

SOME CONSIDERATIONS ABOUT THE PARANA BASIN BASEMENT STRUCTURE IN AN ISOSTATIC CONTEXT

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The basement structure of the Parana basin in South America is the focus of this study. Previous analyses have suggested the existence of gravimetric and magnetometric anomalies trending NE-SW across the basin. In spite of the fact that the Parana basin is supported by a cratonic basement since its inception, the basin has in its neighborhood collisional belts that could be related with the trend of these anomalies. In this study, isostatic modelling was applied to multi-institutional surveys comprising more than 7,000 gravity stations in order to correlate topographic and gravimetric anomalies produced by sub-surface loads. The surface and sub-surface load effects were estimated through Bouguer anomalies observed in the area. The stratigraphic information was derived from deep borehole logs drilled by PETROBRAS for oil exploration purposes. The resulting gravity pattern suggests a mosaic of crustal blocks which may be associated to the tectonic events that preceded the basin onset. A comparison between the gravity signature of the basin outcropping basement and the obtained pattern presently covered, is discussed.