

# HYBRID ENSEMBLE KALMAN FILTERING AND OPTIMAL INTERPOLATION

## A NEW ADAPTIVE FORMULATION

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CU Boulder

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National Center for Atmospheric Research  
Data Assimilation Research Section (DAReS) - TDD - CISL

## 1.1 Background

We want to find the state of a dynamical system using: [1] an *imperfect Model* and [2] a set of *sparse, noisy Observations*

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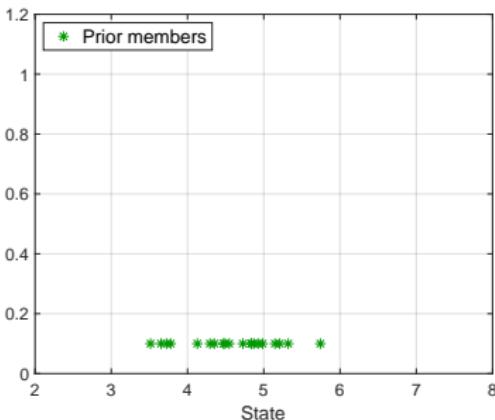
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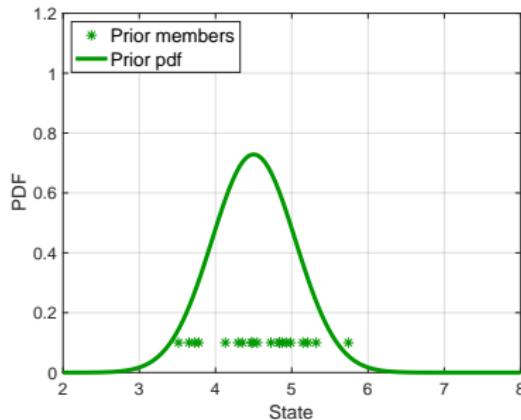
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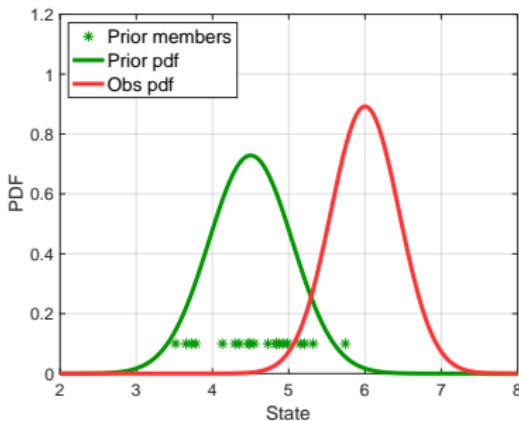
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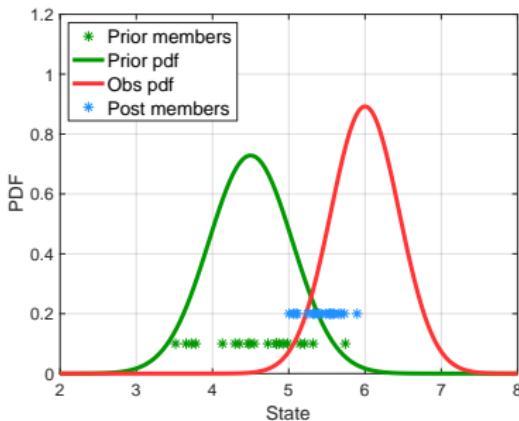
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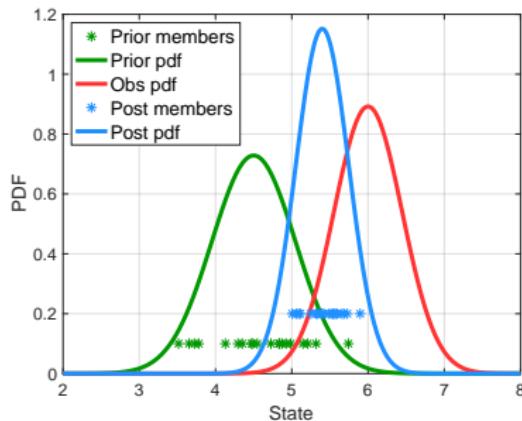
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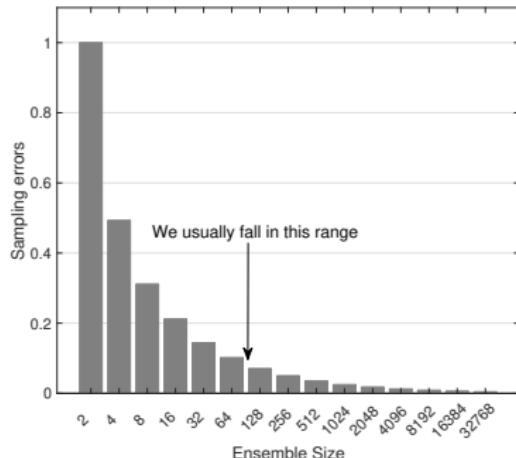
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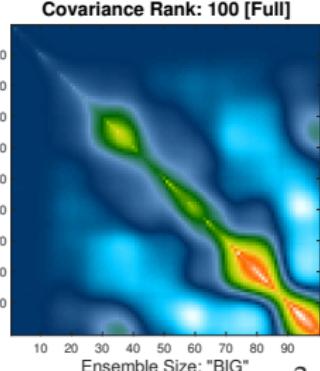
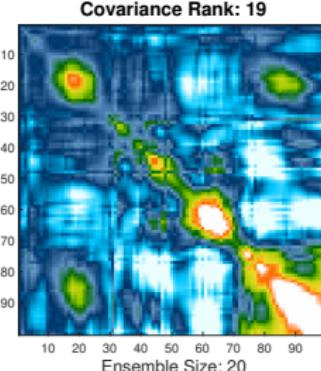
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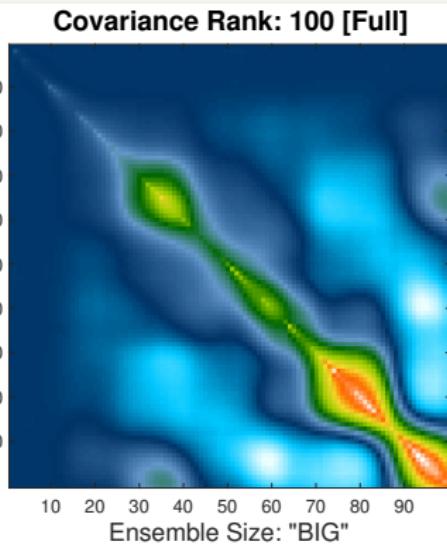
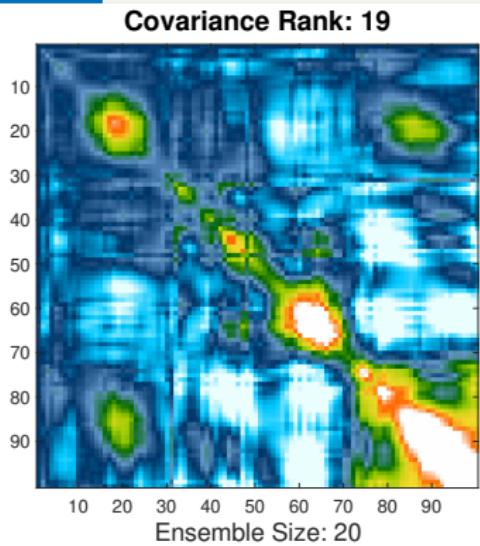
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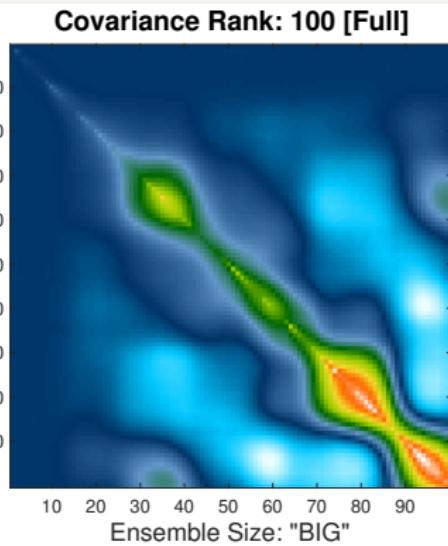
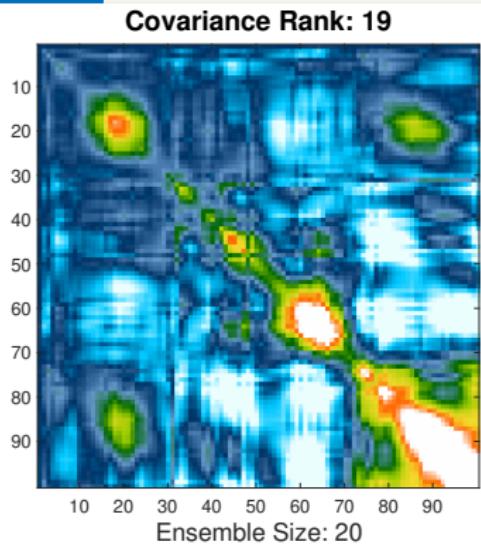
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- Others known errors:  
nonGaussianity, nonlinearity, regression errors, ...

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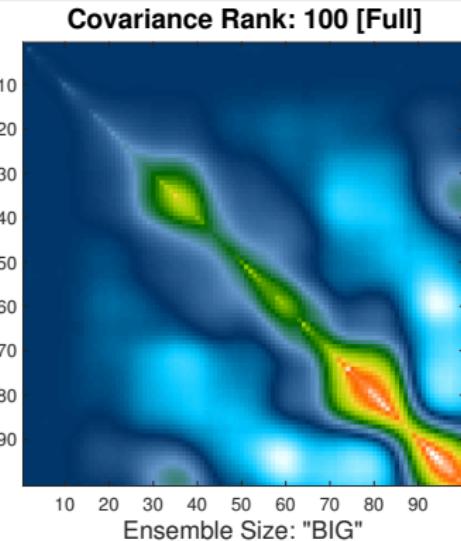
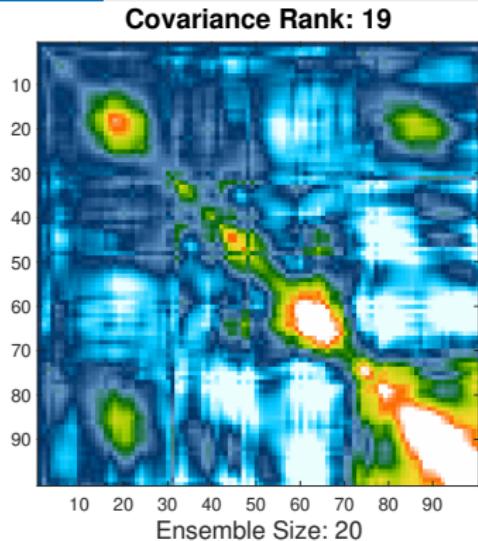


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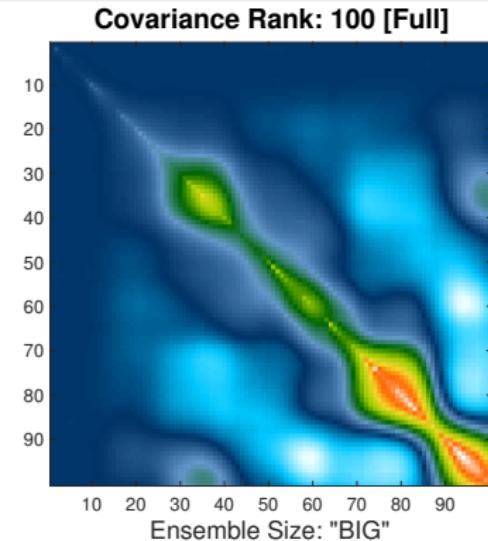
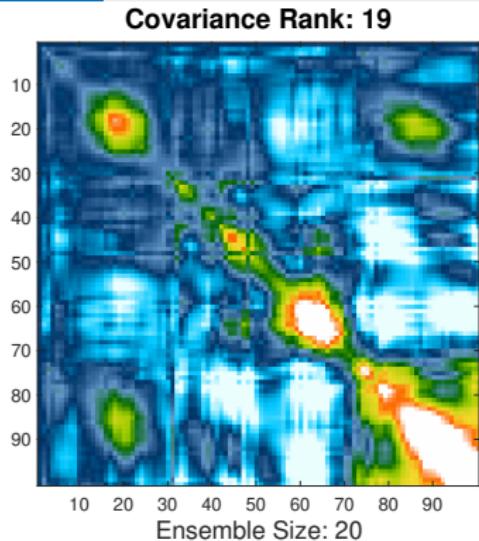
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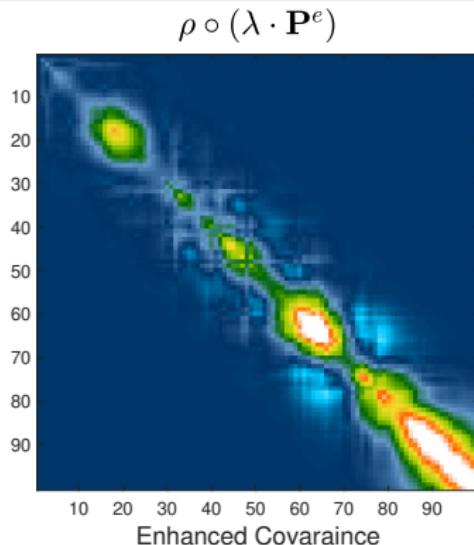
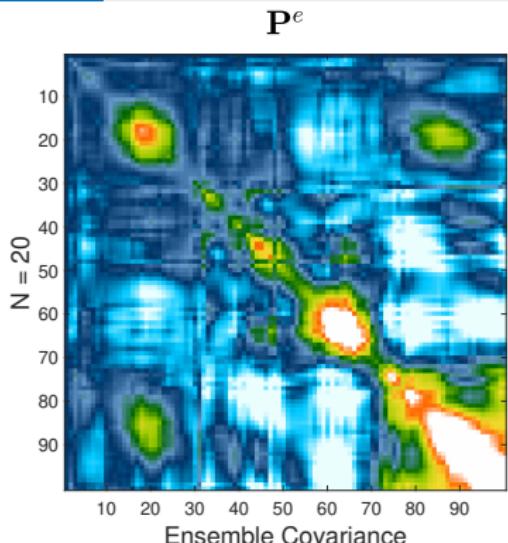
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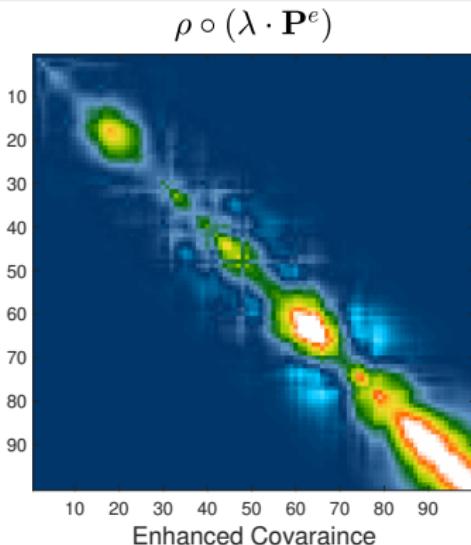
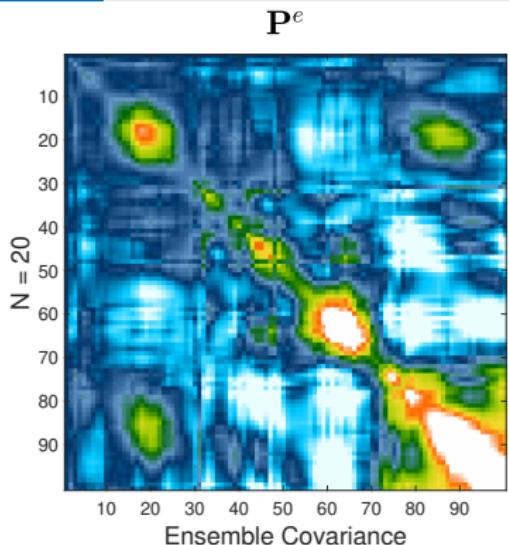
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- Hybridization:**  $\mathbf{P}^f = \alpha \mathbf{P}^e + (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{B}$

## 2.1 Hybrid EnKF-OI: Terminologies

- OI: Optimal Interpolation (essentially a KF with a prescribed invariant  $\mathbf{P}^f$ )
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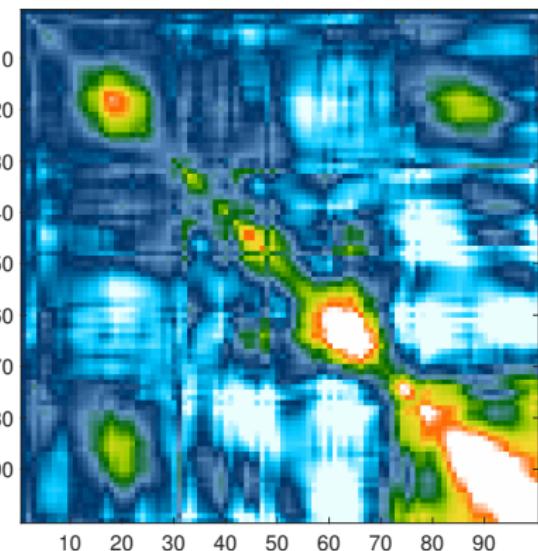
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- Many different *hybrid* forms in the literature:
  - ▶ **4DEnVar:** 4DVar with background covariance from an ensemble
  - ▶ **En4DVar:** Use an ensemble to approximate adjoint
  - ▶ **hybrid 4(3)DVar:** Var methods using a combination of climatological and ensemble covariances (e.g.,  $\alpha$ -control method in GSI)
  - ▶ **EnVar:** Term used for any of the previous hybrid forms

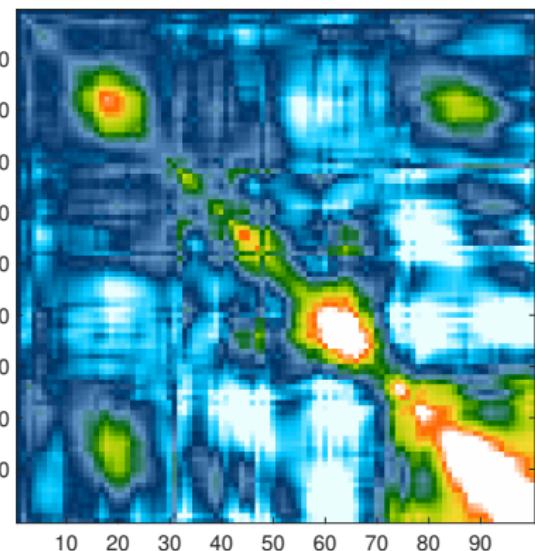
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$$\mathbf{P}^f = \alpha \mathbf{P}^e + (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{B}$$

$$\mathbf{P}^e; N = 20$$



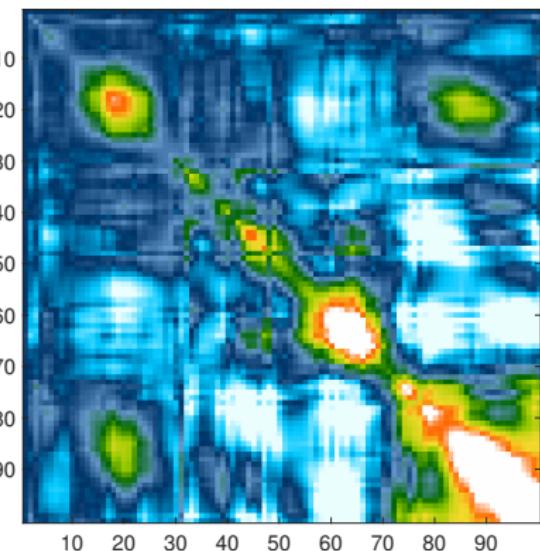
$$\mathbf{P}^f = 1.0 \mathbf{P}^e + (1 - 1.0) \mathbf{B}$$



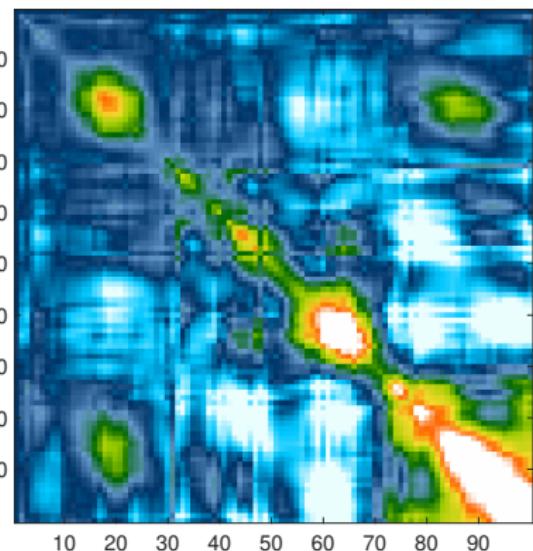
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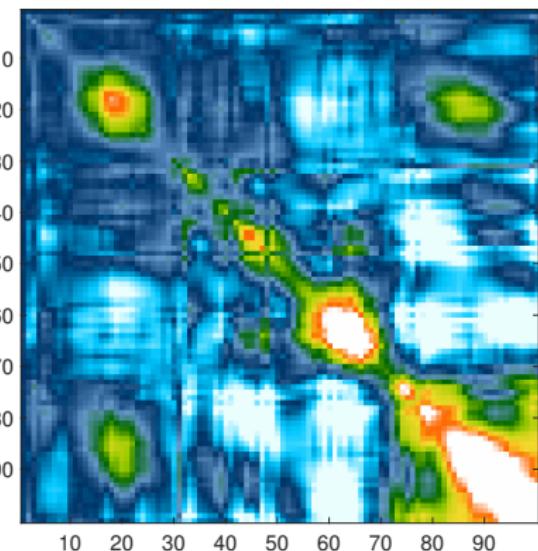
$\mathbf{P}^f = 0.9 \mathbf{P}^e + (1 - 0.9) \mathbf{B}$



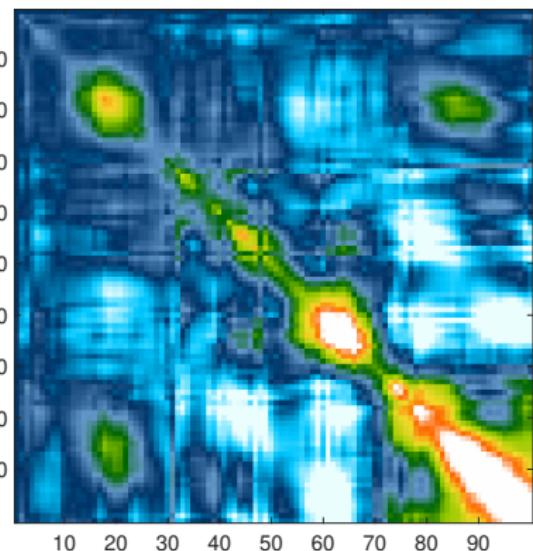
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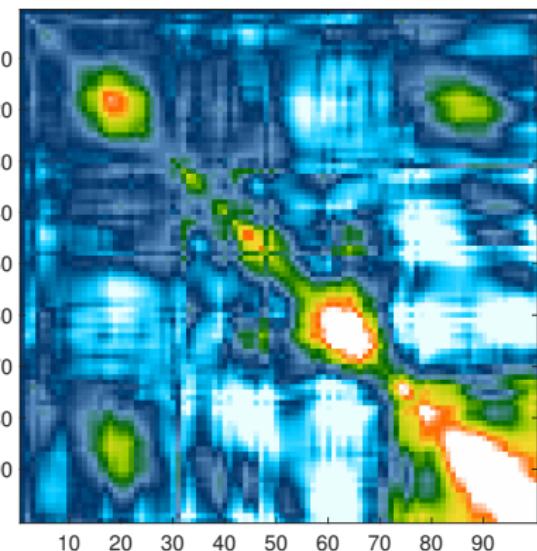
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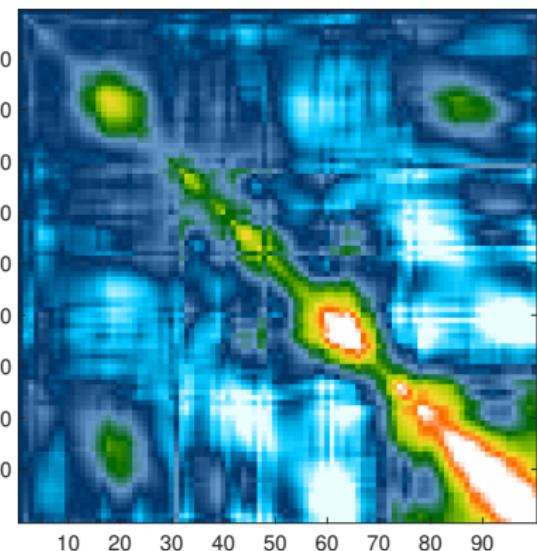
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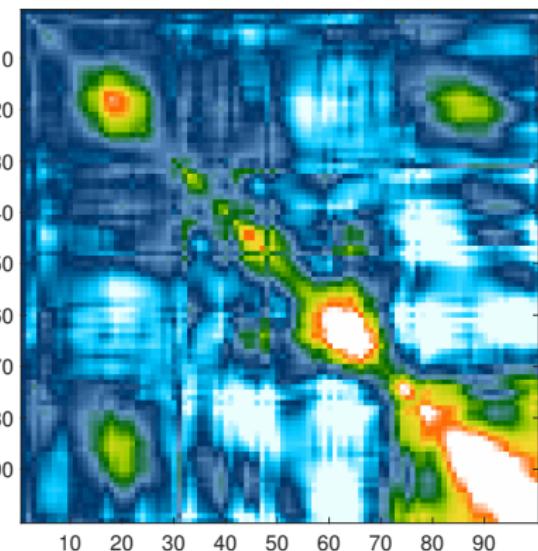
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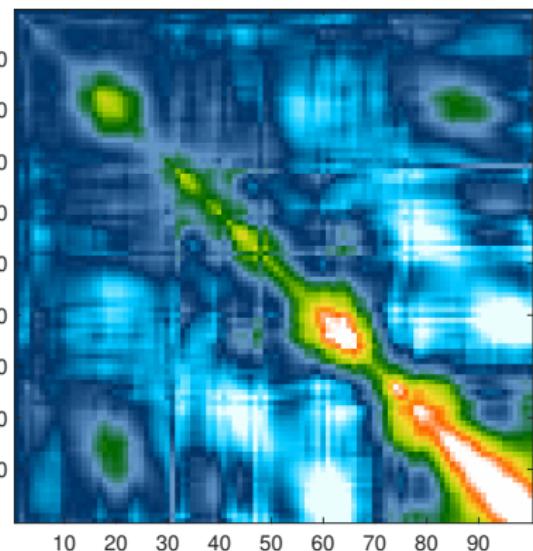
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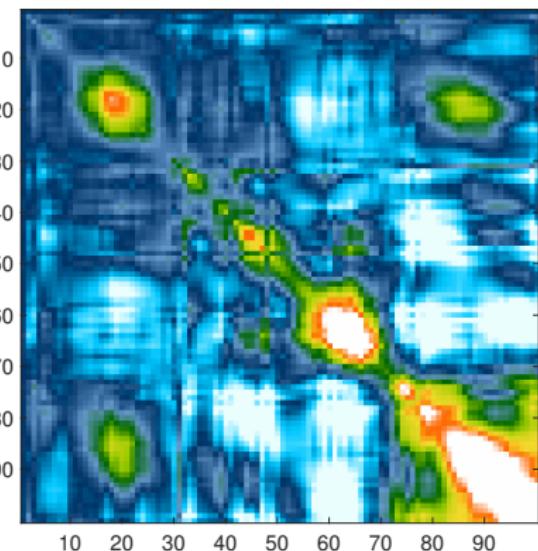
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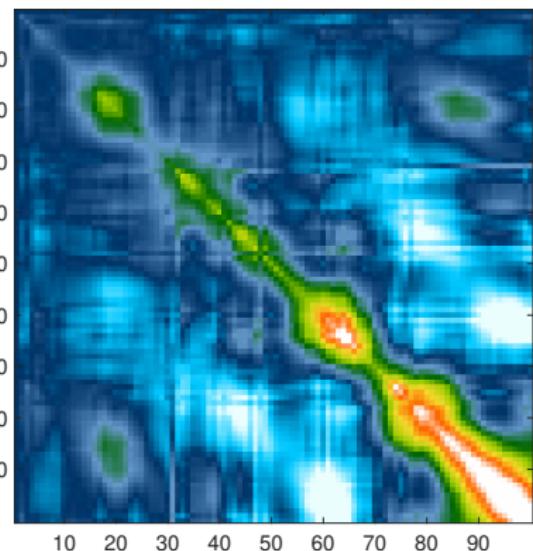
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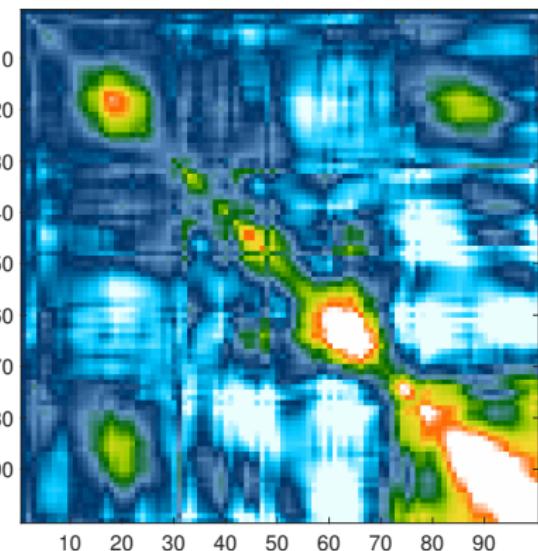
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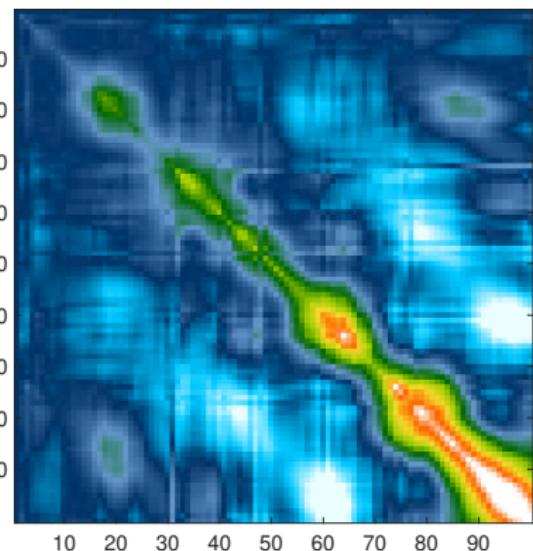
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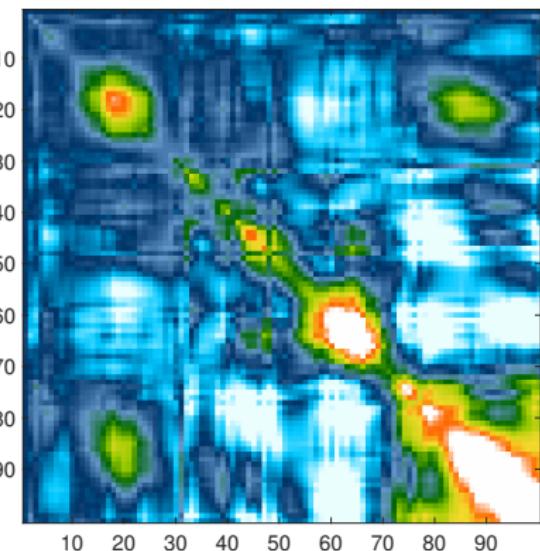
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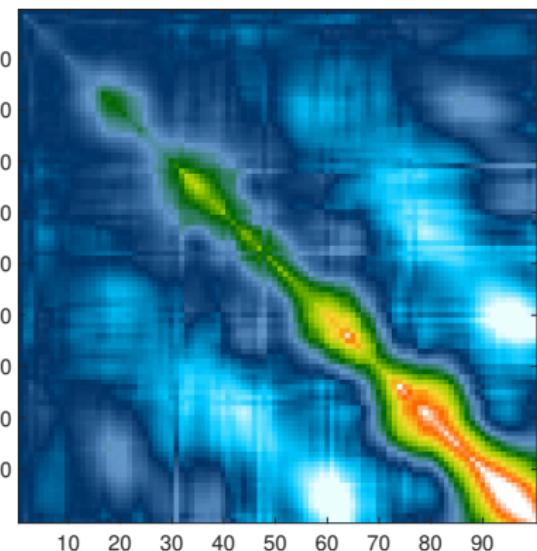
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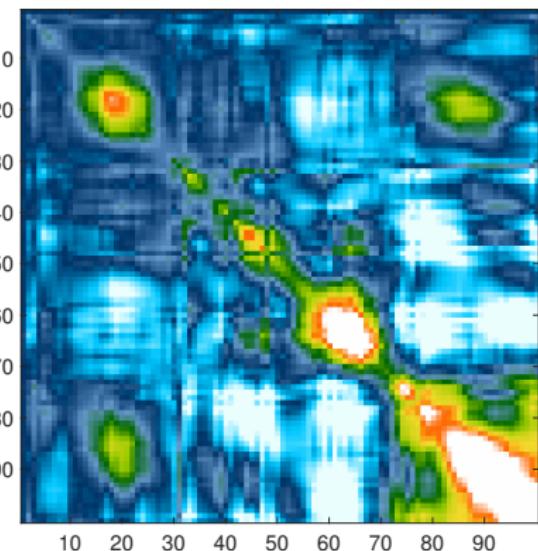
$\mathbf{P}^f = 0.3\mathbf{P}^e + (1 - 0.3)\mathbf{B}$



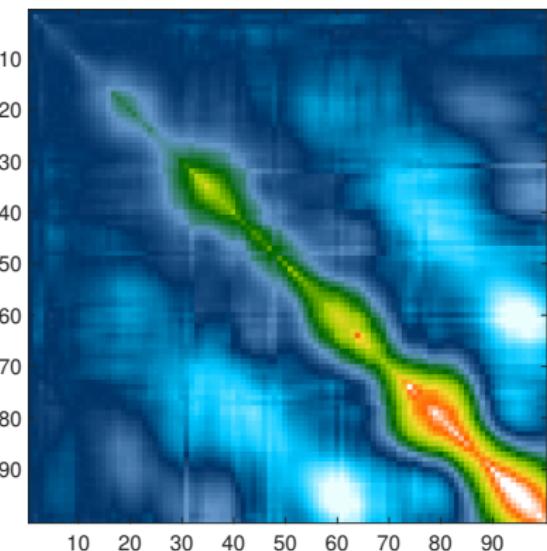
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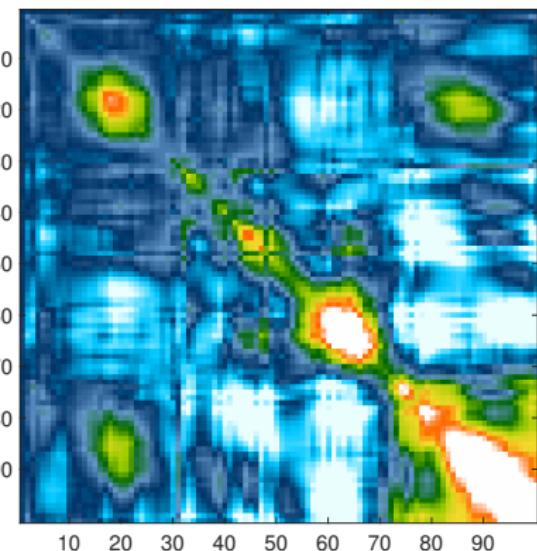
$$\mathbf{P}^f = 0.2 \mathbf{P}^e + (1 - 0.2) \mathbf{B}$$



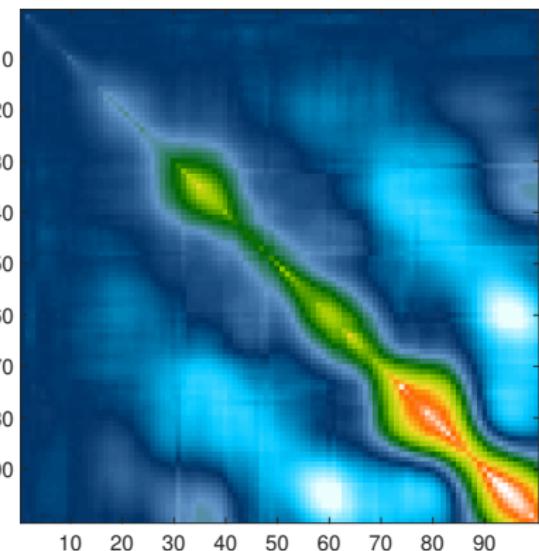
## 2.2 Hybrid EnKF-OI: in action

$$\mathbf{P}^f = \alpha \mathbf{P}^e + (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{B}$$

$\mathbf{P}^e; N = 20$



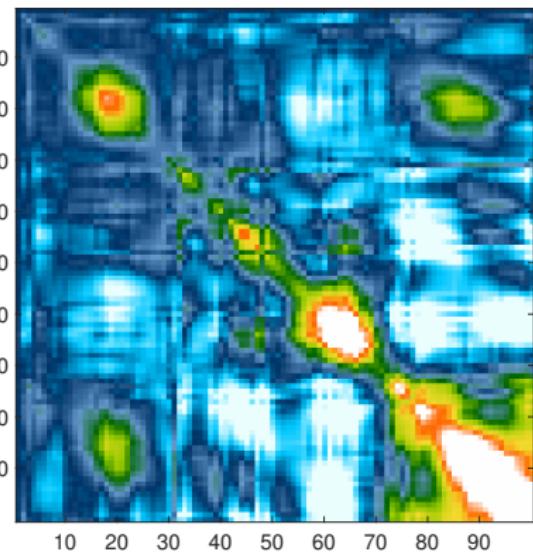
$\mathbf{P}^f = 0.1 \mathbf{P}^e + (1 - 0.1) \mathbf{B}$



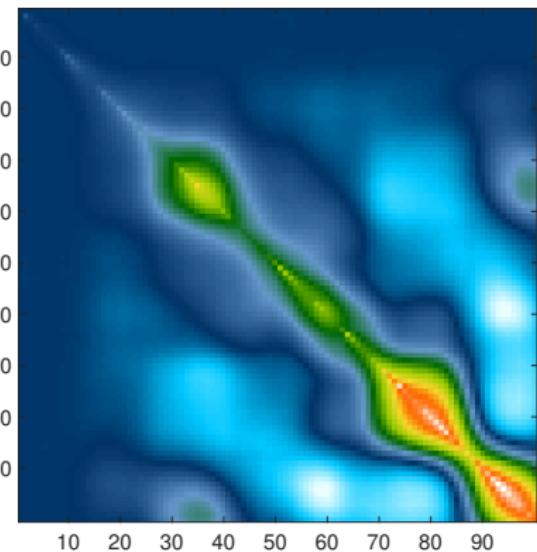
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$\mathbf{P}^e; N = 20$



$\mathbf{P}^f = 0.0 \mathbf{P}^e + (1 - 0.0) \mathbf{B}$



Changes to the rank, variance, correlations, norm .. of the covariance

## 2.3 How to construct B

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- Often formed from a large inventory of historical forecasts sampled over large windows (practical choice)

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  - Do we need to store **the entire  $\mathbf{B}$  matrix?** May only need access to the historical (climatology) realizations

## 2.4 Hybrid EnKF-OI: Adaptive Form

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$$\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{d}\mathbf{d}^T] = \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^f\mathbf{H}^T, \quad (5)$$

where  $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{y}^o - \mathbf{Hx}^f$ . Substitute the hybrid covariance form in eq. (5):

$$\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{d}\mathbf{d}^T] = \mathbf{R} + \alpha \mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^e\mathbf{H}^T + (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{H}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{H}^T, \quad 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1 \quad (6)$$

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- ▶ Assume  $\alpha$  to be a random variable
- ▶ Start with a prior distribution for  $\alpha$ :  $p(\alpha) \sim \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{B}, \dots$
- ▶ Use the data to construct a likelihood function:  $p(\mathbf{d}|\alpha)$
- ▶ Use Bayes' rule to find an updated estimate of  $\alpha$ :

$$p(\alpha|\mathbf{d}) \approx p(\alpha) \cdot p(\mathbf{d}|\alpha) \quad (7)$$

- ▶ Posterior  $\alpha$  can be used as the prior for the next DA cycle

## 2.4 Hybrid EnKF-OI: Adaptive Form cont.

```
switch Prior
```

```
    case 'Gaussian'
```

$$p(\alpha) = \mathcal{N} \left( \alpha_f, \sigma_{\alpha_f} \right) \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_{\alpha_f}^2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{(\alpha - \alpha_f)^2}{2\sigma_{\alpha_f}^2} \right]$$

```
    case 'Beta'
```

$$p(\alpha) = \mathcal{B}(\gamma, \beta) \equiv \alpha^{\gamma-1} (1-\alpha)^{\beta-1} \frac{\Gamma(\gamma+\beta)}{\Gamma(\gamma)\Gamma(\beta)}$$

```
end
```

## 2.4 Hybrid EnKF-OI: Adaptive Form cont.

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```
end
```

Likelihood:

$$\theta(\alpha) = \text{trace}(\mathbf{R}) + \alpha \text{trace}(\mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^e\mathbf{H}^T) + (1-\alpha)\text{trace}(\mathbf{H}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{H}^T)$$

$$p(\mathbf{d}|\alpha) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\theta(\alpha)}} \exp\left[-\frac{\mathbf{d}^T \mathbf{d}}{2\theta(\alpha)}\right]$$

Posterior:  $p(\alpha|\mathbf{d})$  is either near Gaussian or near Beta

## 2.5 Hybrid EnKF-OI: Illustration

### Scalar Example

6 parameters

$$\mathbf{P}^e \quad \sigma_e^2 = 0.9$$

$$\mathbf{B} \quad \sigma_s^2 = 0.2$$

$$\mathbf{R} \quad \sigma_o^2 = 0.1$$

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## 2.5 Hybrid EnKF-OI: Illustration

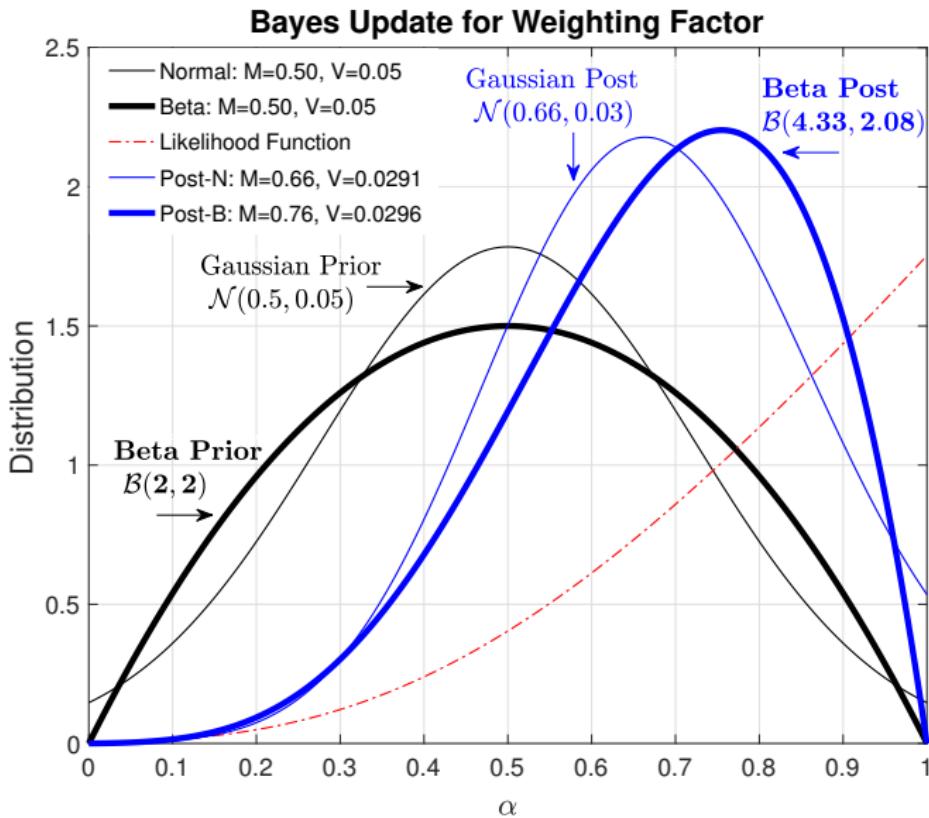
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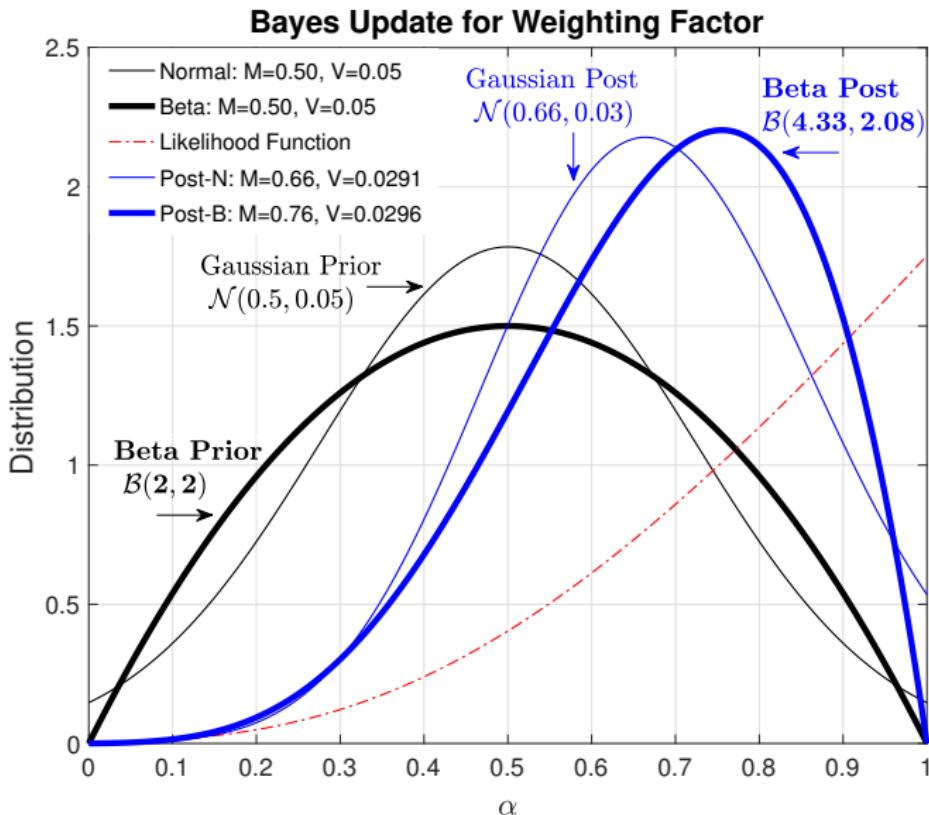
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$$\mathbf{d} \quad d = 2.5$$

Large bias causes  $\alpha$  to increase (i.e., larger weight given to  $\sigma_e^2$ )



## 2.6 Hybrid EnKF-OI: Implementation

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- Estimate moments of the hybrid weight pdf at each assimilation cycle using the data:
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[dart.ucar.edu](http://dart.ucar.edu)  
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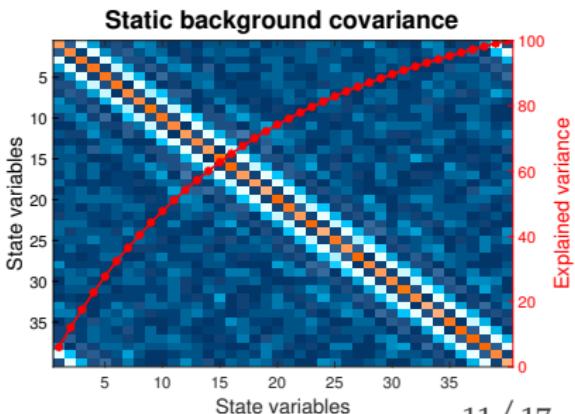
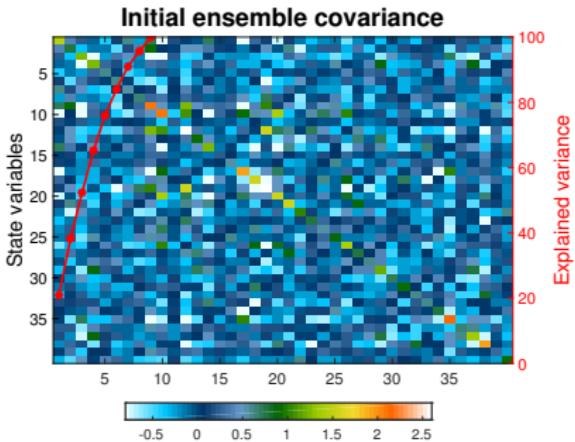
[dart.ucar.edu](http://dart.ucar.edu)  
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- Can assume the hybrid weight to be spatially-varying
  - Biases are not homogenous in space
  - Heterogenous observation networks (densely observed regions tend to have small ensemble spread)
  - Need to assimilate the observations serially

### 3.1 Experiments using L96

- L96: 40 variables
  - Observe every other variable ( $R = 1$ )
  - Observe every 5 time steps
  - **B** Climatological run (1000)
  - $p(\alpha) \sim \mathcal{N}(0.5, 0.1)$



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#### Sensitivity Tests [1]

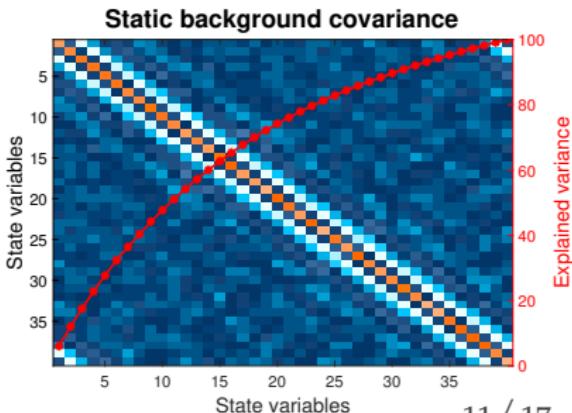
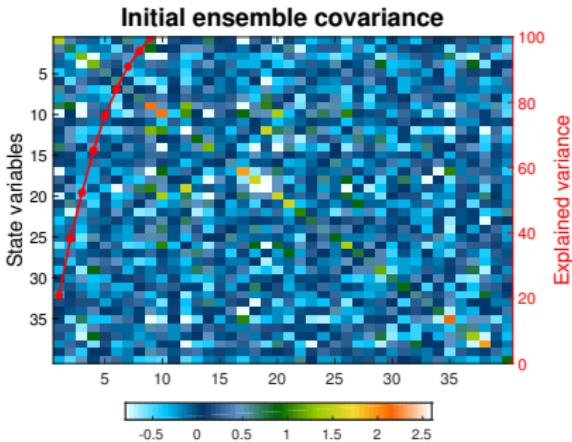
##### Perfect OSSEs

- Ensemble size
- Obs. Network

#### Sensitivity Tests [2]

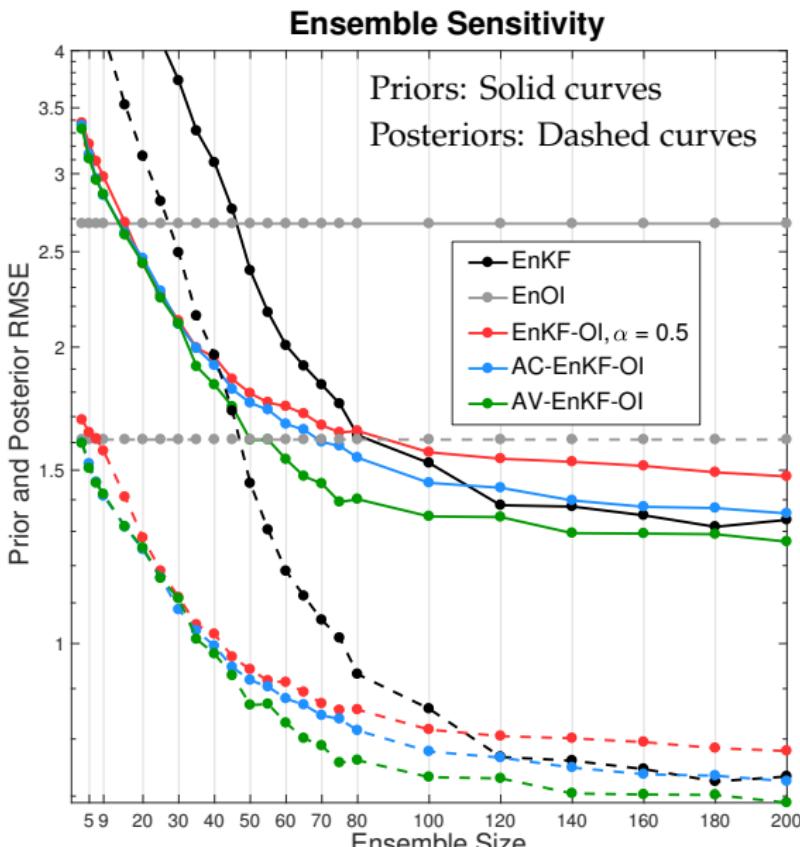
##### Model Errors

- Inflation
- Localization



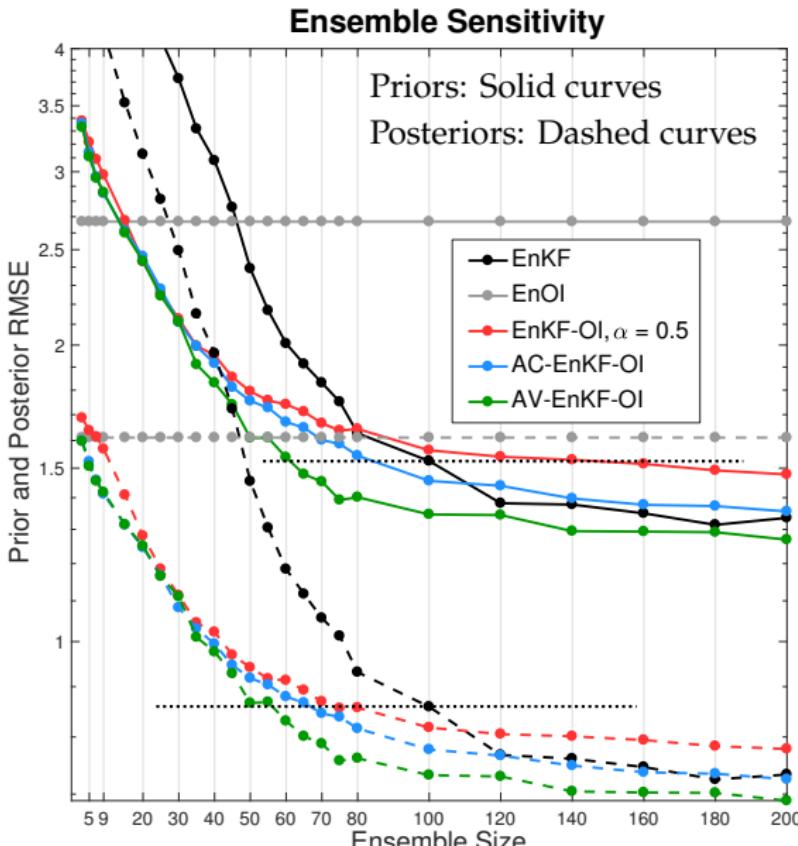
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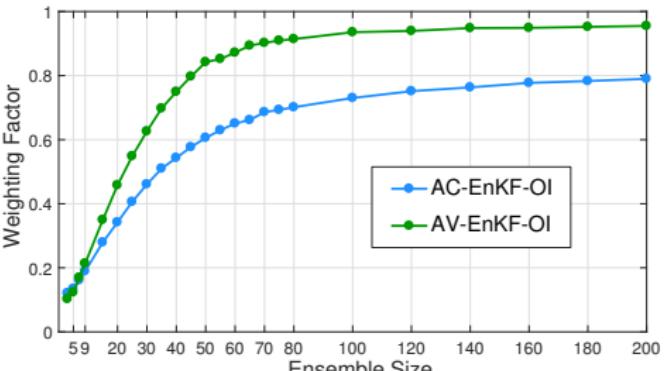
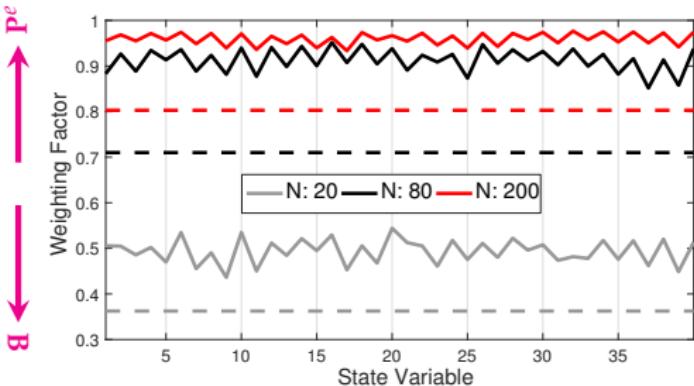
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- ★ EnKF's accuracy is reproduced by the hybrid schemes with 40 – 50% less ensemble members



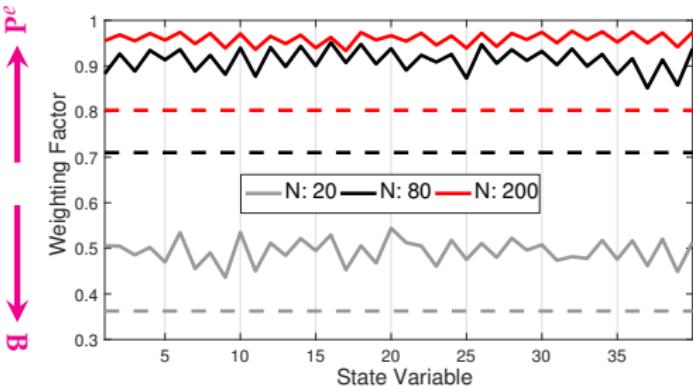
### 3.2 Sensitivity Tests: Ensemble Size

- AC-EnKF-OI: Dashed lines
- AV-EnKF-OI: Solid lines

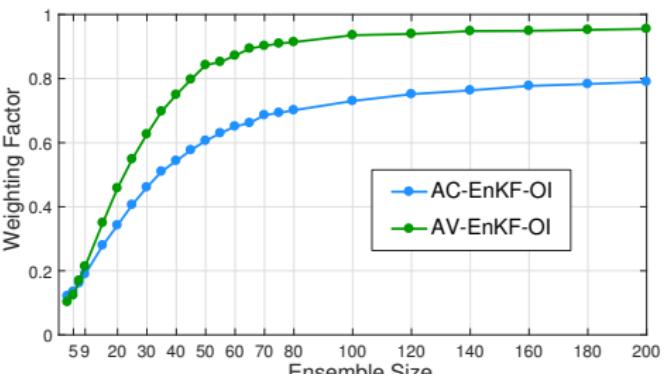


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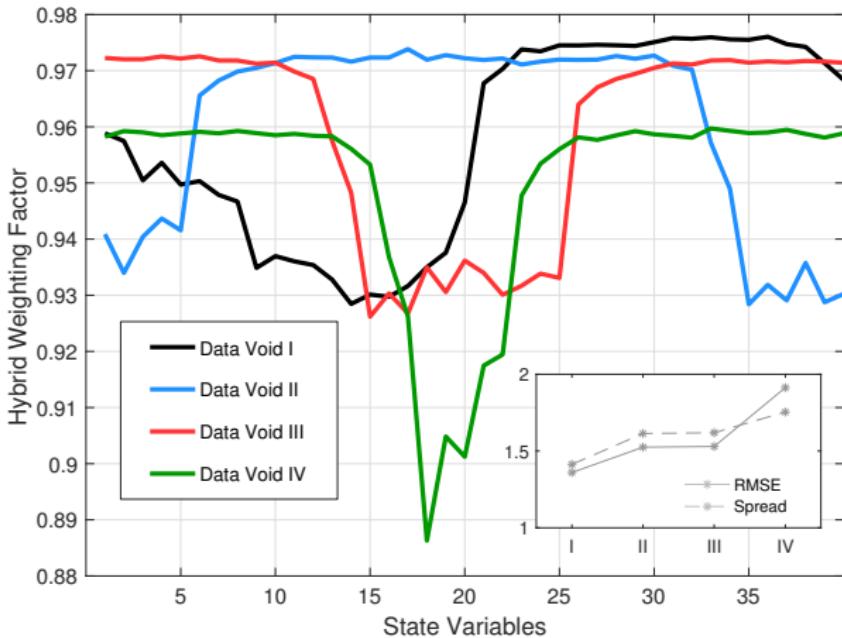


- For small ensembles, both adaptive spatially-constant and varying schemes behave the same
- AV-EnKF-OI responds more efficiently to changes in the ensemble



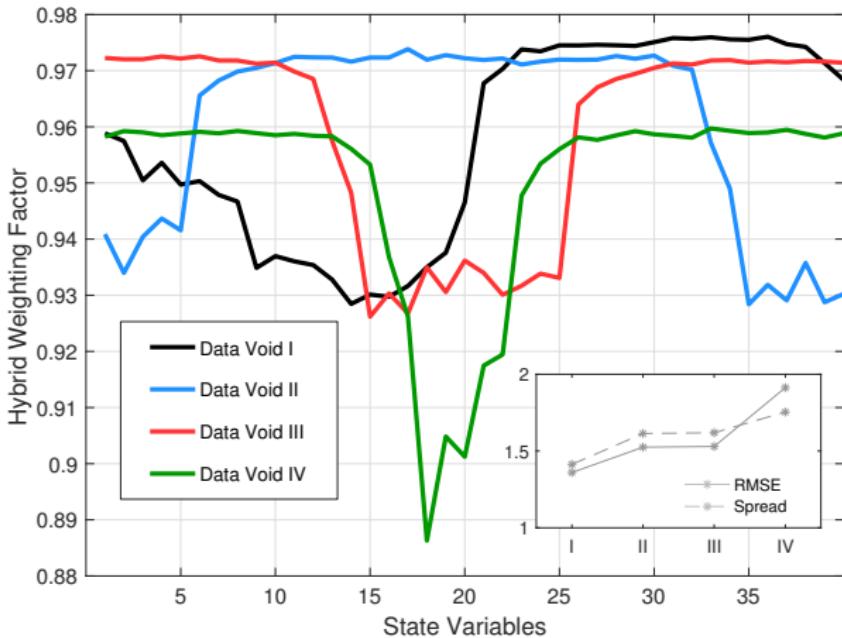
### 3.3 Sensitivity Tests: Observation Network

- **Data Void I:** Observe the first 20 variables
- **Data Void II:** Observe the first and last 5 variables
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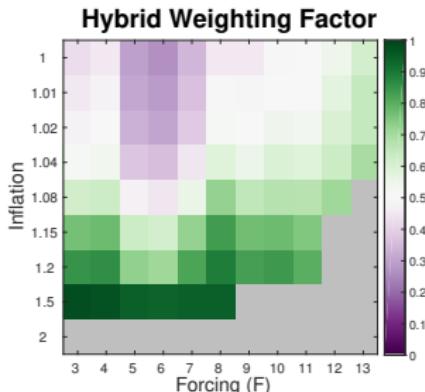
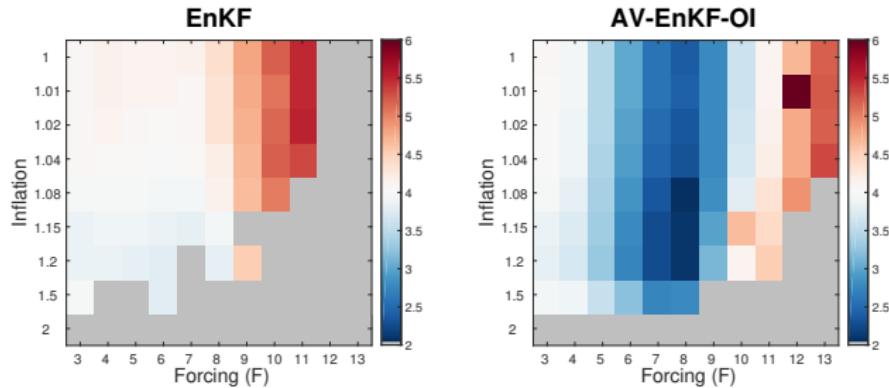
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- In densely observed regions, the ensemble spread decreases
- Hybrid scheme places weight more on **B** to increase the variance, allowing better data fit

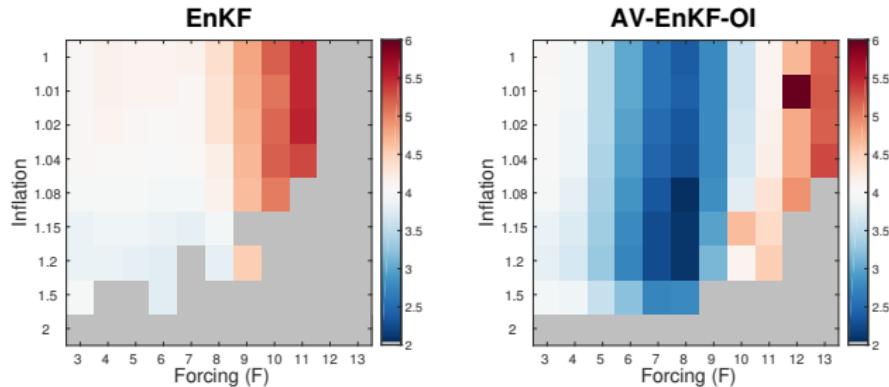
# Sensitivity Tests: Model Errors + Inflation

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- Model error; vary  
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- $\mathbf{B}$  is generated in each case using biased  $F$
- No localization

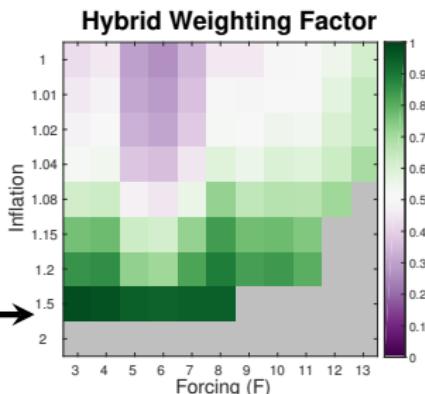


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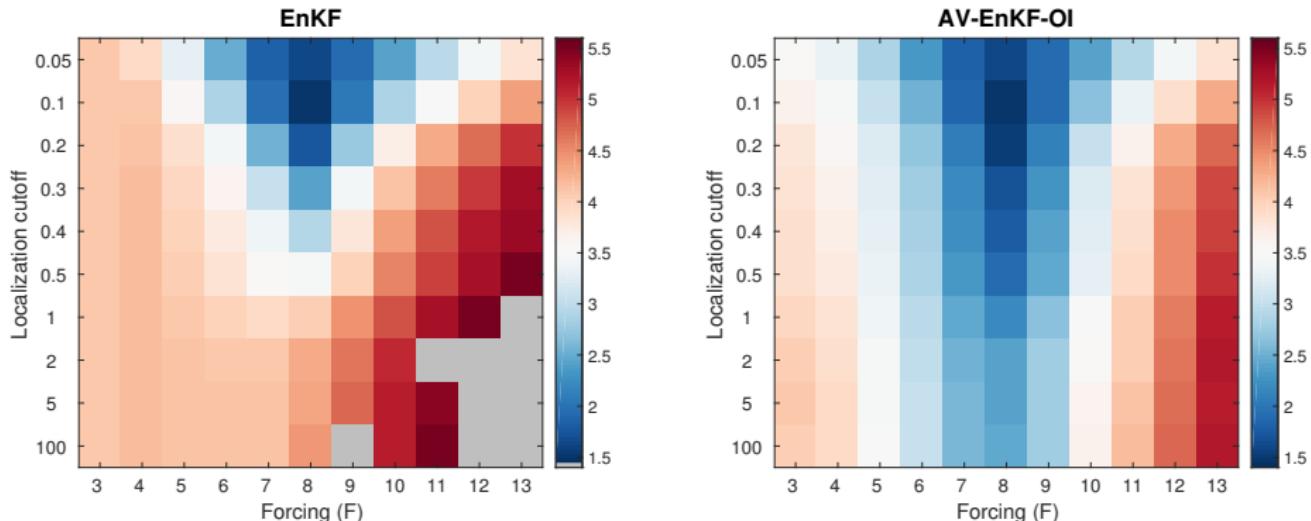
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- Hybrid scheme: better stability and more accurate even in very biased conditions
- As inflation increases, adaptive  $\alpha$  increases (more weight on the ensemble covariance)

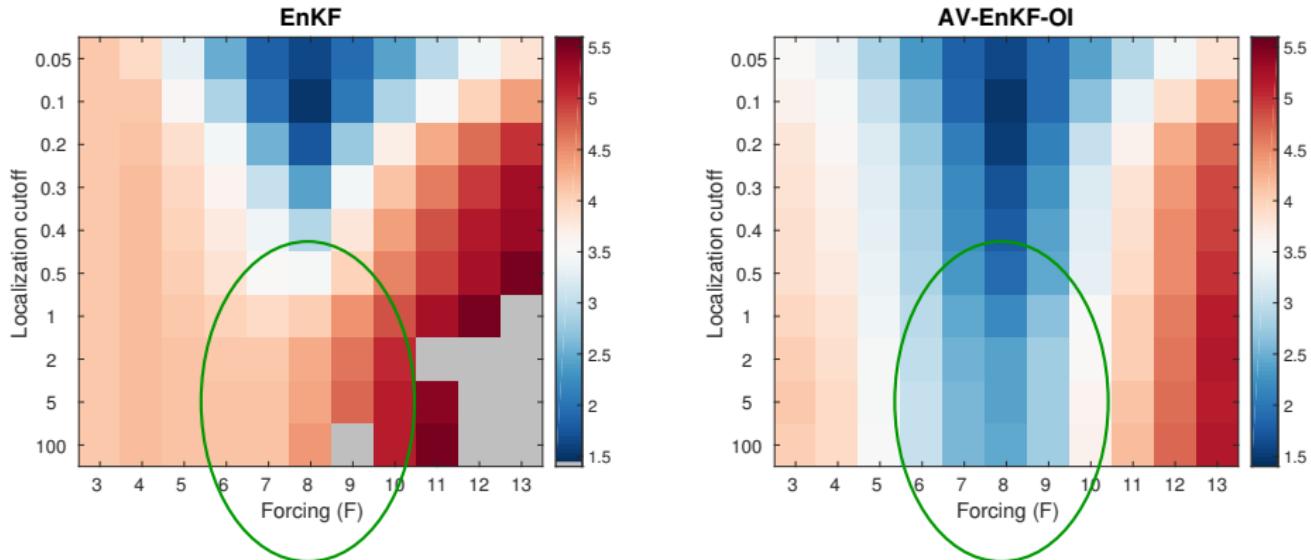


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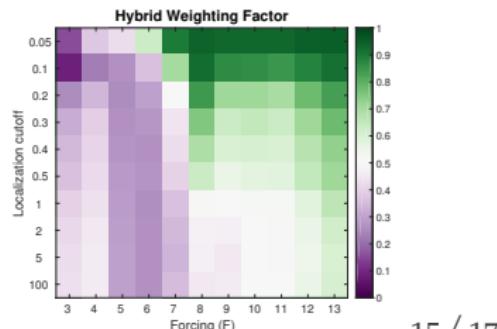
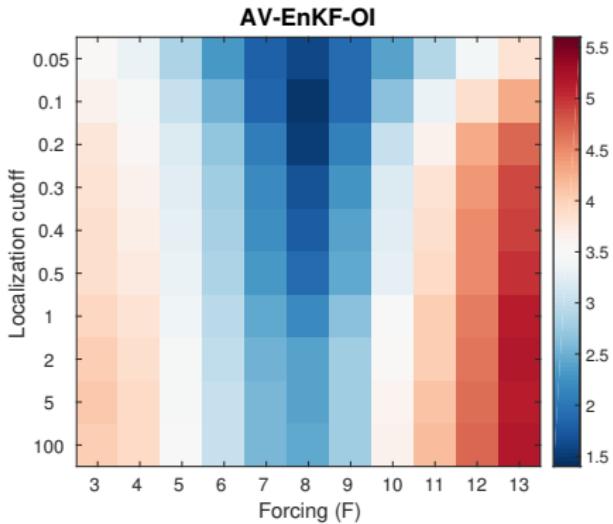
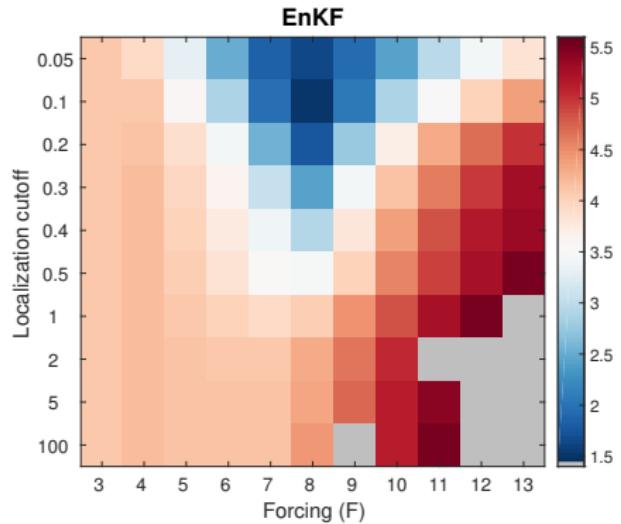
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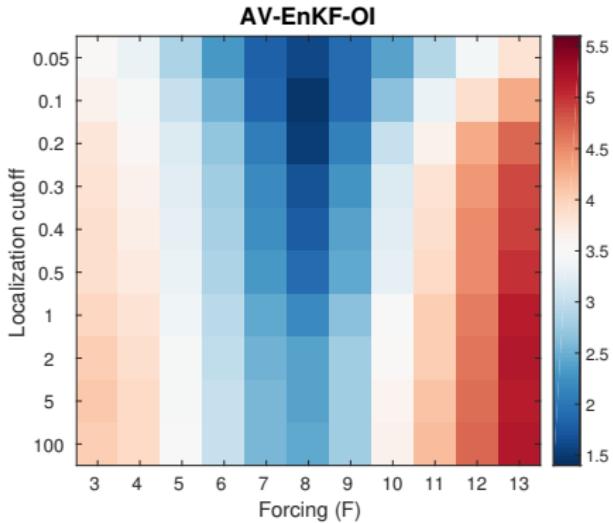
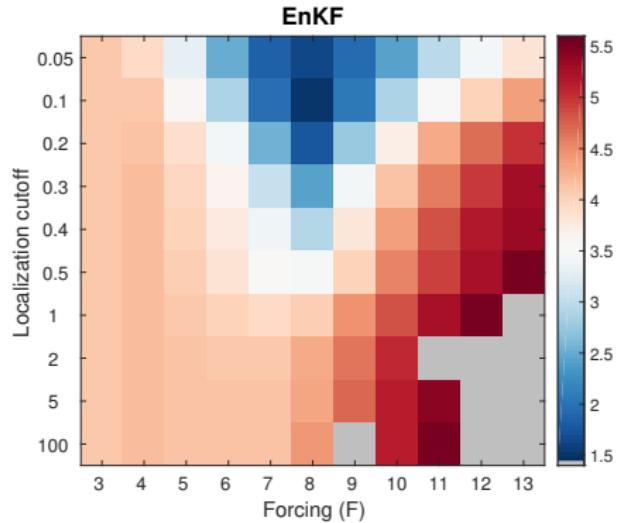


- $N_e = 20$ , No inflation
- Vary both  $F$  and localization length scale
- Adaptive hybrid scheme is systematically better than the EnKF for all tested cases
- With very little to no localization, hybrid scheme still performs exceptionally well
- Does the climatological flavor from **B** mitigate spurious correlations?

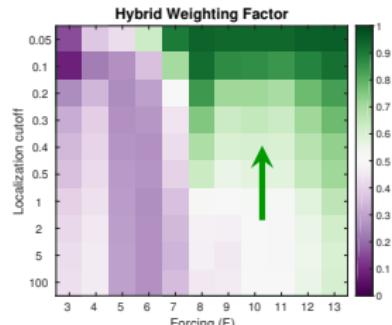
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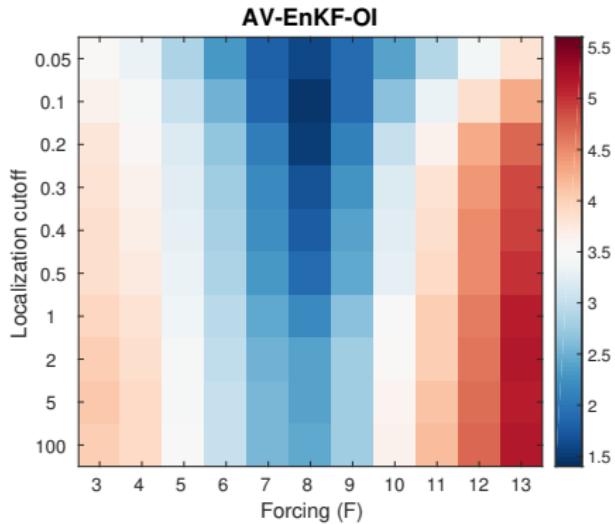
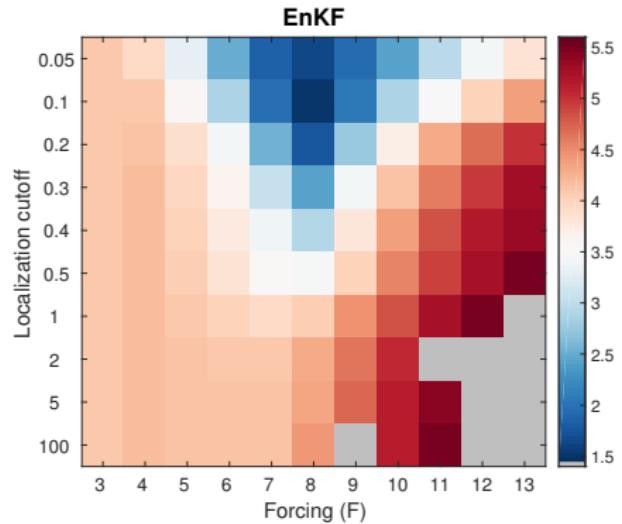
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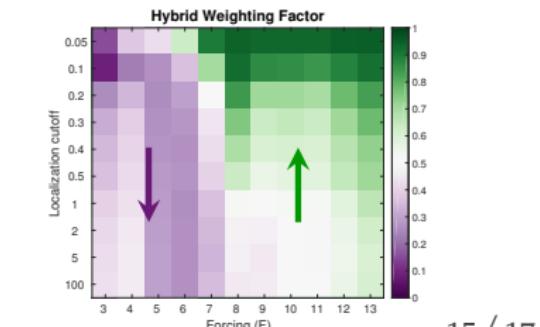
- For chaotic behaviour (i.e.,  $F \geq 8$ ): As localization increases,  $\alpha$  increases



# Sensitivity Tests: Model Errors + Localization



- For chaotic behaviour (i.e.,  $F \geq 8$ ): As localization increases,  $\alpha$  increases
- Less chaotic (smaller ensemble variance):  $\alpha$  decreases to bring-in variability from **B**



## 4.1 Concluding Remarks

---

- Prior (background) ensemble covariance **must** be enhanced
- On top of inflation and localization, hybridizing  $P^e$  with stationary OI-based background covariances can be helpful and perhaps crucial
- The adaptive scheme uses available data through Bayes rule to determine the relative weighting between the ensemble and the static covariance
- Lorenz-96 experiments show promising performance

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EnKF	Adaptive Hybrid EnKF-OI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Only flow-dependent covariance</li><li>– Requires a large ensemble size</li><li>– Fair computational cost</li><li>– Strong tuning (inf, loc, ..)</li><li>– Strong biases cause divergence</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– OI flavor &amp; flow-dependent information</li><li>– Works well with fairly small ensembles</li><li>– <b>Storage</b>, additional IO cost</li><li>– Fully adaptive, requires less inf, loc, ..</li><li>– More stable; able to switch to EnOI</li></ul>

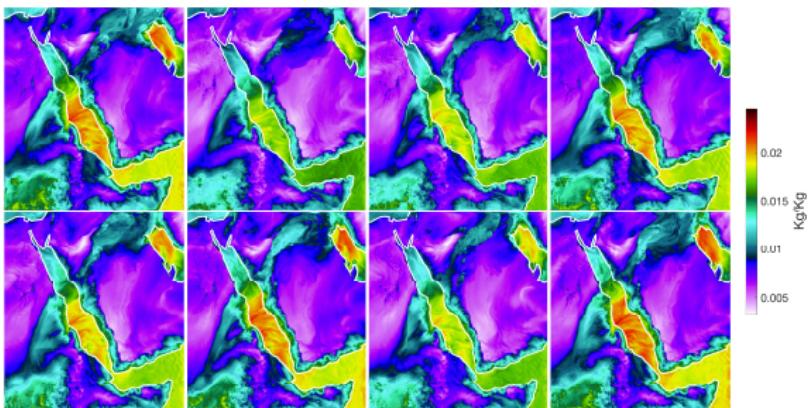
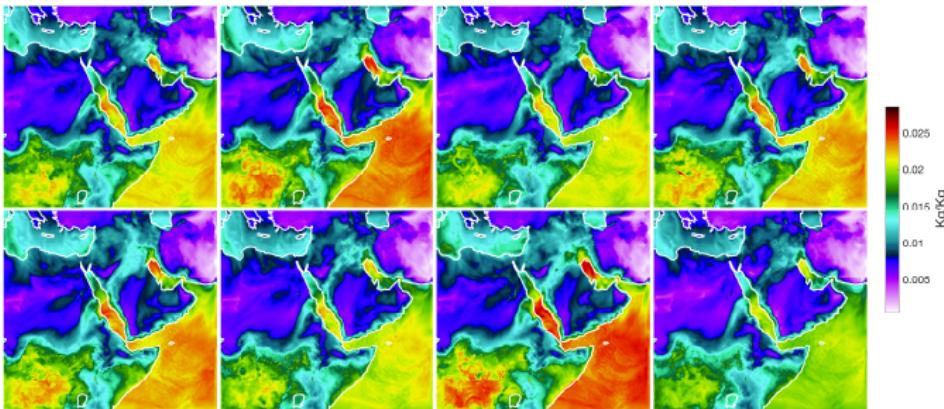
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EL GHARAMTI, M. (2021). HYBRID ENSEMBLE-VARIATIONAL FILTER: A SPATIALLY AND TEMPORALLY VARYING ADAPTIVE ALGORITHM TO ESTIMATE RELATIVE WEIGHTING. *MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW*, 149(1), 65-76.

## 4.2 Future: Applications to Earth System Models



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