

ELECTROMAGNETIC SIMULATION AND INVERSION OF MAGNETIC FIELD DATA FROM PLANETARY AND ASTEROID ANALOGS ON THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION (ISS)

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THE MFX EXPERIMENT

Experiment:

- Electromagnetic experiment on planetary and asteroid analogs exposed to the varying Earth's magnetic field aboard the ISS
- Developed and constructed by AIRBUS on behalf of DLR
- Commissioned in 2018 during Alexander Geist's mission "horizons – knowledge for tomorrow"

Samples:

- Meteorites, rocks, technical materials, reference materials

Data:

- Time series of 3 components of the magnetic field measured in the vicinity of the samples

Approach:

- Individual investigation of magnetic and induction phenomena with separate simulation and inversions
- Process understanding for the magnitude of the contributions
- Possibility of upscaling to planetoids / asteroids

MAGNETOSTATICS

Magnetostatic reaction of magnetizable sample to external magnetic field

- Linear problem for each point in time
- Magnetic susceptibility κ of sample
- Mesh from Gmsh, import to Matlab
- Simulation based on Bär, M. (2012)
- Simultaneous linear inversion of measured data for κ

$\vec{B} = -\mu \nabla U$
 $-\nabla \cdot (\mu \nabla U) = f$
 $\mu_0 (1 + \kappa)$ stimulating field

B_0 from reference sensor
 13th July 2018, 3h 30min
 7 subsamples

$\kappa = 38.6$

ELECTROMAGNETIC INDUCTION

Aim: Numerical simulation of electromagnetic induction in different samples of the MFX experiment due to a time-varying external magnetic field

- Nédelec finite elements on unstructured grids (Schneider et al., subm.; Schwarzbach et al., 2011)
- Governing partial differential equation:
 $\nabla \times (\sigma^{-1} \nabla \times (\mu^{-1} \vec{B})) = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}_0}{\partial t}$
- \vec{B} mag. flux density, σ el. conductivity, μ magn. permeability
- Dirichlet boundary condition: $\vec{B}_x(t) = \vec{B}_0 \sin \omega t$
- First test: Homogeneous full-space with low ($\sigma = 10^{-6}$ S/m, lower left figure) and high electrical conductivity ($\sigma = 10^6$ S/m, lower right figure), test frequency $f = 0.05$ Hz and $B_0 = 1 \mu T$

[1] Bär, Matthias (2012). Entwicklung und Implementierung eines Algorithmus zur Berechnung der gravimetrischen und magnetischen Anomalie von homogenen Körpern mit beliebiger Oberfläche. TU Bergakademie Freiberg.
 [2] Schneider, C. H. et al. (2011). Adaptive finite element simulation for geo-electromagnetics—a marine case study. Geophysical Journal International, 183(1), 65–74.
 [3] DLR, Magnetostatische Experimente (MSE) - Raumfahrt. Gravimetrie und Magnetik, Wien New York: Springer Verlag.
 [4] Schwarzbach, C., Börner, R. U., & Spitzer, K. (2011). Three-dimensional adaptive higher order finite element simulation for geo-electromagnetics—a marine case study. Geophysical Journal International, 183(1), 65–74.
 [5] Schneider, C. H. et al., Spitzer, K., submitted. Adaptive Mesh Refinement in Three-dimensional Transient Electromagnetic Modelling Using a Hanging-Edge Approach. Geophysical Journal International.

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