

Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	The Subject and Scope	1
1.1.1	Gravity	1
1.1.2	Motivation	2
1.1.3	Aims	3
1.1.4	Special Aspects	4
1.1.5	The Book and the Reader	4
1.2	Historical Review	5
1.2.1	Astronomy, Geodesy, Geophysics, 18th and 19th Centuries	5
1.2.2	20th Century	6
1.2.3	Geodesy and Geophysics	7
1.3	Purposes of Gravity Measurements	8
1.4	Gravity and Gravity Anomalies	9
1.5	Some Important Aspects of the Terrestrial Gravity Field and Internal Mass Distribution	10
1.5.1	General Considerations	10
1.5.2	The Earth's Figure and Constitution	11
1.5.3	Continents and Oceans	12
1.5.4	Plate Tectonics and Mantle Flow	13
1.5.5	Associated Gravity Anomalies	16
1.5.6	Other Large-Scale Gravity Features	18
1.5.7	Smaller-Scale Gravity Anomalies Relevant to Exploration for Economic Minerals	19
1.5.8	Harmonic Spectrum of the Gravity Field	19
	References	21
2	Fundamentals of Gravity, Elements of Potential Theory	23
2.1	Introduction	23
2.2	Units	23
2.3	Elements of g	24
2.4	Coordinate Systems	25

2.4.1	Spherical Coordinates	25
2.4.2	Vertical Cylinder Coordinates	26
2.4.3	Cartesian Coordinates	27
2.5	Newton's Laws: Gravitation and Inertia Plus Centrifugal Acceleration = Gravity	29
2.6	Gravity Potential and Equipotential Surfaces	31
2.7	Laplace Equation, Field Quantities, Equivalent Stratum; Derivation of Some Field Quantities, Surface Integrals, Poisson Equations, Gravitational Flux Γ	34
2.7.1	Source-Free Space: Laplace Equation	35
2.7.2	The Field Quantities	36
2.7.3	The Equivalent Stratum	39
2.7.4	Applications: Estimation of Field Quantities as δW_x , δW_y , δW_{zzz}	40
2.7.5	Source Space: Poisson Equation and Gravitational Flux Γ	43
2.7.6	Surface Integrals: Total Mass, Centre of Mass	44
2.8	The Gravity Tensor (Eötvös Tensor)	45
2.9	Gravity Effects and Anomalies – Summation and Integration	46
2.9.1	General Considerations	46
2.9.2	Coordinate Systems and Integration	50
2.9.3	Special Mass Elements: Integration in One and Two Dimensions, Mass Lines and Mass Planes	53
2.9.4	Disks	61
2.9.5	Shells	67
2.9.6	Uniform Massive Volumes	70
2.9.7	Two-Dimensional Bodies	74
2.9.8	Two-and-a-half Dimensional Models ($2\frac{1}{2}D$)	84
2.10	Some Theoretical Aspects of Anomaly Analysis	86
2.10.1	Goals of Post-reduction Data Analysis	86
2.10.2	Smoothing of Spatial Series	87
2.10.3	Polynomials	88
2.10.4	The Field Quantities: Differentiation and Integration	89
2.10.5	Harmonic Functions	90
2.10.6	Special Functions	94
2.10.7	Spherical Harmonics	99
2.10.8	Wavelets	103
2.10.9	Stochastic Representation of Anomalies	104
2.11	Aspects of Magnetostatics	105
	References	110
3	Observations and Field Activities	113
3.1	Introduction	113
3.2	Principles of Gravity Measurement and Instrument Types	114
3.2.1	General Considerations	114
3.2.2	Pendulums	115

3.2.3	Spring Gravimeters	115
3.2.4	Vibrating String Gravity Meters	119
3.2.5	Beam Balances	119
3.2.6	Absolute Gravity Meters	120
3.2.7	Superconducting Gravity Meters	120
3.2.8	Artificial Satellites	121
3.2.9	Torsion Balance and Gradiometer	122
3.2.10	Special Task Gravity Meters	122
3.3	Scale and Drift of Gravimeters	124
3.3.1	Instrument Scale	124
3.3.2	Instrumental Drift	124
3.4	Planning a Survey	127
3.4.1	General	127
3.4.2	Base Stations	127
3.4.3	Base Station Networks	128
3.4.4	Field Stations	128
3.5	Field Procedures	129
3.5.1	Setting Up Stations	129
3.5.2	Surveying Requirements	129
3.6	Additional Field Operations	130
3.6.1	Instrument Calibration	130
3.6.2	Surveying or Levelling and Recording of Earth Tides	131
3.6.3	Rock Densities	132
3.7	Preparing the Data for Reductions and Analysis	138
3.8	Error Assessment and Accuracy	138
3.8.1	Outliers	139
3.8.2	Systematic Errors	139
3.8.3	Random Errors	140
3.9	Conclusion	141
	References	142
4	Gravity Anomalies and Disturbances: Reductions and Analyses	151
4.1	Introduction	151
4.2	Earth Tide Reduction	152
4.3	The Time-Invariant Gravity Anomalies and Their Fundamental Properties	153
4.4	Components of Observed Gravity	156
4.4.1	Normal Gravity	157
4.4.2	Deviations From the Normal Earth	159
4.5	The Reductions	159
4.5.1	The Normal Reduction	160
4.5.2	The Height Reduction	160
4.5.3	Topographic Mass Reduction	160
4.6	The Result of the Reductions: Gravity Anomalies and Gravity Disturbances	164
4.6.1	<i>FA</i> : Free Air Anomaly, Faye Anomaly	164

4.6.2	<i>BA</i> : Bouguer Anomaly	165
4.6.3	<i>IA</i> : Isostatic Anomalies	165
4.7	Preliminary Data Analysis	166
4.7.1	General Aspects	166
4.7.2	Data Snooping or Identifying Outliers	166
4.7.3	Smoothing, Averaging, Filtering	167
4.7.4	Functional Fitting	168
4.7.5	Statistical Approach, Correlations, Regression	171
4.7.6	Derived Field Quantities	174
4.7.7	Regional-Residual Separation	174
4.7.8	Directional Analysis	176
4.8	Evaluation of Reduction Errors	177
4.9	Conclusion	178
	References	178
5	Qualitative Interpretation	181
5.1	Fundamental Ideas, Principles	181
5.1.1	Qualitative and Quantitative Interpretation	181
5.1.2	The Ambiguity Problem and <i>a priori</i> Information	182
5.1.3	Information Content of Gravity Anomalies	184
5.1.4	Data Representation and Interpretation Constraints	185
5.1.5	Anomaly and Model Effect	185
5.2	Digital and Visual Modes of Representation	188
5.3	Geometrical Constraints: Patterns	189
5.3.1	Three-Dimensional – Two-Dimensional	189
5.3.2	Spatial Frequency	189
5.4	Physical Constraints: Realistic Limits, Integral Relations	191
5.5	Geological Constraints: Visual and Statistical Analyses, Structures, Densities	192
5.5.1	General Remarks	192
5.5.2	Scale	192
5.5.3	Gravity in Relation with Other Geological Quantities	192
5.6	Some Simple Estimates of Gravity Effects	193
5.6.1	Bouguer Plate	193
5.6.2	Scale Rule	194
5.6.3	Half Width Rules	195
5.6.4	Use of the Solid Angle Ω : Vertical Templates	198
5.6.5	Undulated Boundaries	199
5.6.6	Diagrams	199
5.6.7	Maximum Depth Rules	200
5.6.8	Edge Effects	200
5.6.9	Vertical Dipoles	202
5.7	Examples	210
5.7.1	Messel Maar Crater and Fault Zone (MFZ) and Meerfeld Maar	210

5.7.2	Salt Diapir: Helgoland	214
5.7.3	Granite Batholiths: Bancroft Area, Canada	215
5.7.4	Rhine Graben	217
5.7.5	SE Iceland Shelf Edge	218
5.7.6	Spreading Ridges, Reykjanes Ridge	220
5.7.7	Plumes, the Iceland Plume	222
5.7.8	Tonga-Kermadec Trench, Subduction and Back arc Basin	224
5.7.9	Mantle Convection	226
5.8	Error Discussion and Conclusions	229
	References	229
6	Quantitative Interpretation	233
6.1	Introduction: From Qualitative to Quantitative Interpretation	233
6.1.1	Principal Considerations: Qualitative and Quantitative Interpretation	234
6.1.2	General Methodological Aspects	235
6.1.3	Philosophy of Modelling: Detailed Description Versus Catching the Fundamental Features and Their Uncertainties	236
6.1.4	Model Types: Two and Three-Dimensional; Large Model Bodies Versus Small Mass Elements	237
6.1.5	Density	238
6.2	Two-Dimensional (2D) Approximations and Modelling	241
6.2.1	Few Large 2D Model Units	241
6.2.2	Many Small 2D Model Units	246
6.2.3	Two-and-a-Half Dimensional ($2\frac{1}{2}$ D) Models	246
6.3	Three-Dimensional (3D) Approximation and Modelling	247
6.3.1	Few Large 3D Model Units	247
6.3.2	Many Small 3D Model Units	251
6.4	Summary: Strategies of Model Building; from Trial and Error to Inversion	253
6.5	Examples	253
6.5.1	Messel Maar Crater and Fault Zone (MFZ)	254
6.5.2	Salt Structure of Helgoland	256
6.5.3	Anstruther Batholith: Bancroft Area, Canada	258
6.5.4	Rhine Graben	260
6.5.5	The SE Iceland Shelf Edge	261
6.5.6	Spreading Ridges	263
6.5.7	Mantle Plumes	264
6.5.8	Tonga-Kermadec Trench, Subduction and Back Arc Basin	265
6.5.9	Mantle Convection	268
6.6	Summary of Chapter 6	268
	References	268

7 Optimization and Inversion	271
7.1 Introduction	271
7.2 Optimization	273
7.2.1 Theory	274
7.2.2 Practice	285
7.3 Inversion	304
7.3.1 Overview	305
7.3.2 Direct Algorithms	308
7.3.3 Other Algorithms	328
7.4 Case Studies	332
7.4.1 Meerfeld Maar	333
7.4.2 SE Iceland Shelf: Edge Effect	362
7.5 Outlook	378
References	381
Appendix: Analytical Geometry	383
Index	387