

École Doctorale des Sciences de l'Environnement d'Île-de-France
Année Universitaire 2024-2025

Modélisation Numérique de l'Écoulement Atmosphérique et Assimilation de Données

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Cours 4

23 Avril 2025

- Best Linear Unbiased Estimator. Complements
- How to introduce temporal dynamics in assimilation ? Kalman Filter. Theory. One didactic example.
- How to introduce nonlinearity ? Reduced Rank Kalman Filters. Ensemble Kalman Filter
- Kalman Smoother

Best Linear Unbiased Estimate

State vector \mathbf{x} , belonging to state space S ($\dim S = n$), to be estimated.

Available data in the form of

- A ‘background’ estimate (*e. g.* forecast from the past), belonging to state space, with dimension n

$$\mathbf{x}^b = \mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\zeta}^b$$

- An additional set of data (*e. g.* observations), belonging to observation space, with dimension p

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

\mathbf{H} is known linear observation operator.

Assume probability distribution is known for the couple $(\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b, \boldsymbol{\varepsilon})$.

Assume $E(\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b) = \mathbf{0}$, $E(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) = \mathbf{0}$, $E(\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^T) = \mathbf{0}$ (not restrictive)

Set $E(\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b \boldsymbol{\zeta}^{bT}) \equiv \mathbf{P}^b$ (also often denoted \mathbf{B}), $E(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^T) \equiv \mathbf{R}$

Best Linear Unbiased Estimate (continuation 1)

$$\mathbf{x}^b = \mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\zeta}^b \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \quad (2)$$

A probability distribution being known for the couple $(\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b, \boldsymbol{\varepsilon})$, eqs (1-2) define probability distribution for the couple (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) , with

$$E(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^b, \quad \mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{x} - E(\mathbf{x}) = -\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b$$

$$E(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^b, \quad \mathbf{y}' = \mathbf{y} - E(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^b = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} - \mathbf{H}\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b \quad (\mathbf{H} \text{ is linear})$$

$\mathbf{d} \equiv \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^b$ is called the *innovation vector*.

Best Linear Unbiased Estimate (continuation 2)

Apply formulæ for Optimal Interpolation for estimating \mathbf{x}

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}^a &= E(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{C}_{xy} [\mathbf{C}_{yy}]^{-1} [\mathbf{y} - E(\mathbf{y})] \\ \mathbf{P}^a &= \mathbf{C}_{xx} - \mathbf{C}_{xy} [\mathbf{C}_{yy}]^{-1} \mathbf{C}_{yx}\end{aligned}$$

$$E(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^b, \quad \mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{x} - E(\mathbf{x}) = -\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b$$

$$E(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^b, \quad \mathbf{y}' = \mathbf{y} - E(\mathbf{y}) = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} - \mathbf{H}\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{xy} = E(\mathbf{x}'\mathbf{y}'^T) = E[-\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} - \mathbf{H}\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b)^T] = \begin{matrix} -E(\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^T) & + & E(\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b\boldsymbol{\zeta}^{bT})\mathbf{H}^T \\ 0 & & \mathbf{P}^b \end{matrix} = \mathbf{P}^b\mathbf{H}^T$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{yy} = E(\mathbf{y}'\mathbf{y}'^T) = E[(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} - \mathbf{H}\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b)(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} - \mathbf{H}\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b)^T] = \begin{matrix} E(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^T) & + & \mathbf{H}E(\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b\boldsymbol{\zeta}^{bT})\mathbf{H}^T \\ \mathbf{R} & & \mathbf{P}^b \end{matrix}$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{yy} = \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^b\mathbf{H}^T$$

Best Linear Unbiased Estimate (continuation 3)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}^a &= \mathbf{x}^b + \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^T [\mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^b\mathbf{H}^T + \mathbf{R}]^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^b) \\ \mathbf{P}^a &= \mathbf{P}^b - \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^T [\mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^b\mathbf{H}^T + \mathbf{R}]^{-1} \mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^b\end{aligned}$$

\mathbf{x}^a is the *Best Linear Unbiased Estimate (BLUE)* of \mathbf{x} from \mathbf{x}^b and \mathbf{y} .

Equivalent set of formulæ

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}^a &= \mathbf{x}^b + \mathbf{P}^a \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^b) \\ [\mathbf{P}^a]^{-1} &= [\mathbf{P}^b]^{-1} + \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{H}\end{aligned}$$

As said, vector $\mathbf{d} \equiv \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^b$ is *innovation vector*

Matrix $\mathbf{K} \equiv \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^T [\mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^b\mathbf{H}^T + \mathbf{R}]^{-1} = \mathbf{P}^a \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{R}^{-1}$ is *gain matrix*.

If couple (ζ^b, ε) is Gaussian, *BLUE* achieves bayesian estimation, in the sense that

$$P(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{x}^b, \mathbf{y}) = \mathcal{N}[\mathbf{x}^a, \mathbf{P}^a].$$

1200 GMT 19 January 1979

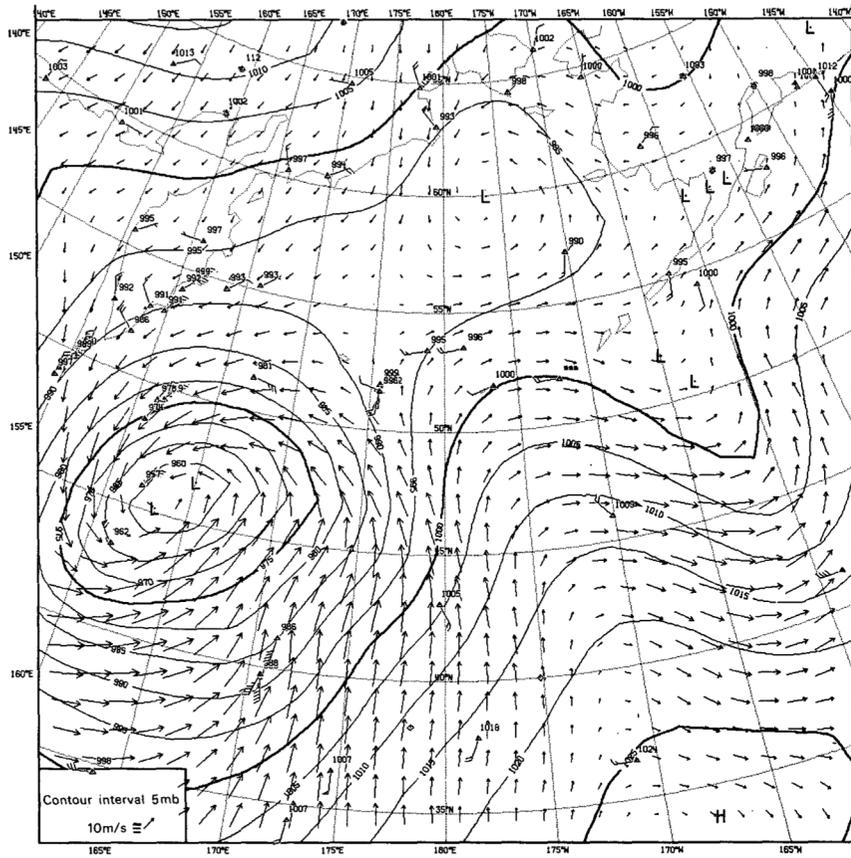


FIG. 14. Sea level pressure and wind forecast corresponding to the central area of Fig. 11, with plotted surface observations of sea level pressure and wind (each barb = 5 m s^{-1}).

1200 GMT 19 January 1979

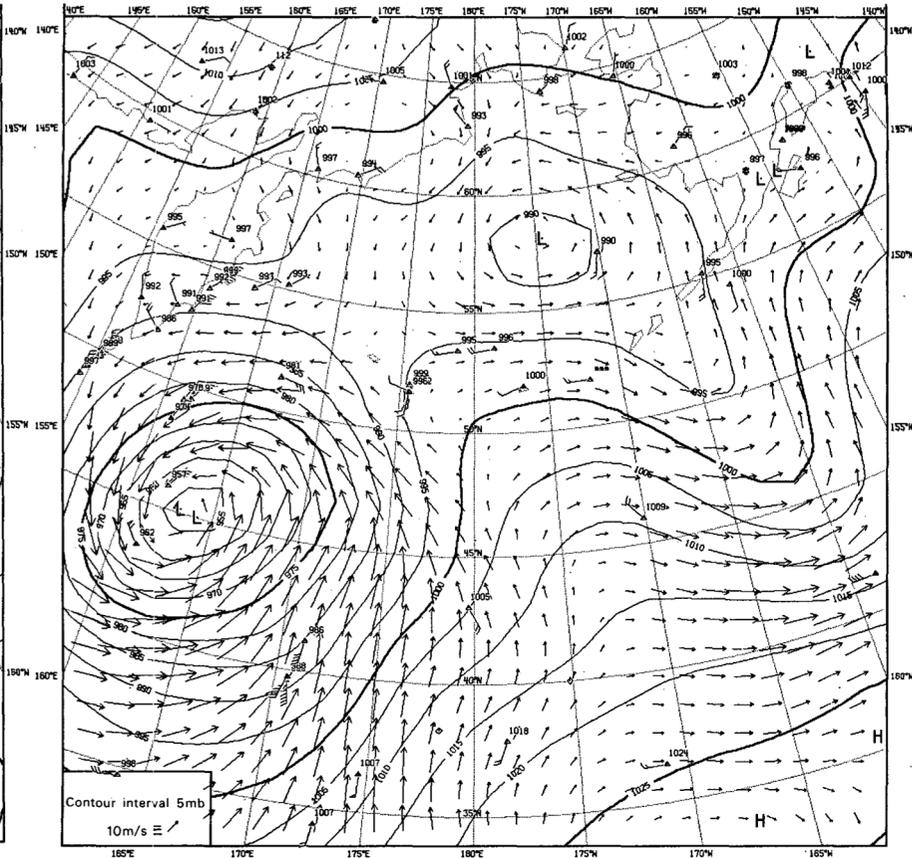


FIG. 15. As in Fig. 14 for the analysis in the data-assimilation cycle.

After A. Lorenc, MWR, 1981

Best Linear Unbiased Estimate (continuation 4)

H can be any linear operator

Example : (scalar) satellite observation

$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)^T$ temperature profile

Observation $y = \sum_i h_i x_i + \varepsilon = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x} + \varepsilon$, $\mathbf{H} = (h_1, \dots, h_n)$, $E(\varepsilon^2) = r$
 Background $\mathbf{x}^b = (x_1^b, \dots, x_n^b)^T$, error covariance matrix $\mathbf{P}^b = (p_{ik}^b)$

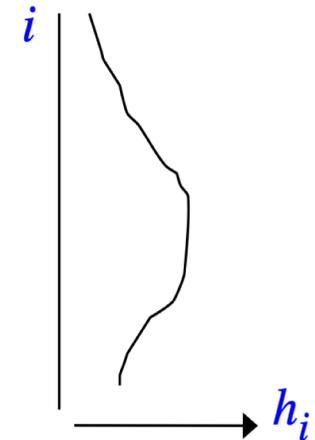
$$\mathbf{x}^a = \mathbf{x}^b + \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^T [\mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^T + \mathbf{R}]^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^b)$$

$$[\mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^T + \mathbf{R}]^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^b) = (y - \sum_i h_i x_i^b) / (\sum_{ik} h_i h_k p_{ik}^b + r) \equiv \mu \quad \text{scalar !}$$

$$\mathbf{P}^b = \text{diag}(p_{ii}^b) \quad x_i^a = x_i^b + p_{ii}^b h_i \mu$$

$$\text{General case} \quad x_i^a = x_i^b + \sum_k p_{ik}^b h_k \mu$$

Each level i is corrected, not only because of its own contribution to the observation, but also because of the possible correlation of its background error with other levels which contribute to the observation



Best Linear Unbiased Estimate (continuation 5)

BLUE is invariant in any invertible linear change of variables, in either state or observation space.

Equivalently, *BLUE* is independent of the possible choice of a scalar product, or norm, in either one of the two spaces.

Best Linear Unbiased Estimate (continuation 6)

Again, if the couple (ζ^b, ε) is Gaussian, the *BLUE* is Bayesian in the sense that $P(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{x}^b, \mathbf{y}) = \mathcal{N}[\mathbf{x}^a, \mathbf{P}^a]$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}^a &= \mathbf{x}^b + \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^\top [\mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^\top + \mathbf{R}]^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}^b) \\ \mathbf{P}^a &= \mathbf{P}^b - \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^\top [\mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^\top + \mathbf{R}]^{-1} \mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}^b\end{aligned}$$

The estimate \mathbf{x}^a depends on the value of the data \mathbf{x}^b and \mathbf{y} .

The estimation error covariance matrix \mathbf{P}^a does not. The algebraic expression for \mathbf{P}^a is the same in both cases, but *its significance is not the same*.

- in the Gaussian case, \mathbf{P}^a denotes the Bayesian error covariance matrix for any set of data $(\mathbf{x}^b, \mathbf{y})$ (or any set of errors (ζ^b, ε))

- in the general *BLUE* case, \mathbf{P}^a will not in general be the Bayesian error covariance matrix for a given set of errors (ζ^b, ε) , but the average covariance matrix over all realizations of the errors (ζ^b, ε) .

Best Linear Unbiased Estimate (continuation 7)

Variational form of the *BLUE*

BLUE \mathbf{x}^a minimizes following scalar *objective function*, defined on state space

$\xi \in S \rightarrow$

$$J(\xi) \equiv (1/2) (\mathbf{x}^b - \xi)^T [\mathbf{P}^b]^{-1} (\mathbf{x}^b - \xi) + (1/2) (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\xi)^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\xi)$$

$$\equiv \mathcal{J}_b + \mathcal{J}_o$$

$$\mathbf{P}^a = [\partial^2 J / \partial \xi^2]^{-1} \quad (\text{inverse } \textit{Hessian})$$

‘3D-Var’

Can easily, and heuristically, be extended to the case of a nonlinear observation operator \mathbf{H} .

(has been, or is still) used operationally in USA, Australia, China, ...

Best Linear Unbiased Estimate (continuation 8)

A large part of what has been done, and is still being done, in assimilation is based on a heuristic and empirical extension of the *BLUE* to moderately nonlinear and/or non-Gaussian situations.

Best Linear Unbiased Estimate (continuation 9)

The case of a nonlinear observation operator

$$\mathbf{x}^b = \mathbf{x} + \zeta^b$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \quad \mathbf{H} \text{ nonlinear}$$

$$\text{Innovation } \mathbf{d} \equiv \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}^b) = \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}^b) + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

$$\approx \mathbf{H}'(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^b) + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \quad \text{if } \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^b \text{ small}$$

where \mathbf{H}' is *Jacobian* matrix of \mathbf{H} (matrix of partial derivatives) at point \mathbf{x}^b

Problem becomes linear in $\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^b$

Tangent linear approximation

Best Linear Unbiased Estimate (continuation 10)

$$0 = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^b + \boldsymbol{\zeta}^b$$

$$\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{H}'(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^b) + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^a = \mathbf{x}^b + \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}'^T [\mathbf{H}' \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}'^T + \mathbf{R}]^{-1} [\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}^b)]$$

$$\mathbf{P}^a = \mathbf{P}^b - \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}'^T [\mathbf{H}' \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}'^T + \mathbf{R}]^{-1} \mathbf{H}' \mathbf{P}^b$$

For variational form, no linear approximation is necessary, and one can directly minimize

$$\boldsymbol{\xi} \in S \rightarrow$$

$$\mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{\xi}) \equiv (1/2) (\mathbf{x}^b - \boldsymbol{\xi})^T [\mathbf{P}^b]^{-1} (\mathbf{x}^b - \boldsymbol{\xi}) + (1/2) [\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}(\boldsymbol{\xi})]^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} [\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}(\boldsymbol{\xi})]$$

(not equivalent is general !)

- How to introduce temporal dynamics in assimilation ? Kalman Filter. Theory. One didactic example.

Question. How to introduce temporal dimension in estimation process ?

- Logic of Optimal Interpolation and of *BLUE* can be extended to time dimension.
- But we know much more than just temporal correlations. We know explicit dynamics.

Real (unknown) state vector at time k (in format of assimilating model) \mathbf{x}_k . Belongs to state space S ($\dim S = n$)

Evolution equation

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{M}_k(\mathbf{x}_k) + \boldsymbol{\eta}_k$$

\mathbf{M}_k is (known) model, $\boldsymbol{\eta}_k$ is (unknown) model error

Sequential Assimilation

- Assimilating model is integrated over period of time over which observations are available. Whenever model time reaches an instant at which observations are available, state predicted by the model is updated with new observations. In the jargon of the trade, *Optimal Interpolation* designates an algorithm for sequential assimilation in which the matrix P^b is constant with time, and *3D-Var* an algorithm in which, in addition, the analysis x^a is obtained through a variational algorithm.

Variational Assimilation

- Assimilating model is globally adjusted to observations distributed over observation period. Often achieved by minimization of an appropriate scalar *objective function* measuring misfit between data and sequence of model states to be estimated.

Sequential Assimilation

Optimal Interpolation

- Observation vector at time k

$$\mathbf{y}_k = \mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{x}_k + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_k$$

$$k = 0, \dots, K$$

$$E(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_k) = 0 \quad ; \quad E(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_k \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_j^T) = \mathbf{R}_k \delta_{kj}$$

\mathbf{H}_k linear

- Evolution equation

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{M}_k(\mathbf{x}_k) + \boldsymbol{\eta}_k$$

$$k = 0, \dots, K-1$$

Optimal Interpolation (2)

At time k , background \mathbf{x}_k^b and associated error covariance matrix \mathbf{P}^b known, assumed to be independent of k .

- Analysis step

$$\mathbf{x}_k^a = \mathbf{x}_k^b + \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}_k^T [\mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}_k^T + \mathbf{R}_k]^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{x}_k^b)$$

In *3D-Var*, \mathbf{x}_k^a is obtained by (iterative) minimization of associated objective function

- Forecast step

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1}^b = \mathbf{M}_k(\mathbf{x}_k^a)$$

Sequential Assimilation.

Kalman Filter. Standard Kalman filter is purely linear

- Observation vector at time k

$$\mathbf{y}_k = \mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{x}_k + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_k \quad k = 0, \dots, K$$

$$E(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_k) = 0 \quad ; \quad E(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_k \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_j^T) = \mathbf{R}_k \delta_{kj}$$

\mathbf{H}_k linear

- Evolution equation

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{x}_k + \boldsymbol{\eta}_k \quad k = 0, \dots, K-1$$

$$E(\boldsymbol{\eta}_k) = 0 \quad ; \quad E(\boldsymbol{\eta}_k \boldsymbol{\eta}_j^T) = \mathbf{Q}_k \delta_{kj}$$

\mathbf{M}_k linear

- $E(\boldsymbol{\eta}_k \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_j^T) = 0$ (model and observation errors are uncorrelated)

At time k , background \mathbf{x}_k^b and associated error covariance matrix \mathbf{P}_k^b known

- Analysis step

$$\mathbf{x}_k^a = \mathbf{x}_k^b + \mathbf{P}_k^b \mathbf{H}_k^\top [\mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{P}_k^b \mathbf{H}_k^\top + \mathbf{R}_k]^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{x}_k^b)$$

$$\mathbf{P}_k^a = \mathbf{P}_k^b - \mathbf{P}_k^b \mathbf{H}_k^\top [\mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{P}_k^b \mathbf{H}_k^\top + \mathbf{R}_k]^{-1} \mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{P}_k^b$$

- Forecast step (\mathbf{M}_k linear)

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1}^b = \mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{x}_k^a$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{k+1}^b = E[(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}^b - \mathbf{x}_{k+1})(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}^b - \mathbf{x}_{k+1})^\top] = E[(\mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{x}_k^a - \mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{x}_k - \boldsymbol{\eta}_k)(\mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{x}_k^a - \mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{x}_k - \boldsymbol{\eta}_k)^\top]$$

$$= \mathbf{M}_k E[(\mathbf{x}_k^a - \mathbf{x}_k)(\mathbf{x}_k^a - \mathbf{x}_k)^\top] \mathbf{M}_k^\top$$

$$- E[\boldsymbol{\eta}_k (\mathbf{x}_k^a - \mathbf{x}_k)^\top] \mathbf{M}_k^\top - \mathbf{M}_k E[(\mathbf{x}_k^a - \mathbf{x}_k) \boldsymbol{\eta}_k^\top] + E[\boldsymbol{\eta}_k \boldsymbol{\eta}_k^\top]$$

$$= \mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{P}_k^a \mathbf{M}_k^\top + \mathbf{Q}_k$$

At time k , background \mathbf{x}_k^b and associated error covariance matrix \mathbf{P}_k^b known

- Analysis step

$$\mathbf{x}_k^a = \mathbf{x}_k^b + \mathbf{P}_k^b \mathbf{H}_k^T [\mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{P}_k^b \mathbf{H}_k^T + \mathbf{R}_k]^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{x}_k^b)$$
$$\mathbf{P}_k^a = \mathbf{P}_k^b - \mathbf{P}_k^b \mathbf{H}_k^T [\mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{P}_k^b \mathbf{H}_k^T + \mathbf{R}_k]^{-1} \mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{P}_k^b$$

- Forecast step

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1}^b = \mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{x}_k^a$$
$$\mathbf{P}_{k+1}^b = \mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{P}_k^a \mathbf{M}_k^T + \mathbf{Q}_k$$

Kalman filter (KF, Kalman, 1960, also named *Stratonovich–Kalman–Bucy filter*)

Must be started from some initial estimate $(\mathbf{x}_0^b, \mathbf{P}_0^b)$

If all operators are linear, and if errors are uncorrelated in time, Kalman filter produces at time k the *BLUE* \mathbf{x}_k^b (resp. \mathbf{x}_k^a) of the real state \mathbf{x}_k from all data prior to (resp. up to) time k , plus the associated estimation error covariance matrix \mathbf{P}_k^b (resp. \mathbf{P}_k^a).

If in addition errors are globally gaussian, the corresponding conditional probability distributions are the respective gaussian distributions $\mathcal{N}[\mathbf{x}_k^b, \mathbf{P}_k^b]$ and $\mathcal{N}[\mathbf{x}_k^a, \mathbf{P}_k^a]$.

Kalman filter. A simple example (Ghil *et al.*)

Shallow-water equations (aka *équations de Saint-Venant*)

$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} + \operatorname{div}(\varphi \mathbf{U}) = 0$$

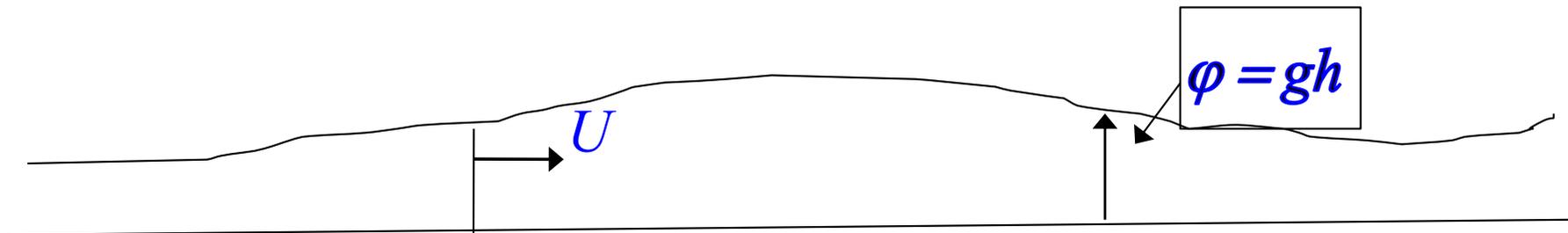
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + \operatorname{grad}\left(\varphi + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{U}^2\right) + \mathbf{k} \wedge (f + \zeta) \mathbf{U} = 0$$

Periodic domain D . Equations conserve energy

$$E \equiv \frac{1}{2} \iint_D (\varphi^2 + \varphi \mathbf{U}^2) dS$$

Shallow-water equations

Describe motion of layer of incompressible fluid, with small aspect ratio



Equations linearized in the vicinity of state of rest

$(\varphi = \Phi_0, \mathbf{U} = 0)$

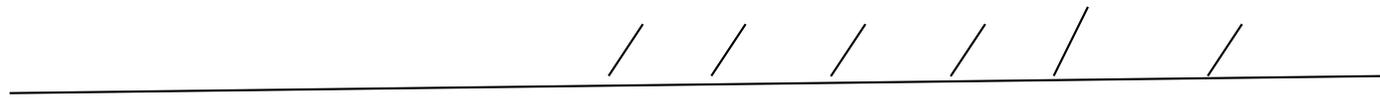
$$\frac{\partial \varphi'}{\partial t} + \Phi_0 \operatorname{div} \mathbf{U} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + \operatorname{grad} \varphi' + \mathbf{k} \wedge f \mathbf{U} = 0$$

Conserve quadratic energy

$$E' \equiv \frac{1}{2} \iint_D (\varphi'^2 + \Phi_0 U^2) dS$$

Unidimensional domain



‘Ocean’

(no observation)

‘Continent’

(observations)

Geopotential φ and velocity vector U (two components) observed over land every 12 hours

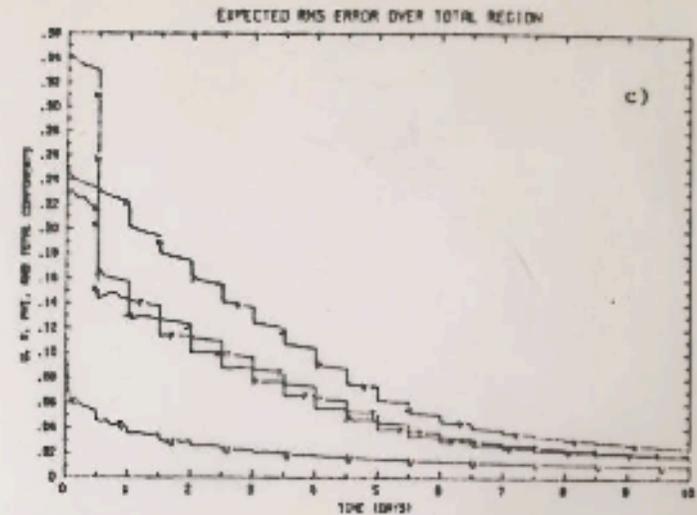
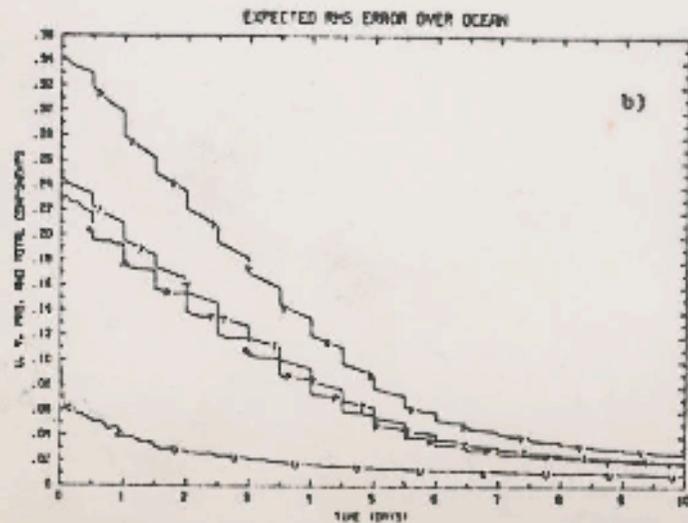
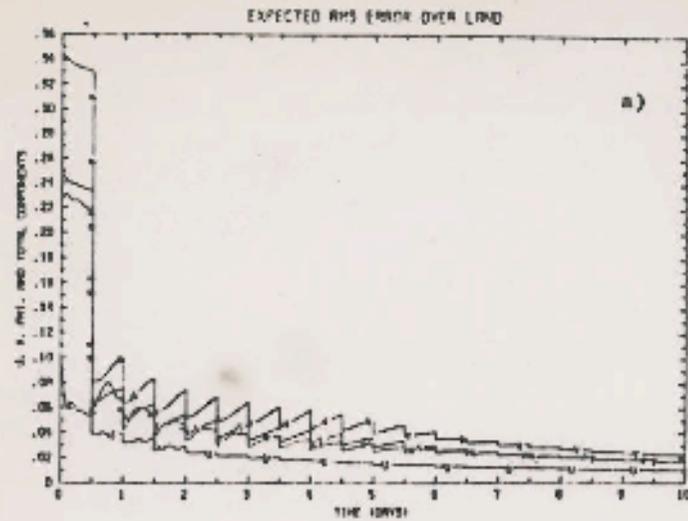


Fig. 2

The components of the total expected rms error (E_{rms}), $(\text{trace } P_k)^{1/2}$, in the estimation of solutions to the stochastic-dynamic system $\dot{k}(Y, H)$, with Y given by (3.6) and $H = (I \ 0)$. System noise is absent, $Q = 0$. The filter used is the standard K-B filter (2.11) for the model.

a) E_{rms} over land; b) E_{rms} over the ocean; c) E_{rms} over the entire L-domain

In each one of the figures, each curve represents one component of the total E_{rms} error. The curves labelled U, V, and P represent the u component, v component and ϕ component, respectively. They are found by summing the diagonal elements of P_k which correspond to u, v, and ϕ , respectively, dividing by the number of terms in the sum, and then taking the square root. In a) the summation extends over land points only, in b) over ocean points only, and in c) over the entire L-domain. The vertical axis is scaled in such a way that 1.0 corresponds to an E_{rms} error of v_{max} for the U and V curves, and of ϕ_0 for the P curve. The observational error level is 0.089 for the U and V curves, and 0.080 for the P curve. The curves labelled T represent the total E_{rms} error over each region. Each T curve is a weighted average of the corresponding U, V, and P curves, with the weights chosen in such a way that the T curve measures the error in the total energy $u^2 + v^2 + \phi^2/4$, conserved by the system (3.1). The observational noise level for the T curve is then 0.088. Notice the immediate error decrease over land and the gradual decrease over the ocean. The total estimation error tends to zero.

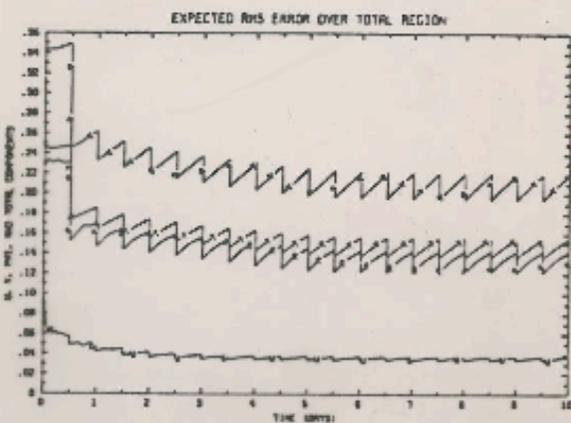
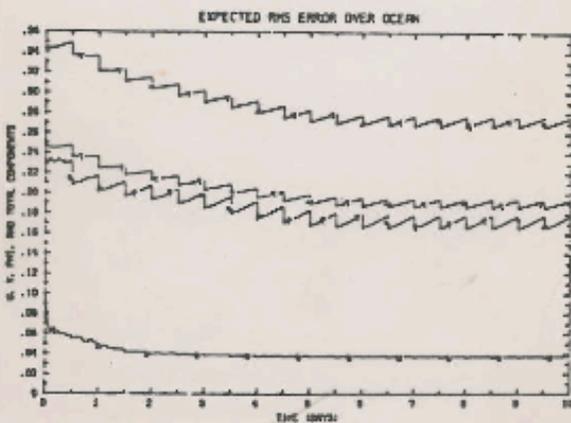
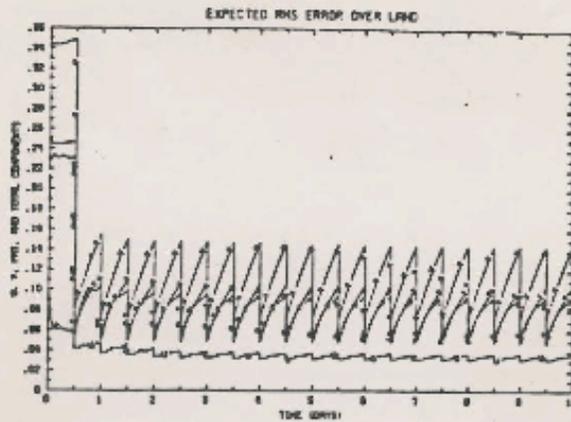


Fig. 6 This figure and the following ones show the properties of the estimated algorithm (2.11) in the presence of system noise, $Q \neq 0$. This figure gives the Rms estimation error, and is homologous to Fig. 2. Notice the sharper increase of error over land between synoptic times, and the convergence of each curve to a periodic, nonzero function.

Uncertainty evolves in time under the effect of

- Introduction of observations (decreases uncertainty)
- Model error (increases uncertainty)
- Dynamics of the system (increases or decreases uncertainty depending on stability of the state of the system) (dynamics is neutral in previous example)

Nonlinearities ?

Linearity of observation and model operators has been explicitly used in

$$d \equiv y - Hx^b = Hx + \varepsilon - Hx^b = H(x - x^b) + \varepsilon = -H\zeta^b + \varepsilon$$

$$M_k x_k^a - M_k x_k = M_k(x_k^a - x_k)$$

If H nonlinear, and $x - x^b$ small

$$H(x) - H(x^b) \approx H'(x - x^b)$$

where H' is *Jacobian* matrix of H (matrix of partial derivatives) at point x^b

Similarly, if M_k nonlinear, and $x_k^a - x_k$ small

$$M_k(x_k^a) - M_k(x_k) = M_k'(x_k^a - x_k)$$

where M_k' is Jacobian matrix of M_k at point x_k^a

Tangent Linear Approximation

Nonlinearities ?

Model is usually nonlinear, and observation operators (satellite observations) tend more and more to be nonlinear.

- Analysis step

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}_k^a &= \mathbf{x}_k^b + \mathbf{P}_k^b \mathbf{H}_k' \mathbf{T} [\mathbf{H}_k' \mathbf{P}_k^b \mathbf{H}_k' \mathbf{T} + \mathbf{R}_k]^{-1} [\mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{H}_k(\mathbf{x}_k^b)] \\ \mathbf{P}_k^a &= \mathbf{P}_k^b - \mathbf{P}_k^b \mathbf{H}_k' \mathbf{T} [\mathbf{H}_k' \mathbf{P}_k^b \mathbf{H}_k' \mathbf{T} + \mathbf{R}_k]^{-1} \mathbf{H}_k' \mathbf{P}_k^b\end{aligned}$$

- Forecast step

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}_{k+1}^b &= \mathbf{M}_k(\mathbf{x}_k^a) \\ \mathbf{P}_{k+1}^b &= \mathbf{M}_k' \mathbf{P}_k^a \mathbf{M}_k' \mathbf{T} + \mathbf{Q}_k\end{aligned}$$

Extended Kalman Filter (EKF, heuristic !)

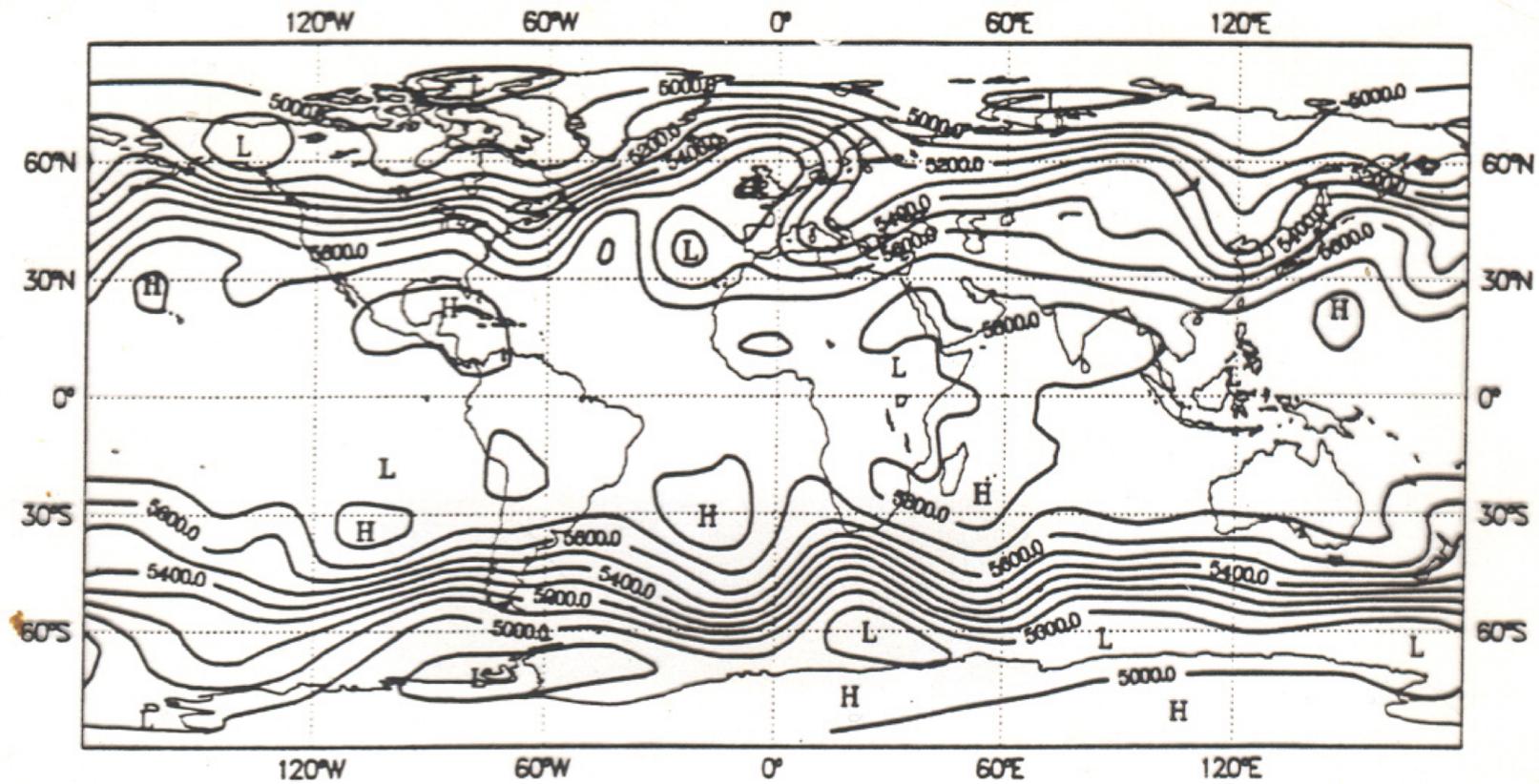
Costliest part of computation

$$\mathbf{P}_{k+1}^b = \mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{P}_k^a \mathbf{M}_k^T + \mathbf{Q}_k$$

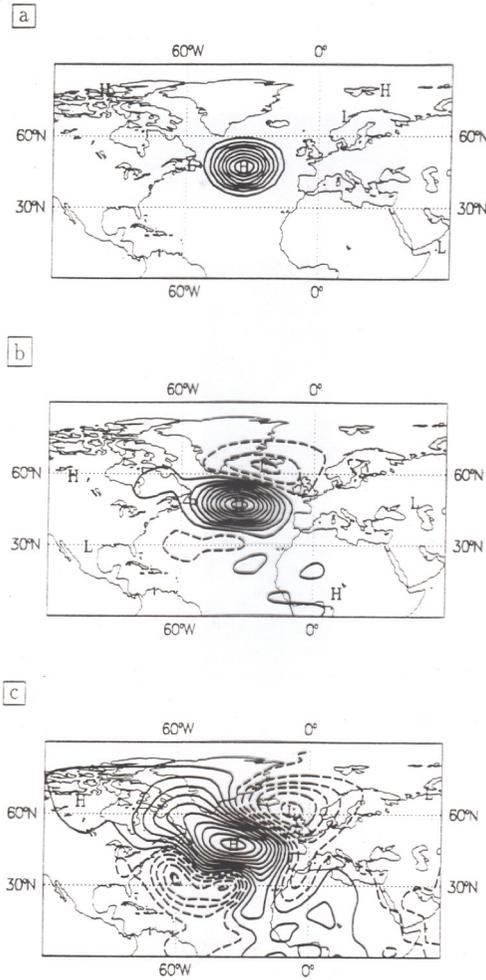
Multiplication of one vector by \mathbf{M}_k = one integration of the model between times k and $k+1$

Computation of $\mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{P}_k^a \mathbf{M}_k^T \approx 2n$ integrations of the model

Need for determining the temporal evolution of the uncertainty on the state of the system is the major difficulty in assimilation of meteorological and oceanographical observations



Analysis of 500-hPa geopotential for 1 December 1989, 00:00 UTC (ECMWF, spectral truncation T21, unit *m*. After F. Bouttier)



Temporal evolution of the 500-hPa geopotential autocorrelation with respect to point located at 45N, 35W. From top to bottom: initial time, 6- and 24-hour range. Contour interval 0.1. After F. Bouttier.

Two solutions :

- *Low-rank filters*

Use low-rank covariance matrix, restricted to modes in state space on which it is known, or at least assumed, that a large part of the uncertainty is concentrated (this requires the definition of a norm on state space).

Reduced Rank Square Root Filters (RRSQRT,
Heemink)

Singular Evolutive Extended Kalman Filter (SEEK,
Pham)

....

Reduced Rank Square Root Kalman Filter (RRSQRT, Verlaan and Heemink, 1997)

A covariance matrix P can be written as

$$P = S S^T$$

where the column vectors of S are the (orthogonal) principal components (eigenvectors) of P (the modulus of each vector is the square root of the associated eigenvalue).

The principle of *RRSQRT* is to restrict the background error covariance matrix P^b to $r \ll n$ principal components, thereby approximating P^b by (the time index k is dropped)

$$P^b \approx S^b S^{bT}$$

where S^b has dimensions $n \times r$.

RRSQRT (continuation 1)

Setting $\Psi \equiv (HS^b)^T$, the gain matrix of the Kalman filter and the analysis error covariance matrix respectively become

$$K = S^b \Psi (\Psi^T \Psi + R)^{-1}$$

and

$$P^a = S^a S^{aT}$$

with

$$S^a = S^b [I_r - \Psi (\Psi^T \Psi + R)^{-1} \Psi^T]^{1/2}$$

RRSQRT (continuation 2)

In the prediction phase, the column vectors of S^a are evolved by the tangent linear model (an evolution of a perturbed state by the full model is also possible). If a model error is to be introduced, that is done by reducing the order r of S^a to $r-q$, and introducing q new column vectors meant to represent the model error.

Orthogonality of the column vectors is lost in the prediction, and has to be reestablished. And, even if process is started from dominant column vectors, that dominance may of course be lost.

Advantages : in addition to reduced computational cost, numerical errors are smaller when dealing with square root covariance matrices, as done here, than with full matrices (better conditioning).

Singular Evolutive Extended Kalman Filter (SEEK, Pham, 1996)

Based on the fact that, because of the linearity of Kalman Filter, the rank of the covariance matrix P^a or P^b cannot increase, in the case no model error is present, in either the update or the model evolution. SEEK performs a linear filter starting from a low rank P_0^b , and so runs the exact Kalman filter in the case of a perfect model. The algorithmic implementation takes advantage of the rank-deficiency of the covariance matrix. The rank of the latter is conserved (or decreased), but the subspace spanned by the directions with non-zero error evolves, in both the update and the dynamic evolution.

In case model error is present, the corresponding covariance matrix Q_k is projected onto the directions with non-zero error (this is of course an approximation).

Singular Evolutive Interpolated Kalman Filter (SEIK, Pham, 2001)

Non-trivial extension of SEEK to nonlinear model or observation operators. Rank deficiency is now forced.

Second solution :

- *Ensemble filters*

Uncertainty is represented, not by a covariance matrix, but by an ensemble of point estimates in state space that are meant to sample the conditional probability distribution for the state of the system (dimension $L \approx O(10-100)$).

Ensemble is evolved in time through the full model, which eliminates any need for linear hypothesis as to the temporal evolution.

Ensemble Kalman Filter (EnKF, Evensen, Anderson, ...)

How to update predicted ensemble with new observations ?

Predicted ensemble at time k : $\{\mathbf{x}^b_l\}$, $l = 1, \dots, L$

Observation vector at same time : $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$

- Gaussian approach

Produce sample of probability distribution for real observed quantity $\mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}$

$$\mathbf{y}_l = \mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_l$$

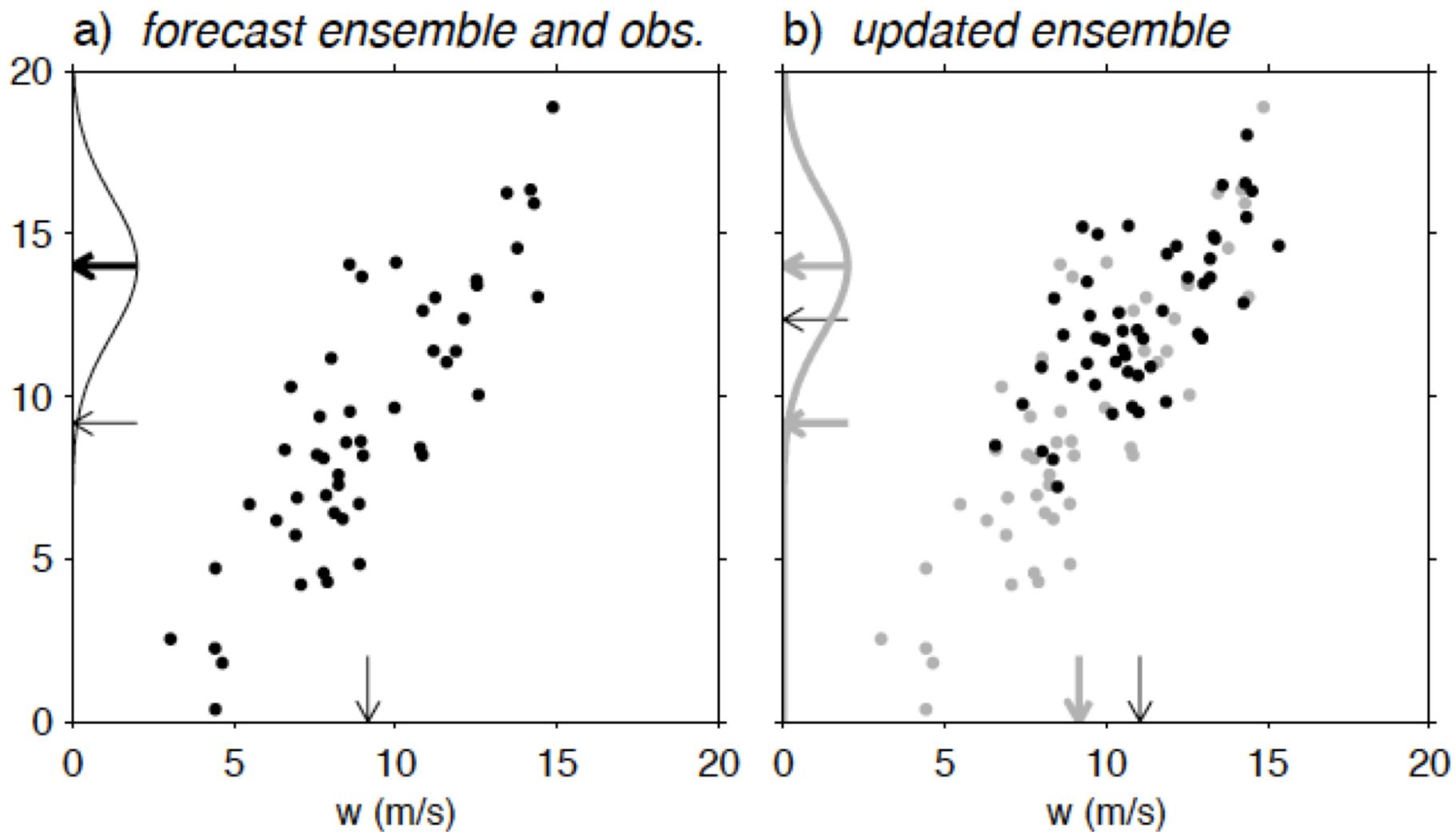
where $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_l$ is distributed according to probability distribution for observation error $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$.

Then use Kalman formula to produce sample of ‘analysed’ states

$$\mathbf{x}^a_l = \mathbf{x}^b_l + \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^\top [\mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^\top + \mathbf{R}]^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_l - \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^b_l), \quad l = 1, \dots, L \quad (2)$$

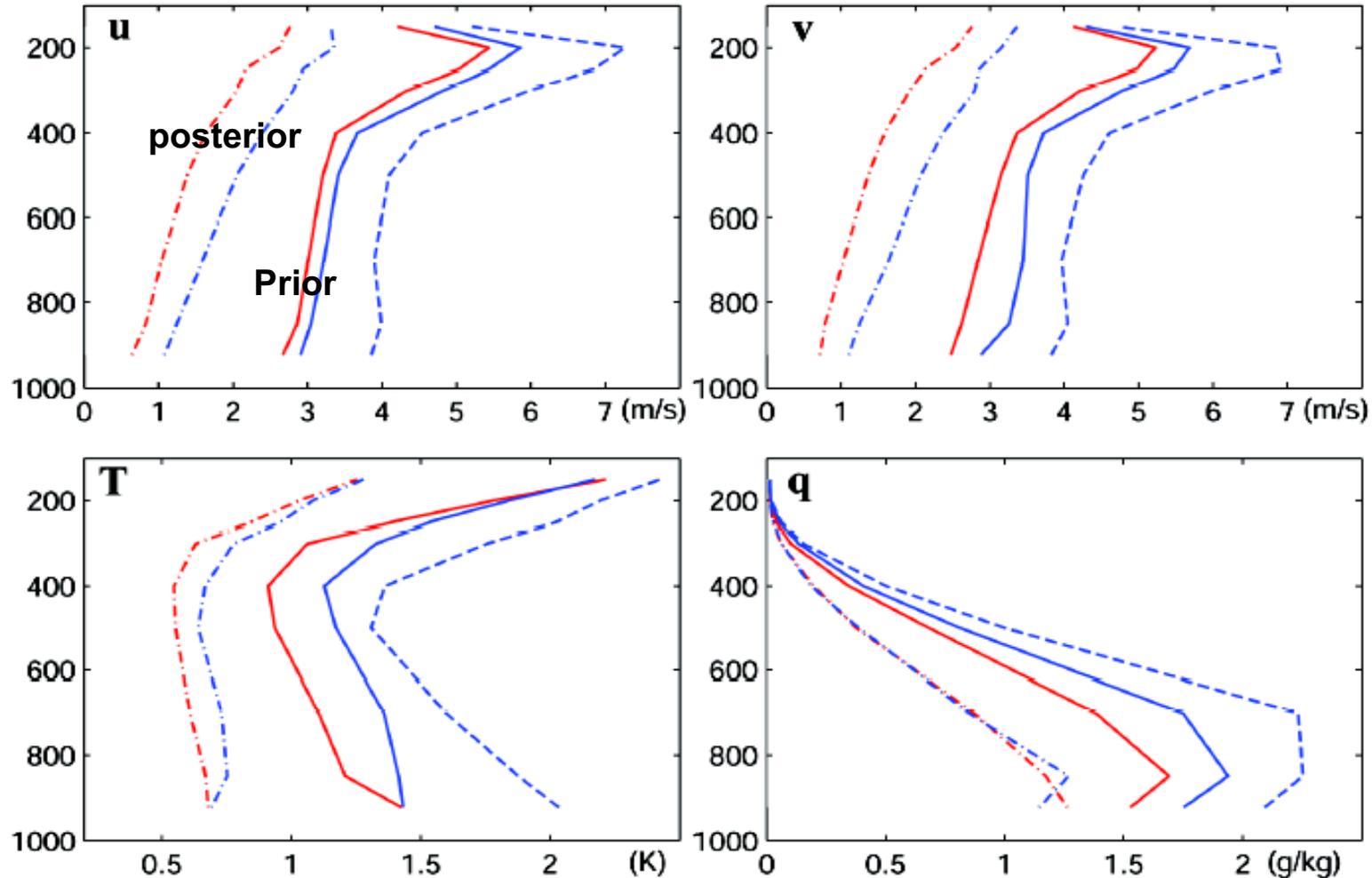
where \mathbf{P}^b is the sample covariance matrix of predicted ensemble $\{\mathbf{x}^b_l\}$.

Remark. In case of Gaussian errors, if \mathbf{P}^b was exact covariance matrix of background error, (2) would achieve Bayesian estimation, in the sense that $\{\mathbf{x}^a_l\}$ would be a sample of conditional probability distribution for \mathbf{x} , given all data up to time k .



Month-long Performance of EnKF vs. 3Dvar with WRF

— EnKF — 3DVar (prior, solid; posterior, dotted)



Better performance of EnKF than 3DVar also seen in both 12-h forecast and posterior analysis in terms of root-mean square difference averaged over the entire month

The case of a nonlinear observation operator ?

Predicted ensemble at time k : $\{\mathbf{x}^b_l\}$, $l = 1, \dots, L$

Observation vector at same time : $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ \mathbf{H} nonlinear

Two possibilities

1. Take tangent linear approximation (as in Extended KF) and introduce jacobian \mathbf{H}'
2. Come back to original formula

$$\mathbf{x}^a = E(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{C}_{xy} [\mathbf{C}_{yy}]^{-1} [\mathbf{y} - E(\mathbf{y})]$$

That formula does not require any other link between \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} than the one defined by the covariances matrices \mathbf{C}_{xy} and \mathbf{C}_{yy} .

Here, as shown on the occasion of the derivation of the *BLUE*, $E(\mathbf{x})$ is the background \mathbf{x}^b , and $\mathbf{y} - E(\mathbf{y})$ is the innovation $\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}^b)$

Solution. Compute \mathbf{C}_{xy} and \mathbf{C}_{yy} as sample covariances matrices of the ensembles $\{\mathbf{x}^b_l\}$ and $\{\mathbf{y}_l - \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}^b_l)\}$, where the \mathbf{y}_l 's are, as before, the perturbed observations $\mathbf{y}_l = \mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_l$.

But problems

- Collapse of ensemble for small ensemble size (less than a few hundred). Collapse originates in the fact that gain matrix $\mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^T [\mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^T + \mathbf{R}]^{-1}$ is nonlinear wrt background error matrix \mathbf{P}^b , resulting in a systematic sampling effect. Solution : empirical ‘covariance inflation’.
- Spurious correlations appear at large geographical distances. Empirical ‘localization’ (see Gaspari and Cohn, 1999, *Q. J. R. Meteorol. Soc.*)
- In formula

$$\mathbf{x}^a_l = \mathbf{x}^b_l + \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^T [\mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^T + \mathbf{R}]^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_l - \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}^b_l), \quad l = 1, \dots, L$$

\mathbf{P}^b , which is covariance matrix of an L -size ensemble, has rank $L-1$ at most. This means that corrections made on ensemble elements are contained in a subspace with dimension $L-1$. Obviously very restrictive if $L \ll p, L \ll n$.

Houtekamer and Mitchell (1998) use two ensembles, the elements of each of which are updated with covariance matrix of other ensemble.

There exist many variants of Ensemble Kalman Filter

Ensemble Transform Kalman Filter (ETKF, Bishop et al., Mon. Wea. Rev., 2001)

Requires a prior ‘control’ analysis x_c^a , emanating from a background x_c^b . An ensemble is evolved about that control without explicit use of the observations (and without feedback to control)

More precisely, define $L \times L$ matrix T such that, given $P^b = ZZ^T$, then $P^a = ZTT^TZ^T$ (not trivial, but possible). Then the background deviations $x_l^b - x_c^b$ are transformed through $Z \rightarrow ZT$ into an ensemble of analysis deviations $x_l^a - x_c^a$.

(does not avoid collapse of ensembles)

Local Ensemble Transform Kalman Filter (LETKF, Hunt et al., Physica D, 2007)

Each gridpoint is corrected only through the use of neighbouring observations.

Other variants of Ensemble Kalman Filter

'Unscented' Kalman Filter (Wan and van der Merve, 2001, Wiley Publishing)

Weighted Kalman Filter (Papadakis *et al.*, 2010, *Tellus A*)

Inflation-free Ensemble Kalman Filters (Bocquet and Sakov, 2012, *Nonlin. Processes Geophys.*)

An iterative ensemble Kalman filter in the presence of additive model error (Sakov *et al.*, 2017, *Q. J. R. Meteorol. Soc.*)

Bayesian properties of Ensemble Kalman Filter ?

Very little is known.

Le Gland *et al.* (2011). In the linear and Gaussian case, the discrete pdf defined by the filter, in the limit of infinite sample size L , tends to the bayesian gaussian pdf.

No result for finite size (note that ensemble elements are not mutually independent)

In the nonlinear case, the discrete pdf tends to a limit which is in general not the bayesian pdf.

Situation still not entirely clear

Two questions

- *How to propagate information backwards in time ?* (useful for reassimilation of past data)
- *How to take into account possible dependence in time ?*

Kalman Filter, whether in its standard linear form or in its Ensemble form, does neither.

Time-correlated Errors

Example of time-correlated observation errors

$$z_1 = x + \zeta_1$$

$$z_2 = x + \zeta_2$$

$$E(\zeta_1) = E(\zeta_2) = 0 \quad ; \quad E(\zeta_1^2) = E(\zeta_2^2) = s \quad ; \quad E(\zeta_1 \zeta_2) = 0$$

BLUE of x from z_1 and z_2 gives equal weights to z_1 and z_2 . The weights given to z_1 and z_2 will remain equal in sequential assimilation in the successive background and analyzed estimates x^b and x^a

Additional observation then becomes available

$$z_3 = x + \zeta_3$$

$$E(\zeta_3) = 0 \quad ; \quad E(\zeta_3^2) = s \quad ; \quad E(\zeta_1 \zeta_3) = cs \quad ; \quad E(\zeta_2 \zeta_3) = 0$$

BLUE of x from (z_1, z_2, z_3) has weights in the proportion $(1, 1+c, 1)$

Time-correlated Errors (continuation 1)

Example of time-correlated model errors

Evolution equation

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + \eta_k \quad E(\eta_k^2) = q$$

Observations

$$y_k = x_k + \varepsilon_k, \quad k = 0, 1, 2 \quad E(\varepsilon_k^2) = r, \text{ errors uncorrelated in time}$$

Sequential assimilation. Weights given to y_0 and y_1 in analysis at time 1 are in the ratio $r/(r+q)$. That ratio will be conserved in sequential assimilation. All right if model errors are uncorrelated in time.

Assume $E(\eta_0 \eta_1) = cq$

Weights given to y_0 and y_1 in estimation of x_2 are in the ratio

$$\rho = \frac{r - qc}{r + q + qc}$$

Conclusion

*Sequential assimilation, in which data are processed by batches, the data of one batch being discarded once that batch has been used, cannot be optimal if data in different batches are affected with correlated errors. **This is so even if one keeps trace of the correlations.***

Solution

Process all correlated data in the same batch (4DVar, some smoothers)

Kalman smoother

Propagates information both forward and backward in time, as does 4DVar, but uses Kalman-type formulæ

Various possibilities

- Define new state vector $X^T \equiv (x_0^T, \dots, x_K^T)$ and use Kalman formula from a background X^b and associated covariance matrix Π^b .

Model equations, which bring information on the x_i 's, must be included in the observation vector and the associated observation operator.

Can take into account temporal correlations

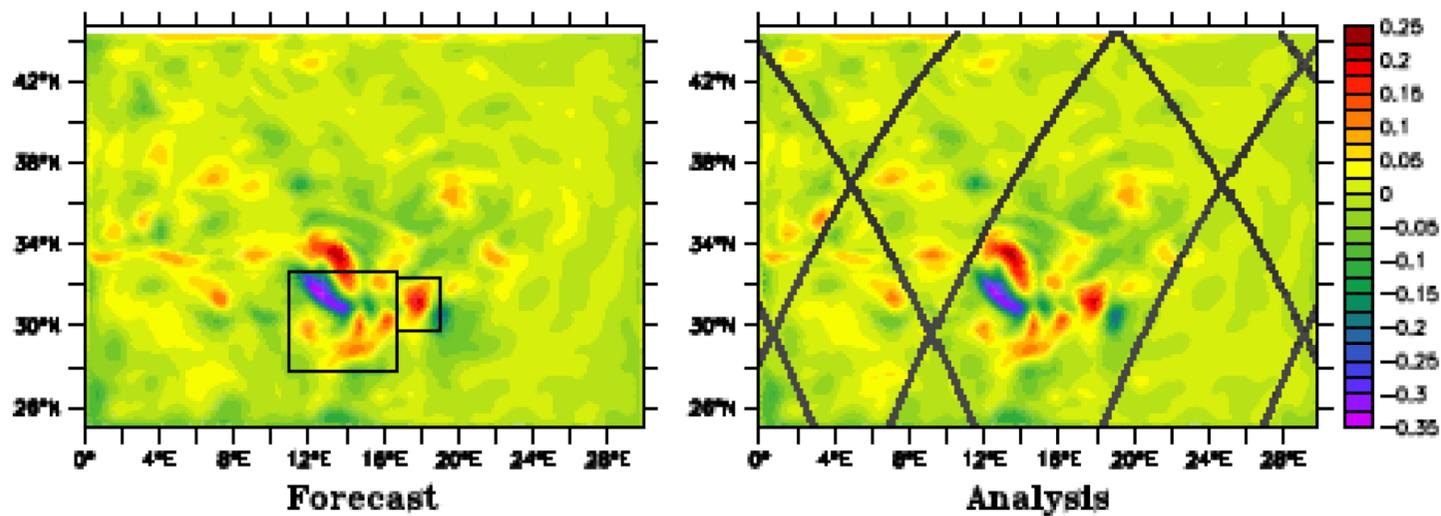
- Update sequentially vector $(x_0^T, \dots, x_k^T)^T$ for increasing k
Cannot take into account temporal correlations

Algorithms exist in ensemble form

E. Cosme (2015)

Ensemble smoother based on *Singular Evolutive Extended Kalman Filter (SEEK)*

Of second type above. Retropropagates corrections on fields backwards in time, but without modifying relative weights given to previous data, *i.e.* cannot be optimal in case of temporal dependence between errors.



E. Cosme,
HDR,
2015,
Lissage
d'ensemble
SEEK

Données
synthétiques

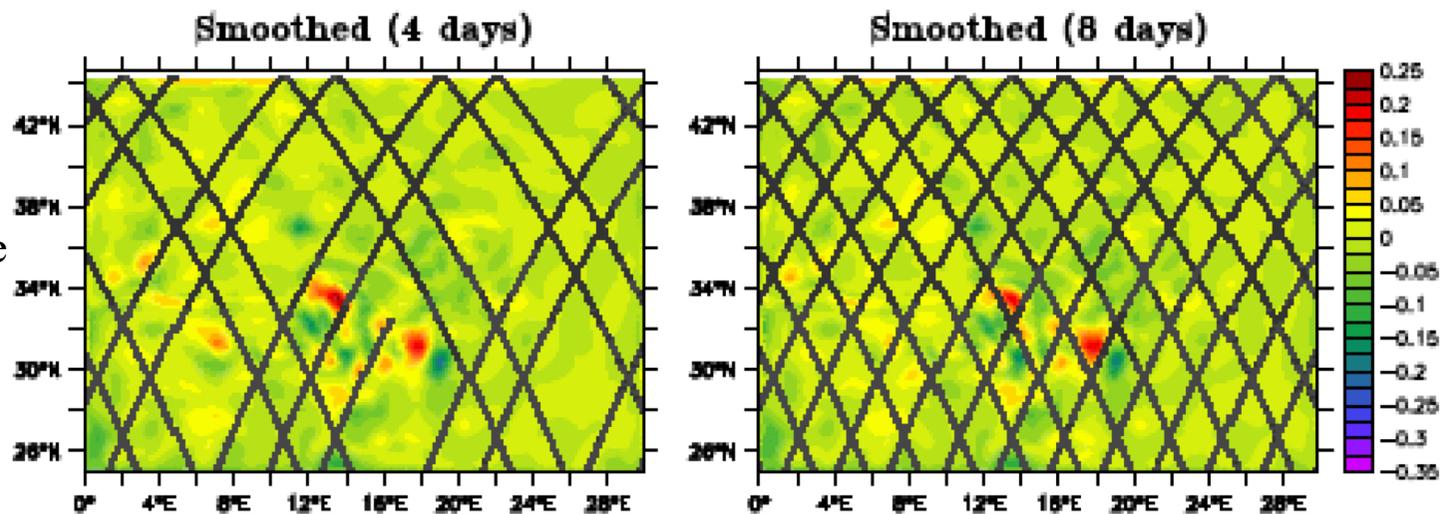


FIGURE 3.6 – Evolution du champ d'erreur en SSH du jour 38, au cours des étapes d'analyse successives. En haut à gauche : prévision du filtre ; en haut à droite : analyse du filtre. Les observations utilisées pour cette analyse sont distribuées le long des traces grises. En bas à gauche : analyse du lisseur après introduction des observations des jours 40 et 42 ; En bas à droite : analyse du lisseur après introduction des observations des jours 40 à 46.

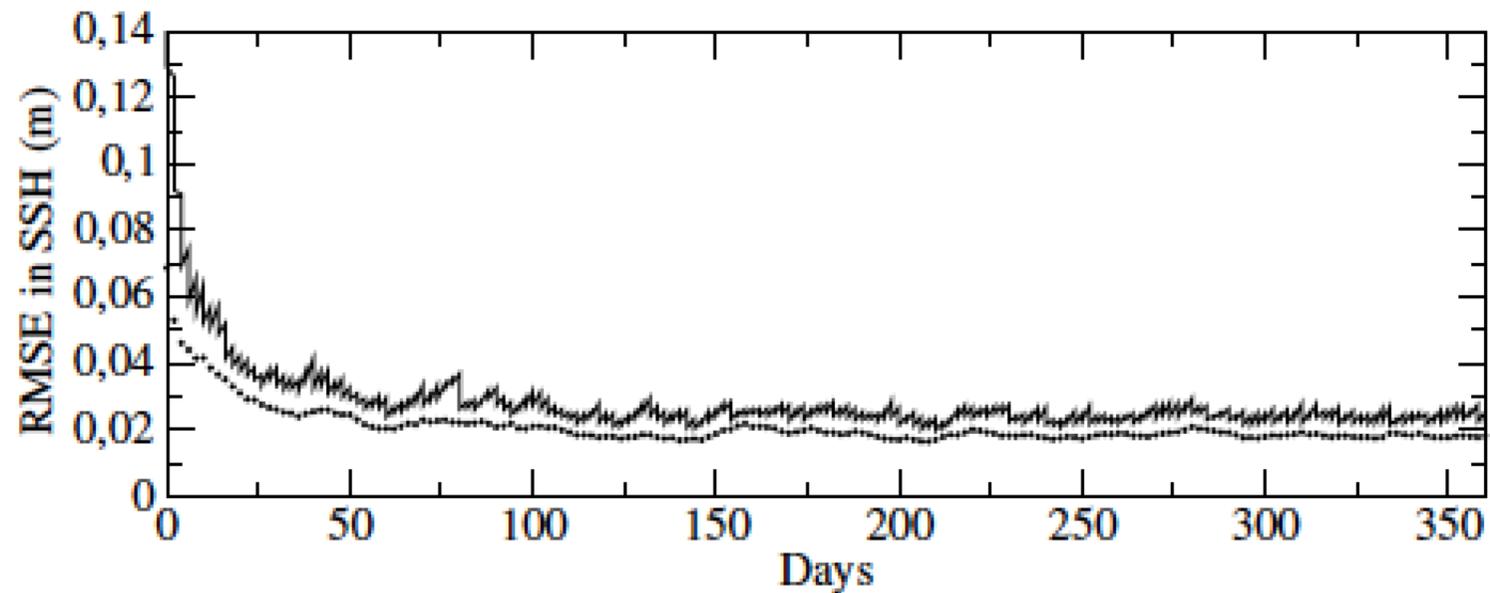


FIGURE 3.7 – Evolution de l'erreur RMS de SSH au cours du temps. Ligne continue : Résultat du filtre (les dents de scie reflètent l'alternance des étapes de prévision et d'analyse) ; Points : lisseur à retard fixe de 8 jours.

E. Cosme, HDR, 2015, Lissage d'ensemble SEEK

Other variants of Ensemble Kalman Smoothers

An iterative ensemble Kalman smoother (Bocquet and Sakov, 2014. *Q. J. R. Meteorol. Soc.*)

An Iterative Ensemble Kalman Smoother in Presence of Additive Model Error
(Fillion *et al.*, 2019, *SIAM/ASA J. Uncertainty Quantification*)

Best Linear Unbiased Estimate

State vector \mathbf{x} , belonging to state space S ($\dim S = n$)

$$\mathbf{x}^b = \mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\zeta}^b \quad E(\boldsymbol{\zeta}^b \boldsymbol{\zeta}^{bT}) \equiv \mathbf{P}^b \quad \dim \mathbf{P}^b = n \times n$$

Observation vector \mathbf{y} , belonging to observation space O ($\dim O = p$)

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \quad E(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^T) \equiv \mathbf{R} \quad \dim \mathbf{R} = p \times p$$

\mathbf{H} linear operator from S into O $\dim \mathbf{H} = p \times n$

$$\mathbf{x}^a = \mathbf{x}^b + \overbrace{\mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^T [\mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^b \mathbf{H}^T + \mathbf{R}]^{-1}}^{\text{gain matrix}} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^b)$$

$$S \quad \leftarrow \quad S^* \quad \leftarrow \quad O^* \quad \leftarrow \quad O$$

Alternative form of gain matrix

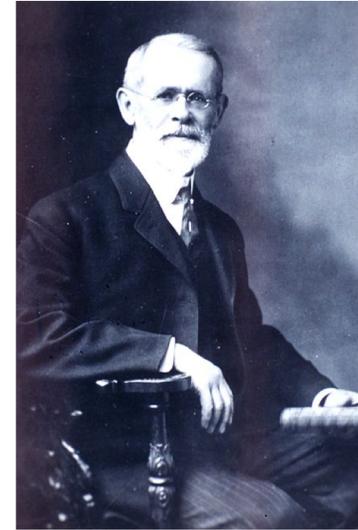
$$\mathbf{x}^a = \mathbf{x}^b + \mathbf{P}^a \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^b)$$

structure is the same

History of Numerical Weather Prediction

Cleveland Abbe

The Physical Basis of Long Range Weather Forecasts, 1901,
Monthly Weather Review



Wilhelm Bjerknes

Das Problem der Wettervorhersage, betrachtet von Standpunkt
der Mechanik und Physik, 1904, *Meteorologische Zeitschrift*

V. Bjerknes at the origin of the 'Bergen School of Meteorology'



From course 2

Physical laws governing the flow

- Conservation of mass

$$D\rho/Dt + \rho \operatorname{div}\underline{U} = 0$$

- Conservation of energy

$$De/Dt - (p/\rho^2) D\rho/Dt = Q$$

- Conservation of momentum

$$D\underline{U}/Dt + (1/\rho) \operatorname{grad}p - \underline{g} + 2 \underline{\Omega} \wedge \underline{U} = \underline{F}$$

- Equation of state

$$f(p, \rho, e) = 0$$

$$(p/\rho = rT, e = C_v T)$$

- Conservation of mass of secondary components (water in the atmosphere, salt in the ocean, chemical species, ...)

$$Dq/Dt + q \operatorname{div}\underline{U} = S$$

These physical laws must be expressed in practice in discretized (and necessarily imperfect) form, both in space and time

History of Numerical Weather Prediction (continuation)

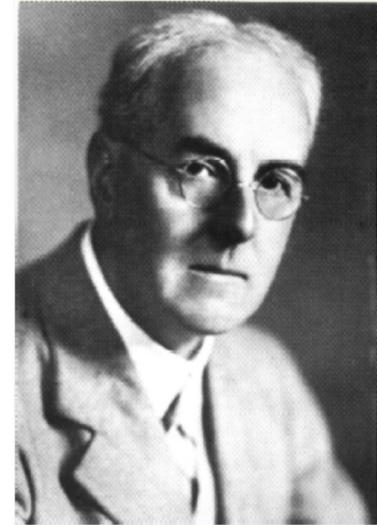
Lewis Fry Richardson

Weather Prediction by Numerical Process, 1922

Cambridge University Press *

Forecast Factory

Richardson number, fractals, pacifism

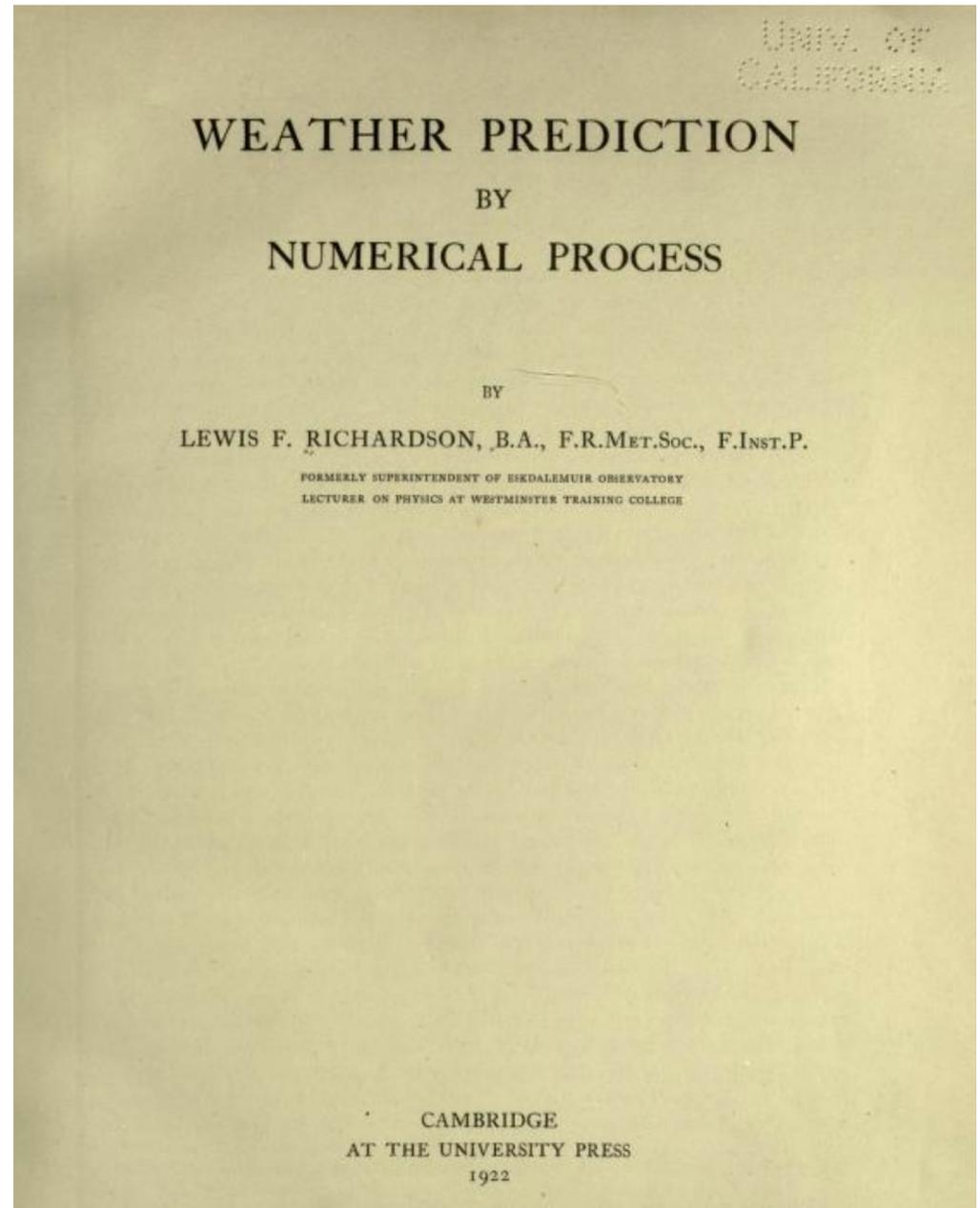


* Accessible at URL

https://energy4climate.pages.in2p3.fr/public/education/ensemble_data_assimilation_tutorial/notebooks/T1%20-%20Introduction%20to%20Ensemble%20Data%20Assimilation%20for%20Numerical%20Weather%20Prediction.html

History of Numerical Weather Prediction (continuation 2)

https://energy4climate.pages.in2p3.fr/public/education/ensemble_data_assimilation_tutorial/notebooks/T1%20-%20Introduction%20to%20Ensemble%20Data%20Assimilation%20for%20Numerical%20Weather%20Prediction.html



History of Numerical Weather Prediction (continuation 3)

John von Neumann

Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton, 1946-1950

First electronic computers (ENIAC)

(J. Charney, N. A. Phillips, R. Fjørtoft, C. G. Rossby,

J. Smagorinsky, ...)



History of Numerical Weather Prediction (continuation 4)



Institute for Advanced Study, about 1948-50. J. von Neumann is second from left. And from right, J. Charney, C. G. Rossby (?), R. Fjørtoft (?)

History of Numerical Weather Prediction (continuation 5)

Charney developed vorticity barotropic model

First simulation of real atmospheric situation in 1950



Jule Gregory Charney en 1978.

First operational numerical forecast performed in 1954 in Sweden

(C. G. Rossby)



History of Numerical Weather Prediction (continuation 6)

Numerical prediction has gradually been implemented in more and more meteorological services around the world.

European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF, 1975)

Ensemble prediction

History of Numerical Weather Prediction (continuation 7)

Extension to simulation of oceanic circulation and climate
(early 1970's, S. Manabe and K. Bryan, GFDL).

Climate simulations (S. Manabe, R. Wetherald)

S. Manabe awarded Nobel Prize in Physics in 2021



History of Numerical Weather Prediction (continuation 8)

A large variety of models covering different spatial and temporal scales and phenomena (small-scale convection, monthly and seasonal prediction, atmospheric chemistry, ...) have been developed over the years and are used for research and operational applications.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 1988)

Publishes reports that describe the state of climate science and presents ‘projections’ largely based on numerical simulations

First report in 1990

...

Fifth report in 2014

Sixth report in 2023

History of Numerical Weather Prediction (continuation 9)

More recently, as concerns short and medium-range prediction, a major change has been the development of algorithms based on machine learning, trained on long series of past analyses. These algorithms produce forecasts of quality similar to those of physical forecasts, but at a much lower numerical cost.

Cours à venir

~~Mercredi 2 avril~~

~~Vendredi 11 avril~~

~~Vendredi 18 avril~~

~~Mercredi 23 avril~~

Lundi 12 mai

Mercredi 28 mai

Mercredi 11 juin

Mercredi 18 juin

Conference

on **"IA and mathematics for meteorology and climatology »**

May 5th 2025 at the Collège de France, organised by Pierre-Louis Lions and Stéphane Mallat

....

- Marc Bocquet, École Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, "Artificial Intelligence for geophysical data assimilation"

Program and information available at: <https://www.college-de-france.fr/fr/agenda/grand-evenement/ia-et-les-mathematiques-pour-la-meteorologie-et-la-climatologie>