



Dragging Exploration into the Quantum Age:

using Atomic Dielectric Resonance technology to classify sites in the North Atlantic Craton

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What is Atomic Dielectric Resonance (ADR)
How does it work

Case Studies:

- 1. Canada nickel exploration
- 2. Ireland zinc & lead
- 3. N.Ireland PGM
- 4. Australia & Canada Gold exploration
- 5. Scotland Cononish gold deposit



Atomic Dielectric Resonance (ADR)

- RAdio Detection And Ranging in visually opaque materials
- Transmit pulsed broadband of radiowaves and microwaves
- Depending on depth of investigation transmit between 100kHz to 1GHz
- For large depth mining exploration typically transmit between 1MHz to 100MHz
- ADR sends broadband pulses into the ground and detects the modulated reflections returned from the subsurface structures
- ADR measures dielectric permittivity of material
- ADR also uses spectral content of the returns to help classify materials (energy, frequency, phase)





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Field ADR Scanner





Laboratory ADR Core Scanner





System Diagram





ADR Setting	Typical Range
Tx frequency maximum	12.5MHz-10GHz
Tx frequency minimum	100kHz-1GHz
Time Range	2ns to 250,000ns
Number of pixels per trace	40 to 4000
Pulse Repetition Frequency (PRF) Pulse Width	10-100kHz 0.1ns to 10ns
Power supply	4 off 24Vdc Li-Ion batteries
Power consumption	150W for ADR equipment plus 100W for tablet PC
Power transmission	< 5 miliwatts (mW)





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Types of ADR Scanning in Field (1) "WARR"

- Wide Angled Reflection & Refraction
- Triangulation for conversion of time into depth
- Tx antenna moves away from stationary Rx
- Tx moves continuously to say 100m or 300m
- Rx stays at start of scan line at 0m





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WARR beam forming



Line of transmitters in WARR creates beam (Synthetic Aperture Radar, SAR)

Note in animation pulse wavelet stays coherent



Types of ADR Scanning in Field (2) "P-Scan"





- Profile Scan (2-d cross-section)
- Continuous scanning on the move over short scan line distance (e.g., 50m)
- Tx & Rx antennas at fixed separation distance (e.g. 0.3m)
- Typically, 1 pulsed Tx ping every 5cm, repeatedly over entire length of scan line









Tx & Rx antennas at fixed separation (e.g., 0.3m) and whole system stationary

- Active (Tx on) and Passive (Tx off) stares gathered to quantify noise levels
- Stack traces to enhance signal to noise ratio
- Up to 100,000 traces used in current stack

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Forward Model

- Maxwell equations coupled to ground model
- Sround model: permittivity, conductivity and polarization (P)

& E electric field, σ conductivity, τ Debye relaxation time, ϵ_r dielectric

Resulting system of partial differential equations:

$$\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 E(t,x)}{\partial t^2} + \sigma(x) \frac{\partial E(t,x)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial^2 P(t,x)}{\partial t^2} - \frac{1}{\mu_0} \frac{\partial^2 E(t,x)}{\partial x^2} = 0, \quad (1)$$

$$\tau(x) \frac{\partial P(t,x)}{\partial t} + P(t,x) = \epsilon_0 (\epsilon_r(x) - 1)) E(t,x). \quad (2)$$



Toolbox of ADR measurements





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Energy

Frequency harmonics



Time (ns) H1 H2 H3 H7 H9 H10 H11 H12 H13 H14 H15 H16 H17 H18 H19 H20 H21 H22 H23 H24 H25 H26 H27 H28 H29 H32 51 100 59.2 71.5 31.9 20.1 28.1 30.3 27.7 13.9 11 2 49 15 16 25 14 17 14 41 31 12 07 04 0.8 0.8 229 774 89 5 8.1 10.3 6.8 521 22 03 102 100 25 5 21.8 143 84 10.6 14 14 5 12 83 53 3.7 1.4 1.2 2.2 22 18 13 66 15 153 46.2 34.9 26.5 22.3 15 3.4 8.4 6.3 3.8 3.5 3.3 2.8 1.3 1.3 0.8 100 29.2 7.5 3.8 6.4 8.9 9.6 4.7 2 1.5 1.6 1.6 1.4 1.2 0.9 0.8 0.9 204 100 13.4 16.2 21.3 13.9 7.8 18.9 2.1 7.1 5.7 6.3 3.2 2.9 3.2 4.3 3.5 3.5 2.5 1.6 1.6 1.5 20.4 11.8 4 7.4 6.5 4.6 5.2 3 1.3 2 1.7 255 11.4 34.2 52 100 22 51.1 22.9 21.8 24 91.4 15.1 21.7 17 11 1 24 15.2 2.1 3.1 306 100 53.6 30 36.3 59.3 40.7 34.4 29.7 27.3 15.5 8.4 14.1 25.9 29.7 24.4 16 23.8 18.2 12.2 13.9 13.5 9.6 7.7 5 16.6 11.6 16.2 357 100 71.5 36.1 22 21.1 20.4 8 6.9 5.3 9.6 14.5 13.5 9.1 11.9 6.4 7.7 4.6 5.1 3.8 3.9 2.9 3.9 4.1 3.6 3.1 3.5 2.6 4.5 408 100 92 5 63 2 374 64 30.3 29.8 19.1 6.3 12.7 15.9 12.6 10.1 4.7 8.9 12.3 10.2 38 53 97 7.4 49 3.6 4.9 6.7 5.7 3.8 2.7 56 56 39 8.7 13.3 23.4 27.7 21.8 17.4 14.2 10.4 7.4 5.4 10.4 11.7 11.2 11.6 10.8 9.4 7.2 5.3 5.3 5.2 6.4 7.4 7.3 459 64.2 100 93.3 81.2 72.4 53.1 29.6 18.3 8.9

1925 1950 1975

2000

2050

Frequency

Create image of harmonic energies



Harmonic

Establish areas of

interest by different

resonant frequencies



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Toolbox of ADR measurements Dielectrics



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0-004000000 100 200 300 400 500 600 700

-000100 200 ADR signal depth from Ground Level (m) 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000



Dielectric survey log

In this example, from Northern Ireland, high dielectrics verified by client from core inspection to be broken ground, very broken ground or faulting (caused by moisture)



GOLD AND SULFIDE TARGETING USING ADROKS ADR (Atomic Dielectric Resonance) TECHNIQUE



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Case Study

Nickel exploration under thick permafrost layers in sub-arctic Canada



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Fig. 1. Global distribution of the cratons (regions of crust >2.5 Ga old) modified after Bleeker (2003). Regional outcrops of Archaean crustal rocks are indicated in grey (those beneath Greenland are extrapolated under the ice cap) and other definable fragments of composite cratons in brown (from Bleeker 2003). The approximate outline of units that are relatively well defined as whole, composite cratons is shown by black dotted lines. Red dashed lines show the estimated extent of cratonic regions amalgamated from Archaean blocks during the Proterozoic. Blue dotted lines extended across oceanic areas show links between cratonic fragments that are thought to have once formed single cratonic blocks. NAC, North Atlantic Craton.

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Edrok Project Aims & Exploration Challenges



(1) Find NiS pods encased within volcanic mafic ultra-mafic rocks to 1000m below ground level through shielding conductors.

(2) Comparison of V-bore data against core hole & other data.

- Existing core holes with core.
- Undisclosed core holes (blind)

(3) Stepping out from the 'test' locations to map the exploration areas of specific interest (prospects)



Methodology (1) – Forward modeling

- Model:
 - Unfrozen layer of 100m (Resistivity R=5KΩm, Dielectric permittivity ϵ =8)
 - Permafrost until 1000m (R=200KΩm, ϵ =5)
 - Liquid water at 1000m (R=1Ωm, ϵ =40)
 - Stochastic model for irregularities superimposed

Permafrost values from: Electrical Resistivity Study of Permafrost on Ridnitšohkka Fell in Northwest Lapland, Finland. Heikki Vanhala, Petri Lintinen and Antti Ojala, Geophysica (2009), 45(1–2), 103–118

- STARE scan with 10X500 traces stacked
 - Show animation of wave in ground
 - Data analysis shows reflector
- 🗱 🗰 WARR scan
 - 200m wide
 - 40 separations at 10*500 traces each
 - Analysis with dielectric spectrum method





Animation



Top: Electric field from top (left) to bottom Below: Dielectric profile

Pulse clearly comes back to surface.





Model STARE



Reflection seen at t=15340ns





Model WARR





Dielectric can be estimated until about 75000ns at 5.9. Reflection from STARE localized at depth 3e8/sqrt(5.9)*15340e-9/2 = 947m.

5% error.

Blue = mean correlation Red = mean correlation denoised

Methodology (2) – Existing Core Holes



Correlation peaks seem to correspond to:

Training hole 1

- conductive shield at 430m
- weak mineralization 516-542m (shown by the peak in magnetic susceptibility)

Pulse appears to propagate through the conductive layer.







Training Hole 1





(3) Undisclosed holes – Spectral Analyses, Correlation, **Dielectric spectrum**

Blind Test WED1 Energy Log example

- two clear reflectors around 400m
- deeper reflector at 650m
- These are confirmed from correlation • analysis of W2 and the SWARR (which is assembled by stacking all 21 STARES and collecting in a denoised STARE-WARR. 30

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- Correlation analysis also shows other peaks, some of which correlate with weaker peaks in E-log.
- The double peak around 400m seems the most prominent feature
- The 620-650m peak is also but seems to be less clear.





WED1 dielectric spectrum

- To place reflectors at depth we have to know the pulse propagation velocity, which is determined by the relative permittivity or dielectric constant.
- This is obtained from what is essentially a triangulation, based on a function of transmitter/receiver separation.
- Detailed velocity analysis is accurately performed during processing stage
- quick estimate can be obtained with an appropriately modified version (dielectric spectrum method) of the semblance based velocity spectrum method, commonly used in seismic data analysis.



WED1 dielectric spectrum: Stare WARR

-2

-3



WED1-1MV-SWARR 1.0-10.0MHz: diel. spectrum, phase sembl.

Dielectric constant -0.5 readings are obtained from visually identifying peaks in the (time, eps) false color plot, which -1.5 correspond to previously identified reflectors.

In this case the double reflection peak around -2.5 6500ns (400m) shows a peak at eps=6, which is the expected value for permafrost.

Total harmonics, dielectric constant, energy and weighted mean frequency data for Prospect (Thurs1)









although rock type is listed as MS massive sulphide, the block model of lens 8J suggests a mineralized zone that is transitional from top to bottom / with the bottom of the zone being higher grade with some MS adjacent to the virtual hole

W















Client feedback

The two frequency bands for the 1-5MHz and 5-10MHz correlation and standard deviation profiles match up well.
I have attached a Geoscience Analyst workspace along with some screen captures from Gocad showing the geology in comparison with the Adrok data. The target in this case was a deep lens of mineralization in the virtual borehole from 717m to 773m. This corresponds with the anomaly seen at the end of the profile from a depth of 722m to 771m. I find the correlation between this anomaly and the mineralized zone to be very encouraging.

The correlation anomaly near the centre of the profile (from 550m to 607m) is interesting. It lies in a location that is untested by drilling and is on a horizon that is mineralized in adjacent boreholes. We are currently looking at the BHEM response in this area to further vector targeting.

The upper anomaly is drill tested and appears to be a known geological contact.



Client's integrated ADR virtual borehole results against known drilled results







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