

# Selecting Optimal Frequency Range for Estimating Depth to Magnetic Sources

These slides have added text to cover the spoken portion of the presentation

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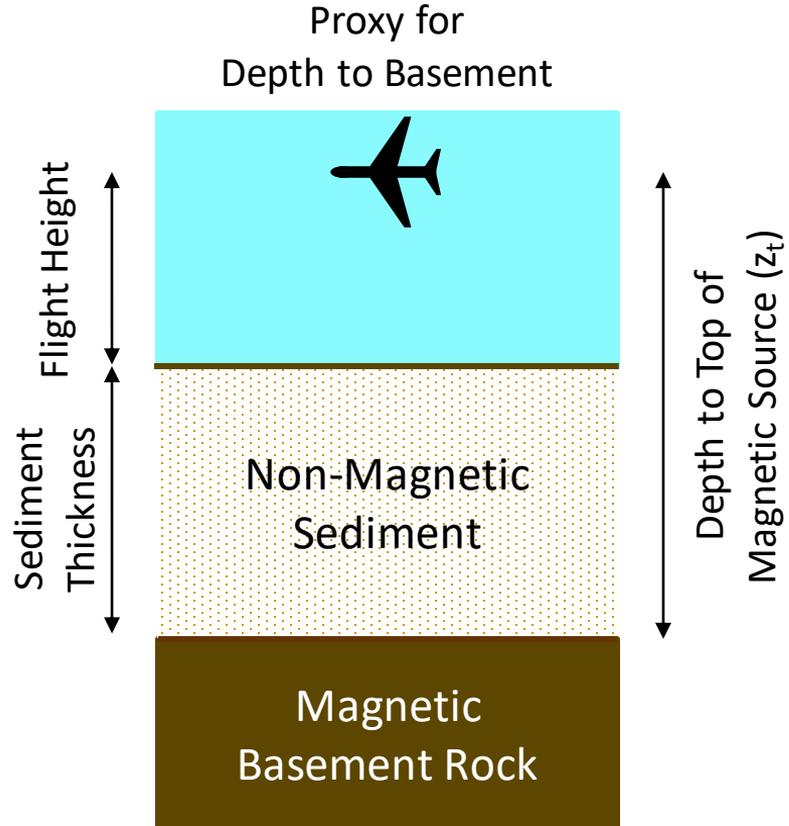
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Australia's National Science Agency



# Motivation

- Large quantities of aeromagnetic data are available, we want to analyse this data to create estimates of depth to basement,  $z_t$
- We use spectral analysis because it is fast, but there are search parameters whose optimal values need to be determined
- We want an automated method for deciding these parameters, in particular the frequency range used and the window size
  - These parameters are often chosen survey wide, we want to determine locally-optimal values for these parameters



# Outline

## 1. Introduction

- a) Motivation
- b) Outline
- c) Frequency Range Example
- d) Physical Model

## 2. Spectral Analysis Workflow

## 3. Frequency Range

- a) Frequency Range Example
- b) Choosing the Optimal Frequency Range

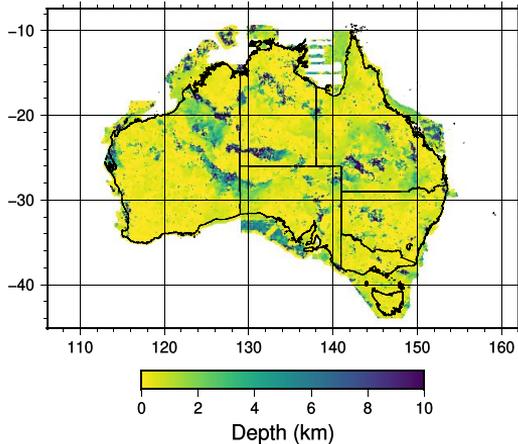
## 4. Demonstration on Australia

## 5. Window Size

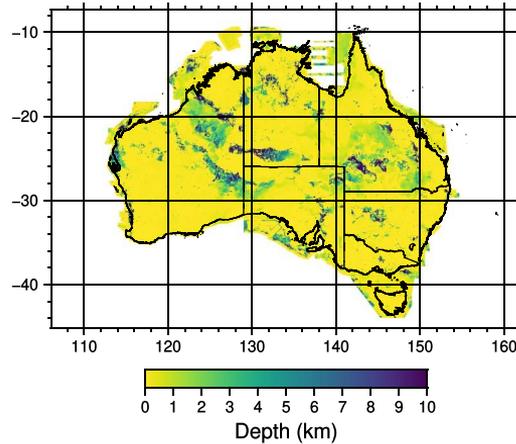
## 6. Conclusion

# Magnetic Depths Using Different Frequency Ranges

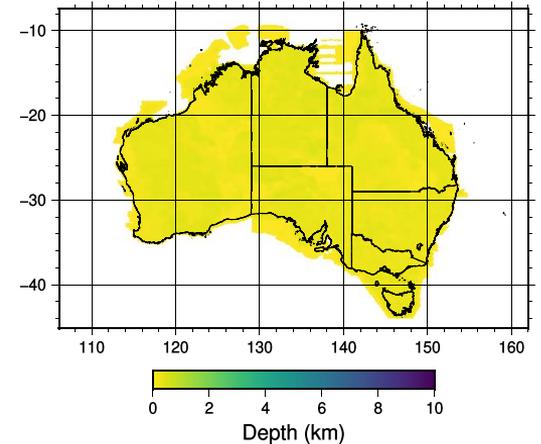
Up to 5 radians/km  
Results are close,  
but not robust



Optimal Range



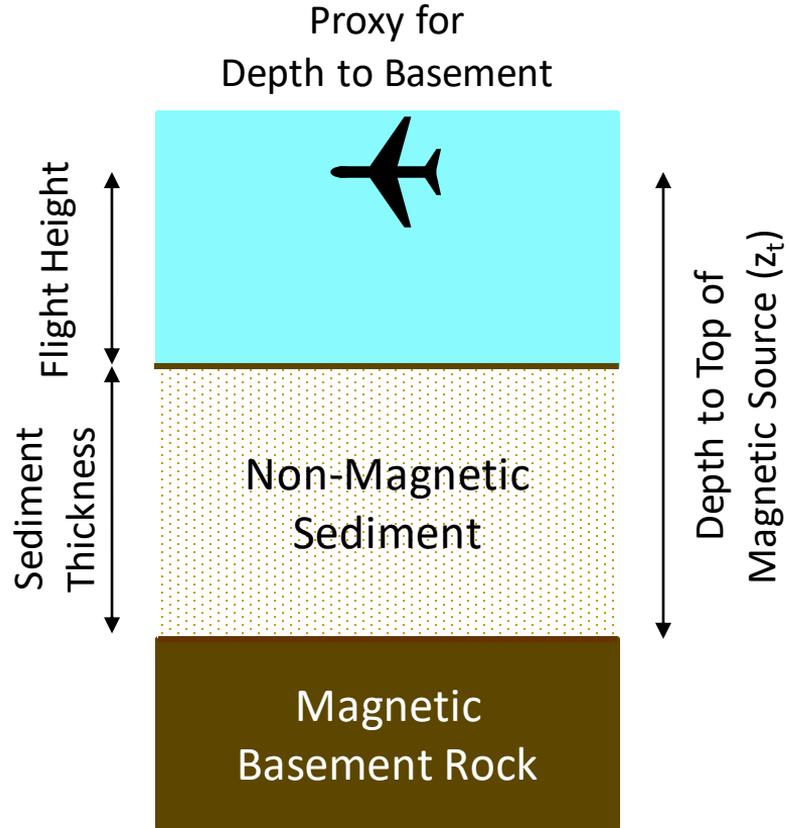
Up to 20 radians/km  
Using more data,  
but fitting to noise



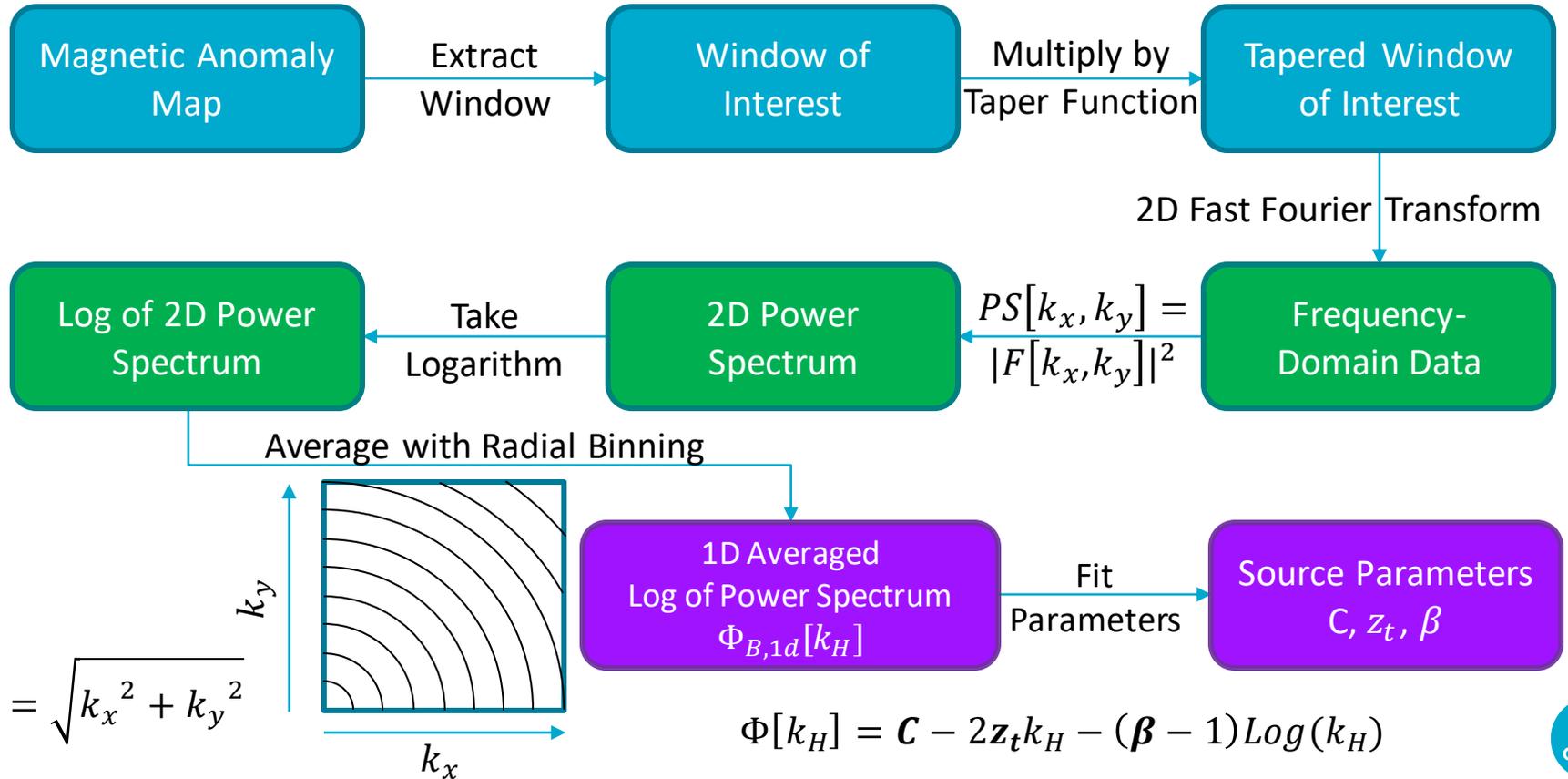
Using the Magnetic Anomaly Map of Australia, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition,  
by Geoscience Australia

# Model

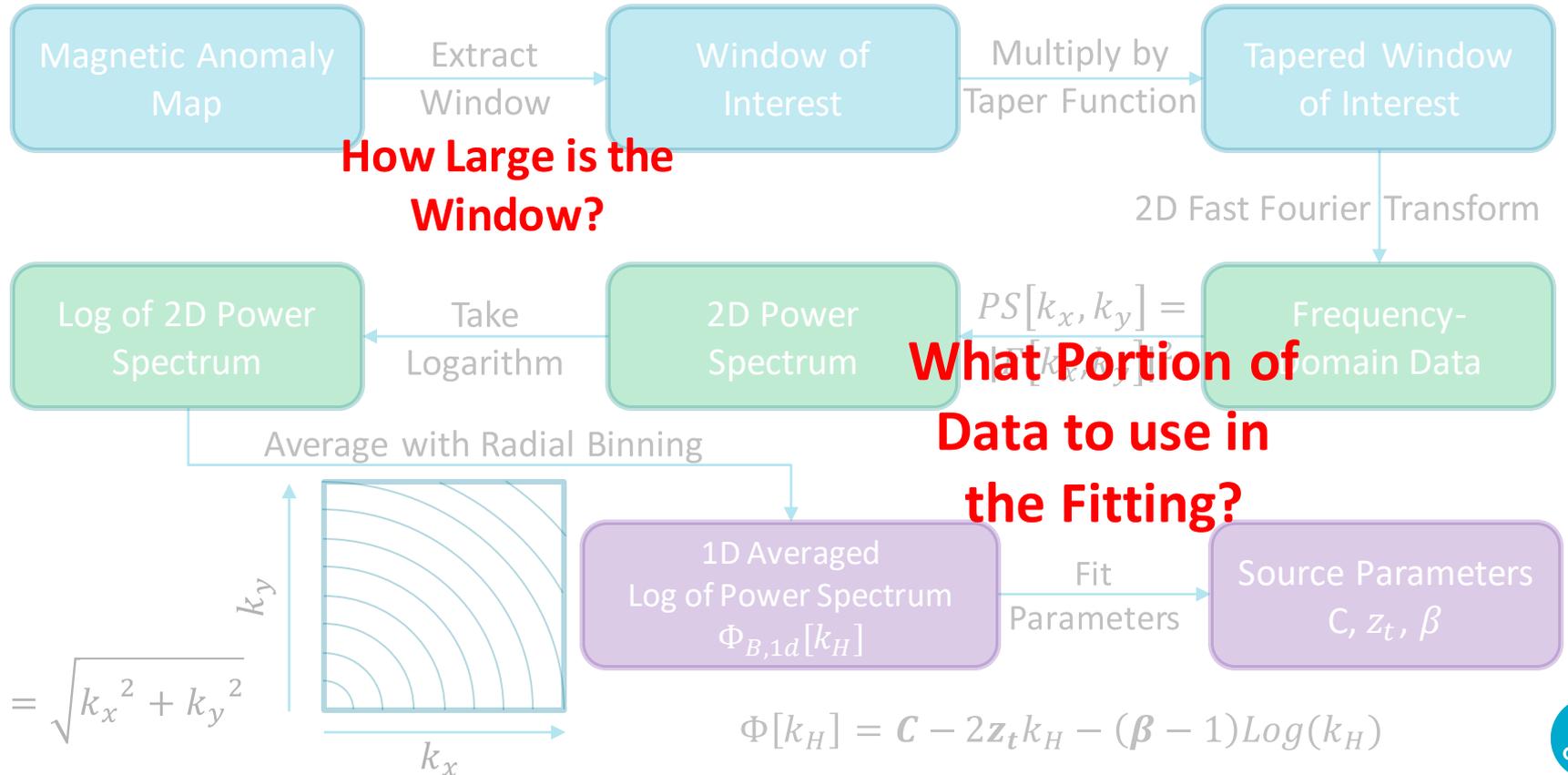
- We assume that the basement is a horizontal surface of randomly-magnetised material
  - The magnetisation of the basement rock is assumed to be fractally distributed, rather than uniform
- The basement is covered by some amount of non-magnetic sediment
- We are interested in the distance between the surface and the top of the magnetic layer,  $z_t$
- The data is collected by a plane flying at a constant height above the ground
- The magnetic data is converted into a magnetic anomaly map
  - That is, it includes only the contribution from magnetic sources below the surface but not the Earth's or the Sun's magnetic fields



# Spectral Analysis Workflow



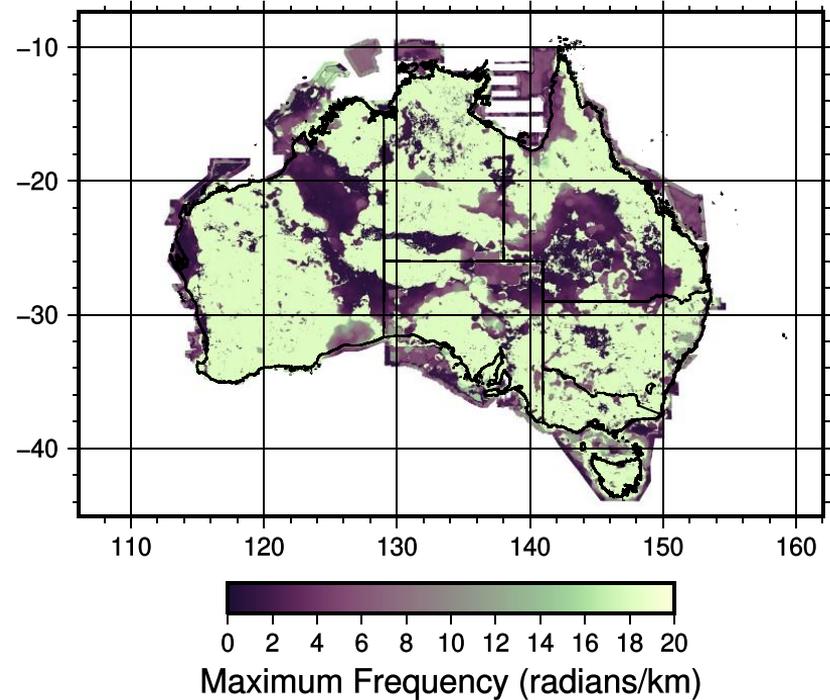
# Spectral Analysis Workflow



# Frequency Range

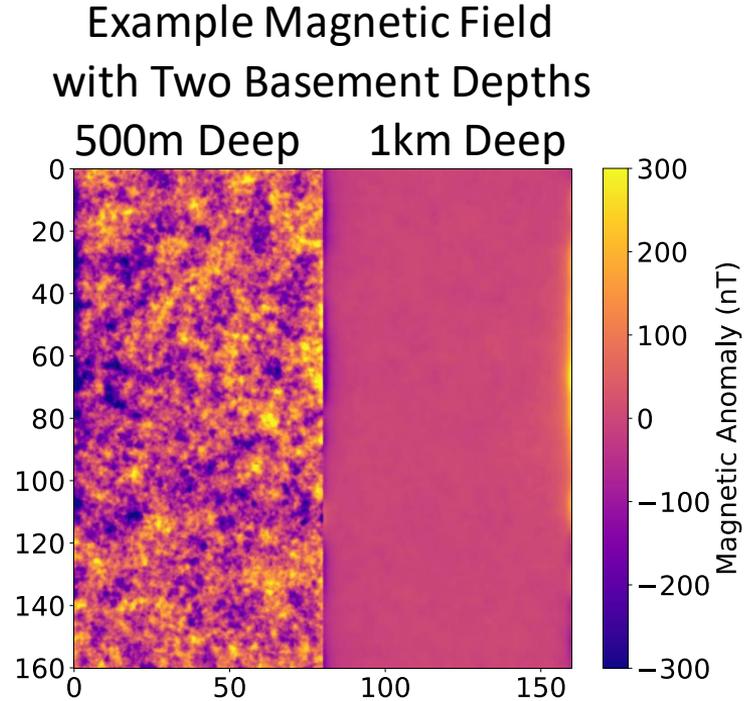
- The parameters are determined by fitting the model to the log of the magnetic power spectrum
- The signal we are looking for is stronger at lower frequencies, and weaker at higher frequencies
- Therefore the data is dominated by the signal at lower frequencies, but it becomes dominated by noise at higher frequencies
- Here “noise” includes noise from data collection, imperfections in data processing, and sidelobes from the Fourier transform

Optimal Maximum  
Frequency Across Australia



# Frequency Range Examples

- Frequency range selection is a trade-off
- Using too little of the frequency range produces an unreliable fit
- Using too much fits to noise
- The crossover point varies between windows
- We fix the minimum frequency to that which corresponds to the un-tapered portion of the window

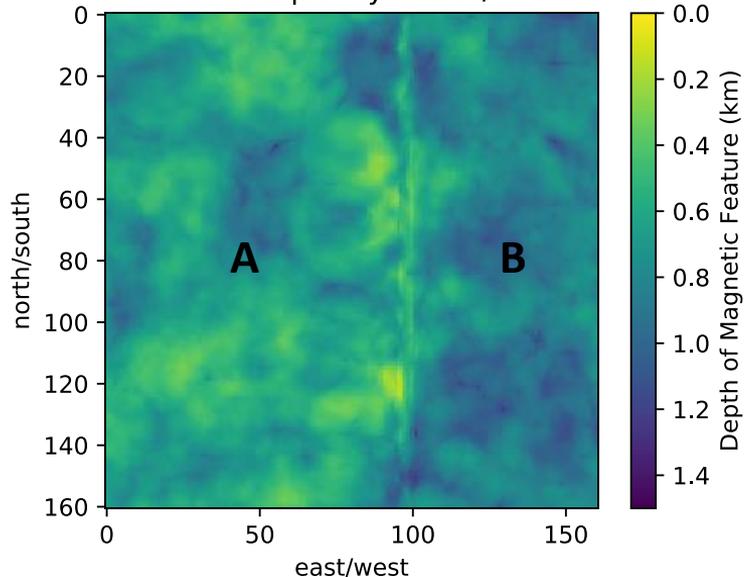


# Frequency Range is Too Small

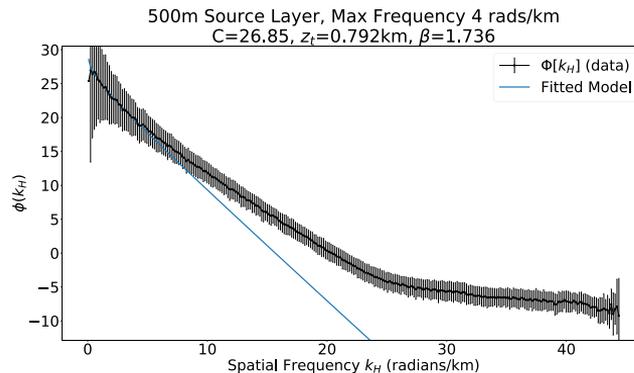
## Synthetic Example

### Layers at 500m and 1km Depth

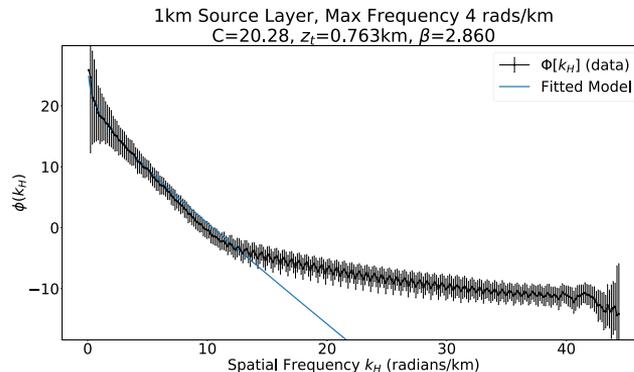
Max Frequency 4 rads/km



**A**



**B**



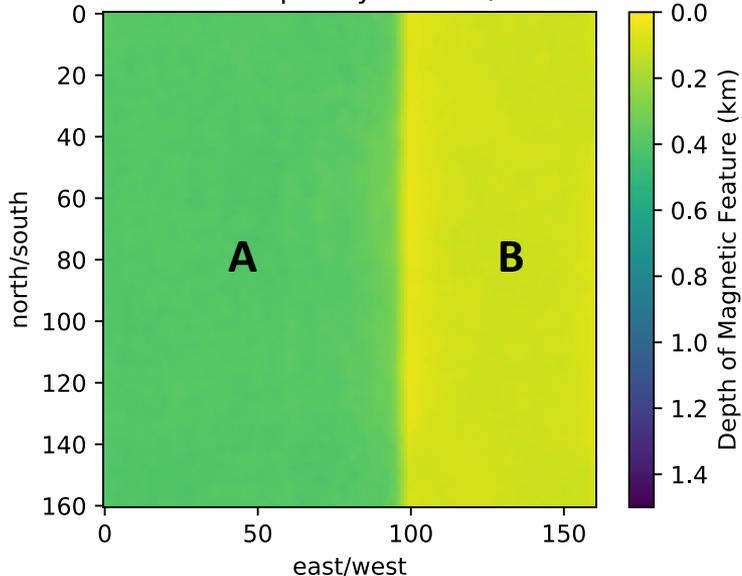
The layers are off-centre here because the shallower source is more prominent when both are present in the same window

# Frequency Range is Too Large

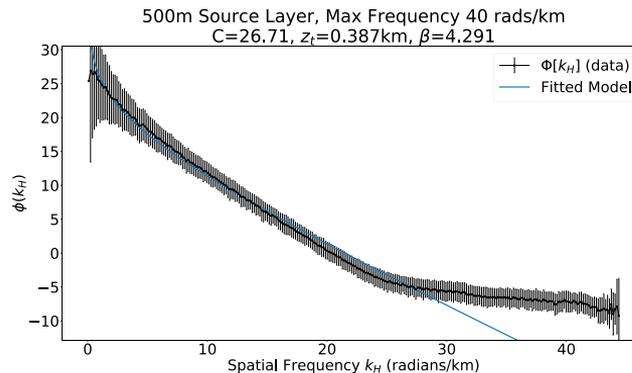
## Synthetic Example

### Layers at 500m and 1km Depth

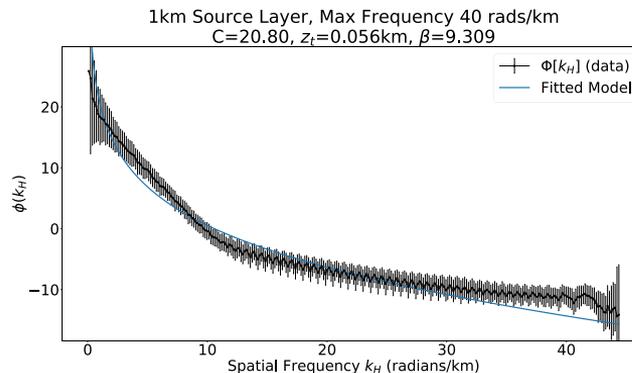
Max Frequency 40 rads/km



**A**



**B**

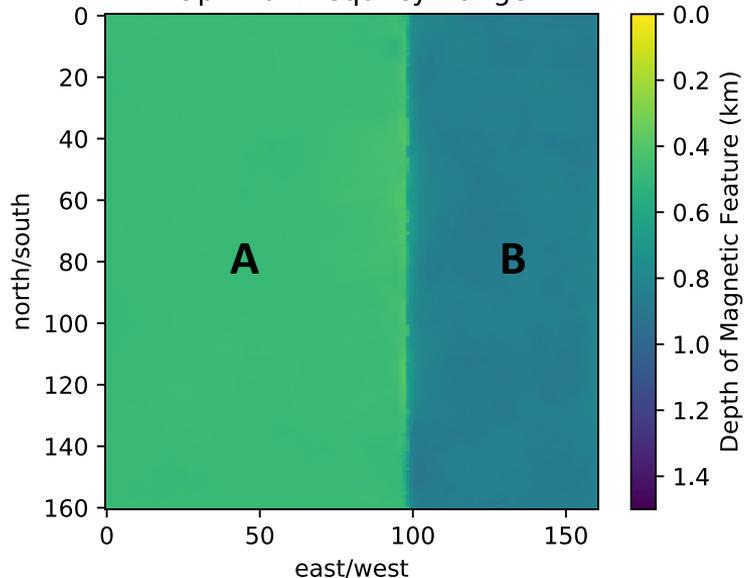


# Optimal Frequency Range

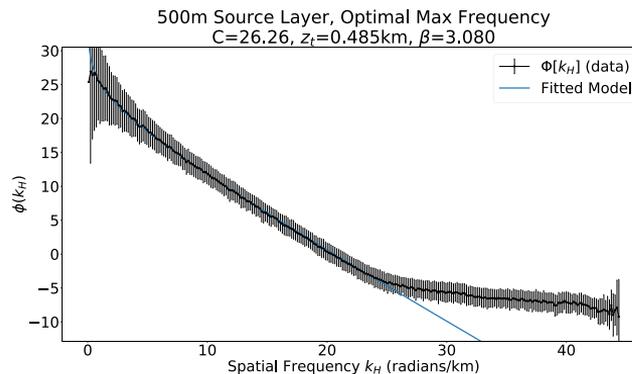
## Synthetic Example

### Layers at 500m and 1km Depth

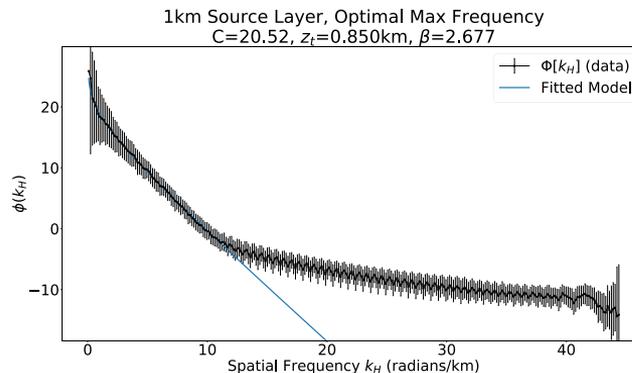
#### Optimal Frequency Range



**A**



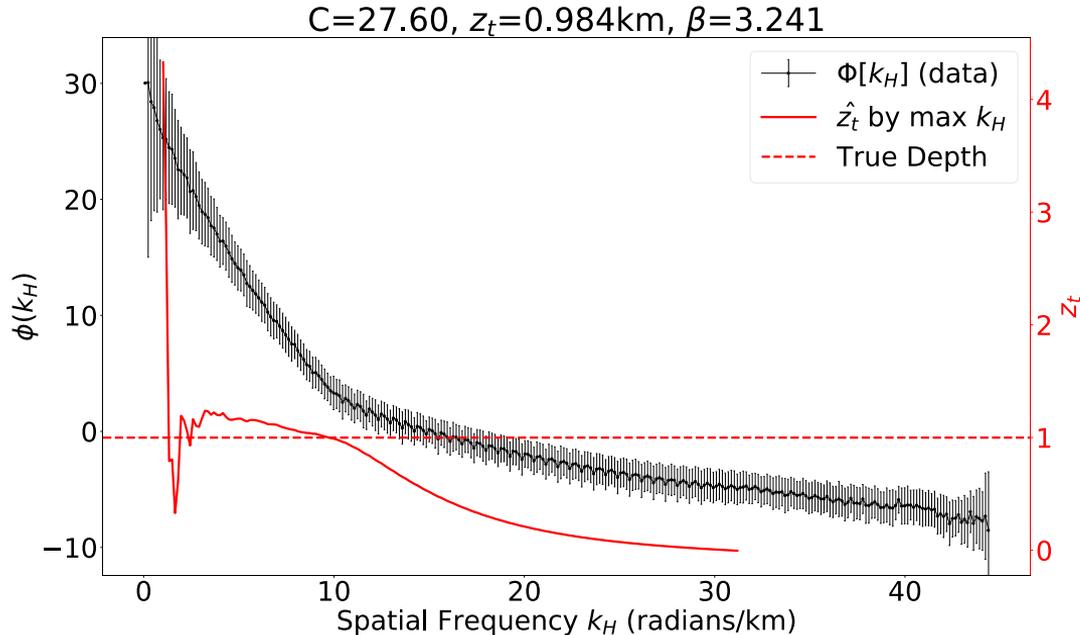
**B**



# Choosing the Optimal Frequency Range

- We can see that the optimal frequency range changes in different windows from the same dataset
- We have devised an automated method for choosing the optimal frequency range, based on identifying the linear portion of the spectrum

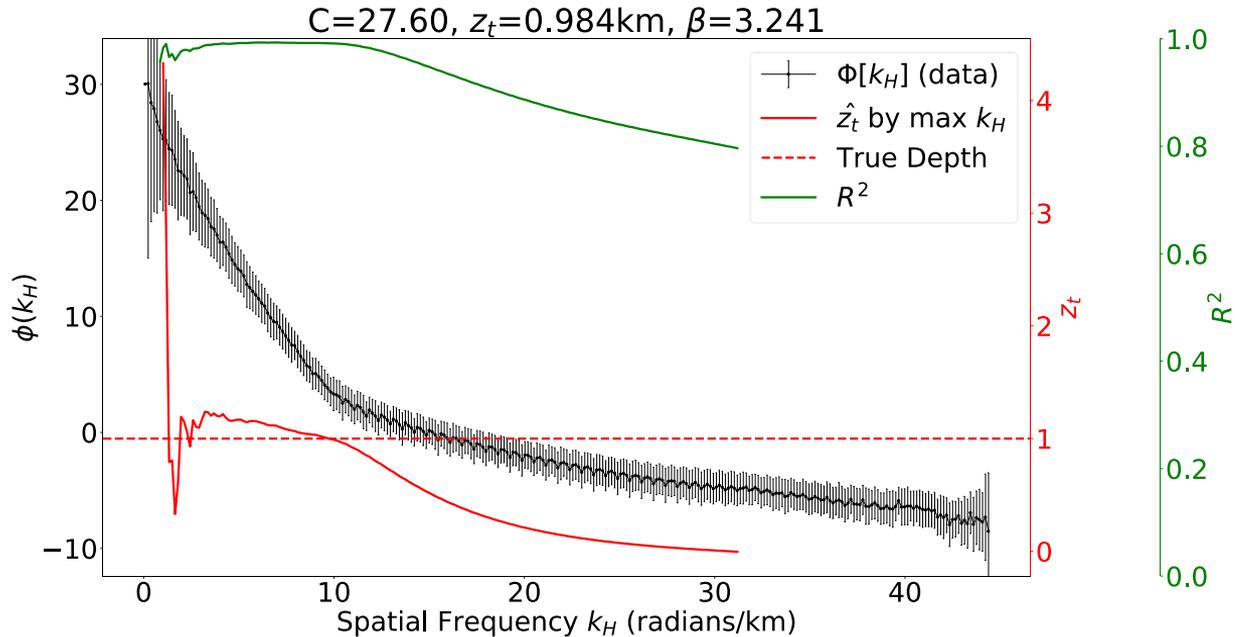
# Choosing the Optimal Frequency Range



The red line shows the recovered depth  $z_t$  as a function of the upper limit of the frequency range for fitting

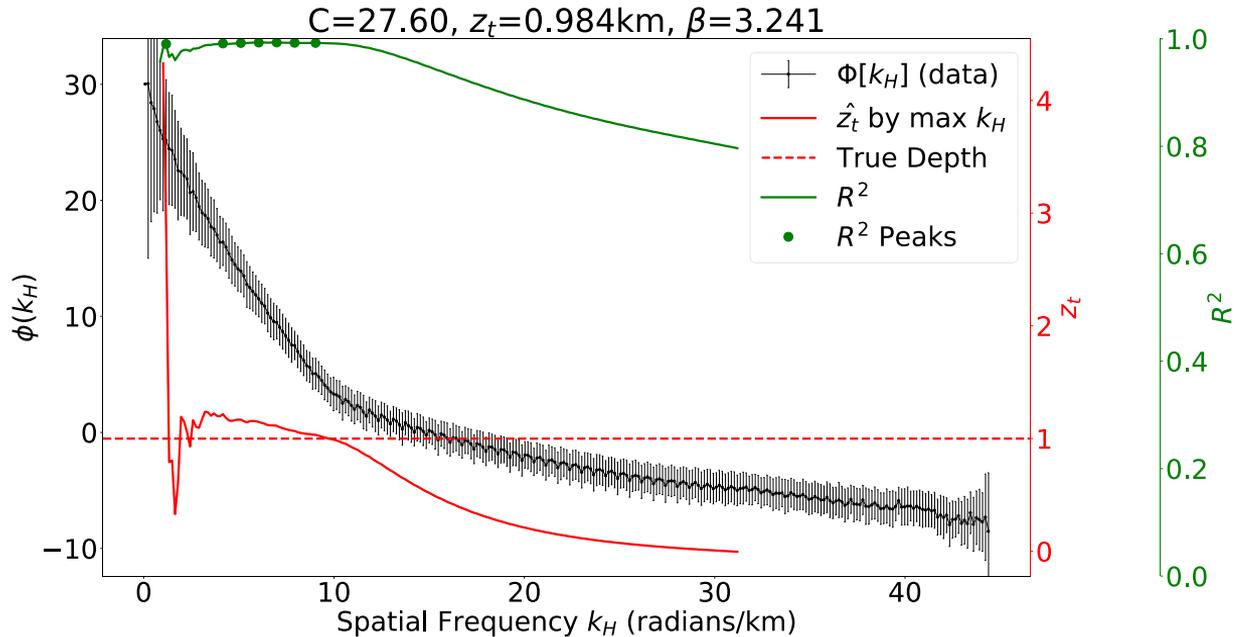
The dashed red line is the true depth for this example

# Choosing the Optimal Frequency Range



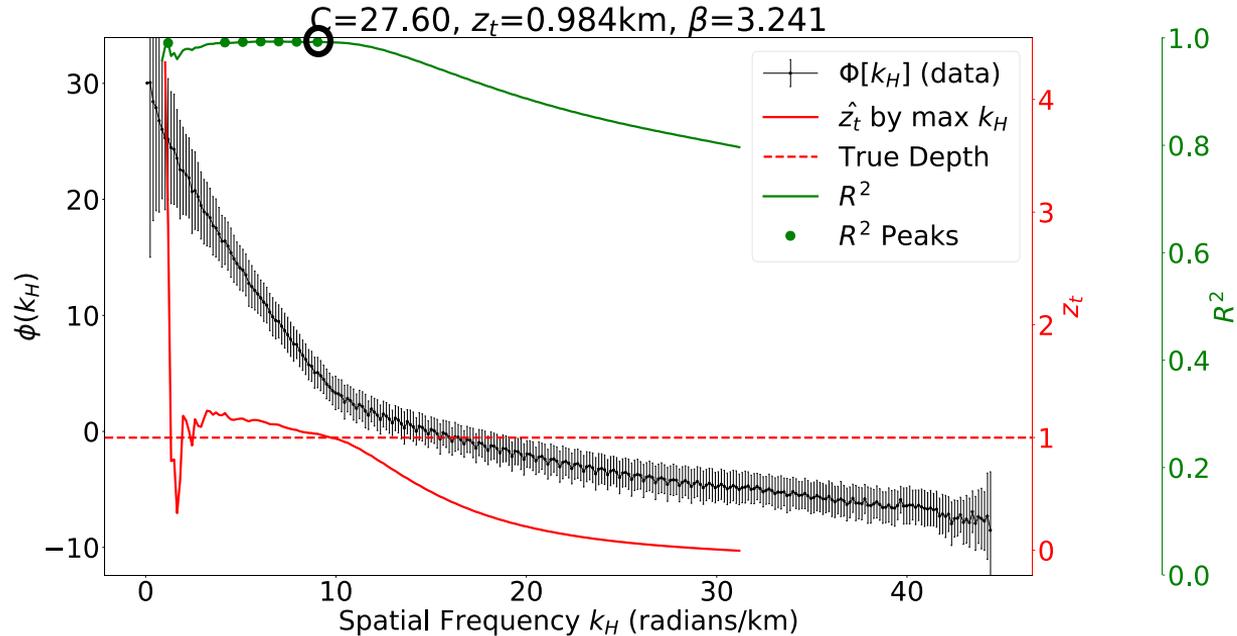
1. For each selection of data points, calculate the linear regression its  $R^2$  value

# Choosing the Optimal Frequency Range



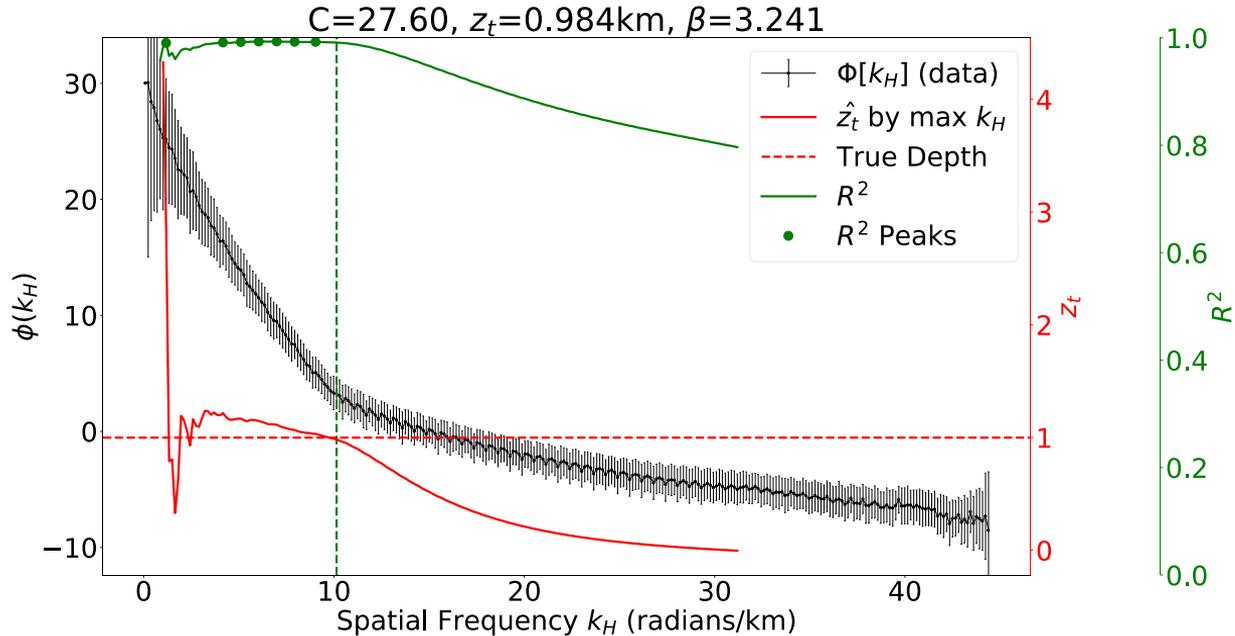
1. Calculate Linear Regression  $\rightarrow R^2$  values
2. Identify peaks in  $R^2$  values

# Choosing the Optimal Frequency Range



1. Calculate Linear Regression  $\rightarrow R^2$  values
2. Identify peaks in  $R^2$  values
3. Choose max-frequency peak

# Choosing the Optimal Frequency Range



1. Calculate Linear Regression  $\rightarrow R^2$  values
2. Identify peaks in  $R^2$  values
3. Choose max-frequency peak
4. Move to the edge of the plateau

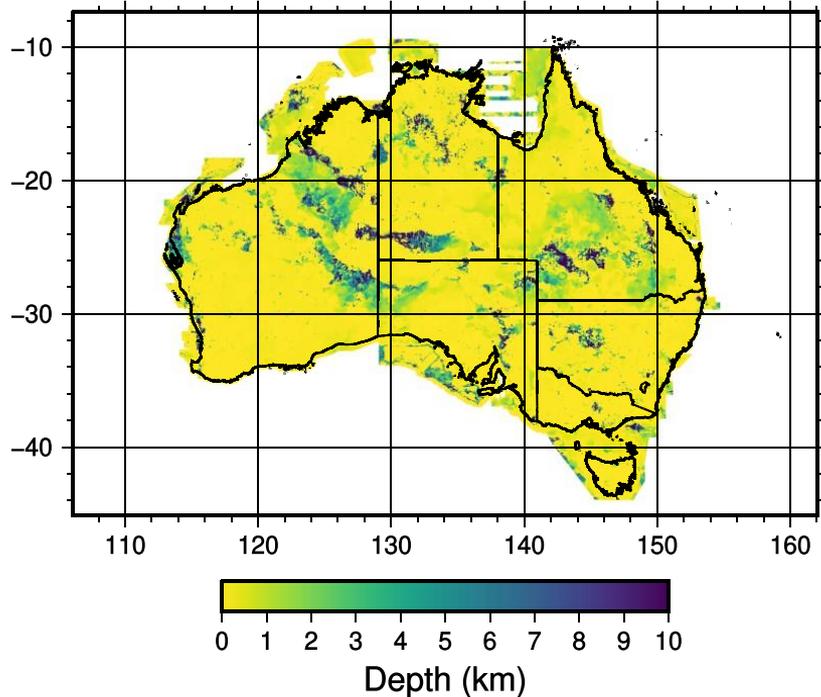
Move right until the  $R^2$  is less than 0.999 the value of the chosen peak

# Magnetic Depths of Australia

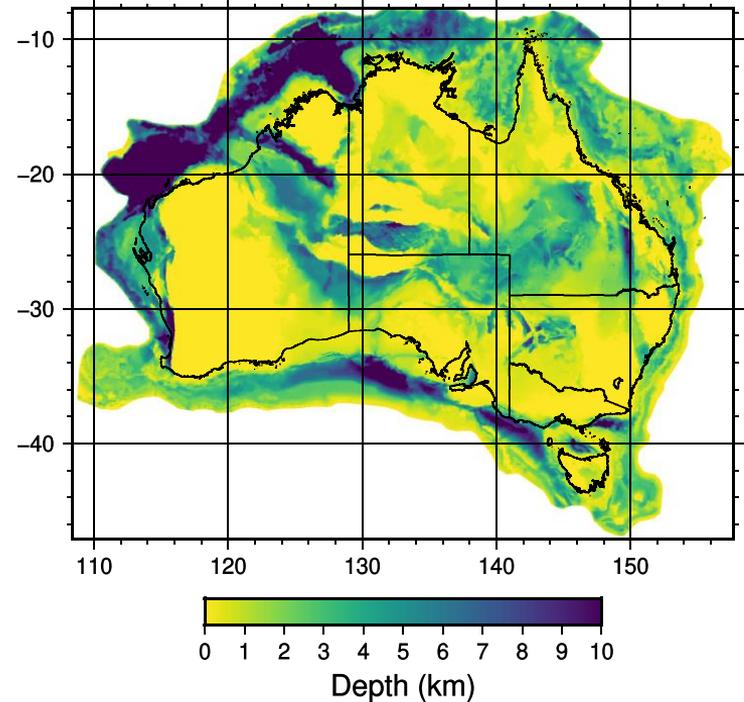
- We now demonstrate our method using data from Australia
- The dataset used is the Magnetic Anomaly Map of Australia, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, produced by Geoscience Australia
- This data has been collected from 836 grids, compiled into a single map
  - The data has been normalized to a flight height of 300 metres, which has been subtracted from the recovered depth values to produce a sediment thickness map
- Our depths are compared against the OzSEEBASE v2 Sediment Thickness map
- The combines magnetic, gravity, seismic, borehole, and outcrop data in the places where they are available

# Magnetic Depths of Australia

## Our Results



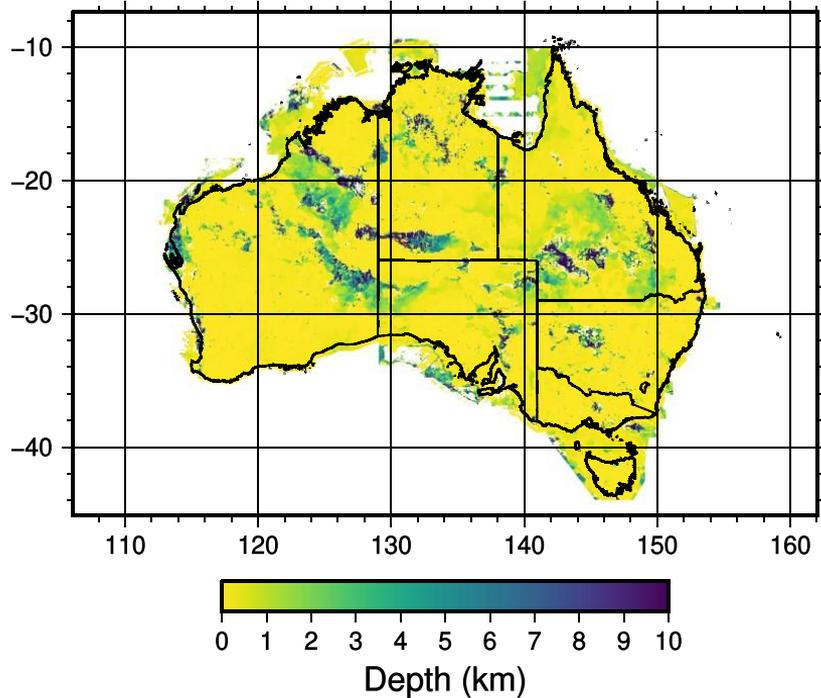
## OZ SEEBASE v2 Sediment Thickness



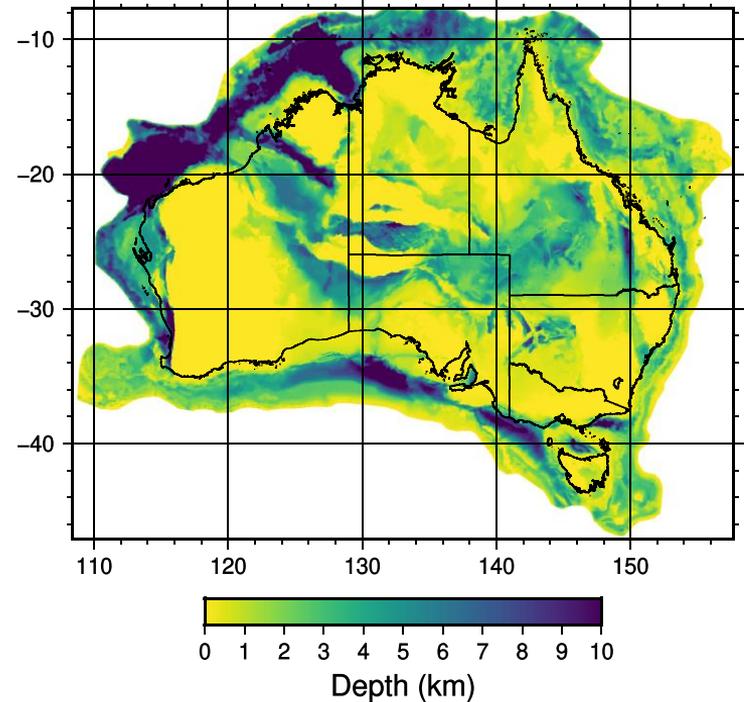
Using the Magnetic Anomaly Map of Australia, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition,  
by Geoscience Australia

# Magnetic Depths of Australia

Our results, Cleaned



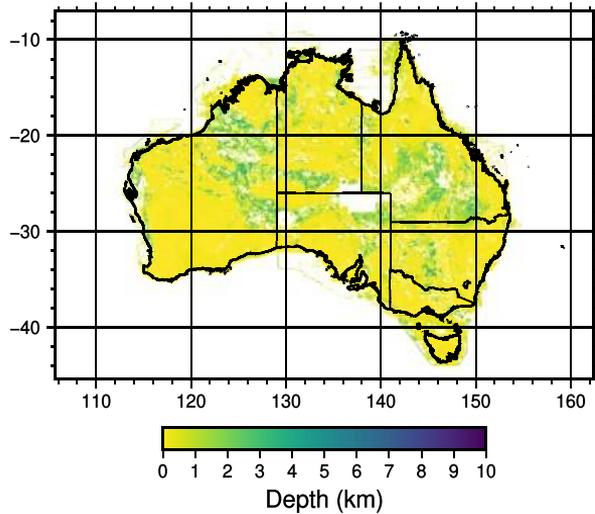
OZ SEEBASE v2 Sediment Thickness



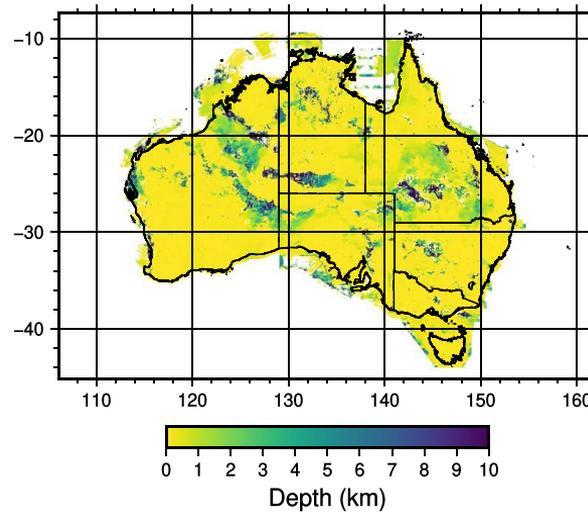
Remove depths that appear above observation height – these values are incorrect

# But What About the Window Size?

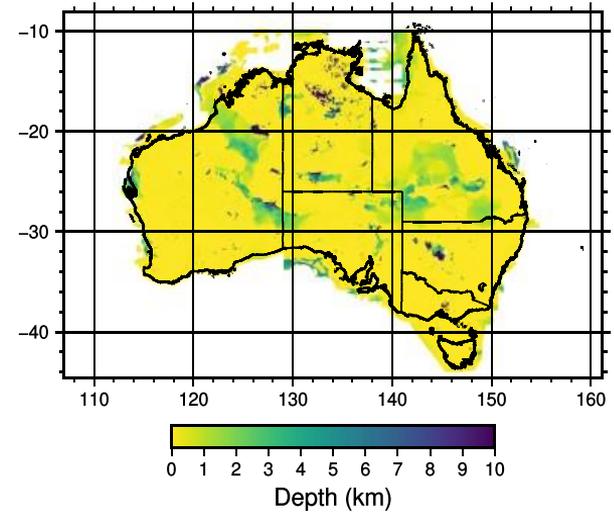
## 10km Window



## 40km Window (Shown Previously)



## 100km Window



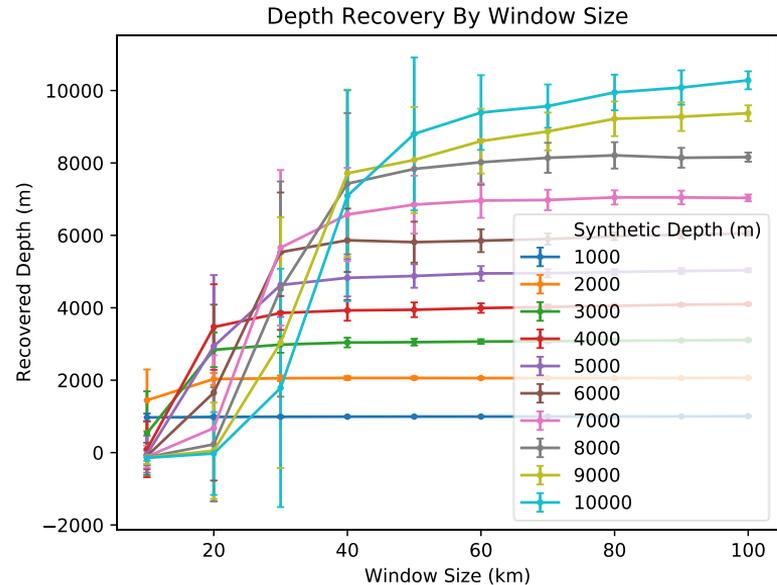
# Window Size

- Window size is also a trade-off
- Larger windows include more data, which helps to average out randomness of the sources, and noise
  - This is especially important for deeper sources, which are visible in a smaller portion of the power spectrum
- But larger windows include data from new locations
- Larger windows might include signal from multiple sources, and the strongest source will dominate the data
- Therefore smaller windows improve locality

# Window Size

- We want to use the smallest window size that still accurately recovers the depth
- We are still developing a method to do this robustly
- Using iteratively larger windows can be inconsistent, as changes in depth can be due to either improving the depth recovery or due to observing a new source on the edge of the window

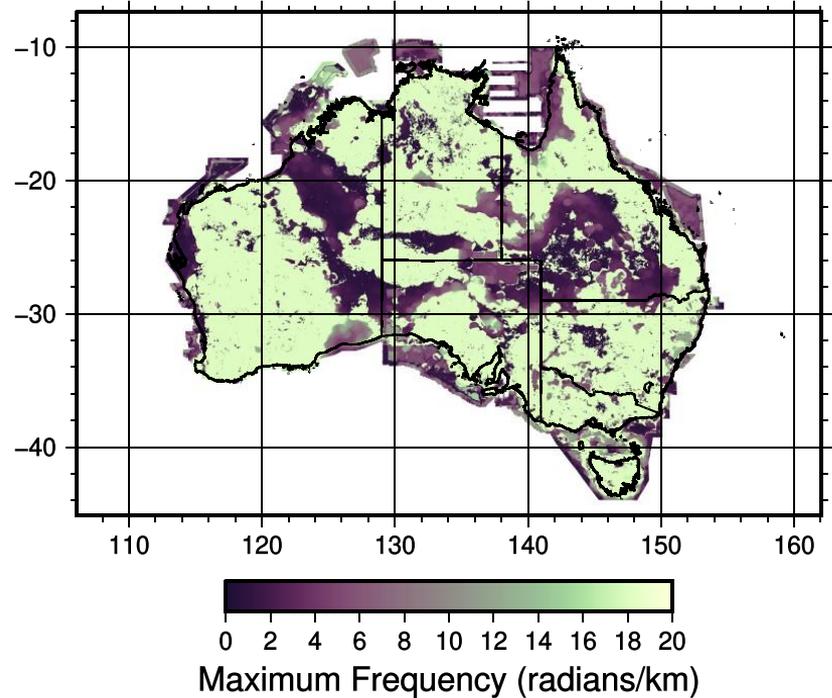
We can calculate the recovered depth as a function of window size and true depth, for synthetic data with a single layer



# Conclusion

- Locally-optimal frequency range improves recovery of depth to basement
- Further improvement is possible by optimising the window size
- This technique is useful for automated, near-real time analysis of large data volume aeromagnetic surveys

Maximum Frequency Used  
In Parameter Fitting (40km Window)



# Thank You

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