

Assessment of the Errors in the Transmission of the Orientation and Cartographic System from the Surface to an Underground Mine

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Abstract. A proper transmission of the orientation between surface and underground workings, by means of vertical shafts, is an important challenge in the mining industry, especially when the mine exceeds 200 meters deep. In fact, this study is developed in a mine located to 700 meters deep. Likewise, this paper assesses the accuracy of this operation, in a case study, using the two shafts plumbing and gyroscope methods in order to compare and analyse the planimetric displacement of the base line due to different source of errors in each one. Upsides and downsides of both methods are analysed in the paper. Some disadvantages in each method have been reduced thanks to the technological progress, especially in the two shaft plumbing method. The different sources of error that affect the measures are thoroughly analysed in the study with the aim to compensate them and achieve the required precision for an underground infrastructure. Mine ventilation has been found as one of the most important sources of error in the plumbing method due to intake and return airflow. In this direction, the paper unfolds some measures to reduce the ventilation influence and details a compensation method to reduce ventilation errors.

Keywords: Shaft plumbing, Ventilation, Plumb oscillation, Gravity force and earth rotation.

1. Introduction

The mine assessed is located around 700 meters below the surface and its connection is done by means of two vertical shafts with a diameter of 4 meters each one. The first shaft, called Shaft2, is used for staff access and the airflow intake, while the second one, Shaft3, is used to extract the ore and airflow return. There is a separation of around 100 meters between them and they have a depth of 680 meters.

Currently, the company is planning to connect the underground workings to the surface by a ramp. Several surveys have been done with the idea to transmit the orientation and the cartographic system from the surface to the beginning of the tunnel from the underground side. This point is going to be 3500 meters far from the shafts. For this reason, it is necessary to ensure that the error in the axis of the tunnel, either horizontal or vertical, is acceptable. In fact, the accuracy is the main problem in tunnel measurement [1]. On the other hand, nowadays, optimization of the measurements is an important theme of the geodesy and especially engineering surveying [2]. Two methods have been used and compared for such purpose:

- 47 1. Two plumbs, each one connected to wire, from the top of the shaft to the bottom. This system
 48 allows obtaining reliable results in deep shafts. Other options, like the laser beam, are not as
 49 precise owing to different pressures and temperatures between the top and the bottom, which can
 50 involve a deviation in the vertically of the laser. However, it is perfectly feasible in small depths
 51 such as the case of the underground coal mine in Digwadih [3].
 52 2. A gyroscope survey. Nowadays, this method is a widely used system in the transmission of
 53 orientations [4].

54

55 2. Materials and Methods

56

57 2.1 Two shafts plumbing method

58 It is the best option when two shafts are available [5,6] and the company does not have a
 59 gyroscope. A plumb has been descended in each shaft and connected by means of an underground
 60 traverse. Henceforth, they will be referred as plumb P1 for Shaft3 and plumb P2 for Shaft2.

61 Two different sets of measures were done after eight hours without artificial ventilation in Shaft2.
 62 One with the entrance of the shaft uncovered and another with the entrance almost completely
 63 covered with a canvas to minimize the natural ventilation effect to the plumb and then quantify its
 64 influence to the plumb verticality. Results showed that the difference in the vertically of the plumb
 65 between the shaft covered and uncovered was of 1 cm at the bottom of the Shaft2. Hence, the set of
 66 measures with the shaft covered was taken as correct.

67 In the other case, Shaft3 could not be covered at the exit of the ventilation circuit, because
 68 turbulences were generated and the plumb stability worsens. Hence, the ventilation effect was
 69 compensated by several sets of measures at the bottom of the shaft.

70 Plumbs used had a weight of 64.4 kg and were attached to an anti-rotation steel wire rope of 3
 71 mm of diameter. Besides, they were introduced in a viscous oil tank of 1 m³. The necessary weight for
 72 the plumb was deduced from the equation $10+0.08L$ [7], where L is the depth of the shaft.

73

74

75 2.2 Gyroscope method

76 It allows monitoring and measuring with high accuracy. A gyroscope can define absolute
 77 directions at any measurement point and eliminate systematic errors [4]. A gyroscope GYROMAX
 78 AK-2M on a total station Leica TCRP 1201 of 1" (3^s) was used in the survey. The system is able to
 79 calculate the true north with an accuracy of 20" (60^s) in a single measure according to the supplier.
 80 However, after 10 tests with series of 5 measures, the standard deviation is around 40^s. Therefore, it
 81 has taken into account 40^s as the maximum precision of the gyroscope used in this case. In fact the
 82 gyroscope method is commonly used to correct the error accumulation of the traverses, and this is an
 83 effective method for improving the precision of the traverse control network and ensuring
 84 breakthrough of the long tunnels [8]. Two sets of 5 measures were done in the surface base called C4-
 85 C3, for the calibration and the underground base called INT3-INT2, used for the underground
 86 traverse between the plumbs.

87

88 3. Results

89

90 3.1 Errors in the measures taken in two shafts plumbing method

91 This method requires some operations to perform the connection survey that generates errors
 92 [9,6] as well as the overall error exposed in next equation:

93

$$94 \quad m = \sqrt{m_s^2 + m_b^2 + m_p^2} \quad (1)$$

95

96 where m_a is the global error, m_s is the error produced in the surface works to determine the
 97 orientation and coordinates of the plumb in the surface, m_b is the error from the underground
 98 topographic survey to connect both plumbs or between the plumb and m_p is the vertical error of the
 99 plumb.

100 The surface traverse (Figure 1) done between base C1-C2 and plumbs P1 and P2 was a closed
 101 traverse, which allowed knowing the total error due to the angular and linear errors in the polygonal
 102 axis. The polygonal had the following characteristics:

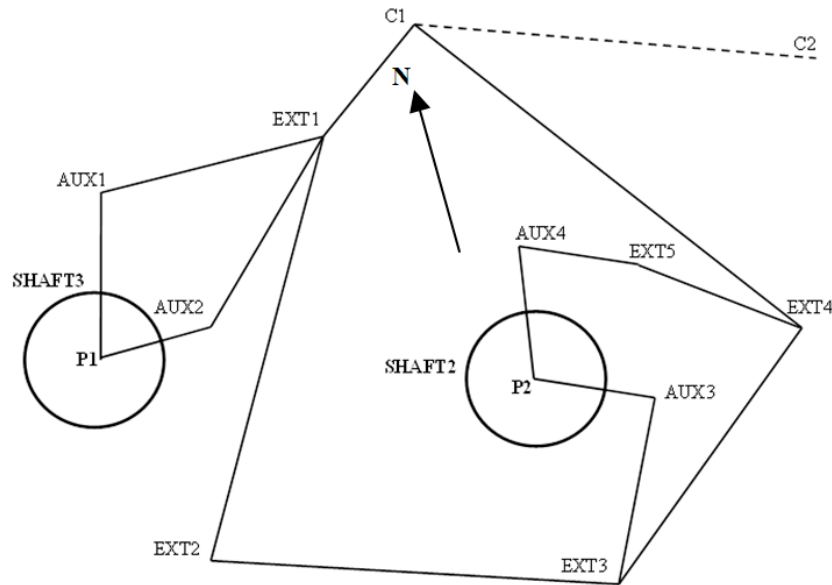


Figure 1. Exterior traverse.

103

104

105 Length: 436.374 m

106 Number of legs: 5

107 Error in X: -0.0015 m

108 Error in Y: -0.0007 m

109 The accumulation of angular and linear error in the axis, when the traverse was done, produced a
 110 displacement of the final station (C1):

111

$$112 \quad E_{tr} = \sqrt{e_X^2 + e_Y^2} = \sqrt{0.0015^2 + 0.0007^2} \quad (2)$$

113

114 Coordinates of the plumbs (P1 and P2) were calculated through two different branches. In
 115 addition, Table 1 shows the error between measurements in each plumb.

116

117

Table 1. Error in the coordinates of plumbs P1 and P2 at the shaft top.

Plumb	Error X (m)	Error Y (m)
P1	0,000	0,003
P2	0,000	0,000

118

119 The real squared error of the base P1-P2 was:

120

$$121 \quad \text{Error in P1} = \sqrt{0.000^2 + 0.003^2} = 0.003 \text{ m} \quad (3)$$

$$122 \quad \text{Error in P2} = \sqrt{0.000^2 + 0.000^2} = 0.000 \text{ m} \quad (4)$$

$$123 \quad \text{Error in P1 - P2} = \sqrt{0.003^2 + 0.000^2} = 0.003 \text{ m} \quad (5)$$

124

125 The small differences in the plumbs coordinates, as well as the angular and lineal errors in the
 126 exterior closed traverse indicate the goodness of these measures. However, the theoretical error in
 127 bases P1 and P2 regarding the external survey was calculated taking into account the topographic
 128 instruments and the leg characteristics. Its value will be the quadratic sum of the error ellipses in the
 129 semi axis per leg. These error ellipses were calculated according the studies carried out for several
 130 authors [10,11,12].

131

132 3.1.1 Errors calculation

133 3.1.1.1 Error m_s

134 Table 2 displays the error ellipses characteristics at the end of the external survey, plumb P1 and
 135 plumb P2, which have been obtained by means of the topographical software TCP-MDT version 7.

136

137

Table 2. Error ellipses characteristics at the final point of the exterior traverse.

Exterior Traverse	Point	Sx (m)	Sy (m)	Major axis (m)	Minor axis (m)	Max. Error
C1-EXT1-AUX1-P1	P1	0.0001	0.0001	0.00028	0.00018	0.0003
C1-EXT1-AUX2-P1	P1	0.0001	0.0001	0.00029	0.00017	0.0003
C1-EXT1-EXT2-EXT3-AUX3-P2	P2	0.0002	0.0002	0.00064	0.00053	0.0008
C1-EXT1-EXT2-EXT3-EXT4-EXT5- AUX4-P2	P2	0.0017	0.0015	0.00465	0.00410	0.0062

138

139 Hence, the maximum theoretical error in P1 and P2 coordinates due to the exterior measurements
 140 was:

$$141 \quad P1 = 0.0003 \text{ m (Average error between two legs)}$$

$$142 \quad P2 = 0.0035 \text{ m (Average error between two legs)}$$

143

144 Consequently, the total theoretical error of the base P1-P2 because of the surface topographic
 145 survey was:

146

$$147 \quad m_s = \sqrt{0.0003^2 + 0.0035^2} = 0.00353 \text{ m} \quad (6)$$

148

149 As it can be seen from previous sections, the theoretical error is higher than real error. The most
 150 unfavourable, theoretical one, will be taken into account for the underground survey.

151

152 3.1.1.2 Error m_b

153 Figure 2 details the closed traverse (INT1-INT2-INT3-INT4-INT1), in the underground survey,
 154 used to transmit the coordinates of P1 and P2, which has the subsequent characteristics and total
 155 errors:

156

157 Length: 187.270 m

158 N° of legs= 4

159 Total error in X= 0.0030 m

160 Total error in Y= -0.0015 m

161

162 The angular and linear error accumulation in the different axis produced the next final station
 163 displacement:

164

$$E_{tr} = \sqrt{e_x^2 + e_y^2} = \sqrt{0.0030^2 + 0.0015^2} = 0.0034 \text{ m} \quad (7)$$

166

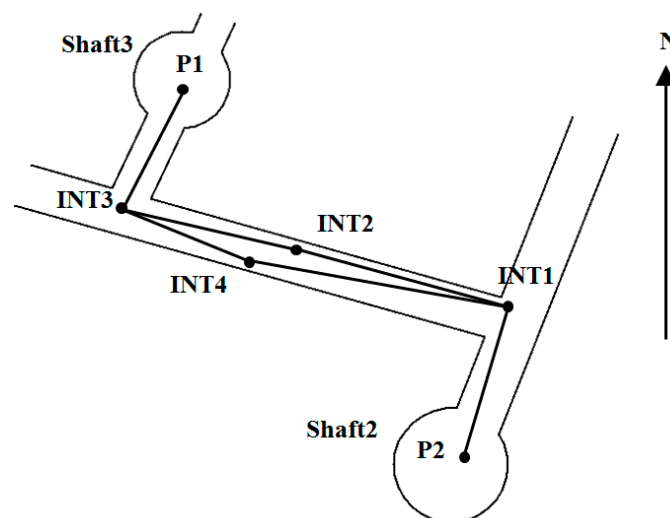


Figure 2. Interior traverse connecting plumb P2 and plumb P1.

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168

169

170 Table 3 exposes the adequacy of the angular and lineal errors in the closed underground traverse.

171 The error determination was done following the same procedure in the exterior measures.

172

173

Table 3. Error ellipses characteristics at the final point of the underground traverse.

Underground Traverse	Point	Sx (m)	Sy (m)	Major Axis (m)	Minor Axis (m)	Max. Error
P2-INT1-INT2-INT3-P1	P1	0.0012	0.0016	0.00456	0.00346	0.0057

174

175 In this case, the maximum theoretical error in the base P1-P2 was, directly, the average error in

176 the two legs of underground traverse between P2 and P1, $m_b=0.0057$ m, which is larger than the real

177 error obtained in the measures of the closed traverse (INT1-INT2-INT3-INT4-INT1). Once more, it is

178 considered the most adverse case.

179

180 3.1.1.3 Error m_p

181 The sources of error, m_p , that could affect the verticality of the plumbs are quite complex and

182 have to be thoroughly studied. These errors are especially important in the orientation transmission

183 (α) because it is an angular measurement and the final lineal error increases with the length of the

184 traverse. Therefore, the plumb has to be as separated as possible in order to reduce the potential error.

185 It is very difficult to do it with only one shaft, but in the case both shafts are separated 100.618 meters,

186 being able to reduce the angular error significantly. The next paragraphs detail the factors that cause

187 this error and the ways to calculate and compensate it. The paper has been based on previous studies

188 [13,9]. It was also demonstrated that the verticality of a plumb in a shaft is affected by: ventilation,

189 oscillation and vibration of the plumb, shape of the cable and the effect of the gravity force.

190 1- Ventilation influence

191 The airflow generated in an underground mine can produce a significant displacement on the

192 verticality of the plumbs. Hence, it is absolutely necessary to stop the artificial ventilation system so

193 that the verticality error of the plumb wire decreases. The air speed dropped to 1.90 m/s at the bottom

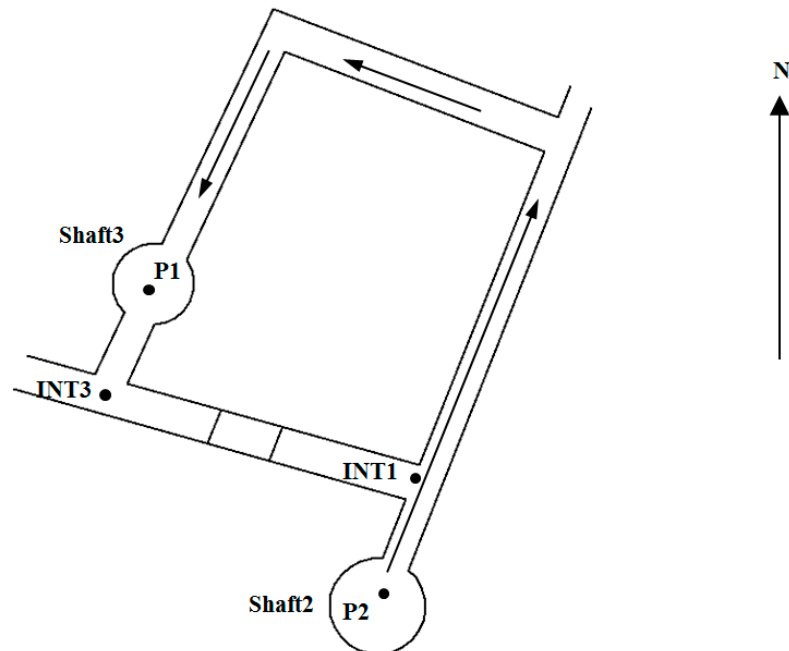
194 of Shaft2 after 8 hours since the fans were switch off. Afterwards, the shaft was covered about 95% of

195 its section and consequently the air speed at the bottom was reduced from 1.90 m/s to 0.79 m/s. Two

196 sets of 20 measures were carried out, the first one with the shaft uncovered and the second one with

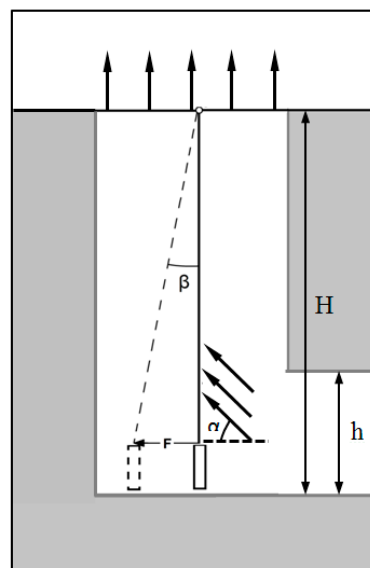
197 the shaft covered, two hours later on. Regarding the Shaft3, air speed was reduced to 1.2 m/s at the

203 bottom of the shaft after 31 hours since fans were stopped. Hence, the four sets of 20 measures were
 204 done under similar conditions of airspeed. Figure 3 details the relative position of both shafts and the
 205 flow direction of the ventilation circuit. Moreover, taking account a study in a potash mine [14], where
 206 it is indicated that the air volume in winter is higher than that in summer at the same ventilation
 207 point, the whole of the measures of this work were performed in summer.



203
204
205 **Figure 3.** Direction and sense of the ventilation.

206 Mine ventilation is one of the main sources of error using the plumbing method, having different
 207 procedures to compensate this potential error. According to Chrzanowski, the calculation of plumb
 208 displacement caused by ventilation has to take into account: air speed during the measurements in
 209 each shaft, depth of the shafts, plumb weight and section of the shaft and tunnel, among other factors.
 210 Figure 4 and Figure 5 display how the ventilation varies the position of the plumb.
 211



212
213
214 **Figure 4.** Diagram showing the ventilation effect on plumb P1 (shaft3).

215 The equation for calculating F_{p1} is based on the physical principles and it allows calculating the

216 plumb displacement owing to the ventilation. The result from the equation gave a horizontal
 217 displacement suffered in plumb P1 of 5.4 mm.
 218

$$219 \quad F_{P1} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \rho_A \cdot v_{int}^2 \cdot C_f \cdot D \cdot h \cdot (\cos \alpha)^2 \cdot \left(H - \frac{h}{2}\right)}{g \cdot \left(\frac{m_c}{2} + m_p\right)} (m) \quad (8)$$

220
 221
 222

Table 4. Variables description from Eq. (11) and the case study.

Parameter	Definition	Value
ρ_A (kg/m ³)	Air density	1.16
v_{int} (m/s)	Air velocity at the bottom of the shaft	1.2
C_f	Friction coefficient	1.3
D (m)	Rope diameter	0.003
H (m)	Length of rope exposed in the gallery	4
α (°)	Air angle incidence	45
H (m)	Length of the plumb rope	680
G (m/s ²)	Gravity	9.8
m_c (kg)	Weight of the rope	37.7
m_p (kg)	Weight of the plumb	64.4
F_{P1} (m)	Horizontal displacement of the plumb in the Shaft3	0.0054

223
 224

225 The fact of covering the shaft and its geometry affected the ventilation and as a consequence, the
 226 plumb was also affected. The equation for calculating F_{P2} has been used in this case. The angles θ and
 227 α created by the air and the horizontal can be graphically determined depending on the way the
 228 ventilation system introduces the air to the shaft and the intersection between the bottom of the shaft
 229 and the underground tunnel. However, a standard value of 45° can be adopted in the majority of the
 230 cases, as it has been done in this survey. The deviation of plumb P2 was 2.4 mm.

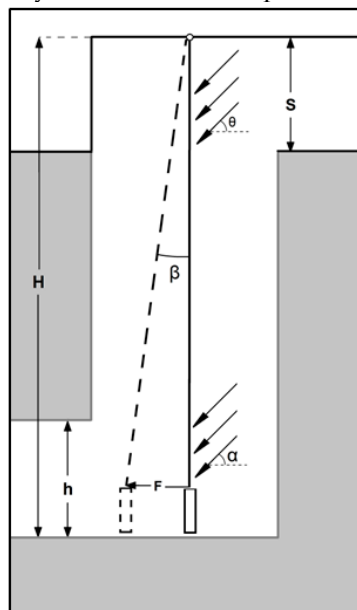


Figure 5. Ventilation effect on plumb P2 (shaft2).

231
 232
 233
 234

235

$$F_{P2} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \rho_A \cdot C_f \cdot D \left[h v_{int}^2 \cos^2 \alpha \left(H - \frac{h}{2} \right) + \left(v_{ext}^2 \cos^2 \theta \right) \frac{S^2}{2} \right]}{g \left(\frac{m_c}{2} + m_p \right)} \quad (m) \quad (9)$$

236

237

238

239

Table 5. Variables description from Eq. (12) and the case study.

Parameter	Definition	Value
ρ_A (kg/m ³)	Air density	1.16
v_{int} (m/s)	Air velocity at the bottom of the shaft	0.79
v_{ext} (m/s)	Air velocity at the head of the shaft	8
S (m)	Square opening entrance of the shaft	0.5
C_f	Friction coefficient	1.3
D (m)	Rope diameter	0.003
H (m)	Length of rope exposed in the gallery	4
α (°)	Air angle incidence at the bottom of the shaft	45
θ (°)	Air angle incidence at the head of the shaft	45
H (m)	Length of the plumb rope	680
G (m/s ²)	Gravity	9.8
m_c (kg)	Weight of the rope	37.7
m_p (kg)	Weight of the plumb	64.4
F_{P2} (m)	Horizontal displacement of the plumb in the Shaft2	0.0024

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F_{P1} and F_{P2} values indicate the distance to compensate due to ventilation. However, it is necessary to know its direction and sense for the compensation. Previous studies indicated several methods that allowed the calculation of this direction, but they are laborious, complicated and dangerous for the employees, because they have to work around the bottom of the shaft. Fortunately, the current surveying stations allow to measure distances without prism and then apply the compensation. The movement direction of the plumb in the shaft Shaft2 was deduced from two points, 1° and 2°, obtained by the mean value of each set of measurements. There was an important airspeed reduction between the first set, 1.90 m/s, and the second one, 0.79 m/s, once the shaft was covered. This reduction produced a displacement of 1 cm between both points. Tables 6 and 7 display the standard deviation in each set according to several studies [15,16].

Table 6. Standard deviation in each set of the measures from shaft2.

Plumb P2 of the shaft Shaft2	First set of measures (1°) (20 measures)			Second set of measures (2°) (20 measures)		
	X(m)	Y(m)	Total(m)	X(m)	Y(m)	Total(m)
P2 standard deviation	0,0016	0,0008	0,0018	0,0006	0,0006	0,0008

253

254

Table 7. Standard deviation in each set of the measures from shaft3.

Plumb P1 of the shaft Shaft3	All series of measures (80 measures)		
	X(m)	Y(m)	Total(m)
Standard Deviation in P1	0,0008	0,0019	0,0021

255

256

Once the displacement of P2 is calculated, its coordinates without the ventilation effect can be

257 obtained. This point is called P2N and it was determined by means of the second set mean value,
 258 orientation and horizontal displacement, F_{P2} from Table 5. Finally, it was possible to calculate the new
 259 horizontal angle and distance towards P2 from the traverse station INT1.

260 Plumb P1 was determined by the same procedure previously detailed, getting the average point
 261 P1N. Based on the coordinates from point P1N, it was calculated the new horizontal angle and
 262 distance towards P1 from station INT3 of the underground traverse.

263
 264 Table 8 shows the linear error of the underground traverse with and without the ventilation
 265 compensation. It reflects an over 20% reduction of the linear error, from 14.8 to 11.8 cm.

267 **Table 8.** Linear error of the connecting interior traverse between plumbs P2 and P1.

	Real measures	Compensated measures
Error X	-8.3 mm	-6.6 mm
Error Y	12.3 mm	9.7 mm
Linear error	14.8 mm	11.8 mm

268
 269 Hence, it is very important to take into account the compensation due to the ventilation effect in
 270 this kind of surveys. Particularly, when it is not possible to cover the shaft or the natural ventilation is
 271 considerable. Besides, the angular and distance measures have to be taken at the same time from the
 272 total station to the plumbs, and many times (two set of twenty measures to plumb P2 in Shaft2, and
 273 four sets of twenty measures to plumb P1 in Shaft3). For that purpose, it was necessary a laser capable
 274 of measuring the distance aiming a cable with a diameter of 3 mm from, at least, 10 meters.

275 Apart from the method described, there are other options available such as applying a vertical
 276 load to the plumbs for reducing the ventilation effect [17].

277
 278 2- Plumb oscillation influence

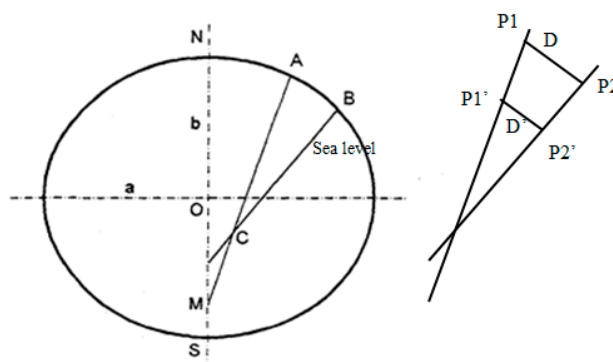
279 Plumb was equipped with special wings to achieve more stability. P2 measures began five hours
 280 after it was immersed inside a tank full of oil. On the other hand, P1 measures started after one hour
 281 immersion. The centre point of the pendulum movement was found in both cases because of the
 282 important amount of measures carried out.

283
 284 3- Influence of vibrations and shape of the cable

285 Errors of vibration and shape of the cable were considered negligible because of several actions
 286 done to reduce it: the wings, the tank of oil and an anti-rotation cable.

287
 288 4- Effect due to gravity force and earth rotation

289 The distance between two plumbs, when they are being descended, varies because they do not go
 290 down in parallel and if they were prolonged until the center of the earth they would converge due to
 291 the influence of the gravity force. However, the existence of a centrifugal force changes the direction of
 292 the plumbs and they finally do not converge to the center of the earth but in another intermediate
 293 point as it is exposed in Figure 6 [18,19].



295 *Figure 6. Scheme of the distance reduction because of the gravity and centrifugal force.*

296
297 The distance in an alignment projection for a certain depth is deduced from the next equation

$$298 \quad D = D' + \left[D' \frac{H}{R_o} + D' \frac{H^2}{R_o^2} \right] \text{ (m)} \quad (10)$$

300
301 where D is the distance of the alignment in the surface (m), D' is the distance of the alignment in a
302 certain depth (m), H is the depth of the projection of the surface alignment (m) and Ro is the average
303 earth radius (6375000 m in this study).

304 Using the data from the case study, where D is 100.618 m, H is 680.591 m, D' will be 100.607 m,
305 with an error of 0.011 m. This error has been compensated increasing each distance of the
306 underground traverse between P1 and P2 a value calculated applying the indicated equation
307 according previous studies of Chrzanowski and other authors. In this case, this error has been the
308 most important. However, it is very easy its compensation, mainly if it is compared with the
309 compensation of the error due to the ventilation system.

310 5- Other errors affecting the plumb verticality

311 Some authors consider the possibility that the plumbs could be affected in their displacement by
312 masses, but [20] stated that the attraction among the masses and the plumb is insignificant when the
313 shaft has a depth of less than 1000 meters. It is also said that the attraction of two plumbs is different if
314 they are separated more than 1500 meters [20]. As the plumbs in the case study are separated only 100
315 meters with a depth of 680 meters, their deviation due to the attraction between the plumbs and the
316 ground do not influence the verticality, transmission of the orientation and cartographic system.

317 3.1.1.4 Quality control

318
319 The closing error of the underground traverse, between P2 and P1, has been used as a quality
320 control of the survey. This linear traverse closing error in the traverse P2-INT1-INT2-INT3-P1 is an
321 indicator of the work global precision, because it accumulates the errors committed on the surface and
322 the plumb verticality. Table 9 exposes the linear error of the underground traverse between the
323 plumbs after and before applying the compensations.

324
325 **Table 9.** Error analysis of the underground traverse.

	Without compensation	Ventilation compensation	Ventilation and earth gravity compensation
Error X	-8.3 mm	-6.6 mm	-0.5 mm
Error Y	12.3 mm	9.7 mm	0.7 mm
Linear error	14.8 mm	11.8 mm	0.9 mm

326 3.1.2 Error m_α

327
328 All the errors that compose the plumb vertical deviation m_p could be compensated with the
329 equations of Fp1 and Fp2, achieving an error m_p practically nullified. Therefore, the total error m_α
330 affecting the orientation from the base P1-P2 to the underground tunnel would be detailed in the next
331 equation:

$$332 \quad m_\alpha = \sqrt{m_s^2 + m_b^2 + m_p^2} = \sqrt{3.5^2 + 5.7^2 + 0.9^2} = 6.75 \text{ mm} \quad (11)$$

333
334 From this lineal error m_α was possible to find the angular error with the length of the base, and
335 this error was:

$$337 \quad \text{Error} = \frac{0.00675m}{100.618m} = 6.670762 \cdot 10^{-5} \cdot \frac{636620^s}{1rad} = 43^s \quad (12)$$

338

339 3.2 Errors in the measures taken in Gyroscope method

340 Errors generated by the gyroscope in the orientation depend on its precision. In this case, it has an
 341 accuracy of 60^s in a single measure according to the specifications of the supplier. However, a set of
 342 measures can have a standard deviation about 40^s as indicated in section 2.2.

343 Measures done with the gyroscope consisted in two sets measures of the underground base INT3-
 344 INT2 in different days. Each set consisted in five measures: three measures with the gyroscope located
 345 in the point INT3 measuring INT3-INT2 and two measures with the gyroscope located in INT2
 346 measuring INT2-INT3.

347 Table 10 shows the results and accuracy of the measures. The standard deviation has been
 348 calculated according to several studies [15,16].

349

350

Table 10. Gyroscope measures.

	Underground axis INT3-INT2	Underground axis INT3-INT2
Number of measures	5	5
Average of the true north orientation	128.0780 ^s	128.0844 ^s
Standard deviation	37 ^s	45 ^s
Final Meridian convergence	0.9217 ^s west	0.9171 ^s west
Projected north orientation system UTM	128.9997 ^s	129.0015 ^s

351

352 The mean value of base INT3-INT2, using gyroscope, was 129.0003^s. The final meridian
 353 convergence is calculated from the theoretical meridian corrected by the data obtained from the
 354 calibration baseline (C4-C3). The theoretical meridian convergence in point of known coordinates is
 355 obtained by a software application from the Cartographic and Geological Institute of Catalonia
 356 website and some equations exposed by Estruch [18]. The convergence has been taken into account in
 357 final orientation determination.

358 If only the method of gyroscope was applied, the coordinates of a known point would have to be
 359 projected to the underground tunnel from the surface using a conventional method, one plumb in a
 360 shaft for transmitting the cartographic system. Hence, there will be two sources of errors: the true
 361 north orientation to the underground base and the transmission of the cartographic system from the
 362 surface.

363 The error generated by the gyroscope affects the orientation of the base measured, while the
 364 errors of the cartographic system transmission have been described in section 3.1, but regarding only
 365 one plumb. The global error m_a is also determined by the first equation.

366 Considering that the cartographic system is transmitted by the plumb P1, the error in the
 367 surveying works in the surface according to section 3.1.1.1 is 0.0003 meters. Therefore, m_s is 0.0003 m.

368 For calculating the error in the underground leg INT3-INT2 it is necessary to indicate that the
 369 necessary underground traverse to find the coordinates of points INT3 and INT2 was the traverse P1-
 370 INT3-INT2. In short, only two legs. In this way the error ellipse in INT2 was:

371

372

Table 11. Error ellipses on the final leg of underground traverse between P1 and INT2.

Underground Traverse	Point	Sx (m)	Sy (m)	Major Axis (m)	Minor Axis (m)	Max. Error
P1-INT3-INT2	INT2	0.0007	0.0008	0.00228	0.00191	0.0030

373

374

375 Therefore, the maximum theoretical error of base INT2 in the underground topographic survey
376 was, directly, the error in the leg of underground traverse between P1 and INT2:

$$377 \quad m_b = 0.0030m$$

378 Overall, the next equation includes the error generated to transmit the cartographic system
379 through the plumb P1 to the base INT3-INT2 is:

380

$$381 \quad m_\alpha = \sqrt{m_s^2 + m_b^2 + m_p^2} = \sqrt{0.3^2 + 3.0^2 + 0.9^2} = 3.1 \text{ mm} \quad (13)$$

382

383 It has to be pointed out that this error does not affect the orientation of the base line INT3-INT2, it
384 only produces a coordinates displacement. The error in the orientation is the standard deviation, 41^s,
385 of the measures done by gyroscope.

386

387

388 4. Discussion

389

390 Table 12 shows how the underground orientation of the base INT3-INT2 varies because of the
391 ventilation compensation, but it is not affected by the gravity force compensation. It can also be
392 observed that the difference between both methods is only 44^s after the compensations.

393

394

Table 12. Variation of the orientation in the underground base INT3-INT2.

	Orientation without compensation	Ventilation compensation	Ventilation and gravity compensation
Plumb method with 2 shafts	128.9932 ^s	128.9959 ^s	128.9959 ^s
Gyroscope	129.0003 ^s	129.0003 ^s	129.0003 ^s
Difference	71 ^s	44 ^s	44 ^s

395

396 Despite similar accuracy, both methods have upsides and downsides:

397 - The two shaft plumbing method is operationally more laborious than the gyroscope alternative.
398 It needs to transmit the orientation and cartographic system from two shafts, whereas the gyroscope
399 only needs one. This fact involves several hours working around the shafts, increasing the risk of the
400 staff.

401 - The plumbing method also needs more surface and underground surveying. However, the
402 closed traverse in the plumbing method allows checking the accuracy of the values, whereas the
403 gyroscope can only verify the results doing an extra set of measures.

404 - The most dangerous measurements are those around the shaft, especially at its bottom due to
405 falling rocks in this case, to calculate the central position of the plumb during its pendulum
406 movement. The usage of a total station without prism allows avoiding this situation.

407 - Despite the plumbing method takes more time than the gyroscope option, the case study was 20
408 hours for the plumbing and 31 hours the gyroscope. This difference is because of verification
409 measures done in the second case, while the two plumbing method does not need it to verify the
410 measurements. This time is subdivided in the following operations:

411

412 1. Plumbing method: 20 hours.

413 a) 11 hours in Shaft2.

414 b) 9 hours in Shaft3.

- 415 2. Gyroscope: 31 hours with verification measures and 19 hours without them.
416 a) 7 hours in Shaft3 (works for transmitting cartographic system from exterior to
417 underground in the case that two shaft method was not applied.)
418 b) 2x5 hours calibration base C4-C3 and verification measures.
419 c) 2x7 hours underground measurement INT3-INT2 and verification measures.
420
421

422 5. Conclusions

423

424 The study describes some adaptations of existing procedures, applied in studies quite a long time
425 ago, by means of new technologies, improving the accuracy of the measures and safety levels during
426 the survey because of less time working around the shafts. In addition, the two shaft plumbing and
427 gyroscope method have been analysed, emphasising the characteristics of both options. Their
428 comparison exposes similar accuracy, only a difference of 44s between them. This confirms the
429 goodness of the measurements made in this study and the suitability of both options.

430 The study suggests the most important source of error in the two shafts plumbing method is the
431 ventilation factor. Therefore, it is important to stop the artificial ventilation, at least, 24 hours before
432 taking the measures to reduce the airflow as much as possible. Unfortunately, it is very difficult to
433 stop the operating fans for such a long time and covering the intake shaft is an alternative to reduce its
434 effect. Hence, it is still necessary to compensate the deviation of the plumb due to the ventilation effect
435 due to remaining flow.

436 It has also been confirmed the necessity to compensate the projected distances in a certain depth
437 because of gravity and rotation forces, achieving a reduction in the linear error of the traverse between
438 plumbs of both shafts in large part. Despite it is, proportionally, important in terms of error, its
439 compensation is much easier than the ventilation effect.
440

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452

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