

# *Near-optimal sensor placement for linear inverse problems*

*Juri Ranieri*

*Joint work with: Dr. Amina Chebira, Prof. Martin Vetterli, Prof. D. Atienza,  
Dr. Z. Chen, I. Dokmanic, A. Vincenzi, R. Zhang*

# *Sensing the real world*

We experience the surrounding environment through sensors.

We have a set of natural sensors, i.e., eyes, ears, nose...



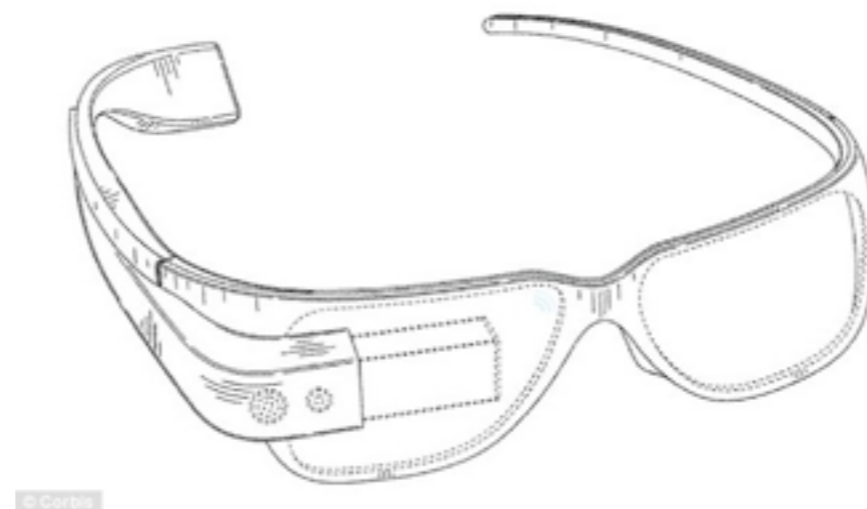
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Tech devices are equipped with many sensors, providing an incredible amount of information about the real world.



# *Inverse problems*

We have access to an incredible amount of data.

How can we use it?

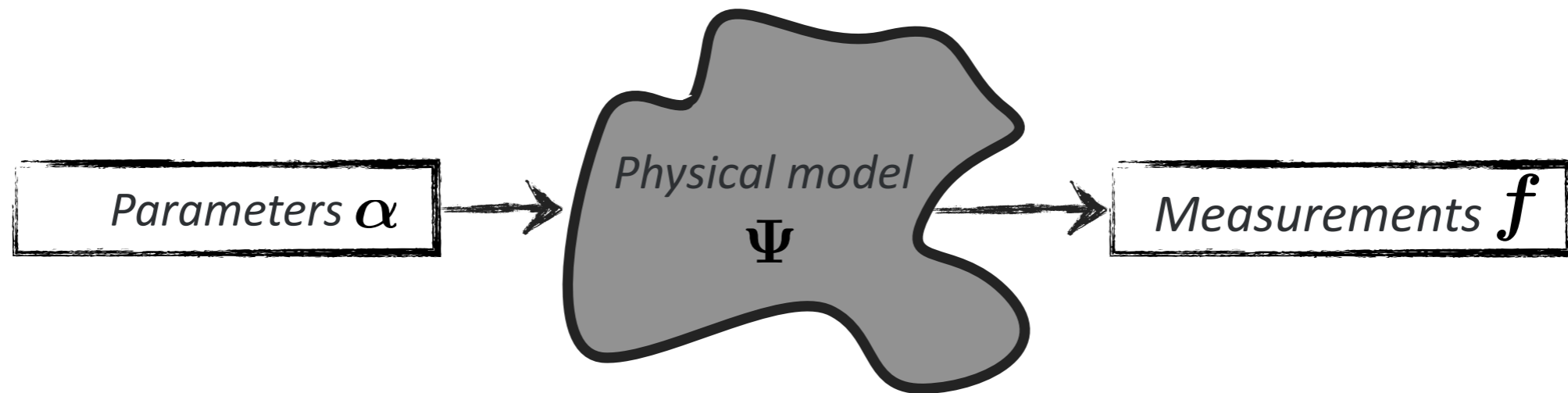
- Provide it to the end-user as measured,
- Store it on a server for future use,
- Use it to estimate other parameters of interest.



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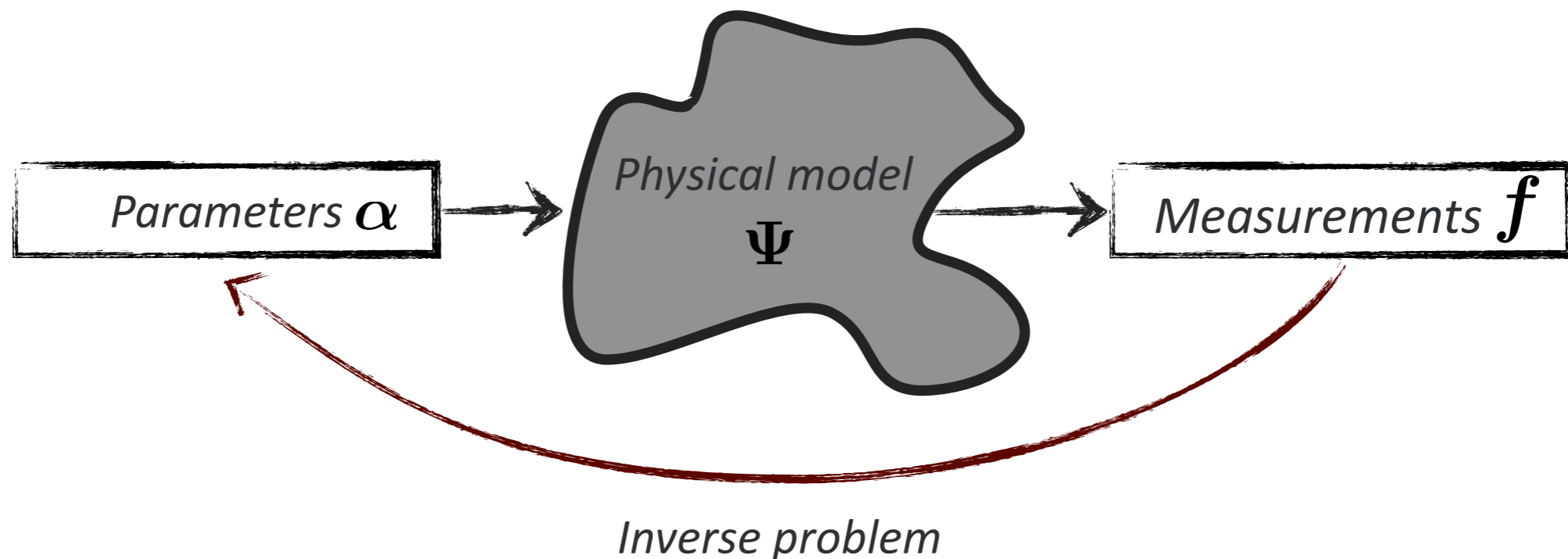
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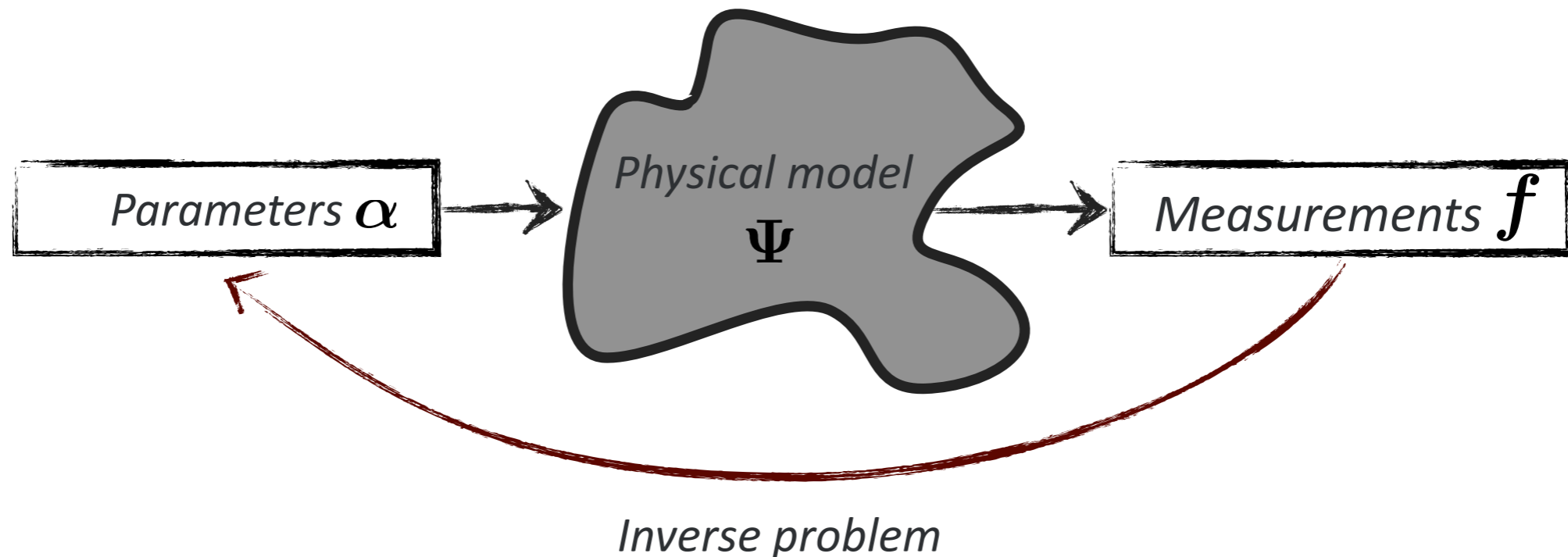
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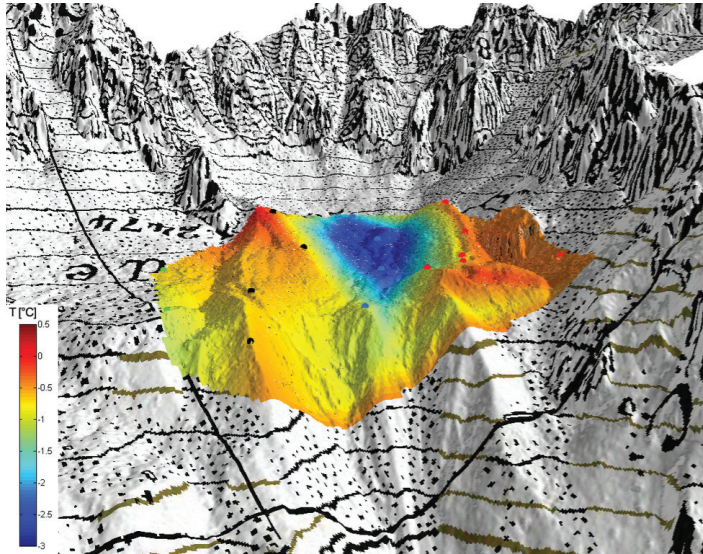
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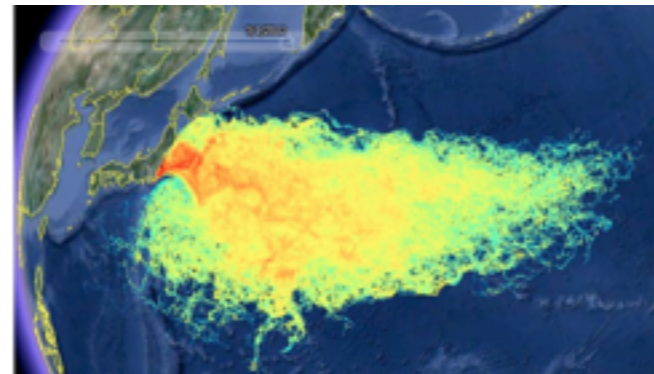
Inverse problems are varied.  
Signal processing problems are inverse problems.

# *A discrete model for physical fields*

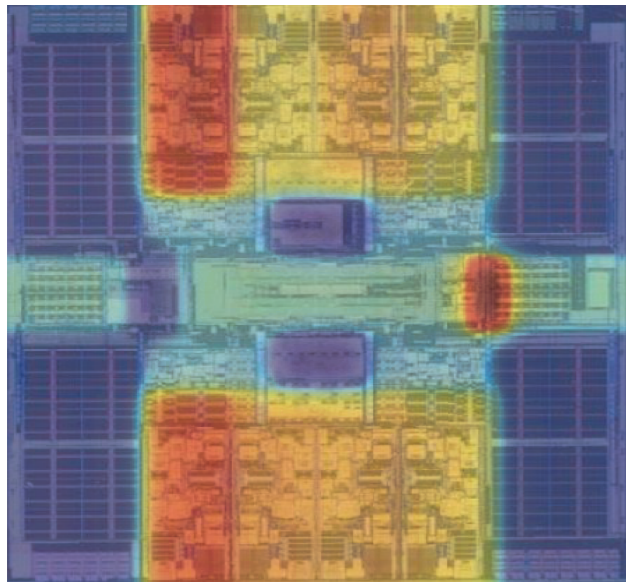
We consider a discretization of the physical field:



Environmental sensing



Pollution

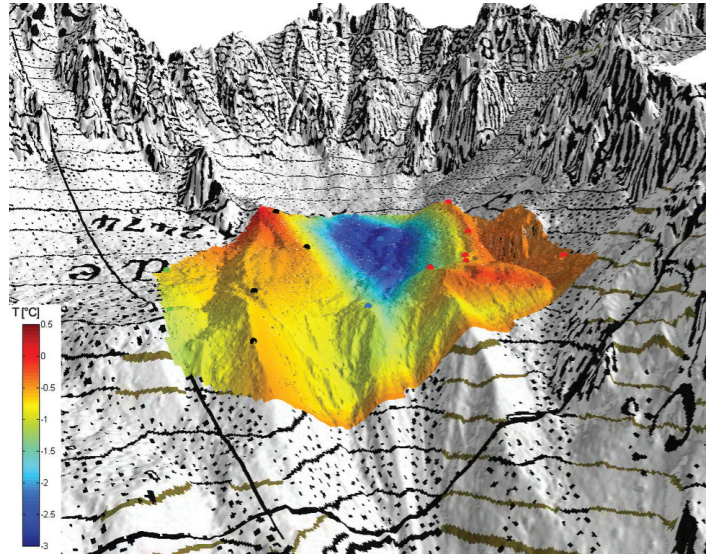


IC temperature

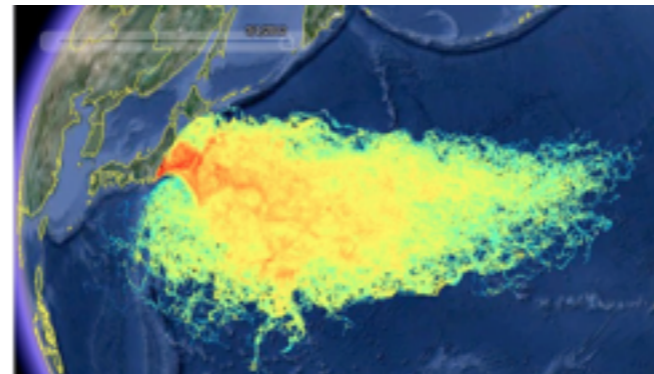


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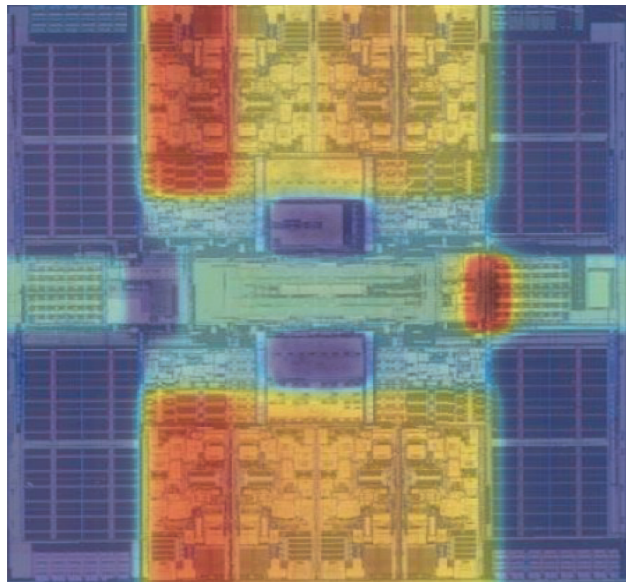
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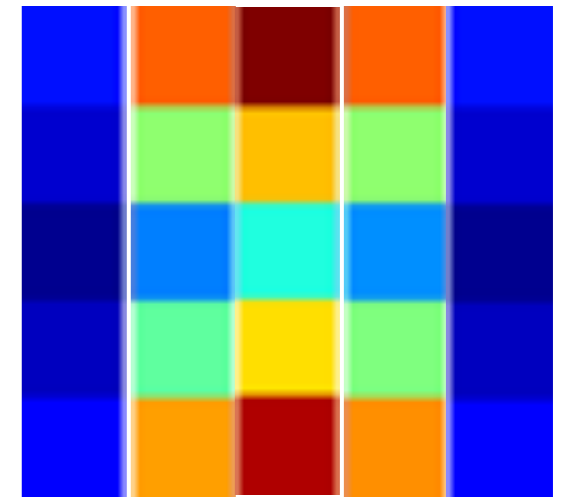
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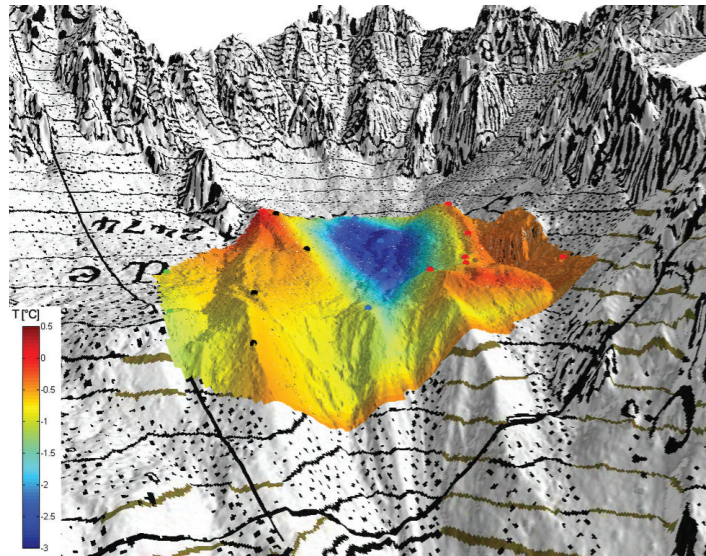


$f$

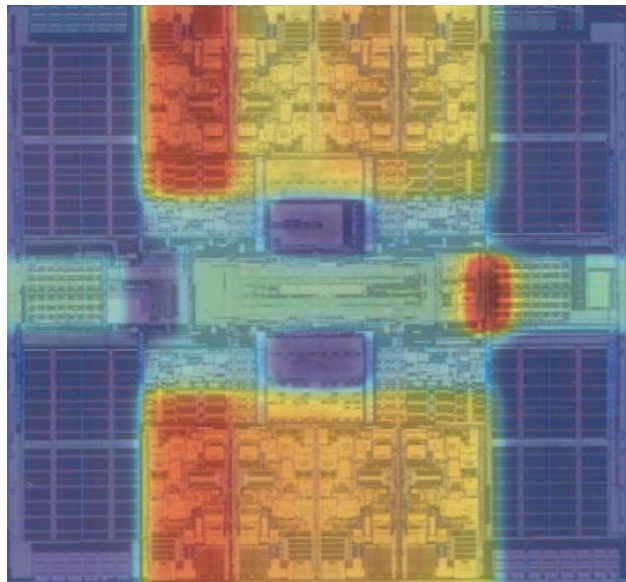


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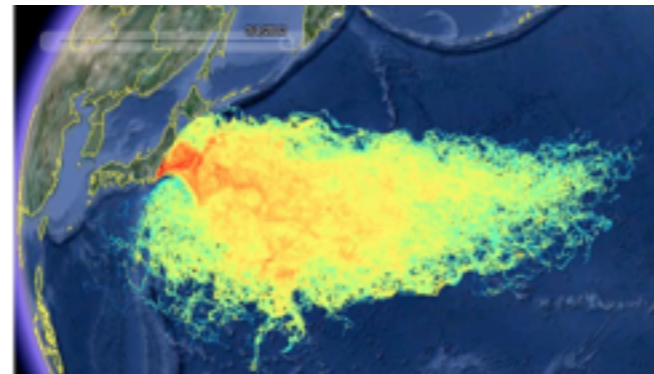
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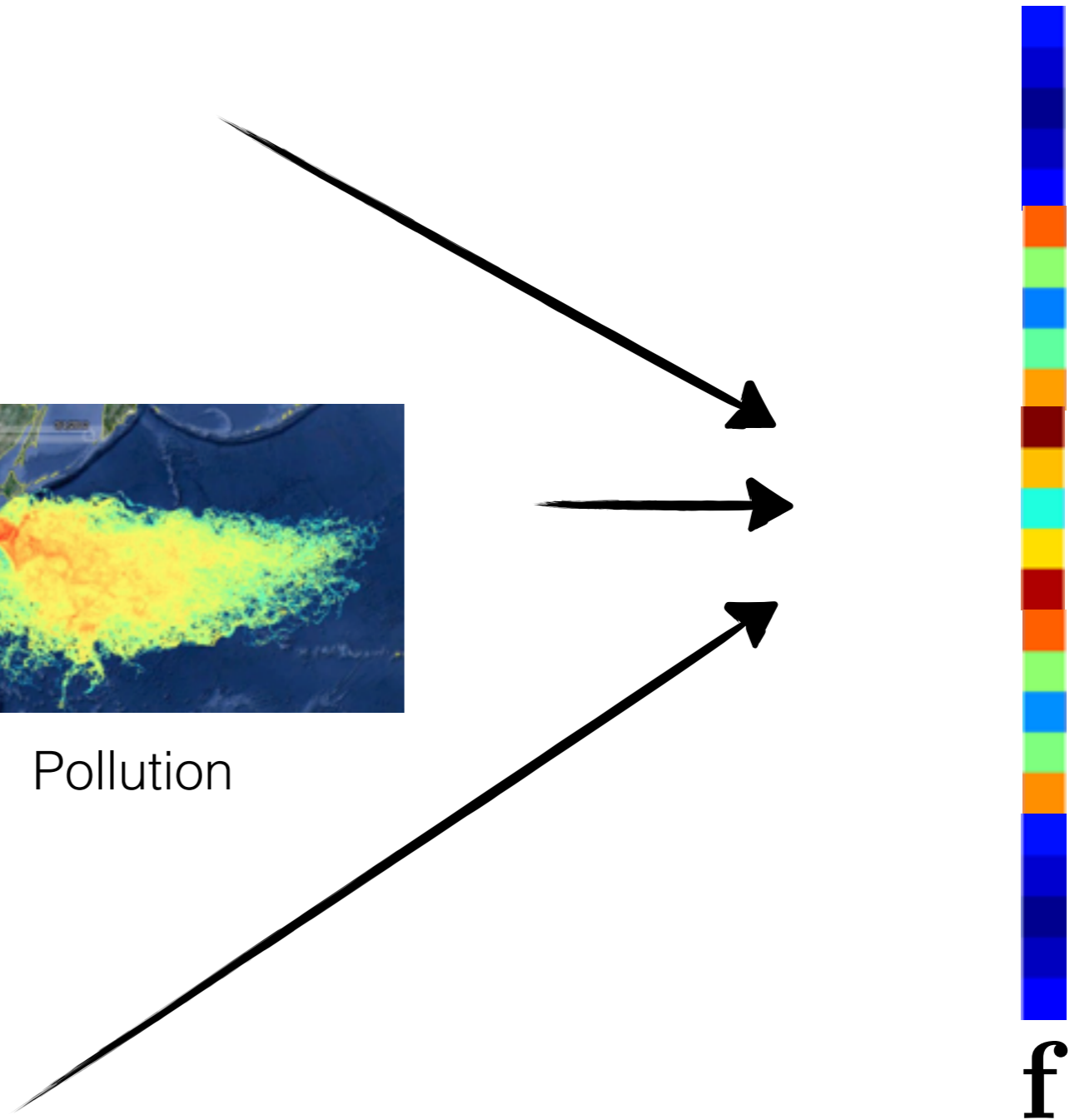
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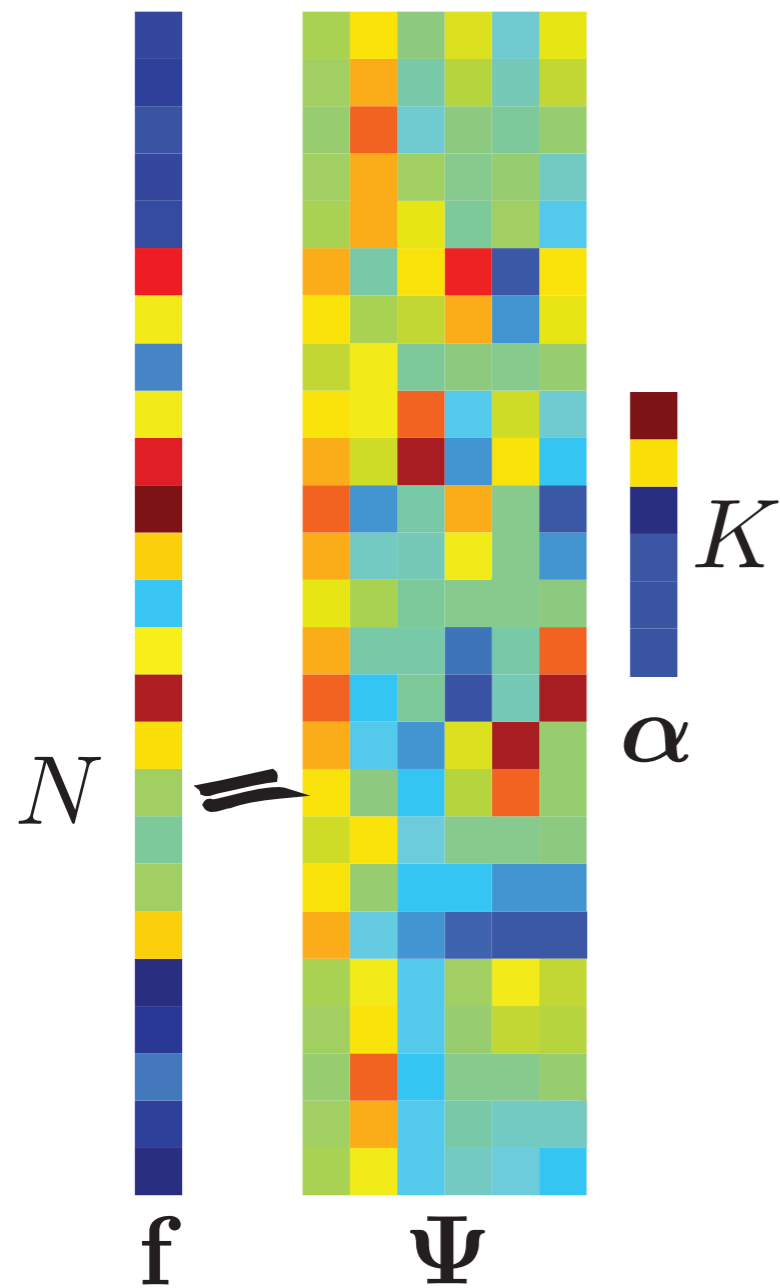
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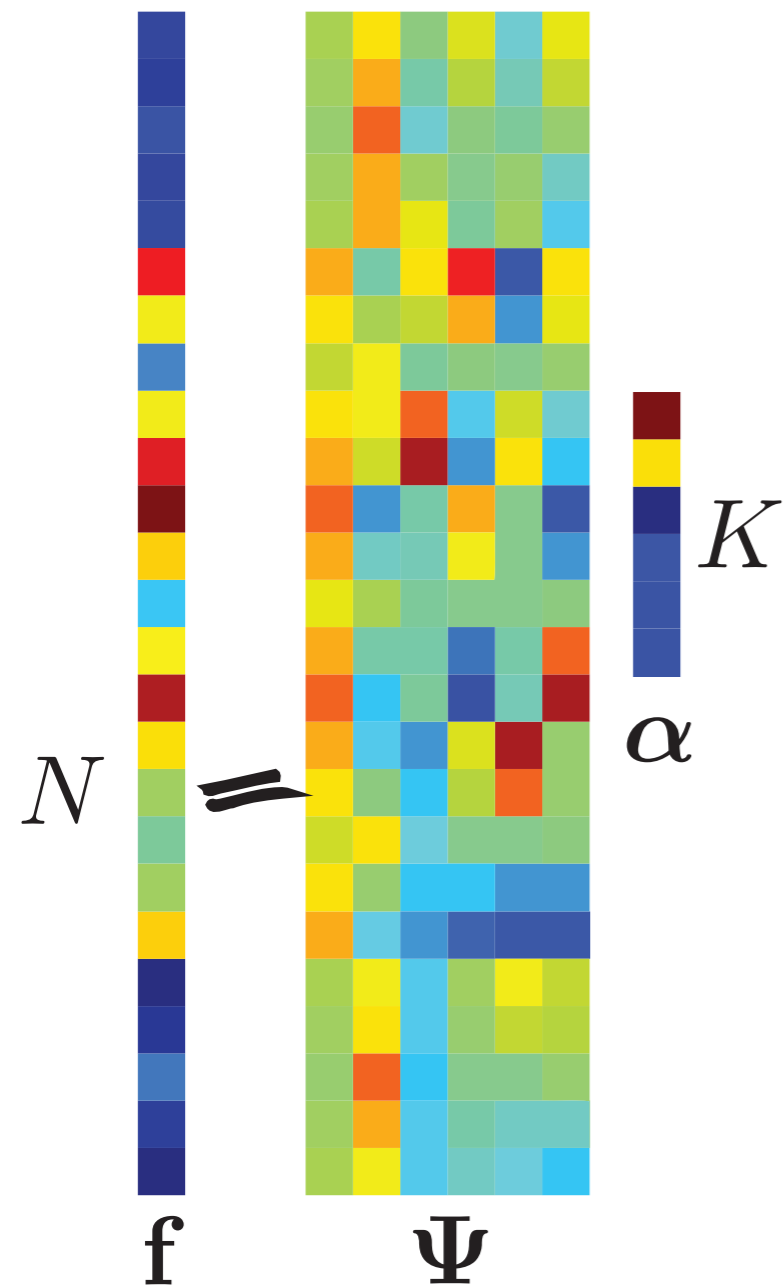


# Solving a linear inverse problem



- Source localization.
- Data interpolation (low-dim representation).
- Boundary estimation.
- Parameter estimation.

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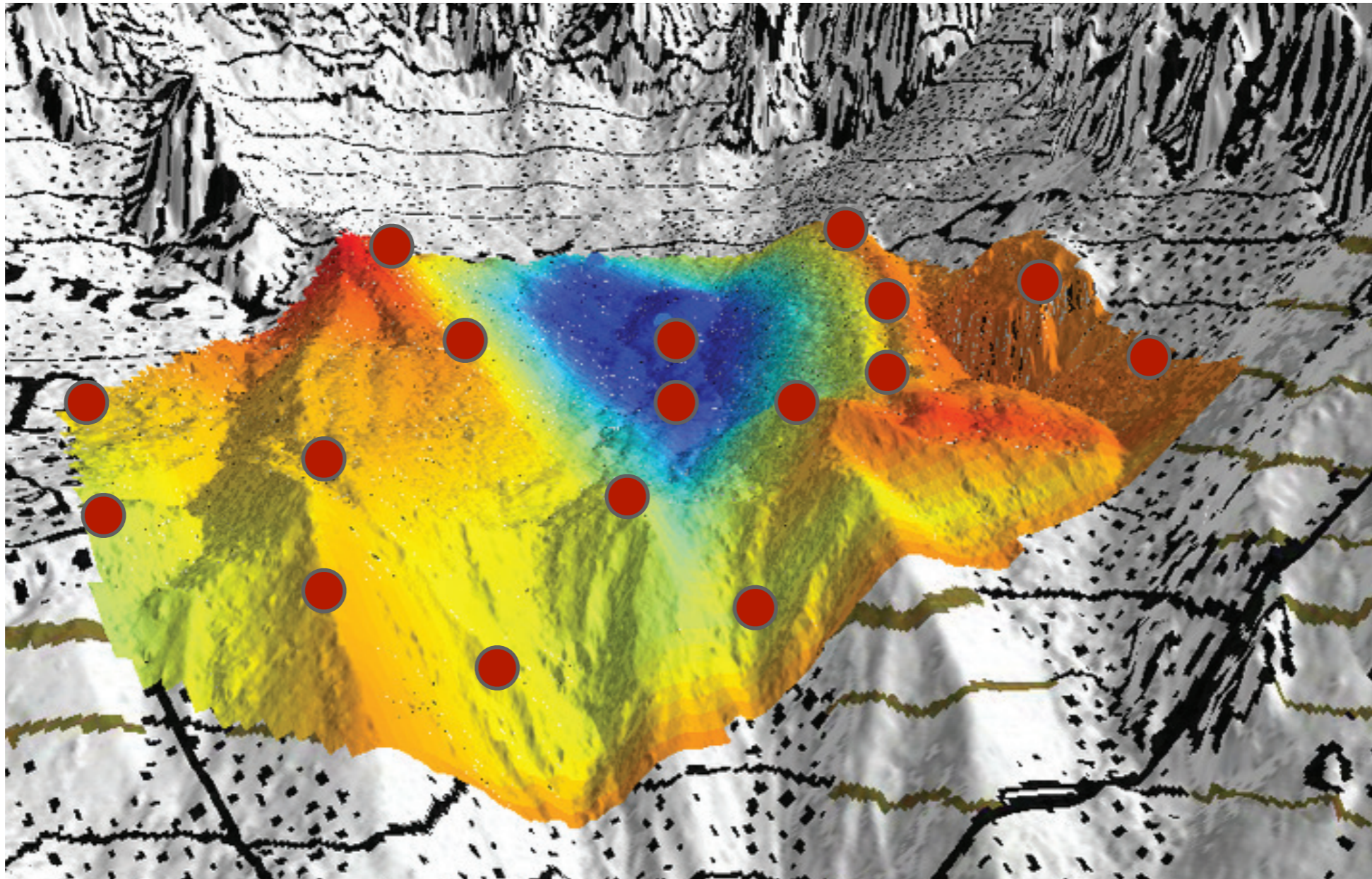
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We aim at precisely estimating  $\alpha$ .



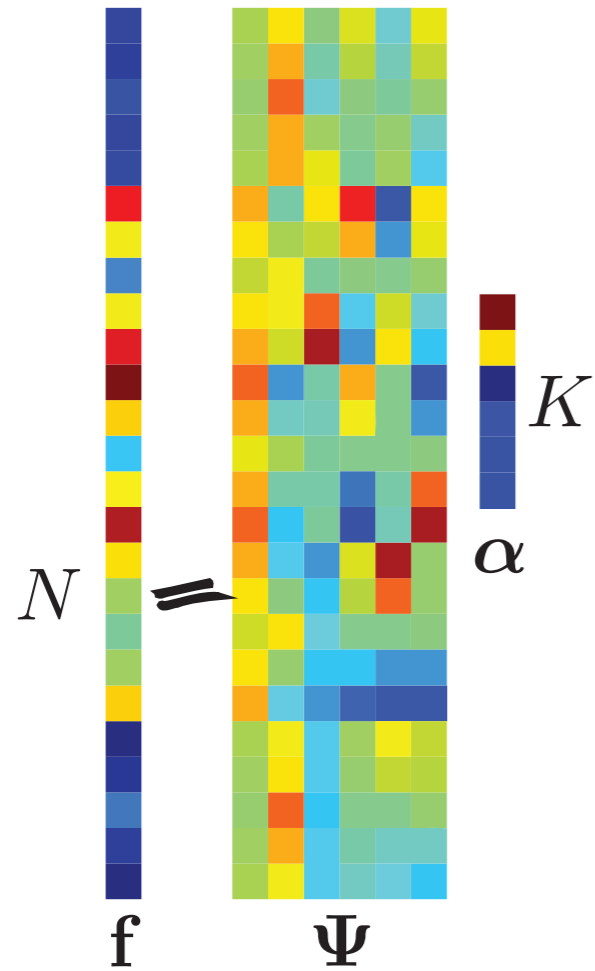
# *Sensing is expensive*

Sensing is generally expensive and maybe technically difficult.



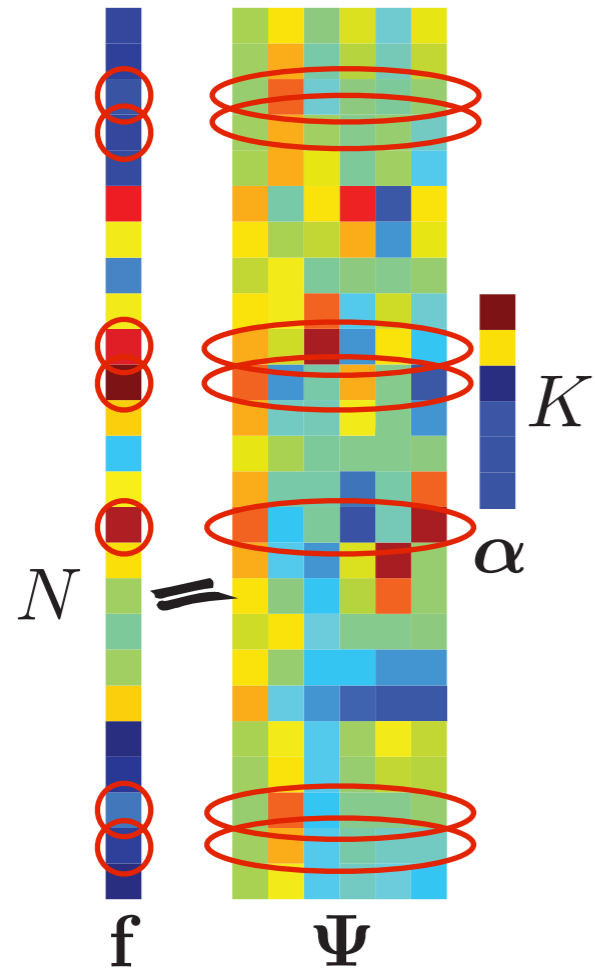
Where do we place the sensors to get the maximum information?

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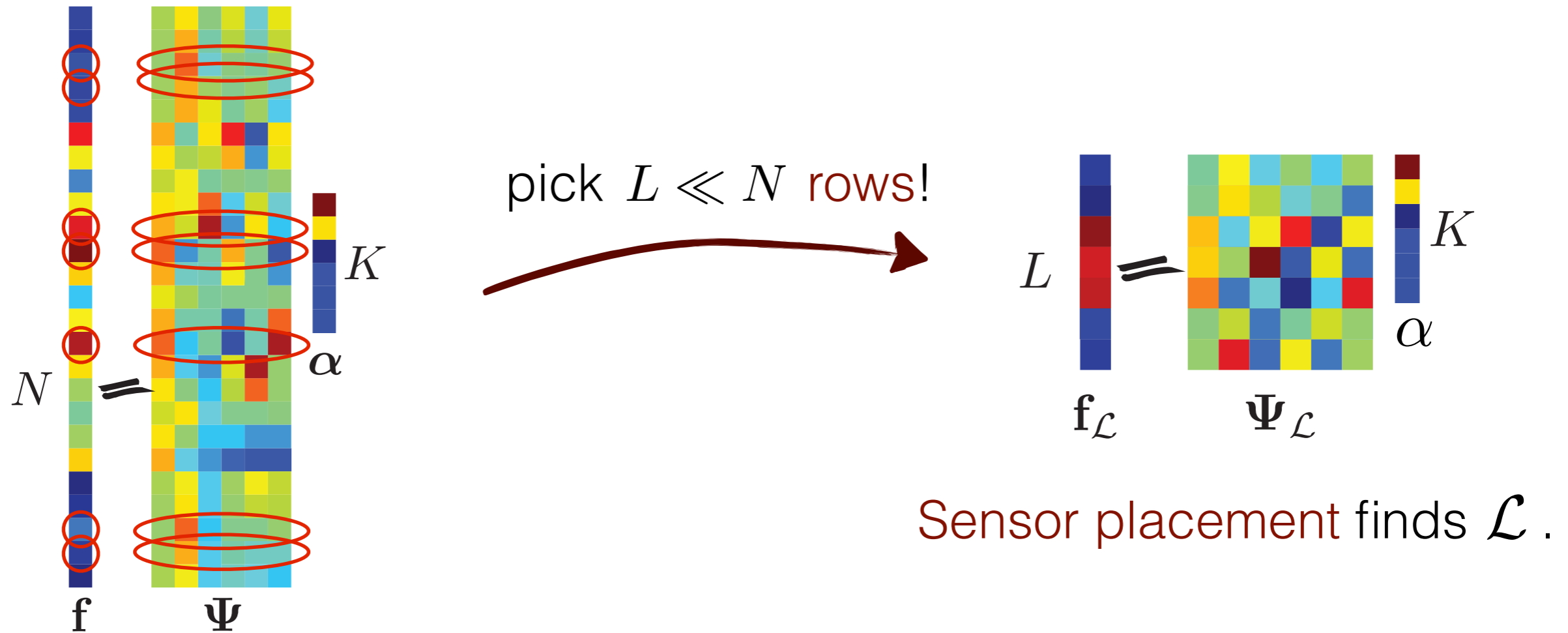




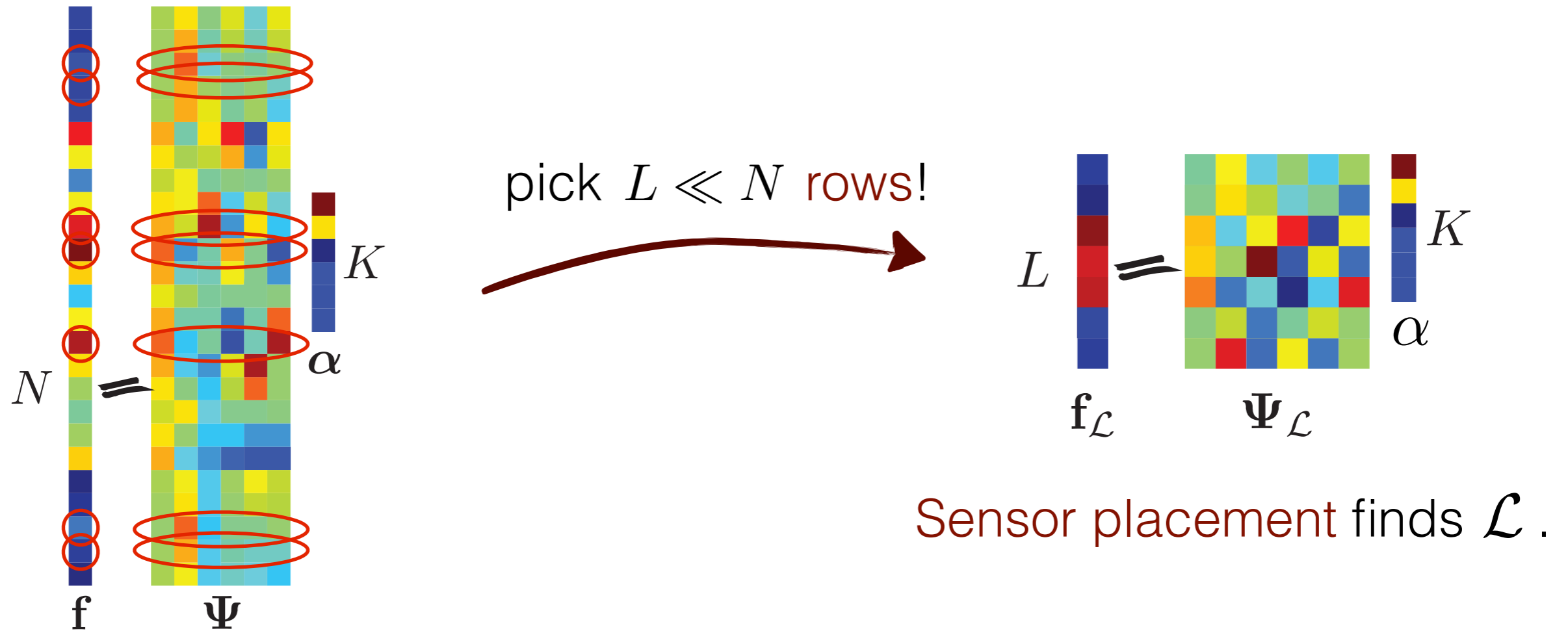
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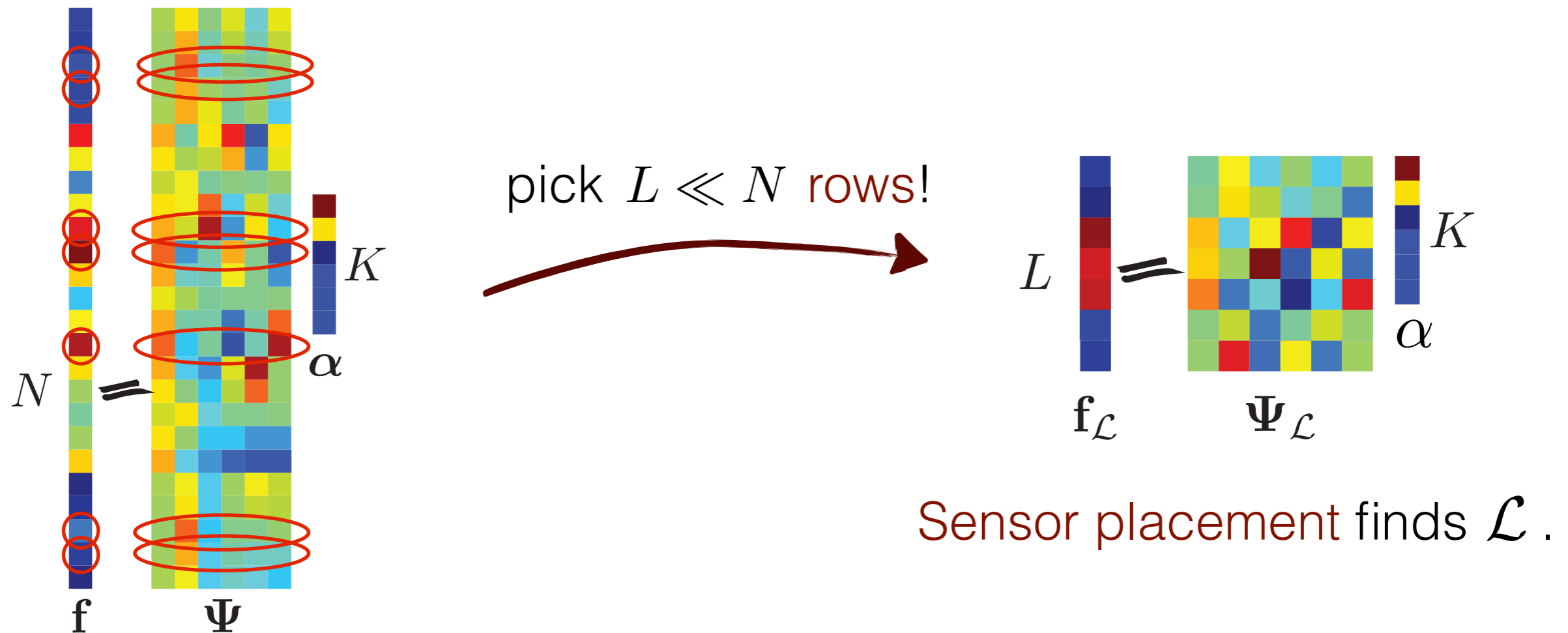
# Where do we place the sensors?



**Problem:** choose the placement  $\mathcal{L}$  to minimize the MSE of  $\alpha$ .

$$\mathcal{L} = \arg \min_{\mathcal{A}} \|\alpha - \hat{\alpha}(\mathbf{f}_{\mathcal{A}})\|_2 \quad |\mathcal{A}| = L$$

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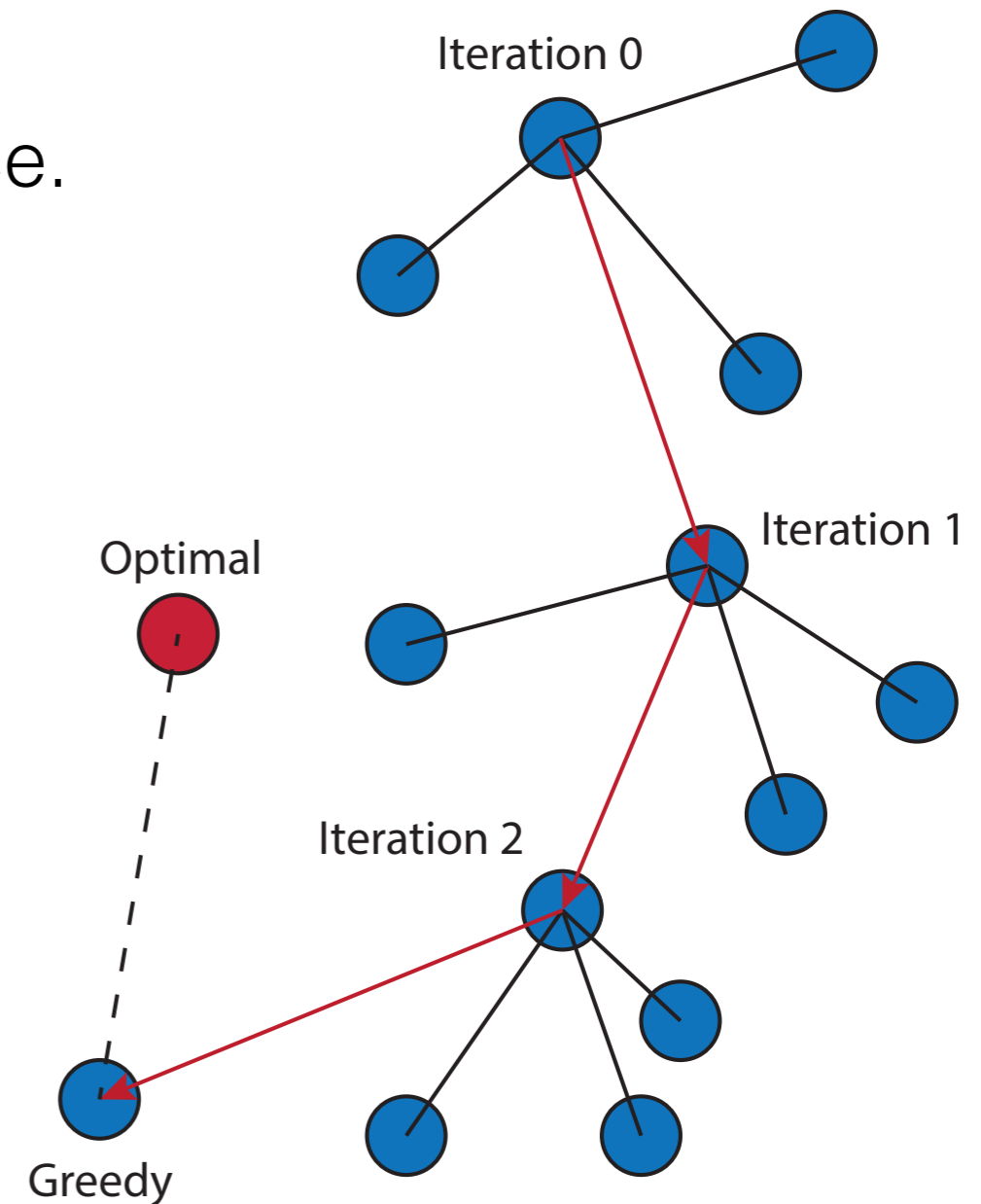
**Subset selection: NP-hard!** [Das 2008]

# Classic approximation strategy: go greedy!

## Greedy algorithms:

at each iteration, pick the **best local** choice.

- **No guarantees** about the distance between the greedy and the global optimal solution
- **Polynomial time** (if the cost function can be efficiently computed)



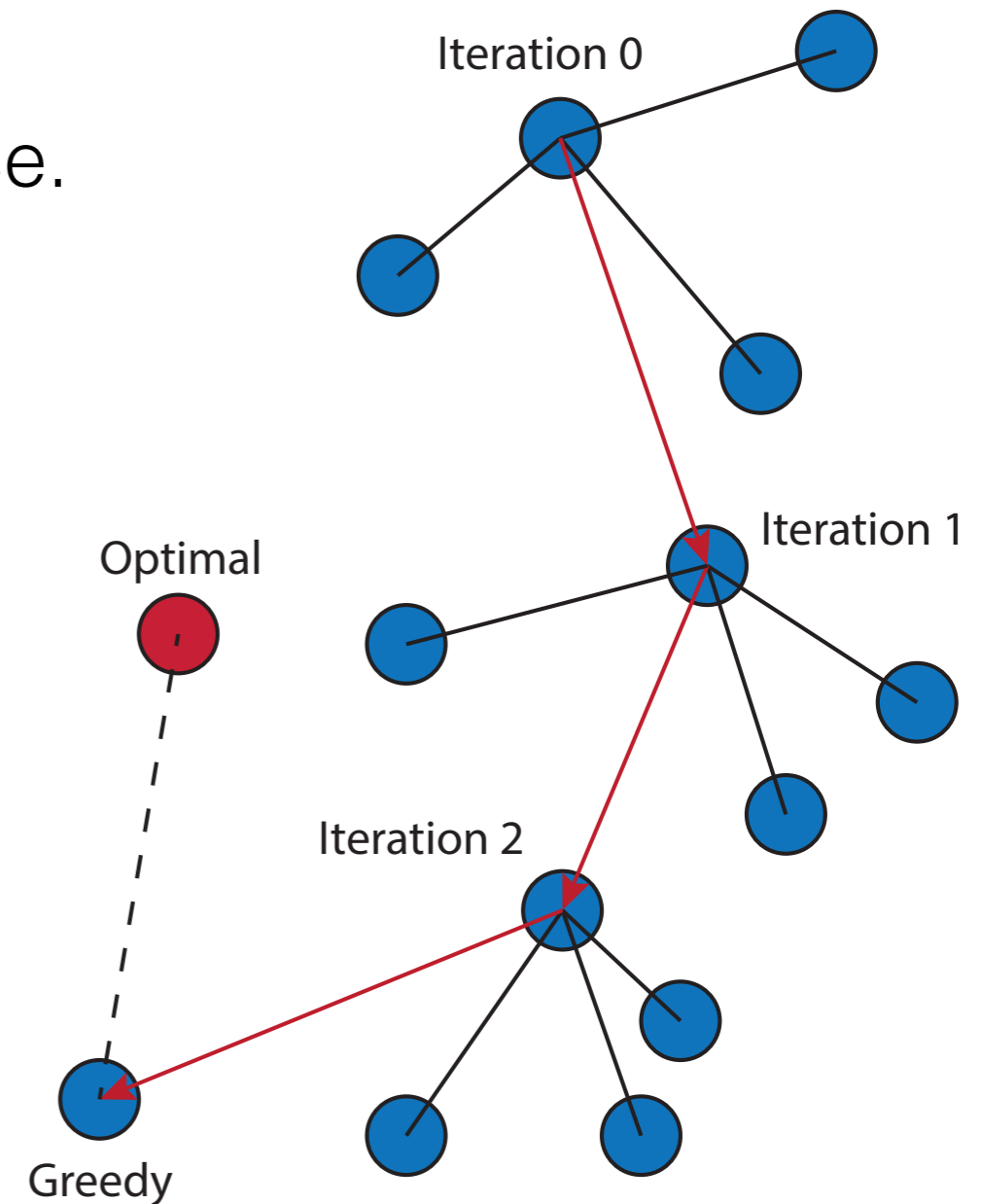


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Can we optimize directly the MSE?

MSE greedy minimization is usually **inefficient** [Das 2008] and **slow**.

# *Frame Potential as a proxy of the MSE*

Frame Potential (FP) as a **cost function**: 
$$\text{FP}(\Psi_{\mathcal{L}}) = \sum_{i,j \in \mathcal{L}} |\langle \psi_i, \psi_j \rangle|^2.$$

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- The minimizers of the FP are **UN tight frames** [Casazza 2009],
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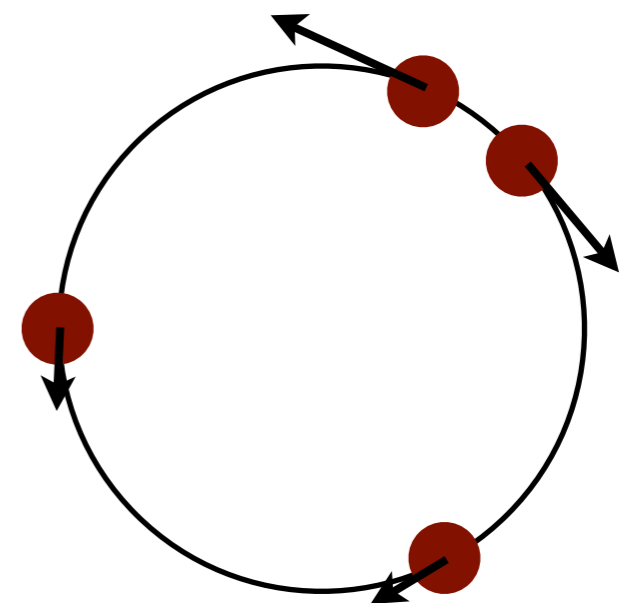
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**Physical interpretation** [Fickus 2006]:  
vectors repulse each other like  
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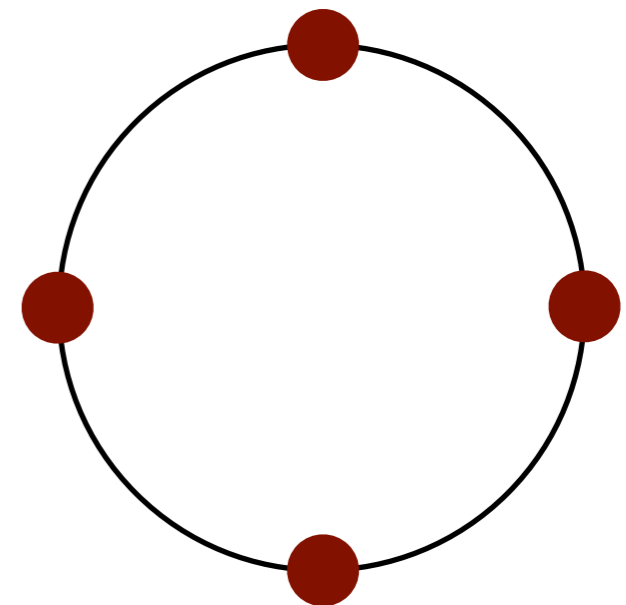
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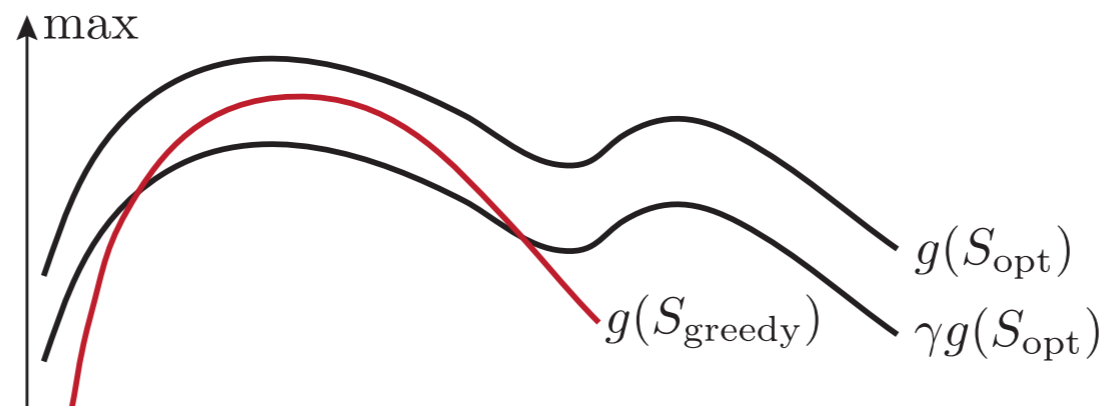




# Greedy algorithms and submodularity

Theorem [Nemhauser 1978]: Consider a greedy algorithm maximizing a **submodular, normalized, monotonically increasing** set function  $g(\cdot)$ . Then, the greedy solution is **near-optimal**:

$$g(S_{\text{opt}}) \geq g(S_{\text{greedy}}) \geq \left(1 - \frac{1}{e}\right) g(S_{\text{opt}})$$

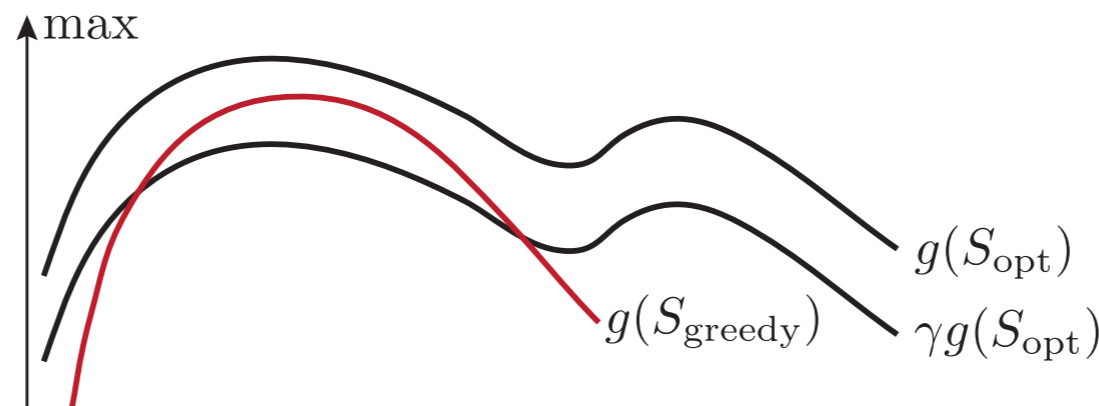


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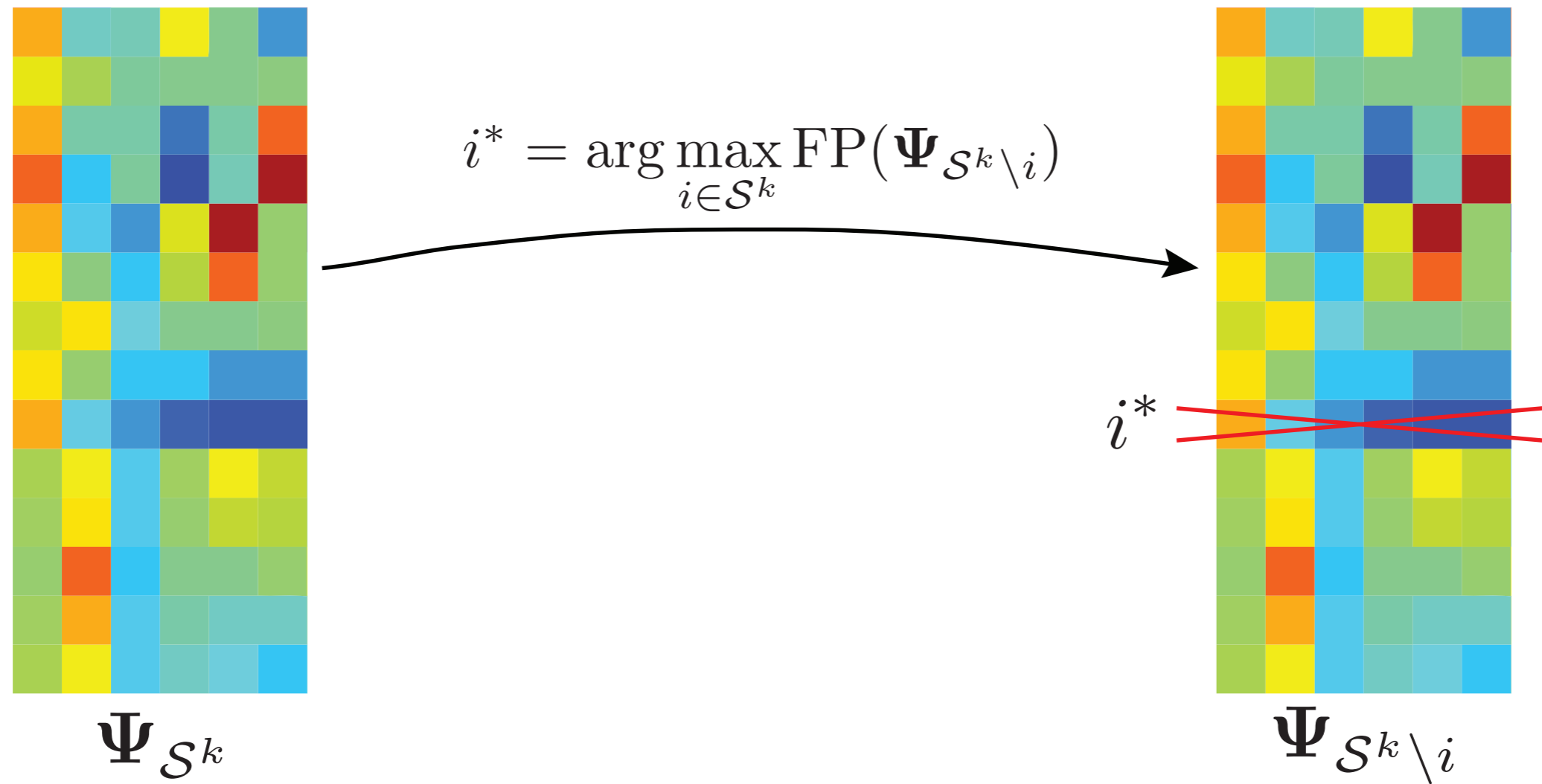
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- Submodularity ~ concept of **diminishing returns**.
- **Frame Potential is submodular**

# FrameSense



Greedy **worst-out** sensor selection:

- At the  $k$ -th iteration, we **remove** the row **maximizing** the FP of  $\Psi_{\mathcal{S}^k}$ ,
- After  $N - L$  iterations, the sensor placement is  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{S}^{N-L}$ .

# *FrameSense is near-optimal w.r.t. MSE*

Our strategy:

- FP is submodular,
- FrameSense is near-optimal w.r.t. FP,
- We derive LB and UB of the MSE w.r.t. FP,
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Theorem [Ranieri C. V. 2013]:

Given  $\Psi \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times K}$  and  $L \geq K$  sensors, FrameSense is near-optimal w.r.t. MSE (under certain conditions on  $\Psi$ ):

$$\text{MSE}(\Psi_{\mathcal{L}}) \leq \gamma \text{MSE}(\Psi_{\text{opt}}),$$

where the approximation factor depends on the spectrum and the norms of the rows of  $\Psi$ .

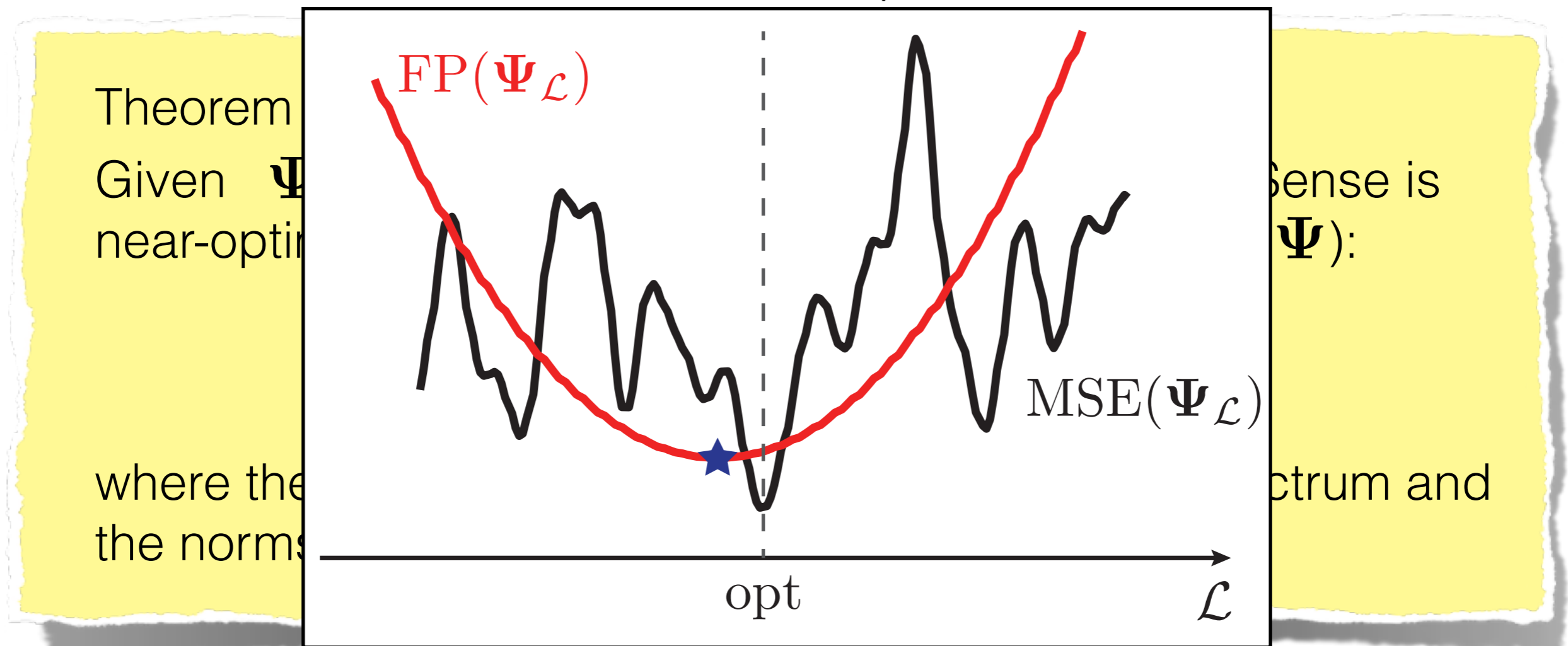
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# Proposed algorithm

**FrameSense** (polytime, no heuristics, guarantees):

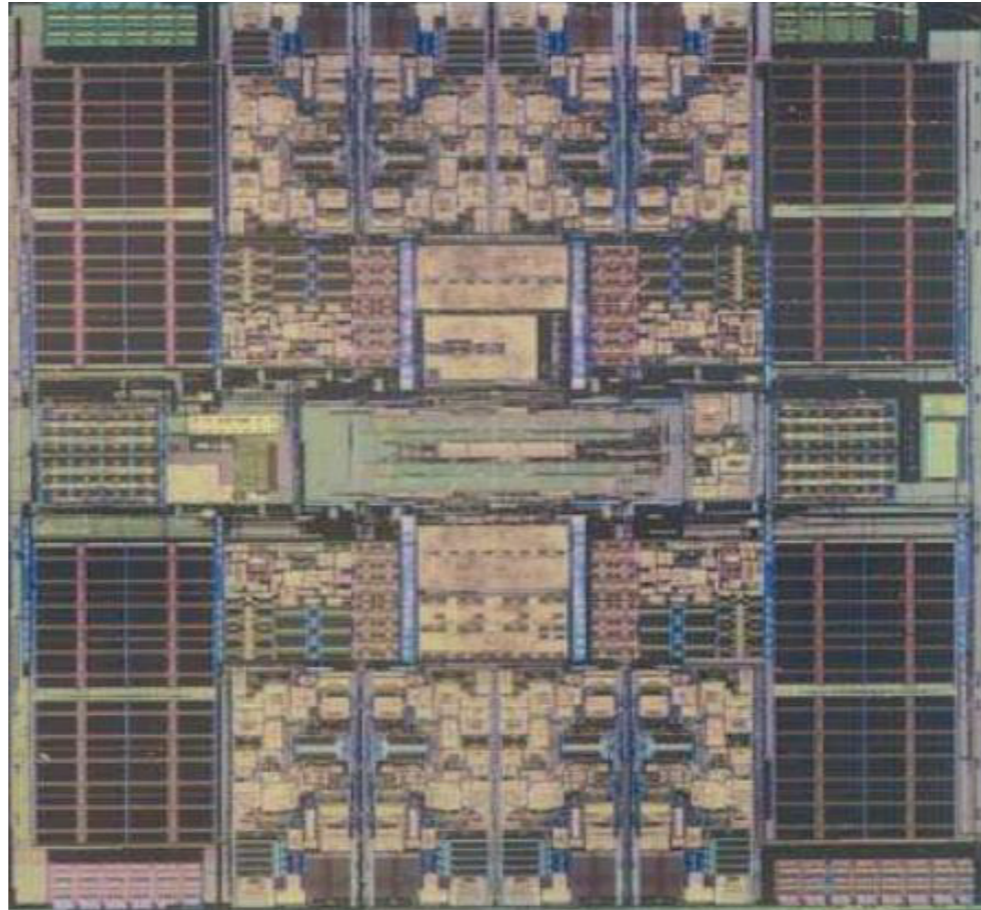
- Greedy algorithm optimizing the **Frame Potential (FP)**,
- **Near-optimal** w.r.t. the MSE,
- State-of-the-art performance w.r.t. the MSE,
- Low computational complexity.

# *Sensing the temperature of a processor*

*One of the applications where FrameSense shines...*

# *Application: temperature sensing*

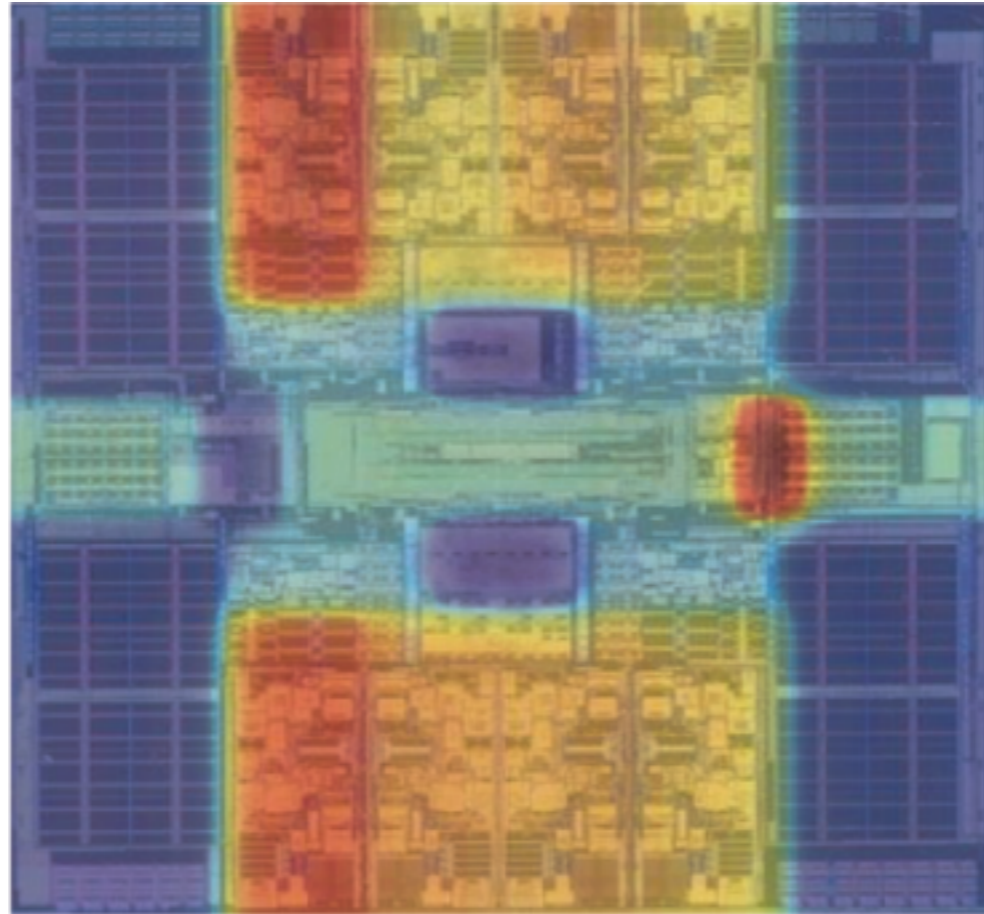
A modern 8 core microprocessor





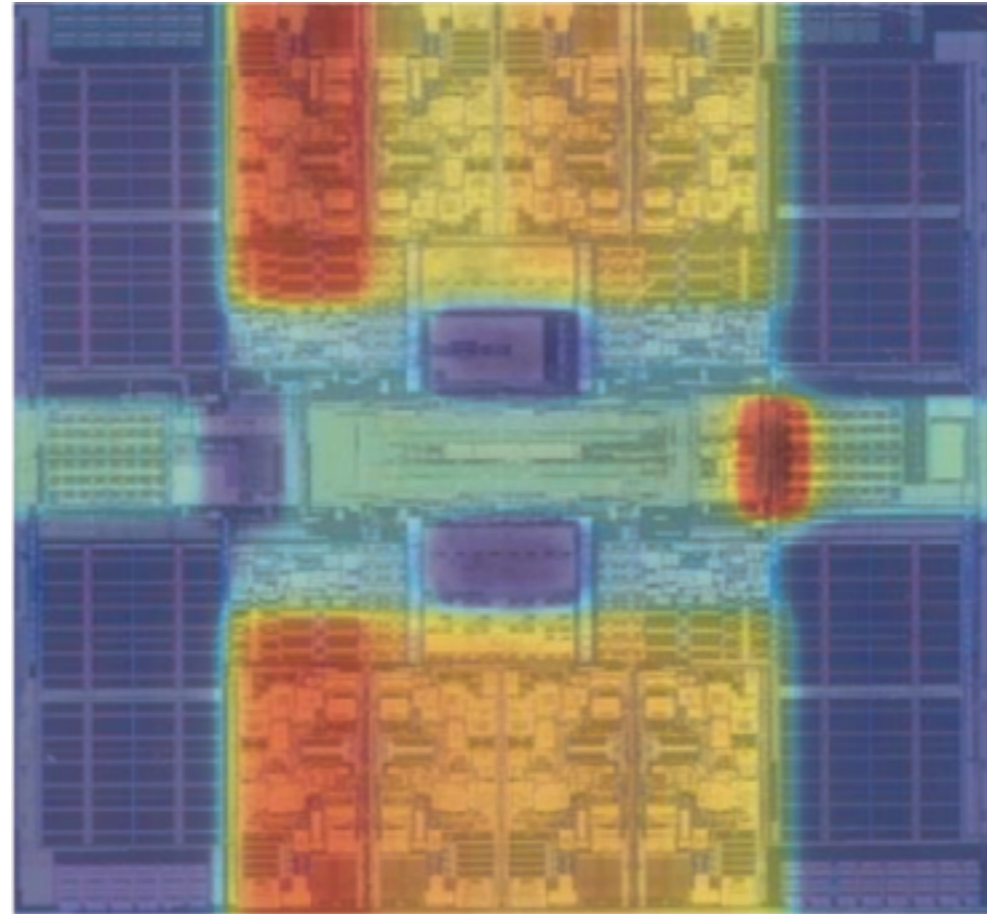
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- **Thermal stress:** failures, reduced performance, increased power consumption, mechanical stress.
- **Temperature information** is desirable to optimize workload.
- Temperature cannot be sensed everywhere.



# *Problem statement*

## Objectives:

- Design an algorithm to **recover the entire thermal map** from few measurements.
- Design a **sensor placement algorithm** to minimize the reconstruction error.

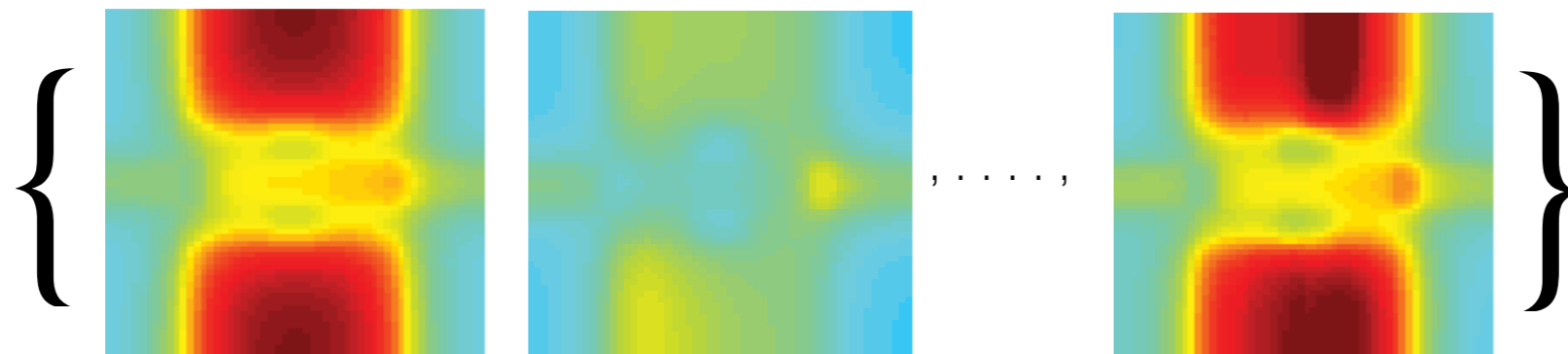
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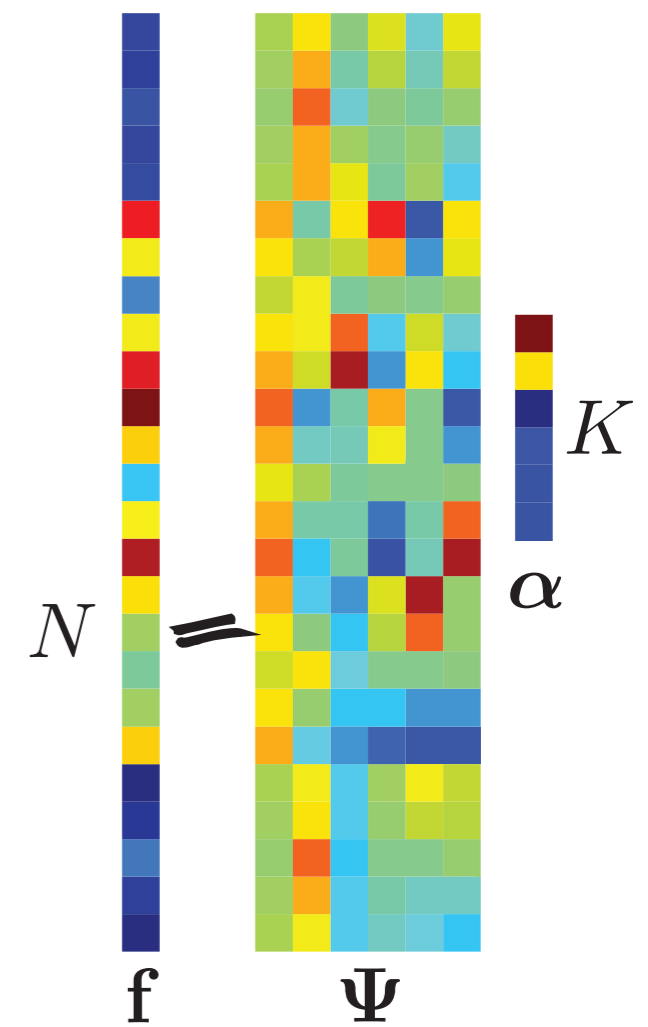
Given: a set of thermal distributions, representing the **workload** of the processor.



# Low-dimensional linear model

We learn  $\Psi$  using PCA [Ranieri V.C.A.V. 2012]

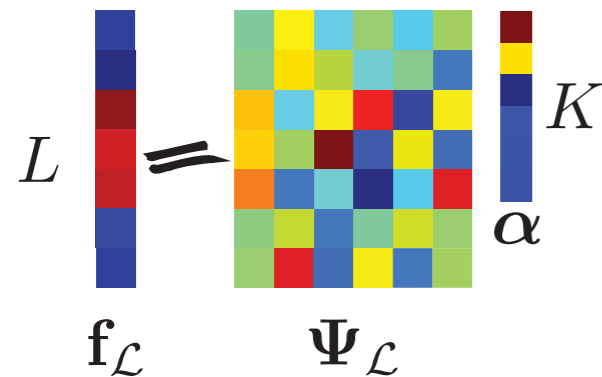
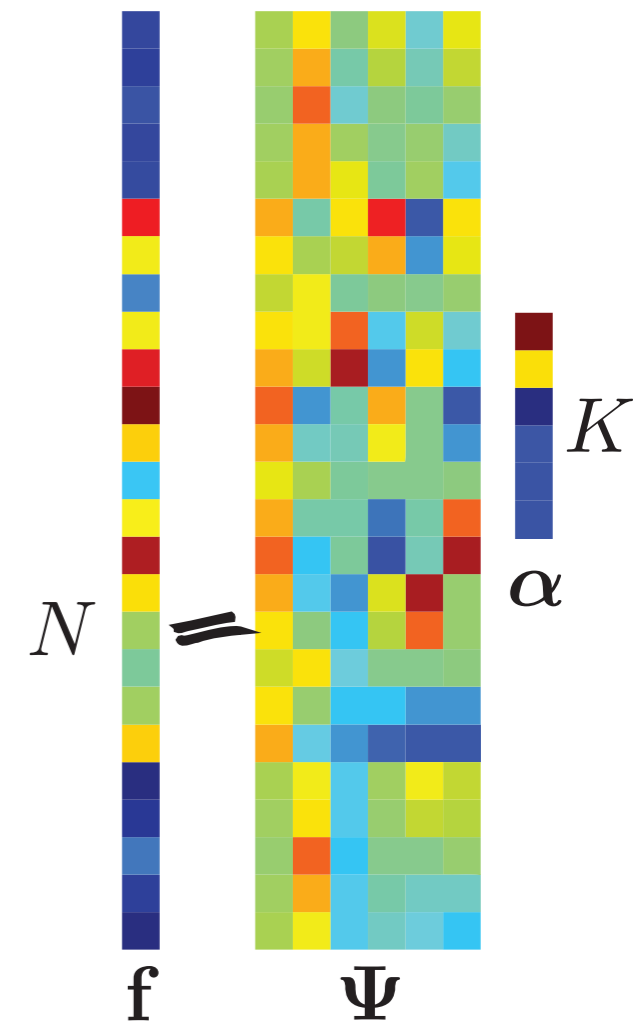
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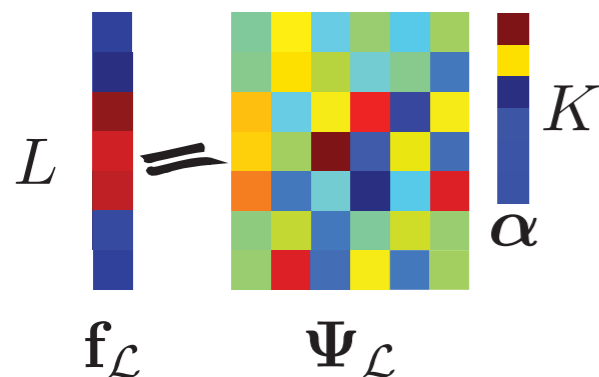
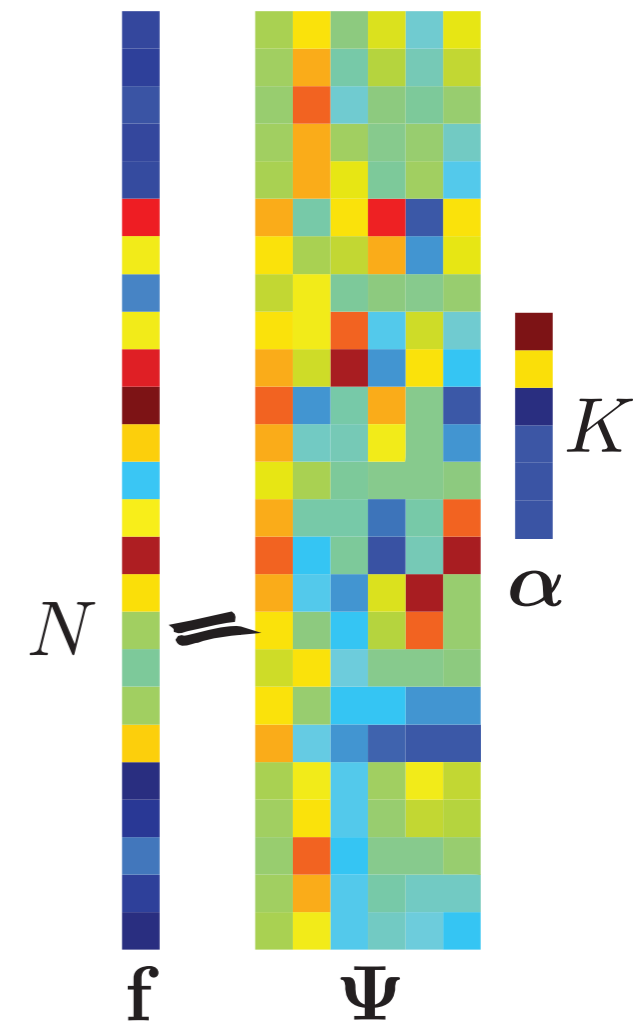


Recover the **parameters** from few measurements to recover the **thermal map**.

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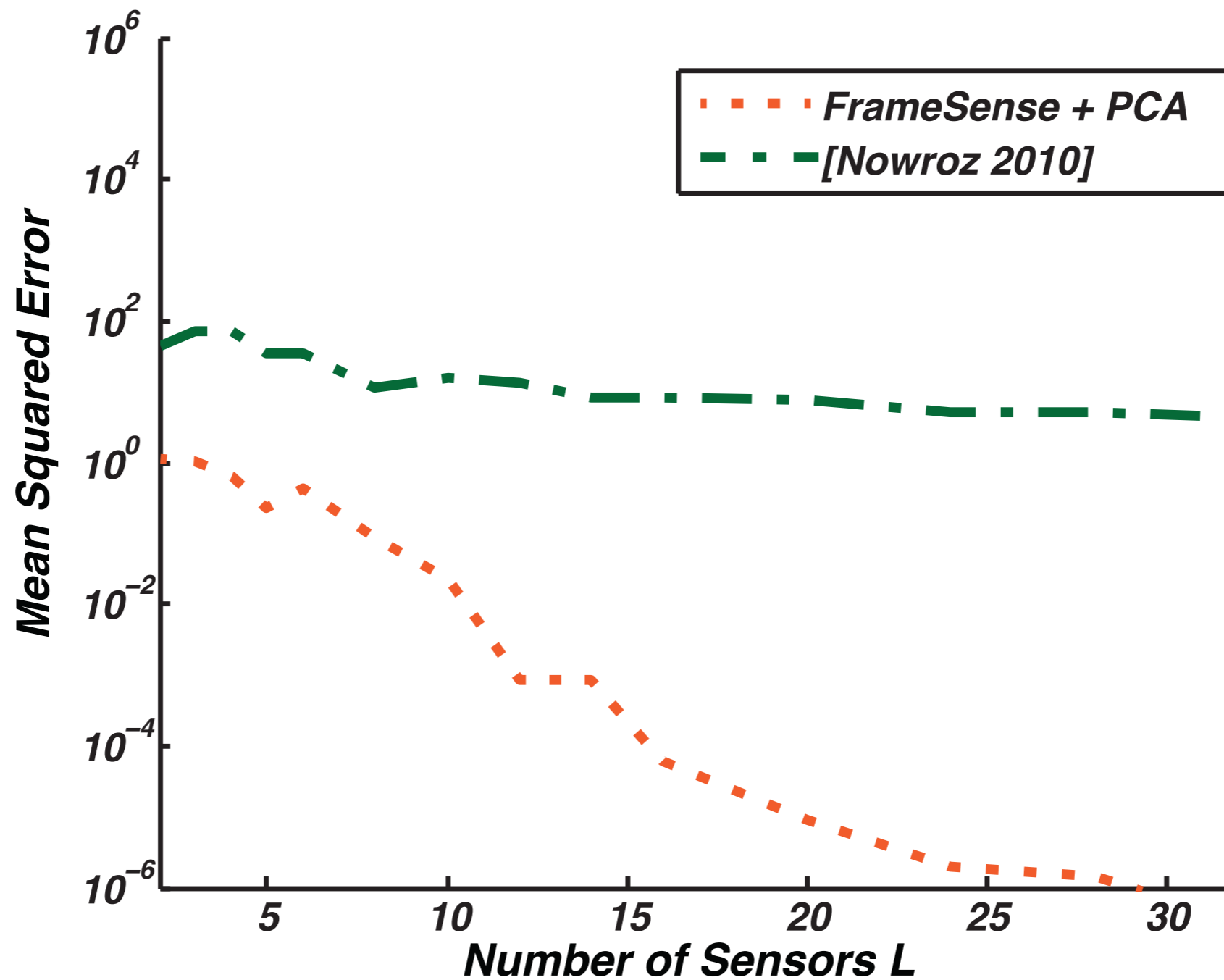


Recover the **parameters** from few measurements to recover the **thermal map**.

We use **FrameSense** to place the sensors.  
 $K$  optimized given the noise level.

# Performance evaluation

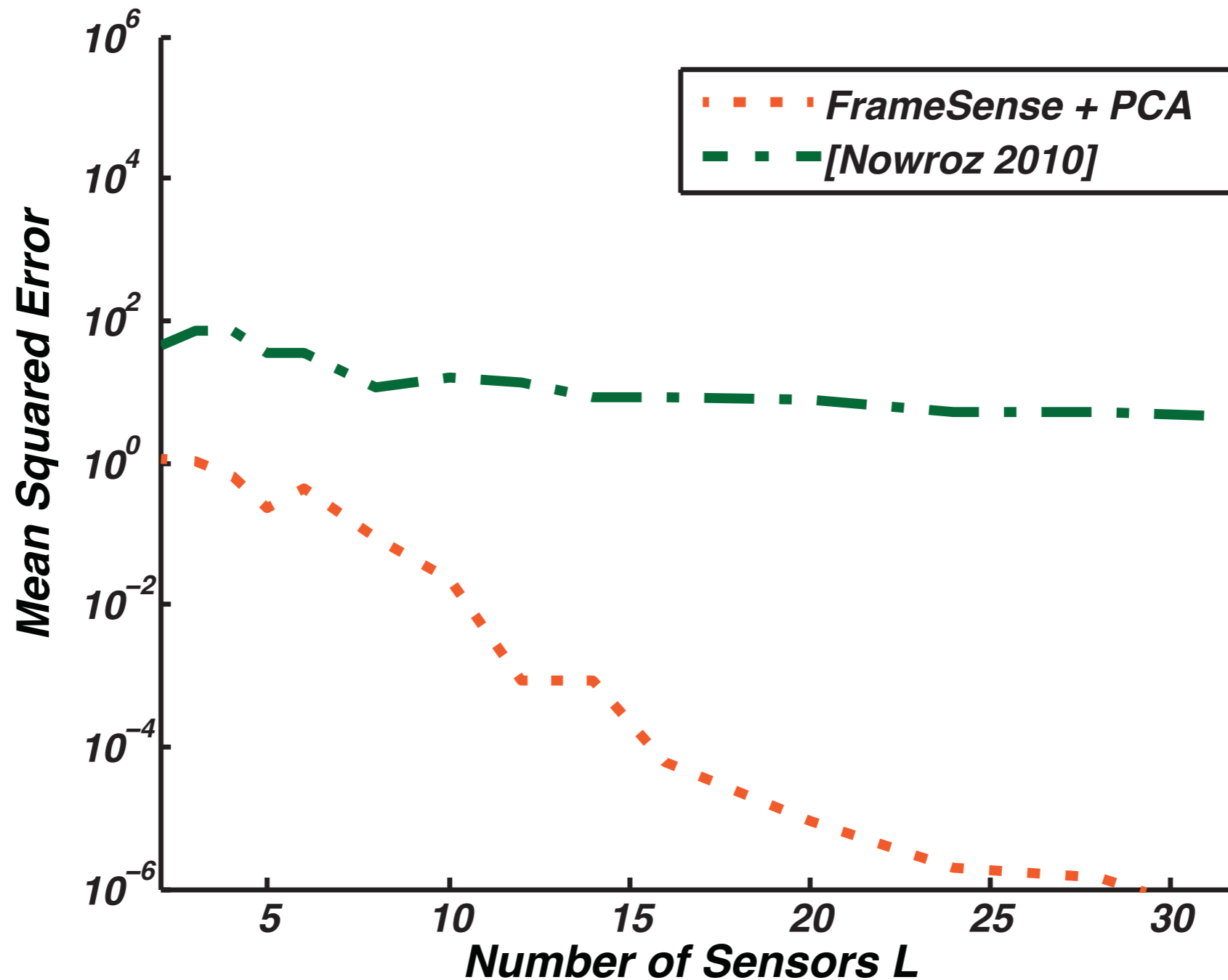
Reconstruction results on the 8-cores Niagara.





# Performance evaluation

Reconstruction results on the 8-cores Niagara.



Similar results on a 64-cores STM architecture.

# *Results and future work*

FrameSense (TSP 2014):

- A greedy algorithm based on the frame potential,
- First near-optimal algorithm w.r.t. MSE,
- Computationally efficient,
- State-of-the-art performance.

Applications

- Thermal monitoring of many-core processors (DAC 2012, TCOMP 2015),
- DASS: distributed adaptive sampling scheduling (TCOMM 2014).

Extensions

- Source placement for linear forward problems,
- Union of subspaces (EUSIPCO 2014).

Future work

- Sensor optimization for control theory,
- Tomographic sensing.

*Thanks for your attention!*  
*Questions?*