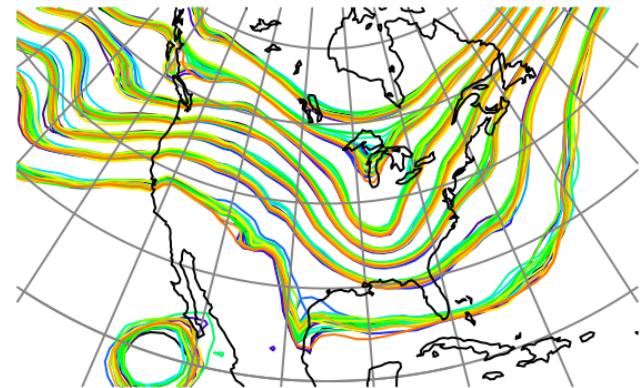


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# DART\_LAB Tutorial Section 2: How should observations impact an unobserved state variable? Multivariate assimilation.



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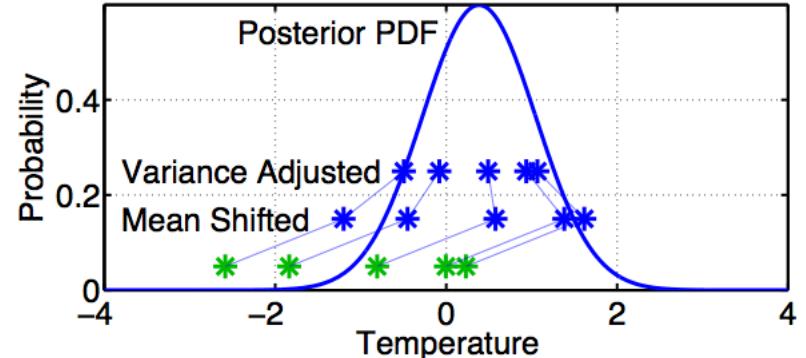


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Atmospheric Research

# Single observed variable, single unobserved variable.

So far, we have a known observation likelihood for a single variable.

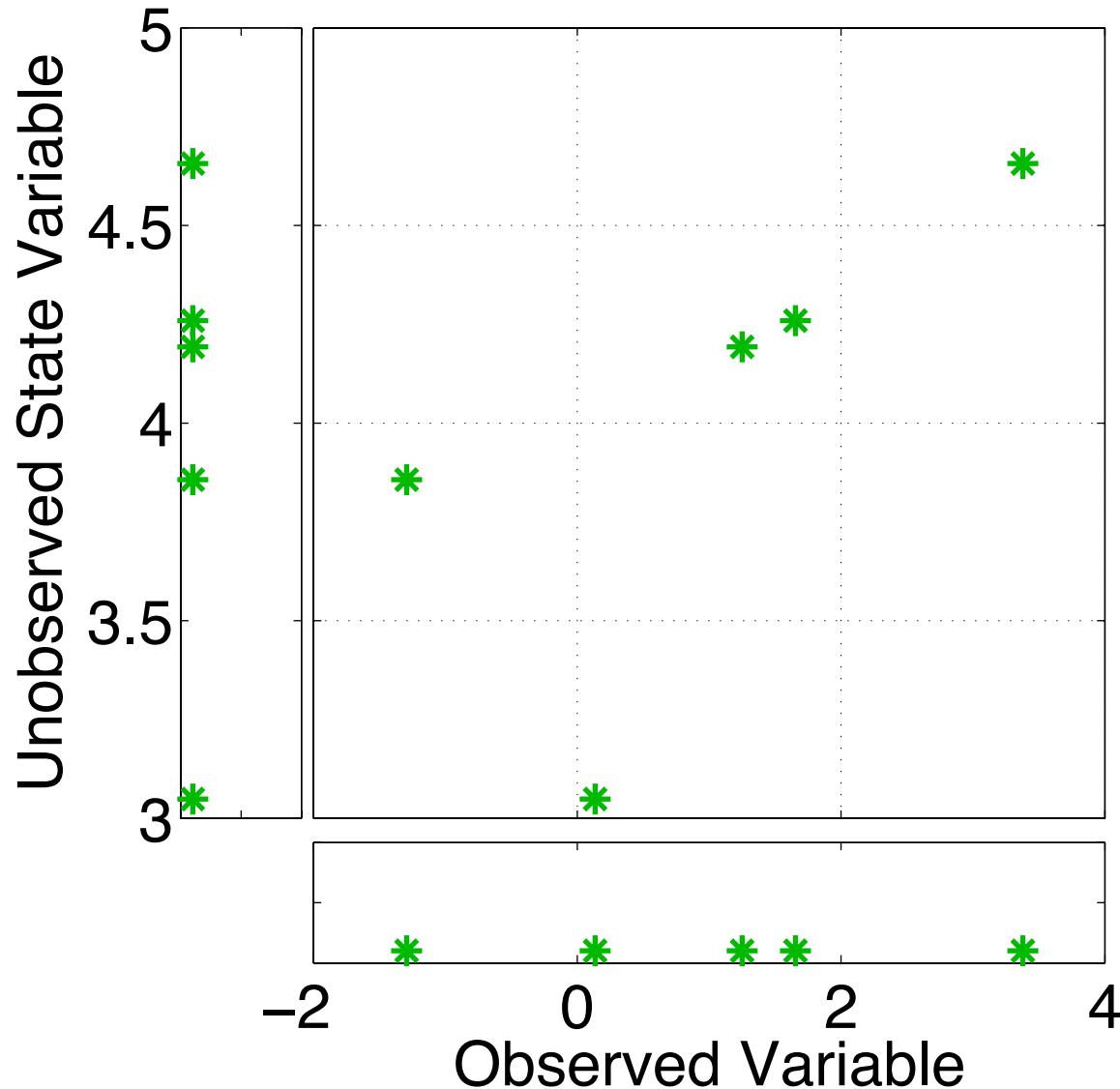


Now, suppose the prior has an additional variable ...

We will examine how ensemble members update the additional variable.

Basic method generalizes to any number of additional variables.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

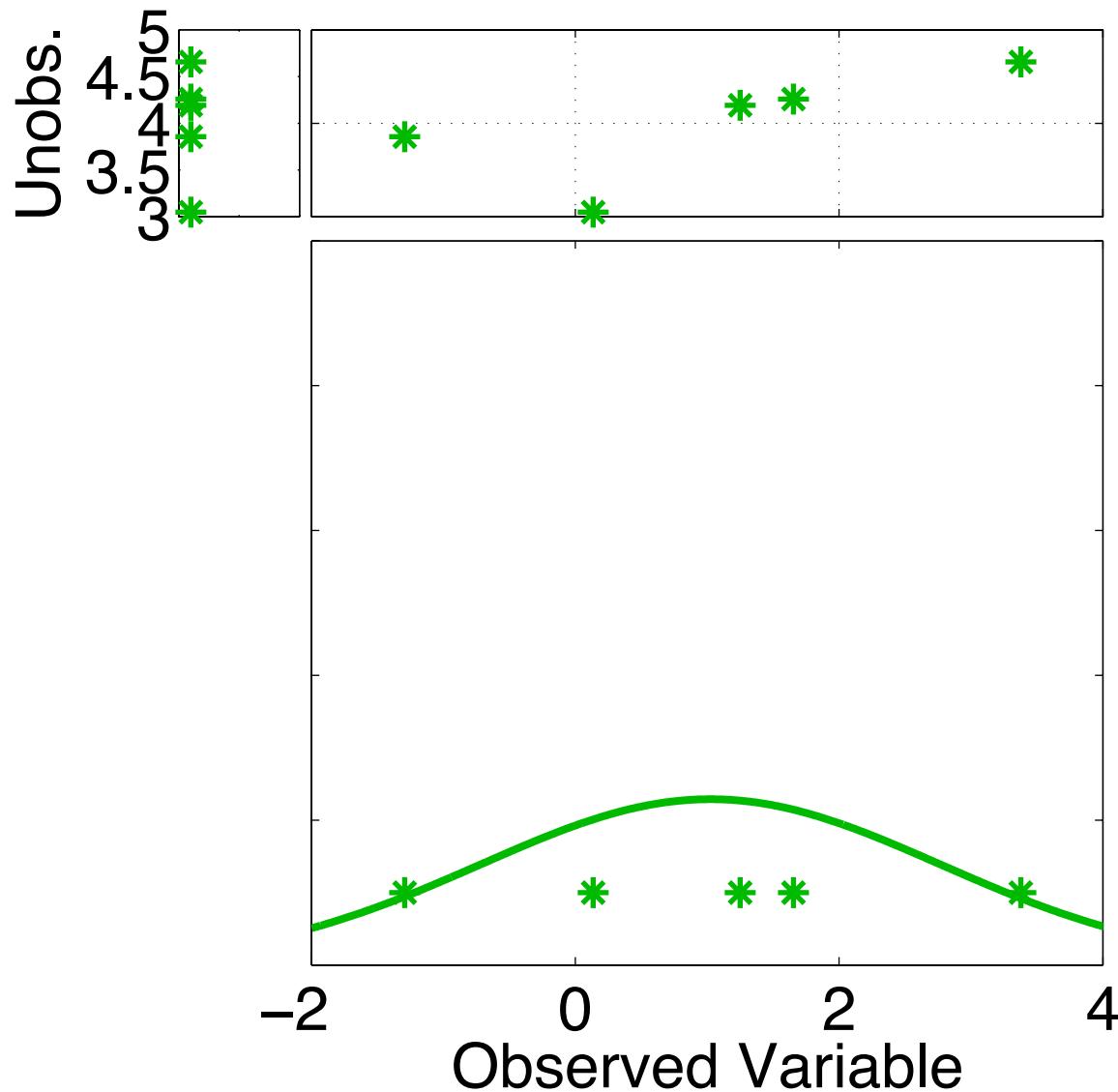


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

What should happen to the unobserved variable?

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

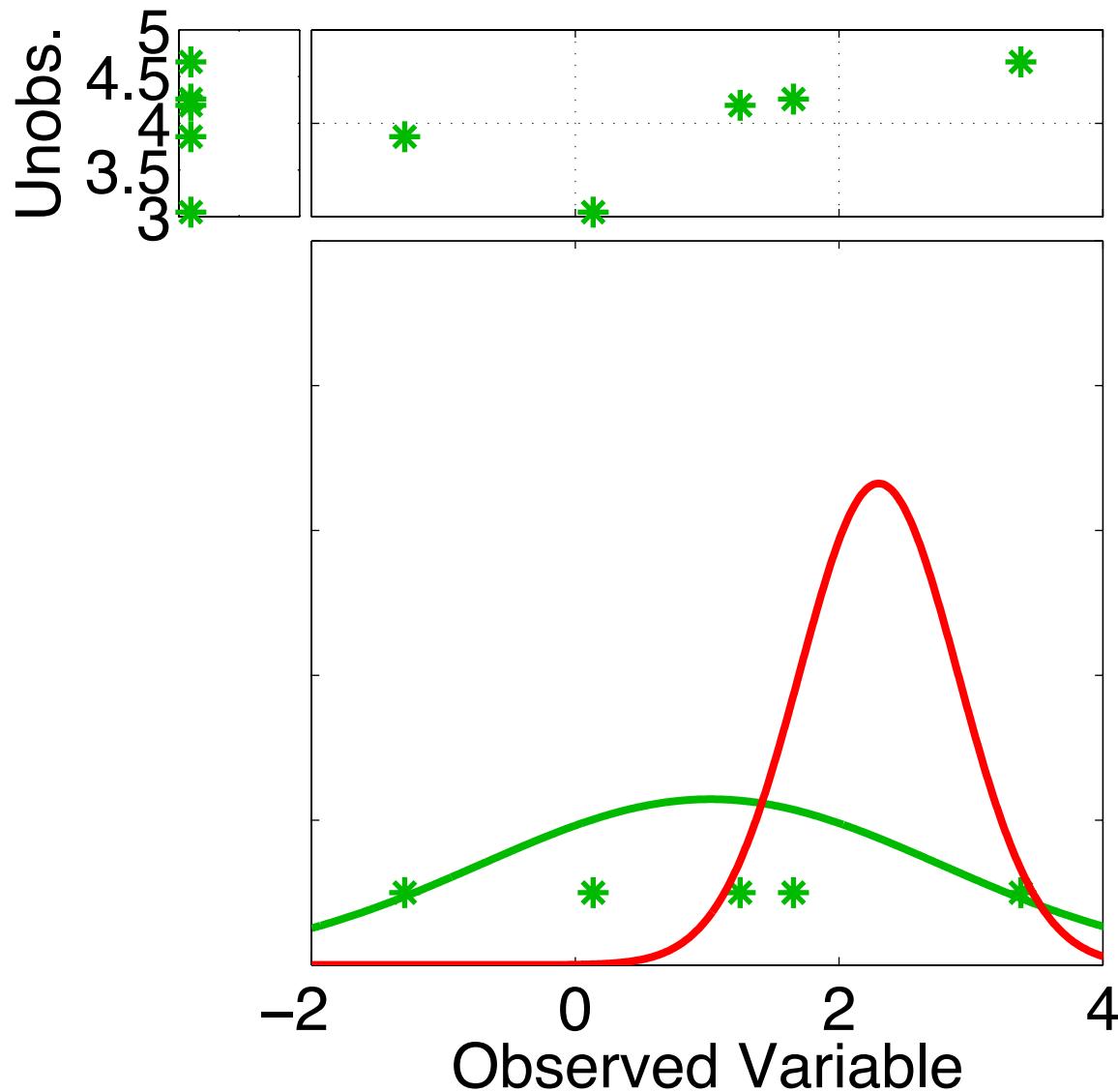


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Update observed variable with one of the previous methods.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

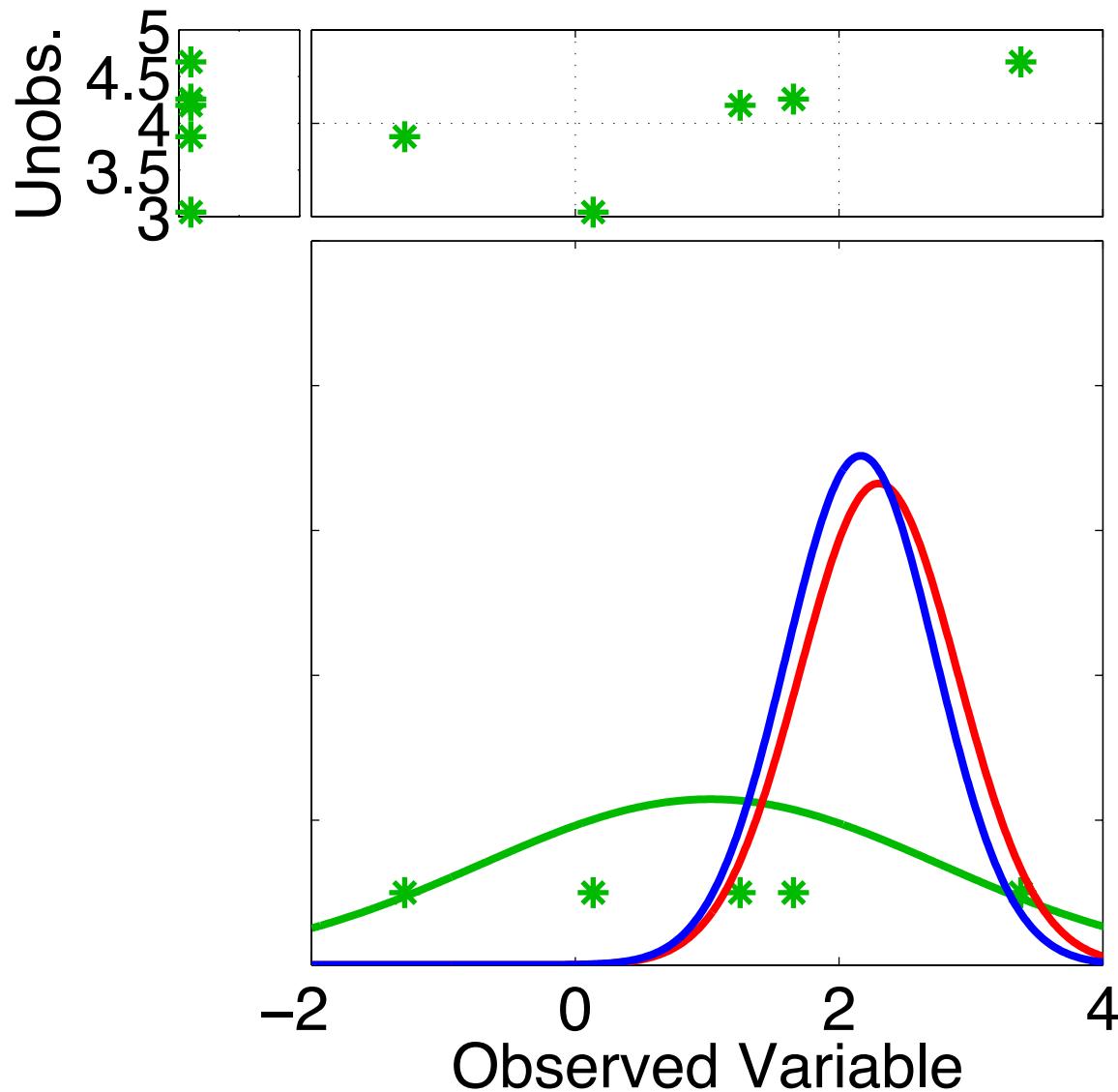


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Update observed variable with one of the previous methods.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

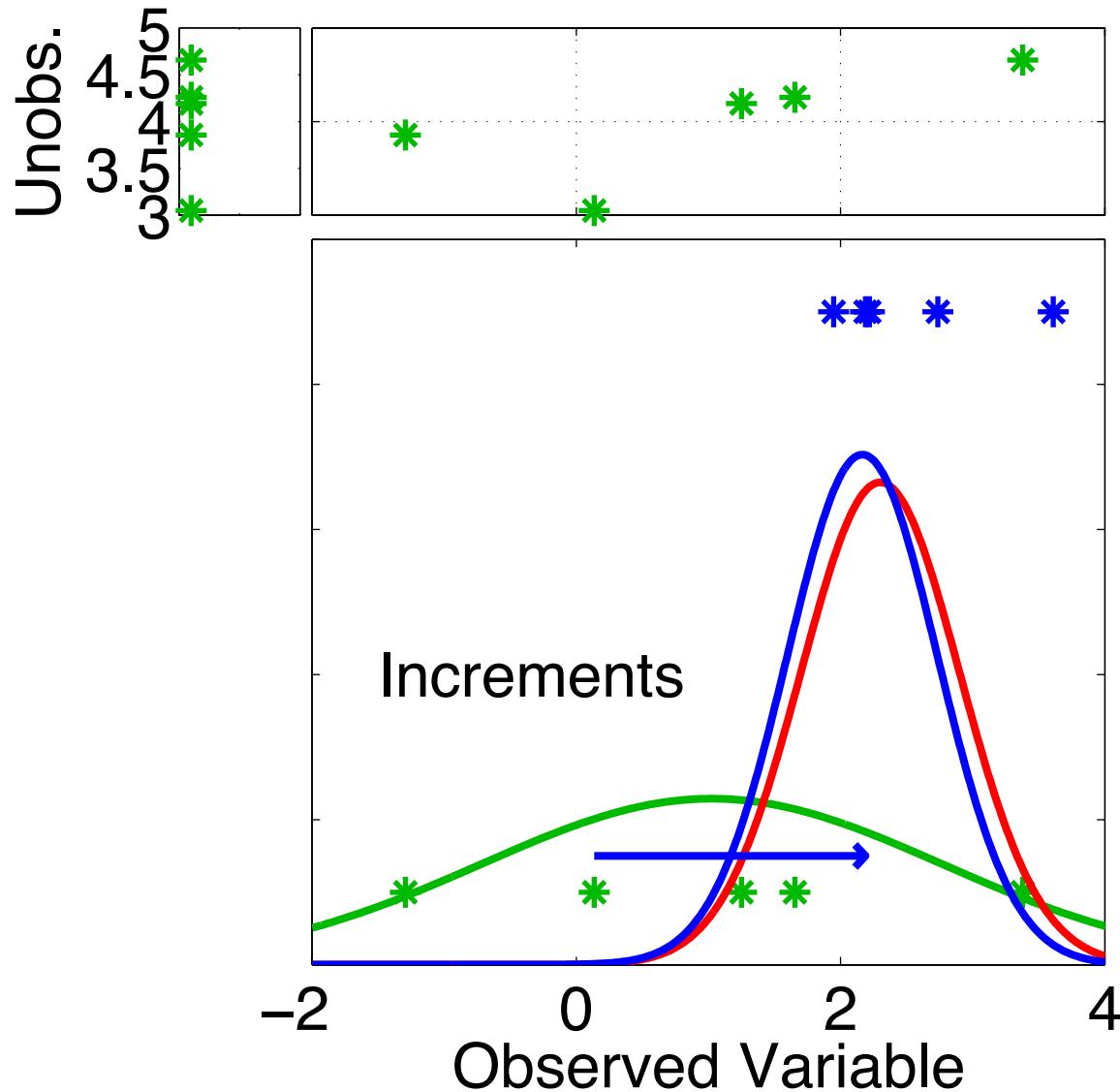


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Update observed variable with one of the previous methods.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

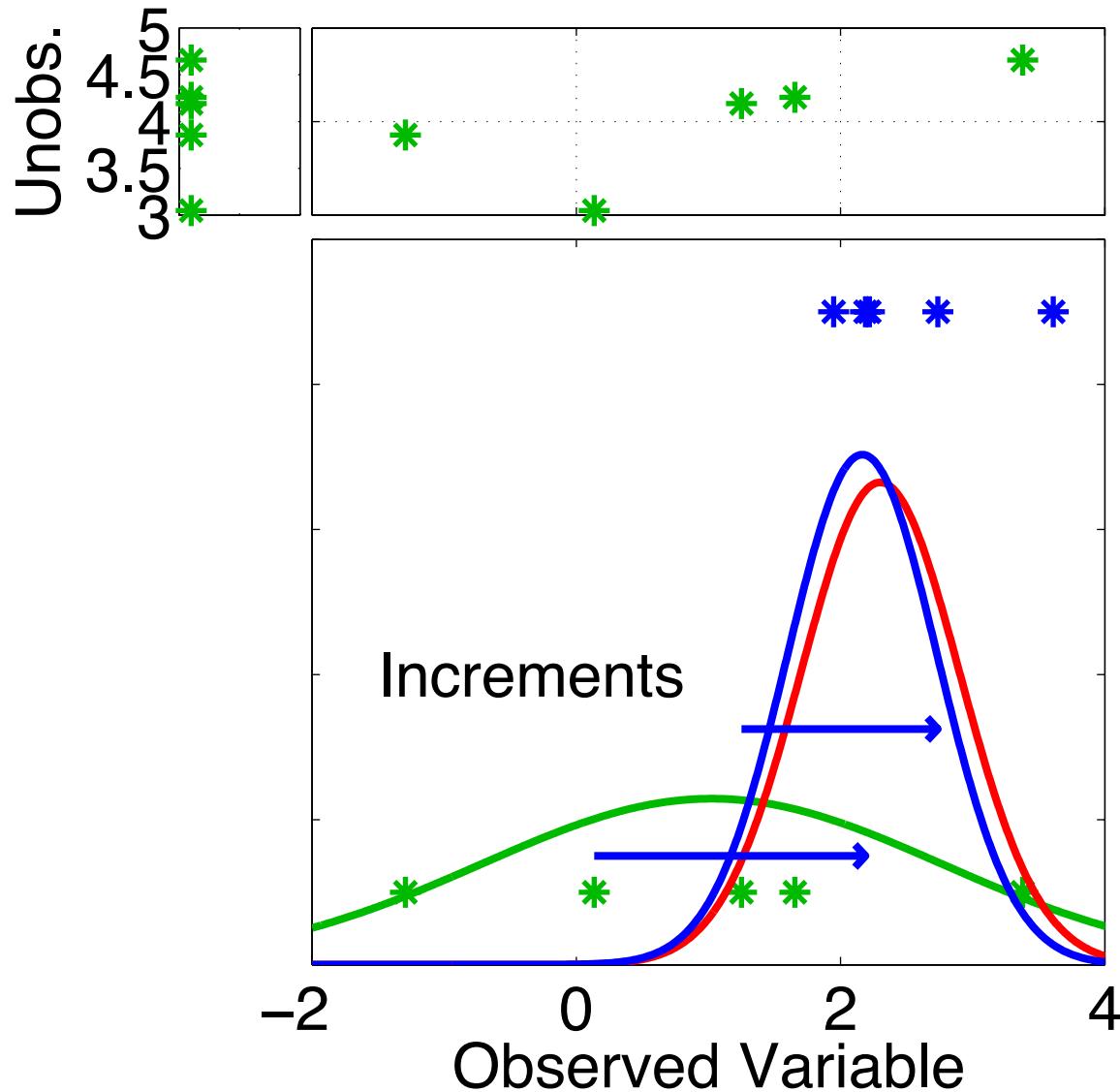


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Compute increments for prior ensemble members of observed variable.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

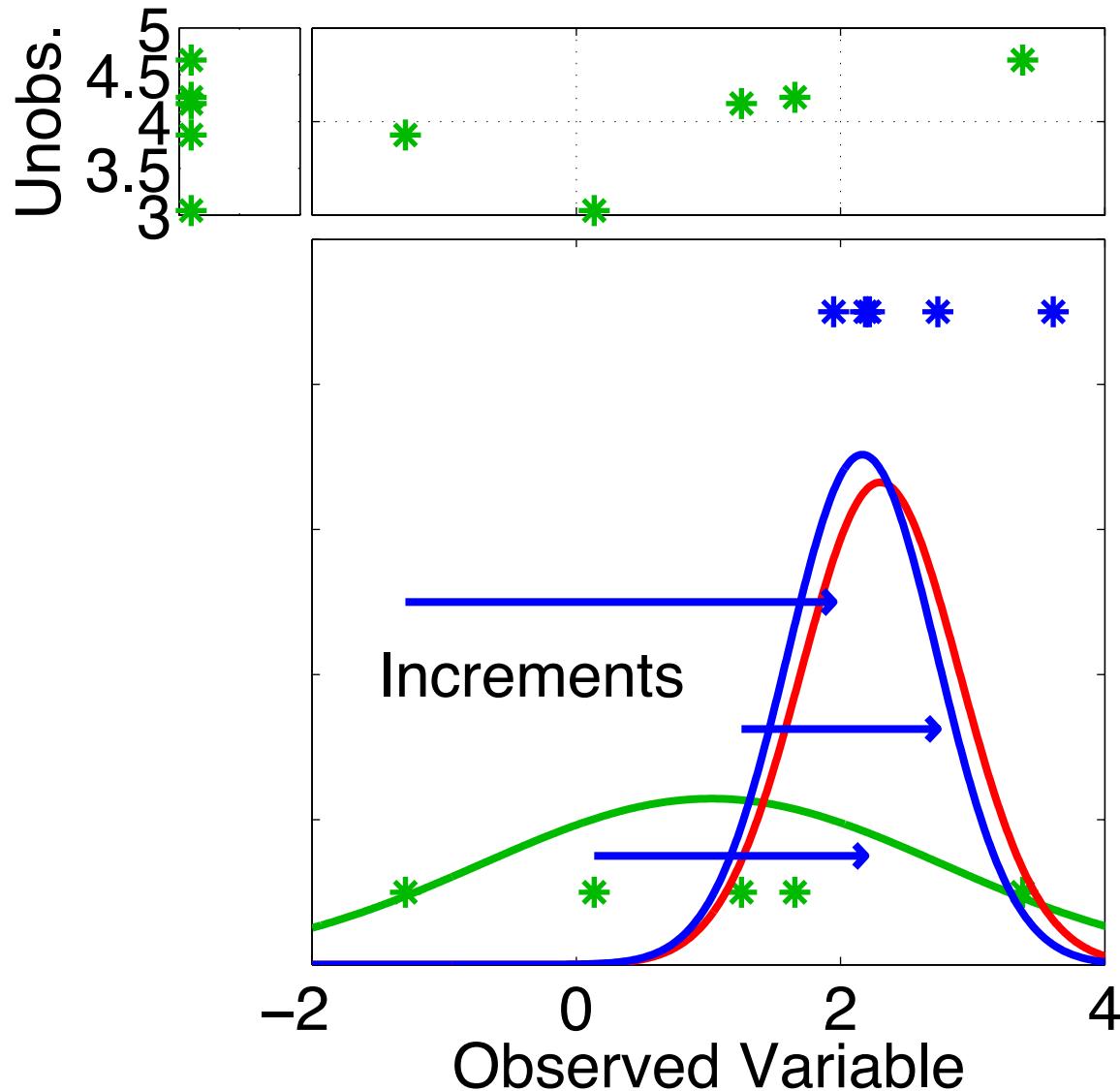


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Compute increments for prior ensemble members of observed variable.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

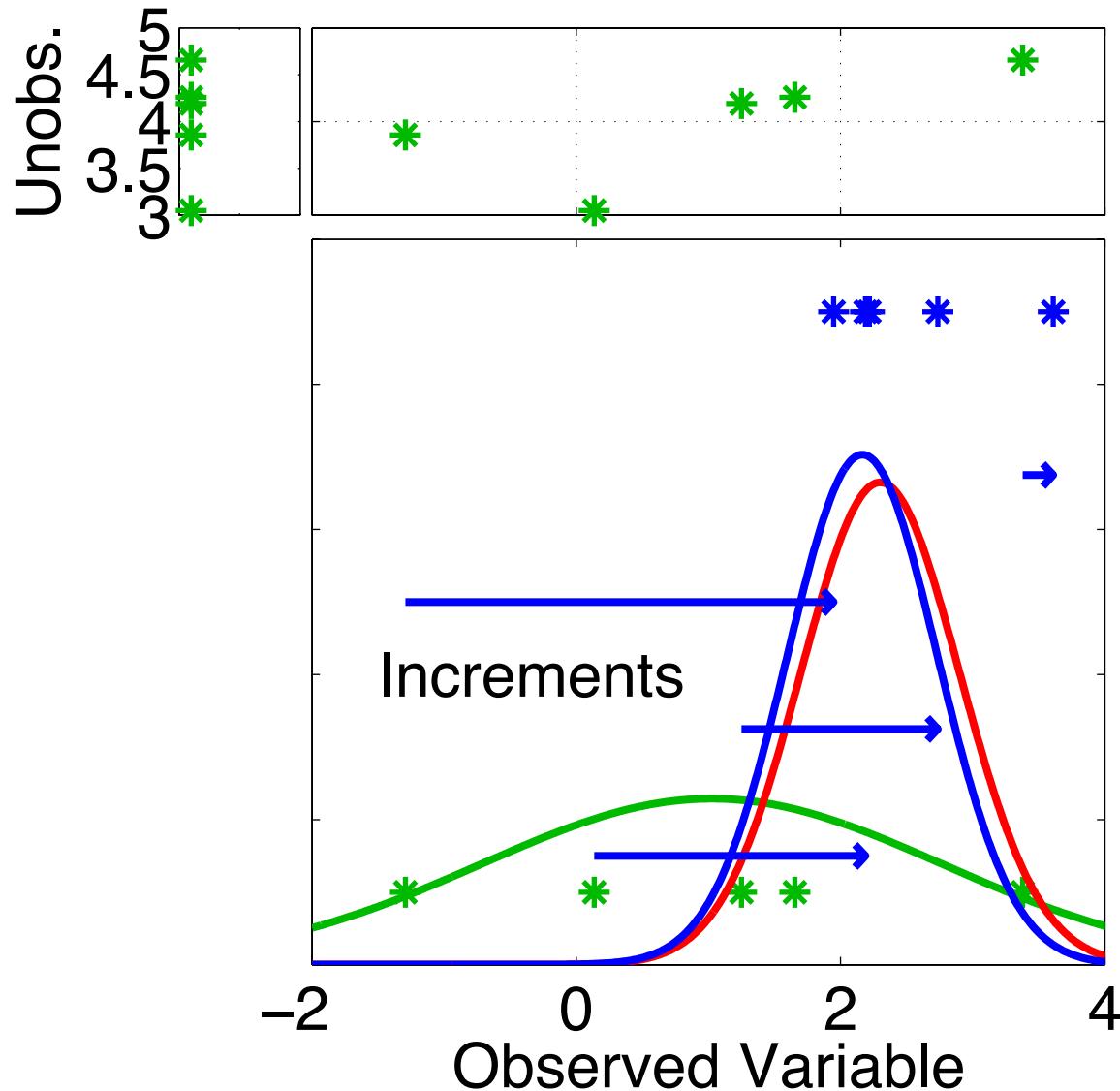


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Compute increments for prior ensemble members of observed variable.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

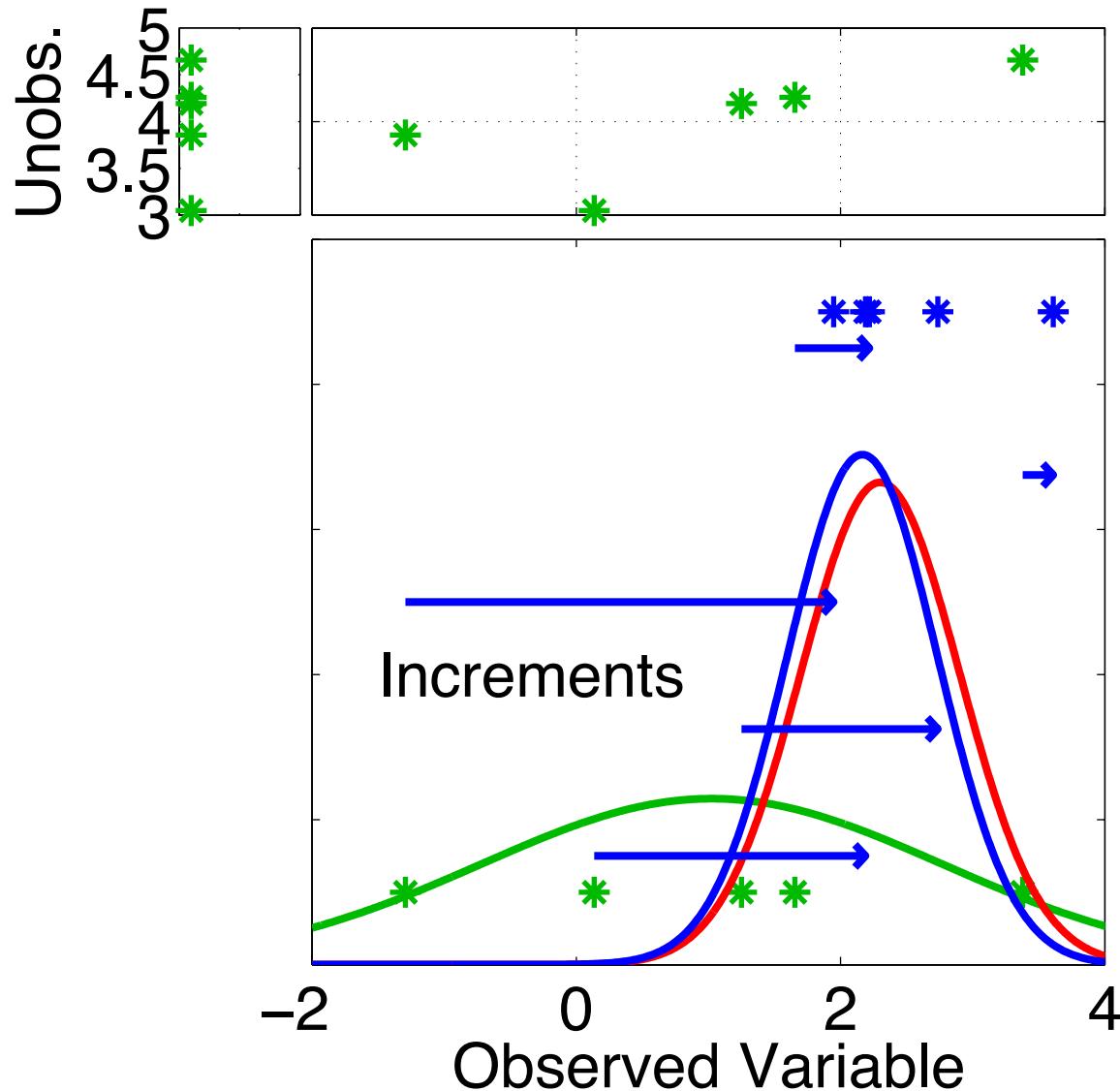


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Compute increments for prior ensemble members of observed variable.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

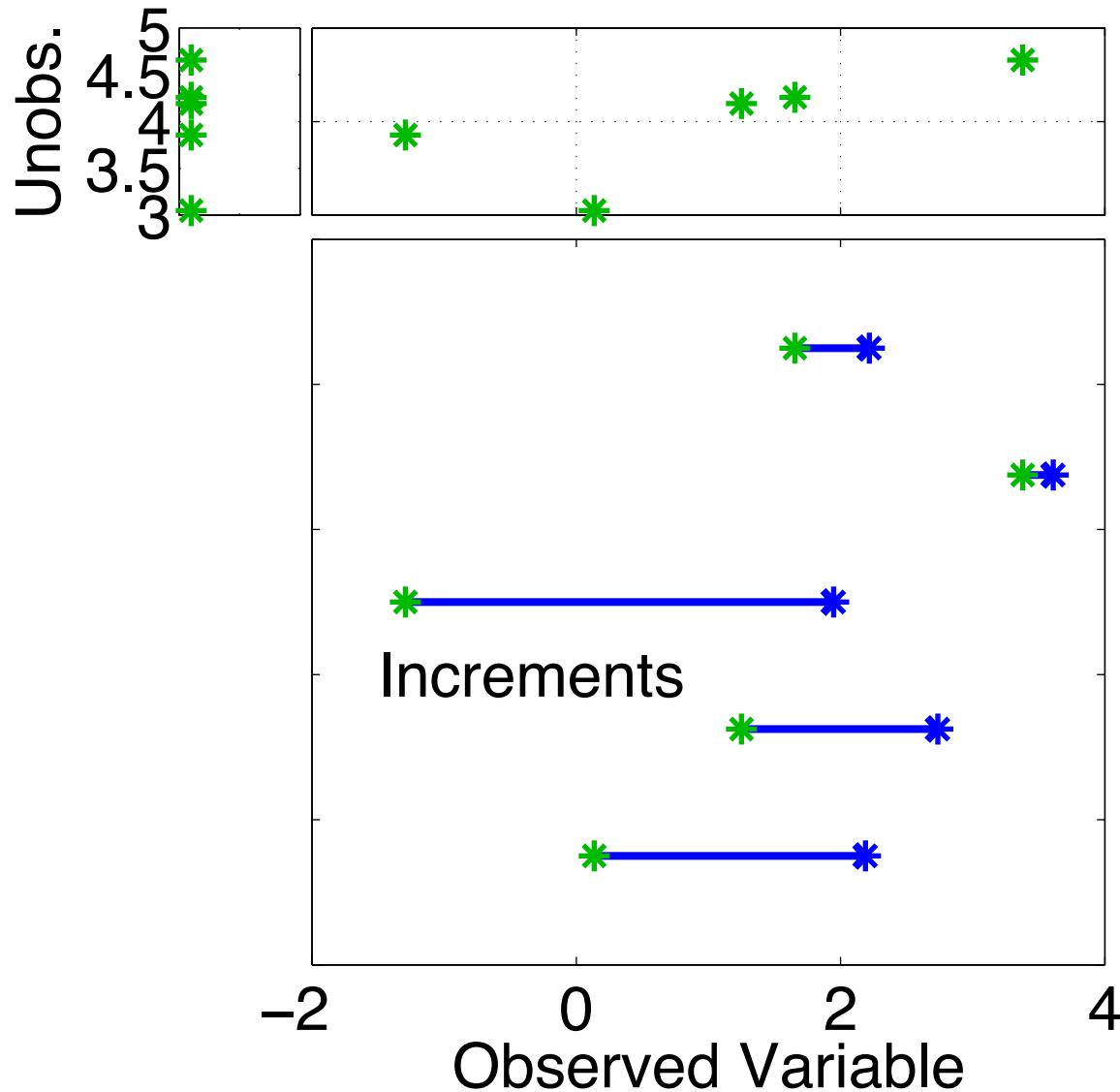


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Compute increments for prior ensemble members of observed variable.

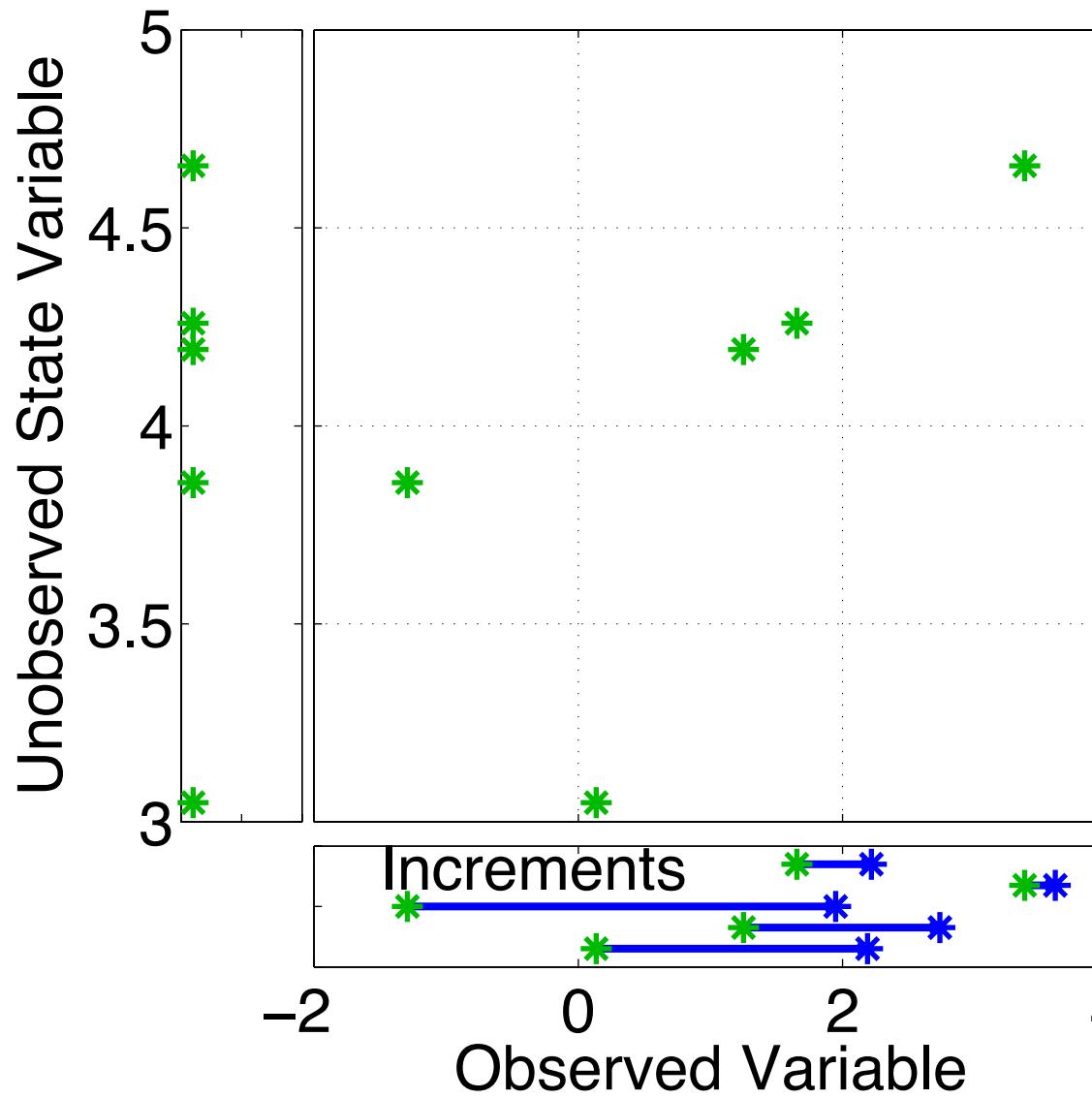
# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



Using only increments guarantees that if observation had no impact on observed variable, the unobserved variable is unchanged.

Highly desirable!

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

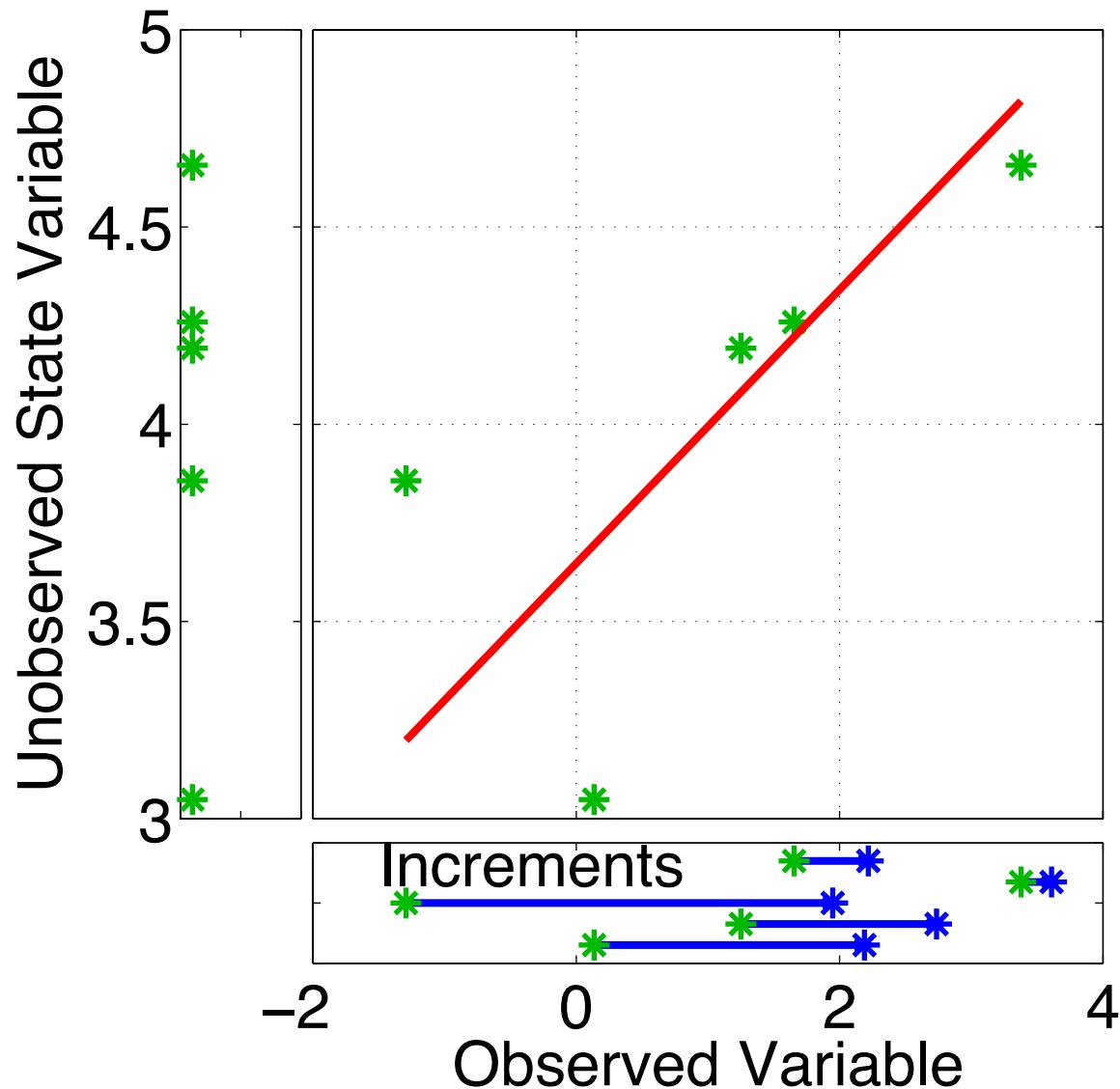
How should the unobserved variable be impacted?

1<sup>st</sup> choice: least squares

Equivalent to linear regression.

Same as assuming binormal prior.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



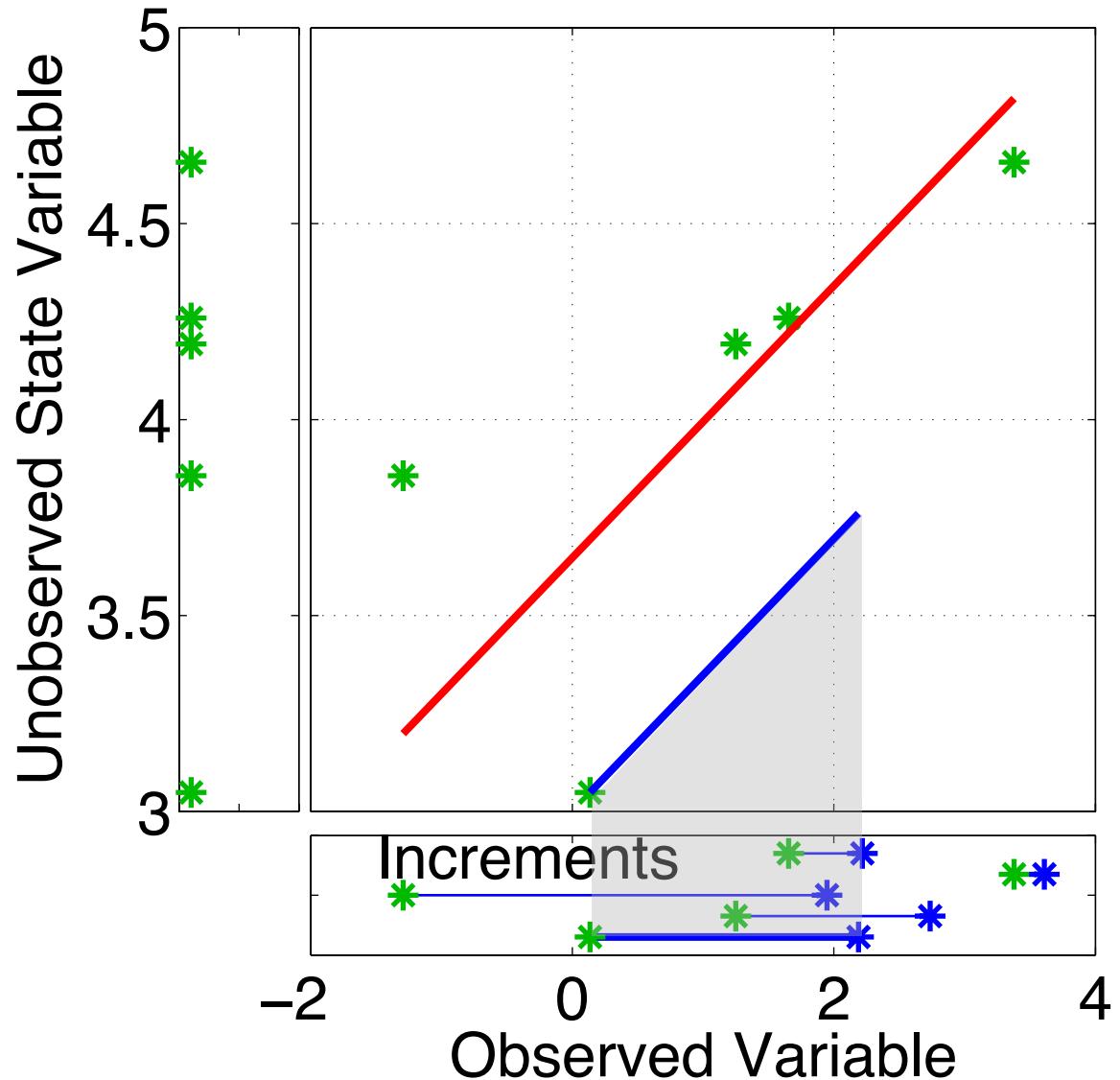
Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

How should the unobserved variable be impacted?

1<sup>st</sup> choice: least squares

Begin by finding **least squares fit**.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

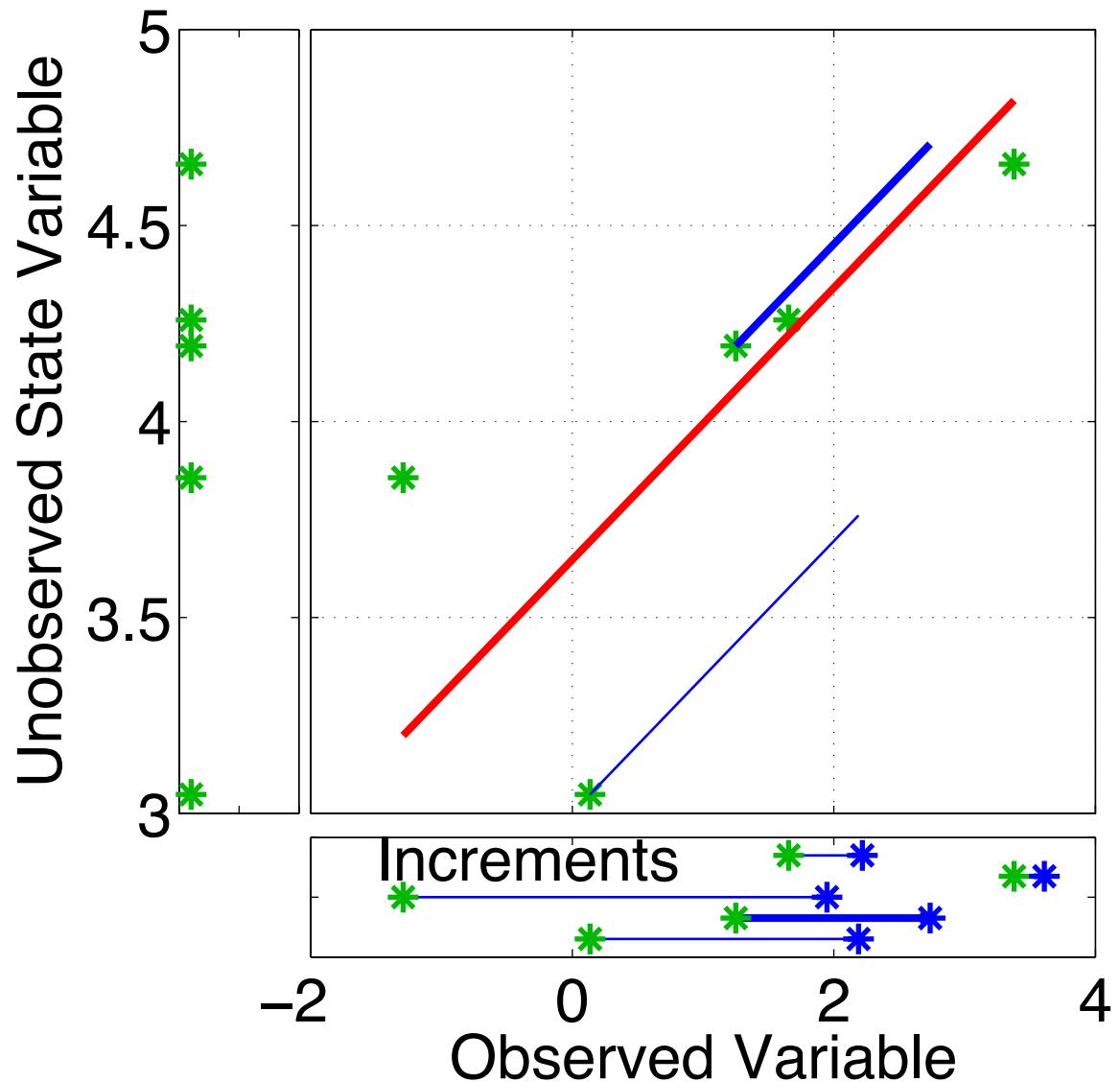


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Next, regress the observed variable increments onto increments for the unobserved variable.

Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

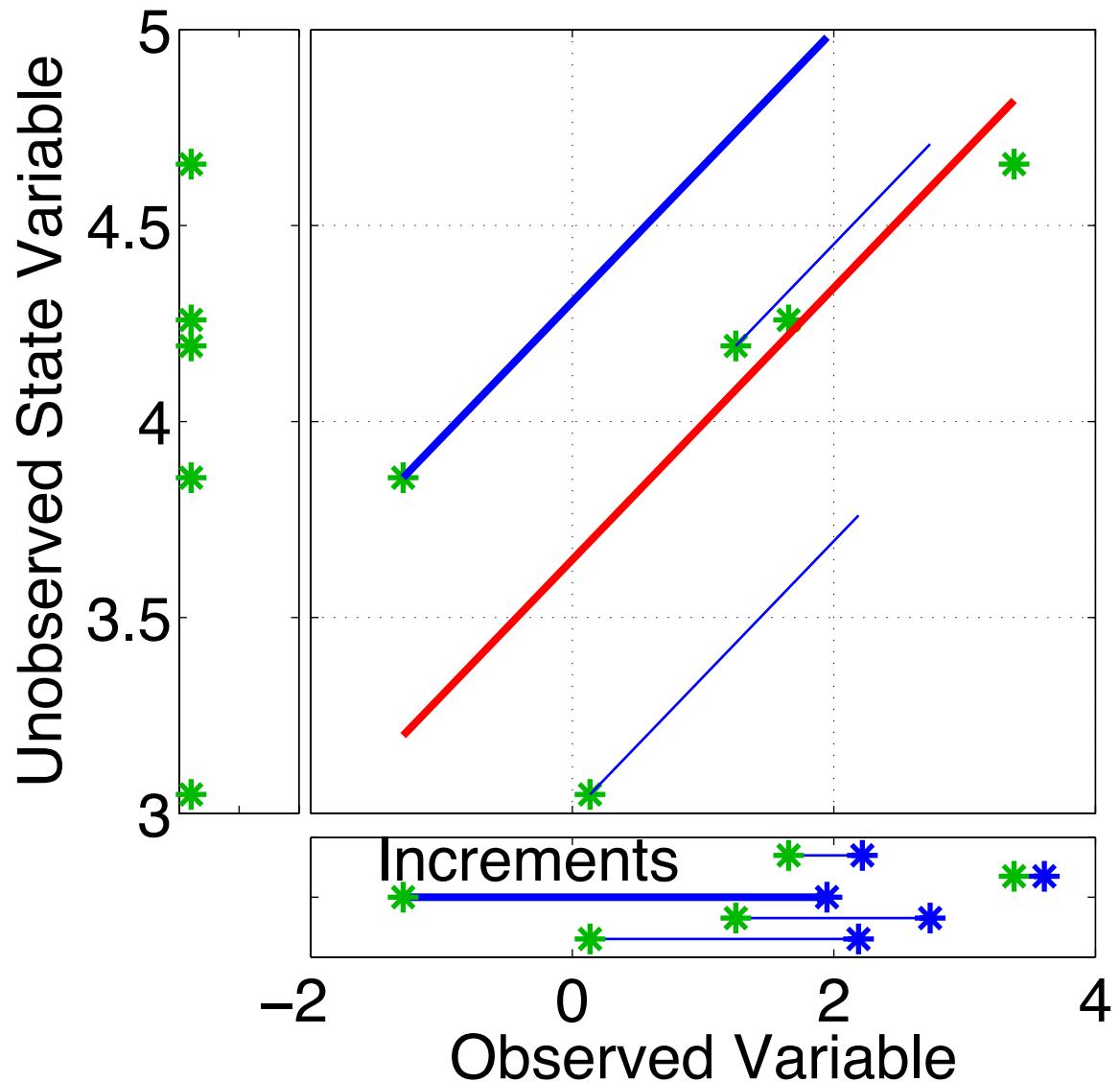


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Next, regress the observed variable increments onto increments for the unobserved variable.

Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

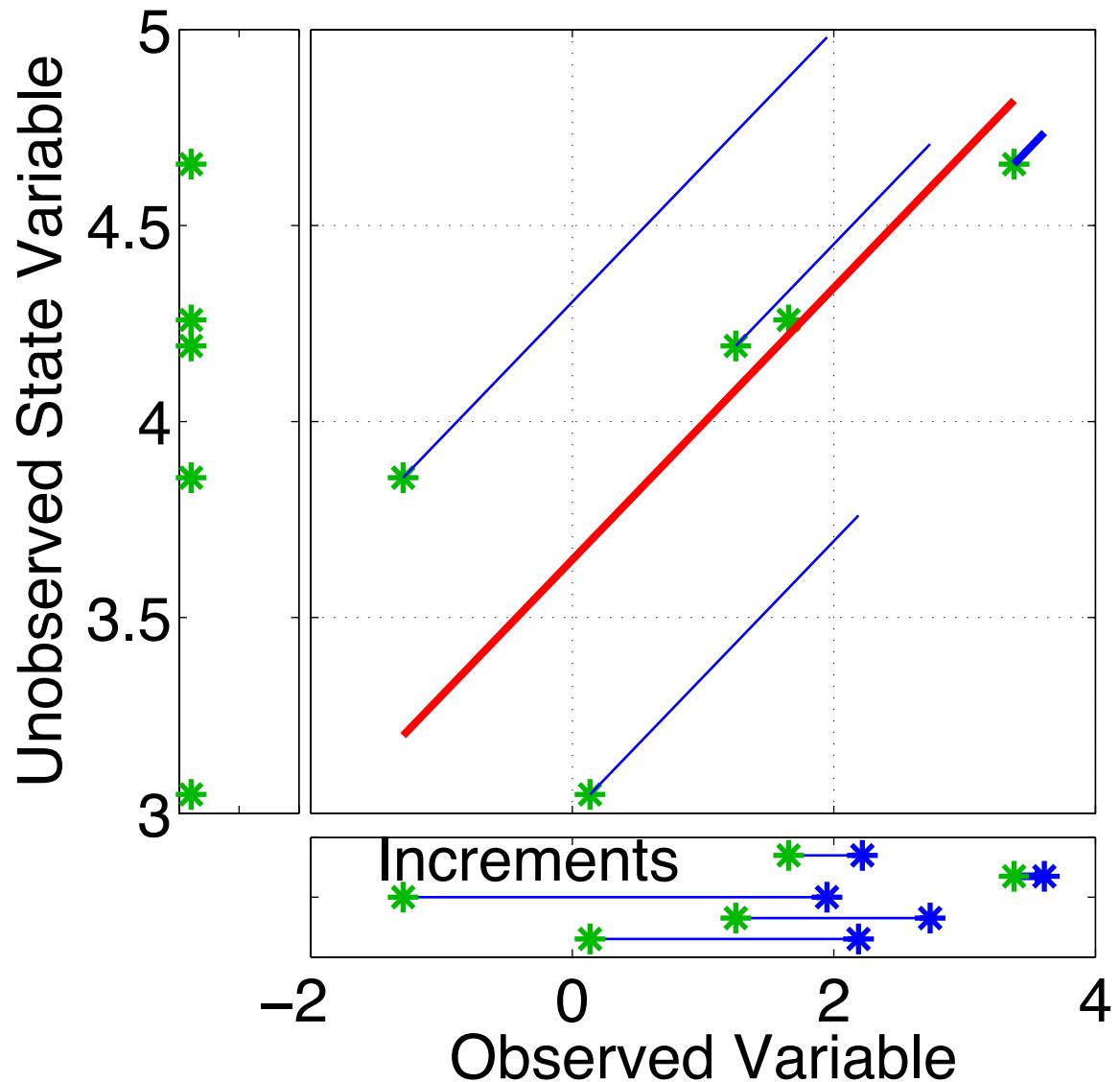


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Next, regress the observed variable increments onto increments for the unobserved variable.

Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

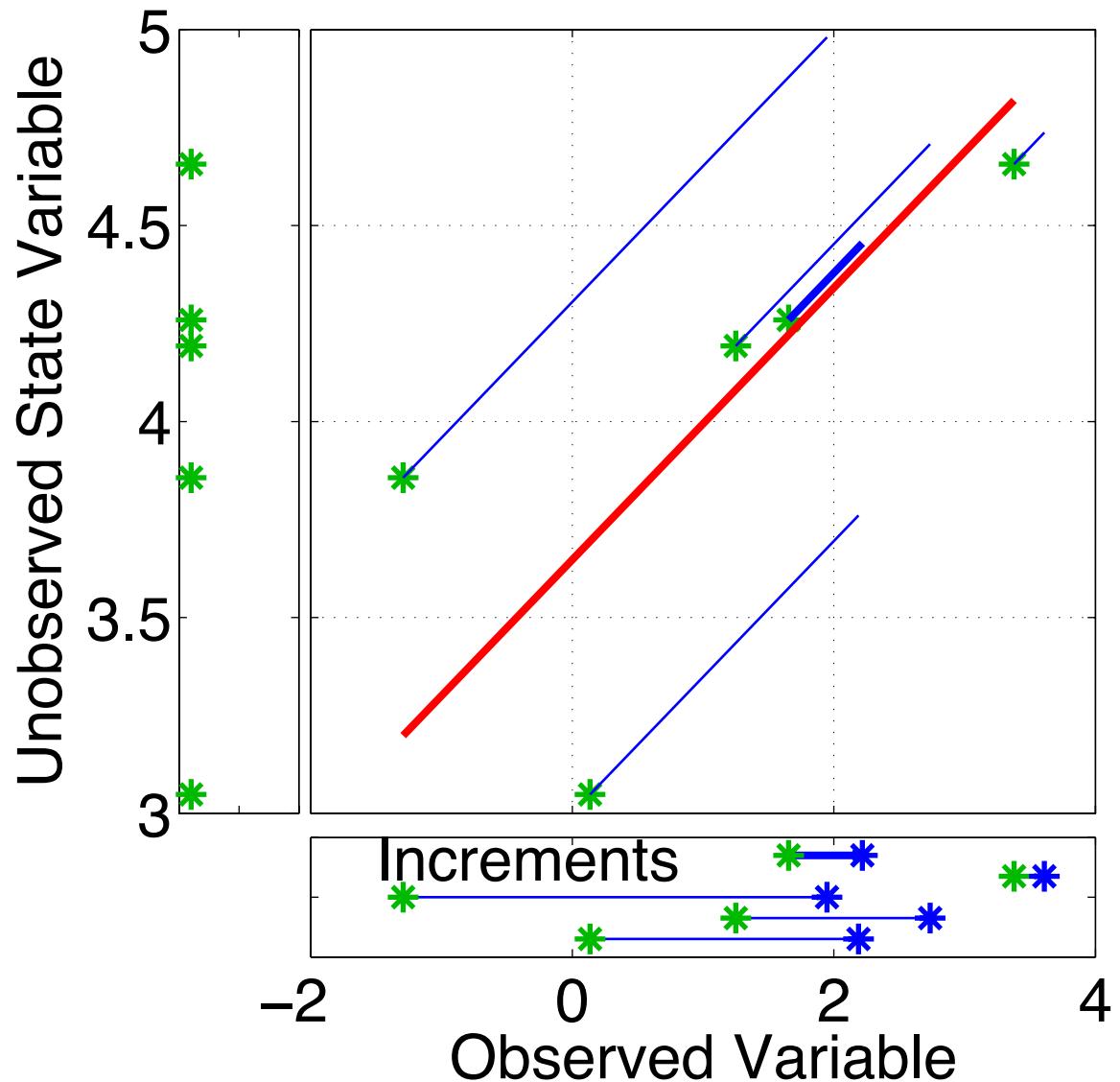


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Next, regress the observed variable increments onto increments for the unobserved variable.

Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

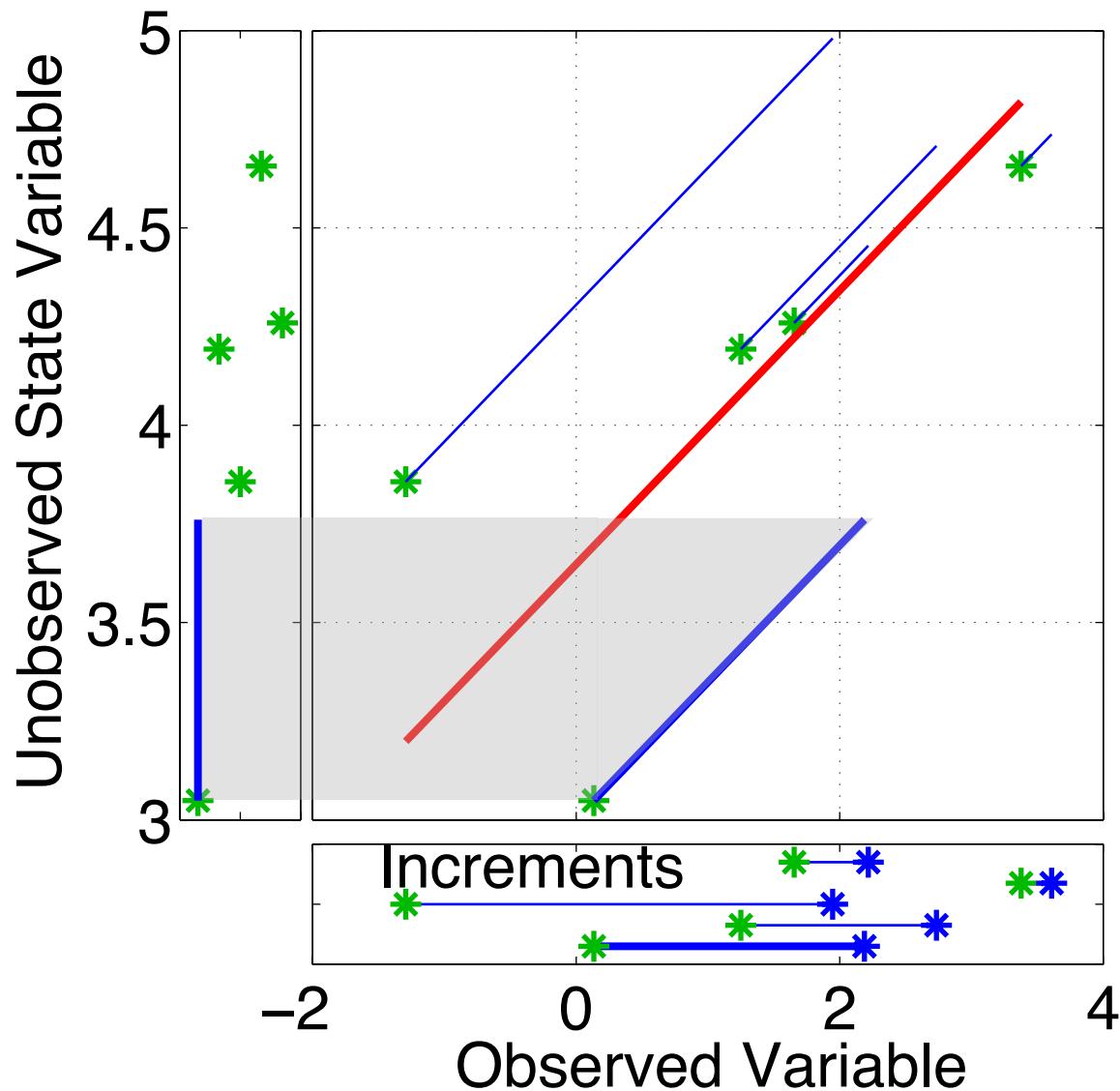


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Next, regress the observed variable increments onto increments for the unobserved variable.

Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

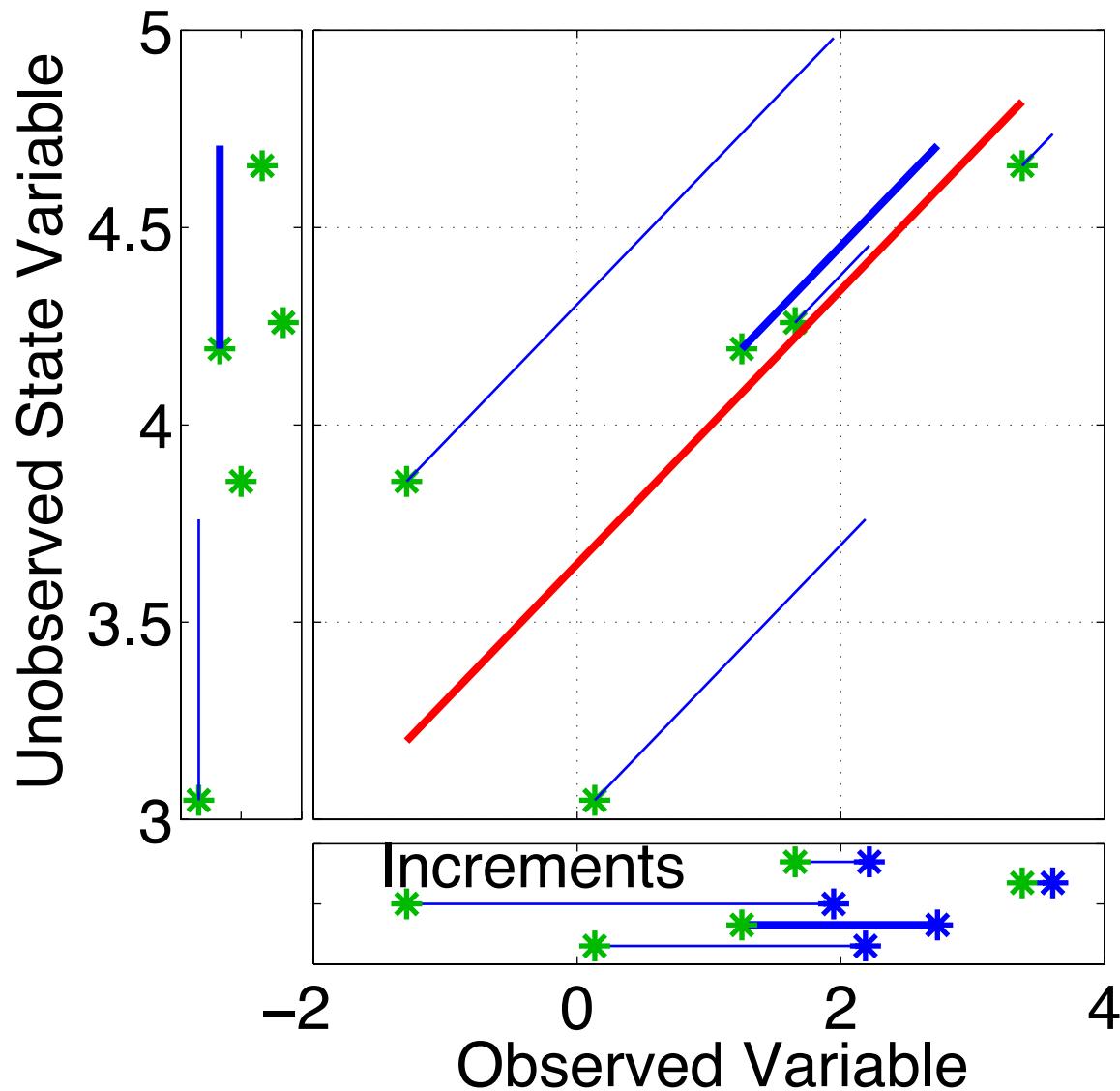


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Regression: Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

Then projecting from joint space onto unobserved priors.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

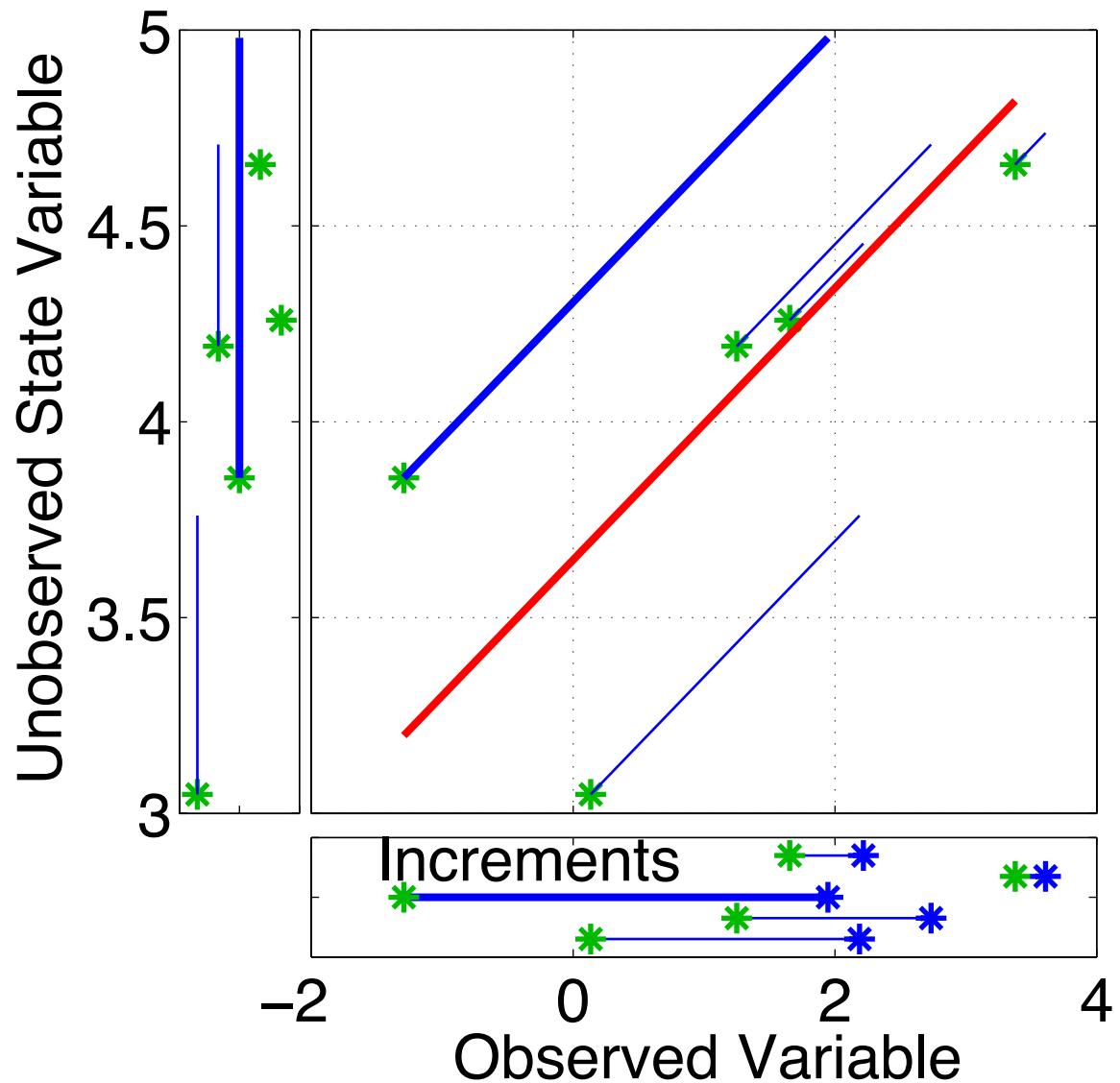


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Regression: Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

Then projecting from joint space onto unobserved priors.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

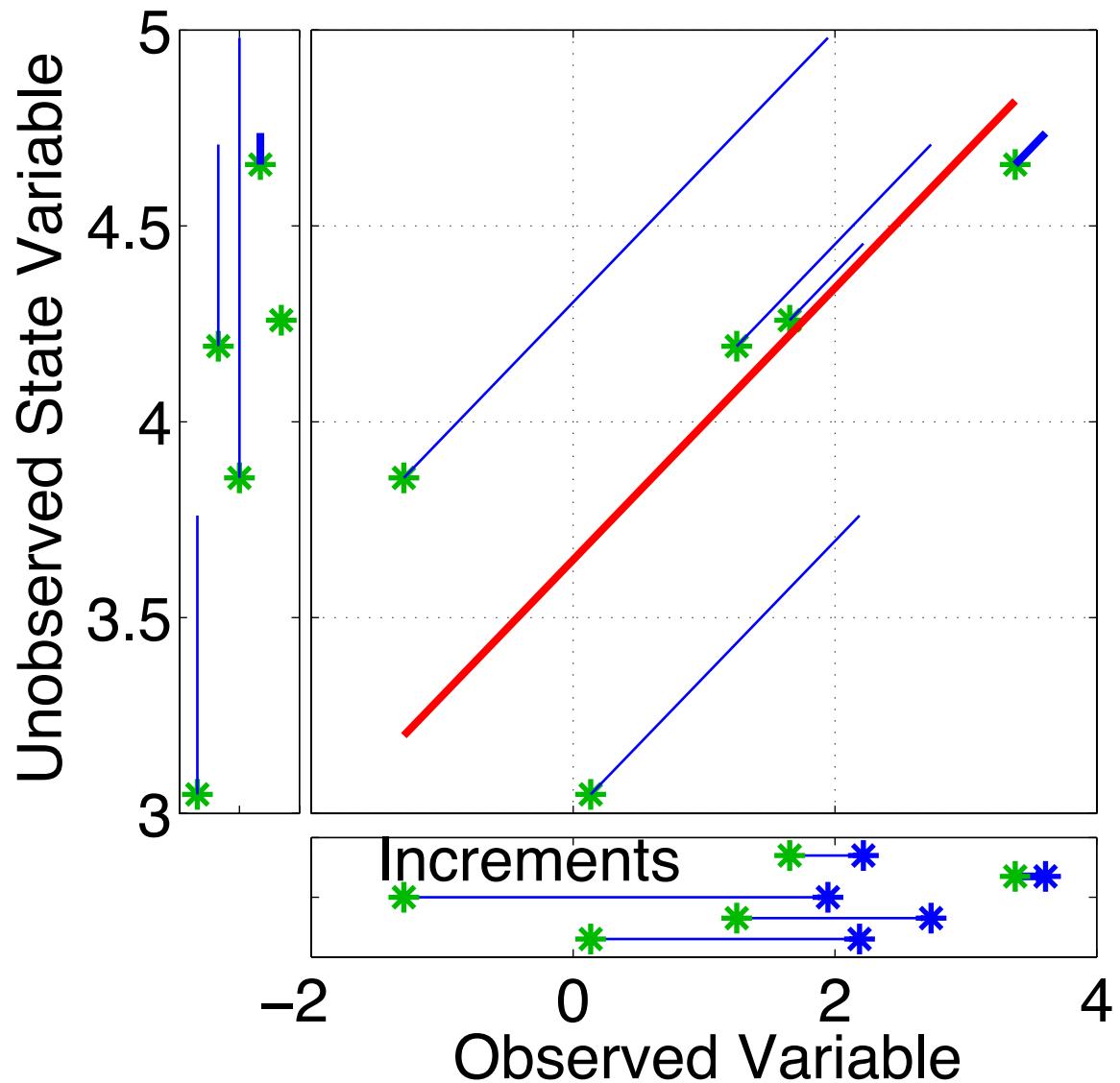


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Regression: Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

Then projecting from joint space onto unobserved priors.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

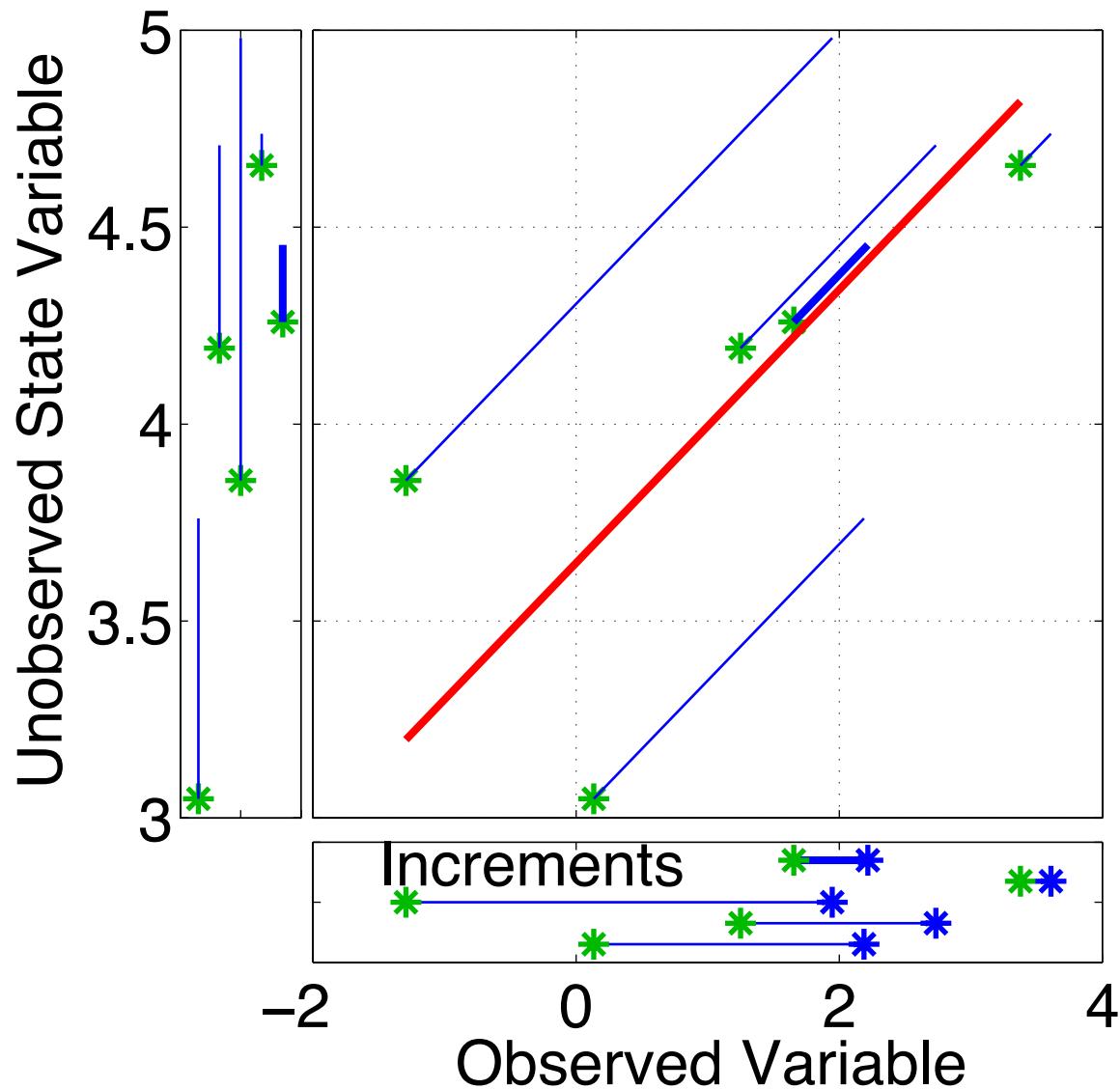


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Regression: Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

Then projecting from joint space onto unobserved priors.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

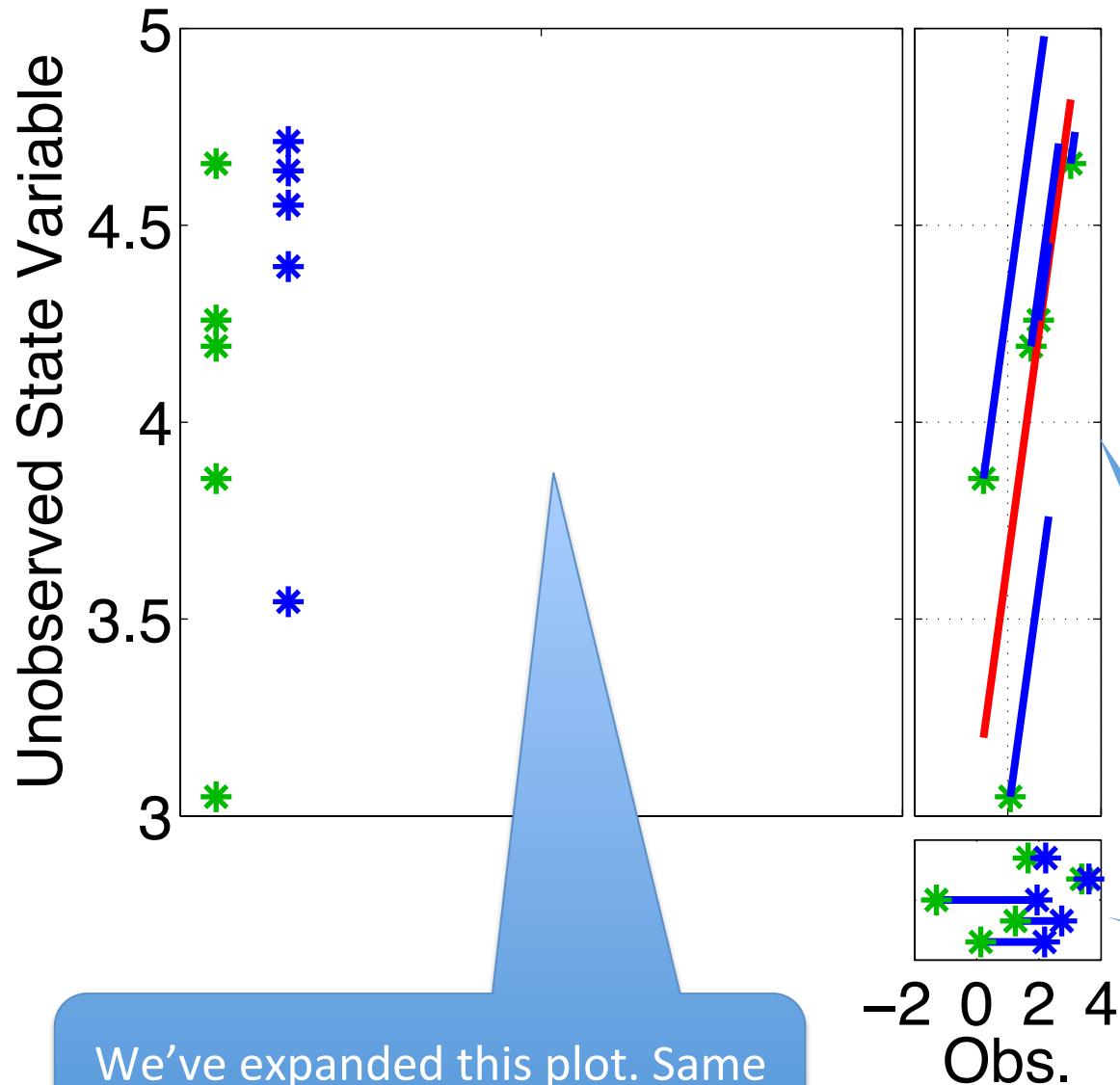


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Regression: Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

Then projecting from joint space onto unobserved priors.

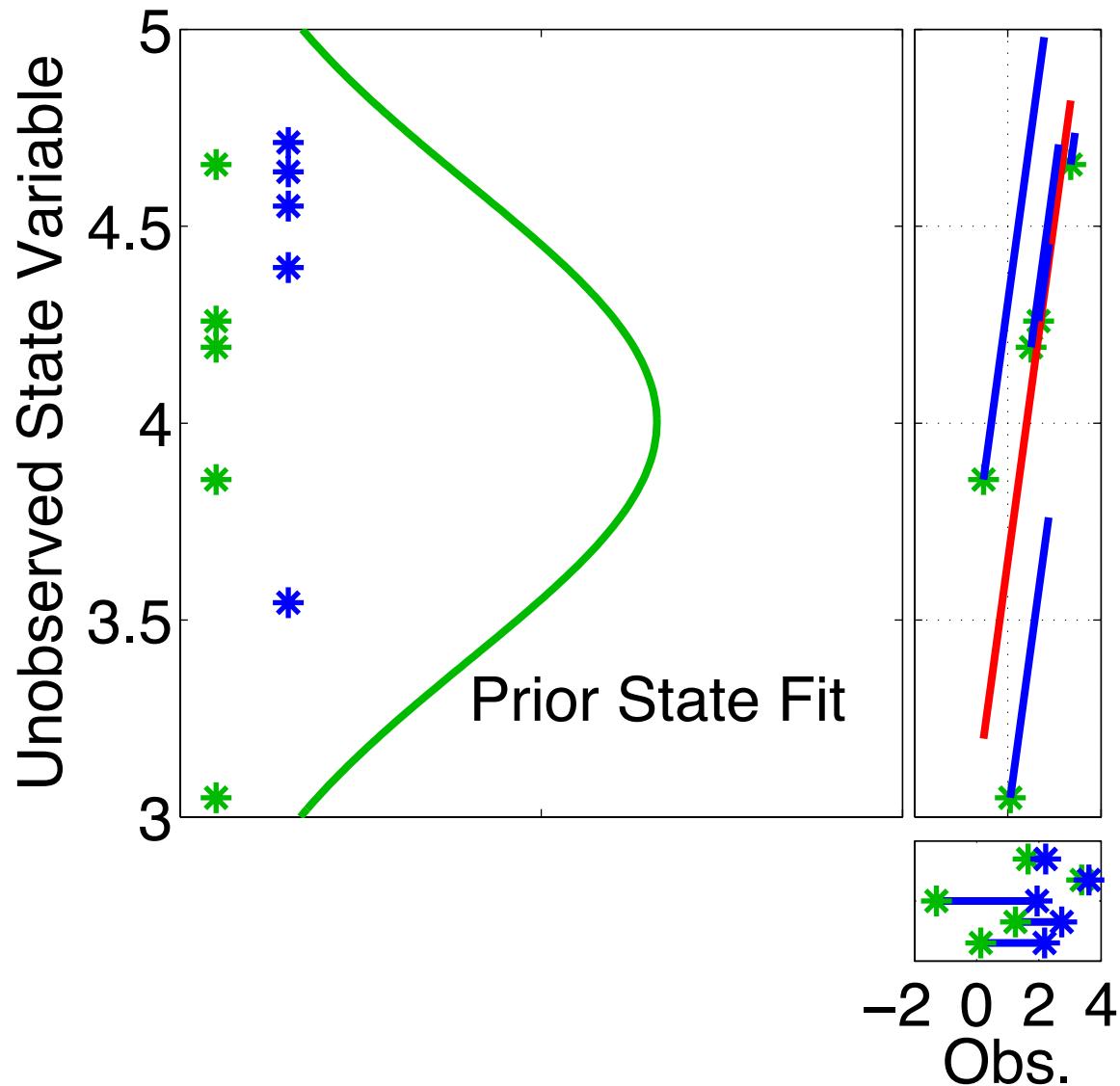
# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



Now have an updated (posterior) ensemble for the unobserved variable.

We've expanded this plot. Same information as previous slides.

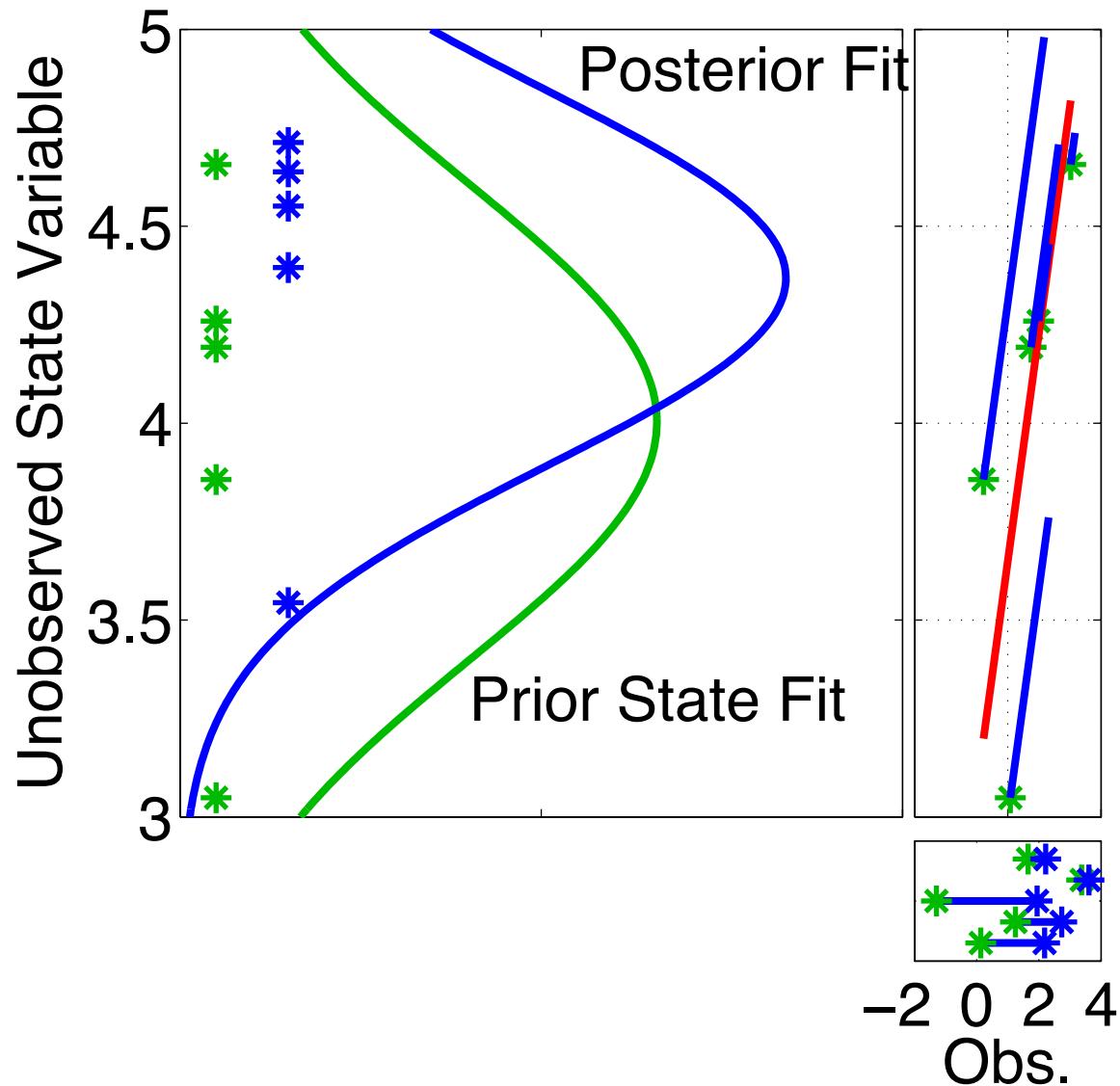
# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



Now have an updated (posterior) ensemble for the unobserved variable.

Fitting Gaussians shows that mean and variance have changed.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

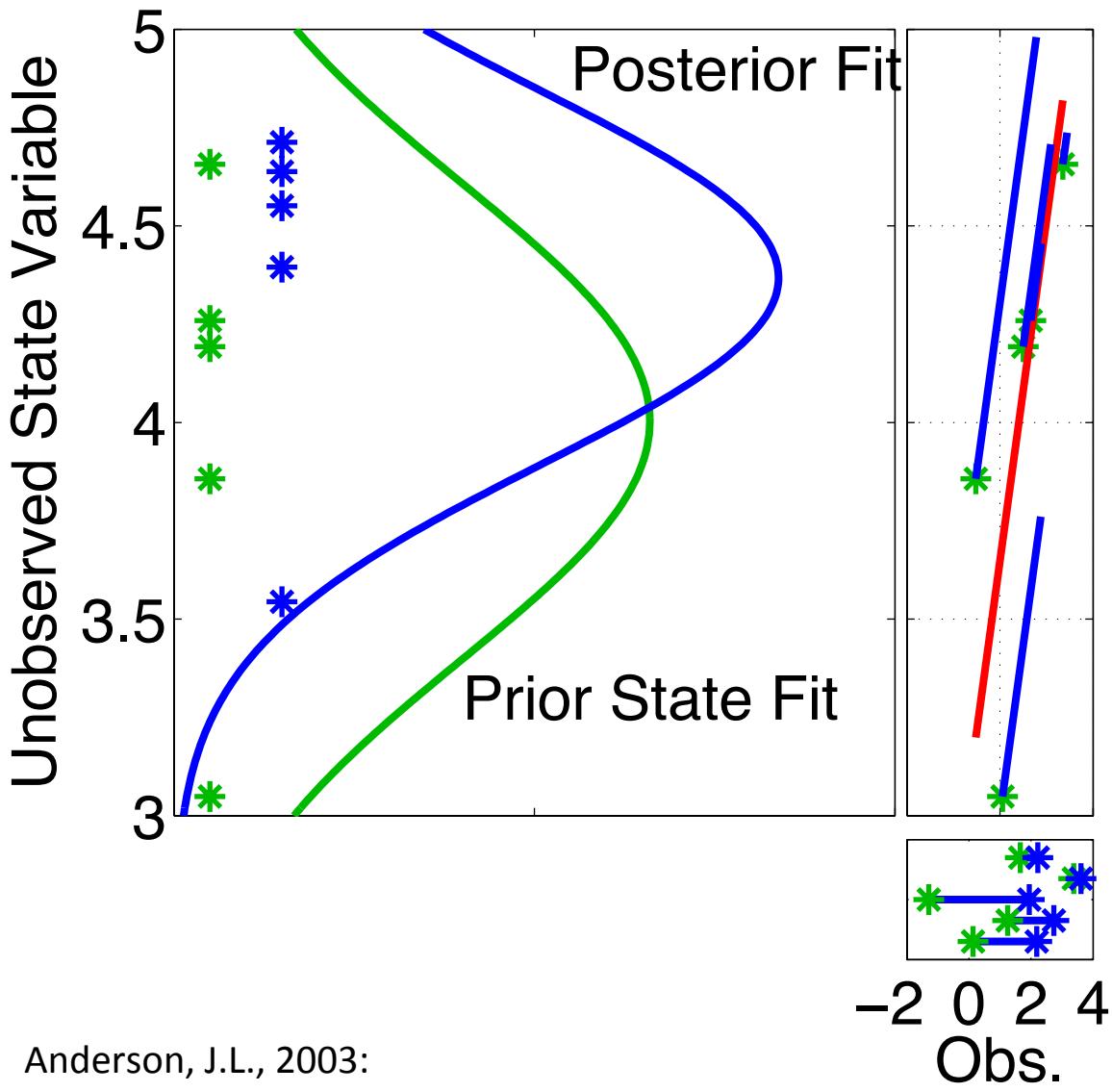


Now have an updated (posterior) ensemble for the unobserved variable.

Fitting Gaussians shows that mean and variance have changed.

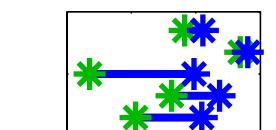
Other features of the prior distribution may also have changed.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



Anderson, J.L., 2003:  
A local least squares framework for ensemble  
filtering. *Mon. Wea. Rev.*, **131**, 634-642

**CRITICAL POINT:**  
Since impact on  
unobserved variable is  
simply a linear  
regression, can do this  
INDEPENDENTLY for any  
number of unobserved  
variables!

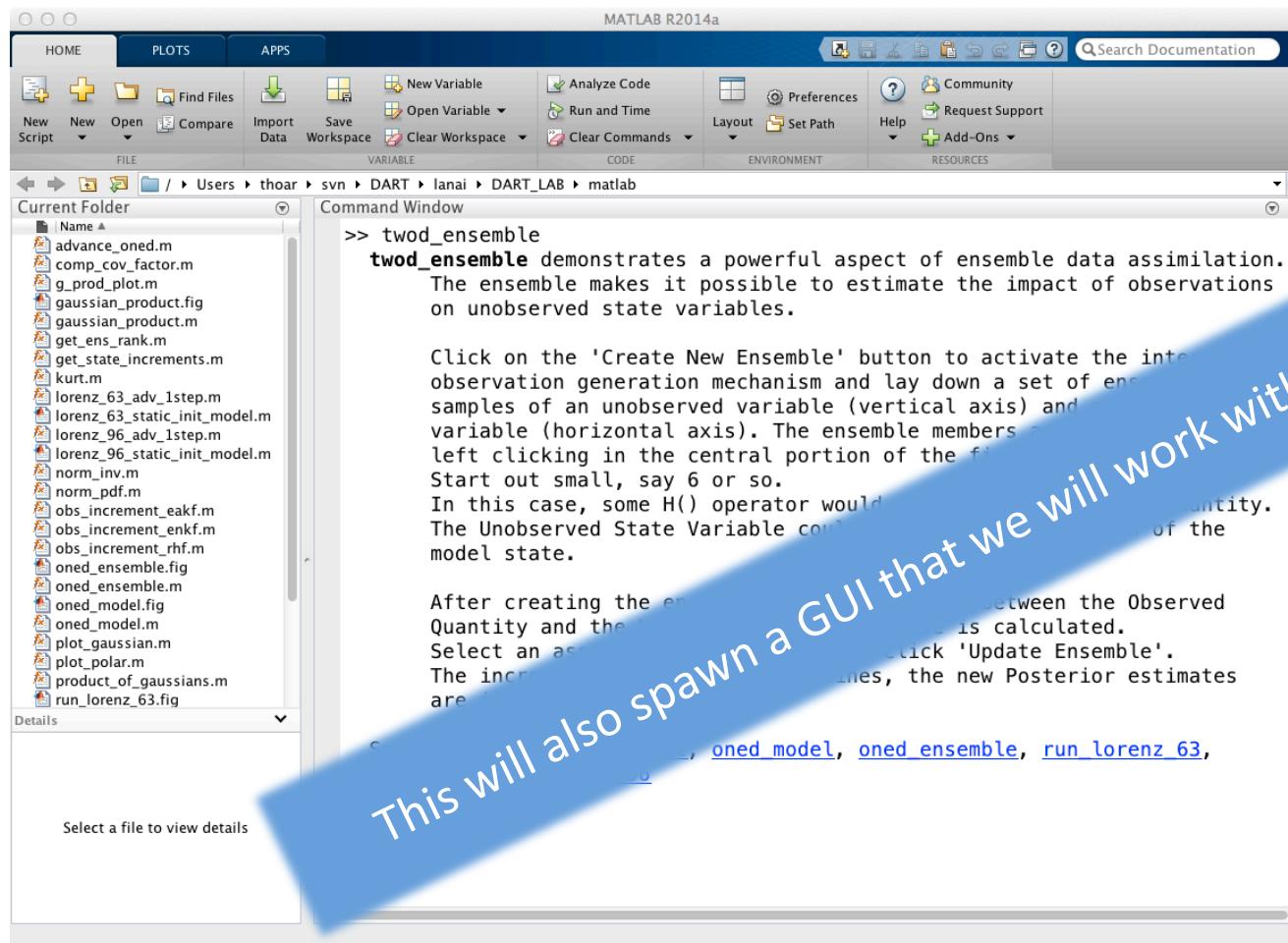


-2 0 2 4  
Obs.

Could also do many at  
once using matrix algebra  
as in traditional Kalman  
Filter.

# Matlab Hands-On: twod\_ensemble

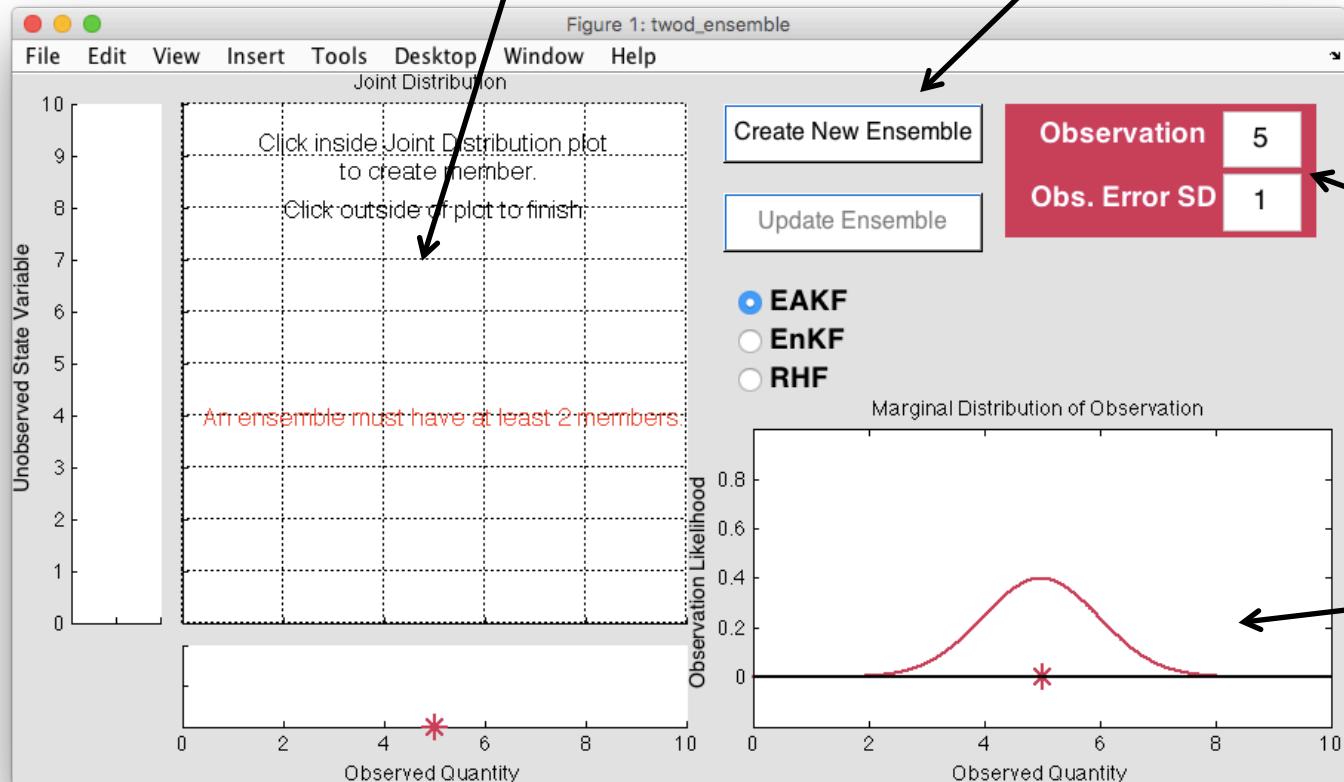
**Purpose:** Explore how an unobserved state variable is updated by an observation of another state variable.



# Matlab Hands-On: twod\_ensemble

Bivariate ensemble plot with projected marginals for observed, unobserved variables.

Start creating an ensemble. See next slide.



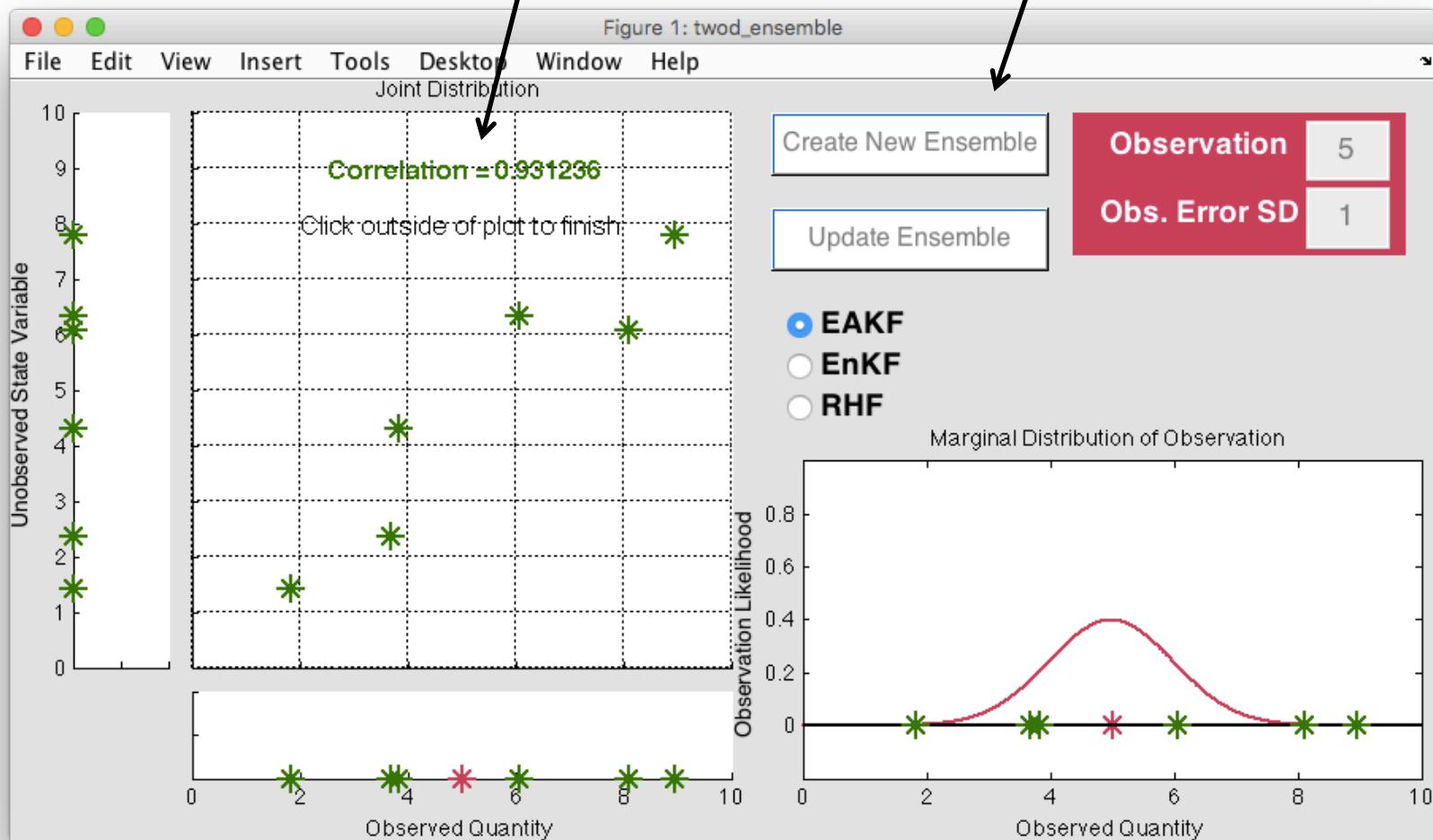
Control observation value and error; same as oned\_ensemble.

Detailed plot for observed variable; same as oned\_ensemble.

# Matlab Hands-On: twod\_ensemble

Move cursor and click in this frame to create ensemble members. Click outside this frame when all members are created.

Start creating an ensemble.



# Matlab Hands-On: twod\_ensemble

## Explorations:

- Create ensemble members that are nearly on a line. Explore how the unobserved variable is updated.
- What happens for nearly uncorrelated observed and unobserved variables? Create a roundish cloud of points for the prior.
- What happens with a two-dimensional bimodal distribution?
- Try prior ensembles with various types of outliers.

# Schematic of an Ensemble Filter for Geophysical Data Assimilation

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

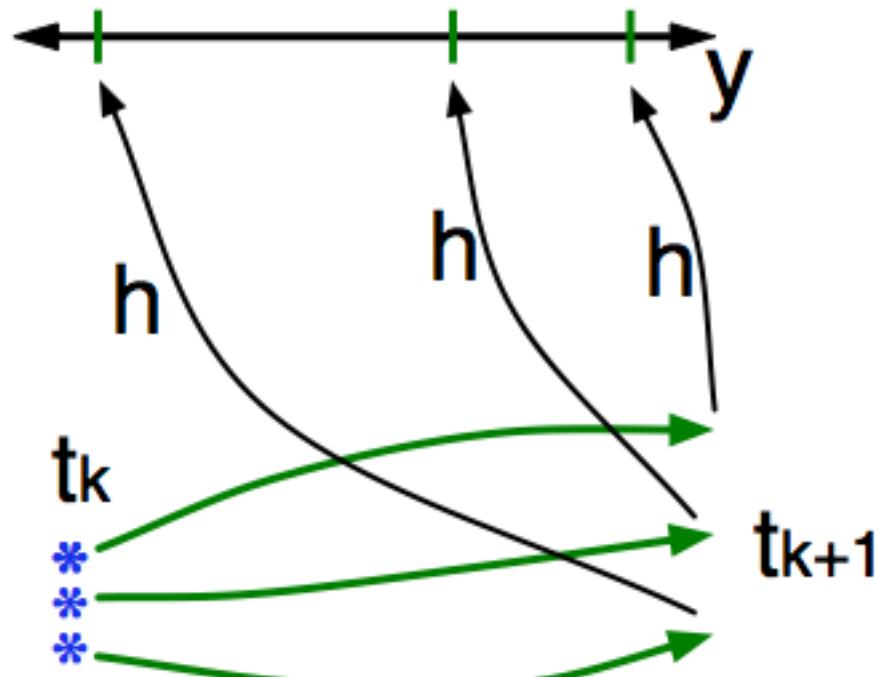
Ensemble state  
estimate after using  
previous observation  
**(analysis)**



Ensemble state  
at time of next  
observation  
**(prior)**

# How an Ensemble Filter Works for Geophysical Data Assimilation

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

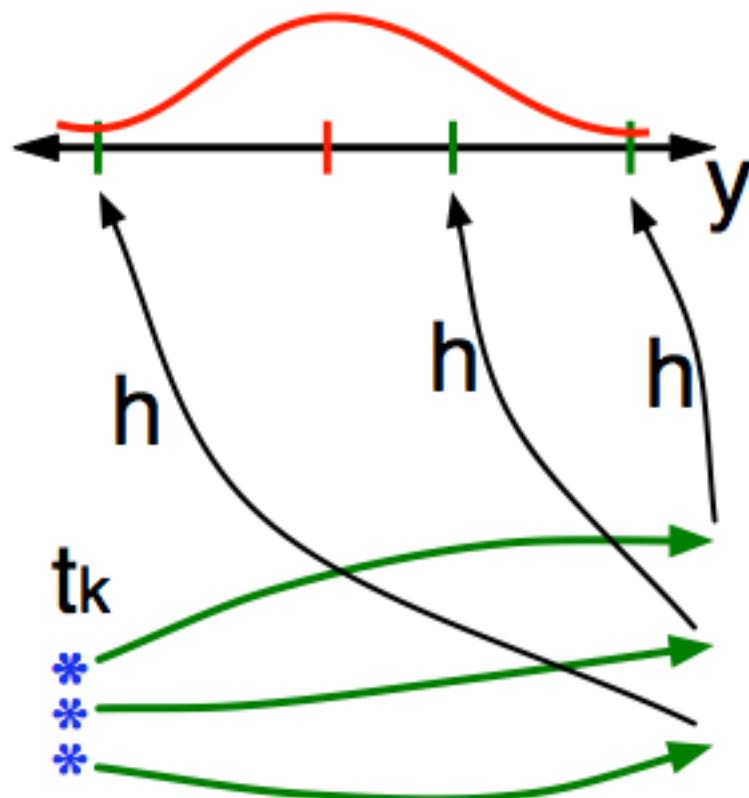


Theory: observations from instruments with uncorrelated errors can be done sequentially.

Houtekamer, P.L. and H.L. Mitchell, 2001:  
A sequential ensemble Kalman filter for atmospheric data assimilation.  
*Mon. Wea. Rev.*, **129**, 123-137

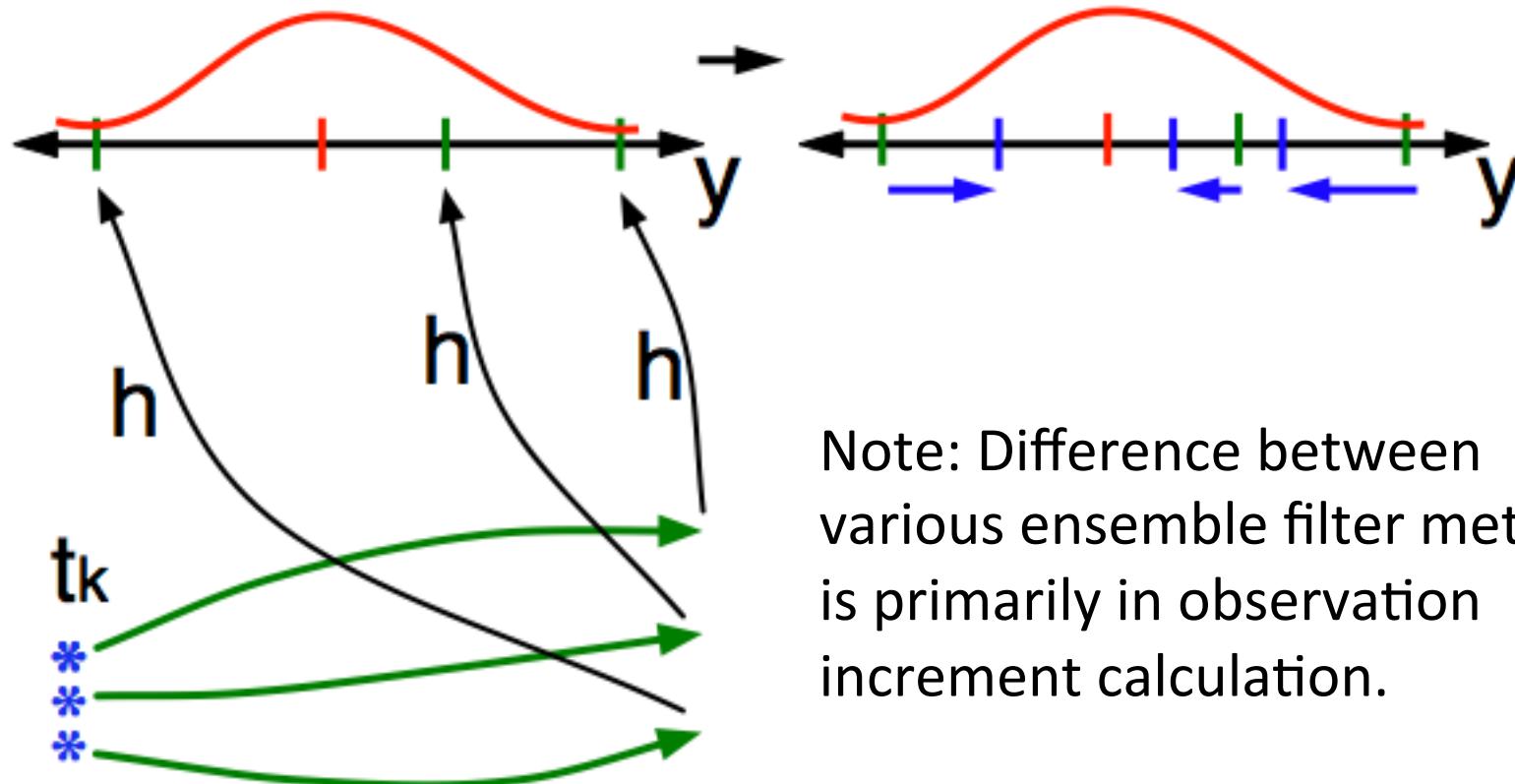
# How an Ensemble Filter Works for Geophysical Data Assimilation

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



# How an Ensemble Filter Works for Geophysical Data Assimilation

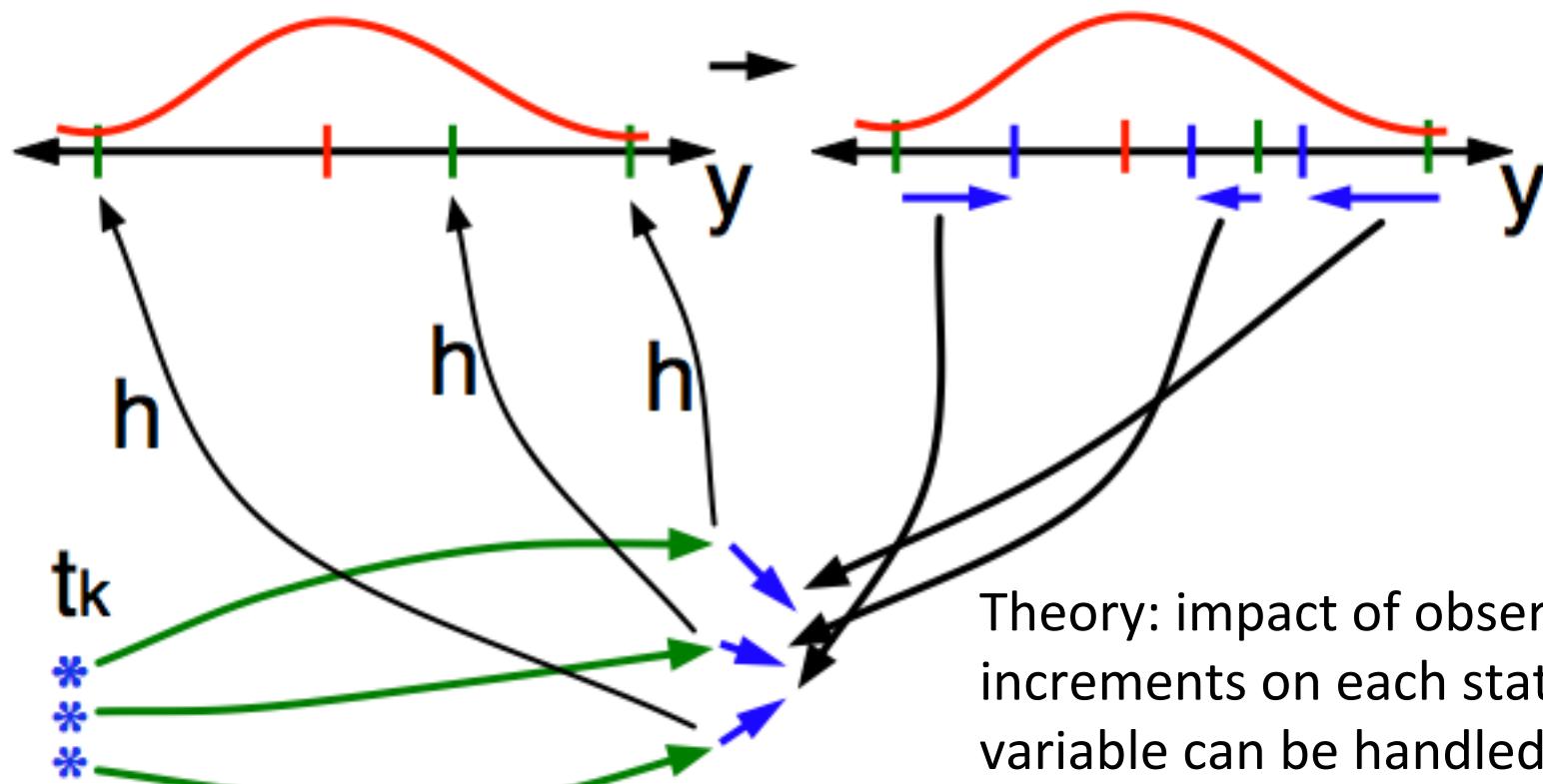
- Find the **increments** for the prior observation ensemble  
(this is a scalar problem for uncorrelated observation errors).



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

# How an Ensemble Filter Works for Geophysical Data Assimilation

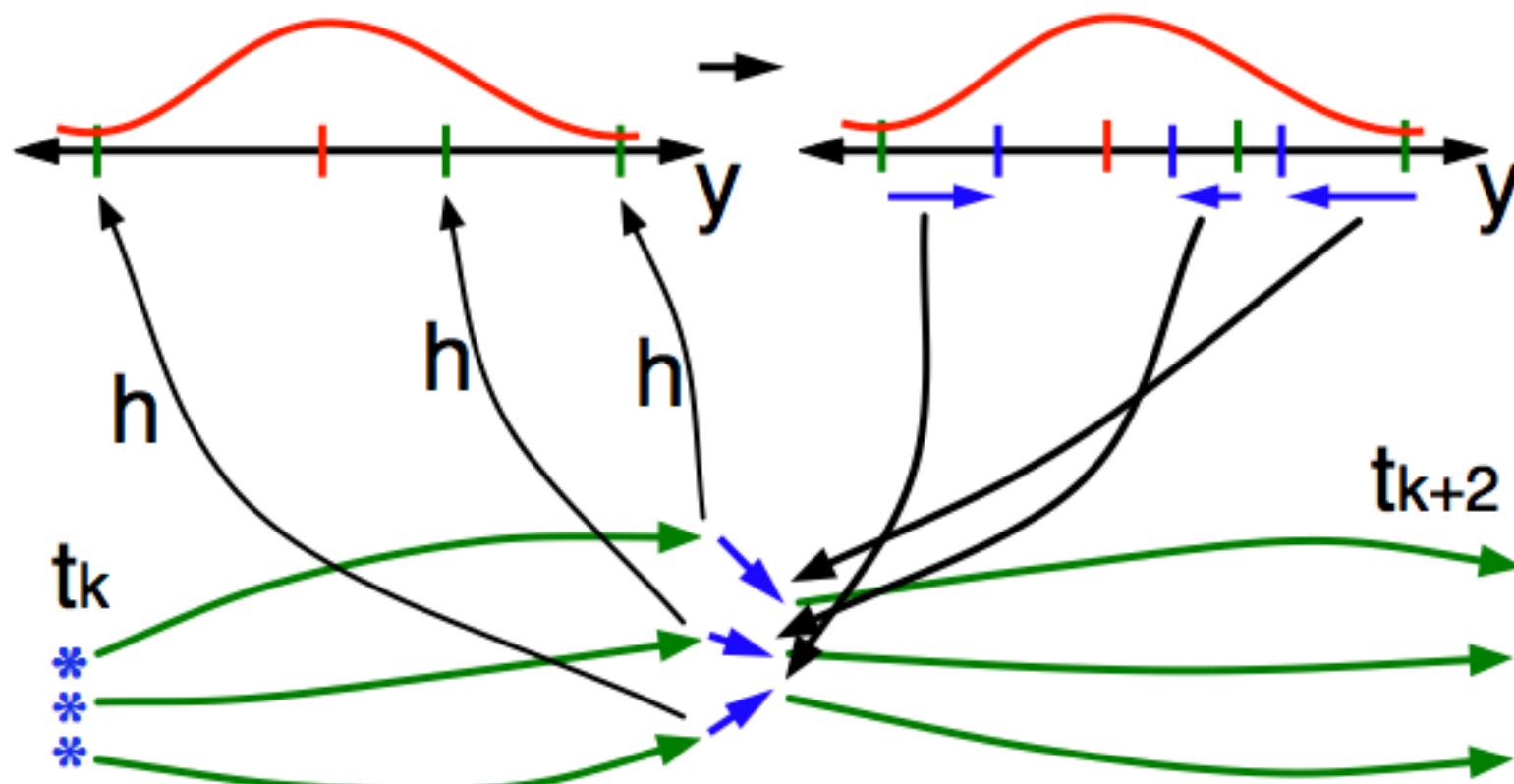
5. Use ensemble samples of  $y$  and each state variable to linearly regress observation increments onto state variable increments.



Theory: impact of observation increments on each state variable can be handled independently!

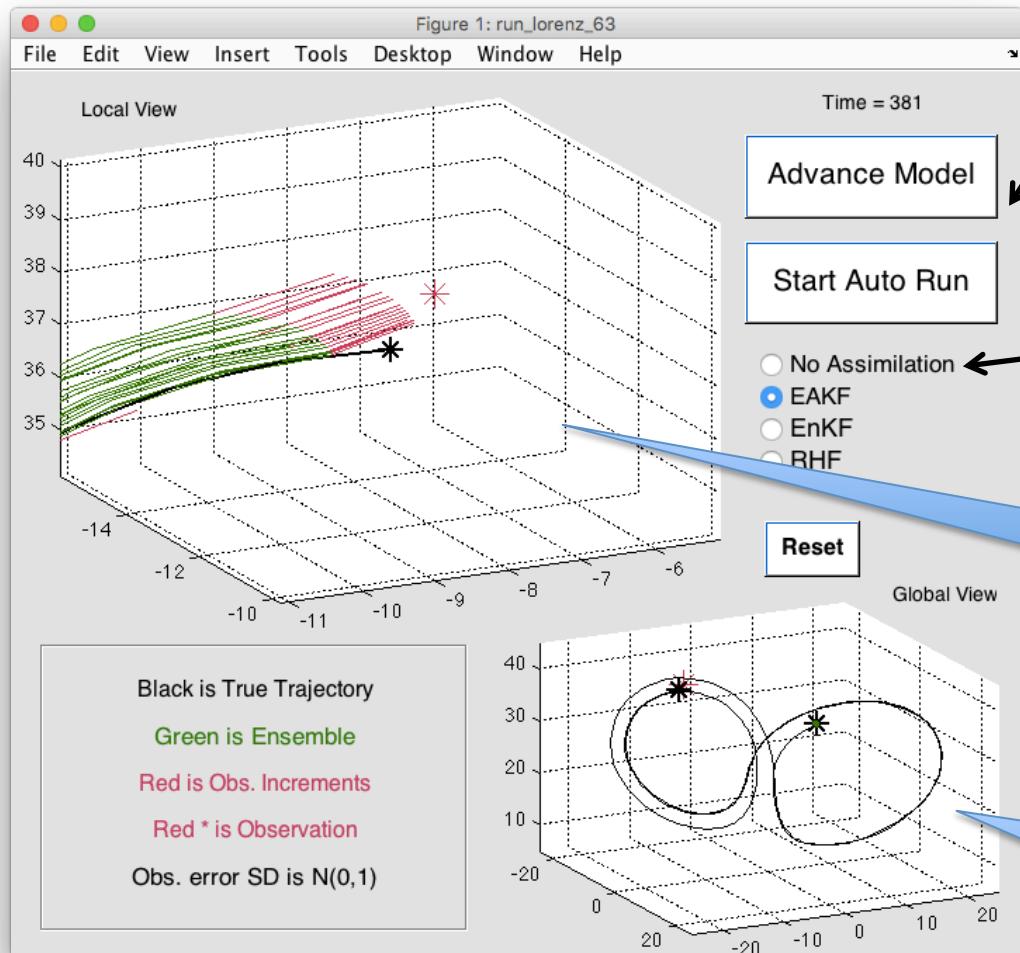
# How an Ensemble Filter Works for Geophysical Data Assimilation

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



# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_63

Purpose: Explore behavior of ensemble Kalman filters in a low-order, chaotic dynamical system, the 3-variable Lorenz 1963 model.



These controls work the same as for oned\_model.

Assimilation can be turned off, just does model advances.

‘Local’ domain,  
local timeframe

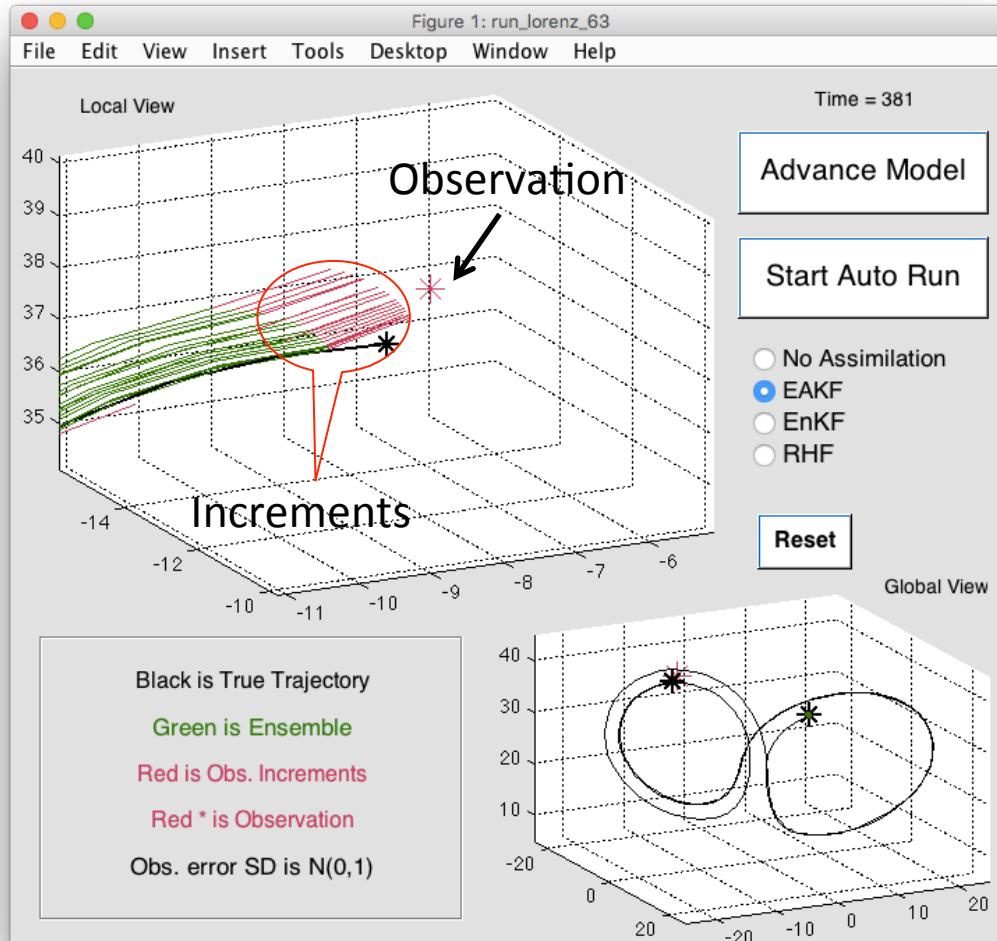
Full domain,  
full timeframe.

# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_63

Both panels show time evolution of true state (black).

20 ensemble members are shown in green in top window.

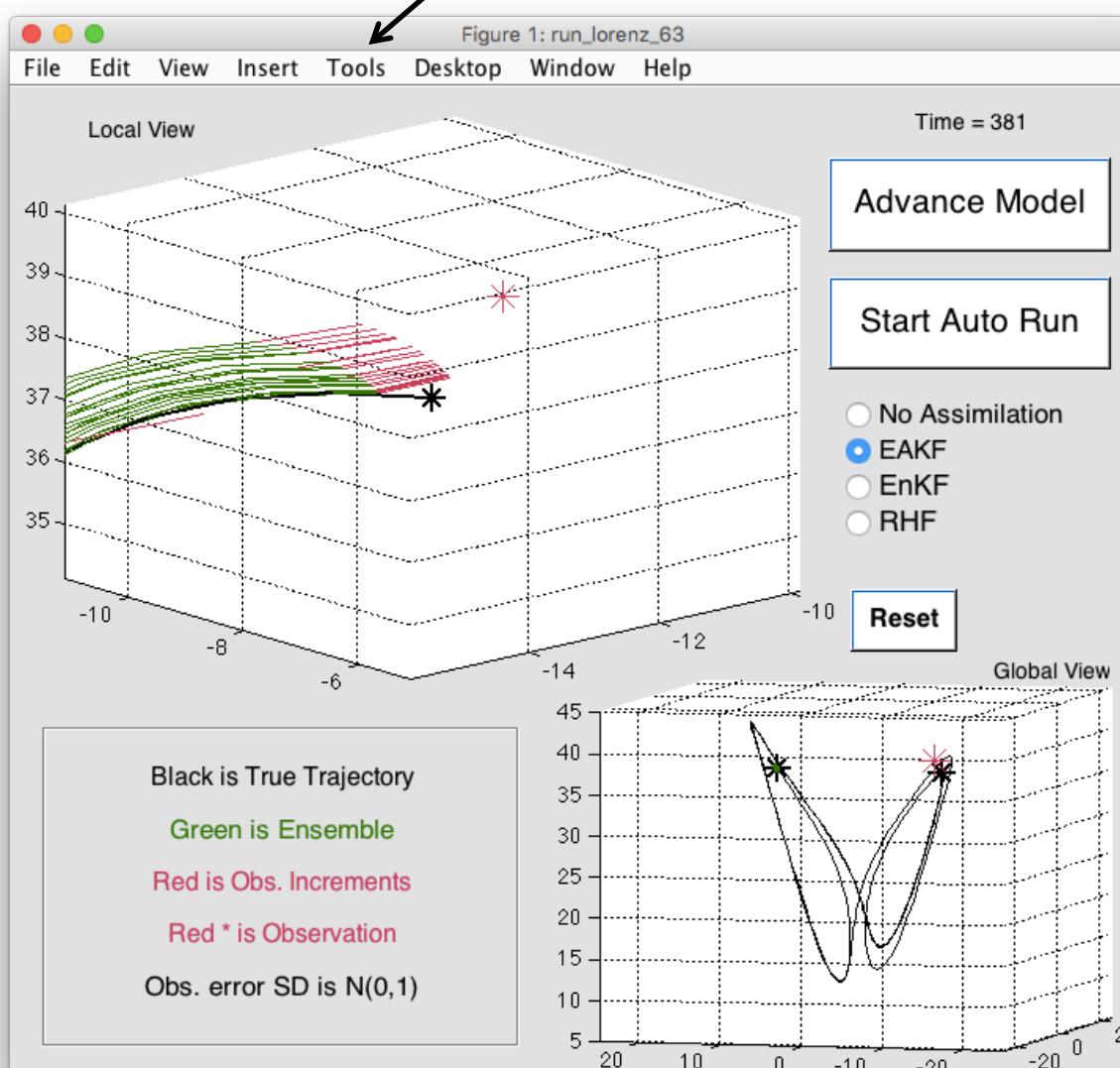
Observation



At each observation time, the three components of the truth are 'observed' by adding a random draw from a standard normal distribution to the true value.

# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_63

You can use matlab tools to modify plots.



Here, the Rotate 3D tools have been used to change the angle of view of both the local and global views of the assimilation.

# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_63

## Explorations:

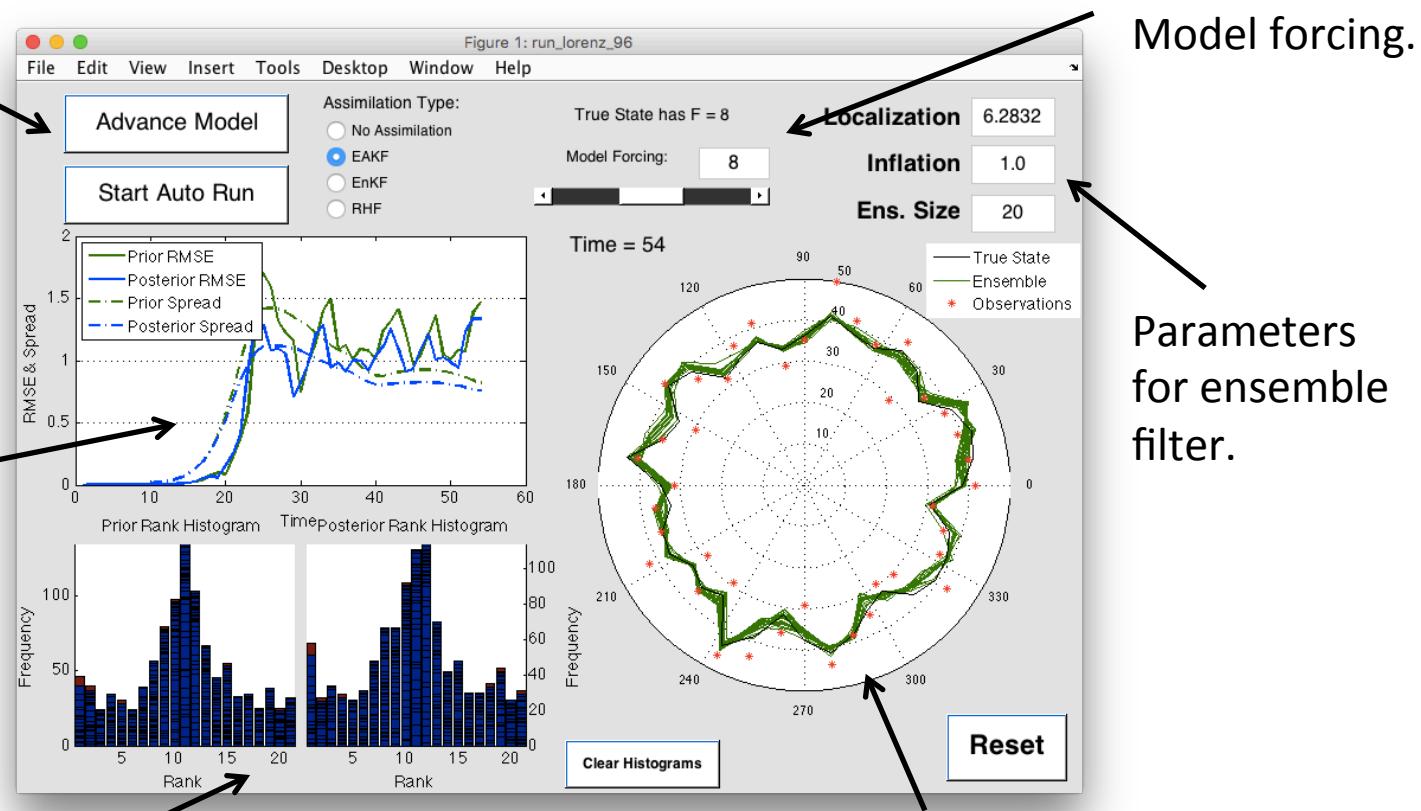
- Select Start Auto Run and watch the evolution of the ensemble.  
Try to understand how the ensemble spreads out.
- Restart the GUI and select EAKF. Do individual advances and assimilations and observe the behavior.
- Do some auto runs with assimilation turned on.
- Explore how different areas of the attractor have different assimilation behavior.

# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_96

Purpose: Explore the behavior of ensemble filters in a 40-variable chaotic dynamical system; the Lorenz 1996 model.

These controls work the same as lorenz\_63.

Root mean square error from truth and ensemble spread as function of time.

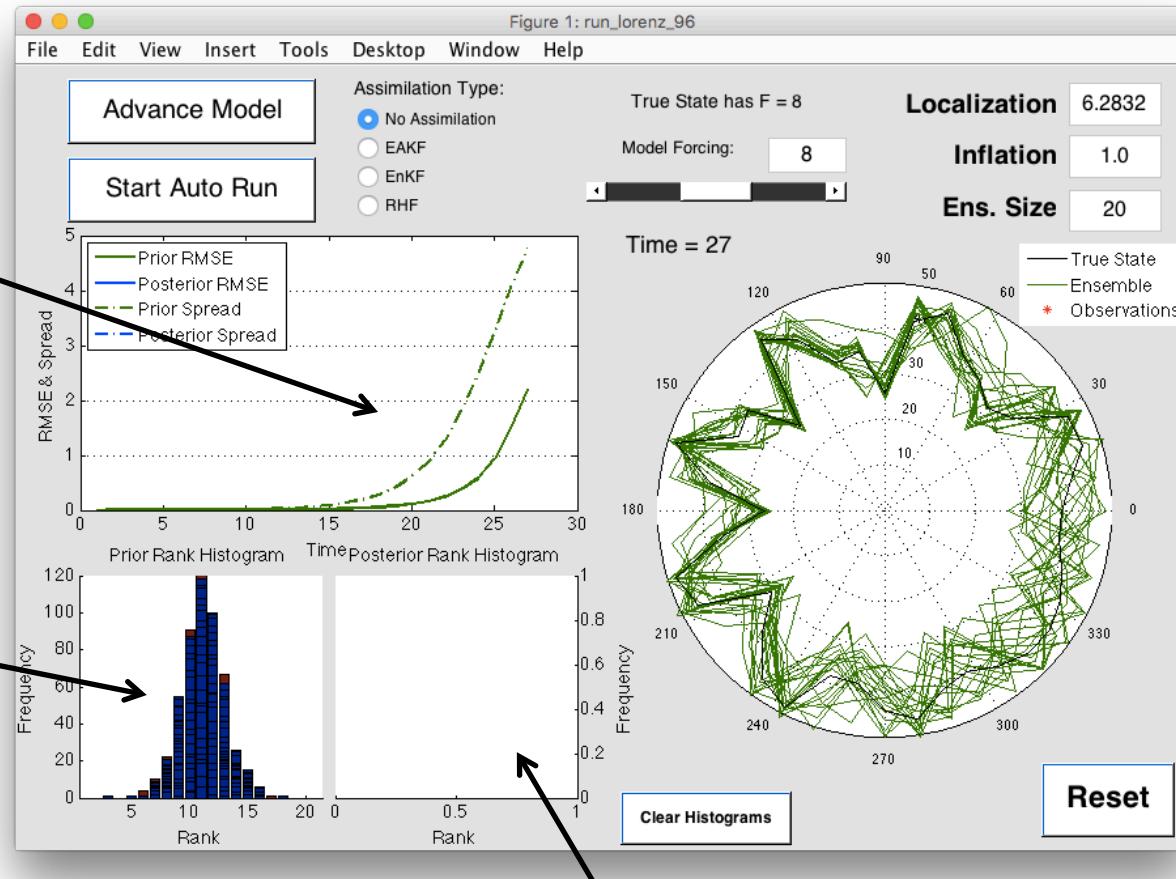


Prior and posterior rank histograms.

Ensemble of model contours (spaghetti plot).

# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_96

Start a Free Run of the ensemble (No Assimilation). After some time, the minute perturbations in the original states lead to visibly different model states.

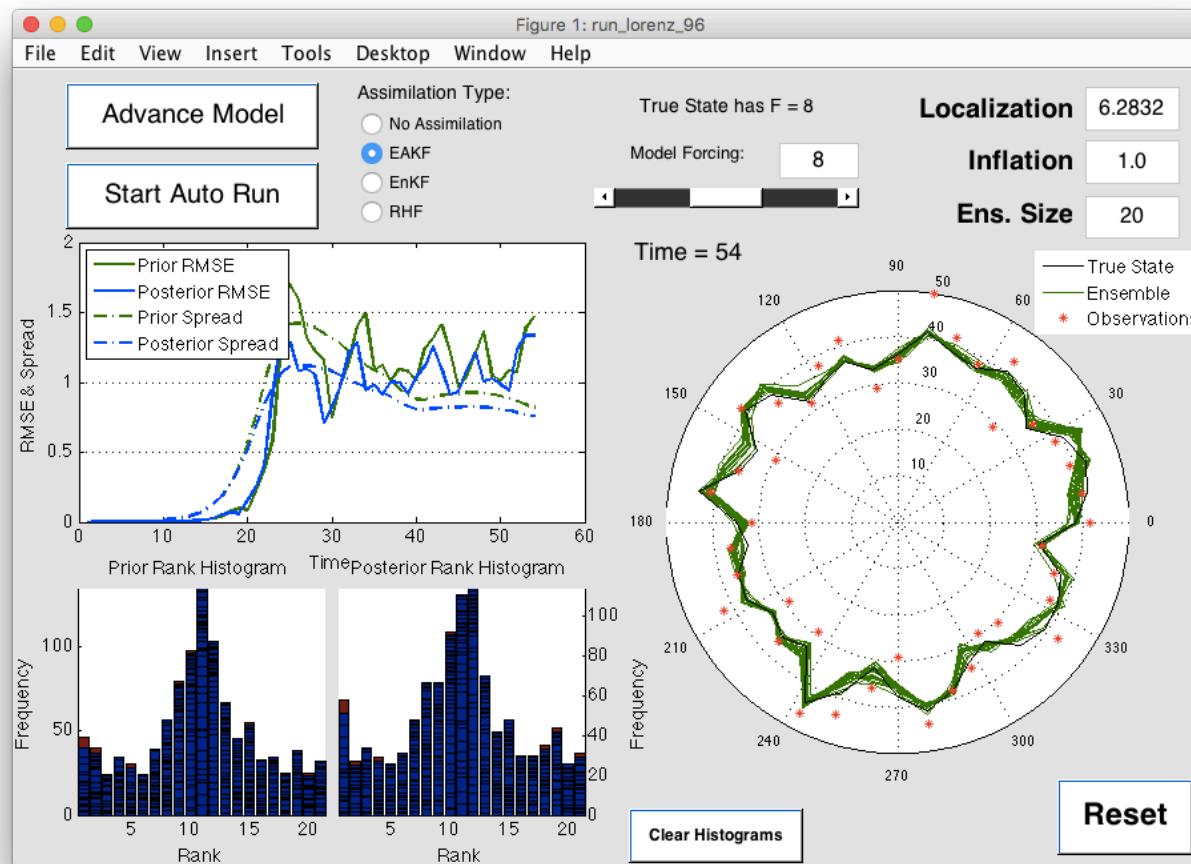


No posterior in a free run.

# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_96

- 1) Stop the free run after some time.
- 2) Turn on the EAKF
- 3) Advance model, assimilate...

Note: All 40 state variables are observed. Observation error standard deviation is 4.0



Your figures will be different depending on your settings.  
That's OK.

# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_96

## Explorations:

- Do an extended free run to see error growth in the ensemble.  
How long does it take to saturate?
- Select EAKF and explore how the assimilation works.
- Try adding inflation (maybe 1.4) and repeat.

