

# Animation Foundations

## 09. Introduction to Inverse Kinematics

Dr Joan Llobera – [joanllobera@enti.cat](mailto:joanllobera@enti.cat)

# Rotate a vector in 3D with Quaternions

## REMINDER

Rotating a vector  $\mathbf{p}$  by a quaternion  $\mathbf{q}$  is:

$$\mathbf{p}' = \mathbf{q}\mathbf{p}\mathbf{q}^*$$

However, in Unity, given

Vector3 p1;

Quaternion q;

Vector3 p2;

We can write this operation as:

$$\mathbf{p}_2 = \mathbf{q} * \mathbf{p}_1;$$

$$(\text{vector3}) = (\text{Quaternion}) * (\text{Vector3})$$

This does the following:

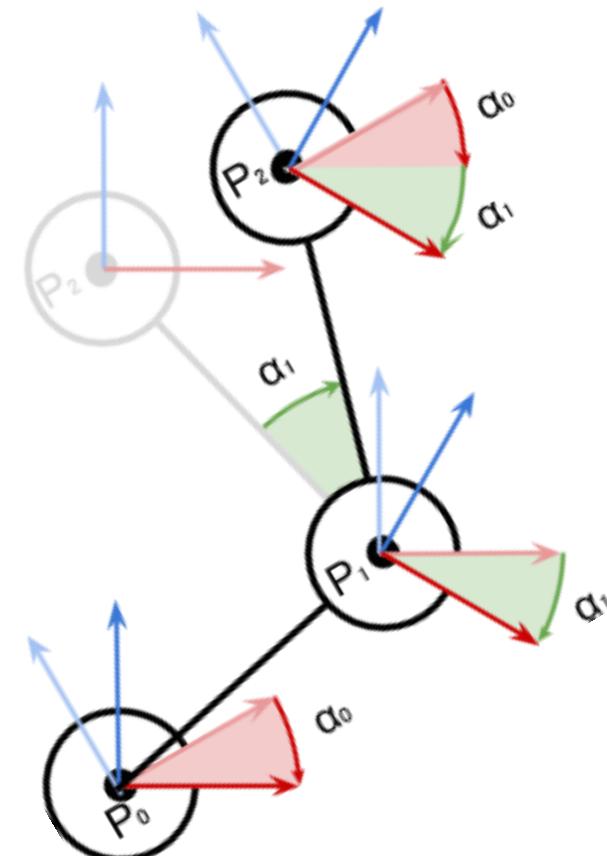
```
public static Vector3 operator *(Quaternion quat, Vector3 vec){  
    float num = quat.x * 2f;    float num2 = quat.y * 2f;    float num3 = quat.z * 2f;  
    float num4 = quat.x * num;    float num5 = quat.y * num2;    float num6 = quat.z * num3;  
    float num7 = quat.x * num2;    float num8 = quat.x * num3;    float num9 = quat.y * num3;  
    float num10 = quat.w * num;   float num11 = quat.w * num2;   float num12 = quat.w * num3;  
  
    Vector3 result;  
    result.x = (1f - (num5 + num6)) * vec.x + (num7 - num12) * vec.y + (num8 + num11) * vec.z;  
    result.y = (num7 + num12) * vec.x + (1f - (num4 + num6)) * vec.y + (num9 - num10) * vec.z;  
    result.z = (num8 - num11) * vec.x + (num9 + num10) * vec.y + (1f - (num4 + num5)) * vec.z;  
    return result;  
}
```

<https://answers.unity.com/questions/372371/multiply-quaternion-by-vector3-how-is-done.html>

# Inverse Kinematics. Introduction

IK:

How to find the joints that match a position?



# Forward Kinematics. Reminder

To determine the position of hand:

$$r_i = \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} \alpha_k$$

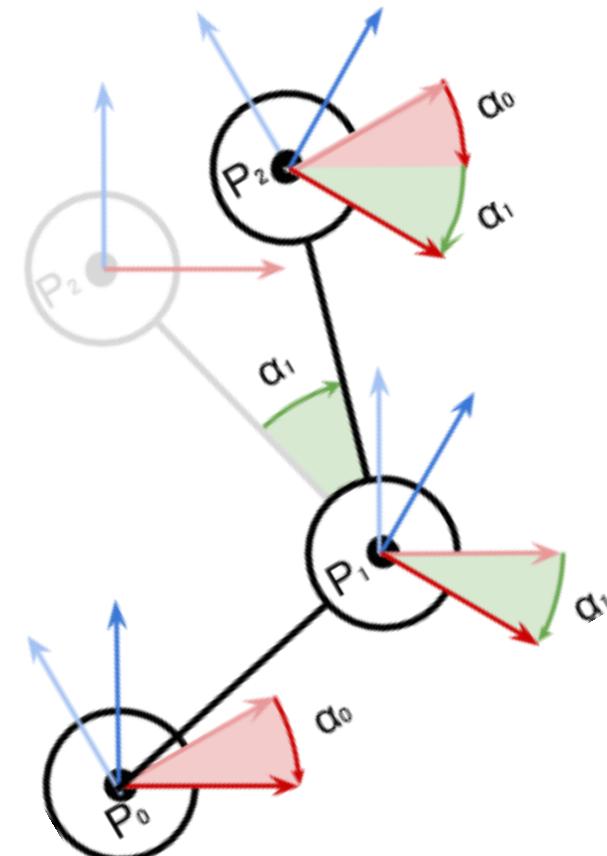
$$P_i = P_{i-1} + \text{rotate}(D_i, P_{i-1}, \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} \alpha_k)$$

$P_i$  position of joint i

$D_i$  distance of joint i

$\alpha_i$  local rotation of joint i

$r_i$  global rotation of joint i

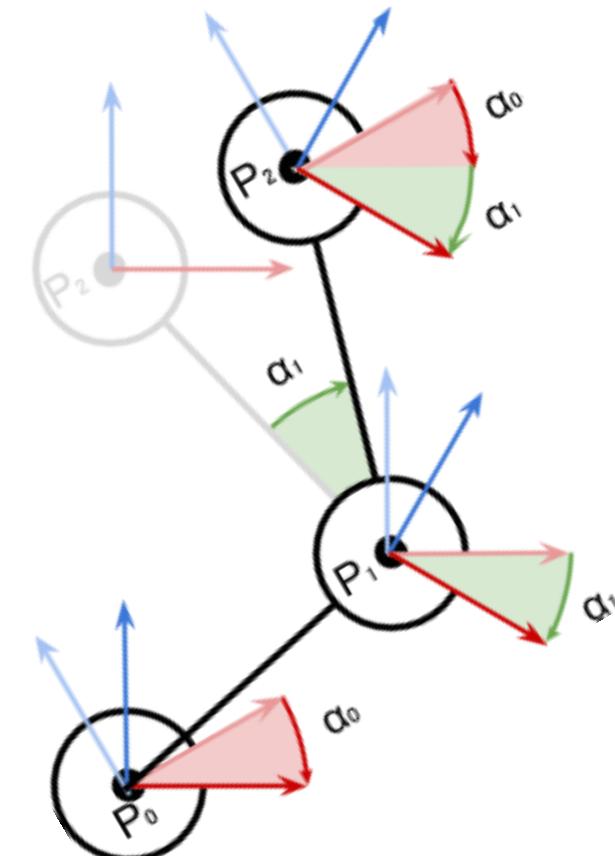


# Direct kinematics and distances

Direct kinematics is a function that tells us the position of each limb from a set of angles.

With a direct kinematics function we can estimate the distance to a target.

Public Vector3 DistanceFromTarget(Vector3 target, float[] angles)



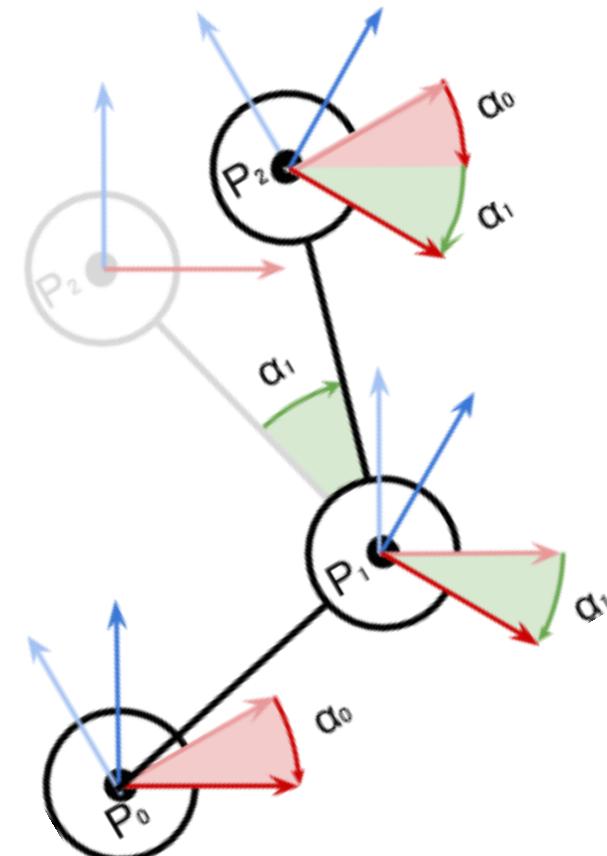
# Direct Kinematics and distances. Implement

```
Public Vector3 DistanceFromTarget(Vector3  
target, float[] angles)
```

$$P_i = P_{i-1} + \text{rotate } (D_i, P_{i-1}, \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} \alpha_k)$$

$$\text{DistTarg} = T - P_i$$

Exercise: download the .unitypackage and complete the function ForwardKinematics in the class InverseKinematics.cs



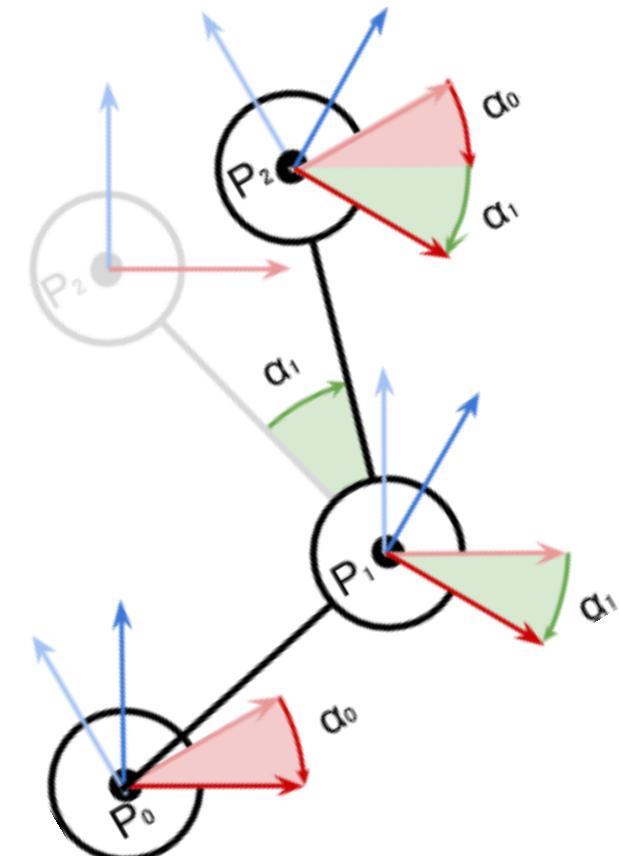
# Inverse kinematics. The intro

Idea!

We can define an optimization function to minimize a distance depending on a certain number of angles

Min function(distance(angles) ,angles) = ?

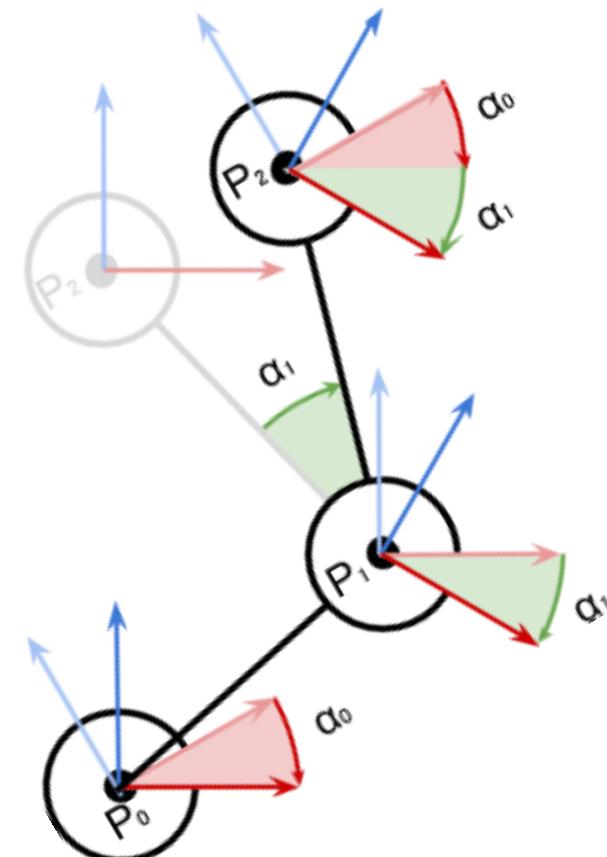
But how?



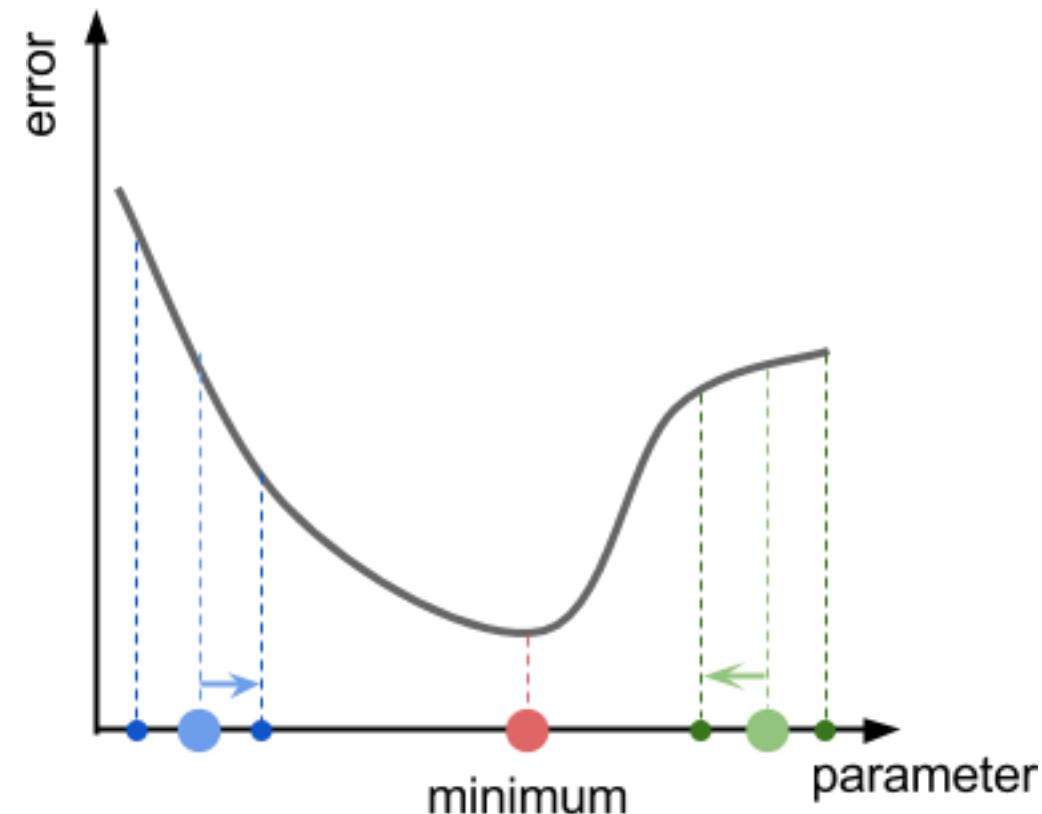
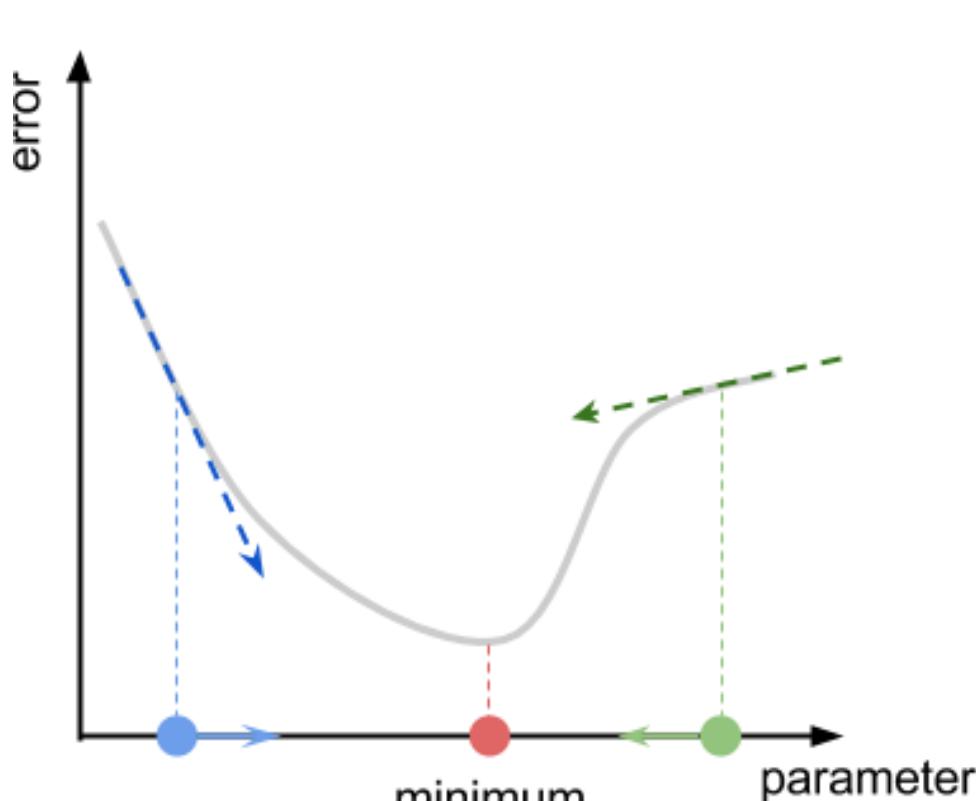
# Inverse kinematics. The methods

3 methods:

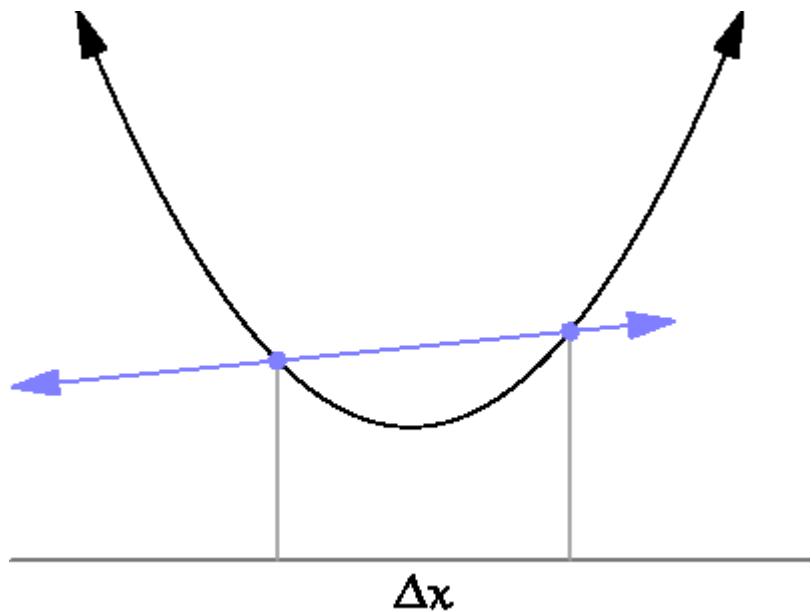
- Gradient Descent (GD)
- Cyclic Coordinate Descent (CCD)
- Forward and Backward Recursive Inverse Kinematic (FABRIK)



# Gradient Descent. What is it?



# Gradient Descent. Like a derivative?



Derivative

$$f'(p) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(p + \Delta x) - f(p)}{\Delta x}$$

Gradient

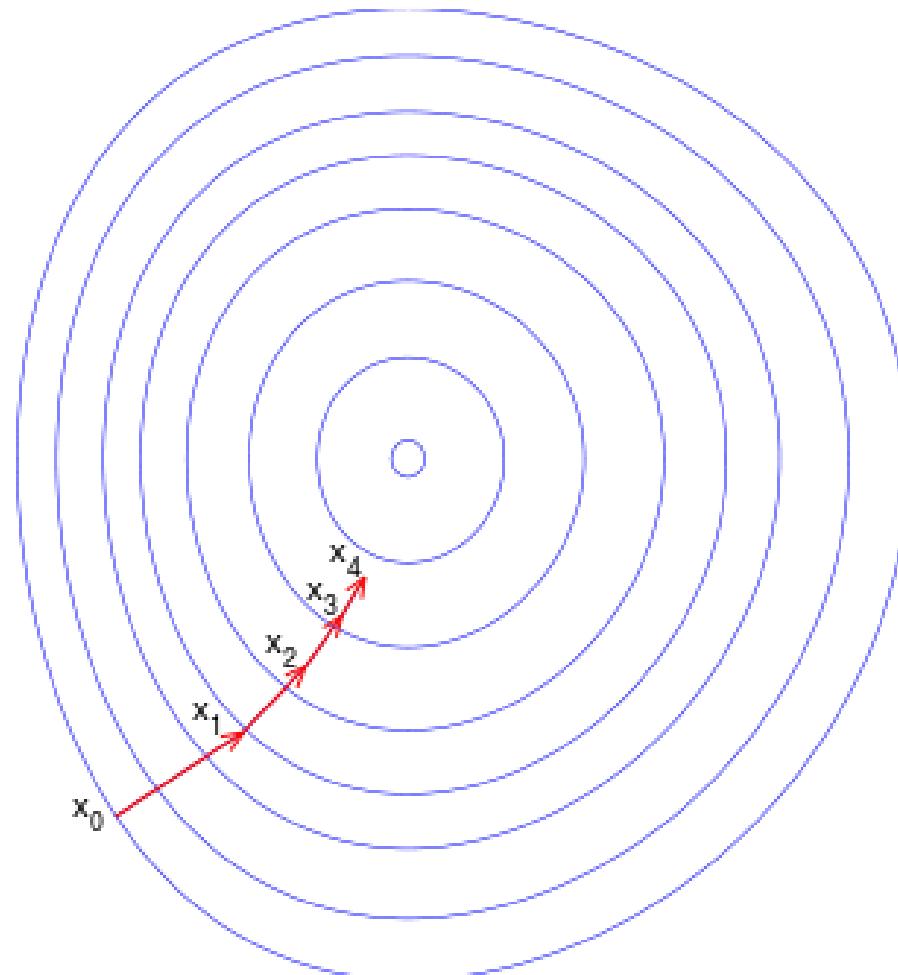
$$\nabla f(p) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(p + \Delta x) - f(p)}{\Delta x}$$

Iteration step:

$$p_{i+1} = p_i - L \nabla f(p_i)$$

Where L is the learning step

# Gradient Descent. In 2D



# Gradient Descent. The maths

Gradient 1D:

$$\nabla f(p) = \lim_{n \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(p + \Delta x) - f(p)}{\Delta x}$$

Gradient (for our robot):

$$\nabla f(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2) = \lim_{n \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\alpha_0 + \Delta x, \alpha_1, \alpha_2) - f(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2)}{\Delta x}$$

Which means:

$$\nabla f_{\alpha_0}(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2) = \lim_{n \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\alpha_0 + \Delta \alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2) - f(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2)}{\Delta \alpha_0}$$

$$\nabla f_{\alpha_1}(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2) = \dots$$

$$\nabla f_{\alpha_2}(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2) = \dots$$

Iteration step:

$$(\alpha_0)_{i+1} = (\alpha_0)_i - L \nabla f_{\alpha_0}(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2)$$

$$(\alpha_1)_{i+1} = \dots$$

$$(\alpha_2)_{i+1} = \dots$$

# Gradient Descent. Implement its calculation

```
Public float  
PartialGradient(Vector3 target,  
float[] angles, int i){  
}  
}
```

EXERCISE: implement function  
CalculateGradient in  
InverseKinematics.cs

# IK with Gradient Descent. Implement it

Once we have the partialGradient, implementing the function to approach the target is actually straightforward

EXERCISE: implement function ApproachTarget in InverseKinematics.cs, using CalculateGradient

EXERCISE: implement Update to check if we should approach the target or not

# Gradient Descent. Potential problems

