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Mathematical Approaches of Atmospheric Constituents Data Assimilation and Inverse Modeling  
Session 7 – Parametric Kalman filtering (TCPL 201)

# PvKF Assimilation of GOSAT Methane in the Hemispheric CMAQ: Design and Results using Optimal Error Statistics with an Application for Emissions Inversion

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**Canada**

# Outline:

## Background

- Data Assimilation and Inverse Modelling
- Importance of Atmospheric Methane

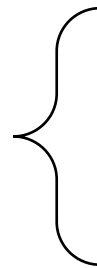
## Motivation

- Gaps and Limitations
- Questions

## Tools

- Model and Observations
- Covariance Modeling and Parameter Estimation

## Project



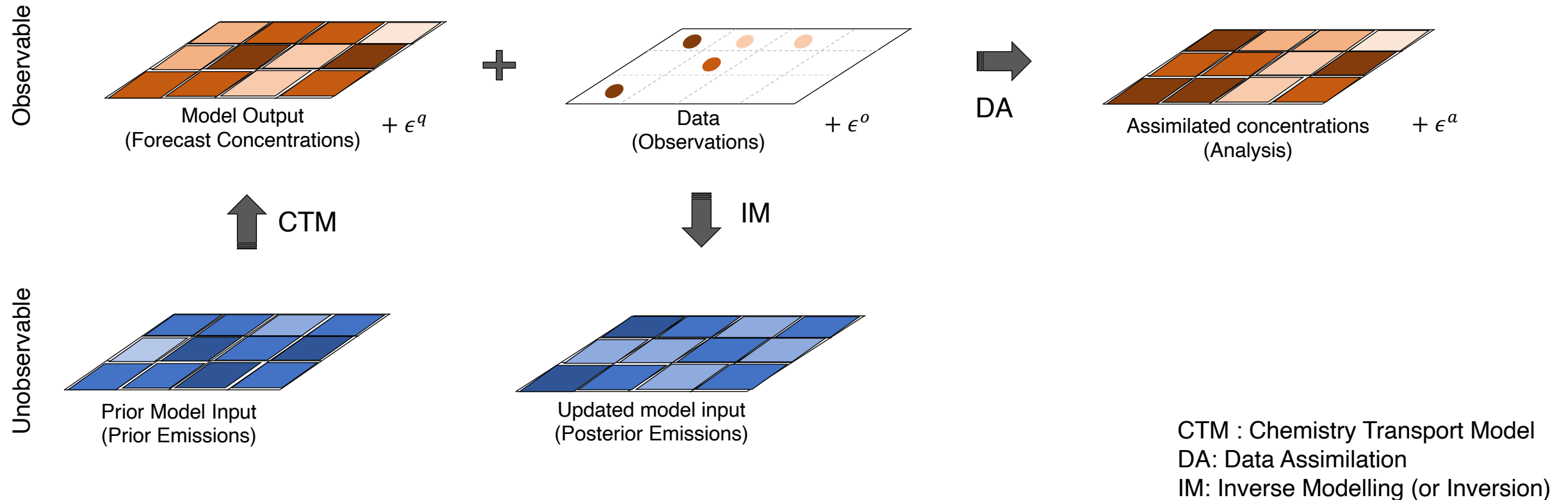
- Part I: **Design of an Assimilation System for Methane**
- Part II: **Assimilation Results with Optimal Error Statistics**
- Part III: **Assimilation Use in Methane Emissions Inversion**

## Future Work

# Data Assimilation and Inverse Modelling

are statistical frameworks to:

- Obtain consistent, precise, and evolving 3-dimensional picture of the atmosphere
- Fill in data gaps and inferring information about unobserved variables

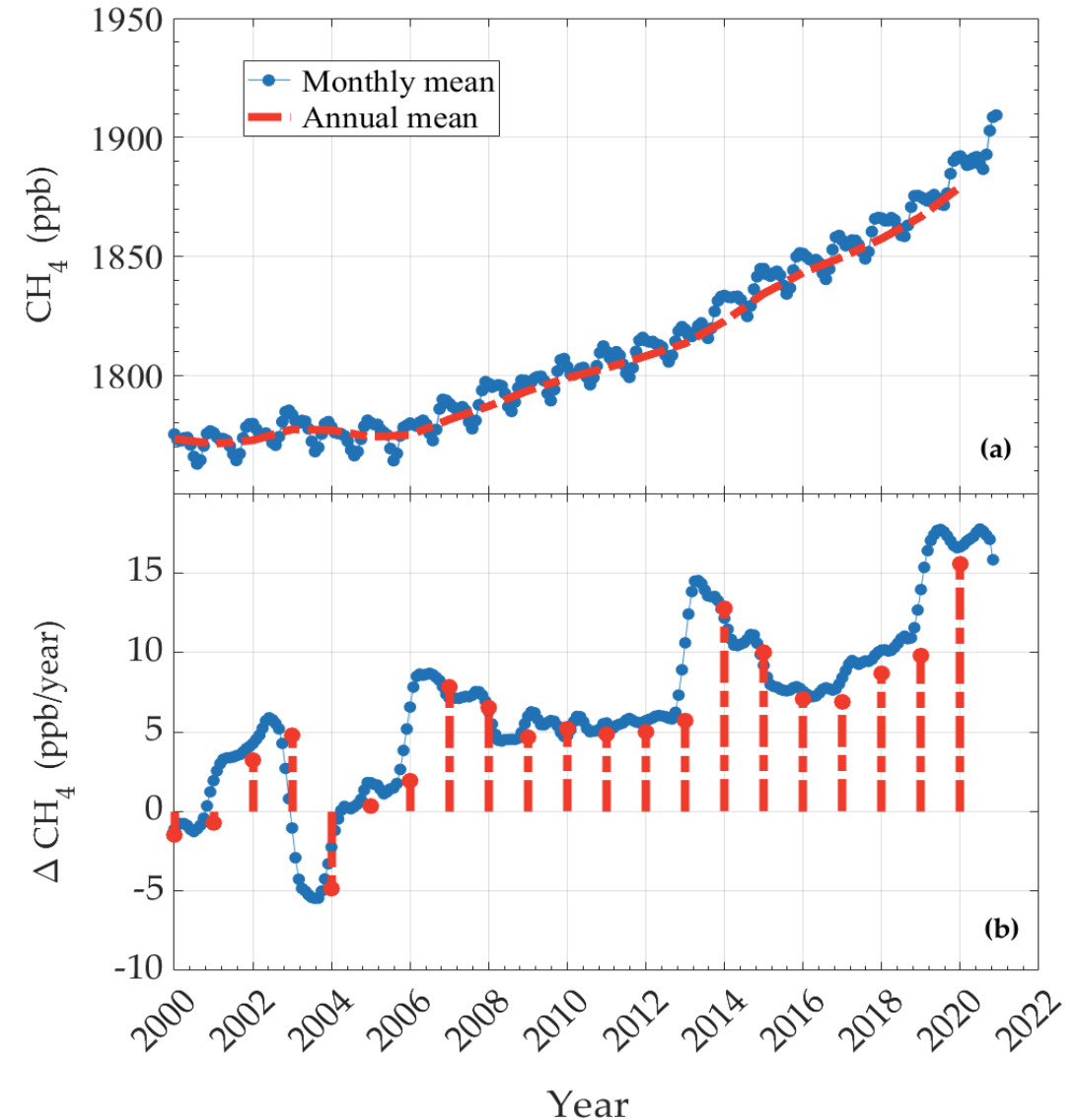


# Why Atmospheric Methane?

Because of the large **climate** and **air quality** impact

- Largest anthropogenic radiative forcing after CO<sub>2</sub>
- Short lifetime and ~30 times greater GWP than CO<sub>2</sub>
- Outsized influence on near-term climate change
- Large air quality impact, (e.g., O<sub>3</sub> production)
- Global average concentration acceleration after 2007

GWP: Global Warming Potential



Data obtained from Dlugokencky (2022)

# Gaps and Limitations in the Past Methane Studies

## 1. Challenges in Emissions Inversion

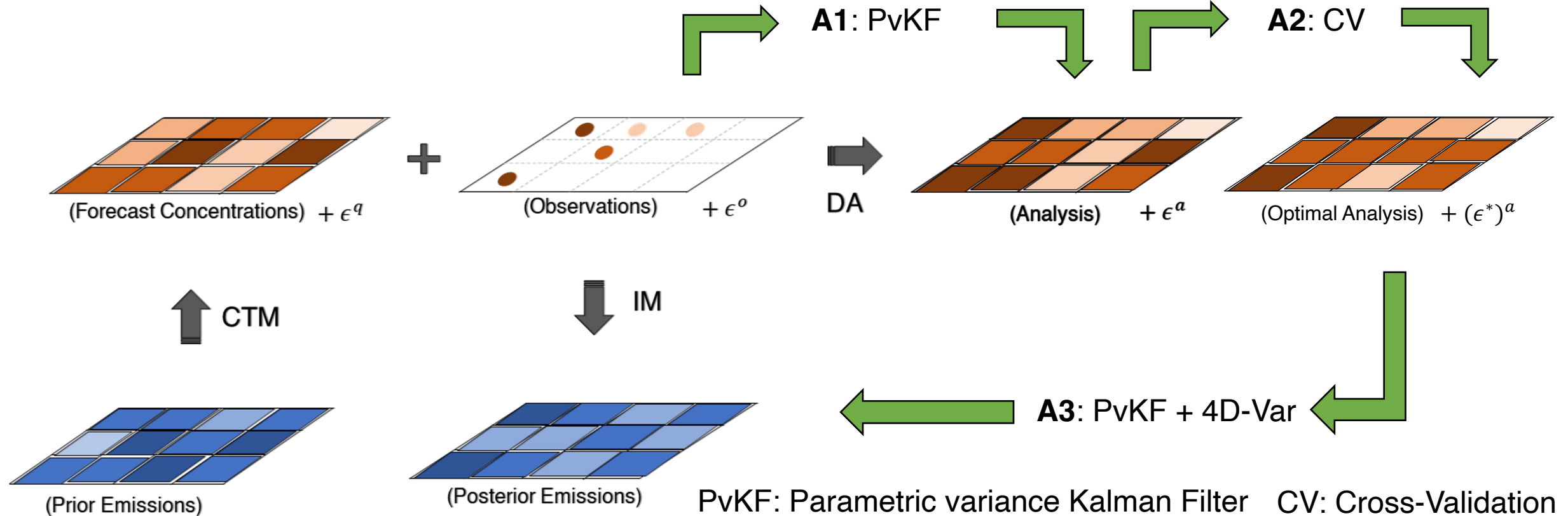
- Scale, temporal, and spatial resolution (Turner et al., 2015; Zavala-Araiza et al., 2017)
- Initial and boundary conditions (Bousserez et al. 2016; Bergamaschi et al. 2018)
- Contradiction in the result of different inversions (Ganesan et al., 2019; Miller et al., 2019)
- High computations to estimate the state errors (Yu et al., 2021; Voshtani et al., 2022a)

## 2. Limitations in Estimation Problem

- Perfect model assumptions (Janardanan et al., 2020; Zhang et al., 2021)
- Error statistics are already optimal (Voshtani et al., 2022b)
- Separate evaluations on the error statistics (Voshtani et al., 2022b)
- Concentration uncertainties and error correlations in the observation space (Voshtani et al., 2023; in review)

# Research Questions?

- Q1:** How to obtain a low-cost yet powerful DA system, capable of estimating uncertainties?  
**Q2:** What is the impact of optimal error statistics on the analysis?  
**Q3:** Can we improve on 4D-Var inversion using optimal analysis and their uncertainties?



# Model and Data (+ Adaptation)

Bias correction

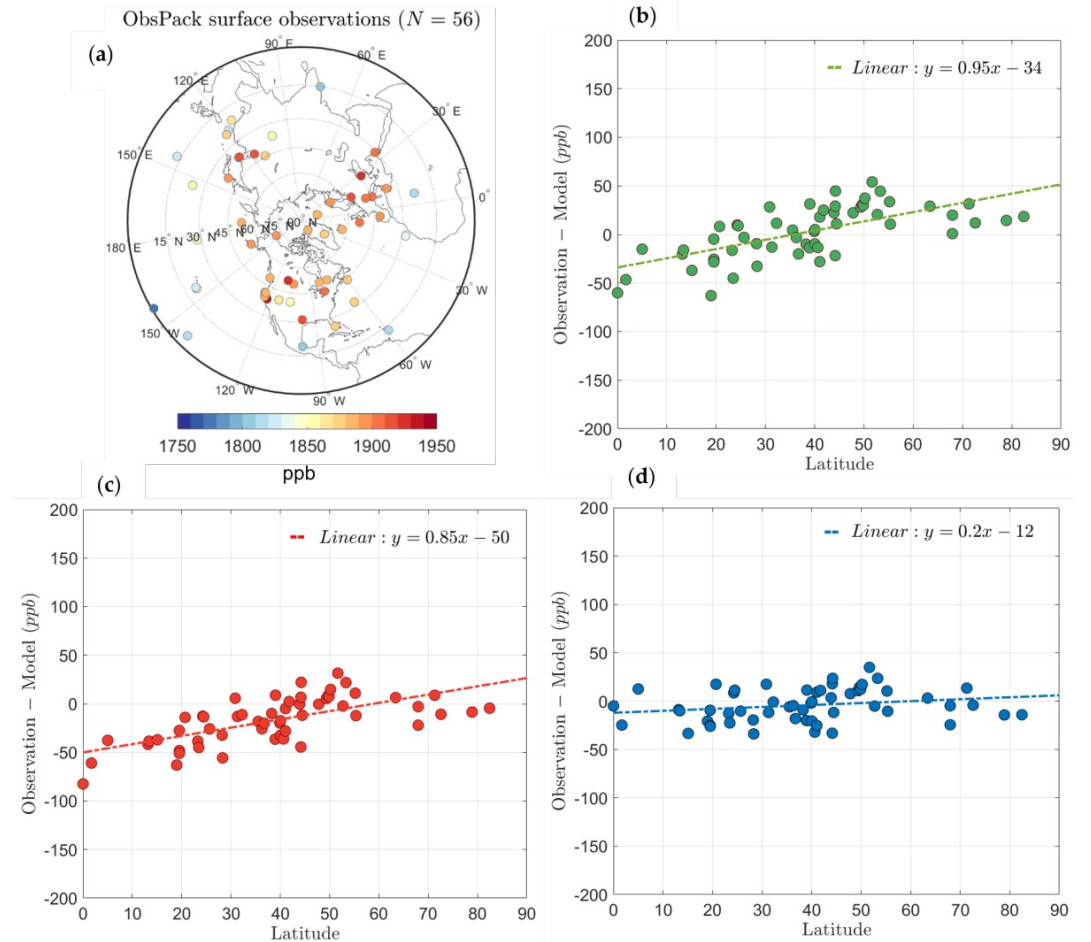
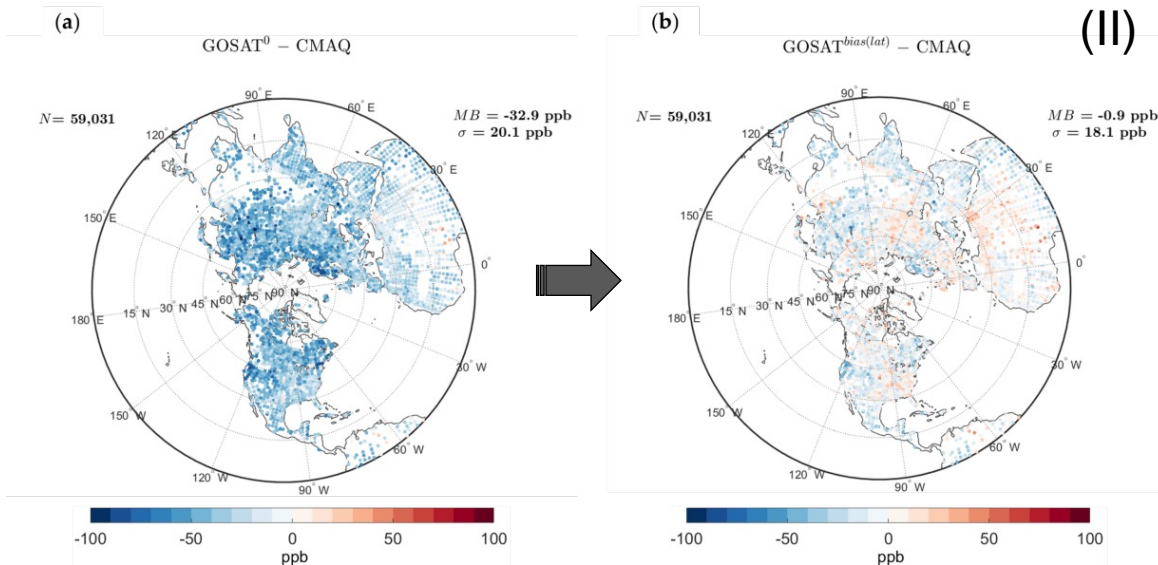
(I)

## Model: Hemispheric CMAQ v5 and CMAQ-ADJ

- Processing Emissions:  
Anthropogenic (EDGAR v6) + Natural (WetCHARTs v3.0)
- Modifying chemical mechanism of gas-phase chemistry in CCTM:  
 $\text{CH}_4 + \text{OH} \rightarrow \text{CH}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$

## Data: GOSAT observations

- Bias correction relative to ObsPack surface observations
- Quality control (i.e., removing outliers)



# Covariance Modelling

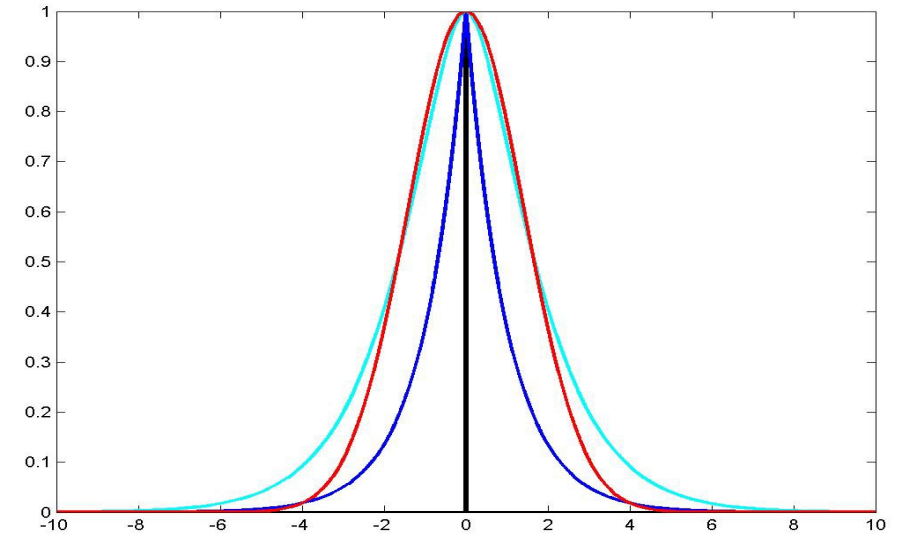
Examples of suitable correlation functions:

- FOAR:  $C(\|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'\|) = \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'\|}{L}\right)$
- SOAR:  $C(\|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'\|) = \left(1 + \frac{\|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'\|}{L}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'\|}{L}\right)$
- Gaussian:  $C(\|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'\|) = \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'\|^2}{2L^2}\right)$

$$\mathbf{R}_{m \times m} = \left(f^o \varepsilon^m\right)^2 \mathbf{I}$$

$$\mathbf{Q}_{n \times n} = \left(f^q \varepsilon^q\right)^2 \mathbf{I}$$

We will estimate  $\alpha = \{f^o, f^q, L, \dots\}$



$$\mathbf{P}_{n \times n}^f = \Sigma_t^f \mathbf{C} \Sigma_t^f$$

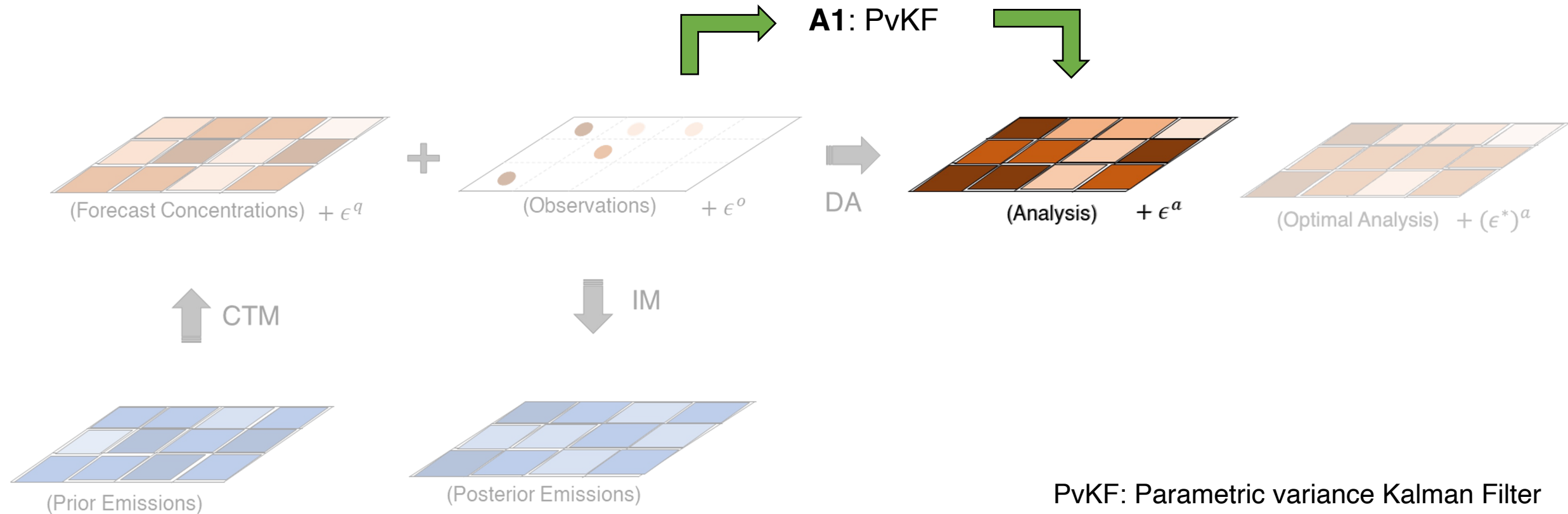
Forecast error

$$P(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', t) = \sigma(\mathbf{r}, t) C(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', t) \sigma(\mathbf{r}', t)$$

$$C(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = C(\|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'\|)$$



# Q1: How to obtain a low-cost DA system, capable of estimating uncertainties?



# Part I: Development of PvKF Assimilation

## Forecast step

1. Transport of the model state

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla c - \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{K} \nabla c) + \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{E}$$

2. Advection of error variance

$$\frac{\partial \sigma^2}{\partial t} + \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla \sigma^2 = q$$

## Analysis step

1. Covariance function convolution

$$\zeta = 1, \dots, m$$

$$H_x[P^f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}', t)] \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}^f$$

$$\zeta = 1, \dots, m$$

$$H_x[P^f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}', t)] \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{P}^f \mathbf{H}^T$$

$$H_x[H_x(P^f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}', t))] \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}^f \mathbf{H}^T$$

2. Matrix inversion

$$\mathbf{\Gamma} = \mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}^f \mathbf{H}^T + \mathbf{R}$$

$$\mathbf{\Gamma} \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{d} \longrightarrow \text{Cholesky decomposition}$$

3. Analysis increment/  
Analysis error variance reduction

$$\zeta = 1, \dots, m$$

$$\mathbf{X}^a = \mathbf{X}^f + \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{Y}^o - \mathbf{H} \mathbf{X}^f)$$

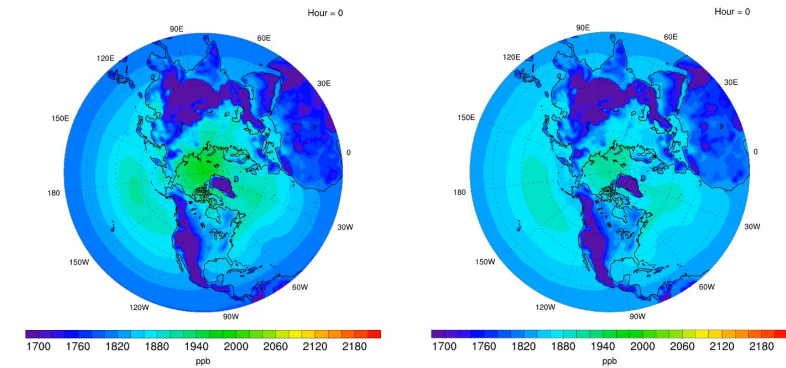
$$\mathbf{P}^a = \mathbf{P}^f - (\mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}^f)^T (\mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}^f \mathbf{H}^T + \mathbf{R})^{-1} (\mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}^f)$$

- Large state-space problem (e.g.,  $\sim 1.5 \times 10^6$  elements)
- Produces forecast and analyses and explicitly evolve its error variance
- Computationally advantageous compared to 4D-Var and EnKF
- Accounts for model imperfection
- High potential for real-time or operational assimilation

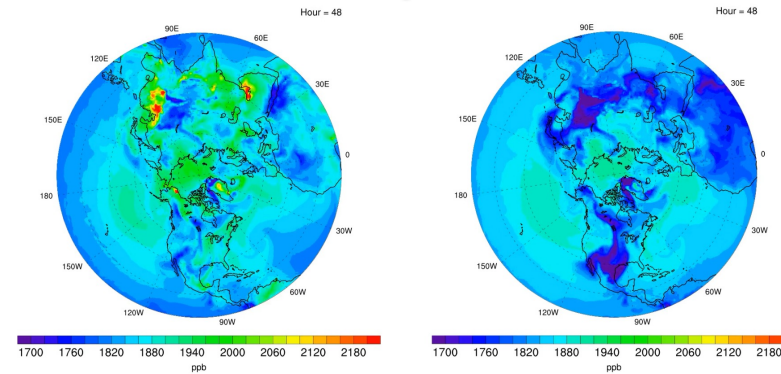
# Part I: Evolution of the State

Methane Analysis (with DA) vs. Methane Model (without DA)

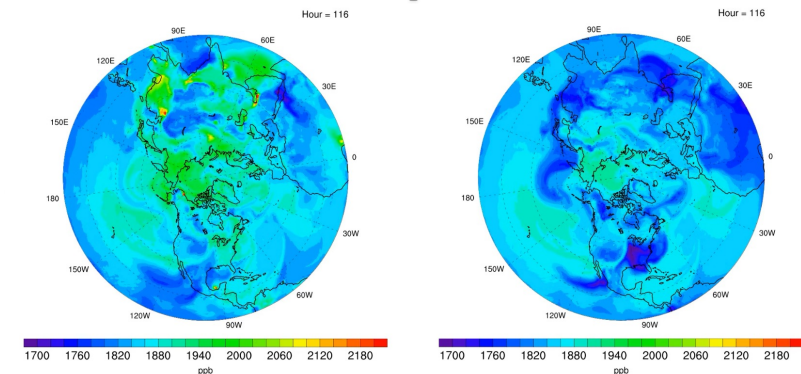
Day 0



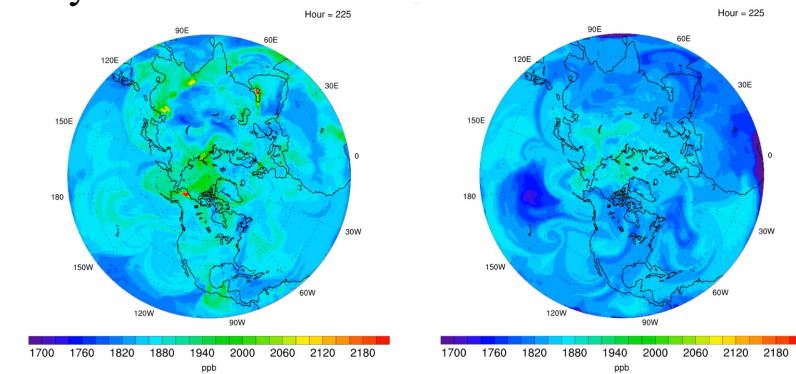
Day 4



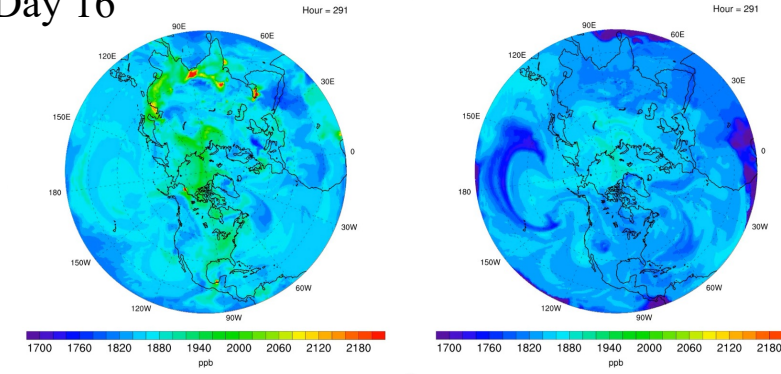
Day 8



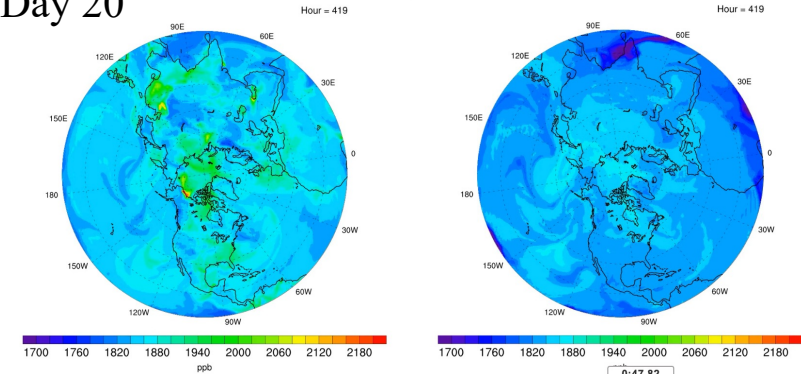
Day 12



Day 16

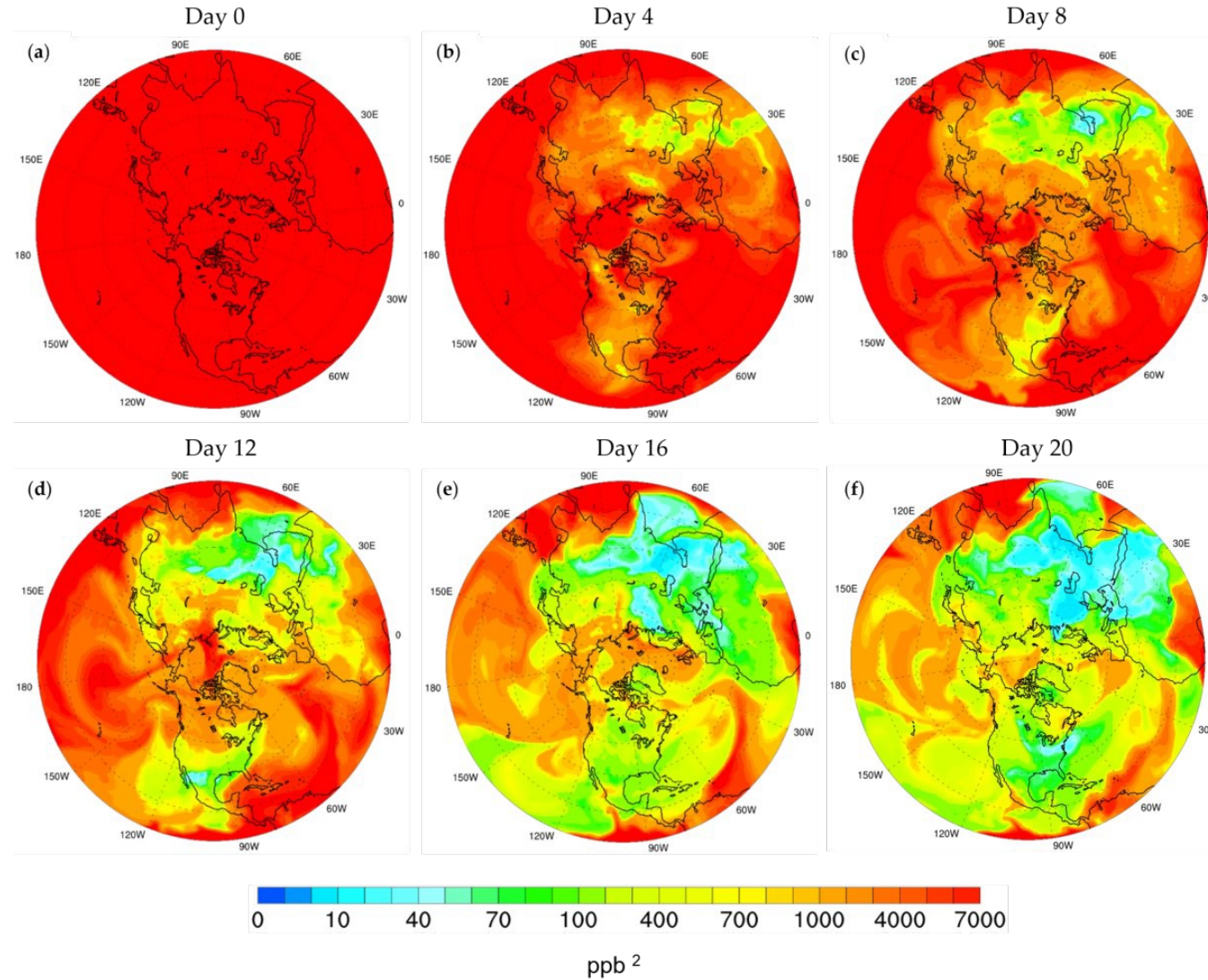


Day 20



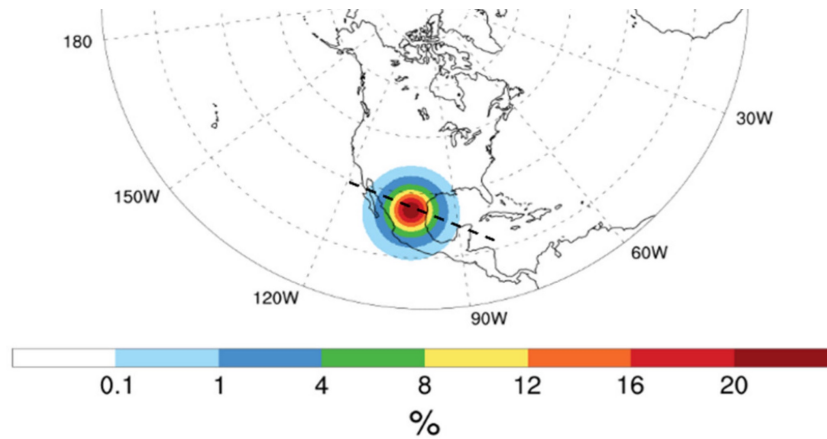
# Part I: Evolution of the Error Variance

Methane Analysis  
Error Variance:

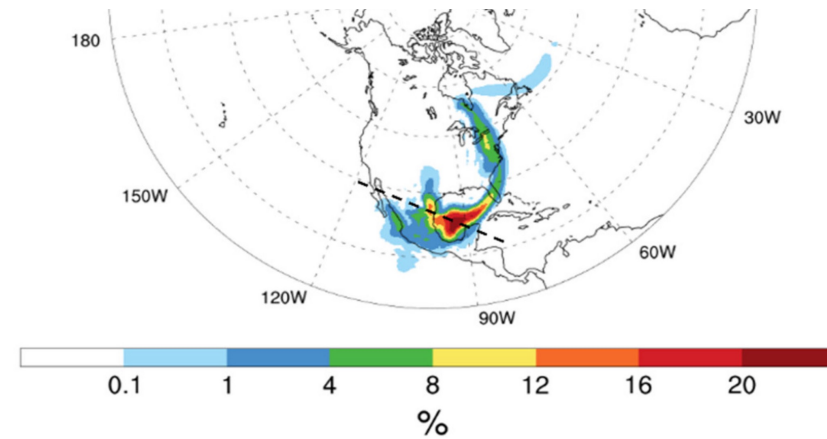


# Part I: Verification with Single Observation

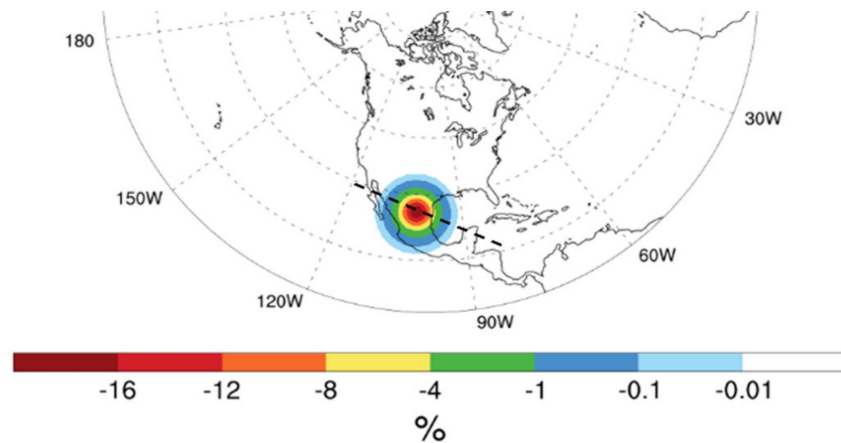
**Analysis increment (Day 0)**



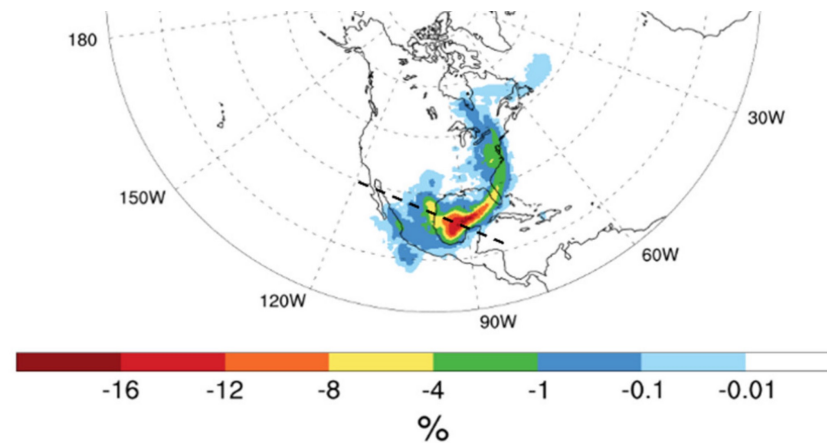
**Analysis increment (Day 3)**



**Error variance reduction (Day 0)**



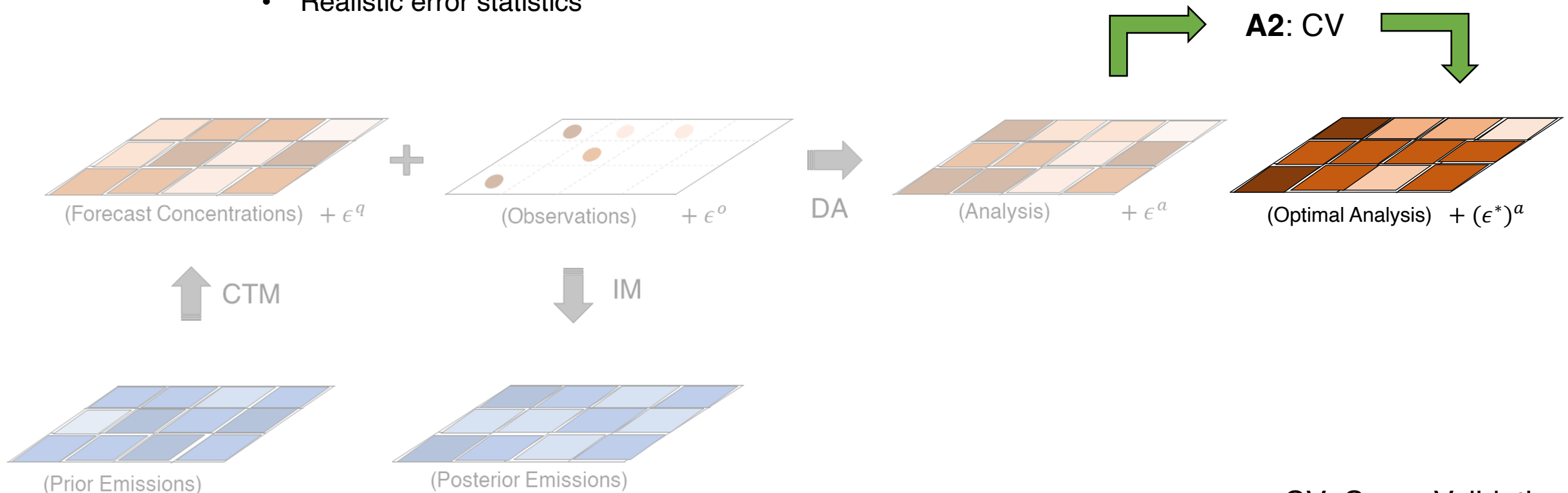
**Error variance reduction (Day 3)**



# Q2: What is the impact of optimal error statistics on the Analysis?

We want to obtain

- Optimal (true) analysis
- Realistic error statistics



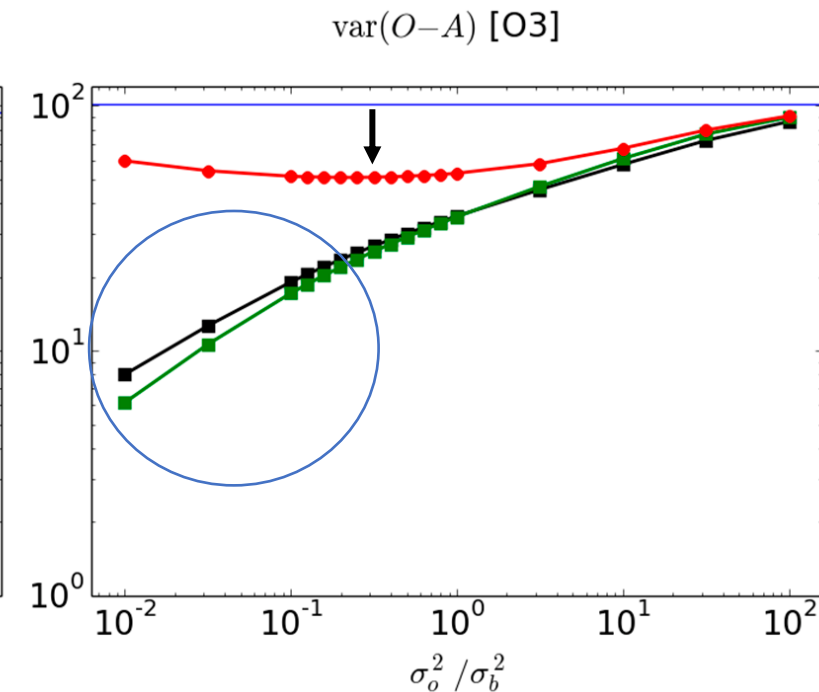
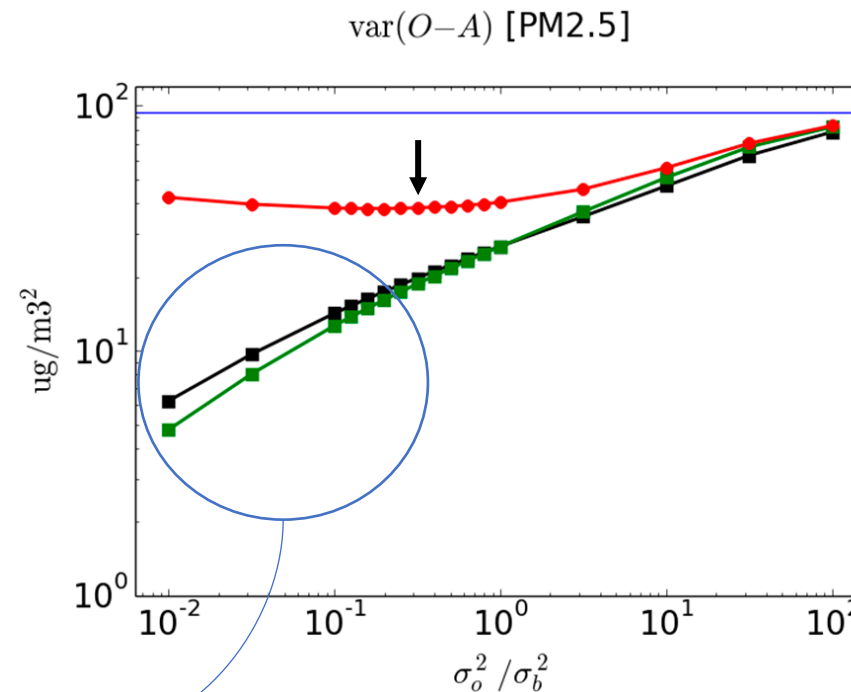
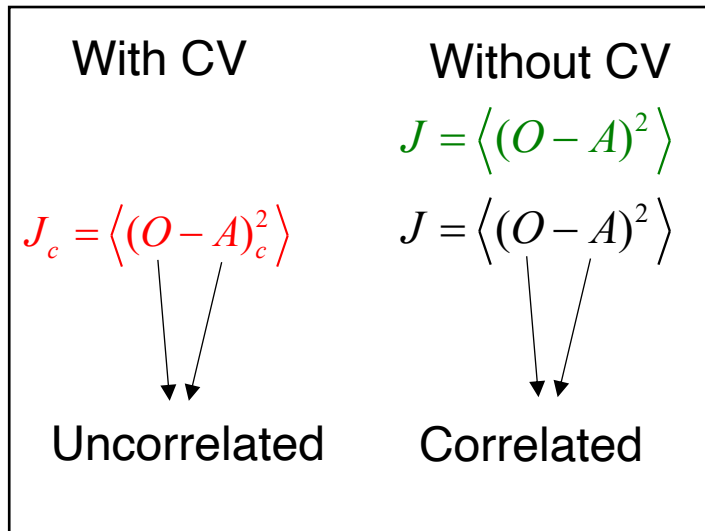
CV: Cross-Validation

# Part II: Why Cross-Validation?

Because it does not assume that the analysis is already optimal

$$tr(\mathbf{A}(\boldsymbol{\alpha})) = J = \langle (O - A)^2 \rangle \quad \longrightarrow \quad \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} J(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) \Rightarrow \text{optimal } \mathbf{A}(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$$

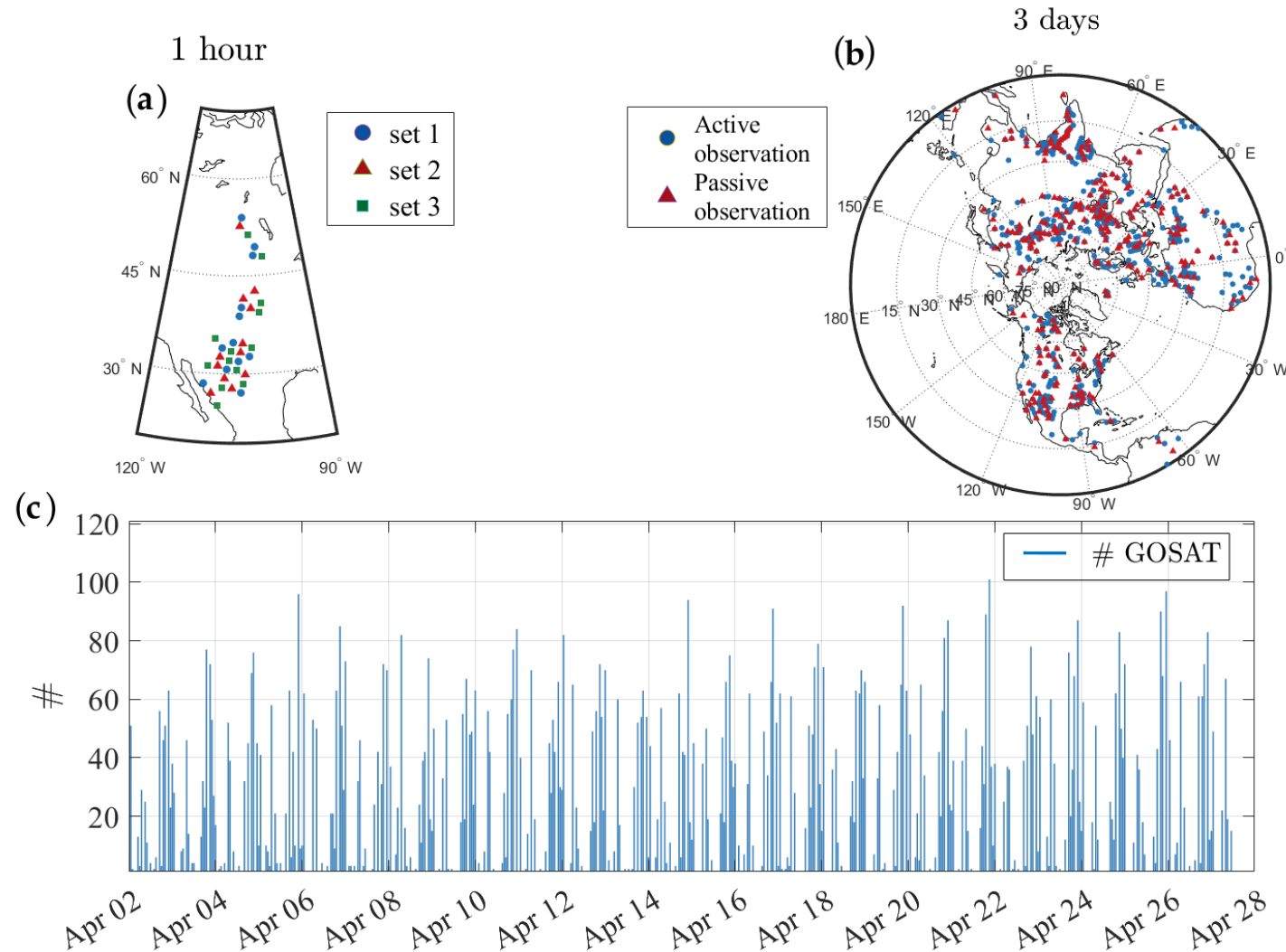
$$\boldsymbol{\alpha} = \{f^o, f^a, L, \dots\}$$



Overestimation

(Ménard and Deshaies-Jacques, 2018a)

# Part II: Cross-Validation with GOSAT

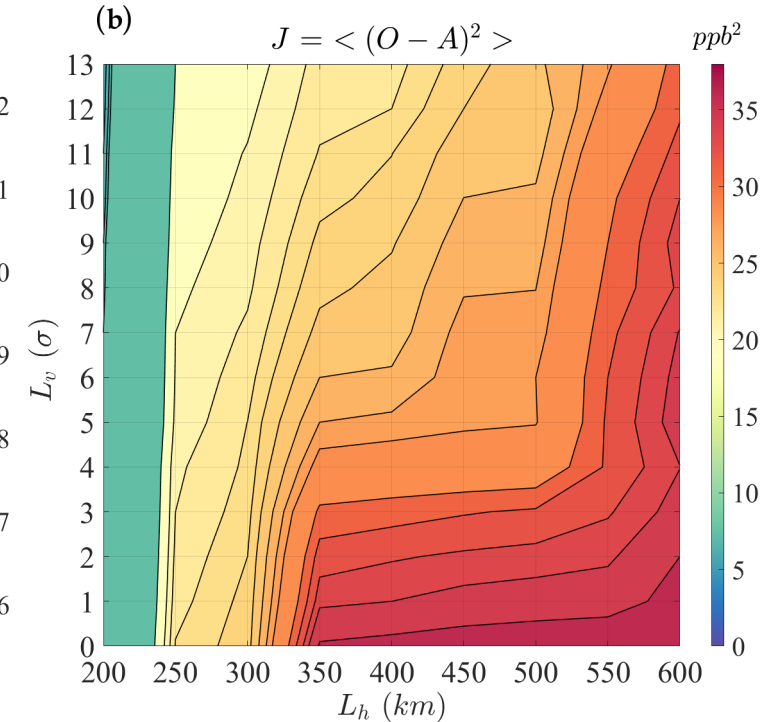
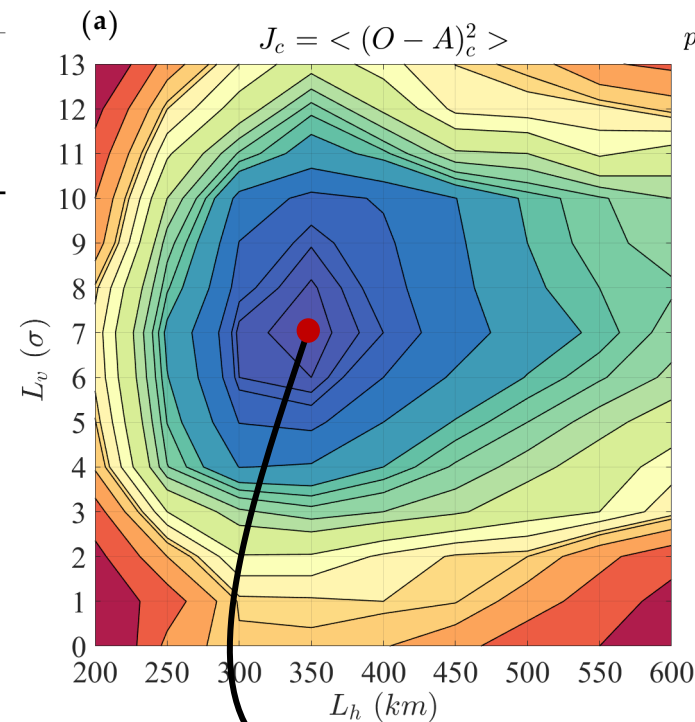
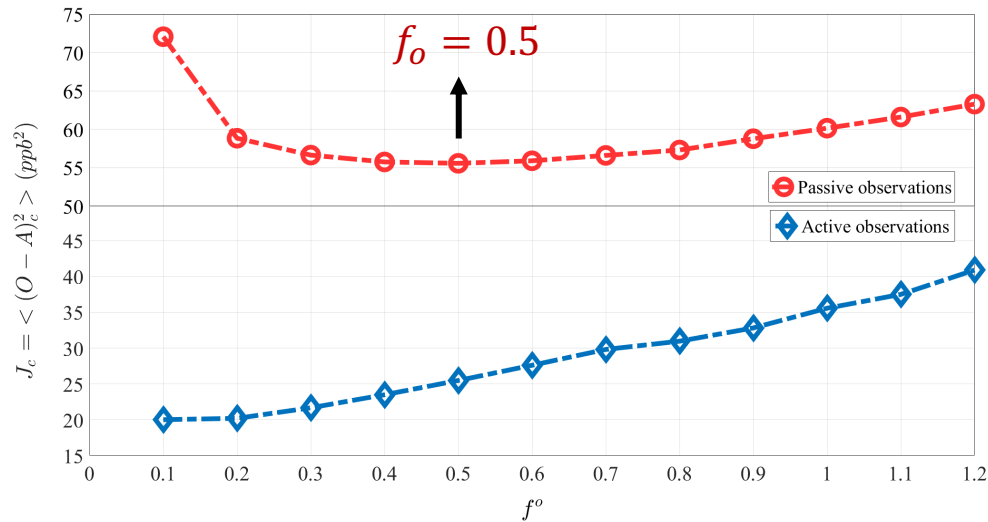




# Part II: Estimate Error Covariances Parameters

Optimizing CV cost function to obtain error parameters, corresponding to optimal solution.

itr/Step	Parameters	$L_h$	$L_v$	$f^o$	$J_c = \langle (O - A)_c^2 \rangle$
initial		500 km	$1\sigma$	1	62.4 ppb <sup>2</sup>
itr 0/step 1		500 km	$1\sigma$	0.45	60.5 ppb <sup>2</sup>
itr 0/step 2		350 km	$7\sigma$	0.45	55.9 ppb <sup>2</sup>
itr 1/step 1		350 km	$7\sigma$	0.5	55.6 ppb <sup>2</sup>
itr 1/step 2		350 km	$7\sigma$	0.5	55.6 ppb <sup>2</sup>



$$[L_h, L_v] = [350\text{km}, 7\sigma]$$

# Part II: Impact of Optimal Estimation

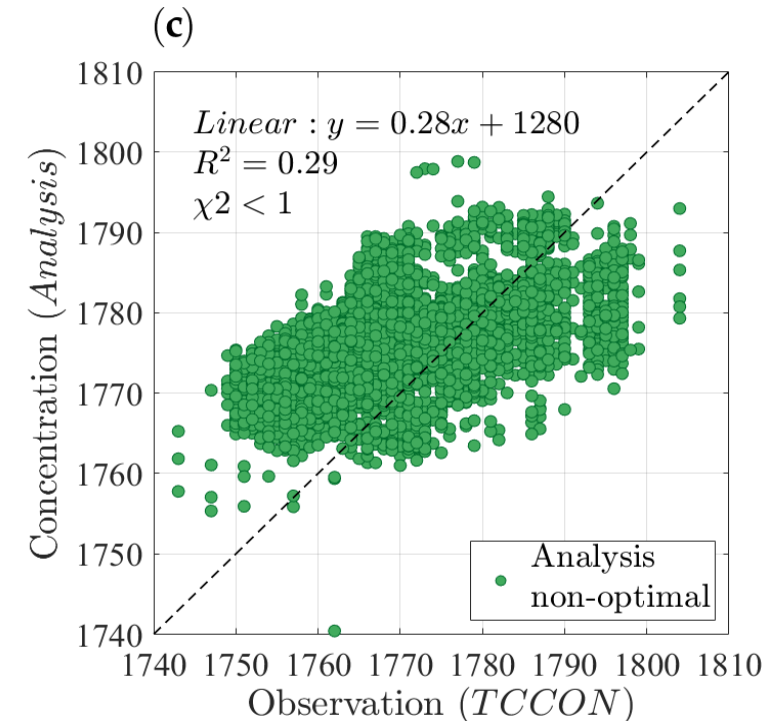
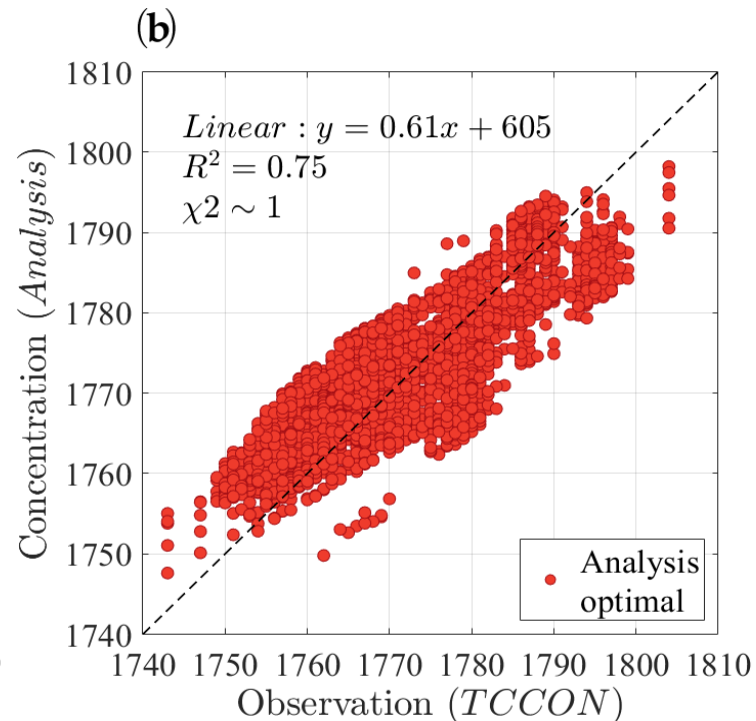
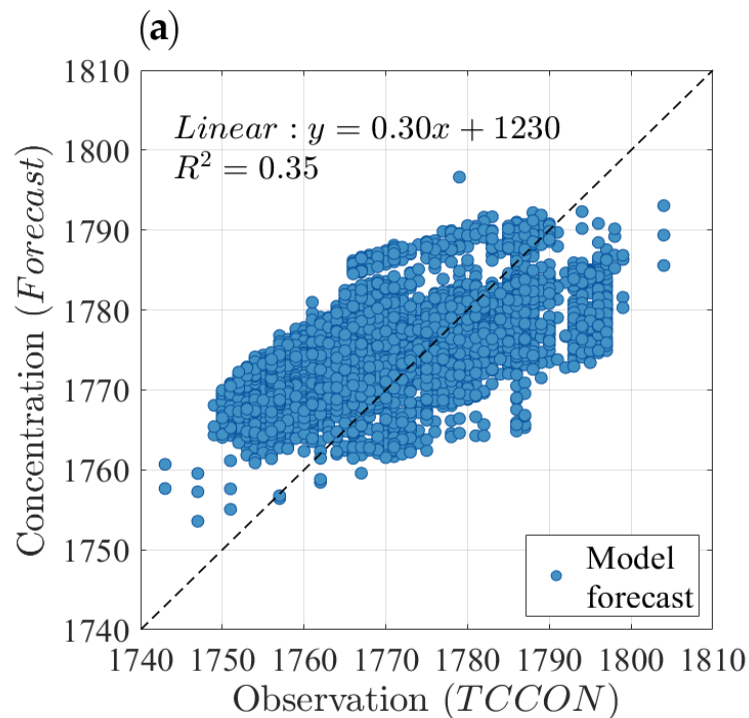
Optimal estimation parameters:

$$f^o = 0.5, f^i = 0.45, f^q = 0.018, L_h = 350 \text{ km}, L_v = 7\sigma$$

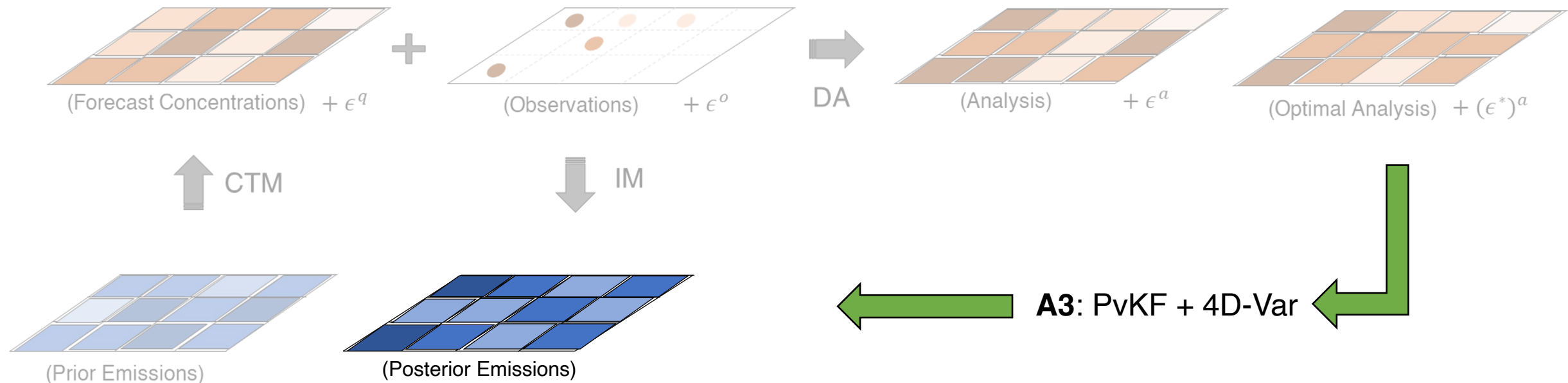
Non-optimal estimation but commonly used parameters:

$$f^o = 1.2, f^i = 0.45, f^q = 0, L_h = 600 \text{ km}, L_v = 1\sigma$$

Optimality of error parameters has a crucial impact on the assimilation result.

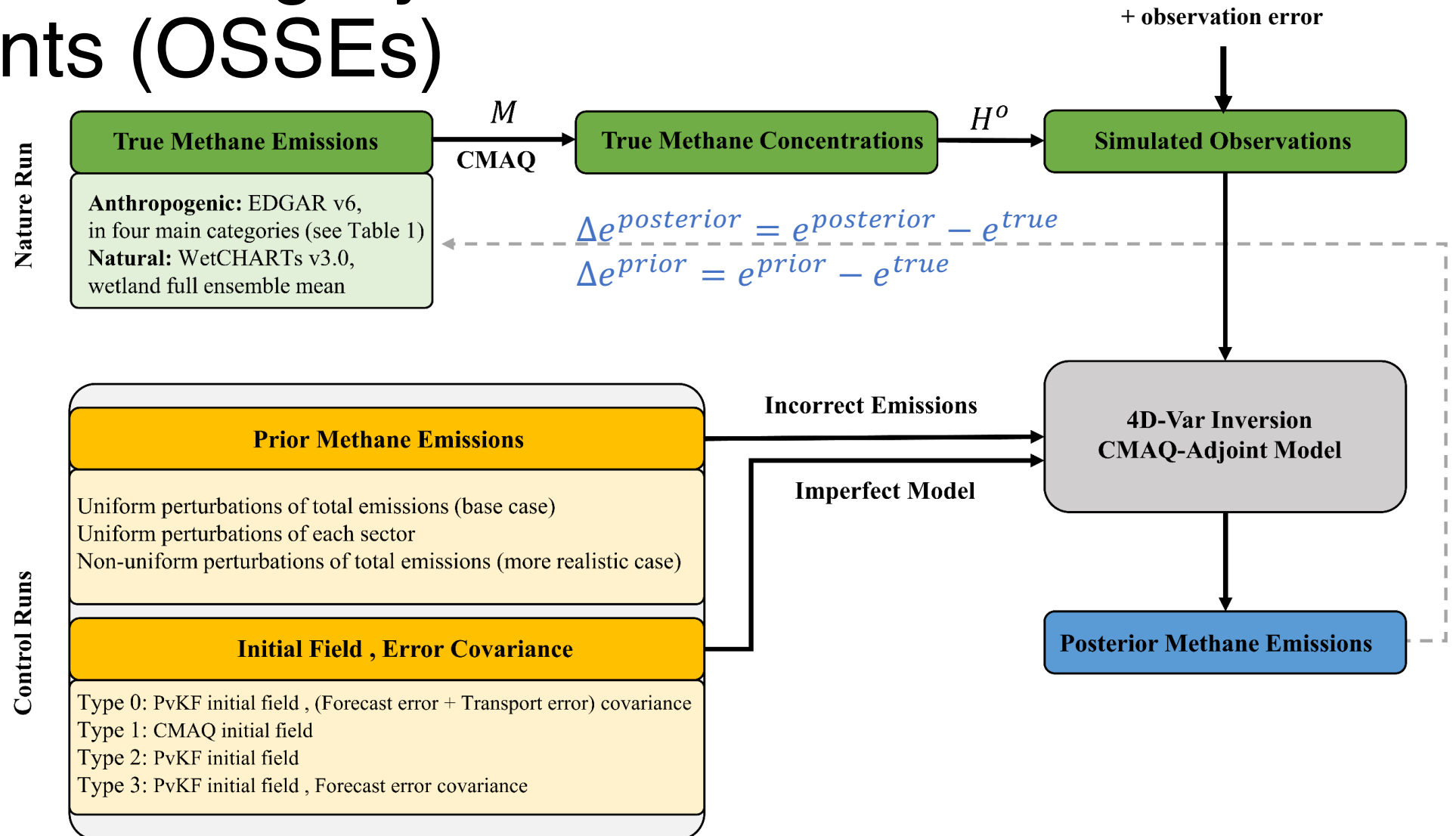


# Q3: Can we improve on 4D-Var inversion using optimal analysis and their uncertainties?



# Part III: Observing System Simulation Experiments (OSSEs)

To evaluate the proposed inversion:



# Part III: Use of PvKF Assimilation for Emissions Inversion (4D-Var)

$y$ : Observations

$x$ : Emission scaling factor

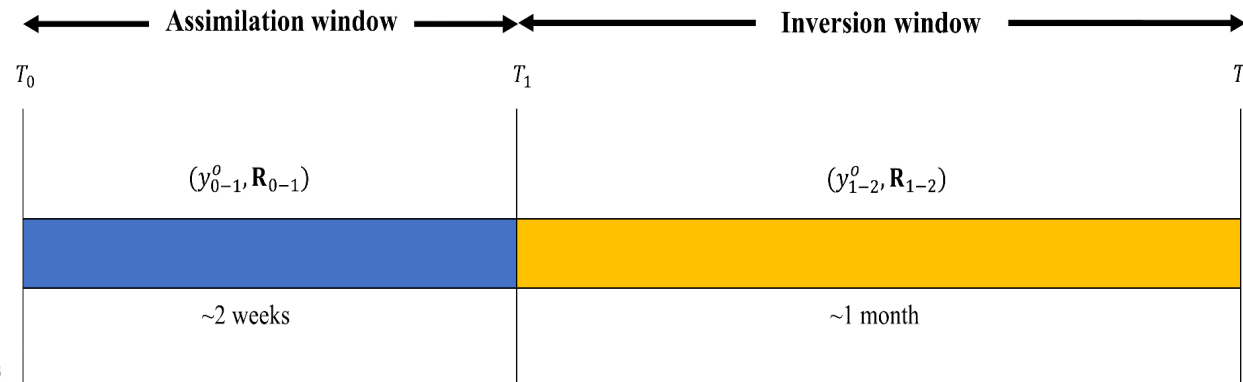
$c$ : Model/assimilation concentration

$R$ : Observation error covariance

$P$ : Forecast error covariance

$Q$ : Model transport error covariance

$A$ : Analysis error covariance



**Classical form  
(Previous studies)**

**Other variation**

**This study**

Experiments				Assumptions
1	$M$	$c_1^f$	$P_{1-2}^f = \emptyset$	Perfect forecast field Perfect model
2	PvKF	$c_1^a$	$P_{1-2}^f = \emptyset$	Perfect analysis field Perfect model
3	PvKF	$(c_1^a, A_1)$	$P_{1-2}^f(A_1)$	Imperfect analysis field Perfect model
4*	PvKF	$(c_1^a, A_1)$	$P_{1-2}^f(A_1, Q)$	Imperfect analysis field Imperfect model

# Part III: Different From of 4D-Var Cost Functions

Type #	Cost function		$c_1^a$	$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{A}_1)$	$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{Q})$
Type 0:	$J_0(x) = \frac{1}{2} \gamma(x - x_b)^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} (x - x_b) + \sum_{t=0}^n \frac{1}{2} (y_t^o - H_t(c_1^a, x))^T (H^o \mathbf{P}_t^f(\mathbf{A}_1, \mathbf{Q}) H^{oT} + \mathbf{R}_t)^{-1} (y_t^o - H_t(c_1^a, x))$	<b>This study</b>	✓	✓	✓
Type 1:	$J_1(x) = \frac{1}{2} \gamma(x - x_b)^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} (x - x_b) + \sum_{t=0}^n \frac{1}{2} (y_t^o - H_t(c_1^f, x))^T (\mathbf{R}_t)^{-1} (y_t^o - H_t(c_1^f, x))$	<b>Classical form</b>	✗	✗	✗
Type 2:	$J_2(x) = \frac{1}{2} \gamma(x - x_b)^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} (x - x_b) + \sum_{t=0}^n \frac{1}{2} (y_t^o - H_t(c_1^a, x))^T (\mathbf{R}_t)^{-1} (y_t^o - H_t(c_1^a, x))$		✓	✗	✗
Type 3:	$J_3(x) = \frac{1}{2} \gamma(x - x_b)^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} (x - x_b) + \sum_{t=0}^n \frac{1}{2} (y_t^o - H_t(c_1^a, x))^T (H^o \mathbf{P}_t^f(\mathbf{A}_1) H^{oT} + \mathbf{R}_t)^{-1} (y_t^o - H_t(c_1^a, x))$	<b>Other variation</b>	✓	✓	✗

$c_1^a$  : optimal analysis field

$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{A}_1)$ : propagated analysis error covariance

$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{Q})$  : propagated modelling (transport) error covariance

# Part III: Uniform Perturbations

This study

Classical form

Other variation

$c_1^a$    $P(A_1)$    $P(Q)$

$c_1^a$    $P(A_1)$    $P(Q)$

$c_1^a$    $P(A_1)$    $P(Q)$

$c_1^a$    $P(A_1)$    $P(Q)$

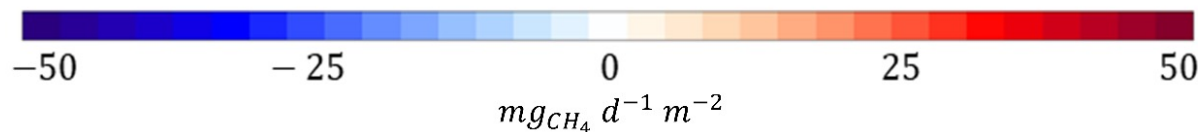
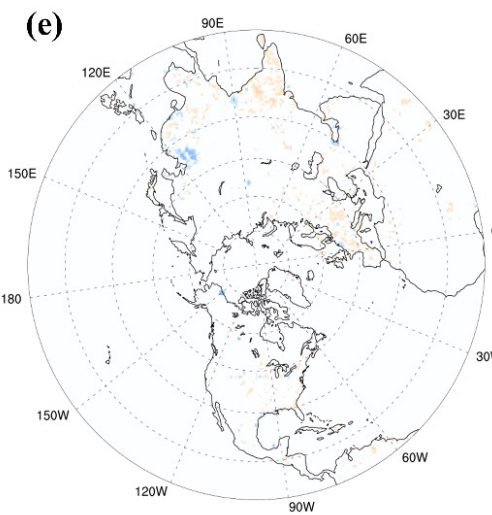
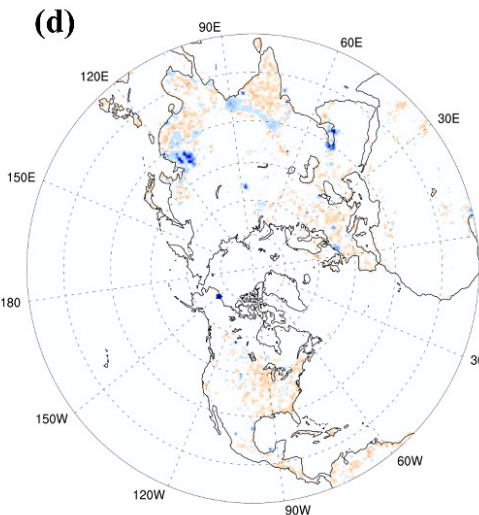
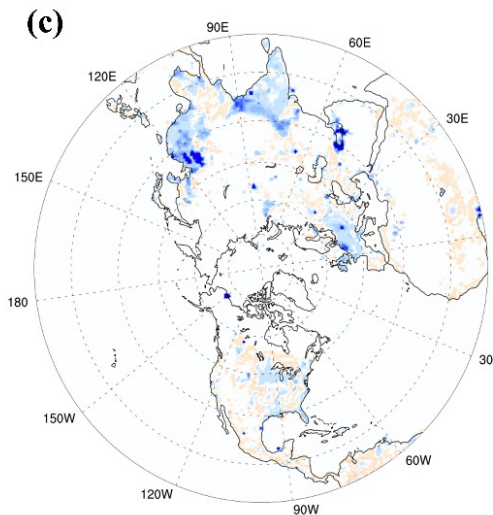
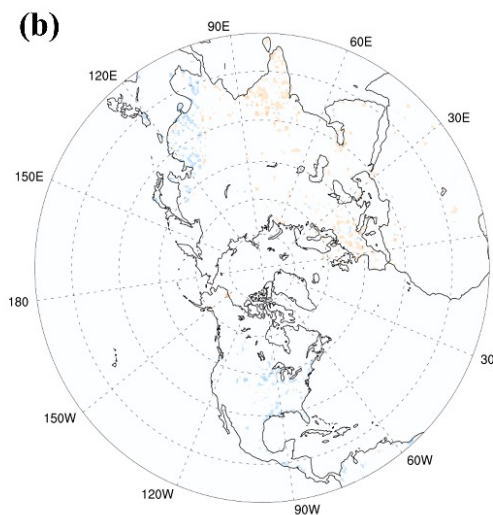
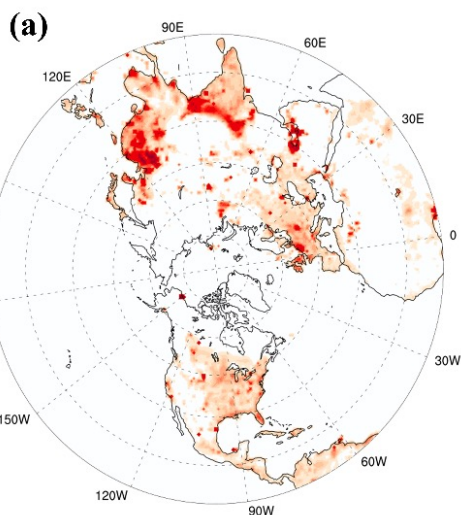
$\Delta e^{\text{prior}}$

Type 0:  $\Delta e_{J_0}^{\text{posterior}}$

Type 1:  $\Delta e_{J_1}^{\text{posterior}}$

Type 2:  $\Delta e_{J_2}^{\text{posterior}}$

Type 3:  $\Delta e_{J_3}^{\text{posterior}}$



# Part III: Uniform Perturbations

This study

Classical form

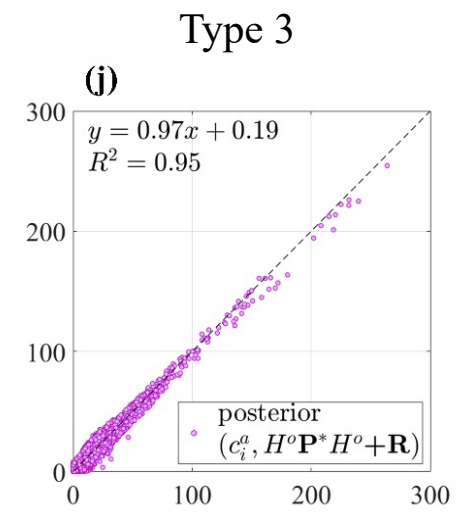
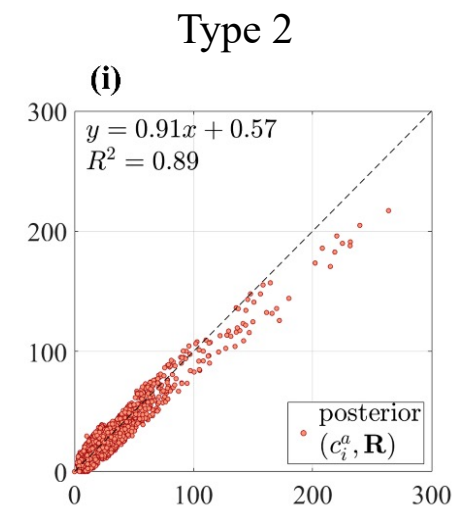
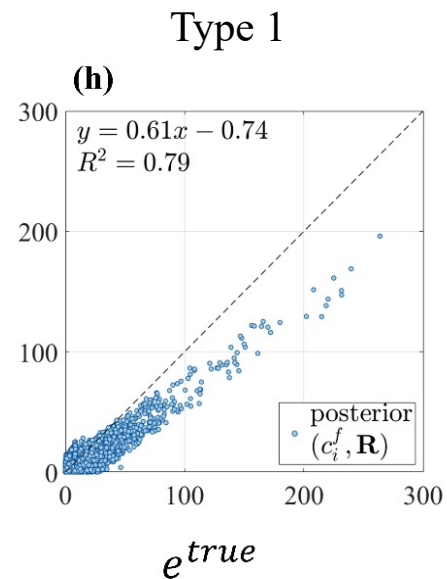
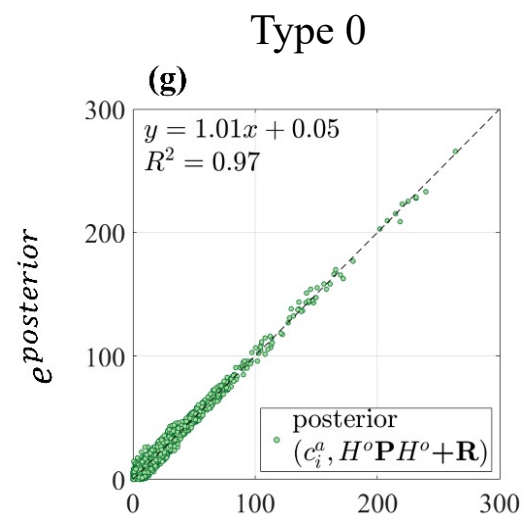
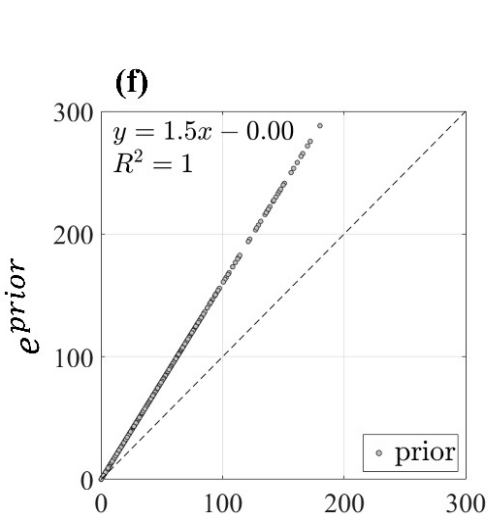
Other variation

$c_1^a$  ✓  $P(A_1)$  ✓  $P(Q)$  ✓

$c_1^a$  ✗  $P(A_1)$  ✗  $P(Q)$  ✗

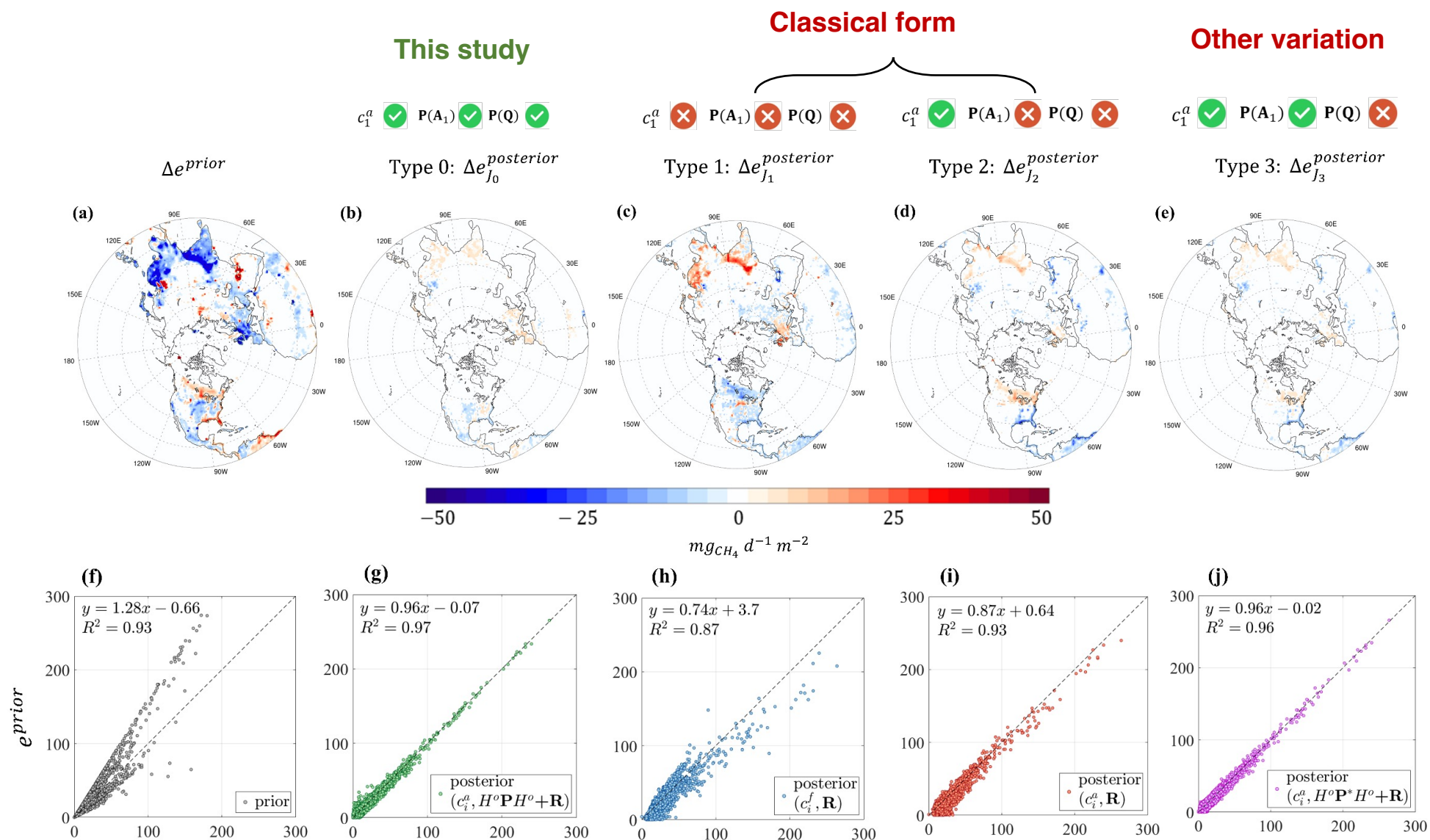
$c_1^a$  ✓  $P(A_1)$  ✗  $P(Q)$  ✗

$c_1^a$  ✓  $P(A_1)$  ✓  $P(Q)$  ✗





# Part III: Non-uniform Perturbations



# Conclusions & Future Work

- (I) PvKF assimilation is a stand-alone DA framework that improves our understanding of atmospheric methane estimation
  - No need to assume a perfect model
  - Provides an (continuous) **estimation of methane analysis and its uncertainties cost-effectively**
  
- (II) Realistic error statistics and optimal analysis play a key role in PvKF assimilation
  - Optimal analysis is obtained by **optimizing error statistics using cross-validation**
  - Non-optimal error covariances can lead to an analysis even worse than the model forecast
  
- (III) PvKF assimilation can be used in conjunction with an inversion system
  - **Improve the typical 4D-Var inversion results** by providing more sophisticated form of error correlations and initial optimal analysis field

## Suggestions for future work

- Extending PvKF assimilation framework to a jointly source-state estimation (i.e., emissions error will be estimated as part of the solution)
- Further development of PvKF assimilation for other species such as short-lived pollutants (likely requires evolving error correlations)
- Conducting PvKF with dense satellite observations (e.g., TROPOMI) for high-resolution inversion in regional domain (e.g., CONUS)
- Application of PvKF analysis to remove (measurement) biases over remote area such as oceans

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# Thank you!

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