

1        **Rigorous 3-D modeling of the ground electric field in**  
2        **Fennoscandia during the Halloween geomagnetic storm**

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8        **Key Points:**

- 9        • 3-D GEF modeling in Fennoscandia is performed for the Halloween geomagnetic  
10        storm using three different source approximation approaches
- 11        • The highest correlation between GEF-based and observed GIC is achieved by us-  
12        ing the “conductivity-based” inducing source
- 13        • Critical dependence of the GEF on the earth conductivity is demonstrated

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## Abstract

In this study, we perform rigorous three-dimensional (3-D) ground electric field (GEF) modeling in Fennoscandia for three days of the Halloween geomagnetic storm (29-31 October 2003) using magnetic field data from the IMAGE magnetometer network and a 3-D conductivity model of the region. To explore the influence of the inducing source model on 3-D GEF simulations, we consider three different approaches to source approximation. Within the first two approaches, the source varies laterally, whereas in the third method, the GEF is calculated by implementing the time-domain realization of the magnetotelluric intersite impedance method. We then compare GEF-based geomagnetically induced current (GIC) with observations at the Mäntsälä natural gas pipeline recording point. We conclude that a high correlation between modeled and recorded GIC is observed for all considered approaches. The highest correlation is achieved when performing a 3-D GEF simulation using a “conductivity-based” laterally nonuniform inducing source. Our results also highlight the strong dependence of the GEF on the earth’s conductivity distribution.

## Plain Language Summary

Geomagnetically induced currents (GIC) flow in technological conductor systems during geomagnetic variations. Their simulation is of practical interest, since in the worst case, GIC can even cause power grid blackouts. The critical parameter in GIC modeling is the ground electric field (GEF) at the earth’s surface. GEF is rarely measured directly, so it needs to be simulated based on other geophysical data. The modeling input consists of earth electrical conductivity models and ground magnetic field data recorded by magnetometers. Based on the fundamental laws of electrodynamics, it is possible to calculate the GEF at any point on the earth’s surface. From the known GEF, GIC can be determined as well. This study discusses several GEF modeling techniques. Results of modeling during the Halloween geomagnetic storm in October 2003 are validated against GIC observations in Fennoscandia. The study also demonstrates that a conductivity model is a critical factor in estimating GIC since the magnitude of the GEF can decrease or increase many times over short distances due to lateral conductivity variations.

## 1 Introduction

The so-called Halloween geomagnetic storm on 29-31 October 2003 is one of the largest geomagnetic storms in the history of observations, which also appeared to be very well recorded due to the increase in the scientific instrumentation at that time (Pulkkinen et al., 2005). The Halloween storm consisted of a series of events. The first phase of the storm, which was caused by an arrival of an interplanetary coronal mass ejection (ICME), started with a sudden southward turning of the interplanetary magnetic field (IMF) at about 05:40 UT, 29 October 2003. The second phase started at about 14:00 UT, 29 October 2003, when the internal field of the ejecta itself caused another southward IMF event. Soon after the passage of the first ICME, another hit the magnetosphere. Strong southward turning of the IMF was observed at L1 Lagrange point at about 18:20 UT, 30 October 2003, and was soon followed by a minimum Disturbance storm time index (Dst) of about -400 nT with very strong substorm-related activity in the ionosphere. During this third phase of the storm, the Malmö region in southern Sweden experienced a large-scale blackout caused by geomagnetic activity. A thorough analysis and the timeline of the Halloween geomagnetic storm can be found in Pulkkinen et al. (2005).

According to Faraday’s law, the fluctuation of the geomagnetic field during space weather events leads to the generation of the ground electric field (GEF), which in turn drives currents in the earth and ground-based technological systems, such as power grids and pipelines (Viljanen & Pirjola, 1994). These geomagnetically induced currents (GIC) can have a negative impact on the operation of technological networks. Although widespread

irreversible damage to power systems is unlikely (Pulkkinen et al., 2017), extreme GIC can cause blackouts over extended areas, as it happened in the Malmö region on 30 October 2003 (Pulkkinen et al., 2005).

The primary aim of the current study is to perform rigorous three-dimensional (3-D) GEF modeling in Fennoscandia during the Halloween geomagnetic storm using available observed geomagnetic field data (Tanskanen, 2009) and a 3-D conductivity model of the region (Korja et al., 2002). As it was mentioned by Pulkkinen et al. (2017), from the engineering point of view, the spatiotemporal characteristics of the horizontal GEF provide the ideal description of a geomagnetic disturbance. Simulated GEF data of a very intense event can serve as a reference point for evaluating possible risks to ground-based technological systems in Fennoscandia from space weather, as GIC can be calculated based on the GEF data in the region, the geometry of a technological network and system design parameters (Lehtinen & Pirjola, 1985; Pirjola et al., 2022).

Worth attention, the GEF and GIC in the Fennoscandian region, and also elsewhere in Europe, have been previously modeled in several projects as described by, e.g., Viljanen et al. (2014) and Myllys et al. (2014). Wei et al. (2013) followed a similar idea to model the GEF in North America. A key difference to the present work is that usually, to calculate the GEF, researchers employ the plane wave method; moreover, in most studies, only 1-D ground conductivity models have been utilized. Although different 1-D models were used for different locations, the 1-D approach cannot take properly into account effects in the GEF arising from lateral gradients in 3-D conductivity distributions (Ivannikova et al., 2018; Rosenqvist & Hall, 2019; Marshalko et al., 2020; Kelbert, 2020).

To explore the influence of the inducing source model on 3-D GEF simulations, we consider three different approaches to source approximation. Noteworthy, all methods exploit the same IMAGE magnetic field data to simulate the GEF, rely on the same 3-D conductivity model of the region, and use the same forward problem engine. Within the first two approaches, the source varies laterally and is factorized by spatial modes (SM) and respective expansion coefficients. In both approaches, the SM are the same and are obtained following the two-step numerical scheme introduced by Kruglyakov, Kuvshinov, and Marshalko (2022). The difference between methods lies in the calculation of the expansion coefficients. The details on these two approaches (and the reasoning to invoke the second approach) are presented in Section 2.1. Within the third approach (discussed in the same section), the GEF is calculated by implementing the time-domain realization of the magnetotelluric (MT) intersite impedance method.

Further, in Section 3, we present the results of the source recovery using the first two approaches and the results of the GEF modeling obtained using three considered methods. Besides, we explore in this section how well the observed time series of GIC at Mäntsälä natural gas pipeline recording point (Viljanen et al., 2006) during the Halloween storm are reproduced through a linear combination of the simulated horizontal GEF components at this point. We note once again that the Halloween event is chosen because it is a representative example of a big geomagnetic storm causing the largest value of GIC in the Finnish natural gas pipeline (Dimmock et al., 2019).

A summary of the results and a discussion of the possible ways forward are presented in Section 4.

## 2 Methodology

In this section, we present and discuss three approaches which we invoke to calculate the time-domain GEF. The first two methods rely on laterally varying inducing source models and the third one – on plane-wave excitation. EM modeling is performed for three days (72 hours) of the Halloween geomagnetic storm (29-31 October 2003).

## 113 2.1 GEF modeling with laterally varying source

### 114 2.1.1 Governing equations in the frequency domain

115 We start with a discussion of the problem in the frequency domain. Maxwell's equa-  
116 tions govern EM field variations, and, in the frequency domain, these equations read as

$$\frac{1}{\mu_0} \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \sigma \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{j}^{\text{ext}}, \quad (1)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = i\omega \mathbf{B}, \quad (2)$$

where  $\mu_0$  is the magnetic permeability of free space;  $\omega$  is angular frequency;  $\mathbf{j}^{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega)$  is the extraneous (inducing) electric current density;  $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma)$  and  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma)$  are magnetic and electric fields, respectively;  $\sigma(\mathbf{r})$  is the spatial distribution of electrical conductivity;  $\mathbf{r} = (x, y, z)$  is a position vector, in our case in the Cartesian geometry. Note that we neglected displacement currents and adopted the following Fourier convention:

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega. \quad (3)$$

117 In problem setups, when a laterally nonuniform source is considered, we assume that the  
118 current density,  $\mathbf{j}^{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega)$ , can be represented as a linear combination of SM  $\mathbf{j}_i(\mathbf{r})$ :

$$\mathbf{j}^{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) = \sum_{i=1}^L c_i(\omega) \mathbf{j}_i(\mathbf{r}). \quad (4)$$

119 The form of SM  $\mathbf{j}_i(\mathbf{r})$  (and their number,  $L$ ) varies with application. For example,  $\mathbf{j}^{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega)$   
120 is parameterized via spherical harmonics (SH) in Püthe and Kuvshinov (2013b); Honko-  
121 nen et al. (2018); Guzavina et al. (2019); Grayver et al. (2021); Kruglyakov, Kuvshinov,  
122 and Nair (2022), current loops in Sun and Egbert (2012), eigenmodes from the Princi-  
123 pal Component Analysis (PCA) of the physics-based models in Egbert et al. (2021) and  
124 Zenhausern et al. (2021), and eigenmodes from the PCA of the data-based models in Kruglyakov,  
125 Kuvshinov, and Marshalko (2022). In this paper, we will use the parameterization adopted  
126 in the latter paper.

127 By virtue of the linearity of Maxwell's equations with respect to the  $\mathbf{j}^{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega)$  term,  
128 we can expand electric and magnetic fields as linear combinations of individual fields  $\mathbf{E}_i$   
129 and  $\mathbf{B}_i$ ,

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^L c_i(\omega) \mathbf{E}_i(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma), \quad (5)$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^L c_i(\omega) \mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma), \quad (6)$$

130 where  $\mathbf{E}_i(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma)$  and  $\mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma)$  fields are “electric” and “magnetic” solutions of the fol-  
131 lowing Maxwell's equations:

$$\frac{1}{\mu_0} \nabla \times \mathbf{B}_i = \sigma \mathbf{E}_i + \mathbf{j}_i, \quad (7)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E}_i = i\omega \mathbf{B}_i. \quad (8)$$

### 132 2.1.2 Governing equations in the time domain

The transformation of Equations (5) and (6) into the time domain leads to the representation of the electric and magnetic fields as

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t; \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^L \int_0^{\infty} c_i(t - \tau) \mathbf{E}_i(\mathbf{r}, \tau; \sigma) d\tau, \quad (9)$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t; \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^L \int_0^{\infty} c_i(t - \tau) \mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}, \tau; \sigma) d\tau. \quad (10)$$

The reader is referred to Appendix A in Kruglyakov, Kuvshinov, and Marshalko (2022) for more details on the convolution integrals in the above equations. We note that we use the same notation for the fields in the time and frequency domains. Equations (9) and (10) show how the fields can be calculated provided  $c_i(t)$  and conductivity model  $\sigma(\mathbf{r})$  are given. To make formulas ready for implementation, one needs to estimate the upper limits of integrals in the above equations, or, in other words, to evaluate time intervals,  $T_E$  and  $T_B$ , above which  $\mathbf{E}_i(\mathbf{r}, \tau; \sigma)$  and  $\mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}, \tau; \sigma)$  become negligibly small. The latter will allow us to approximate Equations (9) and (10) as

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t; \sigma) \approx \sum_{i=1}^L \int_0^{T_E} c_i(t - \tau) \mathbf{E}_i(\mathbf{r}, \tau; \sigma) d\tau, \quad (11)$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t; \sigma) \approx \sum_{i=1}^L \int_0^{T_B} c_i(t - \tau) \mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}, \tau; \sigma) d\tau. \quad (12)$$

The details of the numerical calculation of the integrals in the above equations are presented in Kruglyakov, Kuvshinov, and Marshalko (2022) and Kruglyakov, Kuvshinov, and Nair (2022). Assuming that time series  $c_i(t)$  are given with the sampling interval  $\Delta t$ , one calculates  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t_k; \sigma)$  and  $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t_k; \sigma)$  at  $t_k = k\Delta t$  as

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t_k; \sigma) \approx \sum_{i=1}^L \sum_{n=0}^{N_{T_E}} c_i(t_k - n\Delta t) \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^n(\mathbf{r}, T_E; \sigma), \quad (13)$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t_k; \sigma) \approx \sum_{i=1}^L \sum_{n=0}^{N_{T_B}} c_i(t_k - n\Delta t) \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^n(\mathbf{r}, T_B; \sigma), \quad (14)$$

where  $N_{T_E} = T_E/\Delta t$ ,  $N_{T_B} = T_B/\Delta t$  and

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^n(\mathbf{r}, T_E; \sigma) = \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{\Delta t}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{\Delta t}} \mathbf{E}_i(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma) e^{-i\omega n \Delta t} d\omega \right\}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N_{T_E} - 1, \quad (15)$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^n(\mathbf{r}, T_B; \sigma) = \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{\Delta t}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{\Delta t}} \mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma) e^{-i\omega n \Delta t} d\omega \right\}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N_{T_B} - 1. \quad (16)$$

133 Expressions for  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^0$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^{N_{T_E}}$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^0$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^{N_{T_B}}$  are more complicated and are pre-  
 134 sented in Appendix A of the current paper. A few comments on the latter equations are  
 135 relevant at this point.

136 •  $T_E$  and  $T_B$  significantly differ. As shown by Kruglyakov, Kuvshinov, and Marshalko  
 137 (2022)  $T_E$  can be taken as small as 15 min for Fennoscandia. As for  $T_B$ , it is sev-  
 138 eral orders of magnitude larger than  $T_E$  (Kruglyakov, Kuvshinov, & Nair, 2022);  
 139 specifically  $T_B$  should be taken as large as half a year. Note that in this study we  
 140 only model the GEF in the region, not the magnetic field. Therefore, only  $T_E$  is  
 141 relevant for us.

142 • Computation of the integrals in the right-hand side of Equations (15) and (16) is  
 143 performed as follows. First,  $\mathbf{E}_i(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma)$  and  $\mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma)$  are computed at 60 loga-  
 144 rithmically spaced frequencies from  $3.67 \cdot 10^{-6}$  to 0.054 Hz. Note that for the mag-  
 145 netic field, modeling at zero frequency is also required (see equation (A4) from Ap-  
 146 pendix A). Further, using cubic spline interpolation as applied to calculated  $\mathbf{E}_i(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma)$   
 147 and  $\mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma)$ , one can analytically compute the corresponding integrals.

- 148 • Quantities  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^n(\mathbf{r}, T_E; \sigma)$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^n(\mathbf{r}, T_B; \sigma)$  are time-invariant, and — for the pre-  
 149 defined set of  $\mathbf{j}_i$  and a given conductivity model — are calculated only once, then  
 150 stored and used when the calculation of  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t; \sigma)$  and  $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t; \sigma)$  is required.
- 151 • One of the key ingredients to make regional EM modeling in Fennoscandia as re-  
 152 alistic as feasible is a conductivity model of the Earth’s subsurface of the region.  
 153 The model adopted in this paper comprises a 3-D part (upper 60 km) and an un-  
 154 derlying 1-D conductivity profile (Kuvshinov et al., 2021) (a part of the profile deeper  
 155 than 60 km below the surface of the Earth). 3-D part is based on the SMAP model  
 156 (Korja et al., 2002), covers the area of  $2550 \times 2550$  km<sup>2</sup> and consists of three lay-  
 157 ers of laterally variable conductivity of 10, 20, and 30 km thicknesses; conductiv-  
 158 ity distributions in these layers are shown in Figure 4. The lateral discretization  
 159 of the model is  $512 \times 512$  cells. Note that this model was also exploited in Marshalko  
 160 et al. (2021) and Kruglyakov, Kuvshinov, and Marshalko (2022). Another note  
 161 is that computations of electric and magnetic fields in this model (at a given fre-  
 162 quency) are performed using the scalable 3-D EM forward modeling code PGIEM2G  
 163 (Kruglyakov & Kuvshinov, 2018) based on a method of volume integral equation  
 164 with a contracting kernel (Pankratov & Kuvshinov, 2016).
- 165 • As seen from the above equations, GEF computations require specification of SM  $\mathbf{j}_i(\mathbf{r})$   
 166 and estimation of time series of coefficients  $c_i(t)$ . We address this topic in the next  
 167 two sections.

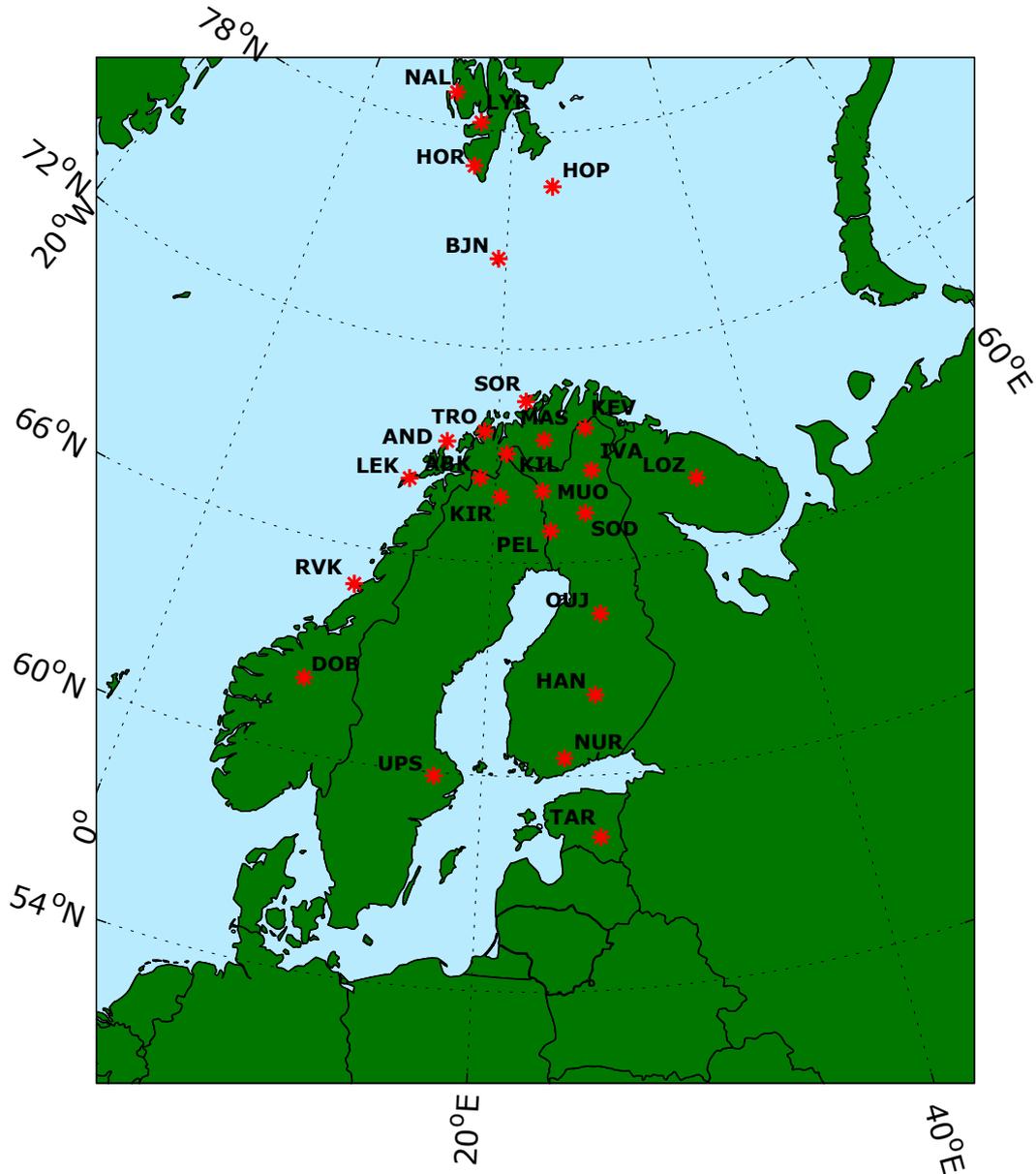
### 168 *2.1.3 GEF modeling using the SECS-based approach*

169 As mentioned in the Introduction, SM  $\mathbf{j}_i(\mathbf{r})$  (and corresponding time series of ex-  
 170 pansion coefficients  $c_i(t)$ ) can be obtained using the following two-step scheme (Kruglyakov,  
 171 Kuvshinov, & Marshalko, 2022):

- 172 1. Spherical Elementary Current Systems (SECS) method (Vanhamäki & Juusola,  
 173 2020) is applied to 29-31 October 2003 IMAGE magnetic field data to separate  
 174 the inducing and induced current systems that flow 90 km above the Earth’s sur-  
 175 face and 1 m below the Earth’s surface, correspondingly. The data from all 26 mag-  
 176 netometers were used to perform SECS analysis. The location of IMAGE mag-  
 177 netometers is demonstrated in Figure 1. Note that IMAGE data for this time in-  
 178 terval (72 hours) contain several gaps; linear interpolation was used to obtain mag-  
 179 netic field data in the gaps.
- 180 2. The PCA is applied to the SECS-recovered inducing source resulting in the de-  
 181 sired SM  $\mathbf{j}_i(\mathbf{r}), i = 1, 2, \dots, L$ , and time series of the corresponding expansion co-  
 182 efficients  $c_i(t)$ . With  $L = 34$ , we succeeded in describing 99.9% of the inducing  
 183 source variability.

184 Once  $\mathbf{j}_i(\mathbf{r})$  and  $c_i(t)$  are derived, the GEF can be computed using Equations (13). Here-  
 185 inafter we will refer to this two-step approach to specify the source and, consequently,  
 186 compute the GEF as the SECS-based method.

187 It is important to discuss here one potential drawback of the SECS-based approach  
 188 to isolate the inducing source (see also Juusola et al. (2020), Section 4.3). Note that this  
 189 method can be viewed as a regional variant of the Gauss method – the method widely  
 190 used to separate the inducing (external) and induced (internal) sources on a global scale.  
 191 If the region of interest is characterized substantially by 3-D conductivity distribution  
 192 (as in our case) the induced part is inevitably influenced by 3-D effects arising, in par-  
 193 ticular, from the lateral (for example, land/ocean) conductivity contrasts. Given the de-  
 194 ficient spatial distribution of the IMAGE sites, the SECS-based approach precludes an



**Figure 1.** Location of sites of the International Monitor for Auroral Geomagnetic Effect magnetometer network during 29-31 October 2003.

195 accurate description of the induced part affected by localized 3-D effects. Evidently, such  
 196 an imperfection in the induced part description also influences the recovery of the induc-  
 197 ing part, at least in terms of  $c_i(t)$  recovery.

198 In the next section, we discuss an approach to circumvent this issue.

199 **2.1.4 GEF modeling using the conductivity-based inducing source**

200 Let us first assume that the IMAGE data analysis discussed in the previous sec-  
 201 tion gives us trustworthy SM  $\mathbf{j}_i(\mathbf{r})$ . Assume further that the ground 3-D conductivity  
 202 distribution is known to us at the inducing source construction stage; this is the reason

203 why we call the inducing source discussed in this section the conductivity-based (CB)  
 204 source.

With the above assumptions in mind, the most adequate way to obtain  $c_i(t)$  at a given time instant is to reuse Equation (14). Specifically, the calculation of  $c_i(t)$  at a given time instant  $t_k = k\Delta t$  is performed as follows. Substituting coordinates of IMAGE sites into Equation (14) and rearranging the terms, we obtain a system of equations to determine  $c_i(t_k)$

$$\sum_{i=1}^L c_i(t_k) \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^0(\mathbf{r}_j, T_B; \sigma) = \mathbf{B}^{obs}(\mathbf{r}_j, t_k) - \sum_{i=1}^L \sum_{n=1}^N c_i(t_k - n\Delta t) \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^n(\mathbf{r}_j, T_B; \sigma), \quad (17)$$

205 where  $N = \min(k-1, N_{T_B})$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, J$ , and  $J$  is the number of IMAGE sites. The  
 206 expression (17) represents an overdetermined system of linear equations which is solved  
 207 by the least-square method.

208 This scheme was implemented and validated by Kruglyakov, Kuvshinov, and Nair  
 209 (2022), who analyzed hourly-mean mid-latitude magnetic field signals of magnetospheric/ionospheric  
 210 origin. As it is seen from (17), computational loads to obtain  $c_i(t_k)$ , i.e. for single time  
 211 instance, are proportional to  $L \times N_{T_B}$ . In our scenario,  $L = 34$ ,  $N_{T_B} = 180 \times 24 \times 60 \times 6$   
 212 making computational loads to be prohibitively high; recall that the value for  $N_T = T_B/\Delta t$   
 213 is obtained assuming that  $T_B$  is taken as half of the year, i.e.  $T_B = 180 \times 24 \times 60 \times 60$   
 214 s, and  $\Delta t = 10$  s.

215 Note that the above-discussed approaches were developed to perform the near real-  
 216 time calculations of the GEF (and magnetic field if needed). In this paper, we are inter-  
 217 ested in computing the GEF for the specific event, and, thus, we can exploit an alter-  
 218 native variant of the GEF modeling approach with the use of the CB source. Note-  
 219 worthily, this variant has been routinely used for the last two decades to analyse the ground-  
 220 based signals of magnetospheric origin (Olsen & Kuvshinov, 2004; Püthe & Kuvshinov,  
 221 2013a; Püthe et al., 2014; Honkonen et al., 2018; Munch et al., 2020). As applied to our  
 222 problem setup, this variant of the method includes the following steps:

- 223 1. Magnetic field data  $\mathbf{B}^{obs}(\mathbf{r}_j, t)$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, J$  recorded at IMAGE sites are con-  
 224 verted from the time to frequency domain using the fast Fourier Transform (FFT).  
 225 Note that in our case,  $J = 23$ ; sites Ny Ålesund, Longyearbyen, and Hornsund  
 226 fall outside the modeling region.
2. At each FFT frequency  $\omega$ , we estimate  $c_i(\omega)$  by solving the over-determined sys-  
 tem of linear equations

$$\sum_{i=1}^L c_i(\omega) \mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}_j, \omega; \sigma) = \mathbf{B}^{obs}(\mathbf{r}_j, \omega), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, J, \quad (18)$$

227 by means of the regularized least squares method. Note that FFT frequencies range  
 228 between  $\frac{1}{S}$  and  $\frac{1}{2\Delta t}$  where  $S$  is the length of the event (72 h).

- 229 3. Time series  $c_i(t)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, L$  are then obtained by means of the inverse FFT of  
 230 frequency-domain coefficients  $c_i(\omega)$ .
- 231 4. Finally, the GEF at a given time instant  $t_k$  and location  $\mathbf{r}$  is computed using Equa-  
 232 tion (13).

## 233 2.2 GEF modeling using the MT intersite impedance method

234 Although, in reality, the source of the ground EM field is always laterally variable,  
 235 the conventional approach to model GEF relies on the plane-wave source assumption.

236 This assumption allows researchers to relate the frequency-domain (horizontal) GEF at  
 237 point  $\mathbf{r}$  with the horizontal magnetic field at a base site  $\mathbf{r}_b$  through an intersite impedance  
 238 (Kruglyakov & Kuvshinov, 2019)

$$\mathbf{E}_h(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma) = \frac{1}{\mu_0} Z(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_b, \omega; \sigma) \mathbf{B}_h(\mathbf{r}_b, \omega; \sigma),$$

$$Z(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_b, \omega; \sigma) = \begin{pmatrix} Z_{xx} & Z_{xy} \\ Z_{yx} & Z_{yy} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (19)$$

239 Note that if  $\mathbf{r}$  coincides with  $\mathbf{r}_b$ , an intersite impedance transforms into a standard MT  
 240 impedance (Berdichevsky & Dmitriev, 2008).

The GEF at a given time instant  $t_k$  and location  $\mathbf{r}$  is then calculated using a numerical scheme similar to that described in Section 2.1.2 (cf. Equation 13), namely

$$\mathbf{E}_h(\mathbf{r}, t_k; \sigma) \approx \frac{1}{\mu_0} \sum_{n=0}^{N_{TE}} Z(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_b, T_E; \sigma) \mathbf{B}_h^{obs}(\mathbf{r}_b, t_k - n\Delta t). \quad (20)$$

241 In this study, we use the data from the nearest IMAGE magnetometer to calcu-  
 242 late the GEF at a particular point using the MT intersite impedance method.

### 243 3 Results

#### 244 3.1 Original current versus PCA-constrained current

Since two approaches discussed in Sections 2.1.3 and 2.1.4 exploit PCA-recovered SM, we explore in this section how well the (ionospheric) equivalent current calculated using  $L = 34$  SM identified by the PCA fits the original equivalent current obtained using the SECS technique. Figure 2 demonstrates time series of the aforementioned currents above two exemplary sites: Abisko (ABK; latitude:  $68.35^\circ\text{N}$ , longitude:  $18.82^\circ\text{E}$ ) and Nurmijärvi (NUR; latitude:  $60.5^\circ\text{N}$ , longitude:  $24.65^\circ\text{E}$ ); their locations are shown in Figure 3. One can hardly see the difference between the results. A perfect fit is also quantified in terms of high correlation between time series (0.9997), low normalized root-mean-square-errors (nRMSE; lower than 0.023), and low maximum absolute differences (MAD; lower than 0.041 A/m) for both  $x$  (north) and  $y$  (east) components of the equivalent current at each location. Note that nRMSE is defined as follows:

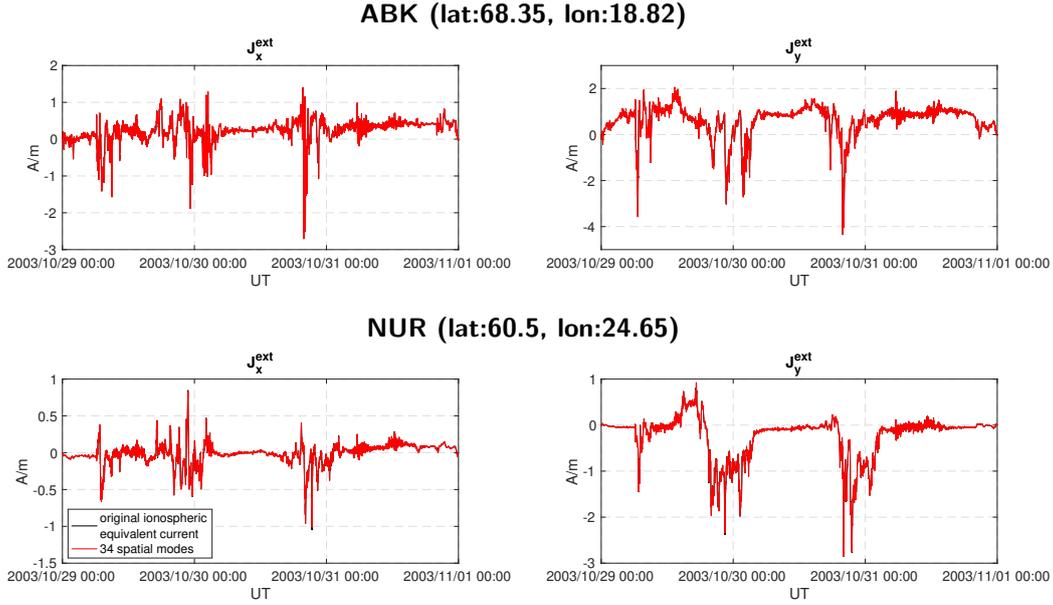
$$\text{nRMSE}(a, b) = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_l} (a_i - b_i)^2}{N_l}} \bigg/ \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_l} b_i^2}{N_l}}, \quad (21)$$

245 where  $a$  is the ionospheric equivalent current calculated using PCA-recovered SM and  
 246  $b$  is the original ionospheric equivalent current,  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  are elements of these time series,  
 247 and  $N_l$  is the number of time instants (in our case,  $6 \times 60 \times 72$ ).

248 We conclude from this comparison that spatial structure of the equivalent current  
 249 (at least for the considered 72-hour event) is very well explained by  $L = 34$  PCA-based  
 250 SM, thus supporting the usage of this SM basis in the GEF modeling approaches exploit-  
 251 ing SECS and CB equivalent currents.

#### 252 3.2 SECS-based current versus conductivity-based current

253 In this section, we compare SECS and CB equivalent currents. Figure 3a shows snap-  
 254 shots of these currents as well as equivalent current's time derivatives above Fennoscandia  
 255 at 20:08:30 UT, 30 October 2003, — the moment of the largest amplification of GIC  
 256 in the Finnish natural gas pipeline during the substorm event, which caused the black-  
 257 out in Malmö, Sweden. It can be seen that the overall behavior of equivalent currents



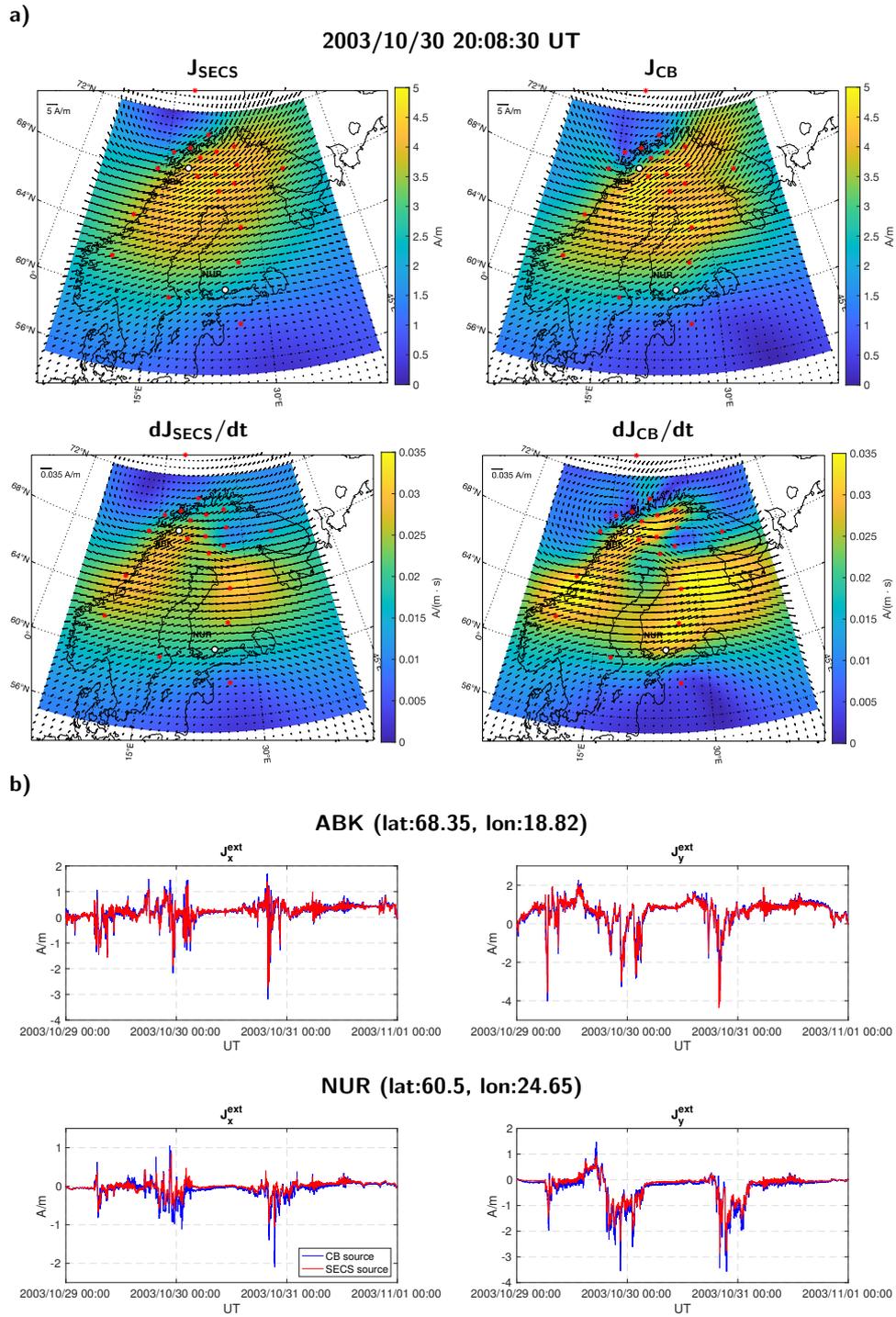
**Figure 2.** Time series of the original ionospheric equivalent current obtained using the SECS method and ionospheric equivalent current calculated using 34 SM above two exemplary sites: Abisko (ABK) and Nurmijärvi (NUR). The results are in A/m. Left and right panels show  $x$ - and  $y$ -components of the currents, respectively.

258 is similar. This is also true for the time derivatives of the equivalent currents. However,  
 259 the SECS-based source and its time derivatives have a smoother spatial structure com-  
 260 pared to the CB source. Figure 3b demonstrates the time series of the SECS and CB  
 261 equivalent currents above ABK and NUR geomagnetic observatories. It can be seen that  
 262 the magnitude of variations is larger in the case of the CB source for NUR. The differ-  
 263 ence between time series is especially prominent in the case of a smaller  $x$ -component  
 264 of the equivalent current. The nRMSE is quite high in this case — 0.8944. For the  $y$ -  
 265 component, the nRMSE is 0.2826. For ABK, a good match between time series of equiv-  
 266 alent currents is observed.

267 The detected difference in the recovered equivalent currents will be further assessed  
 268 in the following sections by comparing GEF and GIC modeled with the use of different  
 269 approaches.

### 270 3.3 Comparison of GEF modeled by three methods

271 Figures 4a and 4b show snapshots of the magnitude and direction of the GEF in  
 272 Fennoscandia modeled with the use of the SECS and CB sources, respectively, at 20:08:30  
 273 UT, 30 October 2003. Figure 4c presents the absolute difference between magnitudes of  
 274 the GEF demonstrated in Figures 4a and 4b. Figure 4d shows the GEF in the area of  
 275 the Finnish natural gas pipeline modeled using the CB equivalent current at 20:08:30  
 276 UT, 30 October 2003. Finally, Figures 4e-g demonstrate conductivity distribution in three  
 277 layers of the 3-D model that we use in our simulations. It is clear that the overall be-  
 278 havior of the GEF obtained with the use of the considered sources is very similar. How-  
 279 ever, it can be seen that differences in magnitudes of the GEF reach over 8300 mV/km  
 280 at this particular time instant at the Norwegian coastline (see Figure 4c). Besides, the  
 281 behavior of the GEF in the region is complex; the magnitude of the GEF can decrease



**Figure 3.** (a) Snapshots of the magnitude and direction of the SECS and CB equivalent currents and equivalent currents' time derivatives above Fennoscandia at 20:08:30 UT, 30 October 2003. IMAGE sites are marked with red asterisks and white circles. (b) Time series of the SECS and CB ionospheric equivalent currents above Abisko (ABK) and Nurmijärvi (NUR) geomagnetic observatories. The left and right panels show  $x$ - and  $y$ -components of the currents, respectively.

or increase many times over short distances due to lateral variations of conductivity, especially at the ocean coast, as it is demonstrated in Figures 4a-b.

Figure 5 shows the snapshots of the GEF across Fennoscandia (left figures) and in the area of the Finnish natural gas pipeline (right figures) at two moments of maximum GIC amplification at Mäntsälä, which occurred during the initial phase of the Halloween geomagnetic storm: 06:57:30 and 07:27:00 UT, 29 October 2003.

We also compare GEF modeled with the use of three approaches at several locations: ABK, NUR, MAN pipeline recording point (latitude: 60.6°N, longitude: 25.2°E) and Point X, which is located 0.5° north of MAN. Note that in the case of the intersite MT impedance method, ABK magnetic field data were used to calculate the GEF at ABK and NUR magnetic field data were used to calculate the GEF at NUR, MAN, and Point X.

Figures 6-9 demonstrate time series of the simulated GEF for two time intervals: 06:00:00-08:00:00 UT, 29 October 2003 (the initial phase of the Halloween geomagnetic storm, when the largest GIC value was observed at MAN), and 19:00:00-21:00:00 UT, 30 October 2003 (the substorm event, which caused the blackout in Malmö, Sweden). It is worth mentioning that even though NUR, MAN, and Point X are located very close to each other (about 32 km apart in the case of NUR and MAN and about 56 km in the case of MAN and Point X), the magnitude of the GEF variations at these three sites is very different. The highest GEF values are observed at NUR, which is located above a resistive structure and close to a border of conductivity contrast (see Figure 4e). Point X is located above a more conductive structure. That is why GEF values are smaller at this site.

We further quantify the difference between modeled GEF in terms of correlation coefficients, nRMSE, and MAD in Table 1. Note that MAD between  $x$ -components of the GEF induced by the SECS and CB source as well as those between  $x$ -components of the GEF obtained using CB source and MT impedance method, are quite large at NUR and MAN due to the fact that GEF values at this locations are also large at the moment of maximum GEF amplification. MAD are significantly smaller in the case of Point X. However, the nRMSE between  $x$ -components of the GEF induced by SECS and CB source at NUR, MAN, and Point X are practically equal.

### 3.4 Comparison of modeled and observed GIC

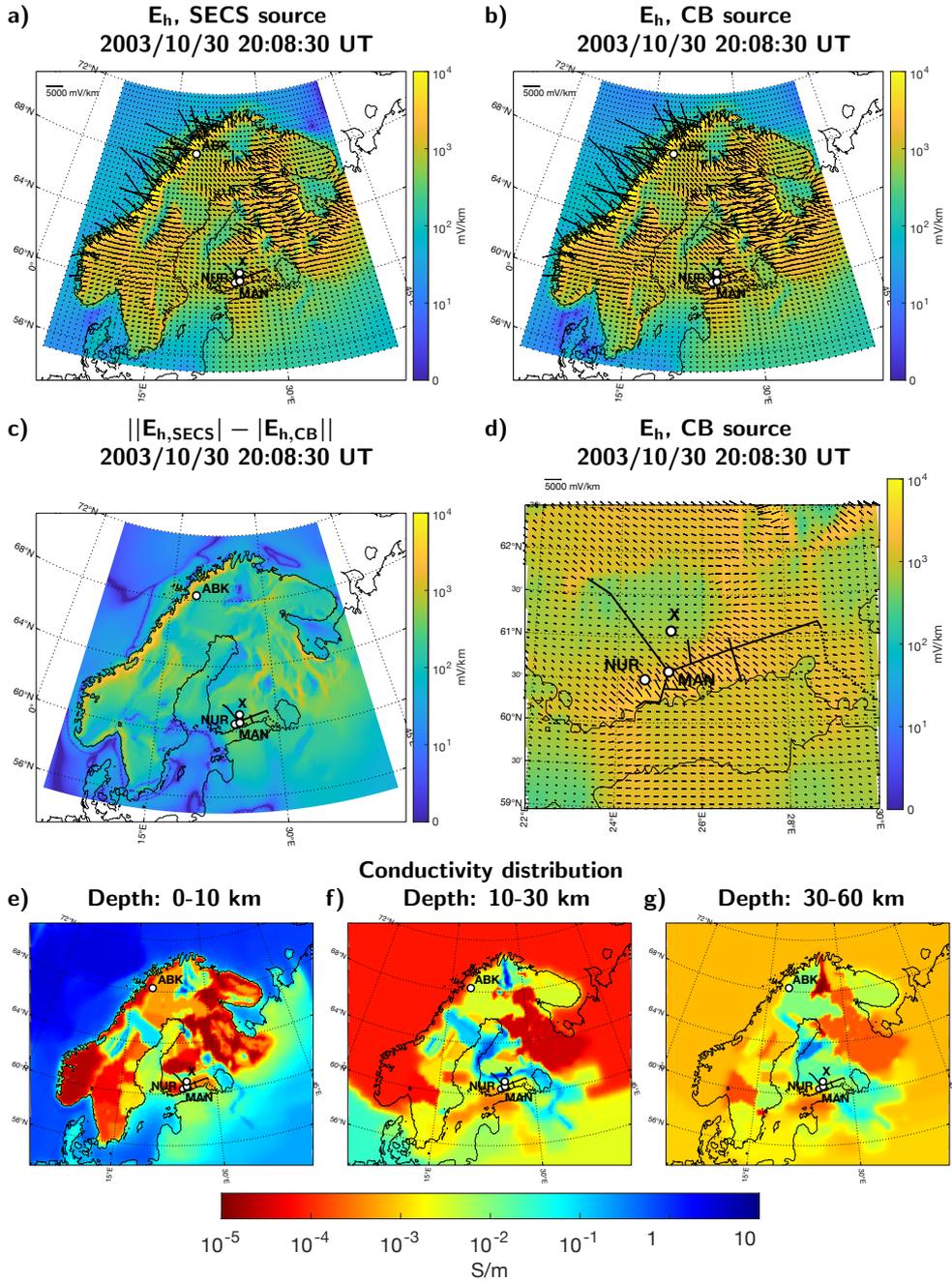
We calculate GIC based on the GEF modeled via the three methods discussed above and compare them with GIC observed at the MAN natural gas pipeline recording point.

It was previously demonstrated by Viljanen et al. (2006) that GIC at MAN can be reproduced accurately enough based on the horizontal electric field using the following expression:

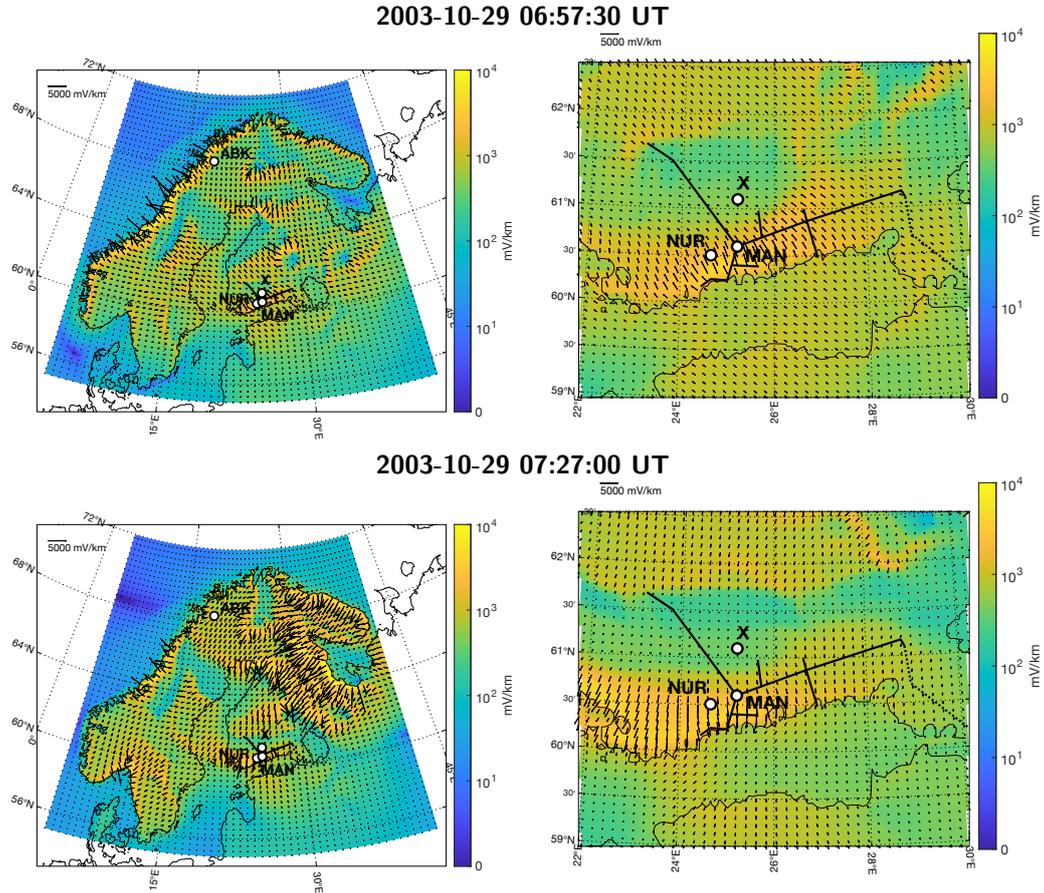
$$\text{GIC}(t) = aE_x(t) + bE_y(t), \quad (22)$$

where coefficients  $a$  and  $b$  depend only on the topology and resistances of the pipeline system. In their study, Viljanen et al. (2006) exploited parameters determined by Pulkkinen et al. (2001):  $a = -70 \text{ A}\cdot\text{km}/\text{V}$  and  $b = 88 \text{ A}\cdot\text{km}/\text{V}$ . It should be noted that the above expression is a simplification, and it assumes that the GEF along the pipeline is spatially uniform.

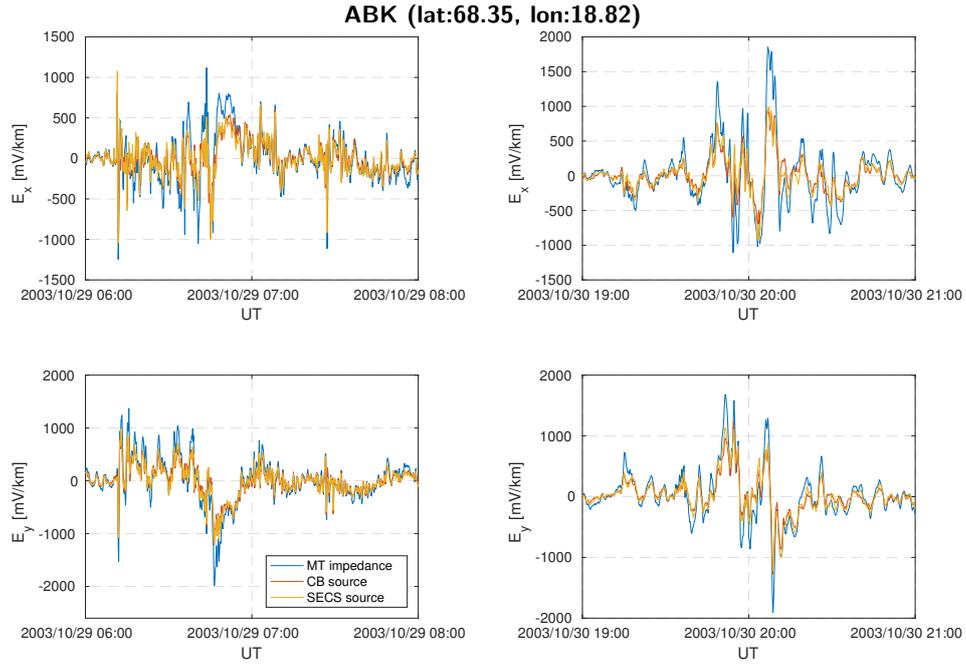
Figure 10a demonstrates the comparison of the observed GIC and GIC calculated based on the GEF simulated at MAN with the use of the CB source. Note that modeled GIC is scaled by a factor of 4.51 in the figure. The iteratively reweighted least squares algorithm (Holland & Welsch, 1977) was used to estimate this factor. Note that in the study of Dimmock et al. (2019) who carried out 3-D GEF and GIC modeling in the Fennoscandian region due to 7-8 September 2017 geomagnetic storm, GIC calculated based on Pulkkinen



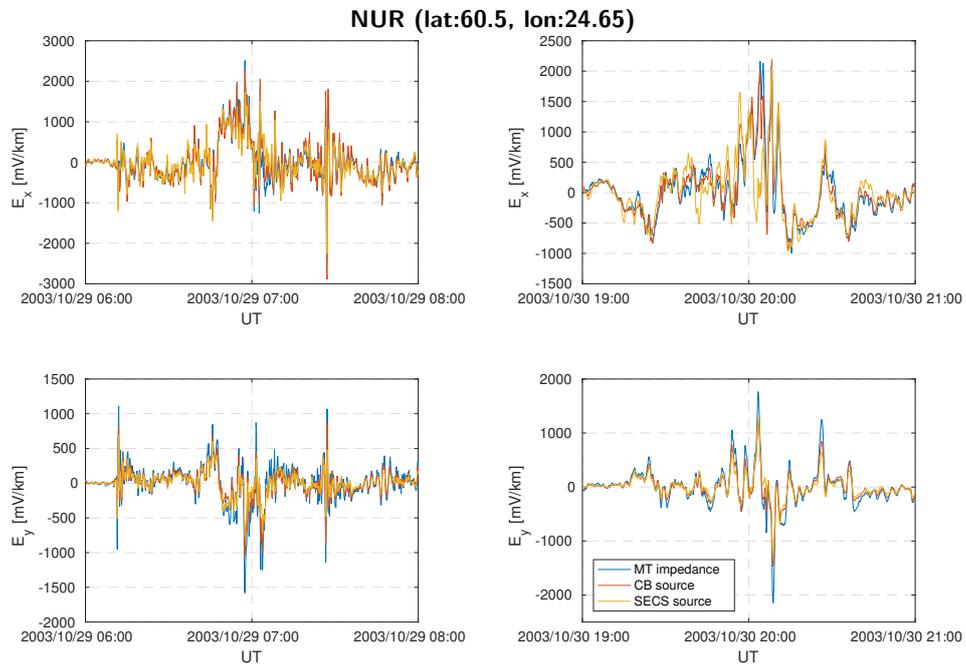
**Figure 4.** (a-b) Snapshots of the magnitude and direction of the GEF in Fennoscandia modeled using SECS and CB equivalent currents, at 20:08:30 UT, 30 October 2003. (c) The absolute difference between magnitudes of the GEF demonstrated in (a) and (b). (d) The magnitude and direction of the GEF in the area of the Finnish natural gas pipeline modeled with the use of the CB source at 20:08:30 UT, 30 October 2003. (e-g) Conductivity distribution in three layers of the 3-D part of the conductivity model. The Finnish natural gas pipeline network is marked in all figures. IMAGE sites Abisko (ABK) and Nurmijärvi (NUR) as well as Mäntsälä (MAN) pipeline GIC recording site and Point X located  $0.5^\circ$  north of MAN are marked with white circles.



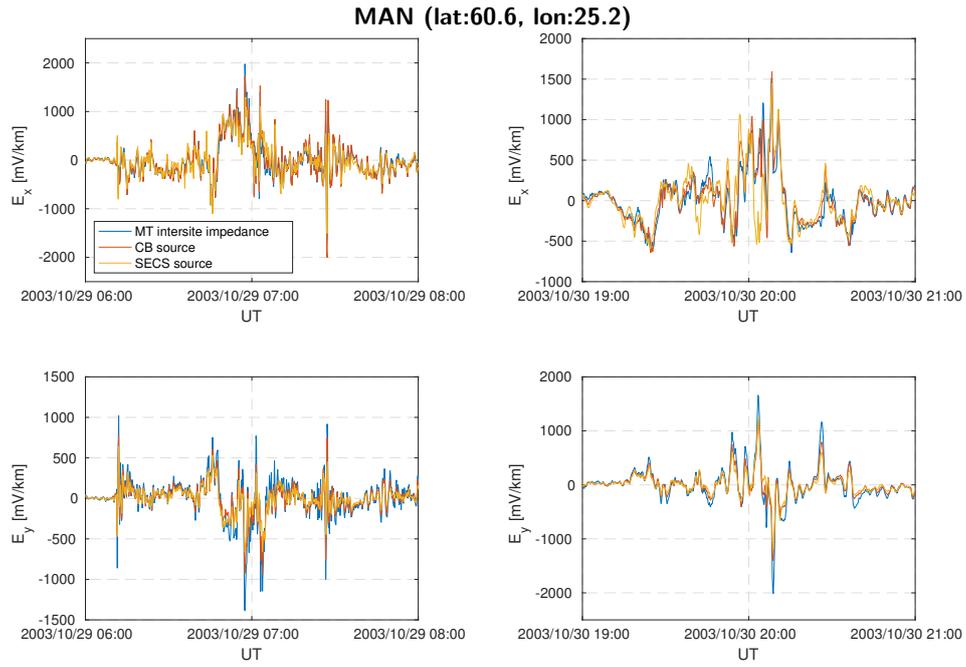
**Figure 5.** Snapshots of the magnitude and direction of the GEF across Fennoscandia (left) and in the Finnish natural gas pipeline area (right) modeled using the CB source at 06:57:30 UT, 29 October 2003 (top), and 07:27:00 UT, 29 October 2003 (bottom). The Finnish natural gas pipeline network is marked in all figures. IMAGE sites Abisko (ABK) and Nurmijärvi (NUR) as well as Mäntsälä (MAN) pipeline GIC recording site and Point X located  $0.5^\circ$  north of MAN are marked with white circles.



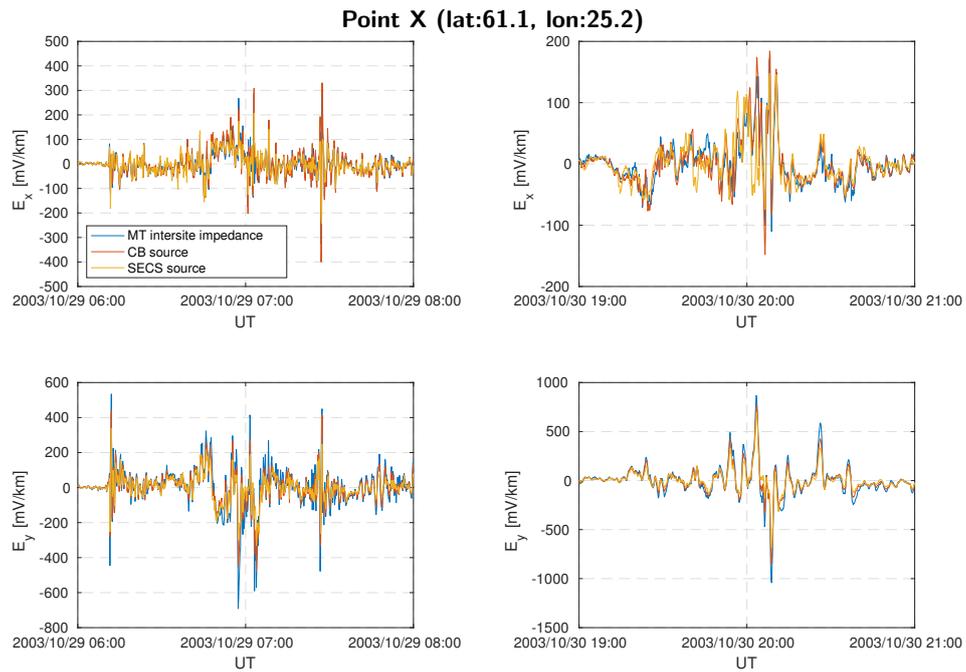
**Figure 6.** Time series of the GEF at the Abisko (ABK) geomagnetic observatory modeled with the use of SECS and CB inducing sources and simulated using the MT approach at time intervals 06:00:00-08:00:00 UT, 29 October 2003 (left), and 19:00:00-21:00:00 UT, 30 October 2003 (right).



**Figure 7.** The same caption as in Figure 6 but for the Nurmijärvi (NUR) geomagnetic observatory.



**Figure 8.** The same caption as in Figure 6 but for the Mäntsälä (MAN) natural gas pipeline GIC recording site.



**Figure 9.** The same caption as in Figure 6 but for Point X located  $0.5^\circ$  north of Mäntsälä natural gas pipeline GIC recording site.

327 et al. (2001) parameters and GEF simulated in the SMAP conductivity model was also  
 328 scaled by a factor of 4. Dimmock et al. (2019) point out that conductivities in the model

**Table 1.** Correlation coefficients, normalized root mean square errors, and maximum absolute differences (in mV/km) between the GEF obtained with the use of SECS and CB inducing sources and simulated using the MT approach at Abisko (ABK) and Nurmijärvi (NUR) geomagnetic observatories, Mäntsälä (MAN) GIC recording point, and Point X located  $0.5^\circ$  north of MAN. In the case of MAN and Point X, MT results are obtained with the use of magnetic field data observed at NUR.

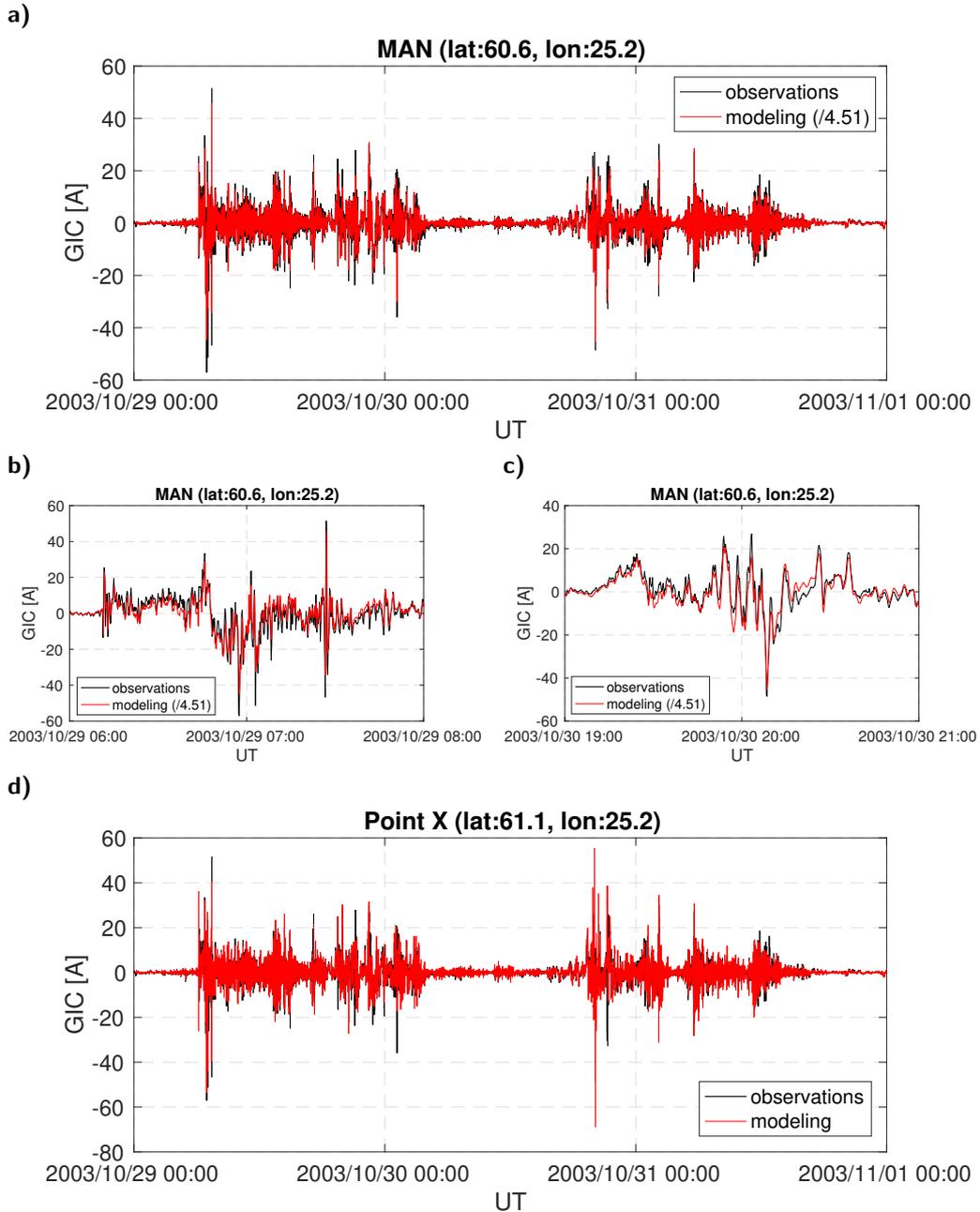
	ABK	NUR	MAN	Point X
$\text{corr}(E_{x,\text{SECS}}, E_{x,\text{CB}})$	0.963	0.859	0.856	0.842
$\text{corr}(E_{x,\text{MT}}, E_{x,\text{CB}})$	0.891	0.925	0.934	0.922
$\text{corr}(E_{y,\text{SECS}}, E_{y,\text{CB}})$	0.978	0.929	0.934	0.947
$\text{corr}(E_{y,\text{MT}}, E_{y,\text{CB}})$	0.942	0.952	0.954	0.952
$\text{nRMSE}(E_{x,\text{SECS}}, E_{x,\text{CB}})$	0.278	0.512	0.516	0.541
$\text{nRMSE}(E_{x,\text{MT}}, E_{x,\text{CB}})$	0.822	0.451	0.414	0.410
$\text{nRMSE}(E_{y,\text{SECS}}, E_{y,\text{CB}})$	0.231	0.381	0.369	0.352
$\text{nRMSE}(E_{y,\text{MT}}, E_{y,\text{CB}})$	0.663	0.558	0.544	0.462
$\text{MAD}(E_{x,\text{SECS}}, E_{x,\text{CB}})$	401	2137	1366	256
$\text{MAD}(E_{x,\text{MT}}, E_{x,\text{rec}})$	928	2000	1114	166
$\text{MAD}(E_{y,\text{SECS}}, E_{y,\text{CB}})$	306	506	491	350
$\text{MAD}(E_{y,\text{MT}}, E_{y,\text{CB}})$	961	746	709	293

329 adopted by Viljanen et al. (2006) are significantly larger than those in the SMAP model.  
 330 Figures 10b and 10c provide a closer look on time intervals 06:00:00-08:00:00 UT, 29 Oc-  
 331 tober 2003, and 19:00:00-21:00:00 UT, 30 October 2003.

332 When calculating GIC based on the GEF modeled with the SECS-based source and  
 333 MT method, scaling factors should also be applied. The scaling factors estimated via the  
 334 iteratively reweighted least squares algorithm are 4.68 and 5.39, correspondingly.

335 As it was demonstrated in Section 3.3, GEF values at Point X are significantly smaller  
 336 than those at MAN due to the fact that Point X is located on a more conductive base-  
 337 ment. Figure 10d demonstrates the comparison of observed GIC and GIC calculated based  
 338 on the GEF simulated at Point X with the use of the CB source. Modeled GIC is not  
 339 scaled in this figure. It is clear that simulated GIC variations are of the same order of  
 340 magnitude as observed ones.

341 Table 2 presents correlation coefficients, nRMSE, and MAD between observed GIC  
 342 and GIC calculated based on the GEF modeled with the use of the three discussed meth-  
 343 ods. The values are demonstrated for GIC calculated both at MAN and Point X loca-  
 344 tions. It can be seen that the highest correlation between modeled and observed GIC  
 345 is achieved with the use of the CB source. GIC modeling with the use of this source out-  
 346 performs GIC calculation via the MT intersite method because, first of all, the GEF mod-  
 347 eling approach utilizing the CB source benefits from the spatial nonuniformity of the in-  
 348 ducing source, whereas in the MT impedance method, the source is approximated by a  
 349 plane wave (the inducing source is clearly nonuniform in high latitudes). Second, the GEF  
 350 modeling approach with the use of the CB source accounts for magnetic field conditions  
 351 better because it utilizes the data from multiple magnetometers, whereas the MT inter-  
 352 site impedance method relies on the data from a single site.



**Figure 10.** (a) Time series of observed GIC and GIC calculated at the Mäntsälä (MAN) natural gas pipeline recording point. (b-c) Time series of GIC observed and modeled at MAN at time intervals 06:00:00-08:00:00 UT, 29 October 2003, and 19:00:00-21:00:00 UT, 30 October 2003. (d) Time series of GIC observed and modeled at Point X located  $0.5^\circ$  north of MAN. Note that modeled GIC is scaled by a factor of 4.51 in Figs (a-c), while there is no scaling in Figure (d). GIC in all figures were calculated based on the GEF modeled using the CB source.

353

#### 4 Concluding Remarks

354

355

In this paper, we perform rigorous 3-D GEF modeling in Fennoscandia for three days of the Halloween geomagnetic storm (29-31 October 2003). To explore the influ-

**Table 2.** Correlation coefficients, normalized root mean square errors, and maximum absolute differences (in A) between modeled and observed GIC at the Mäntsälä (MAN) pipeline recording point and Point X located  $0.5^\circ$  north of MAN. Note that modeled GIC at MAN is scaled by factors of 4.68 (SECS source), 4.51 (CB source), and 5.39 (MT method). At Point X, GIC is not scaled.

	MAN	Point X
$\text{corr}(\text{GIC}_{\text{SECS}}, \text{GIC}_{\text{obs}})$	0.773	0.724
$\text{corr}(\text{GIC}_{\text{CB}}, \text{GIC}_{\text{obs}})$	0.903	0.809
$\text{corr}(\text{GIC}_{\text{MT}}, \text{GIC}_{\text{obs}})$	0.886	0.795
$\text{nRMSE}(\text{GIC}_{\text{SECS}}, \text{GIC}_{\text{obs}})$	0.635	0.711
$\text{nRMSE}(\text{GIC}_{\text{CB}}, \text{GIC}_{\text{obs}})$	0.431	0.634
$\text{nRMSE}(\text{GIC}_{\text{MT}}, \text{GIC}_{\text{obs}})$	0.465	0.820
$\text{MAD}(\text{GIC}_{\text{SECS}}, \text{GIC}_{\text{obs}})$	40.3	52.7
$\text{MAD}(\text{GIC}_{\text{CB}}, \text{GIC}_{\text{obs}})$	29.1	56.4
$\text{MAD}(\text{GIC}_{\text{MT}}, \text{GIC}_{\text{obs}})$	28.8	64.8

356 ence of the inducing source model on 3-D GEF simulations, we consider three different  
 357 approaches to source approximation. Noteworthy, all methods exploit the same IMAGE  
 358 magnetic field data to simulate the GEF, rely on the same high-resolution 3-D conduc-  
 359 tivity model of the region (SMAP, Korja et al. (2002)), and use the same forward prob-  
 360 lem engine (Kruglyakov & Kuvshinov, 2018).

361 Within the first two approaches, the source varies laterally and is factorized from  
 362 the original SECS-recovered source (Vanhamäki & Juusola, 2020) by spatial modes (SM)  
 363 and respective expansion coefficients. In both approaches, the SM are the same and are  
 364 obtained following the two-step numerical scheme introduced by Kruglyakov, Kuvshi-  
 365 nov, and Marshalko (2022). The difference between methods lies in the calculation of  
 366 the expansion coefficients; in the second approach, the expansion coefficients are obtained  
 367 by taking the conductivity distribution of the earth into account. Within the third ap-  
 368 proach, the GEF is calculated by implementing the time-domain realization of the MT  
 369 intersite impedance method.

370 We modeled GIC at the MAN Finnish natural gas pipeline recording site based on  
 371 the GEF obtained with the use of three aforementioned modeling approaches and com-  
 372 pared results with GIC observed there. We conclude that for all considered methods, the  
 373 correlation between modeled and observed GIC is high. The highest correlation with GIC  
 374 recordings and the lowest nRMSE is achieved with the use of the CB source. However,  
 375 when calculating GIC based on the GEF simulated at MAN, their values appear to be  
 376 overestimated 4–6 times for all modeling techniques. Similar results were obtained by  
 377 Dimmock et al. (2019), who calculated GIC at MAN based on the GEF computed in the  
 378 SMAP model during the 7–8 September 2017 geomagnetic storm. When calculating GIC  
 379 on the basis of the GEF at a point located  $0.5^\circ$  north of MAN (and on a significantly  
 380 more conductive basement), resulting GIC have the same order of magnitude as observed  
 381 ones. As this example demonstrates, ground conductivity has a crucial role in estimat-  
 382 ing the GEF. Especially challenging are regions with sharp gradients of near-surface con-  
 383 ductivity. We also stress that in contrast to the spatially highly variable ground conduc-  
 384 tivity, the equivalent ionospheric currents and their time derivatives are relatively smooth.  
 385 Thus, most of the lateral variation of the GEF arises from the ground conductivity.

386 For GIC calculation in this study, we used a simplified method, which assumes that  
 387 the GEF along the pipeline is spatially uniform. One can argue that this approximation

388 is too rough, taking into account that our modeling results demonstrate large differences  
389 between GEF values at different sites in the pipeline area (see Figures 4d and 7–9). Cal-  
390 culation of the actual GIC in technological networks is an engineering task, which can  
391 be performed with a significantly higher level of accuracy by companies operating these  
392 networks and possessing all the necessary information about their configurations and pa-  
393 rameters. Moreover, information about changes in configurations of technological sys-  
394 tems over the years is required to model GIC properly during a particular time inter-  
395 val. That is why in this study, we limit ourselves to using this simplified GIC modeling  
396 method, with the help of which reasonable modeling results were previously obtained by  
397 Viljanen et al. (2006). We also share our GEF simulation results through an open-access  
398 repository (Marshalko et al., 2022). With the help of these data, companies operating  
399 technological systems in Fennoscandia will be able to assess the potential hazard to these  
400 systems from space weather.

401 Concerning future studies, our results of the Halloween storm serve as an explicit  
402 point of comparison. Using the same ground conductivity model, but different geomag-  
403 netic field input, we can quantify the magnitude of other events with respect to the Hal-  
404 loween storm. Of special interest is a recent reproduction of the Carrington storm by Blake  
405 et al. (2021) and the simulation of a sudden storm commencement due to an extreme  
406 solar wind shock (Welling et al., 2021).

407 Another topic for future activity is updating the 3-D conductivity model of Fennoscand-  
408 dia, which is to be based on a multi-scale 3-D inversion of a significant amount of new  
409 MT data collected in the region in the framework of various goal-oriented MT projects.  
410 Note that the biggest uncertainty in the GEF and GIC modeling arises due to the in-  
411 completeness of the conductivity model. In a recent study, Love et al. (2022) considered  
412 the famous magnetic storm in March 1989. They presented maps of reported GIC im-  
413 pacts in the contiguous United States (CONUS) power grids and compared their occur-  
414 rence to the peak values of the GEF based on empirical MT impedances. There is a clear  
415 correspondence between the locations of GIC impacts and high GEF values. As Love et  
416 al. (2022) point out, geomagnetic variations tend to decrease with decreasing geomag-  
417 netic latitude. This is also seen in geoelectric hazard maps. However, the hazard across  
418 CONUS is much more prominently organized by the surface impedance, i.e. the ground  
419 conductivity. This emphasises the need for using as accurate information on the earth’s  
420 conductivity as possible.

421 Finally, the ongoing research aims to further develop the GEF modeling approach  
422 with the use of the conductivity-based inducing source to enable its real-time implemen-  
423 tation.

## 424 5 Open Research

425 Modeled GEF data are available at Zenodo via Marshalko et al. (2022) under CC  
426 BY 4.0. The SMAP model (Korja et al., 2002) is available at the European Plate Ob-  
427 serving System (EPOS) portal via EPOS (2019) (stored in JSON format and compressed  
428 with bzip2) under CC BY-NC 4.0. PGIEM2G 3-D EM forward modeling code is devel-  
429 oped openly at Gitlab and available at Kruglyakov (2022) under GPLv2. GIC data are  
430 available at the website of the Space and Earth Observation Centre of the Finnish Me-  
431 teorological Institute (FMI) via FMI (2023) under CC BY 4.0.

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 441 sciences (Germany), Geological Survey of Sweden (Sweden), Swedish Institute of Space  
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## 614 Appendix A Expressions for $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^n$ , $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^n$

615 The derivation of expressions for  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^n$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^n$  is presented in Kruglyakov, Kuvshinov, and Marshalko (2022) and Kruglyakov, Kuvshinov, and Nair (2022) for electric and magnetic fields, correspondingly. Even though the same technique is used in both papers, the notation and final form of expressions are different. Thus, to avoid readers' confusion, we present the expressions for  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^n$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^n$  in similar closed forms.

As already discussed in Section 2.1.2, the expressions for  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^n$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^n$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, N_{T_E} - 1, N_{T_B} - 1$  are the following

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^n(\mathbf{r}, T_E; \sigma) = \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{\Delta t}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{\Delta t}} \mathbf{E}_i(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma) e^{-i\omega n \Delta t} d\omega \right\}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N_{T_E} - 1, \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^n(\mathbf{r}, T_B; \sigma) = \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{\Delta t}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{\Delta t}} \mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}, \omega; \sigma) e^{-i\omega n \Delta t} d\omega \right\}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N_{T_B} - 1. \quad (\text{A2})$$

At the same time, for  $n = 0, N_{T_E}, N_{T_B}$  the expressions are

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^0(\mathbf{r}_s, T_E; \sigma) = -\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{E}_i}(\mathbf{r}_s, T_E; \sigma) - \sum_{k=1}^{N_{T_E}-1} \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^k(\mathbf{r}_s, T_E; \sigma) \left(1 - \frac{k}{N_{T_E}}\right), \quad (\text{A3})$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^{N_{T_E}}(\mathbf{r}_s, T_E; \sigma) = \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{E}_i}(\mathbf{r}_s, T_E; \sigma) - \sum_{k=1}^{N_{T_E}-1} \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{E}_i}^k(\mathbf{r}_s, T_E; \sigma) \frac{k}{N_{T_E}},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^0(\mathbf{r}_s, T_B; \sigma) &= -\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{B}_i}(\mathbf{r}_s, T_B; \sigma) - \sum_{k=1}^{N_{T_B}-1} \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^k(\mathbf{r}_s, T_B; \sigma) \left(1 - \frac{k}{N_{T_B}}\right) \\ &\quad + \operatorname{Re} \mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}_s, \omega; \sigma)|_{\omega=0}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A4})$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^{N_{T_B}}(\mathbf{r}_s, T_B; \sigma) = \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{B}_i}(\mathbf{r}_s, T_B; \sigma) - \sum_{k=1}^{N_{T_B}-1} \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{B}_i}^k(\mathbf{r}_s, T_B; \sigma) \frac{k}{N_{T_B}}.$$

620 It is worth stressing here that unlike (A3), (A4) contains an additional term  $\operatorname{Re} \mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}_s, \omega; \sigma)|_{\omega=0}$   
621 for  $n = 0$  since the magnetic field is not necessarily zero for  $\omega = 0$ .

Functions  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{E}_i}(\mathbf{r}_s, T_E; \sigma)$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{B}_i}(\mathbf{r}_s, T_B; \sigma)$  have the following form:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{E}_i}(\mathbf{r}_s, T_E; \sigma) = \frac{1}{T_E} \int_0^{T_E} \tau \mathbf{E}_i(\mathbf{r}_s, \tau; \sigma) d\tau, \quad (\text{A5})$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{B}_i}(\mathbf{r}_s, T_B; \sigma) = \frac{1}{T_B} \int_0^{T_B} \tau \mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{r}_s, \tau; \sigma) d\tau. \quad (\text{A6})$$

622 The numerical method to compute integrals (A5) and (A6) is described in Appendix C  
 623 of Kruglyakov, Kuvshinov, and Marshalko (2022). Note that although both  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{E}_i}(\mathbf{r}_s, T_E; \sigma)$   
 624 and  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{B}_i}(\mathbf{r}_s, T_B; \sigma)$  vanish as  $T_E, T_B \rightarrow \infty$ , they decay too slowly to be neglected for  
 625 specified values of  $T_E, T_B$ .