

Introduction to 3D MT inversion code *x3Di*

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and Marion Jegen

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to 3D MT
inversion code
x3Di

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M. Jegen

X3DI

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- 2** Salt Dome Overhang Detectability Study with *x3Di*
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How 3D inverse problem is commonly solved

Traditionally solution is sought as a stationary point of a penalty function

$$\varphi(\mathbf{m}, \lambda) = \varphi_d(\mathbf{m}) + \lambda \varphi_s(\mathbf{m}) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{m}} \min \quad (1)$$

$\varphi_d(\mathbf{m})$ data misfit

$\varphi_s(\mathbf{m})$ Tikhonov-type stabilizer

λ regularization parameter

\mathbf{m} vector of model parameters (conductivities)

$$\varphi_d(\mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{2} \|d^{obs} - F(\mathbf{m})\|^2 \quad (2)$$

$F(\mathbf{m})$ is a forward problem mapping

$$\varphi_s(\mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{m}^{ref})\|^2 \quad (3)$$

\mathbf{m}^{ref} vector of model parameters, for some reference model, which usually include some a priori information.

Where are the differences between 3D inversion codes?

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- 1 model parameters (σ , ρ , $\log \rho$, $\log \sigma$ etc.)
- 2 forward problem solver (FD, FE or IE)
- 3 optimization method (GN, QN, LMQN, NLCG etc.)
- 4 form of the data misfit φ_d
- 5 form of the stabilizer φ_s

Where are the differences between 3D inversion codes?



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All iterative methods work at the same manner. At each iteration l they find:

- 1 a search direction vector $\mathbf{p}^{(l)}$
- 2 a step length $\alpha^{(l)}$ using an inexact line search along $\mathbf{p}^{(l)}$
- 3 the next, improved model given by $\mathbf{m}^{(l+1)} = \mathbf{m}^{(l)} + \alpha^{(l)}\mathbf{p}^{(l)}$

The difference is in how a specific method finds the search direction and in what price is paid for this.

$$\text{NLCG } \mathbf{p}^{(l)} = -\mathbf{g}^{(l)} + \gamma^{(l)}\mathbf{p}^{(l-1)}, \text{ where } \gamma^{(l)} = \frac{\mathbf{g}^{(l)} \cdot \mathbf{g}^{(l)}}{\mathbf{g}^{(l-1)} \cdot \mathbf{g}^{(l-1)}}$$

$$\text{Newton, GN } \mathbf{H}^{(l)}\mathbf{p}^{(l)} = -\mathbf{g}^{(l)}$$

$$\text{QN } \{\mathbf{m}^{(i)}, \mathbf{g}^{(i)} : i = 1, \dots, l\} \rightarrow \mathbf{p}^{(l)}$$

$$\text{LMQN } \{\mathbf{m}^{(i)}, \mathbf{g}^{(i)} : i = l - n_{cp}, \dots, l\} \rightarrow \mathbf{p}^{(l)}$$

$$H_{ij}^{(l)} = \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial m_i \partial m_j}(\mathbf{m}^{(l)}), \quad \mathbf{g}_i^{(l)} = \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial m_i}(\mathbf{m}^{(l)})$$

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- Calculation of gradients requires 2 forward modellings at each frequency
- **Important:** Straightforward calculation of the gradients would require $N + 1$ forward modellings, i.e. in $\approx N/2$ times more

Example: number of model parameters = 3000

Single forward modelling requires ≈ 4 min on PC

⇒ Straightforward calculation of the single gradient requires 8 days

Usually ≈ 200 iterations(gradients) is needed

⇒ Total inversion time is ≈ 4 years.

$$\varphi_d(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N_S} \sum_{j=1}^{N_T} \beta_{ij} \operatorname{tr} \left[\bar{\mathbf{A}}_{ij}^T(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \mathbf{A}_{ij}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right] \quad (4)$$

$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_N)^T$ the vector of the electrical conductivities of the cells, N number of cells

N_S number of MT sites $\mathbf{r}_i = (x_i, y_i, z = 0)$

N_T number of frequencies ω_j

$\mathbf{A}_{ij} = \mathbf{Z}_{ij} - \mathbf{D}_{ij}$ 2×2 matrices

\mathbf{Z}_{ij} complex-valued predicted $\mathbf{Z}(\mathbf{r}_i, \omega_j)$ impedance

\mathbf{D}_{ij} complex-valued observed $\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{r}_i, \omega_j)$ impedance

β_{ij} some positive weights

$$\operatorname{tr} \left[\bar{\mathbf{A}}^T \mathbf{A} \right] = \bar{A}_{11} A_{11} + \bar{A}_{12} A_{12} + \bar{A}_{21} A_{21} + \bar{A}_{22} A_{22}$$

$$\frac{\partial \varphi_d}{\partial \sigma_k} = \text{Re} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{N_T} \sum_{p=1}^2 \int_{V_k} \left(\mathbf{u}_x^{(p)} \mathbf{E}_x^{(p)} + \mathbf{u}_y^{(p)} \mathbf{E}_y^{(p)} + \mathbf{u}_z^{(p)} \mathbf{E}_z^{(p)} \right) dV \right\} \quad (5)$$

Maxwell's equation

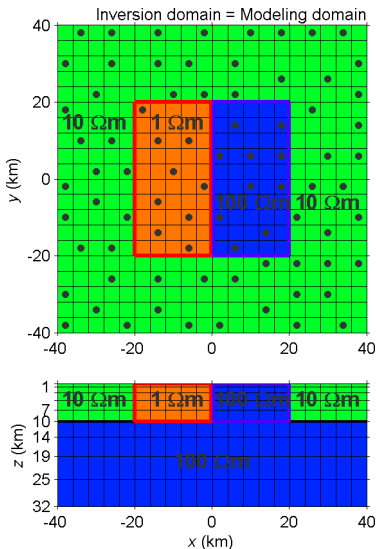
$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{E}_j^{(p)} - \sqrt{-1} \omega_j \mu \sigma(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{E}_j^{(p)} = \sqrt{-1} \omega_j \mu \mathbf{J}_j^{(p)} \quad (6)$$

Adjoint Maxwell's equation

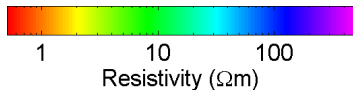
$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{u}_j^{(p)} - \sqrt{-1} \omega_j \mu \sigma(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{u}_j^{(p)} = \sqrt{-1} \omega_j \mu \left(\mathbf{j}_j^{(p)} + \nabla \times \mathbf{h}_j^{(p)} \right) \quad (7)$$

$\mathbf{j}_j^{(p)}$ and $\mathbf{h}_j^{(p)}$ - horizontal electric and magnetic dipoles at the MT sites
 $p = 1, 2$ - polarization

The forward modelling is performed with *X3D* by (Avdeev *et al.*, 2002).



$N = 20 \times 20 \times 9$ cells
 $dx = dy = 4$ km
 $N_S = 80$ MT sites
 $N_T = 3$ periods:
 100, 300, 1000 s
 noise - 1%
 initial guess model:
 50 Ω m halfspace



Logarithmic parametrization vs conductivities: inversion results

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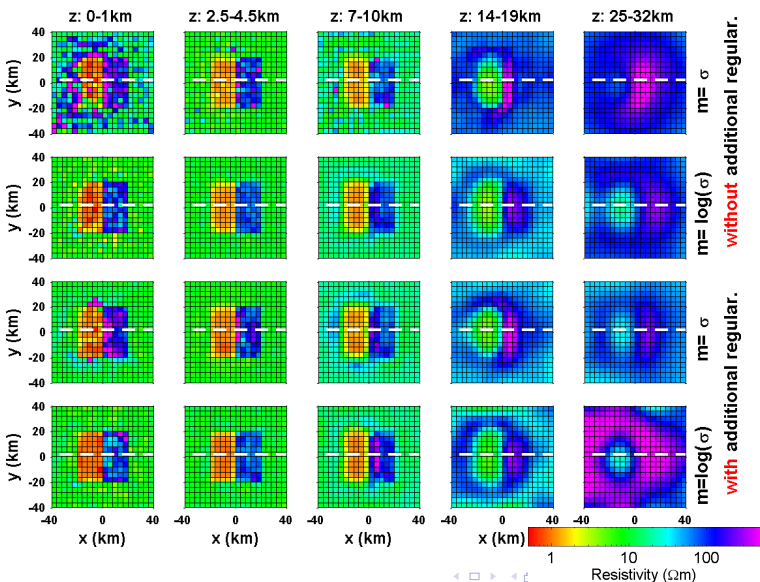
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Logarithmic parametrization vs conductivities: convergence curves

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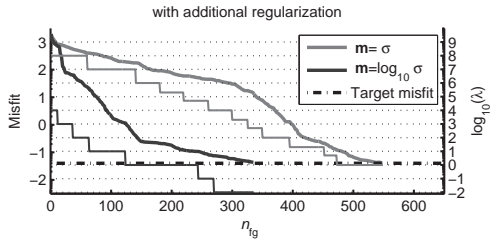
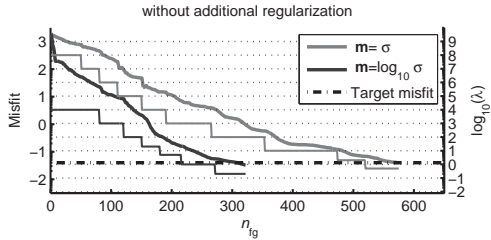
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Tikhonov-type stabilizers:

- Laplace

$$\varphi_s = dx dy \sum_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \left[\frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial z^2} \right]_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^2 dz_\gamma \quad (8)$$

- Gradient

$$\varphi_s = dx dy \sum_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \left[\left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial y} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial z} \right)^2 \right]_{\alpha\beta\gamma} dz_\gamma \quad (9)$$

Gradient vs Laplace: inversion results

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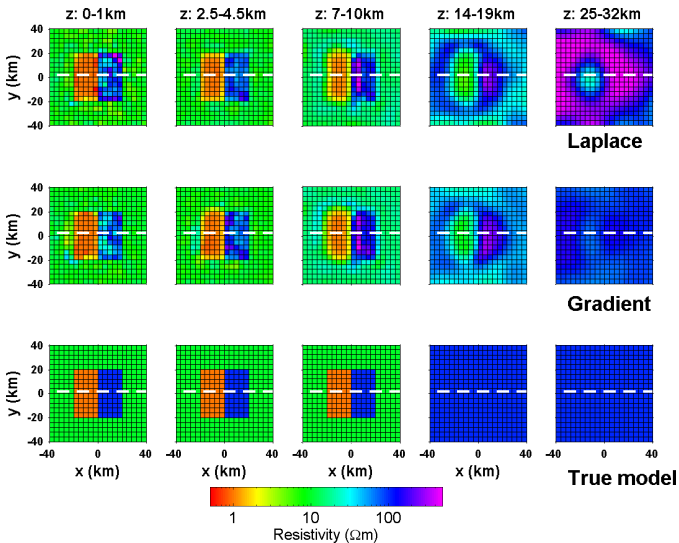
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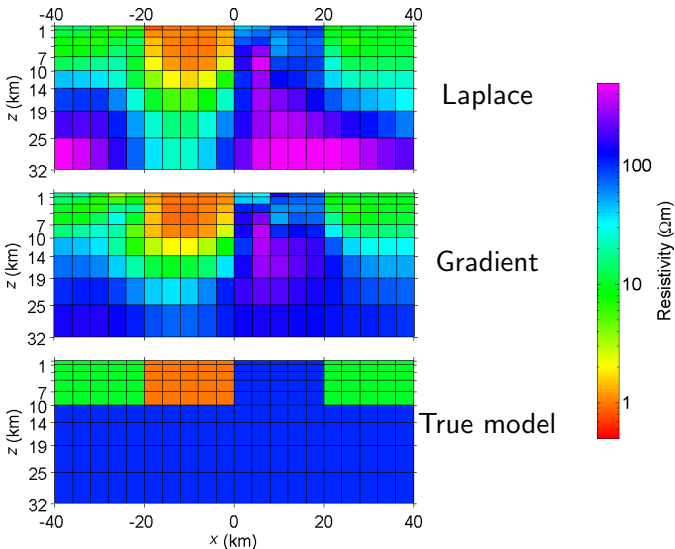
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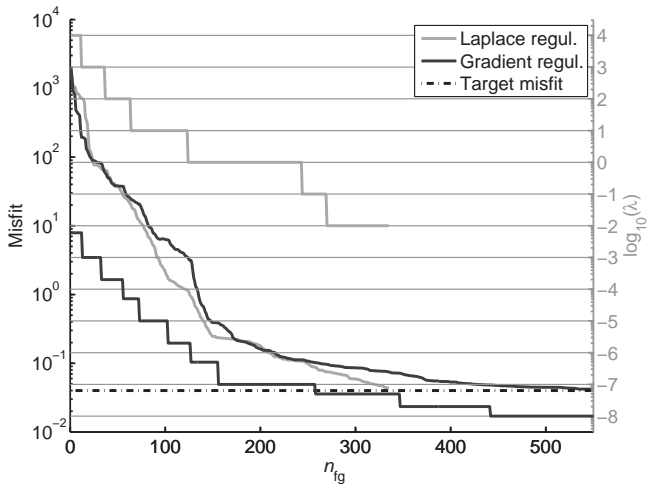
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3D Model of a salt wall

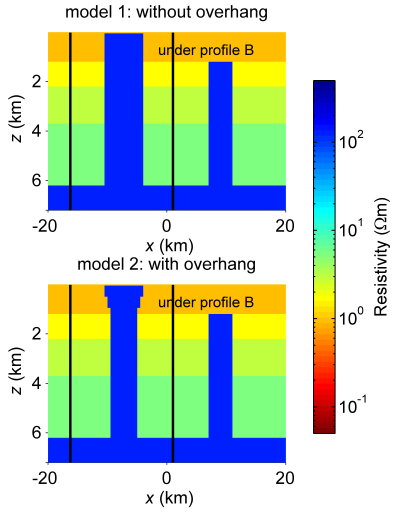
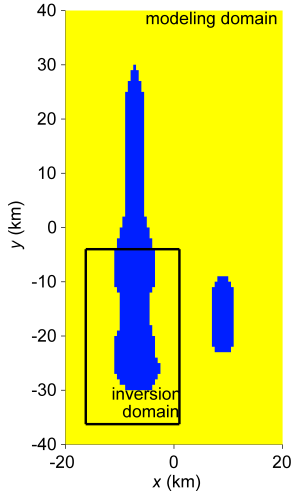
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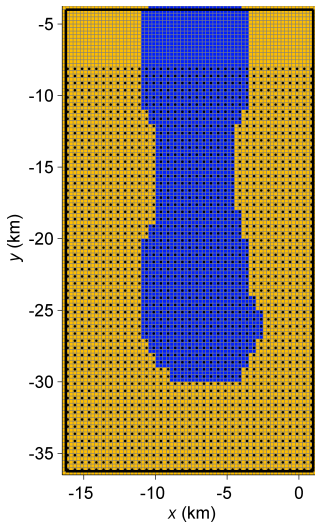
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$N = 129 \times 69 \times 13$ cells

$dx = dy = 0.25$ km

$N_S = 1995$ MT sites

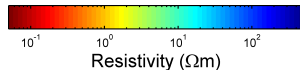
$N_T = 5$ frequencies:

$10^{-3} - 10^1$ Hz

noise - 5%

initial guess model:

$11 \Omega\text{m}$ halfspace



Inversion result for model 2 with overhang. 1995 MT sites. Horizontal slices

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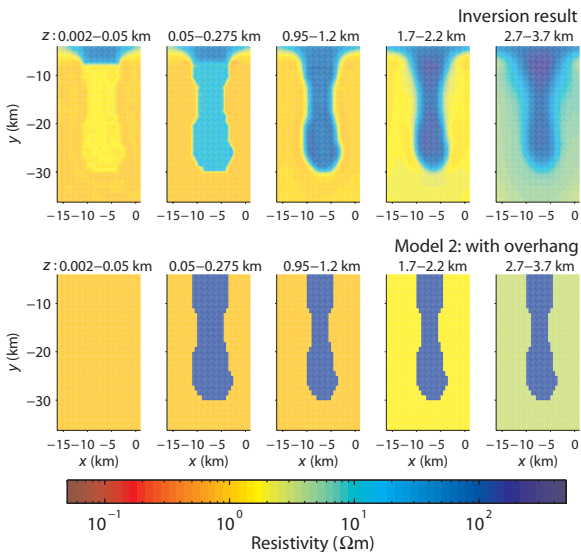
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Inversion result: model 1 vs model 2. 1995 MT sites. Vertical slices

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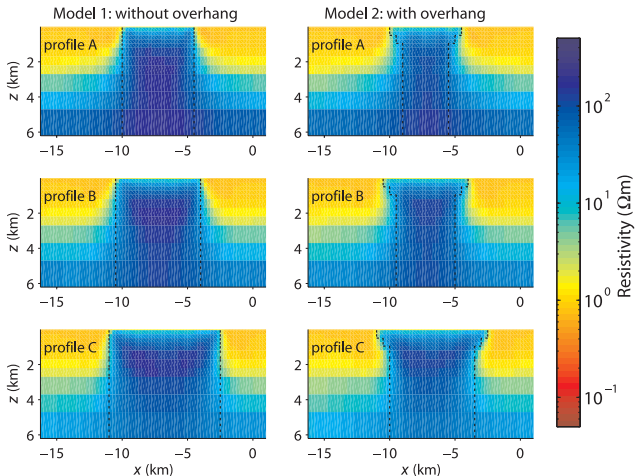
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105 MT sites along three profiles

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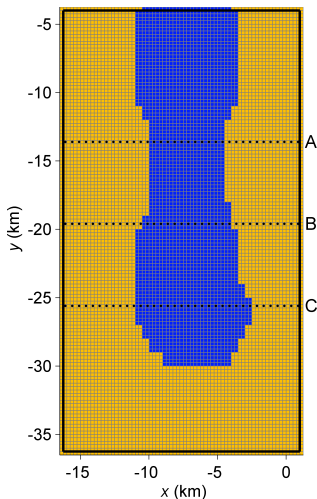
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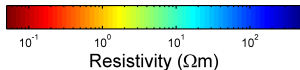
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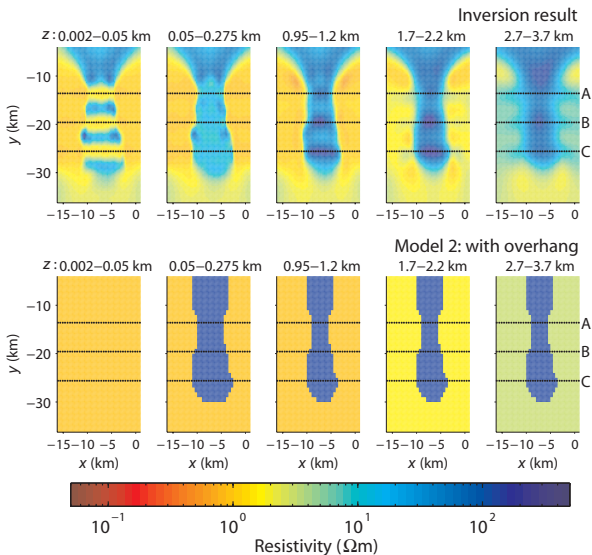
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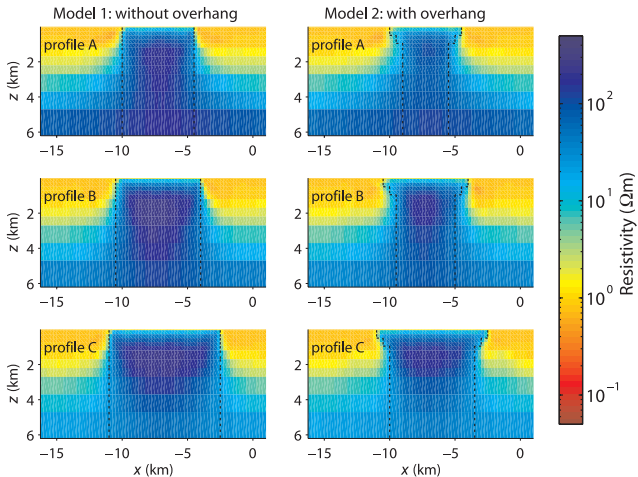
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- Logarithmic parametrization is beneficial in terms of inversion result and computational time
- Regularization based on Gradient suppresses spatial resistivity gradients
- The *x3Di* code produces encouraging results for salt dome overhang detectability

We would like to thank

- Wintershall Holding AG, who funded the inversion study and 20 ocean bottom MT instruments

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