

# **Data Assimilation with $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ from isotope-enabled GCMs and terrestrial paleoclimatic archives for the last millennium**

Master thesis project

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Mathurin Choblet

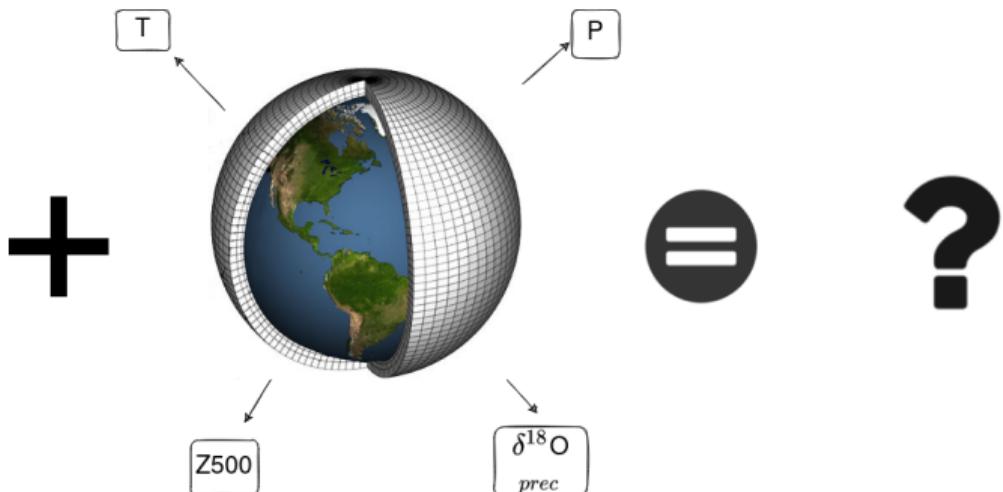
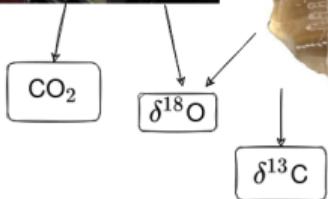
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February 9, 2022

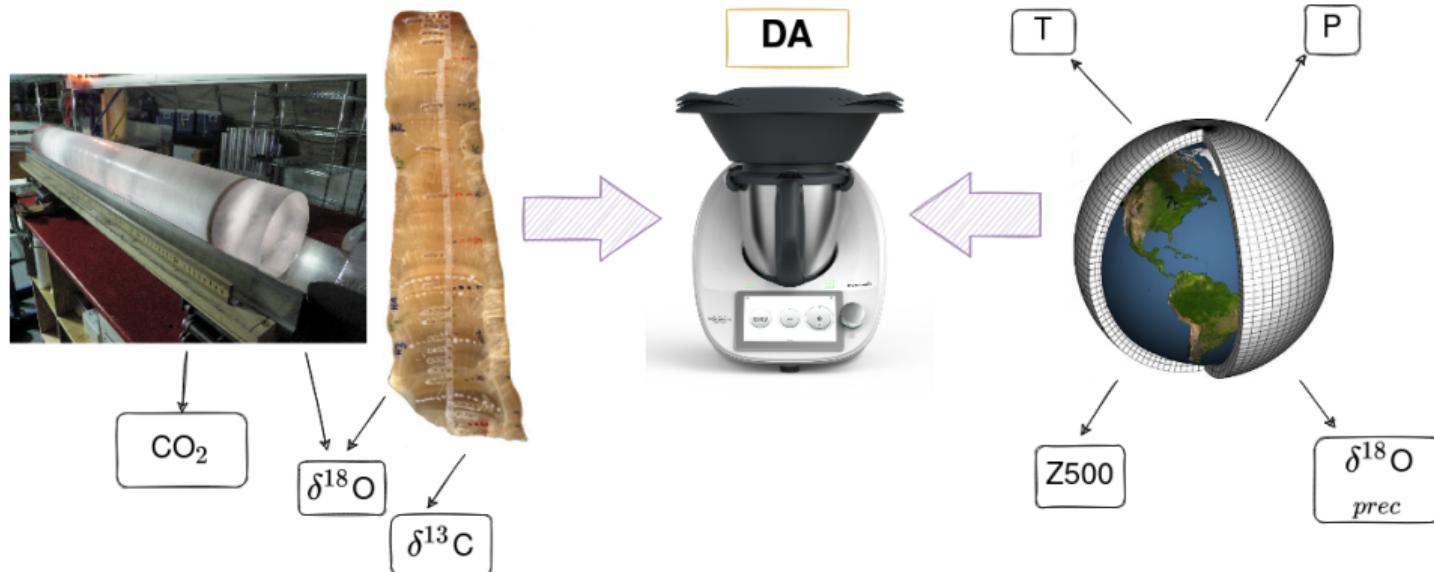
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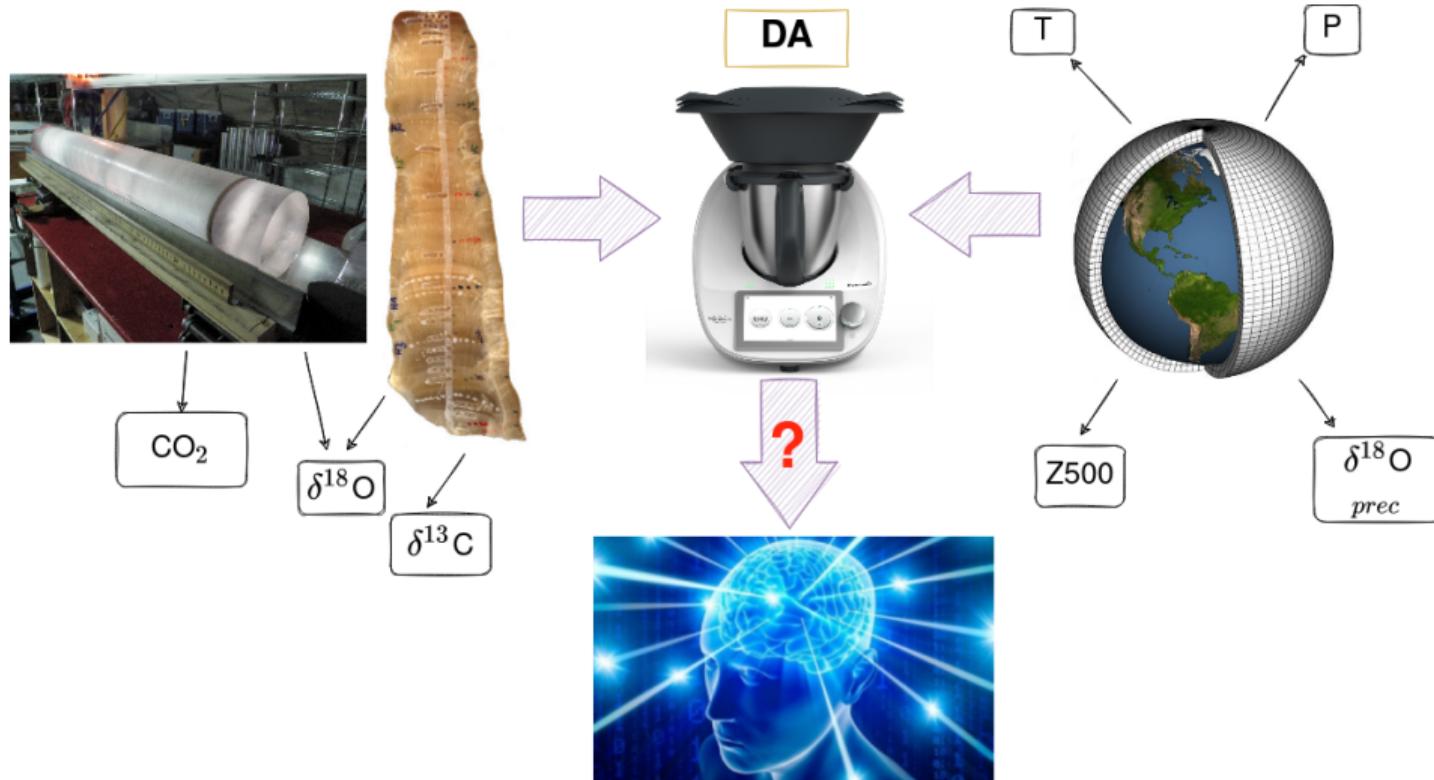
# Data Assimilation for Paleoclimate-Research



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# What is the Kalman Filter (KF)?

## The answer to the question:

Suppose you have a theoretical **model** and **observations**:

What is the best way of combining both in order to minimize the mean squared error?

- The KF provides an **optimal weighted mean** which also minimizes the uncertainty (error variance).

R. E. KALMAN  
Research Institute for Advanced Study,<sup>2</sup>  
Baltimore, Md.

## A New Approach to Linear Filtering and Prediction Problems<sup>1</sup>

*The classical filtering and prediction problem is re-examined using the Bode-Shannon representation of random processes and the "state transition" method of analysis of dynamic systems. New results are:*

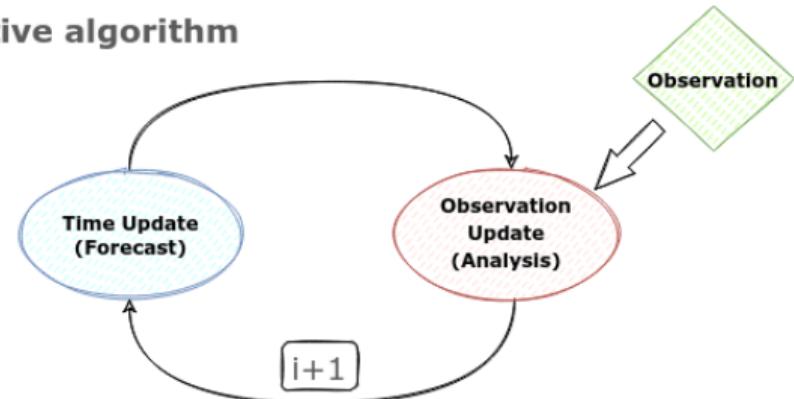
*(1) The formulation and methods of solution of the problem apply without modification to stationary and nonstationary statistics and to growing-memory and infinite-memory filters.*

*(2) A nonlinear difference (or differential) equation is derived for the covariance matrix of the optimal estimation error. From the solution of this equation the coefficients of the difference (or differential) equation of the optimal linear filter are obtained without further calculations.*

Figure 1: Original publication [Kalman, 1960]

## Iterative Kalman Filter scheme

Iterative algorithm



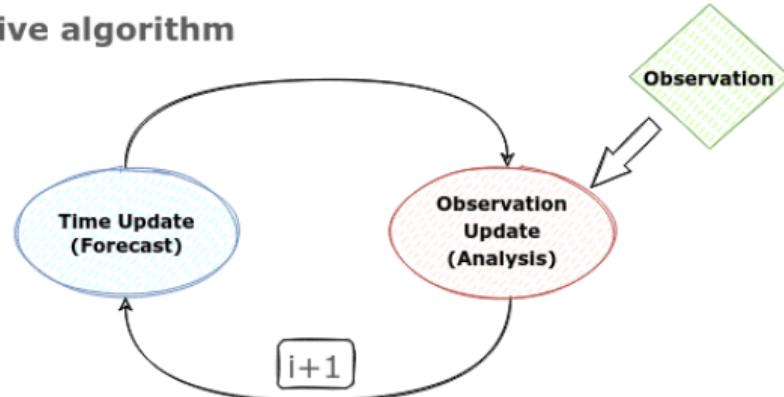
# Iterative Kalman Filter scheme

## Forecast equations

$$x_i^f = Fx_{i-1} \quad (1)$$

$$B_i^f = FB_{i-1}F^T + Q \quad (2)$$

## Iterative algorithm



## Definitions

$x$  state vector

$z$  observation

$F$  linear model

$K$  Kalman gain

$H$  obs. operator

$B$  error covariance

$Q, R$  model/obs. err.

# Iterative Kalman Filter scheme

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$$B_i^f = FB_{i-1}F^T + Q \quad (2)$$

## Analysis equations

$$x_i^a = x_i^f + K_i(z_i - Hx_i^f) \quad (3)$$

$$K_i = B_i^f H^T (HB_i^f H^T + R)^{-1} \quad (4)$$

$$B_i^a = (I - K_i H)B_i^f \quad (5)$$

## Definitions

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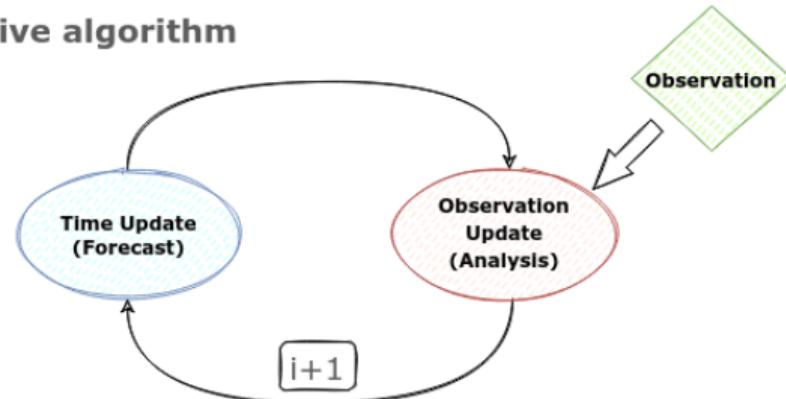
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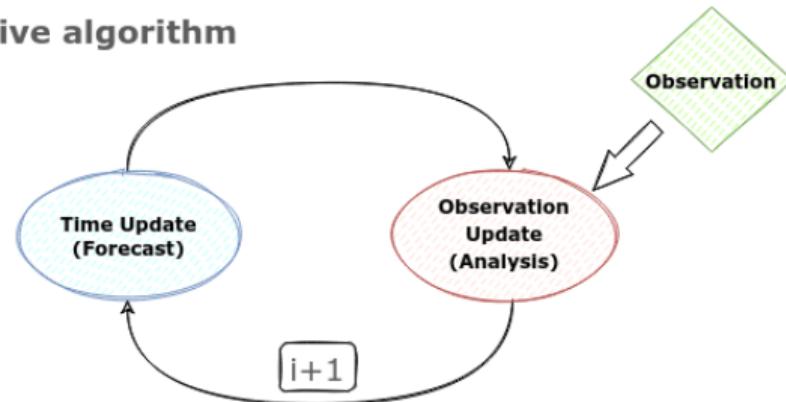
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## Iterative algorithm



## Requirements

- Gaussian errors
- Linear forward model

# **The Ensemble Kalman Filter (EnKF)**

## **A Monte Carlo based implementation (Evensen 1994)**

- Kalman Filter not suited for nonlinear models  
(What's the covariance?)

# The Ensemble Kalman Filter (EnKF)

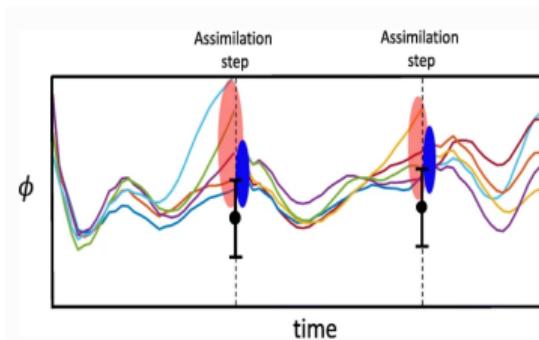
## A Monte Carlo based implementation (Evensen 1994)

- Kalman Filter not suited for nonlinear models  
(What's the covariance?)
- State vector  $x$  is replaced by matrix  $X$  for an ensemble of  $N$  models

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \dots \\ x_m \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow X = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & \dots & x_{1N} \\ x_{i1} & \dots & x_{iN} \\ x_{m1} & \dots & x_{mN} \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

- Approximate model error covariance through ensemble

$$B_i^f = \frac{1}{N-1}(X - \bar{X})(X - \bar{X})^T$$



**Figure 2:** Principle of EnKF [Labahn et al., 2020]

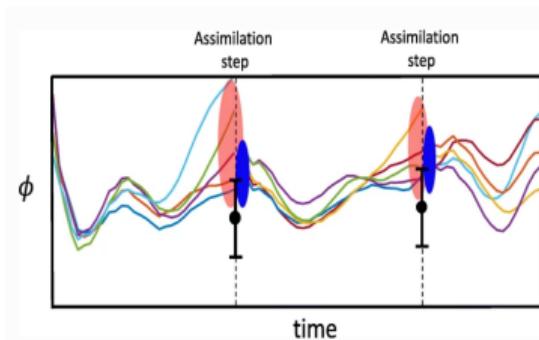
# The Ensemble Kalman Filter (EnKF)

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- Approximate model error covariance through ensemble  $B_i^f = \frac{1}{N-1}(X - \bar{X})(X - \bar{X})^T$
- Kalman equations stay the same



**Figure 2:** Principle of EnKF [Labahn et al., 2020]

# EnKF applied to the Lorenz 63 model

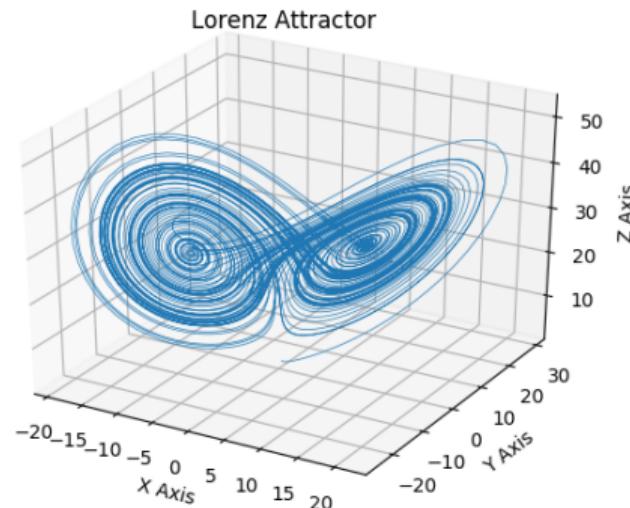
## L63 system

$$\dot{x} = -\sigma(x - y) \quad (7)$$

$$\dot{y} = x(\rho - z) - y \quad (8)$$

$$\dot{z} = xy - bz \quad (9)$$

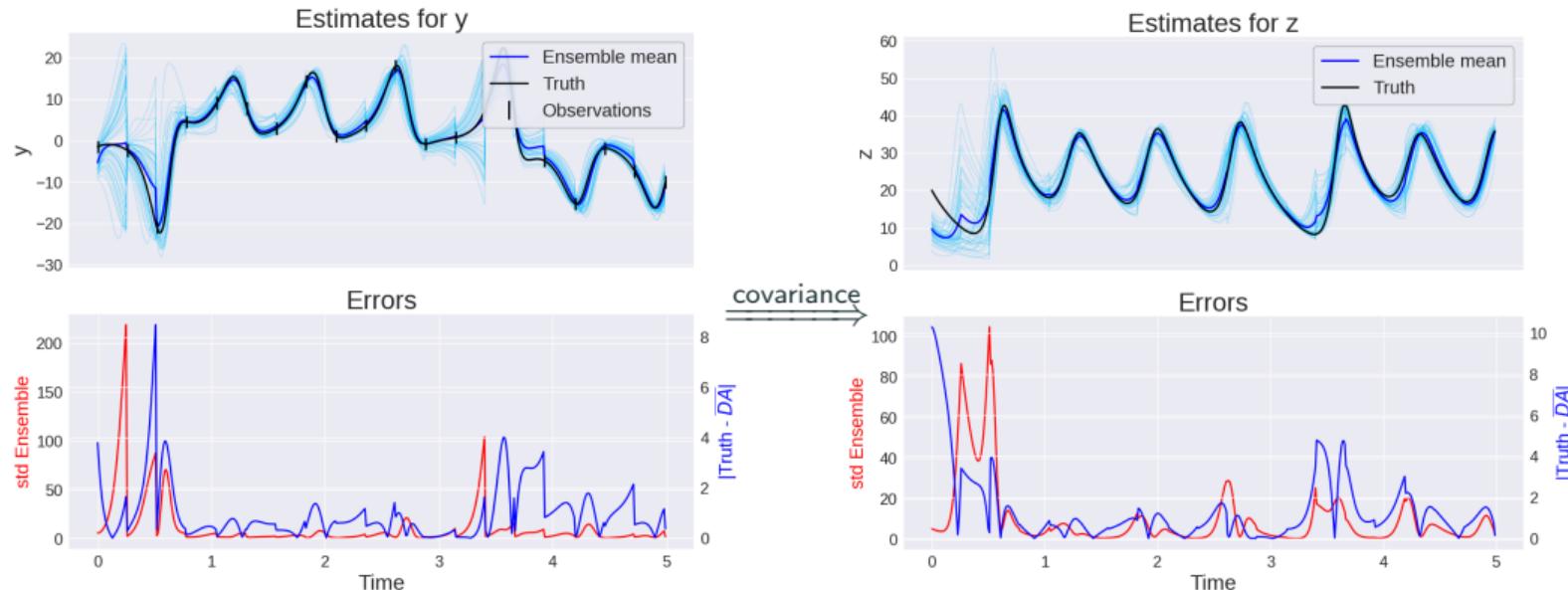
e.g.  $\sigma = 10$ ,  $\rho = 28$  and  $b = 8/3$



Measuring only one of the three variables, can we estimate the whole trajectory?

# EnKF applied to the Lorenz 63 model

Reconstruction using measurements in  $y$  and wrong initial conditions



- EnKF could also be used for parameter estimation

## Sequential Proxy Assimilation

Compute  $K$  for each proxy location

$$K = BH^T(HBH^T + R)^{-1} \quad (10)$$

$$= \text{cov}(X, HX)[\text{cov}(HX, HX) + R]^{-1} \quad (11)$$

$$= \frac{\text{cov}(X, HX)}{\text{var}(HX) + R} \quad (12)$$

with

- $X$  State vector/matrix from model
- $H$  Observation Operator
- $Hx$  model prior at proxy location
- $R$  measurement error

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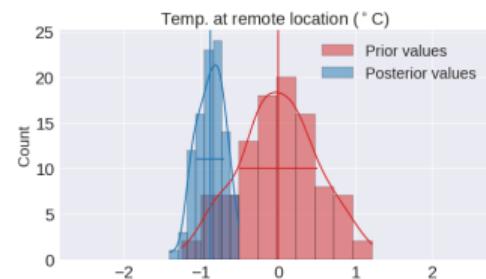
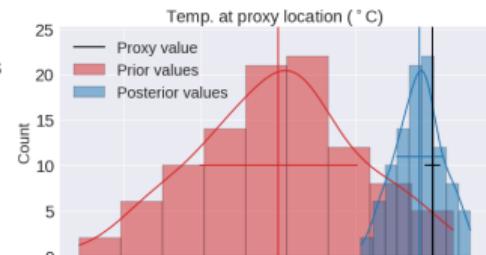
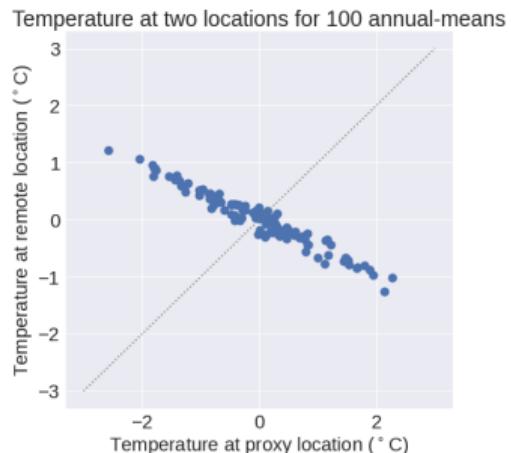
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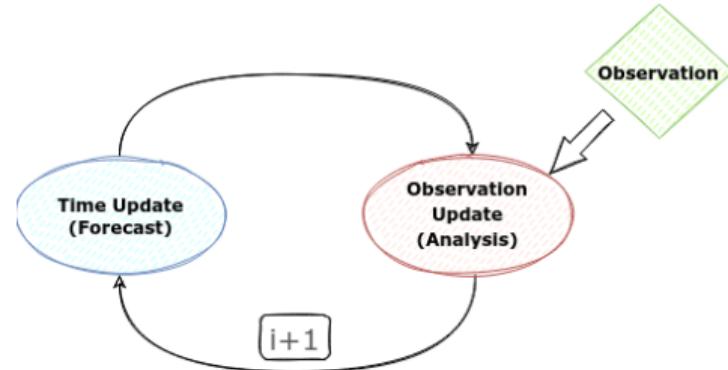
- $X$  State vector/matrix from model
- $H$  Observation Operator
- $Hx$  model prior at proxy location
- $R$  measurement error

Example: T at two locations, only  $T_1$  measured.



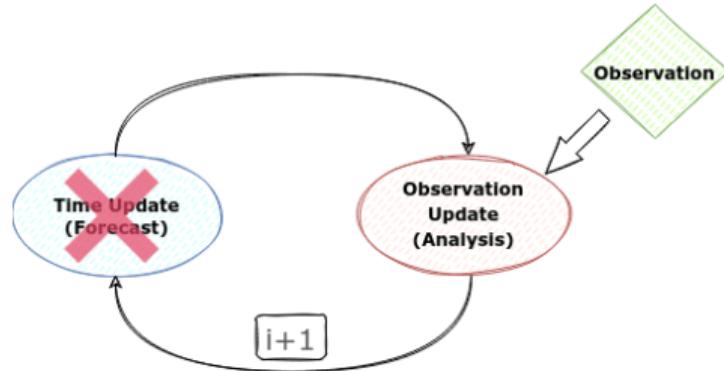
## Offline Data-Assimilation

- Proxy record represents time-averaged climate state variable
- Cycling approach computationally costly for GCMs
- Predictability issue for long time-scales: Models climatology may be as informative as model forecast



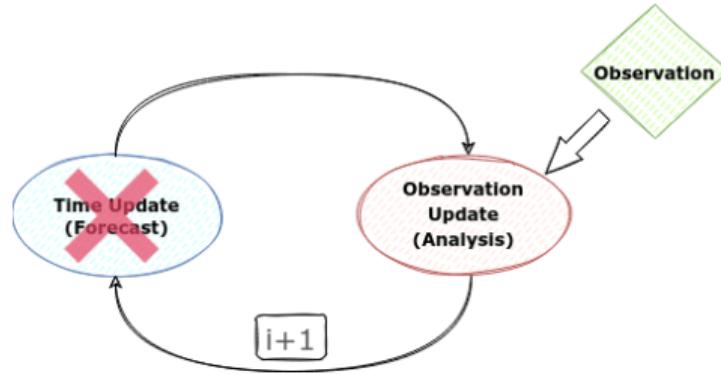
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- Omit the forecast step. Do not reinitialize the model.



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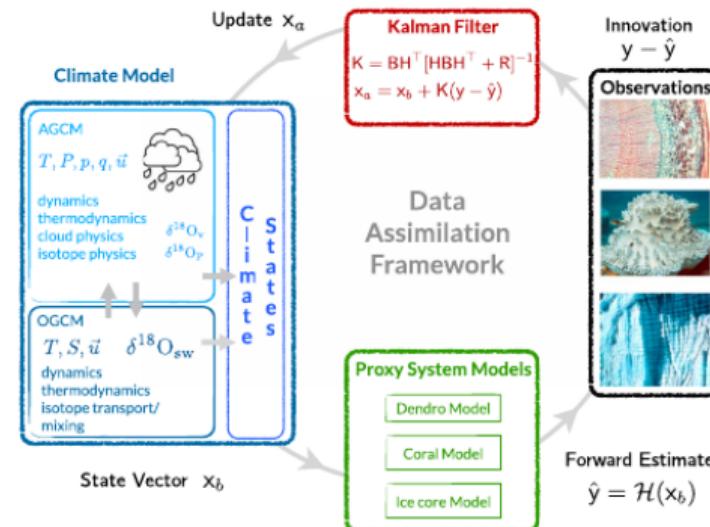


- **Transient** Offline DA: Use time series of the model
- **Stationary** Offline DA: Use all modeled years as one prior. Give up temporal consistency, but: huge prior ensemble to sample from

# The Last Millennium Reanalysis framework [Hakim et al., 2016]

## LMR characteristics

- Proxy data: Pages2k (Annual)
- Model: MPI-ESM, CESM
- Time: Last Millenium
- Reconstructed Variables: T, Z500
- Method: Stationary Offline DA, PSMs



**Figure 3: Kalman Filter Analysis cycle in LMR Project**  
[Hakim et al., 2016]

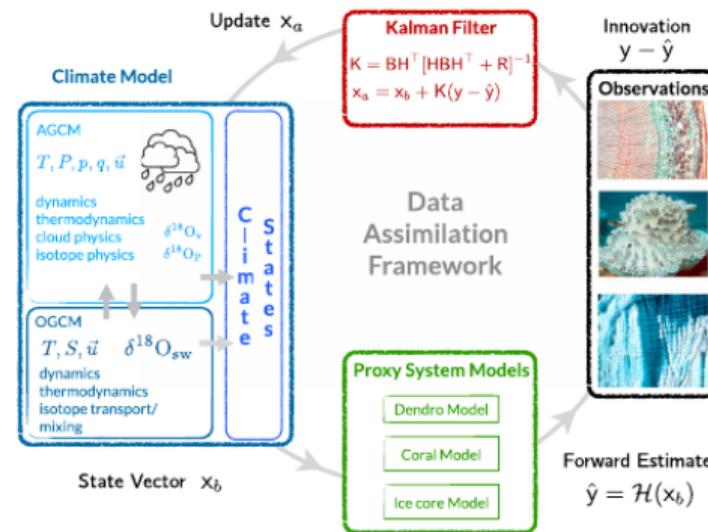
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## Possible enhancements

- Not only annually resolved proxies
- Speleothems!
- Isotope enabled models
- $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  assimilation



**Figure 3:** Kalman Filter Analysis cycle in LMR Project [Hakim et al., 2016]

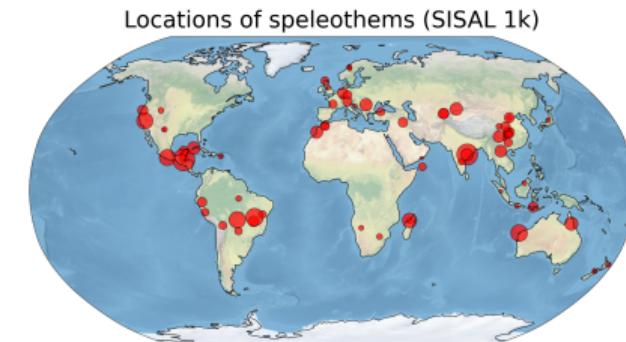
# Data for my project

## Proxies

- Speleothems (SISAL v2)
- Icerores (Iso2k)

## Models [Bühler et al., 2021]

- ECHAM5-wiso
- GISS
- iCESM
- iHadCM3
- isoGSM



(f)

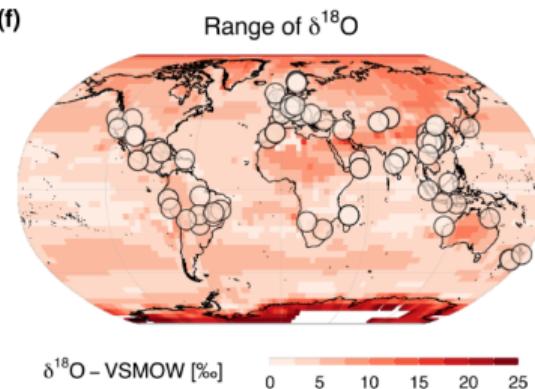


Figure 4: Multi-model range[Bühler et al., 2021]

# 1. How to deal with the irregular time series?

Proxies used in LMR (2019v):

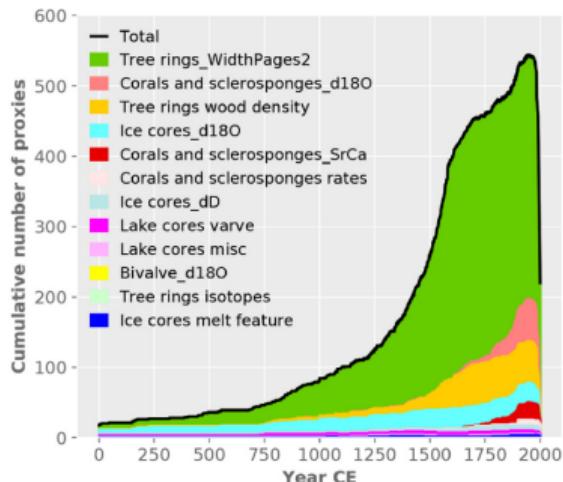
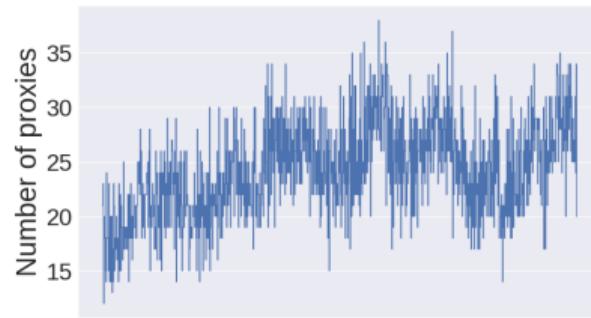
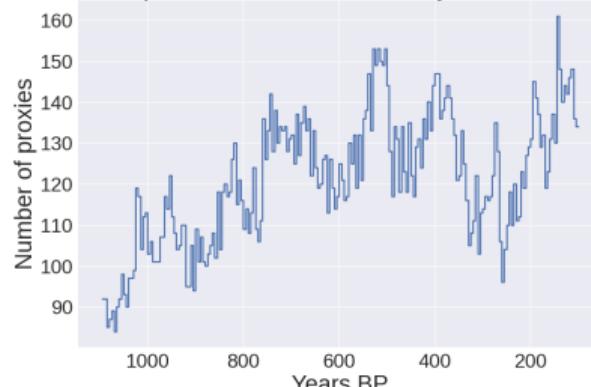


Figure 5: [Tardif et al., 2019]

Speleothem availability:



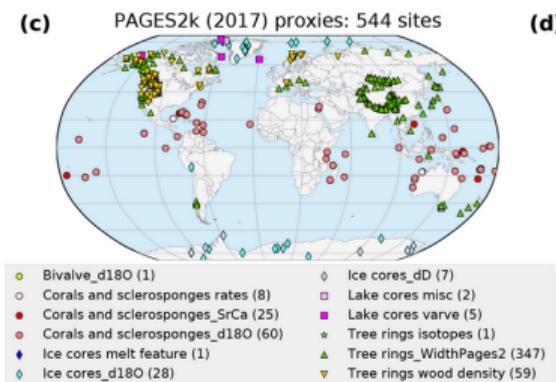
Speleothem entities for 5-year bins



- Trade-Off: Number of proxies - Time resolution
- Downsampling of prior ensemble

## 2. How to deal with the spatial sparsity of proxies?

Proxies used in LMR (2019v):



Speleothem availability:

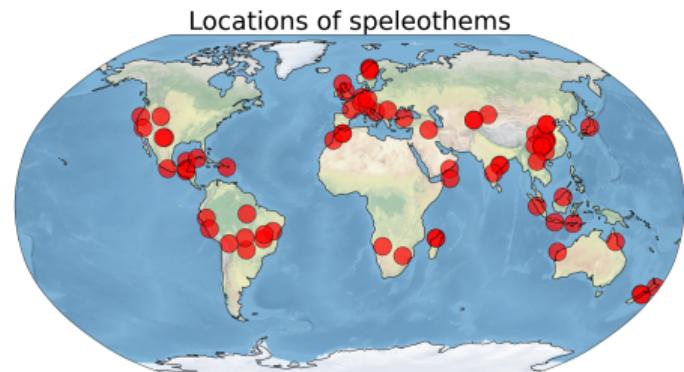


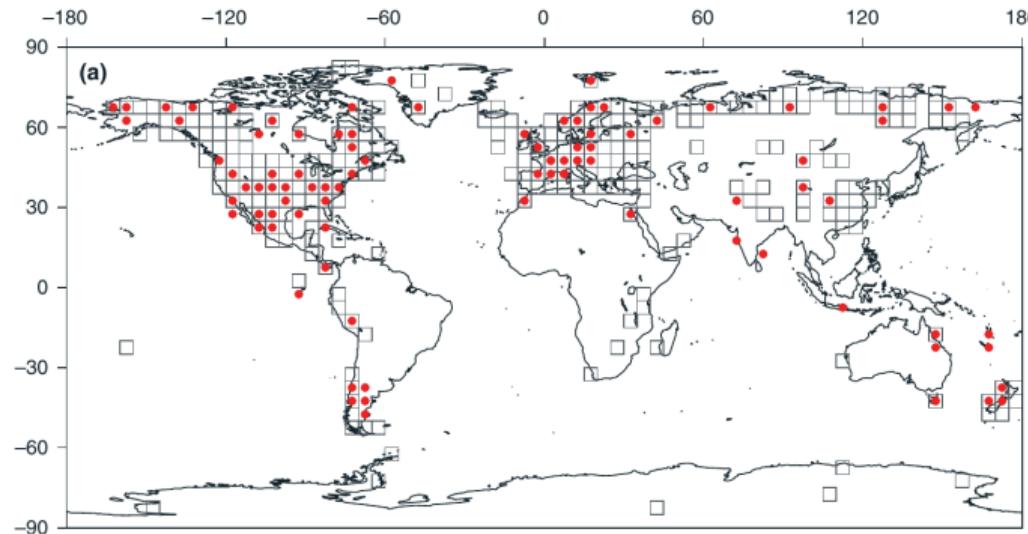
Figure 6: [Tardif et al., 2019]

- Sensitivity to observations
  - Number of proxies vs location
- Pseudoproxy experiments

### 3. What is the climatic importance of low-/high-latitude proxies?

How representative are speleothemes and icecores?

How do reconstructions compare for different variables (T, Z500,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ )?



**Figure 7:** M. Mann Pseudoproxy Networks (grey boxes/red dots), from [Smerdon, 2012]

## 4. Variance of recorded and simulated $\delta^{18}\text{O}$

### Model-Data mismatch

- On decadal timescales more variability in Speleothemes than in models
- Literature: mismatch increases on longer timescales [Laepple and Huybers, 2014]

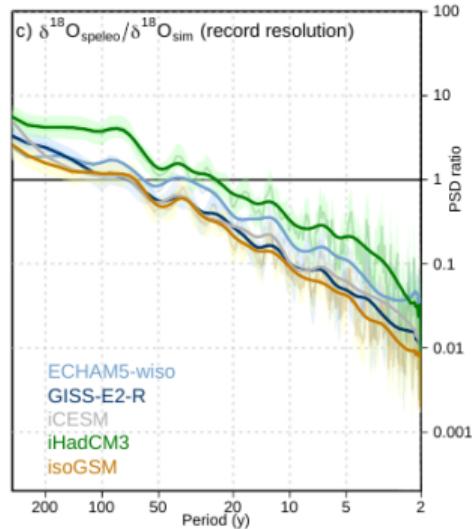


Figure 8: from Bühler 2021

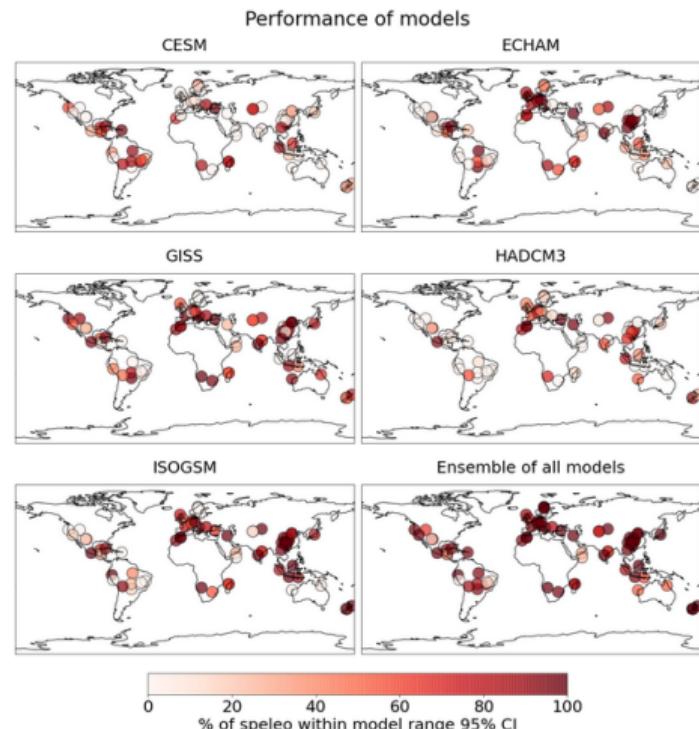
How will this change for data assimilated  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ -fields?

## 5. Can we join the prior ensemble of different models?

- Perform reconstructions with single model/multi-model prior

**Parsons et al. (2021):**

*We find that reconstructions derived from multi-model ensembles produce lower error than reconstructions from single-model ensembles when reconstructing independent model and instrumental data. Specifically, we find the largest decreases in error over regions far from proxy locations.*



**Figure 9:** Model vs proxy range for our data

# Project Plan

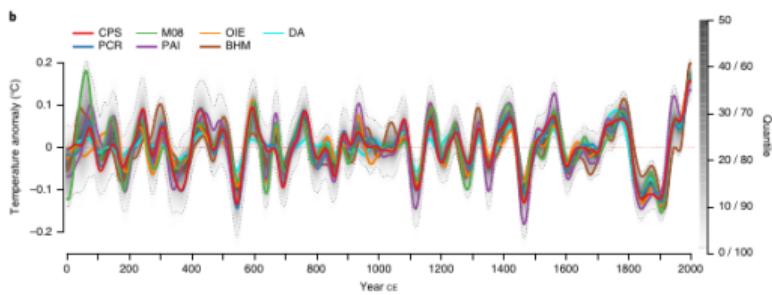
1. Literature research ✓
2. Basic preparation ✓
  - understand math of the method ✓
  - EnKF implementation for L63 ✓✓
  - proxy/model data crunching ✓✓
3. Review LMR code ✓
  - find/write working code ✘
  - test code ✘
  - PSM implementation ✘
4. PPE experiments ✘
5. Real proxies ✘
6. Analysis/write up ✘

## **Questions and discussion**

**Backup slides**

## Examples of Paleoclimate DA (1)

DA from LMR included in Pages2k Consortium Publication:



**Figure 10:** [Neukom et al., 2019] [Hakim et al., 2016]

[Steiger et al., 2014] did the prework for LMR and compared DA climate field reconstruction to PCA method.

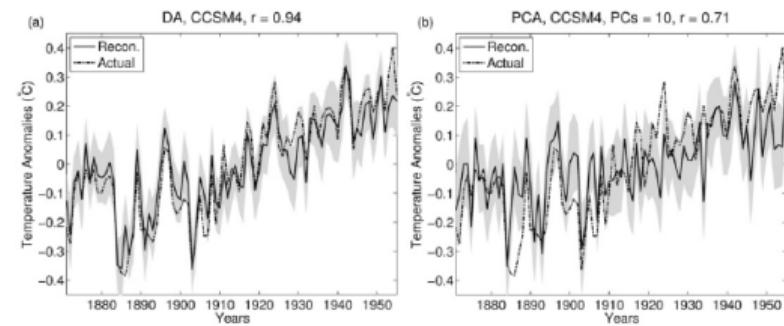
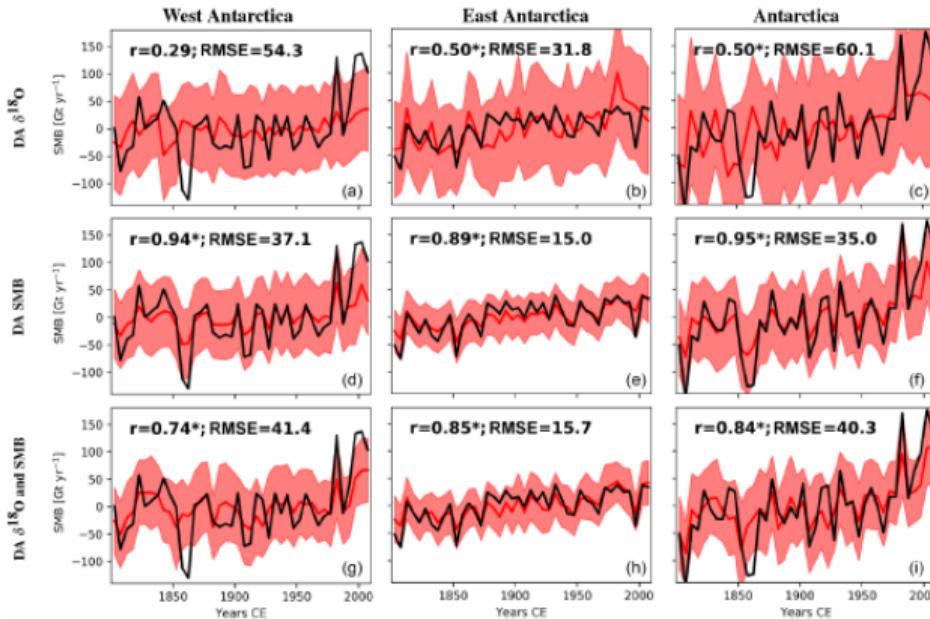


FIG. 5. Global-mean temperature anomaly reconstructions using (a) DA and (b) PCA techniques with CCSM4 over the same calibration and reconstruction periods as in Figs. 3 and 4 (calibration period: 1956–2005; reconstruction period: 1871–1955). Gray shading is one std dev of the 30 reconstructions.

## Examples of Paleoclimate DA (2)

Data Assimilation of Surface mass balance and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  for the AIS, [Dalaïden et al., 2021]



## Examples of Paleoclimate DA (3)

Application of LMR framework for the LGM [Tierney et al., 2020], [Osman et al., 2021]

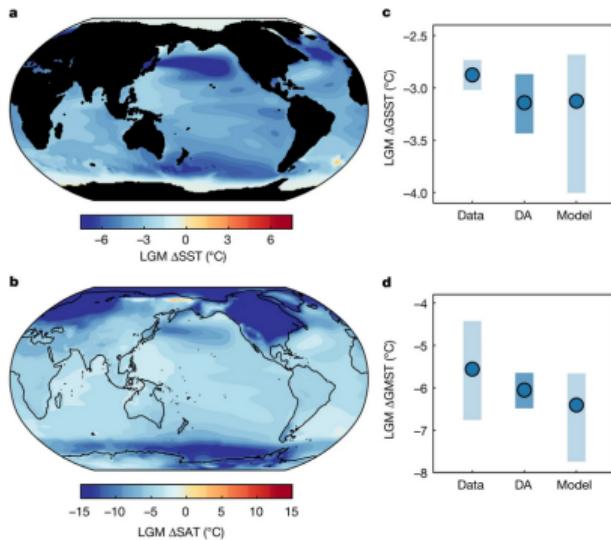


Figure 11: Tierney 2021, LGM reconstruction

- One Model only (iCESM)
- Marine proxies only

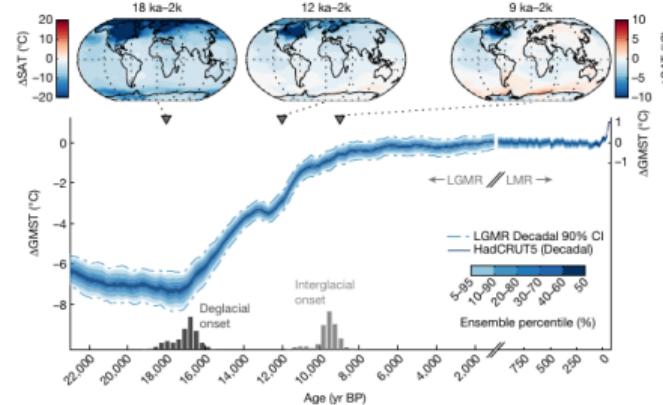
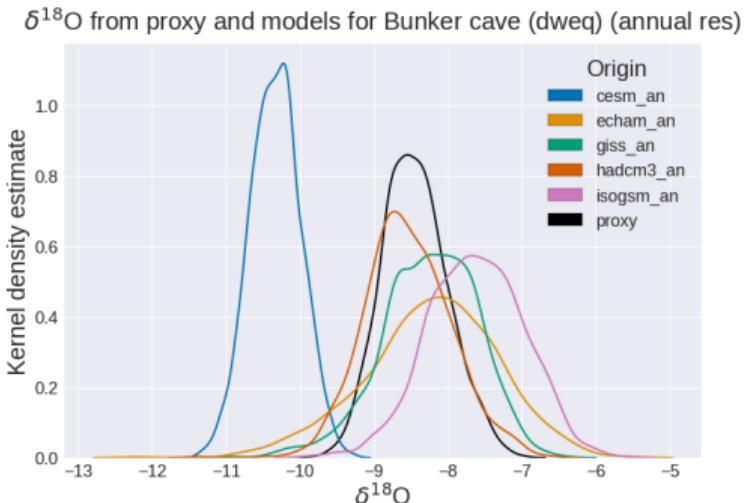
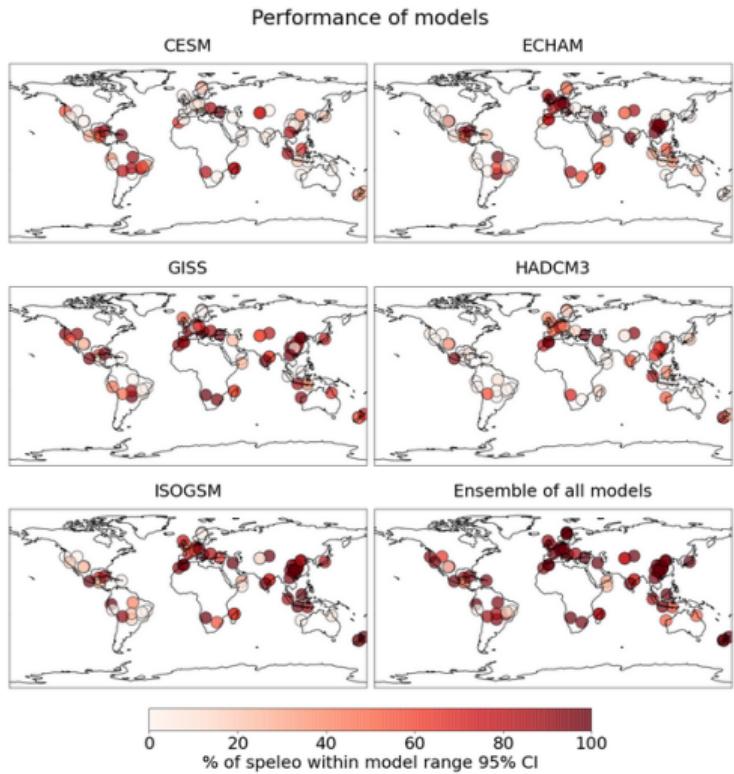


Figure 12: Osman 2021, Deglaciation reconstruction

# Model-Data ensemble spread comparison



Infiltration weighted. Drip water conversion uses temperature from all simulations



→ Apply bias-correction to model prior?

## Verification of reconstructions

### Problem

To what shall we compare the reconstructed  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ -fields to?

1. Compare  $T$  for instrumental period (indirect comparison)
2. Assume one model as truth, synthesize pseudoproxies (direct  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  comparison)

### Metrics

- Correlation
- Coefficient of Efficiency  
(cf true time series to estimated time series)  $CE = 1 - \frac{\sum(x_i - \hat{x}_i)^2}{\sum(x_i - \bar{x})^2}$
- Rank histograms (ensemble bias)
- Withholding proxy-data (cross validation)

# Ensemble Square Root Kalman Filter (EnSRF)

From [Steiger et al., 2014]:

b. Algorithm sketch

For each reconstruction year, we perform the following steps:

- (i) Construct  $\mathbf{x}_b$ , then  $\mathbf{z}_b$  from  $\mathbf{x}_b$ , and the annual pseudoproxy vector  $\mathbf{y}$ .
- (ii) Find the error  $r$  from Eq. (9) for each pseudoproxy.
- (iii) Split  $\mathbf{z}_b$  into an ensemble mean and perturbations from this mean:

$$\mathbf{z}_b = \bar{\mathbf{z}}_b + \mathbf{z}'_b.$$

- (iv) For each pseudoproxy:
  - 1) Compute  $\mathbf{y}_e = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}_b$ .
  - 2) Split up  $\mathbf{y}_e$  into an ensemble mean and perturbations from this mean:

$$\mathbf{y}_e = \bar{\mathbf{y}}_e + \mathbf{y}'_e.$$

- 3) Compute  $K$  from Eq. (A3) for every grid point.
- 4) Apply the localization function, if desired, to  $K$  except for the last entry (the global-mean value)
- 5) Compute  $\tilde{K}$  from Eq. (A4) for every grid point.
- 6) At each grid point, update the analysis ensemble mean and perturbations from this mean:

$$\bar{\mathbf{z}}_a = \bar{\mathbf{z}}_b + K(\mathbf{y} - \bar{\mathbf{y}}_e) \quad \text{and}$$

$$\mathbf{z}'_a = \mathbf{z}'_b - \tilde{K}\mathbf{y}'_e.$$

- 7) Use  $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_a$  and  $\mathbf{z}'_a$  as  $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_b$  and  $\mathbf{z}'_b$ , respectively, for the next observation.

## Motivation

- Ensemble Kalman Filter requires perturbed observation for ensemble variance to be correct
- EnSRF does not require this
- The main idea is to treat ensemble mean and perturbations separately (Formulas with different Kalman gains)

- (v) The full analysis ensemble may be recovered through

$$\mathbf{z}_a = \bar{\mathbf{z}}_a + \mathbf{z}'_a,$$

where the column vector  $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_a$  is added to each column vector of  $\mathbf{z}'_a$ .

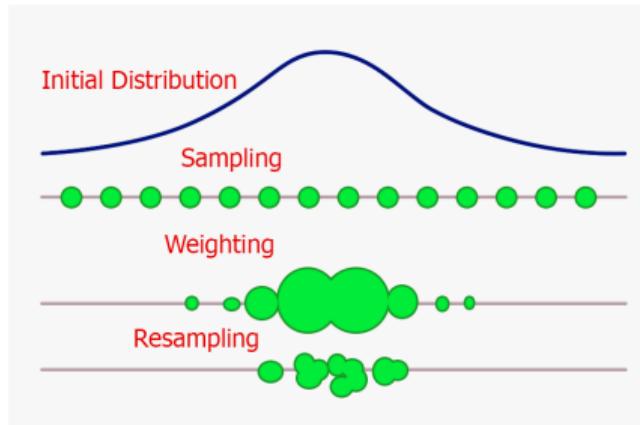
- (vi) After each year's pseudoproxies have been assimilated, we add the last column entry of  $\mathbf{z}_a$  to the rest of  $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_a$  to recover  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_a$ , the reconstructed temperature field for that year. We also use the last column entry of  $\mathbf{z}_a$  as the reconstructed global-mean temperature for that year.

# Alternative Method: The particle filter (sequential Monte Carlo)

## Principle

1. Use ensemble of models (particles)
2. At each assimilation step compute RMSE between climate field of models and proxy
3. Select best fitting particle(s)
4. Resample and compute weighted mean

- Simpler concept
- More flexible, no need for normal distribution of errors
- Degeneracy problem: One particle gets all the weight



**Figure 13:** Particle Filter steps (without posterior distribution), from miro.medium.com

## References i

- J. C. Bühler, C. Roesch, M. Kirschner, L. Sime, M. D. Holloway, and K. Rehfeld. Comparison of the oxygen isotope signatures in speleothem records and ihadcm3 model simulations for the last millennium. *Climate of the Past*, 17(3):985–1004, 2021.
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