

# An example of an automatic differentiation based modelling system

*Thomas Kaminski<sup>1</sup>, Ralf Giering<sup>1</sup>,  
Marko Scholze<sup>2</sup>, Peter Rayner<sup>3</sup>, Wolfgang Knorr<sup>4</sup>*

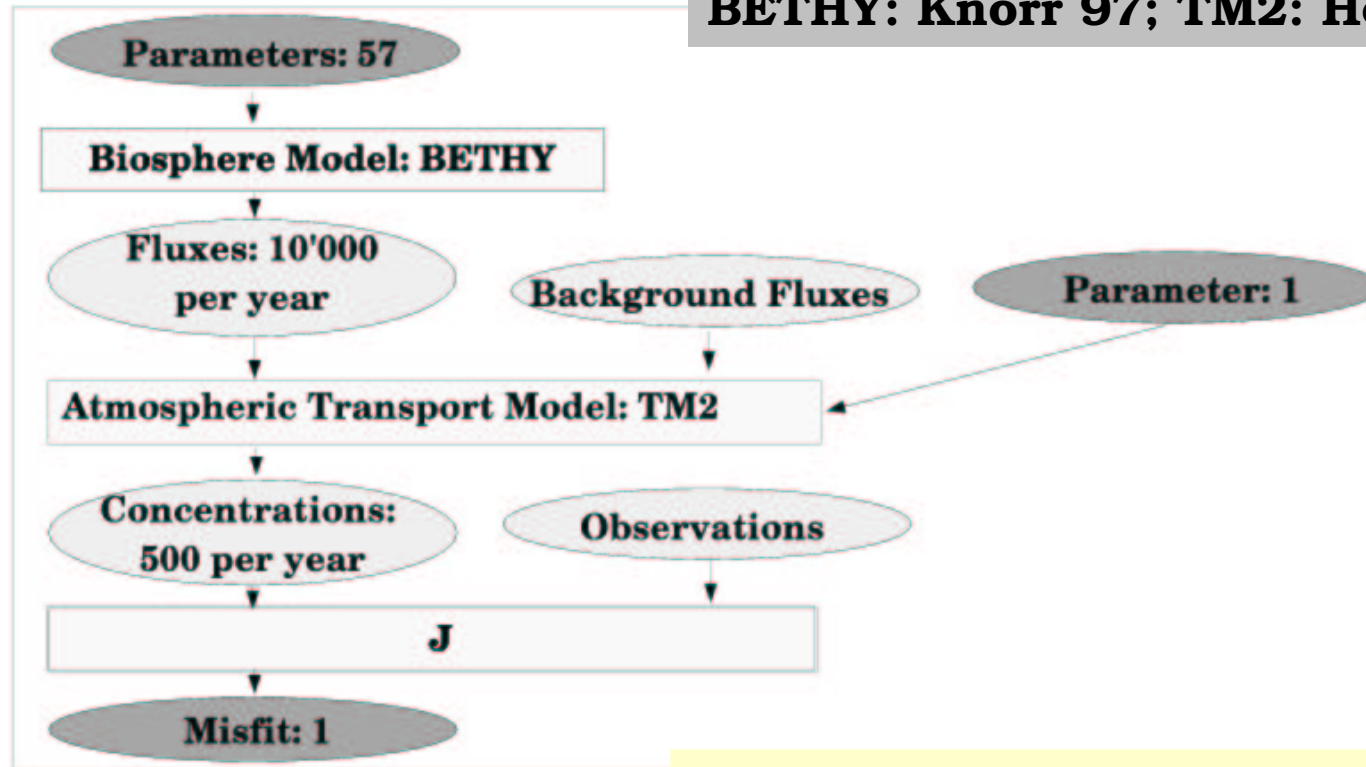
Copy of presentation at  
<http://www.FastOpt.com>

# Overview

- **Calibration step**
- **Prognostic step**
- **Model development within system**
- **Automatic Differentiation**
- **Summary**

# Setup for Calibration Step

BETHY: Knorr 97; TM2: Heimann 95



$$J(m) = \frac{1}{2} [(m-m_0)C_m^{-1}(m-m_0) + (M(m)-d)C_d^{-1}(M(m)-d)]$$

# Gradient Method

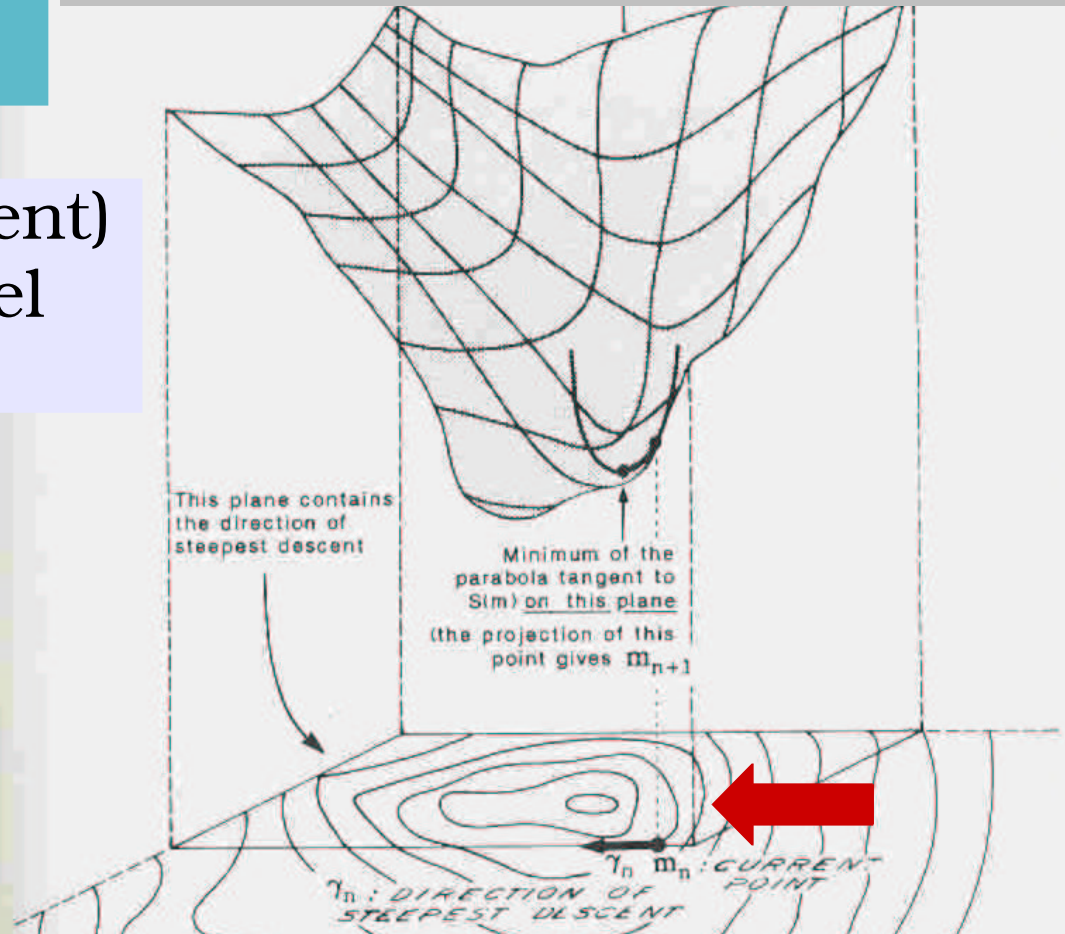
# Cost Function $J(m)$

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

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

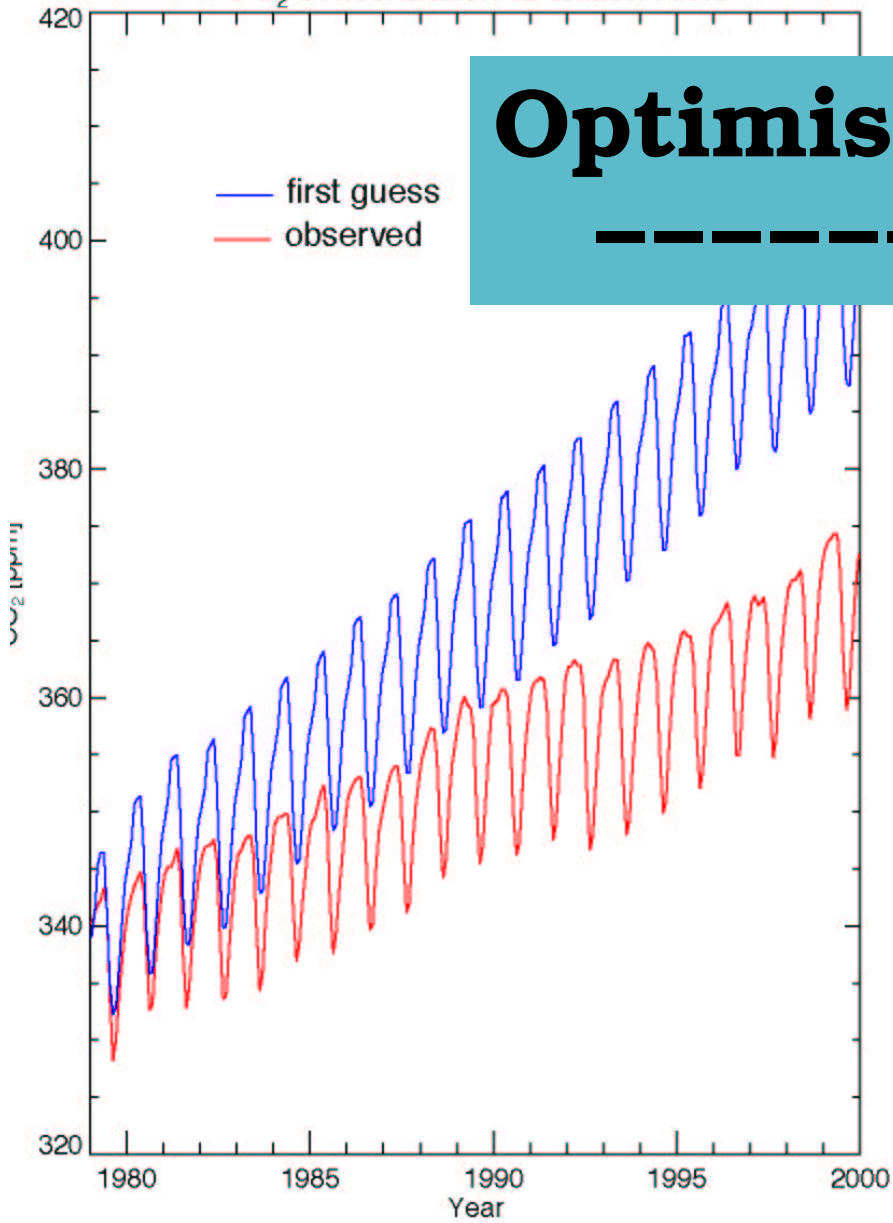
yields direction of steepest descent

Figure taken from Tarantola '87



Space of  $m$  (model parameters)

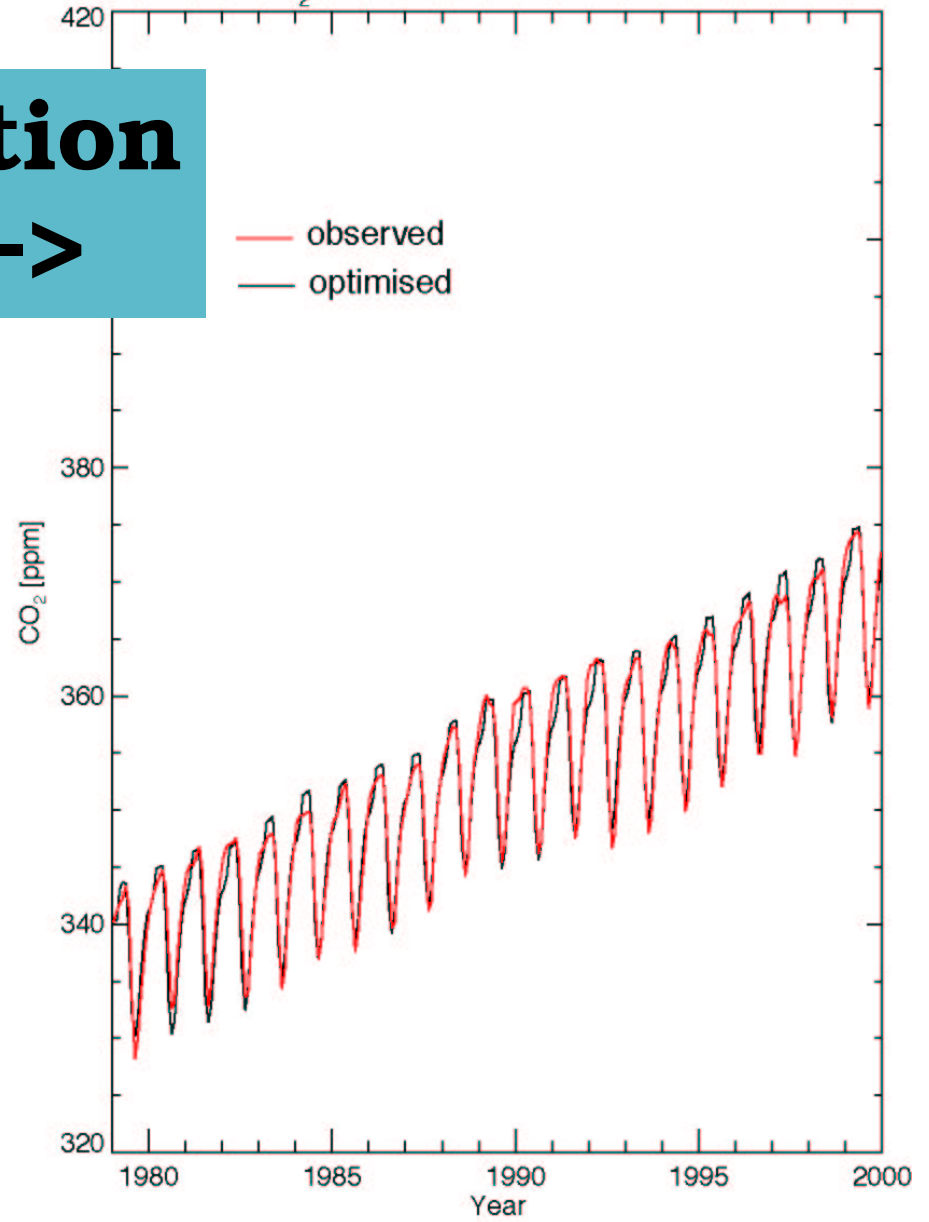
CO<sub>2</sub> concentration at station Alert



**Optimisation**

→

CO<sub>2</sub> concentration at station Alert



# Covariances in Parameter Uncertainties

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

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

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

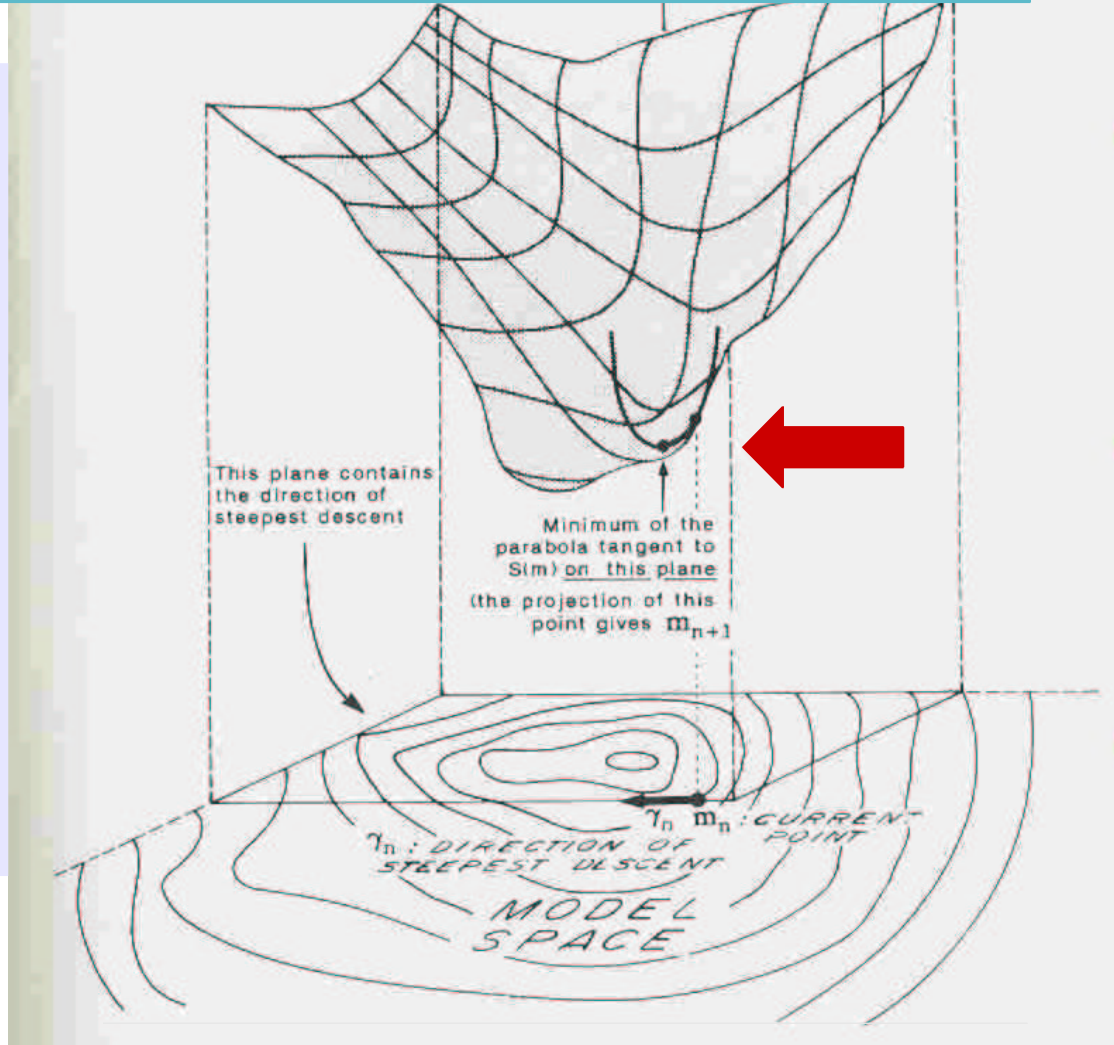
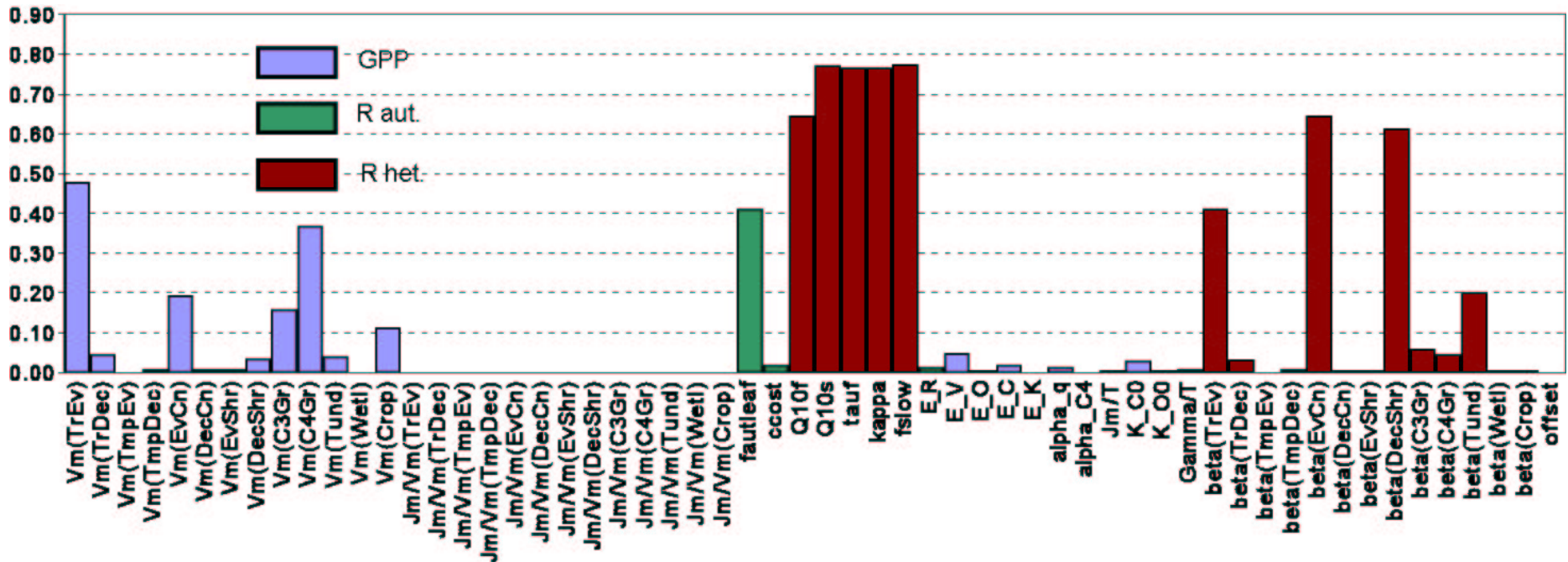


Figure taken from Tarantola '87

# Covariances in Parameter Uncertainties

examples:	first guess	optimized	prior unc.	opt.unc.	Vm(TrEv)	Vm(EvCn)	Vm(C3Gr)	Vm(Crop)
	$\mu\text{mol/m}^2\text{s}$	$\mu\text{mol/m}^2\text{s}$	%	%	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

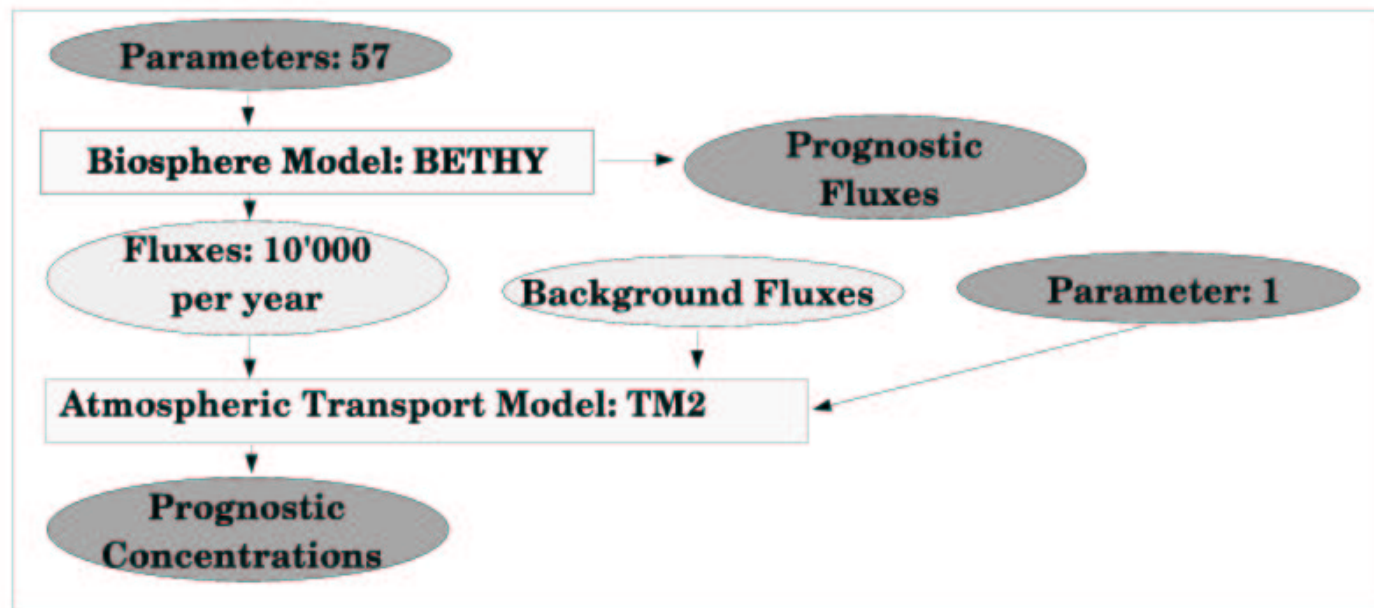
# Relative reduction of uncertainties



Observations resolve about 10–15 directions in parameter space



# Setup for prognostic step



BETHY: Knorr 97; TM2: Heimann 95

# Covariances in Uncertainties of Prognostics

Prognostics, e.g. CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes, are a function of model parameters

$$y = M(\mathbf{m}_{opt})$$

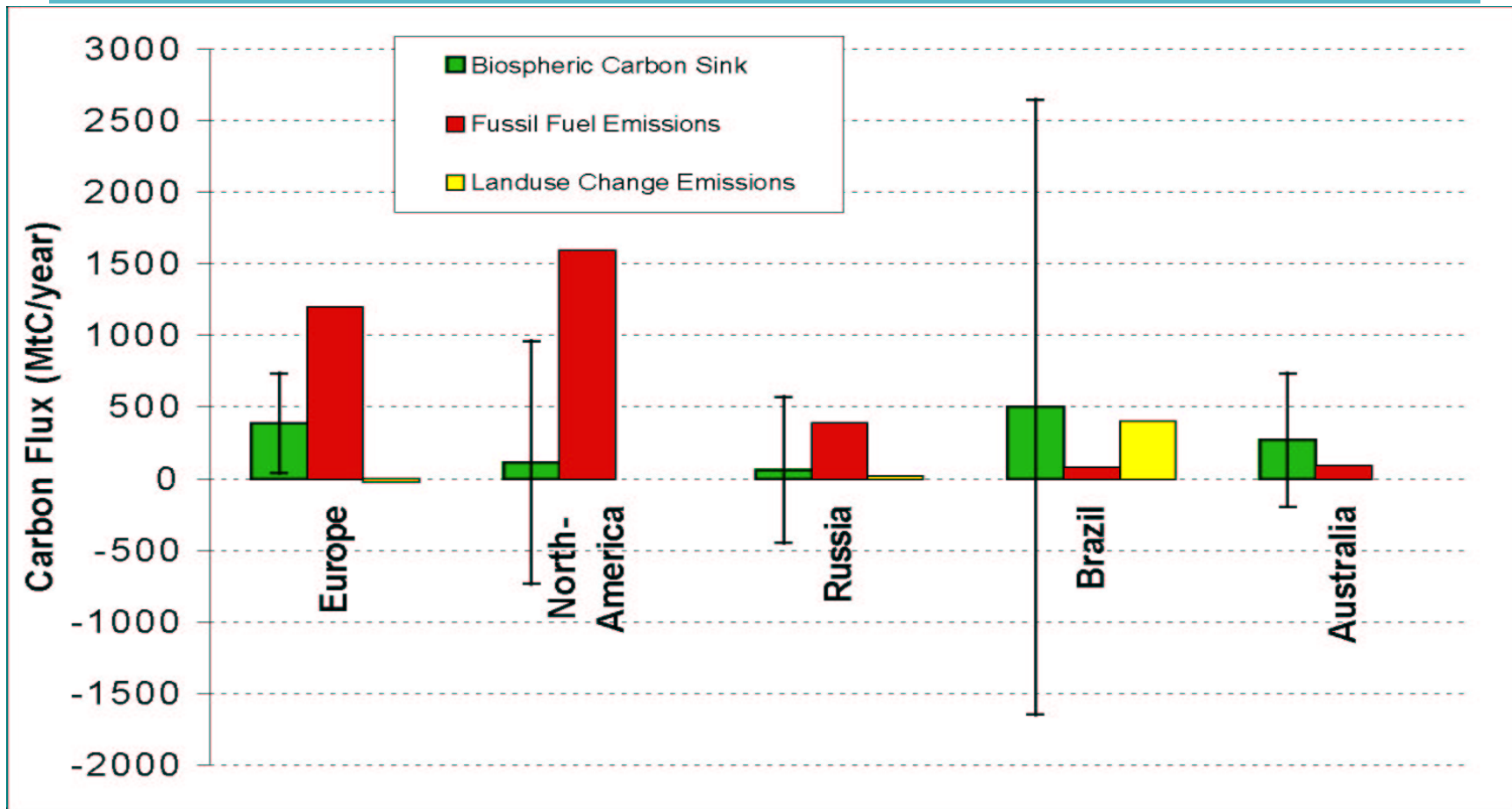
Posterior (after optimisation) covariance in uncertainties of prognostics

Jacobian matrix  
(adjoint or tangent linear model)

$$C_{y,post} = (DM) C_{m,post} (DM)^T$$

error covariance  
of parameters

# Regional Net Carbon Balance and Uncertainties



# Model development within System

- System can test a given combination observational data + model formulation with **uncertain parameters**, and deliver optimal parameters, prognostics, and their a posteriori **uncertainties**
- Initial and boundary conditions can be included as unknowns/control variables (we have 1 already)
- Model is developed further within system
- **Model development benefits** from sensitivity information and comparison with data (often brutal!)
- Work is **ongoing**, numbers are from model formulation we are **not yet happy** with...

# Automatic Differentiation

- Uses **adjoint, tangent linear** and **Hessian** code
- All derivative code generated from Fortran-90 source code of model (~5500 lines) by **AD tool TAF**
- Process fully automatic: no hand coding
- Good performance on Linux, XEON 2GHz, with Lahey lf95: **-tpp -O**

# some larger TAF Derivatives

Model (Who)	Lines	Lang	TLM	ADM	Ckp	HES
NASA/NCAR (w. Todling & Lin)	87'000	F90	2.7	6.8	2 lev	-
MOM3 (Galanti & Tziperman)	50'000	F77	Yes	4.6	2 lev	-
MITGCM (ECCO Consortium)	100'000	F77	1.8	5.5	3 lev	11.0/1
BETHY (w. Knorr, Rayner, Scholze)	5'500	F90	1.5	3.4	2 lev	50/12
Nav.-Stokes-Solver (Hinze, Slawig)	450	F77	-	2.0	steady	-
NSC2KE	2'500	F77	2.4	3.4	steady	9.8/1
HB_AIRFOIL (Thomas & Hall)	8'000	F90	-	3.0		-

- ◆ **Lines:** total number of Fortran lines without comments
- ◆ **Numbers for TLM and ADM** give CPU time for (function + gradient) relative to forward model
- ◆ **HES format:** CPU time for Hessian \* n vectors rel. t. forw. model/ n
- ◆ **2 (3) level checkpointing** costs 1 (2) additional model run(s)



# Jacobian and ASD Performance

## Forward

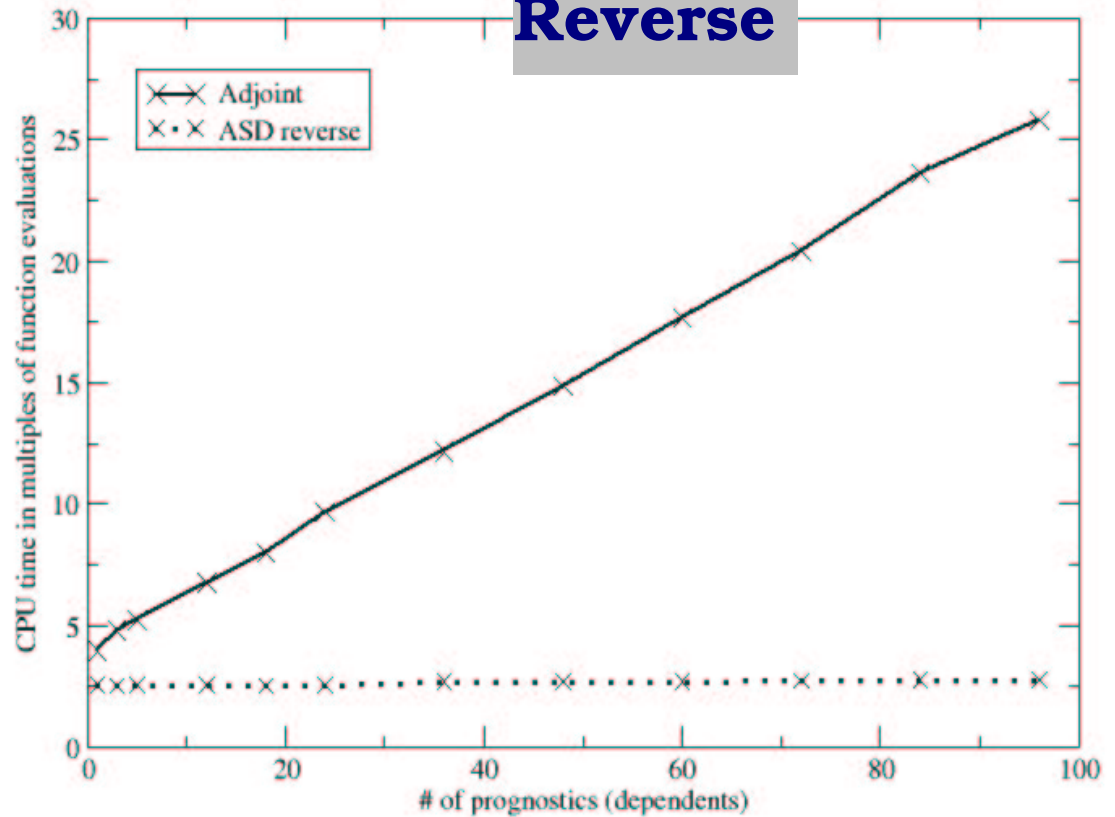
58 independents

Jacobian: 12

ASD: 1.3

CPU time quantified  
in multiples of  
function evaluations

## Reverse





# Summary

- AD is **key technology** in CCDAS:  
Allows propagation of uncertainties
- Concept can be **generalised to other modelling** systems
- **Automatic differentiation essential to reduce the delay from model development to data assimilation**