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# II — Principal Axes of a Euclidean Cloud

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This text is adapted from the chapter 2 of the monograph  
*Multiple Correspondence Analysis* (QASS series n°163, SAGE, 2010)

## II.1 Basic geometric notions

Elements of a geometric space: *points, line, plane.*

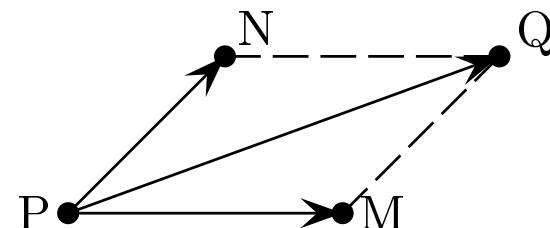
— *Affine notions*: alignment, direction and barycenter.

Couple of points (P, M), ou *dipole* —→ *vecteur*  $\overrightarrow{PM}$

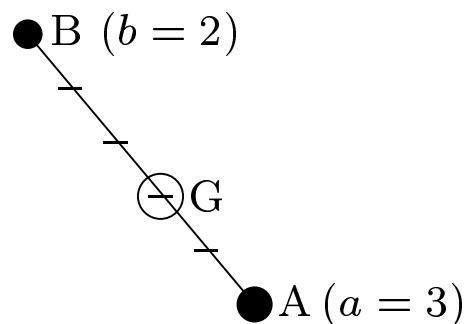
- The deviation from point P to point M is  $M - P$  (“terminal minus initial”), that is,  $\overrightarrow{PM}$ .

Deviations add up vectorially: sum of vectors by *parallelogram rule*

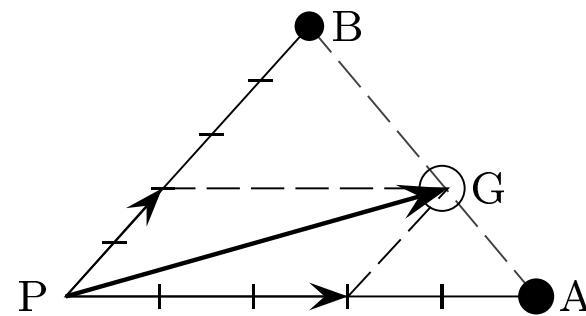
$$\overrightarrow{PM} + \overrightarrow{PN} = \overrightarrow{PQ}$$



- Barycenter of a dipole



$$G = \frac{3A + 2B}{5}$$



$$\overrightarrow{PG} = \frac{3}{5} \overrightarrow{PA} + \frac{2}{5} \overrightarrow{PB}$$

Barycenter = *weighted average of points*:  $G = \frac{aA + bB}{a+b}$

— *Metric notions*: distances and angles.

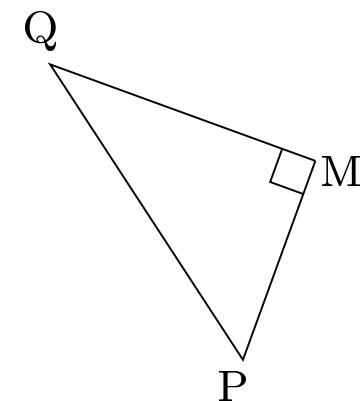
Triangle inequality:  $PQ \leq PM + MQ$

*Pythagorean theorem*:

If  $\overrightarrow{PM}$  and  $\overrightarrow{MQ}$  are perpendicular then:

$$(PM)^2 + (MQ)^2 = (PQ)^2$$

(triangle MPQ with right angle at M),



## II.2 Cloud of Points

### Target example

Figure 1. Target example (10 points)

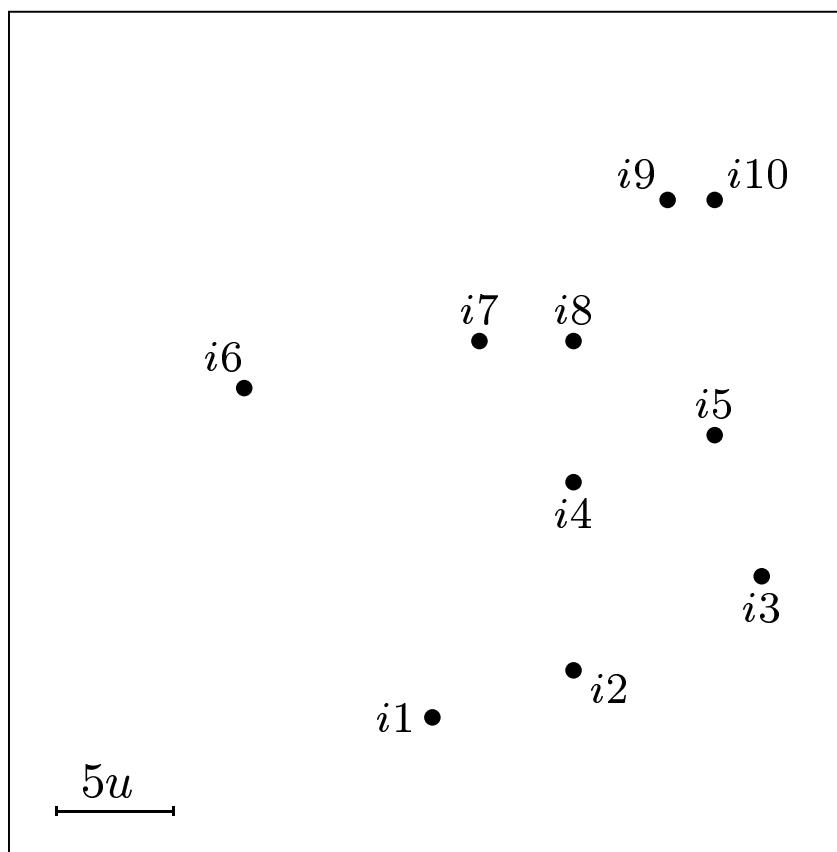
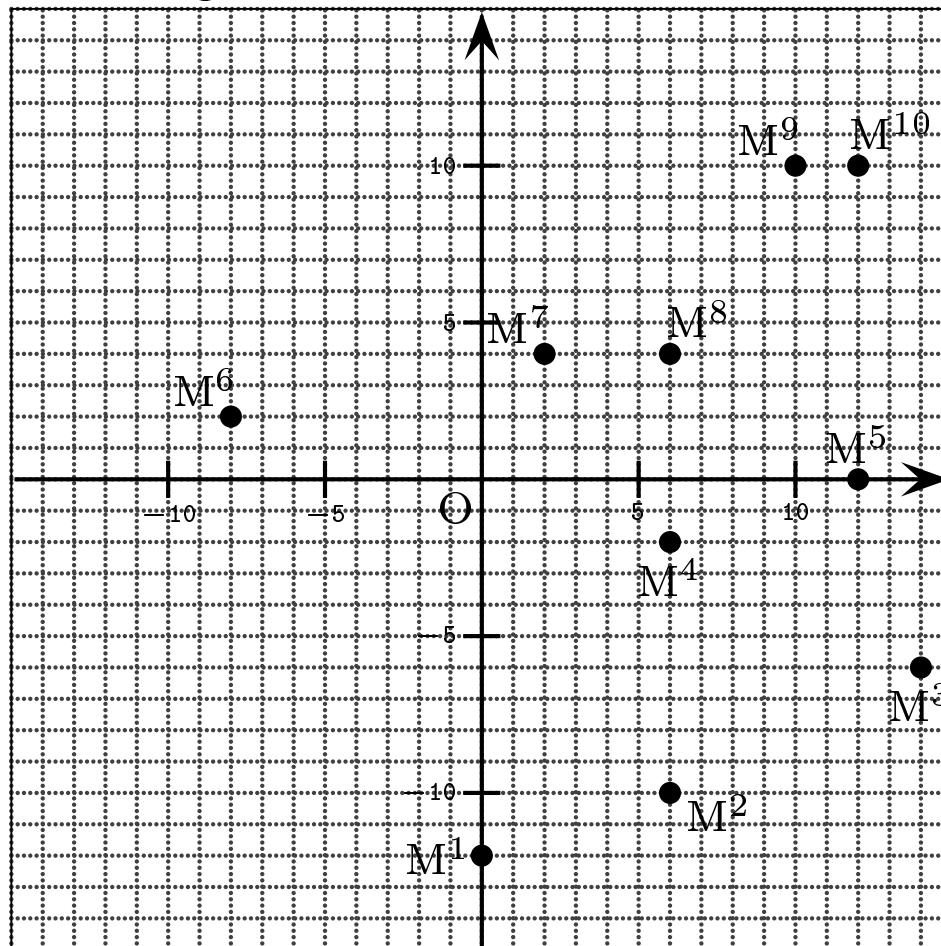


Figure 1bis. Cloud of 10 points with origine-point O and initial axes



Initial coordinates

	$x_1$	$x_2$
M <sup>1</sup>	0	-12
M <sup>2</sup>	6	-10
M <sup>3</sup>	14	-6
M <sup>4</sup>	6	-2
M <sup>5</sup>	12	0
M <sup>6</sup>	-8	2
M <sup>7</sup>	2	4
M <sup>8</sup>	6	4
M <sup>9</sup>	10	10
M <sup>10</sup>	12	10

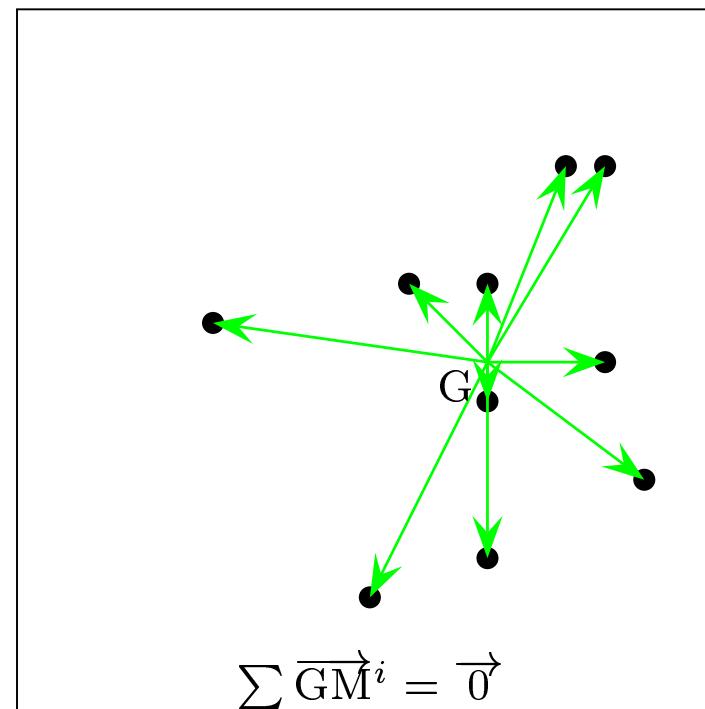
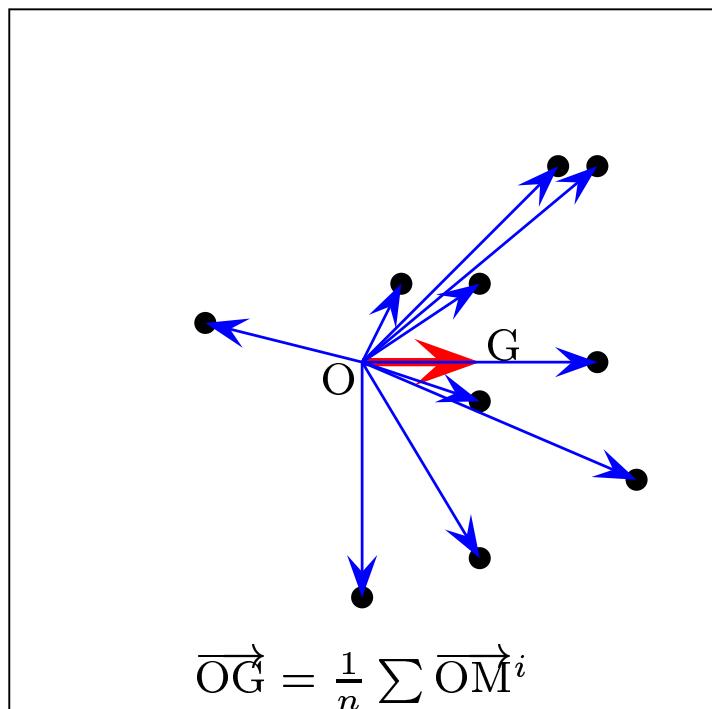
Means      6      0

Variances    40    52

Covariance    + 8

*Mean point:* point G

$$\overrightarrow{OG} = \sum p_i \overrightarrow{OM^i} \quad \sum p_i \overrightarrow{GM^i} = \overrightarrow{0} \text{ (barycentric property).}$$



*Target Example:*  $p_i = \frac{1}{n}$

*Variance of a cloud :*

$$V_{\text{nuage}} = \sum p_i (\mathbf{GM}^i)^2$$

(see Benzécri 1992, p.93)

*Property.* In rectangular axes, the variance of the cloud is the sum of the variances of the coordinate variables.

*Contribution of point  $M^i$ :*

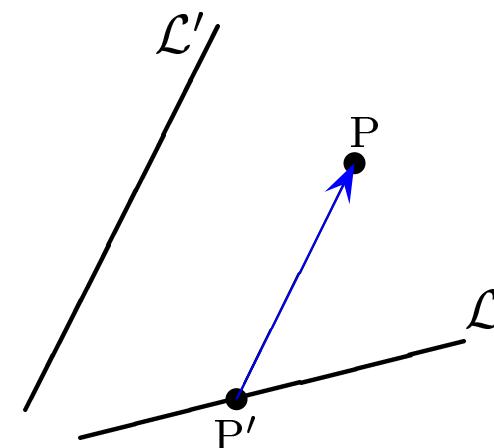
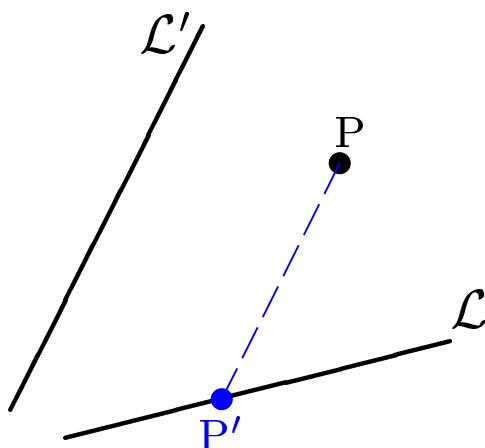
$$\text{Ctr}_i = \frac{p_i (\mathbf{GM}^i)^2}{V_{\text{nuage}}}$$

## II.3 Principal Axes of a Cloud

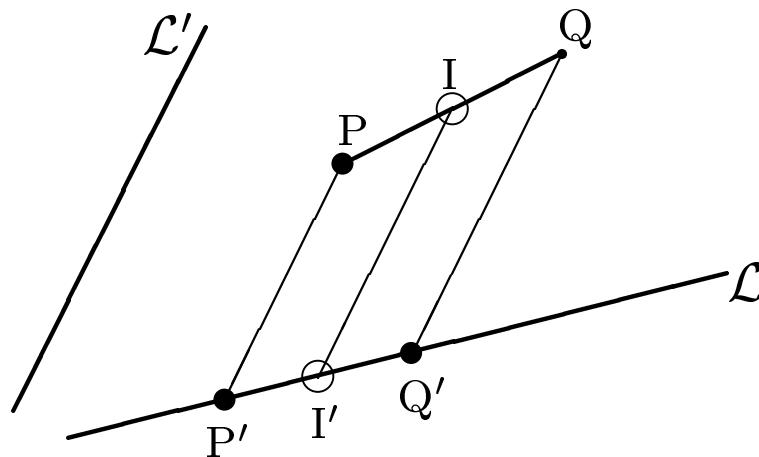
### Projection of a cloud

$P'$  = projection of point  $P$  onto  $\mathcal{L}$  along  $\mathcal{L}'$

$\overrightarrow{P'P}$  = residual deviation

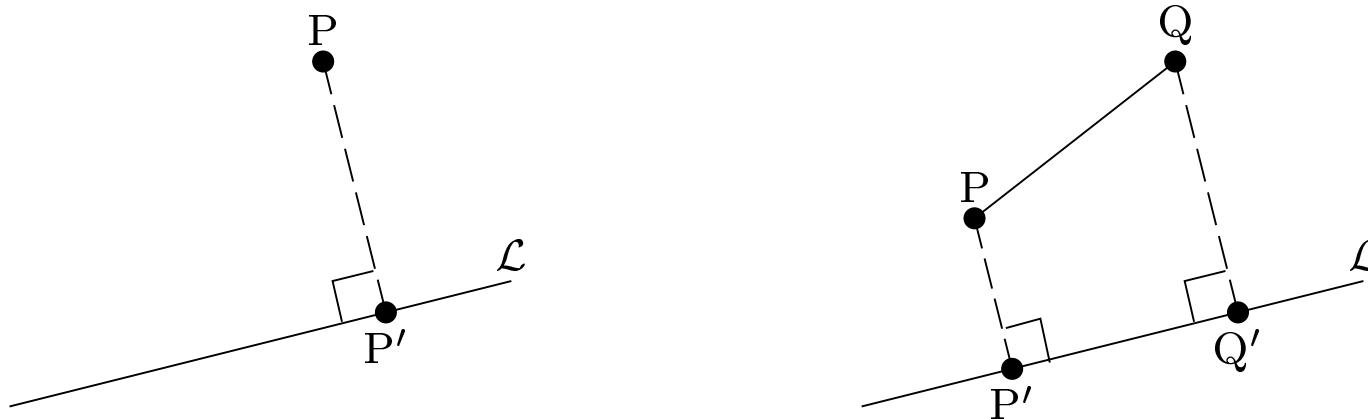


If I is the midpoint of P and Q, the projection  $I'$  of I on  $\mathcal{L}$  is the midpoint of  $P'$  and  $Q'$ .



*Mean point property:* The mean point is preserved by projection

*Orthogonal projection:*  $PP'$  is perpendicular to  $\mathcal{L}$ .



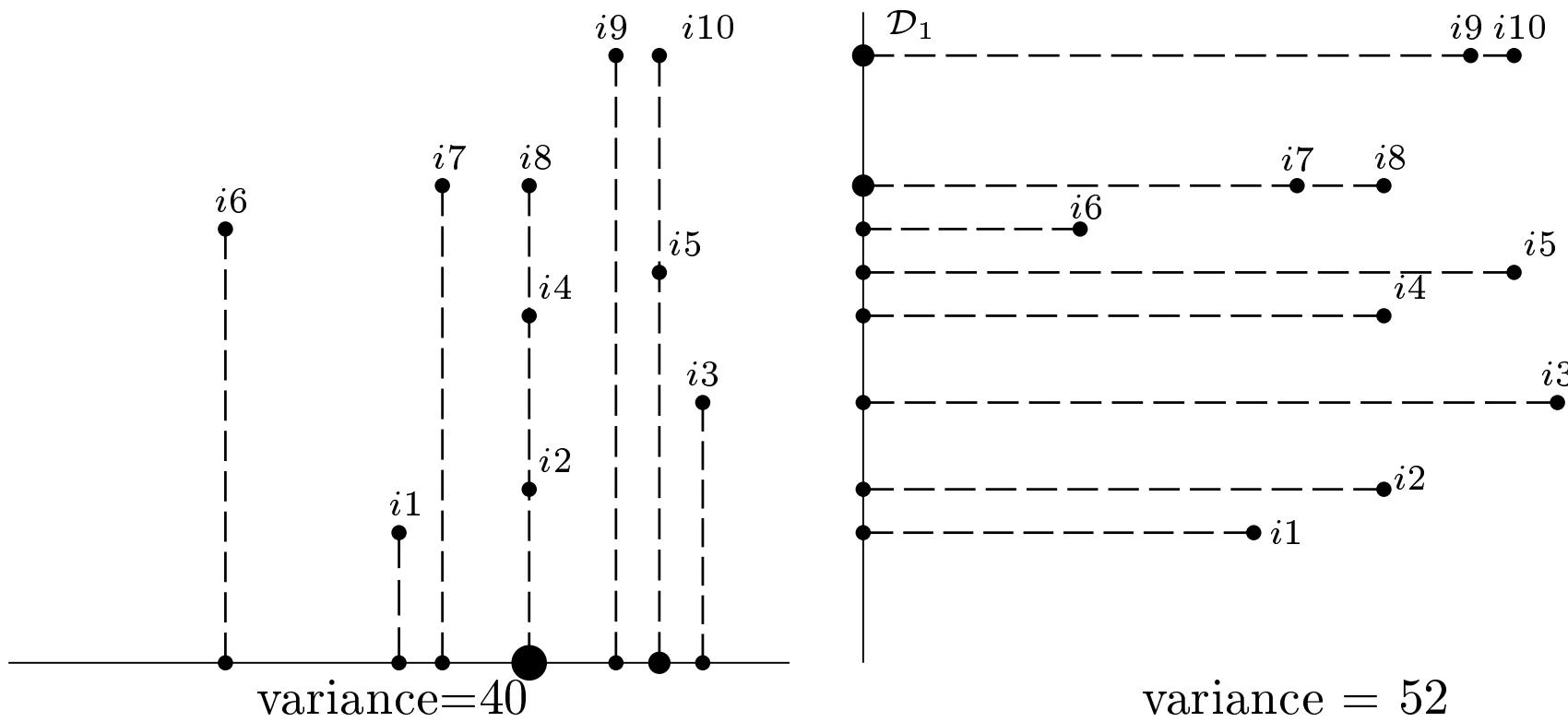
*Property:* the orthogonal projection contracts distances

$$P'Q' \leq PQ$$

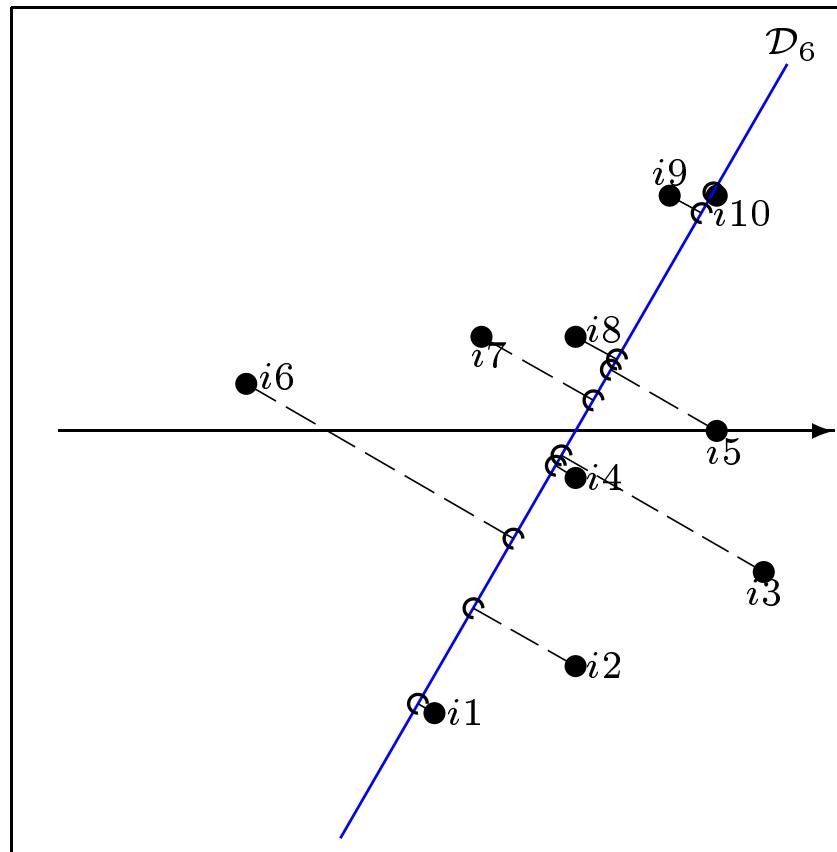
therefore

variance of a projected cloud  $\leq$  variance of the initial cloud.

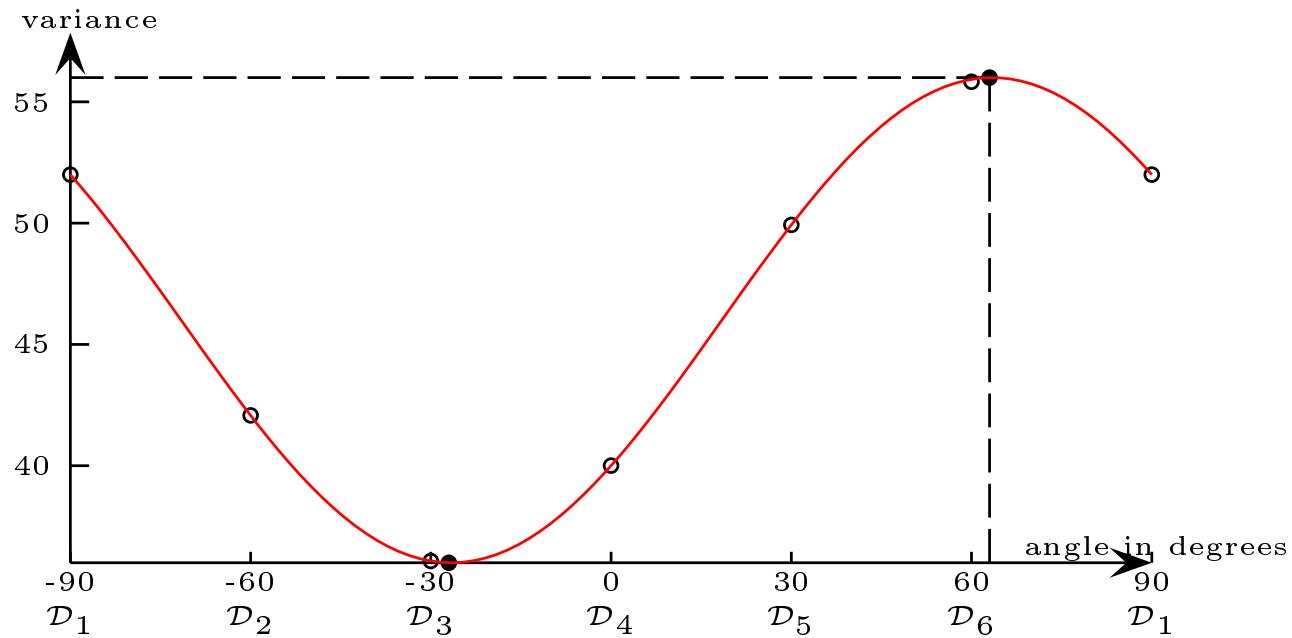
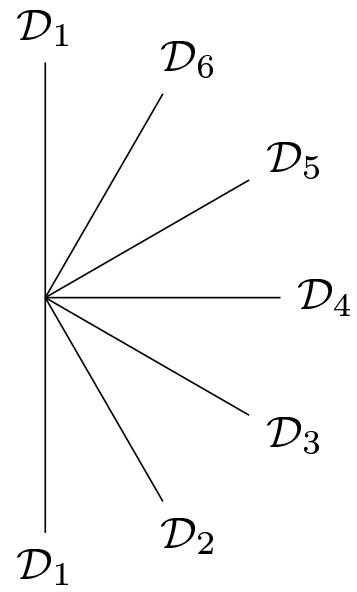
## Projected clouds on several lines



*Orthogonal additive decomposition* : the sum of the variances of projected clouds onto perpendicular lines is the variance of initial cloud:  $40 + 52 = 92$ .



Projection onto an oblique line (60 degrees) : variance = 55.9



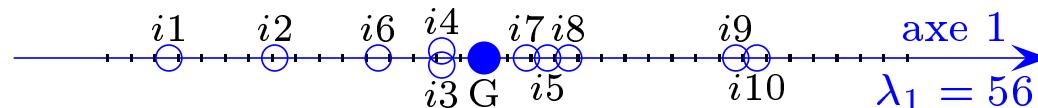
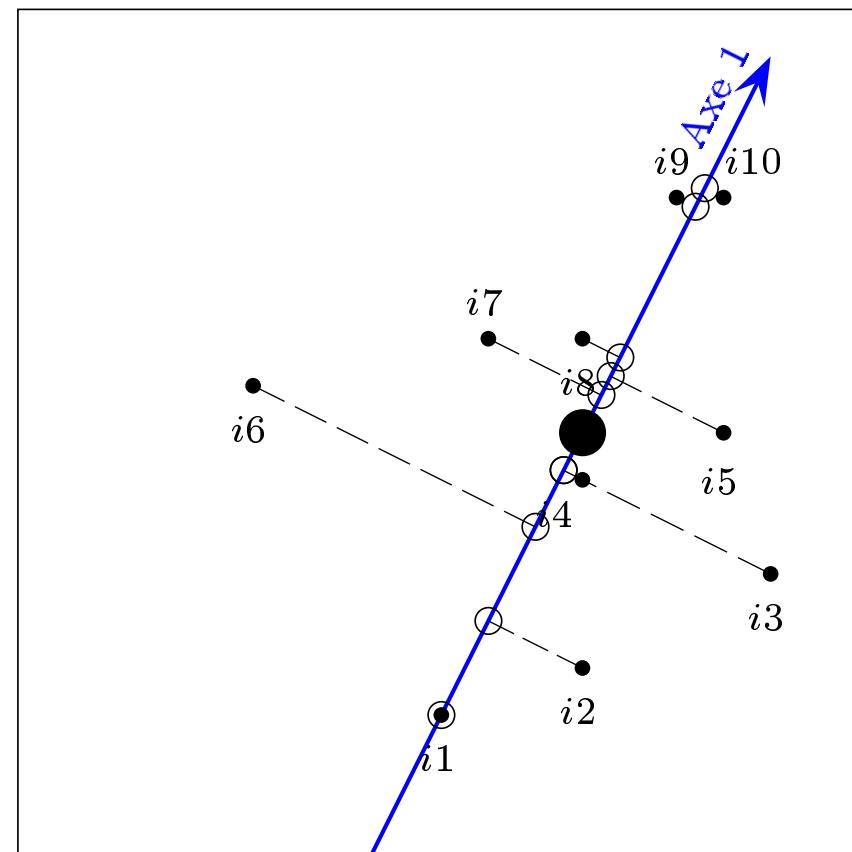
	$\mathcal{D}_1$	$\mathcal{D}_2$	$\mathcal{D}_3$	$\mathcal{D}_4$	$\mathcal{D}_5$	$\mathcal{D}_6$	$\mathcal{D}_1$
Variance	52	42.1	36.1	40.0	49.9	55.9	52

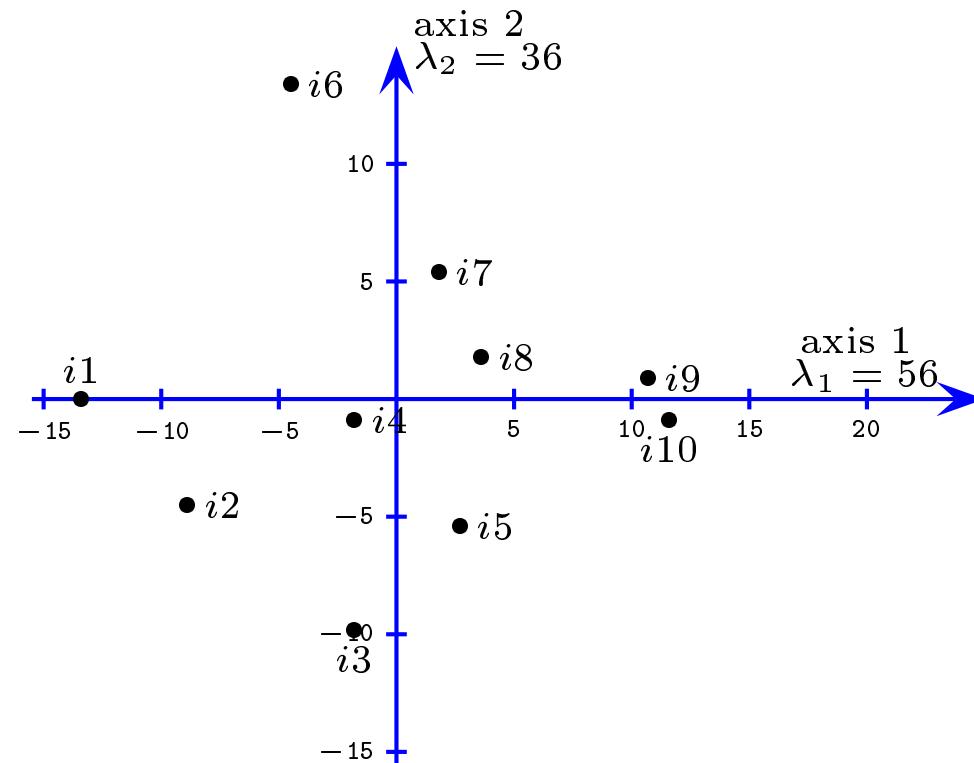
The directed line such as the variance of the projected cloud is maximum is called *first principal axis principal*.

Projected cloud = *first principal cloud*, its variance is called *variance of the axis* (denoted  $\lambda$ ).

The first principal cloud is the best fitting of the initial cloud by an unidimensional cloud in the sense of orthogonal least squares

Here,  $\alpha = 63^\circ$ ,  $\lambda_1 = 56$ .





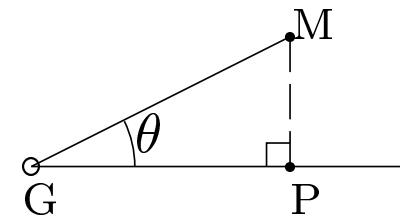
Principal representation of the cloud (plane 1-2).

- *Quality of fit of an axis* or variance rate  $\frac{\lambda}{V_{\text{nuage}}}$
- Principal coordinates of point define *principal variables*  
with mean = 0 and variance =  $\lambda$  (eigenvalue)  
The principal variables are uncorrelated

- *Contribution of point i to an axis* :  $\text{Ctr} = \frac{p(y)^2}{\lambda}$
- *Quality of representation of a point onto an axis* :

$$\cos^2 \theta = \frac{GP^2}{GM^2}$$

Example: for  $i2$ ,  $\cos^2 \theta = \frac{(-8.94)^2}{100} = 0.80$



- *Reconstitution of distances* :

$$d^2(i1, i2) = (-13.4 + 8.9)^2 + (0 - 4.47)^2 = 4.23 = (6.3)^2$$

## Results of the analysis

$\lambda_1 = 56$  (variance of axis 1, eigenvalue).

$$\text{Variance rate : } \frac{\lambda_1}{V_{\text{nuage}}} = \frac{56}{92} = 61\%$$

Results for axis 1 ( $\lambda_1 = 56$ )

	Coor-dinates	Ctr (%)	squared cosines
$i1$	-13.41	32.1	1.00
$i2$	-8.94	14.3	0.80
$i3$	-1.79	0.6	0.03
$i4$	-1.79	1.3	0.80
$i5$	+2.68	3.6	0.20
$i6$	-4.47	3.6	0.10
$i7$	+1.79	0.6	0.10
$i8$	+3.58	2.3	0.80
$i9$	+10.73	20.6	0.99
$i10$	+11.63	24.1	0.99

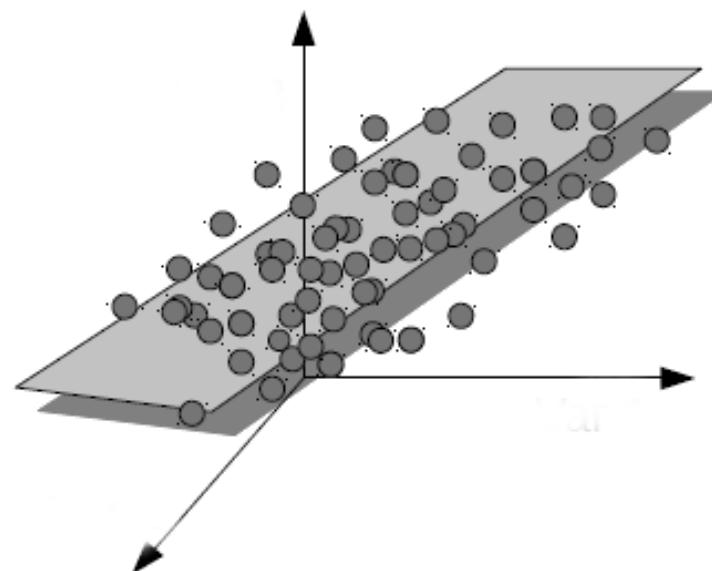
Results for axis 2 ( $\lambda_2 = 36$ )

	Coor-dinates	Ctr (%)	squared cosines
$i1$	0.00	0	0.00
$i2$	+4.47	5.6	0.20
$i3$	+9.84	26.9	0.97
$i4$	+0.89	0.2	0.20
$i5$	+5.37	8	0.80
$i6$	-13.42	50.0	0.90
$i7$	-5.37	8	0.90
$i8$	-1.79	0.9	0.20
$i9$	-0.89	0.2	0.01
$i10$	+0.89	0.2	0.01

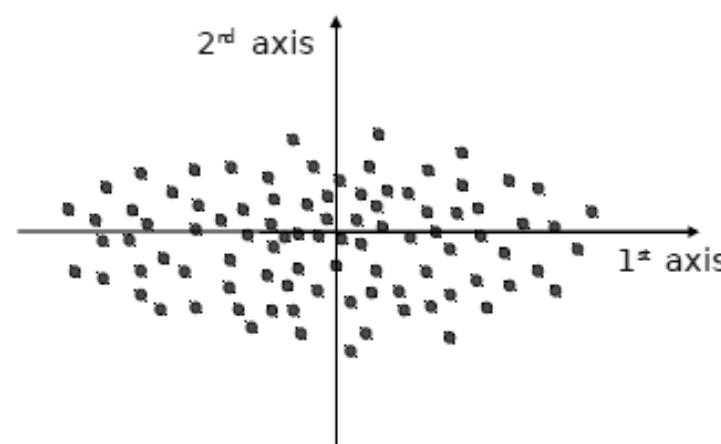
## II.4 From a plane cloud to a Higher Dimensional Cloud

**Heredity property:** the plane that best fits the cloud is the one determined by the first two axes.

High dimensional cloud.



Low dimensional projection.



## Properties

- $\sum_{\ell=1}^L \lambda_\ell = V_{\text{nuage}}$  ( $L$  denotes the dimensionality of the cloud).
- The principal axes are pairwise orthogonal.
- Each axis can be directed arbitrarily.
- The principal variables corresponding to distinct eigenvalues are uncorrelated.