

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Principal Facts for Gravity Stations in the Wolf Creek
Anticline Area, Piceance Basin, Colorado

by

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DATA COLLECTION

A Gravity survey was made across the Wolf Creek anticline in the Piceance basin, Colorado (fig. 1) in Sept 1988. Gravity observations were made using La Coste and Romberg gravity meter G-551. The gravity stations were referenced to the U.S. Department of Defense (Defense Mapping Agency, 1974) base at Carbondale, Colorado (Appendix A). Gravity loops were started and closed daily. Access to the survey area was by secondary roads.

ELEVATION CONTROL

The survey area is bounded by latitudes $39^{\circ}16'00''$ - $39^{\circ}23'00''$ N and longitudes $107^{\circ}22'00''$ - $107^{\circ}28'00''$ W. Thirty-four stations were obtained from locations on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps, Quaker Mesa, and Stony Ridge, scale 1:24,000. The uncertainty of elevation is one-half the contour interval; the correction factor is .06 mGal/foot; thus on a map with 40 ft contour intervals, the maximum Bouguer and free-air correction error is estimated to be $20 \text{ ft} \times .06 \text{ mGal} = 1.2 \text{ mGals}$.

DATA REDUCTION

Computer programs existing on the USGS Branch of Geophysics Digital Equipment Corporation VAX 11-750 computer system were used to calculate principal facts and terrain-corrected gravity values. A program written by M. W. Webring (USGS, 1984, unpub. program) was used to reduce gravimeter readings to observed gravity values by calculating and correcting for earth-tides and linear meter drift. The theoretical gravity value was calculated using the 1967 formula of the Geodetic Reference System (International Association of Geodesy, 1971). Terrain corrections were computed using a program by R. H. Godson (USGS, 1978, unpub. program) correcting for the gravity effects of terrain from each station to a radius of 166.7 km using the method of Plouff (1977). Godson's program also calculates earth curvature corrections and

complete (terrain corrected) Bouguer gravity anomaly values. For a complete description of gravity reduction equations and approximations used by the Branch of Geophysics see Cordell and others (1982). These computed terrain corrections use mean elevation digital data on a 15-second grid for corrections from 0.59 to 5 km, 1-minute terrain data for corrections from 5 to 21 km, and 3-minute terrain data for corrections from 21 to 166.7 km. Terrain located less than 0.59 km from a station may not be corrected for by the above procedure due to the coarseness of the terrain model. A density of 2.67 g/cc was used to calculate terrain corrections, giving one complete Bouguer gravity anomaly value per station. The second complete Bouguer gravity anomaly value was calculated by using a reduction density of 2.45 g/cc. The corrections and gravity anomaly values are listed in table 1.

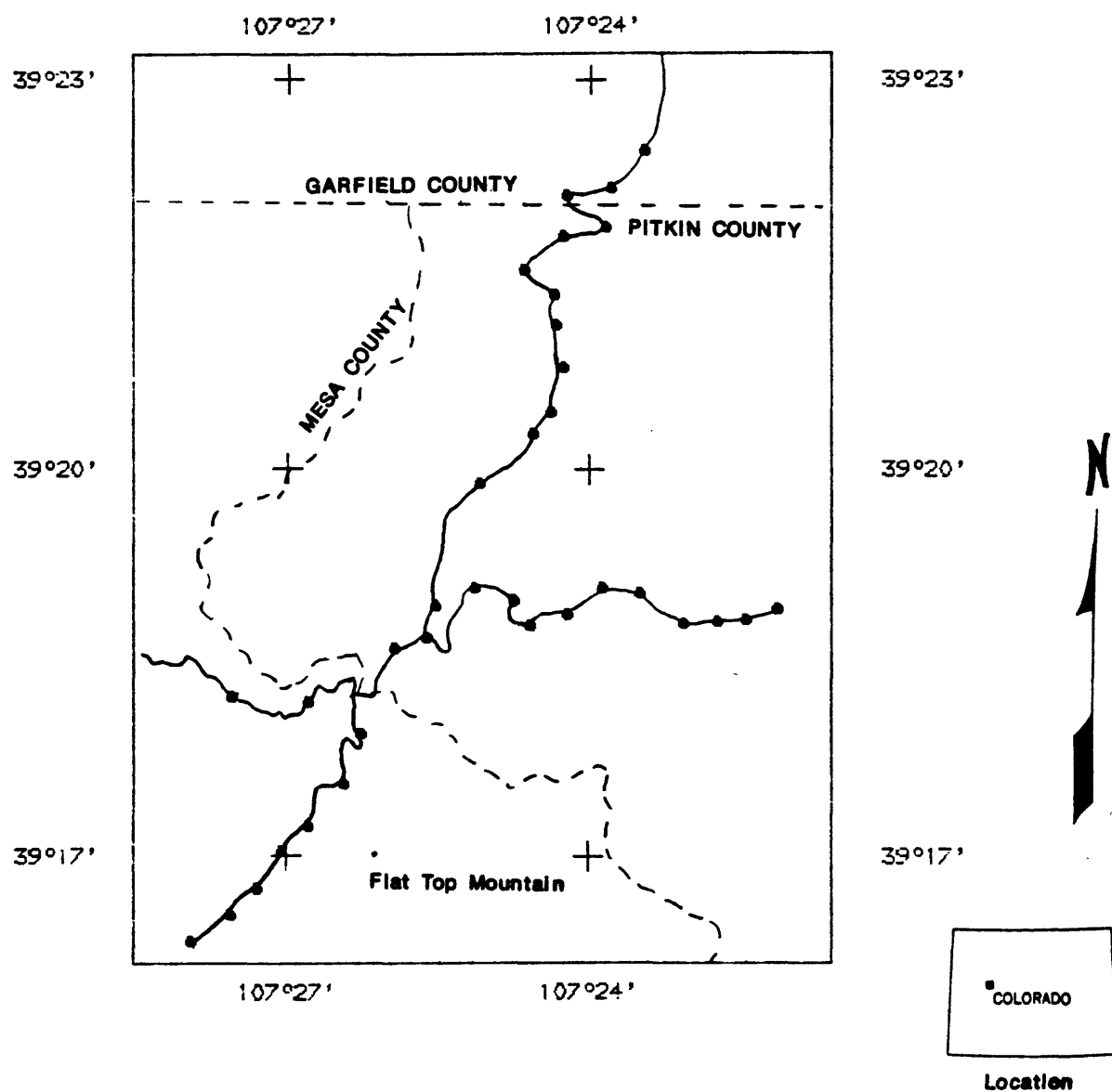


Figure 1.

5 0 5 10 KILOMETERS

WOLF CREEK ANTICLINE, GRAVITY STATIONS
scale 1:100,000

Table 1: Principal Facts of Gravity Data

Explanation of headings

Identification

proj	Not used
sta-id	Gravity station identification number

Locations

latitude	North latitude in degrees, decimal minutes
longitude	West longitude in degrees, decimal minutes
ele	Station elevation in meters
st	Not used

Gravity

observed	Observed gravity in milligals
theoretical	Theoretical gravity in milligals

Corrections

Terrain	Terrain correction, 166.7 km radius, in milligals
Bouguer	Simple Bouguer slab correction in milligals
curv	Curvature correction in milligals
special	Not used

Anomalies

free-air	Free-air anomaly in milligals
complete-Bouguer	Complete Bouguer anomaly in milligals for designated densities d1 and d2
spec fields	Not used

WOLF CREEK ANTICLINE, CO
SEPT. 1988
2a-551

BOUGUER GRAVITY DATA

elev=f ou=.01 srt=tme a-h i-x

STATION IDENTIFICATION proj sta-id	L O C A T I O N S LATITUDE LONGITUDE dea min dea min	E I F ST OBSERVED (in ft)	G R A V I T Y TERRAIN ROUGHER CURV (dl=2.67)	C O R R E C T I O N S SPECIAL	A I R FREE COMPLETE-BOUGUER dl=2.67 d2=2.45 FIEL	A N O M A L I E S SPE
:143	39 22.46 -107 23.46	9200.00 CO 979279.31	980113.35	2.55 -313.79 -1.33	0.00	30.74 -281.82 -256.07
:144	39 22.11 -107 24.24	9520.00 CO 979260.29	980112.84	3.56 -324.70 -1.27	0.00	42.29 -280.12 -253.56
:145	39 21.86 -107 23.86	9720.00 CO 979248.40	980112.47	4.53 -331.52 -1.24	0.00	49.55 -278.68 -251.63
:146	39 21.79 -107 24.28	9920.00 CO 979235.22	980112.36	6.26 -338.34 -1.20	0.00	55.27 -278.01 -250.55
:147	39 21.53 -107 24.66	9720.00 CO 979248.44	980111.98	3.81 -331.52 -1.24	0.00	50.08 -278.86 -251.76
:148	39 21.10 -107 24.34	9560.00 CO 979255.58	980111.34	3.14 -326.06 -1.27	0.00	42.83 -281.36 -254.65
:149	39 20.77 -107 24.28	9460.00 CO 979260.36	980110.86	2.98 -322.65 -1.29	0.00	38.70 -282.26 -255.81
:150	39 20.27 -107 24.57	9160.00 CO 979277.94	980110.12	2.33 -312.42 -1.33	0.00	28.84 -282.58 -256.92
:151	39 19.88 -107 25.10	9210.00 CO 979275.02	980109.54	2.93 -314.13 -1.33	0.00	31.20 -281.32 -255.57
:152	39 18.69 -107 25.62	9505.00 CO 979254.92	980107.78	3.03 -324.19 -1.28	0.00	40.57 -291.87 -255.30
:153	39 22.17 -107 23.80	9320.00 CO 979267.87	980112.92	3.05 -317.88 -1.31	0.00	31.00 -285.14 -259.09
:154	39 21.34 -107 24.37	9600.00 CO 979253.67	980111.70	3.30 -327.43 -1.26	0.00	44.33 -281.06 -254.25
:155	39 20.44 -107 24.39	9280.00 CO 979270.07	980110.37	3.03 -316.51 -1.32	0.00	32.00 -282.80 -256.86
:156	39 18.94 -107 25.53	9460.00 CO 979255.24	980108.15	2.94 -322.65 -1.29	0.00	36.30 -284.70 -258.25
:157	39 18.60 -107 25.93	9560.00 CO 979252.46	980107.65	3.42 -326.06 -1.27	0.00	43.41 -280.50 -253.81
:158	39 17.94 -107 26.27	9620.00 CO 979250.24	980106.67	6.35 -328.11 -1.26	0.00	47.80 -275.22 -248.60
:159	39 17.55 -107 26.44	9200.00 CO 979276.21	980106.09	4.76 -313.79 -1.33	0.00	34.90 -275.46 -249.88
:160	39 17.23 -107 26.80	8840.00 CO 979297.02	980105.63	3.68 -301.51 -1.38	0.00	27.36 -276.85 -252.19
:161	39 17.03 -107 27.05	8680.00 CO 979306.38	980105.33	3.09 -296.05 -1.40	0.00	16.99 -277.38 -253.12
:162	39 16.33 -107 27.96	8360.00 CO 979326.88	980104.30	3.30 -285.14 -1.44	0.00	8.45 -274.82 -251.48
:163	39 16.54 -107 27.57	8440.00 CO 979320.55	980104.60	3.54 -287.86 -1.43	0.00	9.33 -276.42 -252.88
:164	39 16.74 -107 27.31	8540.00 CO 979314.41	980104.90	3.20 -291.27 -1.42	0.00	12.29 -277.21 -253.35
:165	39 18.92 -107 22.12	9640.00 CO 979244.55	980108.13	5.31 -328.79 -1.25	0.00	42.53 -282.20 -255.45
:166	39 18.84 -107 22.44	9760.00 CO 979237.78	980108.00	5.66 -332.89 -1.23	0.00	47.16 -281.29 -254.23
:167	39 18.82 -107 22.72	9840.00 CO 979229.74	980107.98	6.51 -335.61 -1.21	0.00	46.66 -283.66 -256.44
:168	39 18.80 -107 23.06	9880.00 CO 979228.45	980107.95	6.26 -336.98 -1.21	0.00	49.16 -282.76 -255.41
:169	39 19.03 -107 23.51	9880.00 CO 979227.42	980108.28	7.35 -336.98 -1.21	0.00	47.79 -283.04 -255.78
:170	39 19.08 -107 23.87	9880.00 CO 979227.46	980108.36	7.58 -336.98 -1.21	0.00	47.75 -282.85 -255.61
:171	39 18.87 -107 24.23	9880.00 CO 979231.95	980108.05	4.99 -336.98 -1.21	0.00	52.56 -280.64 -253.18
:172	39 18.78 -107 24.59	9920.00 CO 979229.45	980107.91	5.42 -338.34 -1.20	0.00	53.95 -280.17 -252.64
:173	39 18.96 -107 24.76	9820.00 CO 979237.57	980108.21	4.64 -334.93 -1.22	0.00	52.38 -279.13 -251.82
:174	39 19.07 -107 25.14	9760.00 CO 979238.90	980108.34	6.12 -332.89 -1.23	0.00	47.94 -280.06 -253.03
:175	39 18.19 -107 26.80	9520.00 CO 979253.69	980107.04	5.56 -324.70 -1.27	0.00	41.49 -278.93 -252.53
:176	39 18.72 -107 27.56	9360.00 CO 979265.09	980107.09	7.70 -319.24 -1.30	0.00	37.82 -275.03 -249.25

REFERENCES CITED

- Cordell, Lindrith, Keller, G. R., and Hildenbrand, T. G., 1982, Bouguer Gravity Map of the Rio Grande Rift, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas, U.S. Geological Survey GP-949.
- Defense Mapping Agency, 1974, World Relative Gravity Reference Network, North America, Part 2: Defense Mapping Agency Aerospace Center Reference Publication 25, with supplement updating gravity values to the International Gravity Standardization Net 1971, Aerospace Center, St. Louis, AFS, MO, 1635 p.
- International Association of Geodesy, 1971, Geodetic Reference System, 1967, International Association of Geodesy, Special Publication, no. 3, 116 p.
- Plouff, D., 1977, Preliminary documentation for a FORTRAN program to compute gravity terrain corrections based on topography digitized on a geographic grid: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 77-535, 43 p.

Appendix A

GRAVITY BASE STATION			
LATITUDE		39° 24.04'N (1)	STATION DESIGNATION CARBONDALE
LONGITUDE		107° 12.71'W (1)	
ELEVATION		6170.2 ft 1880.6 METERS (1)	COUNTRY/STATE USA/Colorado
REFERENCE CODE NUMBERS		ADOPTED GRAVITY VALUE	
ACIC 4651-1		g = 979459.34 mgals	
IGB 11997D			
		ESTIMATED ACCURACY	DATE
		± 0.1 mgals	MONTH/YEAR 10/71
DESCRIPTION AND/OR SKETCH			
<p>The station is located in Carbondale, on the southwest corner of Main Street and 3rd Street, at the First Baptist Church, in the northwest corner of the building on the sidewalk. (1)</p>			
(1)			
REFERENCE SOURCE			
(1) 03405			