



**Two new ways to improve reanalysis: Use future observation to improve the analyses and forecasts, and minimize reanalysis “jumps” when introducing new observing systems.**

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University of Maryland

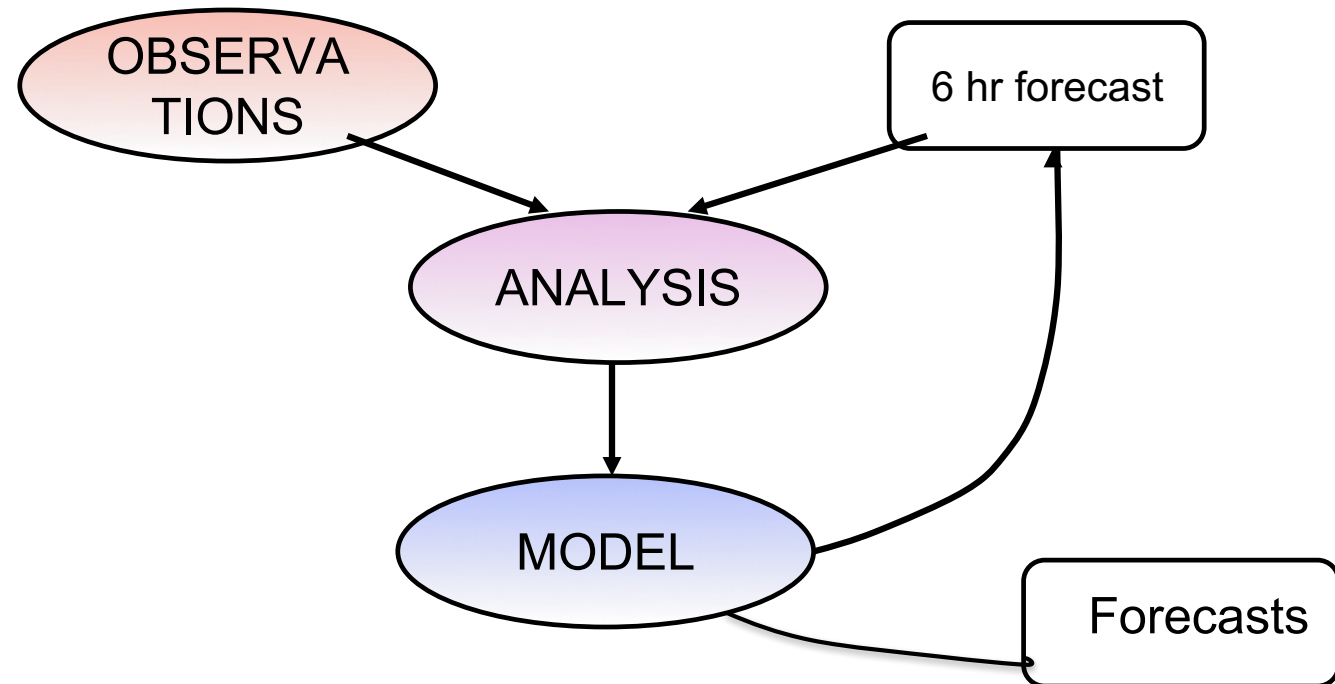
DAPS, May 29, EMC June 25 2019

Acknowledgements to:  
Daisuke Hotta, Jim Jung, Guo-Yuan Lien, Takemasa Miyoshi, Yoichiro Ota, Krishna Kumar, Jordan Alpert, Cheng Da, **Yan Zhou for her thesis**, and Junye Chen.

## Classic Data Assimilation:

To improve Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) we need to improve **observations**, **analysis scheme** and **model**

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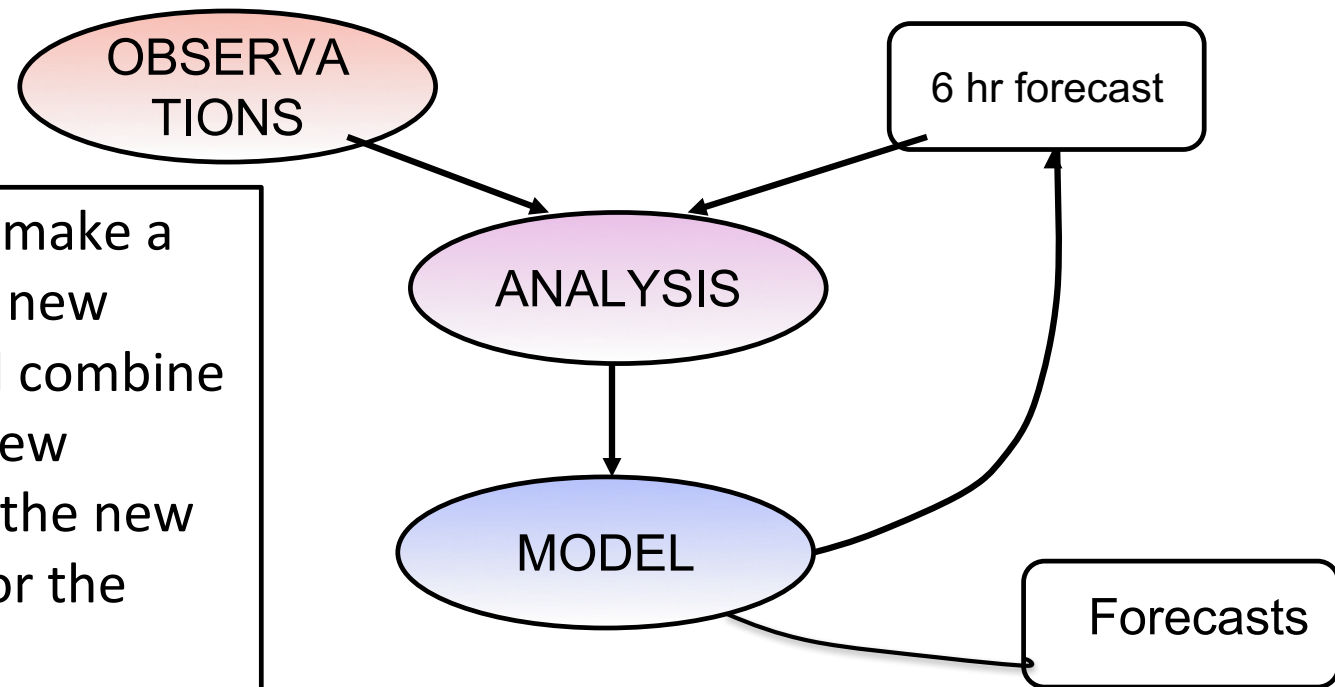
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### CLASSIC DA:

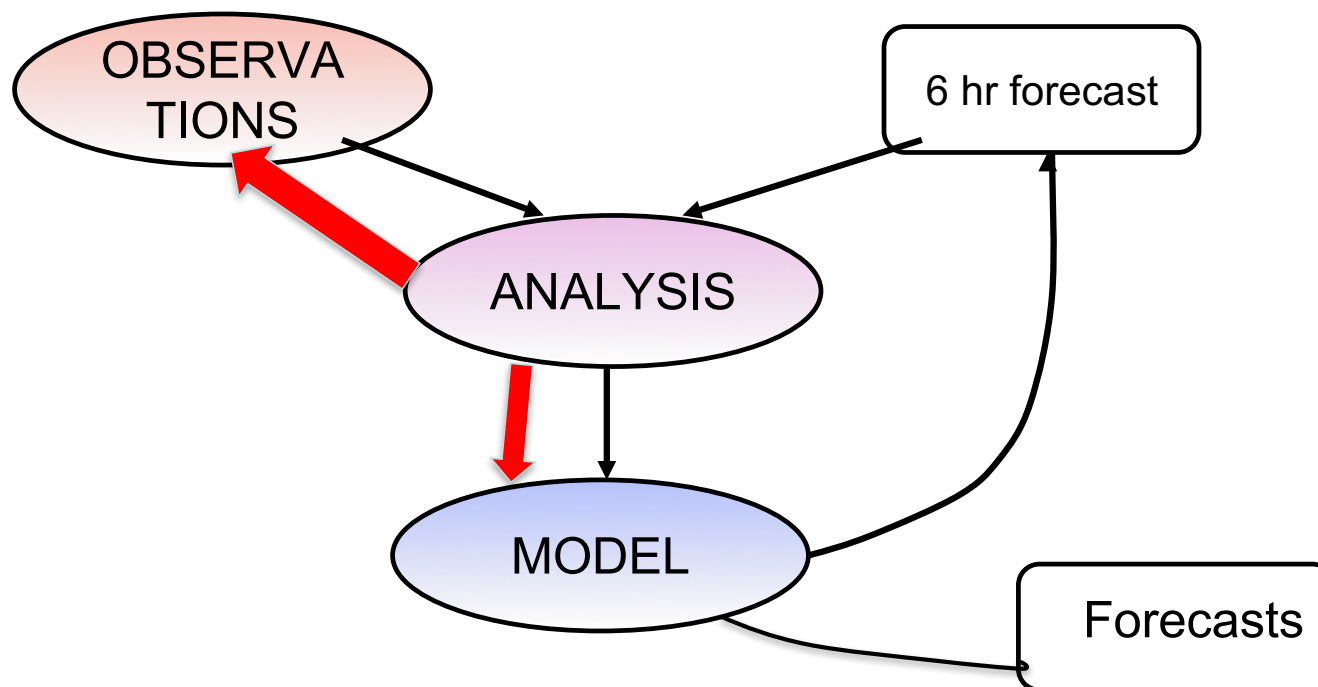
Every 6 hours we make a new forecast, get new observations, and combine them to get the new analysis, which is the new initial condition for the model forecast.



## NEW applications of modern Data Assimilation:

We can **also** use DA to improve both **observations** and **model**

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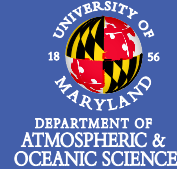




# Using Analysis Increments to Estimate and Correct Systematic Model Errors

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## 1. Systematic Model Errors

Systematic errors limit the performance of Numerical Weather Systems and data assimilation schemes.

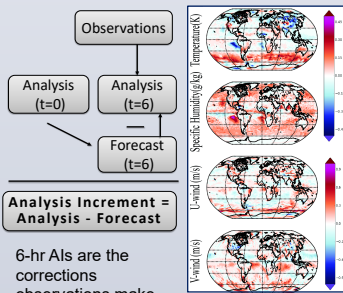
$$\mathbf{x}_m^e = \mathbf{b} + \sum_{l=1}^L \beta_l(t) \mathbf{e}_l + \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma_n(t) \mathbf{f}_n + \mathbf{x}_m^{rand}$$



## 2. Objectives

- Estimate the time averaged Systematic Error, i.e. bias in Ps, Q, T, U and V
- Estimate the periodic component of Systematic Errors by analyzing Empirical Orthogonal Functions
- Implement an adaptive Online Correction scheme that corrects GFS in real time during the model integration

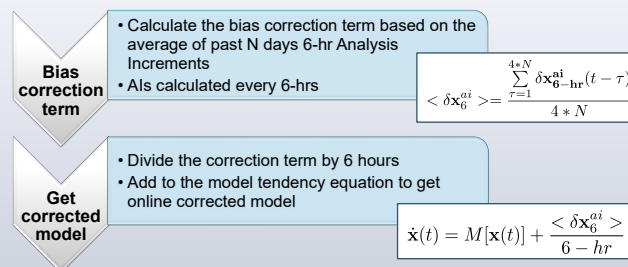
## 3. Estimation Of Bias Using Analysis Increments (AIs)



6-hr AIs are the corrections observations make on 6-hr forecasts while the errors are still growing linearly

Figure 1: JJA average AIs for 2014 indicate large scale biases

## 4. Adaptive Online Correction Scheme



## 5. Reduction In Bias After Online Correction

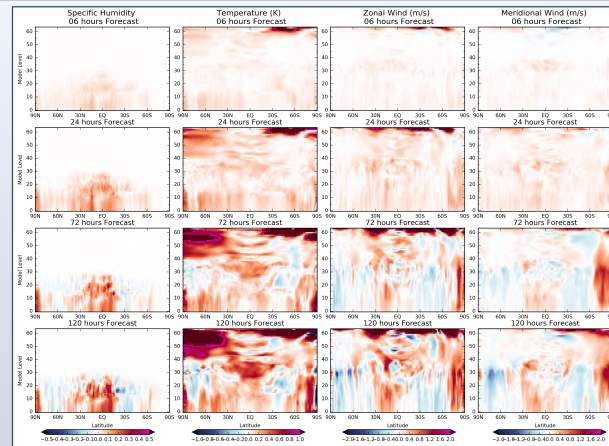


Figure 2: Improvement in bias (shown in red) after applying Adaptive Online correction using training period of past 7 days

## 5. Reduction in Bias ...

- ☐ Bias in all tested variables reduced until 1 day with no impact on random errors
- ☐ After 1 day, all variables generally improved in the tropics and near top levels
- ☐ Random errors increase slightly after 1 day but not significantly
- ☐ Improvement achieved is almost as strong as the correction applied at 6 hours

## 6. Diurnal Cycle Errors

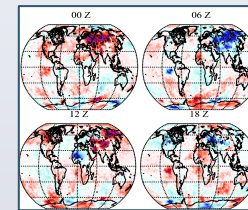


Figure 3: JJA Temperature (K) AIs at 6-hrs

- ☐ Strong diurnal and semi-diurnal cycle errors dominate periodic component
- ☐ Scale is same as bias hence correcting these is very critical

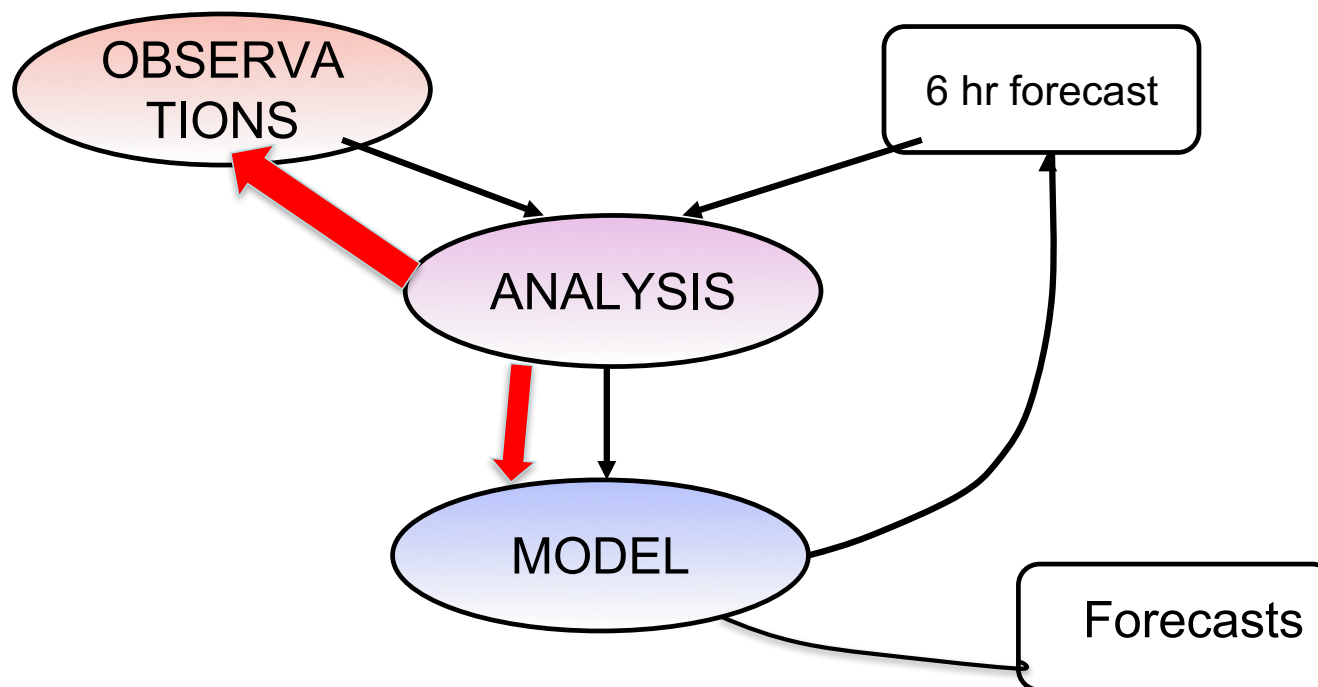
## 7. Conclusions

- ☐ 6-hr Analysis Increments provide the best estimate of model bias
- ☐ GFS has robust, systematic seasonal mean and diurnal forecast errors
- ☐ Our adaptive online scheme is remarkably stable
- ☐ This scheme reduces errors globally in T&Q and in tropics in U&V even after 5 days by about 30%.
- ☐ No significant impact on random errors

## NEW applications of modern Data Assimilation:

Now will show how to use DA to improve **observations**

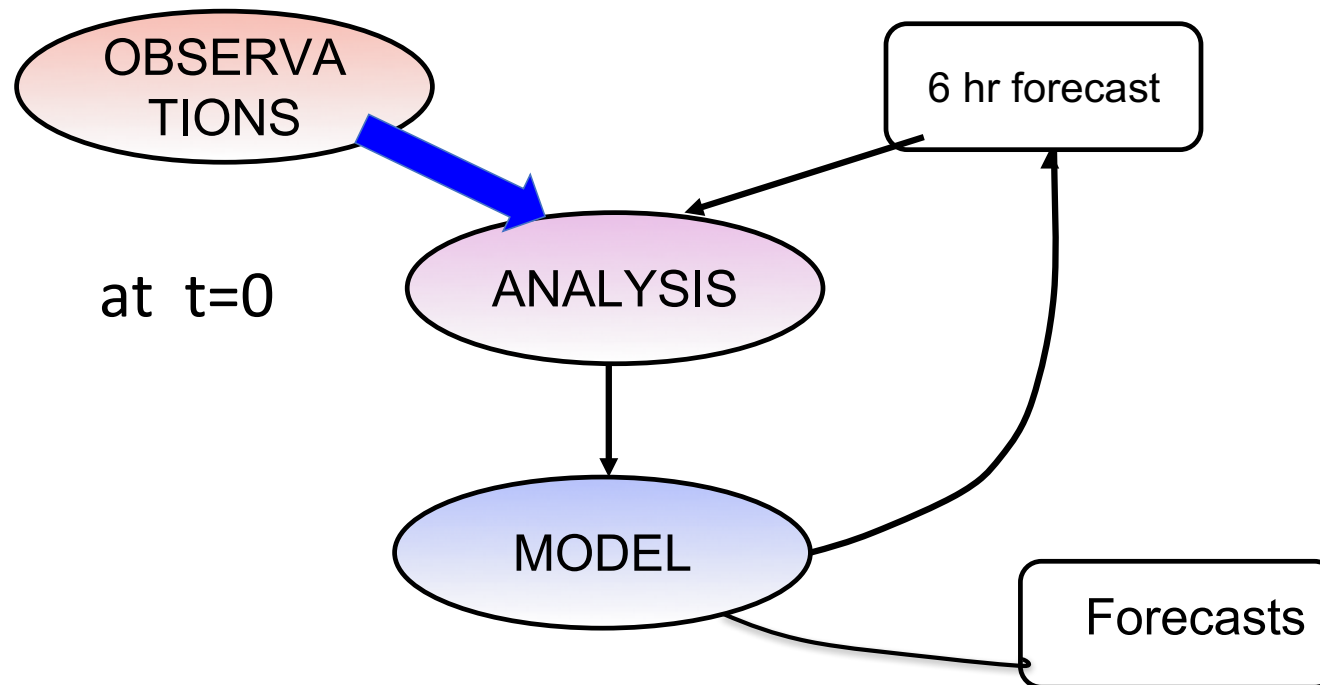
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We will show how to **identify** and **delete detrimental observations** to improve the analysis and the forecasts.

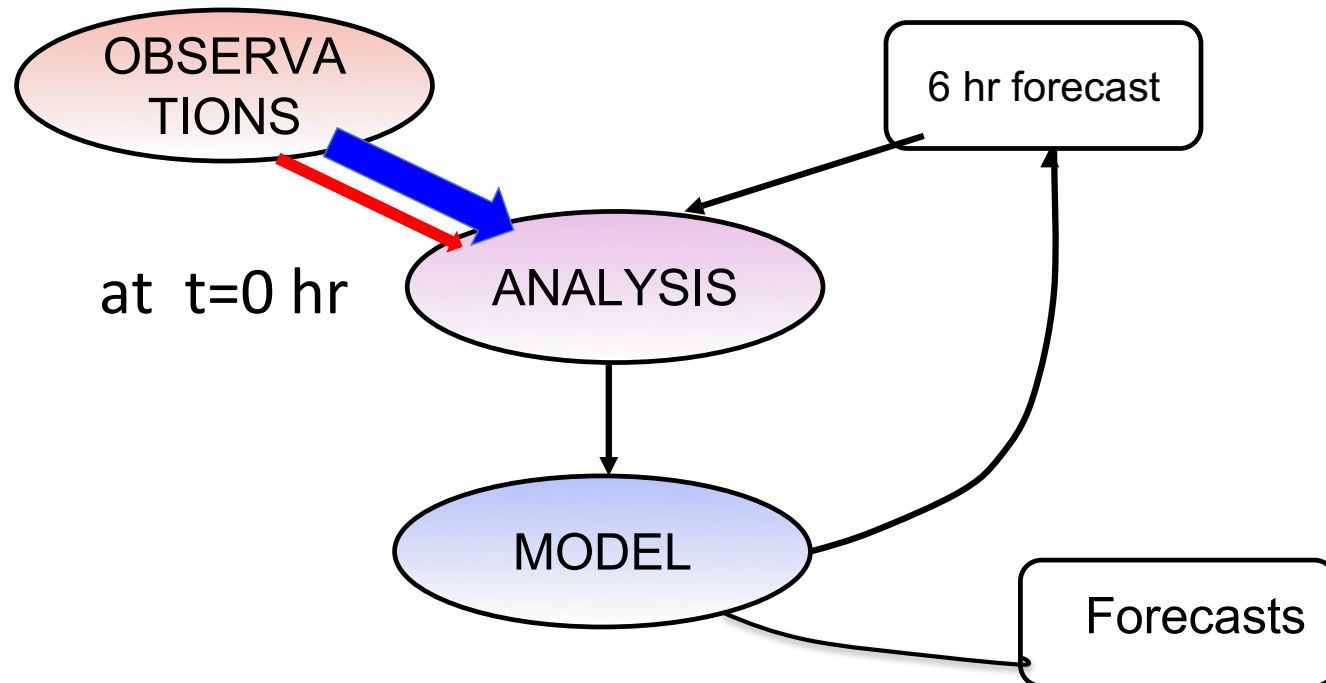
The idea is to use **future observations** to **QC** the **current observations**.

Many observations are beneficial: they improve the 6 hr forecast:



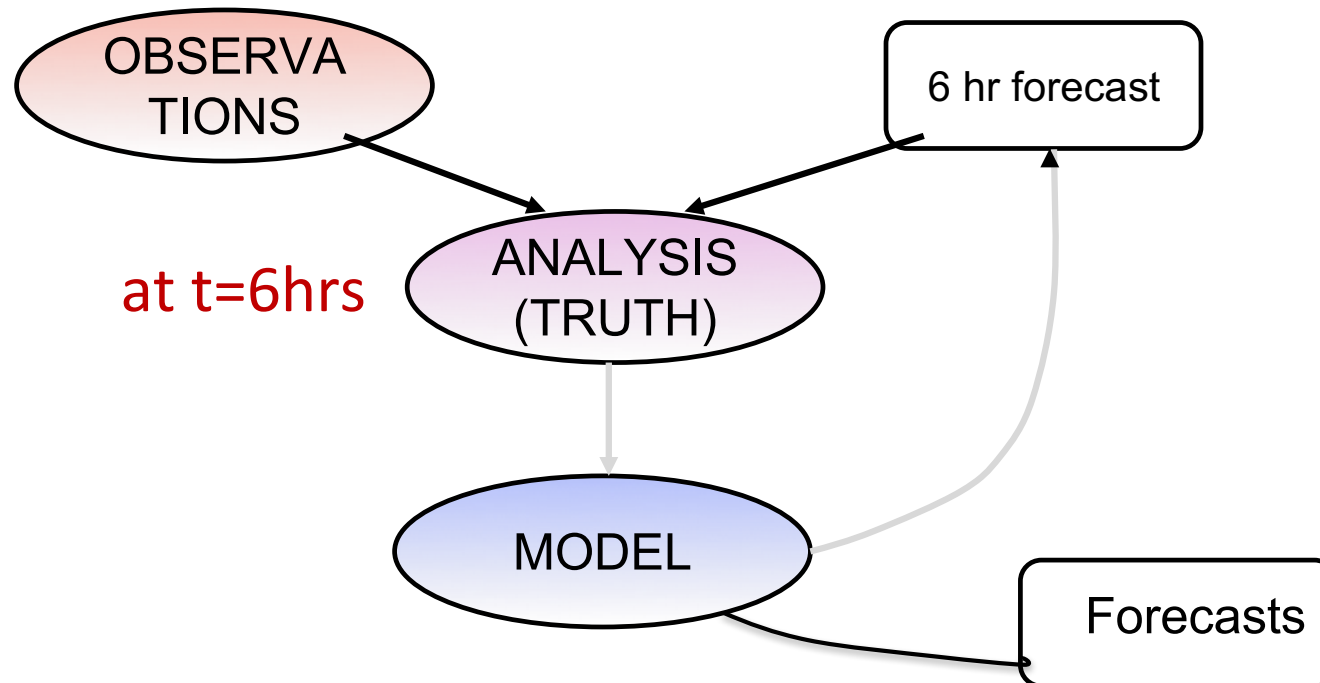
**But some observations are detrimental! They make the forecast worse!**

**How to identify and delete detrimental observations?**

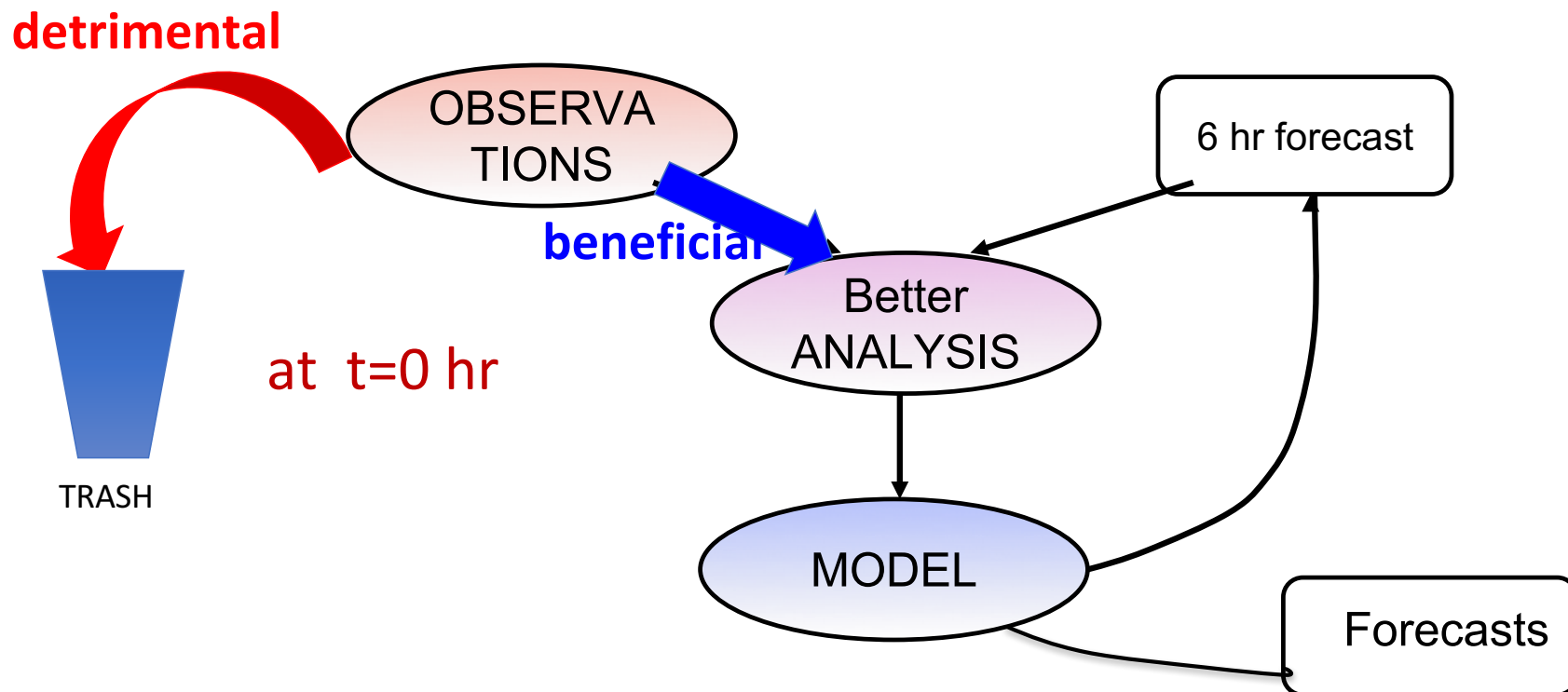


We use the observations **6 hours later**, and consider **the new analysis as truth for t=6hr**.

This allows to use EFSO to determine whether each observation at t=0 made the 6hr forecast better or worse

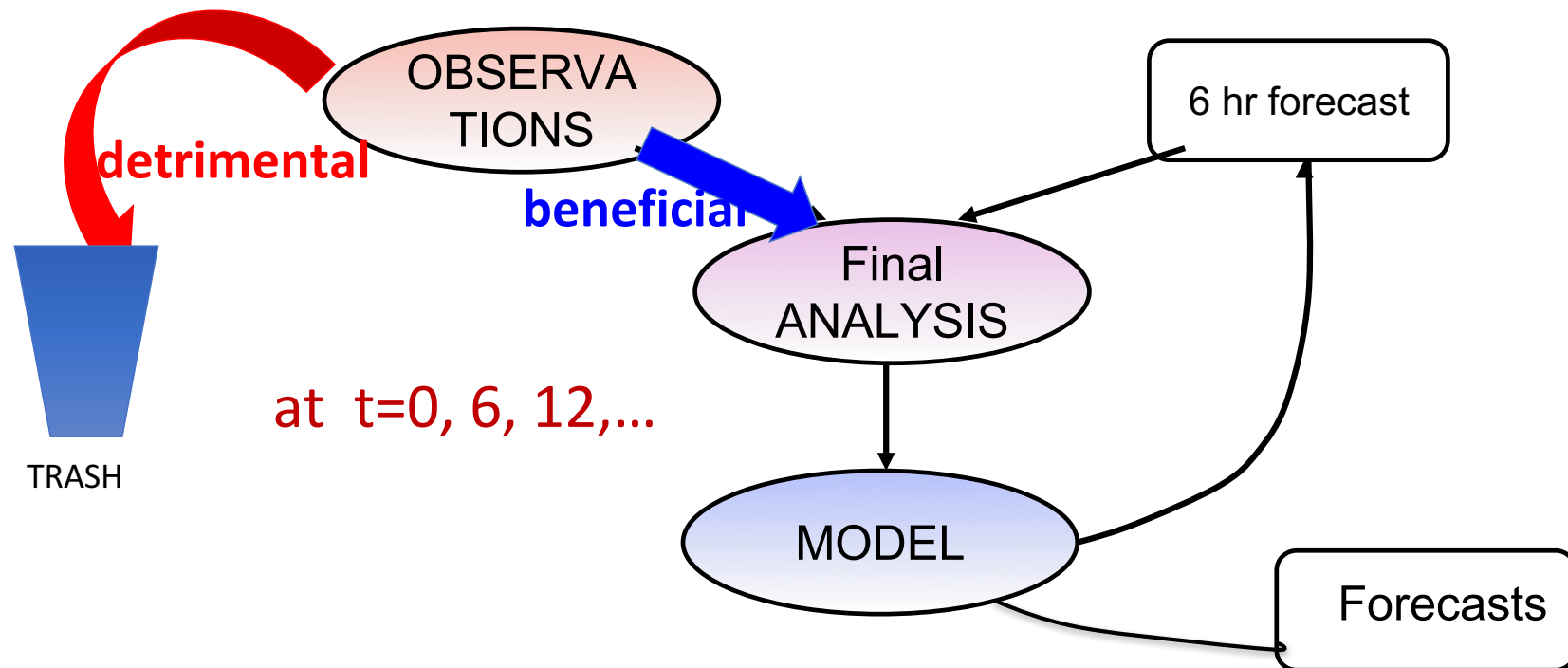


We check each  $t=0$  observation, and (using EFSO) find whether it **improved** the *forecast* (**beneficial**) or **made it worse** (**detrimental**). **We delete the most detrimental observations, and repeat the analysis at  $t=0$  assimilating only beneficial observations.**

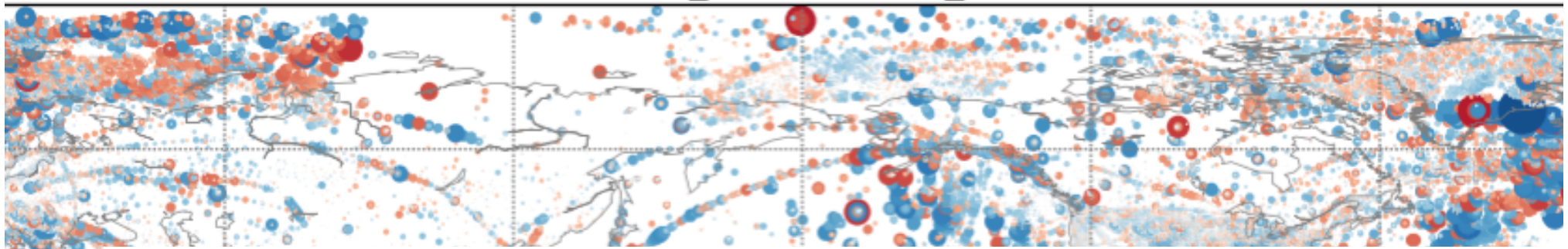




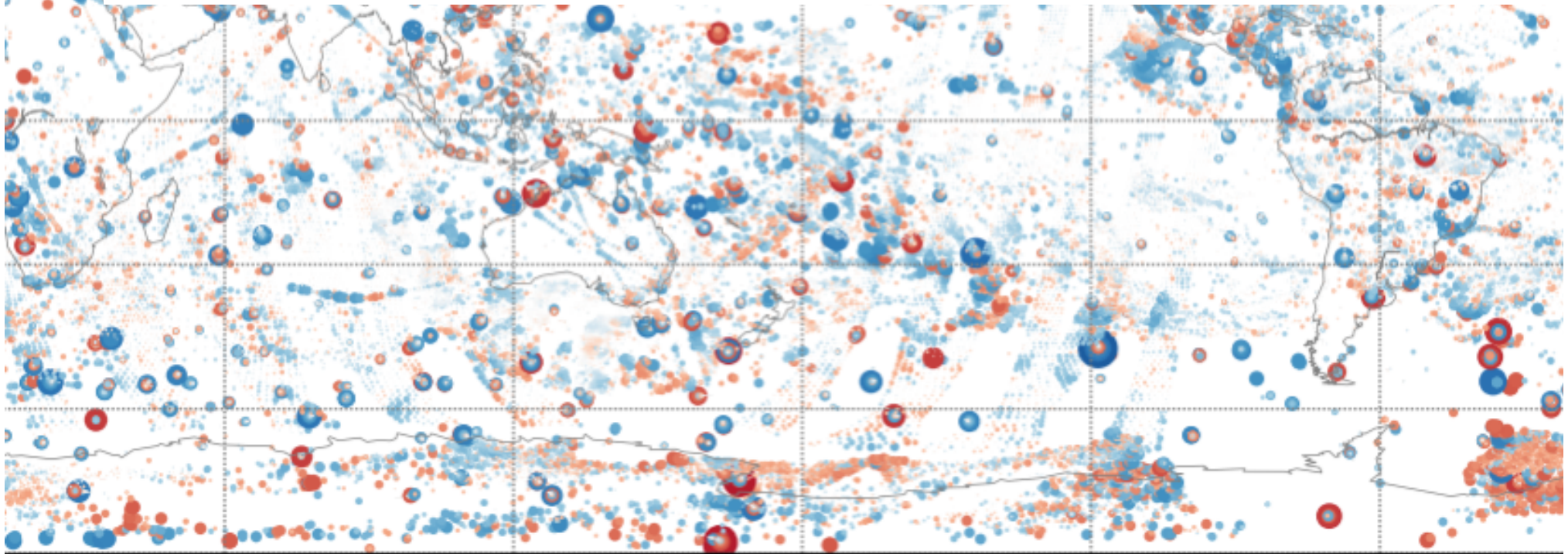
The Final Analysis is cycled, **accumulating the improvements** obtained every 6 hours by deleting the most detrimental observations and assimilating all the beneficial observations (**Proactive QC**).



As a result, both the Analysis and the Model Forecasts improve substantially  
See the example of 10-day forecasts using the GFS-LETKF system.



An example of EFSO estimation of all beneficial and detrimental obs

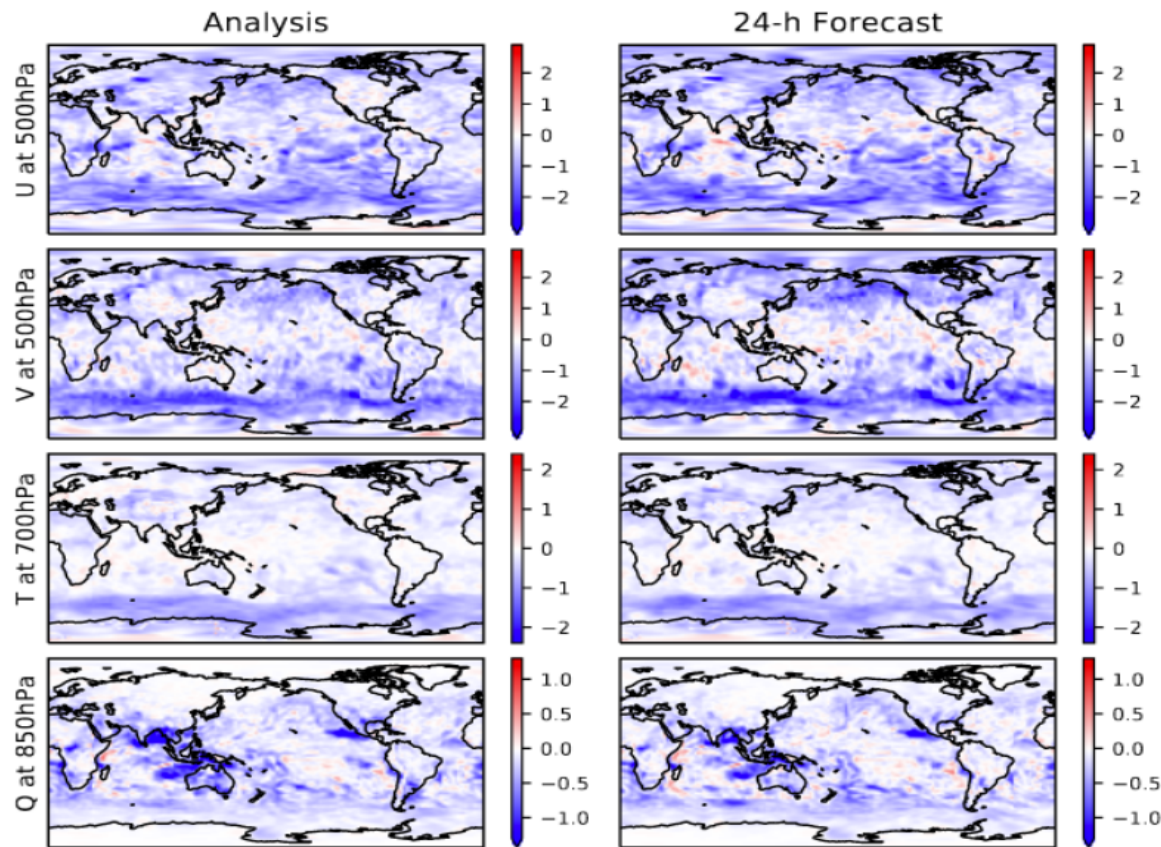


## Experimental setup for **GFS-LETKF** (Lien, 2015, Chen, 2018)

Period (~1 month)	Jan/01/2008 00Z – Feb/06/2008 06Z (5 days for DA spinup )
Model	GFS T62 L64 (lower resolution)
DA	LETKF with 32 members ensemble size
Observations	prepBUFR data from NCEP (all obs except radiances)
Localization	Horizontal: 500 km Vertical: 0.4 scale height
Inflation	RTPP (Zhang 2004) + adaptive inflation (Miyoshi 2011)
Verifying truth	NCEP Climate Forecast System Reanalysis (CFSR)

**Efficient but realistic GFS system**

# Cycling PQC accumulates the reduction of the analysis error

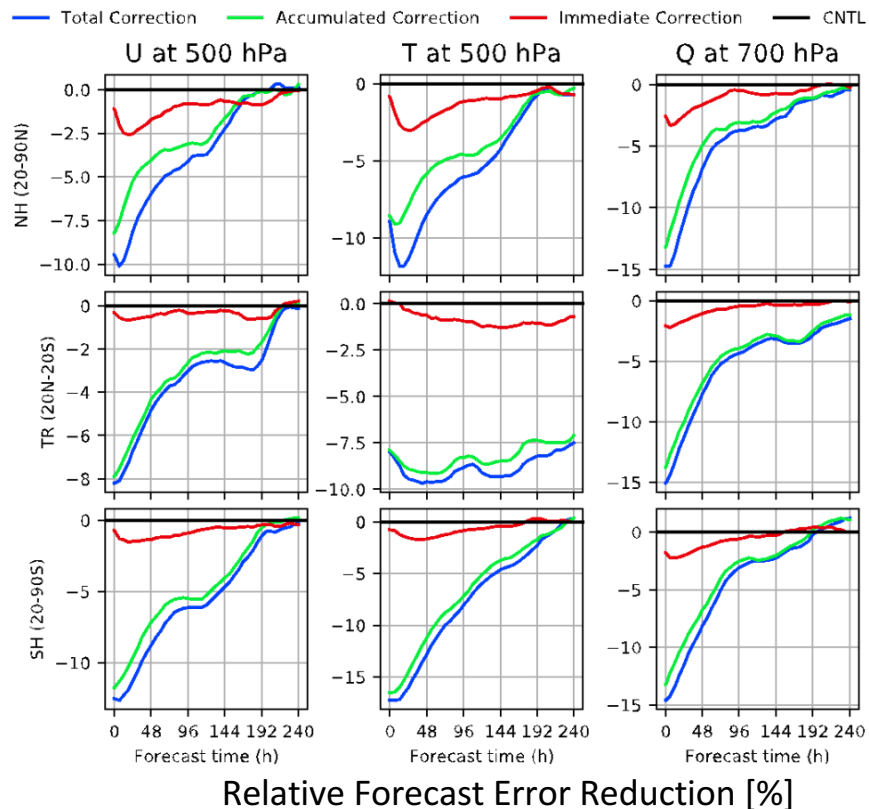


- **Cycling PQC reduces analysis and 24 hr forecast RMSE (blue).**
- **Essentially no red!**
- **The forecast improvements remain significant until errors saturate, at about ~10 days.**

**Analysis is improved globally for every variable!**



# Immediate and Accumulated impact of cycling PQC

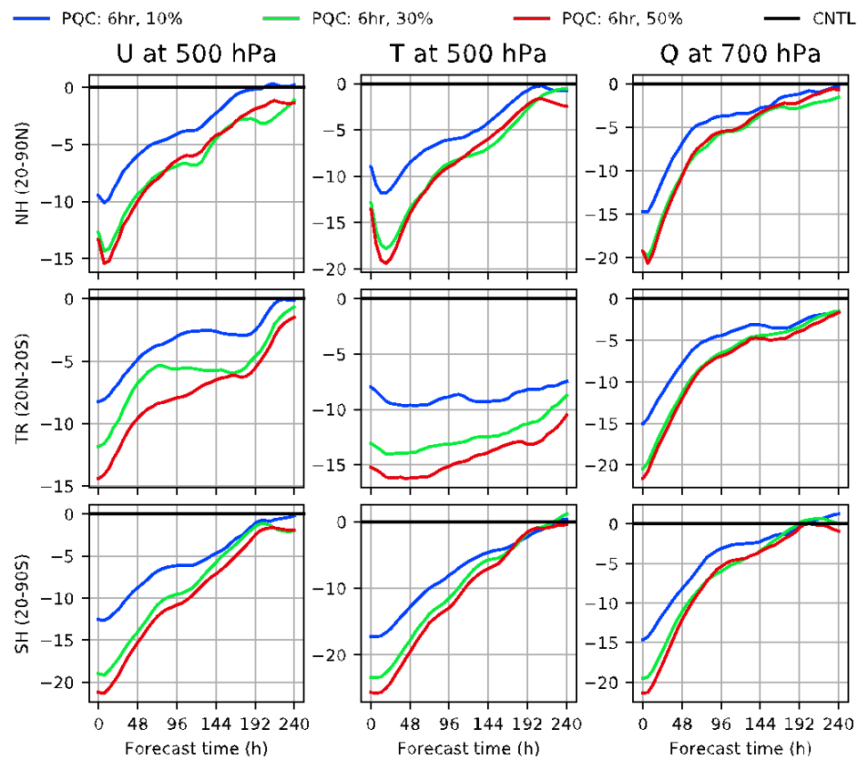


(only 10% most detrimental rejection)

- We separate **total correction** of cycling PQC into **immediate** and **accumulated correction** over 10 days.
- Most of the total correction are provided by the **cycled PQC (accumulated from previous corrections.)**
- This indicates that PQC is feasible for operations even if we don't have time for an immediate correction in operational tight schedule (correct only GDAS, the final analysis).

**Most (~90%) benefit comes from the accumulated correction.**  
**So, the accumulated (cycled) PQC is feasible in operations!**

# Rejecting more detrimental obs (up to 50%) improves the forecasts



- More improvement when rejecting more (**10%**, **30%**, **50%**) detrimental observations.
- Rejecting all detrimental (~50%) observations gives good results.
- About 20% improvement in short-term forecast.
- The improvement remains at about 5% after 6 days.
- In the NH 30% is better than 50%.

**Rejecting 50% detrimental observations improves 10 day forecasts only in the tropics, in the NH 30% is best.**



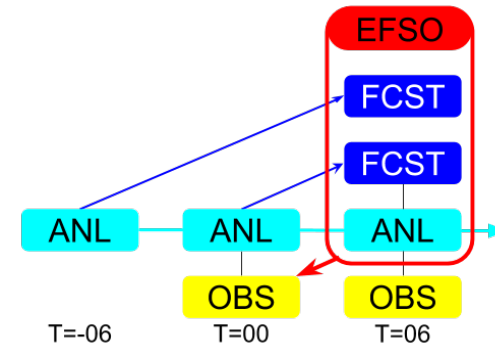
We now briefly explain EFSO and show how useful it is in monitoring the quality of the observations at the analysis time  $t=0$

# Ensemble Forecast Sensitivity to Observations (EFSO)

$$\Delta e^2 = \mathbf{e}_{t|0}^T C \mathbf{e}_{t|0} - \mathbf{e}_{t|-6}^T C \mathbf{e}_{t|-6}$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{K-1} \delta \mathbf{y}_0^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{Y}_0^a \mathbf{X}_{t|0}^{fT} C (\mathbf{e}_{t|0} + \mathbf{e}_{t|-6})$$

O-B of the ens. mean      Analysis perturbation in obs. space      Forecast perturbation      Error norm      Forecast errors



$$\mathbf{x}_0^a = \mathbf{x}_0^b + \mathbf{K} \delta \mathbf{y}_0^{ob}$$

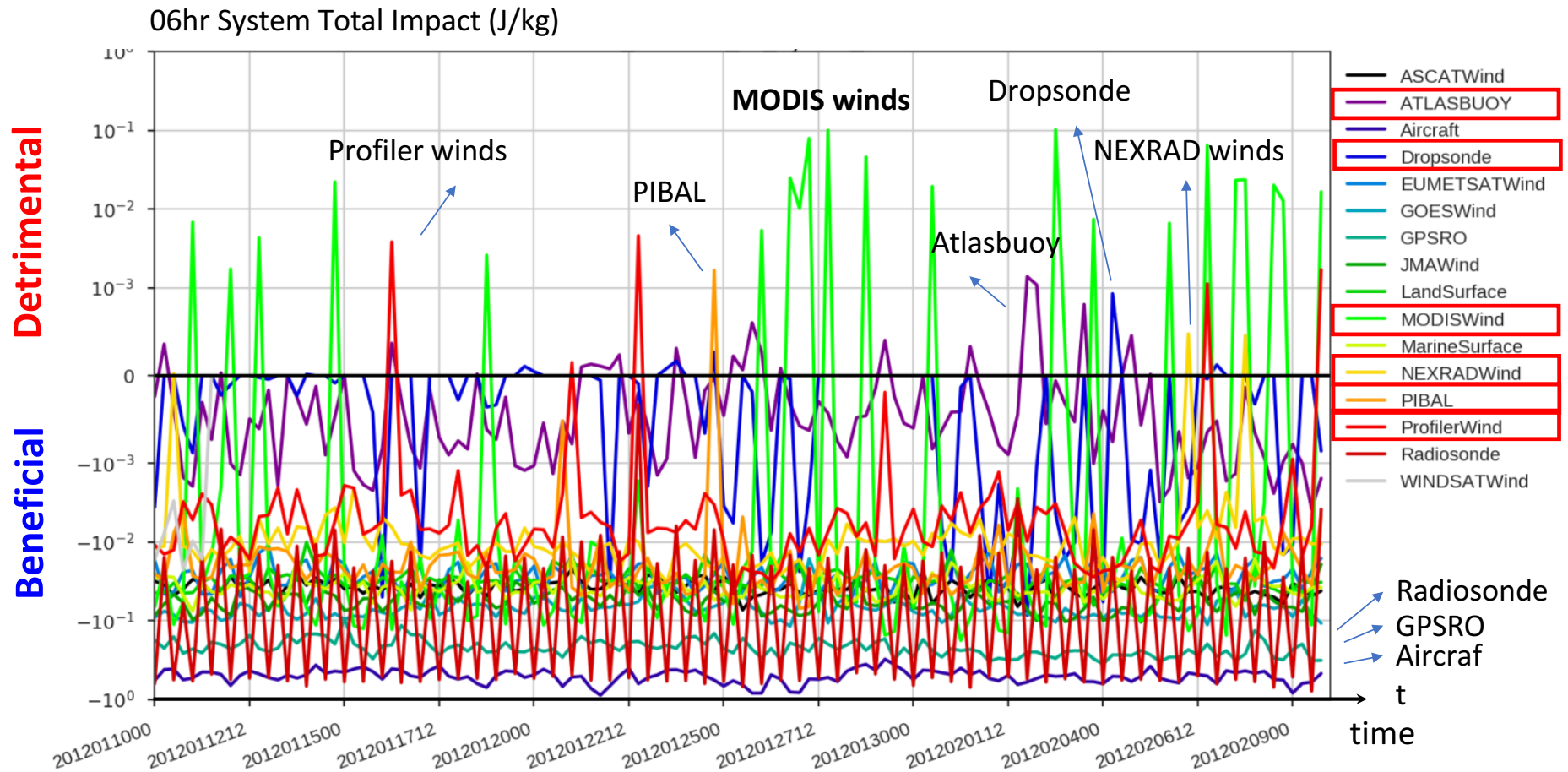
- EFSO is a linear mapping from each observation to the 6 hour forecast error.
- **Negative EFSO shows the observation reduced the forecast error (beneficial).**
- **Positive EFSO shows the observation increased the forecast error (detrimental)**
- EFSO is efficient: the matrices above are already computed by the EnKF.
- **There is no need to repeat the reanalysis without the detrimental observations.**
- **Simply apply the EFSO corrections** (Ota et al., 2013, Chen and Kalnay, 2018).

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Experimental Setup: semi-operational (all observations)

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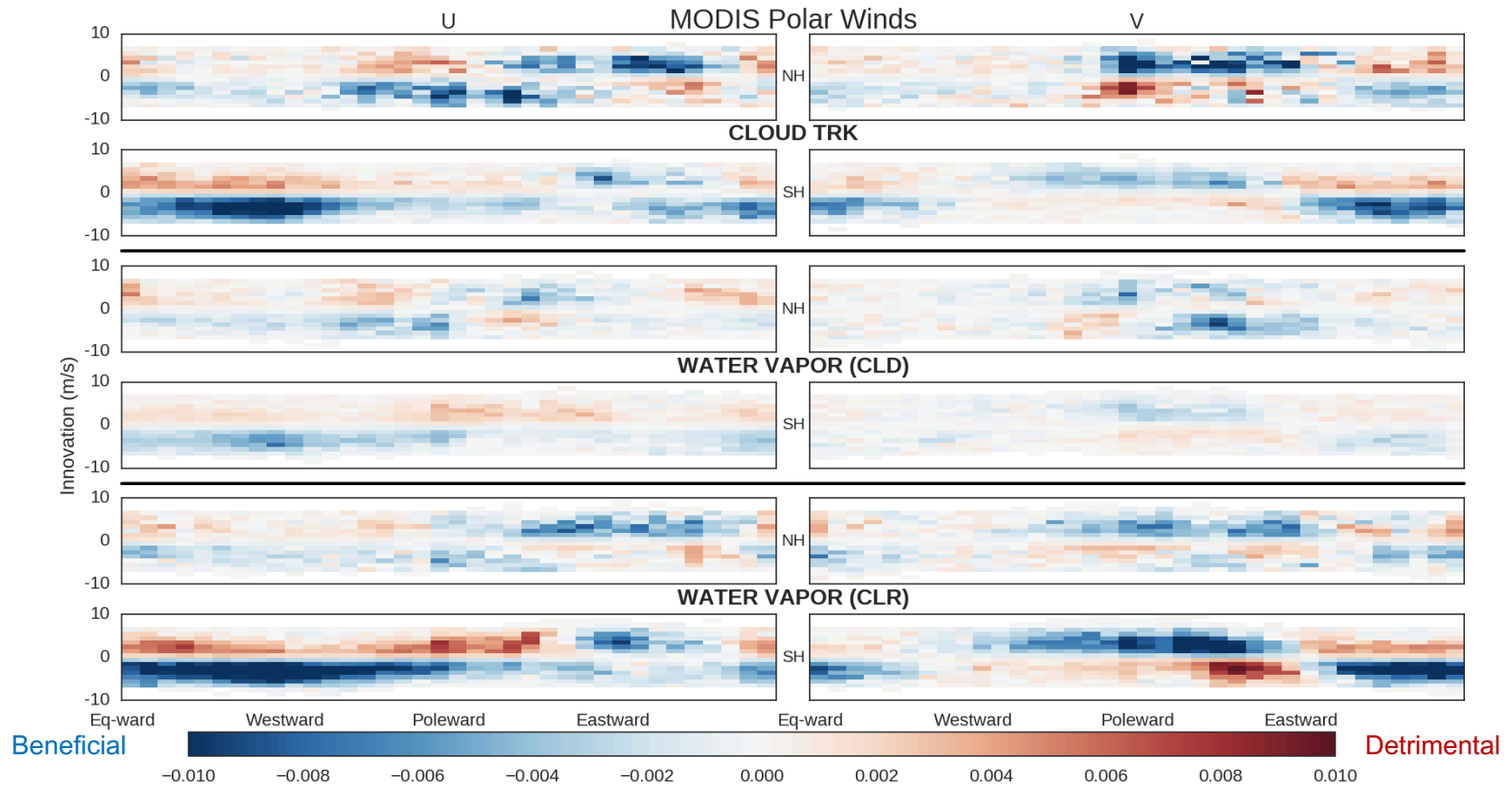
	Exp. 2012	Exp. 2017
Period (~1 month)	Jan/10/2012 00Z – Feb/09/2012 18Z (Winter, 2012)	Jun/01/2017 00Z – Jun/27/2017 00Z (Summer, 2017)
Model	GFS T254 / T126 L64	GFS T670 / T254 L64
DA	LETKF / 3D-Var Hybrid GSI <b>v2012</b>	EnSRF / 3D-Var Hybrid GSI <b>v2016</b>
Localization cut-off length	Horizontal: 2000 km Vertical: 2 scale heights	
Error norm	<p>Moist total energy (MTE)</p> $MTE = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{ S } \int_S \int_0^1 \left\{ (u'^2 + v'^2) + \frac{C_p}{T_r} T'^2 + \frac{R_d T_r}{P_r^2} p_s'^2 + w_q \frac{L^2}{C_p T_r} q'^2 \right\} d\sigma dS$	

# Powerful QC monitoring for every system every 6hr!



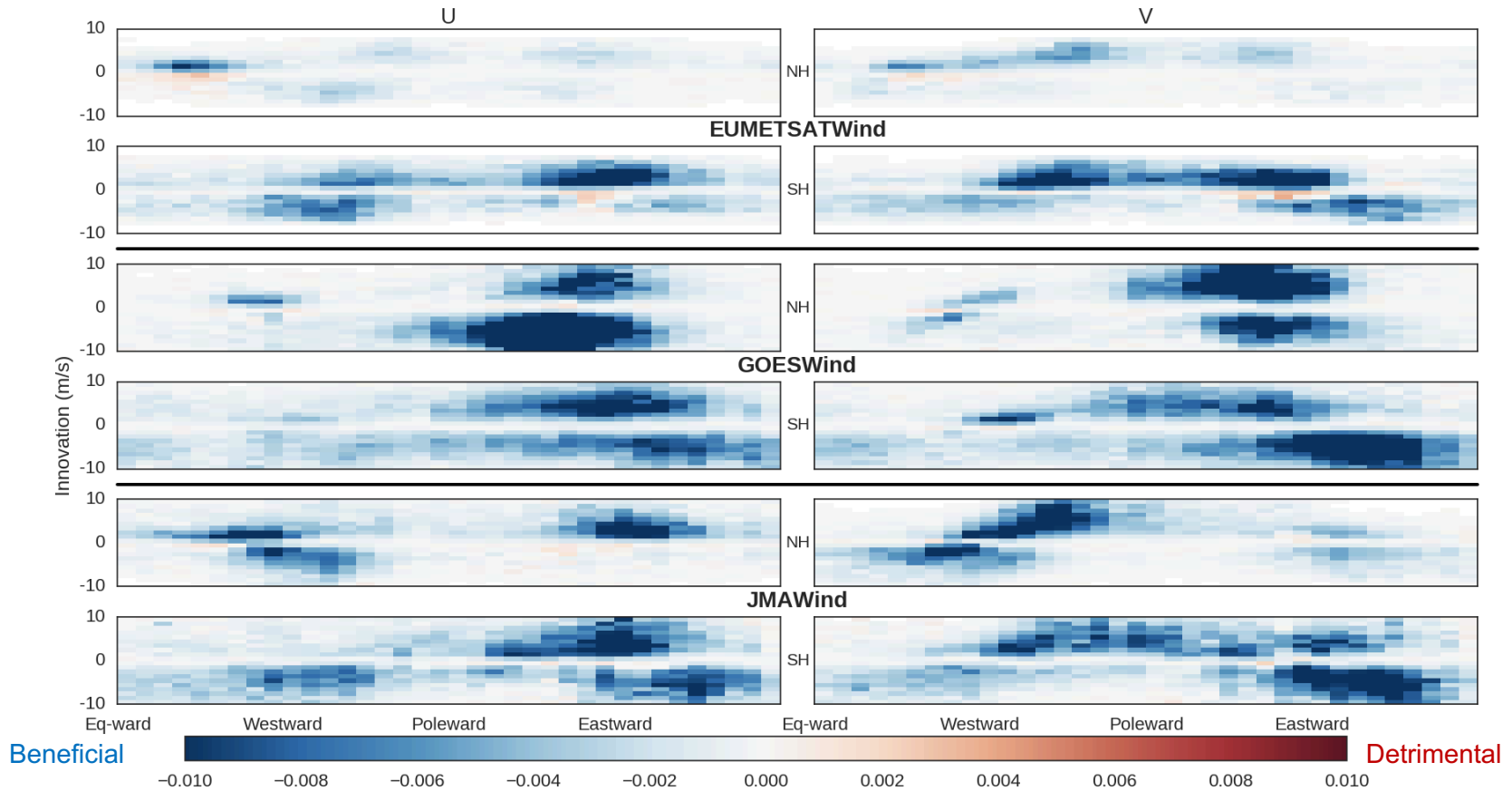
**Users can see which instruments have detrimental episodes**

# MODIS Winds bias from EFSO: O-B and Wind Direction



- Innovation bias of MODIS winds depends on wind direction
- Data selection can be designed from these long-term EFSO statistics

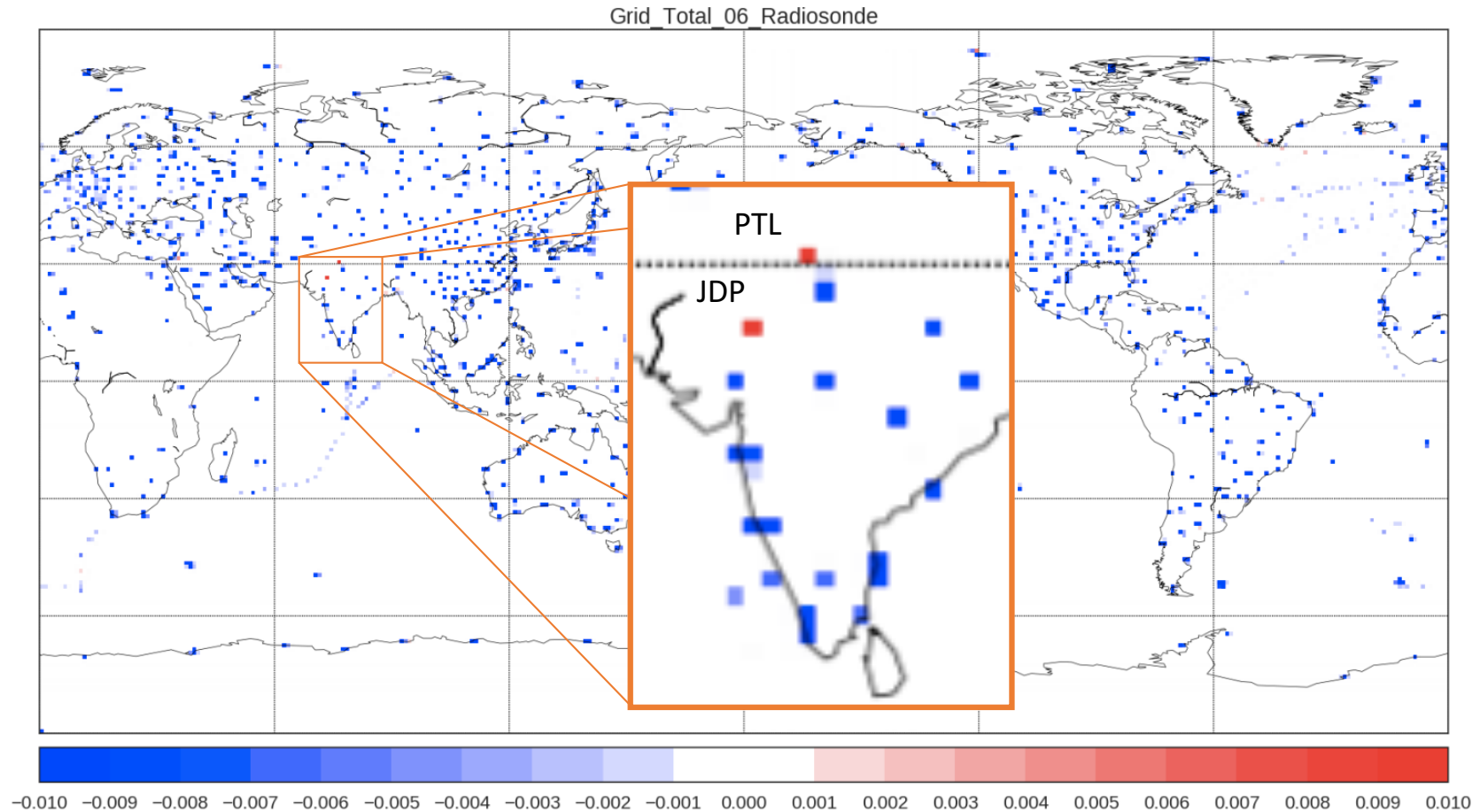
# GOES Winds: O-B and Wind Direction



- No such bias for any geostationary satellite winds**

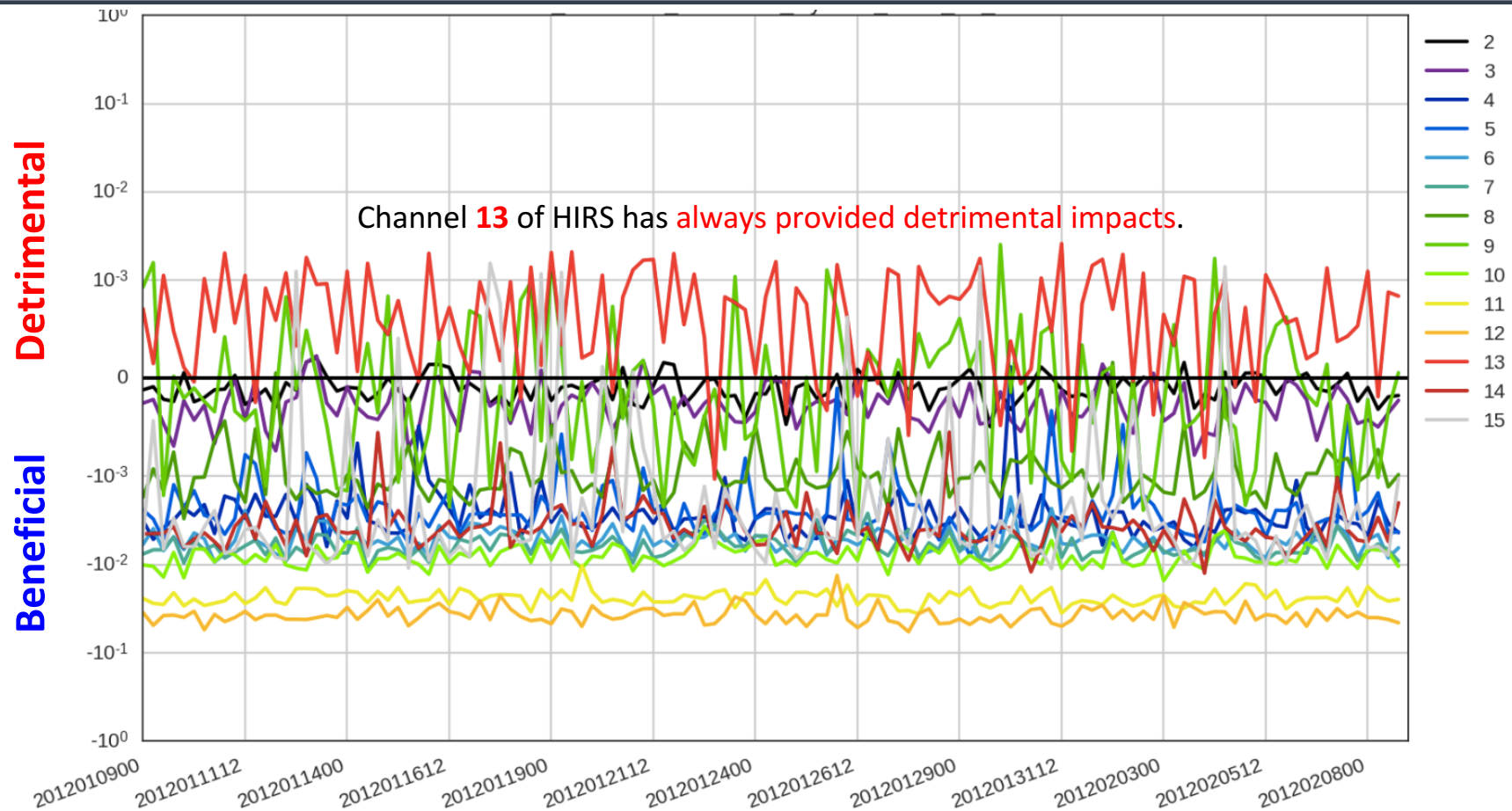


# Detrimental **RAOB** Stations: Monthly average



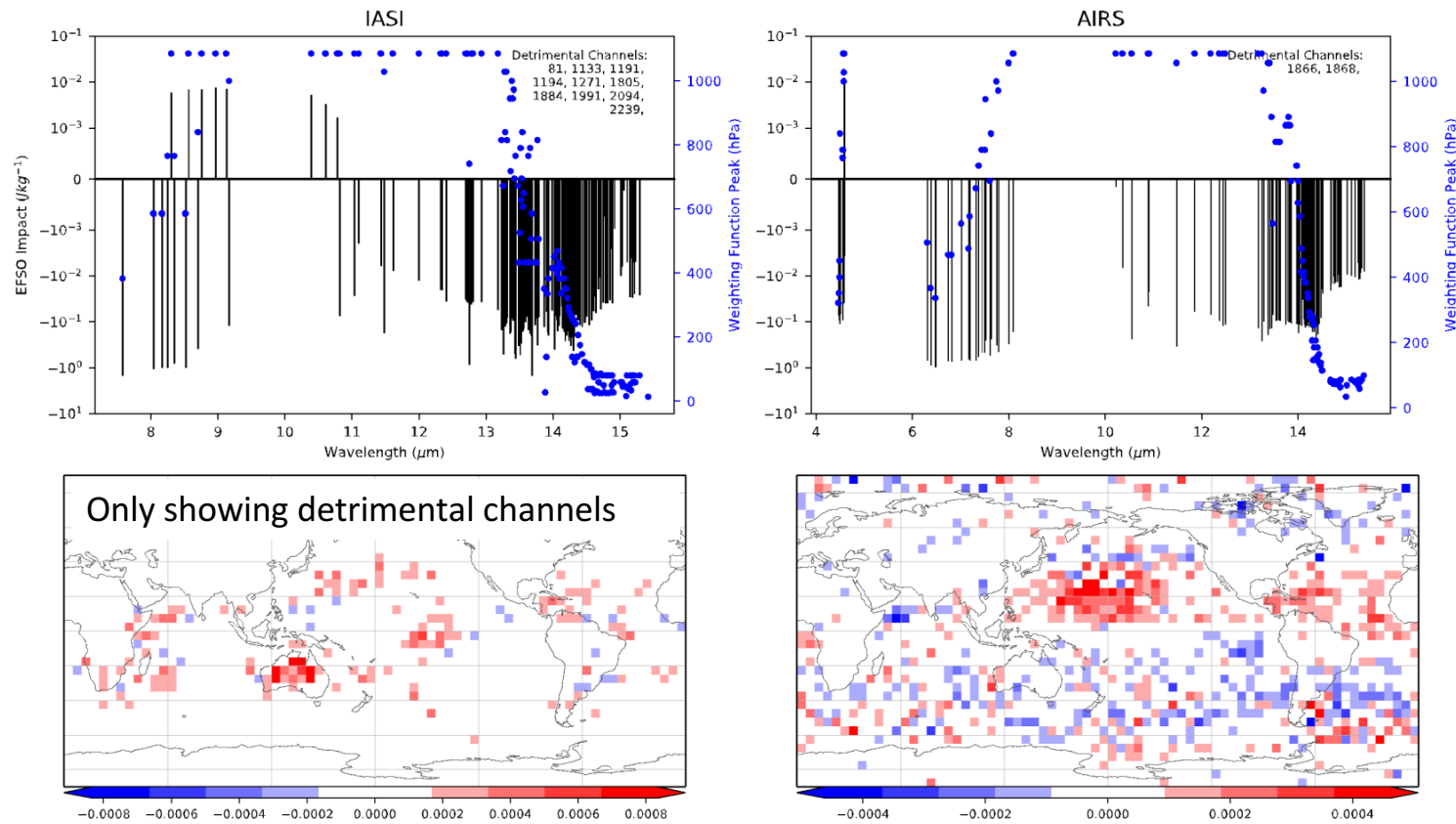
Two RAOB stations (JDP and PTL) in India were found very **detrimental** in the 1-month period.

# Check Radiance Channel Selection: **HIRS**



**Detrimental channel 13 in HIRS is easily identified using EFSO.**

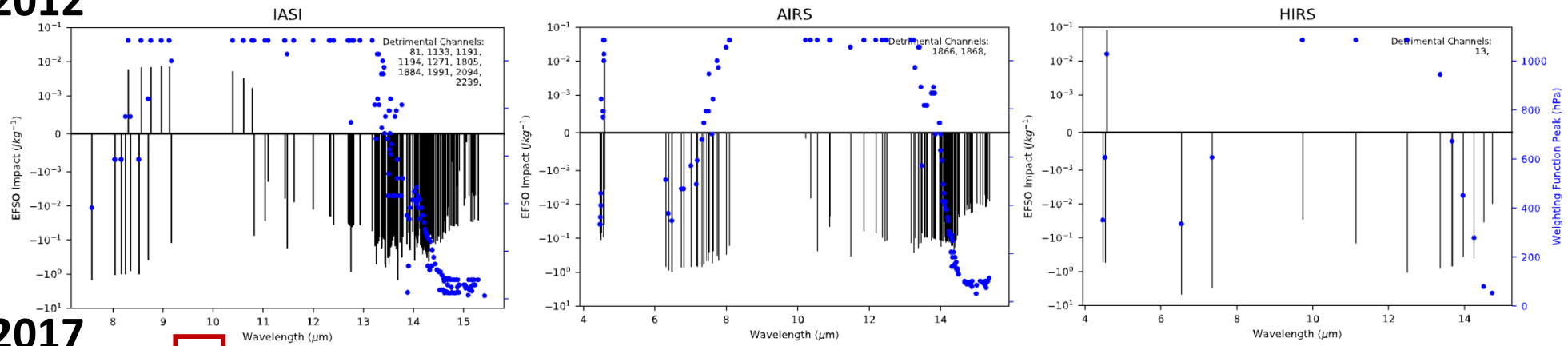
# Even Hyperspectral Instruments: IASI, AIRS



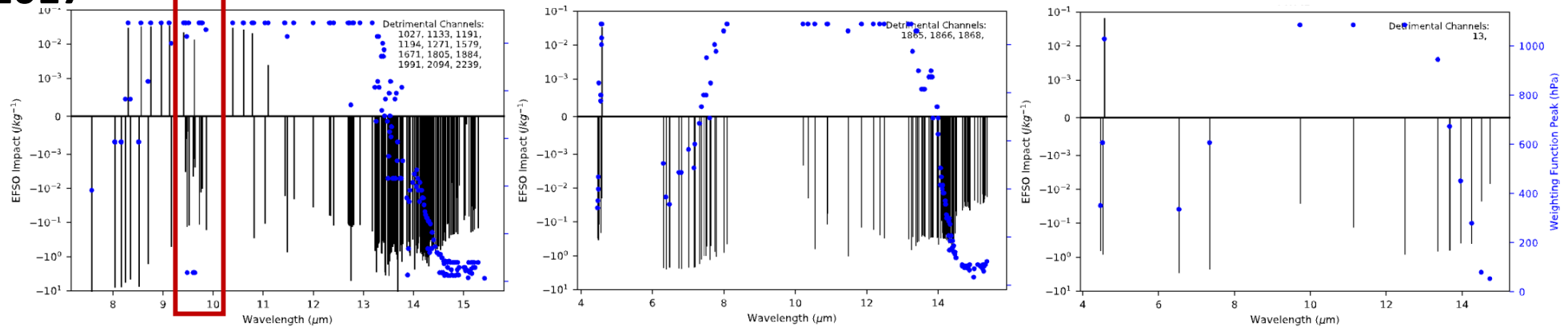
- Efficient channel-wise impact evaluation even for hyperspectral instruments.
- Detrimental impact from Australia and tropical oceans.

# Comparing EFSO from 2012 and 2017

2012



2017



- Detrimental channels are mostly the same.
- Some of the new IASI channels are beneficial and a few detrimental.

# EFSO Browsing Tool created by Tse-Chun Chen

Python based

x

y

System

m

Longitude:

Latitude:

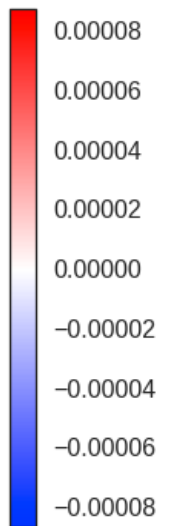
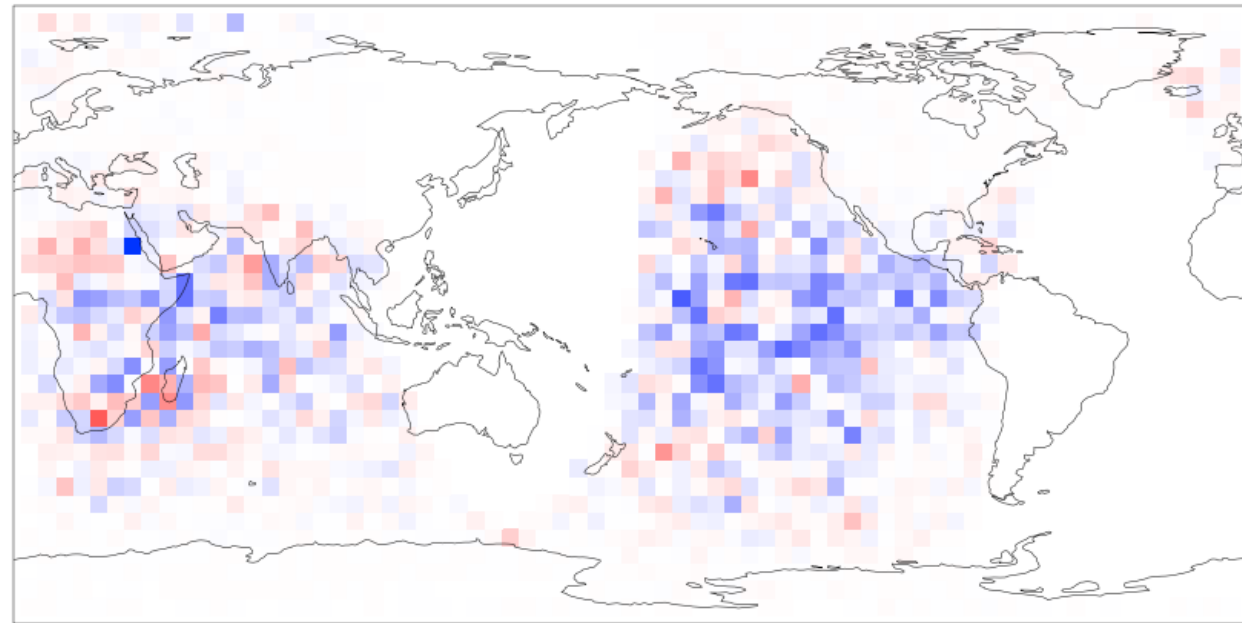
Pressure:

UTC

chnl number

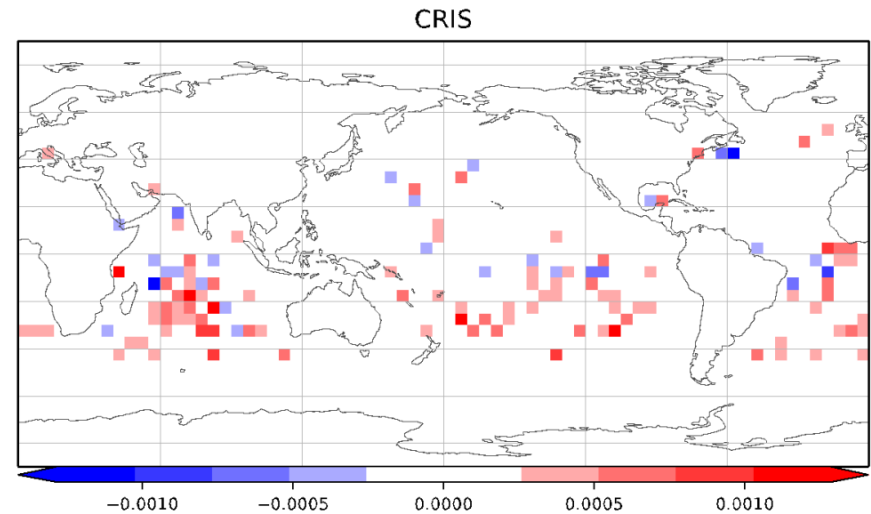
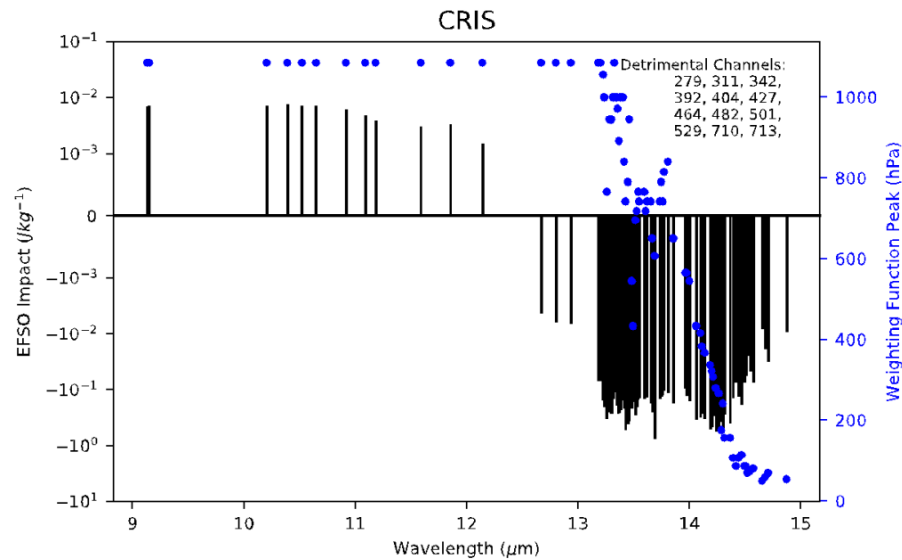
Run Interact

```
('IASI',)  
0.000587567489698  
Time for accessing data: 1.8514256477355957  
Time: 1.9592921733856201
```



**Choose location, time, instrument, and instantly get EFSO**

# Hyperspectral instruments: CrIS



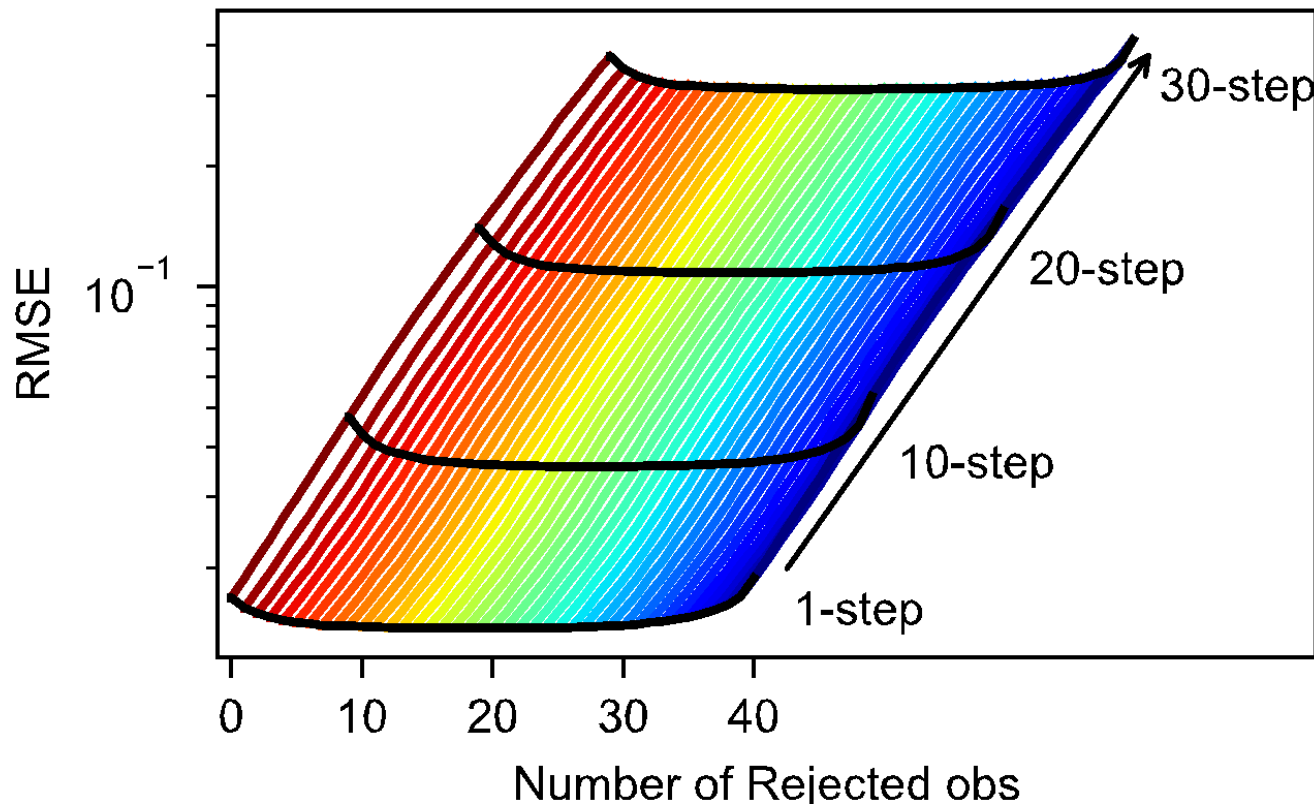
- All channels from 9-12  $\mu\text{m}$  (surface sensitive) are detrimental.
- The detrimental impact is from southern tropical oceans.



# Non-cycling PQC with **flawless obs.** (Lorenz, 1996)

**Colored:** forecast error trajectory

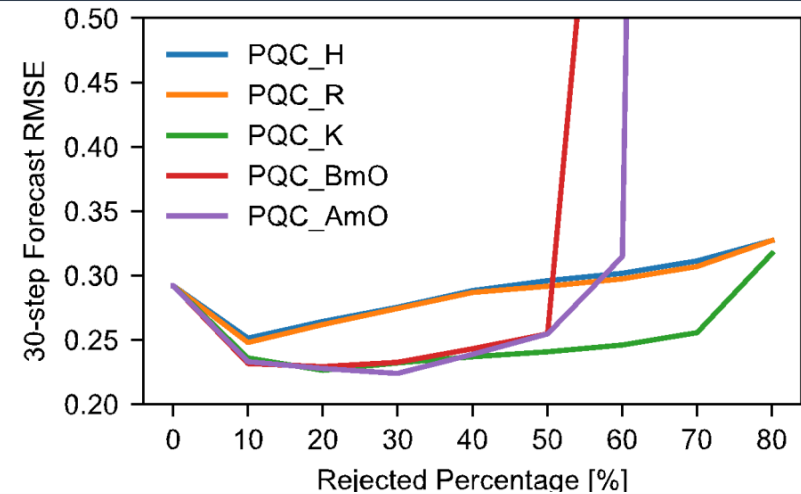
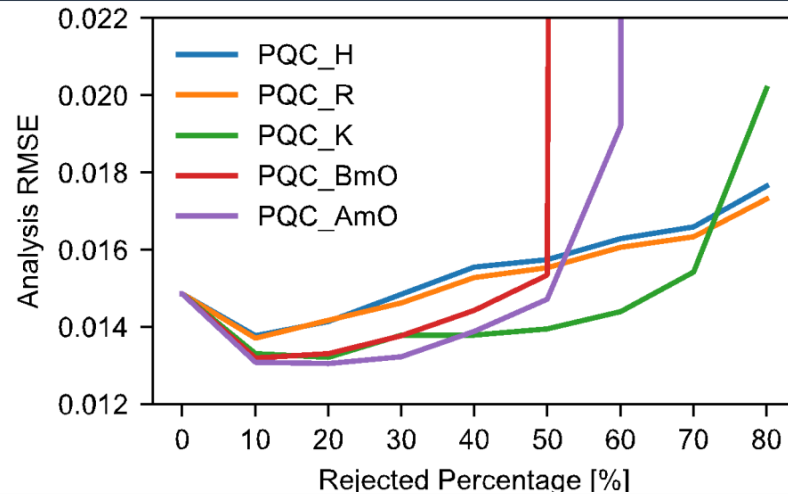
**Black:** forecast error at different forecast lengths.



- Rejected observations from most **detrimental** to most **beneficial** EFSO impact.
- Rejecting **worst few detrimental observations** provides most of the improvement.
- The **improvement grows** as the forecast advances in time (log-scale!)

**Even non-cycling PQC improves the forecast!**

# PQC analysis update methods: EFSO is optimal!



Methods	Mechanism	Change in $\mathbf{K}$	Change in Spread	Repeat analysis	Computational cost
PQC_H	Recompute $\mathbf{K}$ without observation	Large	Increased	Yes	High
PQC_R	Recompute $\mathbf{K}$ with up-weighted $\mathbf{R}$	Large	Increased	Yes	High
PQC_K	Reuse the original EFSO $\mathbf{K}$	None	None	No	Low
PQC_BmO	Assimilate background minus observation	Low	Reduced	(Serial update)	Medium
PQC_AmO	Assimilate analysis minus observation	Low	Reduced	(Serial update)	Medium

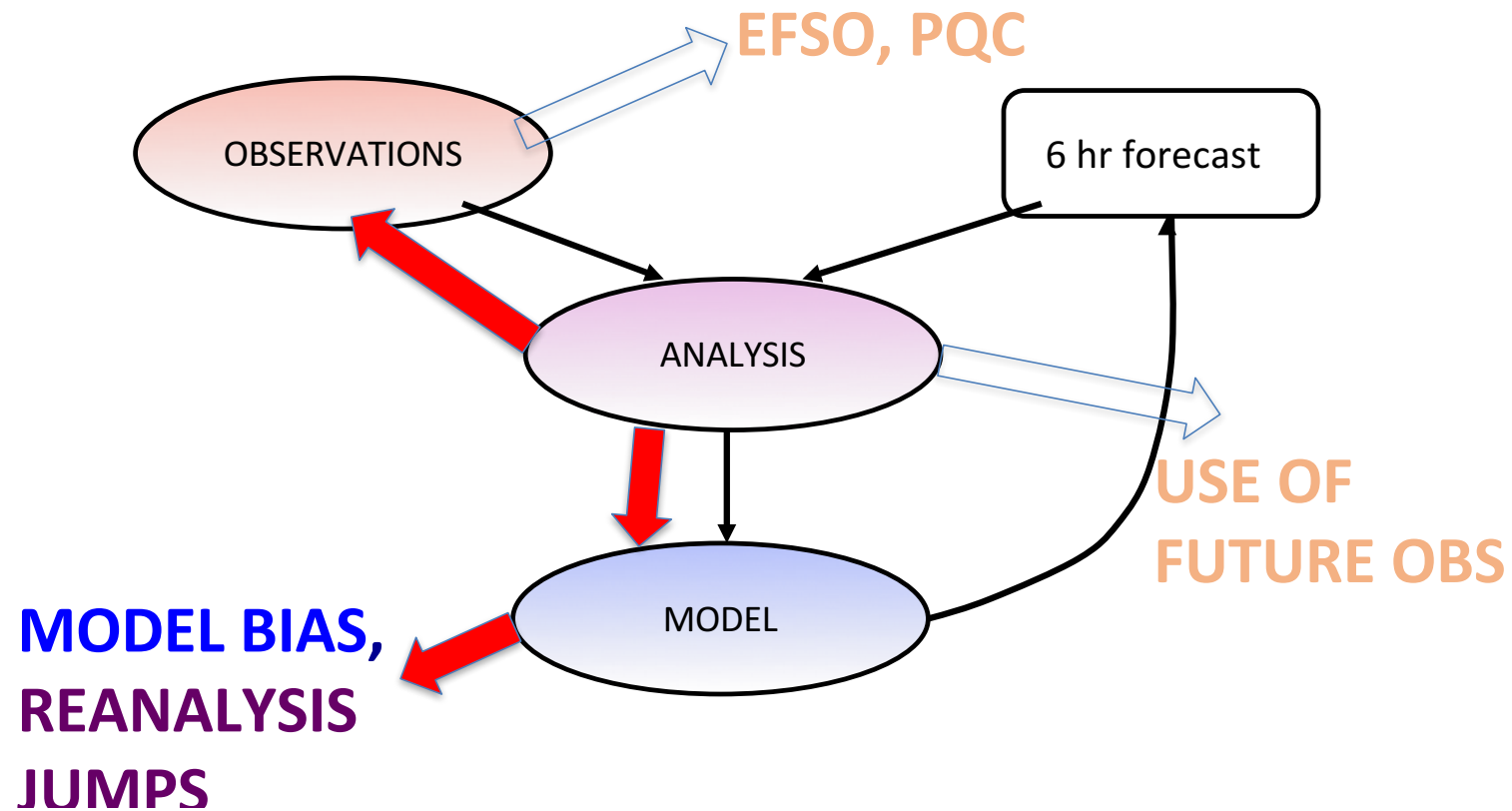
**PQC\_K is both beneficial and robust (consistent with EFSO)**

## Concluding remarks for Lorenz96 system

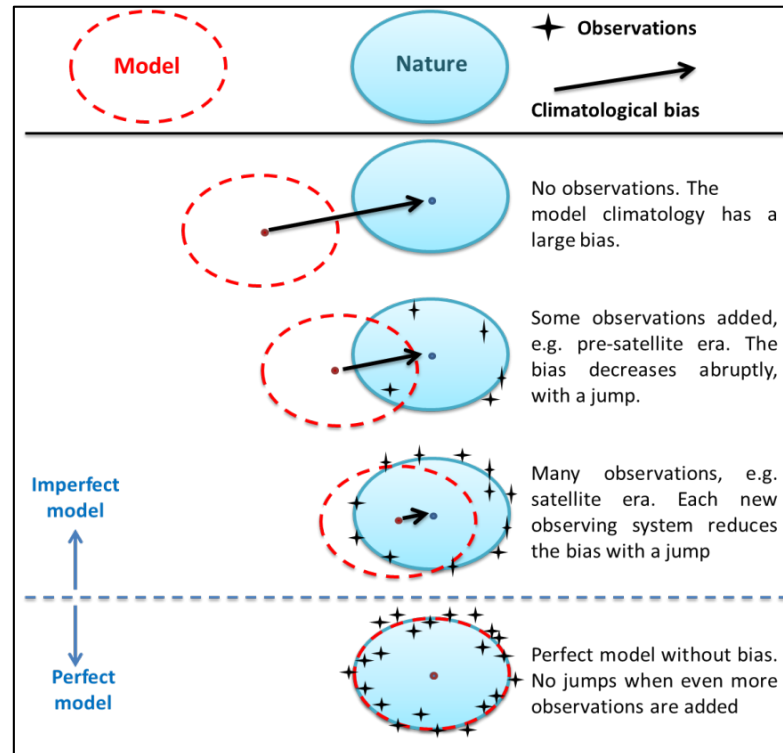
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- **PQC-K**, reusing the original Kalman gain, is most efficient in computation and most accurate in the correction!
- PQC improves even the **flawless** observing system.  
(Harvest additional information from the observations)
- Rejecting ~ **10%** of the most detrimental observations provides most of the improvement (it is less sensitive to additional rejections).

**2) New Opportunities for Reanalysis:** We can also minimize the Reanalysis Jumps that appear with new observing systems



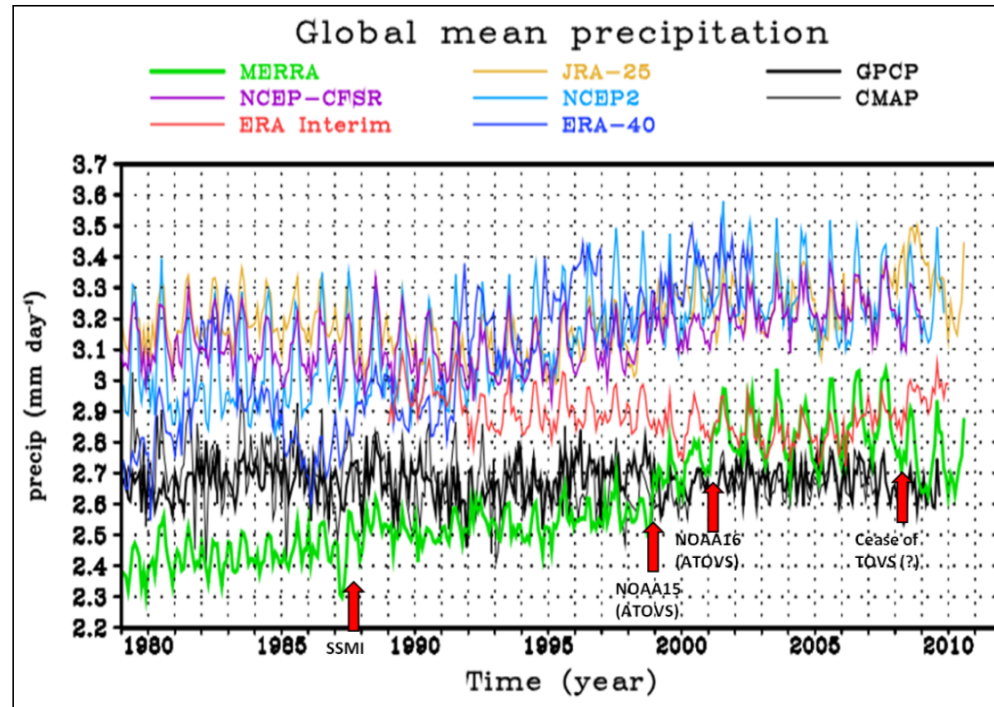
## Why do we get reanalysis jumps? Model bias!



A schematic of “climate jumps” associated with observing system changes

- The climatological bias between the forecast model and the nature decreases with a *jump* when a new observing system was assimilated.
- The purpose of Yan Zhou’s dissertation was **to find a way to minimize the “climate jumps” associated with observing system changes.**

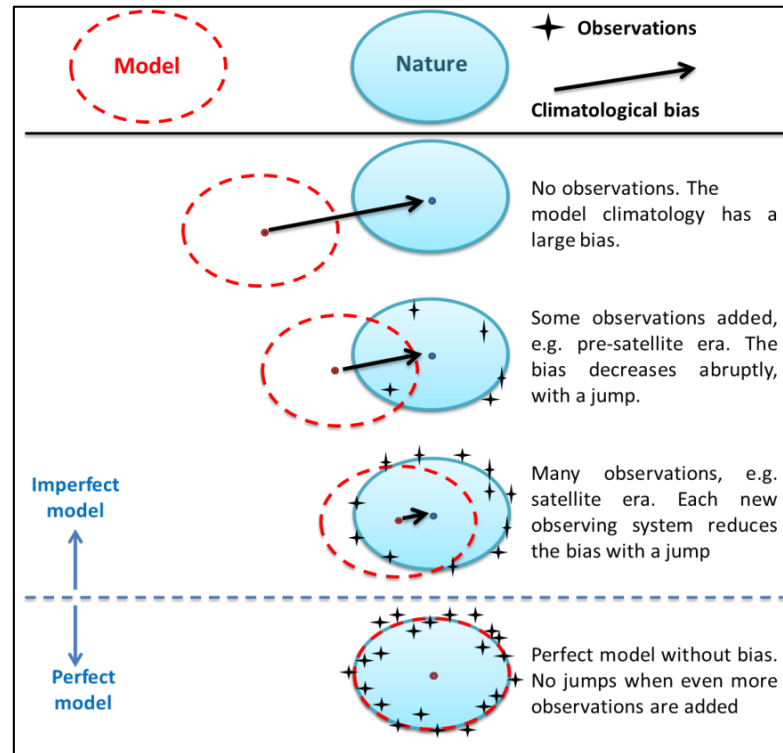
## Example: MERRA and other reanalyses global mean precipitation



Global monthly mean precipitation (mm/day) time series for MERRA (green), several other reanalyses, and GPCP and CMAP (black) (Chen et al., 2012)

- Jumps in the MERRA global mean precipitation time series appeared simultaneously with introducing or ceasing different types of satellite observations, like SSM/I and ATOVS (red arrows)

## Why do we get reanalysis jumps? Model bias!



- The climatological bias between the forecast model and the nature decreases with a *jump* when new obs are assimilated. These jumps are the worst deficiency of reanalyses, especially long reanalyses.
- One solution is not to include new observations (Compo et al., 2009)!
- Another solution would be to estimate and correct the jumps.

## How can we minimize the jumps when we add new observing systems? (Yan Zhou's thesis)

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Yan Zhou tested 3 plausible methods to avoid jumps

- 1- DKM2007 (Based on Danforth-Kalnay-Miyoshi 2007)
- 2- MERRA (Based on Junye Chen's idea for MERRA)
- 3- Climatological (suggested as a baseline by B. Hunt)

All 3 methods attempt to find the average change in analysis climatology that the new instrument introduces, and **to add it to the analysis previous to the new instrument in order to correct its bias.**

The best results were obtained with DKM2007. Next with MERRA. The simple climatological correction was the worst.



## How can we minimize the jumps when we add new observing systems? (Yan Zhou's thesis)

- Yan Zhou tested 3 methods:

N=with new obs; O=only old obs

$AI_N^N$  Analysis with New obs, First Guess with New obs

$AI_N^O$  Analysis with Old obs, First Guess with New obs

– DKM2007:  $\overline{AI_N^N} - \overline{AI_N^O}$  BEST

– MERRA:  $\overline{AI_N^N} - \overline{AI_O^O}$  IN BETWEEN

– Climatology:  $\overline{A_N^N} - \overline{A_O^O}$  WORST

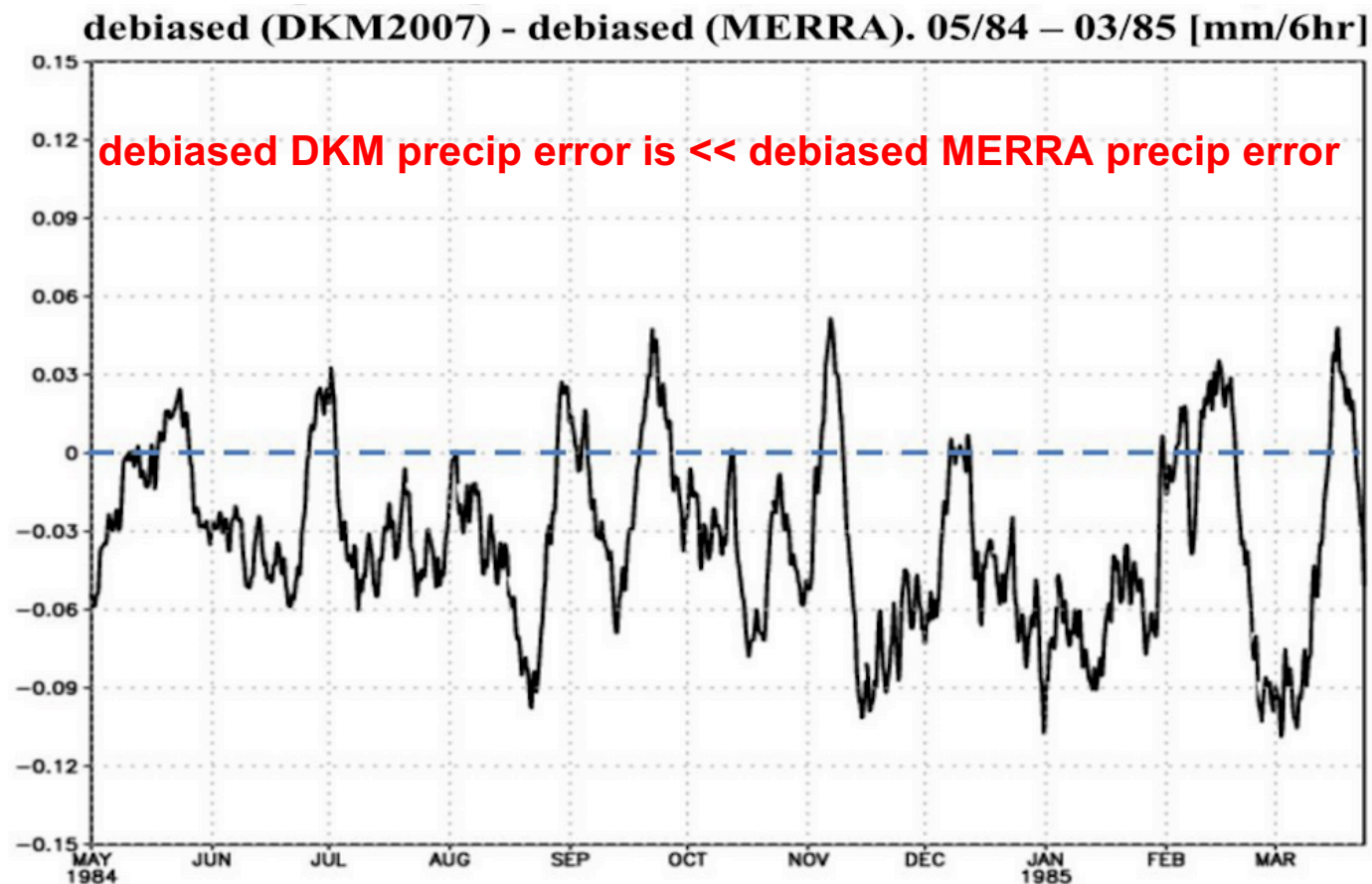


Figure 3.11 Precipitation global RMSD (with respect to RaobAirs analysis) difference, debiased (DKM2007) - debiased (MERRA).05/84-03/85 [mm/6hr]. The horizontal dashed line in the middle of the figure is the value ZERO.

## Summary

- In reanalysis we **know** the “future” observations, so we should use them since they improve the forecasts!
- We now know how to minimize the “jumps” due to new observing systems.
- We should compare the results with those obtained by using only SLP to avoid the “jumps” due to new observing systems.
- Can we use future data for paleoclimatology? May be...
- We expect that using more “future” observations (e.g., use observations from “the day after tomorrow” or from “next week”) will increase significantly the forecast skill, but not for longer time scales.
- We need to test models that contain shorter and longer time scales, for example, both weather and El Niño time scales, like Peña and Kalnay, NPG (2014).



# Experiments with the Lorenz (1996) model

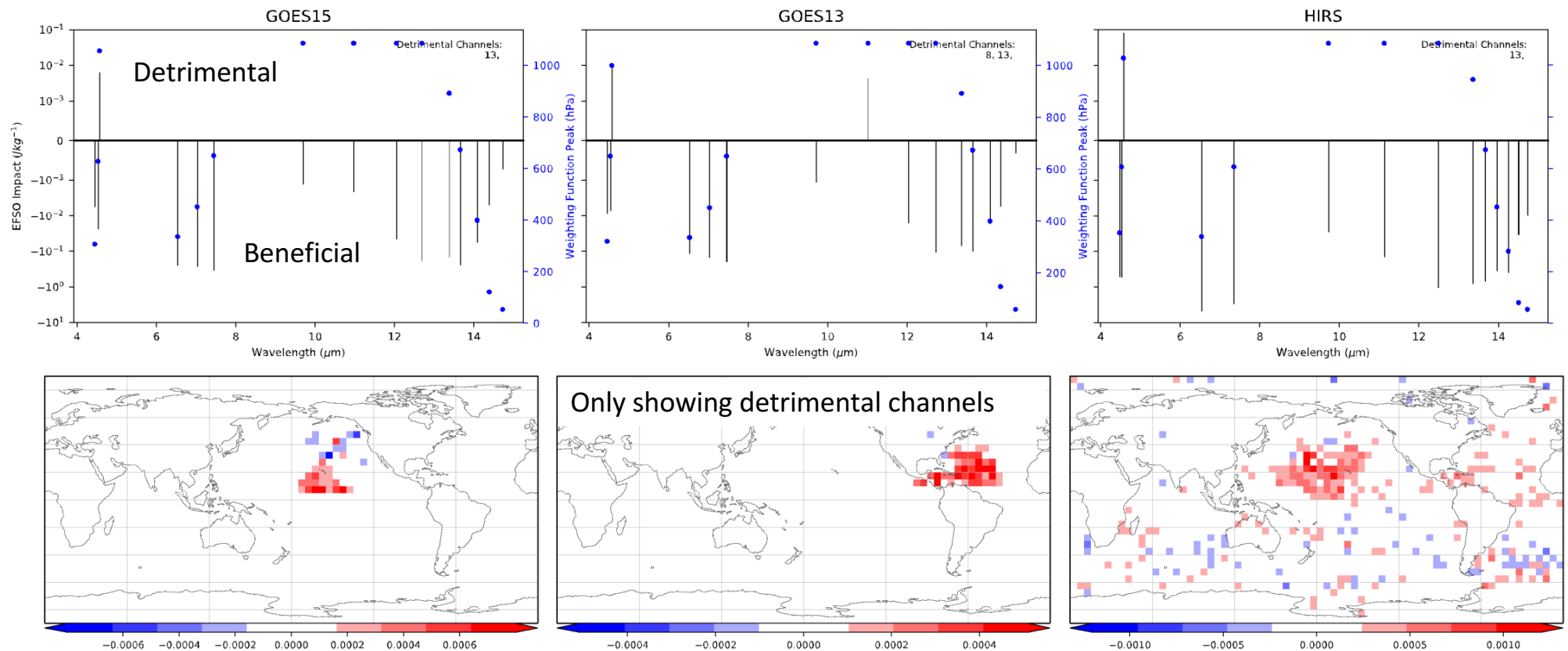
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Model	<p>Lorenz 1996:</p> $\frac{dx_i}{dt} = -x_{i-2}x_{i-1} + x_{i-1}x_{i+1} - x_i + F$ <p>40 variables F = 8, dt = 0.05, Integration scheme: RK4</p>
Period	<p>5000 cycles (plus 500 cycles of spin up)</p>
Data Assimilation	<p>ETKF-40 members No localization or inflation</p>
Observations	<p>40 variables from a nature run Obs. error: <math>N(0, 0.1)</math></p>

## How can we minimize the jumps when we add new observing systems? (Yan Zhou's thesis)

- The best method she found (DKM2007) can be easily carried out **during** the reanalysis:
- When starting a new obs system, for 1-2 years:
  - Compute the New AI (with new obs system)
  - Compute the Old AI (without the new obs system **but using the same first guess as the New AI**)
  - Time average of (New AI - Old AI) =  $\Delta \overline{\text{AI}} = \overline{\text{New AI}} - \overline{\text{Old AI}}_{\text{New FG}}$
  - **This is the correction in the model bias introduced by the new observations.**
- **This should be added to the reanalysis done before the introduction of the new observations.**
- It should minimize the reanalysis jumps.
- Cheaper than doing two reanalyses with and without new obs (the “MERRA approach”).

# Multi-channel instruments: **GOES** sounder, **HIRS**

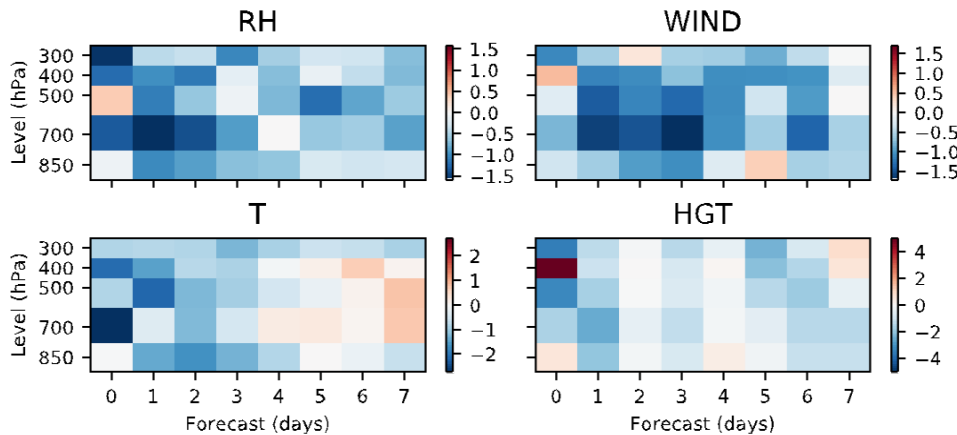


- Channel 8 (11.03  $\mu\text{m}$ ), 13 (4.57  $\mu\text{m}$ ): sensitive to surface and low-level temperature.
- Map shows the 2 channels are detrimental in **tropical Pacific and Atlantic**



# Forecast performance of EFSO-based selection

Relative Forecast Error Reduction (Tropics, %)



Instruments:	Rejected channels:
IASI	81, 1133, 1191, 1194, 1271, 1805, 1884, 1991, 2094, 2239
AIRS	1866, 1868
GOES15 sounder	13
GOES13 sounder	8, 13
HIRS	13

- The detrimental impact is mainly from the tropical regions.
- Simply rejecting 16 channels out of hundreds improves the monthly mean tropical forecast by 1%

**Rejecting the detrimental channels improves tropical forecasts**

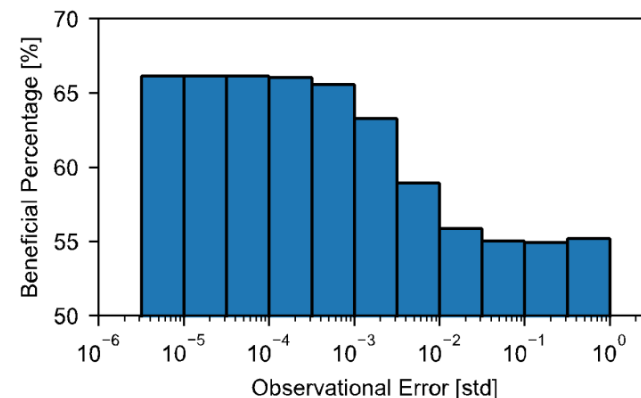
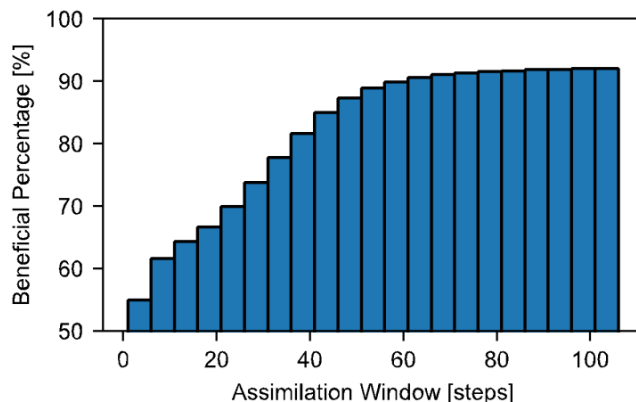
# Why so few beneficial obs (~50%) in (E)FSO?

## FSO studies found similar results and suggested different reasons:

- Inaccurate verifying analysis (Daescu 2009)
- Statistical nature of DA (Gelaro 2010, Ehrendorfer 2007)
- Inaccurate B and modes with different growth rates (Lorenc and Marriot 2014)

## Our results suggest that:

- Background quality is as important as Observations' quality



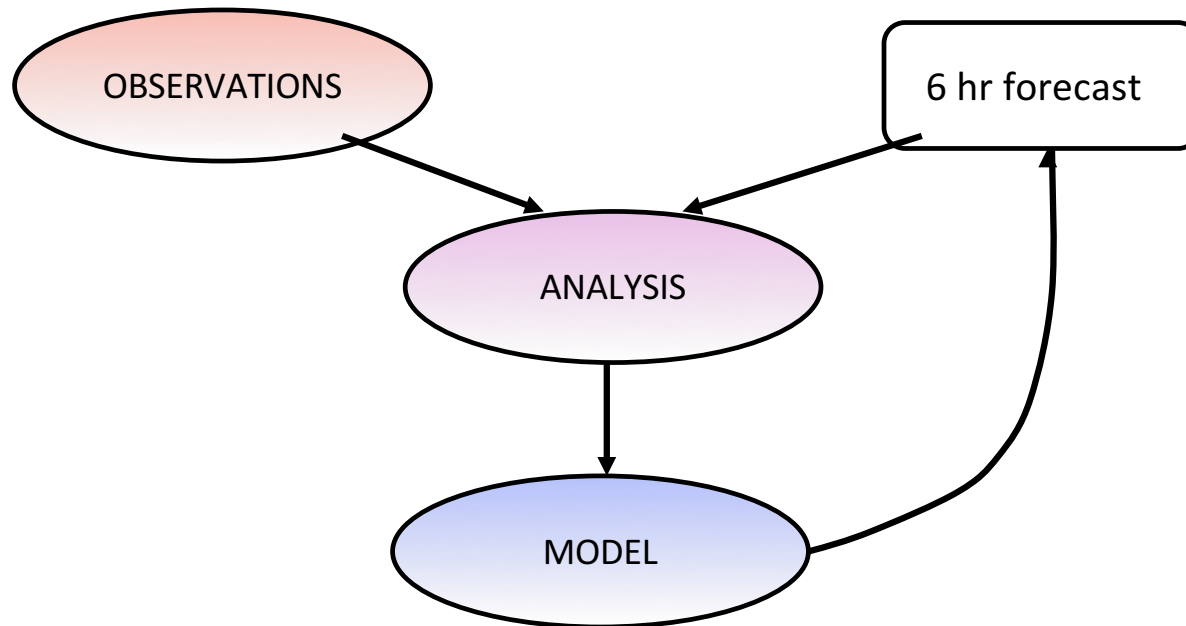
**Most of the observations become very beneficial when the background is too long (inaccurate)!**

## Summary: Using future observations to do PQC

- Advanced DA can be used to improve both the model and the observations.
- At  $t=0$  we use future (6 hour) observations to create a 6hr analysis that we use as the best estimate of the truth.
- We have two 6 hour forecasts from  $t=0$  to  $t=6\text{hrs}$ , one ***with*** and one ***without*** assimilating the current ( $t=0$ ) observations.
- Identify the observations at  $t=0$  that make the 6hr forecasts worse using EFSO. (Kalnay et al., 2012).
- The results with real atmospheric observations, and a realistic but inexpensive atmospheric model **show large forecast improvements that last over 8 days**.
- EFSO is almost cost free, and since it accumulates the improvements, it does not need to use “future observations” in operational NWP.
- It only requires an EnKF data assimilation (or a hybrid).
- Reanalysis and other DA applications should use future observations!

**Classic Data Assimilation:** For NWP we need to improve **observations**,  
**analysis scheme** and **model**.  
These improvements are done **independently**

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**New Data Assimilation:** We can also use the DA system to improve **observations** and **model**

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