

### 3. GRAVITY FIELD MODELLING AND GRAVIMETRY

#### 3.1. INTRODUCTION

This part of the Polish National Report on Geodesy is the quadrennial report of gravimetric works performed in Poland in a period from 1999 to 2002. It summarises investigations such as national gravity surveys, absolute and relative gravity measurements, non-tidal gravity changes monitoring, data handling and mapping, theoretical research on gravity field and modelling geoid and quasi-geoid for Poland, etc. Those activities were conducted mainly at the following research centres listed in an alphabetic order:

- Department of Geodesy and Geodynamics, Institute of Geodesy and Cartography in Warsaw;
- Department of Mining Surveying and Environmental Engineering, University of Mining and Metallurgy in Cracow;
- Department of Planetary Geodesy, Space Research Centre, Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw;
- Institute of Geodesy, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn;
- Institute of Geodesy and Geodetic Astronomy, Warsaw University of Technology.

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The bibliography of the related works is given in references.

#### 3.2. ABSOLUTE GRAVITY DETERMINATION

Study on portable ballistic gravimeter TBG was further advanced at the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography, Warsaw. Methods of estimation of calibration accuracy of the TBG were discussed (Zanimonskiy et al., 1999). The series of experiments conducted with low-cost TBG-95 portable gravimeter was used to the determination of optimal strategy of measurements that leads to gravity determination at the accuracy level of 10  $\mu$ Gal. It concerns a maximum internal auto-control together with a necessary external control. In particular, it has been demonstrated that the auto-seismic effect in rise-and-fall gravimeters can be reduced to the level of that in free-fall gravimeters by improving instrument's rigidity and implementing randomisation of disturbances (Zanimonskiy et al., 2000). The pressure level of  $10^{-6}$  Torr in the ballistic chamber is usually considered as a basic requirement in the precise absolute gravimeters. The problem with the higher-pressure level in the ballistic chamber was investigated. It was shown that gravity can be determined with rise-and-fall instrument with 10  $\mu$ Gal accuracy by taking the measurements at different levels of residual pressure, e.g. between 0.1 Torr and 0.01 Torr, and at different parts of trajectory of rising and falling test-body. Thus the increase of residual pressure by 4 orders of magnitude may result in degrading gravity determination by one order of magnitude only. Some components of the strategy developed when experimenting with portable ballistic gravimeter are usable in improving absolute gravity survey of higher level of accuracy (Zanimonskiy et al., 2002).

The absolute rise and fall ZZG gravimeter, constructed at the Institute of Geodesy and Geodetic Astronomy of the Warsaw University of Technology, was used in 1999-2002 for absolute gravity survey at some stations of the Polish national gravimetric network.

It was also used as one of the absolute gravimeters in the international campaigns (Poland, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Germany) (Zabek et al., 2002) as well as in the project on the establishment of the Polish-Slovak latitudinal gravimetric baseline Warsaw-Niedzica-Poprad-Modra Piesky (Bratislava). Periodic gravity variations at the Jozefoslaw Astro-Geodetic Observatory were investigated with use of repeated gravity measurements with ZZG gravimeter (Pachuta et al., 2001; Robertson et al., 2001).

ZZG gravimeter took part in gravity measurements conducted in the framework of EU/CEI project UNIGRACE (Unification of Gravity Systems in Central and Eastern Europe) (Sledzinski et al., 1999; Reinhart et al., 1999). The project was launched in 1997 as multipurpose interdisciplinary project and concluded in 2002. It consisted in establishing the absolute gravity stations covering the area from the Baltic Sea to Adriatic and the Black Sea and forming the frame for connection of all national gravimetric networks and providing the unified precise gravity frame in Central and Eastern Europe joined with the network of the Western Europe. The main aim of the Project UNIGRACE is to provide a reference gravity frame indispensable for unification of gravity systems existing in Central and Eastern European countries and for the definition of a unique height system. It contributes considerably to the determination of the geoid in Europe and for sea level variation studies. Ten absolute gravity intra-plate and seven tide gauge stations were measured in 12 countries: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia. The gravity surveys were made by five absolute gravimeters from Austria, Finland, France, Germany and Poland (Zabek and Pachuta, 2000a; Robertson et al., 2001). Two observation campaigns of the UNIGRACE project have been successfully conducted in 1998/1999 and 2000/2001. The project was realised under the umbrella of the Central European Initiative CEI WG Science and Technology Section C "Geodesy" and was financially supported by the European Commission from the INCO COPERNICUS Programme. The analyses of the precise gravity data of UNIGRACE campaigns indicate that there are considerable changes of the gravity at some absolute gravity stations. Those changes cannot be interpreted in terms of station displacements ground water level variations or atmospheric effects. Further investigation of the gravity time changes will be carried out.

### 3.3. NATIONAL SURVEYS OF GRAVITY

The new gravity control network for Poland was established in 1993-1998 (Sas-Uhrynowski et al., 1999a; Sas, 1999; Siporski, 1999; Sas-Uhrynowski et al., 2000). It contains 12 absolute gravity stations, at which 21 absolute gravity measurements, using 5 various ballistic gravimeters: FG5 No.101, FG5 No.107, JILAg-5, ZZG and IMGc, have been performed (Sas-Uhrynowski and Cisak, 2001). The first four gravimeters were applied for absolute gravity measurements in 1994-1998 at the station Borowa Gora. Borowa Gora station was accepted as the fundamental station of the network. Several results obtained have varied from the others even up to 30  $\mu\text{Gal}$ . Therefore the verification of the absolute measurements results was necessary. The verification was carried out by comparison of gravity differences ( $\Delta g$ ) between the pairs of stations, obtained from absolute and relative measurements. Relative measurements were conducted between the absolute gravity stations by means of long-link method (150-350 km), using 4 LaCoste&Romberg gravimeters. The results of relative gravity measurements on 25 long spans have been used for the verification. The location spans against the gravity network is shown in Fig. 3.1.

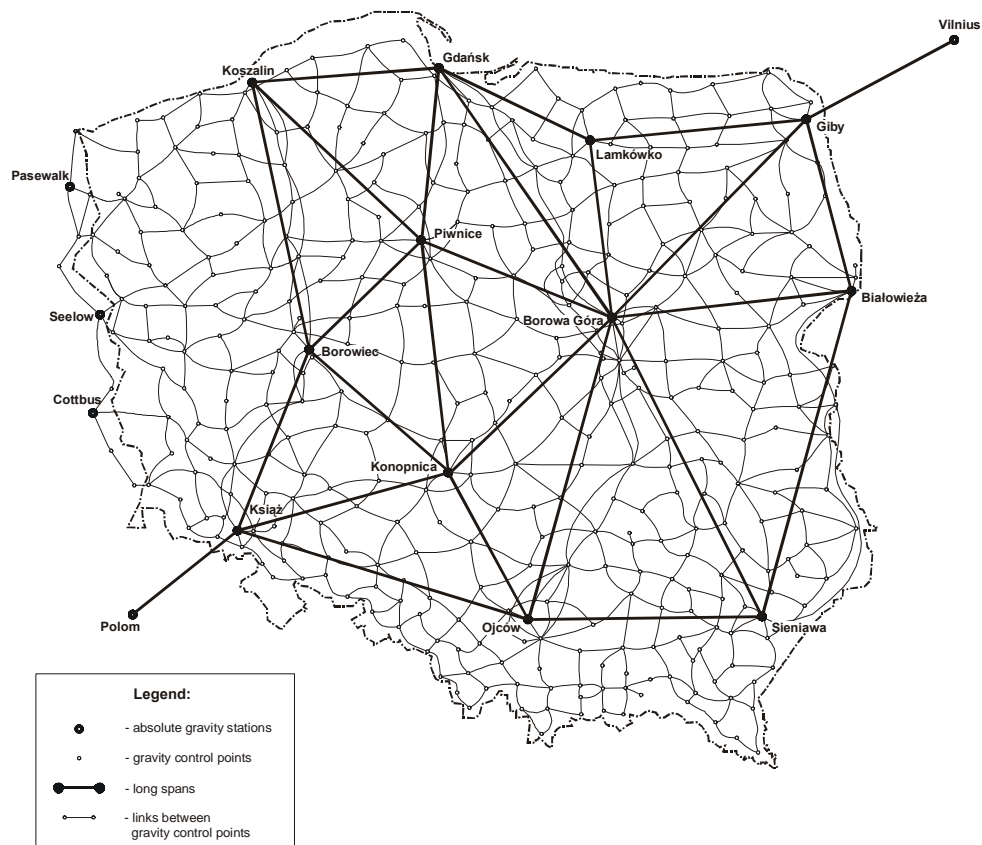


Fig. 3.1. Polish national gravity control network '99

The measurements at long spans have been conducted using simultaneously three LCR gravimeters. Each span was measured according to the A-B-A scheme, in three subsequent days. Twelve values of gravity, determined at 10 stations have been verified positively. They were obtained with JILAg-5 and both FG5 gravimeters. Both gravity and gravity differences were then adjusted. The rms errors of adjusted gravity did not exceed  $4 \mu\text{Gal}$ . The adjusted gravity values have been accepted as the national gravity standard of the zero order (Siporski et al., 2000; Sas-Uhrynowski, 2002). Then, the gravity differences at 685 links in a new gravity network have been adjusted, providing gravity values for 354 network stations. Gravity at those stations define a national gravity standard for practical use (Krynski et al., 2002). After adjustment, the rms of gravity at 97 % points does not exceed  $10 \mu\text{Gal}$ . Mäkinen repeated the absolute gravity measurements at the station Borowa Góra in 2000, using the JILAg-5 gravimeter. The result obtained differs from the one of 1995 by  $3 \mu\text{Gal}$ .

Each of 348 stations of POLREF network (a densification of EUREF-POL network that provides the ETRF reference for geodetic and surveying and mapping applications in Poland) as well as each of 554 stations of the military geodetic control WSSG was tied with two stations of the gravity control network using three LCR gravimeters. The measurements have been carried out twice, according to A-B B-A scheme. Gravity for each geodetic control point was individually adjusted. The similar gravity measurements and adjustments have been conducted to tie 33 stations of the Polish Geodynamic Network to the national gravity control.

The Institute of Geodesy and Cartography participated in 1998-2000 in establishing the Lithuanian Gravity Control Network. The Lithuanian gravity network has been tied with the

Polish one. The Polish team has measured gravity using four LCR gravimeters following the strategy applied in surveying Polish gravity control (Sas-Uhrynowski et al., 2002a).

The Institute of Geodesy and Cartography continued the co-operation with the Ukrainian Institute of Metrology in absolute gravity measurements, gravimetric metrology (Zanimonskiy et al., 1999a; Zanimonskiy et al., 1999b; Sas-Uhrynowski and Zanimonskiy, 1999a; 1999b), and terrain ballistic gravimeter (TBG) construction (Sas-Uhrynowski et al., 2001b).

The geodynamic profile about 230 km long, was established across the T-T zone in the South-East of Poland. The gravity and magnetic measurements have been carried out at six stations of the profile in three subsequent years. The results and the preliminary interpretation have been published (Krolikowski and Sas-Uhrynowski, 1999).

Within the framework of the geodynamic investigation projects, the regular gravity measurements on sub-monthly intervals at Borowa Gora Geophysical Observatory have been conducted (Zanimonskiy et al., 2000).

The original technology of calibration of static gravimeters by tilting method developed at the Institute of Geodesy and Geodetic Astronomy of the Warsaw University of Technology was applied for calibration of precise gravimeters for Polish enterprises that deal with geophysical prospecting (Pachuta et al., 2001; Sledzinski et al., 2001).

### **3.4. INVESTIGATIONS OF THE NON-TIDAL GRAVITY CHANGES**

Periodic gravity surveys are carried out four times a year on the meridian baselines of the observatory of Jozefoslaw to investigate the time variations of the vertical (Barlik, 2000b). Data is interpreted with astronomical latitude and hydrological observations (Pachuta and Barlik, 2000). Gravimetric measurements on geodynamical traverses and networks are performed in the framework of different research projects, e.g. PIENINY, SUDETES (Barlik and Cacon, 2000; Barlik, 2000d), and GRYBOW (Barlik, 2000a) using LCR, SCINTREX CG-3M and Worden – Master gravimeters.

### **3.5. GEOID AND STUDY ON THE GRAVITY FIELD IN POLAND**

Since 1993, Polish GPS users have available the models of quasigeoid for determination normal heights. The availability of additional gravity data to the Department of Planetary Geodesy made possible the to compute a new quasigeoid model for Poland named Quasi97b. The comparison of that model with GPS/levelling geoid heights has shown discrepancies in long to medium wavelengths. Therefore the empirical corrector surface was developed that relates the Quasi97 model to the reference system of GPS and levelling heights (Lyszkowicz, 2000). The advantage of such quasigeoid model is that it will support direct conversion between the ellipsoidal reference system and normal vertical datum, even if their reference are not consistent.

The gravimetric geoid recently computed in Department of Planetary Geodesy includes a number of short wavelength components. They are as expressed as high gradient bands or broad gradient zones on the map of geoid. The analysis showed that these bands and zones coincide more or less with seismically detected faults or fracture zones that dissect consolidated basement of Poland.

Gravity data in Poland was investigated using spectral analysis with the view of refining geoid estimation methods. The analysis was based on estimates of empirical covariance function and degree variances derived from local gravity observations. Models for the variance of geoid undulations are derived for test areas. Finally the resolution of gravity data required for a centimetre to decimetre accuracy level of geoid is estimated separately for marine, flat and mountainous areas (Lyszkowicz, 2002).

The project on the cm geoid in Poland, granted in 2002 to the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography, Warsaw, by Polish State Committee for Scientific Research, came into operational stage. Several research groups are involved in the project, namely Chair of Engineering Surveying, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn; Chair of Photogrammetry and Cartography, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn; Chair of Satellite Geodesy and Navigation, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn; Institute of Geodesy, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn; Institute of Geodesy and Cartography, Warsaw; Institute of Geodesy and Geodetic Astronomy, Warsaw University of Technology; State Institute of Geology, Warsaw.

In the first step of the project a qualitative and quantitative analysis of all available data, i.e. gravity data (terrestrial, sea-borne and air-borne), deflections of the vertical, GPS/levelling, altimetry, tide gauge, topographic data (DTM), crust density. Some supplementary control surveys will be conducted. The independent geoid models, i.e. gravimetric, astro-geodetic, GPS/levelling, using the uniformed data will be computed and their internal accuracy will be estimated. Finally a geoid model based on a combination of gravimetric, astro-geodetic, GPS/levelling data will be derived (Krynski, 2001). The project is in progress. Its completion is expected by the end of 2005.

Sensitivity and stability of recent gravimeters allow for detecting gravity variations with periods from a few hours to a few weeks. The method of spectral analysis with synchronous detecting using tidal model as a basic signal was developed for determining regular gravity variations of amplitudes up to the level of a few microgals that are correlated with tidal variations and station-dependent (Krynski and Zanimonskiy, 2000).

### **3.6. GRAVITY IN APPLIED SURVEYING**

The concept of combining two surveying techniques for detecting mining extraction effects was elaborated in the Department of Mining Surveying and Environmental Engineering, University of Mining and Metallurgy in Cracow (Szczerbowski, 2001). It suggests the essential relationship between gravity anomalies and subsidence. The presented model is based on presumed correlation between the excavation geometry and the geometry of dilatancy of deformed space in rock massif. The geometric parameters describing size and location of excavation are in fact common factors for considered functions. The model of density changes was presumed. The purpose of the approach presented is to create a model of deformation based on gravimetric and positioning methods. Combination of a group of scientific methods is useful for

- getting more valuable parameters of excavation as a result of so called back analysis in the case abandoned extraction or uncontrolled solution mining,
- expansion of old anthropogenic or natural (resulted from suffosion or karst processes) excavations,
- monitoring of the stability of areas influenced by mining excavations,
- better prediction of surface damage.

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