

ESA Summer School, Frascati, August 2004

Data Assimilation for global CO₂ 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

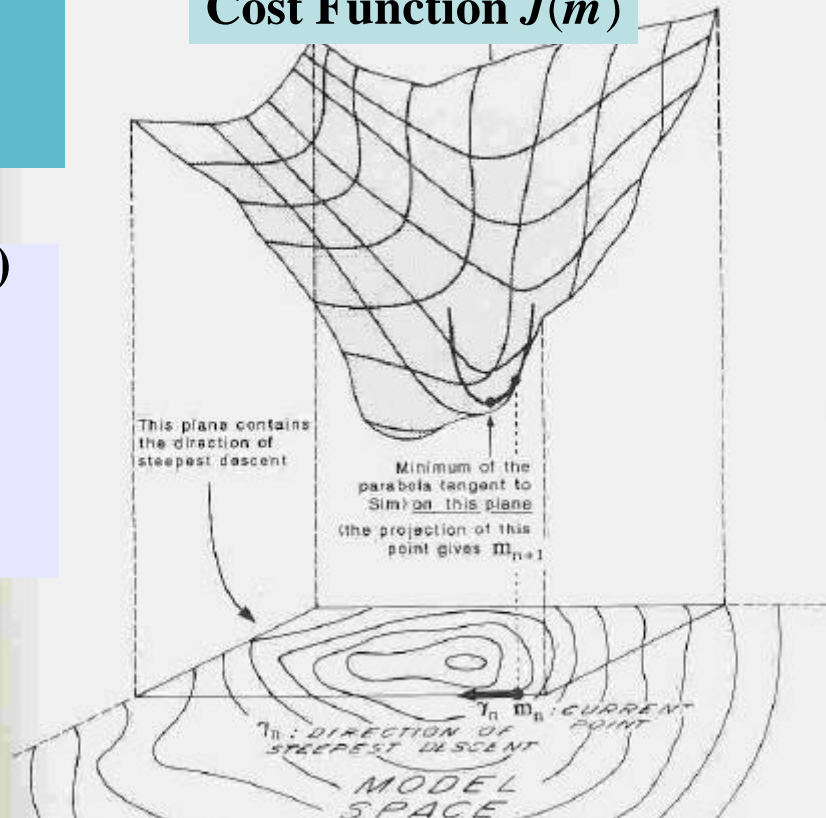
First derivative (Gradient) of $J(m)$ w.r.t. m (model parameters) :

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

yields direction of steepest descent

Figure taken from
Tarantola '87

Cost Function $J(m)$



Space of m (model parameters)

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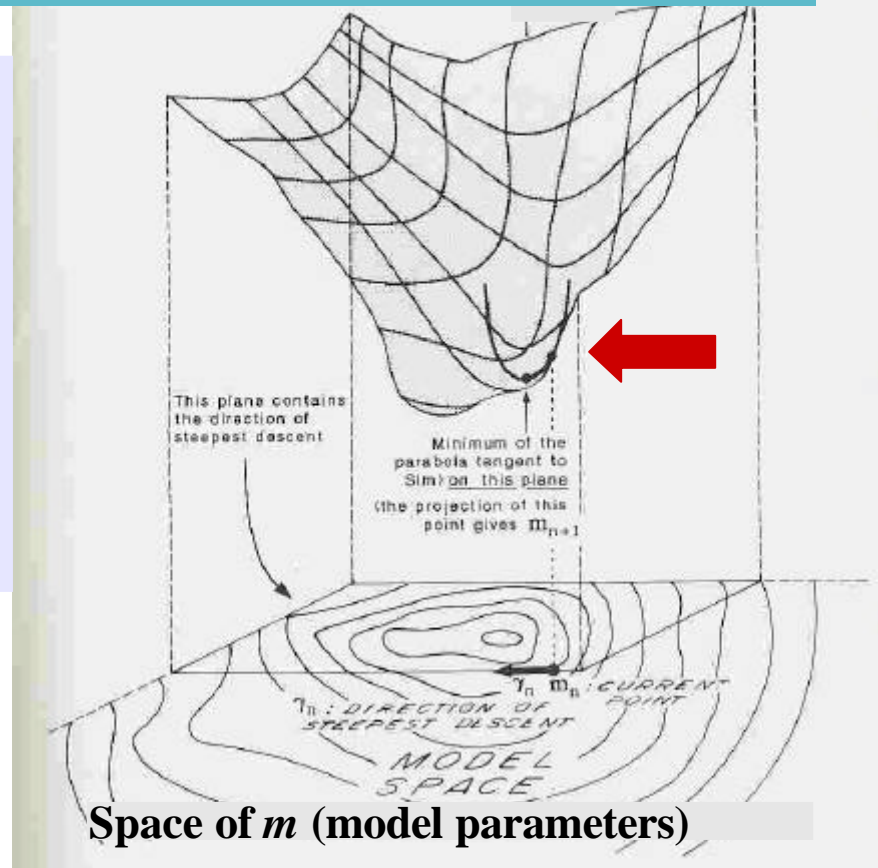
Second Derivative
(Hessian) of $J(m)$:

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

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

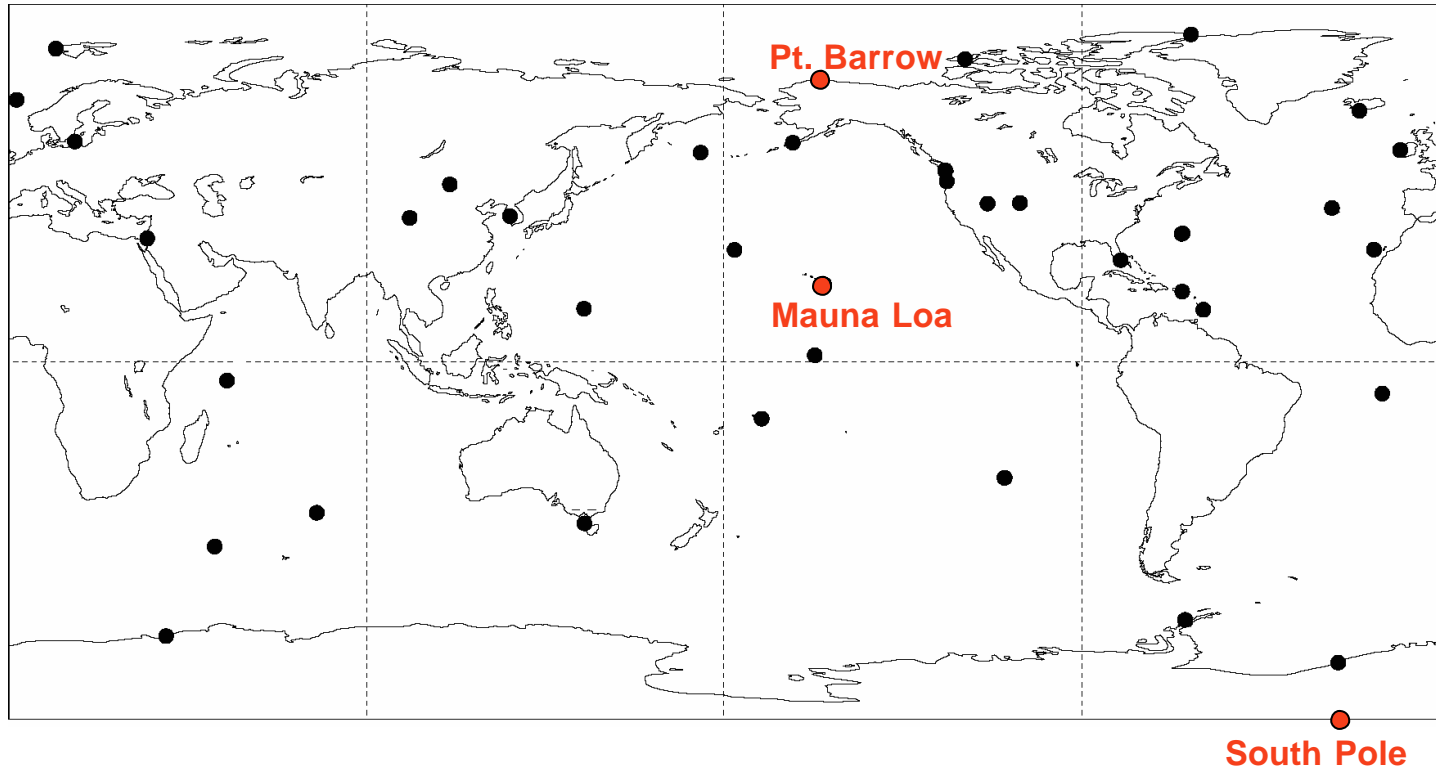
**note: think of Alan's
second slide above
your bed!**

End of the Maths Session!

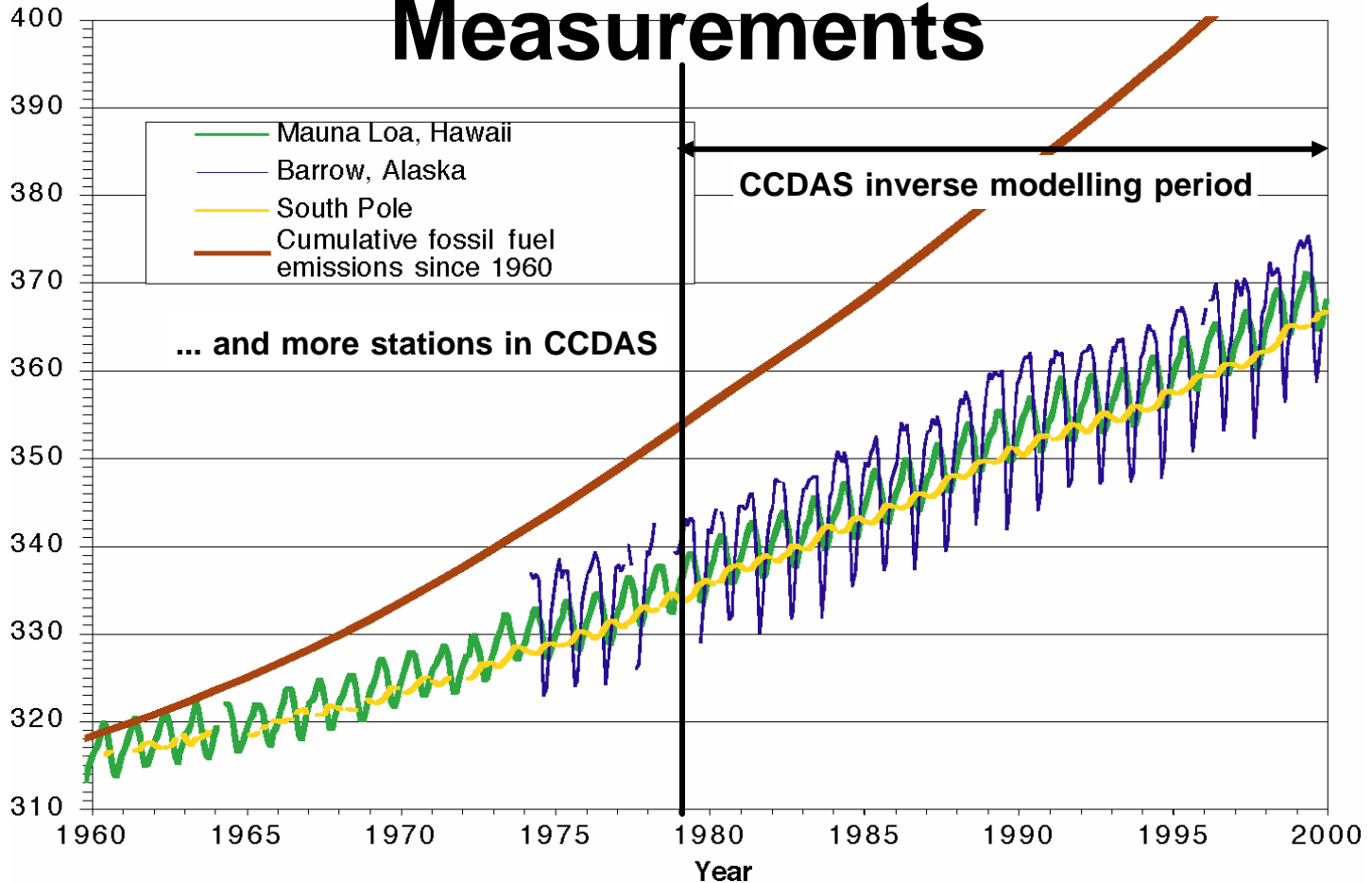
Programme

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

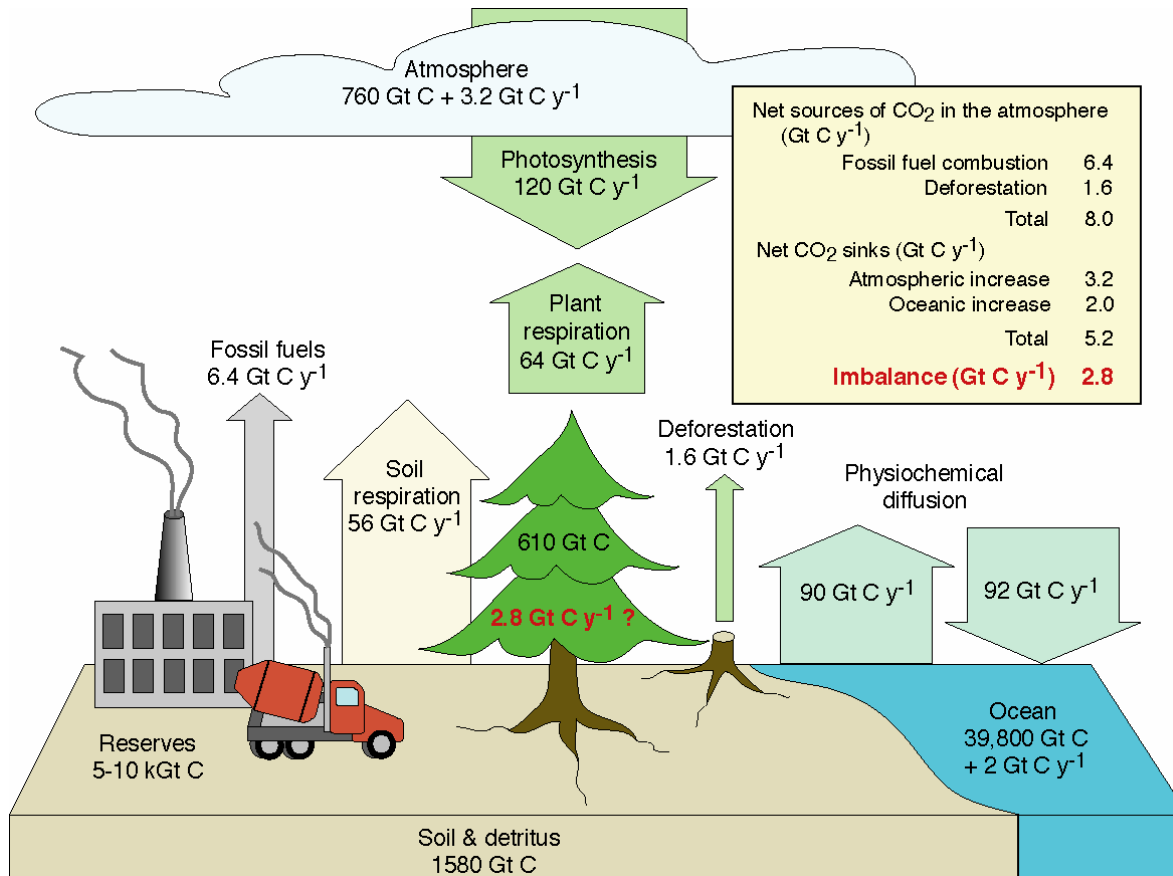
The Station Network



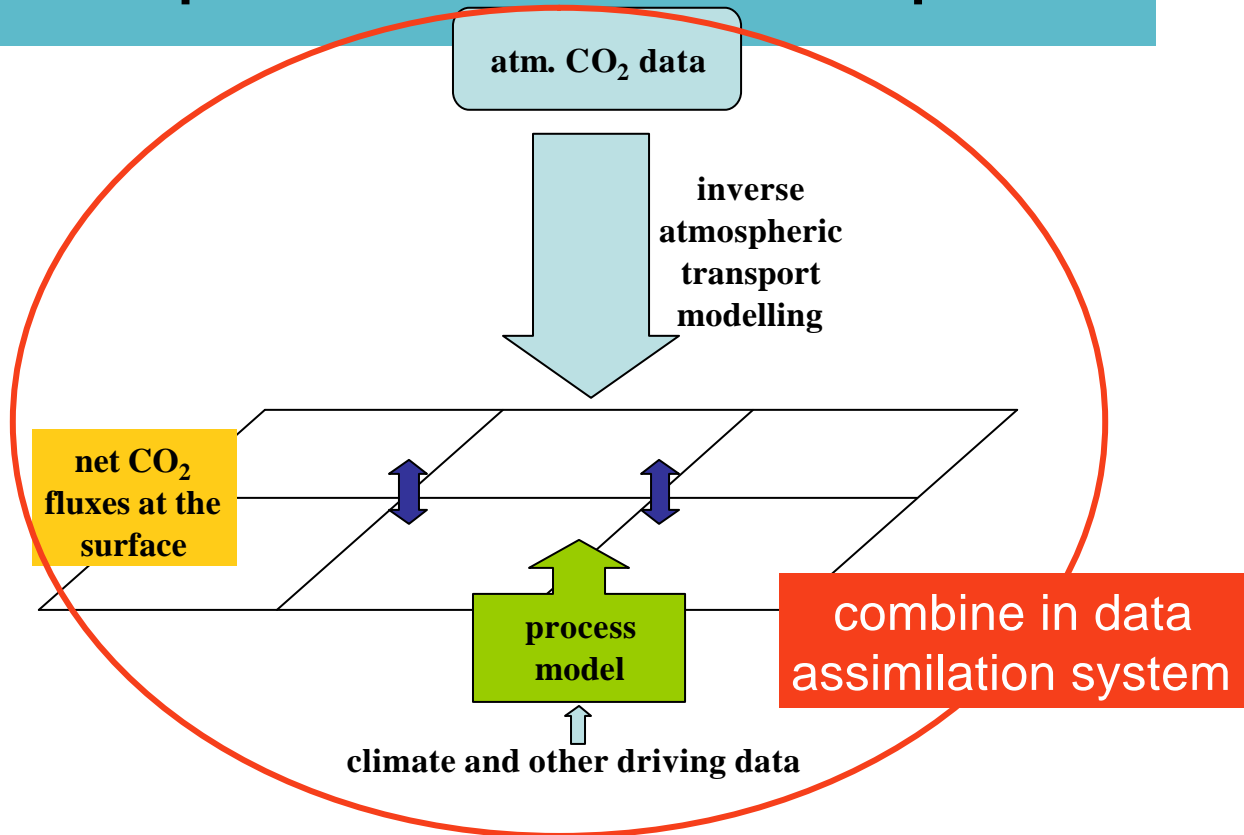
Atmospheric CO₂ Measurements



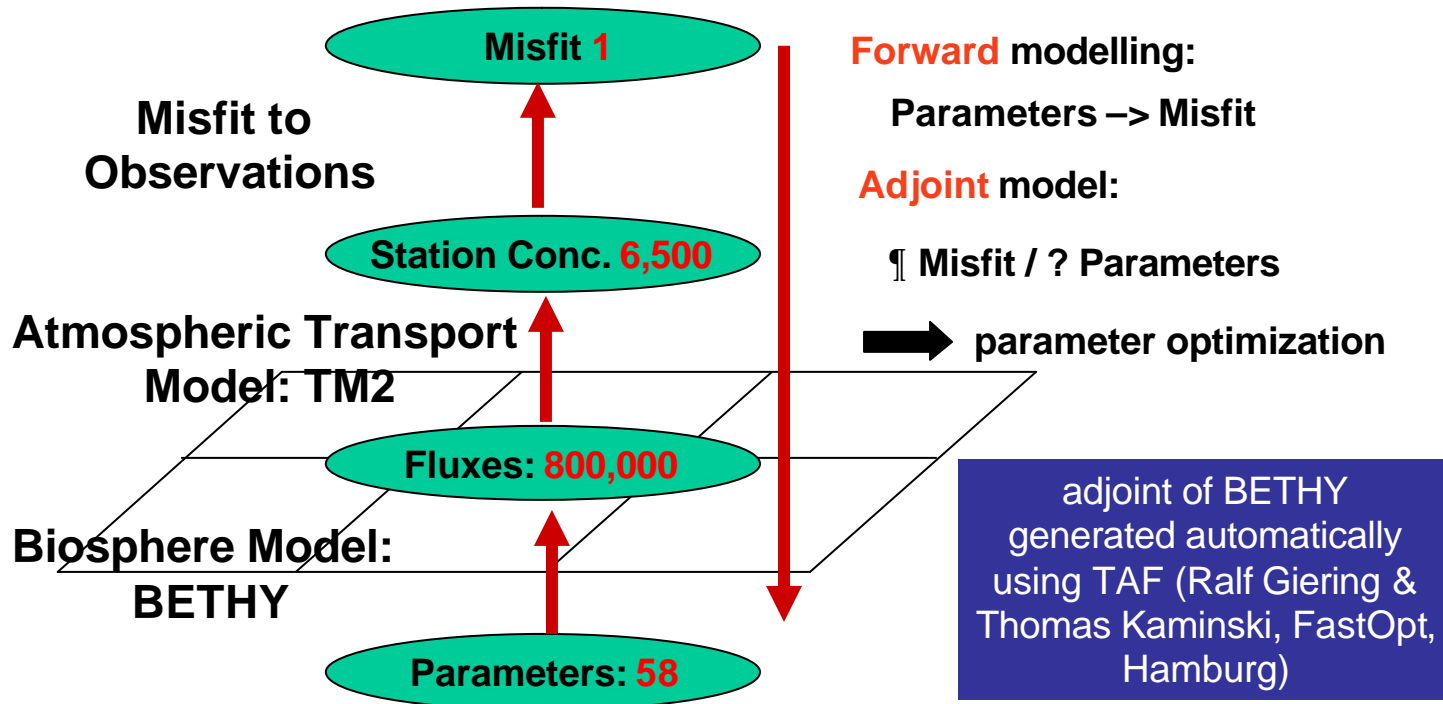
The Global Carbon Cycle



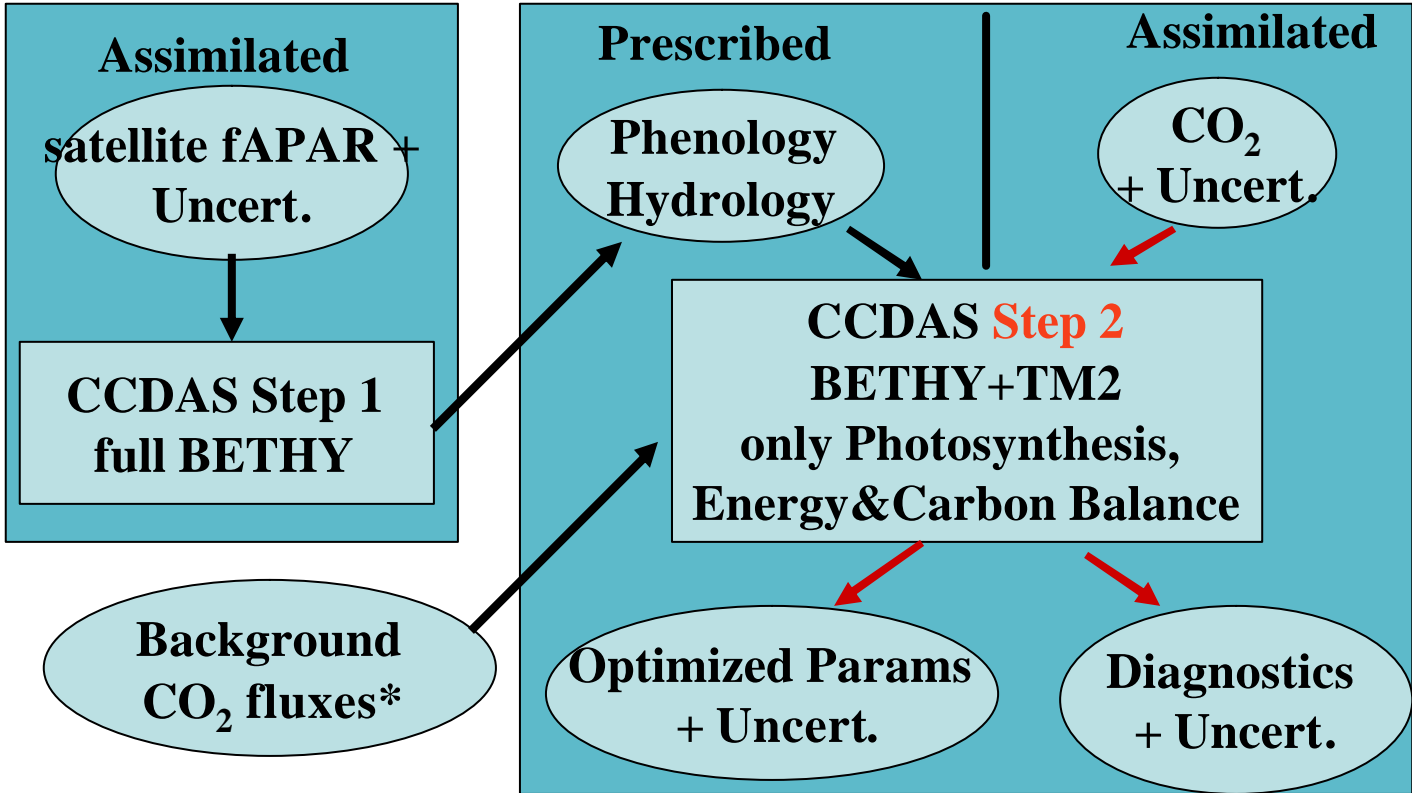
Top down / Bottom up



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

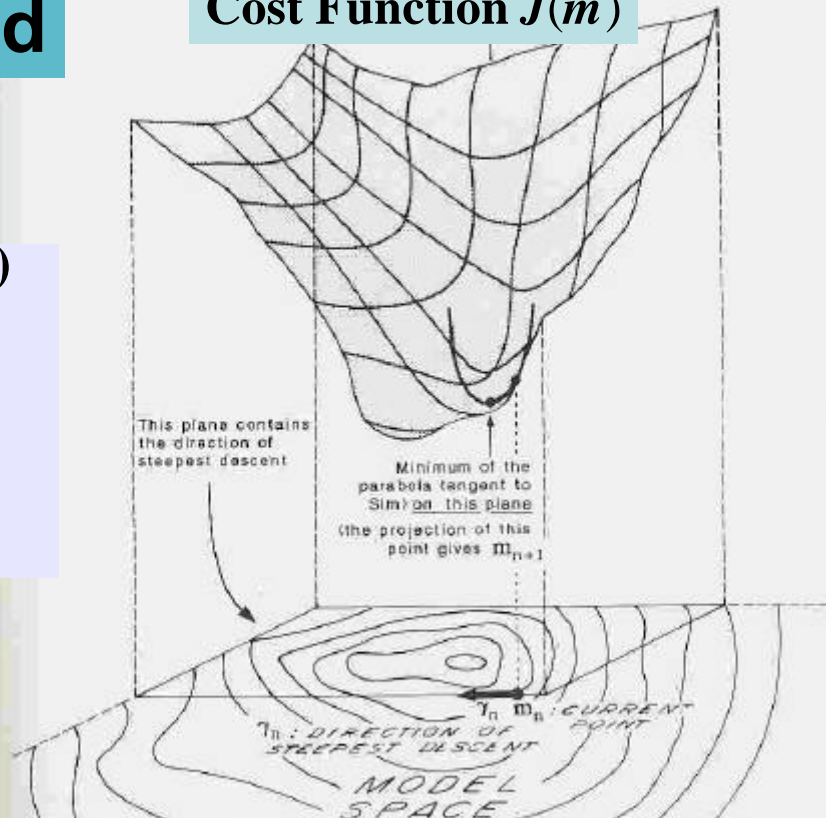
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$$-\partial J(m) / \partial m$$

yields direction of
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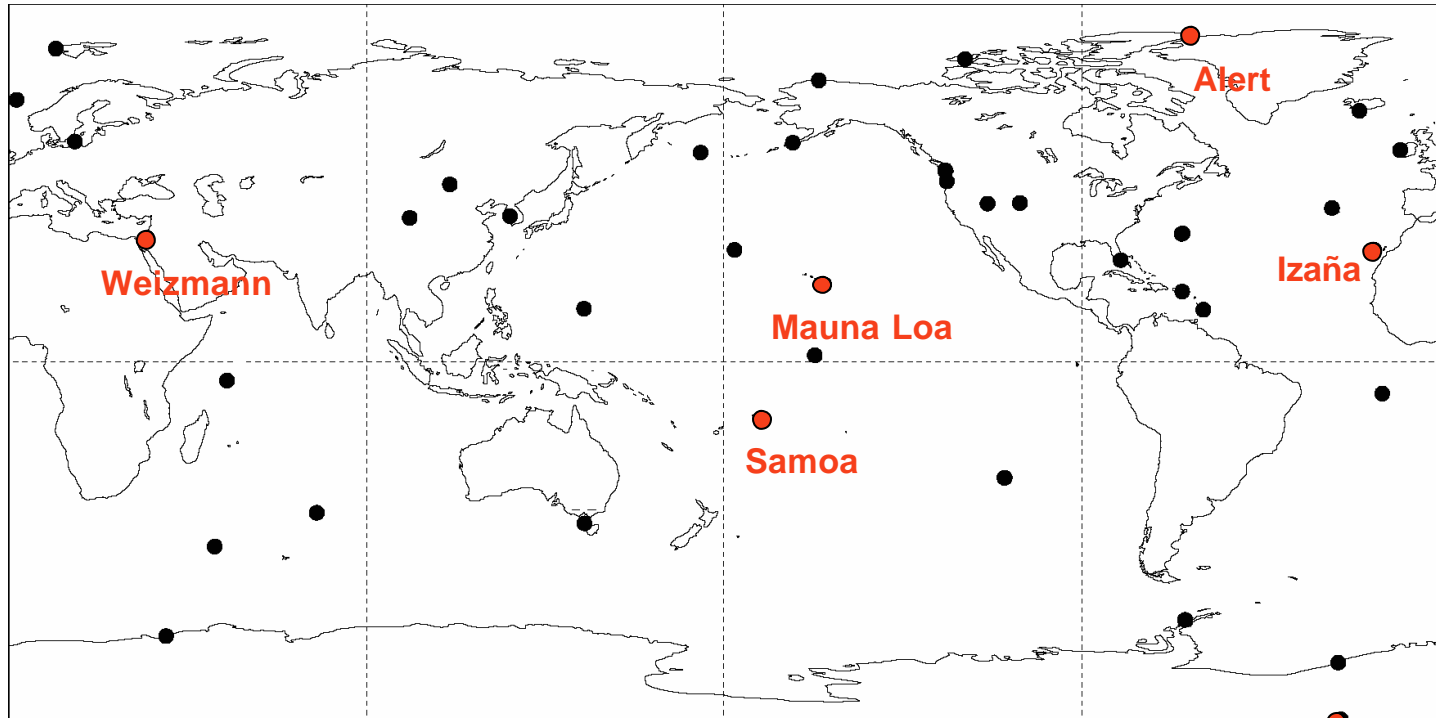
Figure taken from
Tarantola '87

Cost Function $J(m)$



Space of m (model parameters)

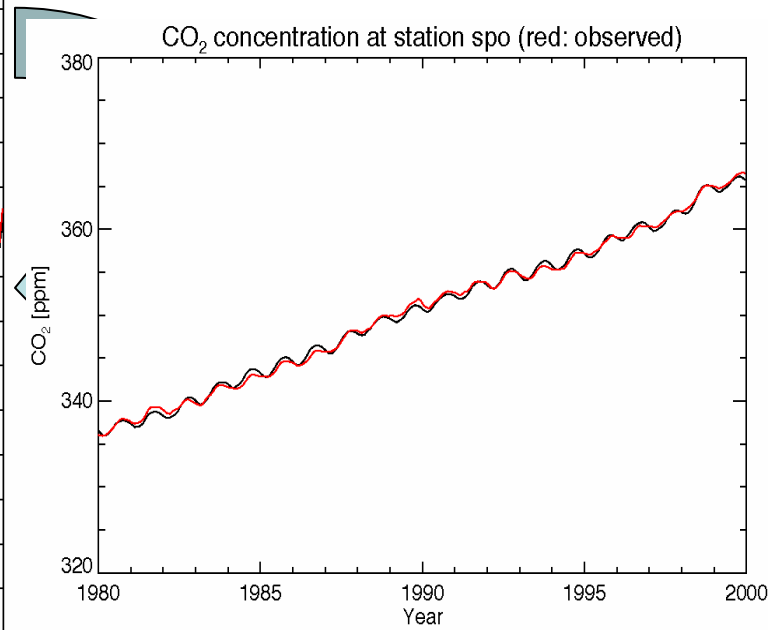
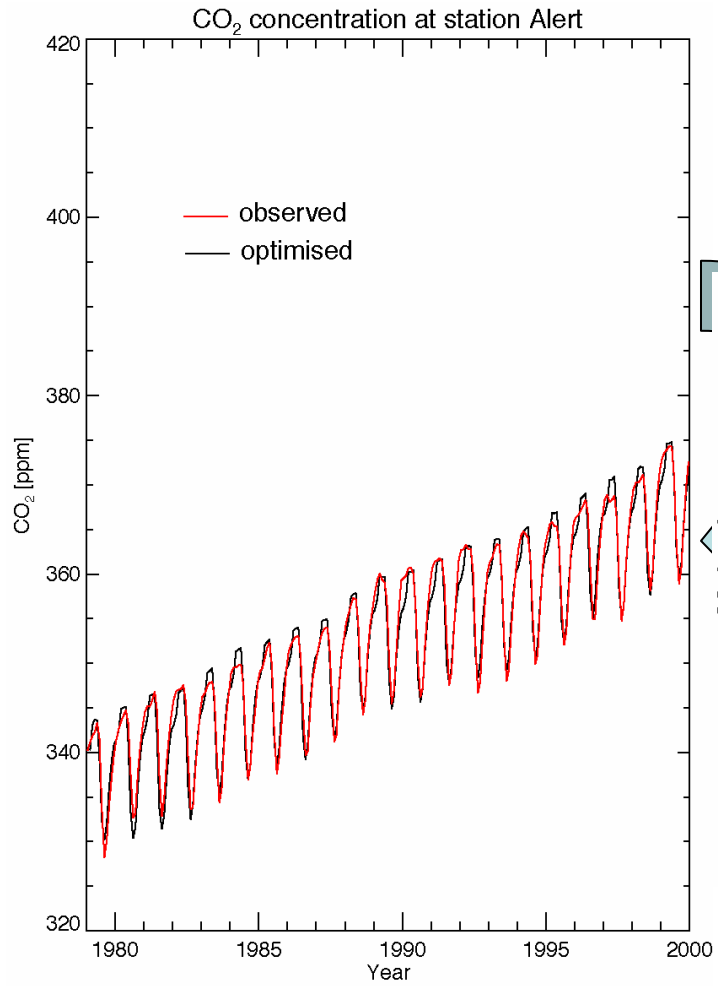
The Station Network

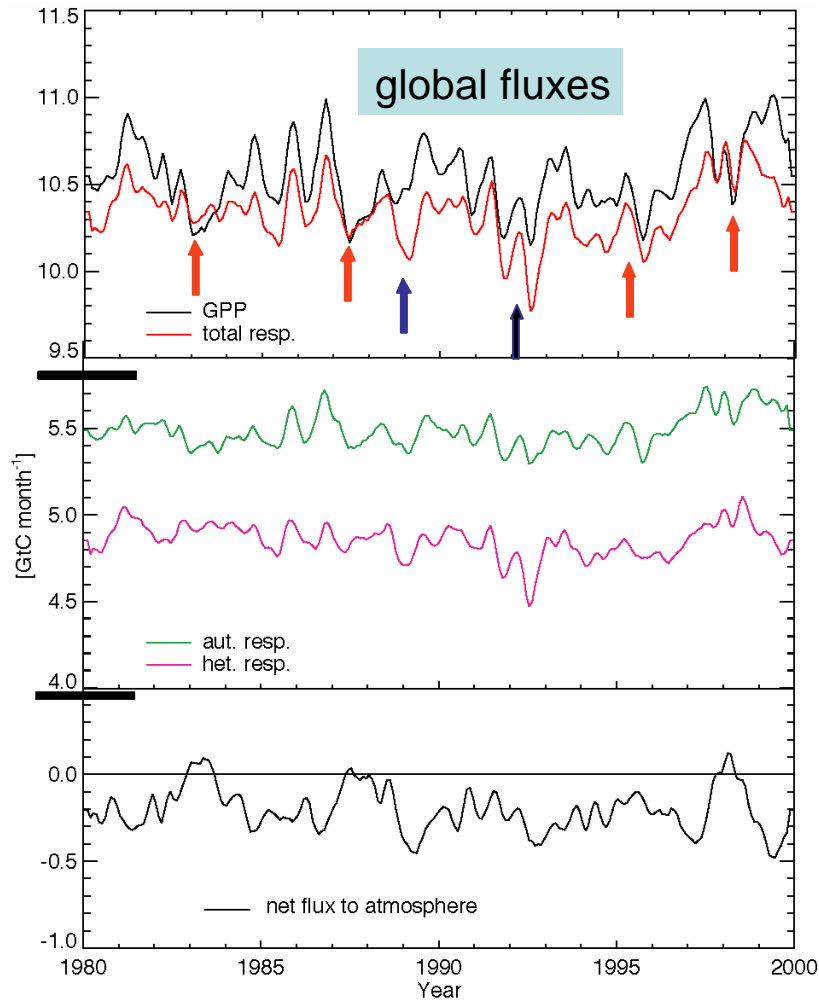


examples shown...

South Pole

Optimisation





Optimised fluxes (1)

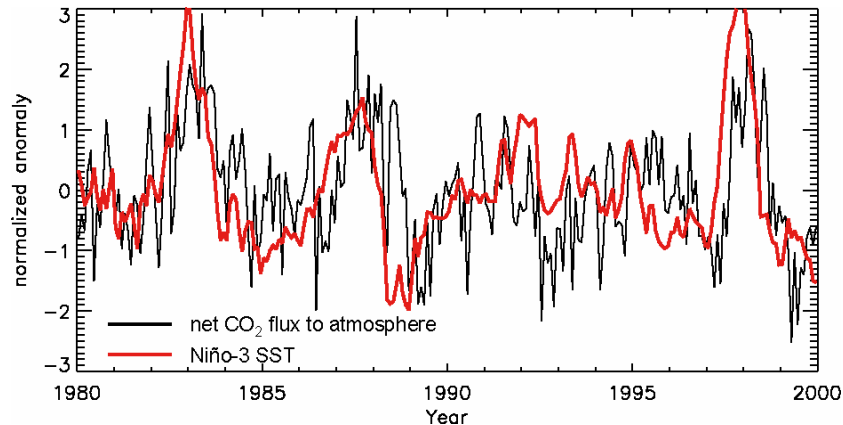
Major El Niño events

Major La Niña event

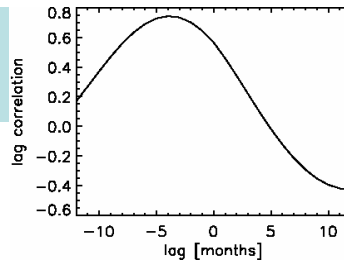
Post Pinatubo Period

Optimised fluxes (2)

normalized CO₂ flux and ENSO

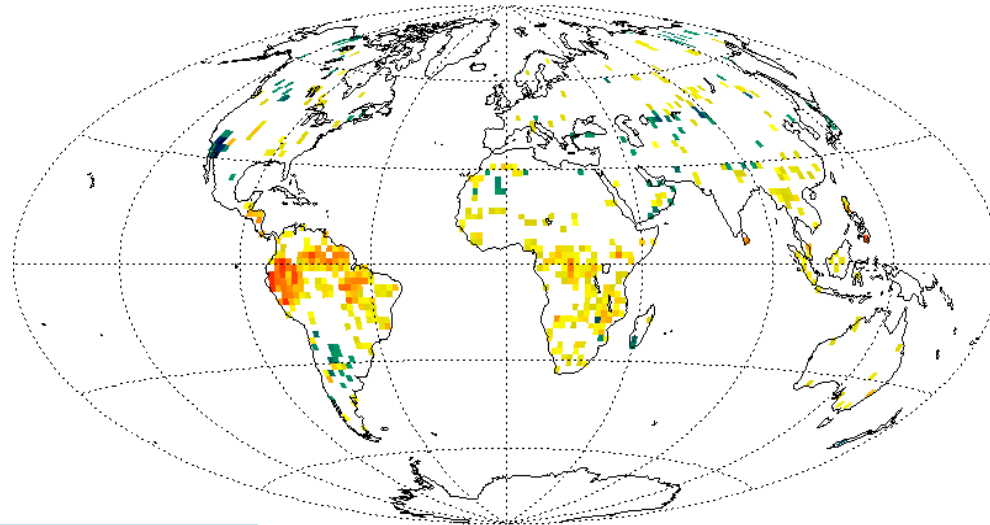


lag correlation (low-pass filtered)

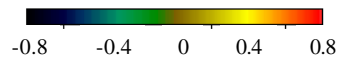


ENSO and terr. biosph. CO₂:
correlation seems strong
correlation between Niño-3 SST
anomaly and net CO₂ flux shows
maximum at 4 months lag, for
both **El Niño** and **La Niña** states

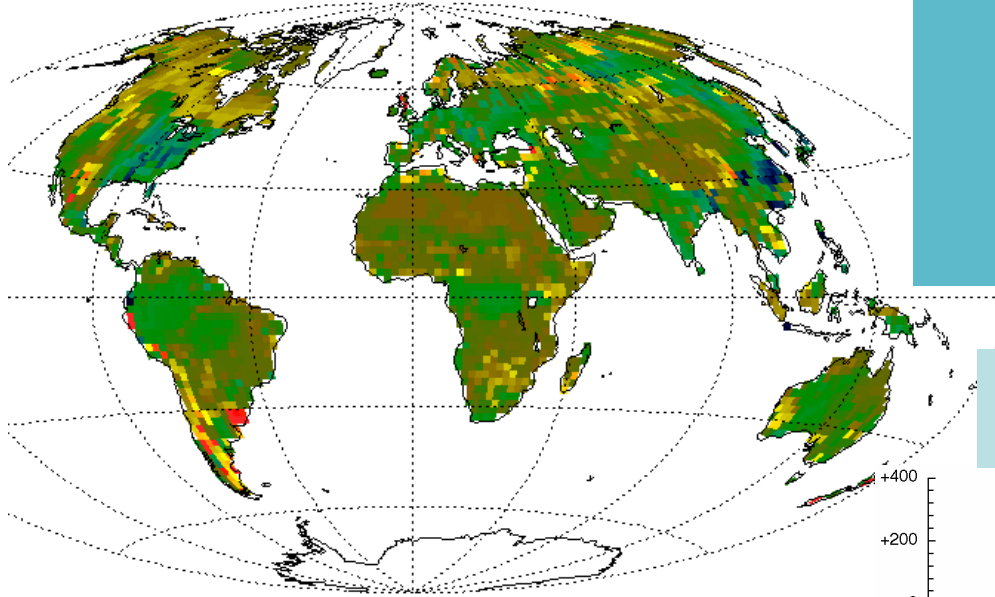
Optimised fluxes (3)



lagged correlation
at 99% significance

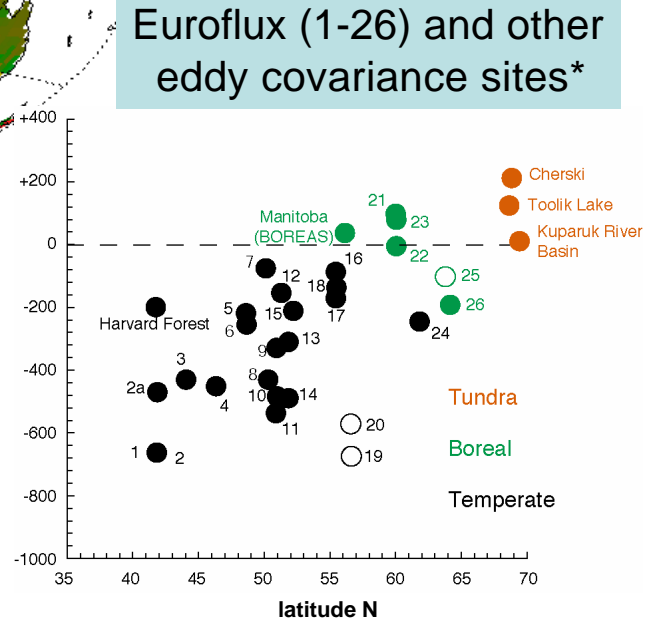


Carbon Balance



-1000 -750 -500 -250 0 250 500 750 1000

net carbon flux 1980-2000
gC / (m² year)



*from Valentini et al. (2000) and others

Error Covariances in Parameters

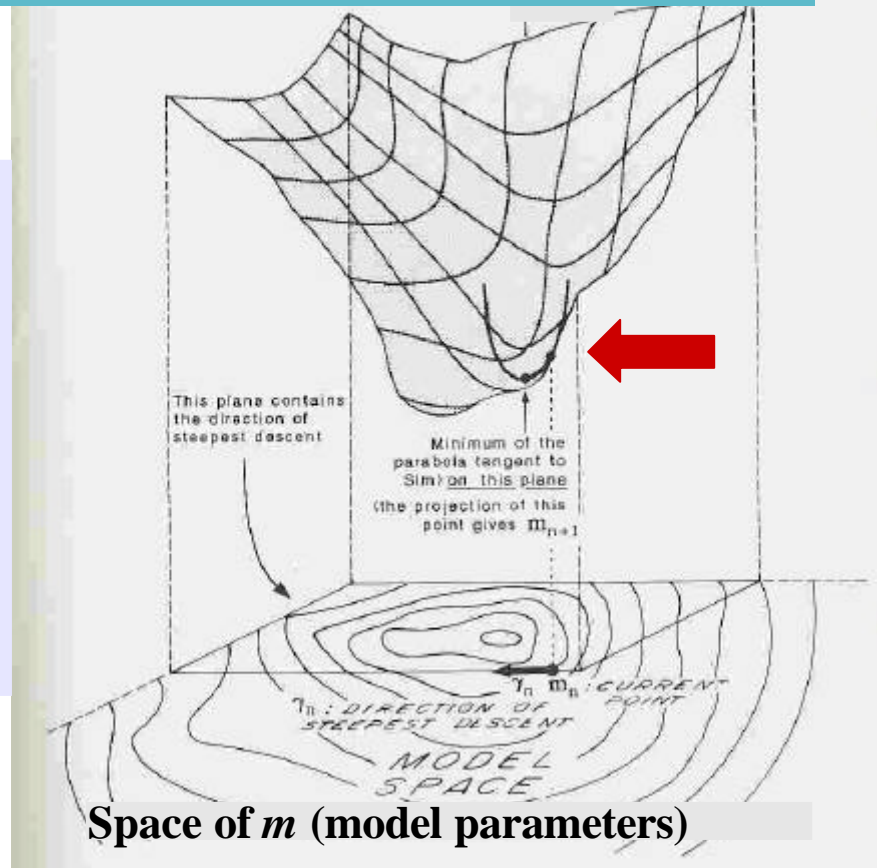
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Second Derivative
(Hessian) of $J(m)$:

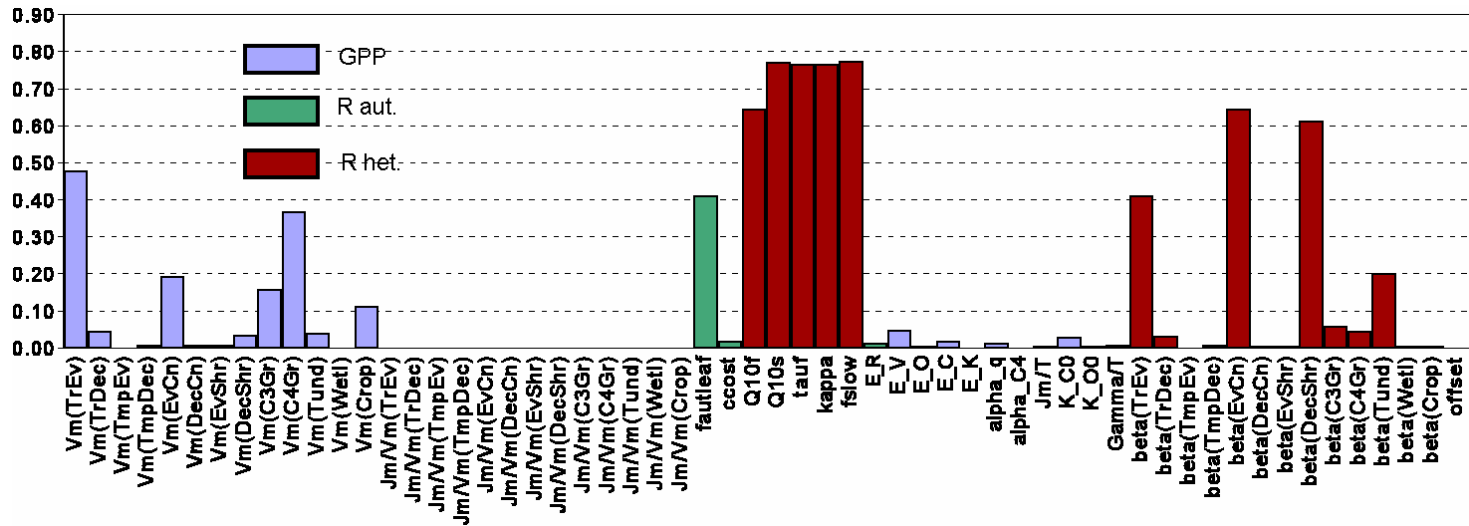
$$\partial^2 J(m) / \partial m^2$$

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

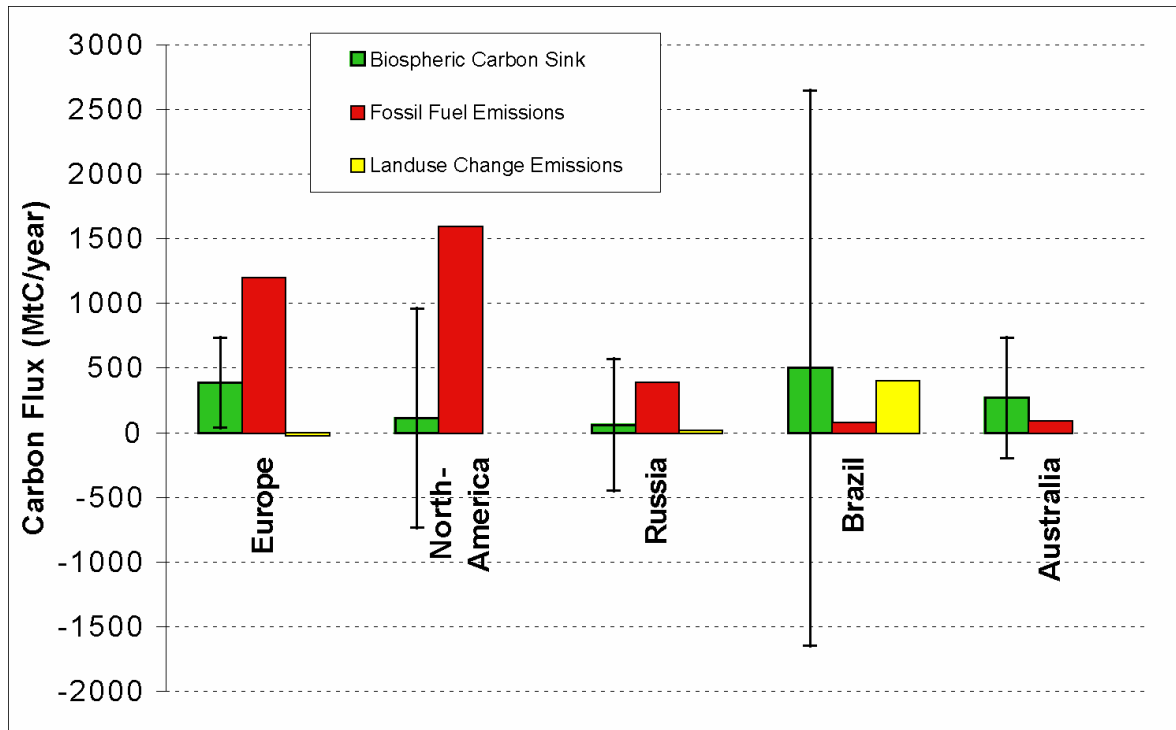
Error covariance of diagnostics, y ,
after optimisation (e.g. CO₂ fluxes):

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

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 CO₂ 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