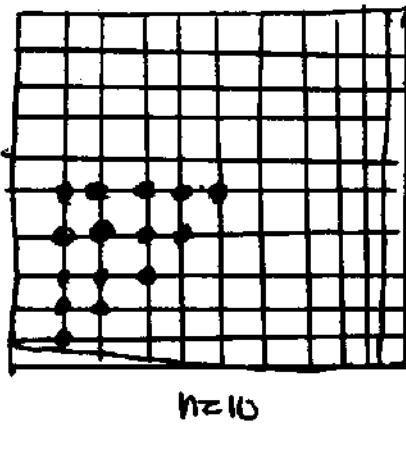


# The Inverse Problem

## Observations.

$U_0(j)$  resulting from any  $D$  will be some linear combination of the preceding graphs.

I have only included 25 of the 81 possible points on a  $(10 \times 10)$  grid because of symmetry. (You can simply "cut" the graphs at  $j=0, 10, 20, 30$  and put them back together in an order depending on how  $P_j$  reflects the original  $P_i$  in the grid.) There is symmetry around the set of:



$n=10$

$D$ 's of  $m=1$  with the boundary of the grid. There are also equalities amongst those points relative to the  $j$ 's. For instance,  $r_{21} = r_{32} = r_{43} = \dots$ . In actuality, there are only  $(n-1) + (n-2) + (n-3) + \dots + 1$  possible  $r_{ij}$ 's (minus some repeats which occur when  $x_i'^2 + y_i'^2 = x_{i+1}'^2 + y_{i+1}'^2$ ). It would be interesting to see how this symmetry affects  $U_0(j)$ .

What happens for  $D$  is symmetric around the triangles? Does the symmetry help to solve the problem or just reduce the number of computations necessary?

Due to the geometry of the grid, each  $u_{p_i}(j)$  graph has 4 local maximums and four local minimums. The minimums always occur at  $j=0, j=n, j=2n, j=3n$ .

$u_0(j)$  as a series of functions,  $u_i(j)$

One approach that did not work was to ask: given the function  $u_0(j)$  what combo. of the  $u_i(j)$  functions will add to  $u_0(j)$ ? It is easy to visualize superposition this way, yet even if we could derive a regular, determined series of functions,  $\sum f_i(x, y)$ , i.e. using a describable relationship between  $r_j$  and its neighbors and hence  $u_i(j)$  and its neighbor  $u_i(j)$ 's, that equals  $u_0(j)$

how are these  $u_i(j)$  related to each other?  
Illustration: 3 pts. graph  
total graph  
super-imposed.  
Given that  
 $D$  represents  
series

we would need greater and greater accuracy of  $u$  to find it as  $n$  increases.

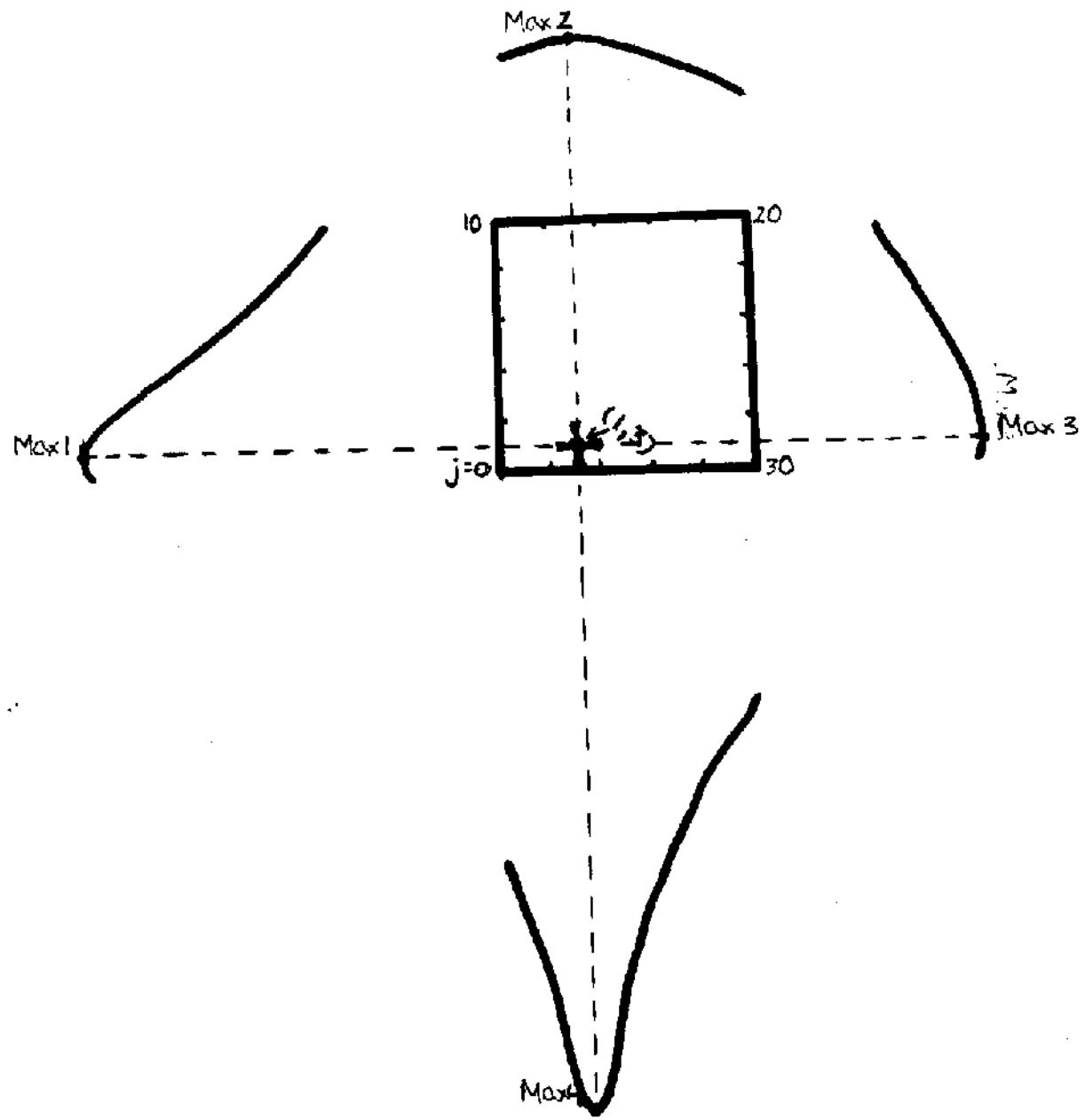
Locating 1 pt on an  $n \times n$  grid

If we know that  $m=1$ , the location of D can be found from looking at where the local maximum's of  $u_p(j)$  occur.

If the first local max occurs at  $j = (x_a, y_a)$  and the second at  $j = (x_b, y_b)$  then D occurs at  $P_i = (x_b, y_a)$ .  
This is due to geometry and the fact that by locating the max of  $u_i(j)$  we locate the min of  $r_{ji}$ .

See  
Illustration next page

Neighboring Dpts.



## Locating 2 pts.

Similarly, it is not ~~too~~ difficult to locate 2 pts. given that that's the number you have. Looking <sup>at</sup> in the vicinities of the local maximums, it is possible to deduce the configuration these 2 pts. Call the local maximums  $\max_1, \max_2, \max_3, \max_4$ , according to if they occur between  $j=0$  and  $n$ ,  $n$  and  $2n$ ,  $2n$  and  $3n$ , or  $3n$  and  $4n$ . Call the  $j$  at which ~~this~~ occurs  $j_{\max_i}$ . Firstly the center of mass of the 2 pts, occurs at  ~~$j_{\max_1}, j_{\max_2}$~~   $\left( \frac{x_{j_{\max_2}} + x_{j_{\max_4}}}{2}, \frac{y_{j_{\max_1}} + y_{j_{\max_3}}}{2} \right)$ .

If the two points lie on a line  $x=c$  or  $y=c$ , we will find that  $j_{\max_2} - n = 4n - j_{\max_4}$  or  $j_{\max_1} = 3n - j_{\max_3}$ , respectively. ~~But not looking at the slope of~~ The locations of  $P_1, P_2$  another  $(j_{\max_2} - n, j_{\max_1})$  and  $(j_{\max_4} - n, j_{\max_3})$  or  $(j_{\max_1} - n, j_{\max_2})$  and  $(j_{\max_3} - n, j_{\max_4})$ , where  $j_{\max_1}$  and  $j_{\max_2}$  are the locations of the 2 equal local maximums which occur on side ~~of the sheet~~ ~~of the sheet~~.

Otherwise, looking at u on sides 1 and 2 will give ~~the~~ the configuration. If  $\max_1 - u(j_{\max_1} - 1) < \max_2 - u(j_{\max_2} - 1)$  then  $P_1 = (x_{j_{\max_2}}, y_{j_{\max_1}})$  and  $P_2 = (x_{j_{\max_2}+1}, y_{j_{\max_1}-1})$ . If  $\max_1 - u(j_{\max_1} - 1) > \max_2 - u(j_{\max_2} - 1)$  then  $P_1 = (x_{j_{\max_2}-1}, y_{j_{\max_1}})$  and  $P_2 = (x_{j_{\max_2}}, y_{j_{\max_1}+1})$ .

Illustration for  
2 pts.

## ~~Solving~~ Solving for D

One approach to the inverse problem is to consider solving the equations obtained from  $U_b(j)$ . This seems to be only a good approach if  $m$  has been found first (otherwise you get a "variable # of variables")  $U_b(j)$  for known  $D$  is a scalar function of  $j$ , with domain the integer set  $\{1, \dots, 4^n\}$ . If we vary  $u$  over all possible  $D$ , in other words let  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_m, y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_m$  be the variables instead of  $j$ , we obtain a vector valued function  $\vec{u}(\vec{x})$  which maps vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^{2m}$  to vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^{4n}$ . The component scalar functions of  $\vec{u}(\vec{x})$  are:

~~Y<sub>b</sub>(x<sub>1</sub>)~~  
~~Y<sub>b</sub>(x<sub>2</sub>)~~  
~~Y<sub>b</sub>(x<sub>3</sub>)~~  
~~...~~

~~~~~

fill in

With measured values of  $\vec{u}(\vec{x})$  we obtain  $4n$  equations with  $2m$  unknowns.  $\vec{u}(\vec{x})$  is, however, not a linear transformation because  $\vec{u}(2\vec{x}) \neq 2\vec{u}(\vec{x})$ . My attempts to solve this set of equations lead to more and more complicated expressions, due to non-linearity.

# Looking at Mass

## Gauss' Law and derivatives on $\partial\Omega$

Gauss' law tells us that the flux of the vector field through any closed surface is equal to  $4\pi \times$  mass enclosed.

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi &= \sum_{\text{Surface}} \underset{\text{vector}}{\overrightarrow{\text{Field}}} \cdot d\vec{a} \\ &= \sum_{\partial\Omega} -\vec{\nabla} u \cdot d\vec{a} = 4\pi (\cancel{M})\end{aligned}$$

That is the sum of the rates of change of  $u$  at the  $j$ 's in the direction normal to  $\partial\Omega$  will give the mass on  $\Omega$ .

We are given  ~~$u_j$~~   $u_j$  at all  $j$  and we are trying to find  $u_n$ . Is this possible?

on side:

$$\begin{aligned}1 &= \sum_{j=1}^{10} u_j \\ 2 &= \sum_{j=11}^{20} u_j \\ 3 &= \sum_{j=21}^{30} u_j \\ 4 &= \sum_{j=31}^{40} u_j\end{aligned}$$

want to get:

$$\begin{aligned}-u_{x_1} \\ u_{x_2} \\ u_{x_3} \\ -u_{x_4}\end{aligned}$$

from known:

$$\begin{aligned}u_{y_1} \\ u_{y_2} \\ -u_{y_3} \\ -u_{y_4}\end{aligned}$$

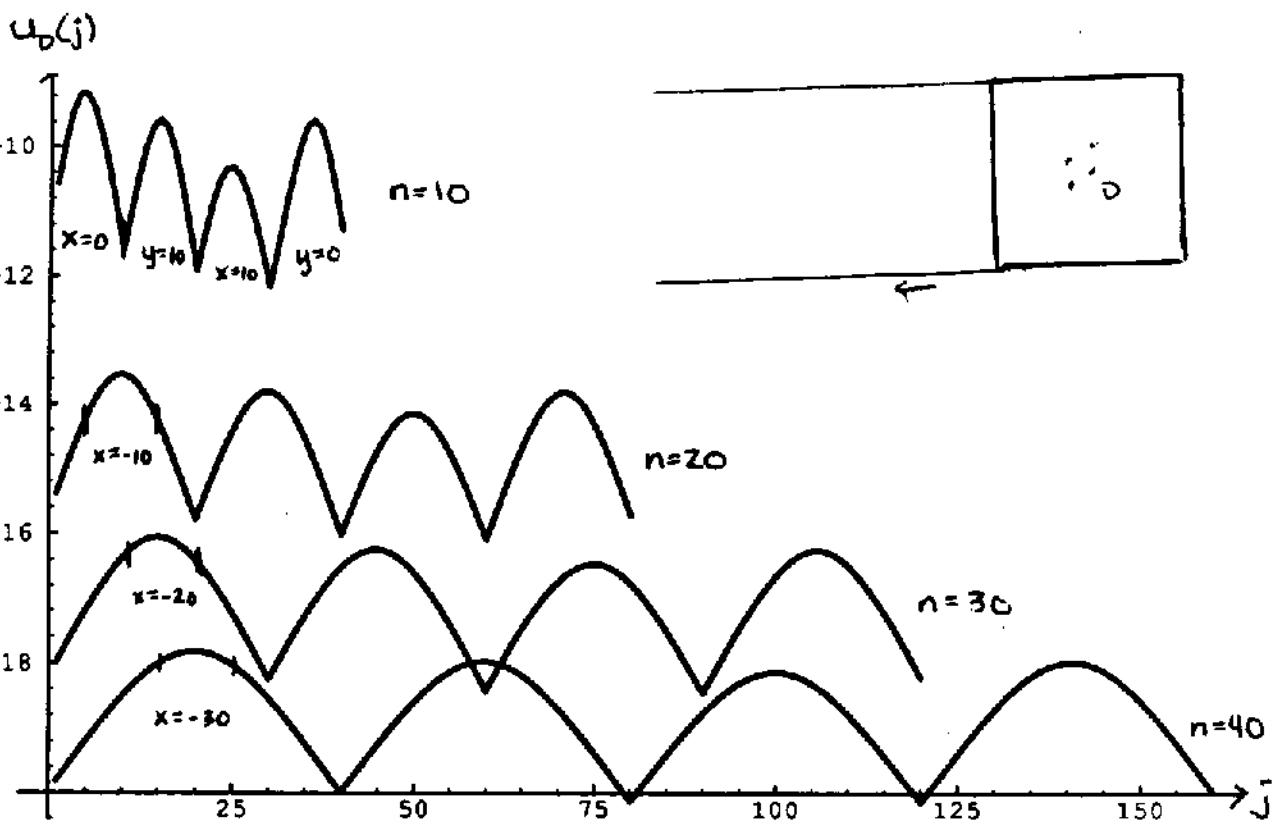
$$u_{y_1}(j) = \sum_{i=1}^m (u_i - y - j)((x_i - x)^2 + (y_i - y - j)^2)^{-1}$$

$$-u_{x_1}(j) = -\sum_{i=1}^m (x_i - x)((x_i - x)^2 + (y_i - y - j)^2)^{-1}$$

(list rest of them)

Looking at these equations I found that it would be necessary to know D in order to solve for one derivative in terms of the other. The  $(x_i', y_i')$ 's remain in the equation.

For an unknown  $D$  fixed on the grid, we increase the size of the grid around  $D$ , thereby increasing  $-x, y, x$ , and  $-y$ , to see the change in the shape of the  $u_D(j)$  curve as this happens.



As  $|x|$  increases steadily  $u_D(j)$  decreases at each  $j$ .  
 The rate at which  $u_D(j)$  decreases decreases as  $|x|, |y|$  increases.  
 " " " " " depends on  $j$ ,  
 i.e. The  $u_D(j)$  curve gets flatter as  $|x|, |y|$  increases

This information may indicate something about  $u_x, u_y, u_{-x}, u_{-y}$ .  
 The "pointedness" of the  $u_D(j)$  curve can tell us something about what is happening in the normal direction.  
 A complicated analysis may arrive at a solution, but this is unlikely because  $D$  is unknown, and where  $D$  is located affects the shape of the  $u_D(j)$  curve, as well.

## Sum of corners indicates mass

Another approach to the mass problem is to, generally, consider the overall "size" of  $u_0(j)$ . This can be done by looking at ~~the~~  $u$  at the corners of the grid. Since local mins occur at  $j=0, j=n, j=2n, j=3n$  for each  ~~$u_0(j)$~~ , they occur there for  $u_0(j)$  as well. It is logical to assume that for ~~each~~ each  $m$ , no matter where the  $D$  of this  $m$  is located, and configured, the sum  $u_0(0) + u_0(n) + u_0(2n) + u_0(3n)$  will be bounded. Looking at this case for  $m=1$  we find that that sum is minimized at the center of the grid and maximized at the closest point to a corner. <sup>(Proof)</sup> Larger  $D$ 's follow in this pattern, having a location which maximizes and minimizes the sum. If for each  $m$  we find a range for this sum, then given the sum alone we can say what are the possible  $m$ 's that caused it. Continuing in this ~~vein~~ vein, we can look at the  $u_0(j)$  curve, specifically the relationships of  $u$  on the sides of the grid to further narrow the range of  $m$ .

Finding the range of the sum of the corners, brings up an interesting "combinatorial optimization" problem. For a given  $m$ , where do you locate  $D$  so that the sum at the corners is maximized/minimized?

The function of the sum of the corners  
is:

~~~~~

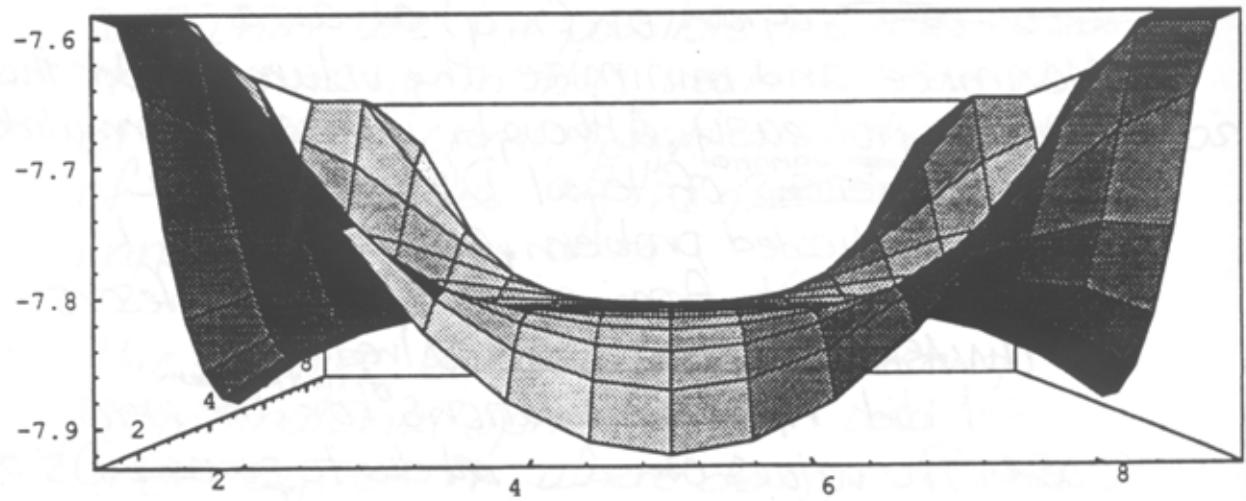
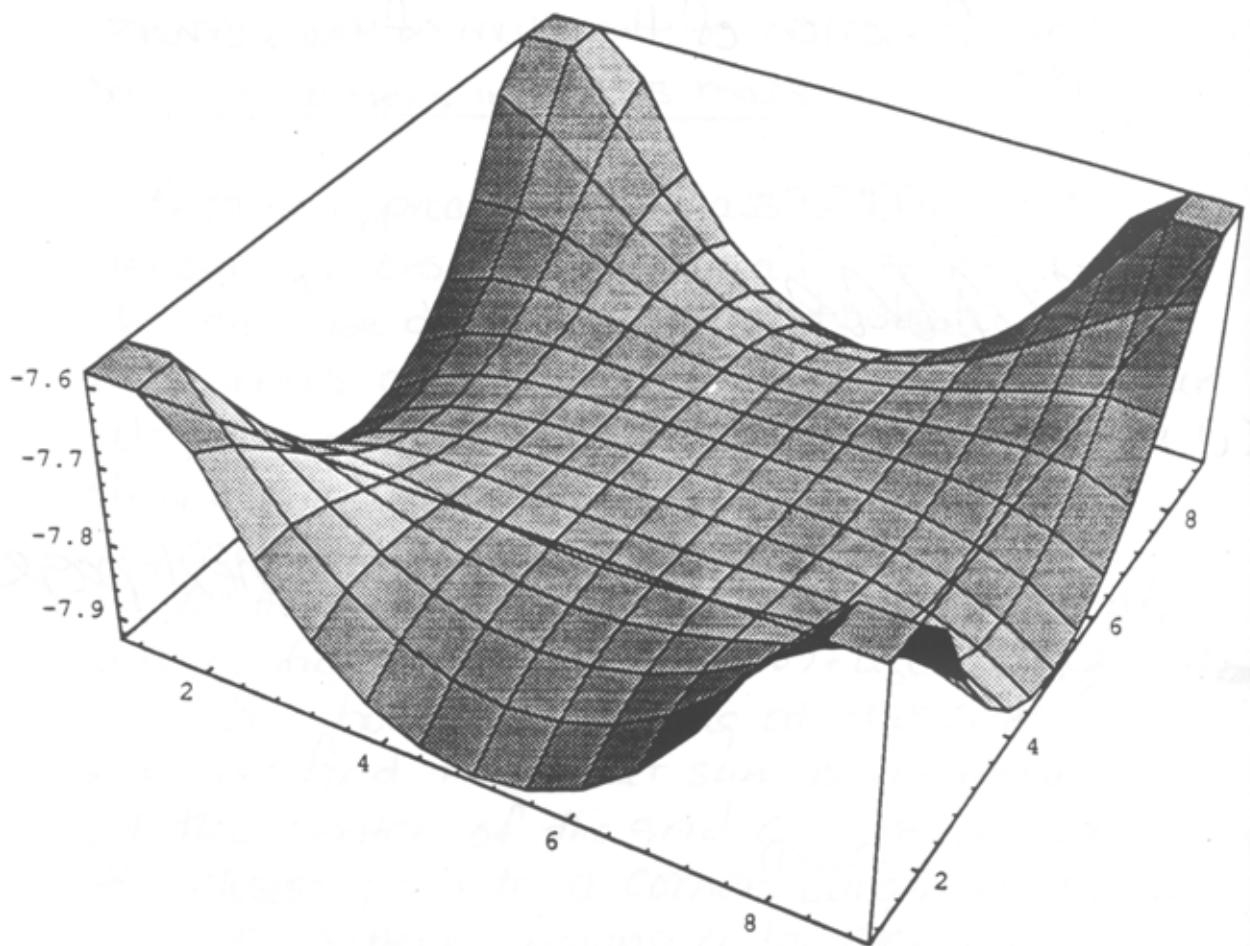
Def A 1608 like this

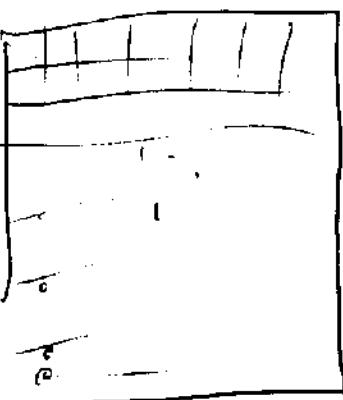
See illustration next page

Allowed a contiguous, rectangular star-shaped  
~~area of~~ region on  $(x, y)$  of area =  $m$

Maximize and minimize the volume under this graph.  
This is not easy, although it's easily formulated  
the ~~number~~<sup>variation</sup> of "legal" D's makes it a  
very complicated problem, and as far as I  
could find out from combinatorics professors  
at UWASH has not been solved yet.

I did hand calculations for the  $n=10$   
case. The values of  $\underline{\quad}$  due to ~~not~~  $n=10$  D's of  $m=1$ ,  
on  $\sqrt{2}$  are located at the corresponding point  
of  $\sqrt{2}$ .





v values

1 =

2 =

3 =

To arrived at this table of values.

After my I cannot be sure that have found the true maximum of the function, kept to do tedious calculations of the many permutations of D of that size.

### m bars illustration

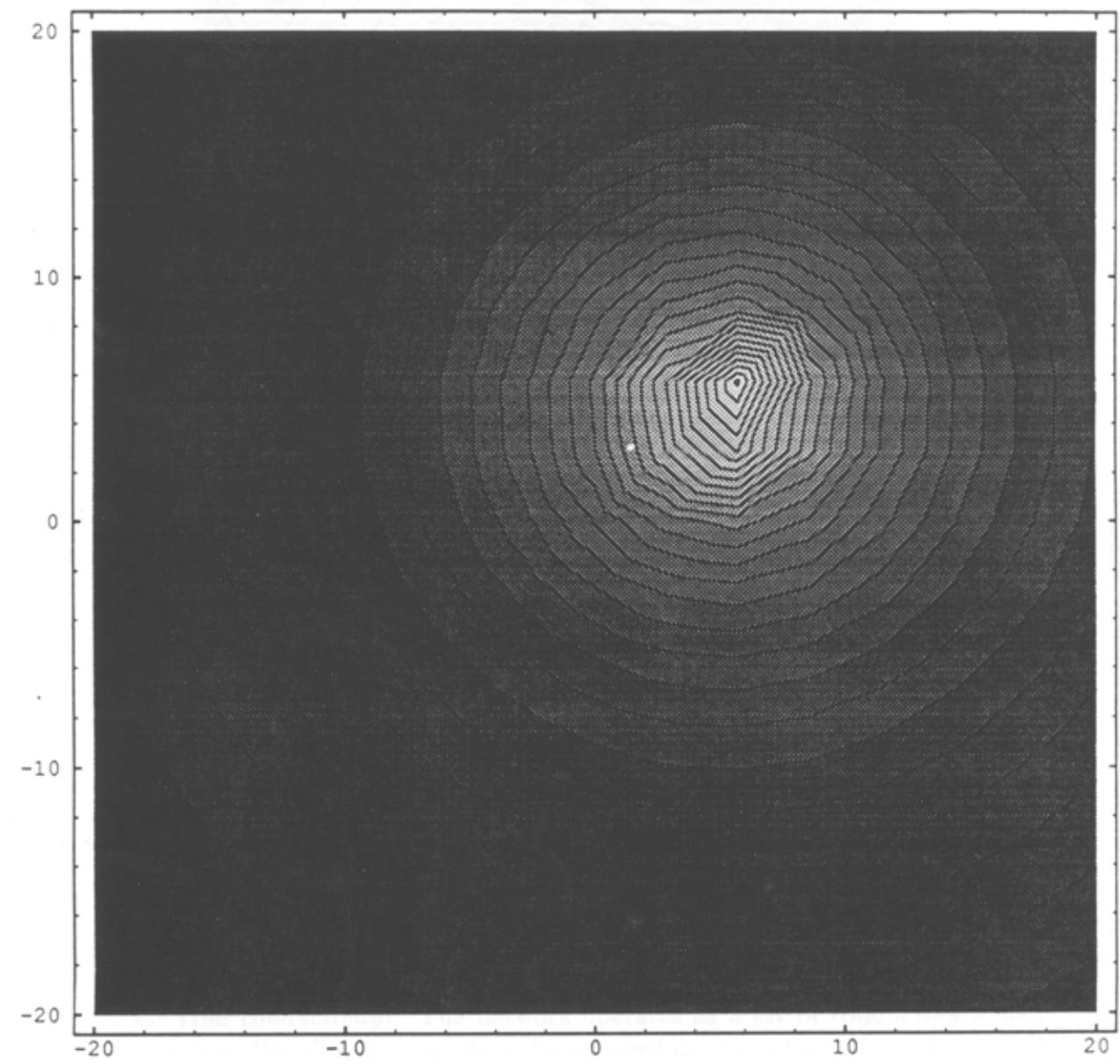
The number of "m bars" that any line  $y = c$  will pass through is bounded. Thus the error in finding m from this method lies, in my estimation from the  $(0 \times 10)^{case}$ , safely within  $10\%$ . This does not tell us much about m, but it tells us something. His error is ~~the same~~ as n increases because

~~EA,  $\pi/10$  and  $n/10$~~

$U_{r_1, \dots, r_n}(i) \underset{n=10}{\text{with}} = U_{r_1, \dots, r_n}(j)$  with  $n=n, d_n,$

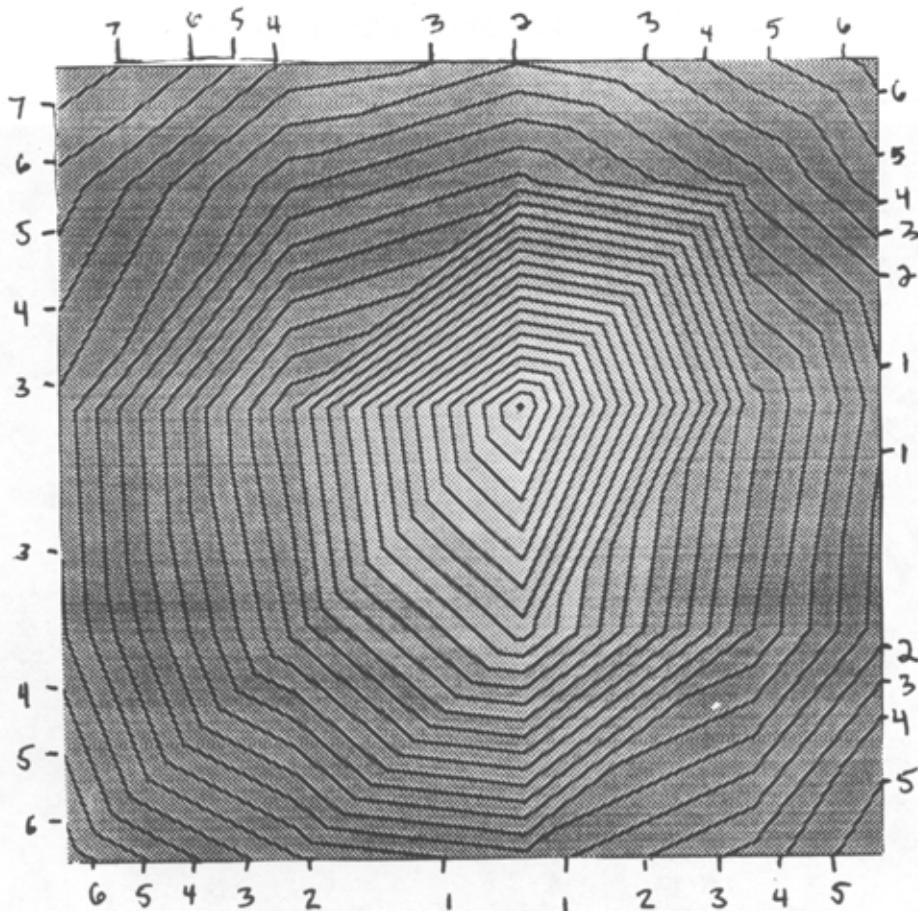
Finally, I have ~~an~~<sup>an</sup> idea which I believe may indicate a solution to the inverse problem, although I have not investigated it fully yet.

Measuring  $u$  <sup>at discrete</sup> on the boundary of the grid and joining the plot of these points, gives an estimation of  $u$  measured continuously. From that information we receive many sets of equal values of  $u$ . The sets each lie on equi-potential surfaces caused by  $D$ . ~~If  $D$  were a point mass~~  
for example if  $D$  were a point mass, equal values of  $u$  would occur at intersections of the grid with concentric circles around  $D$ . The distance between these values would vary like the  $x$  and  $y$  components of  $\frac{1}{r}$ . From these sets of values we should be able to reconstruct the spherical shape of the surfaces, and find  $D$ . Similarly, I believe the locations of equal-potentials can allow us to reconstruct  $D$ .



Equi-potential surfaces from  $D = \{(4,5), (5,5), (5,6)\}$

Magnification:



Given the locations of  $z_{13}, z_{23}, z_{33}, \dots$   
can we reconstruct the surfaces?