



# Characterisation of Near-Earth Magnetic Field Data for Space Weather Monitoring

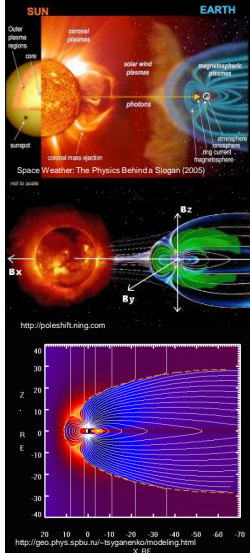
Statistical modelling of the near-Earth magnetic field with in-situ measurements

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# Introduction

Space weather refers to electromagnetic disturbances in the near-Earth environment.

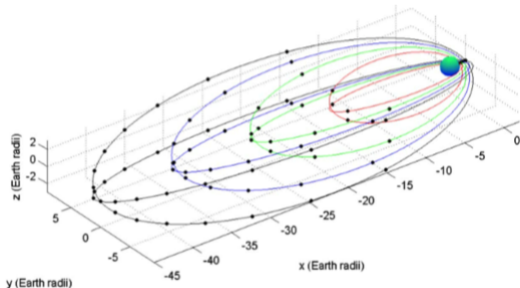
Space weather monitoring and early storm detection can be used to mitigate risk in sensitive technological systems.

## Main Objectives

- ▶ To build spatio-temporal statistical models for
  - ▶ characterising the magnetic field variation
  - ▶ comparing storm and non-storm behaviour
  - ▶ detecting change points related to storm events
- ▶ To design a CubeSat constellation for sampling the near-Earth magnetic field

### Question

What are the best strategies for space weather monitoring with a network of small satellites?

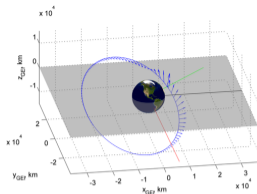


J. P. Eastwood, CENTINEL: A CubeSat space weather constellation

A sensor network will be able to provide reliable estimates of near-Earth magnetic field and detect and predict storm events.

The basic network design challenge:

to develop new statistical methods which recognise the change in spatio-temporal sampling around an orbit



## First Steps:

- ▶ sample hourly magnetic field data  $\mathbf{B}_{(x,y,z)}$  at CLUSTER satellite position  $\mathbf{r}_{(x,y,z)}$
- ▶ regress hourly  $\mathbf{B}_{(x,y,z)}$  on its time-dependent potential covariates:

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{B}_{(x,y,z)}_t}_{\text{satellite observation}} = \underbrace{\mathbf{B}_I(x,y,z)_t + \mathbf{B}_E(x,y,z)_t}_{\text{model simulations}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{r}_{(x,y,z)}_t}_{\text{position}} + \underbrace{\text{Dst}_t + \text{Kp}_t}_{\text{geomagnetic indices}} + \underbrace{\delta_t}_{\text{discrepancy term}} \quad (\blacklozenge)$$

$\mathbf{B}_I$  - internal field simulated from IGRFmodel;

$\mathbf{B}_E$  - external field simulated from Tsyganenko model T96

- ▶ capture the autocorrelation structure in  $\delta_t$  with a time series model  $\delta_t = \mathbf{c} + \sum_{i=1}^p \phi_i \delta_{t-i} + \epsilon_t$

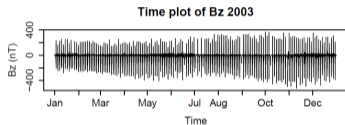
the error term  $\epsilon_t$  is assumed to be normally and independently distributed

- ▶ check model assumptions and investigate the presence of non-stationarity in  $\epsilon_t$

## Exploratory Analysis

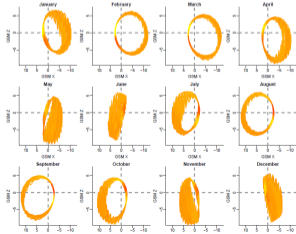
hourly  $B_Z$  values for 2003:

$Z$  component of the magnetic field responses to reconnection process in storms

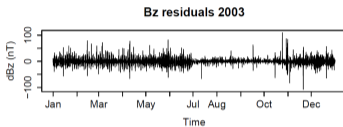


Data coverage: the satellite orbit sweeps through the space allowing for a  $360^\circ$  scan of the space each year.

Cluster measurements – seasonal orbits in  $xz$  plane – 2003



After removing the covariate effects of  $B_Z$  as in ( $\blacklozenge$ ), the residual plot suggests:



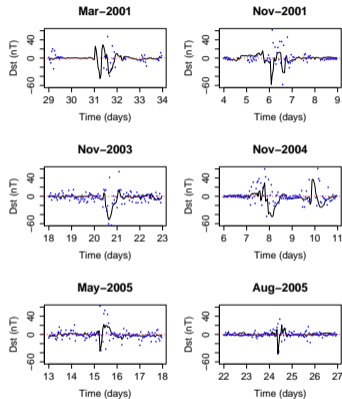
► non-stationary variability

in the error term  $\epsilon_t$ .

non-stationarity

How does the presence of non-stationarity in residuals relate to storm occurrence?

We performed similar analysis for  $B_Z$  from 2001 to 2005. Selected storm periods:



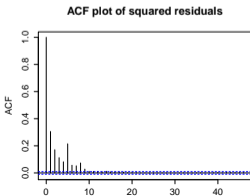
- black line - Dst index
- dashed red line - zero line
- blue dot -  $B_Z$  residual

# Progress

So far we fitted statistical models to gain knowledge of temporal variation in magnetic field data.

## Conclusion

- ▶ There is temporal variation (non-stationary volatility) not captured in the  $B_Z$  model residuals.
- ▶ The preliminary result shows that the changes in variability of  $B_Z$  model residuals accompany storm occurrences.



The autocorrelation function of squared  $B_Z$  residuals suggests the existence of temporal dependencies in the variance.

# The Future

- ▶ Extending statistical modelling to examine the variation of magnetic field data in time and space
- ▶ Recognising the change in magnetic field data volatility as a function of storm condition and quantitatively characterising the storm and non-storm behaviour using
  - ▶ GARCH models for modeling the variance
  - ▶ moving standard deviation for change point detection
- ▶ Using the statistical properties of magnetic field data to design a theoretical network, sampling the near-Earth magnetic field

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