

Geomagnetism package

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Abstract

In this note we derive all the equations used in the geomagnetism package.

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1 Introduction

The package `geomagnetim` intends to serve pedagogical purposes rather to replace the well established FORTRAN or C program developed by academic institutes. In contrast with these programs, which favor compactness and minimize time execution, the geomagnetic package, tentatively, focuses on lisibility. You can download geomagnetis using :

pip install geomagnetism

Use case examples are given in a companion [Jupyter Notebook](#)

2 Geomagnetism calculation

As the terrestrial magnetic field obeys both $\nabla \mathbf{B} = 0$ and $\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = 0$, it can be shown that the magnetic field can be expressed as the gradient of a scalar potential V which satisfies the Laplace equation:

$$\Delta V = 0. \quad (2.1)$$

For a spherical geometry the geomagnetic potential is given by the following spherical harmonic expansion (SH) [1, 2, 4]:

$$V(r, \theta, \phi, t) = a \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+1} \sum_{m=0}^n [g_n^m(t) \cos(m\phi) + h_n^m(t) \sin(m\phi)] P_{(s),n}^m(\cos(\theta)) \quad (2.2)$$

where $P_{(s),n}^m(x)$ are the Schmidt quasi-normalized associated Legendre polynomials (for more details see section 3):

$$P_{(s),n}^m(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2^n n!} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (x^2 - 1)^n & : m = 0 \\ \sqrt{\frac{2(n-m)!}{(n+m)!}} (1-x^2)^m \frac{1}{2^n n!} \frac{d^{n+m}}{dx^{n+m}} (x^2 - 1)^n & : m > 0 \end{cases} \quad (2.3)$$

where g_n^m and h_n^m are the Gauss's coefficients. Note that the sum over n begins with the the value $n = 1$ as the index $n = 0$ would correspond to a monopole. The dipole, quadrupole, octupole,... contribution correspond to $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$. These coefficients vary with time and are tabulated by the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#). The coefficient a is the mean radius of the earth (6371.2 km); r , the radial distance from the center of the Earth ; θ , the geocentric colatitude ; ϕ , the east longitude measured from Greenwich. We note that the Condon-Shortley phase correction $(-1)^m$ is omitted in the definition of the associated Legendre polynomial and the polynomes are normalized using Schmidt quasi-normalization [5]. The relation $\mathbf{B} = -\nabla V$ leads to:

$$\begin{aligned} X_c &\equiv \\ \mathbf{B}_x &= -B_\theta = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} = \\ &\sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sum_{m=0}^n [g_n^m \cos(m\phi) + h_n^m \sin(m\phi)] \frac{dP_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta)}{d\theta}, \\ Y_c &\equiv \\ \mathbf{B}_y &= B_\phi = \frac{-1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} = \\ &\sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sum_{m=0}^n m [g_n^m \sin(m\phi) - h_n^m \cos(m\phi)] \frac{P_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta)}{\sin \theta}, \\ Z_c &\equiv \\ \mathbf{B}_z &= -B_r = \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} = \\ &\sum_{n=1}^N (n+1) \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sum_{m=0}^n [g_n^m \cos(m\phi) + h_n^m \sin(m\phi)] P_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta), \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

where \mathbf{B}_x , \mathbf{B}_y , \mathbf{B}_z are the field components respectively in the northward, eastward and downward directions. Theses components are expressed in the geocentric referential as recall by the index c . The parameter N stands for the order of the SH decomposition.

3 Spherical harmonics normalisation

In the field of geomagnetism the Schmidt quasi-normalized Legendre polynomials $P_{(s),n}^m$ are widely used¹. They are proportional to the Legendre polynomial:

$$P_{(s),n}^m = N_n^m P_n^m \quad (3.2)$$

where the associated Legendre polynomials² are defined as³ [6]:

$$P_n^m(x) = \frac{(-1)^m}{2^n n!} \sqrt{(1-x^2)^m} \frac{d^{n+m}}{dx^{n+m}} (x^2-1)^n. \quad (3.3)$$

and where the normalization coefficients N_n^m are equal to [5]:

$$N_{n,m} = \begin{cases} (-1)^m \sqrt{\frac{(2-\delta_m^0)(n-m)!}{(n+m)!}} & : n - |m| \geq 0 \\ 0 & : n - |m| < 0 \end{cases} \quad (3.4)$$

The Schmidt quasi-normalized polynomials, for $\forall n, \forall N, \forall m, \forall M$, obey the following normalization [5]:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi C_n^m(\theta, \phi) C_N^M(\theta, \phi) \sin \theta d\theta d\phi &= \frac{1}{2n+1} \delta_n^N \delta_m^M \\ \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi S_n^m(\theta, \phi) S_N^M(\theta, \phi) \sin \theta d\theta d\phi &= \frac{1}{2n+1} \delta_n^N \delta_m^M \\ \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi C_n^m(\theta, \phi) S_N^M(\theta, \phi) \sin \theta d\theta d\phi &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

where the following notations are used:

$$\begin{aligned} C_n^m(\theta, \phi) &\equiv P_{(s),n}^m \cos \theta \cos m\theta & : m = 0, 1, 2 \dots n \\ S_n^m(\theta, \phi) &\equiv P_{(s),n}^m \cos \theta \sin m\theta & : m = 1, 2 \dots n \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

For computational efficiency we define the matrices $\underline{\underline{\mathbf{P}}}$ and $\underline{\underline{\mathbf{P}}}_{(s)}$:

$$\underline{\underline{\mathbf{P}}} = \begin{bmatrix} P_0^0 & P_1^0 & \dots & P_N^0 \\ 0 & P_1^1 & \dots & P_N^1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & P_N^M \end{bmatrix}, \quad (3.7)$$

$$\underline{\underline{\mathbf{P}}}_{(s)} = \begin{bmatrix} P_{(s),0}^0 & P_{(s),1}^0 & \dots & P_{(s),N}^0 \\ 0 & P_{(s),1}^1 & \dots & P_{(s),N}^1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & P_{(s),N}^M \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.8)$$

and we compute $\underline{\underline{\mathbf{P}}}_{(s)}$ as the matrix component-wise product:

$$\underline{\underline{\mathbf{P}}}_{(s)} = \underline{\underline{\mathbf{P}}} \odot \underline{\underline{\mathbf{N}}}, \quad (3.9)$$

In the `geomagnetism` package:

- (a) The function `Norm_Schmidt(m,n)` computes the normalisation matrix (3.8) using coefficients (3.4).
- (b) The function `Norm_Stacey(m,n)` computes the normalisation matrix using coefficients (3.1).

¹Note that other authors in geophysics use different normalization factors For example, Stacey [4] uses :

$$N_n^m = \begin{cases} (-1)^m \sqrt{(2-\delta_m^0)(2m+1)} \frac{(n-m)!}{(n+m)!} & : |m| \leq n \\ 0 & : |m| > n \end{cases} \quad (3.1)$$

²In the `geomagnetism` package, the associated Legendre polynomials be computed by the scipy function `lpmn(M,N,x)`

³To stick with the `scipy` package conventions, these polynomials are defined using the Condon-Shortley phase correction $(-1)^m$.

```
# Exemple of computation of normalization matrix
geo.Norm_Stacey(3,4)
>> array([[ 1.,          1.,          1.,          1.,          1.],
          [ 0.,        -1.73205081,        -1.,        -0.70710678,        -0.54772256],
          [ 0.,          0.,          0.64549722,          0.28867513,          0.16666667],
          [ 0.,          0.,          0.,          -0.13944334,          -0.05270463]])

geo.Norm_Schmidt(3,4)
>> array([[ 1.,          1.,          1.,          1.,          1.],
          [ 0.,        -1.,          -0.57735027,        -0.40824829,        -0.31622777],
          [ 0.,          0.,          0.28867513,          0.12909944,          0.0745356 ],
          [ 0.,          0.,          0.,          -0.05270463,        -0.01992048]])
```

4 Geotetic to geocentric transformation

The computation of the geomagnetic field is done in a geocentric coordinate system. So if we provide the geotetic coordinates we have to convert them into geocentric ones. In the following we deduce the transformation relation used in the function `geotetic_to_geocentric`.

4.1 Ellipse equation

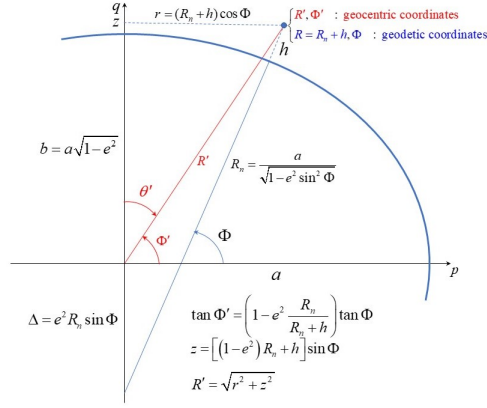


Figure 1: Ellipse notations convention.

Using the notation of the figure 1, the equation of the ellipse reads :

$$\frac{q^2}{b^2} + \frac{p^2}{a^2} = 1. \quad (4.1)$$

The geotetic latitude Φ can be expressed through the derivative :

$$\cot \Phi = -\frac{dq}{dp} = \frac{b^2}{a^2} \frac{p}{q} \quad (4.2)$$

From equation (4.2) we can express q as :

$$q = p \frac{b^2}{a^2} \tan \Phi \quad (4.3)$$

Using equations (4.1) and (4.3) we can express the ellipse coordinates p and q as a function of the geotetic latitude Φ as :

$$p = \frac{a \cos \Phi}{\sqrt{1 - e^2 \sin^2 \Phi}} \quad (4.4a)$$

$$q = \frac{a(1 - e^2) \sin \Phi}{\sqrt{1 - e^2 \sin^2 \Phi}} \quad (4.4b)$$

where $e \equiv \sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{a^2}}$ is the eccentricity. The prime vertical curvature radius R_n (see figure 1) can be deduced from p as :

$$R_n = \frac{p}{\cos \Phi} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{1 - e^2 \sin^2 \Phi}} \quad (4.5a)$$

$$R_n = \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^2 - (a^2 - b^2) \sin^2 \Phi}} \quad (4.5b)$$

Using the prime vertical curvature we can re-express p and q as :

$$p = R_n \cos \Phi \quad (4.6a)$$

$$q = (1 - e^2) R_n \sin \Phi \quad (4.6b)$$

4.2 Geotetic to geocentric transformation

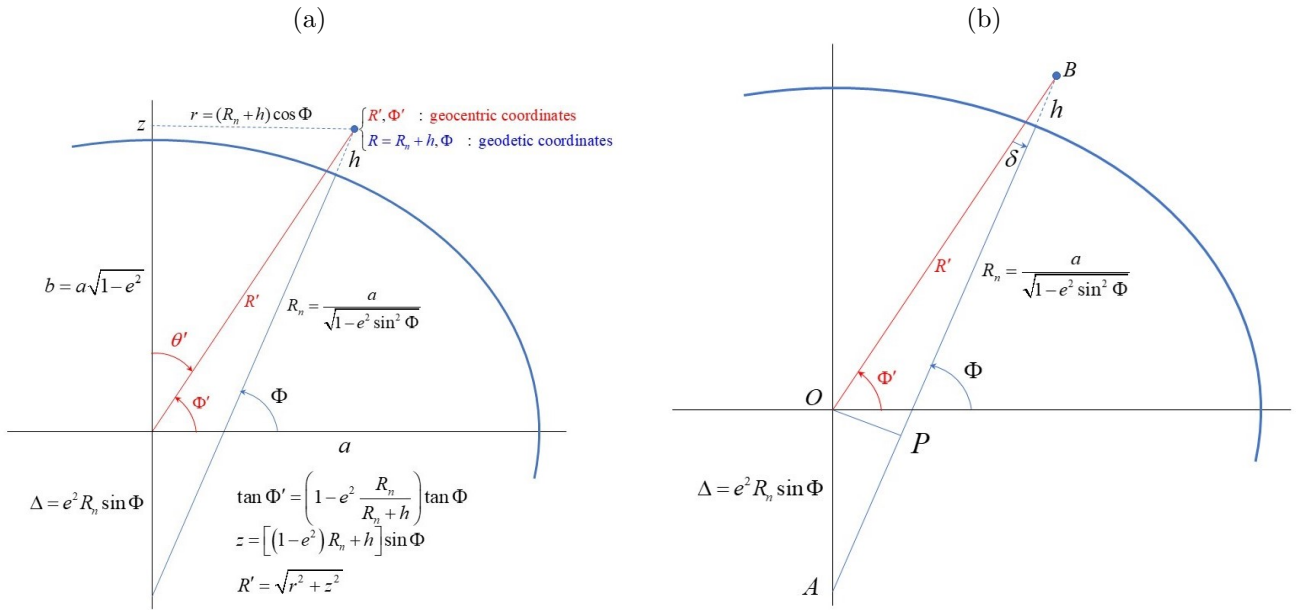


Figure 2: Notation conventions for: (a) geotetic and geocentric notation; (b) the computation of $\cos \delta$ and $\sin \delta$.

In this section we derive the relation between the geotetic colatitude Φ and the geocentric colatitude Φ' . Using the conventions of the figure 4.2, we have:

$$\frac{\tan \Phi'}{\tan \Phi} = \frac{z}{z + \Delta} = \frac{(1 - e^2) R_n + h}{(1 - e^2) R_n + h + e^2 R_n} = 1 - e^2 \frac{R_n}{R_n + h} \quad (4.7)$$

The flattening f is defined as follow:

$$f = \frac{a - b}{a} \quad (4.8)$$

Usually, the geodetic reference ellipsoid is specified by its reciprocal flattening f^{-1} . The reciprocal flattening is related to the eccentricity e by:

$$e = \sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{a^2}} = \sqrt{f(2 - f)} \quad (4.9)$$

$$1 - e^2 = \frac{b^2}{a^2}$$

We can express z and r as :

$$\begin{cases} z = (R_n + h) \sin \Phi - \Delta = [(1 - e^2) R_n + h] \sin \Phi \\ r = (R_n + h) \cos \Phi \end{cases} \quad (4.10)$$

where h is the height above the reference ellipsoid. Thanks to equation (4.10) we can obtain the geocentric radius as :

$$R' = \sqrt{z^2 + r^2} \quad (4.11)$$

Using the equations (4.5b) and (4.10) we express the geocentric as a function both the semi major and the semi minor axis. We obtain [3]:

$$R'^2 = \frac{h^2 + 2h\sqrt{a^2 - (a^2 - b^2)\sin^2\Phi} + [a^4 - (a^4 - b^4)\sin^2\Phi]}{a^2 - (a^2 - b^2)\sin^2\Phi} \quad (4.12)$$

Combining the equations (4.11) and (4.10) we can express the geocentric colatitude as:

$$\cos \theta = \frac{z}{\sqrt{r^2 + z^2}} = \frac{\sin \Phi}{\sqrt{\left[\frac{R_n + h}{(1-e^2)R_n + h}\right]^2 \cos^2 \Phi + \sin^2 \Phi}} \quad (4.13)$$

The relation (4.13) can be rewritted using the semi major and minor axis. Using equations (4.5b) and (4.13) we obtain [3]:

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\sin \Phi}{\sqrt{c \cos^2 \Phi + \sin^2 \Phi}} \quad \text{where} \quad c = \left[\frac{a^2 + h\sqrt{a^2 - (a^2 - b^2)\sin^2 \Phi}}{b^2 + h\sqrt{a^2 - (a^2 - b^2)\sin^2 \Phi}} \right]^2 \quad (4.14)$$

In the triangle AOB of the figure 4.2 the length of AB leads to the equality :

$$\Delta \sin \Phi + R' \cos \delta = R_n + h, \quad (4.15)$$

and, after rearranging:

$$\cos \delta = \frac{1}{R'} \left[h + R_n(1 - e^2(\sin \Phi)^2) \right]. \quad (4.16)$$

Using the relation (4.5) equation (4.16) reads :

$$\cos \delta = \frac{1}{R'} \left[h + \frac{a^2}{R_n} \right]. \quad (4.17)$$

The length of the common side OP of the two rectangles triangle AOP and BOP of the figure 4.2 leads to the equality :

$$R' \sin \delta = \Delta \cos \Phi.$$

So:

$$\sin \delta = \frac{R_n}{R'} e^2 \cos \Phi \sin \Phi \quad (4.18)$$

4.3 Computational aspect

The function `geodetic_to_geocentric(ellipsoid, co_latitude, height)` computes the geocentric colatitude and radius using respectively the equations (4.7) and (4.11). The angle $\delta = \theta' - \theta$ between the geocentric and the geotetic colatitude is also computed. The figure 3 shows the variation of δ versus the geotetic colatitude θ and the height h .

```
# Exemple of computation of r_geocentric, co_latitude_geocentric, delta
import geomagnetism as geo
ellipsoid = geo.geomagnetism.WGS84 # tuple (mean earth radius in meter, inverse flattening)
r_geocentric, co_latitude_geocentric, delta = geo.geodetic_to_geocentric(ellipsoid , 170,
100_000)
>> (6457402.34844737, 2.965925285681976, -0.0011344427083841424)
ellipsoid = geo.geomagnetism.GRS80
r_geocentric, co_latitude_geocentric, delta = geo.geodetic_to_geocentric(ellipsoid , 170,
100_000)
>> (6457402.348345751, 2.9659252856763882, -0.001134442713972117)
```

```

# Exemple of computation of r_geocentric, cos(co_latitude_geocentric), sin(
# cos(delta), sin(delta)
import geomagnetism as geo
ellipsoid = geo.geomagnetism.WGS84 # tuple (earth major axis in meter, earth minor axis in
                                     meter)

ellipsoid = geo.geomagnetism.WGS84_
r, ct, st, cd, sd = geo.geodetic_to_geocentric_IGRF13(ellipsoid, 170, 100_000)
>> (6457402.34844737 -0.9846101254413312 0.17476527366272146 0.9999993565199398 -0.
    0011344424650535443)

ellipsoid = geo.geomagnetism.GRS80_
r, ct, st, cd, sd = geo.geodetic_to_geocentric_IGRF13(ellipsoid, 170, 100_000)
>> (6457402.348345758 -0.9846101254403548 0.17476527366822295 0.9999993565199334 -0.
    0011344424706410008)

```

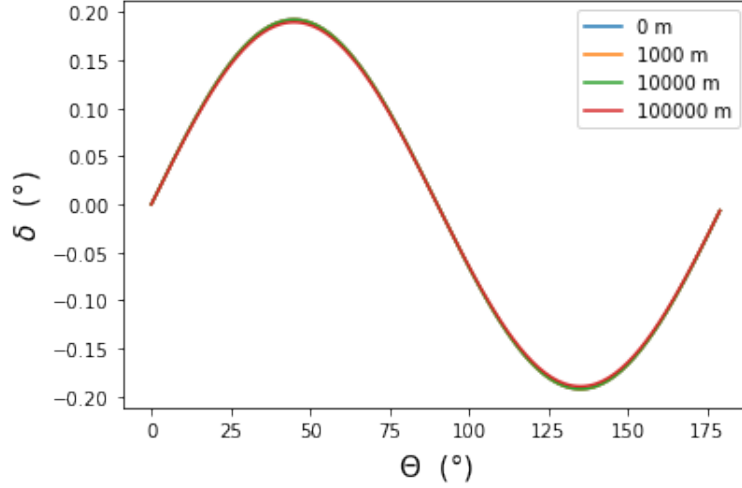


Figure 3: Variation of δ versus the geodetic colatitude θ and the height h .

Alternatively, the function `geodetic_to_geocentric_IGRF13(ellipsoid, co_latitude, height)` is a translation of the [FORTRAN routine](#) where the authors compute the geocentric radius as well as $\cos \delta$ and $\sin \delta$ using respectively the equations (4.12), (4.17), (4.18).

5 Base transformation

Passing from geocentric to geodetic referential the magnetic field undergoes the following transformation :

$$\begin{pmatrix} B_x \\ B_y \\ B_z \end{pmatrix}_{\text{geodetic}} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta & 0 & -\sin \delta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \sin \delta & 0 & \cos \delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B_x \\ B_y \\ B_z \end{pmatrix}_{\text{geocentric}} \quad (5.1)$$

with $\delta = \theta' - \theta = \Phi - \Phi'$ (see Figure 5). Using Peddie notation [3] we have :

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta & 0 & -\sin \delta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \sin \delta & 0 & \cos \delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X_c \\ Y_c \\ Z_c \end{pmatrix} \quad (5.2)$$

Using the notations of the Figure 5, the geomagnetic horizontal intensity H , total intensity F , declination D and inclination I can be obtained from :

$$\begin{cases} H = \sqrt{X^2 + Y^2} \\ F = \sqrt{H^2 + Z^2} \\ D = \text{atan2}(Y, X) \\ I = \text{atan2}(Z, H) \end{cases} \quad (5.3)$$

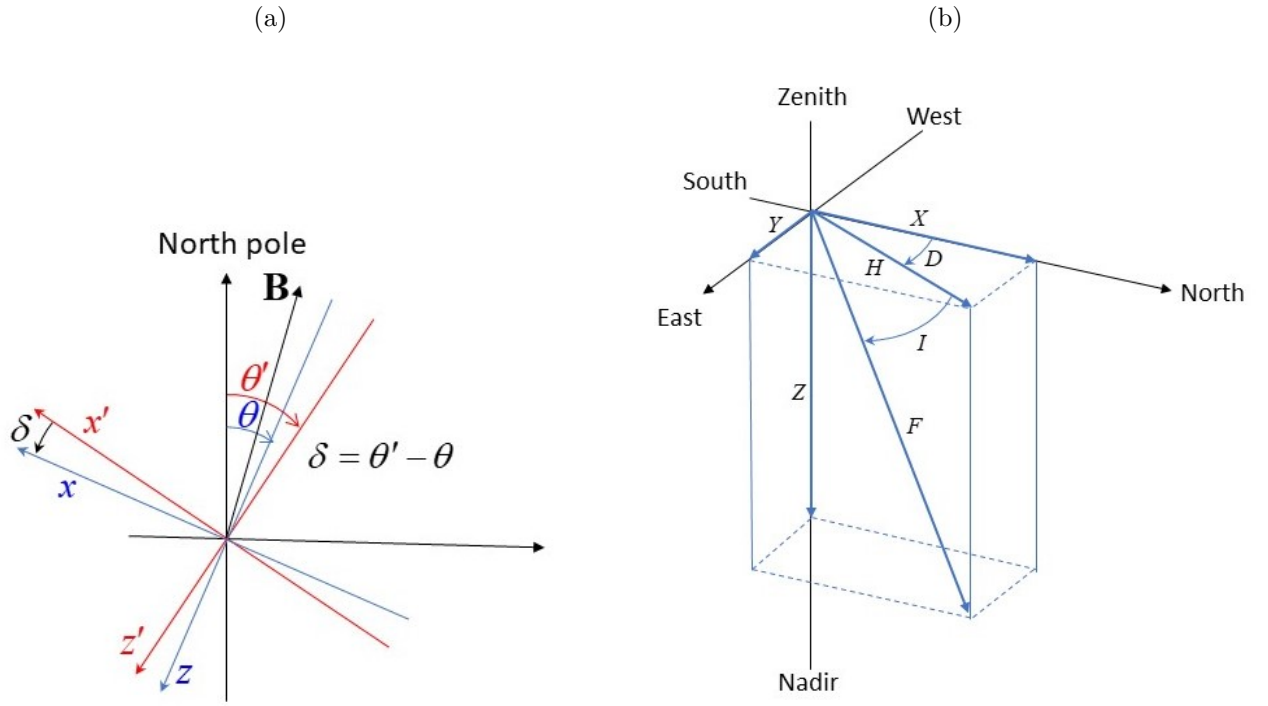


Figure 4: Notation conventions: (a) geotetic and geocentric referential; (b) Field geomagnetic conventions and notations. Credit Chullia [2]

6 Geomagnetic field computation at North and South pole

When the colatitude θ tends towards 0 (North pole) or towards π , the equations (2.3) are numerically instable. To deal with that problem we have to evaluate $\frac{dP_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta)}{d\theta}$, $\frac{P_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta)}{\sin \theta}$, $P_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta)$ for $\theta = 0$ and for $\theta = \pi$.

Identity 1. $P_{(s),n}^m(1) = \delta_m^0$.

Identity 2. $P_{(s),n}^m(-1) = \delta_m^0(-1)^n$.

Proof. The associate Legendre polynomials can be defined as:

$$P_n^m(x) = (-1)^m (1-x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \frac{d^m}{dx^m} P_n(x) \quad (6.1)$$

Using the change of variable $x = \cos \theta$ equation (6.1) reads:

$$P_n^m(\cos \theta) = (-1)^m (\sin \theta)^m \frac{d^m}{d(\cos \theta)^m} P_n(\cos \theta) \quad (6.2)$$

From the equation (6.2) we deduce that for $\theta = 0$ or for $\theta = \pi$, $P_n^m(\cos \theta)$ is not null iff $m = 0$. As $P_n(1) = 1$ we deduce the Identity 1. As $P_n(-1) = (-1)^n$ we deduce the Identity 2. \square

Identity 3. $\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{P_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta)}{\sin \theta} = \delta_1^m \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}$.

Identity 4. $\lim_{\theta \rightarrow \pi} \frac{P_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta)}{\sin \theta} = \delta_1^m (-1)^n \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}$.

Proof. From equation (6.2) we deduce that $\frac{P_n^m(\cos \theta)}{\sin \theta}$ is not null iff $m = 1$. This condition leads to:

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{P_n^1(\cos \theta)}{\sin \theta} = \frac{d}{dx} P_n(x) \Big|_{x=1} \quad (6.3)$$

As the Legendre polynomials $P_n(x)$ satisfy the differential equation :

$$(1-x^2) \frac{d^2}{dx^2} P_n(x) - 2x \frac{d}{dx} P_n(x) + n(n+1) P_n(x) = 0, \quad (6.4)$$

and also satisfy the two identities $P_n(1) = 1$ and $P_n(-1) = (-1)^n$, we have:

$$\frac{d}{dx} P_n(1) = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \quad (6.5a)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} P_n(-1) = (-1)^{n-1} \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \quad (6.5b)$$

Taking into account respectively equation (6.5a) and equation (6.5b) in conjunction with the Schmidt normalisation coefficients (3.4) we obtain the Identity3 and the Identity4. \square

Identity 5. $\left. \frac{dP_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta)}{d\theta} \right|_{\theta=0} = \delta_1^m \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}.$

Identity 6. $\left. \frac{dP_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta)}{d\theta} \right|_{\theta=\pi} = (-1)^n \delta_1^m \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}.$

Proof. The derivative versus θ of the equation (6.2) leads to the expression::

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} P_n^m(\cos \theta) = (-1)^m (\sin \theta)^{m-1} \left[m \cos \theta \frac{d^m}{d(\cos \theta)^m} P_n(\cos \theta) - (\sin \theta)^2 \frac{d^{m+1}}{d(\cos \theta)^{m+1}} P_n(\cos \theta) \right] \quad (6.6)$$

showing that $\frac{d}{d\theta} P_n^m(\cos \theta)$ is not null iff $m = 1$. Taking into account respectively equation (6.5a) equation (6.5b) in conjunction with the Schmidt normalisation coefficients (3.4) we obtain the Identity5 and the Identity6. \square

Using the identities1 to 6 we can derive the expression of the magnetic at the North and South pole as follow:

- (a) Putting the identities1,3, 5 in equation (2.4) we obtain the following expressions of the magnetic field at the North pole:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X_c(0) = \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} g_n^1 \cos(\phi) + \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} h_n^1 \sin(\phi) \\ Y_c(0) = \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} g_n^1 \sin(\phi) - \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} h_n^1 \cos(\phi) \\ Z_c(0) = \sum_{n=1}^N (n+1) \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} g_n^0 \end{array} \right. \quad (6.7)$$

- (b) Putting the identities3,4, 6 in equation (2.4) we obtain the following expressions of the magnetic field at the South pole:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X_c(\pi) = \sum_{n=1}^N \left(-\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} g_n^1 \cos(\phi) + \sum_{n=1}^N \left(-\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} h_n^1 \sin(\phi) \\ Y_c(\pi) = \sum_{n=1}^N \left(-\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} g_n^1 \sin(\phi) - \sum_{n=1}^N \left(-\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sqrt{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} h_n^1 \cos(\phi) \\ Z_c(\pi) = - \sum_{n=1}^N (n+1) \left(-\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} g_n^0 \end{array} \right. \quad (6.8)$$

In the `geomagnetism` package the constant EPS monitors the choice of the equation used to compute the electromagnetic field:

- if $\phi \in [\pi, \pi - \text{EPS}]$ we use the equations (6.8).
- if $\phi \in [0, \text{EPS}]$ we use the equations (6.7).
- if $\phi \in]\text{EPS}, \pi - \text{EPS}[$ we use the equations (2.4).

The default value of EPS is set to $\text{EPS} = 10^{-5} \text{rad}$. At $\phi = \text{EPS}$ the electromagnetic field components undergo a discontinuity as shown in figure 5. The value of the constant EPS can be reaffected ⁴ using:
`geo.geomagnetism.EPS=NewEps.`

⁴Note that for $\text{EPS} \lesssim 8 \times 10^{-6} \text{rad}$ equations (2.4) results are noisy.

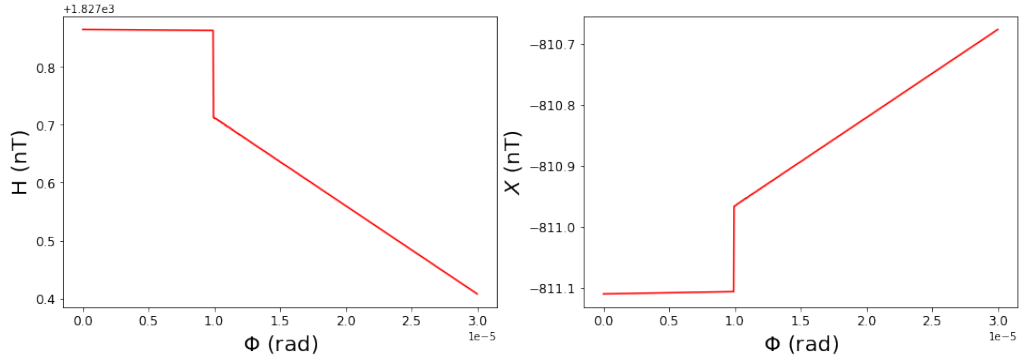


Figure 5: Discontinuity of the component H (a) and X (b) at $\phi = \text{EPS}$.

7 Spherical harmonic coefficients

7.1 Gauss coefficients

To compute the geomagnetic fields, through the equation (2.4), we must provide : the values of the Gauss coefficients h_n^m and g_n^m , the order N of the SH development. As the Gauss coefficients vary with time we must also provide the values \dot{h}_n^m and \dot{g}_n^m . All these values are stored in the following variables:

- `dic_dic_h` contains h_n^m coefficients stored in a dict of dict as `{year : {(m,n):h,...},...}`
- `dic_dic_g` contains g_n^m coefficients stored in a dict of dict as `{year : {(m,n):g,...},...}`
- `dic_dic_SV_h` contains \dot{h}_n^m coefficients stored in a dict of dict as `{year : {(m,n):SV_h,...},...}`
- `dic_dic_SV_g` contains \dot{g}_n^m coefficients stored in a dict of dict as `{year : {(m,n):SV_g,...},...}`
- `dic_N` dict containing the order N of the SH decomposition as `dic_N[year]=N`
- `Years` contains the list of tabulated years

The function `read_IGRF13_COF` reads the `IGRF13.COF` coefficients.

```
file = 'IGRF13.COF' # downloaded from https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/IAGA/vmod/coeffs/igrf13coeffs.txt
dic_dic_h, dic_dic_g, dic_dic_SV_h, dic_dic_SV_g, dic_N, Years = geo.read_IGRF13_COF(file)
```

The function `read_WMM` reads the `WMM.2020.COF` or the `WMM.2015.COF` coefficients.

```
file = 'WMM_2020.COF' # downloaded from https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/geomag/WMM/wmm_ddownload.shtml
dic_dic_h, dic_dic_g, dic_dic_SV_h, dic_dic_SV_g, dic_N, Years = geo.read_WMM(file)
```

```
file = 'WMM_2015.COF' # downloaded from https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/geomag/WMM/wmm_ddownload.shtml
dic_dic_h, dic_dic_g, dic_dic_SV_h, dic_dic_SV_g, dic_N, Years = geo.read_WMM(file)
```

7.2 Gauss coefficients secular variation

The Gauss coefficients g_n^m and h_n^m vary with time [7]. Their secular variation \dot{g}_n^m and \dot{h}_n^m expressed in nT/year are tabulated every year and are considered to be constant during that current year. So, at time t , the Gauss coefficients can be expressed as:

$$\begin{cases} g_m^n(t) = g_m^n(t_0) + \dot{g}_m^n(t_0)(t - t_0) \\ h_m^n(t) = h_m^n(t_0) + \dot{h}_m^n(t_0)(t - t_0) \end{cases} \quad (7.1)$$

where t_0 stands for the time on the 1 January at 00:00 PM of the current year. Using \dot{g}_n^m and \dot{h}_n^m it is straightforward to compute the secular variation of the geomagnetic field components. We have [2]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{X}_c &\equiv \\
\dot{\mathbf{B}}_x &= -\dot{B}_\theta = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \dot{V}}{\partial \theta} = \\
&\sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sum_{m=0}^n \left[\dot{g}_n^m \cos(m\phi) + \dot{h}_n^m \sin(m\phi) \right] \frac{dP_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta)}{d\theta}, \\
\dot{Y}_c &\equiv \\
\dot{\mathbf{B}}_y &= \dot{B}_\phi = \frac{-1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \dot{V}}{\partial \phi} = \\
&\sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sum_{m=0}^n m \left[\dot{g}_n^m \sin(m\phi) - \dot{h}_n^m \cos(m\phi) \right] \frac{P_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta)}{\sin \theta}, \\
\dot{Z}_c &\equiv \\
\dot{\mathbf{B}}_z &= -\dot{B}_r = \frac{\partial \dot{V}}{\partial r} = \\
&\sum_{n=1}^N (n+1) \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n+2} \sum_{m=0}^n \left[\dot{g}_n^m \cos(m\phi) + \dot{h}_n^m \sin(m\phi) \right] P_{(s),n}^m(\cos \theta),
\end{aligned} \tag{7.2}$$

The time derivative of the equation (5.2) can be expressed as:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{X} \\ \dot{Y} \\ \dot{Z} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta & 0 & -\sin \delta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \sin \delta & 0 & \cos \delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \dot{X}_c \\ \dot{Y}_c \\ \dot{Z}_c \end{pmatrix} \tag{7.3}$$

Finally, the time derivative of equation (5.3) reads ⁵:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{H} = \frac{X\dot{X}+Y\dot{Y}}{H} \\ \dot{F} = \frac{X\dot{X}+Y\dot{Y}+Z\dot{Z}}{F} \\ \dot{I} = \frac{H\dot{Z}-Z\dot{H}}{F^2} \\ \dot{D} = \frac{X\dot{Y}-Y\dot{X}}{H^2} \end{cases} \tag{7.4}$$

8 Benchmark

Using the latitude, longitude, time and height above the ellipsoid given in the Table ??, the Table ?? shows the geomagnetic field element obtained by both the geomagnetism package and those extracted from the Table 3b High-precision numerical example from [2].

Time	2022.5	yr
Height-above-Ellipsoid	100	km
Latitude	-80	deg
Longitude	240	deg

Table 1: parameters values used for the benchmark.

⁵We use $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \text{atan2}(y, x) = -\frac{y}{x^2+y^2}$ and $\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \text{atan2}(y, x) = \frac{x}{x^2+y^2}$

notation	geomagnetism	WMM test value	relative error
D	69.125	69.13	-0.006
Dd	-0.094	-0.09	4.342
F	54912.078	54912.1	0.0
Fd	-83.356	-83.4	-0.052
H	16884.992	16885.0	0.0
Hd	12.551	12.6	-0.388
I	-72.091	-72.09	0.002
Id	0.041	0.04	4.462
X	6016.523	6016.5	0.0
Xd	30.379	30.4	-0.068
Y	15776.705	15776.7	0.0
Yd	1.847	1.8	2.578
Z	-52251.635	-52251.6	0.0
Zd	91.656	91.7	-0.047

Table 2: comparison of the geomagnetic field element obtained by both the geomagnetism package and those extract from the Table 3b High-precision numerical example from Chullia. [2]

9 Examples

Using the following code generates the xarrays of: $X, Y, Z, F, H, \dot{X}, \dot{Y}, \dot{Z}, \dot{F}, \dot{H}$.

```
import numpy as np
import geomagnetism as geo
'''
compute the xarrays: dintensities containing X,Y,Z,F,H;
                    dangles containing I, D;
                    dintensities_sv containing the the time derivative of X,Y,Z,F,H;
                    dangles_sv containing the the time derivative of I, D;
for the colatitudes and longitudes specified in the arrays colatitudes, longitudes
'''

colatitudes = np.linspace(0,180,181)
longitudes = np.linspace(-180,179,360)

dintensities, dangles, dintensities_sv, dangles_sv = geo.grid_geomagnetic(colatitudes,
                                                                           longitudes)
```

Using the following code generates the the plots of figure 9.

```
'''
Examples of plots of geomagnetic components using different pojections (spstere, npstere, mill)
'''
component = 'F' # should be 'X','Y','Z','F','H','I','D','Xd','Yd','Zd','Fd','Hd','Id','Dd'
geo.plot_geomagetism(dintensities,
                    dangles,
                    dintensities_sv,
                    dangles_sv,
                    component,
                    {'proj':'spstere',
                    'boundinglat':-55,
                    'lon_0':270})

geo.plot_geomagetism(dintensities,
                    dangles,
                    dintensities_sv,
                    dangles_sv,
                    component,
                    {'proj':'npstere',
                    'boundinglat':70,
                    'lon_0':270} )

geo.plot_geomagetism(dintensities,
                    dangles,
                    dintensities_sv,
                    dangles_sv,
                    component,
                    {'proj':'mill',
```

```

'llcrnrlat':-90,
'urcrnrlat': 90,
'llcrnrlon':0,
'urcrnrlon':360} )

```

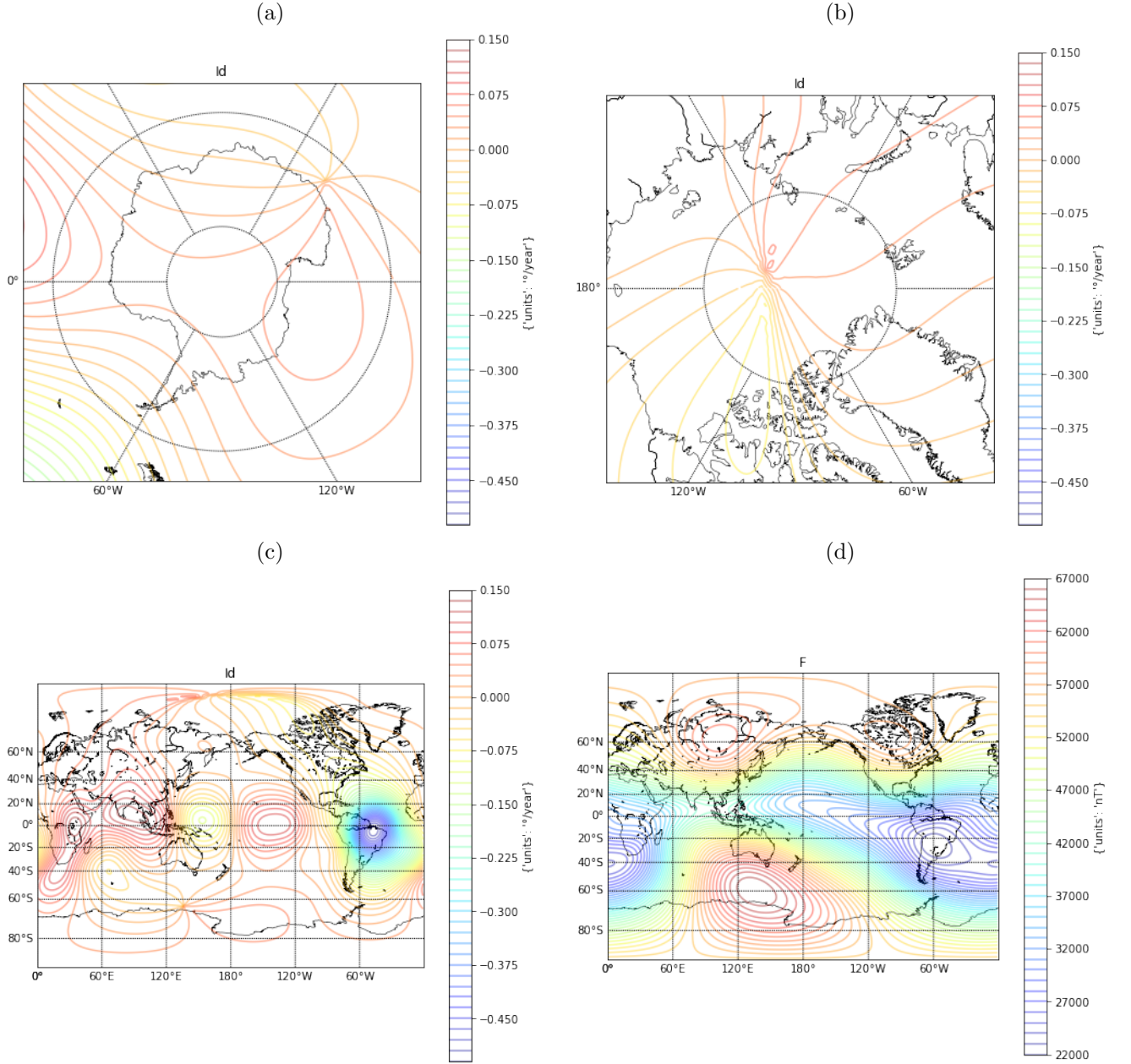


Figure 6: Examples: (a) \dot{I} at South pole; (b) \dot{I} at North pole; (c) \dot{I} for the whole world; (d) F for the whole world.

References

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