

---

# The Implementation of Potential Vorticity as a Leading Control Variable in Var.

---

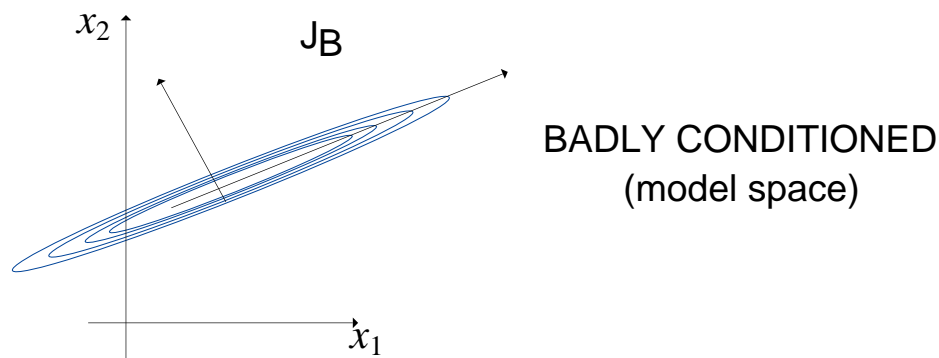
Ross Bannister, Ian Roulstone, Mike Cullen, Nancy Nichols

## Why not use model variables as control parameters?

$$\begin{aligned} J[\vec{x}] &= J_B + J_O \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \vec{x}'^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \vec{x}' + \frac{1}{2} (\vec{H}[\vec{x}' + \vec{x}_B] - \vec{y})^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} (\vec{H}[\vec{x}' + \vec{x}_B] - \vec{y}) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\vec{x}' = \vec{x} - \vec{x}_B$

- $\mathbf{B}$  (in  $\vec{x}$ -space) contains  $> 10^{14}$  elements and cannot be represented explicitly.
- $\mathbf{B}$  (in  $\vec{x}$ -space) is badly conditioned  
max e.v. / min e.v.  $\sim 10^{10}$ .



**Solution: for variational data assimilation vary weights of the eigenvectors of B (instead of components of  $\vec{x}$ ).**

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v}' &= \mathbf{U}^{-1}\vec{x}' \\ \mathbf{U}^{-1} &= \mathbf{\Lambda}^{-1/2}\mathbf{L}^T \\ \mathbf{B} &= \mathbf{U}\mathbf{U}^T\end{aligned}$$

$\mathbf{\Lambda}$  diagonal matrix of e.values, columns of  $\mathbf{L}$  are e.functions.

$$J[\vec{v}'] = \frac{1}{2}\vec{v}'^T\vec{v}' + \frac{1}{2}(\vec{H}[\mathbf{U}\vec{v}' + \vec{x}_B] - \vec{y})^T\mathbf{R}^{-1}(\vec{H}[\mathbf{U}\vec{v}' + \vec{x}_B] - \vec{y})$$

This problem is much better conditioned.

**But, this can't be done directly**

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v}' &= \mathbf{U}^{-1}\vec{x}' \\ &= \mathbf{U}_h^{-1}\mathbf{U}_v^{-1}\mathbf{U}_p^{-1}\vec{x}'\end{aligned}$$

$\uparrow$  ★parameter transform★  
 $\uparrow$  vertical transform  
 $\uparrow$  horizontal transform

The role of  $\mathbf{U}_p^{-1}$   
is to 'block-diagonalize'  
the multi-variate correlations.

What parameters?

## Existing scheme (pragmatic/engineering approach)

Subspace	Parameter	
$\vec{v}'_1$	$\psi$	Captures most of the flow ...
$\vec{v}'_2$	$\chi$	Captures most of the rest of the flow ...
$\vec{v}'_3$	$A_p$	Captures most of the rest of the flow ...

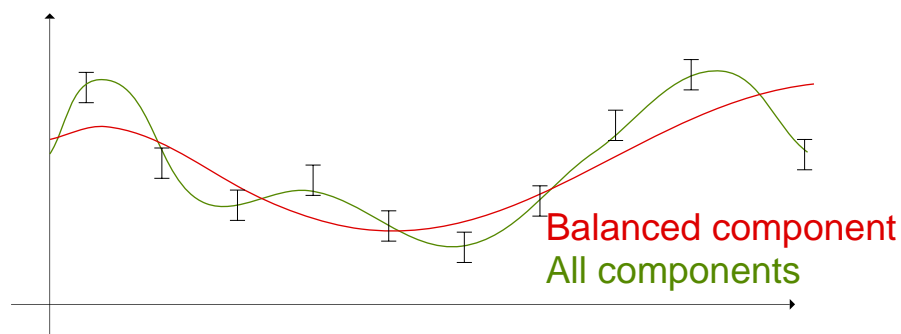
These are orthogonal but not uncorrelated

## Proposed scheme (physics approach)

Subspace	Parameter	
$\vec{v}'_1$	$s$	"Balanced" / "slow manifold" (PV) ...
$\vec{v}'_2$	$u_p$	Captures most of the rest of the flow ...
$\vec{v}'_3$	$\chi$	Captures most of the rest of the flow ...

- These are orthogonal, but are expected to be only weakly correlated.
- The new parameters are thought to evolve independently, each occupying a separate region in normal mode space.

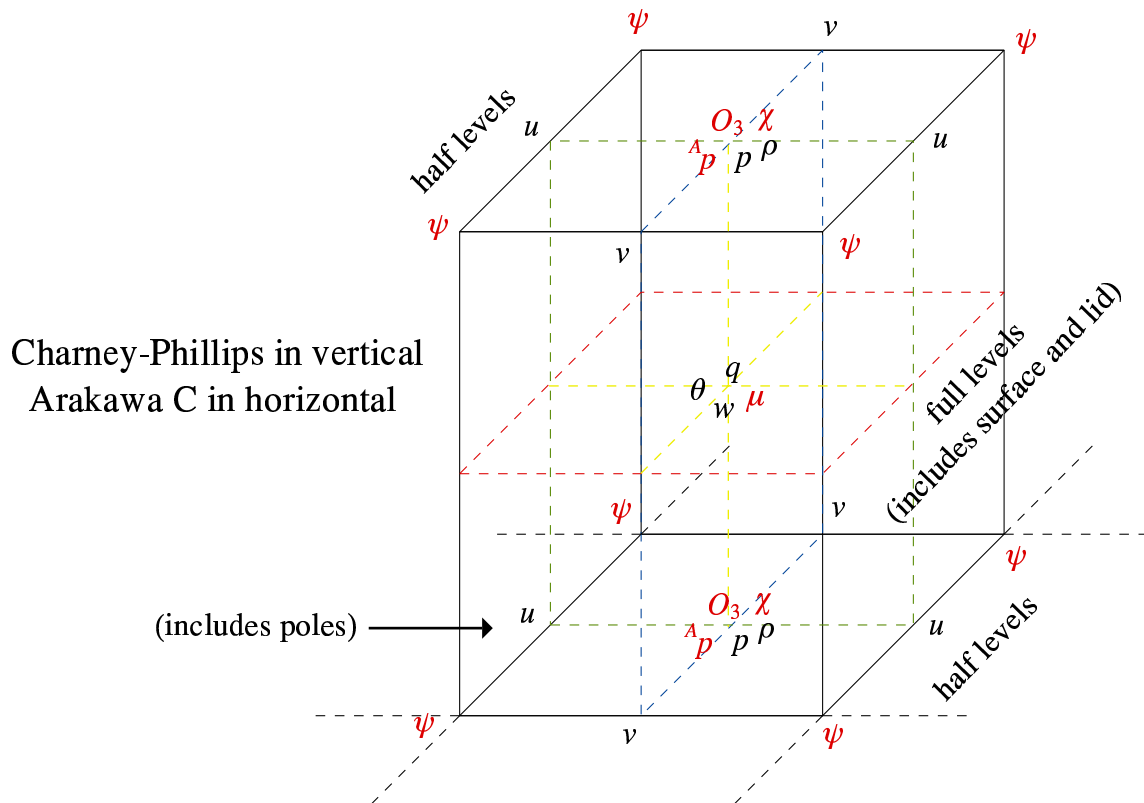
Why not assimilate using only the leading parameter?



## What grid staggering for new parameters?

$$PV, \quad \bar{P}V, \quad \nabla \cdot \vec{v}, \quad s, \quad {}^U p, \quad \chi$$

Met Office Var. Grid Staggering  
(black: model variables; red: existing Var. parameters)



There is one more full level than half levels