# РАСЧЕТ МОДЕЛИ ЛОКАЛЬНОГО КВАЗИГЕОИДА (УЛАН-БАТОР), ОЦЕНКА ПАРАМЕТРОВ И ПОДХОДЫ В ОПРЕДЕЛЕНИИ ГРАВИТАЦИОННОГО ПОЛЯ

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В работе описан метод и результаты расчета локальной модели квазигеоида для региона Уланбатора, UBQGEOID2018, основанный на глобальной гравитационной модели EGM2008 [1], ГНСС и опорных точках нивелирования в Балтийской системе высот 1977, а также производных данных линий отвеса. Для расчетов использовалось програмное обеспечение DFHRS в. 4.4, которое позволяет напрямую конвертировать эллипсоидальные высоты в нормальные высоты, основываясь на параметрическом моделировании опорной поверхности высот. В статье приводится принцип измерений отвесных линий зенитной камерой на основе матрица ротаций: матрица ротации между локальной астрономической вертикальной системой и локальной

геодезической системой также представлены. Описаны следующий этап развития ПО и концептуальные формулы.

**Ключевые слова:** линия отвеса, DFHRS, EGM2008, геодезия, геоид, квазигеоид, геофизика, модели геопотенциала, гравитационное поле, зенитная камера.

# ULAANBAATAR QGEOID COMPUTATION, PARAMETER ESTIMATION AND OPTIMIZATION CONCEPTS FOR GRAVITY FIELD DETERMINATION

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The article describes the method and computation results of Ulaanbaatar region quasi-geoid model, UBQGEOID2018, based on global gravity field model EGM2008 [1], GNSS and levelling points in Baltic Height system 1977 and derived deflections of vertical data. The DFHRS (Digital Finite-element Height Reference Surface) software v.4.4 [2] has been used for this purpose, which allow the direct conversion of ellipsoidal heights to normal heights and based on parametric modelling of the HRS. The principle of vertical deflections measurements by digital zenith camera is included in this paper based on rotation matrices: the rotation matrix between local astronomical vertical system

and local geodetic vertical system is introduced. The next stage of the development version 5.x and related research is also described and the conceptual formulas are introduced.

**Key words:** deflection of vertical, DFHRS, EGM2008, geodesy, Geoid, geophysics, geopotential models, gravity field, Quasi-Geoid, zenith camera.

# 1. Introduction

In the era of modern technologies and GNSS developments the precise quasi-geoid model is necessary for different engineering needs, as it allows the determination of normal height much faster in comparison to levelling and directly from GNSS. This article describes the software for quasi-geoid determination based on parametric modelling, as well as further version based on Spherical-Cap-Harmonics (SCH) modelling. The example of quasi-geoid model for Ulaanbaatar region and computation results are introduced. The theory of deflections of vertical measurements by digital zenith camera is also included.

# 2. Principle of the DFHRS software

The principle of a GNSS-based height determination H, requires submitting the GNSS-height h to the DFHRS (B, L, h)-correction, in order to receive physical height H and it reads:

$$H = h - DFHRS(p, \Delta m \mid B, L, h) = h - (NFEM(p \mid B, L) + \Delta m \cdot h)$$
(2-1)

The DFHRS-correction DFHRS (B, L, h) is provided by means of a DFHRS database (DFHRS\_DB), which contains the HRS polynomial parameters and the scale difference  $(p, \Delta m)$  together with the mesh-design information. The mathematical model for observation groups in a common least squares computation (Gauß-Markov-Model) for the evaluation of the DFHRS\_DB parameters p and  $\Delta m$  is given by formulas (2-2a-f) [2, 3].

Functional Model Observation Types and Stochastic Models 
$$h+v=H+h\cdot\Delta m+\text{NFEM}(p|x,y), \qquad \text{Uncorrelated ellipsoidal}$$
 with NFEM(p|x,y) =: f(x, y) \cdot p \qquad \text{height h observations.} \text{Covariance matrix} \text{Covariance matrix} \text{C}\_h = diag(\sigma\_h^2). \text{Correlated geoid height observations. With a given} \text{Correlated geoid height observations.} \text{With a given} \text{V}\_G(d^j) \text{Discretations.} \text{Discretations.} \text{V}\_G(d^j) \text{Discretations.} \text{Discretations

real covariance matrix 
$$C_{N_{\overline{G}}}$$
 (2-2b) or  $C_{N_{\overline{G}}}$  evaluated from a synthetic covariance function.

$$\begin{split} \xi^{j} + v &= \\ -\mathbf{f}_{B}^{T} / (M(B) + h) \cdot \mathbf{p} + \partial \xi (\mathbf{d}^{j}_{\xi, \eta}) \\ \eta^{j} + v &= \\ -\mathbf{f}_{L}^{T} / (N(B) + h) \cdot \cos(B)) \cdot \mathbf{p} + \partial \eta (\mathbf{d}^{j}_{\xi, \eta}) \end{split}$$

Observations of deflections (2-2c) from the vertical 
$$(\eta, \xi)$$
.  
Pairwise correlated or uncorrelated in case of astronomical observations. Correlated if derived from a gravity potential model. (2-2d)

$$H+v=H$$
 Uncorrelated standard height  $H$  observations with covariance matrix  $C_H = diag(\sigma_{H_i}^2)$  (2-2e)

With  $f_B$  and  $f_L$  we introduce the partial derivatives of f(x(B, L), y(B, L)) (2-2c) with respect to the geographical coordinates B and L. M(B) and N(B) mean the radius of meridian and normal curvature at a latitude B. The continuity of the resulting HRS representation  $NFEM(p|x, y) = f(x, y)^T \times p$  over the meshes (fig. 1, thin blue lines) is automatically provided by the continuity equations C(p) (2-2f). A number of identical fitting-points (B, L, h; H) are introduced by the observation equations (2-2a) and (2-2e) (fig. 1, green triangles). In the practice of DFHRS\_DB evaluation, one or a number of different geoid-/GPM such as the EGG97 or EGM 2008 are used in a least squares estimation related to the mathematical model (2-2a-f), which is implemented in the DFHRS-software 4.4. To reduce the effect of medium- or long-wave systematic shape deflections, namely the natural and stochastic "weak-shapes", in the observations N and  $(\xi,\eta)$  from geoid- or GPM models, these observations are subdivided into a number of

patches (fig. 1, thick blue lines). These patches are related to a set of individual parameters, which are introduced by the datum parametrizations  $\partial N_G(d^j)$  (2-2b) and  $\partial \xi(d_{\xi,\eta})$ ;  $\partial \eta(d^j_{\xi,\eta})$  (2-2c, d). In this way, it is of course possible to introduce geoid height observations and vertical deflections from any number of different geoid- or GPM models in the same area, or observed vertical deflections [2, 3].

# 3. Computation results of DFHRS-based Ulaanbaatar Region Quasi-Geoid for the Baltics Height System

In order to compute the DFHRS\_DB for Ulaanbaatar 94 Identical points (ellipsoidal heights h and normal heights H in Baltic Height system) together with the EGM2008 geopotential model data were used. EGM2008 is a spherical harmonic model of the earth's external gravitational potential in degree and order of 2160, with additional spherical harmonic coefficients extending up to degree of 2190 and order of 2160 that offers a spatial resolution of 9 km. EGM2008 incorporates improved 5x5 min gravity anomalies, altimetry-derived gravity anomalies and has benefited from the latest GRACE based satellite solutions [4].

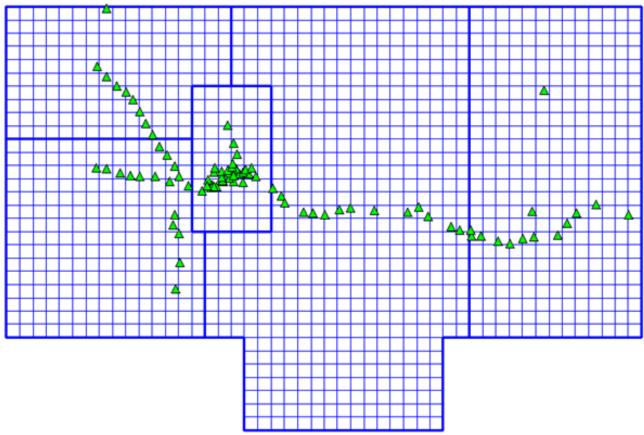


Fig. 1. Computation design of DFHRS (meshes – thin blue lines, patches – thick blue lines, fitting points – green triangles)

For meshing the area, mesh size of 5x5 km was chosen (fig. 1, thin blue lines). Total amount of meshes – 1536. The total number of patches is 5 (fig. 1). One patch must contain at least 4 fitting points. As points of the region are not homogenously located, patches, were not introduced in approximately the same size, but according to the location of the points. As geoid datum 3 translations and 3 rotations were introduced, additionally derived deflections of the vertical from the EGM2008 model were used (see fig. 2).

The identical points and the EGM2008 geoid undulations were introduced together with the continuity conditions into a least squares estimation of the so-called "DFHRS production". The calculation has been done using the DFHRS v. 4.4. software. 88 normal height points H of the Baltic heights system could be used and were confirmed in the statistical testing (data-snooping) with the assumed standard deviation of 1 cm. 6 points – 4039, 216, 230, 5051, 509 and 22 were excluded from the computations because of gross errors. For 4 points (270, 1710, 1757 and GR70/70) the normal heights H were changed in comparison to the previous data package provided in 2017, the normal height for one point (1682) was used from previous data package.

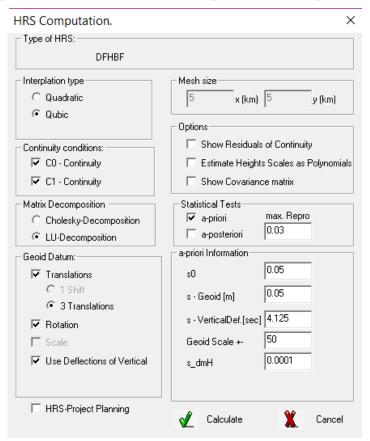


Fig. 2. DFHRS-software 4.4 computation dialog

The partial adjustment protocol of the DFHRS-software 4.4. with the observation residuals, statistical testing of the height fitting points is depicted in table 1.

# Final DFHRS software adjustment protocol

Characteristics: Redudancy factor Normalized residuals, test size a priori t post: Test size a posteriori GF: Estimated gross error is issued in case of exceeding the critical value by NV, bzw. t post. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Probability of error Alpha: 5 % Critical value a priori: 3.841552 degrees of freedom: infinity
Critical value a posteriori: 3.841549 degrees of freedom: 102887 \_\_\_\_\_\_ Point number Height/Target sys. Res. EV NV t\_post REPRO [m] [m] [%] 

 137
 1168.601
 0.00009
 18.88
 0.0
 0.5
 -0.001

 253
 1441.619
 0.00449
 22.69
 1.3
 22.2
 -0.020

 268
 1459.774
 -0.00176
 21.66
 0.5
 8.9
 0.008

 282
 1318.717
 -0.00275
 19.97
 0.9
 14.5
 0.014

 505
 1433.682
 -0.00366
 22.85
 1.1
 18.0
 0.016

 1598
 1418.122
 0.00106
 16.46
 0.4
 6.1
 -0.006

 1710
 1478.901
 0.00345
 22.20
 1.0
 17.3
 -0.016

 1731
 1608.961
 0.00347
 20.96
 1.1
 17.9
 -0.017

 1747
 1313.276
 -0.00114
 23.60
 0.3
 5.5
 0.005

 1757
 1220.986
 0.00231
 20.85
 0.7
 11.9
 -0.011

 2324
 1263.574
 -0.00330
 23.20
 1.0
 16.1
 0.014

 2329
 1246.173
 -0.00198
 23.35
 0.6
 9.6
 0.008

 4750 29 12 .750 1 5006 5019

# Excluded fitting points from the computations are depicted in table 2.

\_\_\_\_\_

# Table 2

# **Eliminated Error Points**

Probability of error Alpha: 5 % Critical value a priori: 3 Critical value a posteriori: 3					
Point number Height/Target sys. [m] [m]			N	V t_post	REPRO
509 1443.301 -0.05132 !!!> GF: 0.186 m < !!!		14.0*	180.2	0.186**	
5051 1354.620 -0.03123 !!!> GF: 0.112 m < !!!	27.97	8.4*	99.4	0.112**	
22 1228.700 -0.01362 !!!> GF: 0.099 m < !!!	13.73	5.3*	79.0	0.099**	
4039 1435.117 -0.01634 !!!> GF: 0.072 m < !!!	22.59	4.9*	73.6	0.072**	
216 1353.229 0.01688 !!!> GF: -0.064 m < !!!	26.19	4.7*	70.5	-0.064**	
230 1264.222 0.01978 !!!> GF: -0.077 m < !!!	25.68	5.6*	84.2	-0.077**	

# 4. Conclusions and results for computed Ulaanbaatar Qgeoid model

The present DFHRS was calculated on the basis of the EGM2008 geoid and 88 identical reference points. The accuracy of the identical points was confirmed with 1.0 cm, so the QGeoid of the Ulaanbaatar region has an estimated 1-3 cm accuracy within the area of the outer ring polygon-line of the fitting-points. The DFHRS\_DB can be used by the software DFHBF-Tools to compute the QGeoid-height N, and so the Normal Heights *H* from the input of a 3D GNSS-position (*B*, *L*, *h*) or (*X*, *Y*, *Z*), and in order to set up a respective QGeoid 2018 grid for the Baltic Height System in the Ulaanbaatar Region. Especially for the borders of the Region (fig. 1) additional vertical deflection observations made by digital zenith camera [5, 6] are recommended. In that way, the 1-3 cm accuracy will hold for the whole area (fig. 1).

# 5. Zenith camera and determination of deflections of the vertical

The basic component are imaging sensors (CCD cameras) to track celestial objects or stars, respectively. If we suppose, that the imaging sensor system and the respective platform p is already aligned or identical with the body system b, we have for p and the direction vector  $\mathbf{r}_{SI}^b$  of the body system [7]:

$$\mathbf{p} = \begin{bmatrix} x - x_0 \\ y - y_0 \\ f \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{r}_{SI}^b = \frac{\mathbf{p}}{|\mathbf{p}|} = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{p}|} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x - x_0 \\ y - y_0 \\ f \end{bmatrix}, \tag{5-1}$$

with

 $(x,y)_t$  UTC – Observed image coordinates of a star  $S(\delta,\alpha)$  at time t\_UTC

 $(x_0,y_0)$  – Principal point of the image, f – Focal length of the sensor (see, fig. 3). Further we have

$$R_e^{LAV}(\Phi, \Lambda) = \begin{bmatrix} -\cos \Lambda \cdot \sin \Phi & -\sin \Lambda \cdot \sin \Phi & \cos \Phi \\ -\sin \Lambda & +\cos \Lambda & 0 \\ \cos \Lambda \cdot \cos \Phi & \sin \Lambda \cdot \cos \Phi & \sin \Phi \end{bmatrix}$$
(5-2)

The astronomical position is described with  $(\Phi, \Lambda)$  and the geographical GNSS-position with (B, L) leading to

$$R_e^{LGV}(B, L) = \begin{bmatrix} -\cos L \cdot \sin B & -\sin L \cdot \sin B & \cos B \\ -\sin L & \cos L & 0 \\ \cos L \cdot \cos B & \sin L \cdot \cos B & \sin B \end{bmatrix}$$
 (5-3)



Fig. 3. Modern Star tracker CT-602 as produced by Ball Aerospace's CT-602

From (5-2) and (5-3) we get

$$R_{LGV}^{LAV} = R_e^{LAV} \cdot (R_e^{LGV})^T \text{ with } (5-4)$$

$$\mathsf{R}_{LGV}^{LAV} = \mathsf{R}_{LGV}^{LAV}(B,L,\eta,\xi) =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix}
\sin B \sin \Phi \cos(\Lambda - L) + \cos B \cos \Phi & \sin B \sin(\Lambda - L) & \cos B \sin \Phi - \sin \phi \cos \Phi \cos(\Lambda - L) \\
-\sin \Phi \sin(\Lambda - L) & \cos(\Lambda - L) & +\cos \Phi \sin(\Lambda - L) \\
\sin B \cos \Phi - \cos B \sin \Phi \cos(\Lambda - L) & -\cos B \sin(\Lambda - L) & \cos B \cos \Phi \cos(\Lambda - L) + \sin B \sin \Phi
\end{pmatrix}^{T}$$
(5-5)

With the star coordinates  $r^{e,s}$  at the observation time t\_UTC we have

$$\mathbf{r}_{SI}^{LGV} = \mathbf{R}_e^{LGV}(B, L) \cdot \mathbf{r}^{e,s} (5-6)$$

All in all the general model for the vertical surface deflections determination the equation reads:

$$\mathbf{r}_{SI}^{LGV}(5-6) - \mathbf{r}_{SI}^{LGV}(5-8a,\mathbf{b}) = 0$$
 (5-7)

with

$$\mathbf{r}_{SI}^{LGV} = \mathbf{R}_{LGV}^{LAV}(B, L, \eta, \xi)^T \cdot \mathbf{R}_{b}^{LAV}(r = 0, p = 0, y) \cdot \mathbf{r}_{SI}^{b} = 0$$
 (5-8a)

The matrix

$$R_b^{LAV} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos p \cos y & \sin r \sin p \cos y - \cos r \sin y & \cos r \sin p \cos y + \sin r \sin y \\ \cos p \sin y & \sin r \sin p \sin y + \cos r \cos y & \cos r \sin p \sin y - \sin r \cos y \\ -\sin p & \sin r \cos p & \cos r \cos p \end{pmatrix}$$
(5-8b)

is by the horizontation (r=0, p=0) of the zenith camera platform in the local LAV using an inclinometer sensor to  $R_b^{LAV}(r=0, p=0, y)$ . The heading y is approximately known, but remains an unknown of the parameter estimation. For  $R_{LAV}^{LGV}$  in (5-8a) we can also use [7]

$$R_{LAV}^{LGV} \cong \overline{R}_{LAV}^{LGV} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \eta \cdot \tan B & \xi \\ -\eta \cdot \tan B & 1 & -\eta \\ -\xi & \eta & 1 \end{pmatrix} (5-9)$$

# 6. Next stage of the software development – DFHRS v. 5.x

The extension of DFHRS concept and software to physical observation types – such as terrestrial, air- or space-borne gravity measurements or physical observation types taken from geopotential models, e.g. EGM 2008 – is based on a regional adjusted spherical cap harmonic parameterization (ASCH) of the Earth's gravitational potential (V) [2,8,9]:

$$V(r,\lambda',\theta') = \sum_{k=0}^{k \max} \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n(k)+1} \sum_{m=0}^{k} \left(C'_{n(k)m} cosm\lambda' + S'_{n(k)m} sinm\lambda'\right) \overline{P}_{n(k),m} \left(cos\theta'\right) (6-1)$$

New adjustment-based approach enables estimation of coefficients ( $C'_{n(k),m}$ ,  $S'_{n(k),m}$ ) for regional ASCH model V as functions of coefficients ( $C_{n,m}$ ,  $S_{n,m}$ ) of a global geopotential model. The estimated coefficients ( $C'_{n(k),m}$ ,  $S'_{n(k),m}$ ) can be introduced as so-called direct observations in the integrated approach, and thus we have:

$$C'_{n(k),m}(t) + v = \hat{C}'_{n(k),m}$$
 and  $S'_{n(k),m}(t) + v = \hat{S}'_{n(k),m}$  (6-2)

In the so-called integrated DFHRS approach we have the following observation equation for a gravity observation:

$$g_{grav}^{LGV} = \frac{GM}{r^2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{n(k)+1} (n(k)+1) \sum_{m=0}^{k} (C'_{n(k)),m} \cdot \cos m\lambda' + S'_{n(k),m} \cdot \sin m\lambda') \cdot P_{n(k),m}(\cos \theta')$$
(6-3)

By introducing the disturbance potential applied to the Bruns theorem and Molodenski's theory, we obtain the observation equation for fitting-points (h - H) converted to quasi-geoid heights  $N_{OG}$  and vertical deflections  $(\xi, \eta)_p$  at measured at the earth surface by zenith camera (fig. 1) at a point P reading [2], [9], [10]:

$$h - H = N_{QG} = \frac{T_p}{\gamma_Q} (6-4)$$

$$\xi P = -\frac{\partial N_{QG}}{\partial B} \cdot \frac{\partial B}{\partial s_N} + dNCurv = -\frac{\partial}{\partial B} (\frac{T_P}{\gamma_Q}) \cdot \frac{\partial B}{\partial s_N} + dNCurv = \frac{-1}{\gamma_Q \cdot (M+h)} \cdot (\frac{\partial T}{\partial B})_P + dNCurv$$
(6-5)

$$\eta P = -\frac{\partial N_{QG}}{\partial L} \cdot \frac{\partial L}{\partial s_E} = \frac{\partial}{\partial L} \left( \frac{1}{\gamma_Q} T_P \right) \cdot \frac{\partial L}{\partial s_E} = \frac{-1}{\gamma_Q \cdot (N+h) \cdot \cos B} \cdot \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial L} \right)_P \quad (6-6)$$

One further research topic in the DFHRS-project will be dealing with the optimal design (1<sup>st</sup> Order Design) of the observation type of gravity observations (6-3) and vertical deflection observations (6-5,6).

#### Conclusions

The quasi-geoid model for Ulaanbaatar region has been computed. The accuracy of the model is evaluated by 1-3 cm. As levelling data are not homogeneously provided in the region of interest, it would be necessary to use digital zenith camera for vertical deflection determination for quasi-geoid improvement, as well as it allows additional check of normal heights. ASCH modelling in terms of integrated geodesy allow the combination of both geometrical and physical data, moreover this method is much faster in comparison to SH. Implementation of vertical deflections observations in terms of ASCH gives additional improvement of quasi-geoid and gravity field determination.

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