

# Magnetic–Gravity Gradient Inversion for Underwater Object Detection

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**Abstract.** A new underwater object detection method based on joint Gravity Gradient and Magnetic Gradient Inversion algorithm is proposed in this paper. Magnetic gradient and gravity gradient anomalies induced by an underwater object can be measured and intended to estimate the relative change in distance between underwater object and underwater vehicle. The weight least square estimation is introduced to combine equation of magnetic gradient and gravity gradient inversion. Therefore, the joint inversion method gets an optimal relative position of underwater object using any kind of data. Simulation results show that the proposed method is more efficient than the previous joint gravity gradient tensor inversion and magnetic gradient tensor inversion respectively.

**Keywords:** Magnetic gradient inversion Gravity gradient inversion Underwater object detection Weight least square estimation

## 1 Introduction

Underwater object detection is an area of research with broad commercial and military application. How to detect underwater abnormal objects is still a major challenge in underwater navigation field nowadays [1-2]. Over past decade, underwater object detection methods based on gravity gradient and magnetic anomalies have been researched widely [3-8]. In the field of underwater object detection based on gravity gradient tensor, Lin Wang used gravity gradient inversion method to detect abnormal objects in underwater environment [4]. Furthermore, in reference [5], joint gravity and gravity gradient inversion is presented for passive surface object detection. In reference [7], Z Yan presented a novel method for underwater object detection based on the gravity gradient differential and the gravity gradient differential attributed by the relative motion between the AUV and the object. In the field of underwater object detection based on magnetic gradient tensor, Y Huang proposed a localization method combined with magnetic gradient tensor and depth [8]. Hao Fanling put forward an available solution, where the geomagnetic anomaly induced a magnetic dipole target and the relative position of vehicle is determined by magnetic magnitude and gradient of target [9].

After considering the in i ability requirement of AUV and the existing problem in using gravity gradient and magnetic gradient for detecting object, this paper proposed a novel and practical solution to combine magnetic gradient inversion and Gravity Gradient Inversion in an information fusion, which is the two kind of data are complementary to each other and an optimal detection is calculated by the weighted least square estimation.

This paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, the joint gravity gradient and magnetic gradient inversion algorithm are introduced and analyzed, In Section 3, the experiment and simulation results are discussed. Conclusion are summarized in Section 4.

## 2 Joint Gravity Gradient and Magnetic Gradient Inversion Method

### 2.1 Structure of Joint Geophysical Inversion Method

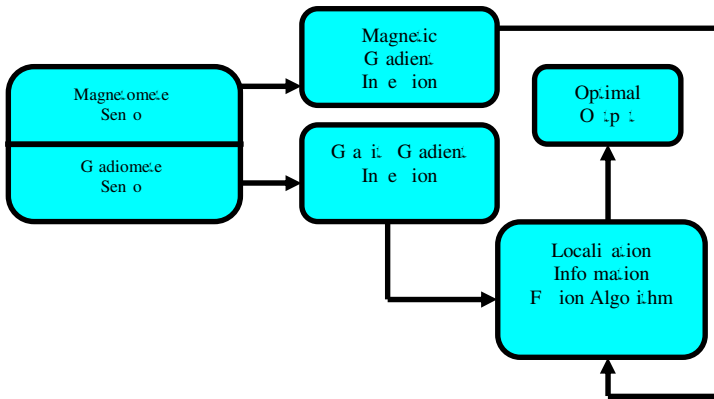


Fig. 1. Block diagram of Magnetic-Gravity Gradient Inversion for Underwater Object Detection

### 2.2 Introduction of Information Fusion Algorithm

In Fig1, after calculating the relative distance from gravity gradient inversion method and magnetic gradient inversion method, which are denoted by  $P_{gg}$  and  $P_{mg}$  respectively, the weighted least square estimation method in reference [4][5] is conducted to get an optimal relative distance between underwater vehicle and underwater object. The optimal equation is shown as follows:

$$\begin{cases} P_{Join} = W_{gg} P_{gg} + W_{mg} P_{mg} \\ \delta_r = \sqrt{\sum w_{ig}^2 \delta_{ig}^2} \\ \sum w_{ig} = 1 \\ 0 \leq w_{ig} \leq 1 \\ i = g, m \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Where  $W_{gg}$  and  $W_{mg}$  are weight coming from gradient inertial and magnetic gradient inertial.  $P_{Join}$  is the optimal localization information. In inertial method, according to method introduced in reference [8][9], the relationship between underwater object and underwater vehicle can be expressed as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial B_x}{\partial X} = a = \frac{3\mu x(3r^2 - 5x^2)m_x + y(3r^2 - 5x^2)m_y + z(3r^2 - 5x^2)m_z}{r^7} \\ \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial Y} = b = \frac{3\mu x(3r^2 - 5y^2)m_x + y(3r^2 - 5y^2)m_y + z(3r^2 - 5y^2)m_z}{r^7} \\ c = -(a+b) \\ \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial X} = d = \frac{3\mu y(3r^2 - 5x^2)m_x + x(3r^2 - 5x^2)m_y - 5yzm_z}{r^7} \\ \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial Y} = e = \frac{3\mu z(r^2 - 5y^2)m_y + y(r^2 - 5z^2)m_z - 5yzm_x}{r^7} \\ \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial X} = f = \frac{3\mu z(r^2 - 5x^2)m_x + x(r^2 - 5z^2)m_z - 5yzm_y}{r^7} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{cases} A_6 k^6 + A_5 k^5 + A_4 k^4 + A_3 k^3 + A_2 k^2 + A_1 k + A_0 = 0 \\ A_0 = d^2(a+2b) - e^2(a-b) + 2def \\ A_5 = -2d[(a-b)(a+2b) + (d^2 + e^2 + f^2)] \\ A_4 = (a-b)^2(a+2b) + d^2(4a-7b) + (f^2 - 2e^2)(a-b) + 6edf \\ A_3 = -4d[(a-b)^2 + (d^2 + e^2 + f^2)] \\ A_2 = (a-b)^2(a+2b) + d^2(4b-7a) + (2f^2 - e^2)(a-b) + 6edf \\ A_1 = 2d[(a-b)(a+2b) - (d^2 + e^2 + f^2)] \\ A_0 = d^2(a+2b) + f^2(a-b) + 2edf \end{cases}$$

$$q = \frac{d(k^2 - 1) - (a-b)k}{(ek - f)(k + 1)}$$

$$z = \frac{\pm 3}{\sqrt{[(ak+d)q+f]^2 + [(dk+b)q+e]^2 + [(fk+e)q+c]^2}}$$

$$x = kq$$

$$y = q$$

$$P_{mg} = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

$$P_{gg} = R(x, y, z) = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{\Gamma_x(x, y, z) + \Gamma_y(x, y, z)} \left(1 - \frac{3}{\left(\frac{\Gamma_x(x, y, z)}{\Gamma_x(x, y, z)}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Gamma_y(x, y, z)}{\Gamma_x(x, y, z)}\right)^2 + 1}\right)}$$

Where  $\Gamma_{ij}(x, y, z)$  denote the gradient value with coordinate  $x, y, z$ , respectively;  $\theta(x, y, z)$  and  $\varphi(x, y, z)$  stand for the relative orientation of an

nde $\forall$  are object;  $R(x, y, z)$  is a relative distance between the nde $\forall$  are vehicle and an nde $\forall$  are object that need to be detected;  $M$  is the mass of the object.  $G$  is the gravitational constant [4-5]; In order to get the value  $A$ , it is necessary to measure magnetic gradient (a, b, d, e, f). According to the method in reference [10], the single-axis magnetometer configuration is the implementation scheme of measuring magnetic gradient tensor. After obtaining parameters  $A$ , the differential equation in Eq. (2) can be calculated to get the value of  $k$ , then,  $k$  is used to calculate  $q$ . Finally, the nde $\forall$  are vehicle position parameters ( , , ) relative to the nde $\forall$  are object can be calculated by Eq. (2)

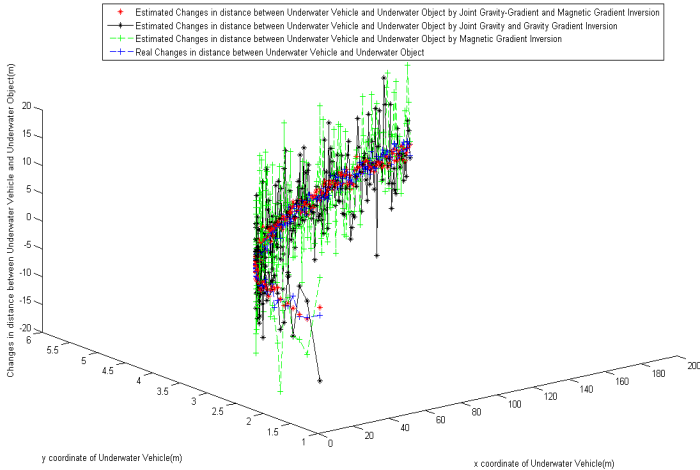
### 3 Stimulation Results

In order to do a comparison with the method in reference [4-5], a computer model was designed for the estimation of the change in distance between an nde $\forall$  are vehicle and an nde $\forall$  are object. The relevant parameters are listed in Table 1. Aiming position of nde $\forall$  are vehicle is fixed and nde $\forall$  are object is moving. Based on equation (2), after getting the value of gravitational gradient and magnetic gradient tensor, the relative distance between nde $\forall$  are vehicle and nde $\forall$  are object can be calculated. Then equation (1) is used to combine each gradient information by weighted least square estimation method in reference [4][5].

**Table 1.** Parameters of Unde $\forall$  are Object Model

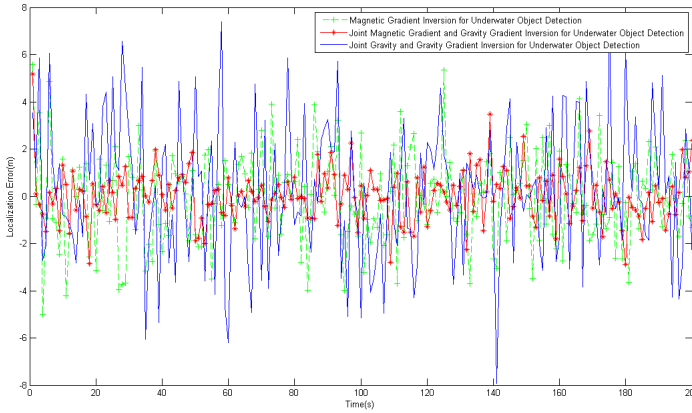
Model	Size (m)
$X$ direction	20
$Y$ direction	20
$Z$ direction	20
Density constant (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	25
Actual mass of object(kg)	$6.624 \times 10^4$
$m_x$	$10^6 A \cdot m^2$
$m_y$	$2 \times 10^5 A \cdot m^2$
$m_z$	$10^5 A \cdot m^2$

In this part of the simulation, a fixed nde $\forall$  are vehicle and a moving nde $\forall$  are object were established. The density distribution and the size of the object were ignored and the object was assumed to be a particle. While the object was moving, equation of a single-axis gravitational and magnetic gradient tensor at the fixed position of nde $\forall$  are vehicle could be measured simultaneously. According to Eq. (2), relative position between nde $\forall$  are vehicle and moving object can be calculated. Besides, a constant relative error of 12.33% was added to magnetic gradient information method, which means that  $\delta_{mg}$  in (1) was equal to 12.33%. When the relative error of gravitational (  $\delta_{gg}$  ) in (1) is 22.65%, here, the weighted least squares calculated with (1) is that  $W_{gg}=0.219$  and  $W_{mg}=0.781$ . The simulation results are shown in Fig. 2.



**Fig. 2.** A Comparison between actual change in distance between underwater vehicle and underwater object and estimated change in distance between underwater vehicle and underwater object based on Three Inversion method

In Fig.2, the actual change in distance between underwater vehicle and underwater object is depicted with a blue line. The estimated change in distance between underwater vehicle and underwater object by the proposed joint gravity gradient and magnetic gradient inversion method is denoted by red stars. The black squares denote the estimated change in distance between underwater vehicle and underwater object by Joint gravity and gravity gradient inversion. Finally, the green line is to illustrate the estimated change in distance between underwater vehicle and underwater object by magnetic gradient inversion. It is clearly seen that the estimated change in distance between underwater vehicle and underwater object by joint gravity gradient and magnetic gradient inversion method is in much better agreement with the actual change in distance between underwater vehicle and underwater object. In fact, the change in distance between underwater vehicle and underwater object is a good solution to reflect the relative position change between underwater vehicle and underwater object, the bias in estimated change in distance between underwater vehicle and underwater object come from measurement errors from magnetometer and gravimeter. The accuracy of each geophysical sensor has a great impact on the accuracy of underwater object localization. In addition, the fluctuation of magnetic field in underwater environment has a great impact on the accuracy of Joint gravity and gravity gradient inversion method. Furthermore, electromagnetic disturbance in underwater environment is another important factor which affects the accuracy of magnetic gradient inversion method. So, the joint gravity gradient and magnetic gradient inversion method is a good solution to eliminate each kind of negative influence on underwater object detection. The Fig.2 shows its effectiveness in underwater object detection.



**Fig. 3.** Error Comparison among the Underwater Object Detection Method

In Fig.3, it is clear to see that Joint Magnetic Gradient and Gravity Gradient Inversion method for underwater object detection has the best localization performance among the method. In fact, gravity and gravity gradient information is not affected by the fluctuation of a ion level in the underwater environment, on the contrary, magnetic gradient is affected by fluctuation of underwater terrain and time-distance. In this way, magnetic gradient is a good solution to combine with gravity gradient to realize underwater object detection. In the future, it is necessary to pay more attention to improve the accuracy of magnetometer and gradiometer and develop a better solution to realize data fusion method to fuse gravity gradient and magnetic gradient information.

### 4 Conclusions

Underwater Object detection method based on joint gravity gradient and magnetic gradient information has been proposed. The weighted least square method is used to fuse information from gravity gradient information and magnetic gradient information respectively. With this method, the change in distance between underwater vehicle and an underwater object can be detected accurately. Simulation results show that the joint information method is better than mono-magnetic gradient information method and joint gravity and gravity gradient information method.

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