Regional modelling of the lithospheric magnetic field from satellite gradient data:

A regularized Slepian function approach

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Motivation: Global vs regional lithospheric field models

- \bullet CHAMP: low altitude ~ 300 km, vector data, from solar minimum
- Swarm: 5 yrs, data from higher altitudes 440-510 km
- Magnetic anomalies can well determined from gradient estimates

How can we best exploit this data?

- High resolution maps, stable at Earth's surface
- Global maps convenient, but regional approach has advantages?
- (Revised) spherical cap analysis [e.g. Thébault, 2006; Thébault et al., 2013, 2016]
- Slepian functions on a sphere [Simons et al., 2006; Plattner and Simons, 2017] [Kim and Von Frese, 2017]

This study:

Satellite gradient data, altitude-cognizant gradient vector Slepian functions, L1 regularization of B_r at surface





Forward scheme: Slepian basis functions I

• Following *Plattner and Simons (2017)*, in potential field framework and considering only internal sources

$$\mathbf{B}(\boldsymbol{r}) =
abla V(\boldsymbol{r})$$
 and $abla V(\boldsymbol{r}) = \sum_{l=1}^{L} \sum_{m=-l}^{l} \, \mathrm{g}_{l}^{m} \, A_{l}(r) \boldsymbol{E}_{lm}(\mathbf{\hat{r}})$

where
$$E_{lm}(\hat{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(l+1)(2l+1)}} \left[\hat{r}(l+1)Y_{lm}(\hat{r}) - \nabla_1 Y_{lm}(\hat{r}) \right]$$
 for $0 \le l \le L$
and $A_l(r) = -a^{-1}\sqrt{(l+1)(2l+1)} \left(\frac{r}{a}\right)^{-(l+2)}$, for $0 \le l \le L$

• To find optimal basis functions with energy is concentrated a sub-region R, define

$$\mathbf{K} = \int_{R} \boldsymbol{\mathcal{E}}_{L} \cdot \boldsymbol{\mathcal{E}}_{L}^{T} \, \mathrm{d}\Omega, \tag{1}$$

where $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{E}}_{L}$ are column vectors collecting $\boldsymbol{E}_{lm}(\hat{\boldsymbol{r}})$.

• Then performing eigenanalysis and retaining only the J largest eigenvalues one can write

$$\mathbf{KG}_J = \mathbf{G}_J \mathbf{\Lambda}_J, \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{G}_J = (\mathbf{g}_1, \dots, \mathbf{g}_\alpha, \dots, \mathbf{g}_J) \quad \text{with} \ 1 \le J \le (L+1)^2$$
 (2)

and the vectors g_{α} define the Slepian basis functions.

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Forward scheme: Slepian basis functions II





[From Simons et al., 2009: 10 largest bandlimited eigenfunctions optimally concentrated within a circularly symmetric domain on sphere]

Forward scheme: Slepian basis functions III



$$\mathcal{G}_{\uparrow J} = \mathbf{G}_J^T \mathbf{A}(r) \mathcal{E}_L, \quad \text{with } 1 \le J \le (L+1)^2.$$
 (3)

• Forward model relating vector field components at satellite altitude to the Slepian model coefficients is then

$$\widehat{\mathbf{d}^{sat}} = \mathbf{G}_J^{sat} \mathbf{m}_J. \tag{4}$$

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where G_J^{sat} involves rows of $\mathcal{G}_{\uparrow J}$ evaluated using the relevant data locations and components

- Approximate satellite data gradients can also be included by via suitable differences of (4)
- For the results present here we used L = 200, cap half-widths of 15 to 25 degrees and J=1500 to 2500
- Numerical implementation: Python, based on/tested against SLEPIAN hotel Matlab routines [Plattner and Simons, 2017]

Inversion: L₁-norm regularization

- We wish to estimate Slepian coefficients at Earth's surface. Such downward continuation is unstable.
- Here we choose a truncation degree J high enough that the majority of the eigenspectrum is captured, discarding only very small eigenvalues.
- But regularize, also seeking models minimizing the L_1 norm of B_r the Earth's surface

$$\Phi = \left(\mathbf{d}^{sat} - \mathbf{G}^{sat}\mathbf{m}_{J}\right)^{T} \mathbf{W}_{h} \left(\mathbf{d}^{sat} - \mathbf{G}_{J}^{sat}\mathbf{m}_{J}\right) + \alpha^{2} \|\mathbf{R}\mathbf{m}_{J}\|_{1}$$
(5)

where \mathbf{W}_h is a weighting matrix, with QD latitude dependent data error estimates, and iteratively updated Huber weights and \mathbf{R} evaluates B_r on an equal area grid at Earth's surface from \mathbf{m}_J

• Implemented via an IRLS scheme [Farquharson and Oldenburg, 1998] involving \mathbf{W}_m

$$\mathbf{m}_{J,k+1} = \left(\left(\mathbf{G}_{J}^{sat} \right)^{T} \mathbf{W}_{h,k} \mathbf{G}_{J}^{sat} + \alpha^{2} \mathbf{R}^{T} \mathbf{W}_{m,k} \mathbf{R} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{G}_{J}^{sat} \mathbf{W}_{h,k} \mathbf{d}^{sat}$$
(6)

• Tested with synthetic data, with and without noise added, using LS, L_2 and L_1 regularizations

CHAMP and Swarm satellite data

- Extended version of LCS-1 dataset [Olsen et al., 2017]
- Geomagnetic quiet conditions
- Prediction of CHAOS-6-x2 internal field model to degree 14 and magnetospheric model removed
- CHAMP vector field along-track gradients, 2006 to 2010.
- Altitudes below 350km, solar minimum conditions
- Swarm vector field along & cross-track gradients, 2013 to 2018
- Satellites A, C now at 440 km, longitudinal sep. ${\sim}150$ km
- Error budget dependent on QD-latitude and field component, based on residuals to CHAOS-6-x2 model



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Example 1: West central Africa - Bangui region, Eigenspectrum



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Example 1: West central Africa - Bangui region, Results



• LCS1 (sat, global) prediction of B_r on equal area grid at Earth's surface.

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Example 1: West central Africa - Bangui region, Results



• 15 deg cap, L1 regularization of B_r on equal area grid at Earth's surface.

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Example 2: Greenland, L-curve



Example 2: Greenland, Preliminary Results



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Example 2: Greenland, Preliminary Results



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Example 2: Greenland, Preliminary Results



• EMM2015 prediction (sat + aero) of B_r on equal area grid at Earth's surface.

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Discussion

Advantages

- \bullet Can easily handle satellite data with varying altitudes, no extra BC to apply
- Inversions manageable: regional datasets and relatively small number of model parameters
- Can fine-tune regularization level appropriate for specific region (i.e. L-curve for each region)

Challenges

- Need to choose a truncation level for the Slepian functions
- Choice of model norm and regularization parameter more objective prior information?
- Care still needed to avoid edge effects

Summary



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- Initial results promising:

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• Straightforward to apply to other regions of geological interest e.g. Antarctica, Subduction zones etc.



Another example: Australia



• LCS1 (sat, global) prediction of B_r on equal area grid at Earth's surface.

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