

**Mathematics.** — *Adjustment of  $N$  Points (in  $n$ -dimensional Space) to the best linear  $(n-1)$ -dimensional Space.* I. By Prof. M. J. VAN UVEN. (Communicated by Prof. A. A. NIJLAND).

(Communicated at the meeting of February 22, 1930).

The present paper deals with the problem: to fit a linear space  $\tau$  of  $n-1$  dimensions (hyperplane) through a certain number ( $N$ ) of points in a linear space of  $n$  dimensions, or, expressed analytically, to determine the constants of that equation  $p_0 + p_1 x_1 + p_2 x_2 + \dots + p_n x_n = 0$  which agrees best with the  $N$  sets of coordinates  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .

We shall distinguish the given points  $S$  from one another by an index in brackets. So the point  $S(m)$  has the coordinates  $x_i(m)$ ;  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ;  $m = 1, \dots, N$ . A summation over the  $n$  coordinates will be indicated by  $\sum_{i=1}^n$ , or, if no misunderstanding is to be feared, by  $\sum_\lambda$ , or, more simply, by  $\Sigma$ . On the other hand a summation over the  $N$  points will be designated by  $[\ ]$ .

We want then to determine the ratios of the constants  $p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  of the equation

$$p_0 + p_1 x_1 + p_2 x_2 + \dots + p_n x_n \equiv p_0 + \sum_{\lambda=1}^n p_\lambda x_\lambda = 0$$

in such a way, that the given coordinates  $x_i(m)$  satisfy this equation as well as possible.

Instead of operating with the ratios of the constants (parameters)  $p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$ , we may normalize them in some way, either by considering  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  as the direction-cosines of the normal of  $\tau$  ( $\Sigma p_i^2 = 1$ ), or by some other method.

### § 1. *Solution of the problem.*

As a rule the best hyperplane  $\tau$  will not pass exactly through any of the given points. Thus we shall be obliged to shift the points  $S(m)$  to other points  $T(m)$  (with coordinates  $X_i(m)$ ) which do lie in  $\tau$  and therefore really satisfy

$$p_0 + p_1 X_1 + p_2 X_2 + \dots + p_n X_n = p_0 + \sum_{\lambda=1}^n p_\lambda X_\lambda = 0. \quad (1)$$

The deviations  $\overrightarrow{T(m)S(m)}$  of the given or "observed" points  $S(m)$  from the "adjusted" points  $T(m)$  have the projections

$$\xi_i(m) = x_i(m) - X_i(m) \quad m = 1, \dots, N \quad ; \quad i = 1, \dots, n \quad (2)$$

In the observed point  $S(m)$  the expression  $p_0 + \sum p_\lambda x_\lambda$  assumes the value

$$q_0(m) = p_0 + \sum_{\lambda=1}^n p_\lambda x_\lambda(m) \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

This value is, if not equal, at least proportional to the distance of the point  $S(m)$  from the hyperplane  $\tau$ .

Now we have, by (1) and (2),

$$q_0(m) = p_0 + \sum_{\lambda} p_\lambda X_\lambda(m) + \sum_{\lambda} p_\lambda \xi_\lambda(m) = \sum_{\lambda} p_\lambda \xi_\lambda(m) \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

We consider the observed point  $S$  as that position of  $T$ , which is most probable a priori.

The projections  $-\xi_i$  of the displacements  $\vec{ST}$  are supposed to be subject to the general  $n$ -dimensional probability-law:

$$dW = \left( \frac{F'}{\pi^n} \right)^{1/2} \cdot e^{-f'} \cdot d\xi_1 \cdot d\xi_2 \dots d\xi_n,$$

where

$$f' \equiv \sum_{\lambda=1}^n \sum_{\mu=1}^n f'_{\lambda\mu} \xi_\lambda \xi_\mu$$

is a positive-definite homogeneous quadratic form, and  $F'$  the determinant  $F' = |f'_{\lambda\mu}|$ , the minor (algebraic complement) of  $f'_{ij}$  being denoted by  $F'_{ij}$ .

We assume that the above  $n$ -dimensional probability-formula is the same for all the points of the  $n$ -dimensional space. This formula indicates as it were the movability in the different directions. Since we can only make suppositions about the relative movability in the different directions, we cannot prescribe beforehand the coefficients  $f'_{ij}$ , but only their ratios.

Thus, putting

$$f'_{ij} = \theta f_{ij}$$

we may give the quantities  $f_{ij}$ , leaving the value of the constant  $\theta$  unsettled for the present.

Putting

$$f = \sum_{\lambda=1}^n \sum_{\mu=1}^n f_{\lambda\mu} \xi_\lambda \xi_\mu, \quad F = |f_{\lambda\mu}| \quad (\text{with minors } F_{ij}) \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

we have

$$f' = \theta \cdot f, \quad F' = \theta^n \cdot F, \quad F'_{ij} = \theta^{n-1} \cdot F_{ij}.$$

So the probability-formula for the deviation  $(\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n)$  becomes:

$$dW = \left( \frac{\theta^n F}{\pi^n} \right)^{1/2} \cdot e^{-\theta f} d\xi_1 \cdot d\xi_2 \dots d\xi_n \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

This probability-formula shows that the extremities of equally probable displacements lie on a hyper-ellipsoid

$$f = \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} f_{\lambda\mu} \xi_{\lambda} \xi_{\mu} = \text{const.}$$

around the centre  $S$ .

In order to facilitate the study of the conditions in the given anisotropic space, we shall transform it into an isotropic space. For this purpose we put firstly:

$$f_{ii} = h_i^2, \quad f_{ij} = g_{ij} h_i h_j \quad (\text{whence } g_{ii} = 1) \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

Since  $f$  must be positive-definite, the coefficients  $g_{ij}$  must lie between  $-1$  and  $+1$ .

Further, putting

$$h_i \xi_i = \eta_i, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

the form  $f$  passes into

$$g \equiv \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} g_{\lambda\mu} \eta_{\lambda} \eta_{\mu}$$

Interpreting  $\eta_i (i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$  as coordinates in a skew rectilinear system of reference (the axes of  $\eta_i$  and  $\eta_j$  including an angle the cosine of which is  $g_{ij}$ ), the equation

$$g \equiv \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} g_{\lambda\mu} \eta_{\lambda} \eta_{\mu} = r^2 (= \text{const.}) \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

represents a hypersphere with radius  $r$ .

In the system  $(\eta)$  the hyperplane  $\tau$  obtains the equation

$$\sum_{\lambda=1}^n p_{\lambda} \xi_{\lambda} = \sum_{\lambda=1}^n \left( \frac{p_{\lambda}}{h_{\lambda}} \right) \eta_{\lambda} = q_0,$$

or, putting

$$\frac{p_i}{h_i} = q_i, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

$$\sum_{\lambda=1}^n q_{\lambda} \eta_{\lambda} = q_0 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (11)$$

We next consider the distance of the point  $S (\eta_i = 0)$  from this hyperplane, or, in other words, the radius  $r$  of that hypersphere (9) which touches the hyperplane (11).

Denoting by  $\eta'_i$  the coordinates of the point  $T'$  of contact, we have for the tangent hyperplane of  $T'$

$$\sum_{\lambda} \left( \sum_{\mu} g_{\lambda\mu} \eta'_{\mu} \right) \eta_{\lambda} = r^2.$$

Comparing this equation with (11), we obtain

$$\sum_{\mu} g_{k\mu} \eta'_{\mu} = \frac{r^2}{q_0} \cdot q_k \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (12)$$

Putting

$$|g_{\lambda\mu}| = G, \text{ (with minors } G_{ij}),$$

we derive from (12)

$$\eta'_i = \frac{r^2}{q_0} \sum_{\lambda} \frac{G_{\lambda i}}{G} \cdot q_{\lambda}.$$

So the condition, that the point  $T'$  ( $\eta'$ ) lies on the hypersphere, furnishes the relation

$$\sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} g_{\rho\sigma} \cdot \frac{r^4}{q_0^2 G^2} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} G_{\lambda\rho} q_{\lambda} G_{\mu\sigma} q_{\mu} = r^2 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (13)$$

Introducing, for the sake of brevity, the symbol  $\delta_{ij}$ , defined by

$$\delta_{ii} = 1, \quad \delta_{ij} = 0 \quad \text{for } j \neq i, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (14)$$

we have

$$\sum_{\rho} g_{\rho\sigma} G_{\lambda\rho} = \delta_{\lambda\sigma} \cdot G, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (15)$$

whereby (13) is transformed into

$$\frac{r^2}{q_0^2 G^2} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\sigma} \delta_{\lambda\sigma} G q_{\lambda} G_{\mu\sigma} q_{\mu} = 1,$$

or

$$\frac{r^2}{G} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} G_{\lambda\mu} q_{\lambda} q_{\mu} = q_0^2,$$

or

$$r^2 = \frac{q_0^2}{\sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \frac{G_{\lambda\mu}}{G} q_{\lambda} q_{\mu}}.$$

So we find for the square of the distance  $r(m)$  between the point  $S(m)$  and the hyperplane  $\tau$

$$r^2(m) = \frac{q_0^2(m)}{\sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \frac{G_{\lambda\mu}}{G} q_{\lambda} q_{\mu}} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (16)$$

It is now easy to formulate the most natural principle of adjustment:

In isotropic space we postulate, that the mean square of the distance  $r(m)$  shall be a minimum, or

$$q \equiv \frac{[r^2(m)]}{N} \quad \text{minimum} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (17)$$

In order to interpret this condition in the original data, we must return to the coordinates  $x_i$  (resp.  $\xi_i$ ) and the coefficients  $f_{ij}$ . From (7) follows

$$F = h_1^2 h_2^2 \dots h_n^2 \cdot G, \quad F_{ij} = \frac{h_1^2 h_2^2 \dots h_n^2}{h_i h_j} \cdot G_{ij},$$

whence

$$\frac{G_{ij}}{G} = h_i h_j \cdot \frac{F_{ij}}{F}.$$

Thus, by (10),

$$\frac{G_{ij}}{G} q_i q_j = \frac{F_{ij}}{F} p_i p_j \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (18)$$

Moreover we have, by (3),

$$q_0 = p_0 + \sum_{\lambda} p_{\lambda} x_{\lambda} .$$

Putting finally

$$\frac{F_{ij}}{F} = a_{ij}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (19)$$

whence

$$|a_{\lambda\mu}| = A = \frac{1}{F} \quad \left( \text{with minors } A_{ij} = \frac{f_{ij}}{F} \right),$$

we find for  $\varphi$

$$\varphi = \frac{\frac{1}{N} [(p_0 + p_1 x_1 + p_2 x_2 + \dots + p_n x_n)^2]}{\sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} a_{\lambda\mu} p_{\lambda} p_{\mu}} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (20)$$

Our problem may therefore be formulated as follows:

To determine the parameters  $p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  of the hyperplane  $\tau$  in such a way, that the function  $\varphi$  be a minimum.

Putting

$$\frac{[x_i]}{N} = \bar{x}_i, \quad x_i = \bar{x}_i + u_i \quad (\text{whence } [u_i] = 0) \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad . \quad (21)$$

the numerator of (20) passes into

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{N} \{ (p_0 + p_1 \bar{x}_1 + p_2 \bar{x}_2 + \dots + p_n \bar{x}_n) + (p_1 u_1 + p_2 u_2 + \dots + p_n u_n) \}^2 = \\ & = (p_0 + p_1 \bar{x}_1 + p_2 \bar{x}_2 + \dots + p_n \bar{x}_n)^2 + 2(p_0 + p_1 \bar{x}_1 + p_2 \bar{x}_2 + \dots + p_n \bar{x}_n) \times \\ & \times \frac{1}{N} [p_1 u_1 + p_2 u_2 + \dots + p_n u_n] + \frac{1}{N} [(p_1 u_1 + p_2 u_2 + \dots + p_n u_n)^2], \end{aligned}$$

or, by (21) :  $[u_i] = 0$ , into

$$(p_0 + p_1 \bar{x}_1 + p_2 \bar{x}_2 + \dots + p_n \bar{x}_n)^2 + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{\mu=1}^n [u_i u_{\mu}] p_i p_{\mu} .$$

We put

$$\frac{1}{N} [u_i u_j] = b_{ij}, \quad B = |b_{\lambda\mu}| \quad (\text{with minors } B_{ij}) \quad . \quad . \quad (22)$$

moreover

$$\sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} a_{\lambda\mu} p_{\lambda} p_{\mu} = \alpha, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (23)$$

$$\sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} b_{\lambda\mu} p_{\lambda} p_{\mu} = \beta, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (24)$$

whence we may write for  $\varphi$  (20):

$$\varphi = \frac{(p_0 + p_1 \bar{x}_1 + p_2 \bar{x}_2 + \dots + p_n \bar{x}_n)^2 + \beta}{\alpha} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (25)$$

The condition  $\varphi$  minimum requires:

$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial p_0} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial p_1} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial p_2} = 0, \dots, \quad \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial p_n} = 0.$$

Since neither  $\alpha$  nor  $\beta$  contains the parameter  $p_0$ , we have

$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial p_0} = \frac{2(p_0 + p_1 \bar{x}_1 + p_2 \bar{x}_2 + \dots + p_n \bar{x}_n)}{\alpha},$$

so that  $\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial p_0} = 0$  is equivalent to

$$p_0 + p_1 \bar{x}_1 + p_2 \bar{x}_2 + \dots + p_n \bar{x}_n = 0 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (26)$$

This equation expresses that the "best" hyperplane  $\tau$  must pass through the "mean" point  $(\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2, \dots, \bar{x}_n)$ .

Thus the form  $\varphi$  is reduced to

$$\varphi = \frac{\beta}{\alpha}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (27)$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are positive-definite quadratic functions of  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$ .

From

$$\log \varphi = \log \beta - \log \alpha$$

ensues

$$\frac{1}{\varphi} \cdot \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial p_i} = \frac{1}{\beta} \cdot \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial p_i} - \frac{1}{\alpha} \cdot \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial p_i},$$

so that for the condition  $\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial p_i} = 0$  can be written:

$$\frac{\frac{\partial \beta}{\partial p_i}}{\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial p_i}} = \frac{\beta}{\alpha} = \varphi,$$

or, by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial p_i} &= 2 \sum_{\lambda=1}^n a_{\lambda i} p_{\lambda}, \quad \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial p_i} = 2 \sum_{\lambda=1}^n b_{\lambda i} p_{\lambda}, \\ \frac{\sum_{\lambda} b_{\lambda i} p_{\lambda}}{\sum_{\lambda} a_{\lambda i} p_{\lambda}} &= \varphi \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\sum_{\lambda} (b_{\lambda i} - \varphi a_{\lambda i}) p_{\lambda} = 0 \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (28)$$



process). Denoting the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, ...,  $k^{\text{th}}$  emanant by  $UC, U^2C, \dots, U^kC$ , we have:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} UC &= \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} a_{\lambda\mu} \\ U^2C &= \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} C_{\lambda\mu, \rho\sigma} a_{\lambda\mu} a_{\rho\sigma} \\ U^n C &= n! A \end{aligned} \right\} \dots \dots \dots (36)$$

## § 2. Degree of Uncertainty of the parameters $p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$ .

Our next step is to estimate the accuracy of the solution.

An alteration of the position of the observed points will cause a displacement of the best hyperplane  $\tau$ . So we have to investigate the oscillations to which the parameters  $p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  are subject. The coefficients  $a_{ij}$ , being given a priori, are not affected by observational errors. So the uncertainty of the  $p_i$  is merely due to that of the quantities  $C_{ij}$ , these latter being functions of the quantities  $c_{ij}$ . From (28) ensues that the uncertainty of these  $c_{ij}$  depends only on that of the quantities  $b_{ij}$  and  $q_0$ . Hence we must first determine the degree of uncertainty (error) of the quantities  $b_{ij}$  and of  $q_0$ , which in its turn depends on the  $b_{ij}$ .

Operating with one variable only, the observed values must be adjusted to a "most probable" value (as a rule: the arithmetical mean). Calling this most probable value: the "solution-value", the difference between the observed value and the solution-value is called the apparent error, in distinction from the essentially unknown true error.

Likewise we shall, also in the present case, denote the coordinates  $X_i^*(m)$  of the adjusted point  $T(m)$  by: the "solution-values" of the coordinates  $x_i(m)$ , and the differences, viz. the quantities  $\xi_i(m)$  will be called: the "apparent errors" of the coordinates of  $S(m)$ .

Next to these apparent errors of the coordinates  $x_i(m)$  we consider the — essentially unknown — "true errors"  $\Delta x_i(m)$ . These true errors of the coordinates  $x_i(m)$  are transmitted to the quantities  $u_i(m)$  (defined by (21)) and likewise to the quantities  $b_{ij} = \frac{1}{N} [u_i u_j]$ ; afterwards to  $q_0$  and to the quantities  $c_{ij}$  and  $C_{ij}$ .

So we first proceed to the investigation of the true errors of the  $b_{ij}$ , and will, more particularly, try to determine the mean value  $M(\Delta b_{ij} \Delta b_{kl})$  of the product of the true errors  $\Delta b_{ij}$  and  $\Delta b_{kl}$ .

As  $\Delta x_i(m)$  is the true error of  $x_i(m)$ , we derive from

$$u_i(m) = x_i(m) - \bar{x}_i = \frac{-x_i(1) - x_i(2) - \dots + (N-1)x_i(m) - \dots - x_i(N)}{N}$$

the formula

$$\Delta u_i(m) = \frac{-\Delta x_i(1) - \Delta x_i(2) - \dots + (N-1)\Delta x_i(m) - \dots - \Delta x_i(N)}{N}. \quad (37)$$



From  $b_{ij} = \frac{1}{N} [u_i u_j]$  ensues

$$N \triangle b_{ij} = [u_j \triangle u_i] + [u_i \triangle u_j] \quad , \quad N \triangle b_{kl} = [u_l \triangle u_k] + [u_k \triangle u_l],$$

whence

$$N^2 \triangle b_{ij} \triangle b_{kl} = [u_j \triangle u_i] [u_l \triangle u_k] + [u_j \triangle u_i] [u_k \triangle u_l] + \left. \begin{aligned} &+ [u_i \triangle u_j] [u_l \triangle u_k] + [u_i \triangle u_j] [u_k \triangle u_l] \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (38)$$

Considering the first term of the second member apart, we have:

$$[u_j \triangle u_i] [u_l \triangle u_k] = [u_j(\mu) u_l(\mu) \cdot \triangle u_l(\mu) \triangle u_k(\mu)] + \\ + [[u_j(\mu) u_l(\nu) \cdot \triangle u_l(\mu) \triangle u_k(\nu)]],$$

where the sum  $[[ \ ]]$  extends to the  $N(N-1)$  terms in which  $\nu \neq \mu$ .

We must now occupy ourselves with the mean values of these expressions. Denoting the mean value of the quantity  $R$  by  $M(R)$ , and taking into account that the variations  $\triangle u_i(m)$  are independent of the quantities  $u_i(m)$  themselves (these latter were merely introduced for the purpose of calculation), we may write:

$$M([u_j \triangle u_i] [u_l \triangle u_k]) = M([u_j(\mu) \cdot u_l(\mu)]) \times M(\triangle u_l(\mu) \cdot \triangle u_k(\mu)) + \\ + M([u_j(\mu) \cdot u_l(\nu)]) \times M(\triangle u_l(\mu) \cdot \triangle u_k(\nu)).$$

From (21) and (22) ensues:

$$0 = [u_j(\mu)] [u_l(\mu)] = [u_j(\mu) \cdot u_l(\mu)] + [[u_j(\mu) \cdot u_l(\nu)]] = \\ = N b_{jl} + [[u_j(\mu) \cdot u_l(\nu)]],$$

whence

$$M([u_j(\mu) \cdot u_l(\nu)]) = -N \cdot M(b_{jl}).$$

Thus:

$$M([u_j \triangle u_i] [u_l \triangle u_k]) = \\ = N \cdot M(b_{jl}) \{M(\triangle u_l(\mu) \cdot \triangle u_k(\mu)) - M(\triangle u_l(\mu) \cdot \triangle u_k(\nu))\} \quad (39)$$

From (37) follows:

$$\triangle u_i(1) \triangle u_k(1) = \frac{(N-1) \triangle x_i(1) - \triangle x_i(2) - \dots - \triangle x_i(N)}{N} \times \\ \times \frac{(N-1) \triangle x_k(1) - \triangle x_k(2) - \dots - \triangle x_k(N)}{N} \\ = \frac{(N-1)^2 \triangle x_i(1) \triangle x_k(1) + \triangle x_i(2) \triangle x_k(2) + \dots}{N^2} \\ + \frac{\triangle x_i(N) \triangle x_k(N) + [[R_{\mu\nu} \triangle x_i(\mu) \triangle x_k(\nu)]]}{N^2}$$

and

$$\triangle u_i(1) \triangle u_k(2) = \frac{(N-1) \triangle x_i(1) - \triangle x_i(2) - \triangle x_i(3) - \dots - \triangle x_i(N)}{N} \times \\ \times \frac{-\triangle x_k(1) + (N-1) \triangle x_k(2) - \triangle x_k(3) - \dots - \triangle x_k(N)}{N} \\ = \frac{-(N-1) \triangle x_i(1) \triangle x_k(1) - (N-1) \triangle x_i(2) \triangle x_k(2) + \\ + \triangle x_i(3) \triangle x_k(3) + \dots + \triangle x_i(N) \triangle x_k(N) + [[S_{\mu\nu} \triangle x_i(\mu) \triangle x_k(\nu)]]}{N^2}$$

As the law of movability is assumed to be the same for each point of the  $n$ -dimensional space, the expressions  $M(\Delta x_i(1) \Delta x_k(1))$ ,  $M(\Delta x_i(2) \Delta x_k(2))$ , ... will be equal, and their common value will be denoted by  $M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_k)$ .

Since the points  $S(m)$  are supposed to be observed independently, we have

$$M(\Delta x_i(\mu) \Delta x_k(\nu)) = 0 \quad (\text{also for } k = i).$$

So we obtain

$$M(\Delta u_i(1) \Delta u_k(1)) = \frac{(N-1)^2 + N-1}{N^2} M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_k) = \frac{N-1}{N} M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_k),$$

$$M(\Delta u_i(1) \Delta u_k(2)) = \frac{-2(N-1) + N-2}{N^2} M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_k) = -\frac{1}{N} M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_k),$$

or, in general,

$$M(\Delta u_i(\mu) \Delta u_k(\mu)) = \frac{N-1}{N} M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_k),$$

$$M(\Delta u_i(\mu) \Delta u_k(\nu)) = -\frac{1}{N} M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_k).$$

Hence the equation (39) passes into

$$M([u_j \Delta u_i] [u_l \Delta u_k]) = N M(b_{jl}) \times \left( \frac{N-1}{N} + \frac{1}{N} \right) M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_k),$$

or

$$M([u_j \Delta u_i] [u_l \Delta u_k]) = N \cdot M(b_{jl}) \cdot M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_k) \quad . \quad . \quad (40)$$

Therefore the equation (38) furnishes:

$$M(\Delta b_{ij} \Delta b_{kl}) = \frac{1}{N} \left\{ M(b_{jl}) M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_k) + M(b_{jk}) M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_l) + \right. \\ \left. + M(b_{il}) M(\Delta x_j \Delta x_k) + M(b_{ik}) M(\Delta x_j \Delta x_l) \right\} \quad (41)$$

Since the adjustment of the  $N$  points to the hyperplane  $\tau$  begins only after the  $n^{\text{th}}$  point, so that only  $N-n$  points require adjustment, we have:

$$M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_k) = \frac{[\xi_i \xi_k]}{N-n} = \frac{N M(\xi_i \xi_k)}{N-n}.$$

In this formula  $\xi_i$  appears as the apparent error, in distinction from the true error  $\Delta x_i$ .

Now we find for  $M(\xi_i \xi_k)$  by the probability-formula (5):

$$M(\xi_i \xi_k) = \int \xi_i \xi_k dW = \left( \frac{\theta^n F}{\pi^n} \right)^{1/2} \int_{\xi_i=-\infty}^{+\infty} \dots \int_{\xi_n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \xi_i \xi_k e^{-\theta f} d\xi_1 \dots d\xi_n.$$

From

$$\int dW = \left( \frac{\theta^n F}{\pi^n} \right)^{1/2} \int_{\xi_1=-\infty}^{+\infty} \dots \int_{\xi_n=-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\theta f} d\xi_1 \dots d\xi_n = 1$$

follows

$$I = \int_{\xi_1=-\infty}^{+\infty} \dots \int_{\xi_n=-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\theta f} d\xi_1 \dots d\xi_n = \left( \frac{\pi}{\theta} \right)^{n/2} \cdot F^{-1/2}.$$

By differentiating with respect to  $f_{ik}$  we get

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial f_{ik}} = -\theta \int_{\xi_1=-\infty}^{+\infty} \dots \int_{\xi_n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\partial f}{\partial f_{ik}} e^{-\theta f} d\xi_1 \dots d\xi_n = \left( \frac{\pi}{\theta} \right)^{n/2} \times -\frac{1}{2} F^{-3/2} \times \frac{\partial F}{\partial f_{ik}}.$$

If,  $k = i$ , we have

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial f_{ii}} = \xi_i^2, \quad \frac{\partial F}{\partial f_{ii}} = F_{ii}.$$

If  $k \neq i$ , we have, on account of the symmetry of  $f$  and  $F$  ( $f_{ik} = f_{ki}$ ),

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial f_{ik}} = 2 \xi_i \xi_k, \quad \frac{\partial F}{\partial f_{ik}} = 2 F_{ik}.$$

So we obtain in either case:

$$\theta \int_{\xi_1=-\infty}^{+\infty} \dots \int_{\xi_n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \xi_i \xi_k e^{-\theta f} d\xi_1 \dots d\xi_n = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\pi}{\theta} \right)^{n/2} \cdot F^{-3/2} \cdot F_{ik}$$

whence,

$$M(\xi_i \xi_k) = \left( \frac{\theta^n F}{\pi^n} \right)^{1/2} \int_{\xi_1=-\infty}^{+\infty} \dots \int_{\xi_n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \xi_i \xi_k e^{-\theta f} d\xi_1 \dots d\xi_n = \frac{1}{2\theta} \cdot \frac{F_{ik}}{F}$$

or, by (15),

$$M(\xi_i \xi_k) = \frac{a_{ik}}{2\theta} \cdot \dots \dots \dots (42)$$

We can now find the value of  $\theta$ , corresponding to the data.

From

$$q_0 = \sum_{\lambda} p_{\lambda} \xi_{\lambda}$$

we have

$$[q_0^2] = \left[ \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} p_{\lambda} p_{\mu} \xi_{\lambda} \xi_{\mu} \right] = \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} p_{\lambda} p_{\mu} [\xi_{\lambda} \xi_{\mu}] =$$

$$= N \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} p_{\lambda} p_{\mu} M(\xi_{\lambda} \xi_{\mu}) = N \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} p_{\lambda} p_{\mu} \frac{a_{\lambda\mu}}{2\theta}.$$

or, by (23),

$$[q_0^2] = \frac{N}{2\theta} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} a_{\lambda\mu} p_{\lambda} p_{\mu} = \frac{Na}{2\theta} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (43)$$

For  $[q_0^2]$  and  $a$  we must take here their solution-values. Then the equation (20) or  $\varphi = \frac{[q_0^2]}{Na}$ , considered in its solutionary state, gives

$$\theta = \frac{1}{2\varphi_0} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (44)$$

So (42) gives for the solution-value of  $M(\xi_i \xi_k)$

$$M(\xi_i \xi_k) = \varphi_0 a_{ik} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (45)$$

and

$$M(\Delta x_i \Delta x_k) = \frac{N}{N-n} \varphi_0 a_{ik} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (46)$$

Replacing in (41) the unknown values  $M(b_{jl})$  etc. by the actually found values  $b_{jl}$  etc. we finally arrive at:

$$M(\Delta b_{ij} \Delta b_{kl}) = \frac{\varphi_0}{N-n} (a_{ik} b_{jl} + a_{jl} b_{ik} + a_{il} b_{kj} + a_{kj} b_{il}) \quad . \quad . \quad (47)$$

So we have obtained the general formula for the uncertainty of the quantities  $b_{ij}$ .

We now proceed to investigate the uncertainty of  $\varphi_0$ .

From  $C = |c_{i\mu}| = |b_{i\mu} - \varphi_0 a_{i\mu}| = 0$  follows

$$\Delta C = \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} \Delta c_{i\mu} = \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} \Delta b_{i\mu} - \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} a_{i\mu} \cdot \Delta \varphi_0 = 0,$$

whence

$$UC \cdot \Delta \varphi_0 = \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} \Delta b_{i\mu} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (48)$$

Thus:

$$UC \cdot M(\Delta \varphi_0 \Delta b_{ij}) = \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} M(\Delta b_{ij} \Delta b_{i\mu}),$$

or, by (47)

$$\begin{aligned} UC \cdot M(\Delta \varphi_0 \Delta b_{ij}) &= \frac{\varphi_0}{N-n} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} (a_{i\lambda} b_{j\mu} + a_{j\mu} b_{i\lambda} + a_{i\mu} b_{\lambda j} + a_{\lambda j} b_{i\mu}) \\ &= \frac{\varphi_0}{N-n} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} \{a_{i\lambda} (c_{j\mu} + \varphi_0 a_{j\mu}) + a_{j\mu} (c_{i\lambda} + \varphi_0 a_{i\lambda}) + \\ &\quad + a_{i\mu} (c_{\lambda j} + \varphi_0 a_{\lambda j}) + a_{\lambda j} (c_{i\mu} + \varphi_0 a_{i\mu})\} \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} UC \cdot M(\Delta \varphi_0 \Delta b_{ij}) &= \frac{\varphi_0}{N-n} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} (c_{j\mu} a_{i\lambda} + c_{i\lambda} a_{j\mu} + c_{\lambda j} a_{i\mu} + c_{i\mu} a_{\lambda j}) + \\ &\quad + \frac{2\varphi_0^2}{N-n} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} (a_{i\lambda} a_{j\mu} + a_{i\mu} a_{\lambda j}). \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

Making use of the symbol  $\delta_{ij}$ , introduced by (14):

$$\delta_{ii} = 1, \delta_{ij} = 0 \text{ for } j \neq i,$$

we have

$$\sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} c_{j\mu} = \delta_{\lambda j} C, \dots \dots \dots (50)$$

thus:

$$\begin{aligned} UC \cdot M(\Delta \varphi_0 \Delta b_{ij}) &= \frac{\varphi_0}{N-n} C (\sum_{\lambda} \delta_{\lambda j} a_{i\lambda} + \sum_{\mu} \delta_{i\mu} a_{j\mu} + \sum_{\mu} \delta_{j\mu} a_{i\mu} + \sum_{\lambda} \delta_{i\lambda} a_{j\lambda}) + \\ &\quad + \frac{2\varphi_0^2}{N-n} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} (a_{i\lambda} a_{j\mu} + a_{i\mu} a_{j\lambda}) \\ &= \frac{4\varphi_0}{N-n} C a_{ij} + \frac{2\varphi_0^2}{N-n} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} (a_{i\lambda} a_{j\mu} + a_{i\mu} a_{j\lambda}), \end{aligned}$$

or, on account of  $C=0$ , and  $\sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} a_{i\lambda} a_{j\mu} = \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\lambda} C_{\mu\lambda} a_{i\mu} a_{j\lambda} =$   
 $= \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} a_{i\mu} a_{j\lambda},$

$$UC \cdot M(\Delta \varphi_0 \Delta b_{ij}) = \frac{4\varphi_0^2}{N-n} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} a_{i\mu} a_{j\lambda} \dots \dots (51)$$

Moreover, from (48) ensues:

$$UC \cdot M(\Delta \varphi_0^2) = \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma} M(\Delta \varphi_0 \Delta b_{\rho\sigma}),$$

or, by (51),

$$UC \cdot M(\Delta \varphi_0^2) = \frac{4\varphi_0^2}{N-n} \cdot \frac{1}{UC} \cdot \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma} C_{\lambda\mu} a_{\rho\mu} a_{\lambda\sigma} \dots (52)$$

In reducing the second member of (52) and analogous sums, we may not make use of the particular circumstance, that  $C=0$ . On the contrary we must start from the general formula:

$$C_{ij} C_{kl} - C_{il} C_{kj} = C \cdot C_{ij, kl} = C \cdot C_{jl, lk} = C \cdot C_{il, kj}, \dots (53)$$

where  $C_{ij, kl}$  means the minor of the element  $c_{kl}$  in the determinant  $C_{ij}$ , this latter not being symmetrical.

Applying (53), we may write:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma} C_{\lambda\mu} a_{\rho\mu} a_{\lambda\sigma} &= \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} (C_{\rho\mu} C_{\lambda\sigma} - C \cdot C_{\rho\mu, \lambda\sigma}) a_{\rho\mu} a_{\lambda\sigma} = \\ &= \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\mu} C_{\rho\mu} a_{\rho\mu} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} C_{\lambda\sigma} a_{\lambda\sigma} - C \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} C_{\rho\mu, \lambda\sigma} a_{\rho\mu} a_{\lambda\sigma}, \end{aligned}$$

or, by (36),

$$\sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma} C_{\lambda\mu} a_{\rho\mu} a_{\lambda\sigma} = (UC)^2 - C \cdot U^2 C \dots \dots (54)$$

In this final form, we may put  $C=0$ . Then from (52) we derive

$$M(\Delta \varphi_0^2) = \frac{4\varphi_0^2}{N-n} \dots \dots \dots (55)$$

Hence the mean error of  $\varphi_0$  amounts to

$$E(\varphi_0) = \sqrt{M(\Delta \varphi_0^2)} = \frac{2\varphi_0}{\sqrt{N-n}}. \quad (56)$$

We shall now compute  $M(\Delta C_{ij} \Delta \varphi_0)$ .

We have first:

$$\begin{aligned} M(\Delta c_{kl} \Delta \varphi_0) &= M(\Delta b_{kl} \Delta \varphi_0) - a_{kl} M(\Delta \varphi_0^2) = \\ &= \frac{4\varphi_0^2}{N-n} \left( \frac{\sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} a_{k\lambda} a_{l\mu}}{UC} - a_{kl} \right), \quad (57) \end{aligned}$$

further:

$$\begin{aligned} M(\Delta C_{ij} \Delta \varphi_0) &= \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} C_{ij, \rho\sigma} M(\Delta c_{\rho\sigma} \Delta \varphi_0) = \\ &= \frac{4\varphi_0^2}{N-n} \left( \frac{\sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} C_{ij, \rho\sigma} C_{\lambda\mu} a_{\rho\lambda} a_{\sigma\mu}}{UC} - \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} C_{ij, \rho\sigma} a_{\rho\sigma} \right) \\ &= \frac{4\varphi_0^2}{(N-n) UC} \left\{ \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} \frac{C_{ij} C_{\rho\sigma} - C_{i\sigma} C_{\rho j}}{C} C_{\lambda\mu} a_{\rho\lambda} a_{\sigma\mu} - UC \cdot UC_{ij} \right\} \\ &= \frac{4\varphi_0^2}{(N-n) UC} \left\{ \frac{C_{ij}}{C} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} (C_{\rho\mu} C_{\lambda\sigma} - C \cdot C_{\rho\mu, \lambda\sigma}) a_{\rho\mu} a_{\lambda\sigma} - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{C} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\sigma} C_{i\sigma} (C_{\lambda j} C_{\rho\mu} - C \cdot C_{\lambda j, \rho\mu}) a_{\rho\mu} a_{\lambda\sigma} - UC \cdot UC_{ij} \right\} \\ &= \frac{4\varphi_0^2}{(N-n) UC} \left\{ \frac{C_{ij}(UC)^2}{C} - C_{ij} U^2 C - \frac{UC}{C} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} C_{i\sigma} C_{\lambda j} a_{\lambda\sigma} + \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} C_{i\sigma} UC_{\lambda j} a_{\lambda\sigma} - UC \cdot UC_{ij} \right\} \\ &= \frac{4\varphi_0^2}{(N-n) UC} \left\{ \frac{C_{ij}(UC)^2}{C} - C_{ij} U^2 C - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{UC}{C} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} (C_{ij} C_{\lambda\sigma} - C \cdot C_{ij, \lambda\sigma}) a_{\lambda\sigma} + \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} C_{i\sigma} UC_{\lambda j} a_{\lambda\sigma} - UC \cdot UC_{ij} \right\} \\ &= \frac{4\varphi_0^2}{(N-n) UC} \left\{ \frac{C_{ij}(UC^2)}{C} - C_{ij} U^2 C - \frac{C_{ij}(UC)^2}{C} + \right. \\ &\quad \left. + UC \cdot UC_{ij} + \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} C_{i\sigma} UC_{\lambda j} a_{\lambda\sigma} - UC \cdot UC_{ij} \right\} \\ &= \frac{4\varphi_0^2}{(N-n) UC} \left\{ -C_{ij} \cdot U^2 C + \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} C_{i\sigma} UC_{\lambda j} a_{\lambda\sigma} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $M(\Delta C_{ij} \Delta \varphi_0)$  must be symmetrical with respect to  $i$  and  $j$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} C_{i\sigma} U C_{ij} a_{\lambda\sigma} &= \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} C_{j\sigma} U C_{\lambda i} a_{\lambda\sigma} = \sum_{\sigma} \sum_{\lambda} C_{j\lambda} U C_{\sigma i} a_{\sigma\lambda} = \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} C_{\lambda j} U C_{i\sigma} a_{\lambda\sigma} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} (C_{i\sigma} U C_{\lambda j} + C_{\lambda j} U C_{i\sigma}) a_{\lambda\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} U (C_{i\sigma} C_{\lambda j}) \cdot a_{\lambda\sigma} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} U \{ \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} (C_{ij} C_{\lambda\sigma} - C \cdot C_{ij, \lambda\sigma}) a_{\lambda\sigma} \} = \frac{1}{2} U \{ C_{ij} U C - C \cdot U C_{ij} \} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} C_{ij} \cdot U^2 C - \frac{1}{2} C \cdot U^2 C_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

or, by  $C = 0$ ,

$$\sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\sigma} C_{i\sigma} U C_{ij} a_{\lambda\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} C_{ij} U^2 C.$$

Hence we find

$$M(\Delta C_{ij} \Delta \varphi_0) = \frac{-2\varphi_0^2}{N-n} \cdot \frac{U^2 C}{UC} \cdot C_{ij} \cdot \dots \dots \dots (58)$$

From

$$\Delta UC = \Delta \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} a_{\lambda\mu} = \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} a_{\lambda\mu} \Delta C_{\lambda\mu}$$

follows

$$\begin{aligned} M(\Delta UC \cdot \Delta \varphi_0) &= \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} a_{\lambda\mu} M(\Delta C_{\lambda\mu} \Delta \varphi_0) = \\ &= \frac{-2\varphi_0^2}{N-n} \cdot \frac{U^2 C}{UC} \sum_{\lambda} \sum_{\mu} a_{\lambda\mu} C_{\lambda\mu} = \frac{-2\varphi_0^2}{N-n} \cdot \frac{U^2 C}{UC} \cdot UC, \end{aligned}$$

thus

$$M(\Delta UC \cdot \Delta \varphi_0) = \frac{-2\varphi_0^2}{N-n} U^2 C \cdot \dots \dots \dots (59)$$

We next consider  $M(\Delta c_{ij} \Delta c_{kl})$ :

$$\begin{aligned} M(\Delta c_{ij} \Delta c_{kl}) &= M\{(\Delta b_{ij} - a_{ij} \Delta \varphi_0)(\Delta b_{kl} - a_{kl} \Delta \varphi_0)\} = \\ &= M(\Delta b_{ij} \Delta b_{kl}) - a_{ij} M(\Delta b_{kl} \Delta \varphi_0) - a_{kl} M(\Delta b_{ij} \Delta \varphi_0) + a_{ij} a_{kl} M(\Delta \varphi_0^2), \end{aligned}$$

or, by (47), (51) and (55),

$$\begin{aligned} M(\Delta c_{ij} \Delta c_{kl}) &= \frac{\varphi_0}{N-n} \left\{ (b_{ik} a_{jl} + b_{jl} a_{ik} + b_{il} a_{kj} + b_{kj} a_{il}) - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{4\varphi_0 a_{ij}}{UC} \sum_{\xi} \sum_{\eta} C_{\xi\eta} a_{\xi l} a_{k\eta} - \frac{4\varphi_0 a_{kl}}{UC} \sum_{\xi} \sum_{\eta} C_{\xi\eta} a_{\xi j} a_{l\eta} + 4\varphi_0 a_{ij} a_{kl} \right\} \cdot \dots \dots \dots (60) \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} M(\Delta c_{ij} \Delta c_{kl}) &= \frac{\varphi_0}{N-n} \left\{ (c_{ik} a_{jl} + c_{jl} a_{ik} + c_{il} a_{kj} + c_{kj} a_{il}) + \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 2\varphi_0 (a_{ik} a_{jl} + a_{il} a_{kj}) + 4\varphi_0 a_{ij} a_{kl} - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{4\varphi_0}{UC} (a_{ij} \sum_{\xi} \sum_{\eta} C_{\xi\eta} a_{\xi l} a_{k\eta} + a_{kl} \sum_{\xi} \sum_{\eta} C_{\xi\eta} a_{\xi j} a_{l\eta}) \right\} \cdot \dots \dots \dots (60') \end{aligned}$$

(To be continued).