Marine CSEM:

The airwave and how it can be removed

Jürg Hunziker¹, Evert Slob¹, Kees Wapenaar¹

¹Delft University of Technology, Delft, The Netherlands, E-Mail: j.w.hunziker@tudelft.nl

In Controlled Source Electromagnetics (CSEM) in a marine environment, one is interested to detect resistors, e.g., hydrocarbon reservoirs, in the subsurface. However, the recorded signal is strongly affected by the airwave, which consists of energy refracted at the air-water interface, traveling through the air with the speed of light and transmitting continuously energy down into the water (Amundsen *et al.*, 2006). Since this airwave produces a strong signal, but does not contain any information about the subsurface, one wants to eliminate it from the data during processing. The following possibilities to remove the airwave exist:

- Modeling and Subtraction (Nordskag & Amundsen, 2007)
- Filtering (Ziolkowski & Wright, 2007)
- Wavefield Decomposition (Amundsen et al., 2006)
- Interferometry (Wapenaar et al., 2008)
- Vertical sources and receivers Holten et al. (2009)

We give an overview over these methods and investigate the dependence of the airwave on the receiverantenna orientation relative to the source-antenna. The latter is achieved by analytical modeling of the diffusive field in a model consisting of two halfspaces. With our approach it is possible to model virtually any antenna orientation.

References

Amundsen, L., Løseth, L., Mittet, R., Ellingsrud, S., & Ursin, B. 2006. Decomposition of electromagnetic fields into upgoing and downgoing components. *Geophysics*, **71**, G211–G223.

Holten, T., Veiberg, D., & Flekkøy, E.G. 2009. Vertical Electric Time-domain Responses from a Vertical Current Source for Offshore Hydrocarbon Exploration. *71st EAGE Conference and Exhibition, Expanded Abstracts*.

Nordskag, J.I., & Amundsen, L. 2007. Asymptotic airwave modeling for marine controlled-source electromagnetic surveying. *Geophysics*, **72**, F249–F255.

Wapenaar, K., Slob, E., & Snieder, R. 2008. Seismic and electromagnetic controlled-source interferometry in dissipative media. *Geophysical Prospecting*, **56**, 419–434.

Ziolkowski, A., & Wright, D. 2007. Removal of the air wave in shallow marine transient EM Data. 77th Annual International Meeting, SEG, Expanded Abstracts.