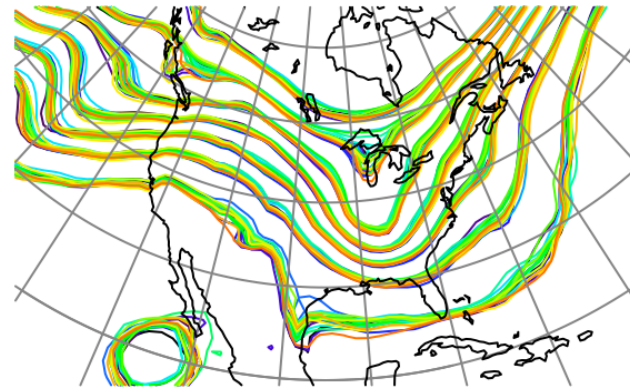


Data  
Assimilation  
Research  
Testbed



# DART\_LAB Tutorial Section 2: How should observations impact an unobserved state variable? Multivariate assimilation.



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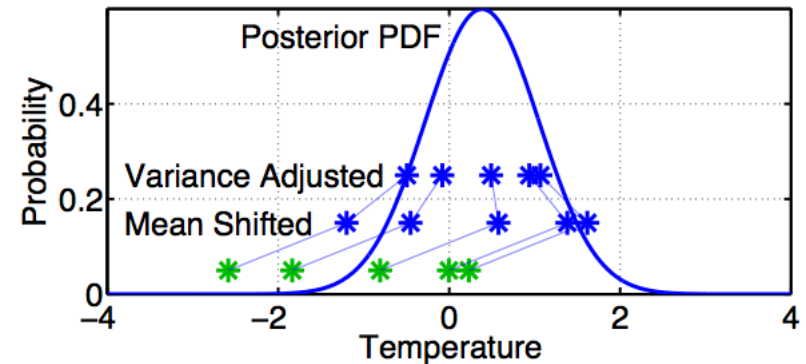


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UCAR | Atmospheric Research

# Single observed variable, single unobserved variable.

So far, we have a known likelihood for a single variable.

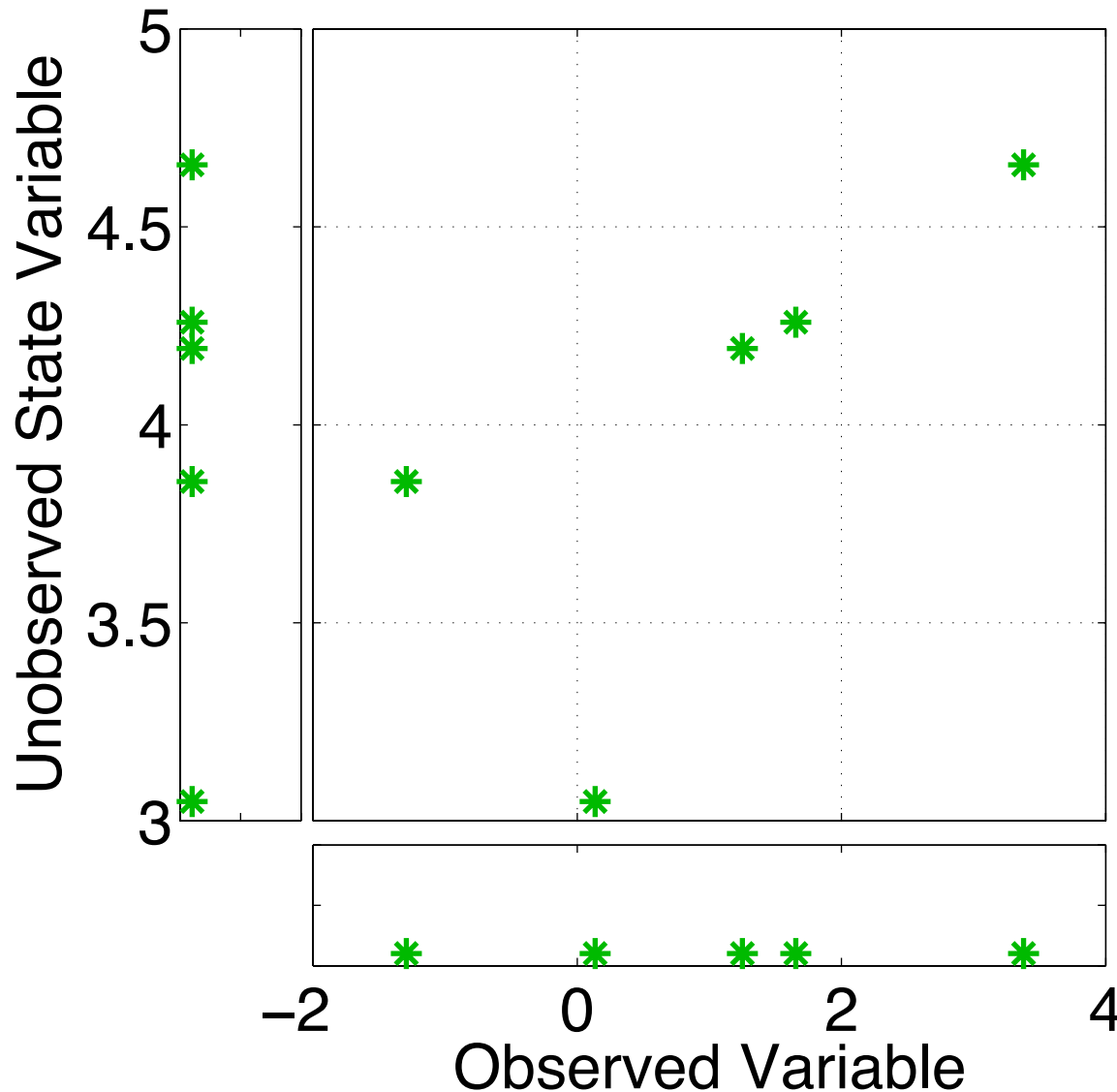


Now, suppose the prior has an additional variable ...

We will examine how ensemble members update the additional variable.

Basic method generalizes to any number of additional variables.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

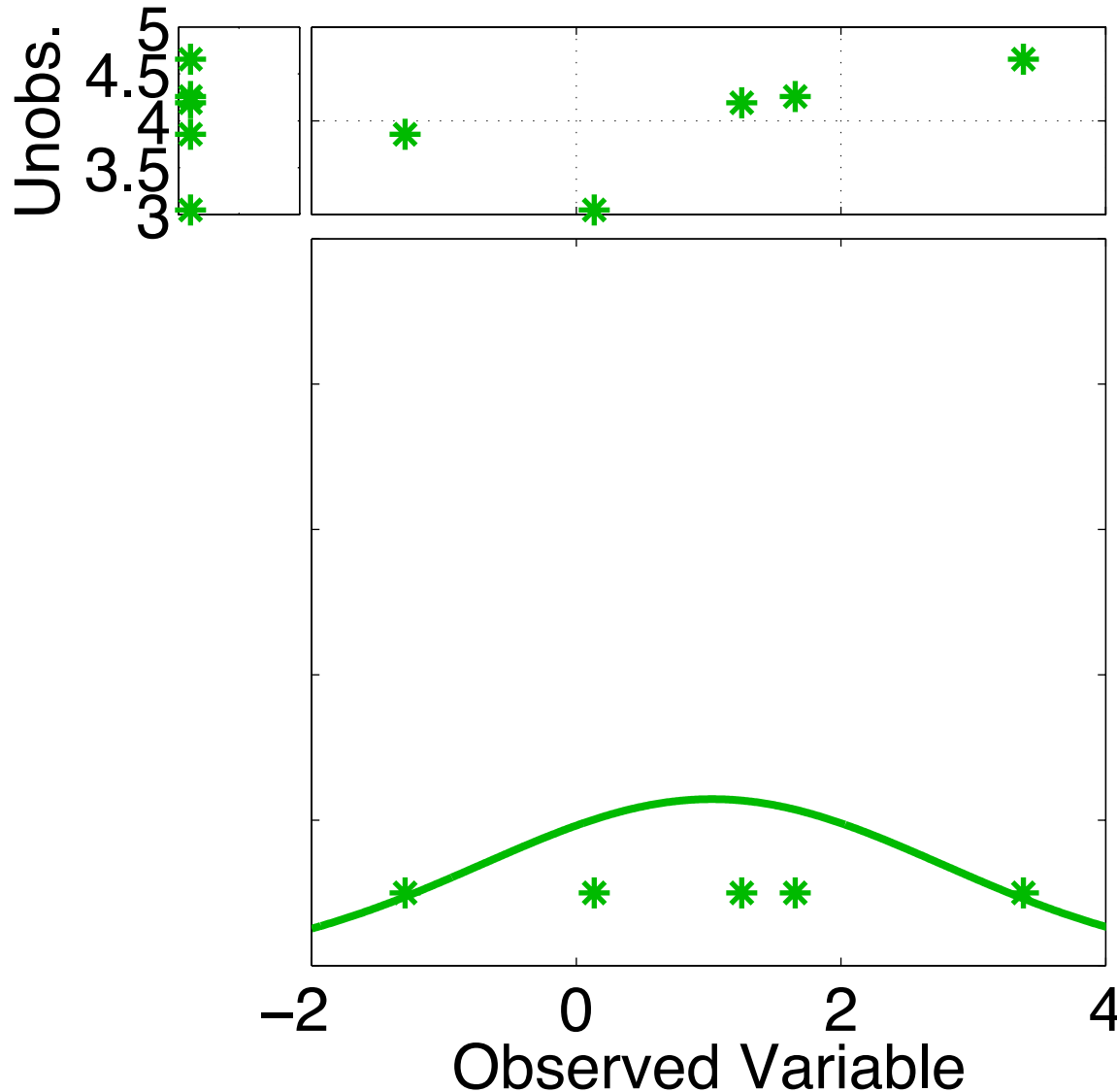


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

What should happen to the unobserved variable?

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

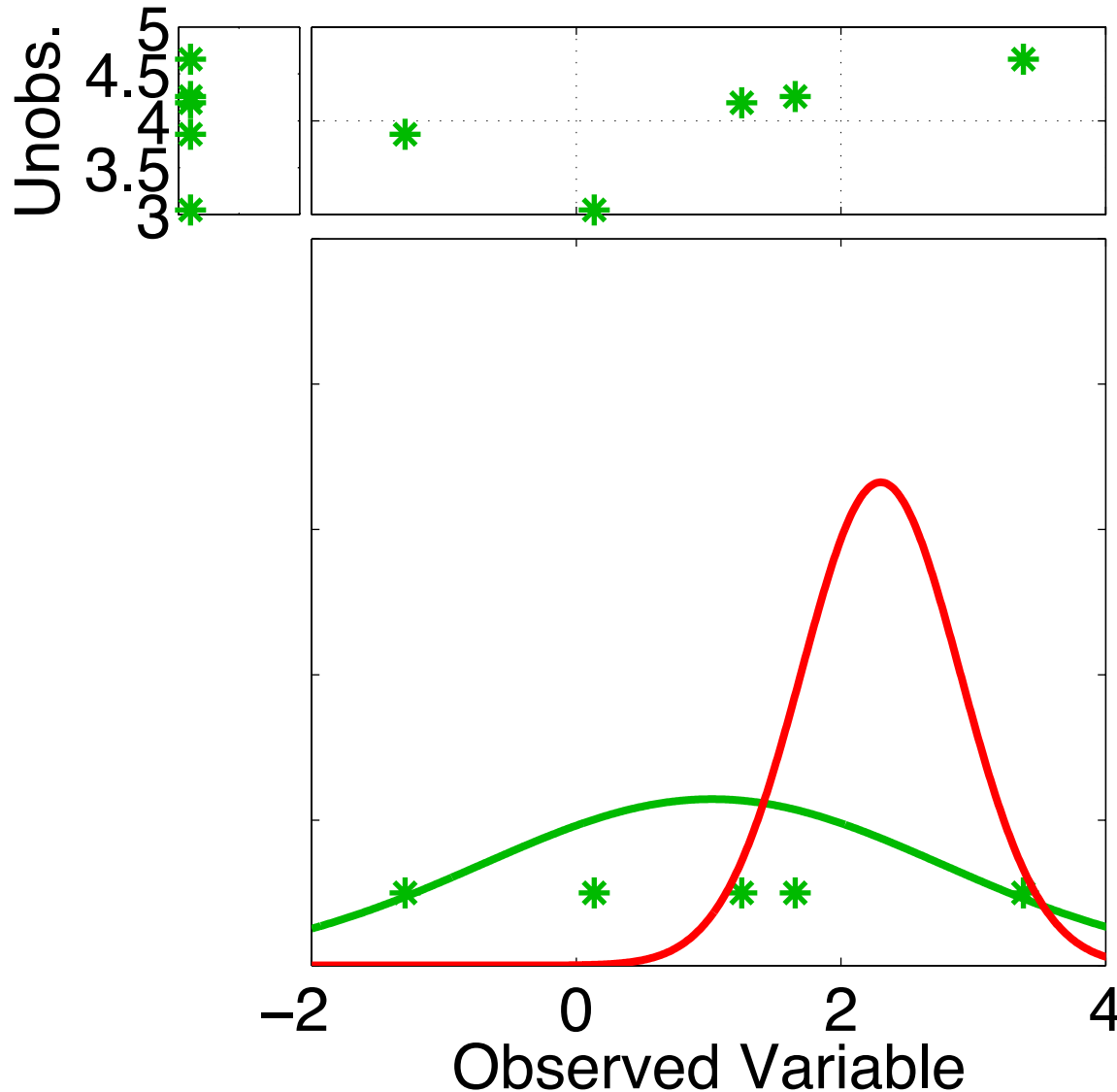


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Update observed variable with one of the previous methods.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

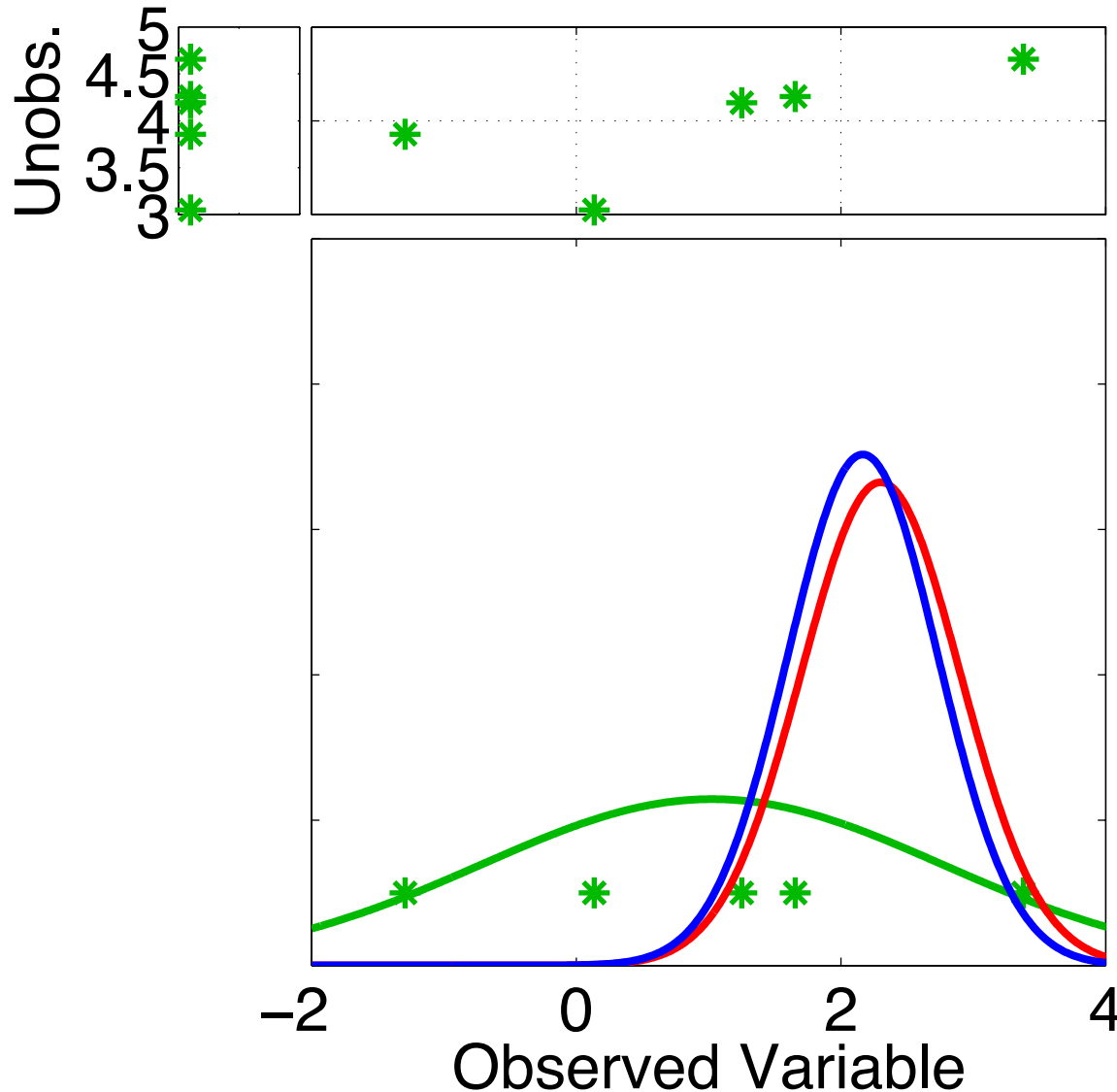


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Update observed variable with one of the previous methods.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

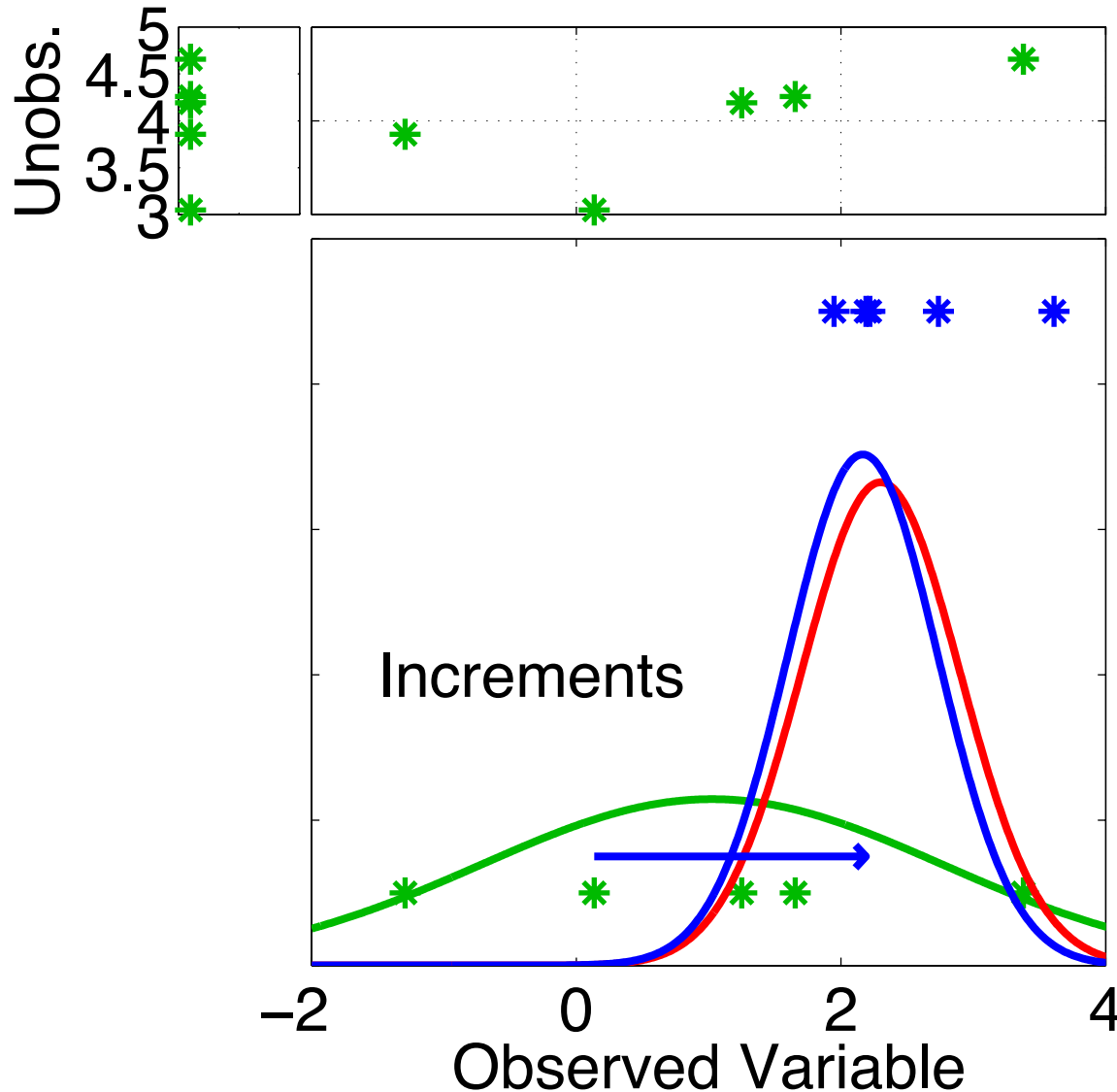


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Update observed variable with one of the previous methods.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

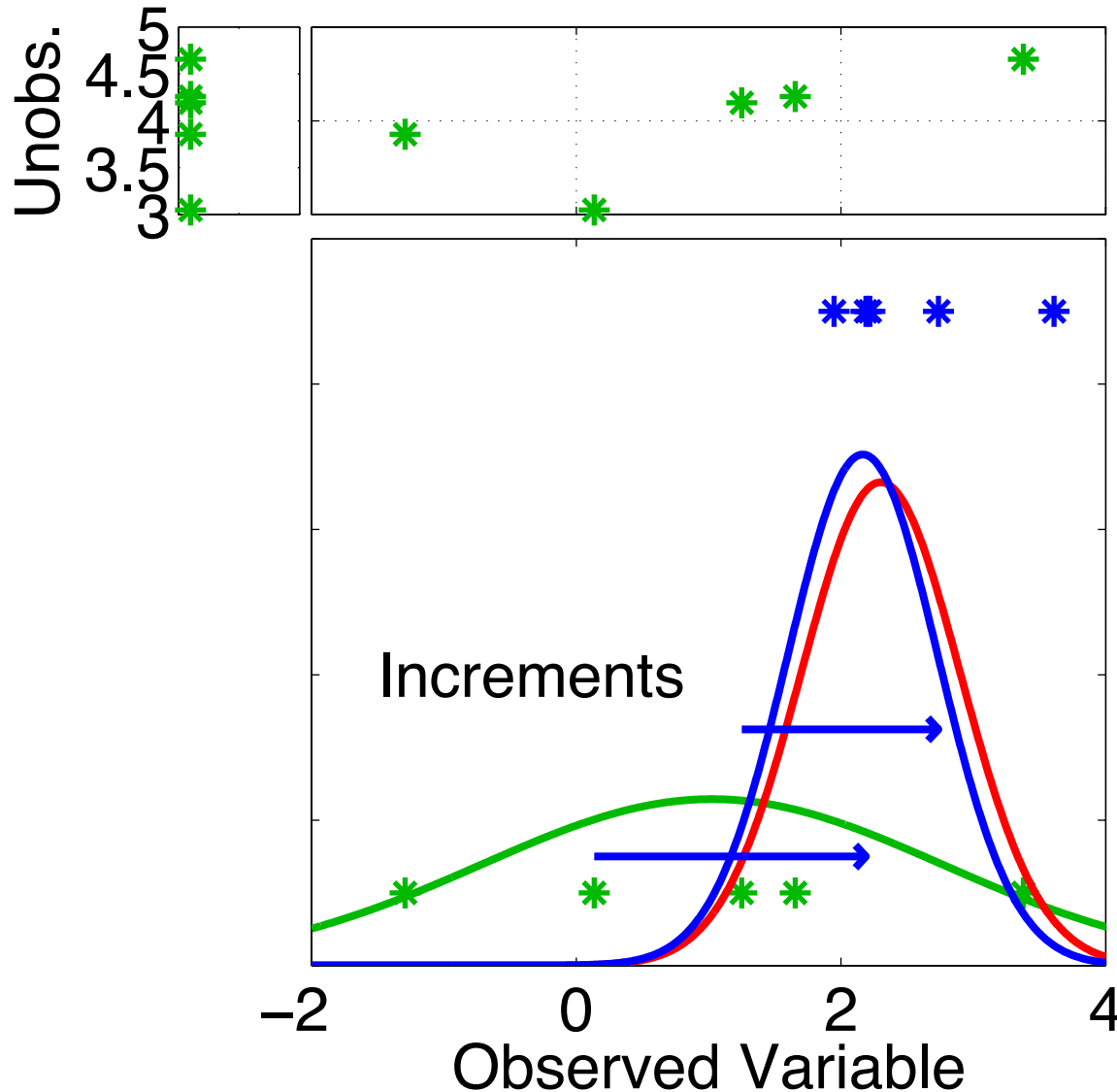


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Compute increments for prior ensemble members of observed variable.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



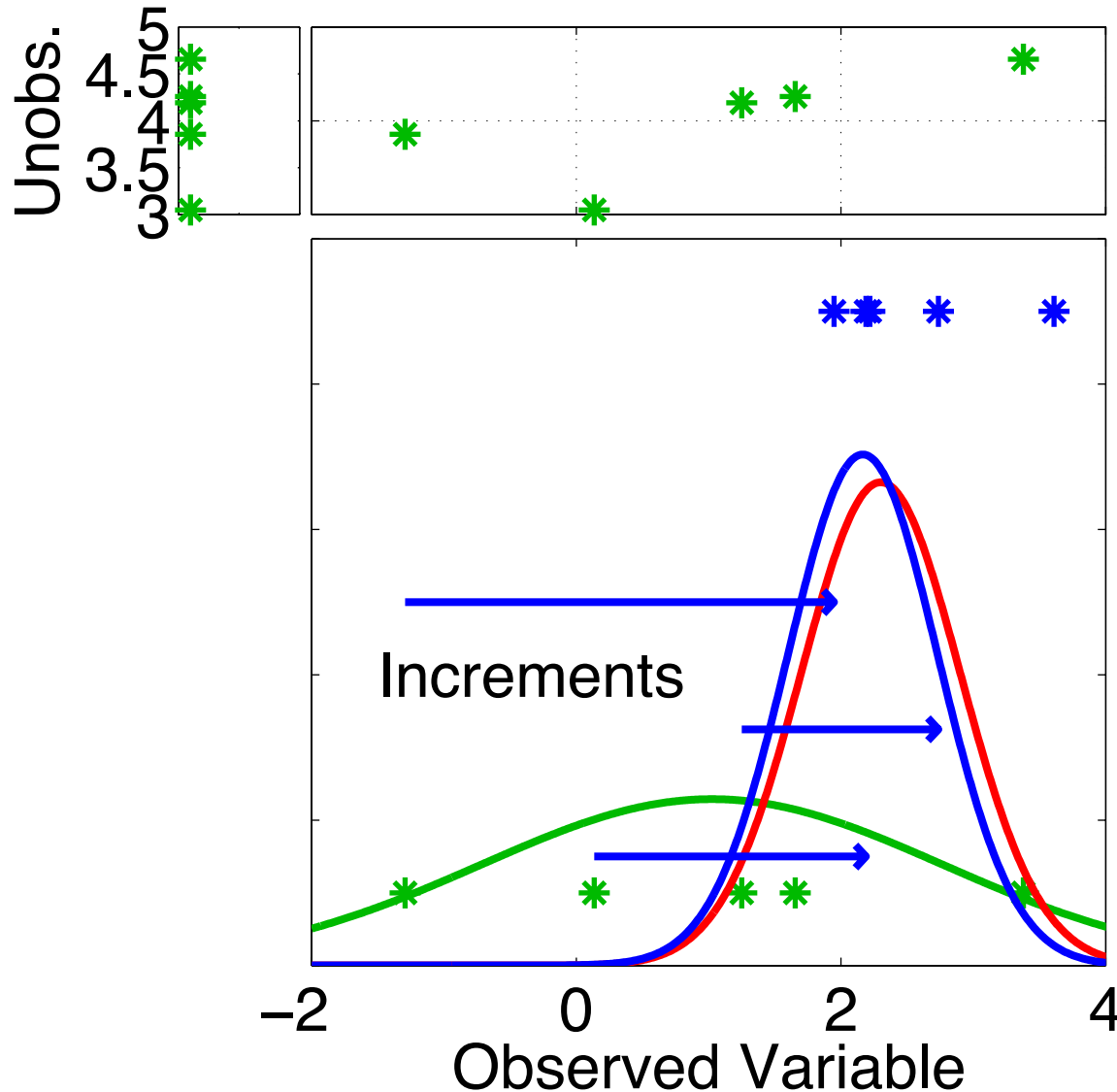
Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Compute increments for prior ensemble members of observed variable.



# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

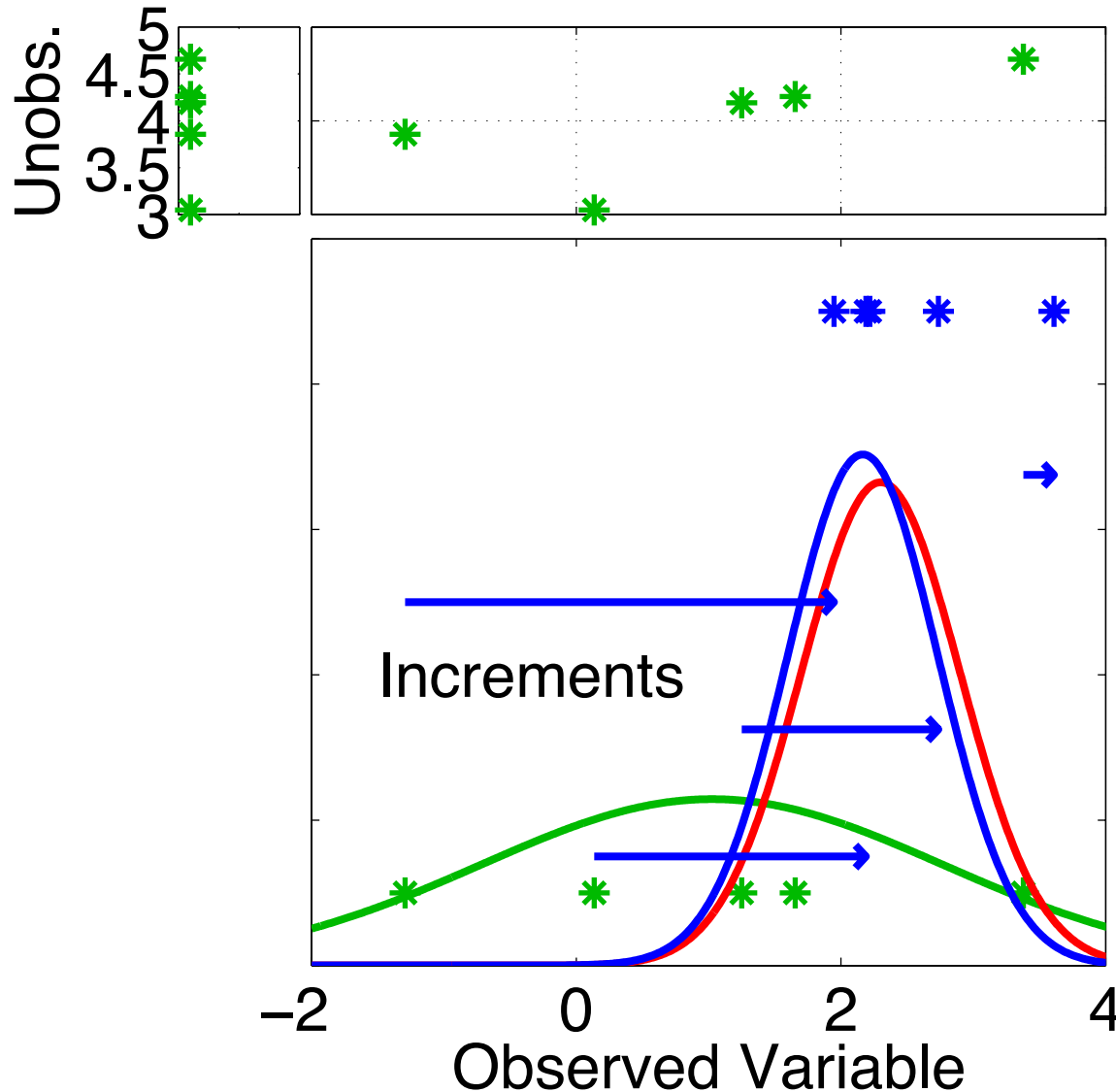


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Compute increments for prior ensemble members of observed variable.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

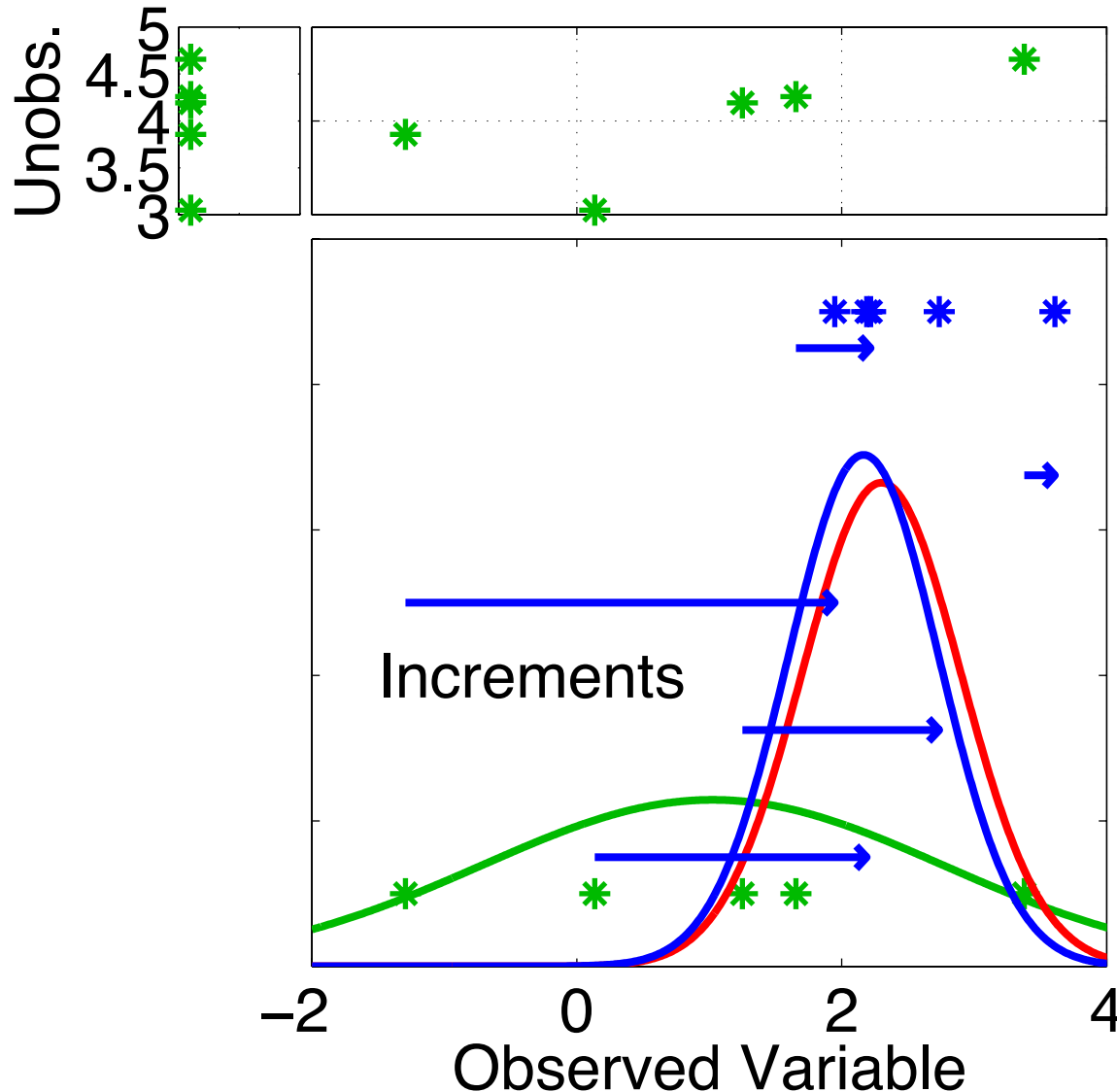


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Compute increments for prior ensemble members of observed variable.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

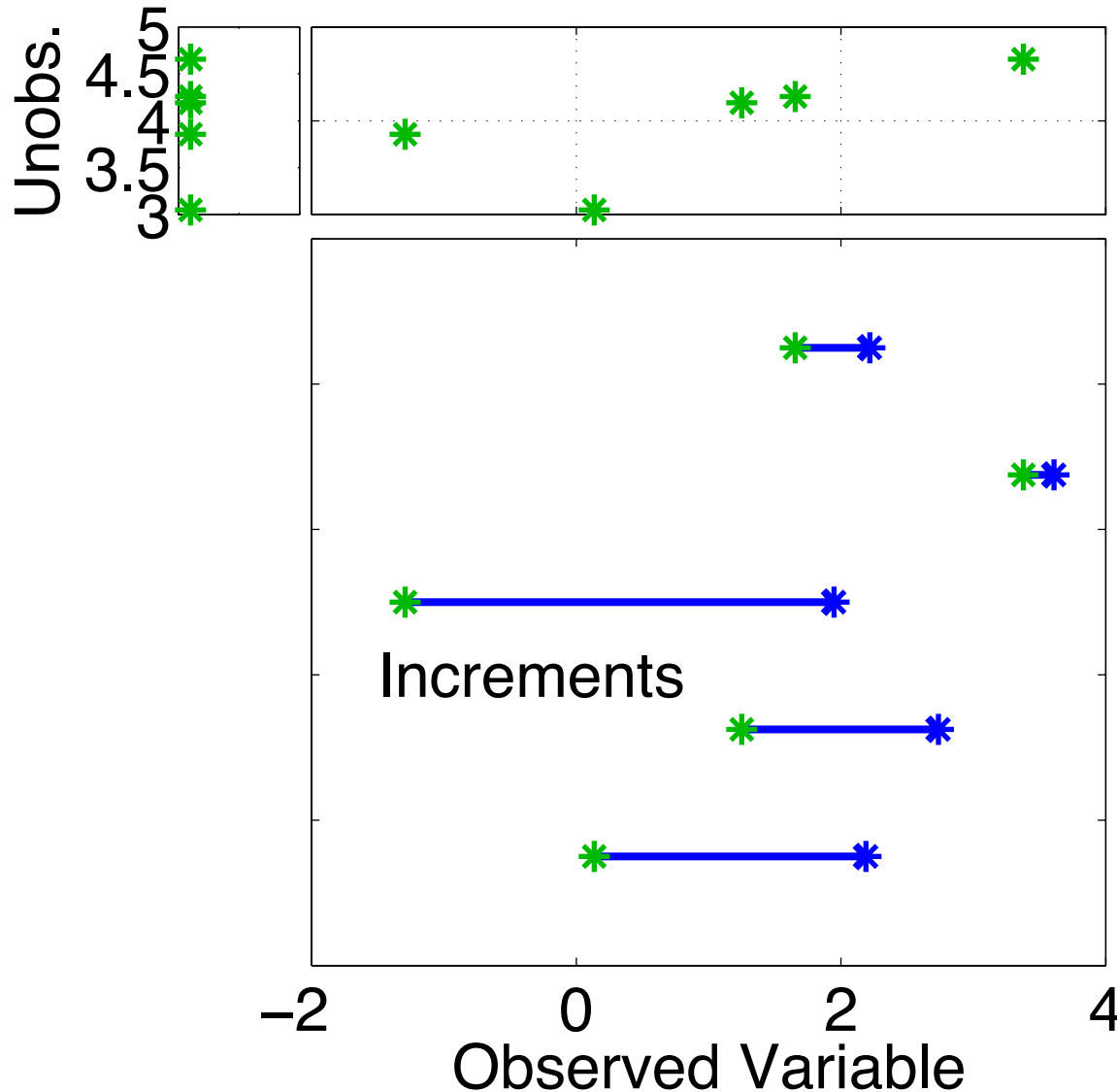


Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

One variable is observed.

Compute increments for prior ensemble members of observed variable.

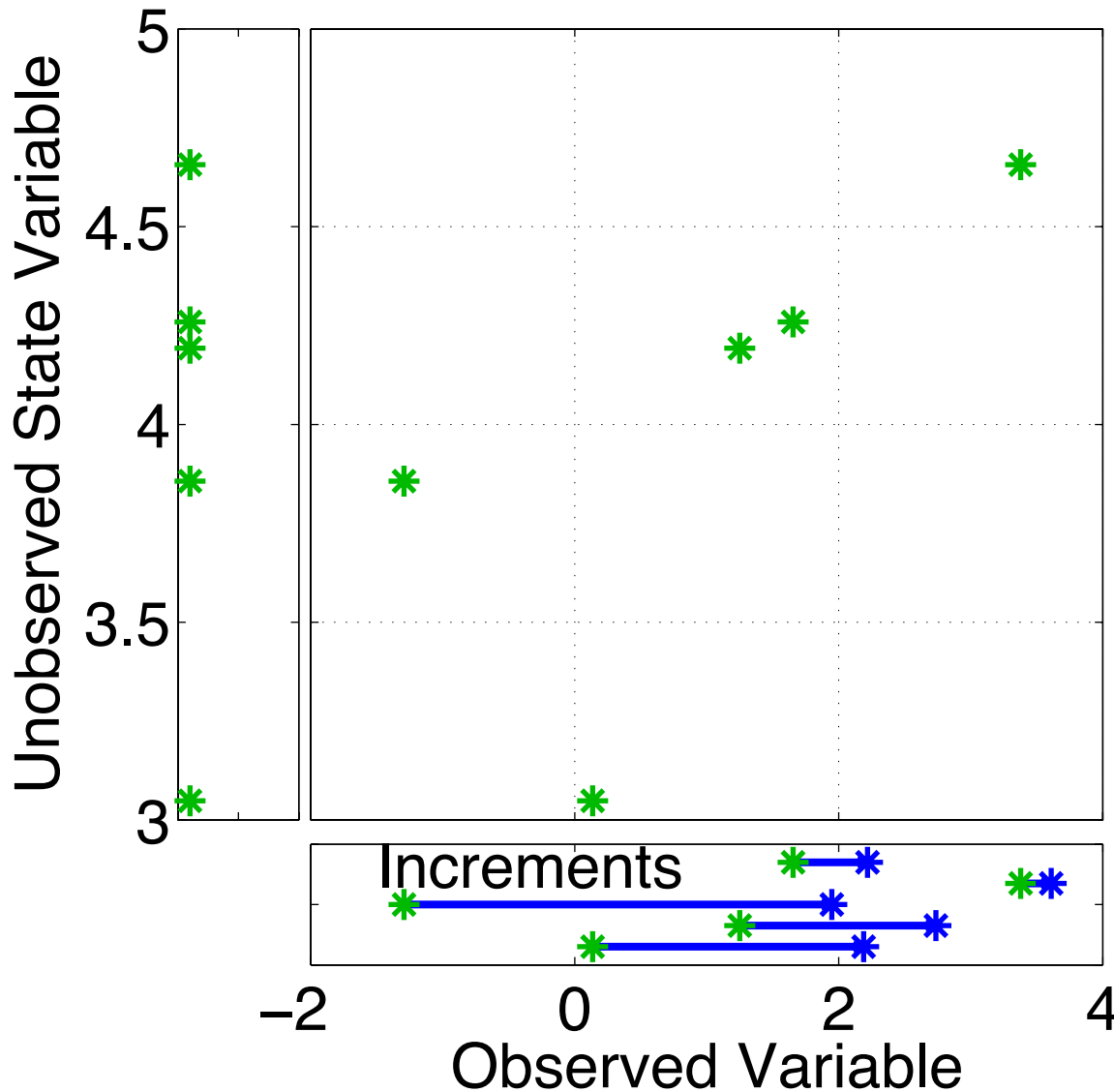
# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



Using only increments guarantees that if observation had no impact on observed variable, the unobserved variable is unchanged.

Highly desirable!

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



Assume that all we know is the prior joint distribution.

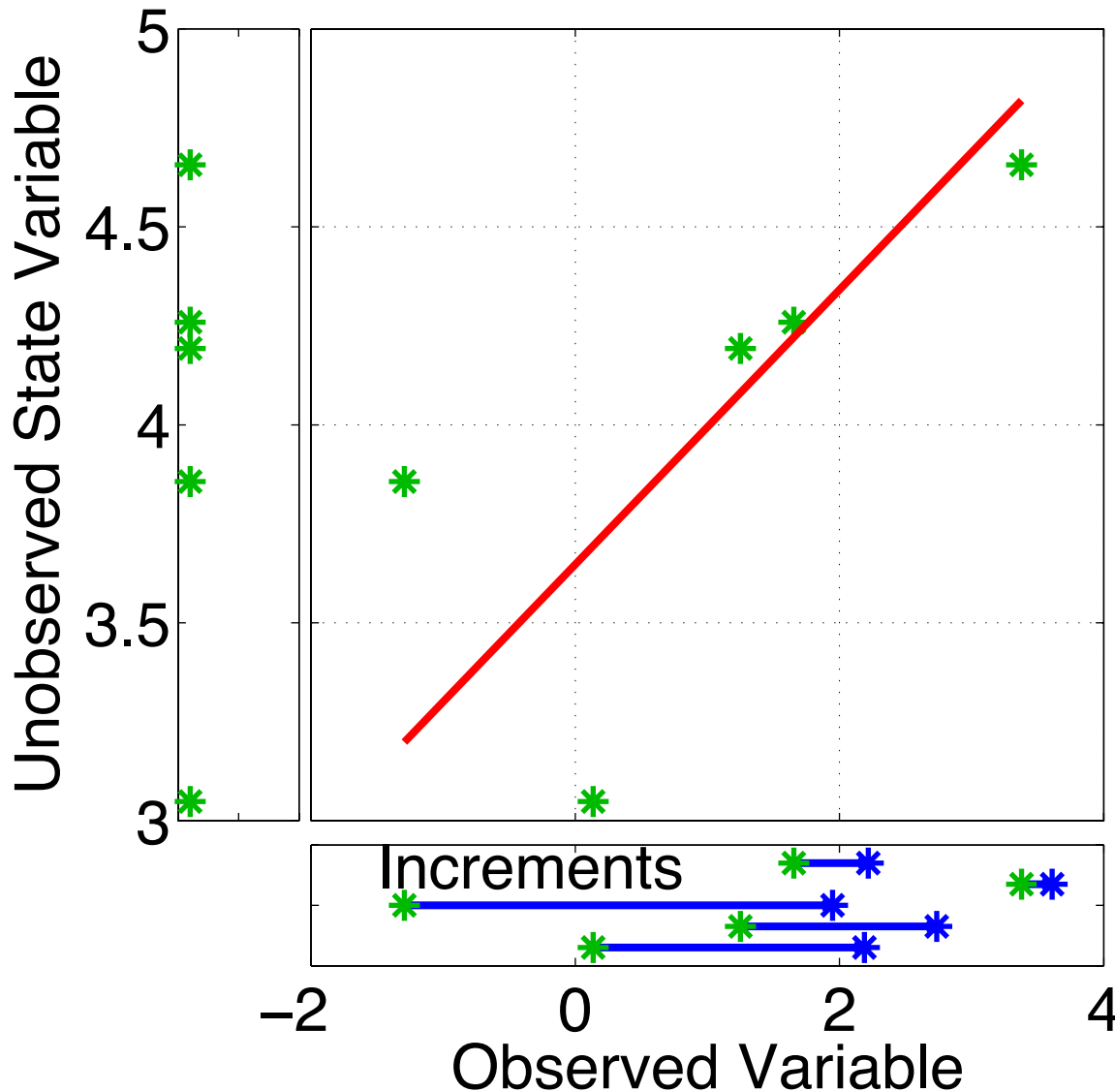
How should the unobserved variable be impacted?

1<sup>st</sup> choice: least squares

Equivalent to linear regression.

Same as assuming binormal prior.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



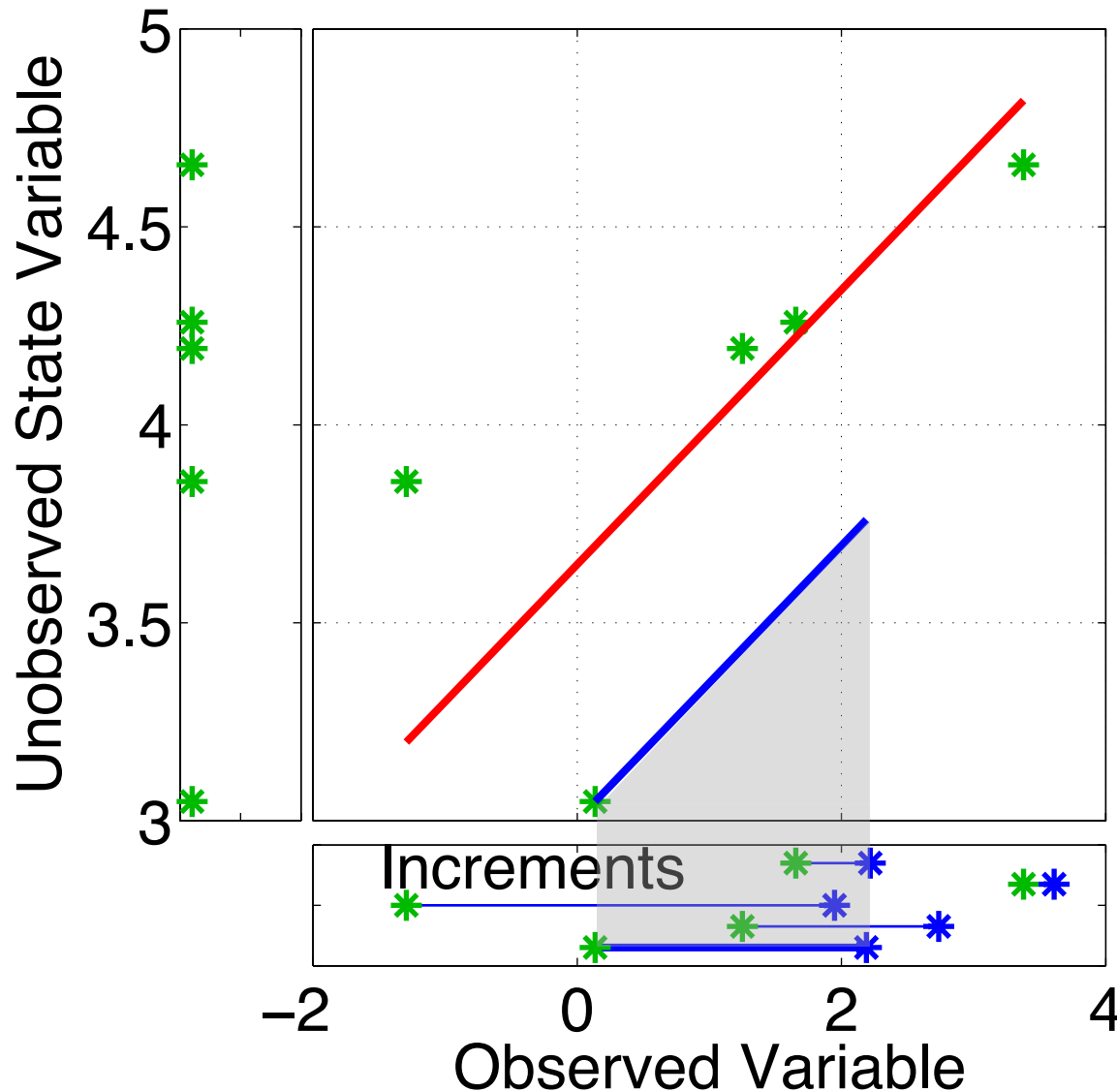
Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

How should the unobserved variable be impacted?

1<sup>st</sup> choice: least squares

Begin by finding **least squares fit**.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

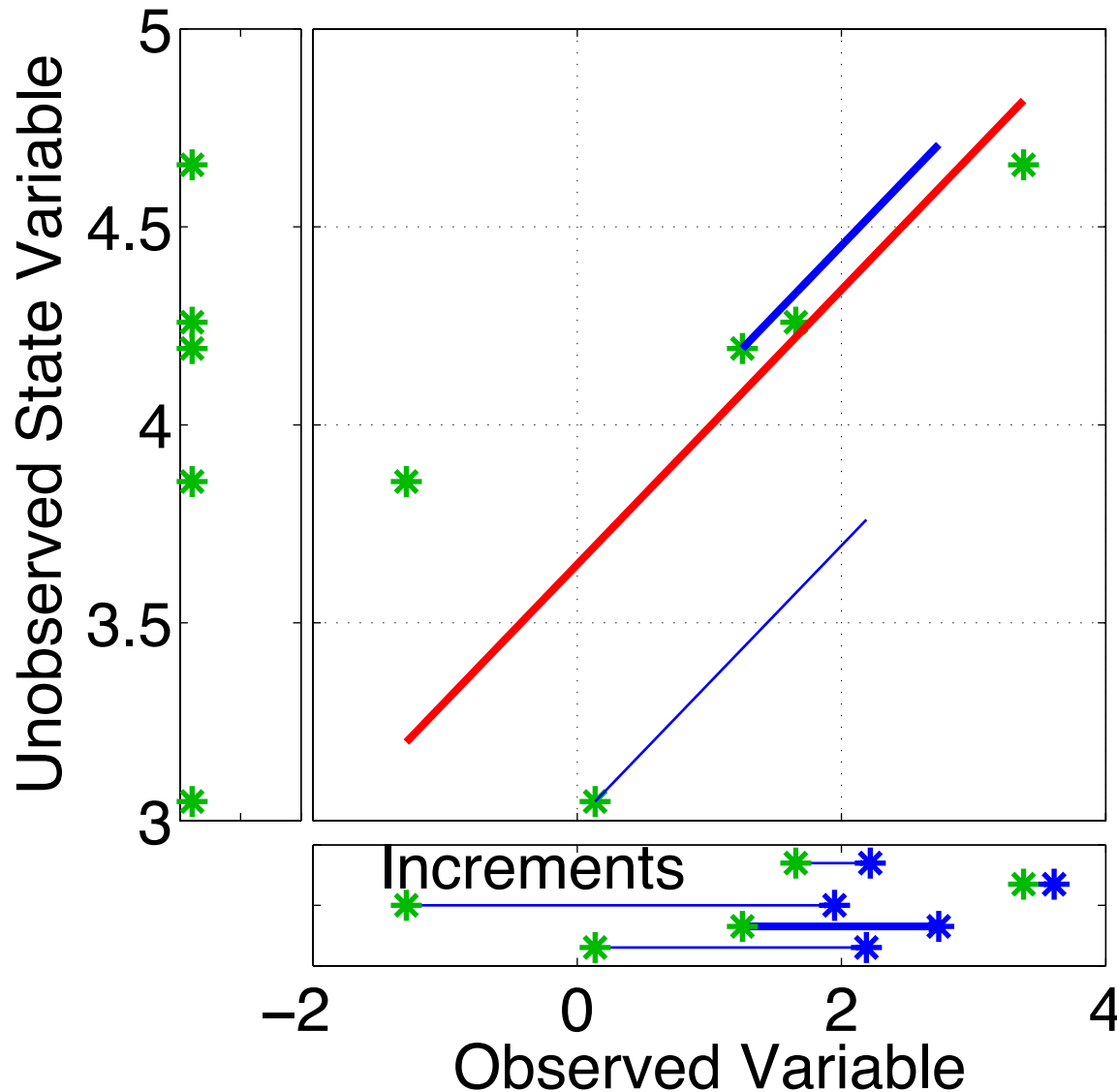


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Next, regress the observed variable increments onto increments for the unobserved variable.

Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



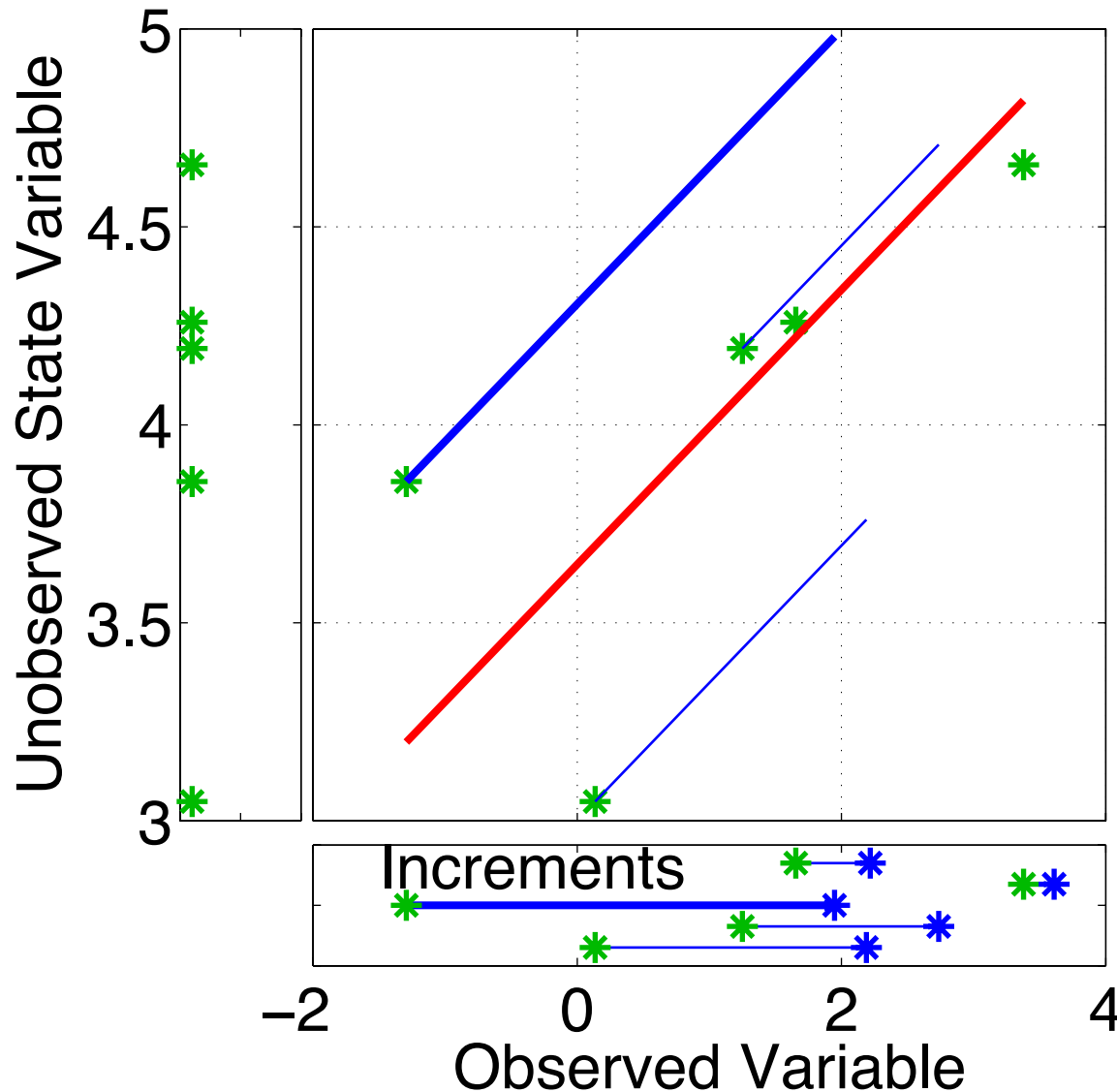
Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Next, regress the observed variable increments onto increments for the unobserved variable.

Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.



# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

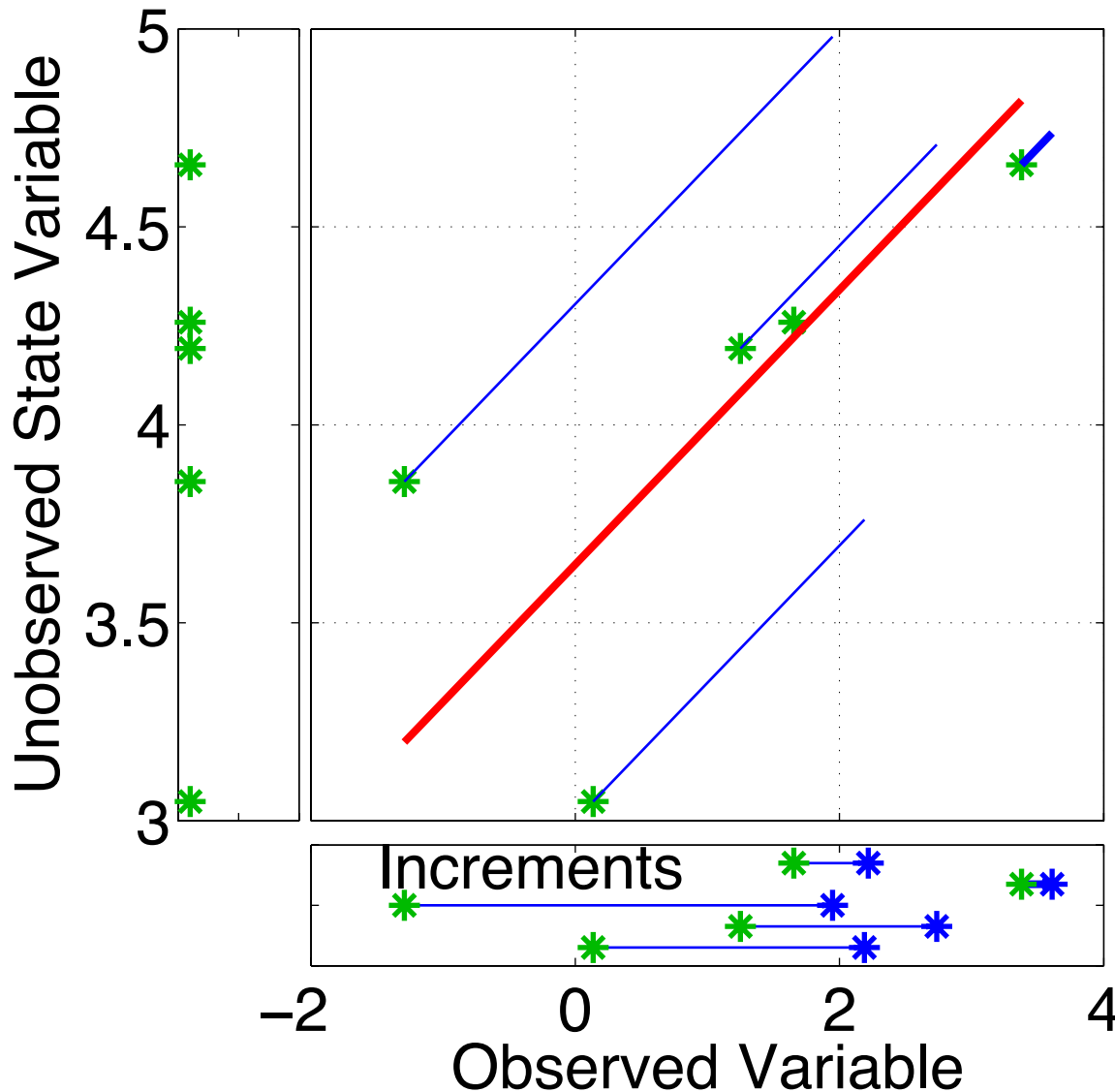


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Next, regress the observed variable increments onto increments for the unobserved variable.

Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

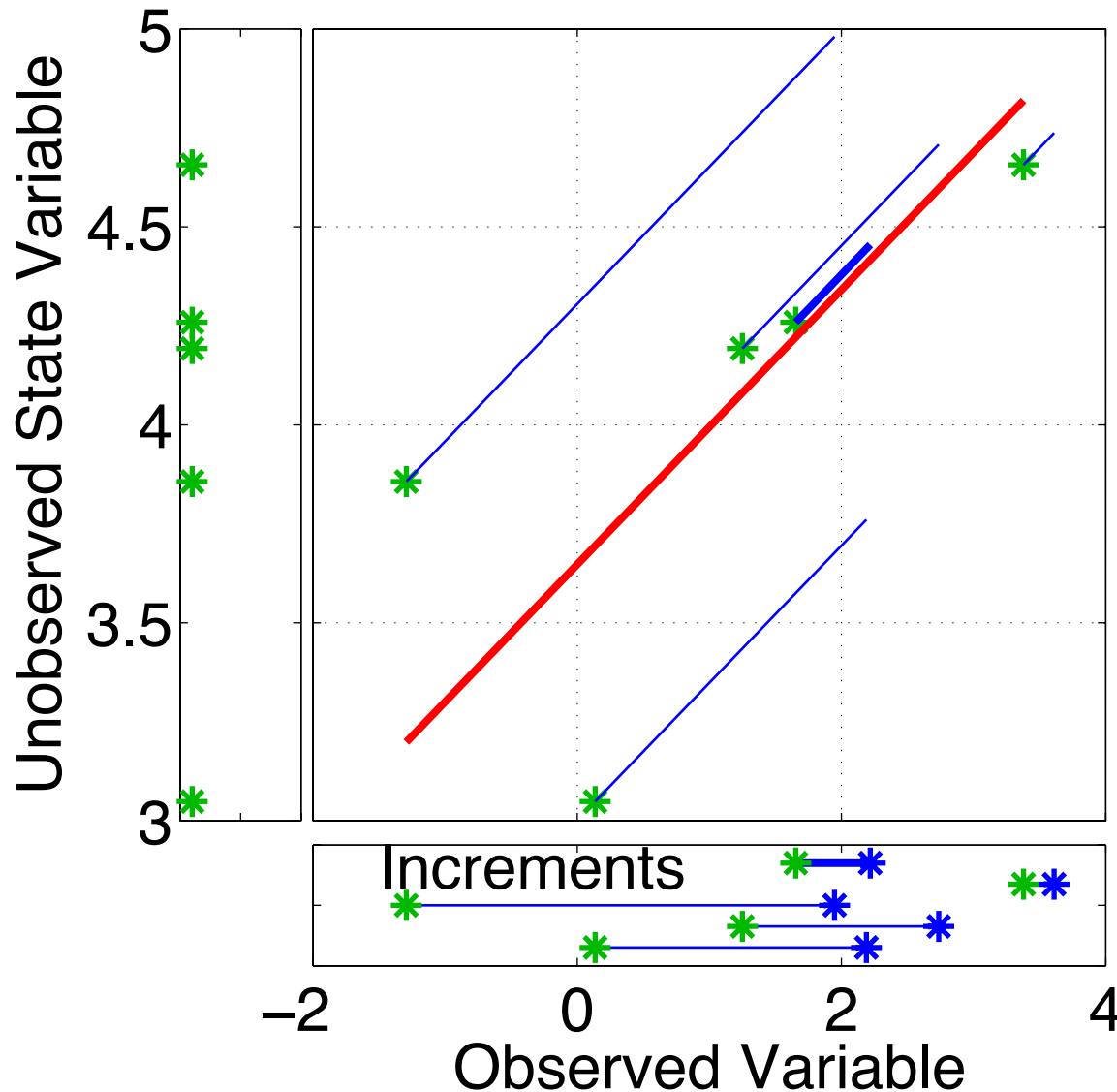


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Next, regress the observed variable increments onto increments for the unobserved variable.

Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

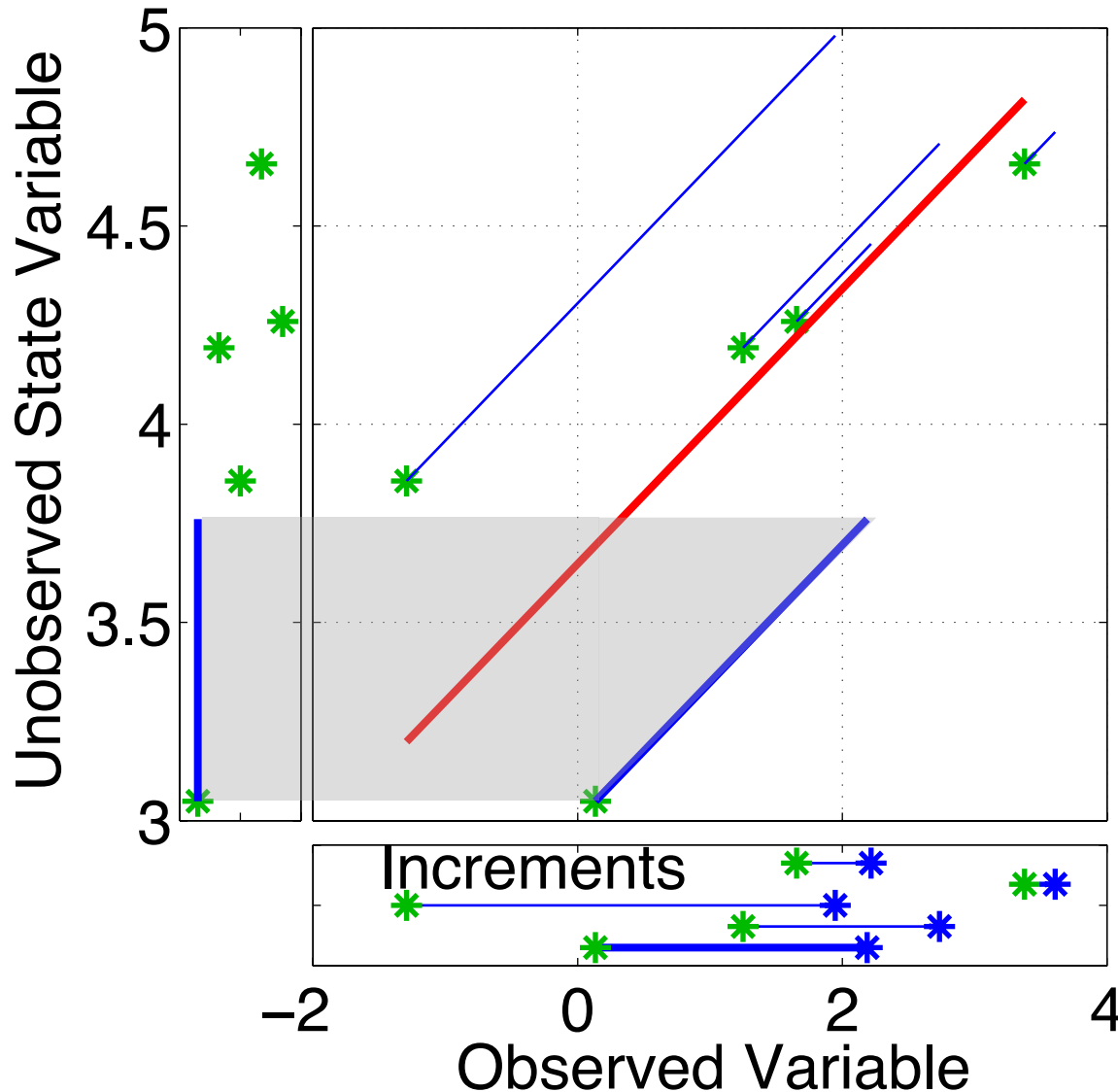


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Next, regress the observed variable increments onto increments for the unobserved variable.

Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

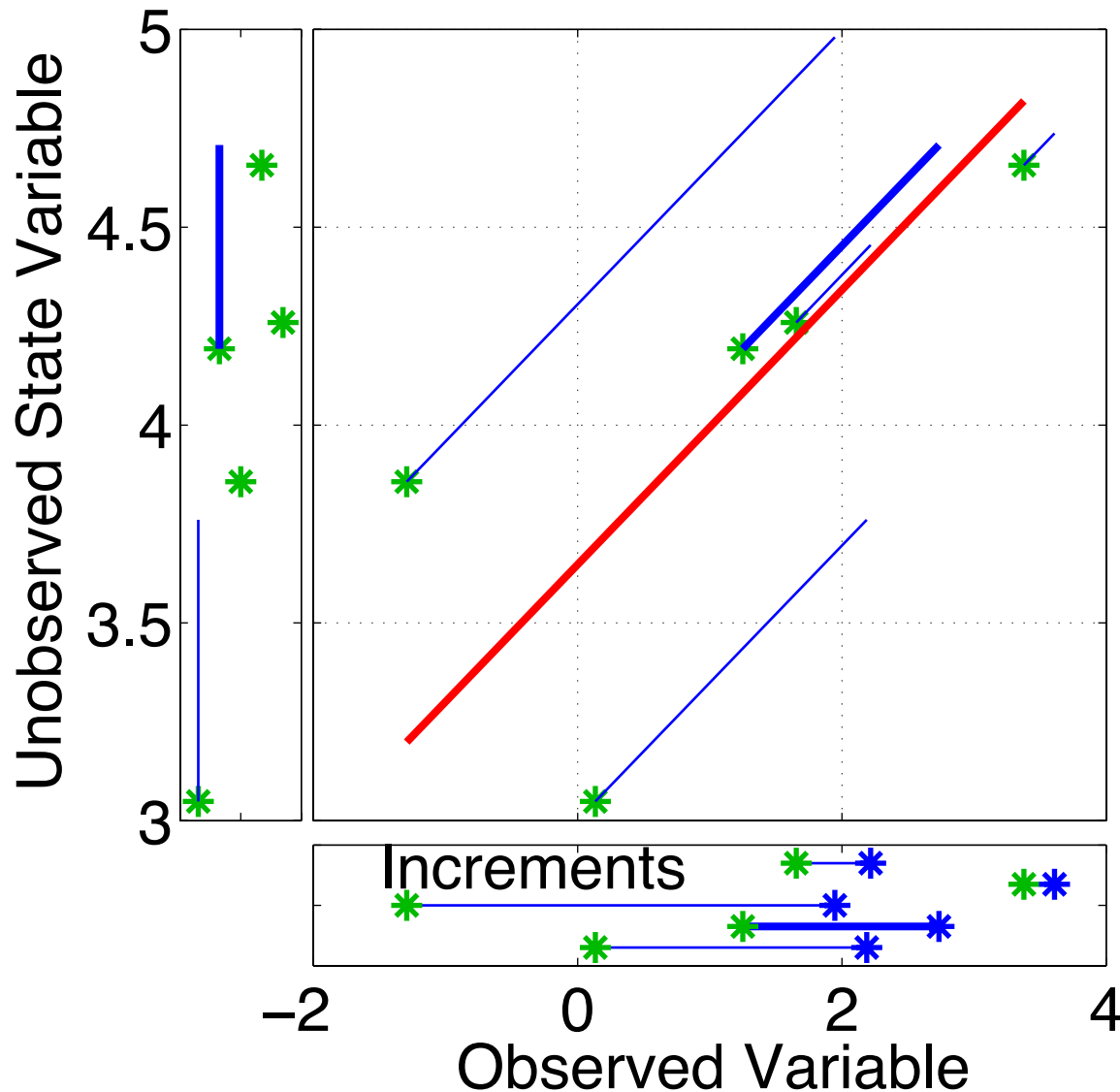


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Regression: Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

Then projecting from joint space onto unobserved priors.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

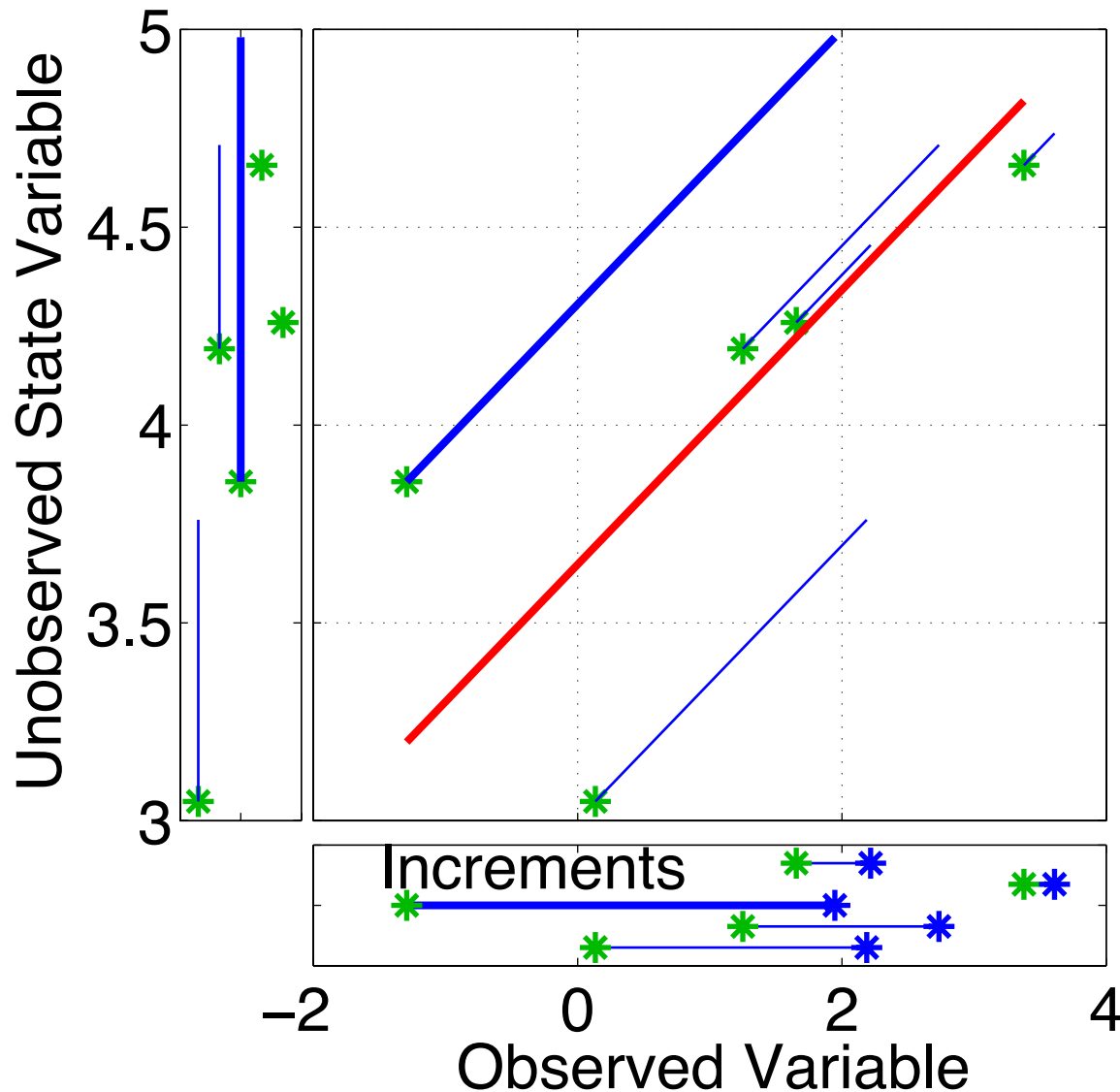


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Regression: Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

Then projecting from joint space onto unobserved priors.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

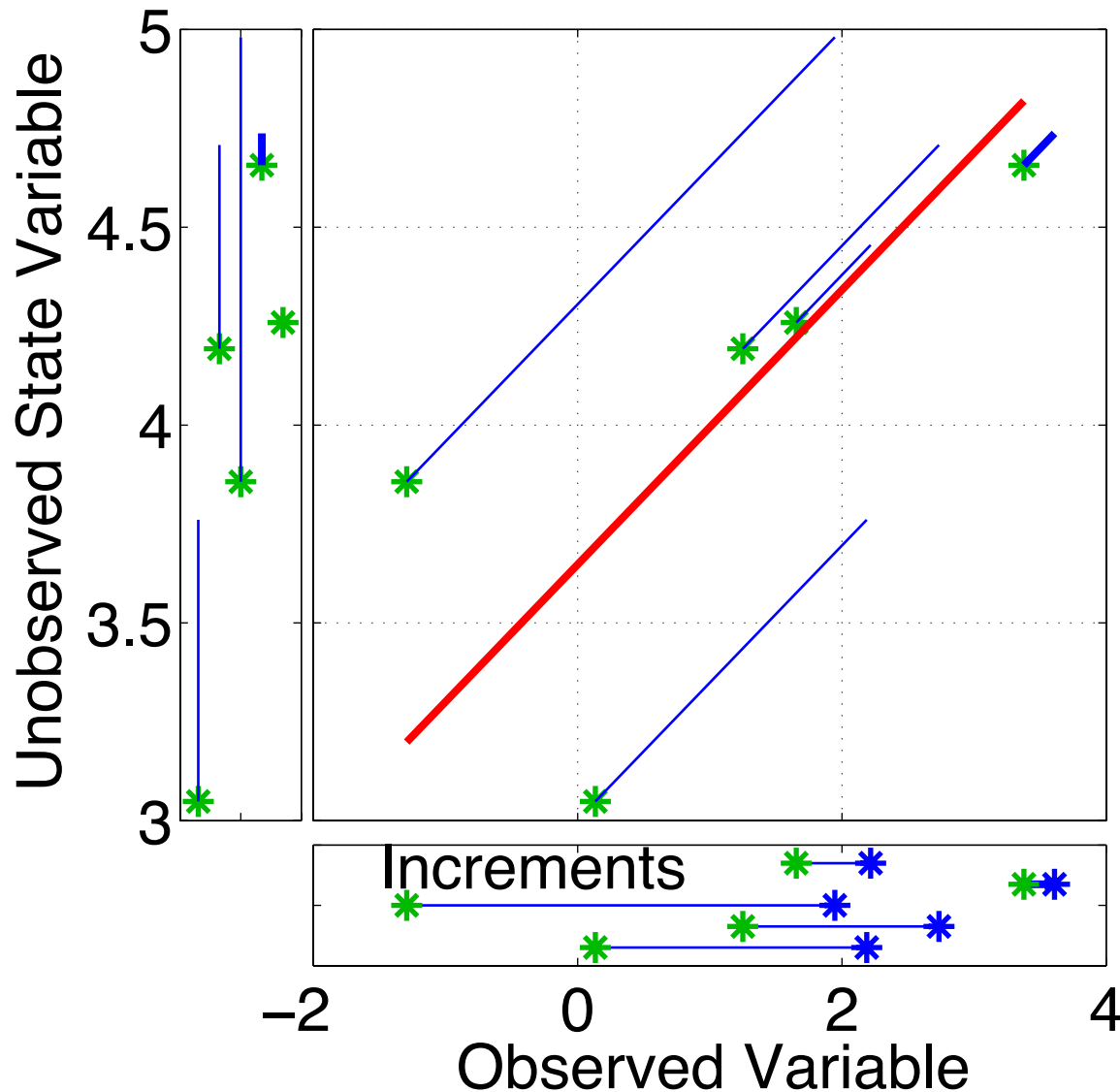


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Regression: Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

Then projecting from joint space onto unobserved priors.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

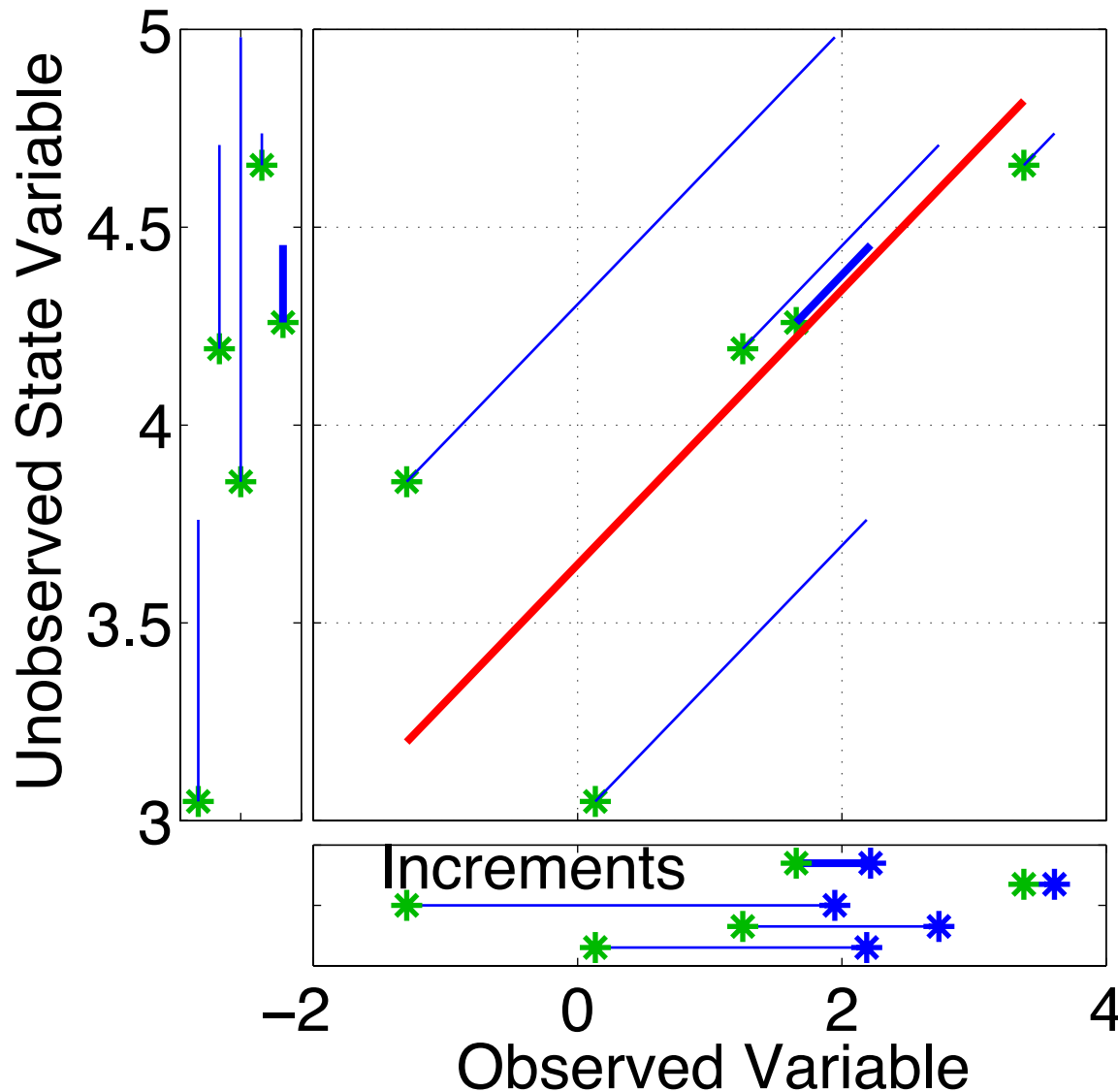


Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Regression: Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

Then projecting from joint space onto unobserved priors.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



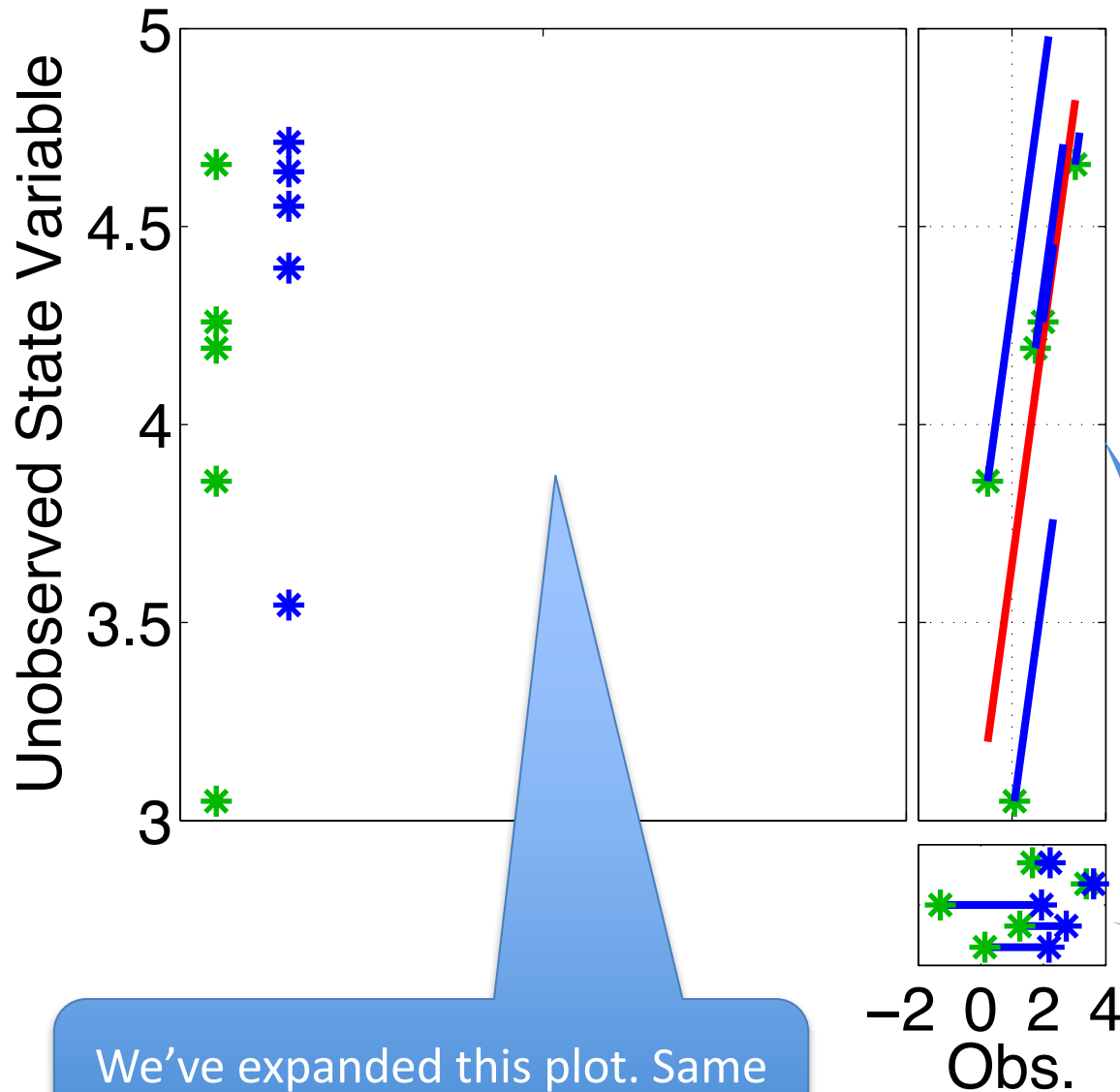
Have joint prior distribution of two variables.

Regression: Equivalent to first finding image of increment in joint space.

Then projecting from joint space onto unobserved priors.



# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

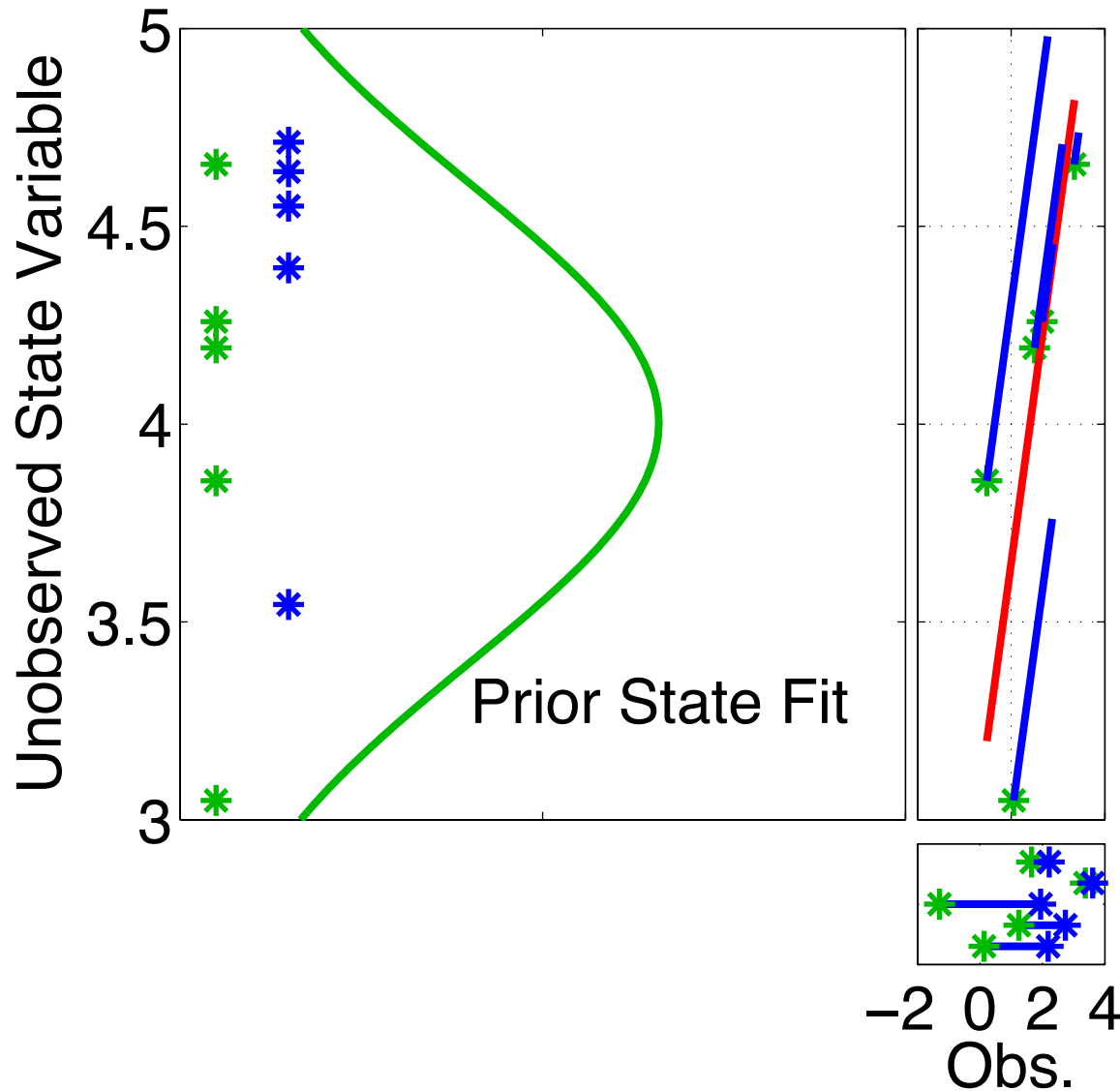


Now have an updated (posterior) ensemble for the unobserved variable.

We've expanded this plot. Same information as previous slides.

Compressed these two.

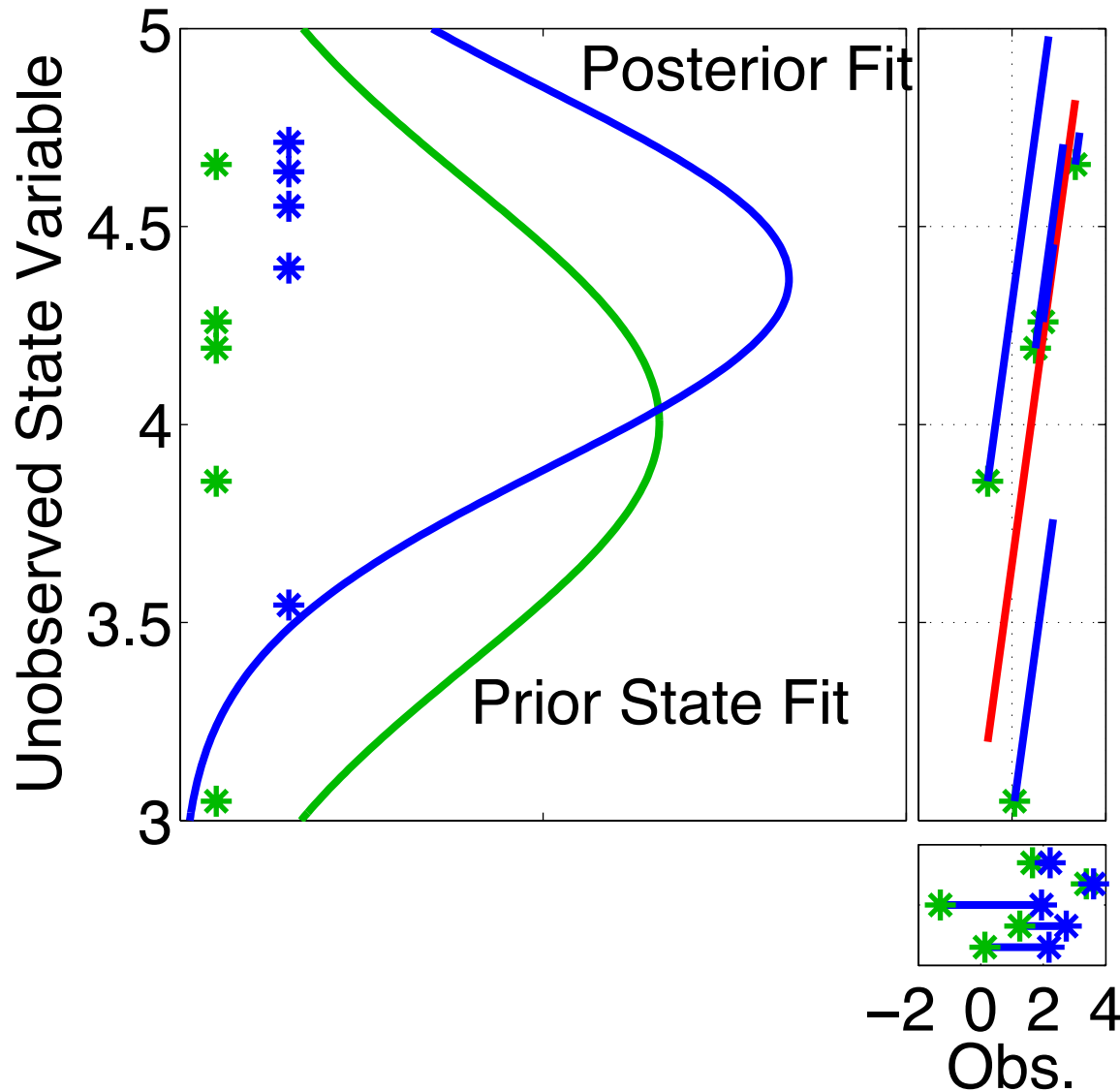
# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



Now have an updated (posterior) ensemble for the unobserved variable.

Fitting Gaussians shows that mean and variance have changed.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables

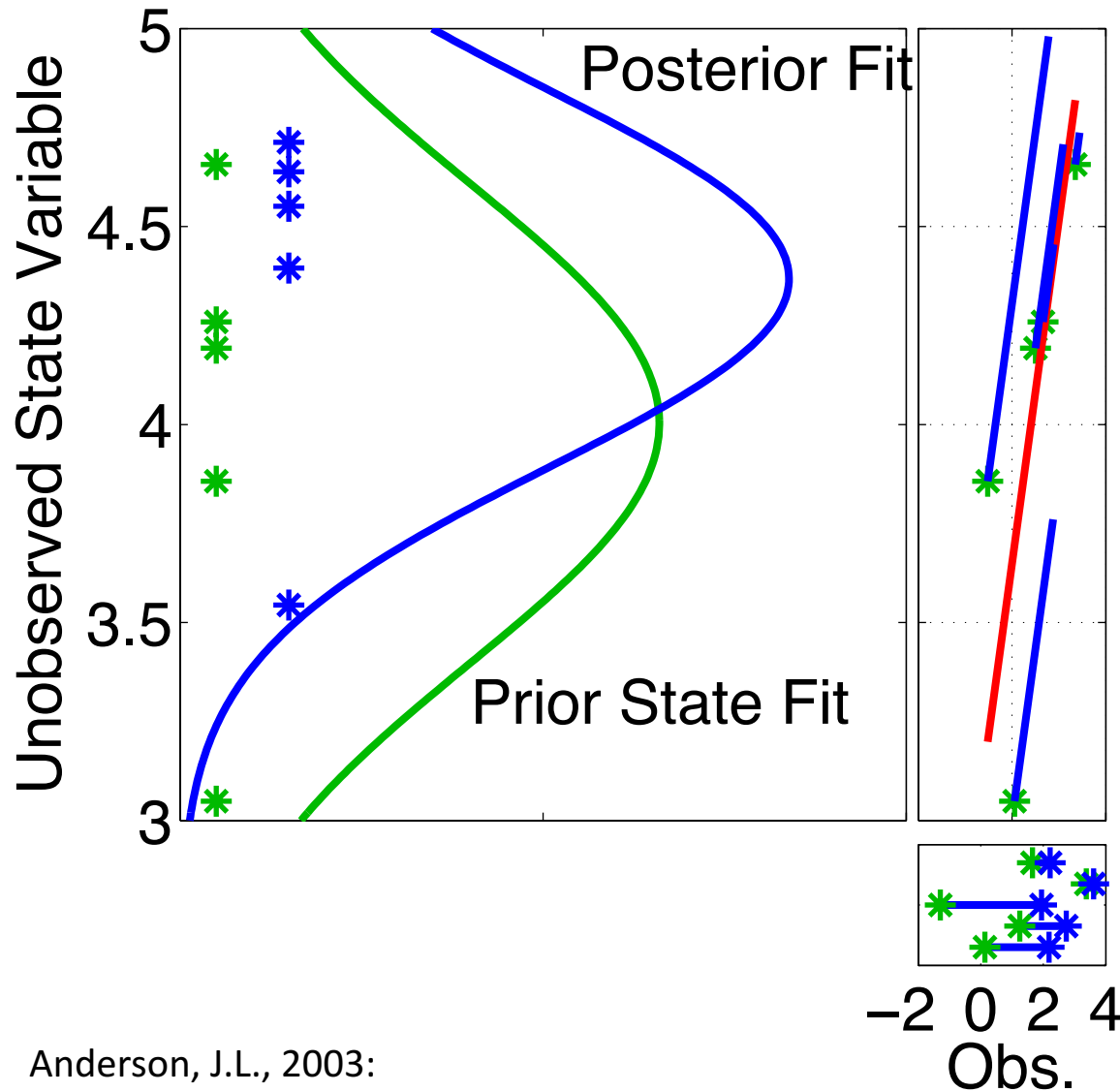


Now have an updated (posterior) ensemble for the unobserved variable.

Fitting Gaussians shows that mean and variance have changed.

Other features of the prior distribution may also have changed.

# Ensemble filters: Updating additional prior state variables



CRITICAL POINT:

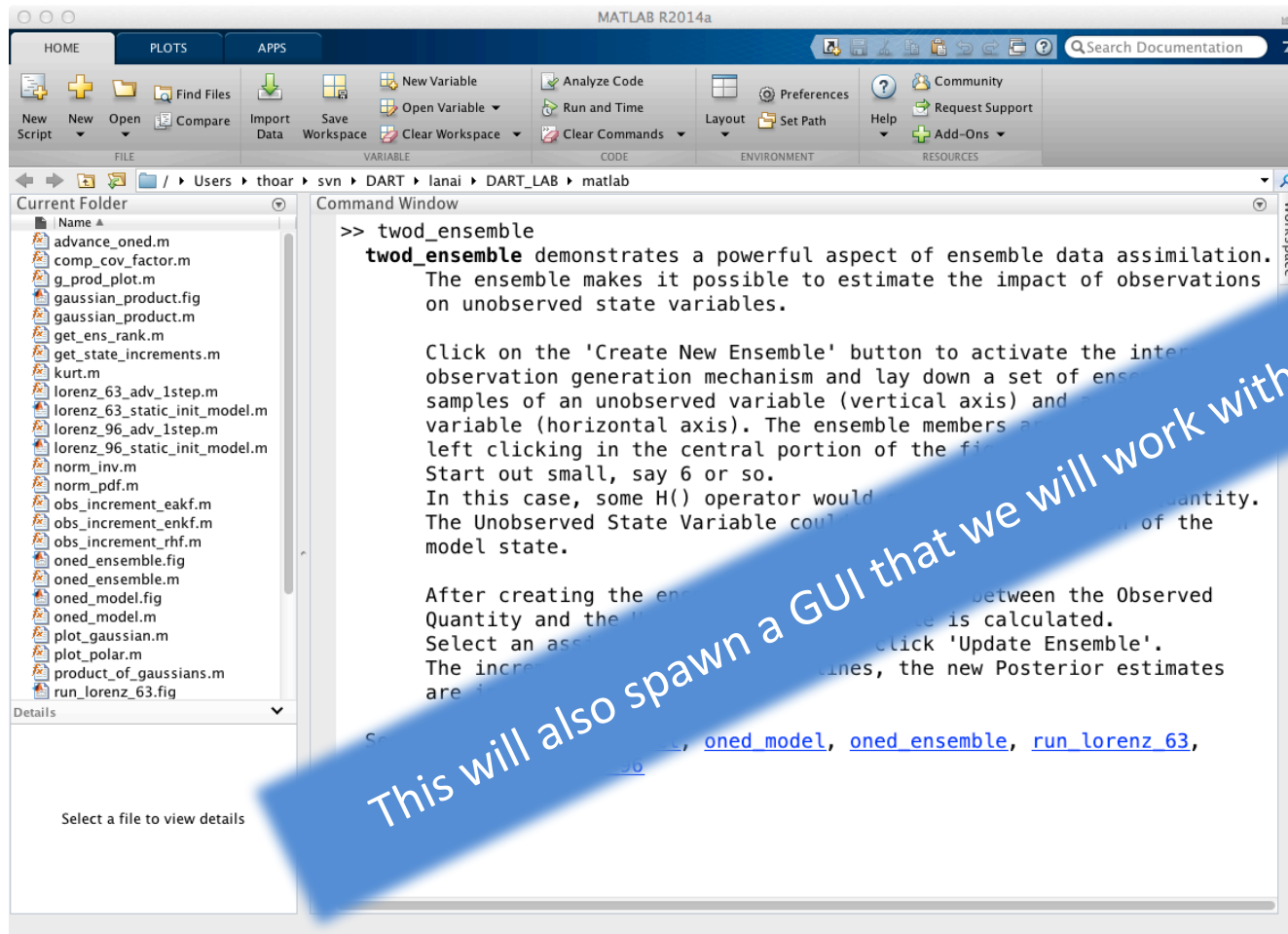
Since impact on unobserved variable is simply a linear regression, can do this INDEPENDENTLY for any number of unobserved variables!

Could also do many at once using matrix algebra as in traditional Kalman Filter.

Anderson, J.L., 2003:  
A local least squares framework for ensemble filtering. *Mon. Wea. Rev.*, **131**, 634-642

# Matlab Hands-On: twod\_ensemble

**Purpose:** Explore how an unobserved state variable is updated by an observation of another state variable.



The screenshot shows the MATLAB R2014a interface. The Command Window contains the following text:

```
>> twod_ensemble
twod_ensemble demonstrates a powerful aspect of ensemble data assimilation.
The ensemble makes it possible to estimate the impact of observations
on unobserved state variables.

Click on the 'Create New Ensemble' button to activate the interactive
observation generation mechanism and lay down a set of ensemble
samples of an unobserved variable (vertical axis) and an observed
variable (horizontal axis). The ensemble members are plotted on the
left clicking in the central portion of the figure.
Start out small, say 6 or so.
In this case, some H() operator would be used to relate the
The Unobserved State Variable could be a function of the
model state.

After creating the ensemble, the relationship between the Observed
Quantity and the Unobserved State Variable is calculated.
Select an appropriate value for the Unobserved State Variable.
The increment of the Unobserved State Variable is calculated.
Click 'Update Ensemble'.
The increment of the Unobserved State Variable is calculated.
The new Posterior estimates are plotted on the right.
```

A large blue diagonal banner is overlaid on the Command Window with the text: "This will also spawn a GUI that we will work with."

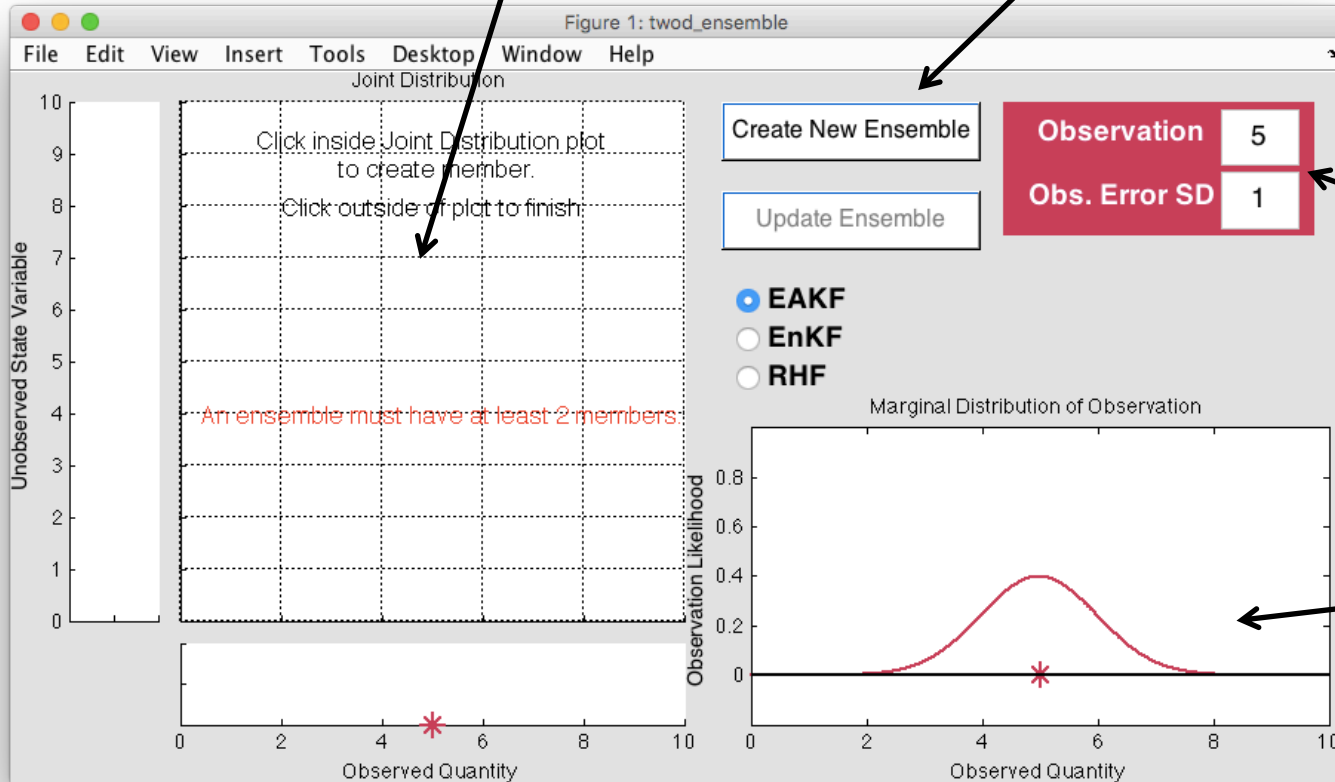
The file browser on the left shows a list of files in the current folder, including:

- advance\_oned.m
- comp\_cov\_factor.m
- g\_prod\_plot.m
- gaussian\_product.fig
- gaussian\_product.m
- get\_ens\_rank.m
- get\_state\_increments.m
- kurt.m
- lorenz\_63\_adv\_1step.m
- lorenz\_63\_static\_init\_model.m
- lorenz\_96\_adv\_1step.m
- lorenz\_96\_static\_init\_model.m
- norm\_inv.m
- norm\_pdf.m
- obs\_increment\_eakf.m
- obs\_increment\_enkf.m
- obs\_increment\_rhf.m
- oned\_ensemble.fig
- oned\_ensemble.m
- oned\_model.fig
- oned\_model.m
- plot\_gaussian.m
- plot\_polar.m
- product\_of\_gaussians.m
- run\_lorenz\_63.fig

# Matlab Hands-On: twod\_ensemble

Bivariate ensemble plot with projected marginals for observed, unobserved variables.

Start creating an ensemble. See next slide.



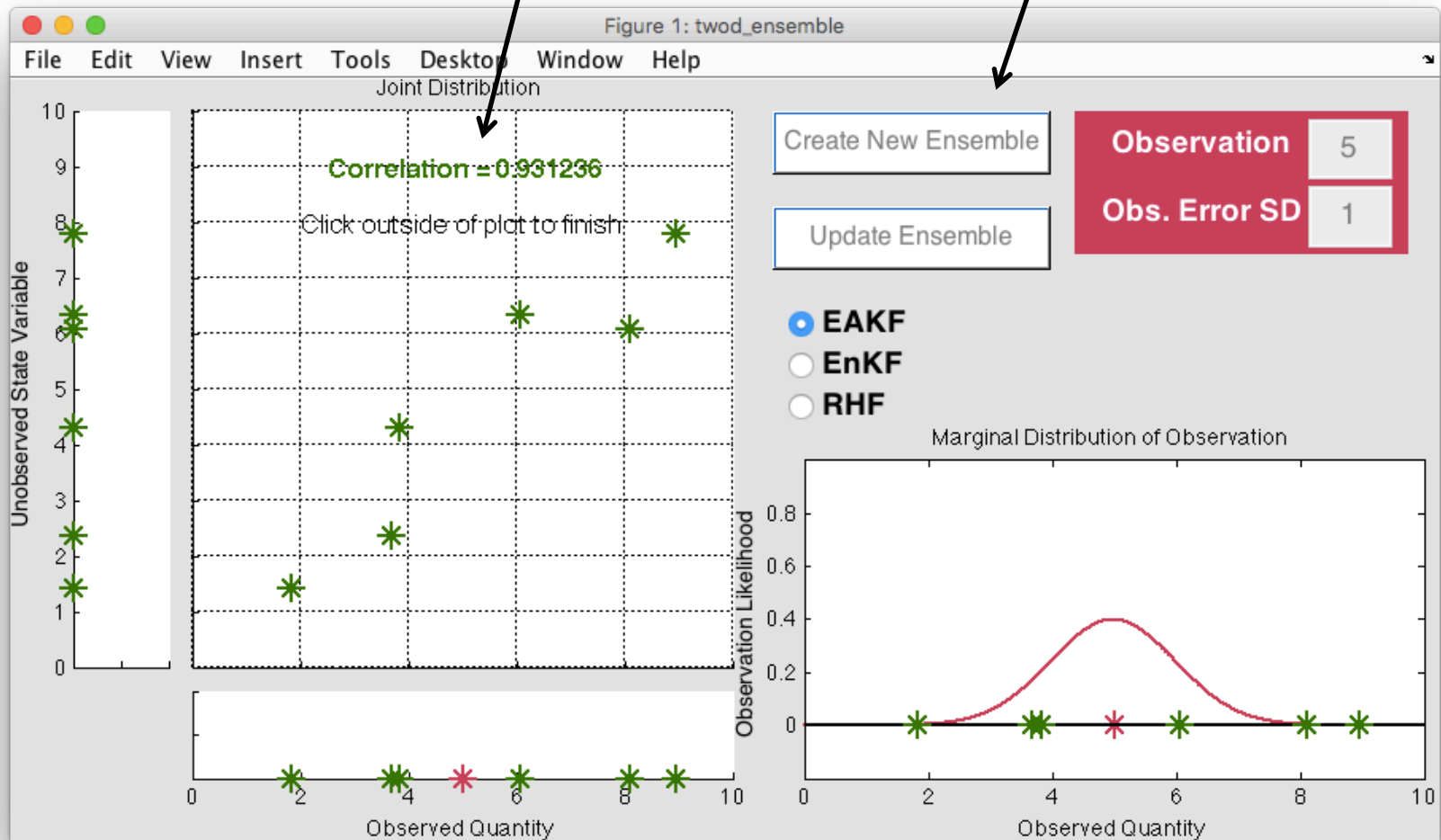
Control observation value and error; same as oned\_ensemble.

Detailed plot for observed variable; same as oned\_ensemble.

# Matlab Hands-On: twod\_ensemble

Move cursor and click in this frame to create ensemble members. Click outside this frame when all members are created.

Start creating an ensemble.



# Matlab Hands-On: twod\_ensemble

## Explorations:

- Create ensemble members that are nearly on a line. Explore how the unobserved variable is updated.
- What happens for nearly uncorrelated observed and unobserved variables? Create a roundish cloud of points for the prior.
- What happens with a two-dimensional bimodal distribution?
- Try prior ensembles with various types of outliers.



# Schematic of an Ensemble Filter for Geophysical Data Assimilation

1. Use model to advance **ensemble** (3 members here) to time at which next observation becomes available.

Ensemble state  
estimate after using  
previous observation  
(analysis)

$t_k$



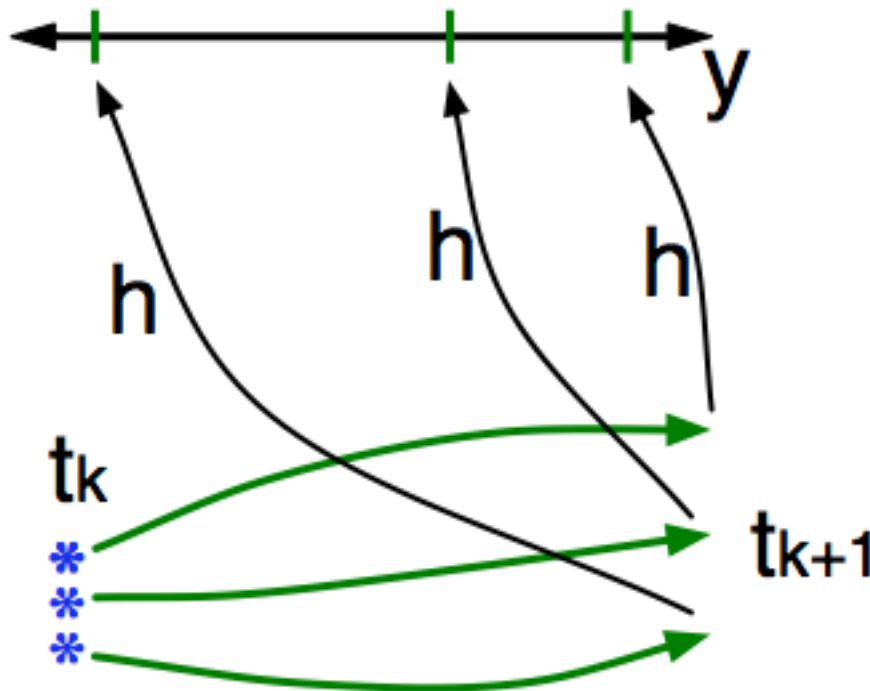
Ensemble state  
at time of next  
observation  
(prior)

$t_{k+1}$



# How an Ensemble Filter Works for Geophysical Data Assimilation

2. Get prior ensemble sample of observation,  $y = h(x)$ , by applying forward operator  $h$  to each ensemble member.

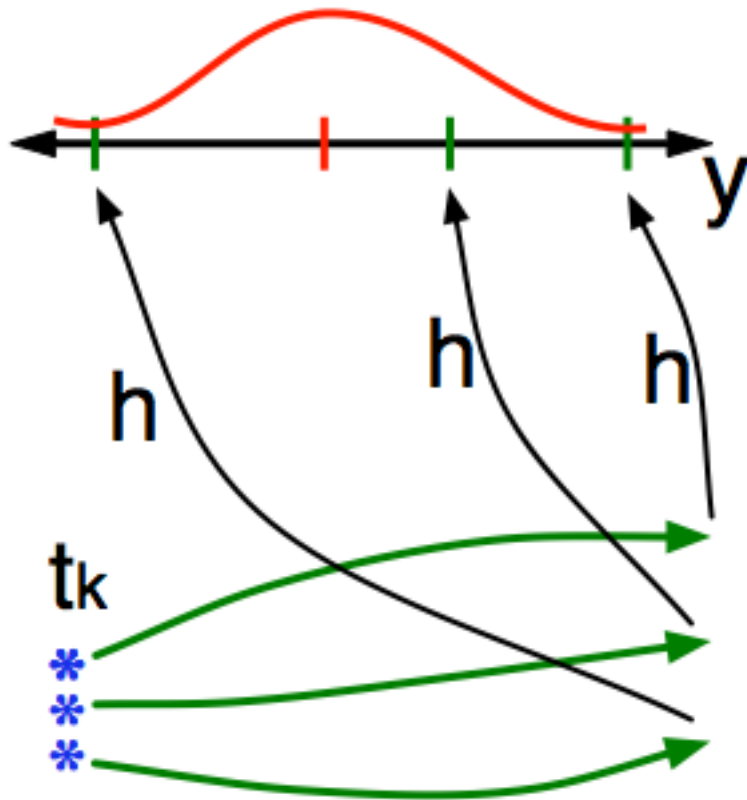


Theory: observations from instruments with uncorrelated errors can be done sequentially.

Houtekamer, P.L. and H.L. Mitchell, 2001:  
A sequential ensemble Kalman filter for  
atmospheric data assimilation.  
*Mon. Wea. Rev.*, **129**, 123-137

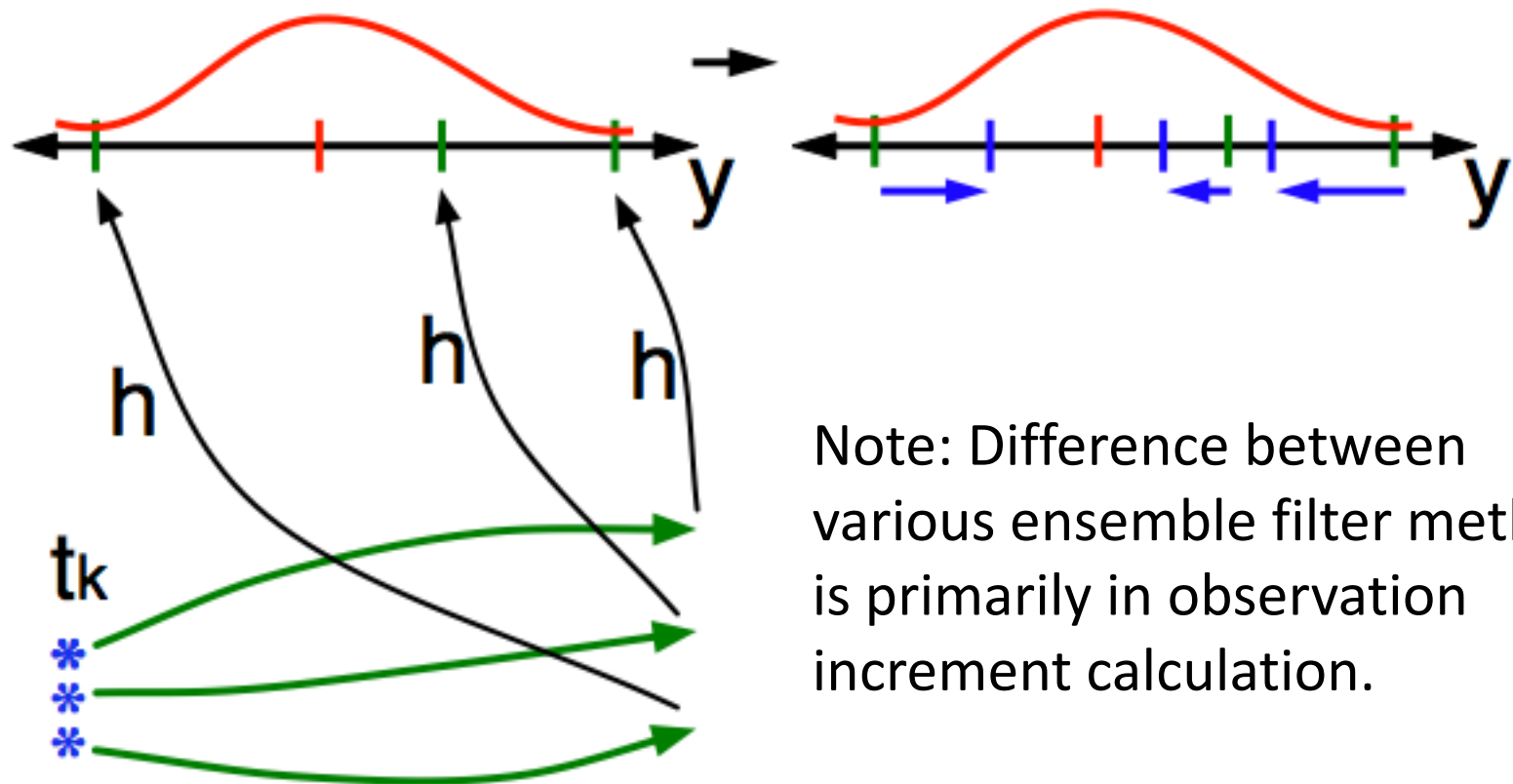
# How an Ensemble Filter Works for Geophysical Data Assimilation

3. Get **observed value** and **observational error distribution** from observing system.



# How an Ensemble Filter Works for Geophysical Data Assimilation

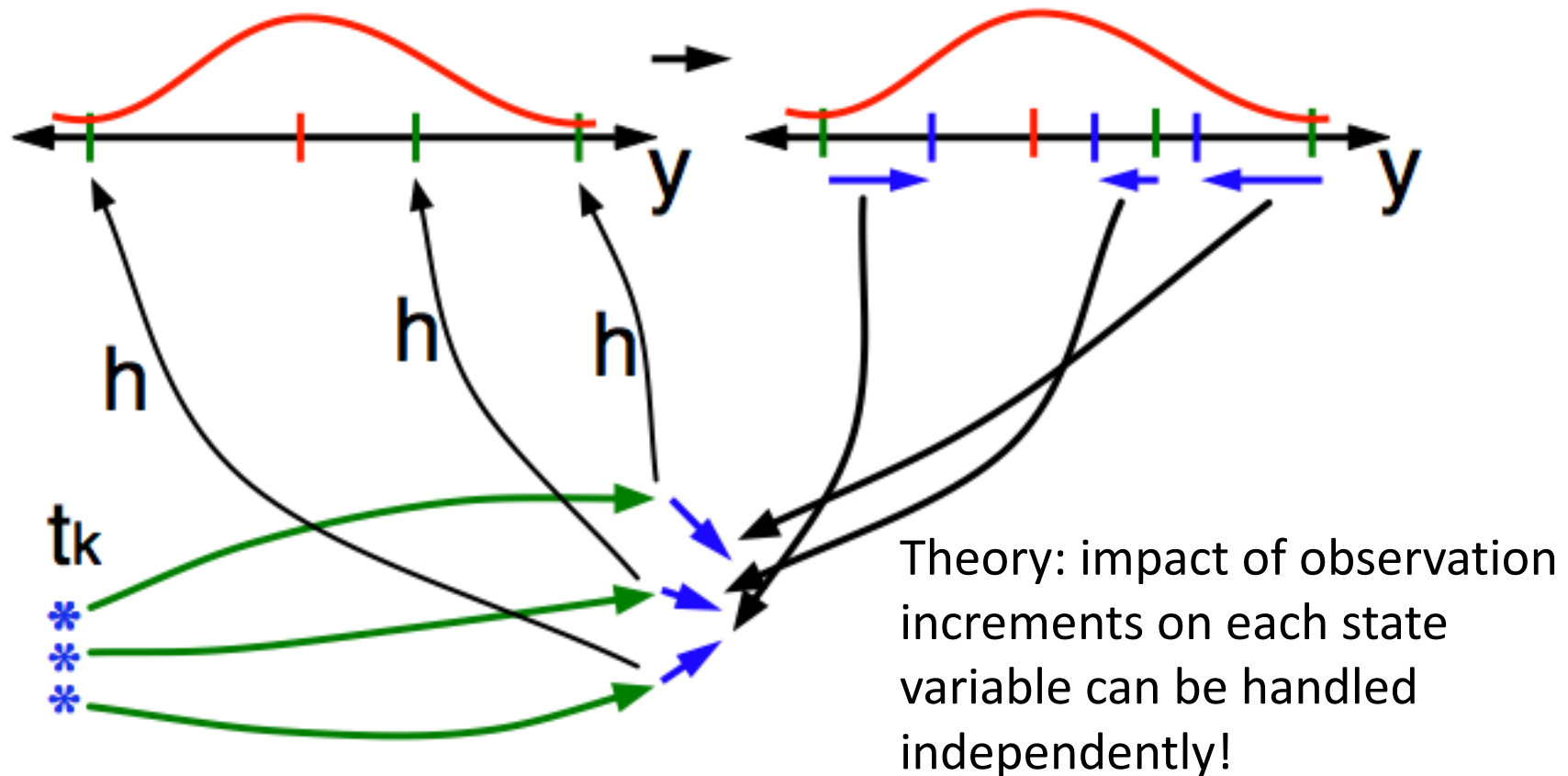
- Find the **increments** for the prior observation ensemble (this is a scalar problem for uncorrelated observation errors).



Note: Difference between various ensemble filter methods is primarily in observation increment calculation.

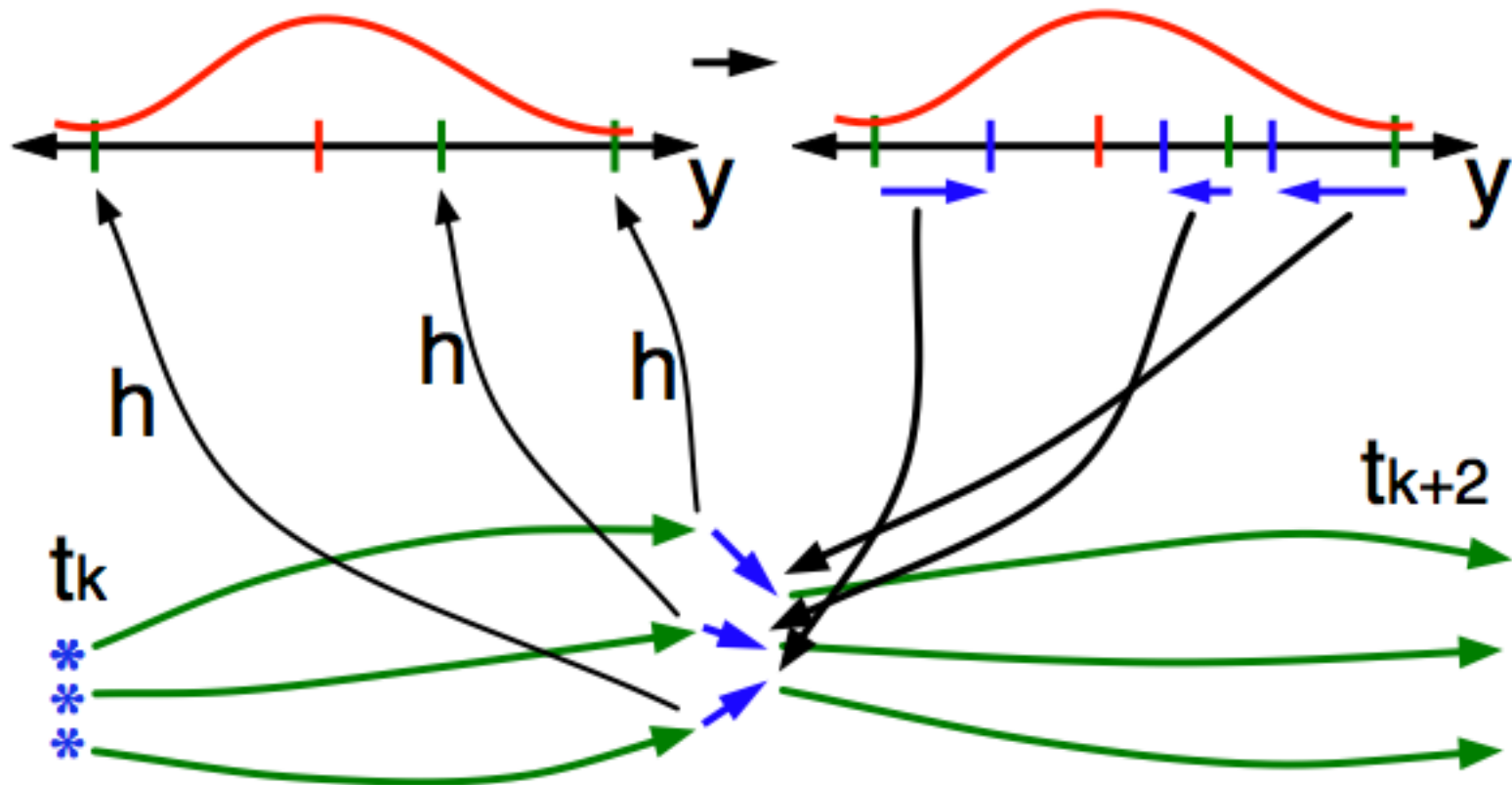
# How an Ensemble Filter Works for Geophysical Data Assimilation

5. Use ensemble samples of  $y$  and each state variable to linearly regress observation increments onto state variable increments.



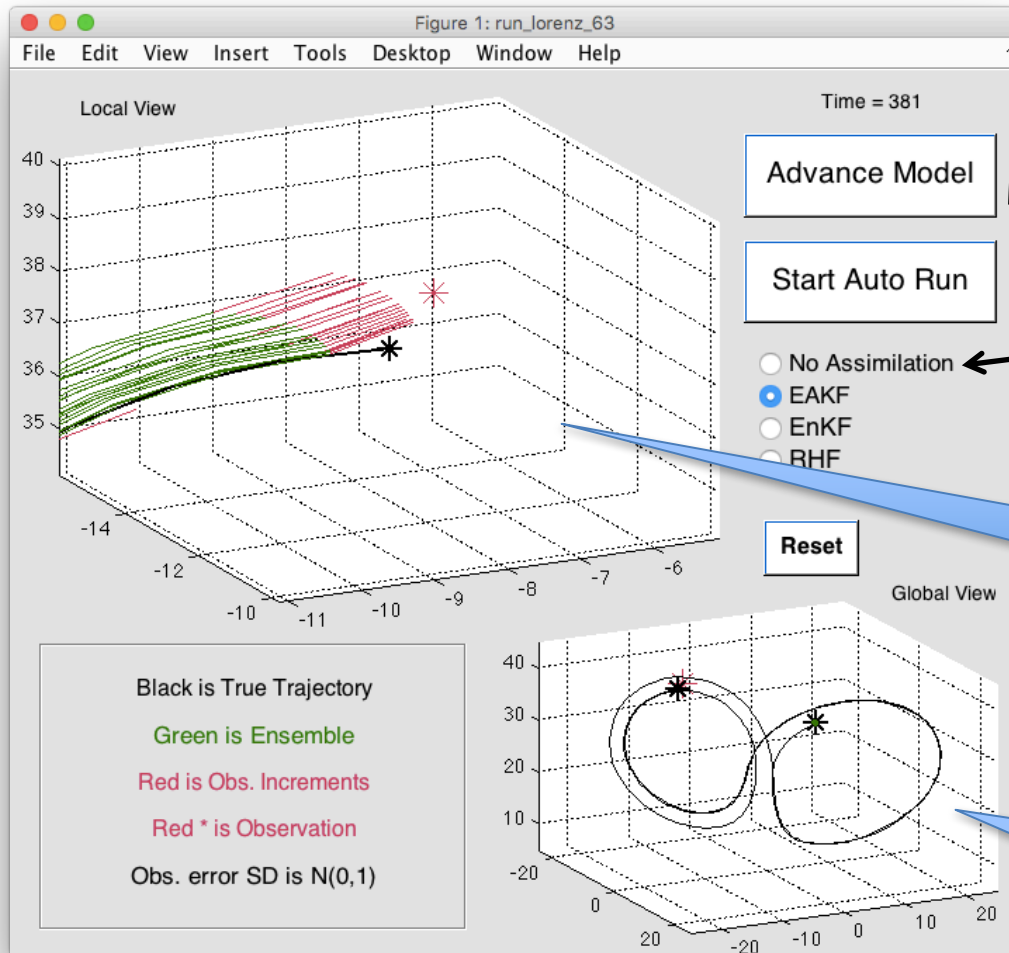
# How an Ensemble Filter Works for Geophysical Data Assimilation

- When all ensemble members for each state variable are updated, there is a new analysis. Integrate to time of next observation ...



# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_63

Purpose: Explore behavior of ensemble Kalman filters in a low-order, chaotic dynamical system, the 3-variable Lorenz 1963 model.



These controls work the same as for oned\_model.

Assimilation can be turned off, just does model advances.

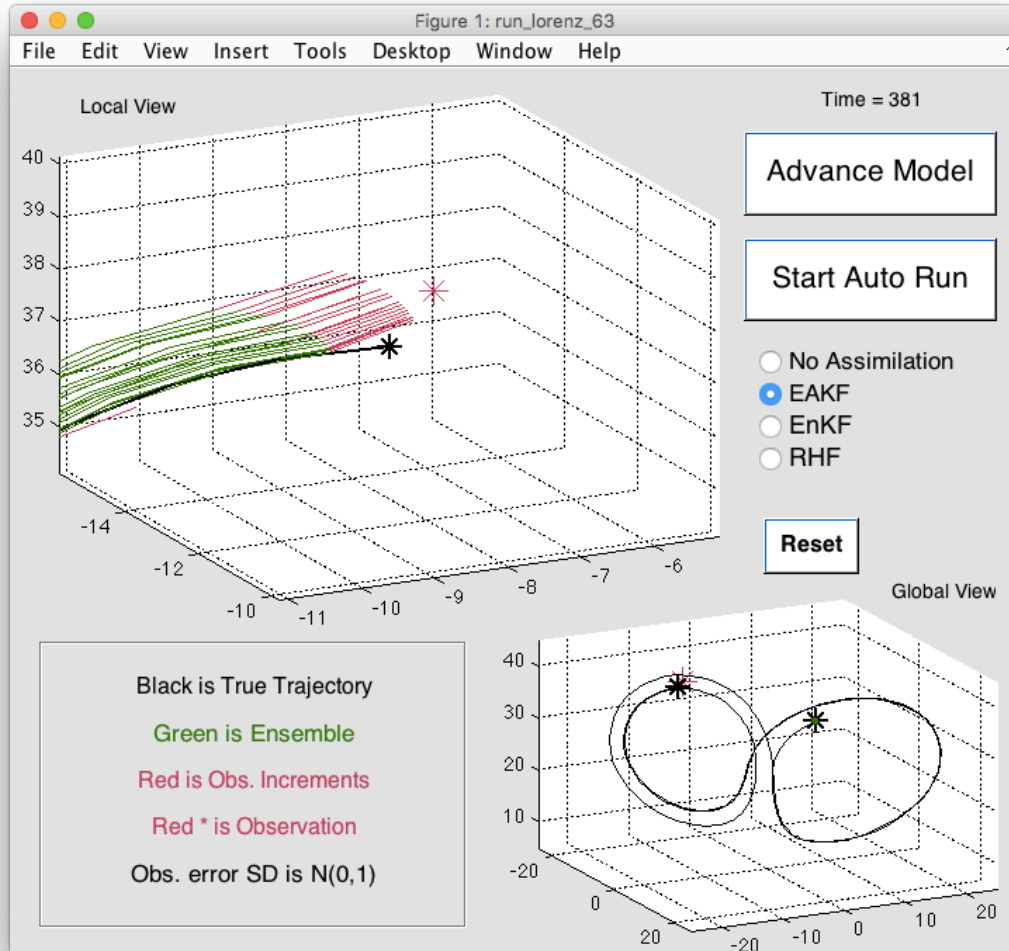
'Local' domain, local timeframe

Full domain, full timeframe.

# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_63

Both panels show time evolution of true state (black).

20 ensemble members are shown in green in top window.

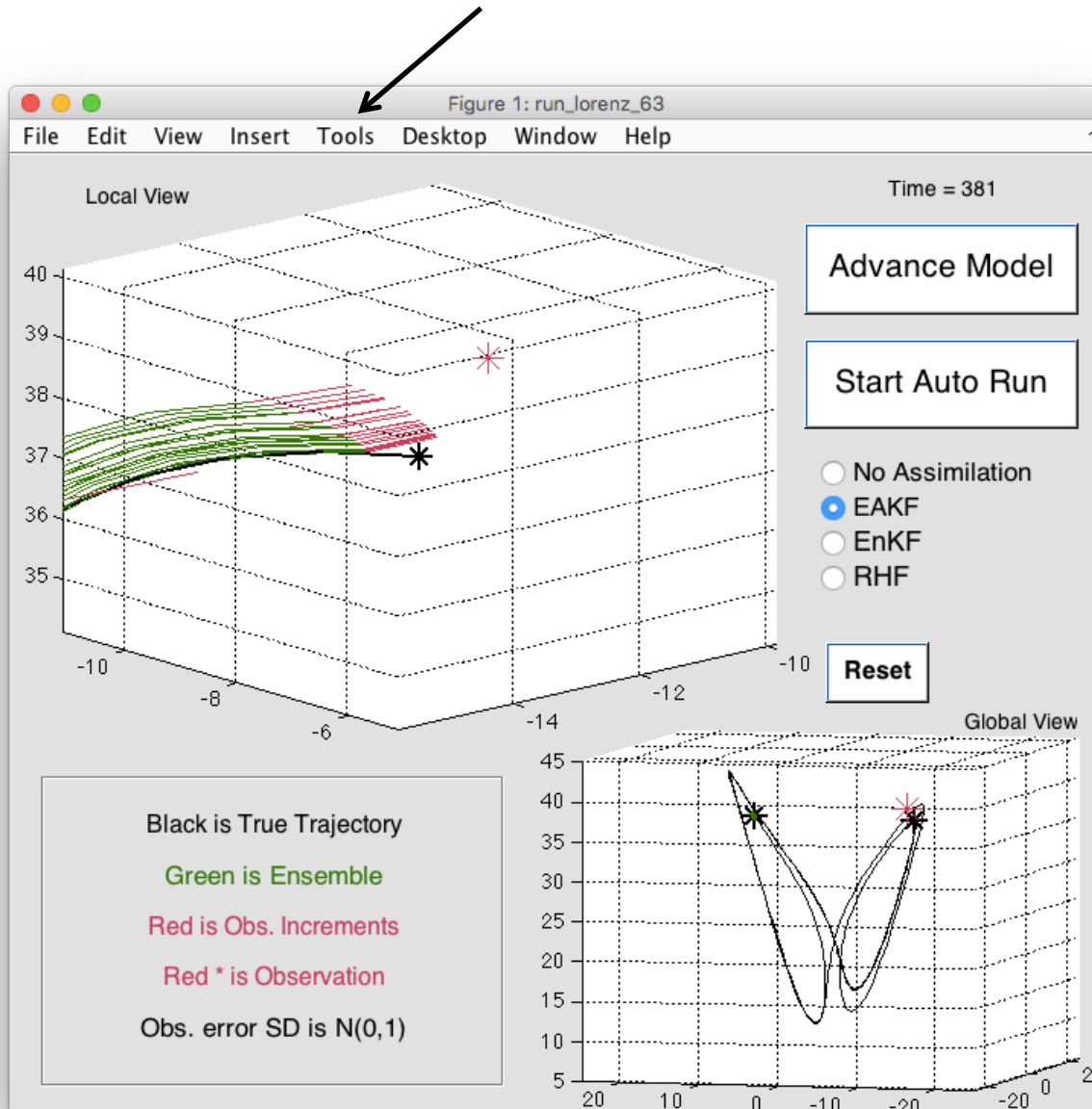


At each observation time, the three components of the truth are 'observed' by adding a random draw from a standard normal distribution to the true value.



# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_63

You can use matlab tools to modify plots.



Here, the Rotate 3D tools has been used to change the angle of view of both the local and global views of the assimilation.

# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_63

## Explorations:

- Select **Start Auto Run** and watch the evolution of the ensemble. Try to understand how the ensemble spreads out.
- Restart the GUI and select **EAKF**. Do individual advances and assimilations and observe the behavior.
- Do some auto runs with assimilation turned on.
- Explore how different areas of the attractor have different assimilation behavior.

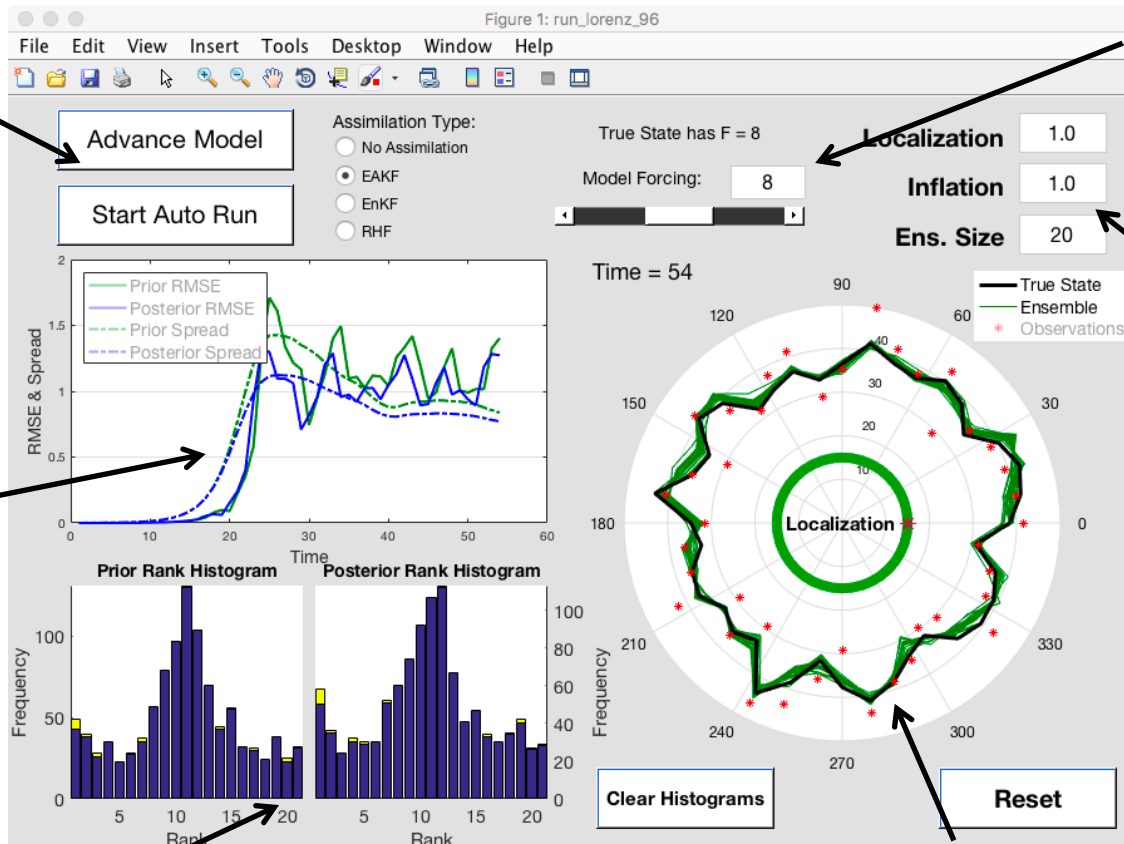
# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_96

Purpose: Explore the behavior of ensemble filters in a 40-variable chaotic dynamical system; the Lorenz 1996 model.

These controls work the same as lorenz\_63.

Root mean square error from truth and ensemble spread as function of time.

Prior and posterior rank histograms.



Model forcing.

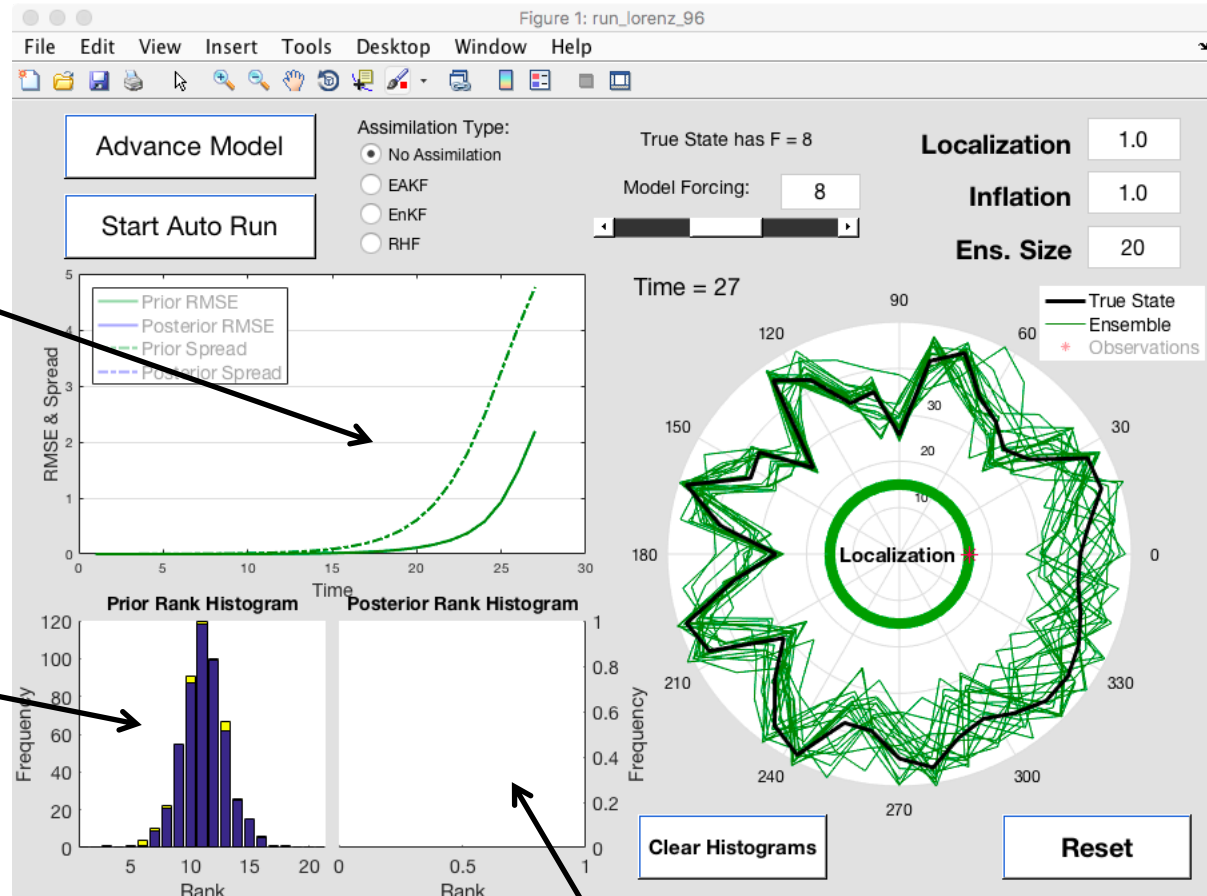
Parameters for ensemble filter.

Ensemble of model contours (spaghetti plot).

# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_96

Start a Free Run of the ensemble (No Assimilation). After some time, the minute perturbations in the original states lead to visibly different model states.

Takes a while for the small initial perturbations to grow.



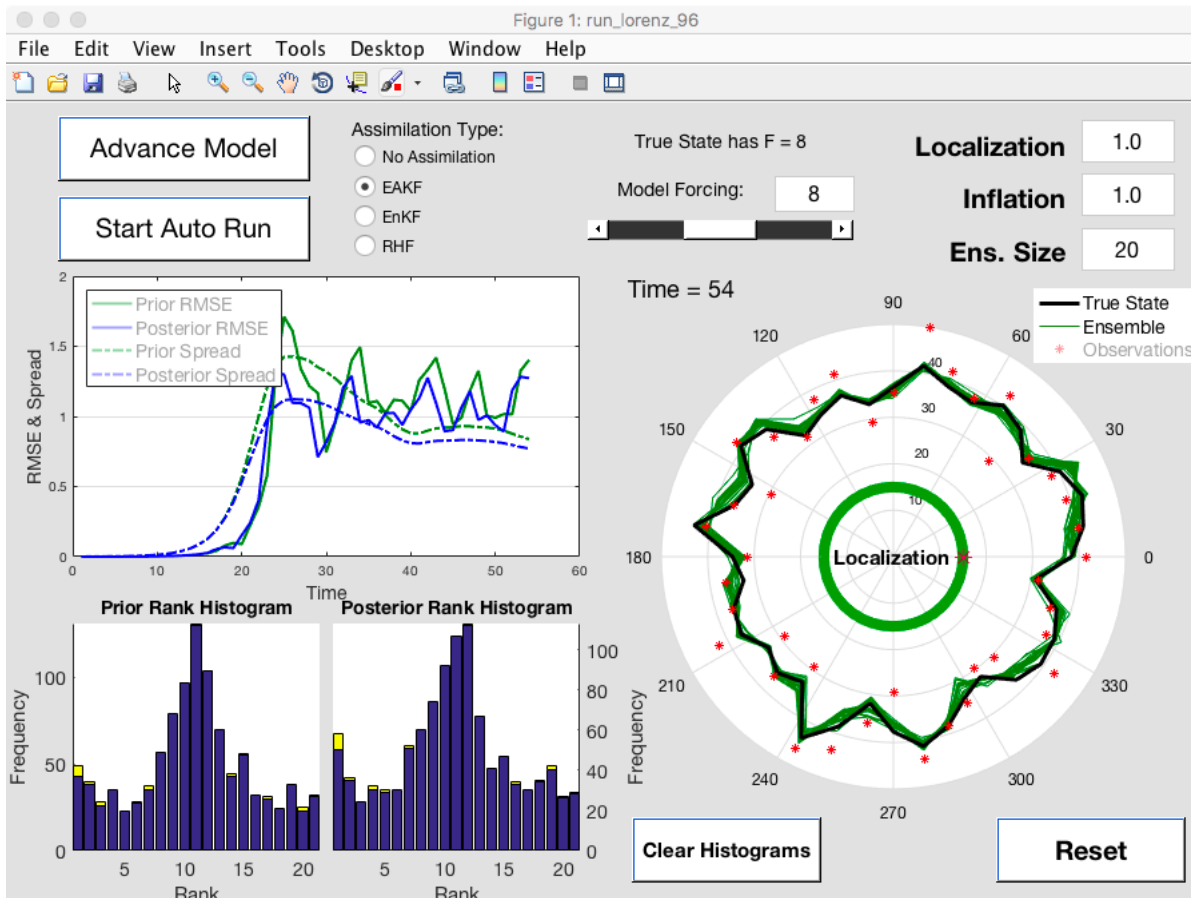
Ensemble size is 20, so there are 21 bins in the rank histogram.

No posterior in a free run.

# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_96

- 1) Stop the free run after some time.
- 2) Turn on the EAKF
- 3) Advance model, assimilate...

Note: All 40 state variables are observed. Observation error standard deviation is 4.0



Your figures will be different depending on your settings. That's OK.

# Matlab Hands-On: run\_lorenz\_96

## Explorations:

- Do an extended free run to see error growth in the ensemble. How long does it take to saturate?
- Select EAKF and explore how the assimilation works.
- Try adding inflation (maybe 1.4) and repeat.

