

Initializing carbon cycle predictions from CLM by assimilating biomass and LAI observations

**Andrew Fox^{1,2}, Tim Hoar², William Kolby-Smith¹,
Jeffrey Anderson² & David Moore¹**

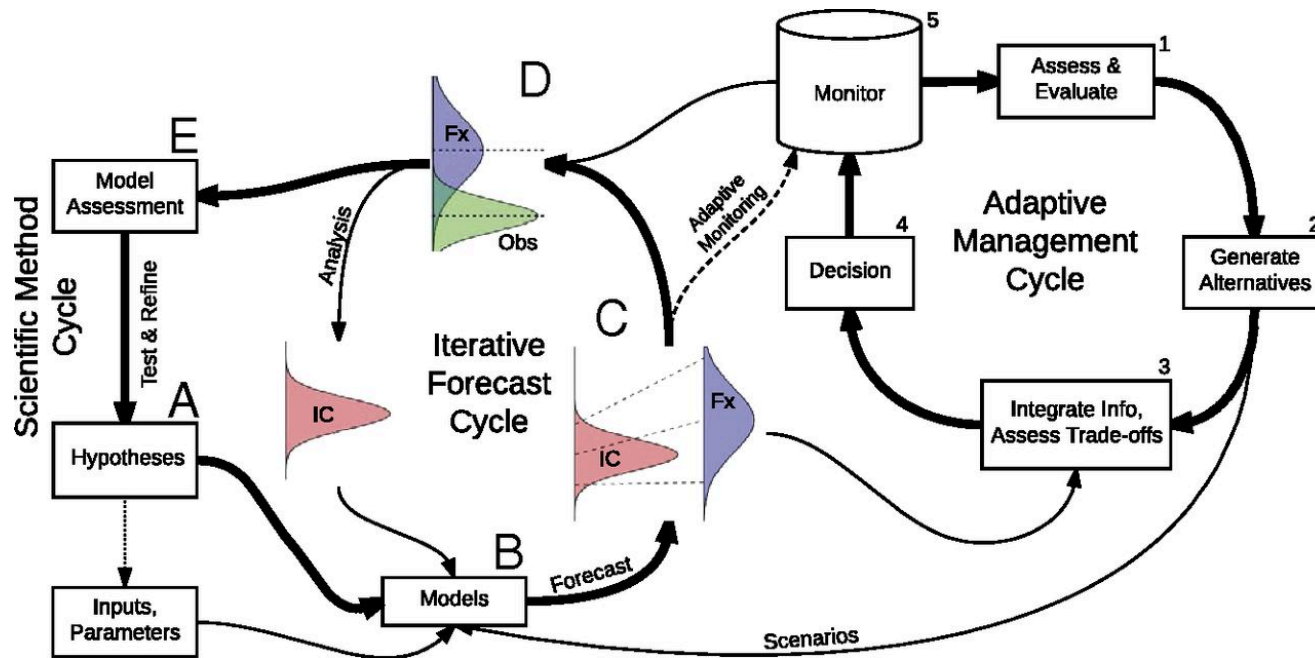
1. University of Arizona
2. National Center for Atmospheric Research

Why forecast the Carbon Cycle?

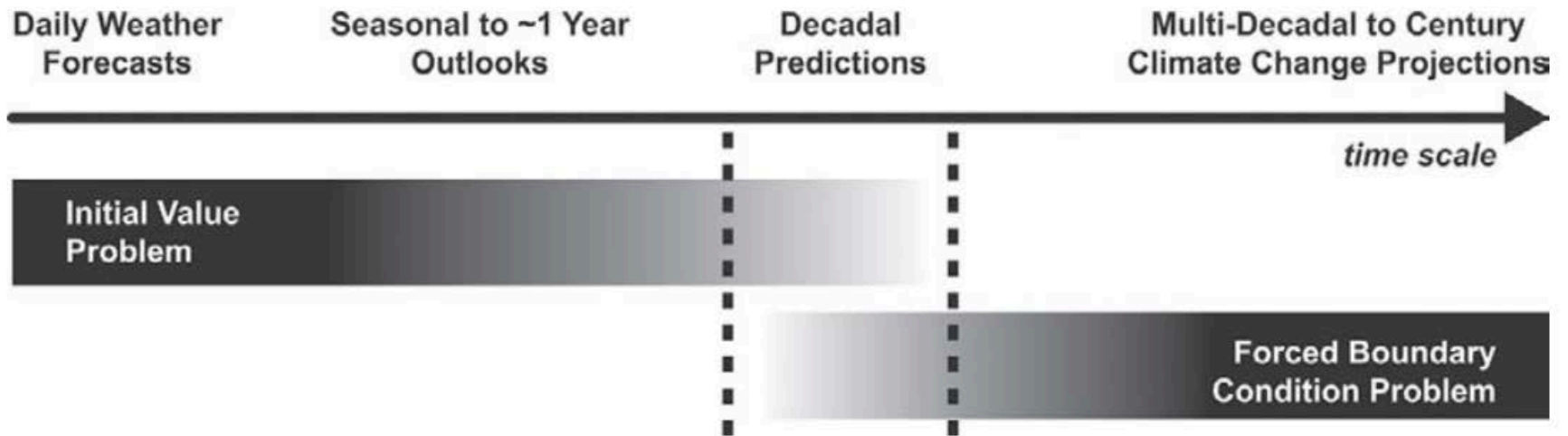
Iterative near-term ecological forecasting: Needs, opportunities, and challenges

Michael C. Dietze^{a,1}, Andrew Fox^b, Lindsay M. Beck-Johnson^c, Julio L. Betancourt^d, Mevin B. Hooten^{e,f,g}, Catherine S. Jarnevich^h, Timothy H. Keittⁱ, Melissa A. Kenney^j, Christine M. Laney^k, Laurel G. Larsen^l, Henry W. Loescher^{k,m}, Claire K. Lurch^k, Bryan C. Pijanowskiⁿ, James T. Randerson^o, Emily K. Read^p, Andrew T. Tredennick^{q,r}, Rodrigo Vargas^s, Kathleen C. Weathers^t, and Ethan P. White^{u,v,w}

PNAS 2018; published ahead of print January 30, 2018, <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1710231115>



Dominant sources of uncertainty change



(Meehl et al., 2009)

Dominant sources of uncertainty change

Sources of uncertainty

Initial condition

Initialization

Earth system model

Climate feedbacks

Model uncertainty

Internal variability

Ecosystem impacts

Scenario uncertainty

Scenarios

Initial value problem

Subseasonal to seasonal forecast
(2 weeks – 12 months)

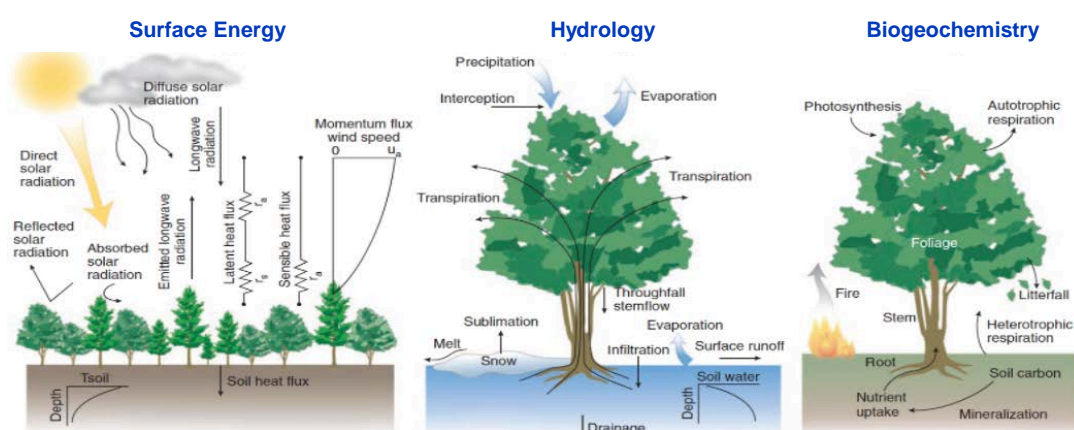
Decadal prediction
(1 – 30 years)

Earth system projection
(30 – 100+ years)

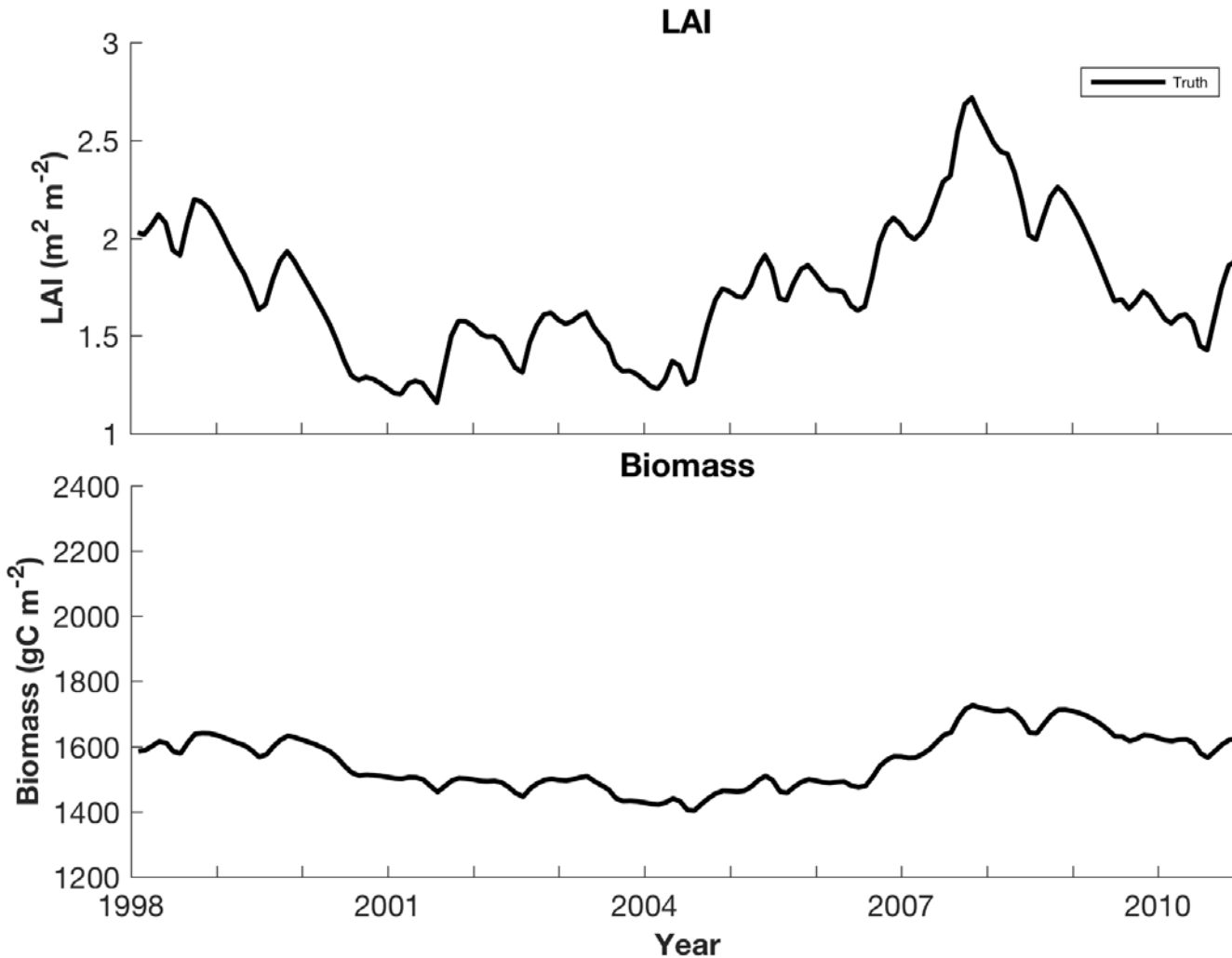
Boundary value problem

Community Land Model set up

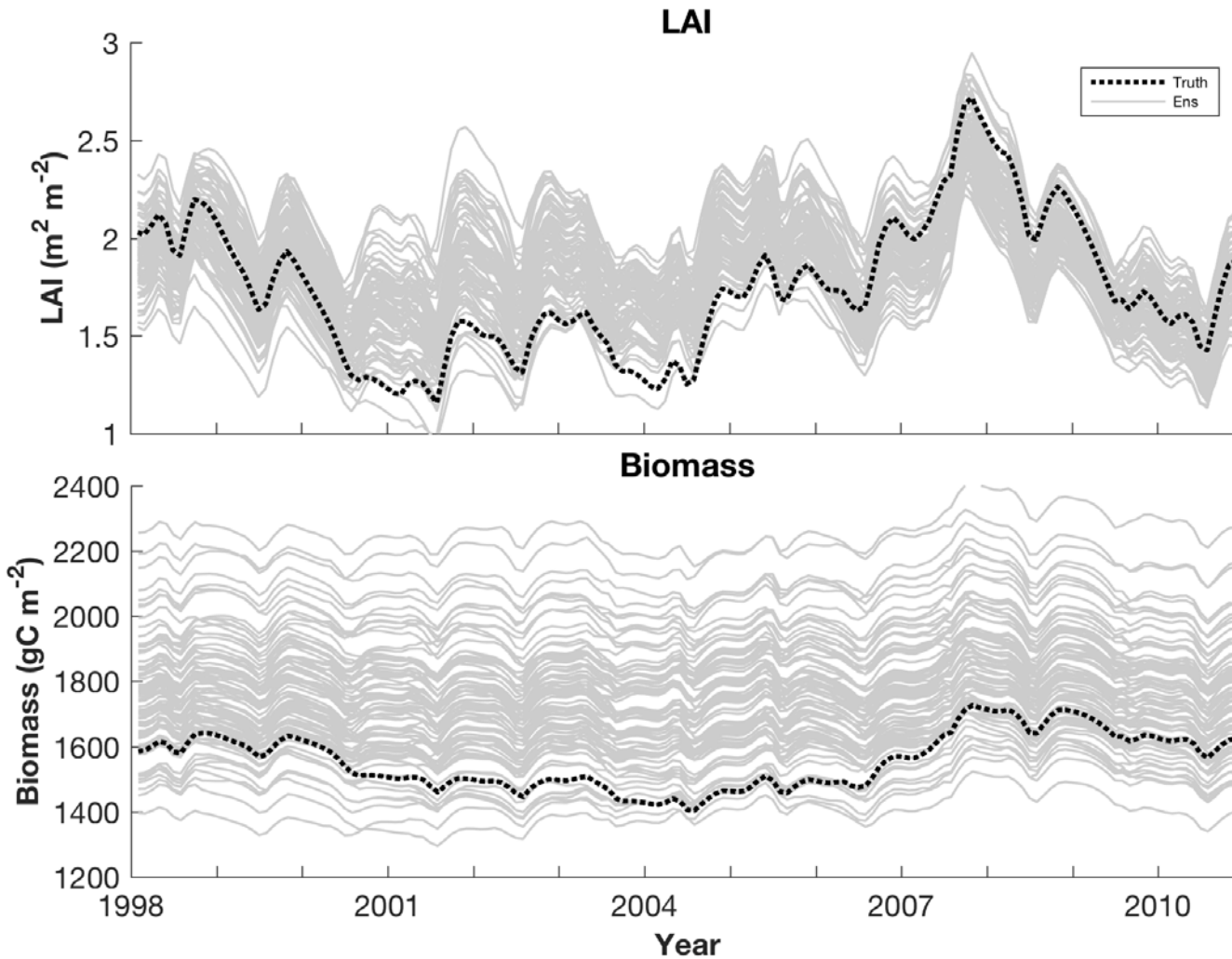
- Multi-instance CLM4.5 BGC set up for a location in central New Mexico, USA
- PFT fractions of Bare, C4 grass, and Needleleaf Evergreen – Temperate
- Spun up by cycling 13 years of **ensemble** atmospheric reanalysis data



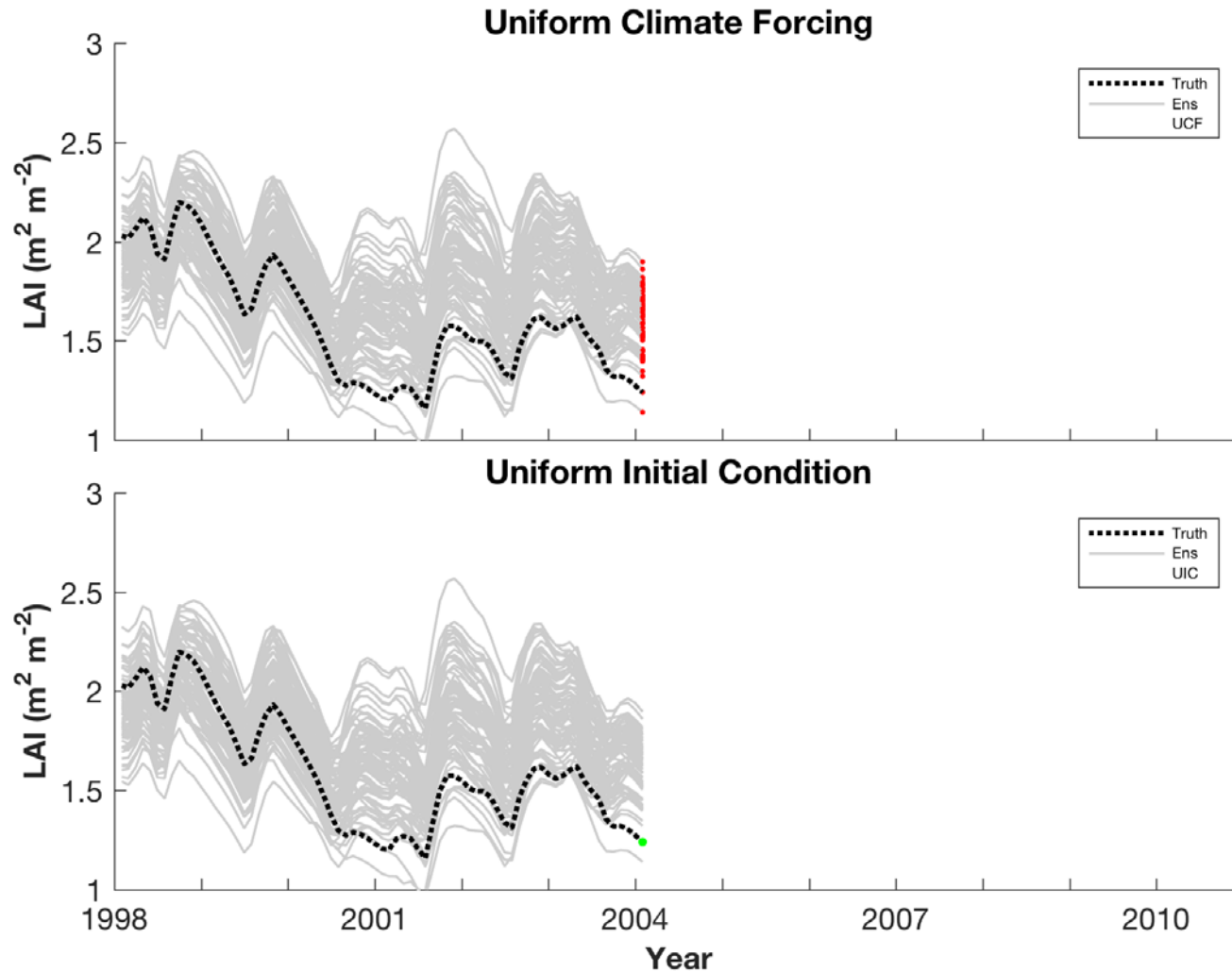
LAI and Biomass – single instance



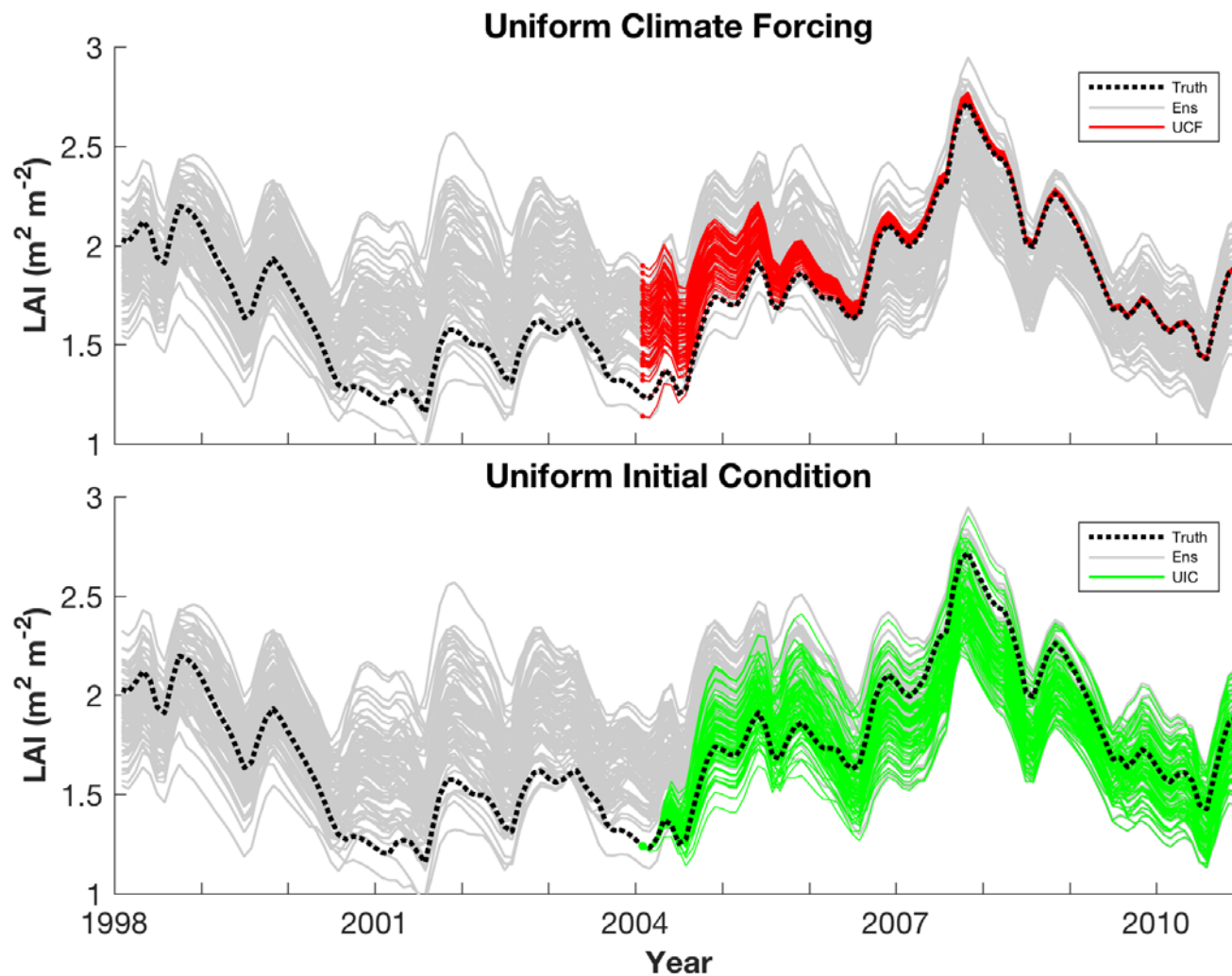
LAI and Biomass – multi-instance



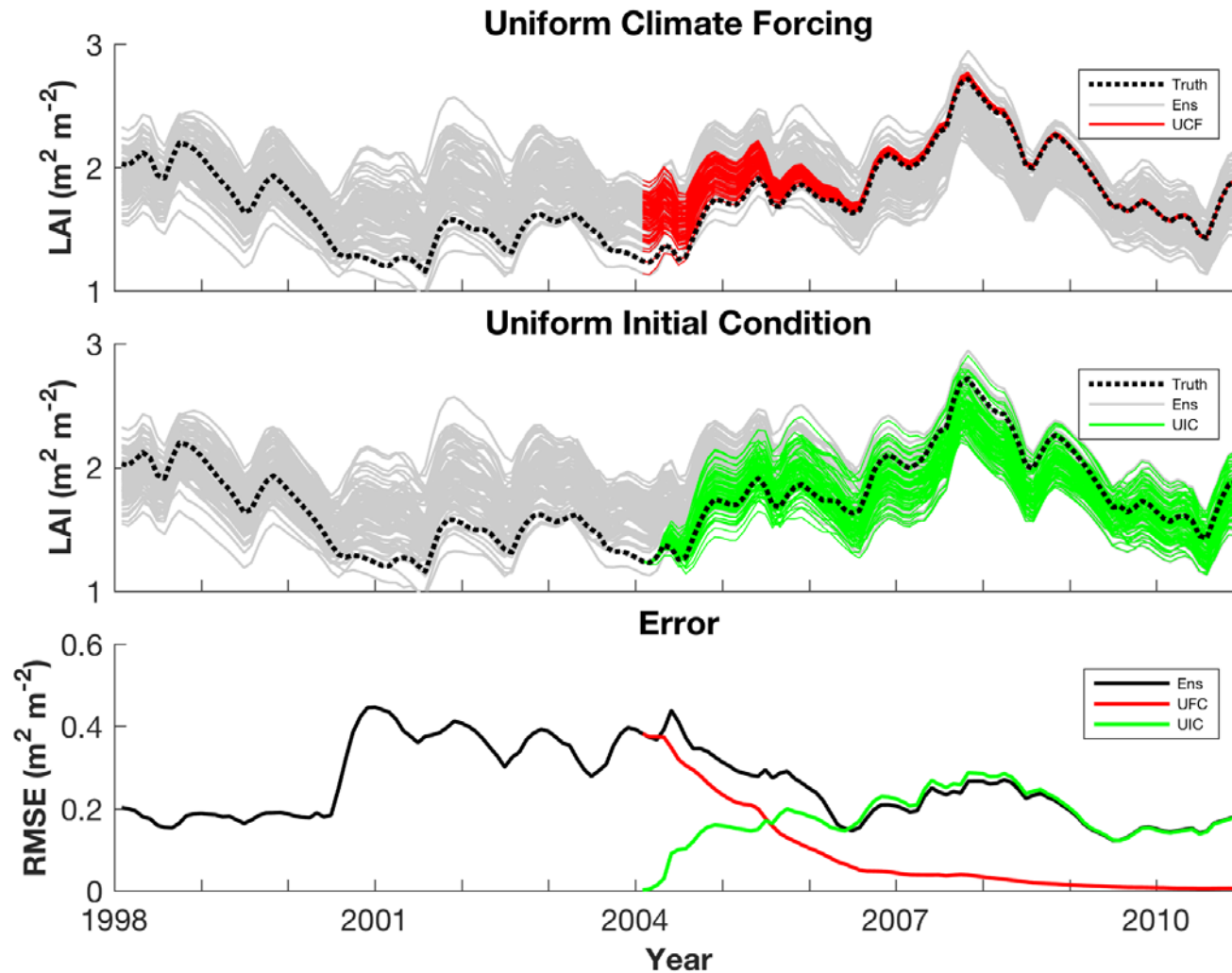
Uniform Climate Forcing v. Initial Conditions



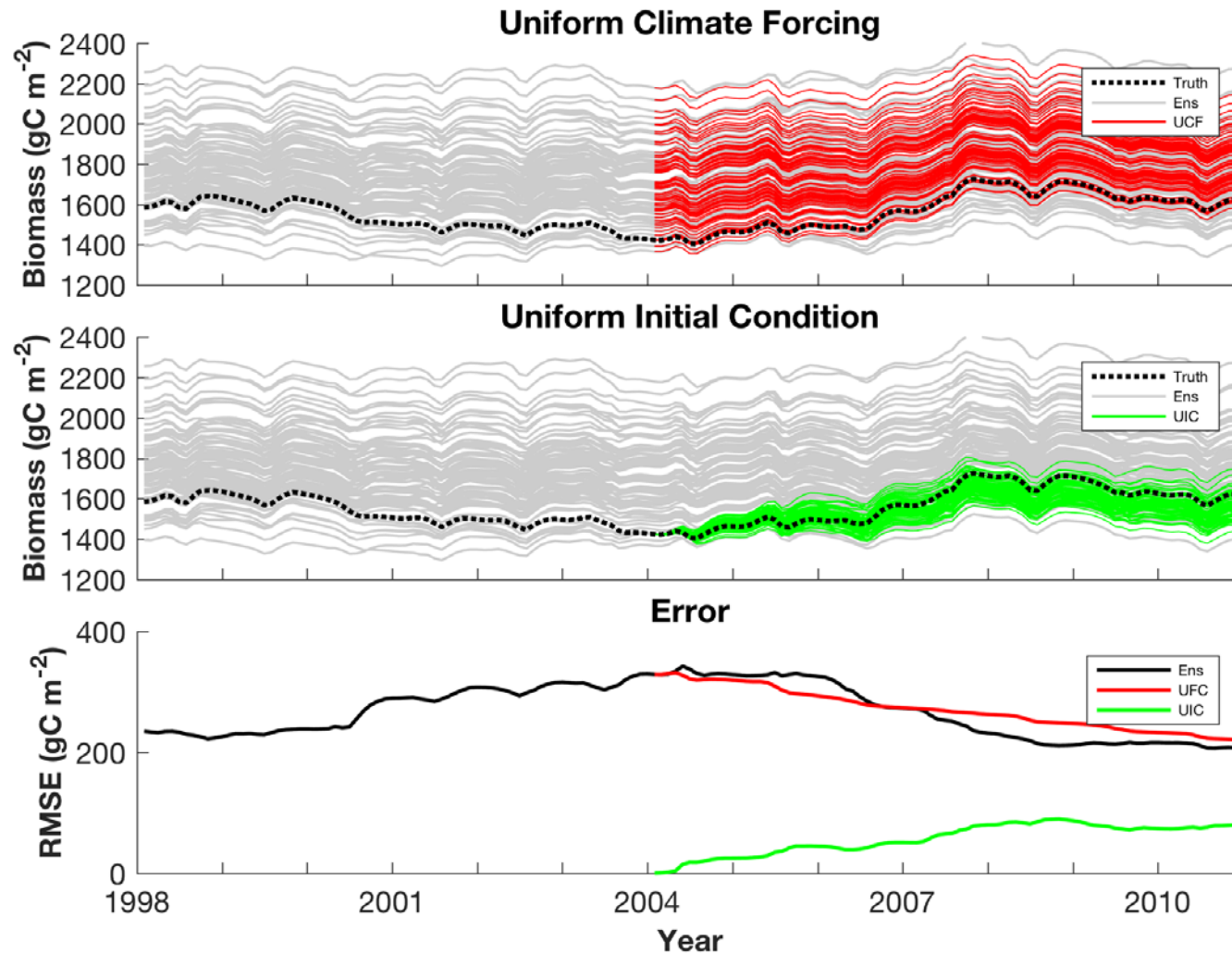
Uniform Climate Forcing v. Initial Conditions



LAI – Error is reduced for 2.5 years



Biomass – Error is reduced for 7+ years



LAI and Biomass – observations

Monthly, 0.5° Aggregated MODIS LAI Observations

JOURNAL OF GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH, VOL. 112, G01023, doi:10.1029/2006JG000168, 2007

Representing a new MODIS consistent land surface in the Community Land Model (CLM 3.0)

Peter J. Lawrence¹ and Thomas N. Chase¹

Received 27 January 2006; revised 3 October 2006; accepted 14 November 2006; published 17 March 2007.

Annual, 0.25° Vegetation Optical Depth Biomass Observations

nature
climate change

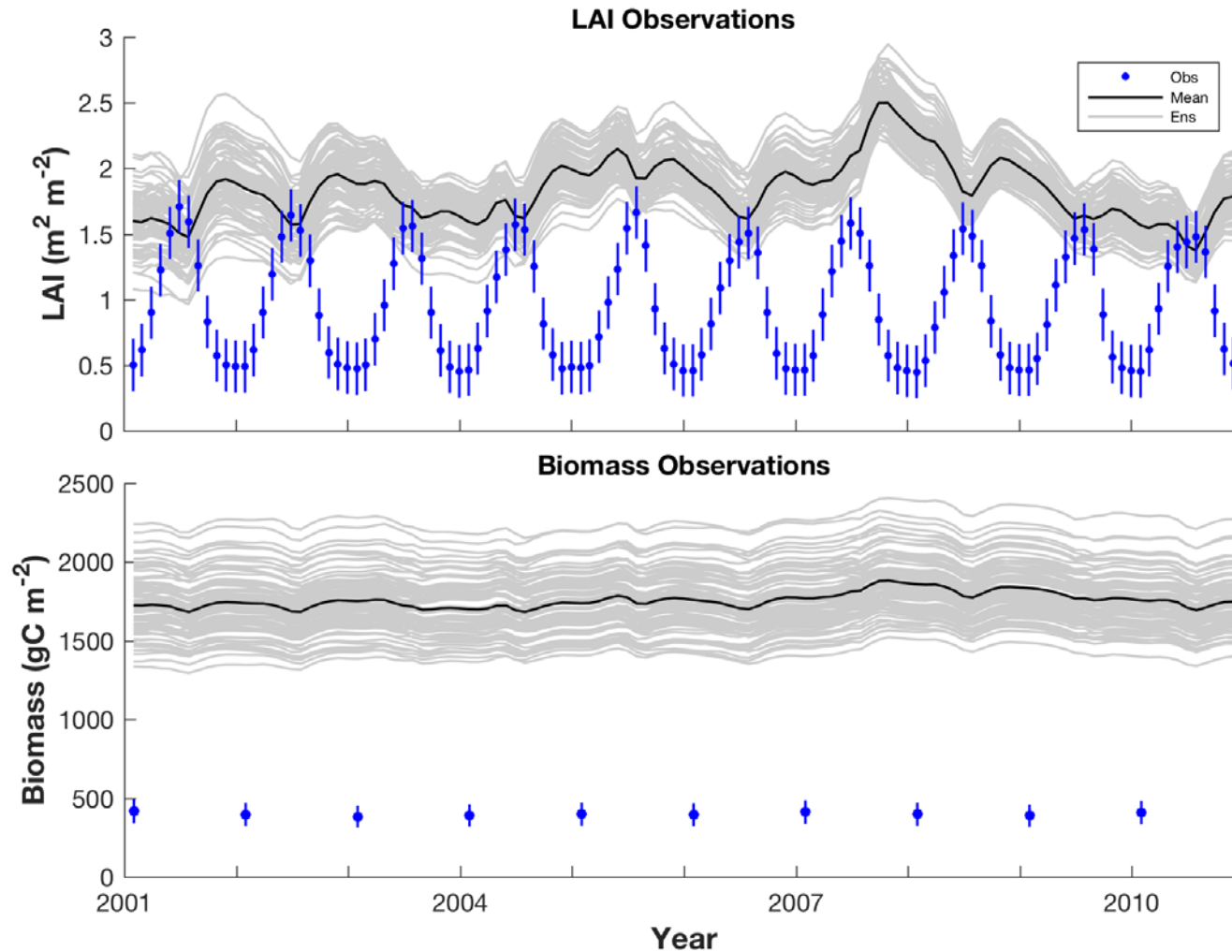
LETTERS

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 30 MARCH 2015 | DOI: 10.1038/NCLIMATE2581

Recent reversal in loss of global terrestrial biomass

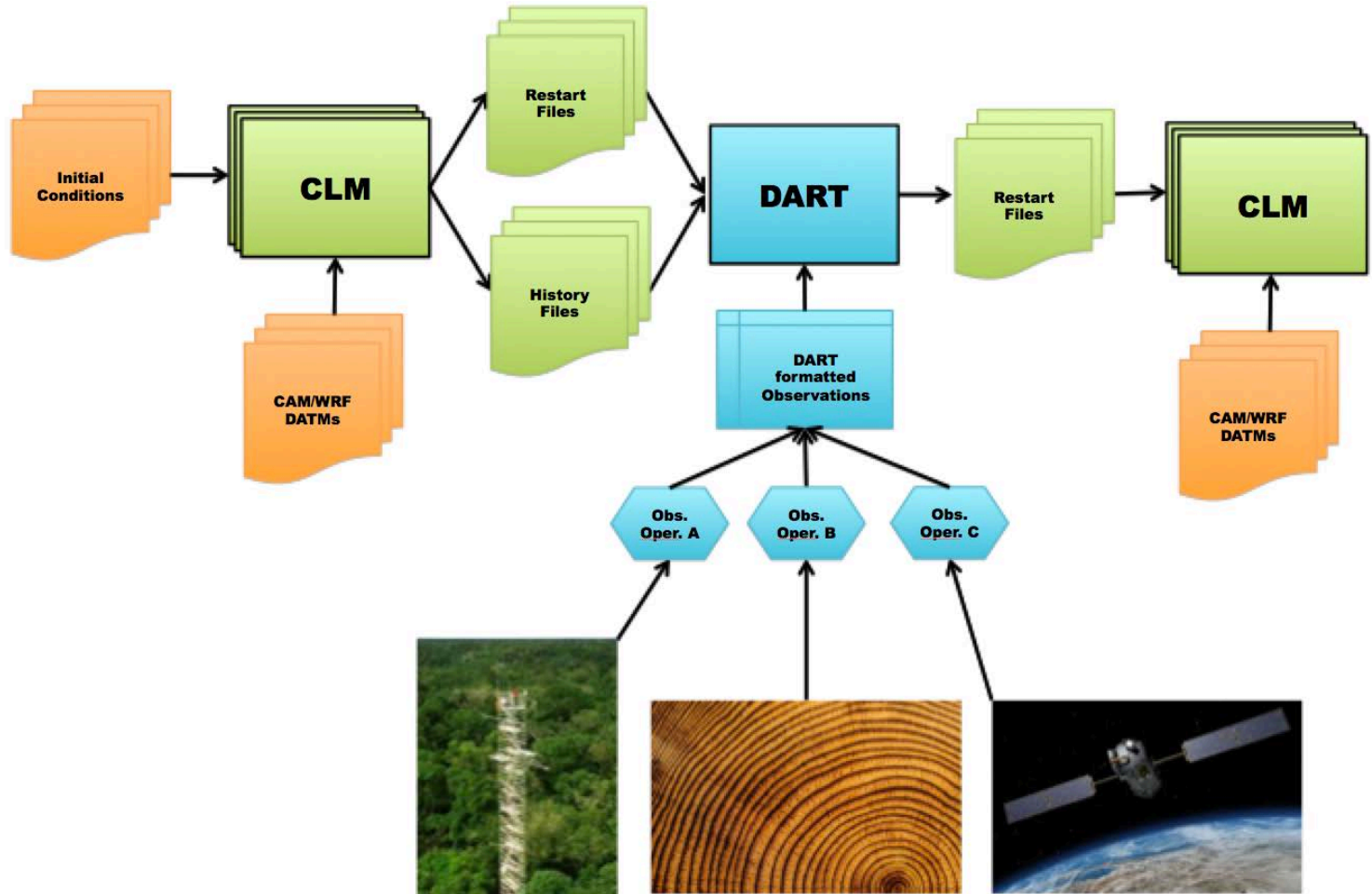
Yi Y. Liu^{1,2*}, Albert I. J. M. van Dijk^{3,4}, Richard A. M. de Jeu⁵, Josep G. Canadell⁶, Matthew F. McCabe⁷, Jason P. Evans¹ and Guojie Wang⁸

LAI and Biomass – observations

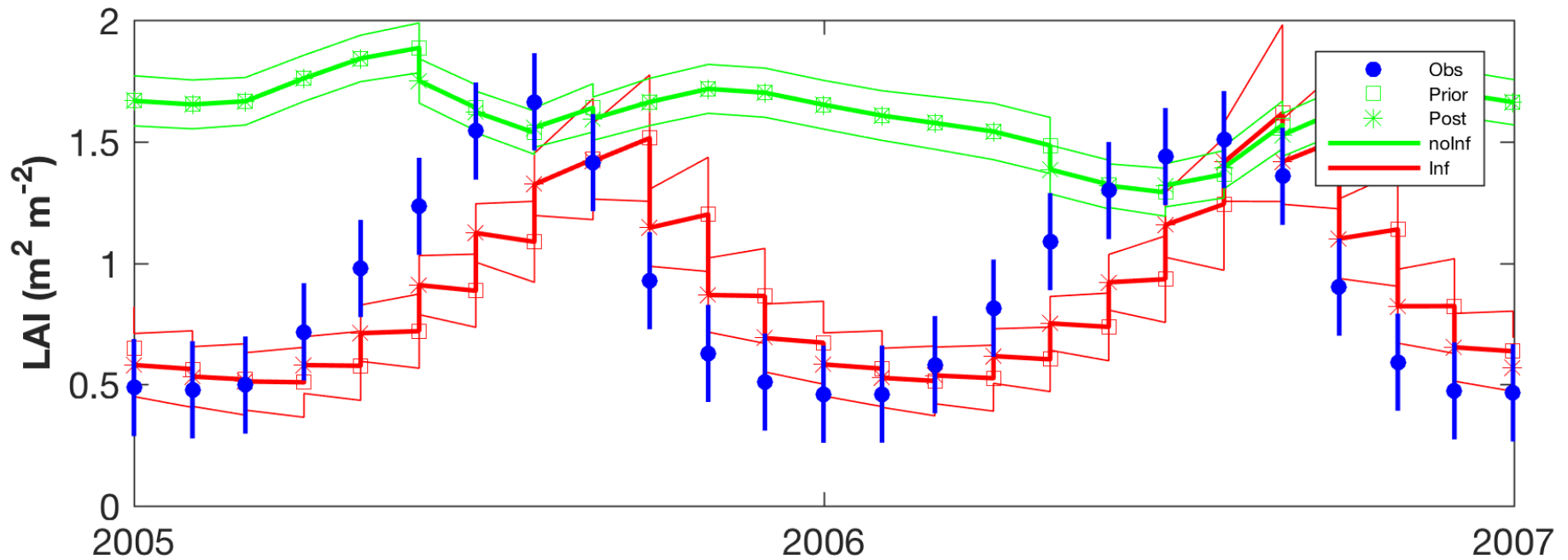


CLM-DART

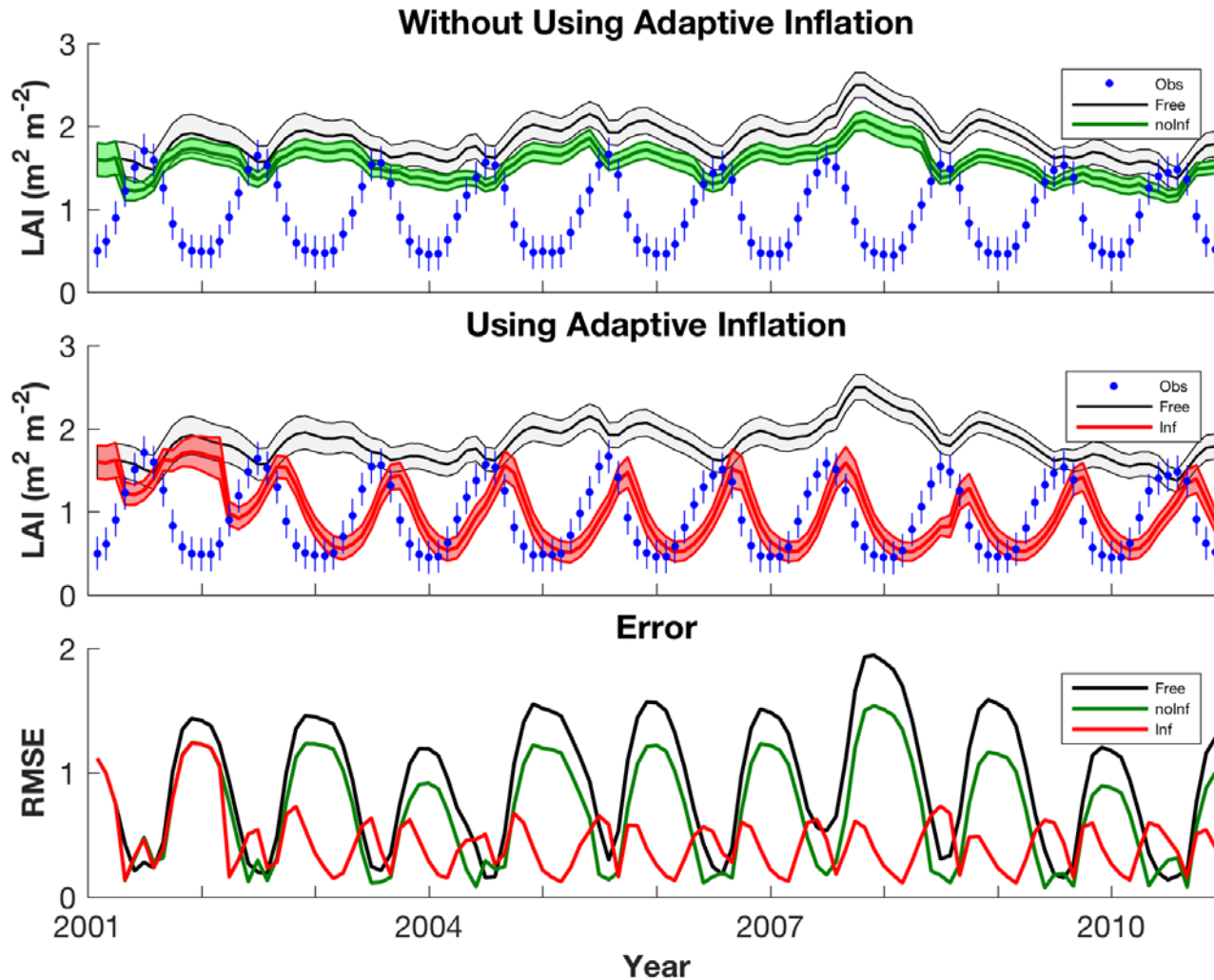
Data
Assimilation
Research
Testbed



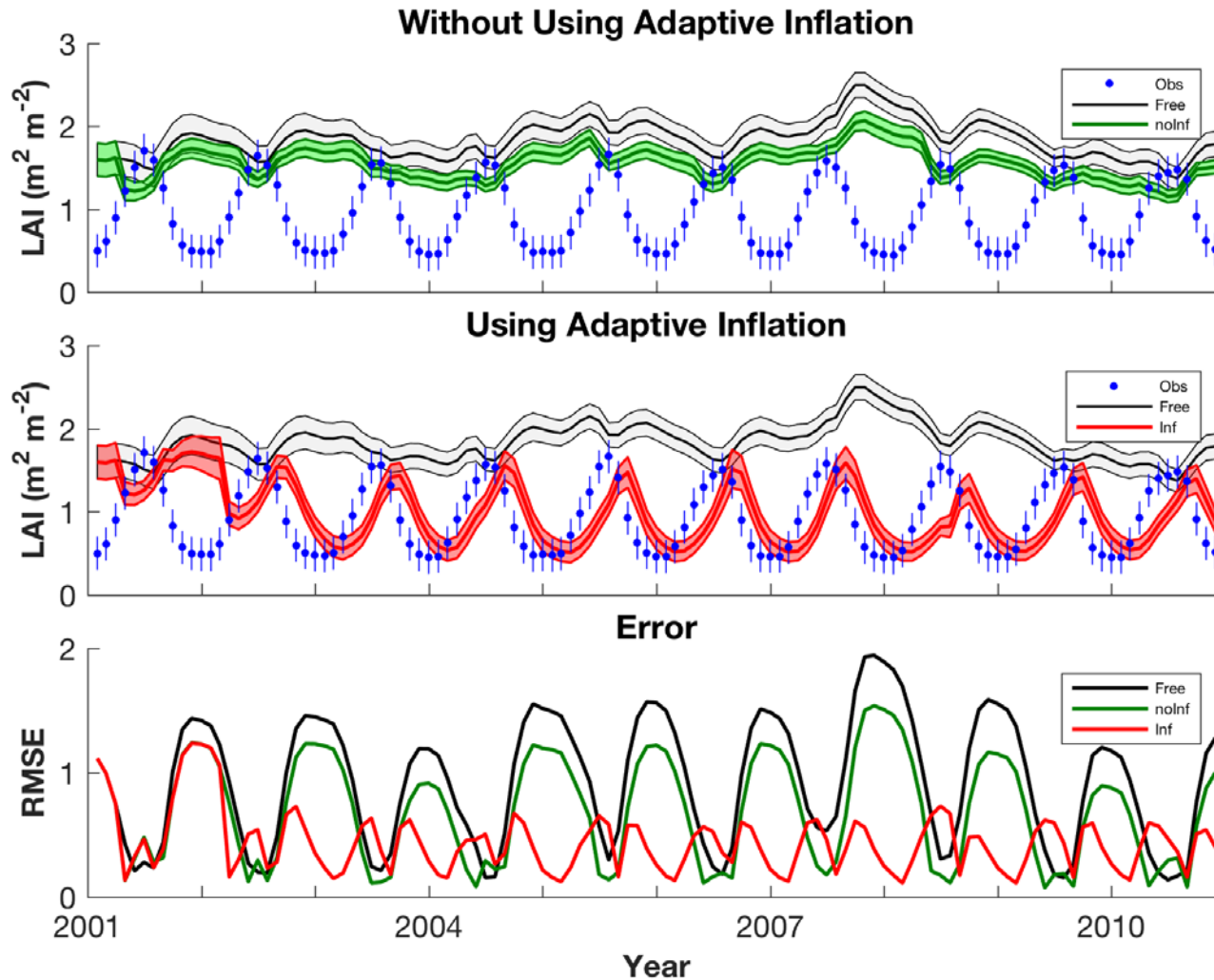
Ensemble forecast is updated by observations



Assimilating LAI requires adaptive inflation



50% reduction in LAI RMSE with assimilation



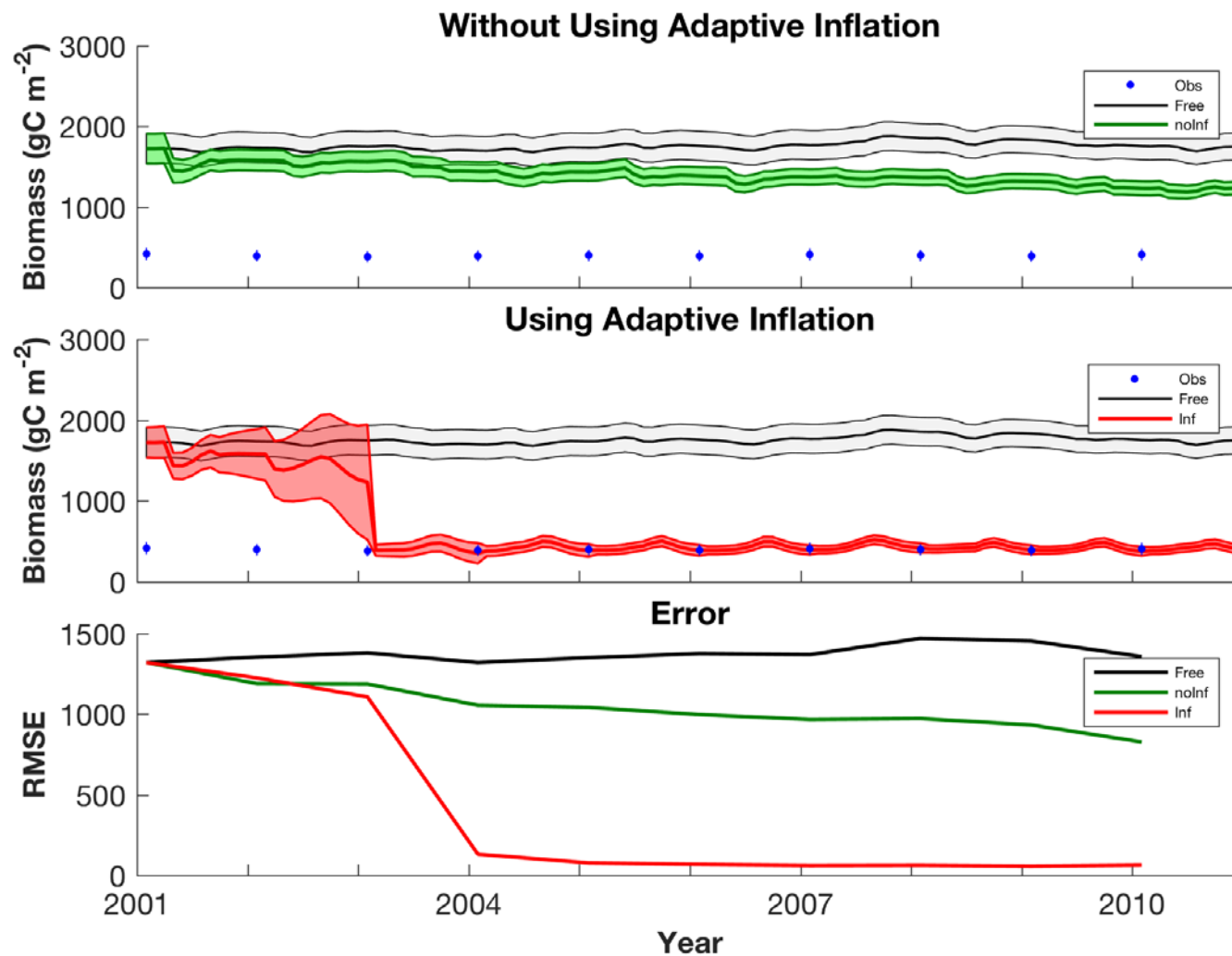
RMSE

0.93

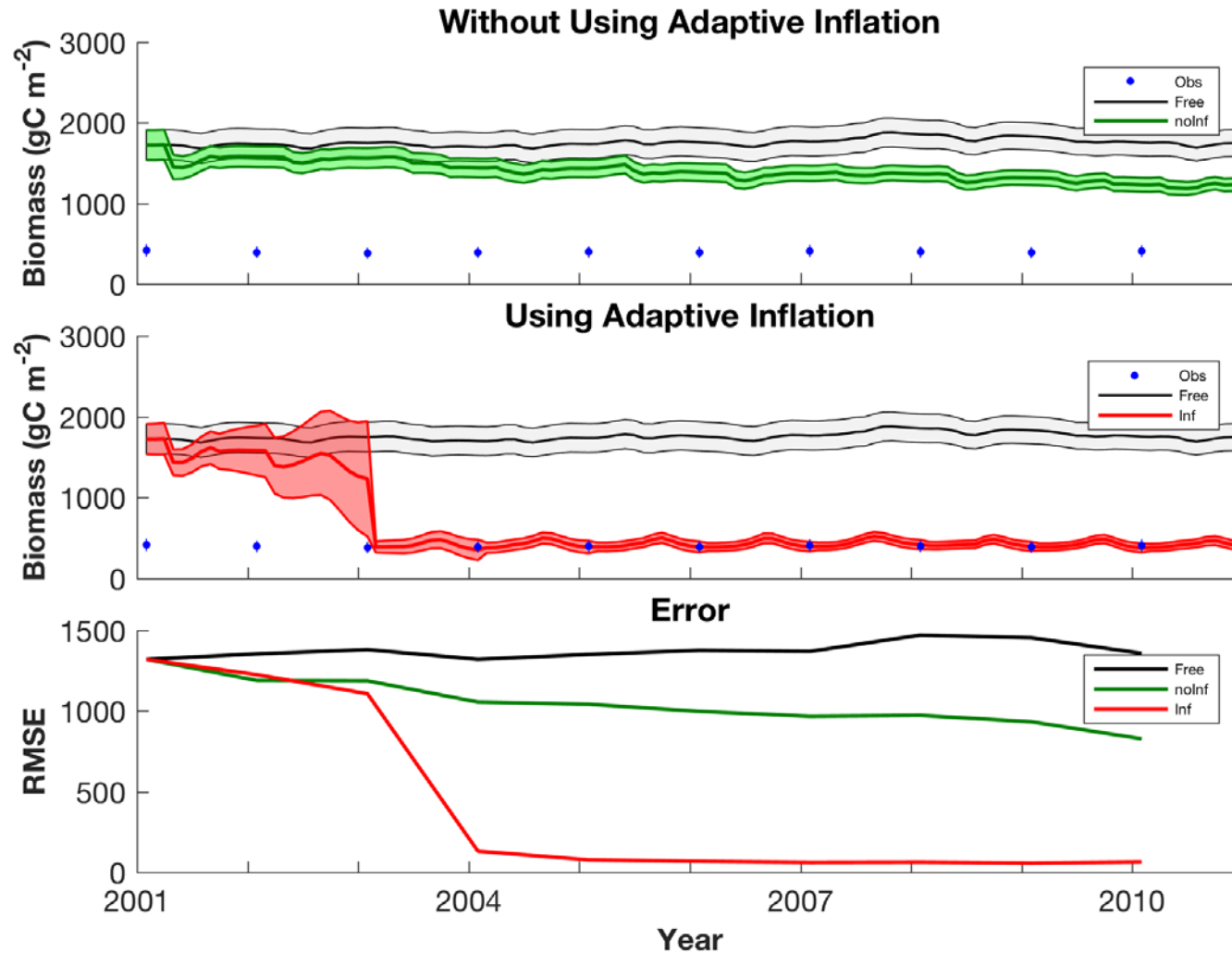
0.70

0.44

Assimilating Biomass using adaptive inflation



70% reduction in Biomass RMSE with assimilation



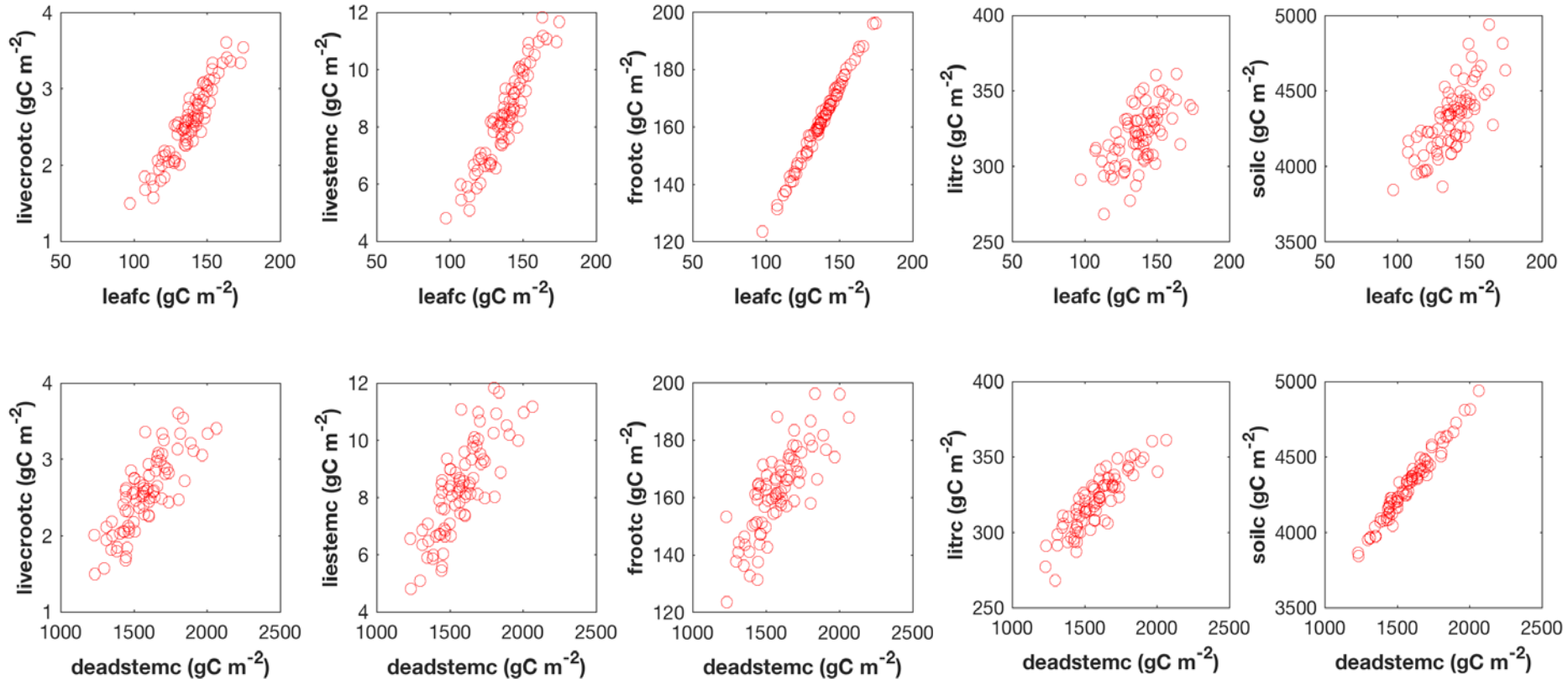
RMSE

1376

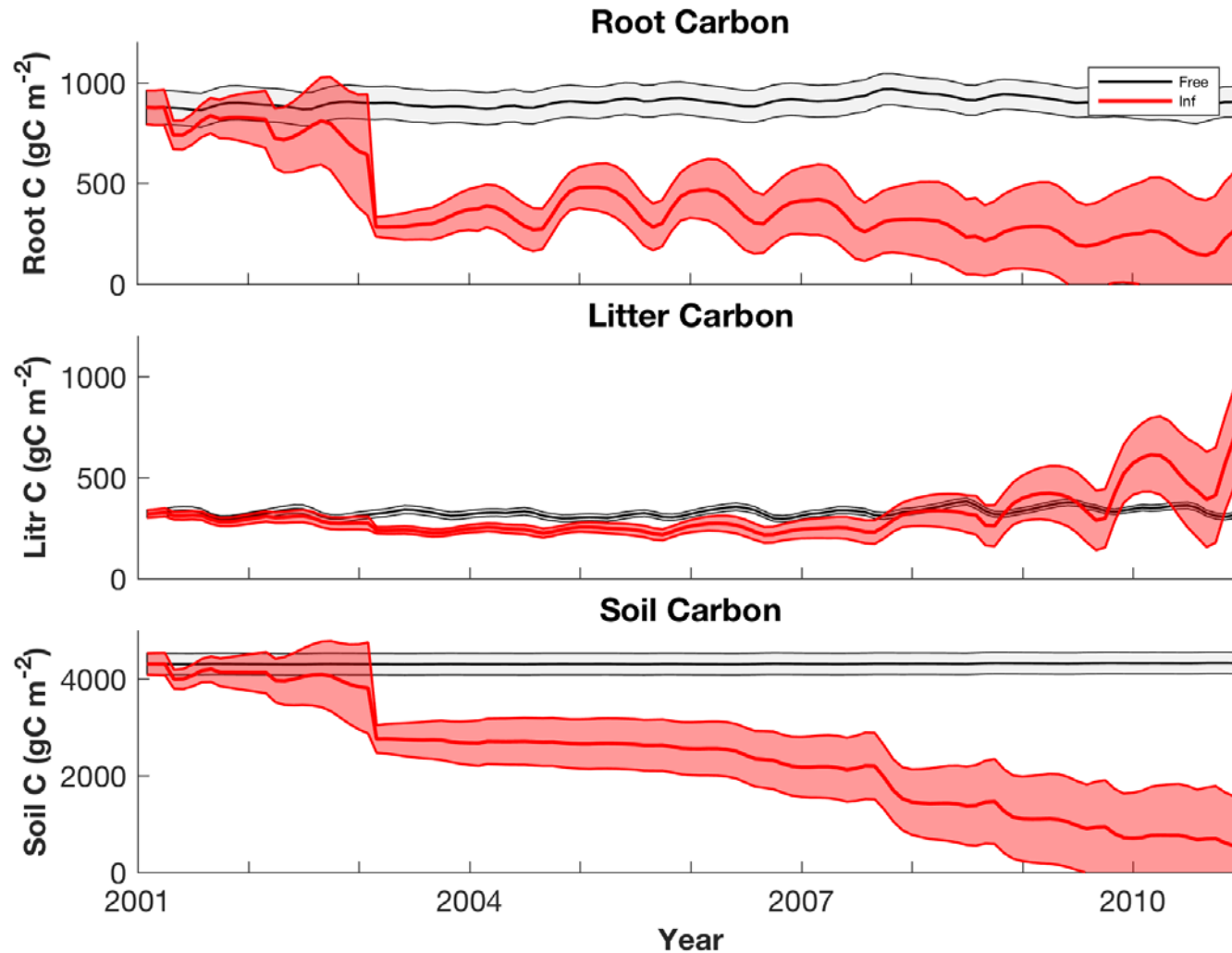
1049

417

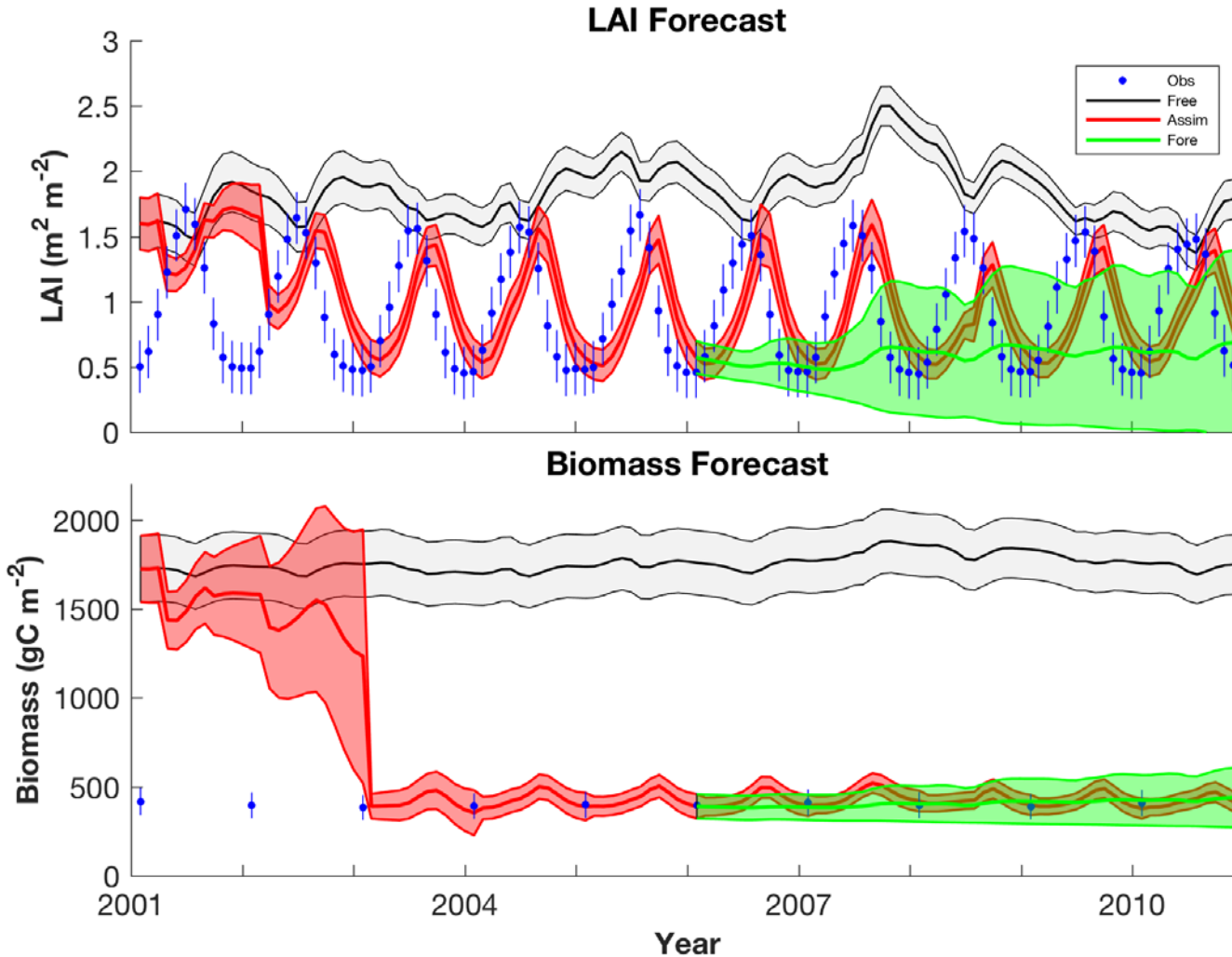
Observed and unobserved states



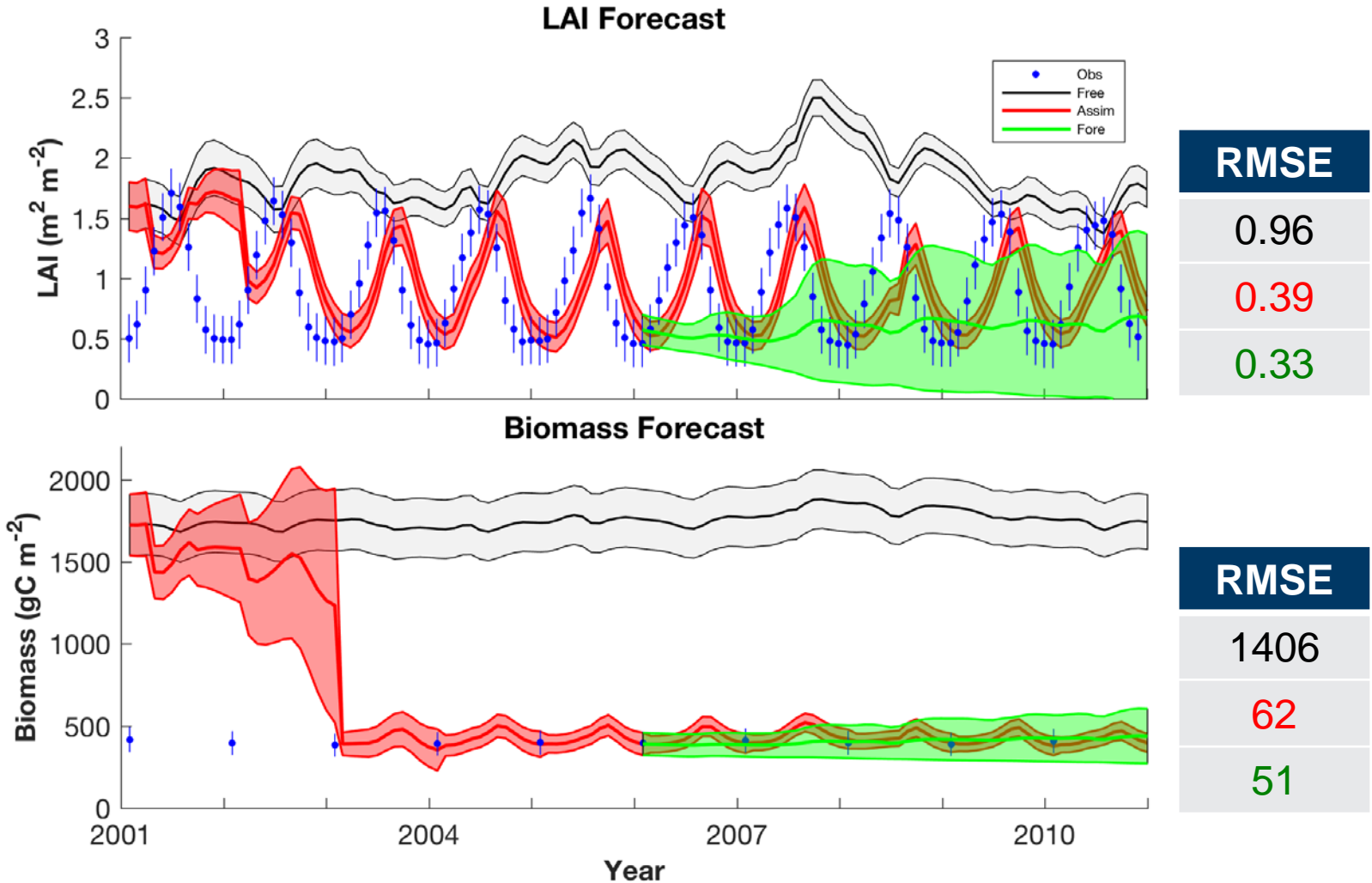
Unobserved State variables are also updated



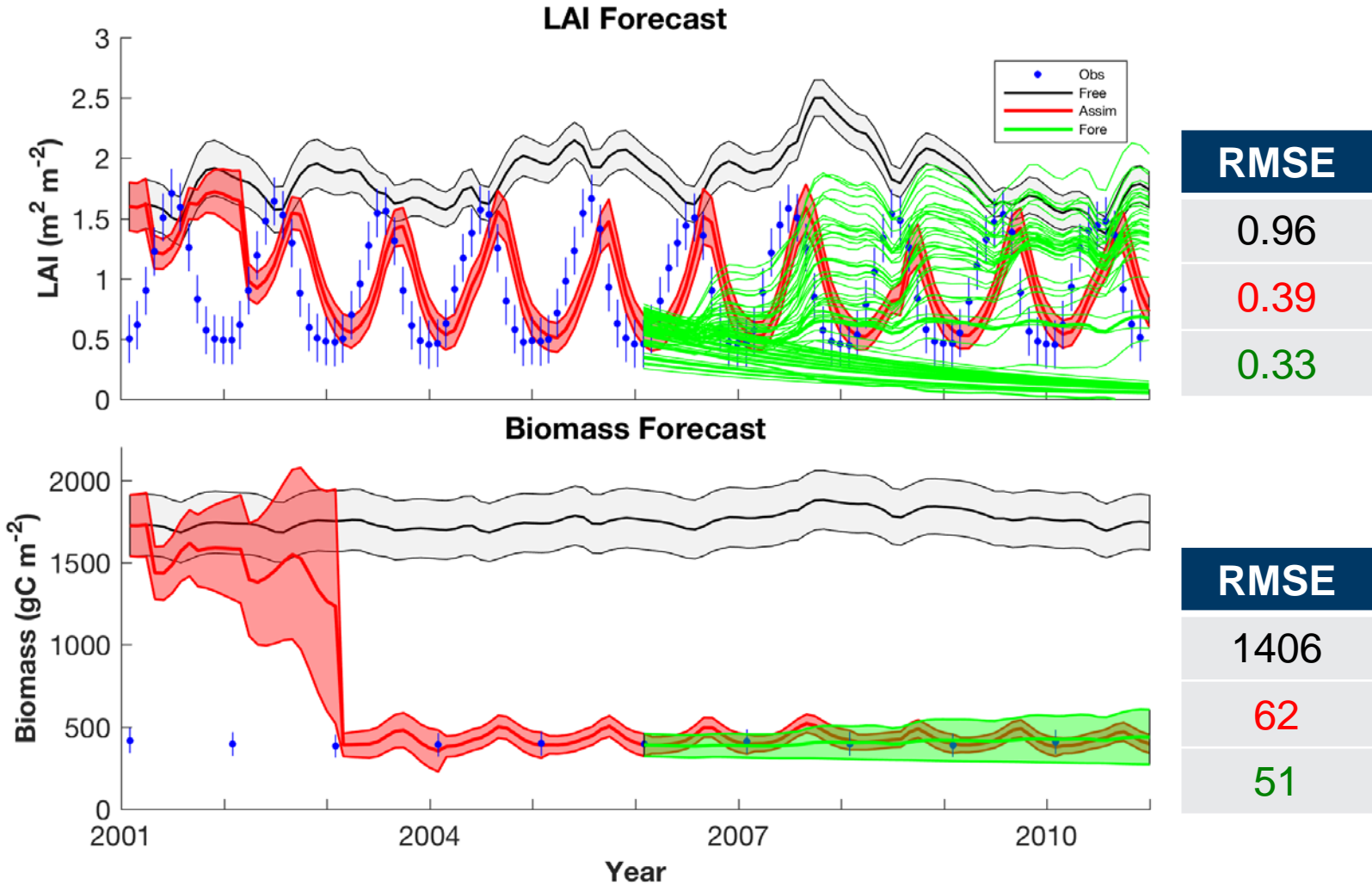
Longer-term forecasts are improved as well



Longer-term forecasts are improved as well



But interestingly the ensemble splits



Key Points

- 1) Forecasts benefit from accurate initial conditions
- 2) Impact persists from years to decades for different C pools
- 3) Spun-up model had too high biomass, and inaccurate seasonal cycle in LAI
- 4) Large reductions in error during assimilation and forecast periods
- 5) Adaptive inflation is required to account for large model error



andrewfox@email.arizona.edu
www.image.ucar.edu/DAReS/DART/

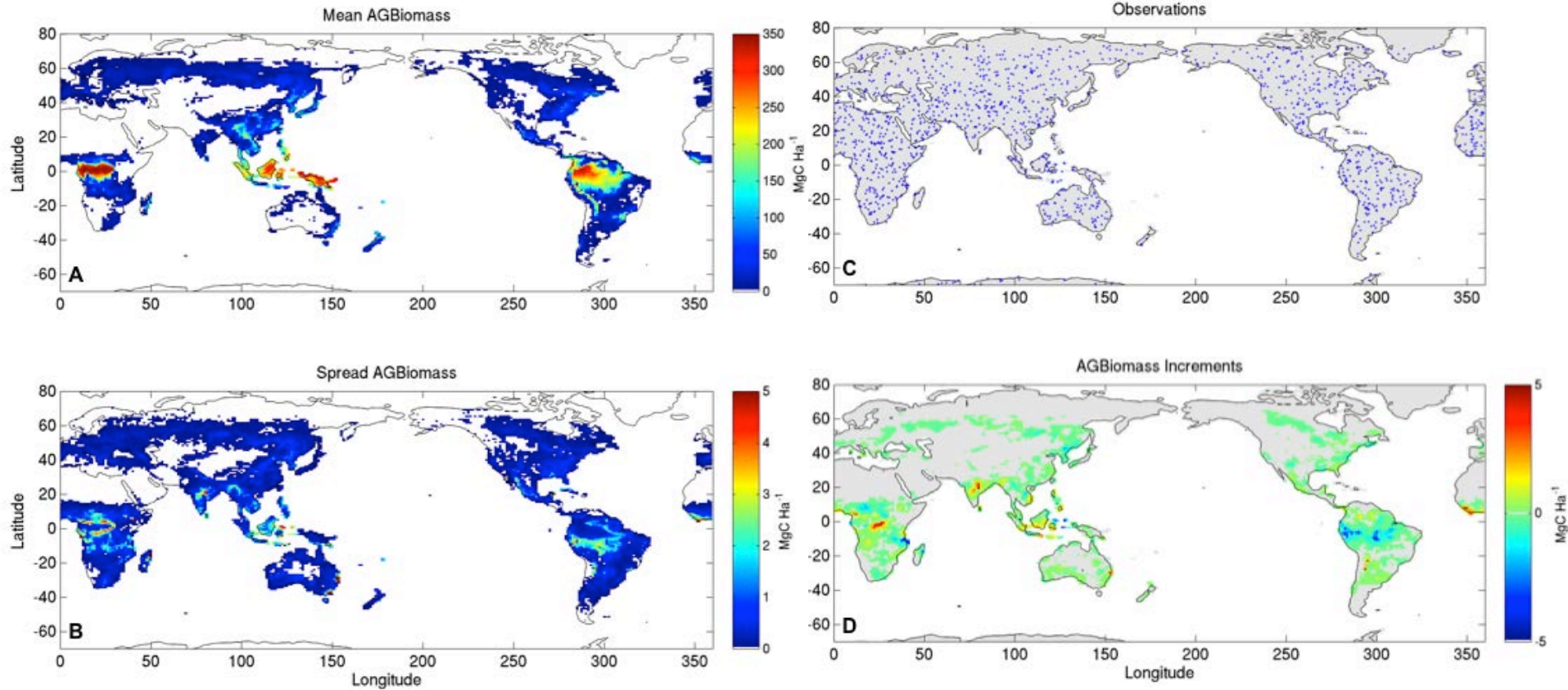


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

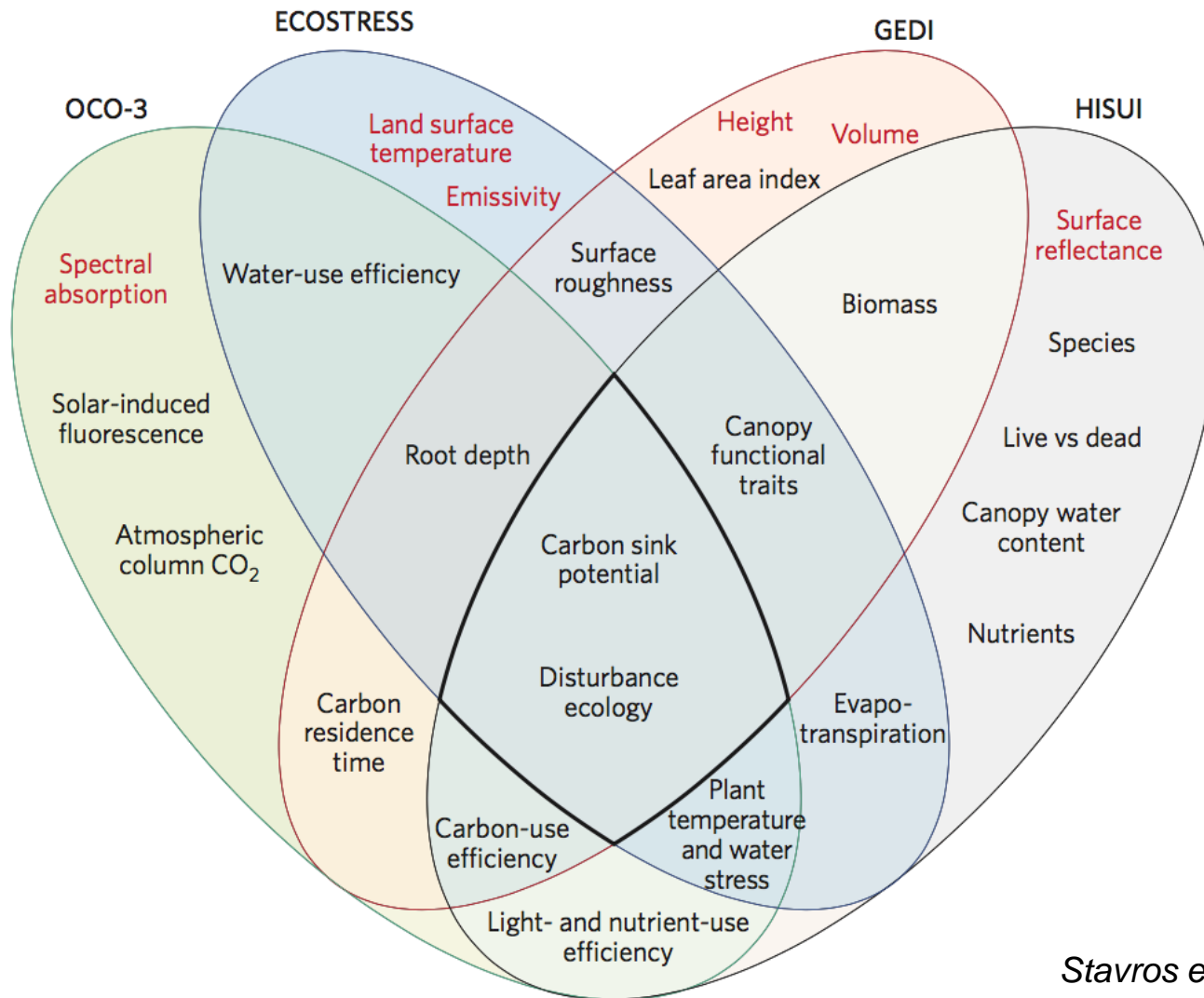
Office of
Science

This work is funded by DOE Regional and
Global Climate Modeling **DE-SC0016011**

Global Biomass OSSE

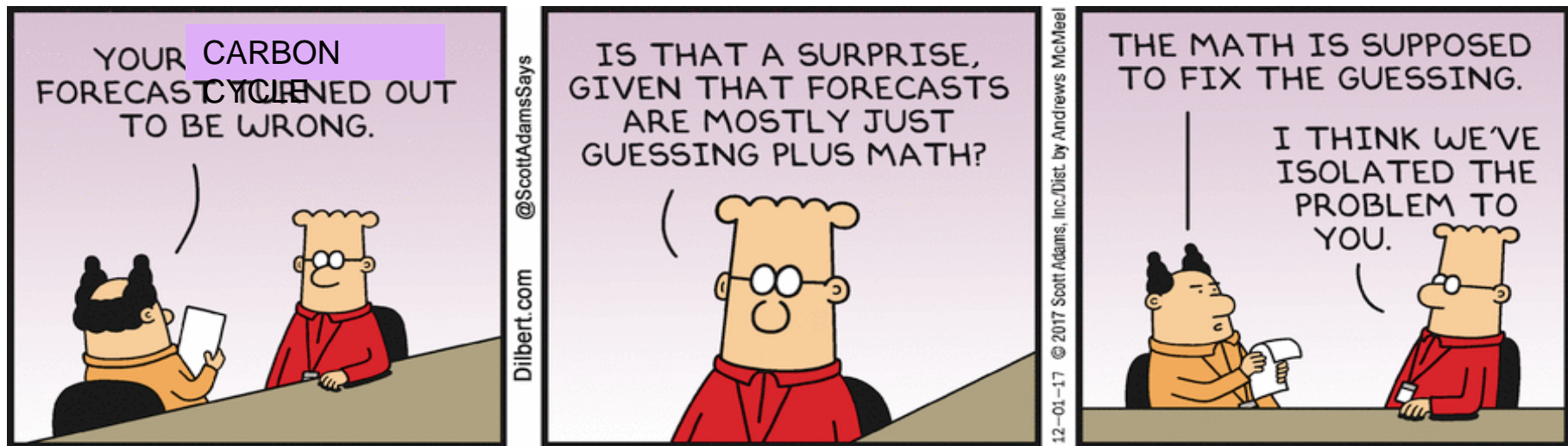


New observations from ISS



Stavros et al. 2017

So, what about that model error?



Sources of Uncertainty?

Climate, ecosystems, and planetary futures: The challenge to predict life in Earth system models

Bonan *et al.*, *Science* **359**, eaam8328 (2018) 2 February 2018

Sources of uncertainty

Initial condition

Initialization

Earth system model

Model uncertainty

Climate feedbacks

Internal variability

Ecosystem impacts

Scenario uncertainty

Scenarios

Initial value problem

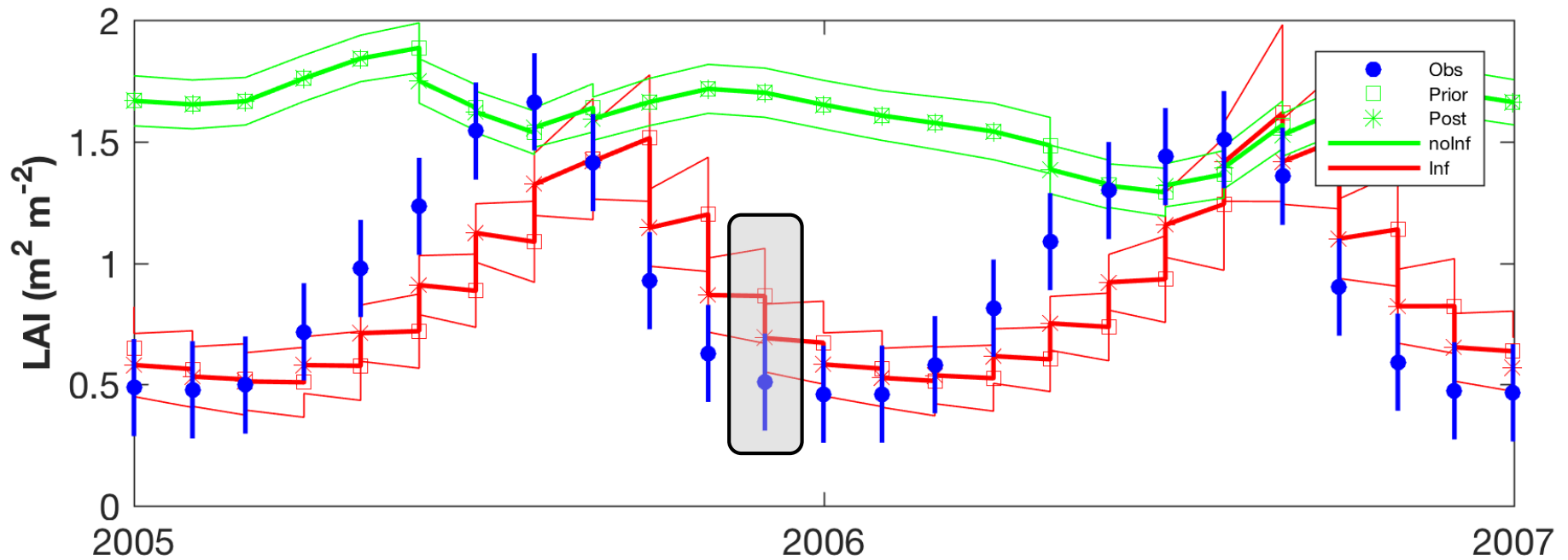
Subseasonal to seasonal forecast
(2 weeks – 12 months)

Decadal prediction
(1 – 30 years)

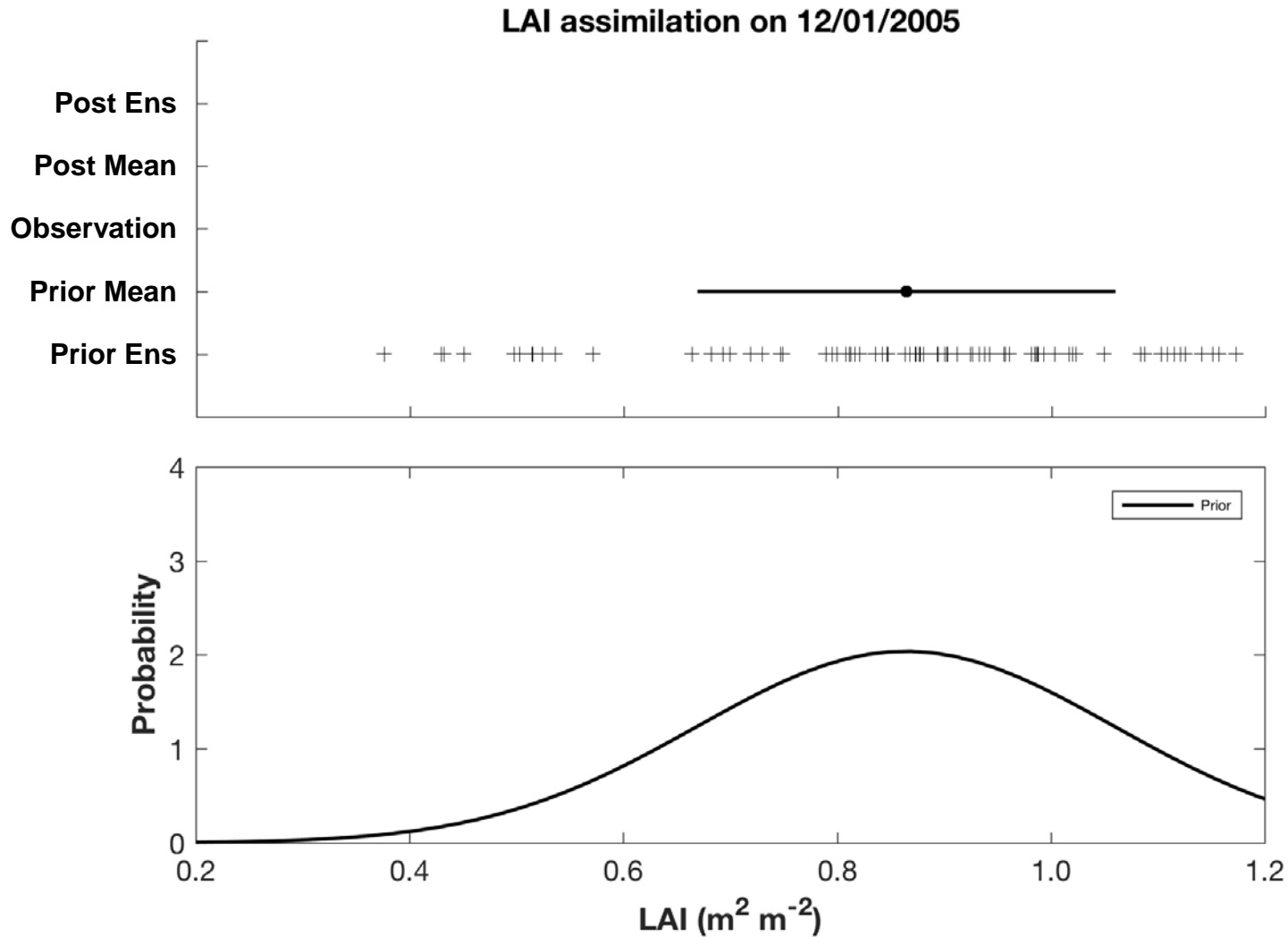
Earth system projection
(30 – 100+ years)

Boundary value problem

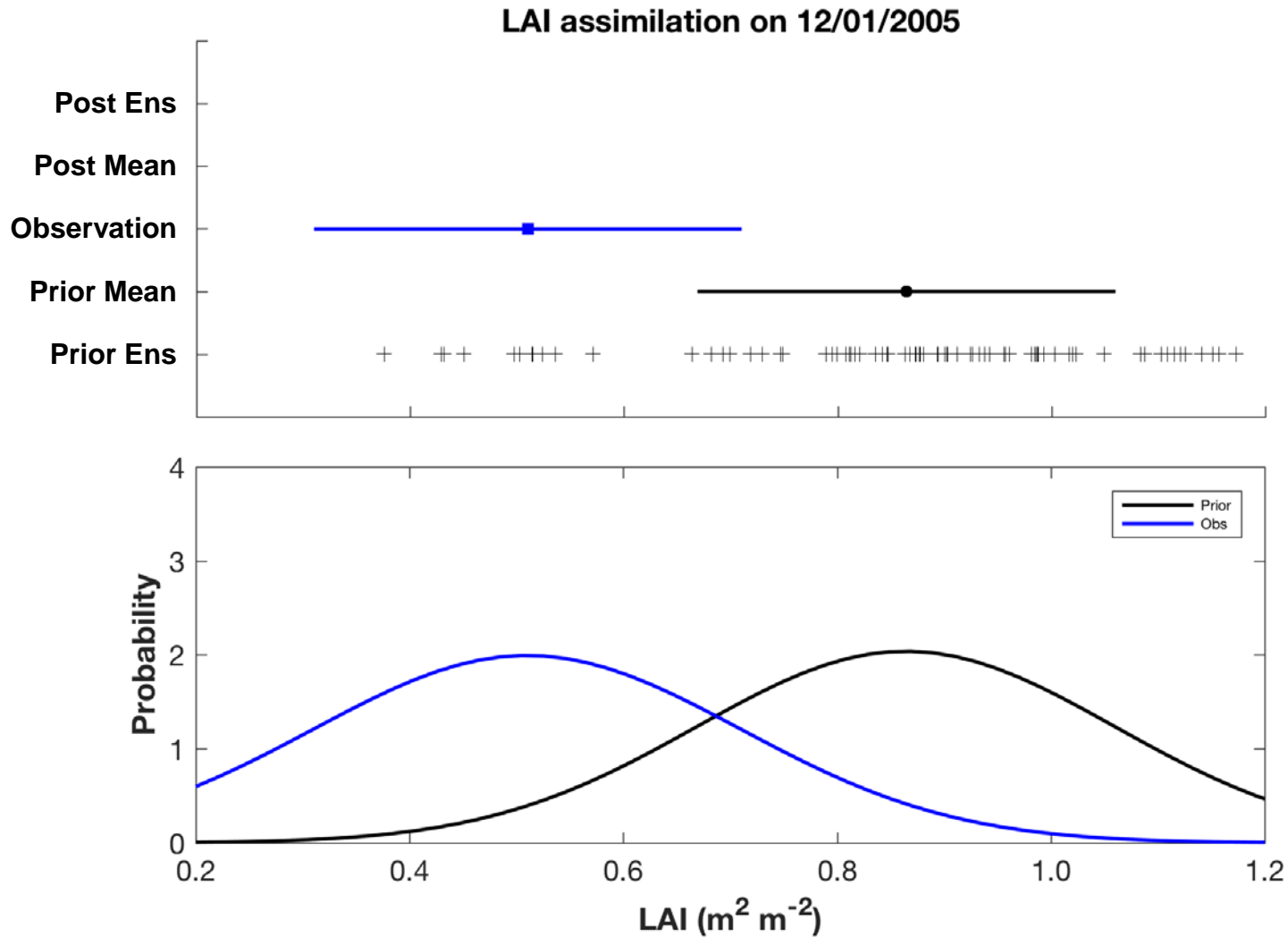
Ensemble forecast is updated by observations



Normal is fitted to the prior/forecast ensemble...



...we have an observation with an uncertainty...



...use EAKF to calculate posterior/analysis

