

*Regional Cooperation for  
Limited Area Modeling in Central Europe*



# Minimization, B matrix computation from practical point of view

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# Minimization

- Model configuration 131 (NCONF)
- Reads the observation minus first-guess departures from the CCMA database and runs the inner loop of the minimization.
- The algorithm consists actually of two iterative processes : the iterative quasi-Newton M1QN3 and iterative recomputation of gradients by the simulator.
- Thus, two maximum number of iterations have to be defined in the namelist:  
NITER is the max number of M1QN3 iterations  
NSIMU is the max number of simulations of the gradient

# Minimization – Inputs

- ALADIN executable - MASTERODB
- First guess – FA file
  - `cp guess ICMRF${CNMEXP}0000`
  - `ln -sf ICMRF${CNMEXP}0000 ICMSH${CNMEXP}INIT`
  - `ln -sf ICMRF${CNMEXP}0000 ICMSH${CNMEXP}IMIN`
- Compressed observation database ODB – **CCMA**
- Namelists (setting code related parameters)
  - `fort.4`
  - In case of assim IASI – `IASI_CLDDET.NL`, `iasichannels`
- Background error covariance matrix
  - Statistical balance operators -- `stabal96.bal`
  - Auto-covariances -- `stabal96.cv`
- Specific constants
  - For conv observation only “`amv_p_and_tracking_error`” is necessary
  - `rtcoef*`, `rmtberr`, ... (AROME: `MCICA`, `RADSRTM`)
- Variational bias correction - **VARBC.cycle**

# Minimization – ODB Environment

```
# general ODB settings
export EC_PROFILE_HEAP=0
export TO_ODB_ECMWF=0
export TO_ODB_SWAPOUT=0
export ODB_DEBUG=0
export ODB_CTX_DEBUG=0
export ODB_REPRODUCIBLE_SEQNO=2
export ODB_STATIC_LINKING=1
export ODB_IO_METHOD=1
export ODB_ANALYSIS_DATE=${YYYY}${MM}${DD}
export ODB_ANALYSIS_TIME=${NT}0000
export TIME_INIT_YYYYMMDD=${YYYY}${MM}${DD}
export TIME_INIT_HHMMSS=${NT}0000

# ODB env for e131, e002
(path to CCMA)
export ODB_CMA=CCMA
export IOASSIGN=$TMPDIR/IOASSIGN
export ODB_SRCPATH_CCMA=$TMPDIR/CCMA
export ODB_DATAPATH_CCMA=$TMPDIR/CCMA
```

# Minimization – Namelist (fort.4)

- NITER, NSIMU – number of iteration, simulation
- NGRATS, NFRGRA – write-out of gradient
- RCVGE – stop criterion for the gradient norm reduction in the minimizer
- **REDNMC** – multiplying factor for all  $\sigma_b$
- **SIGMAO\_COEF** – normalization coefficient of  $\sigma_o$
- LSPFCE (T/F) – horizontally constant  $\sigma_b$  / map of  $\sigma_b$
- **LSPRT=.F.** – use T not Tv in 3D-Var, Tv part bugged!  
AROME cy40 only LSPRT=T is working.
- NOUTPUT=2 – NODE file for all CPUs (debugging)

# Minimization – Namelist (fort.4)

- **NOTVAR** – switch on/off the use of the obs type and variable in Jo (see **YOMCOSJO** for the ordered list of variables) (**Fischer, 2007**)
- Two dimensional – **NOTVAR (param, obstype)**
- **Obstype**: Synop=1, Airep=2, Satob=3, Dribu=4, Temp=5, Pilot=6, Rad=7, PAOB=8, Scatt=9, Limb sounde=10, Radar=13
- **Param**: wind=1, wind10m=2, rh=5, rh2m=6, temperature=7, geopotential=8, T2m=11, spec.humidity=19, radinace=13,
- **NOTVAR(param,obstype)=-1/0; 0 use, -1 not use**
- TEMP example:

```
NOTVAR(1, 5)= 0,0,-1,-1,-1,-1,0,-1,-1,-1,-1,-1,-1,-1,-1,-1,-1,-1,0,-1,-1,-1,-1,-1,-1,
```

# Minimization – AROME specific

- ALARO x AROME differs in NAMGFL, NAMPHY\*, NAMFA due to physics only!
- AROME uses grid-point humidity – **LREADGPTRAJ=.T.**
- AROME is used with surfex soil model
- The 3dvar is **not** prepared to work with surfex!
- The old isba surface scheme is used to compute screen level parameters in minimization but the first guess is not containing all fields needed by isba
- Usually program **addsurf** is used to add missing fields to first guess
- Where to get missing fields? (climfile, ARPEGE analysis, surfex)

# Minimization – Outputs

- Listing -- NODE.001\_01
- Jobout
- Analysis -- MX\${CNMEXP}999+0000
- New VARBC.cycle



# Minimization – Missing fields

- Prognostic fields like hydrometeors, NH parameters are not analyzed and they are missing in analysis.
- The usual way is to just cycle them. So they are added from guess to analysis before integration of forecast.
- Two options:
  - 1) Either before minimization copy guess to resulting analysis,
  - 2) Or after minimization add missing prognostic fields from guess to analysis by program addsurf or blend

# Minimization – check execution (1)

## NODE.001\_01

- completion of the execution successful : **grep 'END CNT0'**
- completion of the model setup successful : grep 'END OF SETUP'. Before this line, you can find all the printouts from your model setup. After this line, the printouts of the execution of any configuration do start.
- For screening and minimization, the NOTVAR tables are repeated not far below, which can be useful.
- the evolution of the cost functions, and of the gradient:  
**grep 'GREPCOST'** -- lists the evolution of Jb and Jo by iteration  
**grep 'GREPGRAD'** -- lists the evolution of the norm of the total gradient
- Search NODE.001\_01 for **Diagnostic JO-table** where you can find used observations statistics for first and last iteration of minimization

# Minimization – check execution (2)

Diagnostic JO-table (JOT) MINIMISATION JOB T0215 NCONF= 131 NSIM4D= 999 NUPTRA= 0

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Obstype 1 === SYNOP, Land stations and ships

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Obstype 2 === AIREP, Aircraft data

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Codetype 141 === AIREP Aircraft Report

Variable	DataCount	Jo_Costfunction	JO/n	ObsErr	BgErr
U	30	2.472950019077	0.08	0.832E+01	0.301E+01
T	15	0.1392491304865	0.01	0.302E+01	0.106E+01

Codetype 144 === AMDAR Aircraft Report

Variable	DataCount	Jo_Costfunction	JO/n	ObsErr	BgErr
U	592	32.62280142782	0.06	0.706E+01	0.238E+01
T	300	9.044523595306	0.03	0.318E+01	0.104E+01

-----  
ObsType 2 Total: 937 44.27952417269 0.05

Obstype 3 === SATOB, Atmospheric motion winds

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-----  
Jo Global : 8120 2472.982639491 0.30  
=====

End of JO-table (JOT)

# Minimization – check execution (3)

- ODB ECMA/CCMA
- ECMA after screening contains reasons why particular obs (datum) is passive, rejected or blacklisted
- CCMA contains only active reports
- [http://www.umr-cnrm.fr/aladin/meshtml/DOC\\_odb/odb.php](http://www.umr-cnrm.fr/aladin/meshtml/DOC_odb/odb.php)
- <https://www.ecmwf.int/sites/default/files/elibrary/2016/16646-part-i-observations.pdf>
- obsvalue, varno, an\_depar, fg\_depar, lat,lon, statid
- datum\_status

Table 2.28 *Datum status.*

Bit Position	No. of Bits	Value – Description
0	1	1 – Report Active
1	1	1 – Passive Report
2	1	1 – Rejected Report
3	1	1 – Blacklisted Report

# Minimization – check execution (4)

Table 2.29 Global datum events.

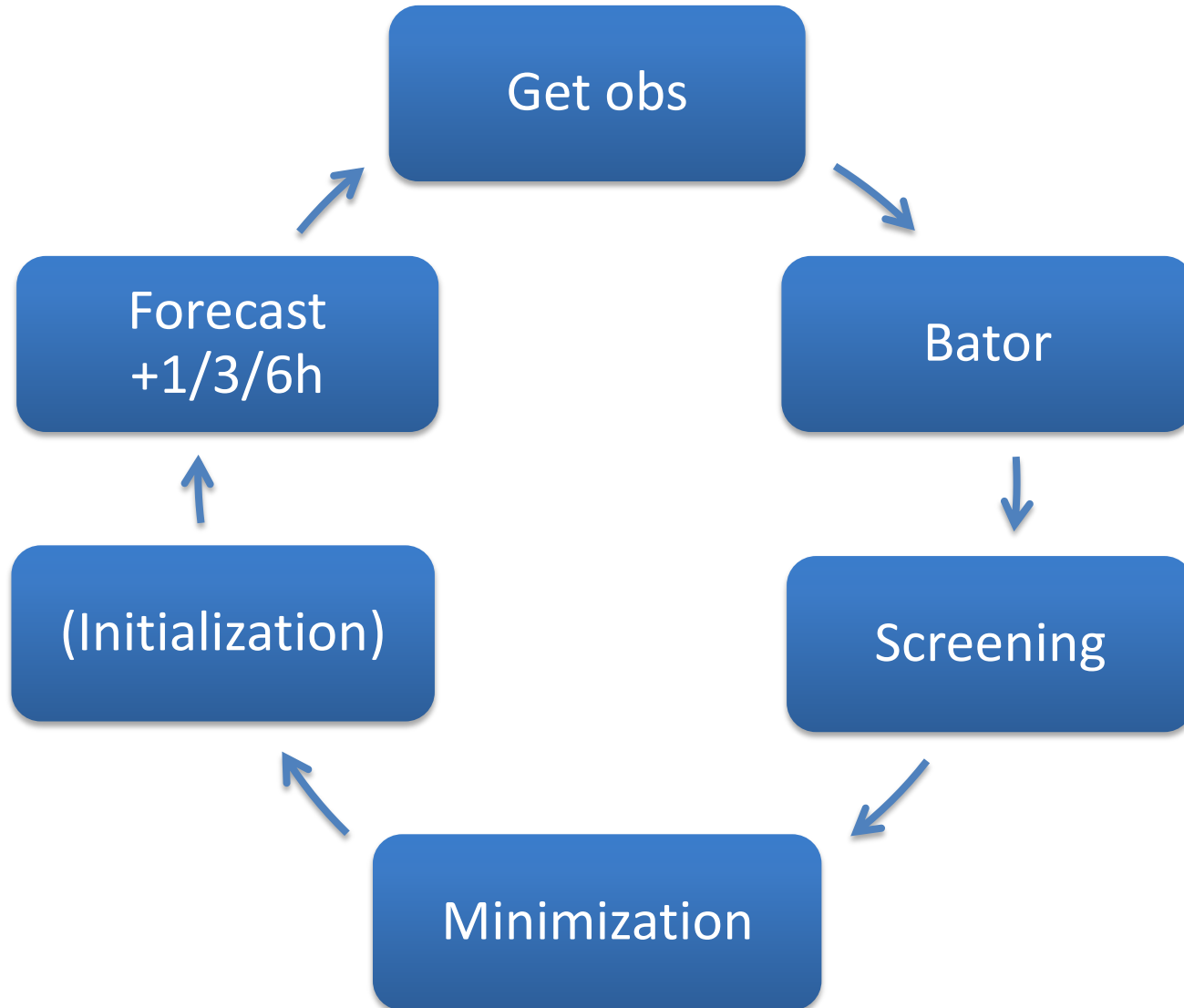
- datum\_event1
- `odbsql -q "SELECT obsvalue, varno, an_depar, fg_depar, lat,lon, statid, datum_status, datum_event1 FROM hdr, body" -f odb`

Bit Position	No. of Bits	Value – Description
0	1	1 – Missing Vertical Coordinate
1	1	1 – Missing Observed Value
2	1	1 – Missing Background (First Guess) Value
3	1	1 – Rejected due to RDB Flag
4	1	1 – Activated due to RDB Flag
5	1	1 – Activated by Whitelist
6	1	1 – Bad Reporting Practice
7	1	1 – Vertical Position out of Range
8	1	1 – Reference Level Position out of Range
9	1	1 – Too Big First Guess Departure
10	1	1 – Too Big Departure in Assimilation
11	1	1 – Too Big Observation Error
12	1	1 – Redundant Datum
13	1	1 – Redundant Level
14	1	1 – Report Over Land
15	1	1 – Report Over Sea
16	1	1 – Not Analysis Variable
17	1	1 – Duplicate Datum/Level
18	1	1 – Too Many Surface Data
19	1	1 – Multi Level Check
20	1	1 – Level Selection
21	1	1 – Vertical Consistency Check
22	1	1 – Vertical Coordinate Changed from Z to P
23	1	1 – Datum Rejected via Namelist
24	1	1 – Combined Flagging
25	1	1 – Datum Rejected due to Rejected Report
26	1	1 – Variational QC Performed
27	1	1 – Observation Error Increased
28	1	1 – Cloud Contamination
29	1	1 – Rain Contamination
30	1	1 – Aerosol Contamination
31	1	1 – Missing or Not Sensible Emissivity Values

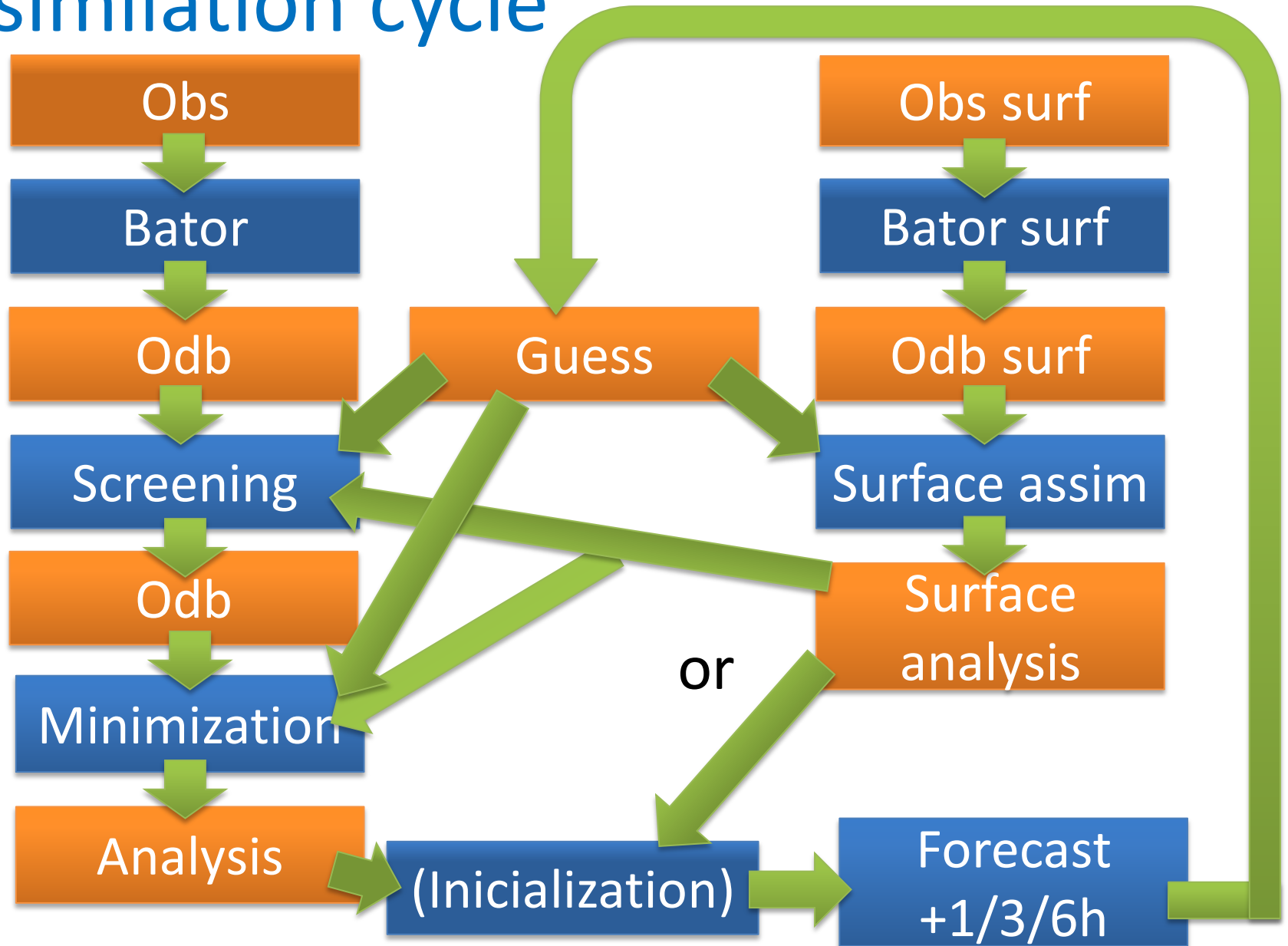
# Minimization – problems, crashes

- Observation not assimilated - check NOTVAR, find the reason in odb ECMA, CCMA
- Crash in readobs.F90
  - Do you use MASTERODB, is odb linked correctly?
- Crash in mkglobstab\_model.F90
  - OBS <NO> AT <lat> <lon> NOT FOUND
  - MKGLOBSTAB\_MODEL: IWRONG1 NE 0
  - This happens when observation out of lam domain in odb – check bator setting of lamflag (BATOR\_LAMFLAG=1)
- Wrong Bmatrix
  - Bad vertical structure  
CALL ABOR1(' Vertical balance interpol not implemented')
  - Low res B in high res run  
CALL ABOR1(' Stat balance is only up to NSMAX')
  - High res B in low res run – **no crash just warring !!!**  
'Truncating balance'
- Other crashes, look in 3dvar documentation Fischer (2007),  
<https://hirlam.org/trac/wiki>, <http://www.rclace.eu/forum/>

# Assimilation cycle



# Assimilation cycle





# B matrix computation

# B matrix computation

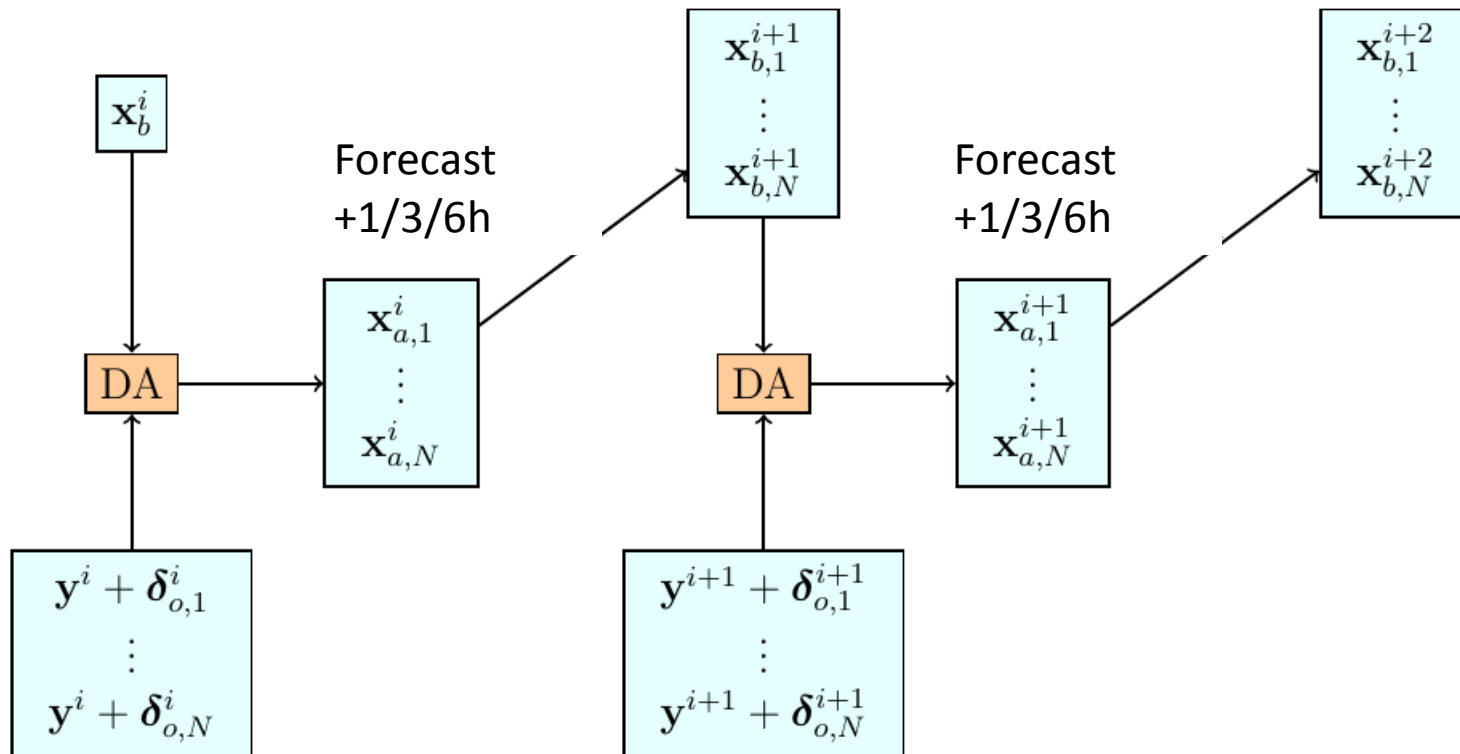
- The role of background error covariances is to scale, spatially filter and propagate the observed information away from observation point.
- Due to balance properties analysis corrections are propagated from one variable to the other
- The bg error statistics depend on:
  - model and its resolution (Global, lam)
  - geographical area (midlatitude, tropical)
  - weather regime, time of day, season
  - density of the observation network. (Dense x sparse obs)

# B matrix computation

- Above mentioned + size of Full B => need for simplification
  1. Climatological B (longer period)
  2. Homogeneity and isotropy – in spectral space it means that waves with different wave numbers are uncorrelated
- Methods for computation of B matrix
  - Hollingsworth and Lonnerberg 1986 - based on innovation vectors
  - NMC (National Meteorological Center, Parrish and Derber, 1992), - differences between two differently long forecast valid at the same time (deterministic)
  - Ensemble base techniques (EDA – ensemble data assimilation)
    - Spinup B – Dynamical adaptation of global ensemble
    - Full ensemble B – LAM assimilation ensemble
    - They tend to simulate the growth of errors during assimilation cycle
    - Belo-Pereira and Berre, 2006

# B matrix – EDA

- Ensemble of assimilation cycles
- observations are perturbed  $N(0, \sigma_o)$
- first guesses could be perturbed



# B matrix – EDA

- Every member have the same set of observations but with different perturbation.
- Initial perturbation are forgotten after several cycles of EDA (El Ouaraini a Berre, 2011)
- Analysis error

$$\mathbf{e}_a^{i+1} = \mathbf{e}_b^{i+1} + \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{e}_o^{i+1} - \mathbf{H}\mathbf{e}_b^{i+1})$$

- Evolution of ensemble members differences

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_a^{i+1} = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_b^{i+1} + \mathbf{K}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o^{i+1} - \mathbf{H}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_b^{i+1})$$

- True B matrix

$$\mathbf{B}_* = \overline{\mathbf{e}_b \mathbf{e}_b^T}$$

Berre et al. (2006)

- Ensemble based B matrix

$$\mathbf{B}_\varepsilon = \overline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_b \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_b^T}$$

$$\mathbf{B}_\varepsilon = 2\mathbf{B}_*$$

# B matrix computation practical

- Preparation of EDA
  - Perturbation of upper-air observations could be done in screening (NAMSCC – **LPERTURB=.T.**, **NAEMEMBER=xxMEMBxx**, NAENSEMBLE=1) or offline before or after screening
  - Perturbations of SYNOP and DRIBU could be done in bator (LPERTOBS=.T.) or offline
  - Perturbation of Sea Surface Temperature
  - Inflation of FG perturbations (Raynaud et al., 2012)

# B matrix computation practical 2

- **Femars** – Computing ensemble members differences
  - configuration e001
  - necessary to set **LFEMARSD=.T.** and **LSPRT=.F.** in the namelist
  - suppress in-line fullpos and computation of fluxes (NFPOS=0, NAMXFU - LXFU=.F.)
  - **1cpu only**
  - To compute difference between two forecasts valid at the same time from two members you have to rename the one member to ICMSH\${CNMEXP}FGIN and second member to ICMSH\${CNMEXP}ANIN, CNMEXP is namelist parameter
  - Output file is a grib file with name gribdiff

# B matrix computation practical 3

- Festat – B matrix computation from gribdiffs
  - compile by gmkpack, cycle 43 needs adaptation - <http://www.rclace.eu/forum/viewtopic.php?f=30&t=62&p=2096#p2096>
  - Option “-no-wrap-margin” for intel compiler
  - Inputs: gribdiff files called **ensdiff\${ncase}**, special namelist “**fort.4**”
  - Outputs: B matrix files \$name.cv, \$name.bal, \$name.cvt – where \$name is specified in the namelist, some diagnostics
- Fediacov – Produces set of diagnostics
  - **1cpu only**
  - inputs: **\$name.cv** or **\$name.cvt**, namelist “**fort.4**”



# B matrix computation practical 4

- Period
  - Number of gridcells must be larger than the number of model vertical levels to have positive definite B.
- REDNMC – scaling of B
  - theoretical value of REDNMC is .7 since  $REDNMC^2$  is applied to B matrix
- SIGMAO\_COEF – scaling of “R”
  - It is vector of obs error scalings per obstype
  - Should be set in Bator, screening, minim
  - It is not applied to all obs parameters.

Thank you for your attention

# References

- Fischer, C., 2007. The variational computation inside ARPEGE/ALADIN: cycle CY32. *Technical report*. Available at: [www.umr-cnrm.fr/gmapdoc//IMG/ps/main\\_var.ps](http://www.umr-cnrm.fr/gmapdoc//IMG/ps/main_var.ps)
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