



# CESM, CLM, Observations, and Assimilation



**Tim Hoar:** *NCAR*  
as well as DAREs and CSEG





# Climate Modeler's Commandments

by John Kutzbach (Univ. of Wisconsin).

1. *Thou shalt not worship the climate model.*
2. *Thou shalt not worship the climate model, but thou shalt honor the climate modeler, that it might be well with thee.*
3. *Thou shalt use the model that is most appropriate for the question at hand.*
4. *Thou shalt not change more than one thing at a time at first.*
5. *In making sensitivity experiments, thou shalt hit the model hard enough to make it notice you.*
6. *Thou shalt not covet fine-scale results with a coarse-scale model.*
7. *Thou shalt follow the rules for significance testing and remember the model's inherent variability.*
8. *Thou shalt know the model's biases and remember that model biases may lead to biased sensitivity estimates.*
9. *Thou shalt run the same experiment with different models and compare the results.*
10. ***Thou shalt worship good observations of the spatial and temporal behavior of the earth system. Good models follow such observations. One golden observation is worth a thousand simulations.***





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6. Thou shalt not covet fine-scale results from a coarse-scale model.
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**10. Thou shalt worship good observations of the spatial and temporal behavior of the earth system. Good models follow such observations. One golden observation is worth a thousand simulations.**

**Amen Brother!**



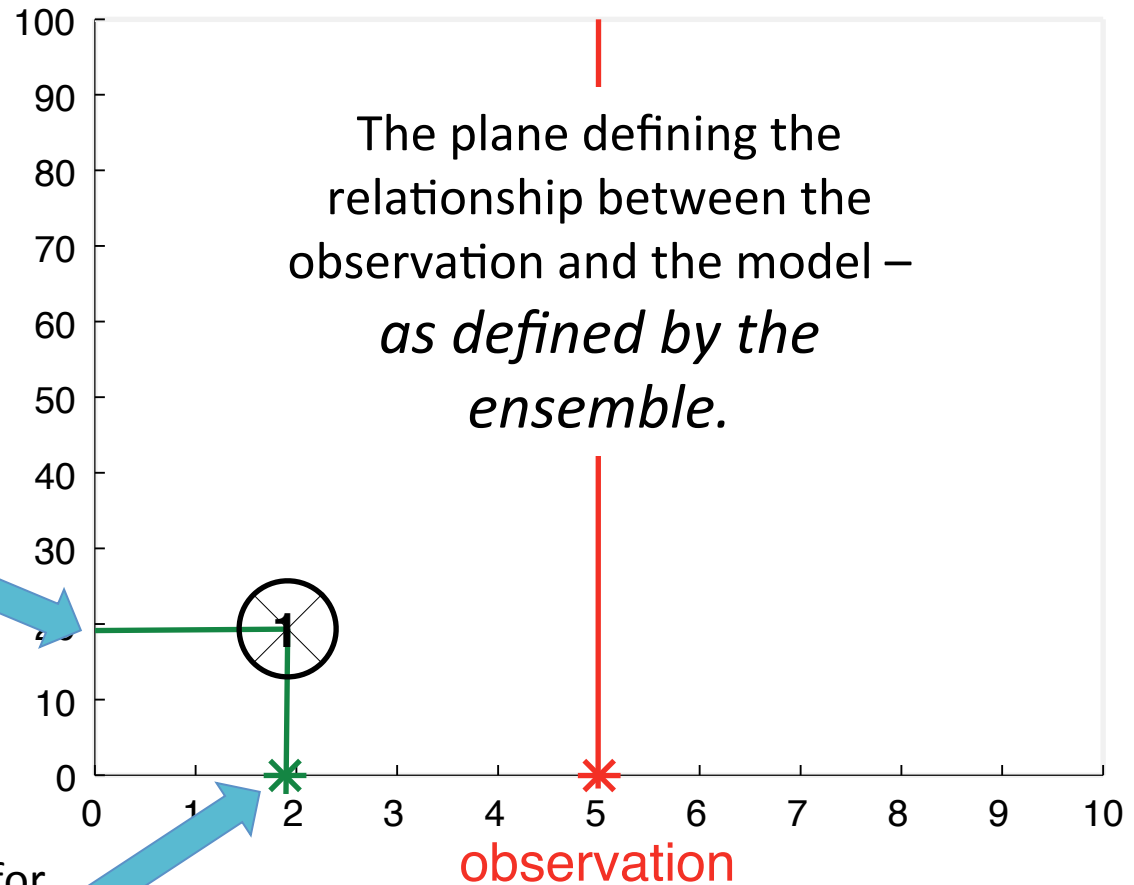


# Visual Guide to Ensemble Data Assimilation

Some unobserved state variable. e.g. live root carbon, dead root carbon, canopy water ...

Directly from ensemble member 1

Result of the forward observation operator for ensemble member 1

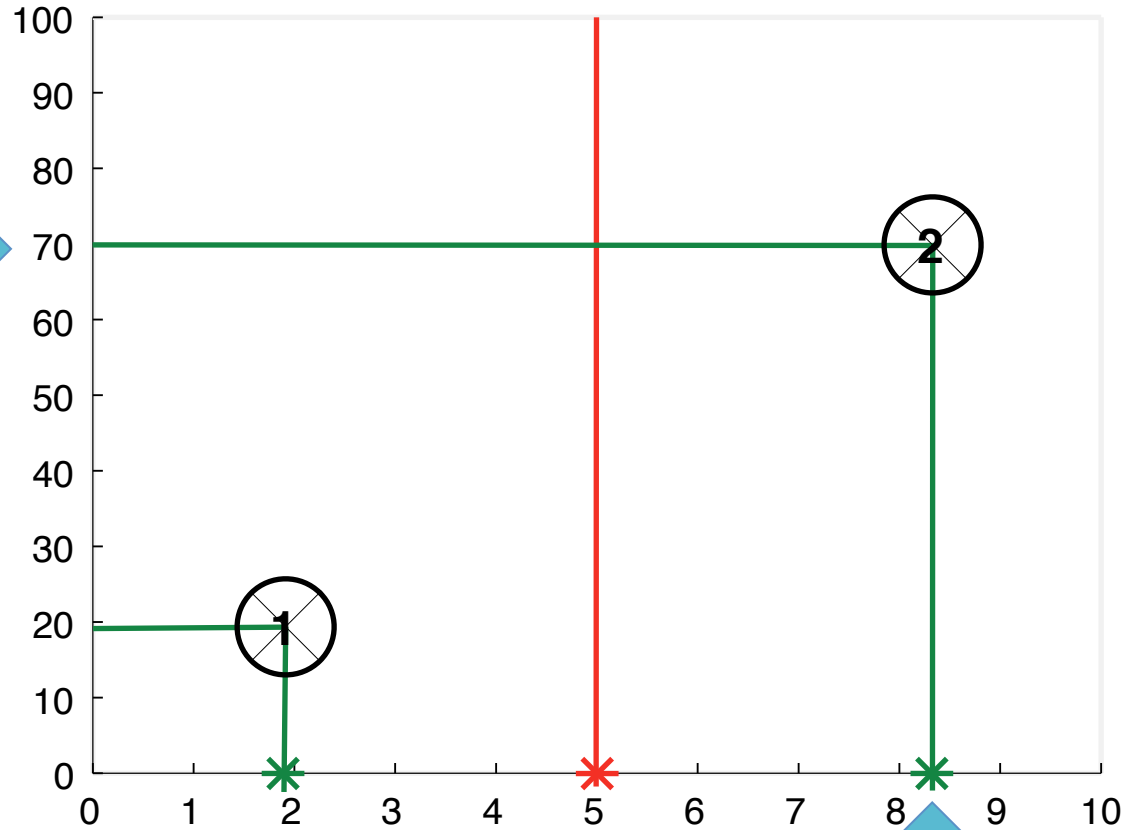


Could be Soil Temperature





Directly from  
ensemble member 2



observation

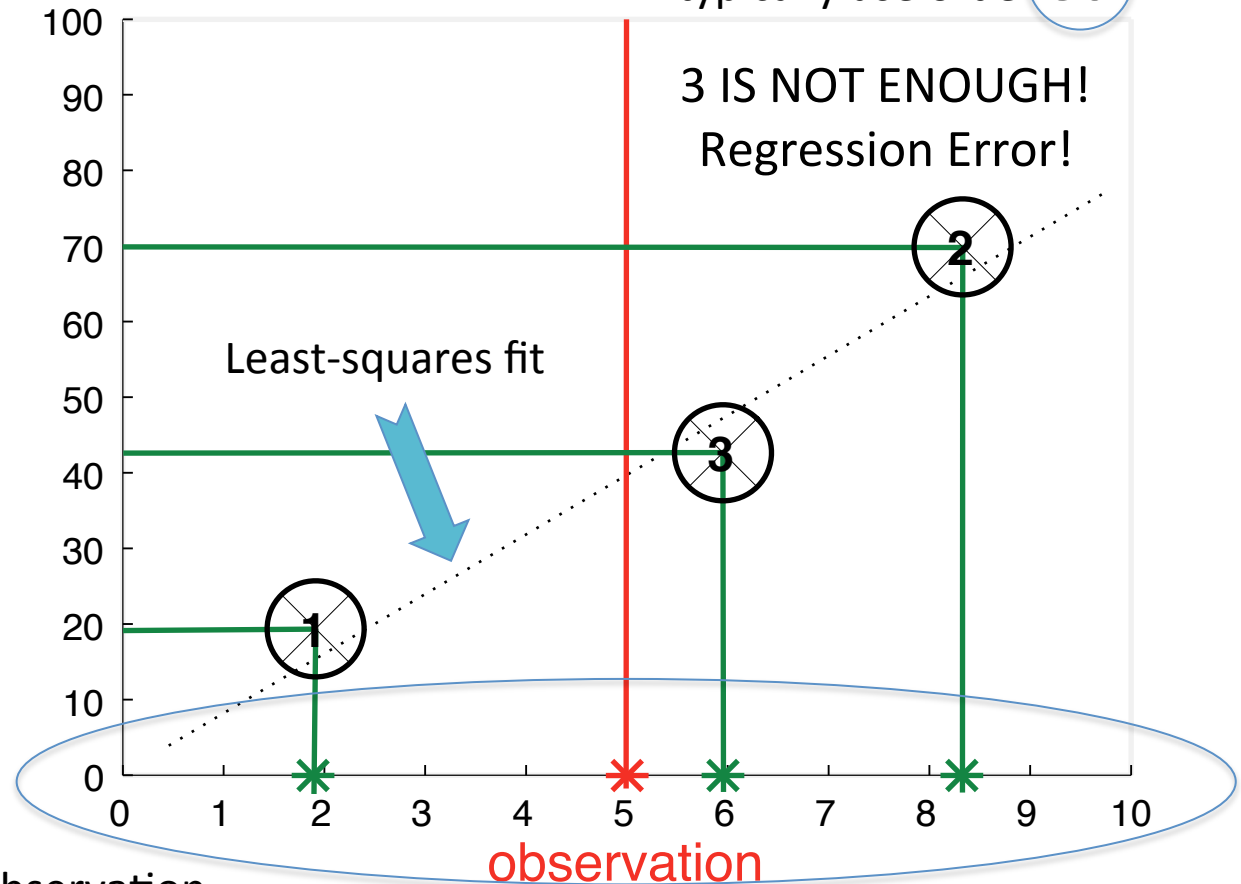


"observation"  
from ensemble  
member 2





In our assimilations, we typically use order **80**.



Now, we can calculate out observation increments any way we want.

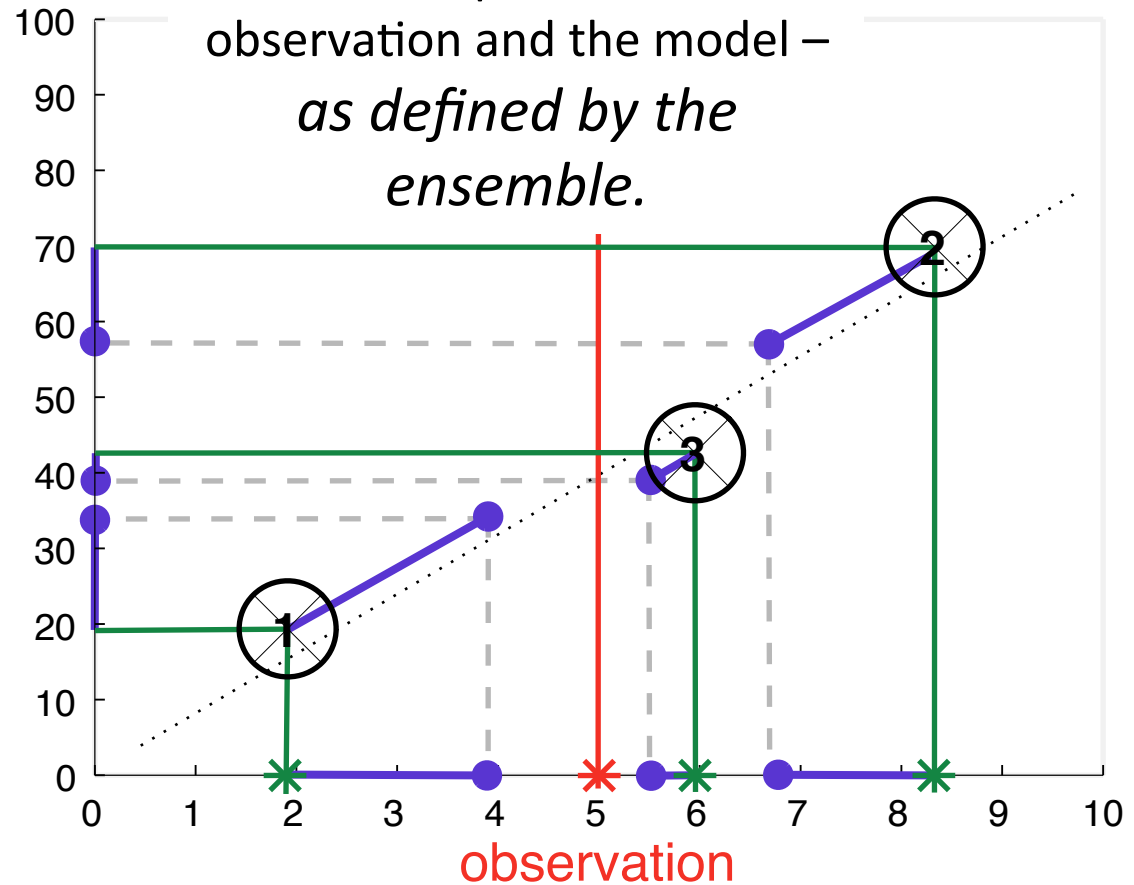






The plane defining the relationship between the observation and the model – *as defined by the ensemble.*

Any part of the model:  
snow cover fraction,  
root carbon,  
canopy water ...  
**Could even be a model parameter!**



Could be Soil Temperature





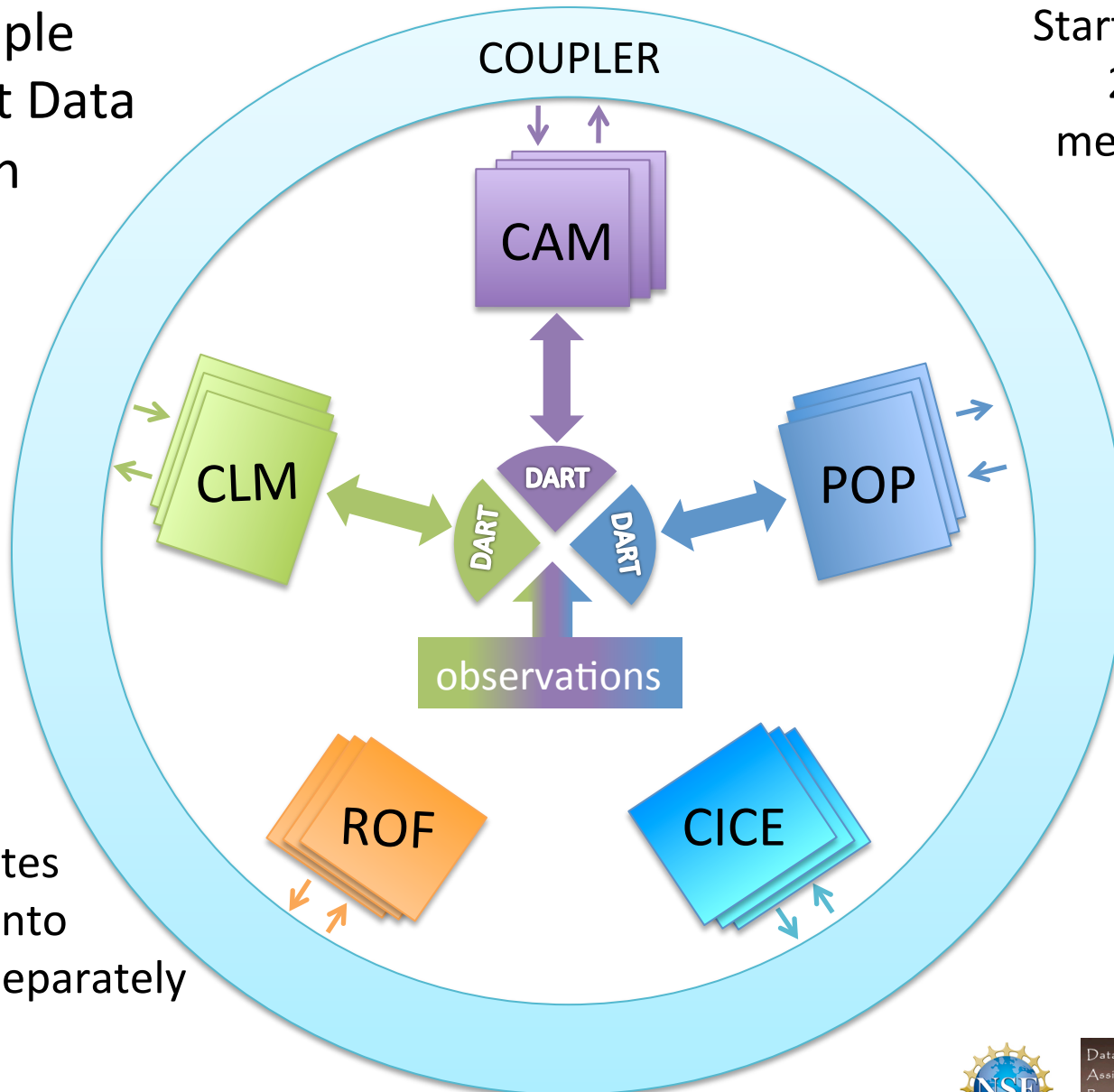


# DART Multiple Component Data Assimilation

**Important!**  
There are *multiple* instances of each model component.

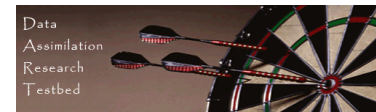
DART assimilates observations into components separately

B compset CESM1\_1\_1



Started with CCSM4  
20<sup>th</sup> Century 30-  
member ensemble  
for all model  
components

Abhishek  
Chatterjee  
is doing  
this now!





# Some of the researchers using CLM/DART

- ✧ **Yong-Fei Zhang** (UT Austin)
  - multisensor snow data assimilation

- ✧ **Andy Fox** (NEON)
  - flux observations/state estimation

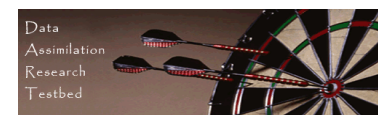
- ✧ **Hanna Post** (Jülich)
  - assimilation & parameter estimation

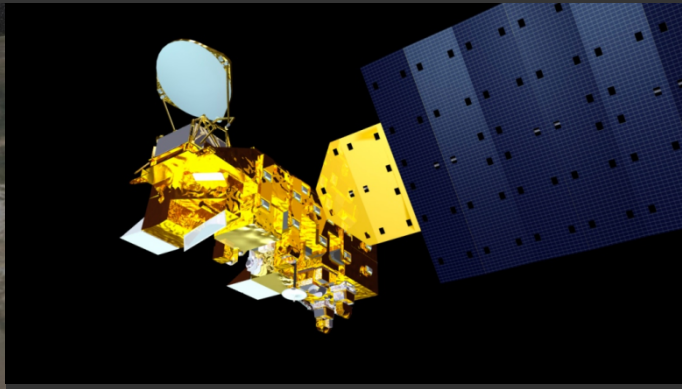
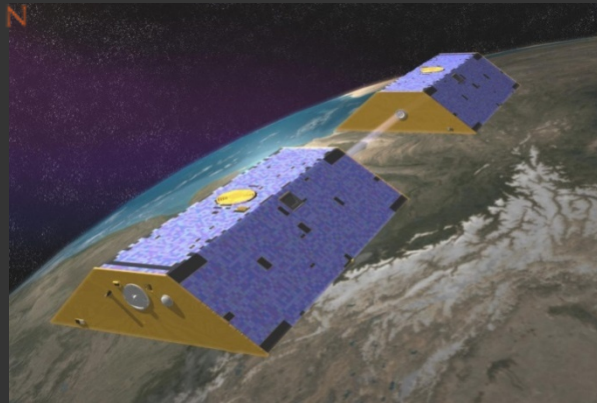
- ✧ **Raj Shekhar Singh** (UC Berkeley)
  - groundwater

- ✧ **Long Zhao** (UT Austin)
  - AMSR-E radiances, empirical vegetated surface RTM, soil moisture (SMAP)

- ✧ **Ally Toure** (NASA-Goddard USRA)
  - brightness temperatures

- ✧ **Yonghwan Kwon** (UT Austin)
  - ✧ sensitivity of assimilation of brightness temperatures from multiple radiative transfer models on estimates of snow water equivalent.





# Improving Estimates of Snowpack Water Storage in the Northern Hemisphere Through a Newly Developed Land Data Assimilation System

**Yong-Fei Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Zong-Liang Yang<sup>1,2</sup>, Yonghwan Kwon<sup>1</sup>, Tim J. Hoar<sup>3</sup>, Hua Su<sup>1</sup>, Jeffrey L. Anderson<sup>3</sup>, Ally M. Toure<sup>4,5</sup>, and Matthew Rodell<sup>5</sup>**

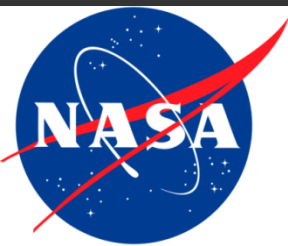
<sup>1</sup>Jackson School of Geosciences, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, United States.

<sup>2</sup>Key Lab of Regional Climate-Environment for Temperate East Asia (RCE-TEA), Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China.

<sup>3</sup>The National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, CO, United States.

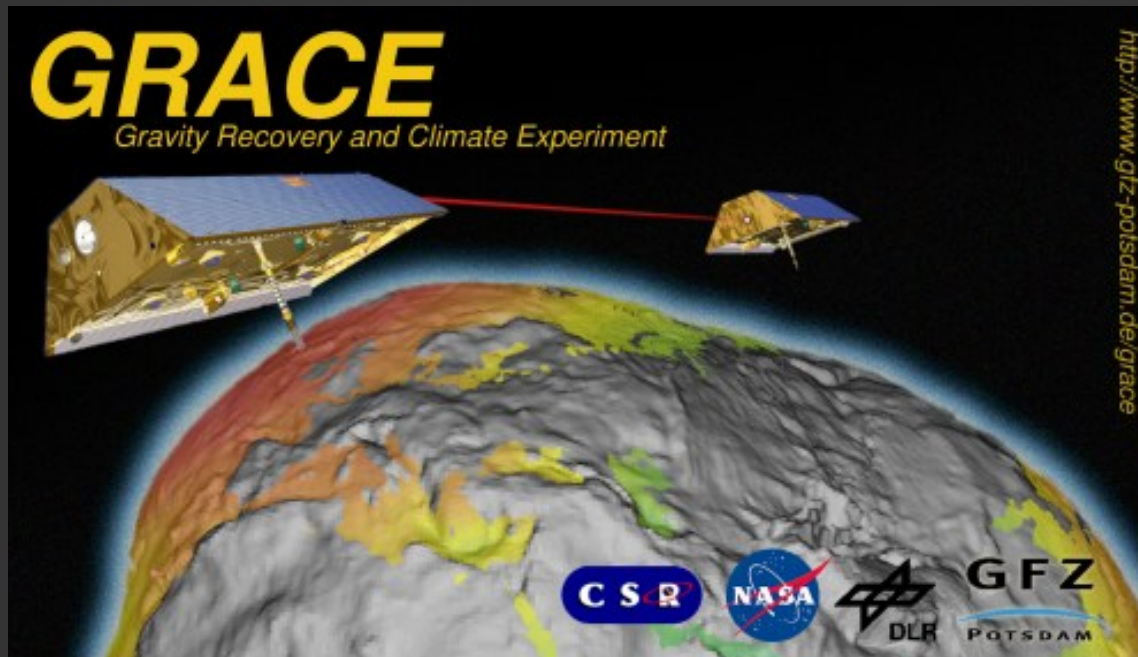
<sup>4</sup>Universities Space Research Association (USRA), Columbia, MD, United States.

<sup>5</sup>NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD, United States.

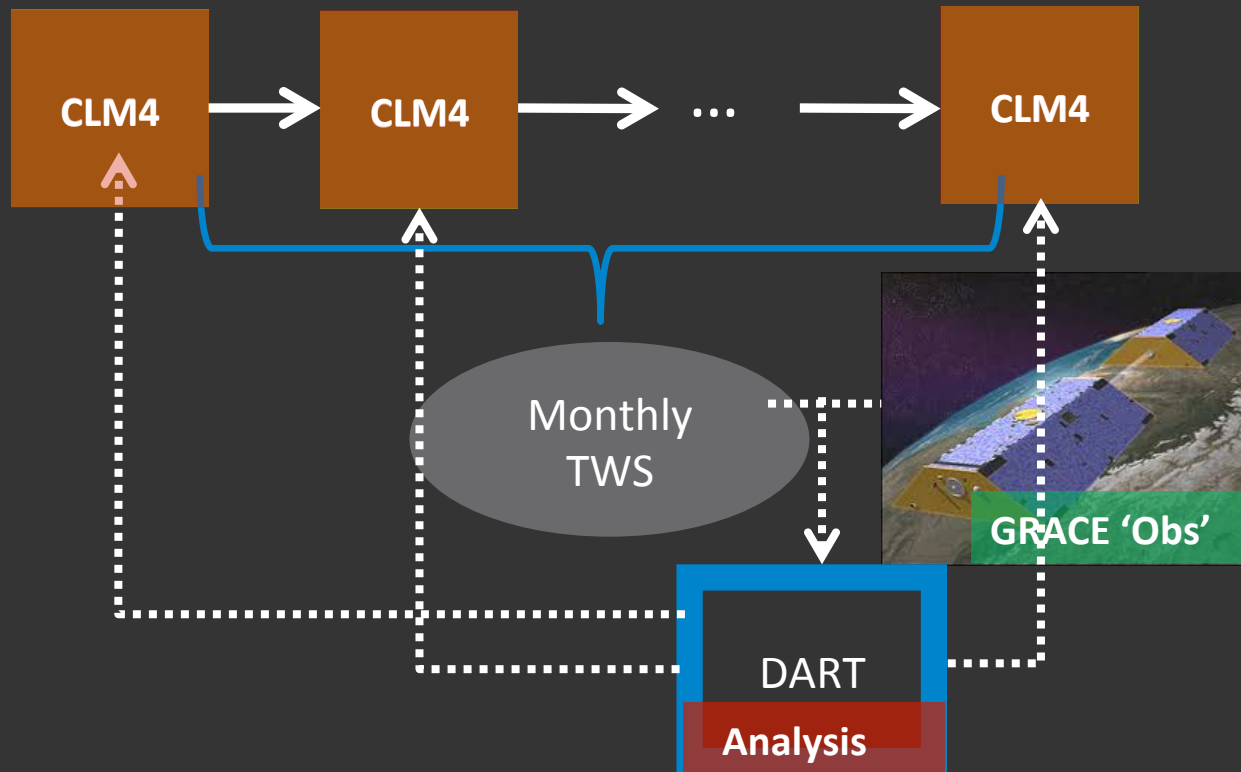


# GRACE satellite data

- Different from MODIS that measures radiances, GRACE measures the distance between two satellites and retrieves gravitational anomalies. One of the products is a change in monthly total water storage (TWS).



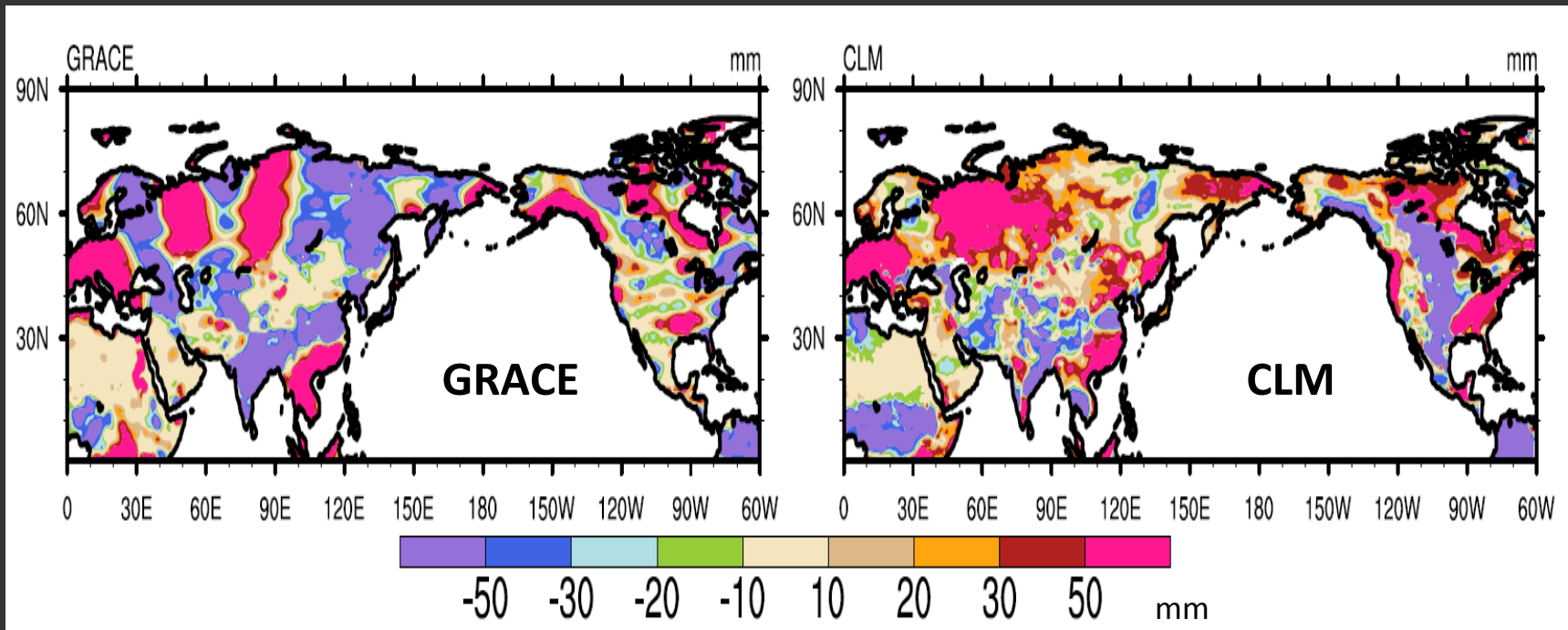
# Two passes in GRACE data assimilation



- 1 Run CLM for one month to be able to calculate change in monthly total water storage.
- 2 Re-run CLM with data assimilation.

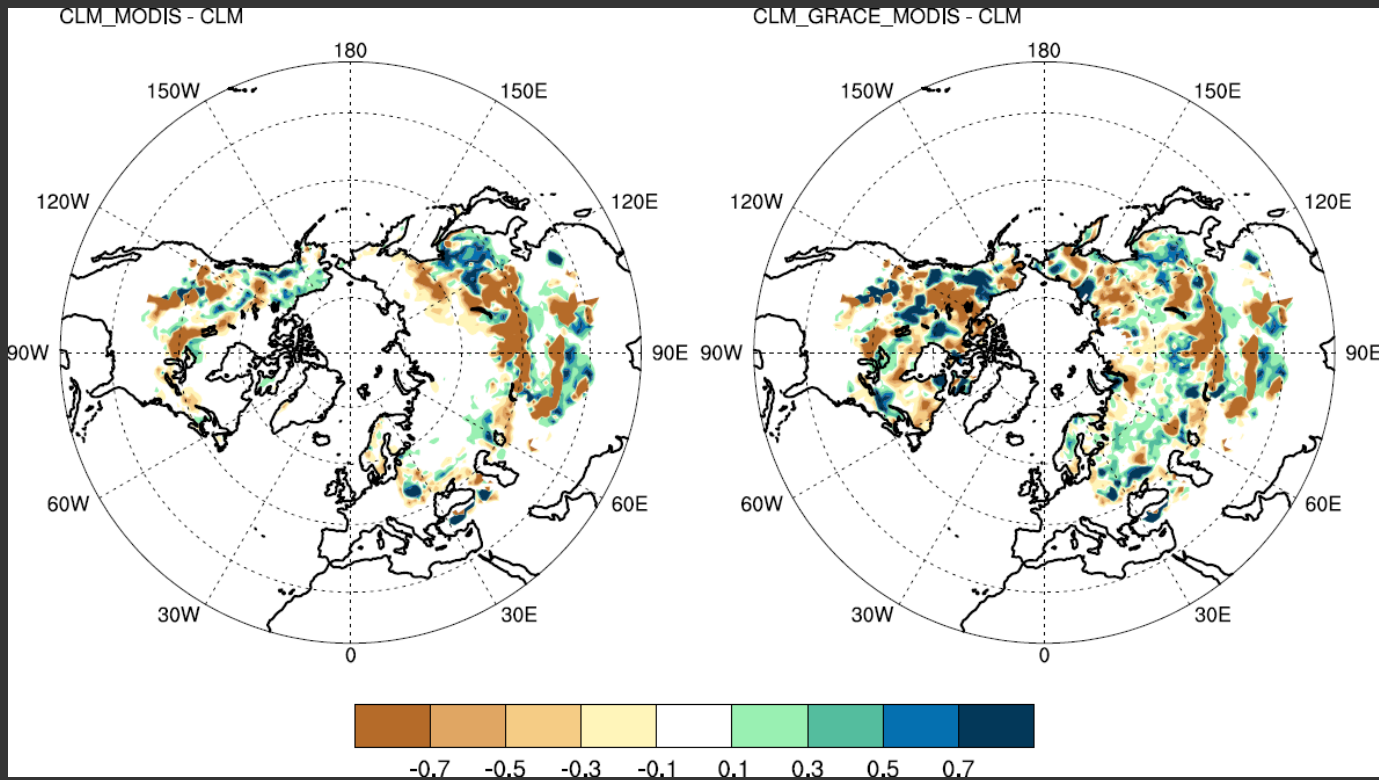
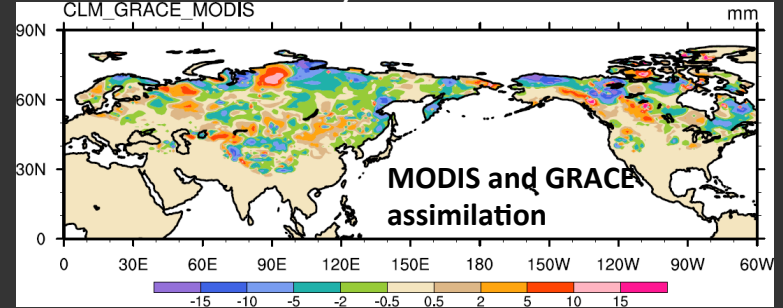
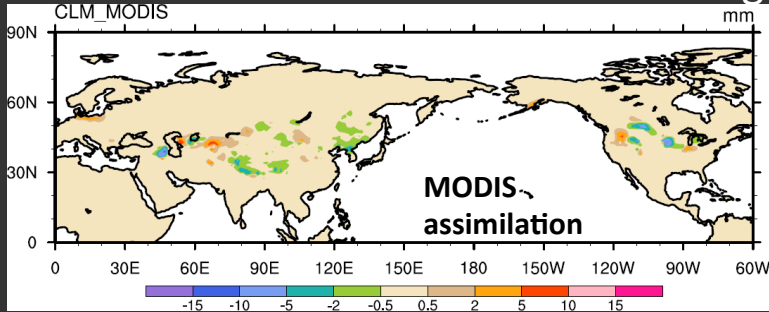
# Total Water Storage change Jan 2003

No assimilation.



# Assimilation Results

## Snow Water Storage (Posterior minus Prior)



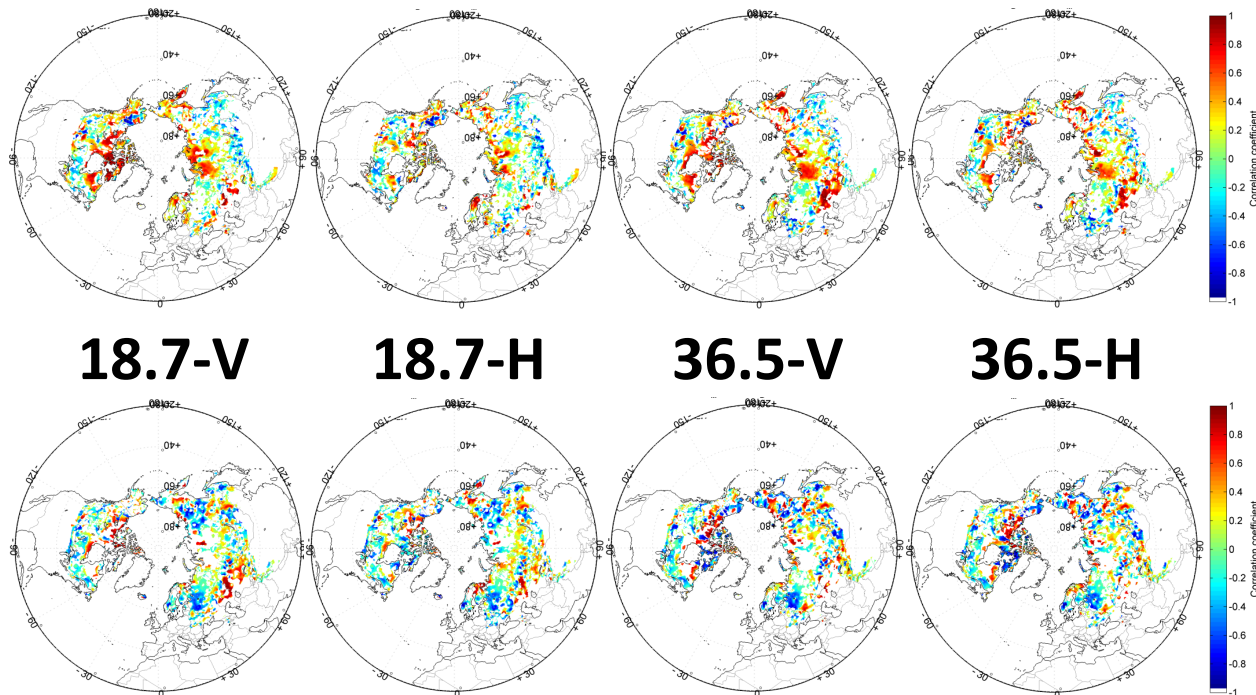


# Multi-RTM ensemble approaches in SWE assimilation.

Yonghwan Kwon, UT Austin

Develop an advanced radiance assimilation scheme to estimate SWE at continental scale by using multiple snowpack RTMs:

Microwave Emission Model for Layered Snowpacks (**MEMLS**) and Dense Media Radiative Transfer – Multi Layers model (**DMRT-ML**).



**CLM4 & MEMLS**

Correlations between:

**CLM4 & DMRT-ML**

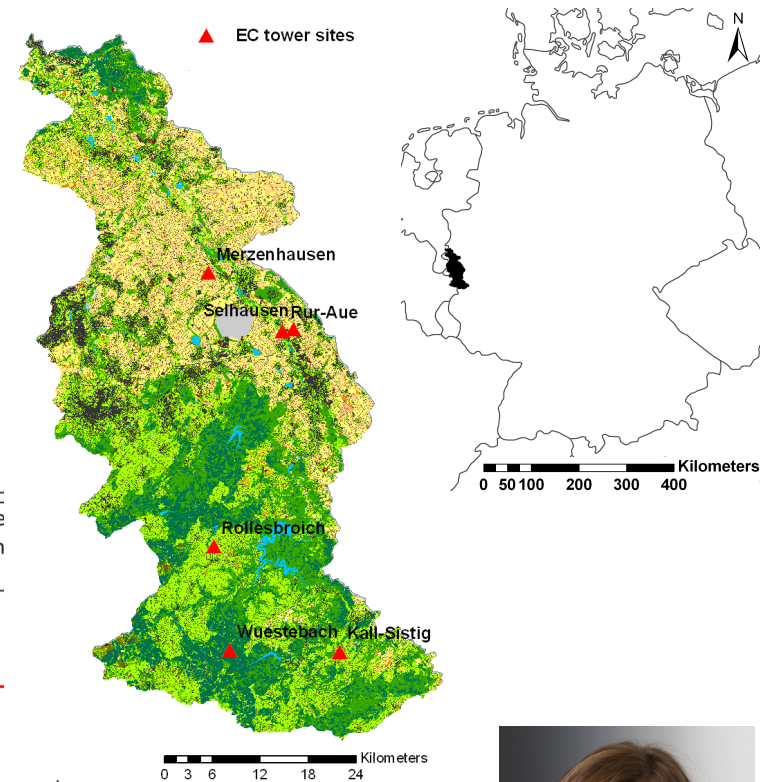
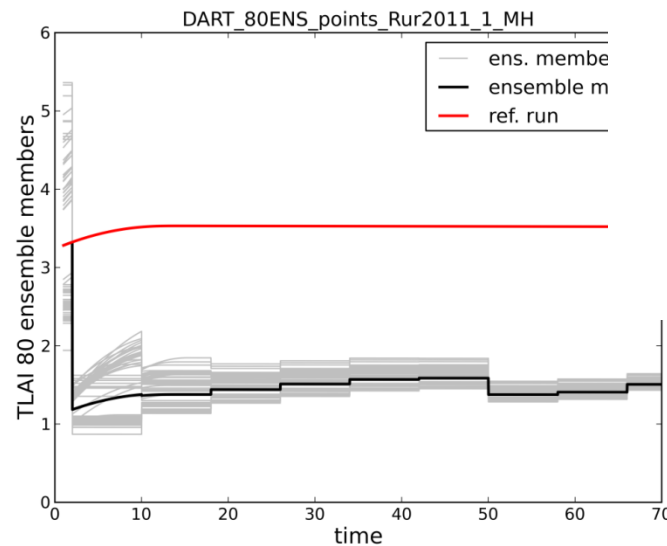
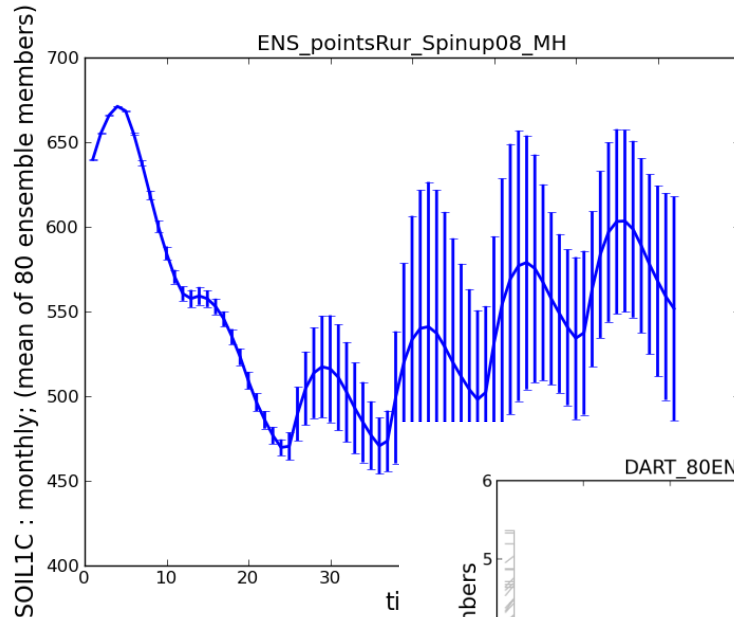
MEMLS; Wiesmann and Mätzler, 1999

DMRT-ML; Picard et al., 2013





# Assimilation of eddy covariance fluxes & MODIS LAI data and CLM upscale NEE from plot to catchment scale



Hanna Post visited Gordon Bonan, Andy Fox and me for 3 months earlier this year.

Hanna Post, IBG-3: Agrosphere





# For more information:

*CAM*

*GITM*

*WACCM*

*WRF*

*CLM*

Data  
Assimilation  
Research  
Testbed

*POP*

*AM2*

*BGRID*

*COAMPS*

[www.image.ucar.edu/DARes/DART](http://www.image.ucar.edu/DARes/DART)

*NOAH*

[dart@ucar.edu](mailto:dart@ucar.edu)

*MPAS\_ATM*

*MITgcm\_ocean*

*COAMPS\_nest*

*SQG*

*NAAPS*

*MPAS\_OCN*

*TIEGCM*

*PBL\_1d*

*CABLE*

*NCOMMAS*

*PE2LYR*

