

# Probabilistic simulation and data assimilation with deterministic rainfall-runoff models



**L. Garrote, L. Mediero, A. Chávez**  
Research Group on  
Hydroinformatics and Water Management  
Technical University of Madrid



**A. Atencia, C.Llasat**  
Group of Analysis of Meteorological Hazards  
University of Barcelona

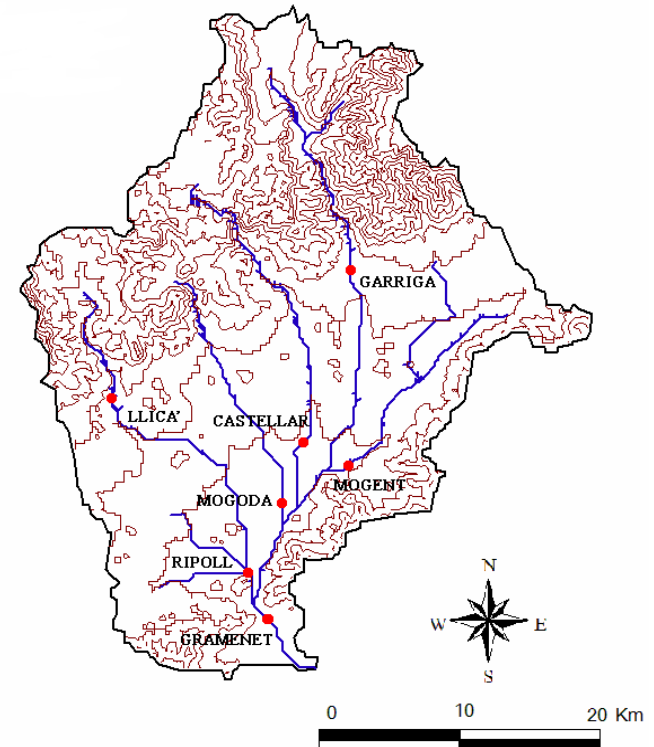
# Outline

- **Applicability of HPC to hydrometeorological flood forecasting**
  - The availability of high-performance computing offers new opportunities for operational hydrometeorological forecasting
  - Explore possible activities to be carried out during the DRIHM project
- **Real-time framework for probabilistic flash flood forecasting and data assimilation**
  - Case study: Besós basin (northeast Spain)
  - RIBS (Real-time Interactive Basin Simulator) model used in probabilistic way in real time.
  - Calibration through a probabilistic multiple-objective global optimization methodology.
  - Monte Carlo simulation for probabilistic simulation of an ensemble of basin states and response hydrographs at every step of the operational loop.
- **Data assimilation**
  - Assimilation of observed discharges in real time
  - Generation of new ensemble members through perturbation

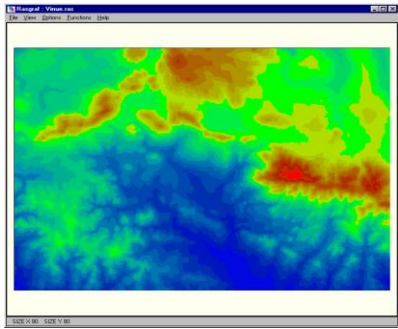
# The Besós Basin

- Torrential basin of 1024 km<sup>2</sup>
- Located near Barcelona city
- Significant flash-flood risk

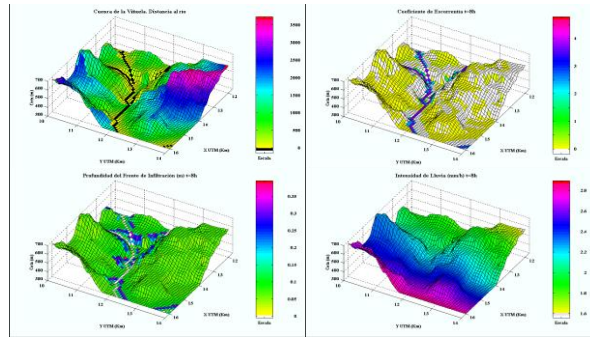
	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	L (km)	S (m/m)	t <sub>c</sub> (h)
<b>Mogoda</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>31.83</b>	<b>0.026</b>	<b>3.87</b>
<b>Llica</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>38.71</b>	<b>0.023</b>	<b>4.73</b>
<b>Garriga</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>26.41</b>	<b>0.026</b>	<b>3.36</b>
<b>Mogent</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>36.66</b>	<b>0.032</b>	<b>3.99</b>
<b>Montcada</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>43.24</b>	<b>0.015</b>	<b>6.15</b>
<b>Gramenet</b>	<b>1012</b>	<b>63.45</b>	<b>0.015</b>	<b>8.26</b>



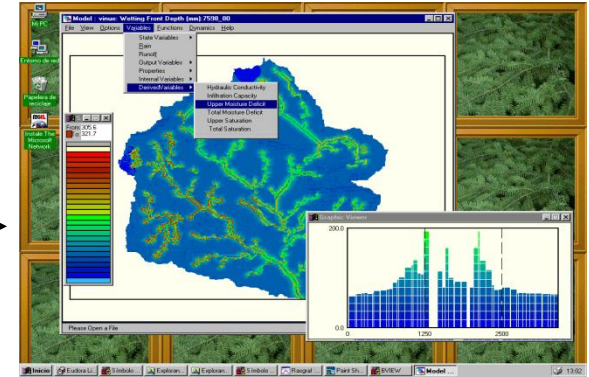
# RIBS: Distributed rainfall-runoff model



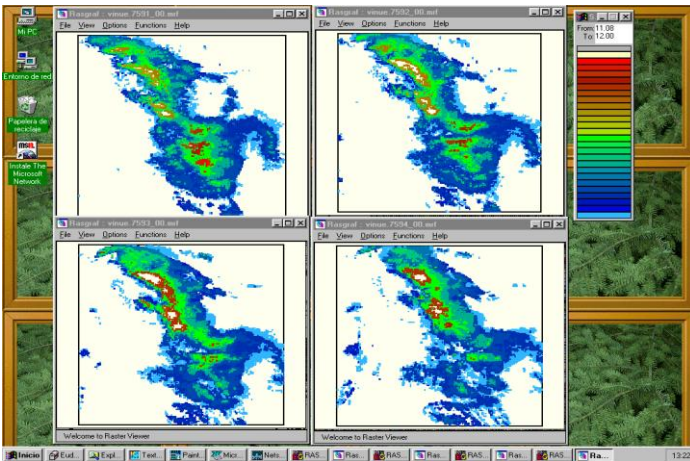
Digital Terrain



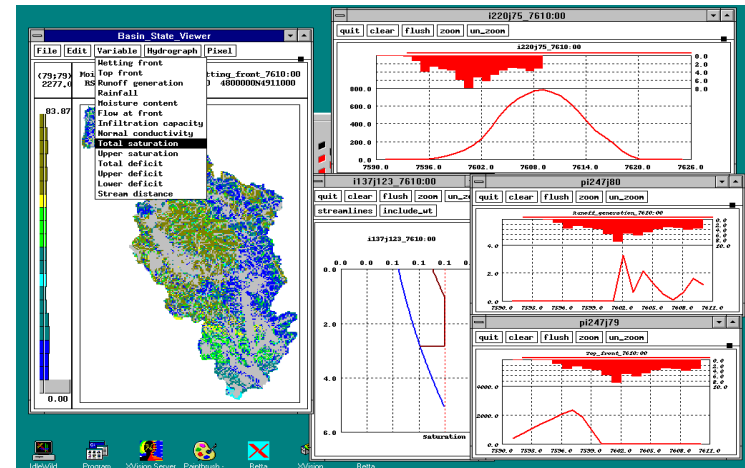
Distributed variables



Runoff (mm/h)



Rainfall (mm/h)



Results (m³/s)

# Probabilistic calibration of RIBS

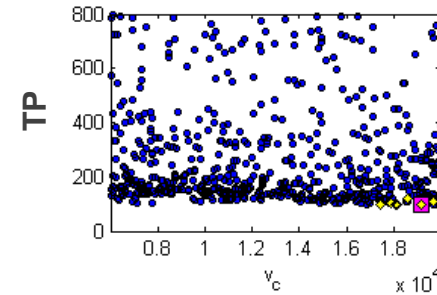
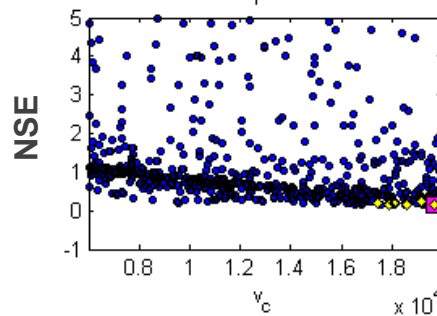
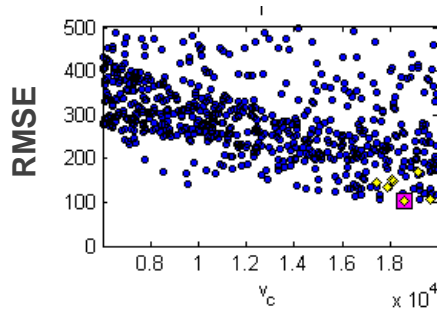
- Local soil parameters (Brooks-Corey parameterization)

- $K_{0n}$  normal hydraulic conductivity in surface [ $\text{mm}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ ]
- $\theta_s$  saturation moisture.
- $\theta_r$  residual moisture.
- $\varepsilon$  porosity of the soil

- Global hydrological parameters:

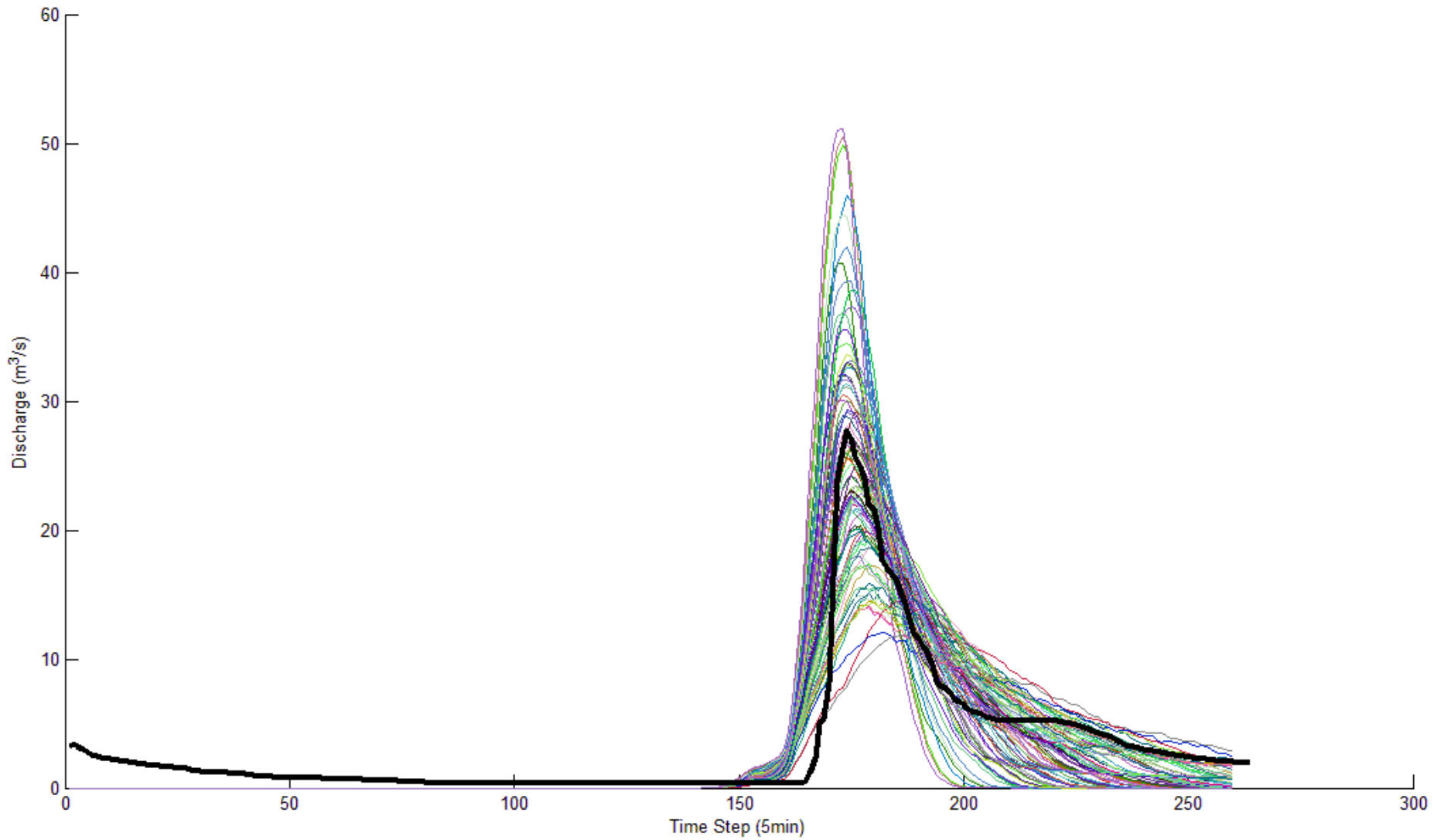
- $f$  variation of hydraulic conductivity in depth [ $\text{mm}^{-1}$ ]
- $a$  anisotropy ratio between hydraulic conductivities in the two main directions [-]
- $K_v$  ratio between flow velocity in channel and flow velocity in hillslope [-]
- $C_v$  mean flow velocity in channel [ $\text{m}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ ]

## PARETO SOLUTIONS

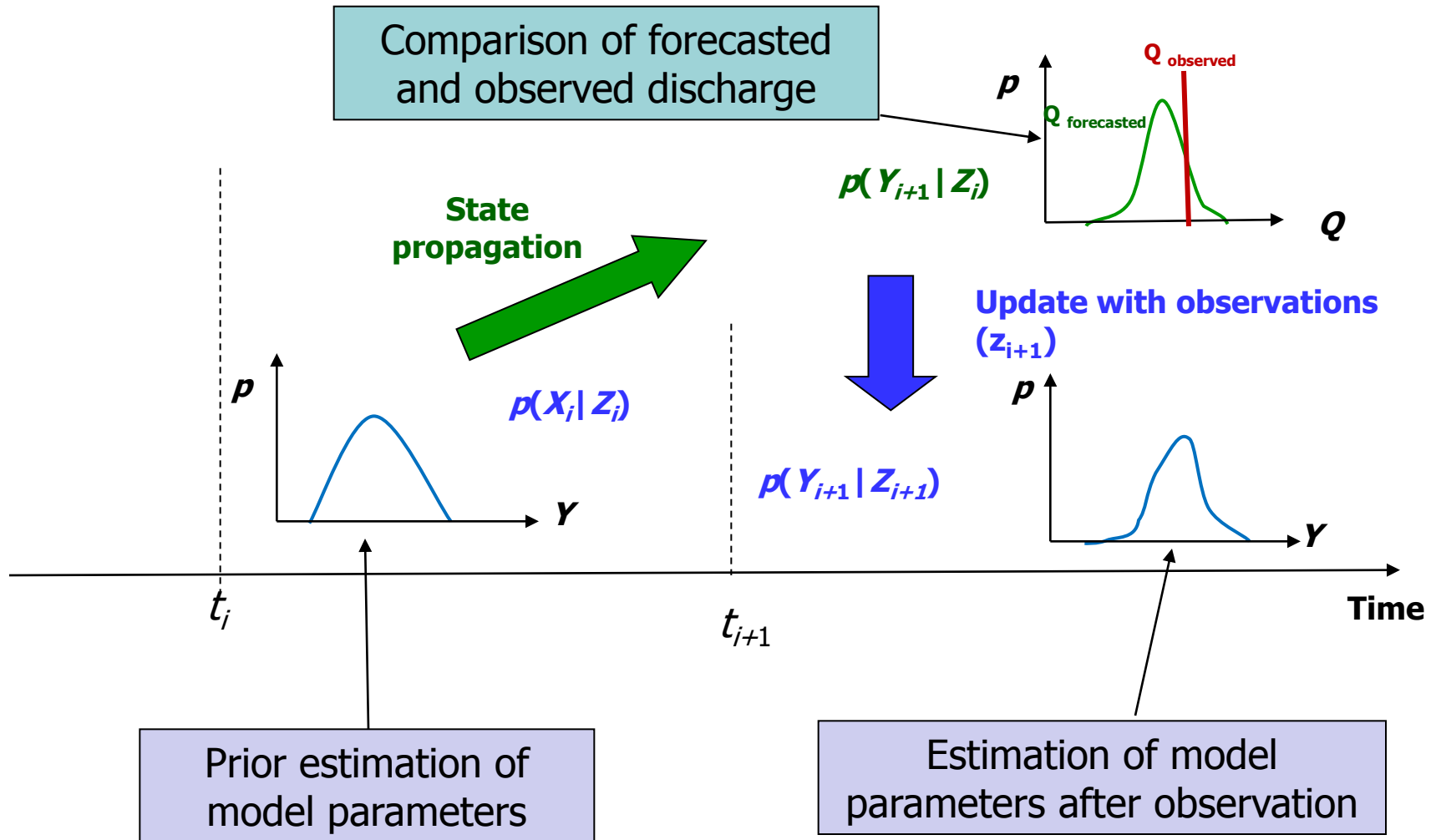


	$\log_{10}(f)$	$C_v$	$K_v$
Minimum	0.00007	3	13849
Maximum	0.1	18	19941
Mean	-2.17	10.33	17761.67
Variance	1.03	16.53	2616997.33
Standard deviation	1.02	4.07	1617.71
Coefficient of Skewness	-0.45	0.0046	-0.90

# Probabilistic simulation

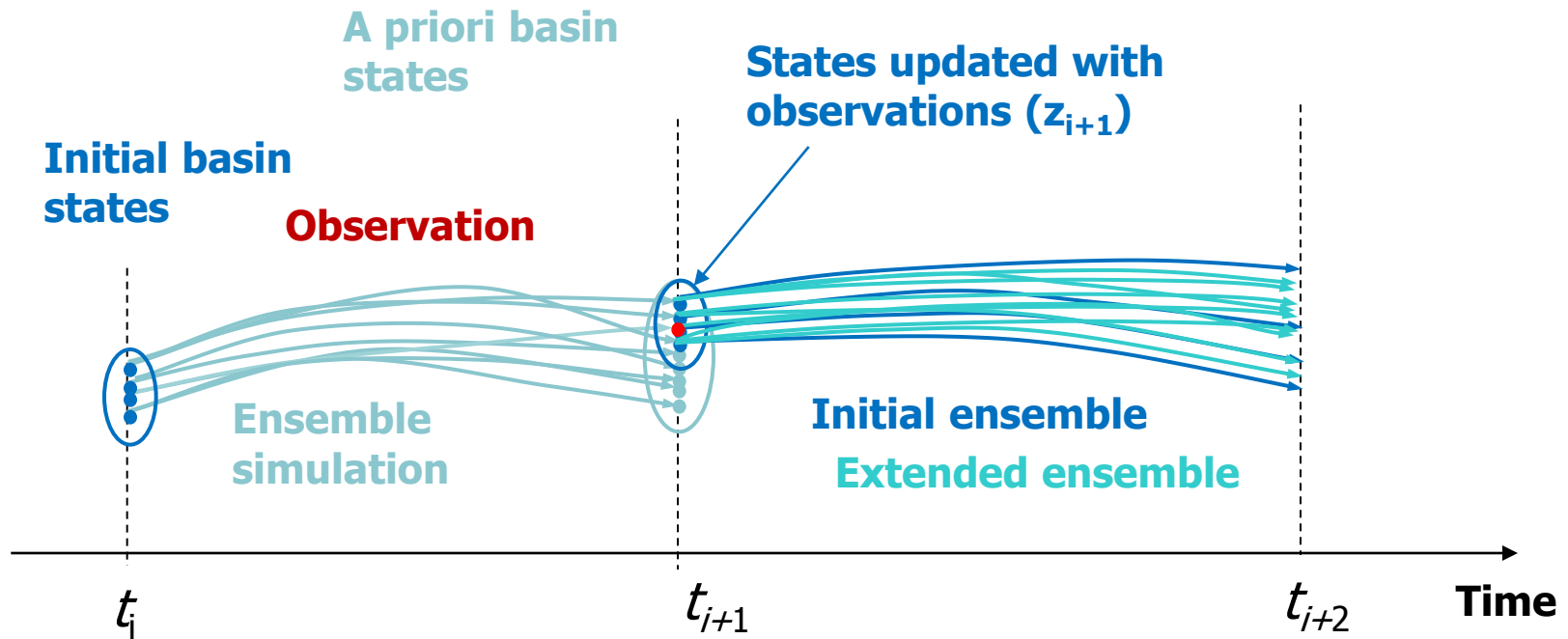


# Real-time model parameters update



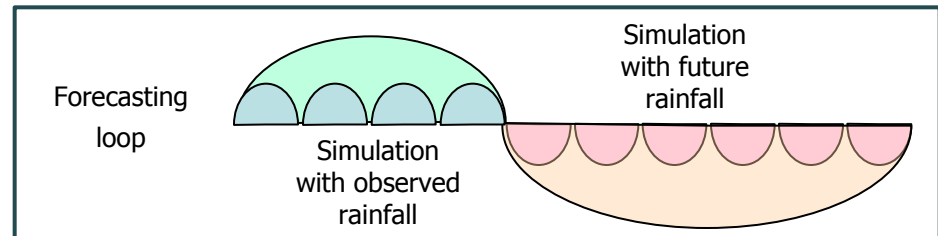
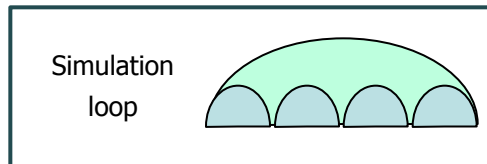
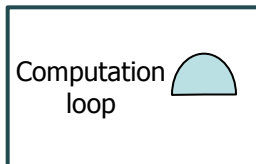
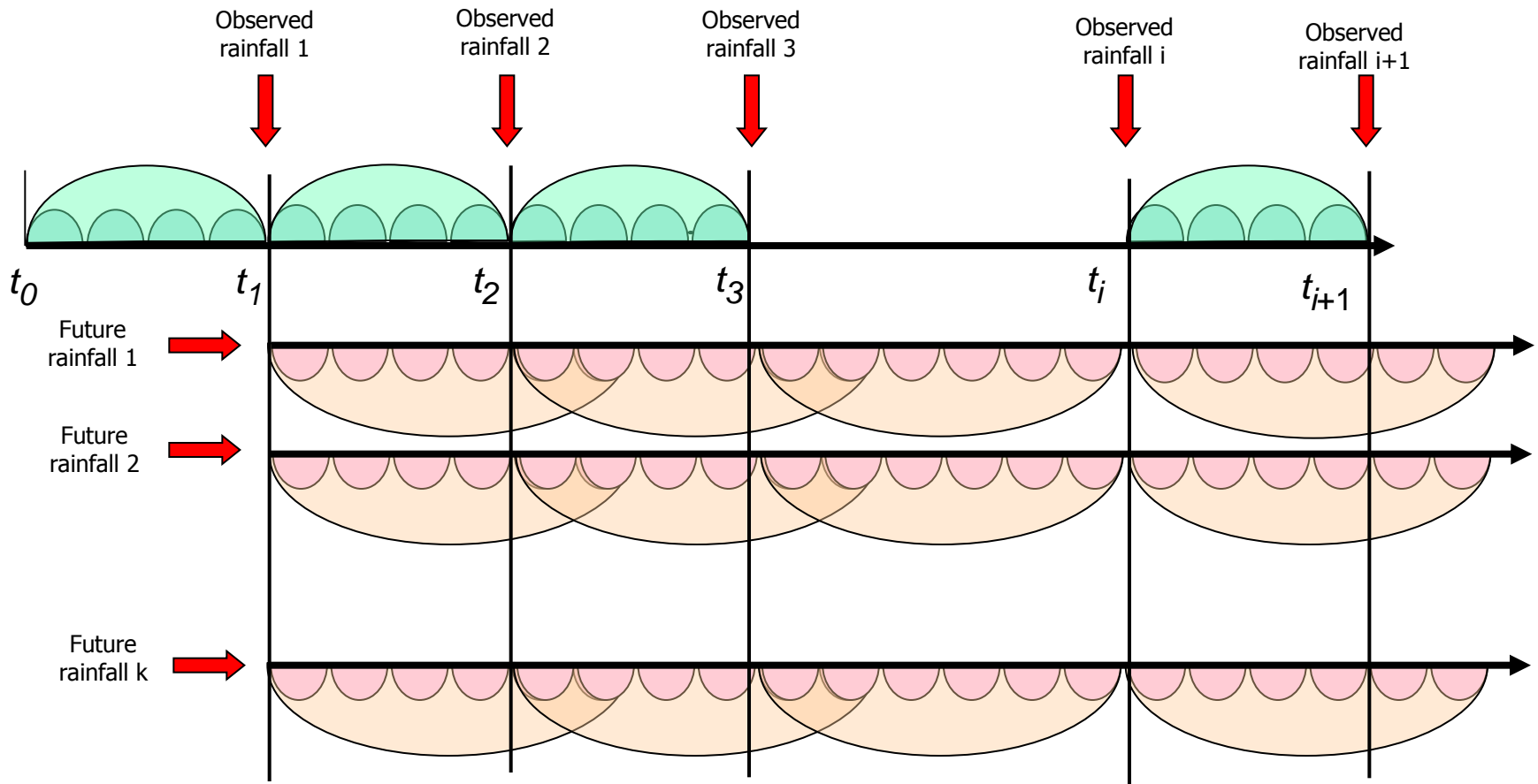
# Uncertainty propagation loop

- State variables
- Model parameters
- Combination of both





# Real-time operational loop

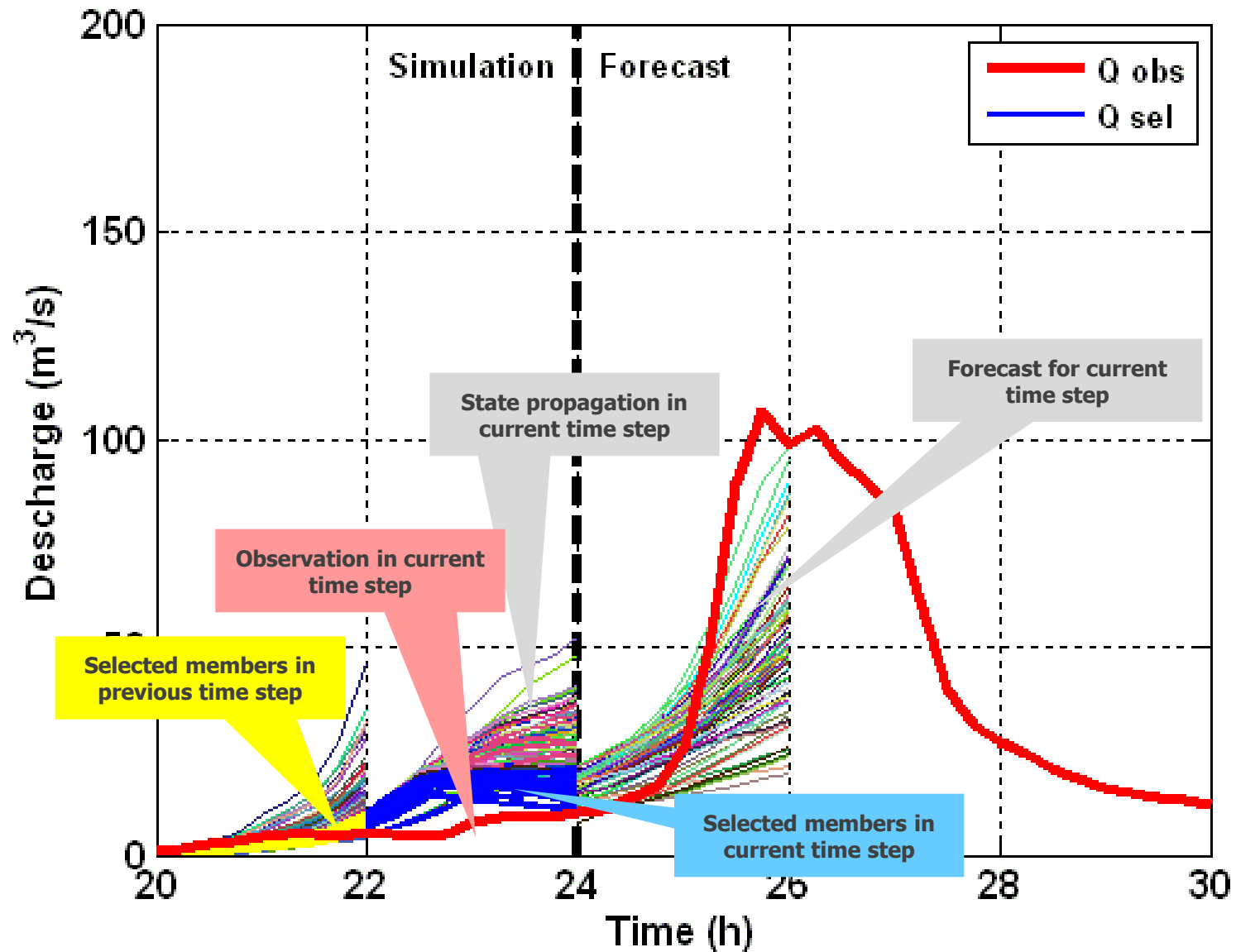


# Tentative implementation

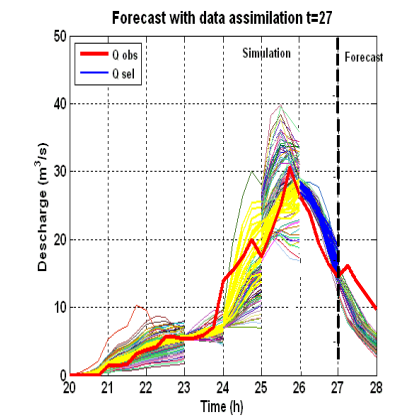
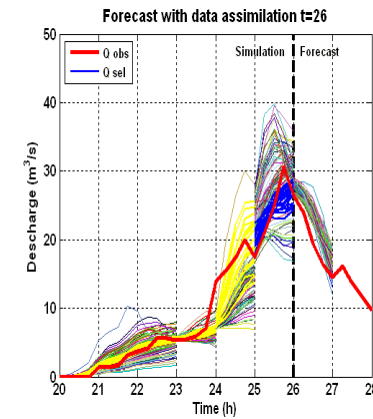
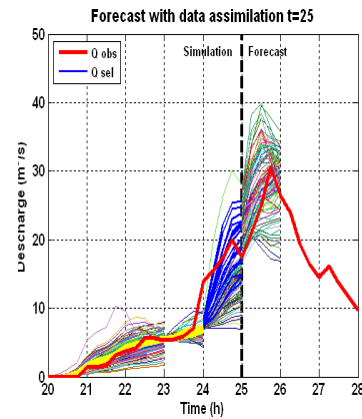
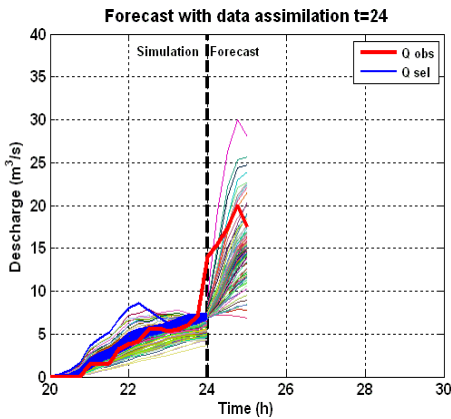
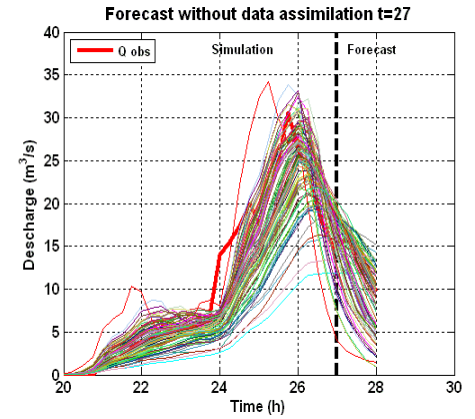
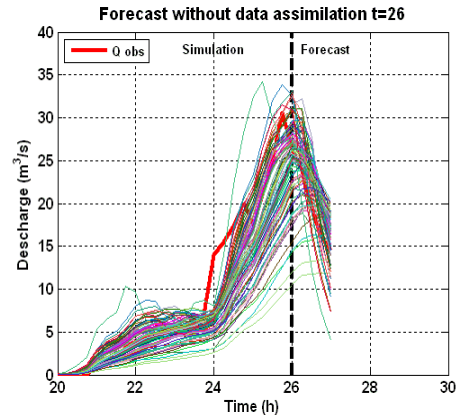
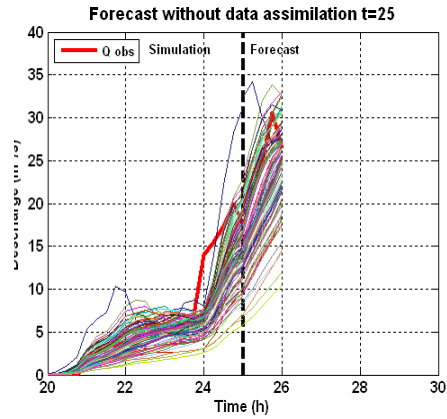
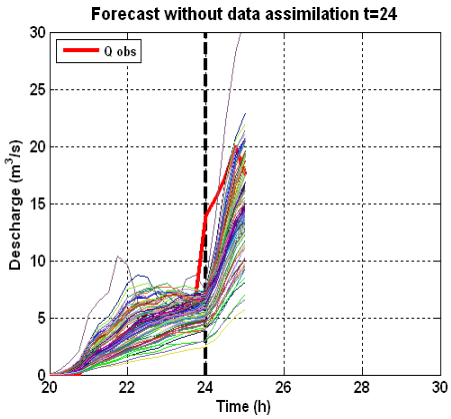
- **Probabilistic simulation**
  - Ensembles of 100 members sampled from a priori distribution of model parameters
- **Observation**
  - Observations taken only at one streamflow gauge
  - Observations considered 100% reliable
  - Verification through NSE in last two hours
- **Model update**
  - Selection of 20 “best” ensemble members
  - Generation of 80 more members through perturbation of model parameters
- **Rainfall forecast**
  - Only one “perfect” rainfall forecast

# Model results

## Forecast with data assimilation t=24



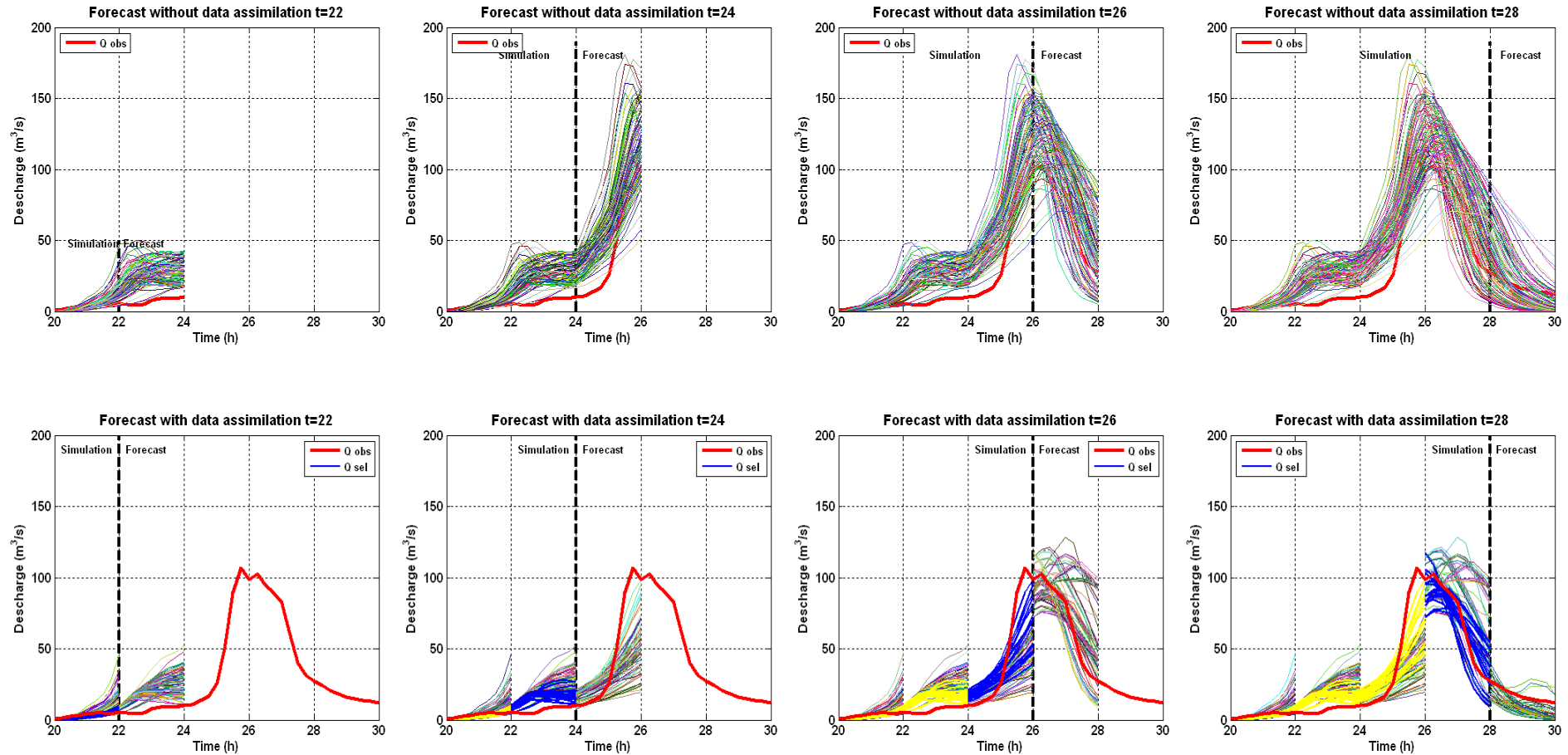
# Forecast in Mogoda



<b>NSE<sub>f</sub></b>				
<b>Forecast</b>	<b>t=23</b>	<b>t=24</b>	<b>t=25</b>	<b>t=26</b>
No data assimilation	-0.13	-8.31	0.04	0.59
With data assimilation	-0.08	-6.95	0.44	0.59

<b>CR (<math>\alpha = 5\%</math>)</b>				
<b>Forecast</b>	<b>t=23</b>	<b>t=24</b>	<b>t=25</b>	<b>t=26</b>
No data assimilation	0.80	0.40	1.00	1.00
With data assimilation	0.80	0.60	1.00	0.20

# Forecast in Ripoll



<b>NSE<sub>f</sub></b>				
<b>Forecast</b>	<b>t=22</b>	<b>t=24</b>	<b>t=26</b>	<b>t=28</b>
No data assimilation	-66.45	0.62	0.46	-1.23
With data assimilation	-34.06	0.29	0.80	-2.30

<b>CR (<math>\alpha = 5\%</math>)</b>				
<b>Forecast</b>	<b>t=22</b>	<b>t=24</b>	<b>t=26</b>	<b>t=28</b>
No data assimilation	0.11	0.44	1.00	1.00
With data assimilation	0.11	0.56	1.00	1.00

# Conclusion

- **Distributed rainfall-runoff models**
  - Distributed rainfall-runoff models are a good option to include basin variability for real-time modeling
  - They can be calibrated probabilistically
  - Very demanding in computational terms (HPC is required)
- **Ensemble-based probabilistic simulations**
  - Simple way to make probabilistic predictions
  - They can include variability in rainfall, parameters or basin states
  - Realistic way to show different sources of model uncertainty explicitly
- **Real-time model update**
  - There are many possible alternatives for data assimilation
  - The approach seems promising and worthwhile trying