

ESA Summer School, Frascati, August 2004

# **Data Assimilation for global CO<sub>2</sub> Inversions**

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# Programme

- **Minimizing the cost function**
- **Uncertainties of Parameters**
- **Uncertainties of Diagnostics**
- **Global application: The Carbon Cycle Data Assimilation System (CCDAS)**

# The Model

$$f : \vec{m}(\vec{x}) \rightarrow \vec{y}(\vec{x}, t)$$

model parameters

model diagnostics

a (non-linear) function from a vector space of (time-independent) parameters to a vector space of (time and space dependent) diagnostics

note: in this example,  
parameters are varied  
globally

# The Cost Function

$$J(\vec{m}) = \frac{1}{2} [\vec{m} - \vec{m}_0] \mathbf{C}_{m_0}^{-1} [\vec{m} - \vec{m}_0]^T + \frac{1}{2} [\vec{y}(\vec{m}) - \vec{y}_0] \mathbf{C}_y^{-1} [\vec{y}(\vec{m}) - \vec{y}_0]^T$$

current values of model parameters      a priori parameter values      a priori error covariance matrix of parameters      model diagnostics      measurements      error covariance matrix of measurements

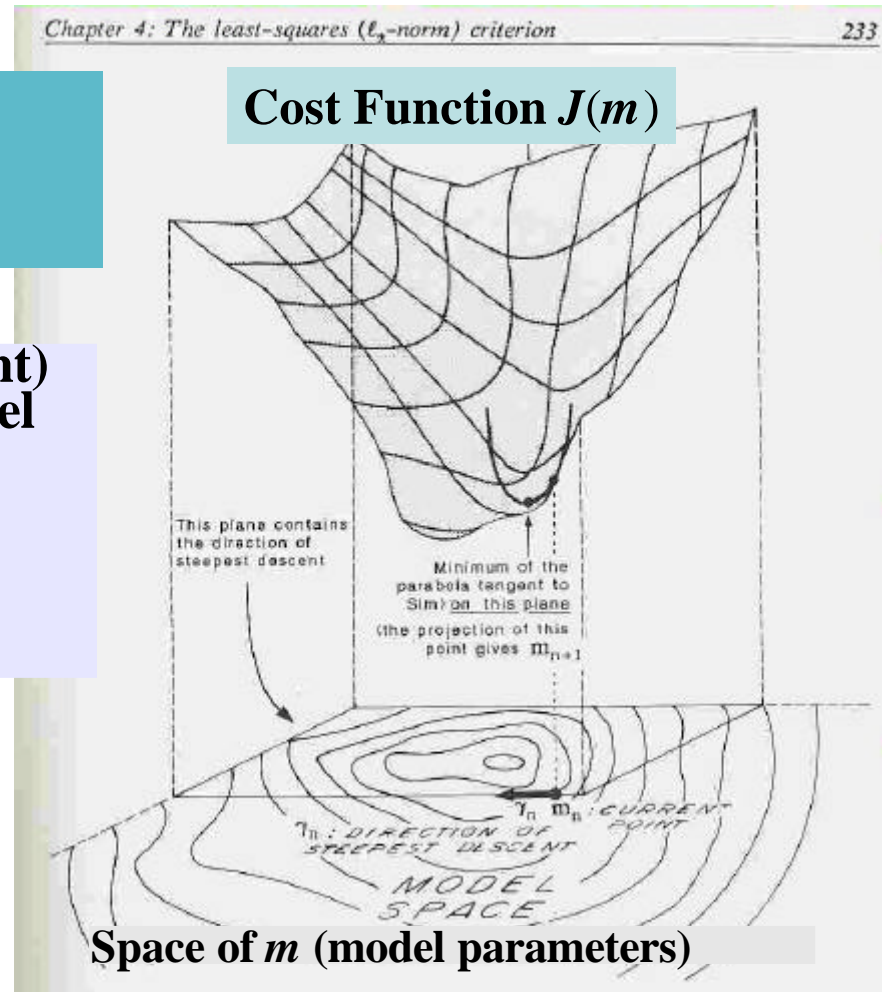
# Finding the Minimum

First derivative (Gradient) of  $J(m)$  w.r.t.  $m$  (model parameters) :

$$-\nabla J(m)/\nabla m$$

yields direction of steepest descent

Figure taken from  
Tarantola '87



# Programme

- Minimizing the cost function
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# Uncertainties in Parameters

Cost function:

$$J(\vec{m}) = \frac{1}{2} [\vec{m} - \vec{m}_0] \mathbf{C}_{m_0}^{-1} [\vec{m} - \vec{m}_0]^T + \frac{1}{2} [\bar{y}(\vec{m}) - \bar{y}_0] \mathbf{C}_y^{-1} [\bar{y}(\vec{m}) - \bar{y}_0]^T$$

Taylor expansion around minimum:

$$J(\vec{m}) \approx J(\vec{m}_{opt}) + \underbrace{\left( \frac{\mathcal{J}J(\vec{m}_{opt})}{\mathcal{J}\vec{m}} \right)}_{= 0} [\vec{m} - \vec{m}_{opt}]^T + \frac{1}{2} [\vec{m} - \vec{m}_{opt}] \underbrace{\left( \frac{\mathcal{J}^2 J(\vec{m}_{opt})}{\mathcal{J}\vec{m}^2} \right)}_{\substack{\text{curvature of cost function around optimum} \\ = \text{inverse of posterior error covariance of parameters}}} [\vec{m} - \vec{m}_{opt}]^T$$

# Error Covariances of Parameters

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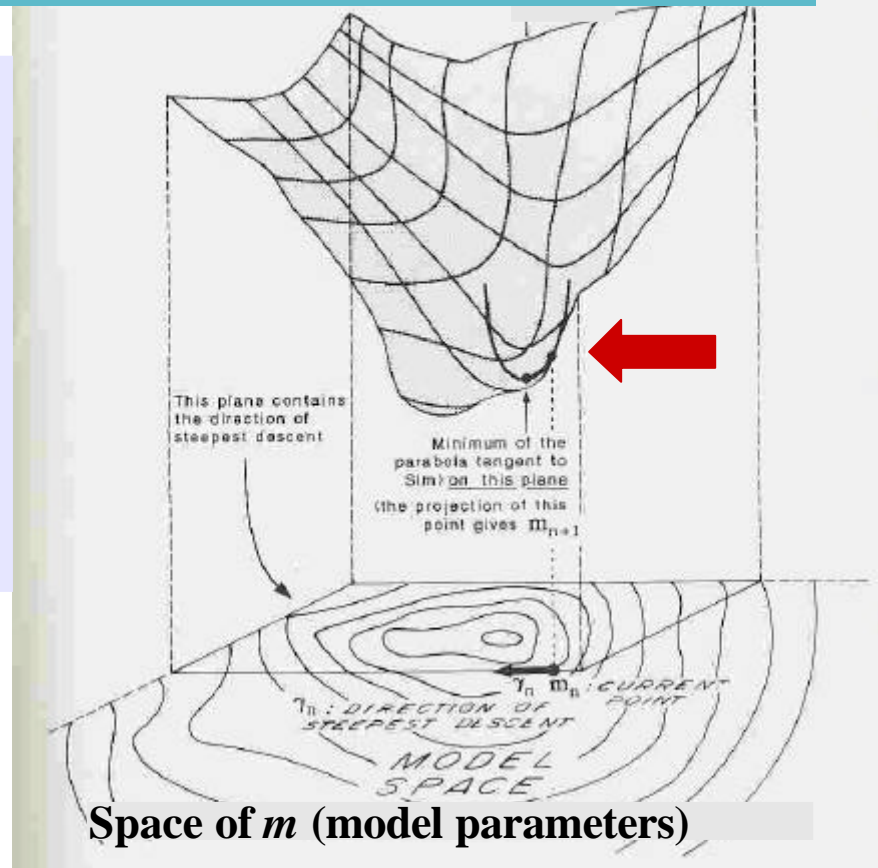
Second Derivative  
(Hessian) of  $J(m)$ :

$$\partial^2 J(m) / \partial m^2$$

yields curvature of  $J$ ,  
provides estimated  
uncertainty in  $m_{opt}$

$$C_m = \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial m_{i,j}^2} \right\}^{-1}$$

= inverse Hessian





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# Uncertainties in Diagnostics

linear projection from parameters to diagnostics:

$$\vec{y}(\vec{m}) \approx \vec{y}(\vec{m}_{opt}) + \left( \frac{\mathbb{J}\vec{y}(\vec{m}_{opt})}{\mathbb{J}\vec{m}} \right) [\vec{m} - \vec{m}_{opt}]^T$$

# Error Covariances of Diagnostics

Error covariance of diagnostics,  $y$ ,  
after optimisation:

$$\mathbf{C}_y = \left( \frac{\mathbb{J}\bar{y}(\bar{m}_{opt})}{\mathbb{J}\bar{m}} \right) \mathbf{C}_m \left( \frac{\mathbb{J}\bar{y}(\bar{m}_{opt})}{\mathbb{J}\bar{m}} \right)^T$$

linearized  
model

error covariance  
of parameters

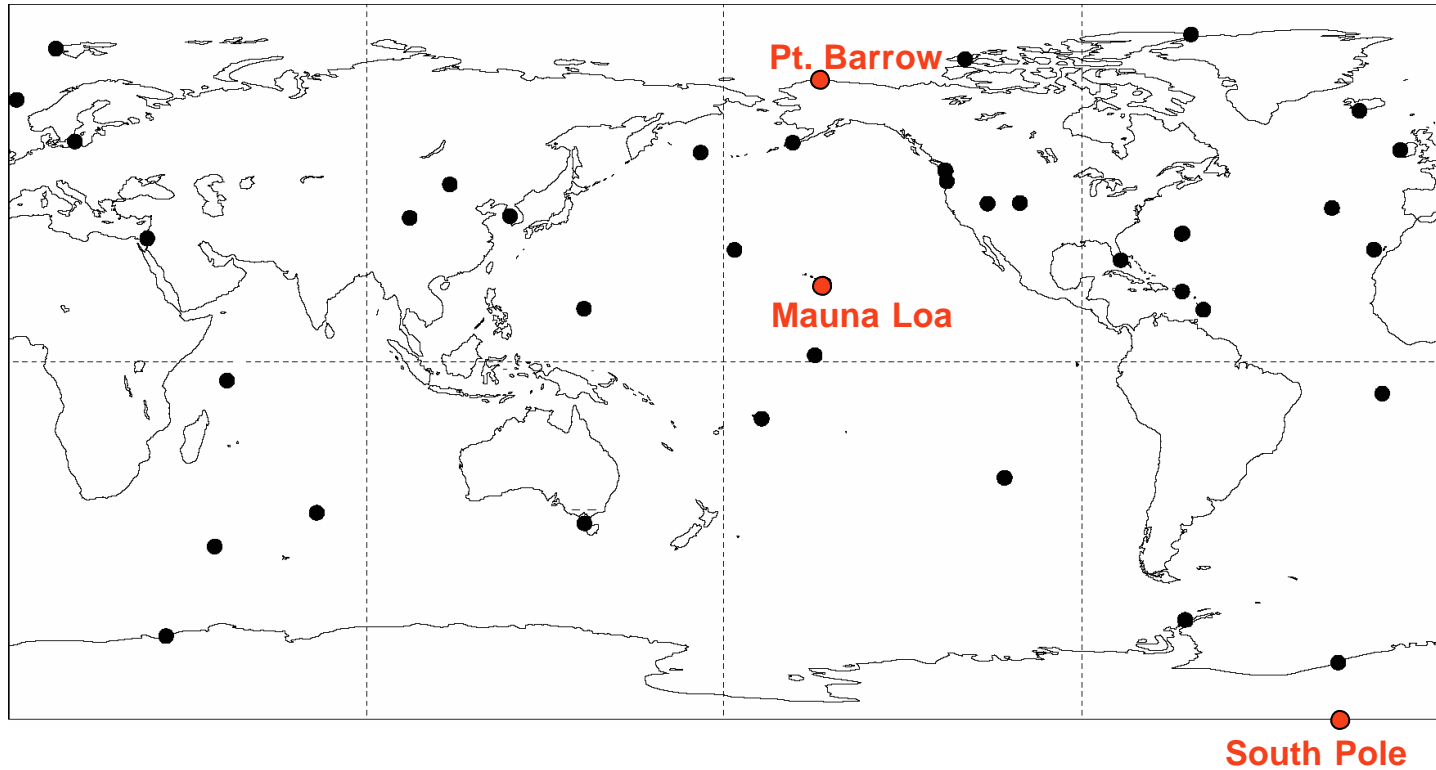
**note: think of Alan's  
second slide above  
your bed!**

**End of the Maths Session!**

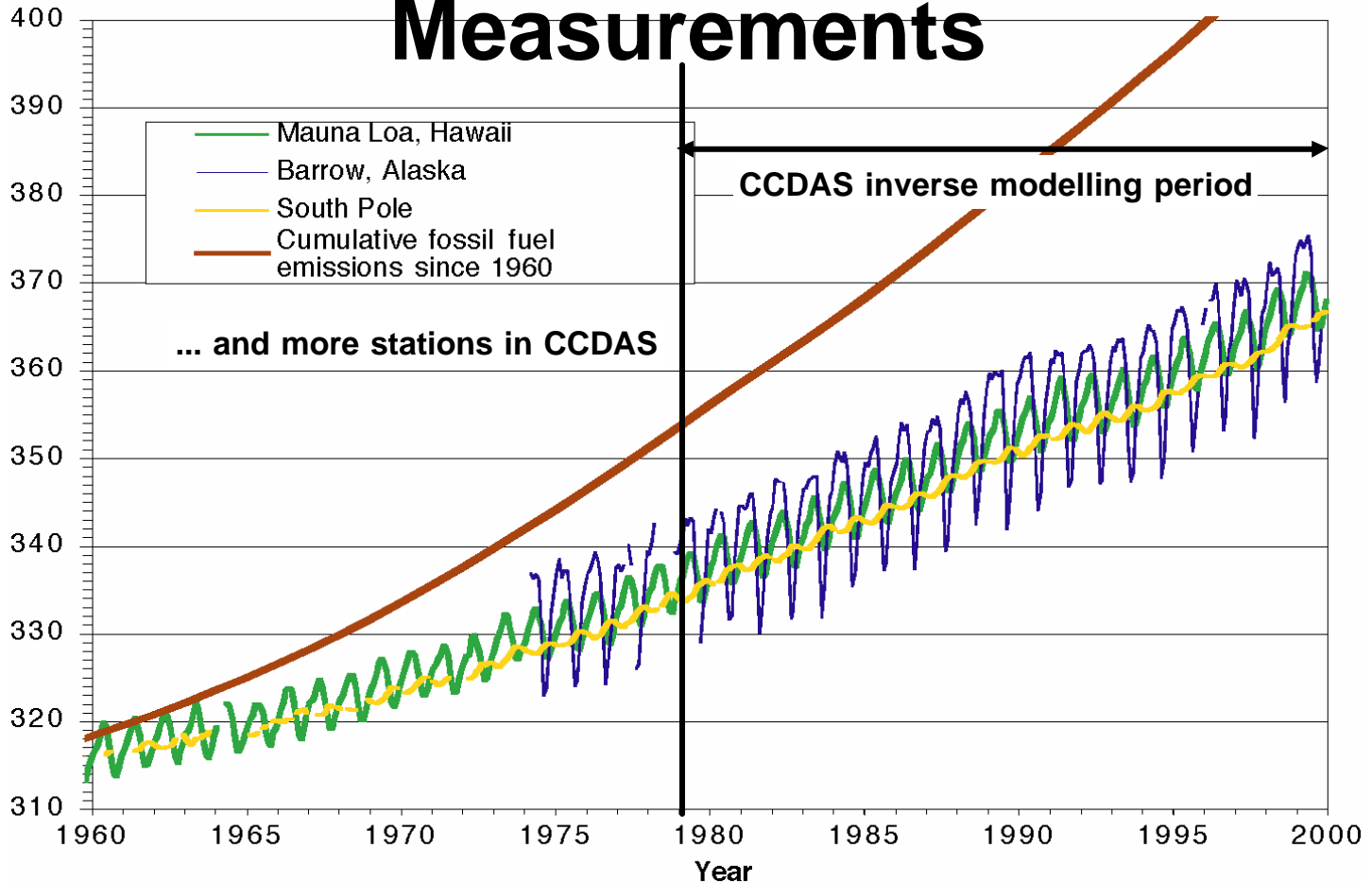
# Programme

- Minimizing the cost function
- Uncertainties of Parameters
- Uncertainties of Diagnostics
- **Global application: The Carbon Cycle Data Assimilation System (CCDAS)**

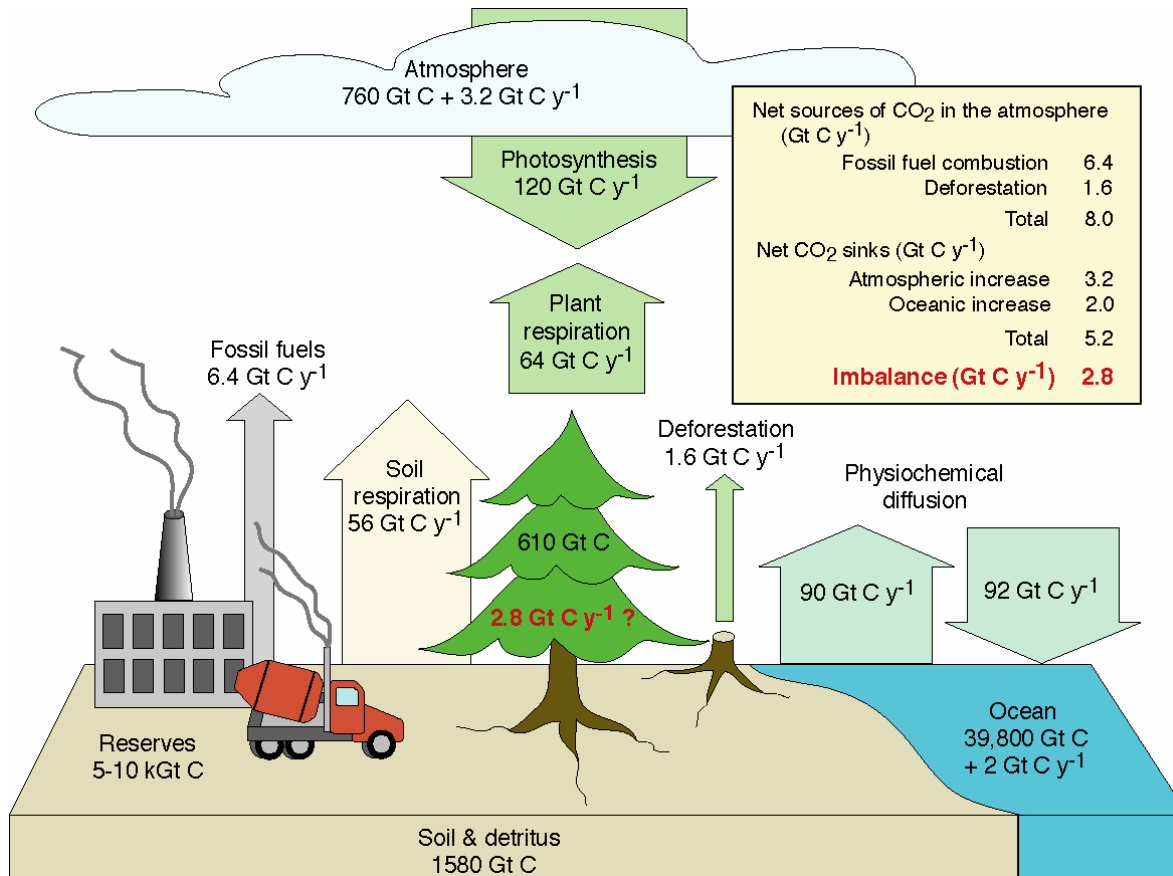
# The Station Network



# Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Measurements

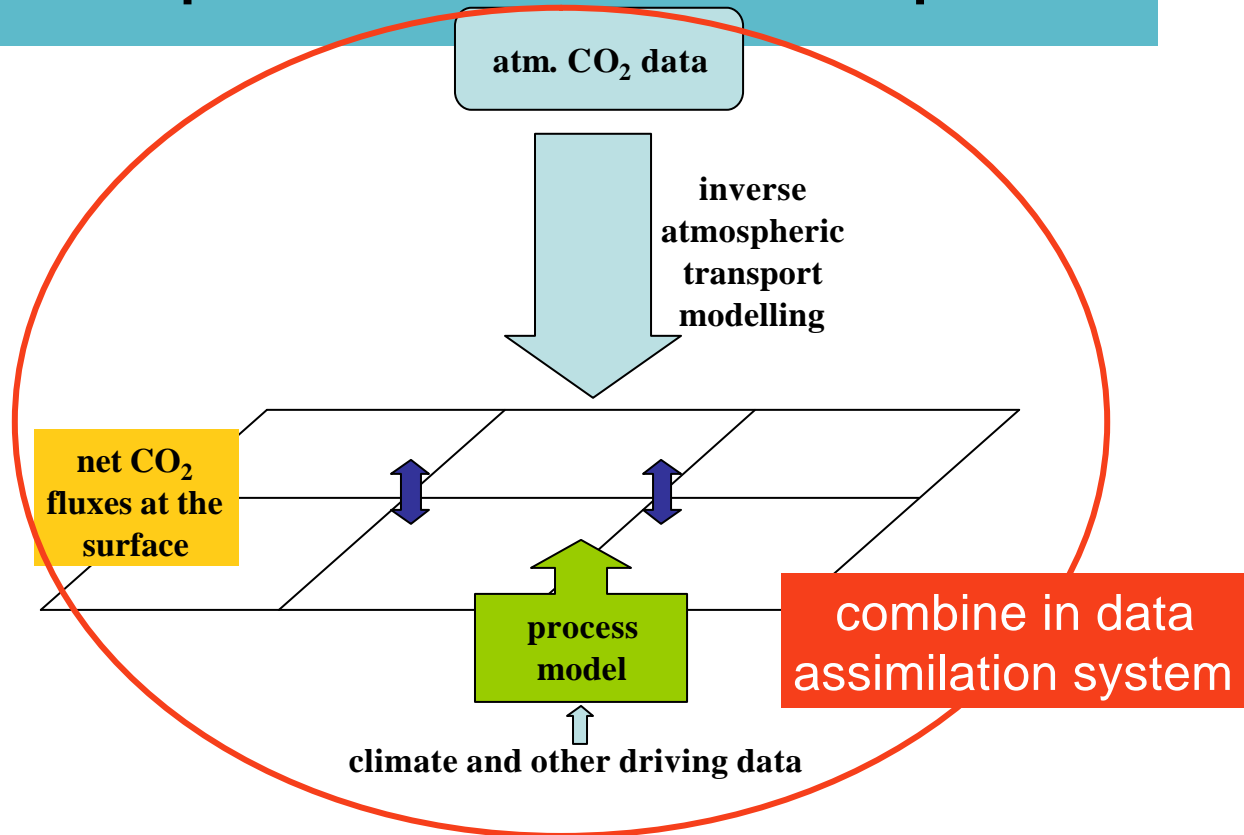


# The Global Carbon Cycle

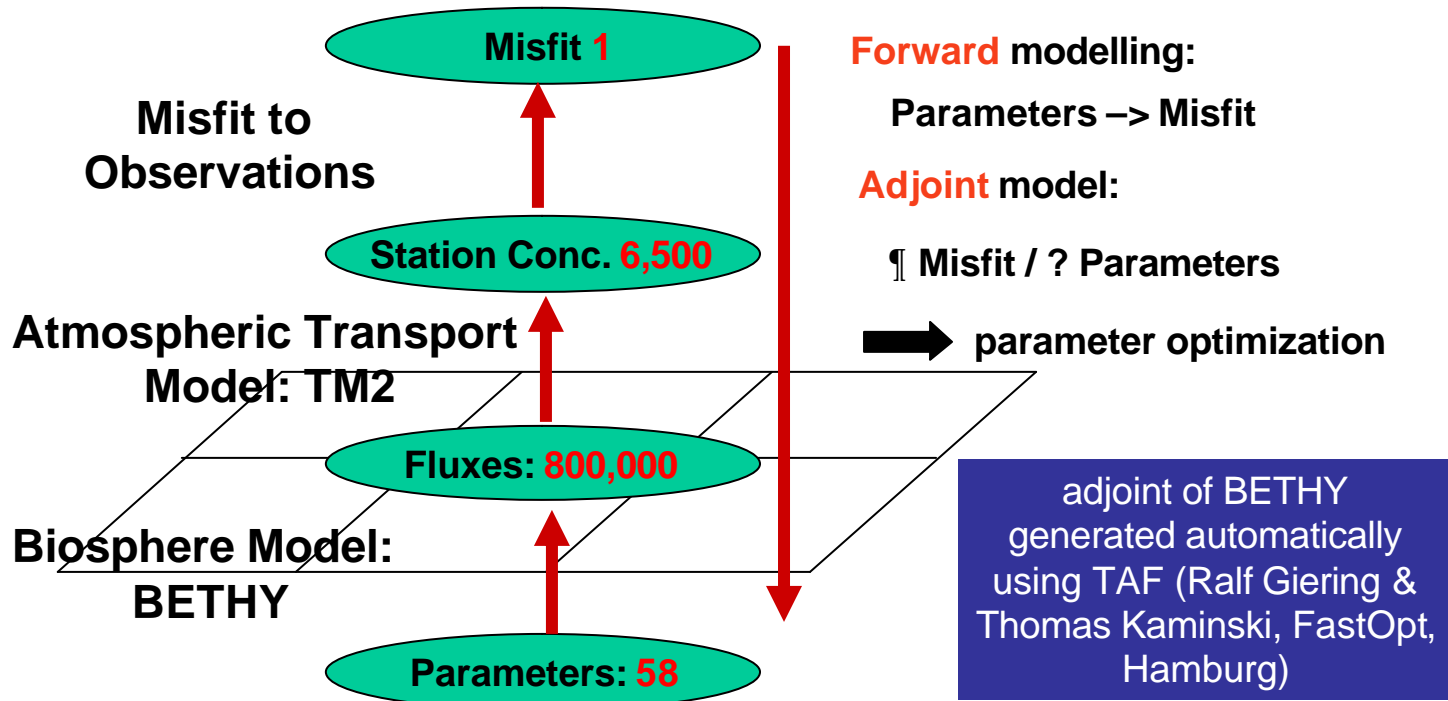




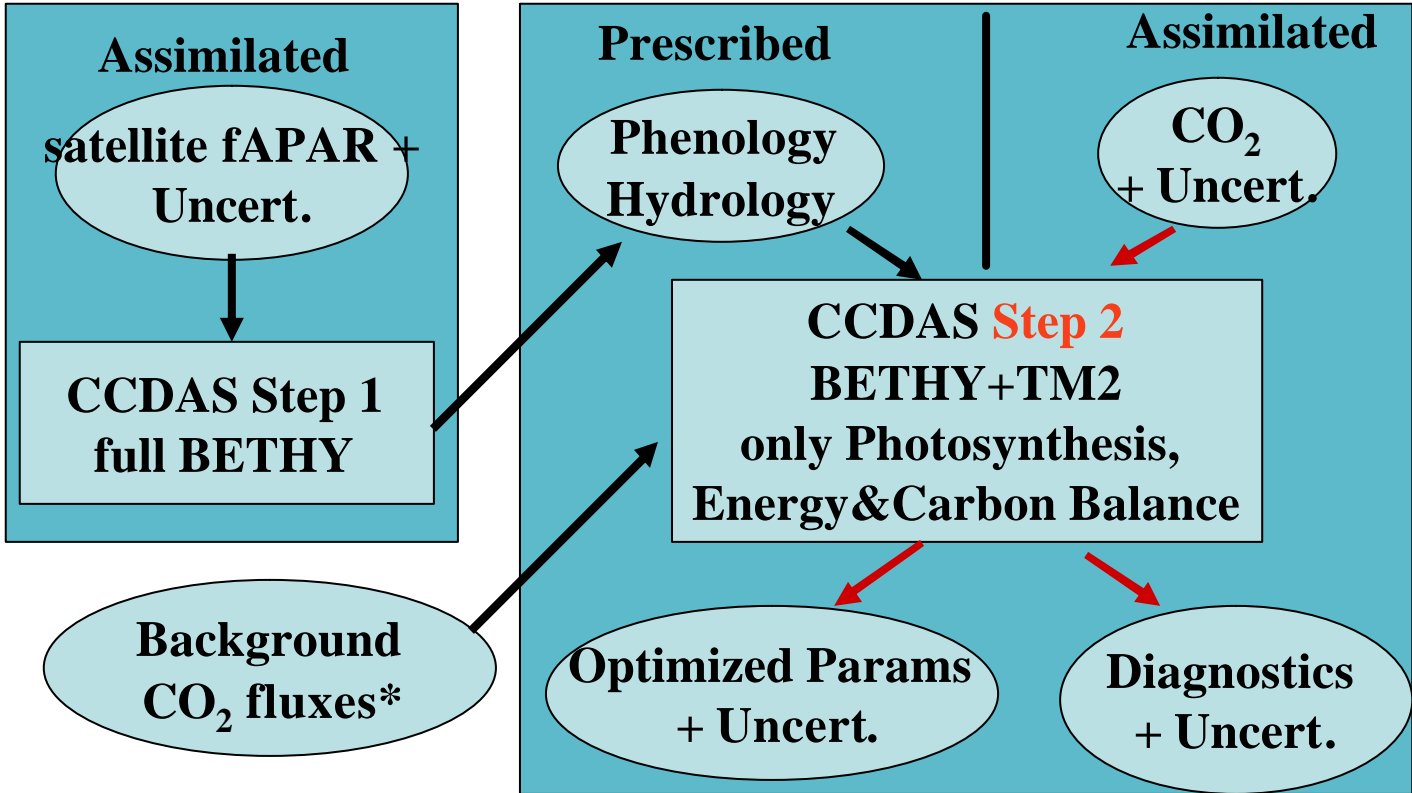
# Top down / Bottom up



# Carbon Cycle Data Assimilation Systems (CCDAS)



# Carbon Cycle Data Assimilation System (CCDAS)



\* **ocean:** Takahashi et al. (1999), LeQuere et al. (2000); **emissions:** Marland et al. (2001), Andres et al. (1996); **land use:** Houghton et al. (1990)

# Gradient Method

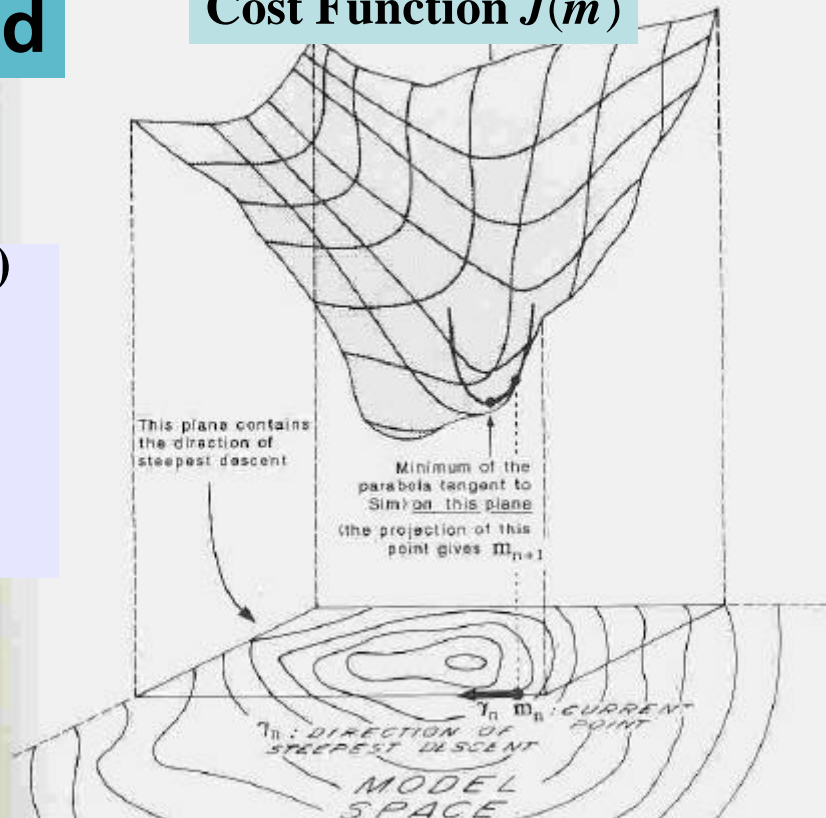
First derivative (Gradient)  
of  $J(m)$  w.r.t.  $m$  (model  
parameters) :

$$-\partial J(m)/\partial m$$

yields direction of  
steepest descent

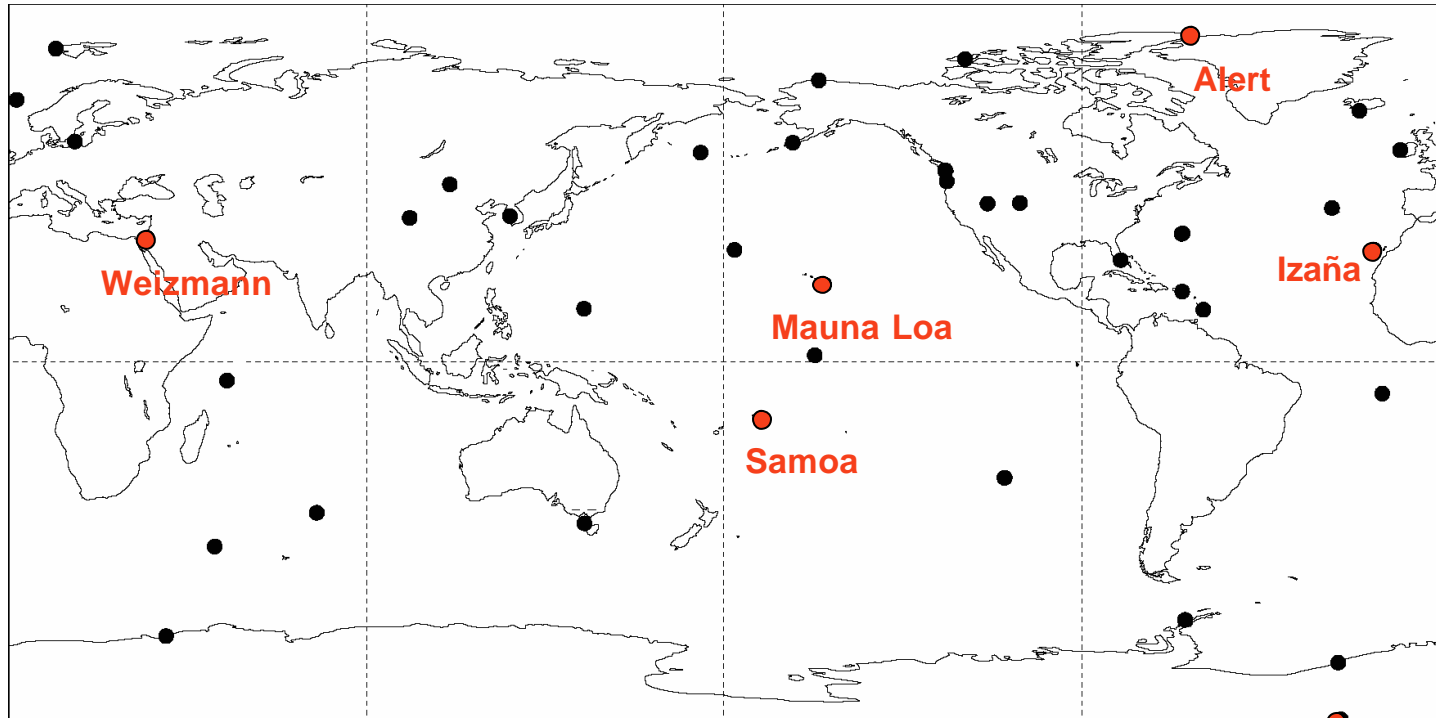
Figure taken from  
Tarantola '87

## Cost Function $J(m)$



Space of  $m$  (model parameters)

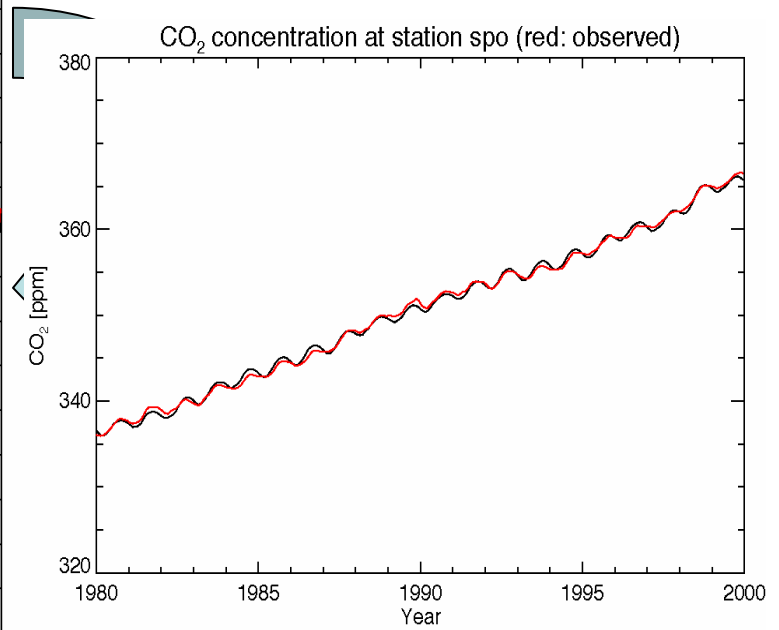
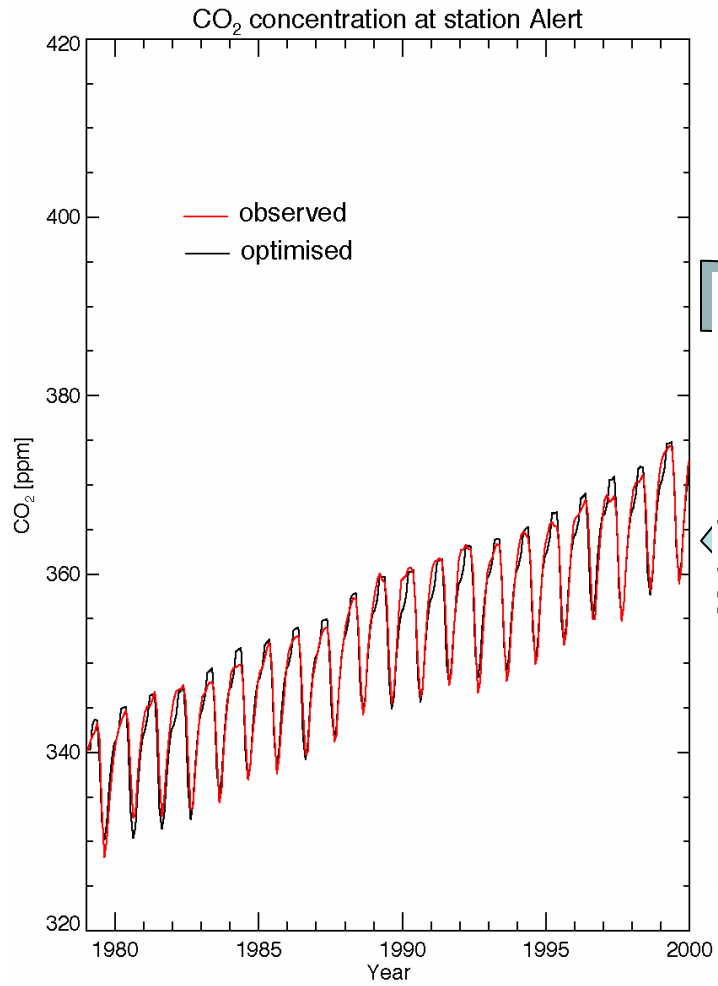
# The Station Network



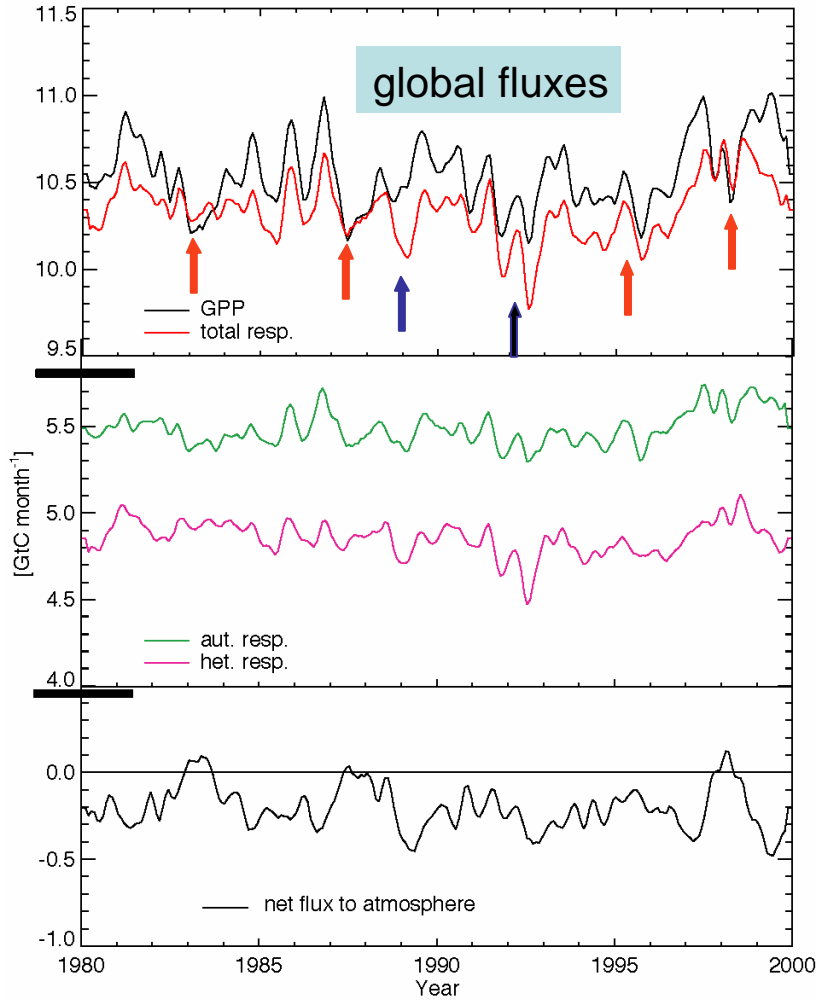
*examples shown...*

**South Pole**

# Optimisation



# Optimised fluxes (1)



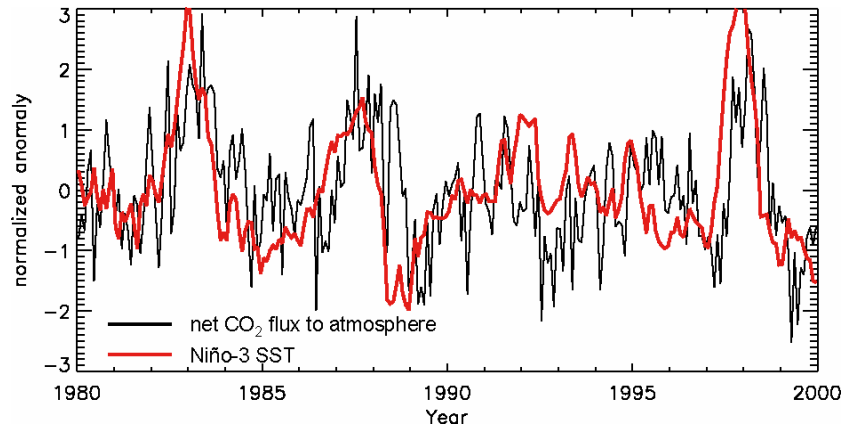
Major El Niño events

Major La Niña event

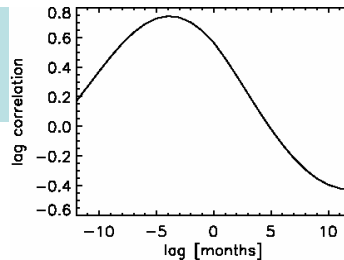
Post Pinatubo Period

# Optimised fluxes (2)

## normalized CO<sub>2</sub> flux and ENSO



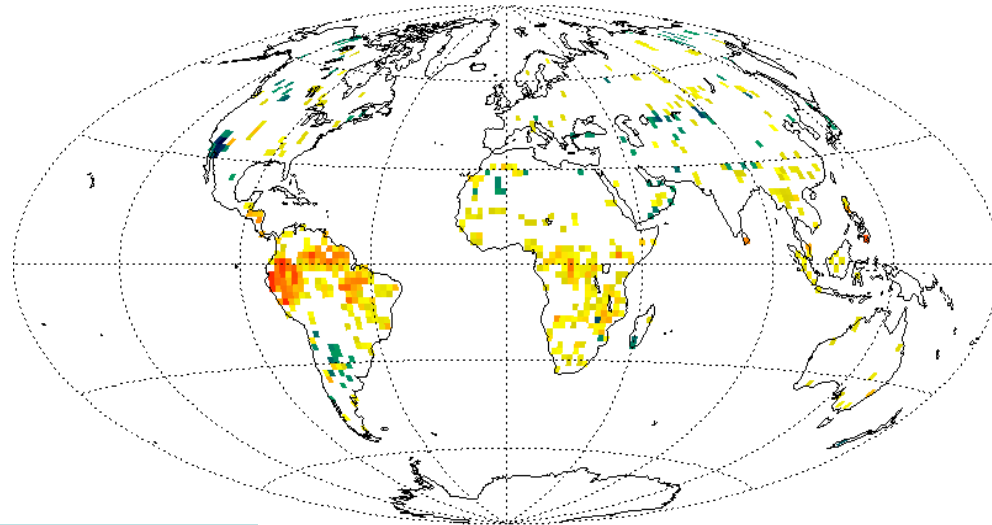
## lag correlation (low-pass filtered)



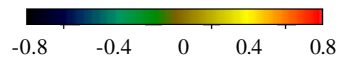
**ENSO and terr. biosph. CO<sub>2</sub>:**  
correlation seems strong  
correlation between Niño-3 SST  
anomaly and net CO<sub>2</sub> flux shows  
maximum at 4 months lag, for  
both **El Niño** and **La Niña** states



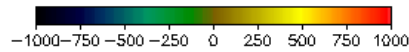
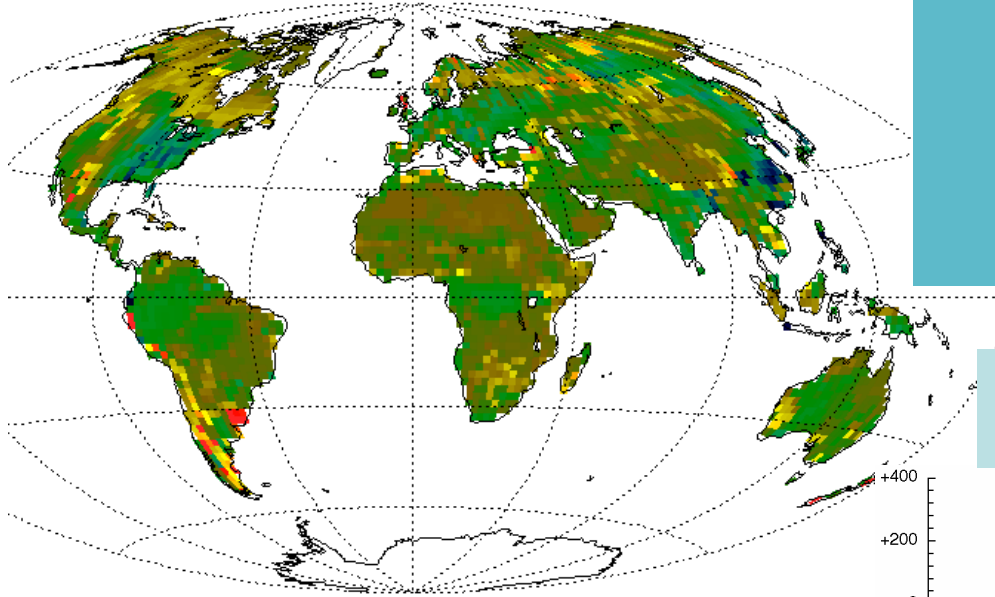
# Optimised fluxes (3)



lagged correlation  
at 99% significance

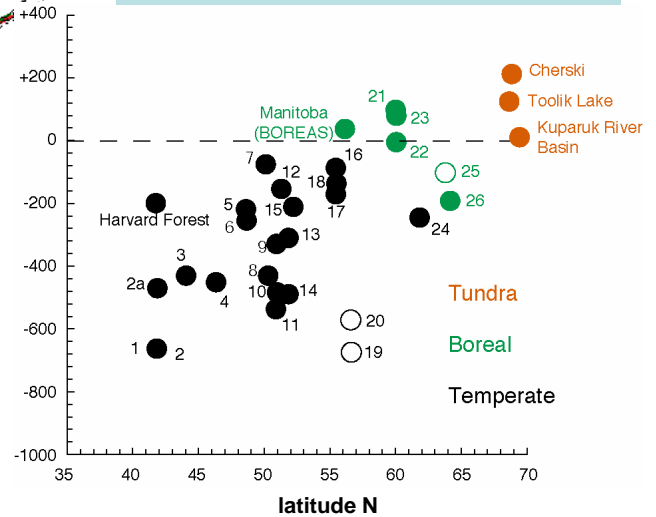


# Carbon Balance



net carbon flux 1980-2000  
gC / (m<sup>2</sup> year)

Euroflux (1-26) and other eddy covariance sites\*



\*from Valentini et al. (2000) and others

# Error Covariances in Parameters

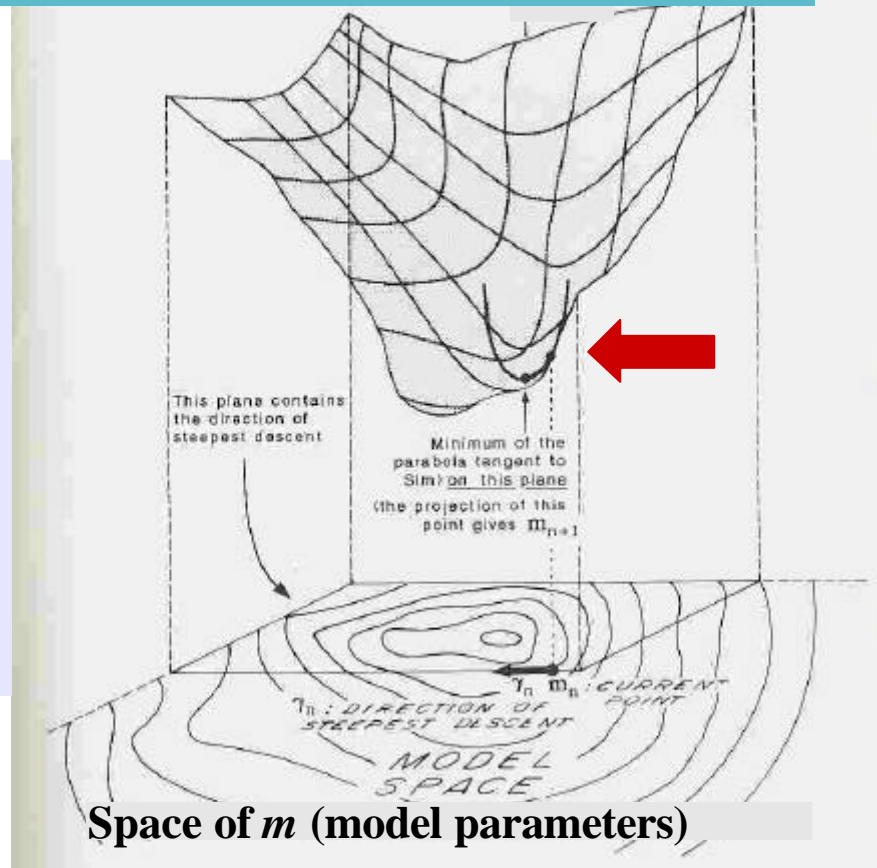
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Second Derivative  
(Hessian) of  $J(m)$ :

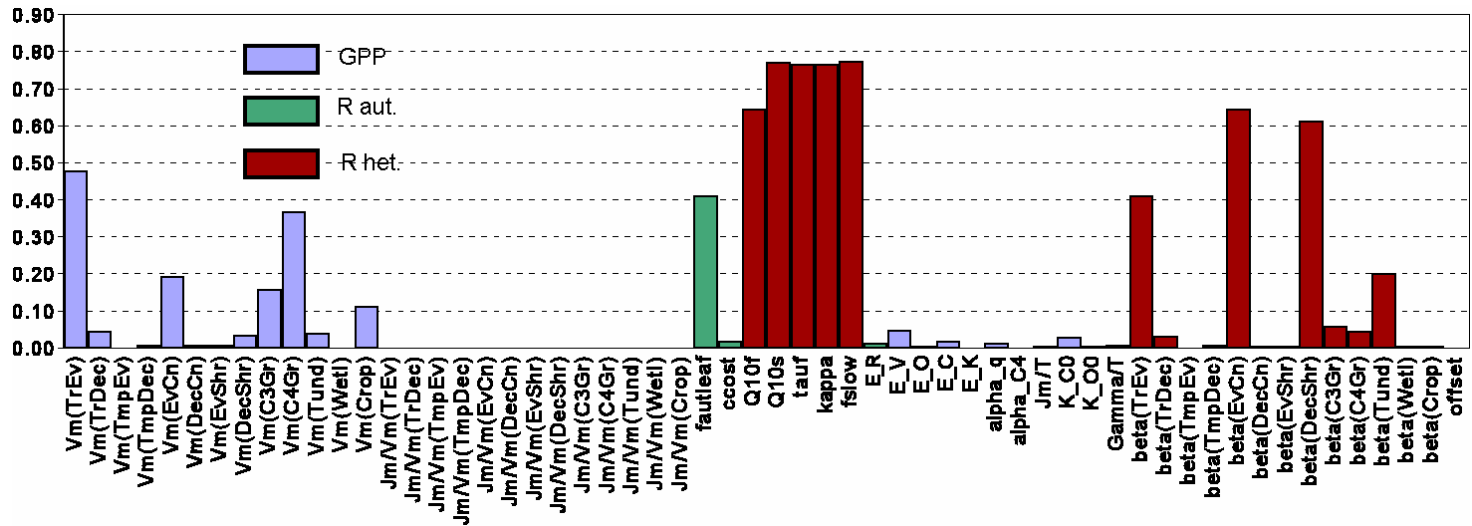
$$\partial^2 J(m) / \partial m^2$$

yields curvature of  $J$ ,  
provides estimated  
uncertainty in  $m_{opt}$

Figure taken from  
Tarantola '87



# Relative Error Reduction



$$1 - s_{\text{opt}} / s_{\text{prior}}$$

# Error Covariances in Parameters

Error covariance of parameters  
after optimisation:

$$C_m = \left\{ \frac{\mathbb{J}^2 J}{\mathbb{J} m_{i,j}^2} \right\}^{-1} = \text{inverse Hessian}$$

examples:	first guess	optimized	prior unc.	opt.unc.	Vm(TrEv)	Vm(EvCn)	Vm(C3Gr)	Vm(Crop)
	$\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2\text{s}$	$\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2\text{s}$	%	%	error covariance			
Vm(TrEv)	60.0	43.2	20.0	10.5	0.28	0.02	-0.02	0.05
Vm(EvCn)	29.0	32.6	20.0	16.2	0.02	0.65	-0.10	0.08
Vm(C3Gr)	42.0	18.0	20.0	16.9	-0.02	-0.10	0.71	-0.31
Vm(Crop)	117.0	45.4	20.0	17.8	0.05	0.08	-0.31	0.80

# Error Covariances in Diagnostics

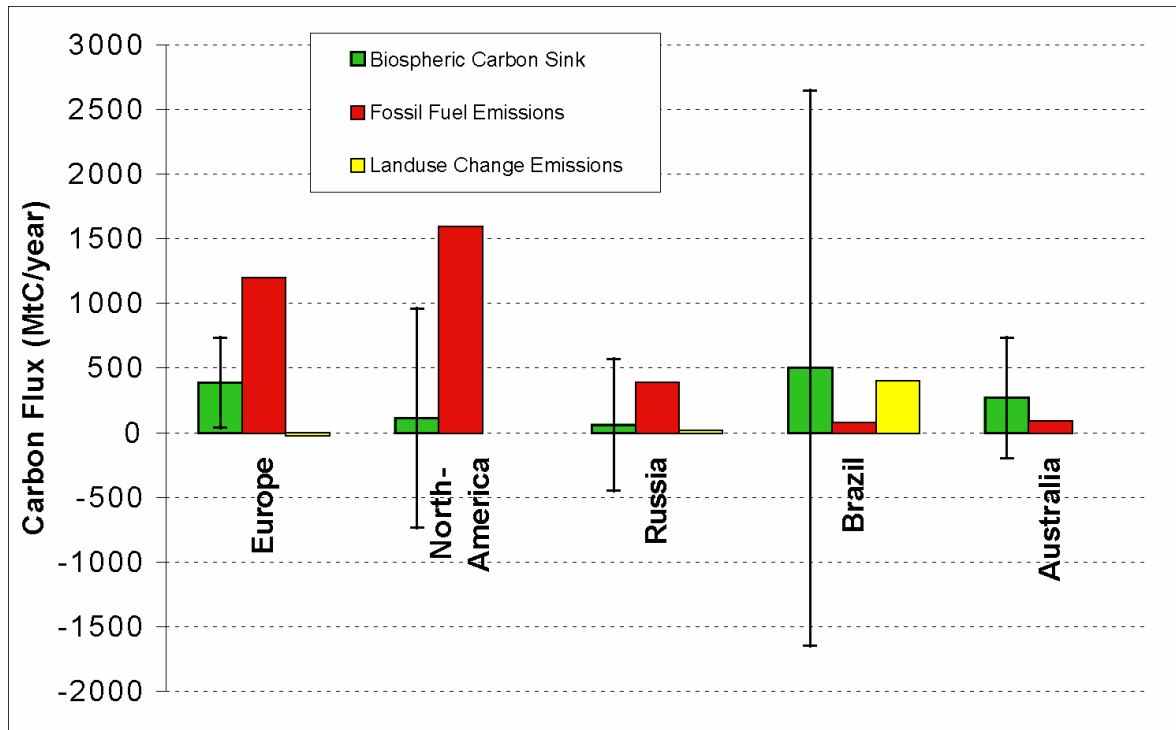
Error covariance of diagnostics,  $y$ ,  
after optimisation (e.g. CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes):

$$\mathbf{C}_y(\vec{m}_{opt}) = \left( \frac{\mathbb{J}y_i(\vec{m}_{opt})}{\mathbb{J}m_j} \right) \mathbf{C}_m \left( \frac{\mathbb{J}y_i(\vec{m}_{opt})}{\mathbb{J}m_j} \right)^T$$

adjoint or  
tangent linear  
model

error covariance  
of parameters

# Regional Net Carbon Balance and Uncertainties



# Conclusions

- CCDAS with 58 parameters can already fit 20 years of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration data
- Sizeable reduction of uncertainty for ~13 parameters
- terr. biosphere response to climate fluctuations dominated by ENSO
- System can test model with uncertain parameters, and deliver a posteriori uncertainties of parameters, and of fluxes