#### EM: Grounded Sources





# **Outline**

- Basic experiment
- TDEM: Electric dipole in a whole space
- FDEM: Electric dipole in a whole space
- Currents in grounded systems
- Conductive Targets
- Resistive Targets
- Case History: Deccan Traps
- Marine CSEM: Overview
- Case History: Offshore Hydrocarbon De-risking
- Case History: Methane hydrates
- DC/EM Inversion

# Motivational examples





#### Oil and Gas (EOR) Methane hydrates



#### Galvanic source TEM

- LoTEM (ground)
- HeliSAM (Rx in the air)
- GREATEM (Rx in the air)



#### **Minerals**



#### Volcanoes





#### 4

- Electric dipole in a whole space
	- DC, 0.01 S/m

#### DC current density



$$
-20\begin{array}{c|c}\n & \text{profile} \\
-20 & 20 \\
 & \text{for } \\
 &
$$

Ix hole

Rx hole

40 20  $\frac{1}{2}$  (m)

$$
\mathbf{E}_{DC}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\sigma|\mathbf{r}|^3} \left( \frac{3\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{m} \cdot \mathbf{r})}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} - \mathbf{m} \right)
$$

$$
\mathbf{J}_{DC}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi |\mathbf{r}|^3} \left( \frac{3\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{m} \cdot \mathbf{r})}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} - \mathbf{m} \right)
$$

- Geometric decay:  $1/r<sup>3</sup>$
- Current path is geometric for homogeneous earth
- Electric field is dependent upon  $\sigma$













# TDEM vs. FDEM



- Waveform: Shut off
- No primary
- Measure in "Off-time"



- Waveform: harmonic
- Primary always on
- Data partitioned into
	- Real (In-phase)
	- Imag (Quadrature)

t=10<sup>-4</sup> ms, d = 4 m f=10<sup>4</sup> kHz, δ = 2 m  $\sqrt{2t}$  $\sqrt{2}$  $d =$  $\delta=$  $\mu\sigma$  $\text{Re}$  (J) –  $\text{Re}$ (J<sup>DC</sup>) j  $10^{-0.4}$ 40 40  $10^{-2.0}$ 20 20  $Z(m)$  $10^{-3.6}$ 0  $\Omega$  $-20$  $-20$  $10^{-5.2}$  $-40$  $-40$  $10^{-6.8}$ 20 40 60 80  $-20$ 20 40 60  $-20$ 0  $X(m)$  $1 d$  1  $\delta$ 

 $\frac{\textcolor{red}{\mathbf{I}}}{\omega\mu\sigma}$  .

 $10^{0.4}$ 

 $10^{-1.4} \begin{array}{c} \widehat{ } \\[-1.2mm] \widehat{ } \\[-1.2mm] 10^{-3.2} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \widehat{ } \\[-1.2mm] \widehat{ } \\[-1.2mm] \widehat{ } \\[-1.2mm] 10^{-3.2} \end{array}$ 

 $10^{-6.8}$ 

80

t=10<sup>-3</sup> ms, d = 13 m kHz, δ = 5 m  $\sqrt{2t}$  $d =$  $\mu\sigma$ j Re (J) – Re(J<sup>DC</sup>)  $10^{-4.4}$ 40 40  $10^{-5.0}$ 20 20  $Z(m)$  $10^{-5.6}$  $\pmb{0}$  $\Omega$  $-20$  $-20$  $10^{-6.2}$  $-40$  $-40$  $10^{-6.8}$  $-20$  $\pmb{0}$ 20 40 60 80  $-20$  $1 d$  1  $\delta$ 



t=10<sup>-2</sup> ms, d = 40m f=10<sup>2</sup> kHz, δ = 16 m  $\sqrt{2t}$  $\sqrt{2}$  $d =$  $\delta=$  $\frac{\textcolor{red}{\mathbf{I}}}{\omega\mu\sigma}$  .  $\mu\sigma$ j Re (J) – Re(J<sup>DC</sup>)  $10^{-5.6}$ 40 40  $10^{-6.2}$ 20 20  $Z(m)$  $10^{-6.9}$  $\,0\,$ 0  $-20$  $-20$  $10^{-7.5}$  $-40$  $-40$  $10^{-8.1}$  $-20$  $\pmb{0}$ 20 60 80  $-20$  $\mathbf 0$ 20 40 60  $X\left( \mathsf{m}\right)$  $1 d$  1  $\delta$ 

 $10^{-4.1}$ 

 $10^{-4.7}$   $\approx$   $10^{-5.4}$ <br> $10^{-5.4}$   $10^{-6.1}$   $10^{-6.1}$ 

 $10^{-6.8}$ 

80

 $\sqrt{2t}$  $d =$  $\mu\sigma$  $10^{-7.2}$ 40  $10^{-7.3}$ 20  $Z(m)$  $10^{-7.3}$ 0  $-20$  $10^{-7.4}$  $-40$  $10^{-7.5}$  $-20$  $\boldsymbol{0}$ 20 40 60 80  $X(m)$ 



 $\sqrt{2t}$ 





# Summary: Dipole in a whole space

Currents diffuse into the earth

 $10^{-4.4}$ 40  $\sqrt{2t}$  $10^{-5.0}$   $10^{-5.0}$   $10^{-5.6}$   $10^{-6.2}$  UH and the density (A/m 2)  $d =$ 20  $\mu\sigma$  $Z(m)$  $\Omega$  $-20$  $-40$  $10^{-6.8}$ 20 40 60 80  $-20$  $\mathbf 0$  $X(m)$  $\sqrt{2}$  $\delta = 1$  $10^{-7.2}$  $\frac{\textcolor{red}{\mathbf{I}}}{\omega\mu\sigma}$ 40 10<sup>-7.3</sup><br>
10<sup>-7.3</sup><br>
10<sup>-7.3</sup><br>
10<sup>-7.4</sup><br>
10<sup>-7.4</sup> 20  $-20$  $-40$  $10^{-7.5}$  $-20$  $\mathbf 0$ 20 40 60 80

 $X(m)$ 

Early time High frequency



# Bipole Sources

- Extended line sources
	- Grounded term (galvanic) + wire path (inductive)
	- Straight line





B A

# Grounded Sources: On the surface

- Ability to detect target depends on
	- Geometry, conductivity of target & host
	- Geometry of TX
	- Frequency or time
	- Fields and components measured
		- e, b, db/dt
	- Location of Tx and Rx with respect to the target
- Lots of variables...
	- Use an example to highlight important concepts



- $\rightarrow \bullet$  t = 0<sup>-</sup> Steady state
	- $\bullet$  t = 0 Shut off current
	- $t = 0^+$  Off-time





What happens when we shut the system off?



#### #1 Wire path



- Immediately after shut off: image current at the surface
- Successive time: currents diffuse downwards and outwards



#### #2 Ground currents

- Immediately after shut off: ground currents are still there
- Successive time: currents diffuse downwards and outwards





# Grounded Source: Halfspace Currents

- Parameters:
	- halfspace (0.01 S/m)
	- t=0<sup>-</sup>, steady state





# Grounded Source: Halfspace currents

• Cross section of currents,  $t = 0.04$  to 10 ms



# Grounded sources: with a target

- Block in a halfspace
	- DC
		- Good coupling if  $h < r_{AB}$



- Vortex currents
	- Good coupling (magnetic fields)
	- Good signal for conductor
	- Resistor more difficult
- Galvanic currents
	- Good coupling (electric fields)
	- Good signal for conductor and resistor





- Grounded wire
	- A conductor (1S/m) in a halfspace (0.01 S/m)
	- t=0<sup>-</sup>, steady state







- Grounded wire
	- A conductor (1S/m) in a halfspace (0.01 S/m)
	- $-$  0.04 ms, d = 80 m







- Grounded wire
	- A conductor (1S/m) in a halfspace (0.01 S/m)
	- $-$  0.1 ms, d = 126 m







- Grounded wire
	- A conductor (1S/m) in a halfspace (0.01 S/m)
	- $-1$  ms, d = 400 m







- Grounded wire
	- A conductor (1S/m) in a halfspace (0.01 S/m)
	- $-10$  ms, d = 1270 m

















50 100 150

 $-3.1e-11$ 

 $-150 - 100 - 50$ 

 $-3.3e-10$ 

 $\overline{0}$ 

 $X(m)$ 

 $-150 - 100 - 50$  0 50 100 150

 $X(m)$ 

34

50 100 150

 $-150 - 100 - 50$ 

 $\overline{0}$ 

 $X(m)$ 

 $-1.2e-12$ 



# Resistor: currents

- Grounded wire
	- $-$  A resistor (10<sup>-4</sup> S/m) in a halfspace (0.01 S/m)
	- t=0<sup>-</sup>, steady state






- Grounded wire
	- $-$  A resistor (10<sup>-4</sup> S/m) in a halfspace (0.01 S/m)
	- $-$  0.04 ms, d = 80 m







- Grounded wire
	- $-$  A resistor (10<sup>-4</sup> S/m) in a halfspace (0.01 S/m)
	- $-$  0.1 ms, d = 126 m







- Grounded wire
	- $-$  A resistor (10<sup>-4</sup> S/m) in a halfspace (0.01 S/m)
	- $-1$  ms, d = 400 m







- Grounded wire
	- $-$  A resistor (10<sup>-4</sup> S/m) in a halfspace (0.01 S/m)
	- $-10$  ms, d = 1270 m















EM induction (galvanic current)



EM induction (galvanic current)



Galvanic current  $t = 0$ 



Galvanic current

 $t = 10$  ms



 $-300$ 

 $-350$ 

 $-150 - 100 - 50$ 

50 100 150

 $\circ$ 

 $X(m)$ 

 $0.0e-0.8$ 

### Data:  $e_x$  field







# Data:  $b_y$  field







# Data:  $b_z$  field







# Data summary







45

# Geometric Complexities

• Coupling: Back to finding thin plates...



- DCR: good coupling
- EM: good coupling



- DCR: poor coupling
- EM: poor coupling
- Arbitrary target requires multiple excitation directions
- Forward simulations necessary

# Grounded Sources: Summary

- Basic experiment
- TDEM: Electric dipole in a whole space
- FDEM: Electric dipole in a whole space
- Currents in grounded systems
- Conductive Targets
- Resistive Targets
- Case History: Deccan Traps
- Case History: Offshore Hydrocarbon De-risking
- Marine CSEM: Overview
- Case History: Methane hydrates
- DC/EM Inversion

# Grounded sources: two examples

- Land EM
	- Large offset time domain system
	- Looking for sediments below basalts

- Marine EM (towed Tx, Rx array)
	- Multiple transmitters, frequencies
	- Looking for a resistive target





#### Case History: Mesozoic sediments beneath Deccan traps, India

Strack and Pandey, 2007

#### Setup



#### Previous DCR survey (ONGC)

Resistivity section



• Sediments exist but unclear where and how thick. Interpretation weak



#### **Survey**



#### Map **Map Long offset time domain EM (LOTEM)**



- Rx component: Ex, Ey, and Hz
- # of Tx: 10
- Tx current: 400 A (full-duty cycle)

#### Survey design: basalt thickness



• Apparent resistivity changes with varying thickness of Deccan Traps: 1.5, 2 and 3 km

#### Survey design: sediment resistivity



• Apparent resistivity changes with varying resistivity of Silurian **Sediments** 

#### Data



- Stacked data
- Time range: 1ms-10s
- High S/N ratio until 1s
- Similar to synthetic data

#### Processing

#### 1D inversions (stitched) Location map





#### The sediment thickness:

- Largest at L
- Smallest at K

#### Interpretation: sediment conductance and drill target







### Synthesis



-3400

#### Controlled-Source Marine EM (CSEM)

# Application areas

- Oil and gas
- Submarine massive sulfide (SMS)
- Methane hydrates
- Tectonic studies
- Offshore UXO
- Offshore groundwater



# Application with physical properties



### Resistive target: hydrocarbons



Resistivity  $(\Omega m)$ 

- Finding resistor: grounded source
- Deep target
	- Long offset between Tx and Rx
	- Depth of investigation ~1/3 Tx Rx offset

# Conductive Target: Massive sulfide







Resistivity  $(\Omega m)$ 

- Galvanic source
	- Towed E-field receivers
- Inductive source
	- Towed on ROV
	- db/dt sensors (coil)

# **Transmitters**



Geometric Decay 
$$
\frac{1}{r^3}
$$
 EM Attenuation  $\delta = 500\sqrt{\frac{\rho}{f}}$ 

### **Receivers**

#### Data

- Ex, Ey, (Recently: Ez)
- Bx, By, Bz



#### Common Systems

- Scripps: Vulcan and Porpoise
- PGS
- **EMGS**

#### Ocean Bottom Nodes (Scripps, EMGS)



#### Inductive Loop (Waseda Univ)



## Marine CSEM: Hydrocarbons

- Towed electric dipole streamer
	- Long offset range (500m-10 km)
	- Frequency: 0.5 Hz



 $10^{-1}$ 

 $10<sup>0</sup>$ 

 $10^{1}$ 

Resistivity  $\rho_h(\Omega m)$ 

 $10<sup>2</sup>$ 



# Marine CSEM: Hydrocarbons

- Towed electric dipole streamer
	- Long offset range (500-10 km)
	- Frequency: 0.5 Hz





Hydrocarbon reservoir: significant signal How do we understand the response?



#### **Setup**





Sediment

**Hydrocarbon** 

#### **Resistivity**



(1) Airwave

#### (4) Reservoir (HC)

(3)

### Which fields to examine?



#### Fields from a dipole



Focus on:

- Inline electric field
- Inline poynting vector Z (energy propagation)

$$
\mathbf{\bar{S}} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}
$$

### Electric field







# Poynting vector



On XZ plane (HED source in x-direction)





#### Fields at time: 0.016s



Poynting vector **Poynting** vector **Peak velocity** 



$$
v = \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{2\mu t}}
$$
### Fields at time: 0.03s



Poynting vector



Peak velocity

$$
v = \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{2\mu t}}
$$

### Fields at time: 0.08s



Poynting vector **Poynting** vector **Peak velocity** 



$$
v = \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{2\mu t}}
$$

### Fields at time: 0.10s







 $v$  $\sqrt{\rho}$  $\overline{2\mu t}$ 

### Fields at time: 0.32s



Poynting vector **Poynting** vector **Peak velocity** 



$$
v = \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{2\mu t}}
$$

## Amplitude vs offset

- Time snapshots tell us about
	- where energy is travelling
	- something about propagation speed



- What about amplitudes?
- Work in frequency domain



### Amplitude: Electric dipole in a wholespace



### Amplitude: Electric dipole in a wholespace



### Amplitude vs Offset



## General CSEM

- Fields are 3D: All three components exists
	- $-$  Ex, Ey, Ez
	- Bx, By, Bz
- Inline (Ex, Ez, By)
	- Electric field crosses the HC layer boundary
	- Galvanic dominates
- Broadside (Ex, By, Bz)
	- No vertical electric field (no charge build up)
	- Inductive dominates



Χ

82

Υ

Reservoir

### Measured data: inline and broadside



### Measured data: inline and broadside



# Marine CSEM App

– 4 layers

– E, H Fields



### http://em.geosci.xyz/apps.html

## Equivalence: resistivity-thickness product



- Electric fields are sensitive to resistivity-thickness product
- Reduce non-uniqueness with better data coverage, more components, other information (e.g. seismic)

## Equivalence: resistivity-thickness product



- Electric fields are sensitive to resistivity-thickness product
- Reduce non-uniqueness with better data coverage, more components, other information (e.g. seismic)

## Anisotropy



- Sediment could have vertical anisotropy
- $\rho_v > \rho_h$ : |Ex| larger at far offsets



## Anisotropy



- Significant impact to signal from reservoir
	- need to account for this when interpreting marine CSEM data

# Finding conductors



Resistivity  $(\Omega m)$ 

Source: towed

- Galvanic source
- Inductive source
- Receivers: (towed)
	- E-field
	- B-field



# TDEM Horizontal Loop App

- TDEM
	- 4 layers
	- Fields, currents
	- Plot time decays



### <http://em.geosci.xyz/apps.html>

# **Summary**

- Generic CSEM survey
- Wave and energy propagation
- Transmitters: galvanic or inductive
- Receivers: E-field, B-field: fixed or moving
- Canonical hydrocarbon example
- Useful for finding conductors or resistors
	- Hydrocarbons
	- Gas hydrate
	- Sea floor massive sulfides
	- Sea floor UXO
	- Near surface geologic structure
	- Fresh water aquifers

Case Histories: Hydrocarbon De-risking Gas Hydrates



### Case History: Barents Sea

Alvarez et al., 2016. Rock Solid Images

### **Setup**



- Known hydrocarbon reservoirs within the Hoop Fault Complex, Barents Sea.
- Seismic can locate oil and gas reservoirs but cannot always determine hydrocarbon saturation (in particular fizz gas)
- Seismic, borehole and CSEM data used to characterize reservoir
	- fluid, porosity, clay content, and hydrocarbon saturation





- Highly hydrocarbon-saturated reservoir (< 30% water-wet) significant resistivity
- CSEM can differentiate high from low quality reservoirs

## **Survey**

### Towed CSEM and 2D seismic **Survey Lines** Survey lines



- 6 lines of 2D seismic and towed streamer CSEM data.
- 72 receivers collected CSEM data
	- offsets from 31m to 7.8 km
- CSEM frequencies: 0.2 Hz to 3 Hz.





### CSEM Data

### Survey lines



### Towed-streamer EM





• Significant phase response over Central reservoir

### Seismic data

Seismic section: Line 5001



### Well-Log and Seismic Inversion

7324/8-1

(Central)

7324/7-2 7324/7-1S

(Hanssen) (Alternative)

Litho-fluid Facies

Clay Content

Shale 0.7500 [fraction]  $0.5000$  $0.2500$ sol  $0.0000$ 0.2000 [fraction]  $0.1500$  $0.1000$  $0.0500$  $0.0000$ ∧ Hanssen **Central** Bjaaland **Alternative** Validation well Validation well Control, productive Control, dry

Total Porosity

Projection of 7324/8-2

(Bjaaland)

A

Clean oil or fizz gas sand

Clean wet sand or shaly oil sand or shalv wet sand

### Revisiting physical properties



### Processing: CSEM Inversion



• Inversion shows strong resistor at Central and a secondary resistor at Hanssen.

### Processing: Multi-physics Approach

Litho-fluid Facies

Clay Content

Total Porosity

**Resistivity** 



102

### Interpretation & Synthesis

Seismic



### Hydrocarbon saturation



103

## Methane Hydrates



**[Courtesy of Geomar](http://worldoceanreview.com/en/wor-3-overview/methane-hydrate/formation/)** 

### Case History: Hydrate Ridge offshore Oregon, USA

Weitemeyer et al. 2011



### Methane hydrate



### Hydrate Ridge, offshore Oregon







- On the accretionary complex of the Cascadia subduction zone
- Bottom simulating reflector (BSR)
	- Obtained from seismic reflection data
	- Acoustic impedance contrast between hydrate and free gas

### Questions

- Can existing marine CSEM techniques be adapted to map methane hydrates?
- Can resistive regions identified by CSEM be corroborated with other geophysical and geological data?



### **Properties**

Types of hydrate



Disseminated. 1249C-2H 1, 108-140 cm



 $\frac{N}{124}$  4C-10H 2, 70103 cm Е



**Massive** 1249 C-1H-CC)



### Vein 1244C-8H-1, 47-52 m





Fig 8C p. 43, in the "Ste 1249 chapter)

**Shipboard Scientific Party Chapter 2, Explanatory Notes** Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) Leg 204 Figure F11, page 78



### Resistivity vs. Hydrate saturation



## Survey design

### Marine CSEM survey **E-field anomaly** Normalized inline electric field 300<br>200 Magnetotelluric source fields  $\overline{7}$ 100<br>70<br>50 Below noise floor Air (resistive) 5  $\frac{30}{20}$ Frequency (Hz) Frequency (Hz)  $\begin{array}{c} 10 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{array}$ 3 **CSEM** Transmitter Seawater (very conductive)  $\frac{1}{2}$  $\overline{c}$  $\frac{3}{2}$ Electric and magnetic field recorders GHSZ 1  $0.76$  $\begin{bmatrix} 0.3 \\ 0.2 \end{bmatrix}$ Seafloor (variable conductivity)  $0.1$ Weitemeyer et al., TLE 2006 500 1000 1500 2000 2500 3000 3500 4000 Weitemeyer et al., TLE 2006 Range (m) L • Tx frequency: 5 Hz HMS Kang• Range of offset: 0 - 3 km

• Noise level:  $10^{-15}$  V/A-m<sup>2</sup>


### **Survey**





from Weitemeyer 2008 PhD Thesis

- CSEM (5Hz)
	- Receivers deployed on ocean bottom (MT and Ez)
	- 2 tow lines
- $\cdot$  CSMT (0.1 Hz)
	- Tow line further away from receivers

#### Processing: pseudo-section







- pseudo-section:
	- fixed ocean resistivity
	- find effective subsea resistivity

#### Processing: 2.5D inversion



- Variable ocean  $\sigma$ 
	- assign conductivity from CTD data (conductivity, temperature, depth)
- Significant near surface resistivity structure on the west
- Seismic image overlaid on the resistivity

#### Interpretation: 2.5D inversion



- Resistors are imaged near BSR
- Hydrate stability
	- Above BSR: hydrate
	- Below BSR: free gas

#### Interpretation / Synthesis



#### DC/EM Inversion

# DC/EM: Goals

- Standard DCR time domain waveform
- Compare:
	- Inversions from DC data
	- Inversions from EM data
- Illustrate the value of data which is often discarded
- Numerical example from a gradient arrary



#### Survey and Data

Transmitter Measured Voltage



# Gradient array

- Model
	- A1: high conductivity
	- A2: moderate conductivity
	- A3: resistive
- Survey
	- 200m bi-pole (625 data)
	- times: 1-600ms



#### DC data











#### • TDEM data









### Off-time data



 $1.9e-02\overline{\smash{\big)}\smash{\big)}\vphantom{\big|}}_{\substack{\text{D}}\text{O}}$ 

1.1e-02

 $10<sup>3</sup>$ 

1000

•  $E_x$  Decay curves at A1-A3



# DC inversion

• Recovered 3D conductivity

#### Apparent conductivity



- Depth weighting
	- Compensate for high sensitivity near surface (similar to mag.)







# EM inversion









• No depth weighting

## Conductivity models

#### • True, DC, and TEM conductivities

2000

1500

1000

500

 $\mathbf{C}$ 

 $-500$  $-1000$ 

 $-1500$ 

 $-200$ 

 $-600$ <br> $-800$ <br> $-1000$ 

 $-1200$  $-1400$ 

 $-200$ <br> $-400$ <br> $-600$ <br> $-800$ 

 $-1000$ <br> $-1200$ <br> $-1400$ 

 $-2000$ 

 $-2000$ 

 $10^{-3.0}$ 

 $-1000$ 

 $-1000$ 

Depth (m)  $-400$ 

Depth (m)

Northing (m)



 $1.4$  $DC$  datum  $\overline{\phantom{0}}$  Observed (+)  $1.2$ -- Observed (-) Normalized potential (V/V)  $1.0$  $0.8$  $0.6$  $0.4$  $0.2$  $0.0$  $-0.2$ EM data  $-0.4$ 1000 2000 3000 4000 Time (ms)

EM data contain signal

### **Summary**



#### **Summary**

#### Marine CSEM



#### Marine CSEM for hydrocarbons



#### End of Grounded Sources

