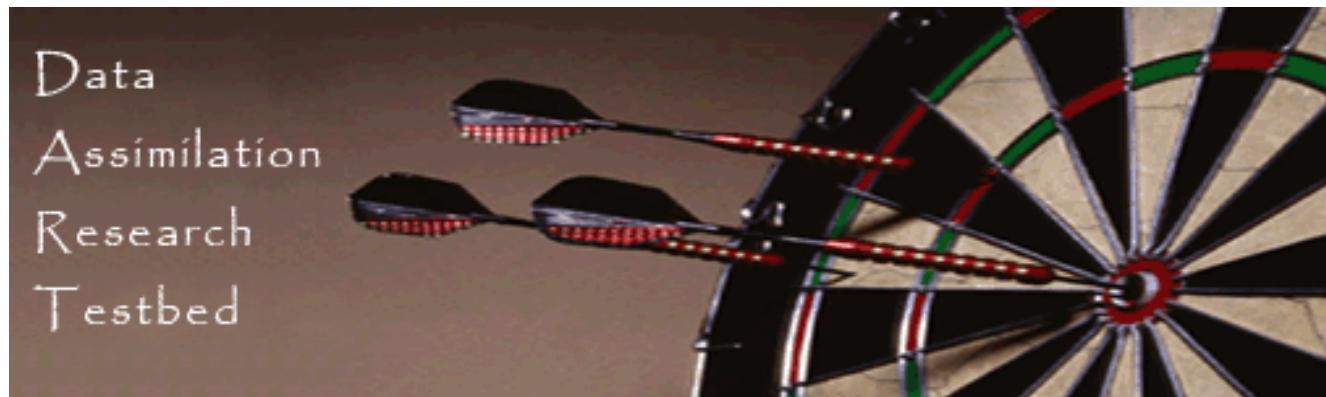


The Data Assimilation Research Testbed: A Community Ensemble DA Facility



Jeffrey Anderson, Nancy Collins, Tim Hoar,
Hui Liu, Glen Romine, Kevin Raeder
NCAR Institute for Math Applied to Geophysics



Public domain software for ensemble Data Assimilation

- Well-tested, portable, extensible, free!

Models

- Toy to HUGE

Observations

- Real, synthetic, novel

An extensive Tutorial

- With examples, exercises, explanations

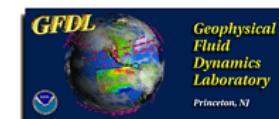
People: The DARES Team



ESPC DA Workshop; Sept. 2011

DART is used at:

43 UCAR member universities
More than 100 other sites

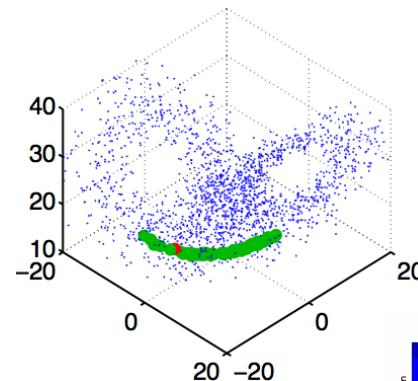




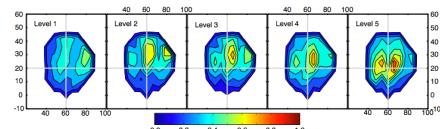
Education



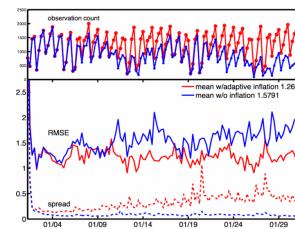
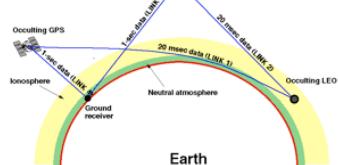
DART is:



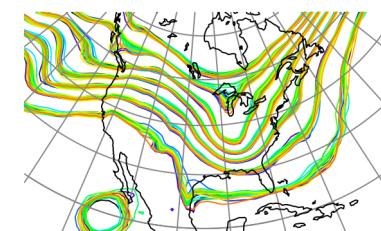
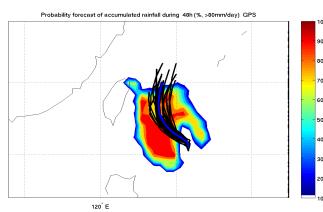
Exploration



Research



Operations



DART works with many geophysical models

Global Atmosphere models:

| | | |
|------------|--|-----------|
| CAM | Community Atmosphere Model | NCAR |
| CAM/CHEM | CAM with Chemistry | NCAR |
| WACCM | Whole Atmosphere Community Climate Model | NCAR |
| AM2 | Atmosphere Model 2 | NOAA/GFDL |
| NOGAPS | Navy Operational Global Atmospheric Prediction System | US Navy |
| ECHAM | European Centre Hamburg Model | Hamburg |
| Planet WRF | Global version of WRF | JPL |
| MPAS | Model for Prediction Across Scales (under development) | NCAR/DOE |



DART works with many geophysical models

Regional Atmosphere models:

| | | |
|----------|---|-----------|
| WRF/ARW | Weather Research and Forecast Model | NCAR |
| WRF/CHEM | WRF with Chemistry | NCAR |
| NCOMMAS | Collaborative Model for Multiscale Atmospheric Simulation | NOAA/NSSL |
| COAMPS | Coupled Ocean/Atmosphere Mesoscale Prediction System | US Navy |
| CMAQ | Community Multi-scale Air Quality | EPA |

DART works with many geophysical models

Ocean models:

| | | |
|----------|--|----------|
| POP | Parallel Ocean Program | DOE/NCAR |
| MIT OGCM | Ocean General Circulation Model | MIT |
| ROMS | Regional Ocean Modeling System (under development) | Rutgers |
| MPAS | Model for Prediction Across Scales (Under development) | DOE/LANL |



DART works with many geophysical models

Upper Atmosphere/Space Weather models:

ROSE

TieGCM

GITM

Thermosphere Ionosphere
Electrodynamic GCM
Global Ionosphere
Thermosphere Model

NCAR

NCAR/HAO

Michigan



DART works with many geophysical models

Land Surface models:

CLM

Community Land Model

NCAR



ESPC DA Workshop; Sept. 2011

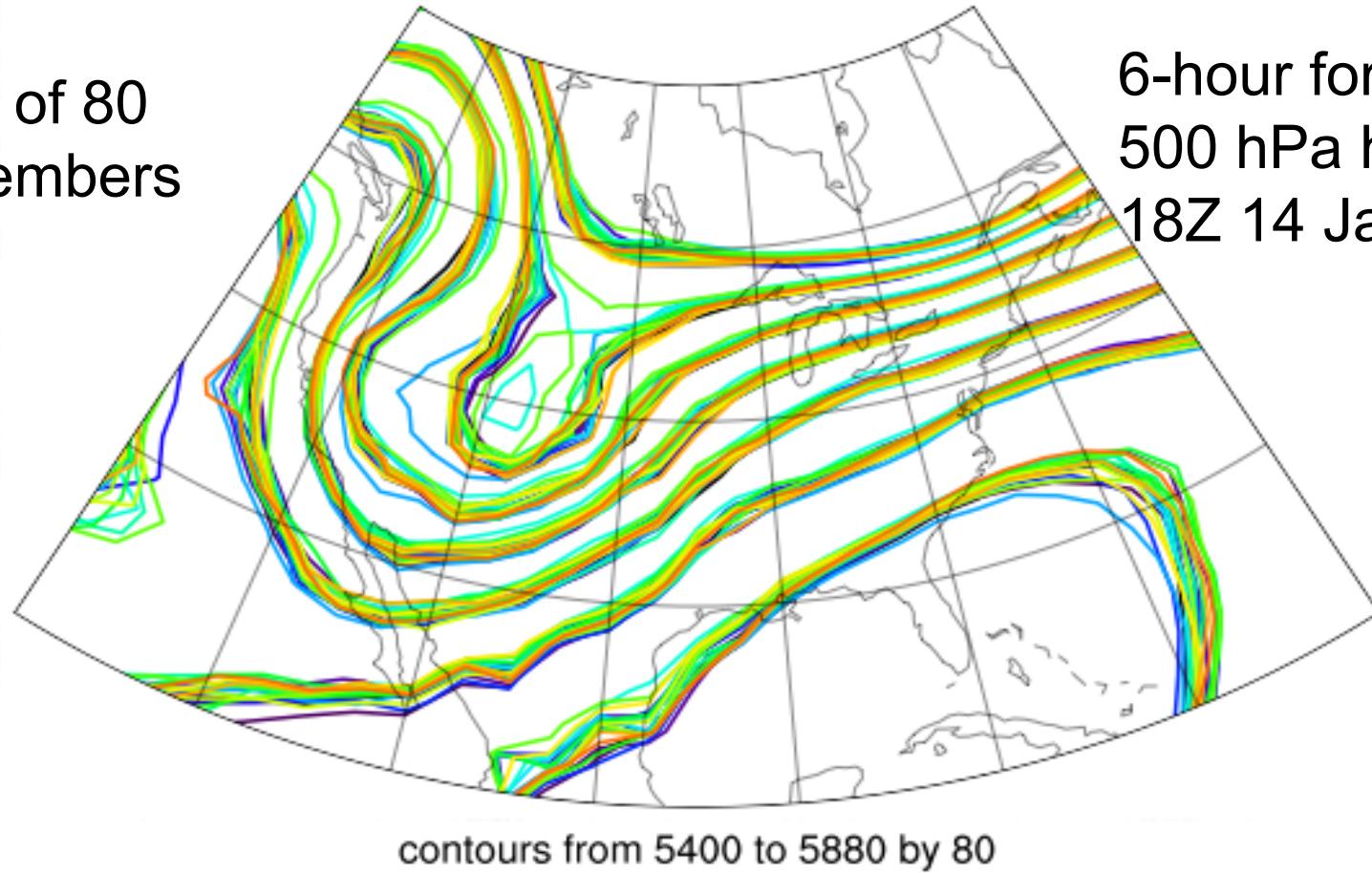
pg 8



Basic Capability: Ensemble Analyses and Forecasts in Large Geophysical Models

20 of 80
members

6-hour forecast
500 hPa height
18Z 14 Jan 2007

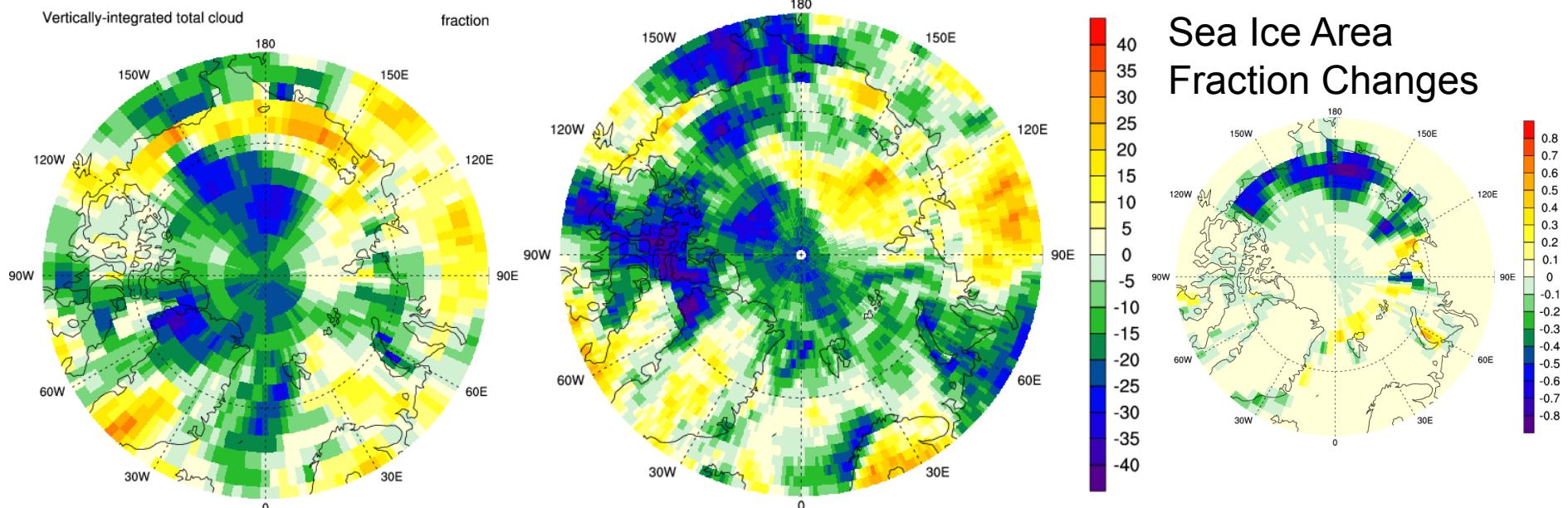


Forecast from CAM (Community Atmosphere Model)

Model improvement by confronting with observations. (work by Jen Kay, CSU/NCAR)

Modeled vs. observed cloud changes July 2007 minus July 2006

CAM Total Cloud Changes MODIS Terra Cloud Changes

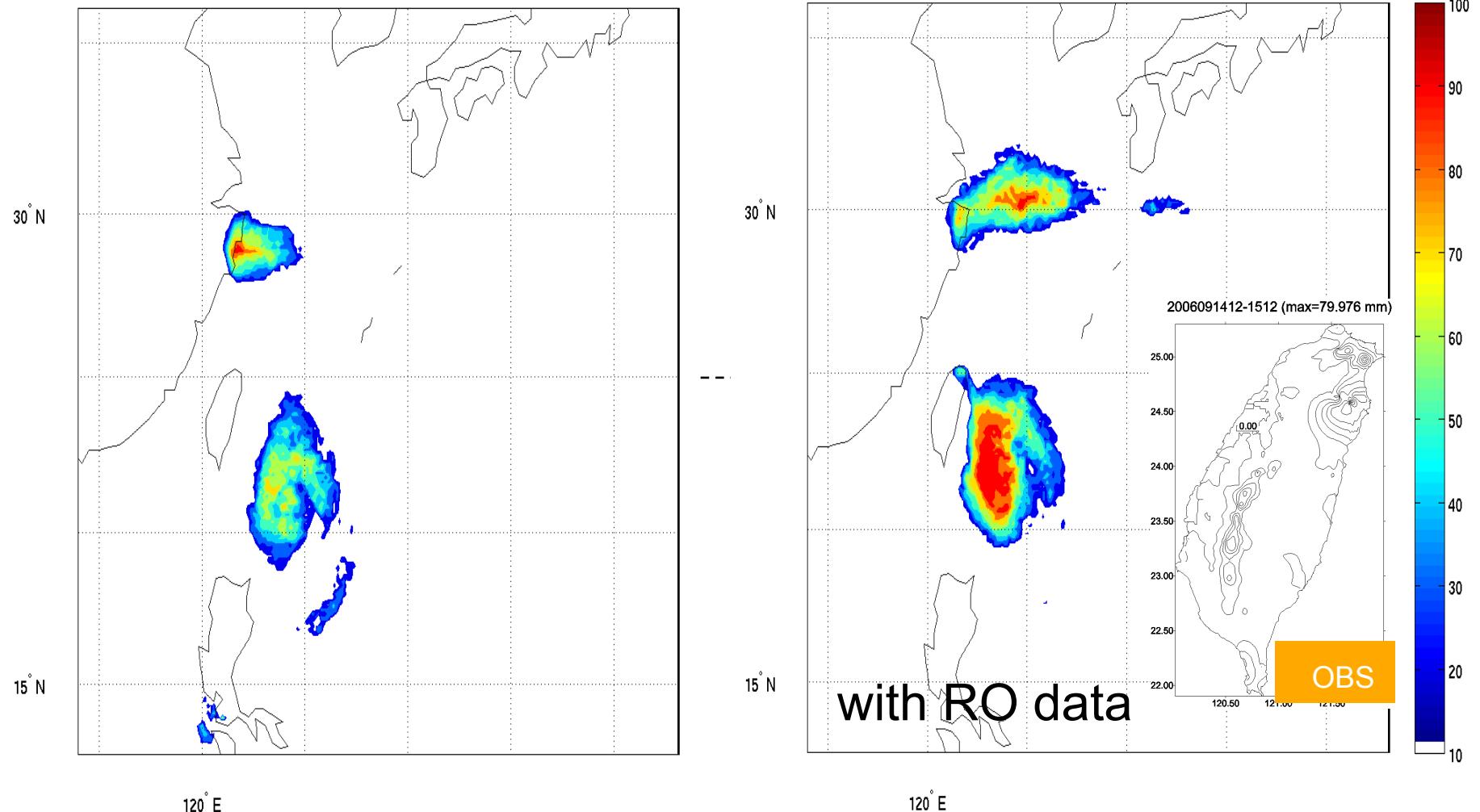


Unlike CAM, MODIS shows variability in the cloud response over open water.

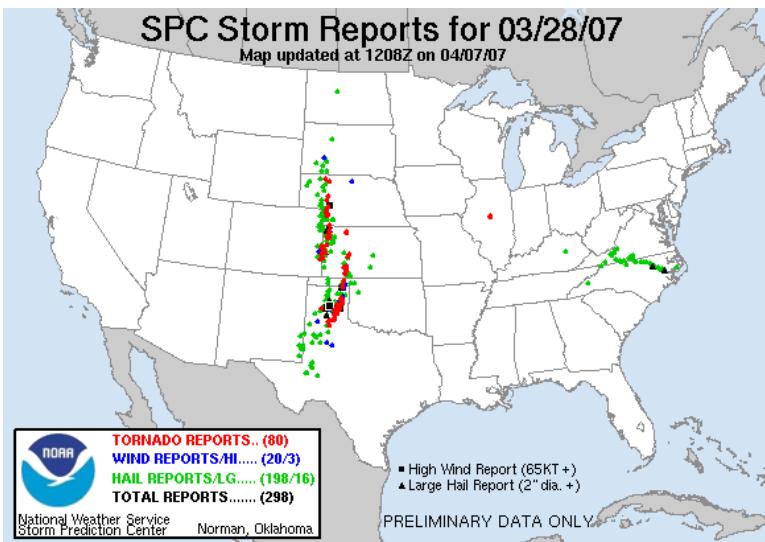


Probabilistic Prediction; Observing System Design

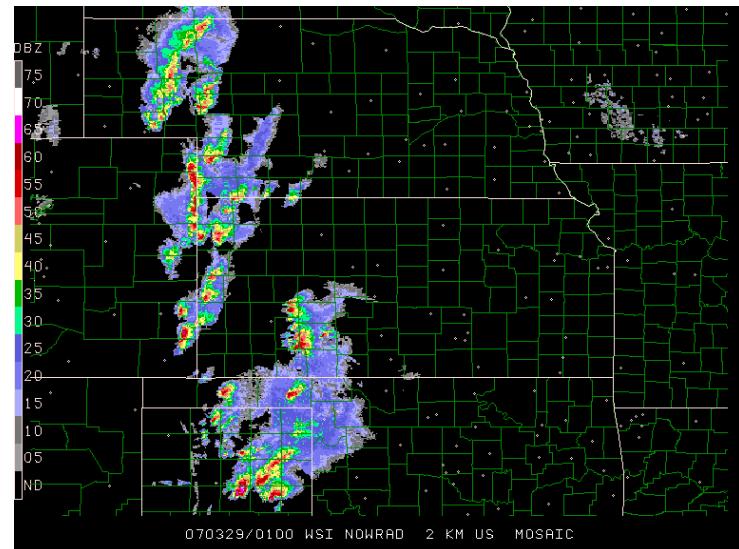
Forecast Probability of Rainfall >60mm/24h, 12Z 14-15 Sep



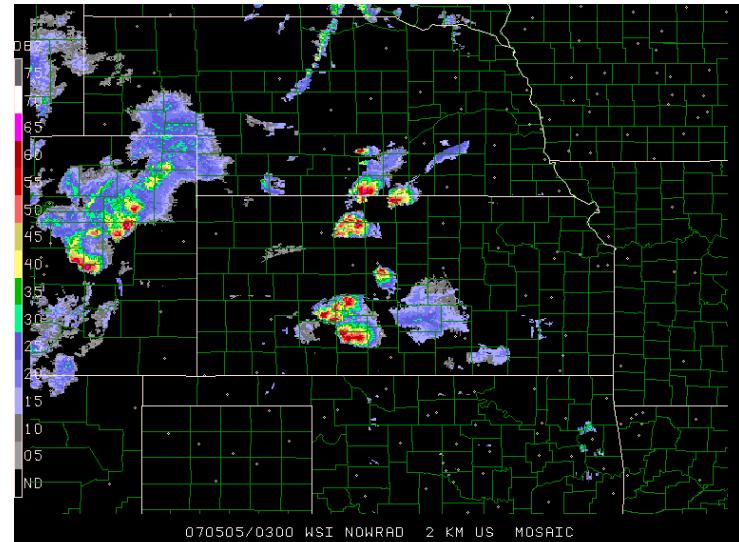
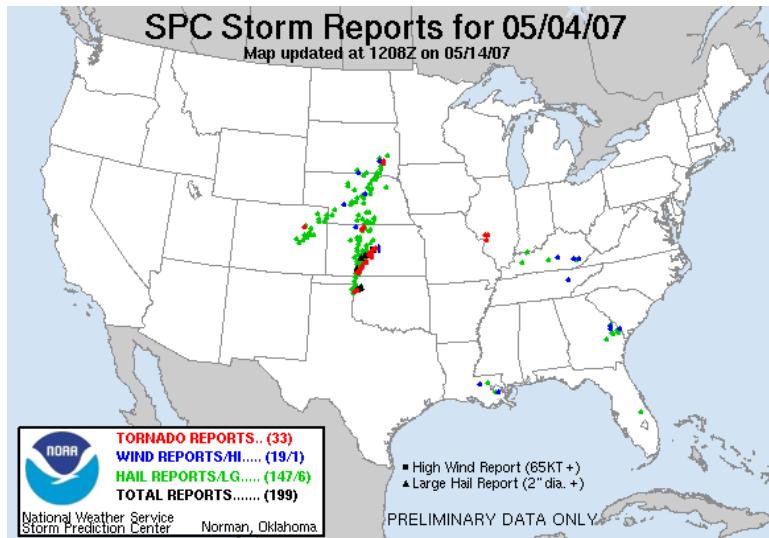
(David Dowell, NOAA)



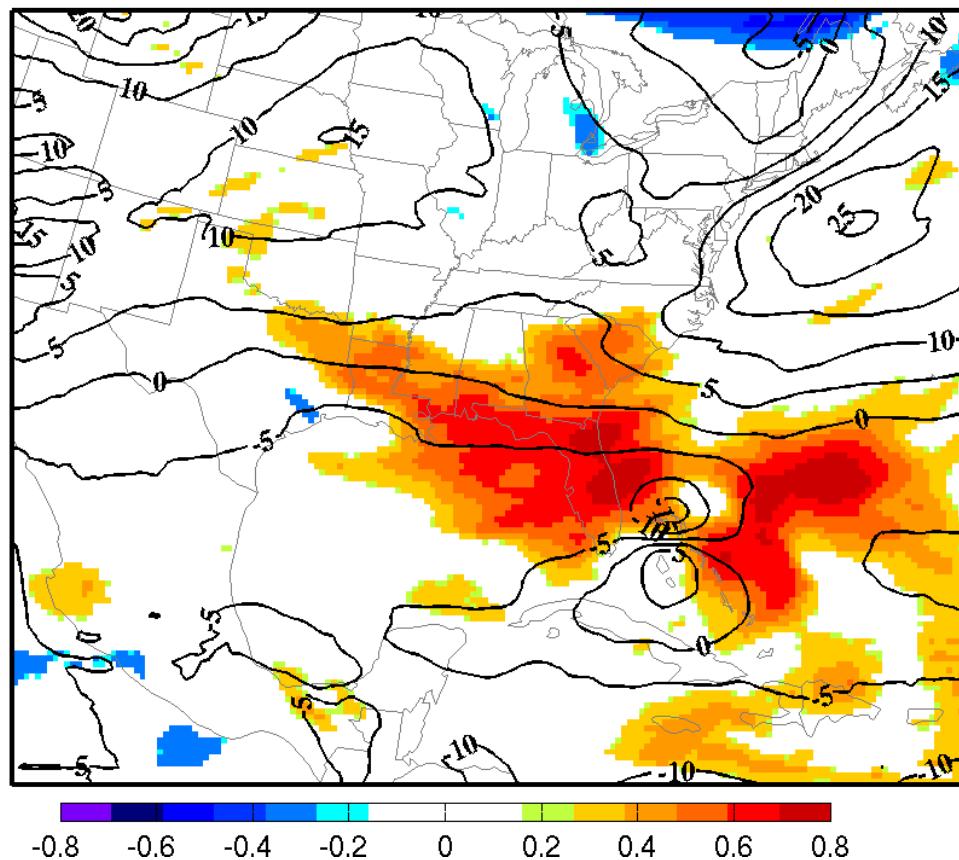
March 28 Tornado Outbreak



May 4 (Greensburg, KS) Tornado Case



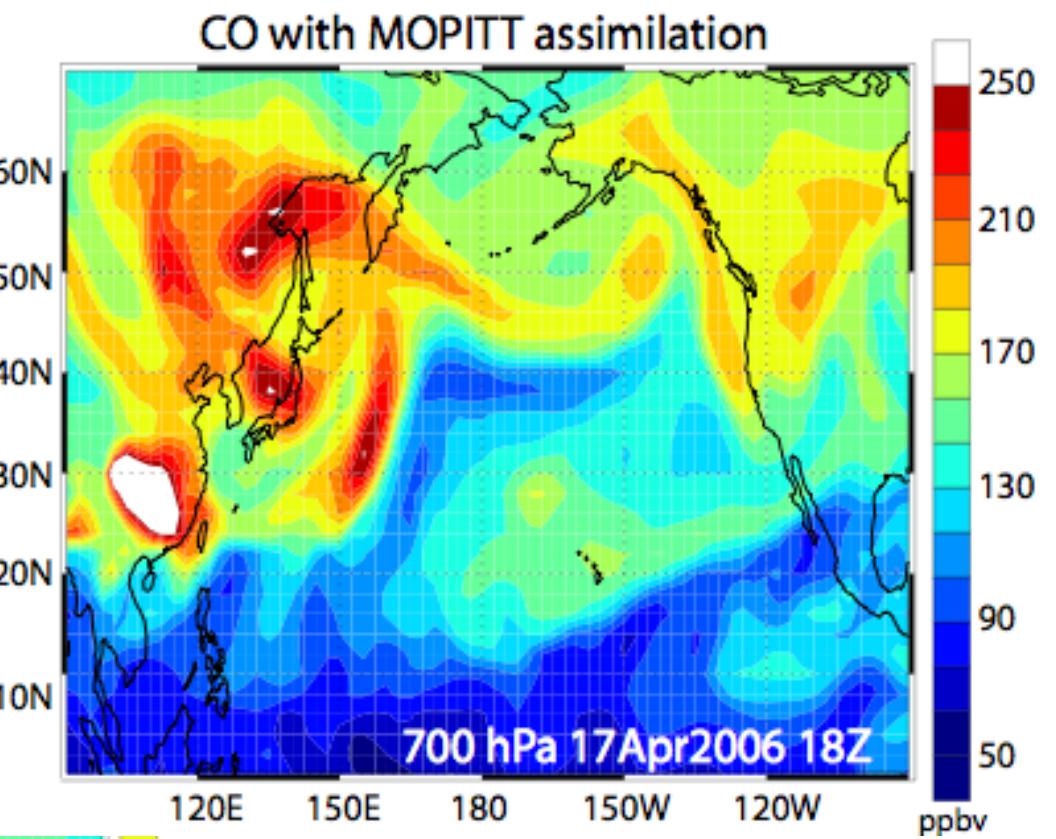
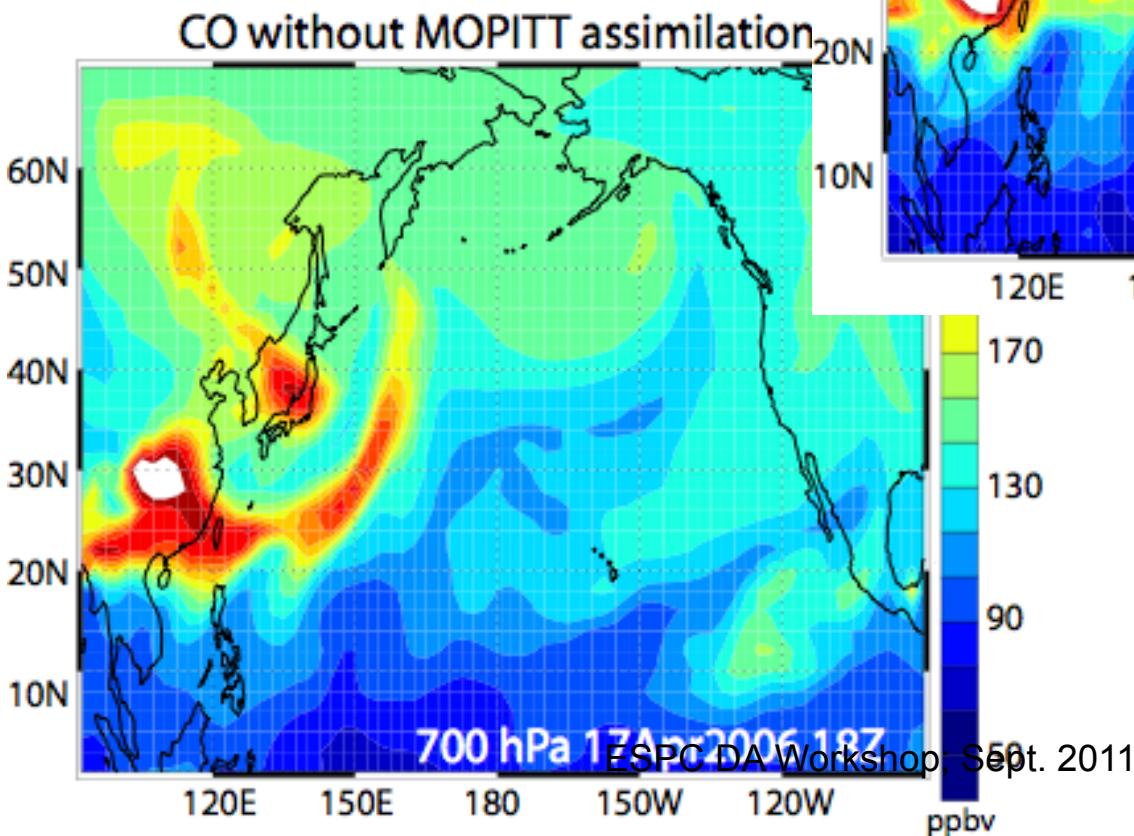
Hurricane Katrina Sensitivity Analysis (Ryan Torn, SUNY Albany)



Contours are ensemble mean 48h forecast of deep-layer mean wind.

Color indicates change in the longitude of Katrina.

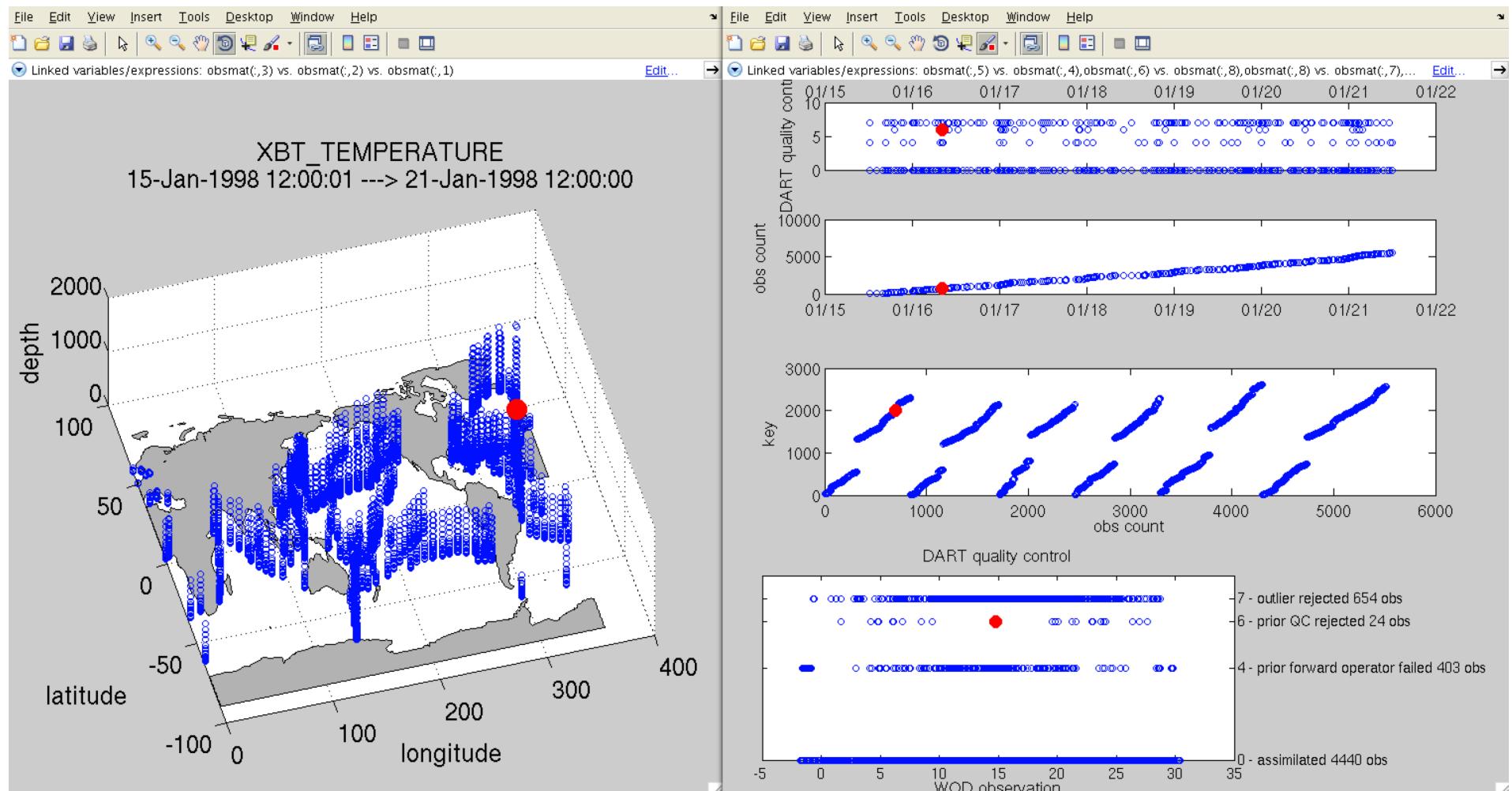
MOPITT CO assimilation
prototype
(CAM/CHEM model)
(Ave Arellano, U. Arizona)



Support for
ARCTAS field
experiment.

DART Includes Many Diagnostic Tools

Observation Visualization Example



DART Strategy for Generic Ensemble DA

Challenges:

- Only have 4 FTEs plus additional fractional FTE.
- Need to maintain and support existing models and users.
- Add new models, currently about four per year.
- Add new observation types.
- Support users on many different supercomputers.
- Support an assortment of compilers.
- Support new users and students.

DART Strategy for Generic Ensemble DA

Strategies:

- Strict boundaries between DA and models / observation operators.
- Basic implementation leaves forecast model unchanged.
- Interface between DA and models has small set of interfaces.
- Careful coding of tasks that are common to most models.
- Extensive documentation, tutorials and examples.

DART Strategy for Generic Ensemble DA

Parallel performance is key issue:

- Need algorithm that is independent of model grid, other details.
- Scales well for small or large applications.
- Avoids load balancing problems.

Ensemble Filter for Large Geophysical Models

1. Use model to advance **ensemble** (3 members here) to time at which next observation becomes available.

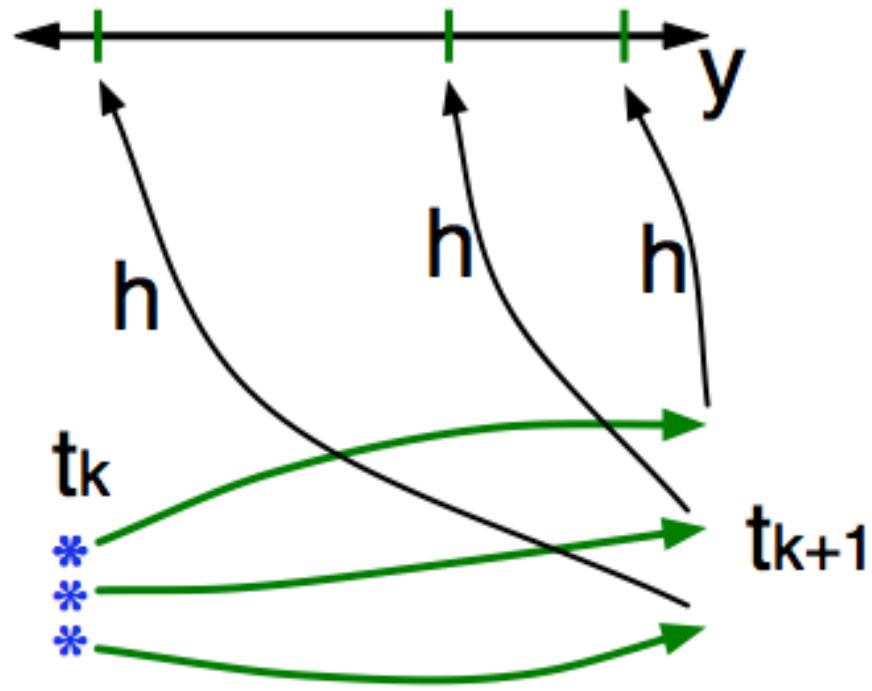
Ensemble state
estimate after using
previous observation
(analysis)



Ensemble state
at time of next
observation
(prior)

Ensemble Filter for Large Geophysical Models

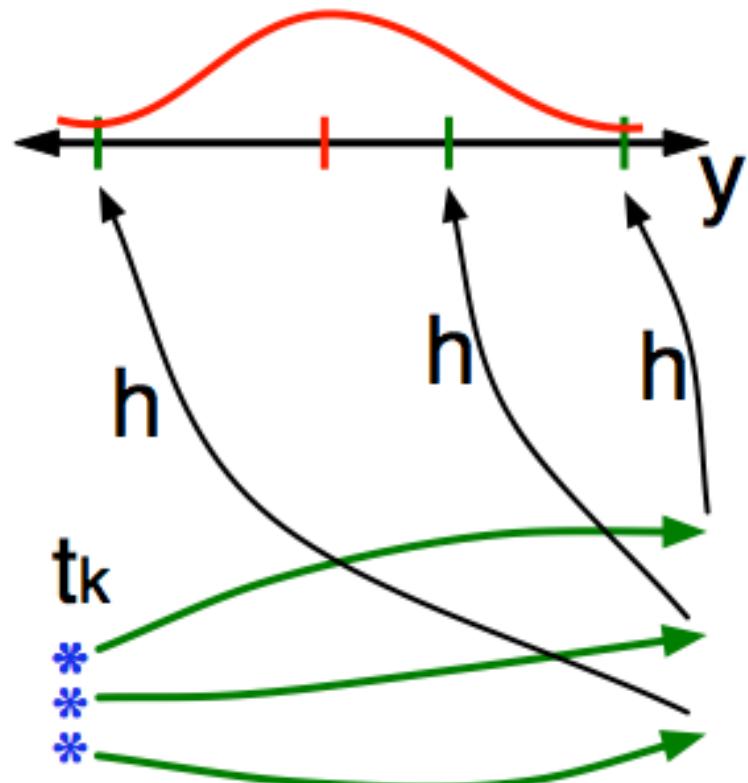
2. Get prior ensemble sample of observation, $y = h(x)$, by applying forward operator h to each ensemble member.



Theory: observations from instruments with uncorrelated errors can be done sequentially.

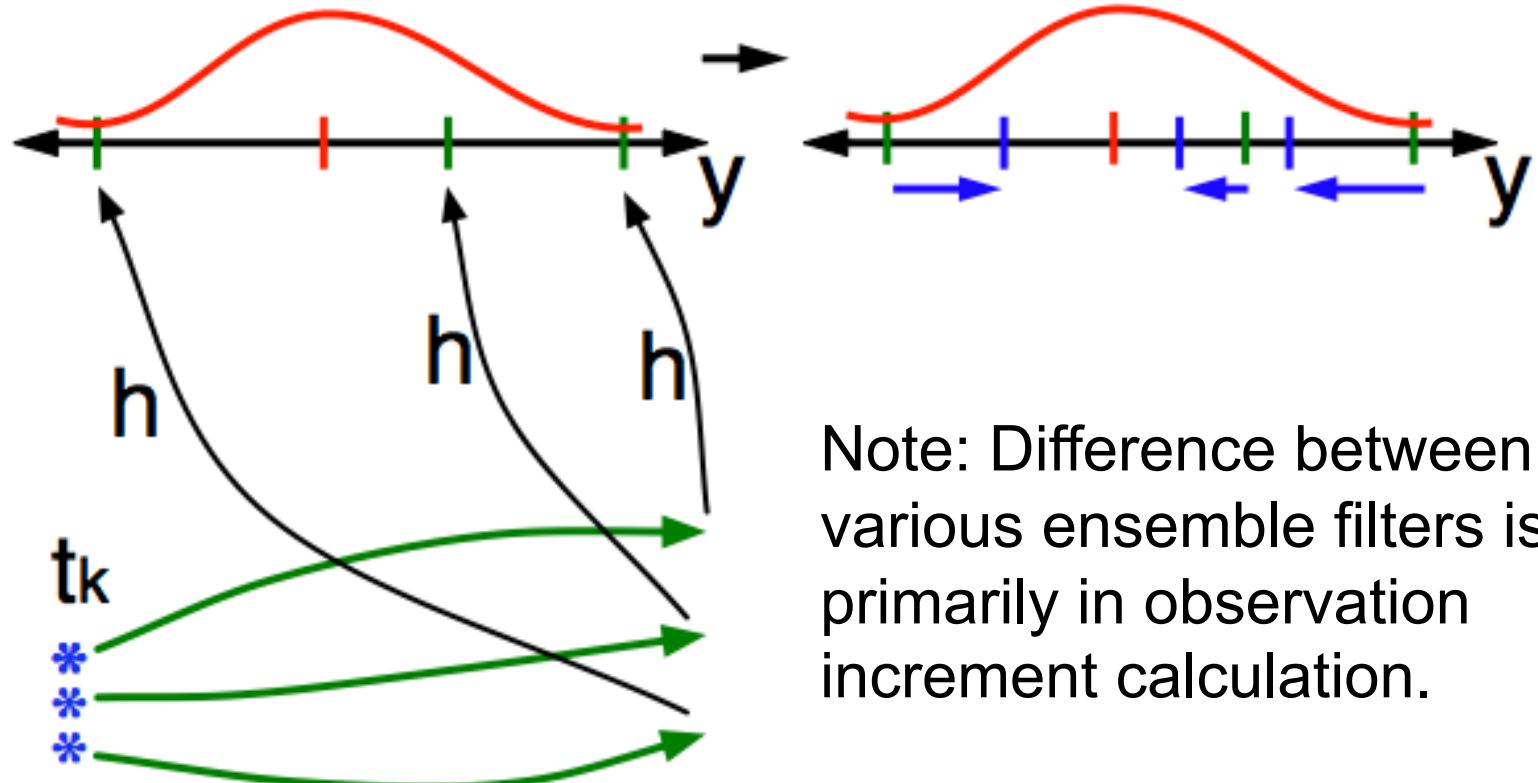
Ensemble Filter for Large Geophysical Models

3. Get **observed value** and **observational error distribution** from observing system.



Ensemble Filter for Large Geophysical Models

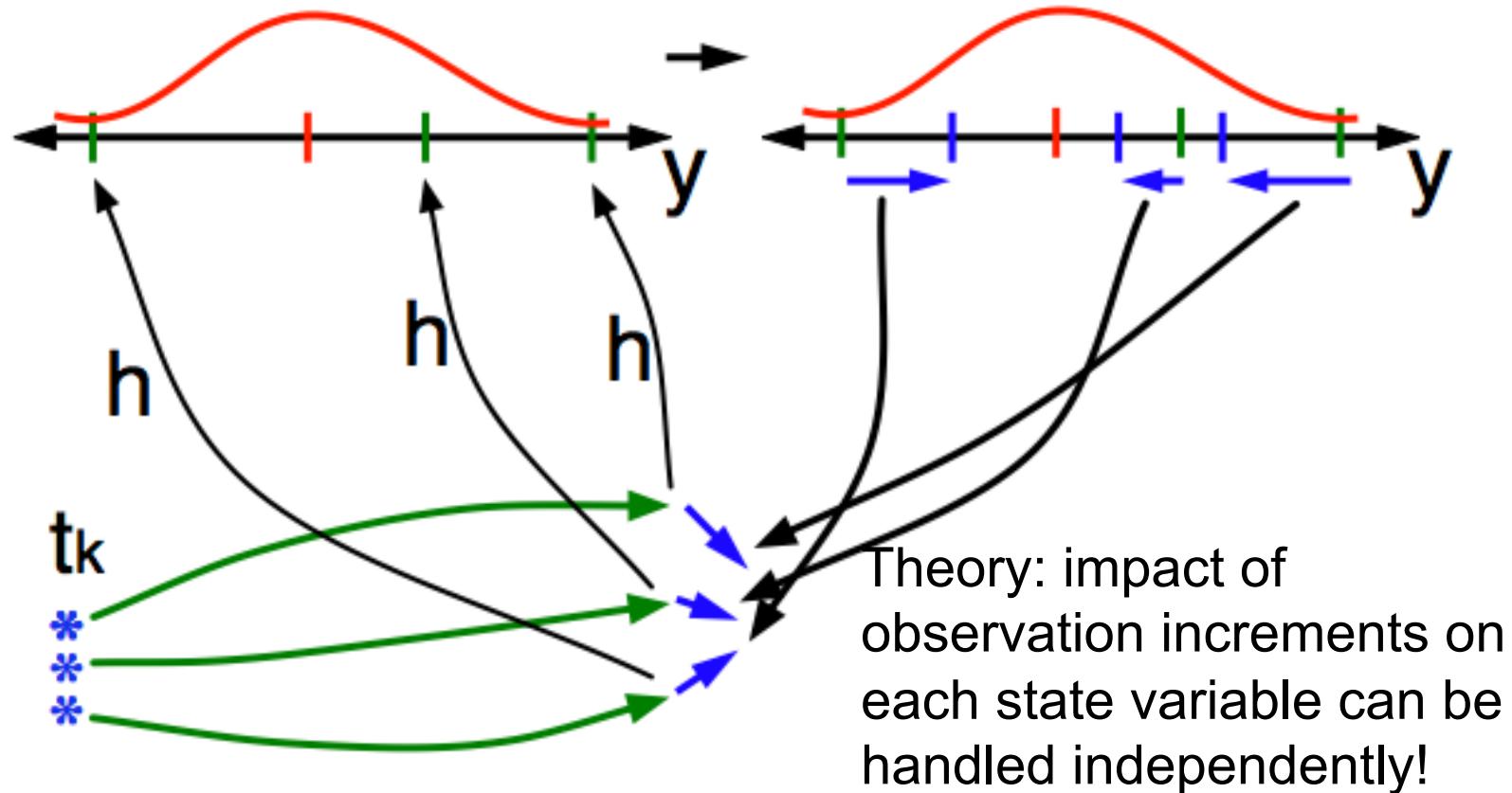
4. Find the **increments** for the prior observation ensemble
(this is a scalar problem for uncorrelated observation errors).



Note: Difference between various ensemble filters is primarily in observation increment calculation.

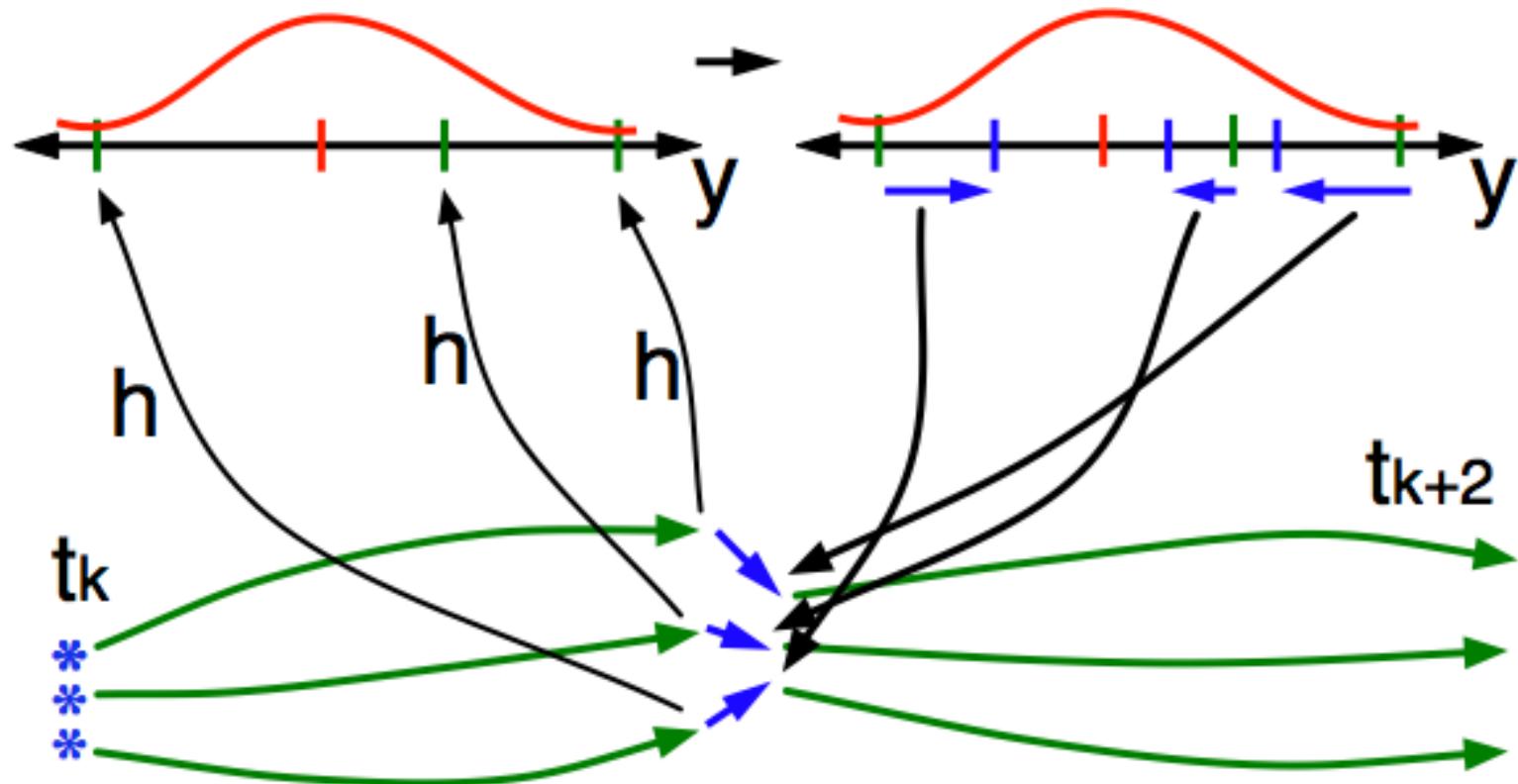
Ensemble Filter for Large Geophysical Models

5. Use ensemble samples of y and each state variable to linearly regress observation increments onto state variable increments.



Ensemble Filter for Large Geophysical Models

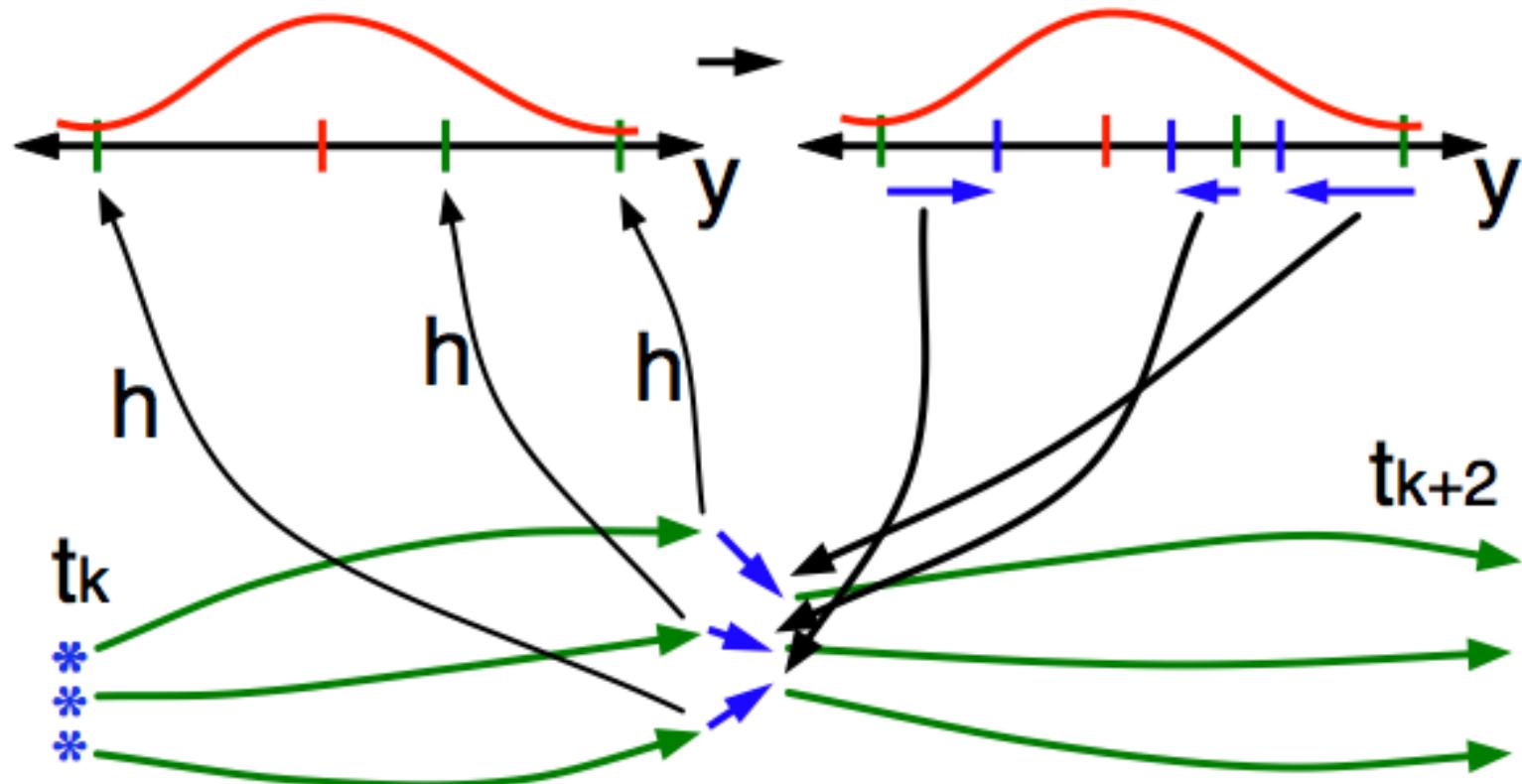
- When all ensemble members for each state variable are updated, there is a new analysis. Integrate to time of next observation ...



Ensemble Filter for Large Geophysical Models

A generic ensemble filter system like DART just needs:

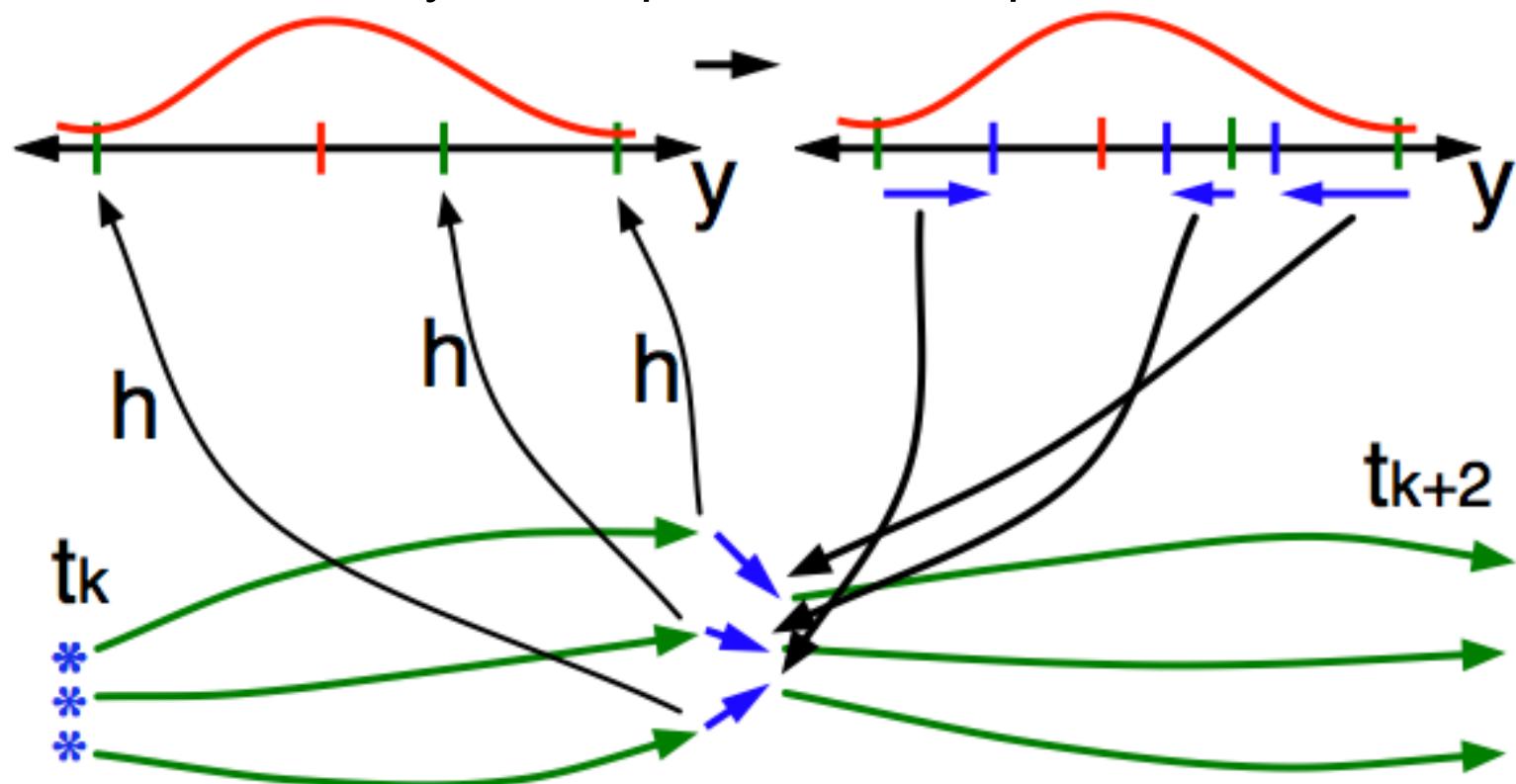
1. A way to make model forecasts.



Ensemble Filter for Large Geophysical Models

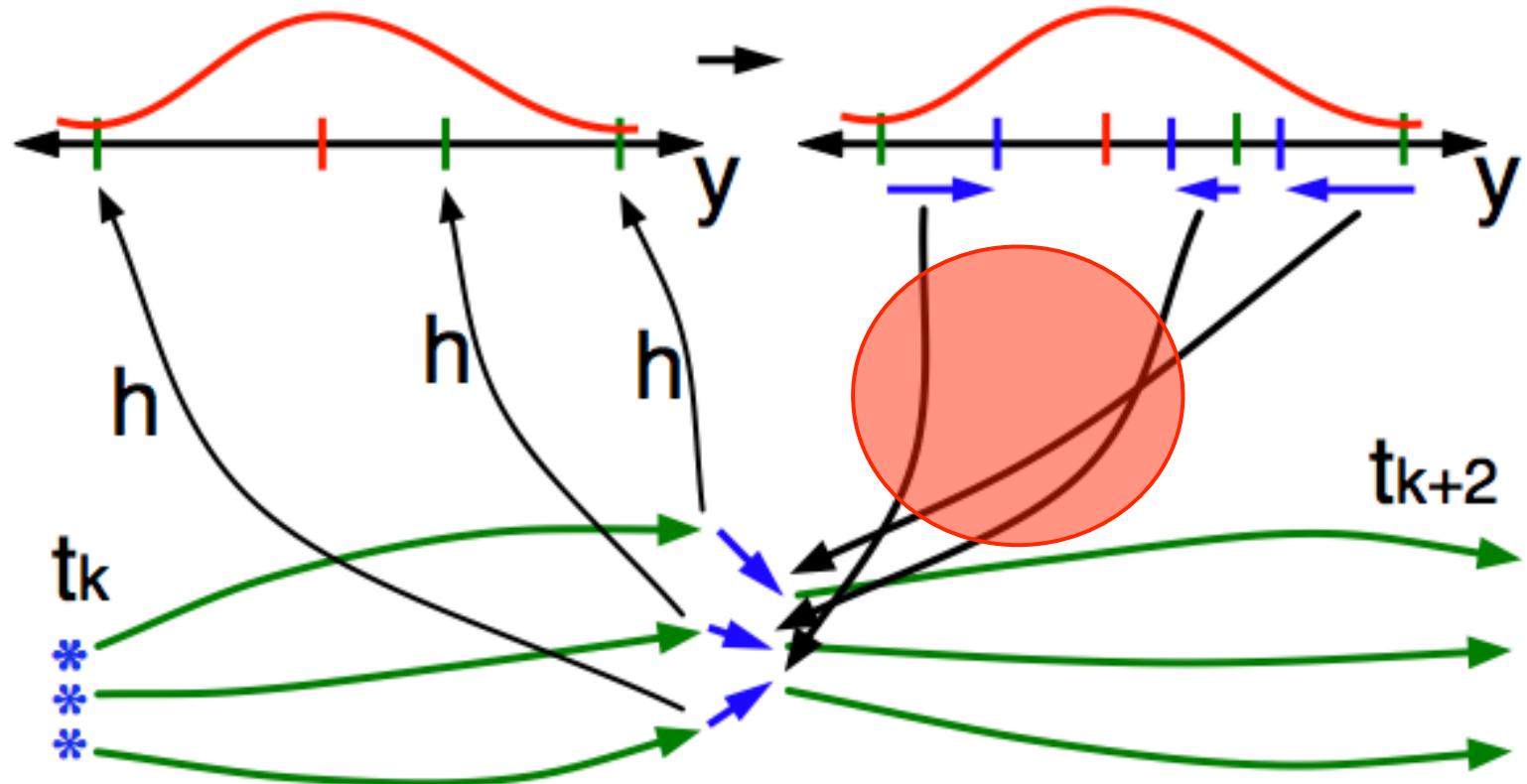
A generic ensemble filter system like DART just needs:

1. A way to make model forecasts.
2. A way to compute forward operators, h .



Parallel Implementation of Sequential Filter

For large models, regression of increments onto each state variable dominates time.



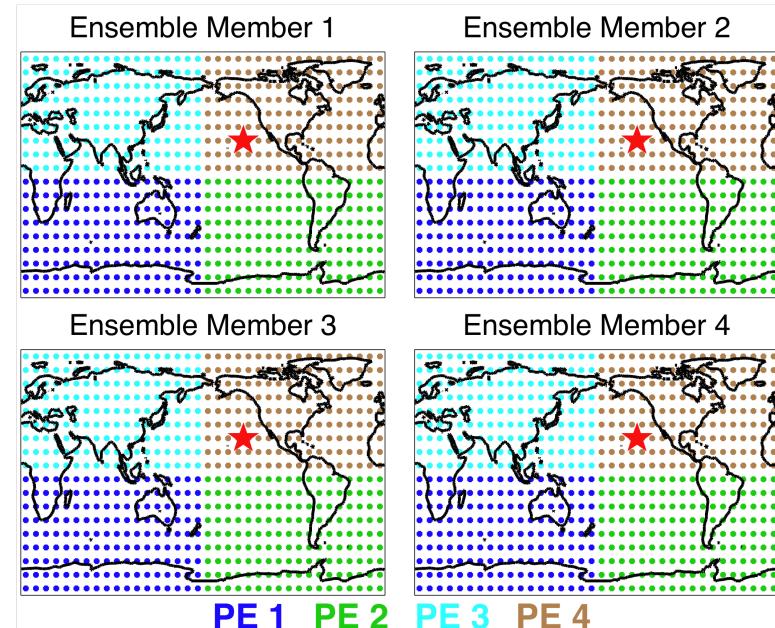
Parallel Implementation of Sequential Filter

For large models, regression of increments onto each state variable dominates time.

Simple example:

- 4 Ensemble members;
- 4 PEs (colors).

Observation shown by red star.



Parallel Implementation of Sequential Filter

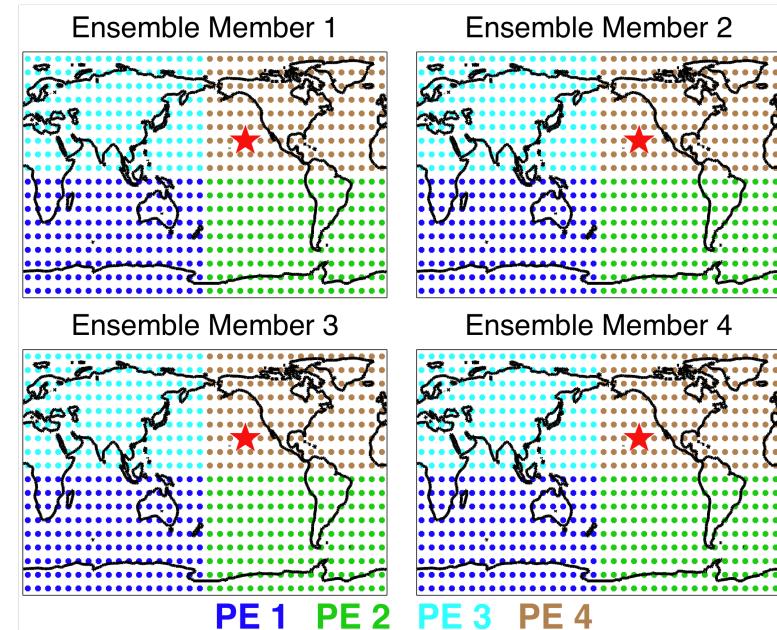
For large models, regression of increments onto each state variable dominates time.

One PE broadcasts obs. increments.

All ensemble members for each state variable are on one PE.

Can compute mean, variance without communication.

All state increments computed in parallel.

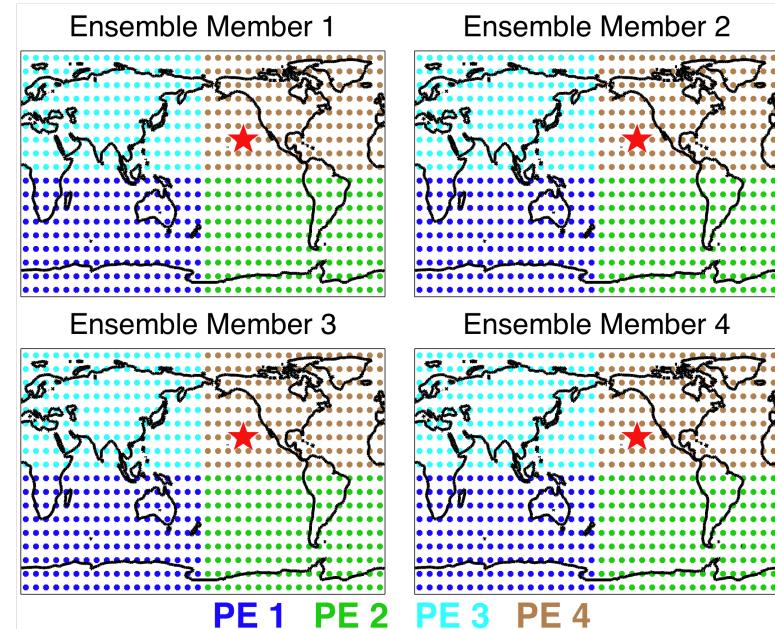


Parallel Implementation of Sequential Filter

For large models, regression of increments onto each state variable dominates time.

Computing forward operator, h , is usually local interpolation.

Most obs. require no communication.



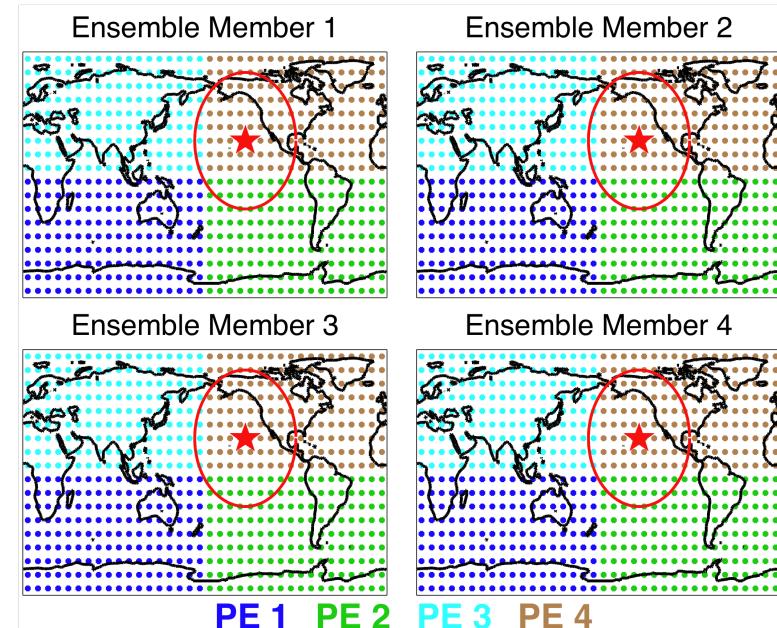
Parallel Implementation of Sequential Filter

For large models, regression of increments onto each state variable dominates time.

Observation impact usually localized.

- Reduces sampling error.
- Observation in N. Pacific not expected to change Antarctic state.

Now have a load balancing problem.

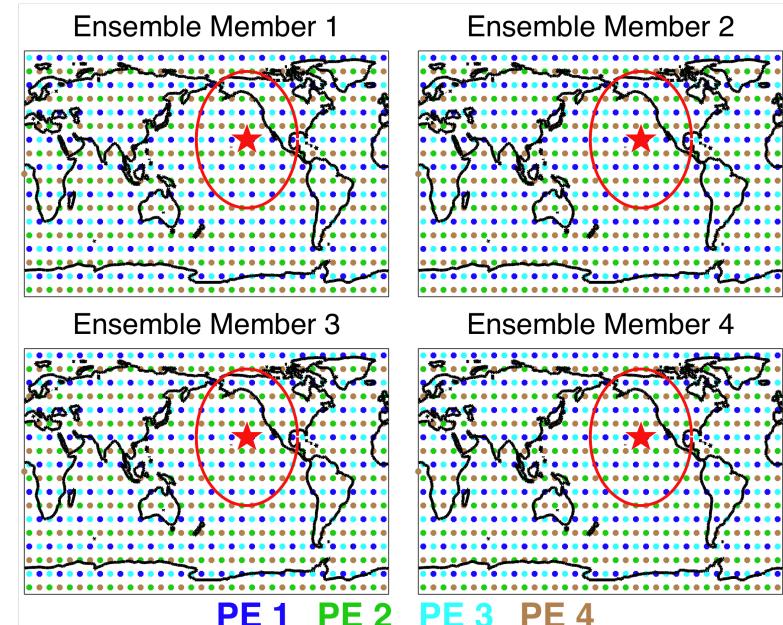


Parallel Implementation of Sequential Filter

For large models, regression of increments onto each state variable dominates time.

Can balance load by ‘randomly’ assigning state ensembles to PEs.

Now computing forward operators, h , requires communication.

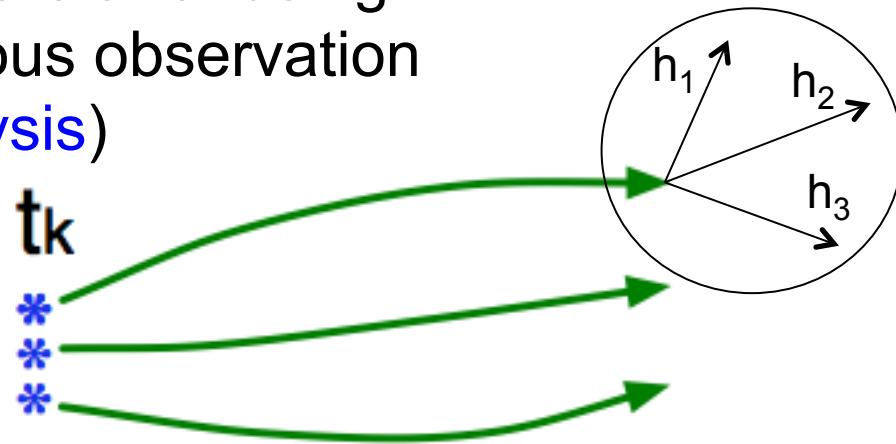


Ensemble Filter for Large Geophysical Models

1a. Compute ALL forward operators in a time window.

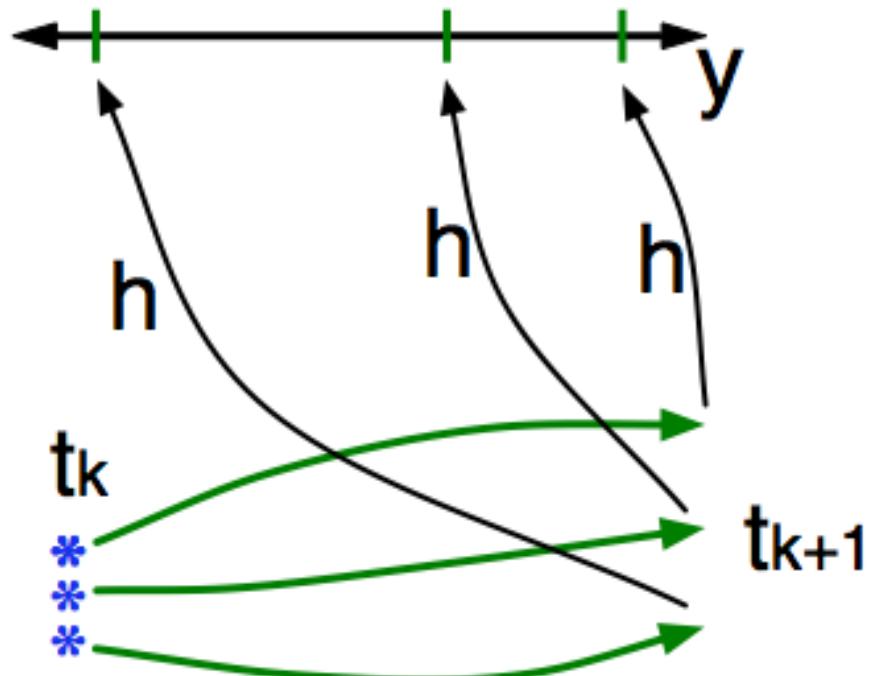
Define extended ‘joint’ state: $x_j = \{x, H(x)\}$ for each ensemble member

Ensemble state
estimate after using
previous observation
(analysis)



Ensemble Filter for Large Geophysical Models

2. Get prior ensemble sample of observation, $y = h(x_j)$, by applying forward operator h to each ensemble member.



With joint state, forward operator is identity, no communication required. However, more regressions to do.

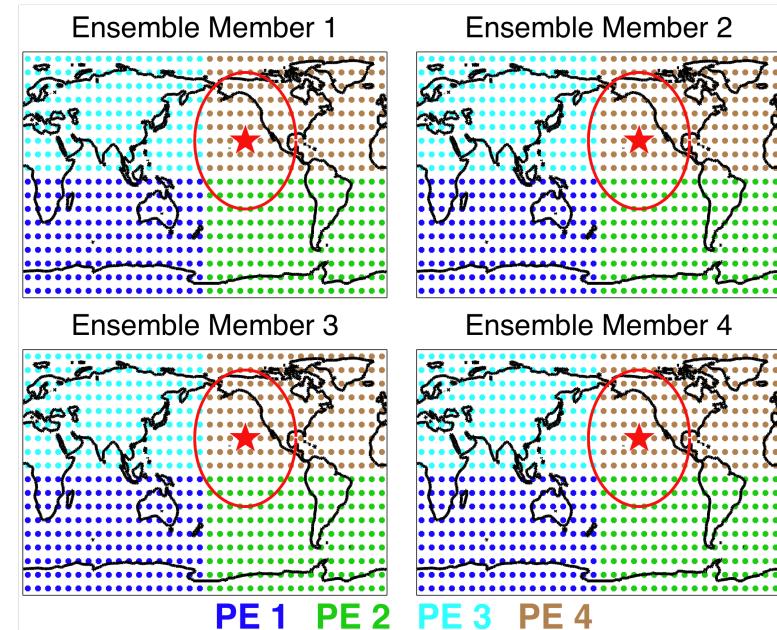


Parallel Implementation of Sequential Filter

Compute forward operators to get joint state before starting assimilation.

If each PE has a complete ensemble, forward operators require no communication.

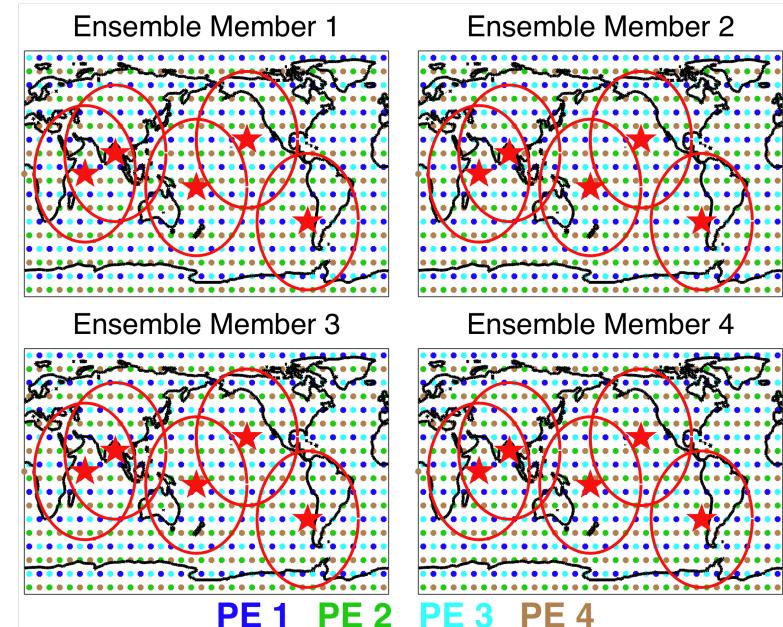
Can do many forward operators in parallel.



Parallel Implementation of Sequential Filter

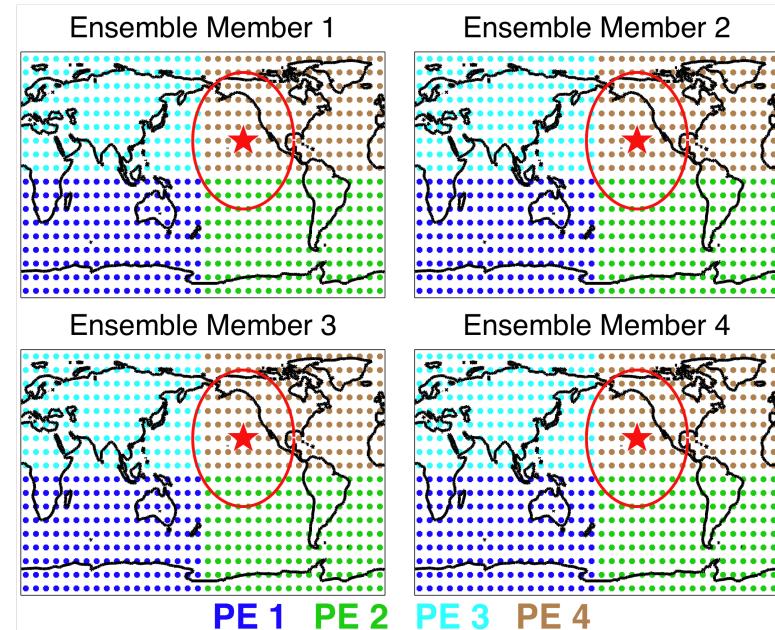
Do a data transpose, using all to all communication to get random layout.

Can do state increments for many obs in parallel for extra cost $O(n^2)$
(n is number of obs)



Parallel Implementation of Sequential Filter

Then transpose back to do more forward operators or advance model.



Parallel Implementation of Sequential Filter

Algorithm can be tuned for problem size, # of PEs;

Number of observations per transpose;

Selection of subsets of obs. to do in parallel;

How to assign state variables to PEs to:

- 1). Minimize transpose cost;
- 2). Minimize forward operator cost;
- 3). Minimize communication for updates.

Really fun for heterogeneous communication paths!

Parallel Implementation of Sequential Filter

Scaling for large atmospheric models:

Naïve random algorithm scales to $O(100)$ PEs for mid-size climate / regional prediction models.

Expect modern NWP model to scale to $O(1000)$.

$O(10,000)$ seems viable with custom algorithm design.

Ensemble DA for Coupled Models

Straightforward from DA engineering perspective.
View coupled model as a single model.
Doesn't care which component state variable is from.
Doesn't matter what model observations are from.
Parallel implementations work unchanged.



In Process: Coupled DA for CESM Models

CESM is Community Earth System Model,
NCAR's coupled model for climate change.

Have ensemble DA for component models:

CAM: atmosphere,

POP: ocean,

CLM: land,

CICE: future development.

Coupled DA for CESM: What we are doing now.

CAM

- Assimilating ATM obs with multiple executables of CAM.
- Could now also use CESM coupler w/ ensembles of CAM.

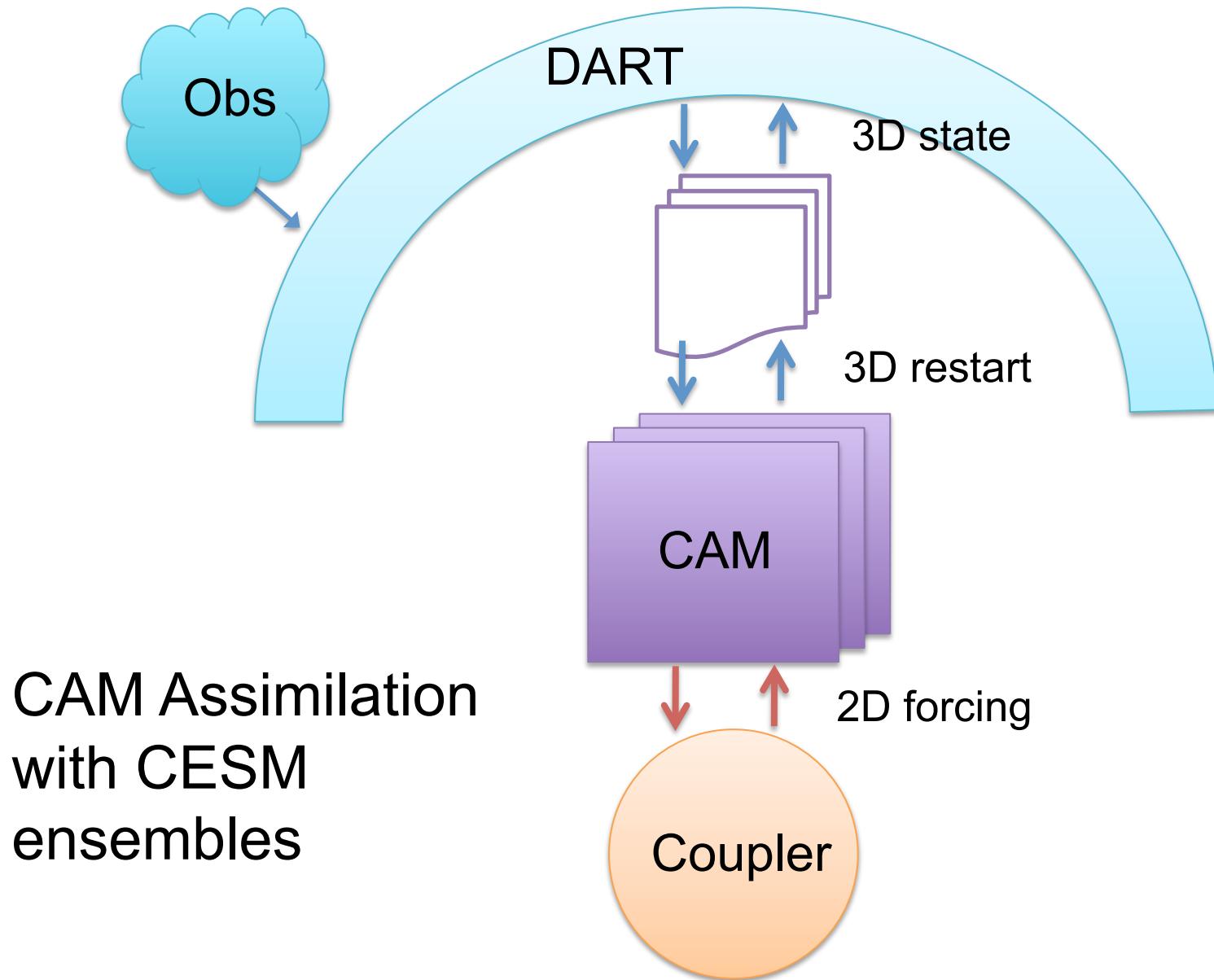
POP

- Use new CESM ensemble capability.
- Assimilating OCN obs with CESM POP.
- Start and stop CESM each day.
- CESM job script calls DART assimilation script.
- Transfer state by reading/writing restart files.

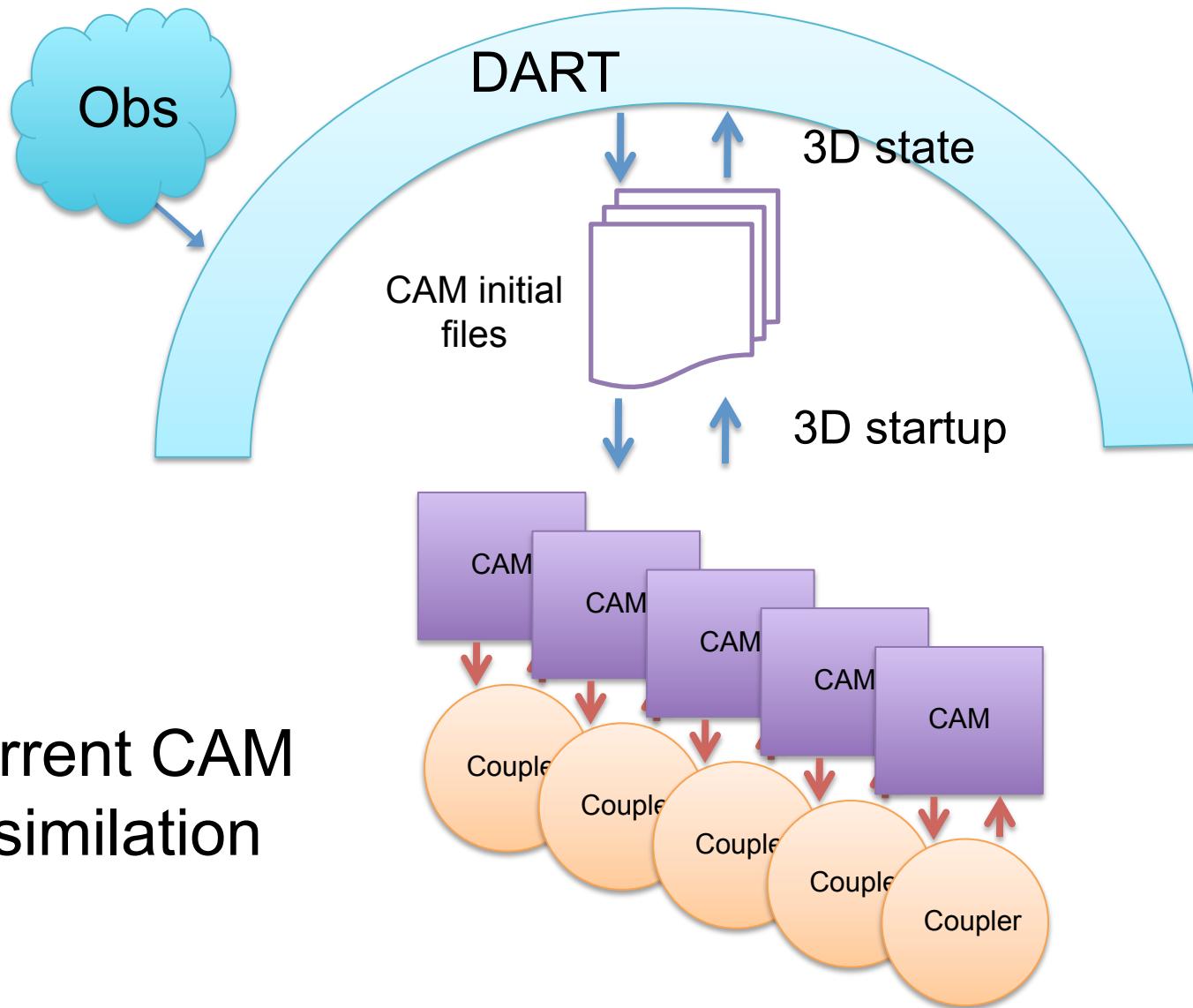
CLM

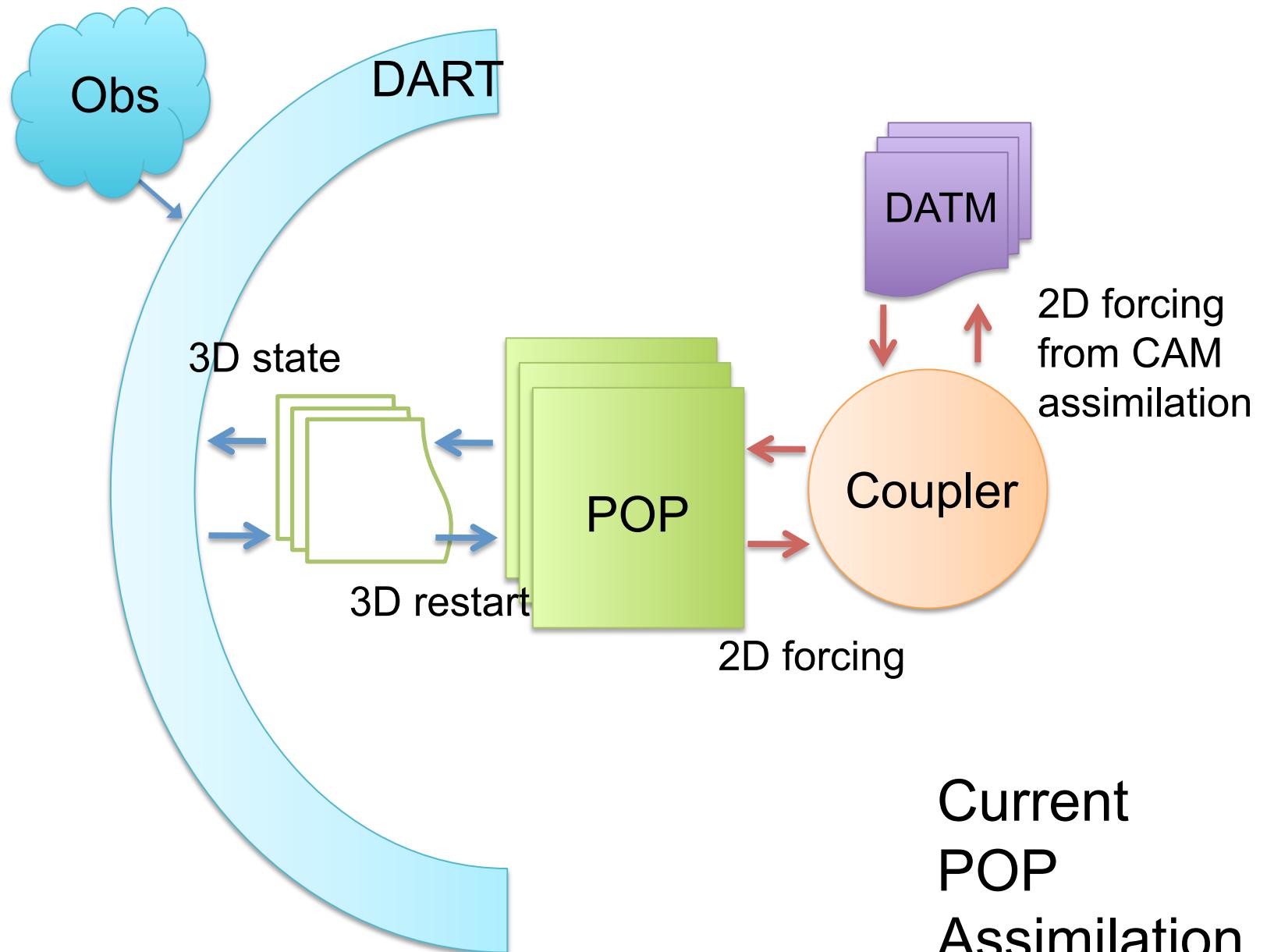
- DA implemented, challenges remain.



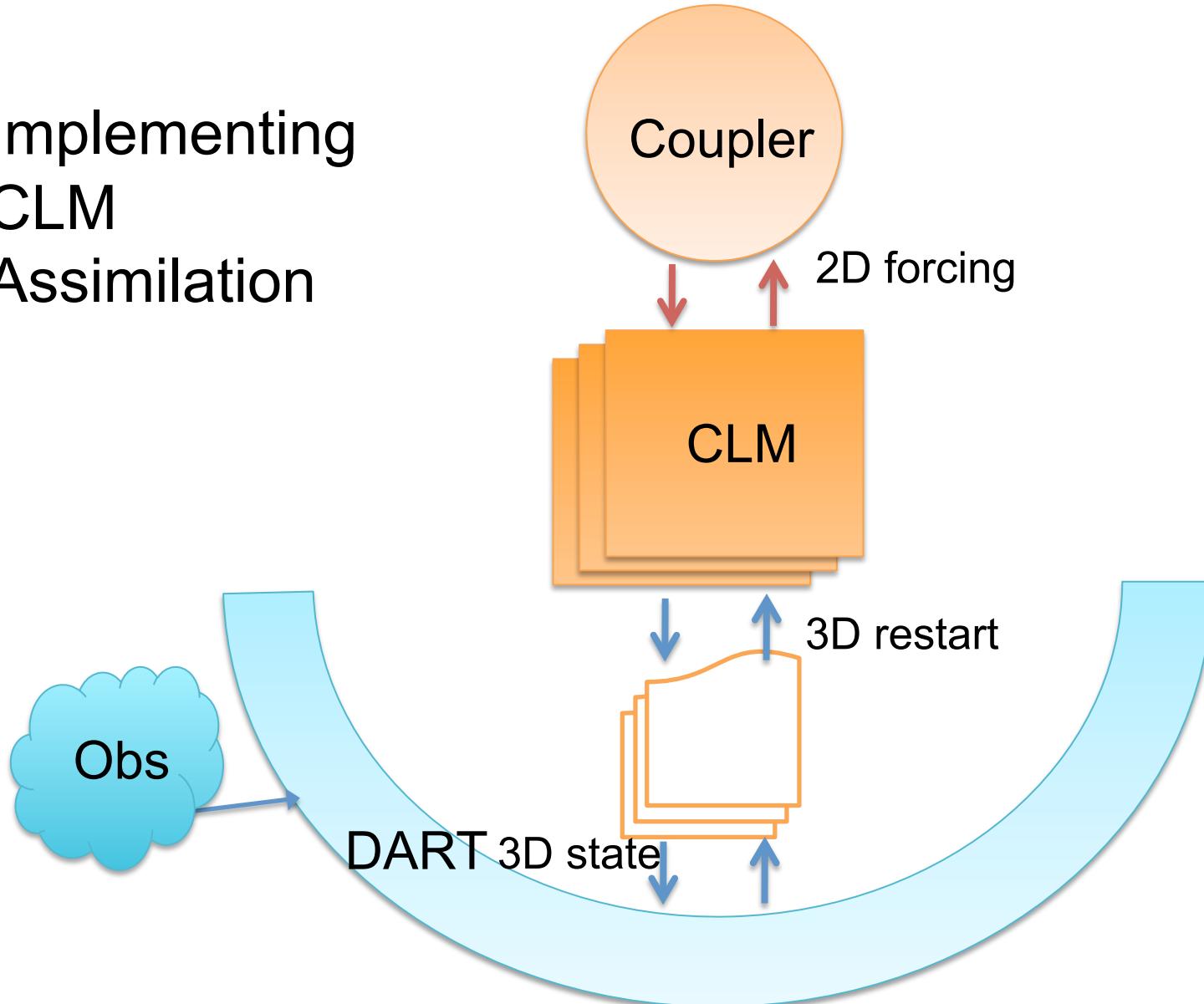


Current CAM Assimilation

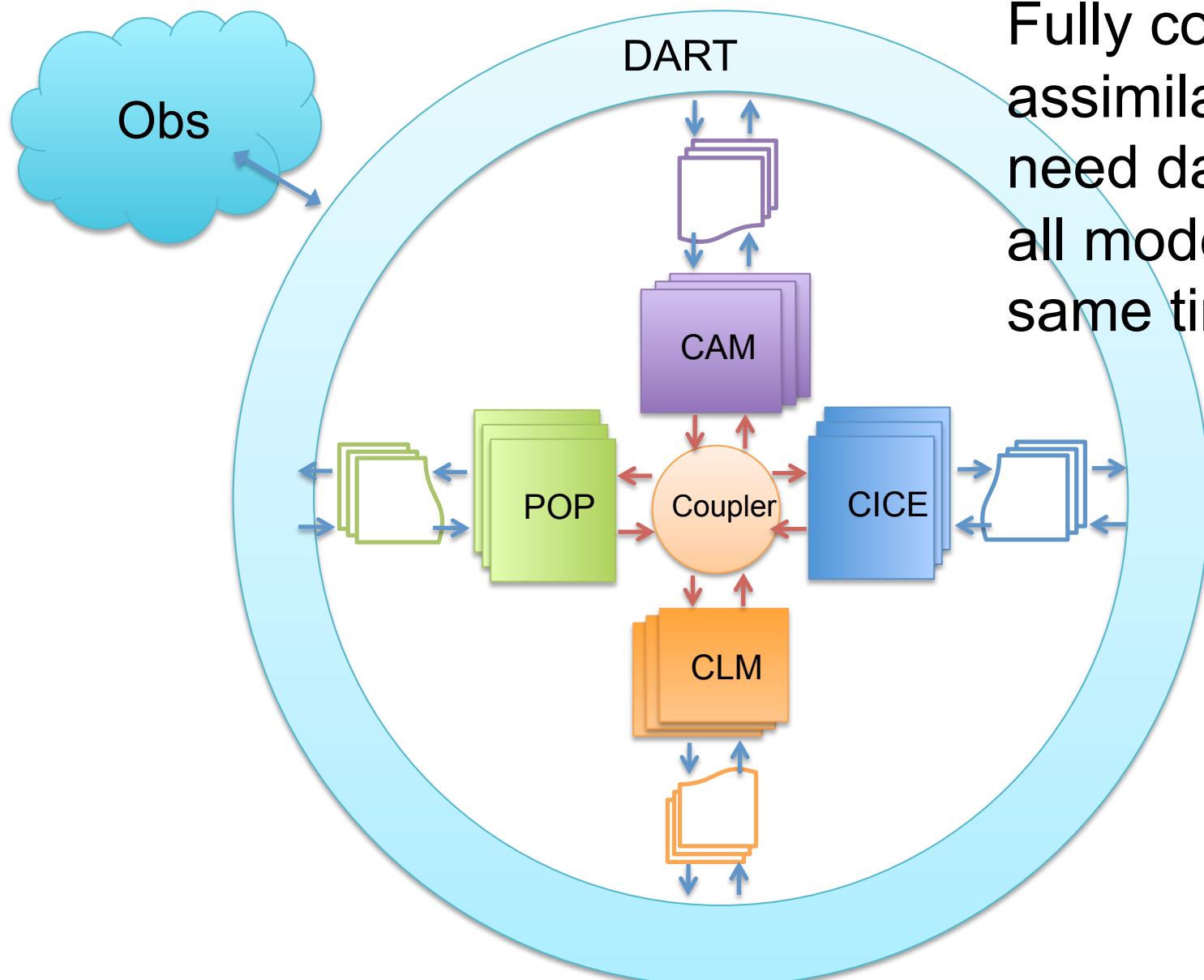




Implementing CLM Assimilation



Fully coupled assimilation will need data from all models at the same time



World Ocean Database T,S observation counts

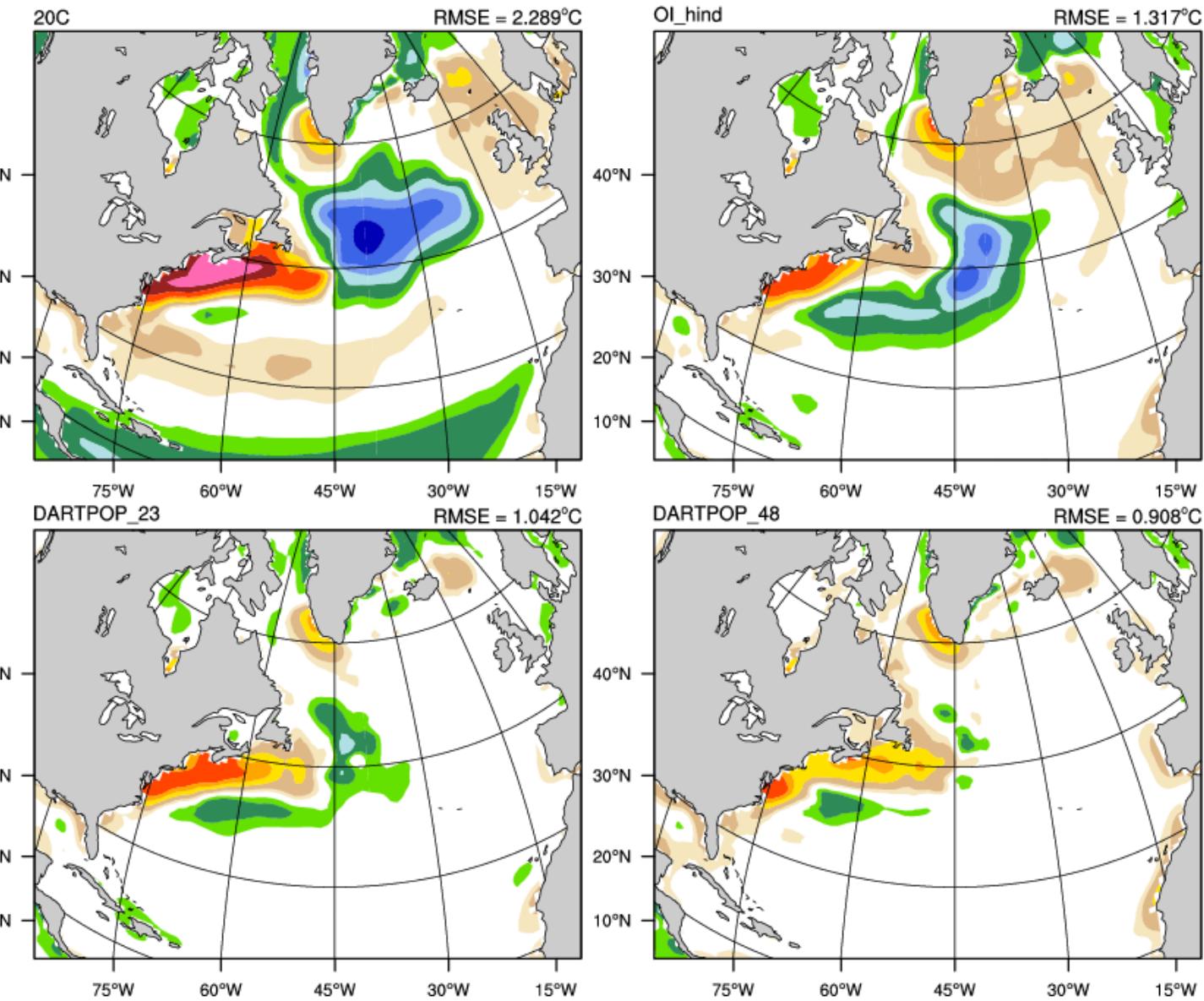
These counts are for 1998 & 1999 and are representative.

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| FLOAT_SALINITY | 68200 |
| FLOAT_TEMPERATURE | 395032 |
| DRIFTER_TEMPERATURE | 33963 |
| MOORING_SALINITY | 27476 |
| MOORING_TEMPERATURE | 623967 |
| BOTTLE_SALINITY | 79855 |
| BOTTLE_TEMPERATURE | 81488 |
| CTD_SALINITY | 328812 |
| CTD_TEMPERATURE | 368715 |
| STD_SALINITY | 674 |
| STD_TEMPERATURE | 677 |
| XCTD_SALINITY | 3328 |
| XCTD_TEMPERATURE | 5790 |
| MBT_TEMPERATURE | 58206 |
| XBT_TEMPERATURE | 1093330 |
| APB_TEMPERATURE | 580111 |



- temperature observation error standard deviation == 0.5 K.
- salinity observation error standard deviation == 0.5 msu.

Coupled Free Run



23 POP 1 DATM

48 POP 48 CAM

Challenges for Coupled Ensemble DA

Engineering ensemble DA system is not hard but...

- Frequent restarting of coupled model.
 - State variables that don't have well-defined priors.
Snow temperature example.
 - Interaction of different time/space scales.
 - Localization of observations across boundaries.
I think we know how to get guidance for this.
-
- Models that don't make accurate predictions.

Code to implement all of the algorithms
discussed are freely available from:



<http://www.image.ucar.edu/DARes/DART/>