Interpretation of Gravity and Magnetic Anomalies over the Southern Continental Shelf of Sri Lanka

by

Suraweera Arachchilage Dinesha Lakmal Kumara Suraweera



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"The work described in this thesis was carried out by me under the supervision of Professor D. A. Tantrigoda and Dr. M. M. P. M. Fernando, and a report on this has not been submitted in whole or in part to any University or any other institution for another Degree/Diploma".

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(alugo)	18.09.2013
Signature of the Supervisor	Date
(Prof. D.A. Tantrigoda)	
The state of the s	18.09.2013

Date

Signature of the Supervisor

(Dr. M.M.P.M. Fernando)

"We certify that the candidate has incorporated all corrections, additions and amendments recommended by the examiners".

Signature of the Supervisor

(Prof. D.A. Tantrigoda)

Signature of the Supervisor

(Dr. M.M.P.M. Fernando)

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8310 km², 6660 km² and 5263 km² with a maximum thickness of 3.3 km, 4.2 km and 4.2 km respectively. Further, average thickness and total sediment volume of sedimentary basins are 2.95 km, 3.73 km & 3.80 km and 14986 km³, 14103 km³ & 13678 km³ respectively.

Two dimensional and two and half dimensional interpretation of gravity anomalies and two dimensional interpretation of magnetic anomalies have been carried out using the conventional trial and error method. Interpretation of satellite gravity anomalies in three dimension has been carried using an iterative technique. Development of software needed for gravity and magnetic anomalies is an important part of the study in view of the very high cost of commercially available geophysical software. All the software used in the interpretation of gravity anomalies in two and three dimension have been developed as an integral part of the study using the Mathematica computer algebra package.

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