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S. Macmillan, S. Maus, A. Chambodut, V. Golovkov, R. Holme, B. Langlais,  
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# The 9th-Generation International Geomagnetic Reference Field

International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA), Division V, Working Group 8

Participating members: S. Macmillan,\* S. Maus, T. Bondar, A. Chambodut, V. Golovkov, R. Holme, B. Langlais, V. Lesur, F. Lowes, H. Lühr, W. Mai, M. Mandea, N. Olsen, M. Rother, T. Sabaka, A. Thomson and I. Wardinski

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## SUMMARY

The International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy has recently released the 9th-Generation International Geomagnetic Reference Field—the latest version of a standard mathematical description of the Earth's main magnetic field used widely in studies of the Earth's deep interior, its crust and its ionosphere and magnetosphere. The coefficients were recently finalized at the XXIII General Assembly of the International Union of Geophysics and Geodesy, held at Sapporo in Japan in 2003 July. The IGRF is the product of a huge collaborative effort between magnetic field modellers and the institutes involved in collecting and disseminating magnetic field data from satellites and from observatories and surveys around the world.

**Key words:** geomagnetic field model, geomagnetic reference field, IGRF, secular variation.

The IGRF is a series of mathematical models of the Earth's main field and its annual rate of change (secular variation). In source-free regions at the Earth's surface and above, the main field, with sources internal to the Earth, is the negative gradient of a scalar potential  $V$ , which can be represented by a truncated series expansion

$$V(r, \theta, \lambda, t) = R \sum_{n=1}^{n_{\max}} \left( \frac{R}{r} \right)^{n+1} \sum_{m=0}^n [g_n^m(t) \cos m\lambda + h_n^m(t) \sin m\lambda] P_n^m(\theta)$$

where  $r$ ,  $\theta$  and  $\lambda$  are geocentric coordinates ( $r$  is the distance from the centre of the Earth,  $\theta$  is the colatitude, i.e.  $90^\circ$ -latitude, and  $\lambda$  is the longitude),  $R$  is a reference radius (6371.2 km);  $g_n^m(t)$  and  $h_n^m(t)$  are the coefficients at time  $t$  and  $P_n^m(\theta)$  are the Schmidt semi-normalized associated Legendre functions of degree  $n$  and order  $m$ . The coefficients are functions of time and for the IGRF they are assumed to vary at constant rates for 5-year intervals. For more details on main-field modelling the reader is referred to Chapman & Bartels (1940) and Langel (1987).

The coefficients of the 9th-generation IGRF are listed in Table 1 and are available in digital form from the IAGA web site [www.iugg.org/IAGA](http://www.iugg.org/IAGA) and the World Data Centers listed at the end of this paper, along with software to compute magnetic field values from them. The new coefficients are the main-field coefficients for 1995.0 and 2000.0 (these are now definitive) and the secular-variation coefficients for 2000.0–2005.0. The previous (8th) generation IGRF was determined by a Task Force at the end of 1999 rather than at IUGG in 1999 July so that as many Ørsted satellite

data could be incorporated as possible (IAGA Division V, Working Group 8, 2000). Since then, much progress has been made on producing models of the Earth's magnetic field with the unprecedented amount of good quality satellite data available during the first half of the International Decade of Geopotential Research. In order to ensure that the accuracy of the IGRF reflects the high quality of available data, IAGA decided in 2001 that the 9th-generation IGRF should be determined at the IUGG meeting in 2003, and that for 2000.0 the main-field coefficients should extend to degree 13 and be quoted to 0.1 nT precision (to reflect improved instrument resolution).

As it is unusual to have a revision of the IGRF in a year not close to the epoch of a constituent main-field model and as this is the first generation of the model where a definitive set of main-field coefficients is followed by a set of secular-variation coefficients, there is a need to update the nomenclature used. Table 2 gives the new nomenclature that should be used henceforth, and gives a summary of the history of the IGRF.

It is recommended not to use the term IGRF without reference to the generation, as then it is difficult to establish which coefficients were actually used. For example, one cannot recover the original full-field data from an aeromagnetic anomaly data set in order to tie it with adjacent surveys if one does not know which generation of the IGRF was used. It is also recommended that the full name be used, so that it is more apparent whether the output values are 'predictive' and are therefore less accurate.

The International Astronomical Union 1966 spheroid has been recommended for coordinate transformations when using the IGRF until now. The parameters of IAU66 are  $a = 6378.160$ ,  $b = 6356.775$  km. However, the World Geodetic System 1984 datum and spheroid are more widely recognized as a standard ( $a = 6378.137$ ,

\*Corresponding author: British Geological Survey, Murchison House, West Mains Road, Edinburgh EH9 3LA, UK. E-mail: smac@bgs.ac.uk

Table 1. Spherical harmonic coefficients of the 9th-generation GRF (revised 2003).

$g$	$h$	$n$	$m$	1900.0	1905.0	1910.0	1915.0	1920.0	1925.0	1930.0	1935.0	1940.0	1945.0	1950.0	1955.0	1960.0	1965.0	1970.0	1975.0	1980.0	1985.0	1990.0	1995.0	2000.0	SV	
g	1	0	-31	543	-31464	-31354	-31212	-30805	-30715	-30594	-30554	-30500	-30421	-30334	-30220	-30100	-29992	-29775	-29692	-29694	-29694	-29694	-29694	13.3		
g	1	1	-298	-2298	-2297	-2306	-2317	-2318	-2316	-2306	-2292	-2285	-2250	-2215	-2169	-2119	-2068	-2013	-1956	-1905	-1848	-1784	-1728.2	11.6		
h	1	1	5922	5909	5898	5875	5845	5817	5808	5812	5821	5810	5815	5820	5791	5776	5737	5675	5604	5500	5406	5306	5186.1	-21.2		
g	2	0	-677	-728	-802	-839	-893	-951	-1018	-1106	-1244	-1341	-1440	-1555	-1662	-1781	-1902	-1997	-2072	-2131	-2200	-2267	-2367	-14.4		
g	2	1	2905	2928	2948	2956	2959	2969	2980	2984	2990	2998	3003	3002	2997	3000	3010	3027	3044	3059	3070	3088.4	-3.7			
h	2	1	-1061	-1086	-1128	-1191	-1259	-1334	-1424	-1520	-1614	-1702	-1810	-1898	-1967	-2016	-2047	-2067	-2129	-2197	-2366	-2481.6	-22.7			
g	2	2	924	1041	1176	1309	1407	1517	1550	1566	1578	1576	1581	1590	1594	1611	1632	1663	1687	1681	1670.9	-3.6				
h	2	2	1121	1065	1000	917	823	728	644	586	528	477	381	291	206	114	25	-68	-200	-306	-373	-413	-458	-11.1		
g	3	0	1022	1038	1084	1111	1140	1172	1206	1240	1282	1297	1302	1297	1287	1281	1296	1314	1335	1339.6	1339.6	1339.6	1339.6	-1.1		
g	3	1	-1469	-1494	-1524	-1559	-1600	-1645	-1692	-1740	-1790	-1834	-1889	-1944	-1992	-2038	-2091	-2144	-2180	-2208	-2239	-2267	-2288	-3.5		
h	3	1	-330	-357	-389	-421	-445	-462	-480	-494	-499	-500	-500	-500	-500	-500	-500	-500	-500	-500	-500	-500	-500	-2.7		
g	3	2	1256	1239	1223	1212	1205	1205	1215	1232	1255	1274	1288	1289	1292	1278	1260	1251	1247	1248	1249	1252.1	-1.2			
h	3	2	3	34	62	84	133	119	103	917	823	728	644	586	528	477	381	291	206	114	25	-68	-200	-306	-373	-413
g	3	3	572	705	839	881	907	918	916	913	896	882	878	856	838	830	833	833	829	802	759	714.5	68.5			
h	3	3	523	480	425	360	293	229	166	101	43	-11	-46	-83	-130	-165	-196	-223	-252	-297	-322	-427	-491.1	-8		
g	4	0	876	880	884	887	889	891	896	903	914	944	954	958	957	957	952	946	938	936	936	936	932.3	-2.7		
g	4	1	628	643	660	678	695	711	727	744	762	776	796	800	804	800	791	782	780	780	780	780	786.8	2.2		
h	4	1	195	211	218	220	216	205	188	169	144	136	133	135	148	167	191	212	224	240	251	262	284	293	-4.5	
g	4	2	660	653	644	631	616	601	584	565	550	544	528	510	504	479	461	438	398	361	325	290	250	-8		
h	4	2	-69	-77	-90	-109	-134	-163	-195	-226	-252	-276	-278	-274	-278	-278	-269	-266	-265	-257	-249	-240	-236	-231.9	1	
g	4	3	-361	-380	-400	-416	-424	-426	-422	-415	-405	-408	-408	-408	-408	-408	-397	-394	-395	-405	-419	-424	-423	-403	4.5	
h	4	3	-210	-201	-189	-173	-153	-130	-109	-90	-72	-55	-47	-32	-23	-23	-23	-23	-23	-23	-23	-23	-23	-23	-2.6	
g	5	2	264	259	253	245	236	226	218	211	208	194	211	204	203	200	209	200	209	200	209	200	209	200	222.3	
h	5	2	53	56	57	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	-2.6	
g	5	3	5	-1	-9	-16	-23	-32	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-0.3	
h	5	3	-33	-32	-33	-34	-38	-44	-53	-64	-75	-67	-87	-98	-117	-126	-139	-152	-154	-154	-154	-154	-154	-154	-1.2	
g	5	4	-86	-93	-102	-111	-119	-125	-131	-136	-141	-142	-147	-152	-156	-157	-160	-159	-159	-162	-164	-164	-166	-168.6	0	
h	5	4	-124	-125	-126	-126	-118	-118	-115	-113	-113	-112	-112	-112	-112	-112	-112	-112	-112	-112	-112	-112	-112	-112	-0.7	
g	5	5	-16	-28	-51	-62	-69	-74	-76	-76	-76	-76	-76	-76	-76	-76	-76	-76	-76	-76	-76	-76	-76	-76	-0.2	
h	5	5	3	11	21	32	43	51	58	64	69	82	80	78	81	83	88	92	95	97	107	106.3	105			
g	6	0	63	62	61	61	60	59	57	59	54	47	46	45	43	45	48	48	48	48	53	53	53	52		
g	6	1	61	60	58	57	54	53	53	54	57	57	57	58	61	64	66	66	66	66	67	67	67	68.2		
h	6	1	-9	-7	-5	-2	0	3	4	4	6	-1	-9	-10	-11	-12	-13	-14	-15	-16	-17	-17.4	-0.7			
g	6	2	-11	-11	-10	-10	-9	-9	-8	-7	-6	-4	3	1	8	15	28	42	51	59	68	74.2	0.7			
h	6	2	83	86	93	96	99	102	104	105	100	99	96	99	96	99	100	100	99	93	88	82	72	63.7	-1.8	
g	6	3	-217	-221	-233	-238	-242	-246	-249	-253	-258	-264	-267	-271	-274	-277	-281	-285	-289	-292	-295	-297	-298	-298	-298	
h	6	3	2	4	5	8	11	14	19	25	33	48	60	68	72	75	71	69	67	67	67	67	67	67	-0.2	
g	6	4	-58	-57	-54	-51	-46	-40	-32	-25	-18	-12	-8	-4	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.3		
h	6	4	-35	-34	-33	-32	-26	-18	-12	-9	-6	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16	-16		
g	6	5	59	57	54	49	44	39	32	25	18	21	12	7	-2	1	3	6	14	16	18	19	16.9	-0.5		
h	6	5	36	32	28	23	18	13	8	4	0	-16	-12	-11	-8	-6	-4	-4	-2	-1	1	1	-0.2			
g	6	6	-90	-95	-98	-101	-104	-106	-107	-104	-105	-107	-105	-107	-105	-107	-111	-112	-112	-108	-102	-96	-93	-90.4		
h	6	6	-67	-65	-62	-57	-52	-46	-40	-33	-25	-18	-12	-8	-4	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2.3		
g	6	7	34	33	32	31	29	27	25	23	20	0	1	10	15	13	14	16	15	16	17	17	17	17		
h	6	7	3	-10	-12	-13	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14		
g	6	7	-45	-46	-47	-48	-49	-50	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-52	-0.7	
h	6	7	2	0	1	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	-0.3		
g	6	7	-13	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14		
h	6	7	34	33	32	31	29	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28		
g	6	7	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18		
h	6	7	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18		

Table 1. (Continued.)

g/h	n	m	1900.0	1905.0	1910.0	1915.0	1920.0	1925.0	1930.0	1935.0	1940.0	1945.0	1950.0	1955.0	1960.0	1965.0	1970.0	1975.0	1980.0	1985.0	1990.0	1995.0	2000.0	SV				
h	7	6	-12	-12	-13	-15	-16	-17	-18	-19	-20	-20	-18	-17	-18	-20	-18	-20	-23	-23	-23	-23	-24	-25.4	-0.1			
g	7	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	29	19	18	8	1	-2	-5	-2	0	0	-2	-1.2	0.5					
h	7	7	-22	-22	-22	-22	-21	-20	-19	-19	-22	-16	-18	-17	-12	-11	-12	-10	-7	-4	-6	-6	-5.8	0.2				
g	8	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	13	22	11	15	13	14	14	18	21	23	25	24.4	0.1					
g	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	15	9	6	5	6	6	6	6	5	6	6	6.6	0.2					
g	8	1	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	12	5	10	11	7	6	7	6	7	8	10	11	11.9	-0.2				
h	8	8	-4	-4	-4	-4	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-15	-14	-21	-22	-15	-14	-12	-15	-16	-18	-19	-21	-21.5	0.1			
g	8	2	-14	-15	-15	-15	-15	-15	-15	-15	-15	-9	-9	-9	-10	-5	-1	-14	-11	-12	-11	-10	-9	-7.9	0.2			
g	8	3	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-10	-6	-6	-6	-10	-5	-12	-12	-14	-14	-11	-10	-9.5	0.3			
h	8	8	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	7	9	6	4	4	5	6	8.5	0.3			
g	8	4	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	9	11	6	2	0	-3	-8	-7	-9	-12	-14	-14	-16.6	-0.4			
h	8	4	-13	-13	-13	-13	-13	-13	-13	-13	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-15	-15	-15	-21	-23	-18	-17	-19	-22	-22	-21.5	0.4	
g	8	5	2	2	2	3	4	4	5	6	6	6	6	7	15	10	10	8	5	4	4	4	3	9	9.1	0.2		
h	8	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	6	6	6	9	11	12	15.5	0.1		
g	8	6	-9	-8	-8	-8	-7	-7	-6	-6	-6	-10	-13	-13	-13	-7	-5	-1	0	0	3	4	4	6	7	0.5		
h	8	6	16	16	16	16	17	17	18	18	19	18	17	17	23	23	24	21	18	16	14	12	11	8.9	-0.3			
g	8	7	5	5	5	5	6	6	7	8	8	9	7	5	6	10	11	11	10	6	4	2	5	-7.9	-0.7			
h	8	7	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-4	-4	-3	-6	-10	-13	-15	-16	-14.9	0.4		
g	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	4	3	1	-1	-4	-6	-7	-7	0.4	
h	8	8	-18	-18	-18	-18	-18	-18	-19	-19	-19	-19	-19	-19	-19	-17	-17	-16	-17	-17	-15	-11	-10	-4	-2.1	-5		
g	8	0	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	5	3	4	4	8	7	5	5	4	4	4	5	
g	9	1	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	9	9.4		
h	9	1	-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	-21	-24	-18	-22	-21	-21	-21	-21	-20	-19.7		
g	9	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3		
h	9	2	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	15	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	15	13.4		
g	9	3	-11	-11	-11	-11	-11	-11	-11	-11	-11	-12	-12	-12	-12	-12	-12	-13	-13	-12	-12	-12	-12	-12	-10	-8.4		
h	9	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	29	12	7	2	7	6	7	9	9	11	12	12.5	
g	9	4	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	11	11	11	11	11	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	9	8.3		
h	9	4	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-2.6		
g	9	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
h	9	5	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-0.5		
g	9	6	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2		
g	9	6	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1		
h	9	6	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	8	10	9	10	10	10	10	9	8			
g	9	7	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
h	9	7	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	11	11	11	11	11	10	10	8	7	7	7	7	7	9			
g	9	8	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
g	9	8	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2		
h	9	8	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1		
g	9	9	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1		
h	9	9	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
g	9	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
g	9	10	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4		
h	9	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
g	9	10	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
h	9	10	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7		
g	9	10	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		
h	9	10	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8		
g	9	10	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6		
h	9	10	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		
g	9	10	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
h	9	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
g	9	10	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6		
h	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10		

Table 1. (*Continued.*)

**Table 1.** (*Continued.*)

<i>g</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>m</i>	1900.0	1905.0	1910.0	1915.0	1920.0	1925.0	1930.0	1935.0	1940.0	1945.0	1950.0	1955.0	1960.0	1965.0	1970.0	1975.0	1980.0	1985.0	1990.0	1995.0	2000.0	SV
<i>g</i>	13	5	13	5	13	5	13	5	13	5	13	5	13	5	13	5	13	5	13	5	13	5	13	5
<i>h</i>	13	6	13	6	13	6	13	6	13	6	13	6	13	6	13	6	13	6	13	6	13	6	13	6
<i>g</i>	13	7	13	7	13	7	13	7	13	7	13	7	13	7	13	7	13	7	13	7	13	7	13	7
<i>h</i>	13	8	13	8	13	8	13	8	13	8	13	8	13	8	13	8	13	8	13	8	13	8	13	8
<i>g</i>	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9	13	9
<i>h</i>	13	10	13	10	13	10	13	10	13	10	13	10	13	10	13	10	13	10	13	10	13	10	13	10
<i>g</i>	13	11	13	11	13	11	13	11	13	11	13	11	13	11	13	11	13	11	13	11	13	11	13	11
<i>h</i>	13	12	13	12	13	12	13	12	13	12	13	12	13	12	13	12	13	12	13	12	13	12	13	12
<i>g</i>	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
<i>h</i>	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13

**Table 2.** Summary of nomenclature and IGRF history.

Full name	Short name	Valid for	Definitive for
IGRF 9th generation (revised 2003)	IGRF-9	1900.0–2005.0	1945.0–2000.0
IGRF 8th generation (revised 1999)	IGRF-8	1900.0–2005.0	1945.0–1990.0
IGRF 7th generation (revised 1995)	IGRF-7	1900.0–2000.0	1945.0–1990.0
IGRF 6th generation (revised 1991)	IGRF-6	1945.0–1995.0	1945.0–1985.0
IGRF 5th generation (revised 1987)	IGRF-5	1945.0–1990.0	1945.0–1980.0
IGRF 4th generation (revised 1985)	IGRF-4	1945.0–1990.0	1965.0–1980.0
IGRF 3rd generation (revised 1981)	IGRF-3	1965.0–1985.0	1965.0–1975.0
IGRF 2nd generation (revised 1975)	IGRF-2	1955.0–1980.0	—
IGRF 1st generation (revised 1969)	IGRF-1	1955.0–1975.0	—

$b = 6356.752$  km). Present-day satellite magnetic data are mostly positioned using WGS84 but for other data we are often unaware which datum is used. Differences in output IGRF magnetic field values at the Earth's surface are less than 1 nT when the change of spheroid is made. It is recognized that some software already in circulation uses WGS84. It is therefore recommended that the WGS84 spheroid is used for coordinate transformations for the IGRF.

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## World Data Centers

WDC for Solid Earth Geophysics  
 National Geophysical Data Center  
 325 Broadway  
 Boulder  
 CO 80303-3328  
 USA  
 E-mail: Susan.McLean@noaa.gov  
 Internet: www.ngdc.noaa.gov

WDC for Geomagnetism  
 Data Analysis Center for Geomagnetism and Space Magnetism  
 Graduate School of Science, Kyoto University  
 Kyoto 606-8502  
 Japan  
 E-mail: iyemori@kugi.kyoto-u.ac.jp  
 Internet: swdcwww.kugi.kyoto-u.ac.jp

WDC for Geomagnetism  
 British Geological Survey  
 Murchison House  
 West Mains Road  
 Edinburgh  
 EH9 3LA  
 UK  
 E-mail: smac@bgs.ac.uk  
 Internet: www.geomag.bgs.ac.uk

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