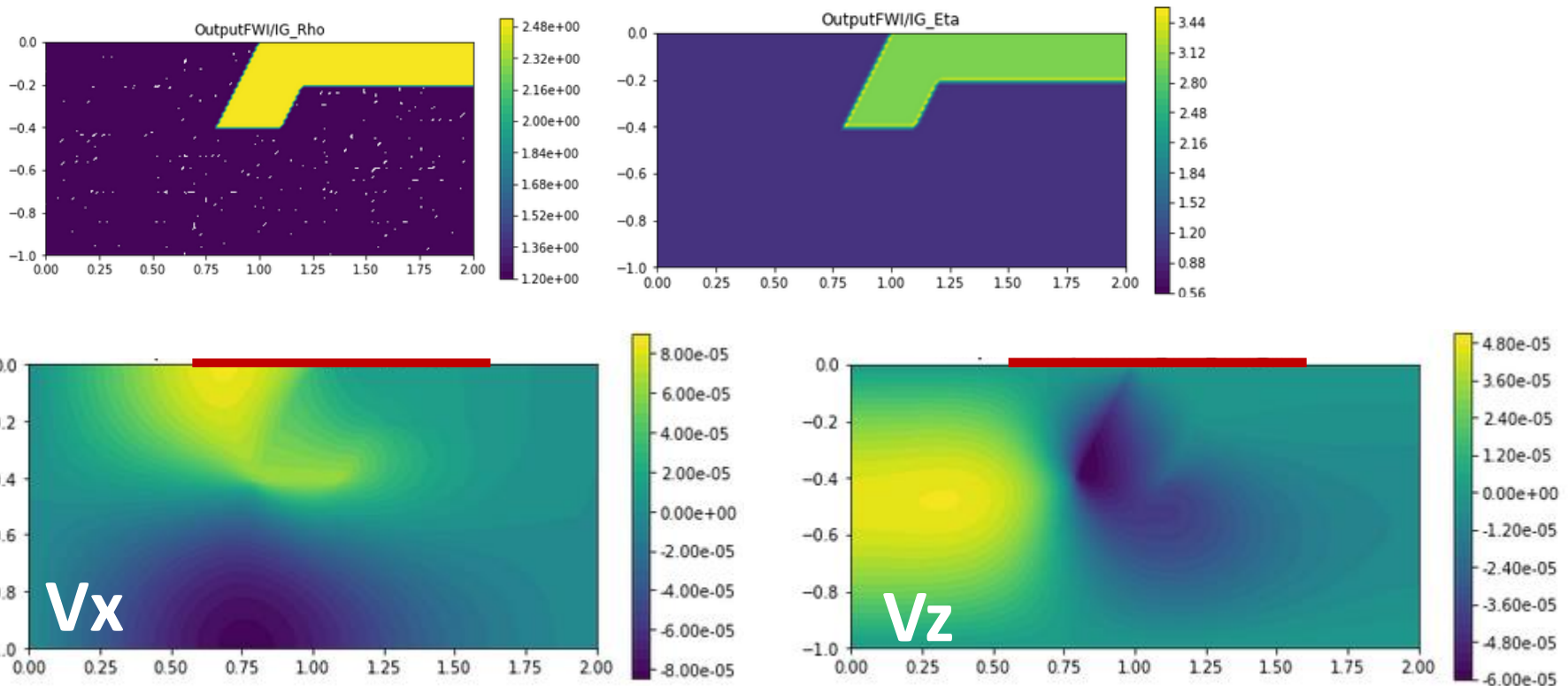
Why not try in geodynamics as well?



# Geodynamic sensitivity kernels

→ What are the velocities at the surface most sensitive to?

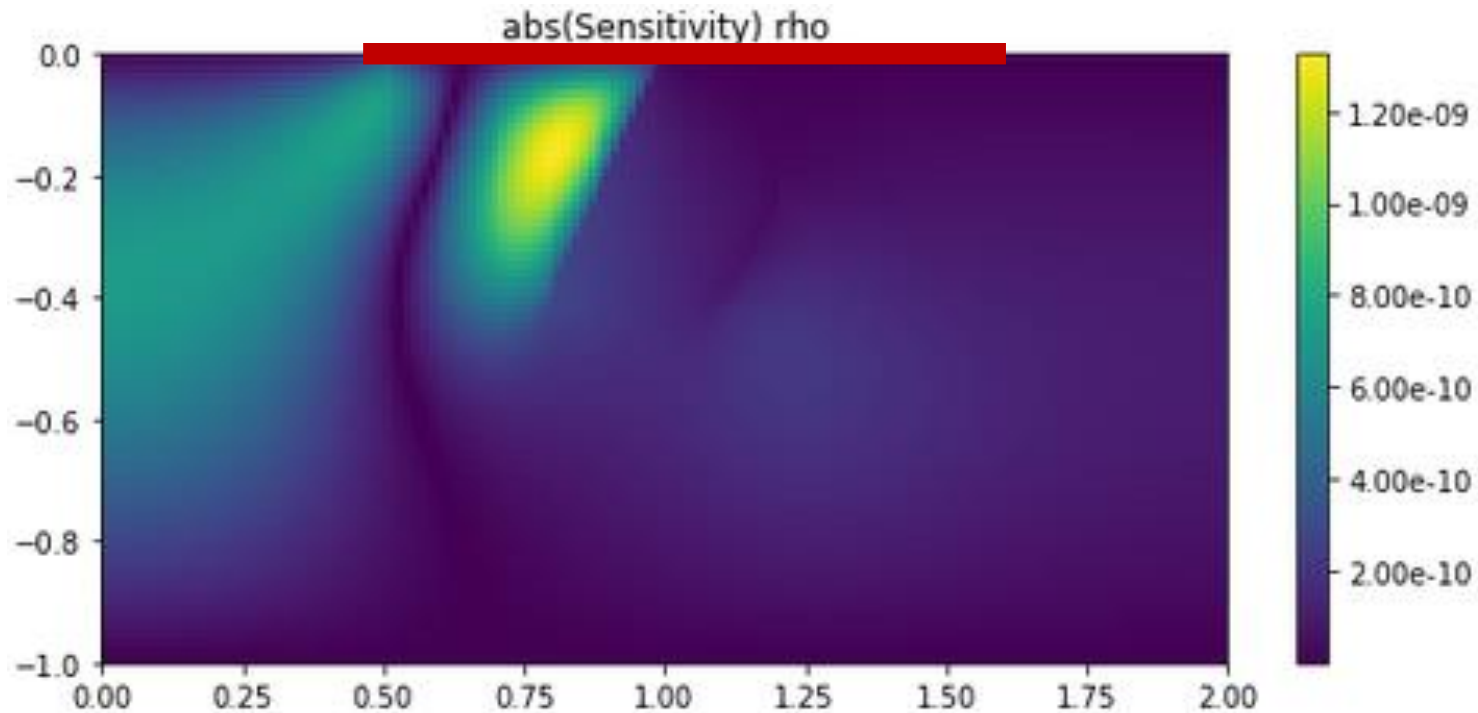
- Compute gradient as usual but use:  $F = \mathbf{u}$
- Sensitivity of solution to  $\rho + \eta$  at every node
- E.g. resolution test in seismology





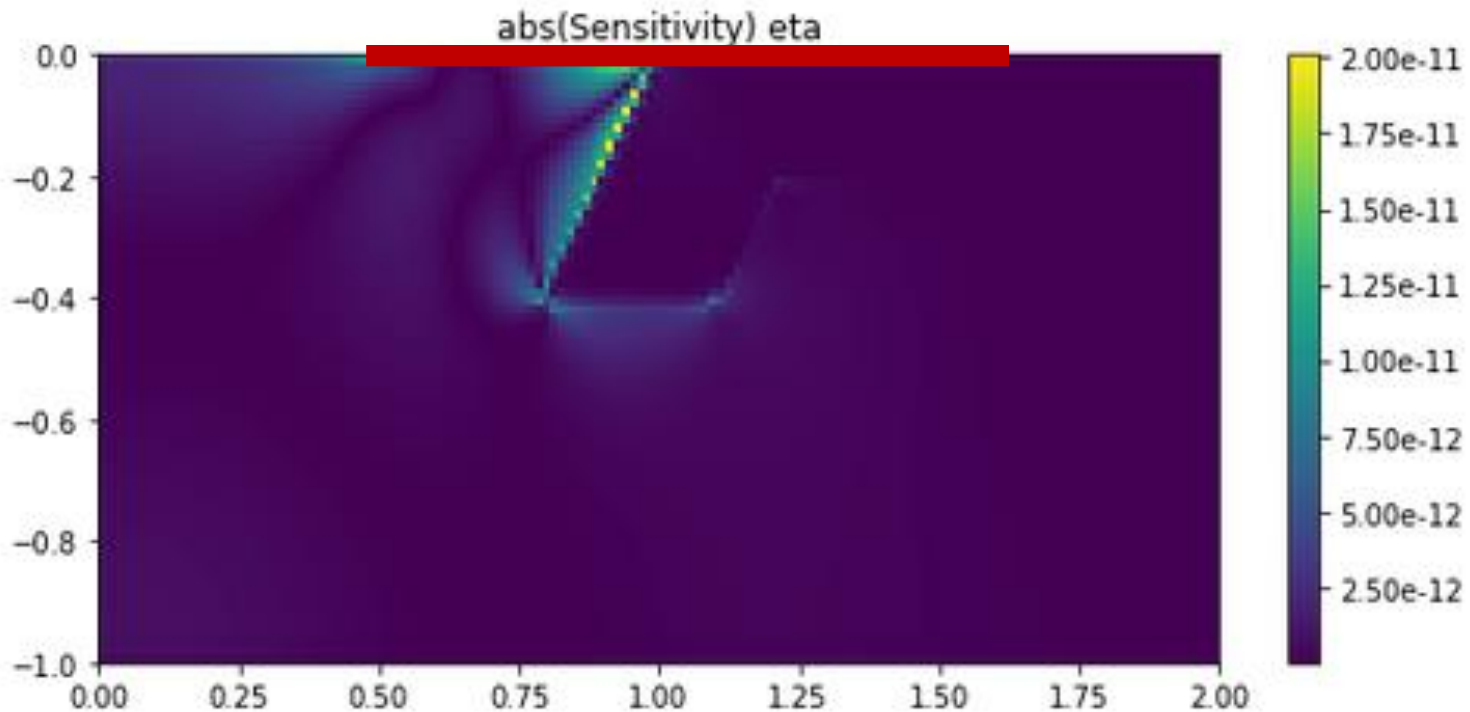
# Sensitivity

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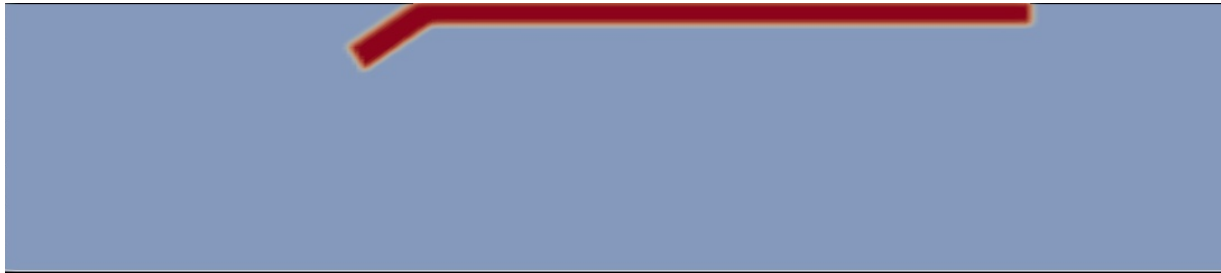


# Sensitivity

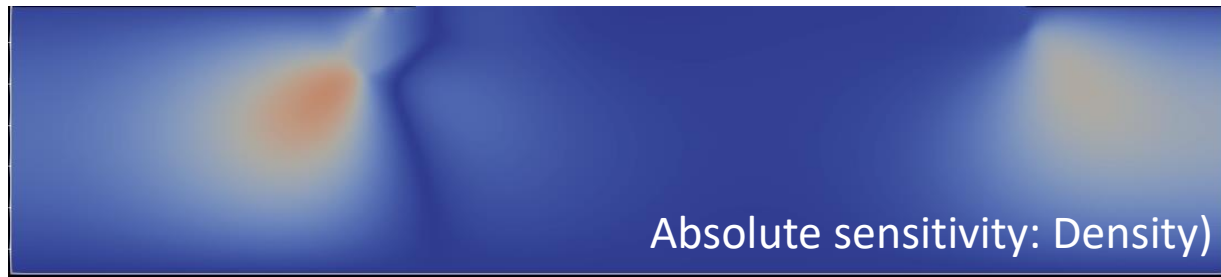
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# Sensitivity



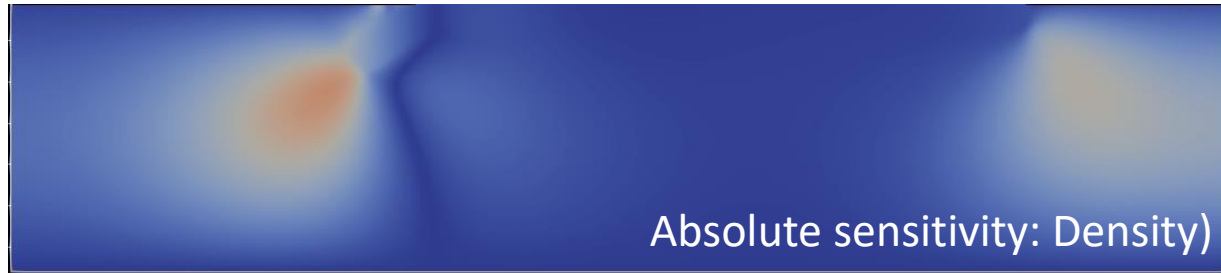
**Timestep 1**



# Sensitivity



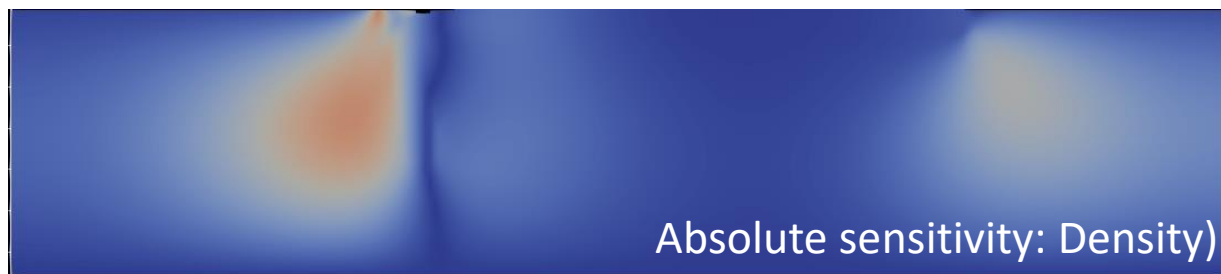
**Timestep 1**



Absolute sensitivity: Density)



**Timestep 50**



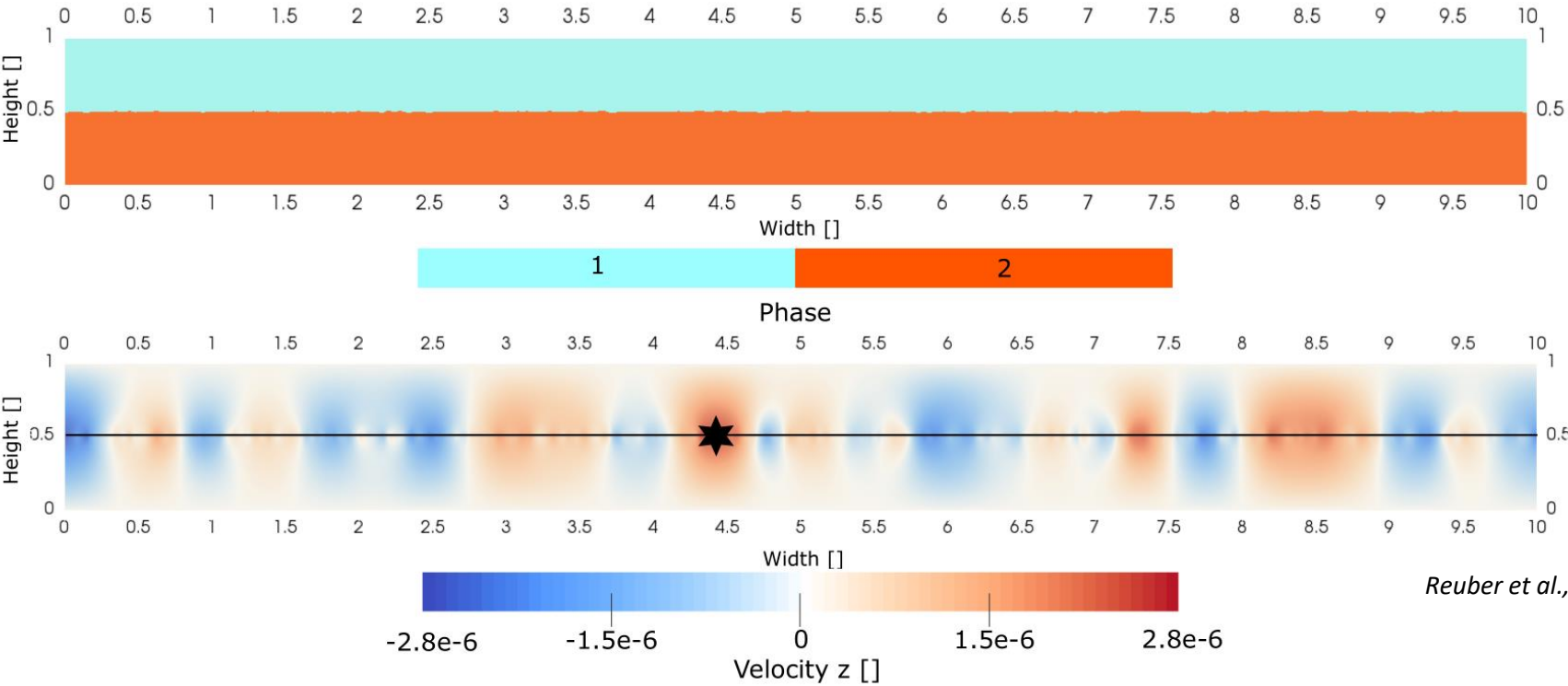
Absolute sensitivity: Density)

**Cheap!**  
**Can be done every timestep**

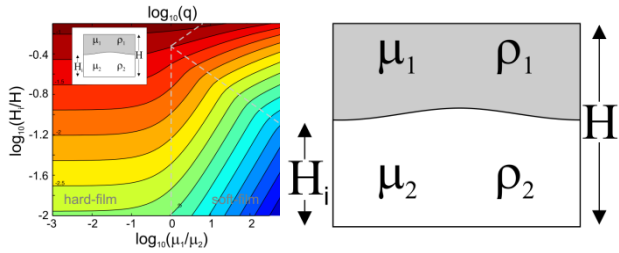
# Automatic derivation of scaling laws

# Scaling law

## (A) Hard-film regime

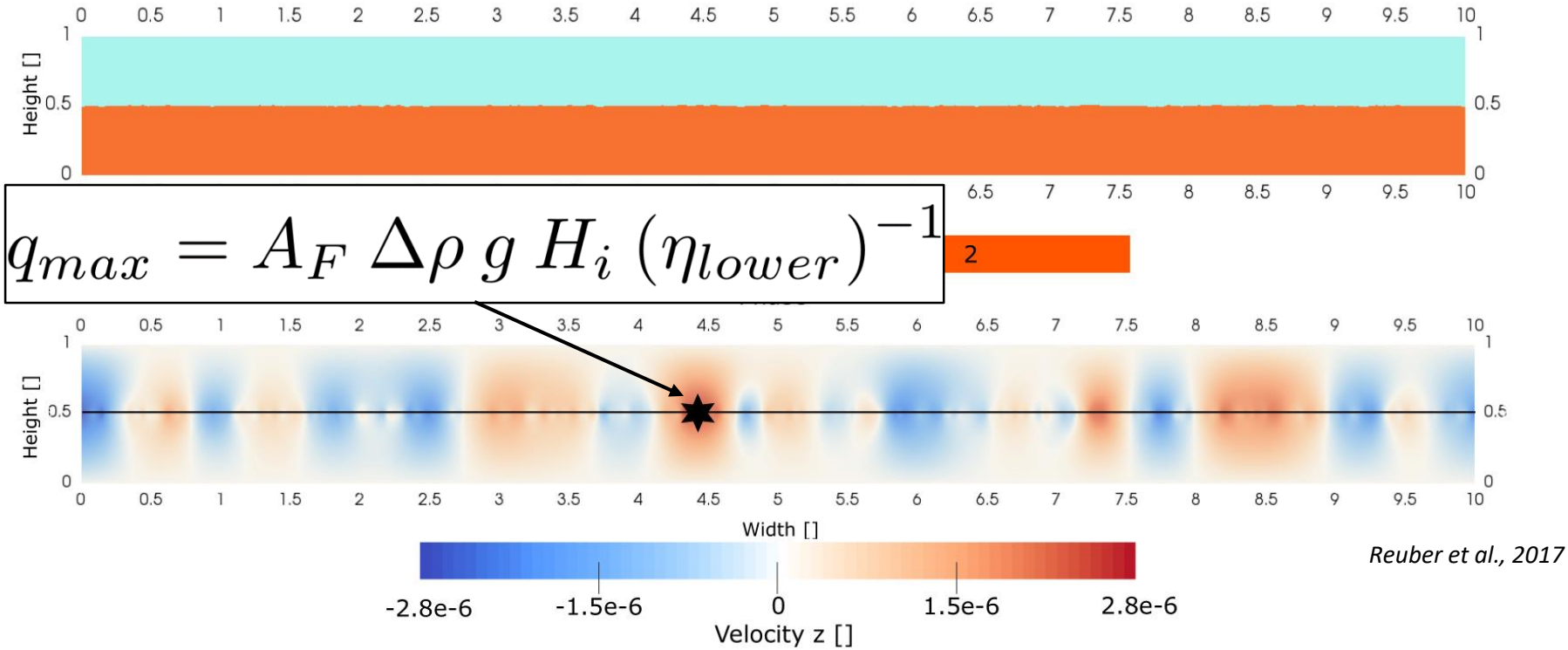


- Nondimensional 2 layer Rayleigh-Taylor instability
- Random perturbation at interface



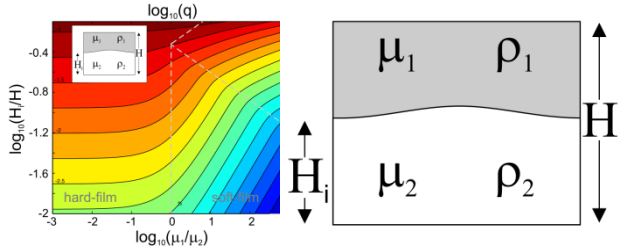
# Scaling law

## (A) Hard-film regime



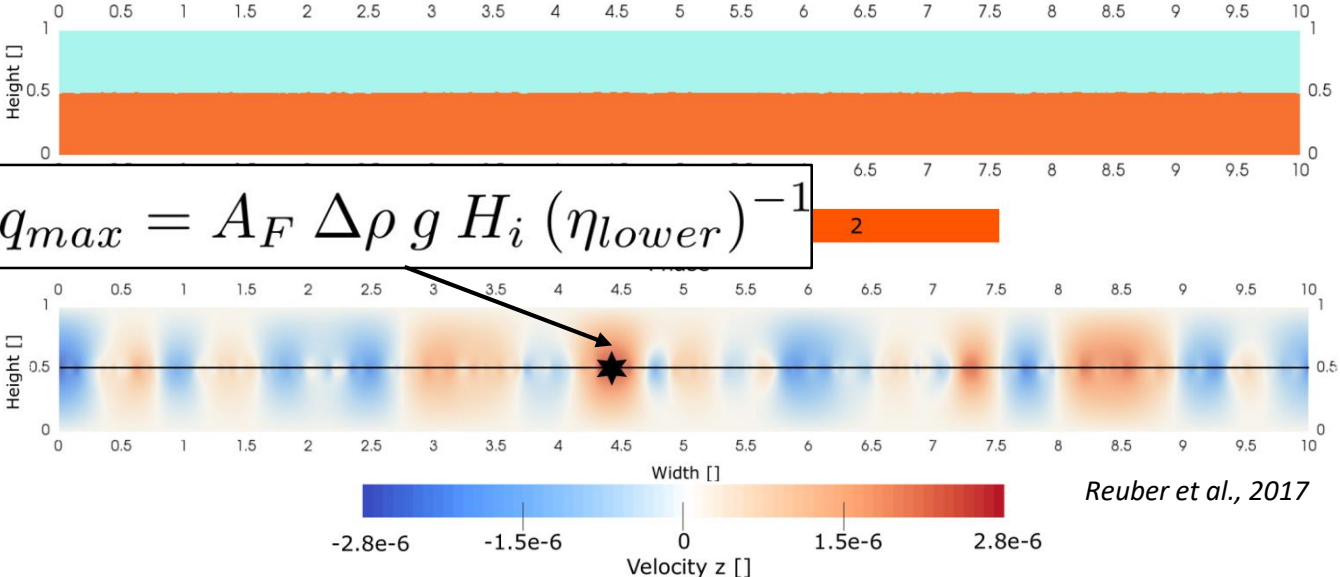
$$q_{max} = A_F \Delta\rho g H_i (\eta_{lower})^{-1}$$

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- Random perturbation at interface



# Scaling law

**(A) Hard-film regime**



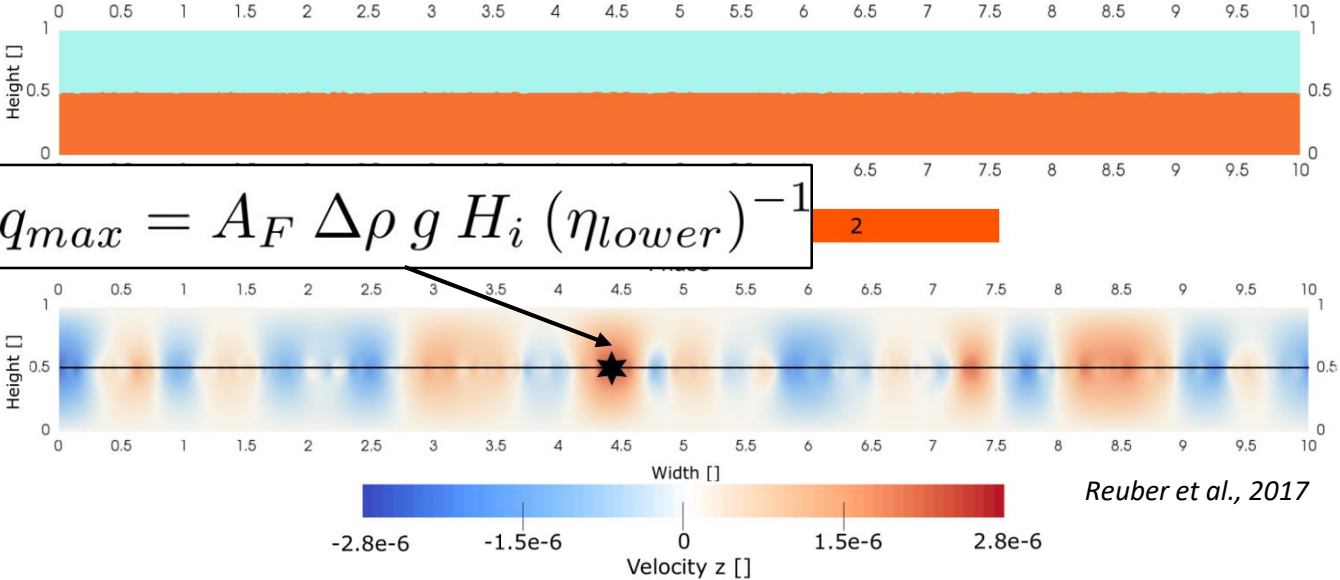
$$F = x$$

No cost function (as before)



# Scaling law

**(A) Hard-film regime**



$$F = x$$

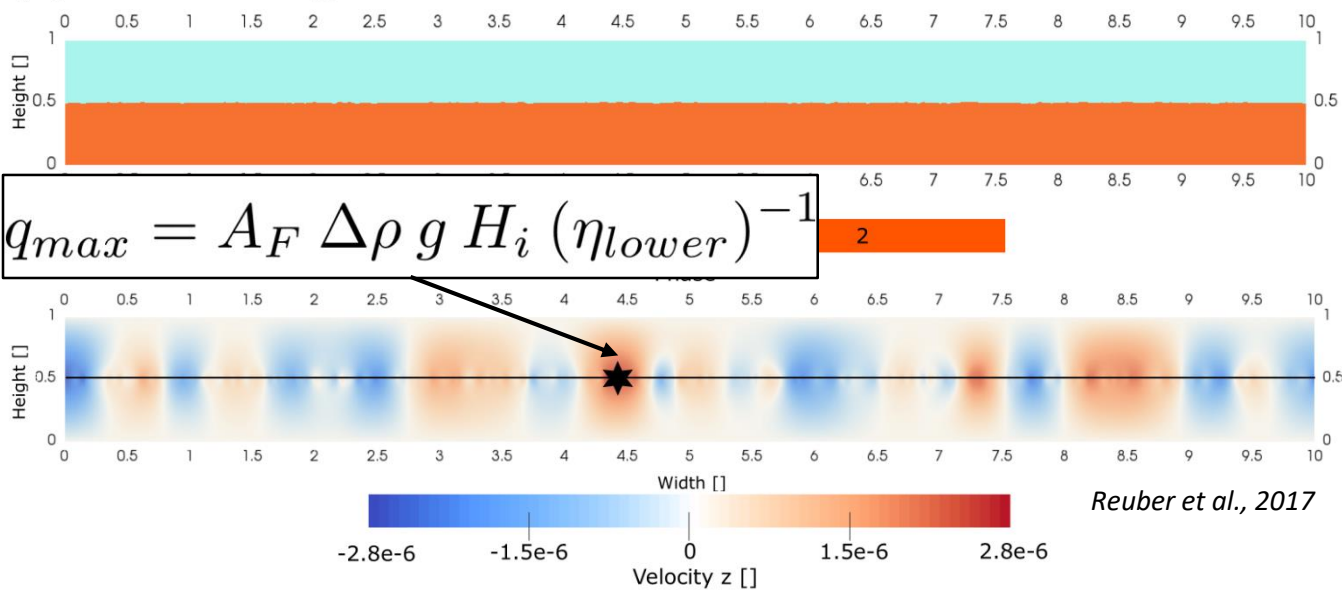
No cost function!

$$F \approx F^* = A_F p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \dots p_n^{b_n}$$

General (multiplicative) scaling law

# Scaling law

## (A) Hard-film regime



$$q_{max} = A_F \Delta\rho g H_i (\eta_{lower})^{-1}$$

2

$$F = x$$

No cost function!

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General (multiplicative) scaling law

$$b_i = \frac{\partial F^*}{\partial p_i} \frac{p_i}{F^*}$$

Exponent

$$A_F = \frac{F}{p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \dots p_n^{b_n}}$$

Prefactor

# Scaling law

$$q_{max} = A_F \Delta\rho g H_i (\eta_{lower})^{-1}$$

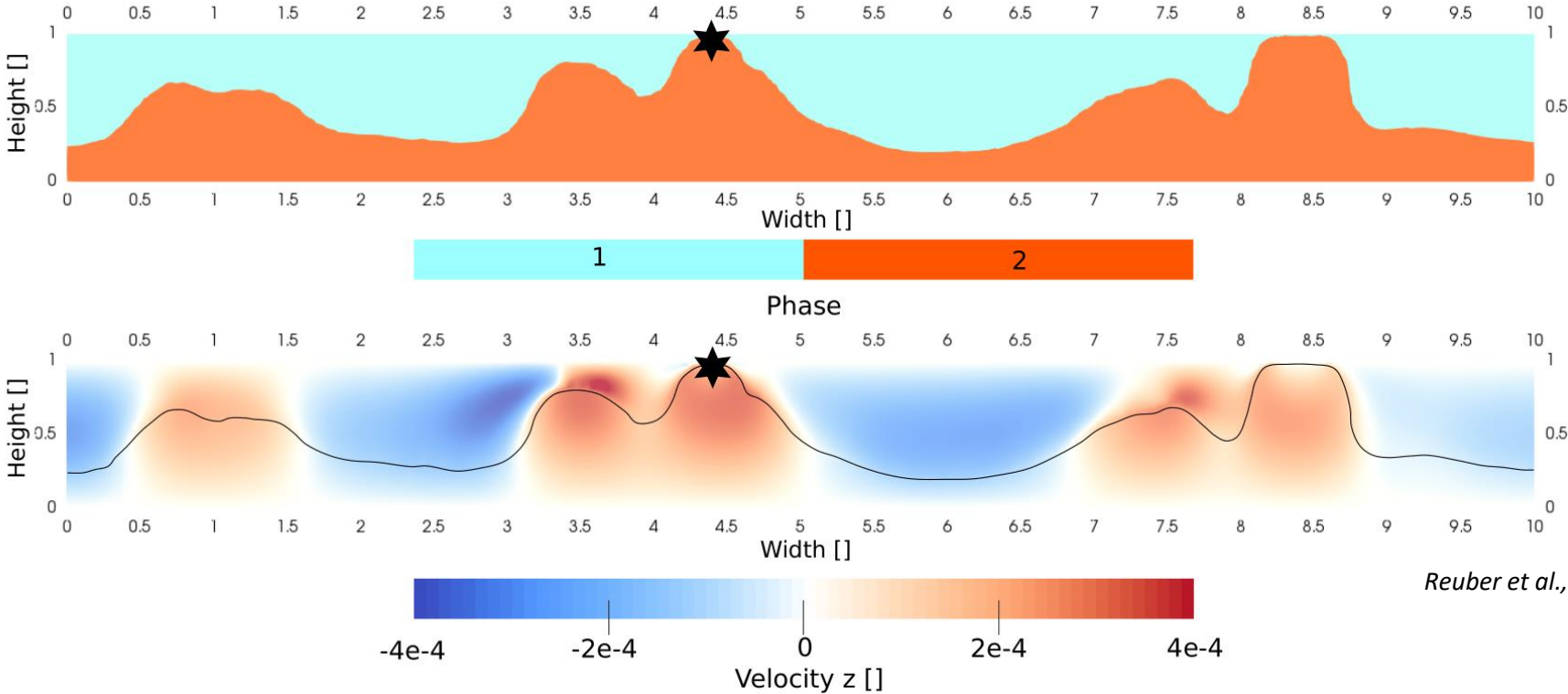
Maximum growth rate value  $q_{max} = 9.5 \times 10^{-4}$ .

Parameter	Index	Value	Scaling exponent adjoint / analytical	$dF/dp_i$	$\partial q_{max}/\partial p_i$
$\Delta\rho$	1	1	1.02 / 1	$9.53 \times 10^{-4}$	$8 \times 10^{-4}$
$\eta_{upper}$	2	1	$-3.38 \times 10^{-2} / 0$	$-3.2 \times 10^{-5}$	0
$\eta_{lower}$	3	100	$-0.97 / -1$	$-9.21 \times 10^{-6}$	$-8 \times 10^{-6}$
$H_i$	4	0.5	1 / 1	$1.9 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.6 \times 10^{-3}$

→ Exact reproduction of analytical solution

# Scaling law

## Hard-film regime (evolved)

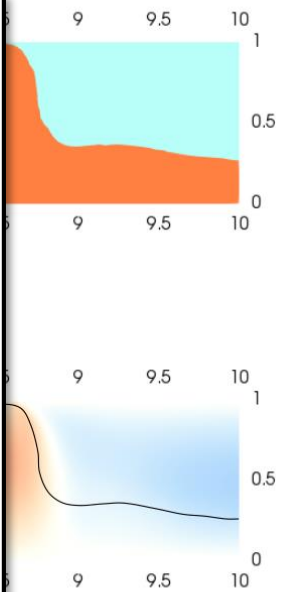
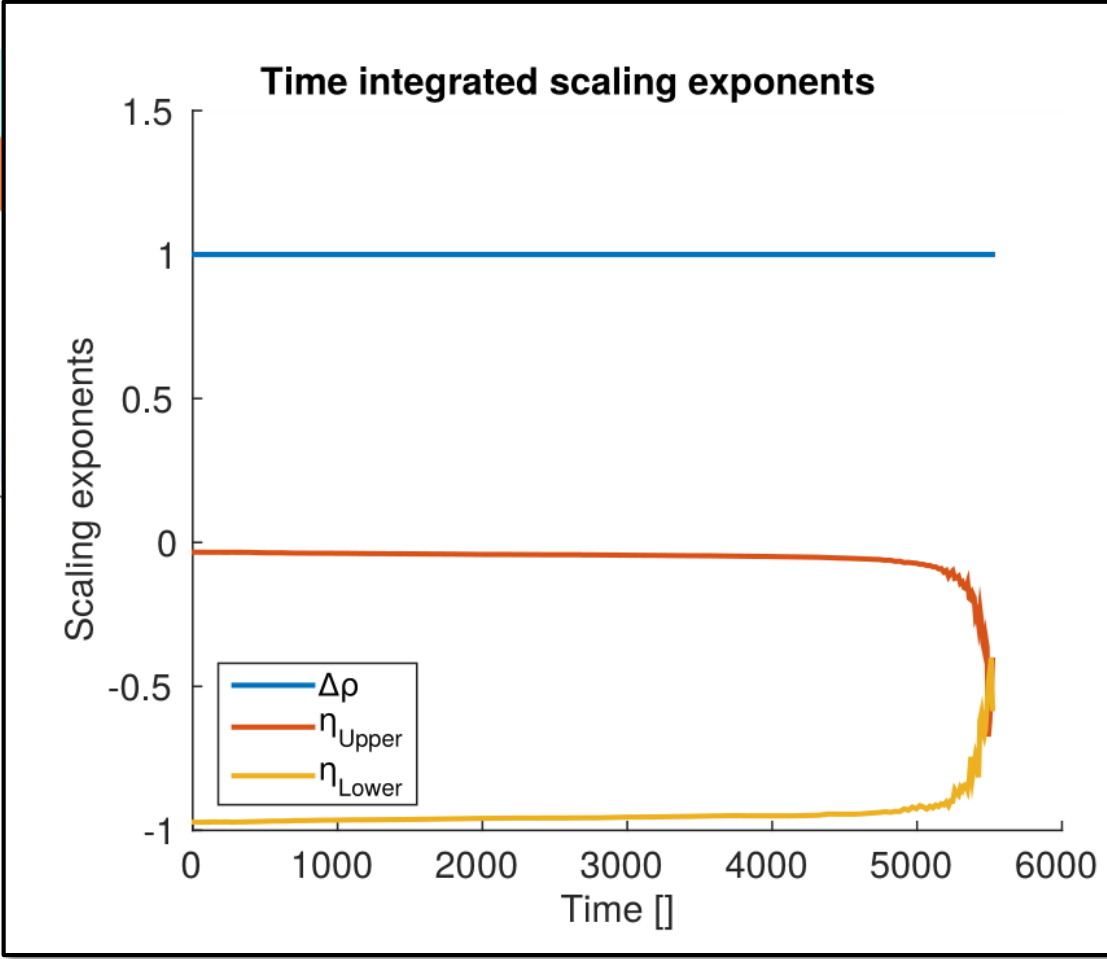
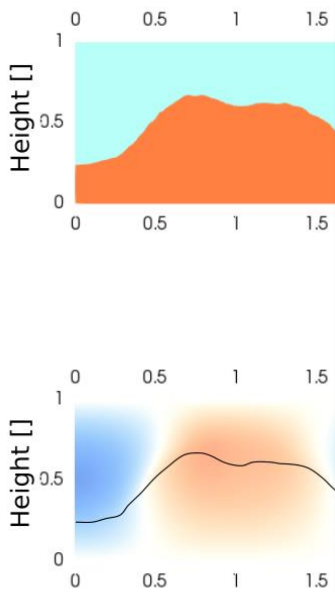


Reuber et al., 2017

Several ,domes' evolve

# Scaling law

## Hard-film regime (evolved)



Reuber et al., 2017

Several ,domes'

# Conclusions

- **Adjoint method very efficient:**
  - independent of number of parameters (,field inversion')
  - Can be derived for any parameter for any PDE

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  - (Almost) No additional implementation required
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# Conclusions

- **Adjoint method very efficient:**
  - independent of number of parameters (,field inversion')
  - Can be derived for any parameter for any PDE
- **Statistic methods:**
  - Full knowledge (topology) of cost function
  - (Almost) No additional implementation required
  - Numerical cost scales with number of parameters
- **Deterministic methods:**
  - Gradient information
    - Reveals sensitivity of e.g. velocity on density – resolution test
    - Scaling law computable
    - Time integration
    - Hessian – link to statistic methods