

Estimating total magnetization direction using equivalent layer technique

André L. A. Reis^{† *}, Vanderlei C. Oliveira Jr.[†] and Valéria C. F. Barbosa[†]

[†] *Observatório Nacional, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

^{*} *Corresponding author: decoluisreis@gmail.com*

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ABSTRACT

We have developed a new method for estimating the total magnetization direction of magnetic sources based on equivalent layer technique using total field anomaly data. In this approach, we do not have to impose a strong information about the shape and the depth of the sources, and do not require a regularly spaced data. Usually, this technique is used for processing potential data estimating a 2D magnetic moment distribution over a fictitious layer composed by dipoles below the observation plane. In certain conditions, when the magnetization direction of equivalent sources is almost the same of true body, the estimated magnetic property over the layer is all positive. The methodology uses a positivity constraint to estimate a set of magnetic moment over the layer and a magnetization direction of the layer through a iterative process. Mathematically, the algorithm solve a least squares problem in two steps: the first one solve a linear problem for estimating a magnetic moment and the second solve a non-linear problem for magnetization direction of the layer. We test the methodology applying to synthetic data for different geometries and

magnetization types of sources. Moreover, we applied this method to field data from Goiás Alkaline Province (GAP), center of Brazil (FALAR DO RESULTADO DAS APLICAES NAS ANOMALIAS)

METHODOLOGY

Fundamentals of magnetic equivalent layer and the positive magnetic-moment distribution

Considering a Cartesian coordinate system with x -, y - and z -axis being oriented to north, east and downward, respectively. Let $\Delta T_i \equiv \Delta T(x_i, y_i, z_i)$ be the total field anomaly, at the i th position (x_i, y_i, z_i) , produced by a continuous layer located below the observation plane on the depth z_c , where $z_c > z_i$, and $p(x', y', z_c)$ is the distribution of magnetic dipoles per unit area over the layer surface. In this case, the total-field anomaly produced by a continuous layer is given by equation

$$\Delta T_i = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} p(x', y', z_c) [\gamma_m \hat{\mathbf{F}}_0^T \mathbf{H}(x_i, y_i, z_i, x', y', z_c) \hat{\mathbf{h}}(\mathbf{q})] dx' dy', \quad (1)$$

where γ_m is a constant proportional to the vacuum permeability, $\hat{\mathbf{F}}_0$ is a unit vector with the same direction of the main geomagnetic field given by

$$\hat{\mathbf{F}}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \cos I \cos D \\ \cos I \sin D \\ \sin I \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2)$$

where I and D are the inclination and declination, respectively, and $\mathbf{H}(x_i, y_i, z_i, x', y', z_c)$ is a 3×3 dimensional matrix equal to

$$\mathbf{H}(x_i, y_i, z_i, x', y', z_c) = \begin{bmatrix} \partial_{xx}\phi & \partial_{xy}\phi & \partial_{xz}\phi \\ \partial_{yx}\phi & \partial_{yy}\phi & \partial_{yz}\phi \\ \partial_{zx}\phi & \partial_{zy}\phi & \partial_{zz}\phi \end{bmatrix}, \quad (3)$$

where $\partial_{\alpha\beta}\phi$, $\alpha = x, y, z$ and $\beta = x, y, z$, is the second derivative of the scalar function

$$\phi(x_i, y_i, z_i, x', y', z_c) = \frac{1}{[(x_i - x')^2 + (y_i - y')^2 + (z_i - z_c)^2]^{\frac{1}{2}}}. \quad (4)$$

with respect to the Cartesian coordinates x_i , y_i and z_i of the observation points. The $\hat{\mathbf{h}}(\mathbf{q})$ is a unit vector with the magnetization direction of the layer given by

$$\hat{\mathbf{h}}(\mathbf{q}) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \tilde{\mathbf{i}} \cos \tilde{d} \\ \cos \tilde{\mathbf{i}} \sin \tilde{d} \\ \sin \tilde{\mathbf{i}} \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

and \mathbf{q} is a 2×1 vector with components given by

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{i}} \\ \tilde{d} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (6)$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{i}}$ and \tilde{d} is the inclination and declination of magnetization of the layer, respectively.

We can also notice that the vector defined in equation 5 represents the uniform magnetization direction on the layer. For convenience, this unit vector can be rewritten as follows

$$\hat{\mathbf{h}}(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{R} \hat{\mathbf{m}}, \quad (7)$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{m}}$ defines the uniform magnetization direction of an arbitrary magnetic source and \mathbf{R} is a 3×3 matrix obtained from Euler's rotation theorem. This theorem states that any rotation can be parametrized by using three parameters called Euler angles (CITAR GOLDSTEIN). That is, if the unit vector $\hat{\mathbf{h}}(\mathbf{q})$ (equation 5) has the same direction as unit vector $\hat{\mathbf{m}}$ in the direction of the magnetic source, the matrix \mathbf{R} (equation 7) is equal to identity. For this reason, the total-field anomaly produced by equivalent layer at the i th position (x_i, y_i, z_i) (equation 1) can be rewritten as

$$\Delta T_i = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} p(x', y', z_c) [\gamma_m \hat{\mathbf{F}}_0^T \mathbf{H}(x_i, y_i, z_i, x', y', z_c) \hat{\mathbf{m}}] dx' dy', \quad (8)$$

which represents the total-field anomaly produced by continuous layer with the same direction of the arbitrary magnetic source.

Forward problem for magnetic equivalent-layer technique

However, in practical situations, its not possible to determine a continuous magnetic-moment distribution $p(x', y', z_c)$ over the layer as shown in equation 1. For this reason, the continuous equivalent layer have to be approximated by a discrete set of M dipoles with unit volume located at a constant depth $z = z_c$. Let \mathbf{p} be an M -dimensional parameter vector, whose j th element p_j is the magnetic intensity of the j th dipole and \mathbf{q} be a vector containing the inclination \tilde{i} and declination \tilde{d} of all dipole, analogously to equation 6. Mathematically, by discretizing the integrand of equation 1, the total-field anomaly produced by equivalent layer at the point (x_i, y_i, z_i) is given by

$$\Delta T_i(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \sum_{j=1}^M p_j g_{ij}(\mathbf{q}) \quad (9)$$

where

$$g_{ij}(\mathbf{q}) = \gamma_m \hat{\mathbf{F}}_0^T \mathbf{H}_{ij} \hat{\mathbf{h}}(\mathbf{q}) \quad (10)$$

is an harmonic function representing the total-field anomaly produced at the i th position (x_i, y_i, z_i) by a dipole located at (x_j, y_j, z_c) with unitary magnetic-moment intensity. The matrix \mathbf{H}_{ij} is formed by the second derivatives of a function ϕ_{ij} that depends on the inverse

of the scalar function $r_{ij} = [(x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2 + (z_i - z_c)^2]^{1/2}$, analogously to equation 3 and 4. In matrix notation, the equation 9 can be represented as

$$\Delta \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{q})\mathbf{p} \quad (11)$$

where $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{q})$ is an $N \times M$ matrix whose ij th element is defined by the harmonic function $g_{ij}(\mathbf{q})$ (equation 10) and $\Delta \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$ is an $N \times 1$ vector whose the i th element is the predicted total-field anomaly $\Delta T_i(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$ (equation 9). As can be noticed from equation 9-11, the predicted total-field anomaly produced by equivalent layer has a linear relation with the magnetic moment \mathbf{p} and a nonlinear relation with the magnetization direction \mathbf{q} .

Iterative process for magnetization estimation

Let $\Delta \mathbf{T}^o$ be an N -dimensional vector whose i th element ΔT_i^o is the total field anomaly observation produced by a magnetic source at the point (x_i, y_i, z_i) , $i = 1, \dots, N$. The estimation of the magnetic moments \mathbf{p} and the magnetization direction \mathbf{q} consists to formulate an inverse problem by imposing a positivity constraint on the magnetic-moment distribution. It can be performed by minimizing the difference between the observed data $\Delta \mathbf{T}^o$ and the predicted data $\Delta \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$ (equation 11) by imposing a positivity constraint.

In other words, a stable estimates $\mathbf{p}^\#$ and $\mathbf{q}^\#$ can be obtained by minimizing the objective function given by

$$\Psi(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \| \Delta \mathbf{T}^o - \Delta \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \|_2^2, \quad (12)$$

where $\Psi(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$ is the data misfit, which is the Euclidean norm of the difference between the $\Delta \mathbf{T}^o$ and $\Delta \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$.

The procedure of finding a set of magnetic moment \mathbf{p}^\sharp and magnetization direction \mathbf{q}^\sharp which minimize the equation 12 consists to solve an inverse problem for estimating a set of parameters in two steps. Therefore, we split the inverse problem in a mixed solution of two systems of equations. The first one solves a linear system for estimating the part of the magnetic moment. Secondly, the problem is solved through a non-linear process to calculate successive approximations for the part of the magnetization direction at each iteration along the process.

However, at the k th iteration, we impose positivity constraint on the magnetic-moment distribution estimate \mathbf{p}^k by solving the following constrained problem of

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimizing} \quad \|\Delta \mathbf{T}^o - \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{q}_{k-1})\mathbf{p}^k\|_2^2 \\ &\text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{p}^k \geq 0 \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

where $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{q}_{k-1})$ is the $N \times M$ matrix defined in equation 11, $\|\cdot\|_2^2$ represents the squared Euclidean norm and $\mathbf{p}^k \geq 0$ means that the magnetic moments of all equivalent sources are positive. This problem is solved by using the nonnegative least squares (NNLS) proposed by (CITAR LAWSON HANSON 1974). In other words, we solve a linear system with positivity constraint at each k th iteration given by the equation

$$\mathbf{p}^k = \left(\mathbf{G}_p^{(k)T} \mathbf{G}_p^{(k)} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{G}_p^{(k)T} \Delta \mathbf{T}^o \tag{14}$$

where $\mathbf{G}_p^{(k)}$ is the magnetic-moment sensitivity matrix at the k th iteration. The elements of this matrix are composed by derivative of equation 9 in relation of j th element of the vector \mathbf{p}^k .

After estimating the magnetic-moment distribution \mathbf{p}^k at the k th iteration using the

previous estimate \mathbf{q}_{k-1} for the magnetization direction, we estimate a new vector \mathbf{q}^k by solving an unconstrained nonlinear inverse problem of minimizing the squared Euclidean norm of the difference between the observed and predicted total-field anomalies. In this nonlinear inversion we use the Levenberg-Marquardt method (CITAR ASTER). That is, we calculate at each k th iteration the step $\Delta\mathbf{q}^k$ for the magnetization direction by using the equation

$$\Delta\mathbf{q}^k = (\mathbf{G}_q^{(k)T} \mathbf{G}_q^{(k)} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{G}_q^{(k)T} \mathbf{r}^k \quad (15)$$

where λ is the Marquardt parameter that is updated along the iterative process, \mathbf{I} is a identity matrix, and the residual at the k th iteration $\mathbf{r}^k = \Delta\mathbf{T}^o - \Delta\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}^k, \mathbf{q}^{k-1})$. \mathbf{G}_q^k is a sensitivity matrix of the magnetization direction part, whose elements are composed by derivative of equation 9 in relation of each component of the vector \mathbf{q}^k , that are the inclination and declination, respectively. The iterative process stops when the squared Euclidean norm of the difference between the observed data $\Delta\mathbf{T}^o$ and predicted data $\Delta\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$ (equation 11) is invariant along successive iterations (Figure 2).

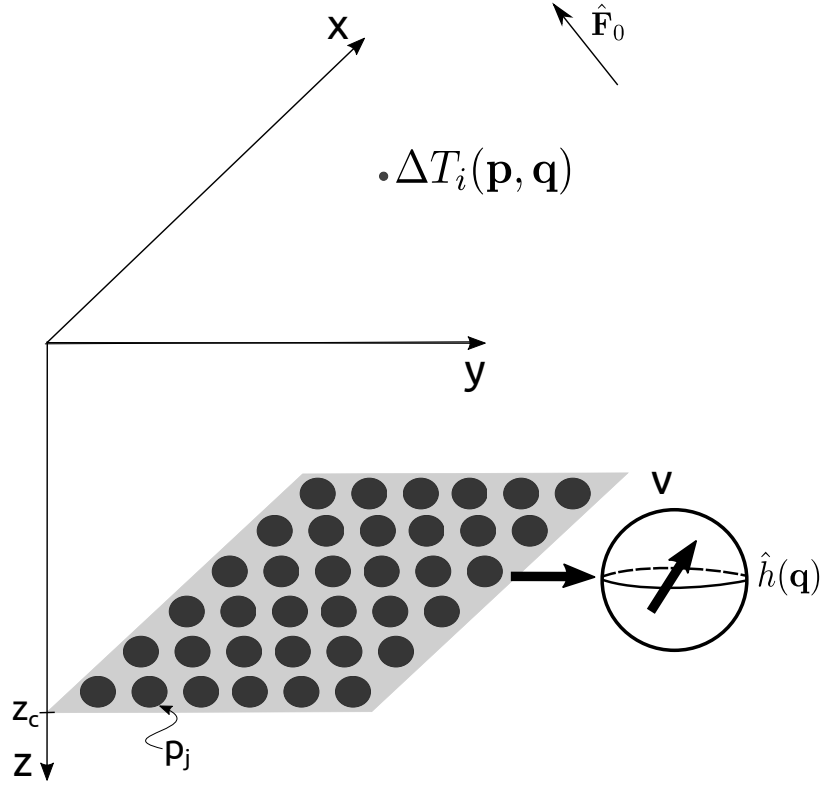


Figure 1: Schematic representation of an equivalent layer. The layer is positioned over the horizontal plane at a depth of $z = z_c$. $\Delta T_i(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$ is the predicted total-field anomaly at the point (x_i, y_i, z_i) produced by the set of M equivalent sources (black dots). Each source is located at the point (x_j, y_j, z_c) , $j = 1, \dots, M$, and represented by a dipole with unity volume v with magnetization direction $\hat{\mathbf{h}}(\mathbf{q})$ and magnetic moment p_j .

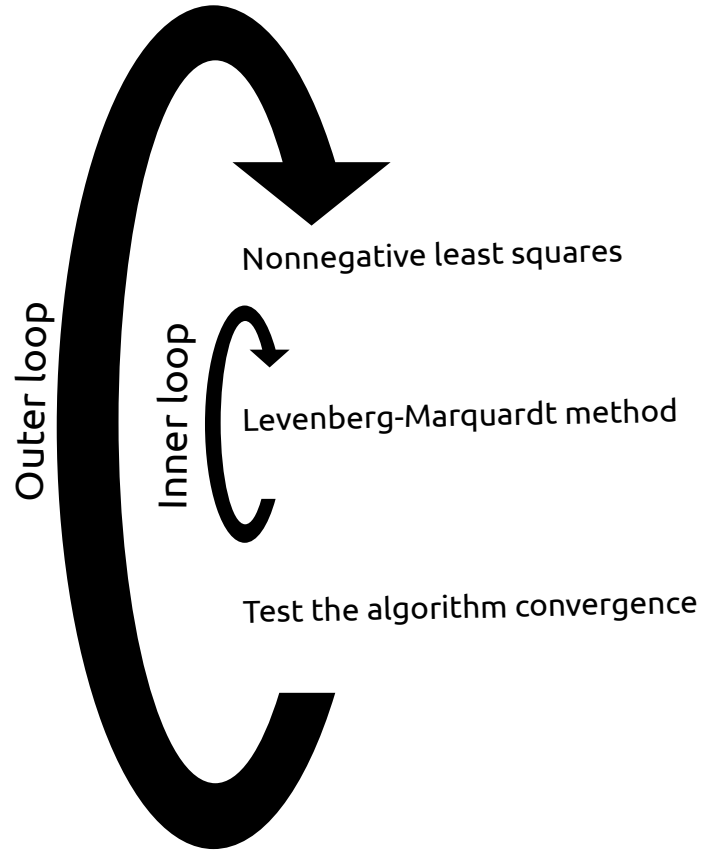


Figure 2: Iterative scheme overview for NNLS and Levenberg-Marquardt method for estimating magnetization direction. The outer loop is the nonnegative solution for magnetic-moment distribution and the inner loop calculates the magnetization direction using Levenberg-Marquardt method.