

Towards application of machine learning methods  
to model bias correction:  
Lorenz-96 model experiments

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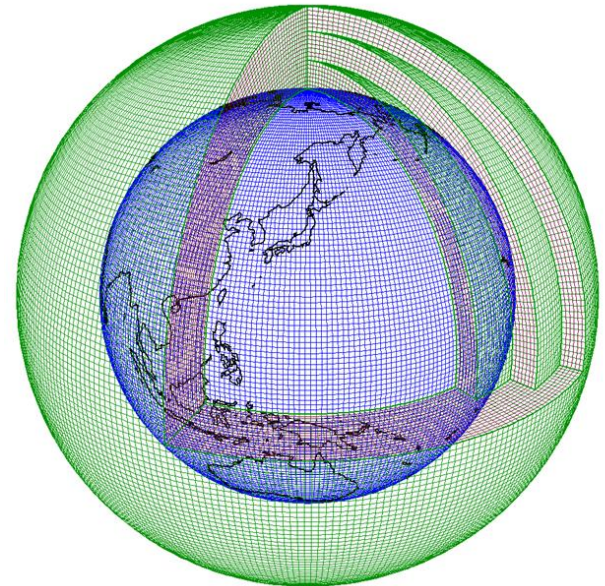
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# Motivation: bias in weather and climate models

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Weather and climate models have model biases from various sources

- Truncation error
- Approximation of unresolved physical processes
  - Convection
  - Small-scale topography
  - Turbulence
  - Cloud microphysics



# Treatment of forecast error in data assimilation

## Kalman filter

Update state and forecast error covariance

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1}^f = \mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}_t^a)$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{P}_{t+1}^f = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{P}_t^a\mathbf{M}^T} \quad \mathbf{M} = \partial\mathcal{M}/\partial\mathbf{x}$$

Calculate Kalman gain

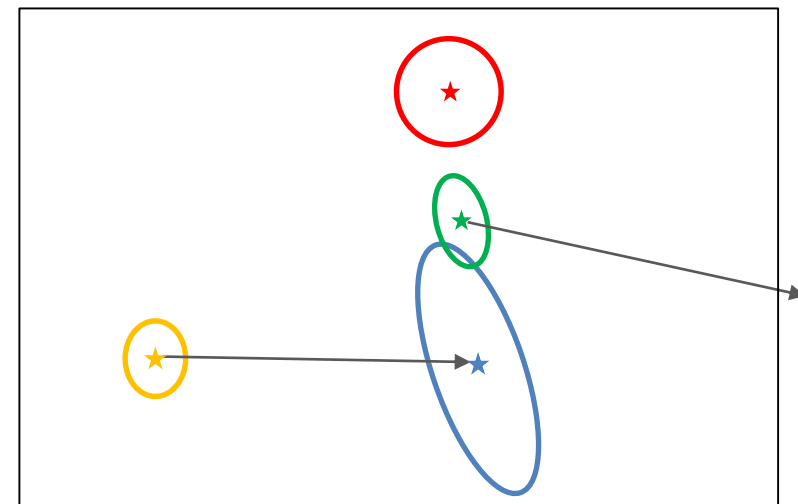
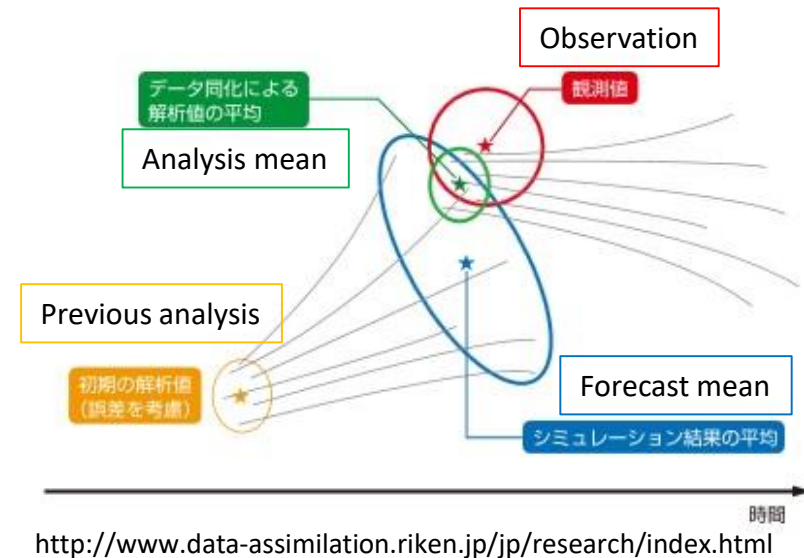
$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{P}^f \mathbf{H}^T (\mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}^f \mathbf{H}^T + \mathbf{R})^{-1}$$

Calculate analysis state and error covariance

$$\mathbf{x}^a = \mathbf{x}^f + \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}^f))$$

$$\mathbf{P}^a = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{H})\mathbf{P}^f$$

Model bias leads to  
the underestimation of forecast(background) error



# Treatment of imperfect model

Insufficient model error degrades the performance of Kalman filter

## 1. Covariance inflation

additive inflation

$$\mathbf{P}^a \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^a + \mathbf{Q}$$

multiplicative inflation

$$\mathbf{P}^a \rightarrow \alpha \mathbf{P}^a$$

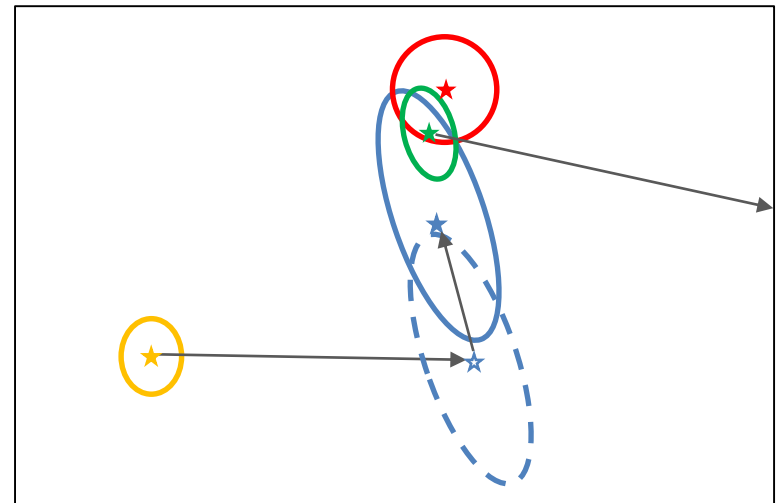
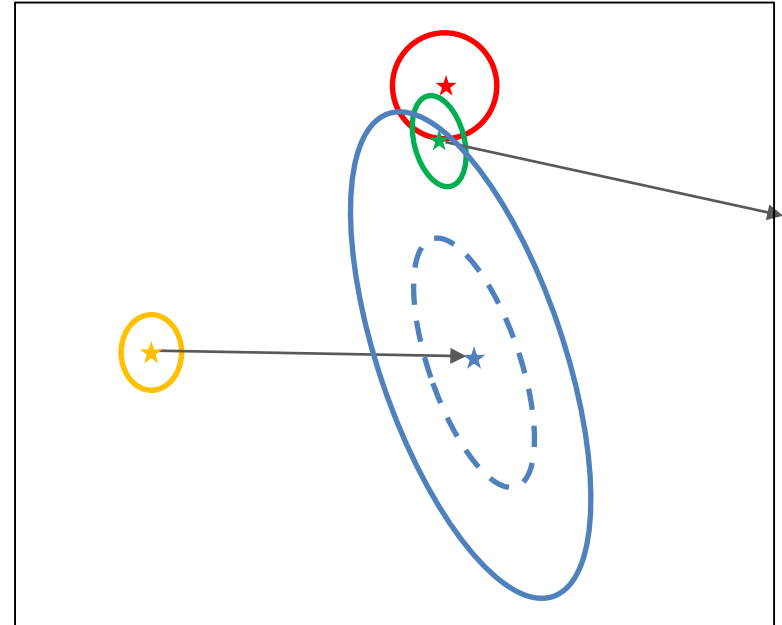
Relaxation-to-prior

$$\mathbf{P}^a \rightarrow (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{P}^a + \alpha \mathbf{P}^f$$

## 2. Correction of systematic bias component

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1}^f = \mathbf{x}_{t+1}^f + \mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1}^a = \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1}^f + \mathbf{K} \left( \mathbf{y}_{t+1} - H(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1}^f) \right)$$



# Bias correction with simple functional form

✓ “Offline” bias correction

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}_{\text{model}}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{x})$$

Set of training data  $\{\delta\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^f\}$

→ bias correction term  $\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{x})$  estimation

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}_{\text{true}}(\mathbf{x}) \longrightarrow \mathbf{x}^t(t), \mathbf{x}^t(t + \Delta t) \dots$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}_{\text{model}}(\mathbf{x}) \longrightarrow \mathbf{x}^f(t + \Delta t)$$

$$\delta\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^t(t + \Delta t) - \mathbf{x}^f(t + \Delta t)$$

Simplest form: linear dependency

$$\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{D}_0 + \mathbf{L}\mathbf{x}'$$

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{x}^f - \bar{\mathbf{x}}^f$$

$\mathbf{C}$  : correlation matrix

$$\mathbf{D}_0 = \overline{\delta\mathbf{x}}/\Delta t$$

Steady component

$$\mathbf{L}\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{C}_{\delta\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}}^{-1} \mathbf{x}' / \Delta t$$

Linearly-dependent component (Leith , 1978)

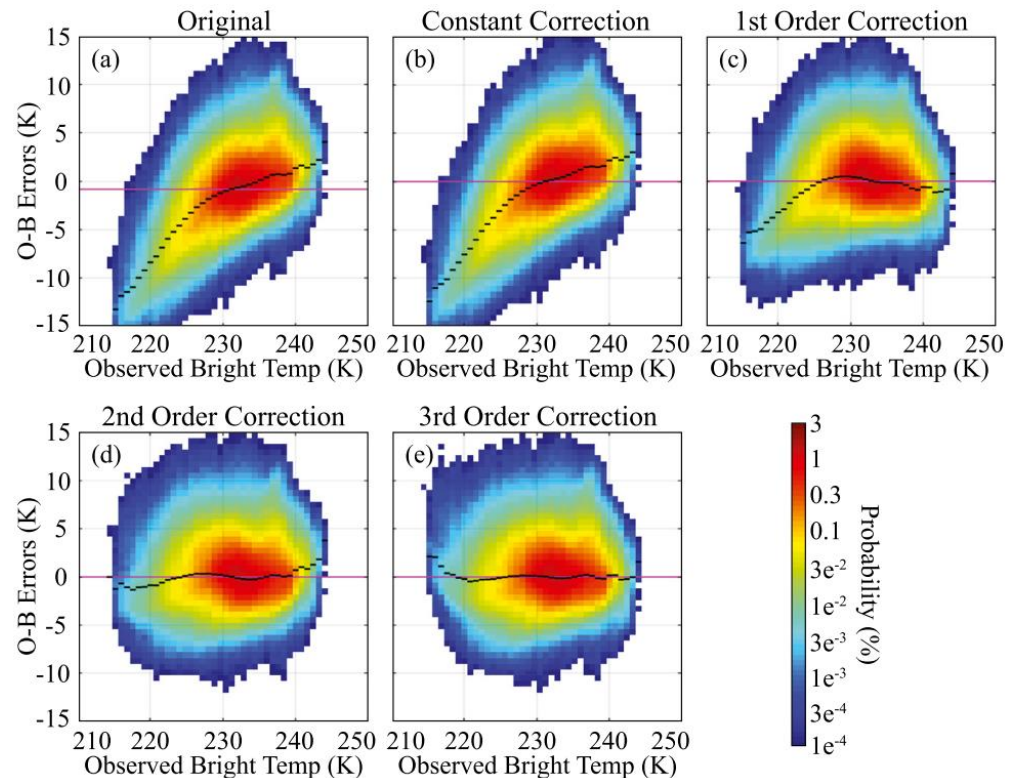
Dimensionality reduction can be applied  
using Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) (Danforth et al. 2007)

# Bias correction with nonlinear basis functions

Higher order polynomials :

- Coupled Lorenz96 system (Wilks et al. 2005, Arnold et al. 2013)
- Real case: All-sky satellite infrared brightness temperature (Otkin et al. 2018)

Probability of (obs – fcst) vs obs



(Fig.2 of Otkin et al. 2018)

Neural networks :

- Coupled Lorenz96 system (Watson et al. 2019)

# Online bias correction

## ✓ “Online” bias correction

= Simultaneous estimation of state variables and bias correction terms

- Kalman filter

sequential treatment / augmented state

- Steady component (Dee and Da Silva 1998, Baek et al 2006)
- Polynomials (Pulido et al. 2018)

- Variational data assimilation (“VarBC”)

- Legendre polynomials

(Cameron and Bell, 2016; for Satellite sounding in UK Met Office operational model)

$$J_o = \frac{1}{2} \sum_k \left( \left( y_k + \sum_{i=1}^{I_k} \beta'_i p_{k,i} - y_k^o \right) R_k^{-1} \left( y_k + \sum_{j=1}^{I_k} \beta'_j p_{k,j} - y_k^o \right) \right)$$

Penalty function for bias-corrected obs error

$$J_\beta = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{I_k} \beta_i'^T V_{(\beta_i)}^{-1} \beta_i'$$

Penalty function for regularization

# Localization

In high dimensional spatiotemporal system,  
geographically (and temporally) local interaction is usually dominant

Localization is built-in in LETKF

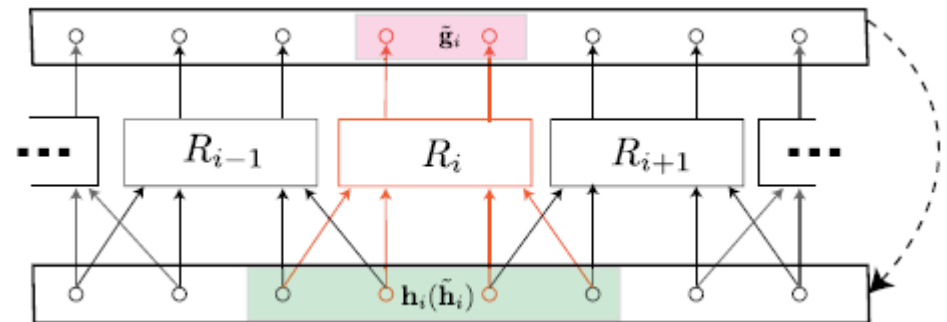
- ✓ Reduced matrix size -> low cost
- ✓ Highly effective parallelization  
(Miyoshi and Yamane, 2007)

Also used in simultaneous parameter estimation

(Aksoy et al. 2006)

Also in ML-based data driven modelling

(Pathak et al. 2018, Watson et al. 2019)



(Pathak et al. 2018)



# The goal of this study

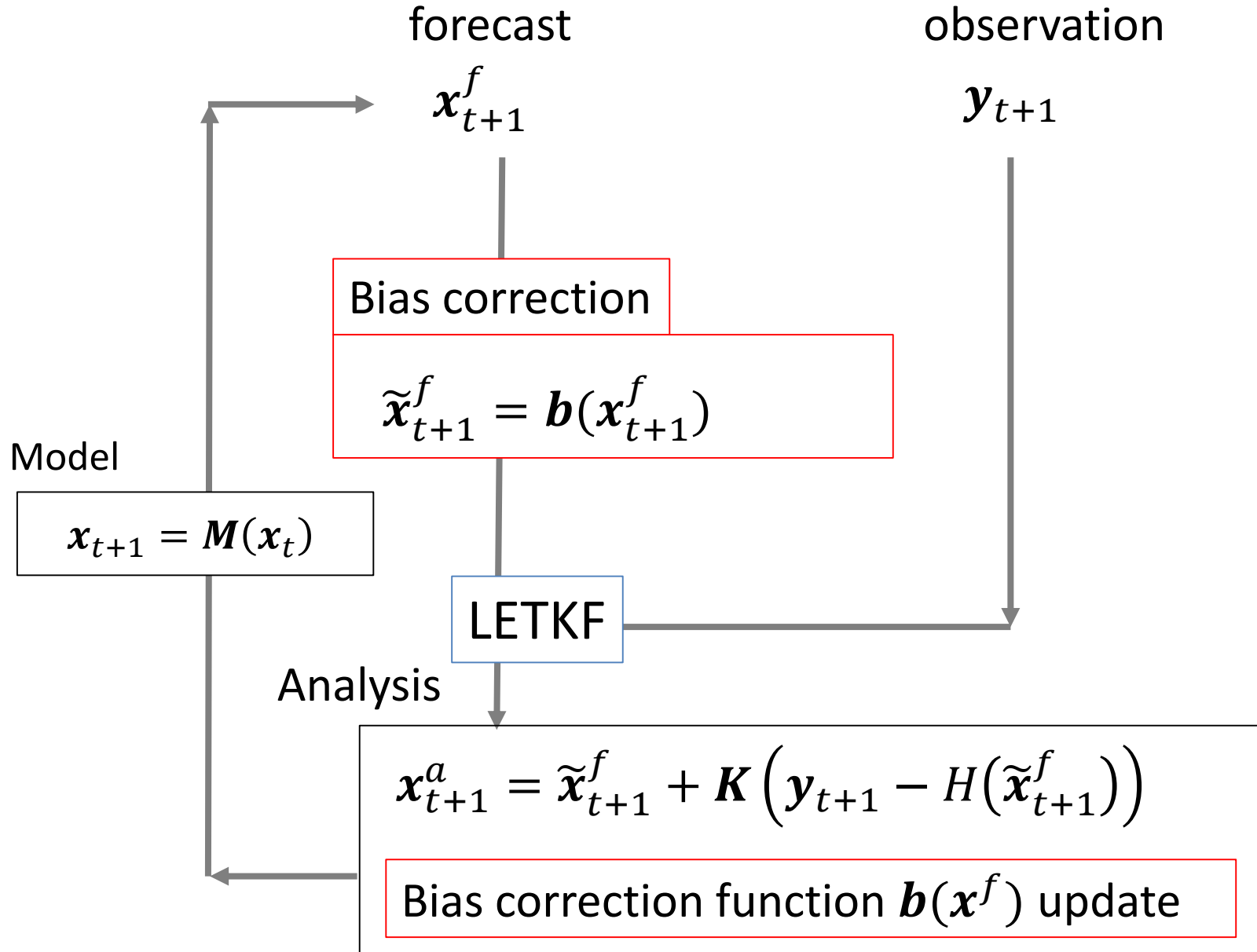
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- ✓ ML-based online bias correction using RNN
- ✓ Combined with LETKF with similar localization

Test experiments with coupled Lorenz96 model

- Experimental Setup
- Online bias correction with simple linear regression as a reference
- (Online bias correction with RNN)

# bias correction in LETKF system

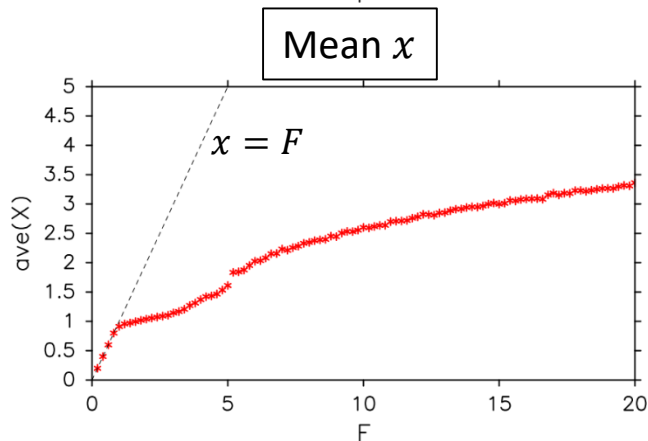
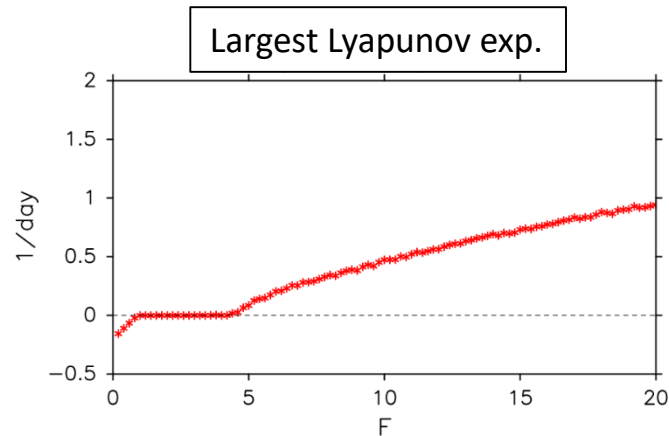
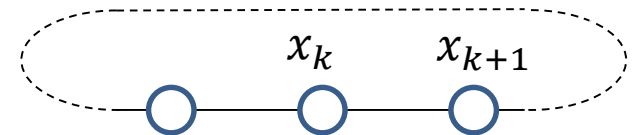
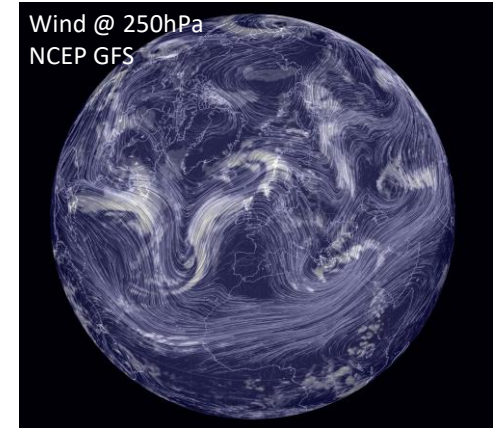


# Lorenz96 model

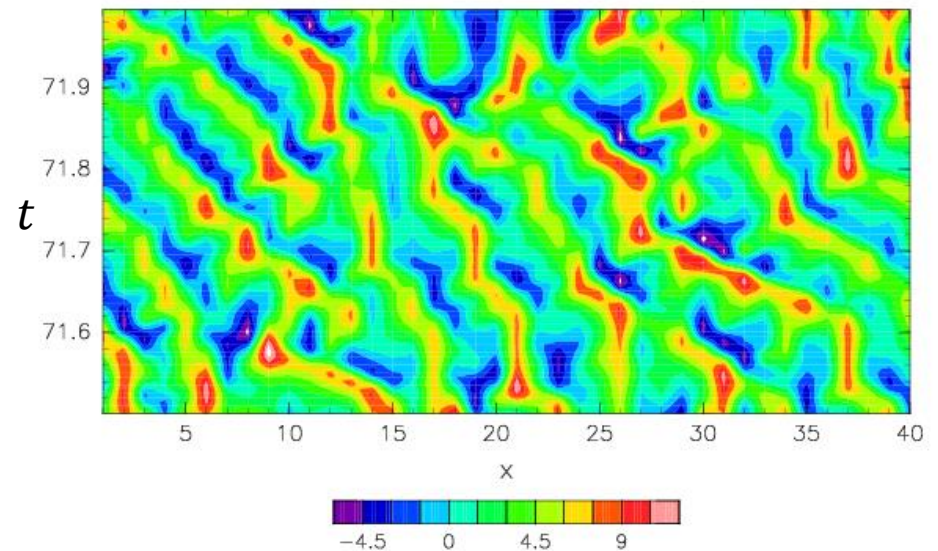
$$\frac{d}{dt}x_k = x_{k-1}(x_{k+1} - x_{k-2}) - x_k + F \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K$$

(Lorenz 1996)

- 1-D cyclic domain
- Chaotic behavior for sufficiently large  $F$



$K = 40, F = 8$



# Coupled Lorenz96 model

## Multi-scale interaction

### “Nature run”

Large scale (Slow) variables

$$\frac{d}{dt}x_k = x_{k-1}(x_{k+1} - x_{k-2}) - x_k + F - \frac{hc}{b} \sum_{j=J(k-1)+1}^{kJ} y_j \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K$$

Small scale (fast) variables

$$\frac{d}{dt}y_j = -cb y_{j+1}(y_{j+2} - y_{j-1}) - cy_j + \frac{hc}{b} x_{\text{int}[(j-1)/J]+1} \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, KJ$$

### Forecast model

(Danforth and Kalnay, 2008)

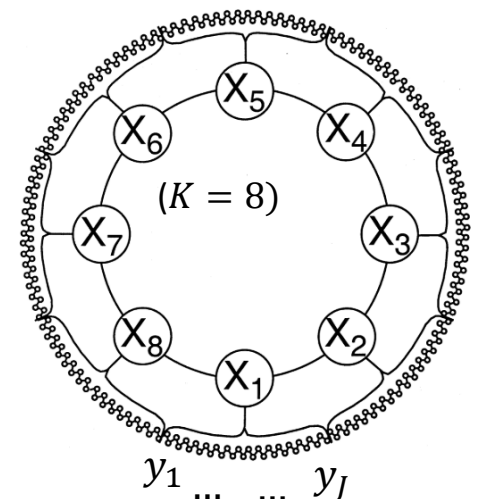
$$\frac{d}{dt}x_k = x_{k-1}(x_{k+1} - x_{k-2}) - x_k + F + A \sin\left(2\pi \frac{k}{K}\right)$$

Parameters used in this study :

$$K = 16, J = 16$$

$$h = 1, b = 20, c = 50$$

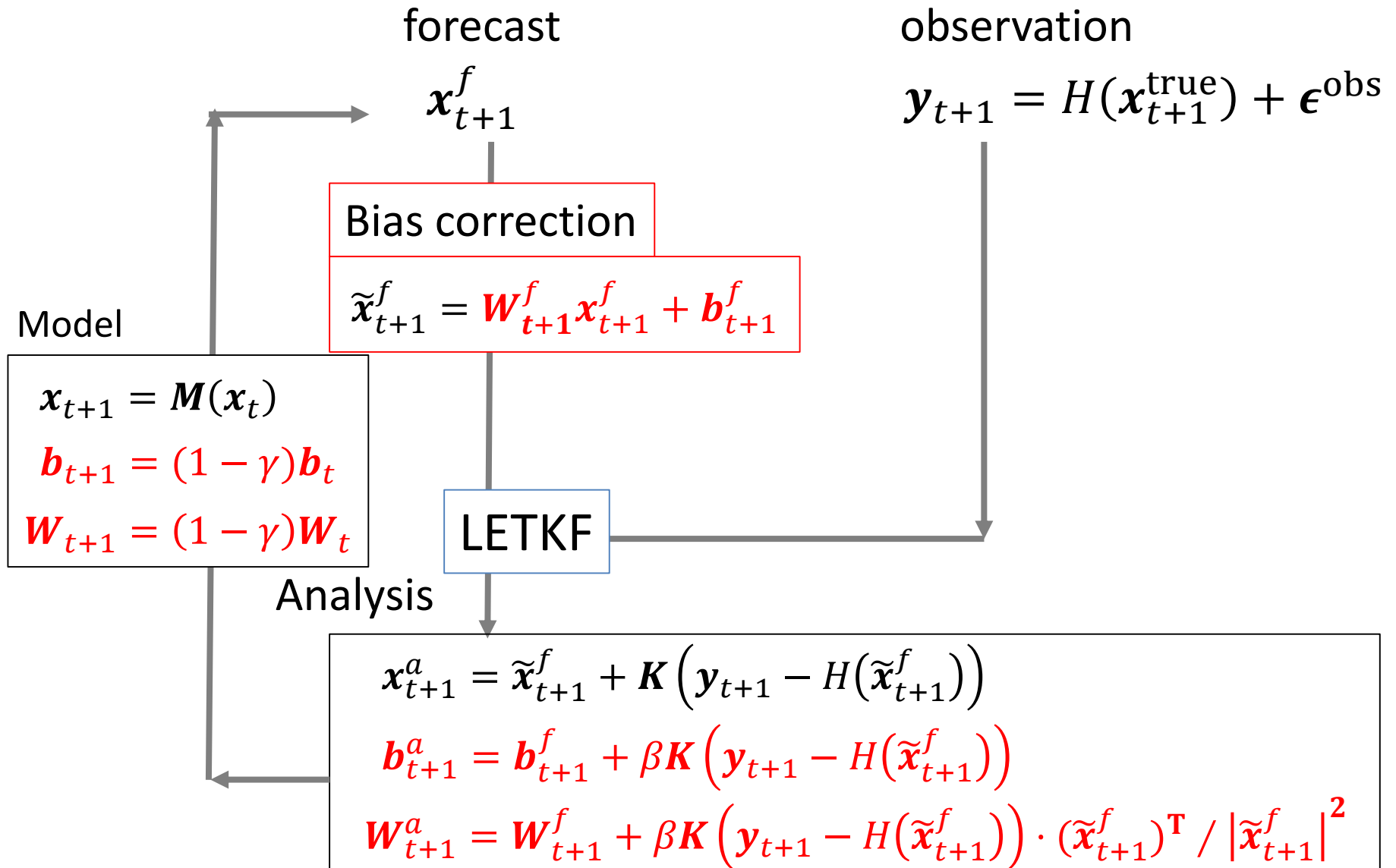
$$F = 8, A = 1$$



(Wilks, 2005)

# Example: simple linear regression

Online bias correction by linear regression



# Online bias correction by linear regression

## “Observation”

“Nature run” + random error

Observation operator : identical (obs = model grid)

Error standard deviation : 0.1

Interval: 0.05 (cf: doubling time  $\simeq 0.2$ )

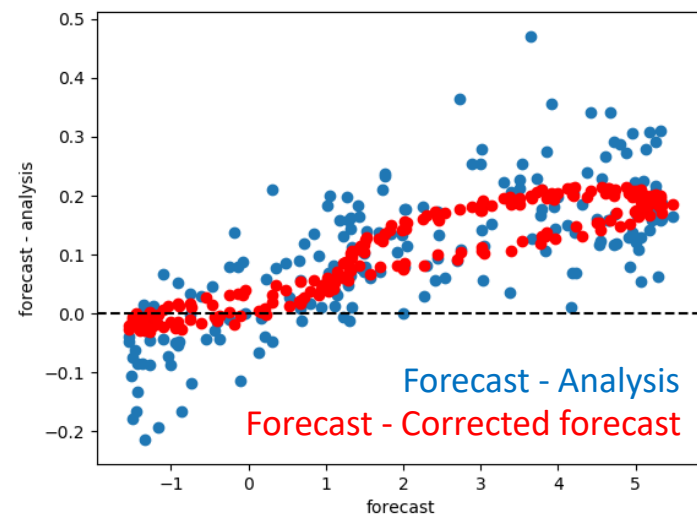
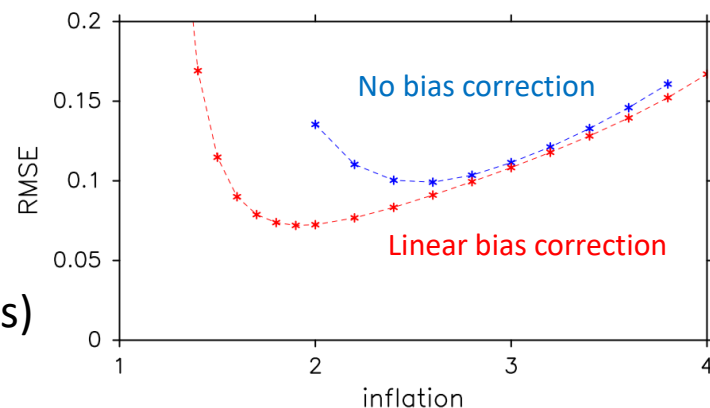
## LETKF configuration

Member : 20

Localization : Gaussian weighting (length scale = 3 grids)

Covariance inflation: **multiplicative** (factor:  $\alpha$ )

	Inflation factor	Min RMSE
Without bias correction	2.6	0.099
With linear bias correction $\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.001$ (half-life: $\sim 37$ )	1.9	0.072



# Nonlinear basis functions

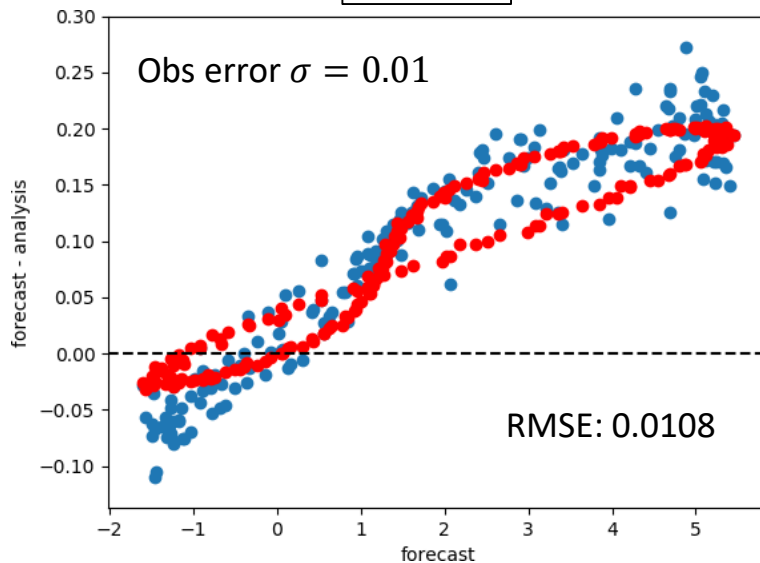
## Linear regression using polynomials

$$\mathbf{p}(x) = (1 \ x \ x^2 \ \dots)^T$$

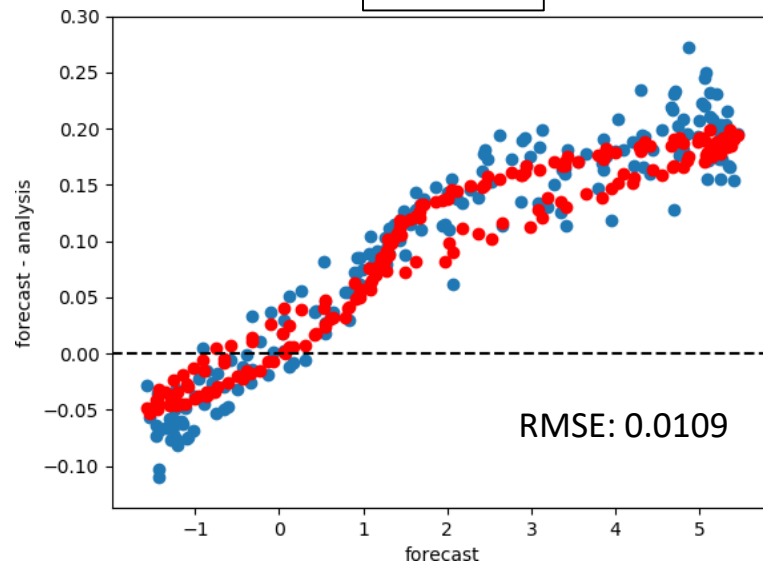
$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1}^f = \mathbf{W}_{t+1}^f \mathbf{p}(x_{t+1}^f)$$

$$\mathbf{W}_{t+1}^a = \mathbf{W}_{t+1}^f + \beta \mathbf{K} \left( \mathbf{y}_{t+1} - H(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1}^f) \right) \cdot (\mathbf{p}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1}^f))^T / |\mathbf{p}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t+1}^f)|^2$$

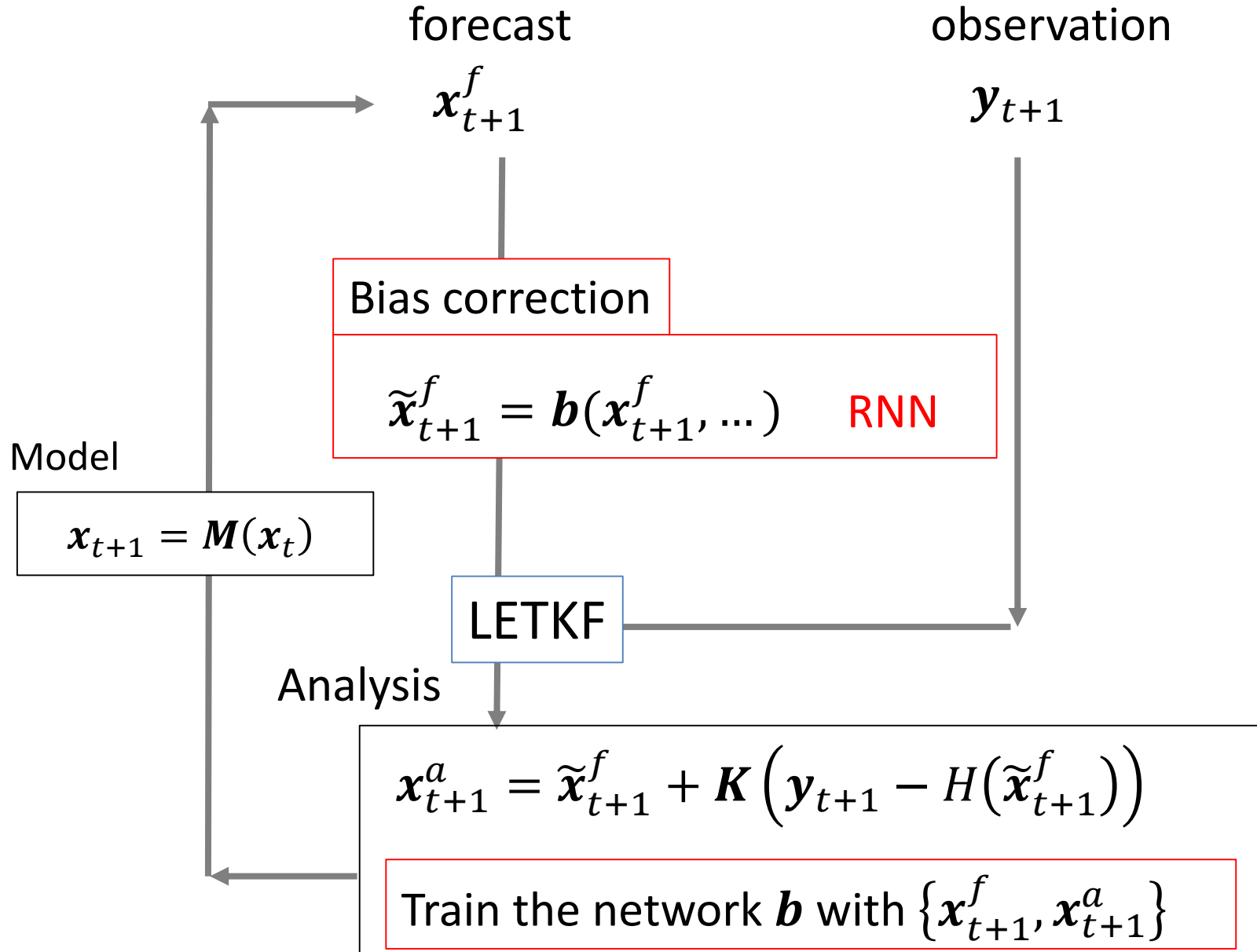
1<sup>st</sup> order



3<sup>rd</sup> order



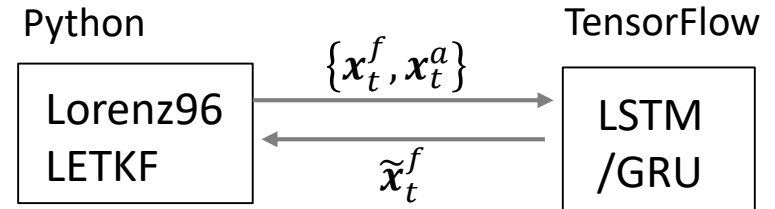
# Nonlinear bias correction with ML





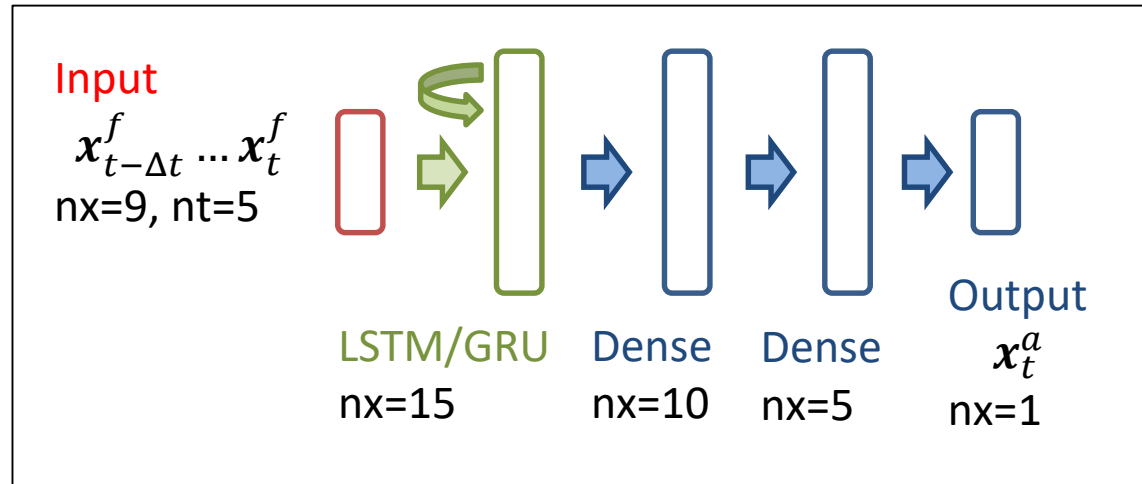
# Plan: LSTM/GRU implementation

Tensorflow LSTM/GRU is implemented and integrated with LETKF codes



## Network architecture

- 1 LSTM + 3 Dense layers
- Activation:  
tanh / sigmoid(recurrent)
- No regularization / dropout
- LETKF-like Localization  
Input : localized area  
Output : one grid point



# Summary

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- Systematic model bias degrades forecasts and analysis
- “Offline” bias correction can be performed by ML as nonlinear regression
- “Online” bias correction with data assimilation has been studied using a fixed basis function set
- RNN-based bias correction is implemented and to be tested
  - The efficiency of localization ?
  - Online learning ?