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Antarctica crust similar to South India, Mozambique: study

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The crust of Antarctica, the earth's southernmost continent of which 95 per cent is covered with thick ice, is similar to that of south [India](#) and Mozambique, which indicates that the three were joined together in the past, researchers have found.

The [results](#) of the study titled 'Electrical Structure Beneath Schirmacher Oasis, East Antarctica: a magnetotelluric study' published in international journal Polar Research earlier this month, have found that the deep crust is untouched by any morphological features and thus gives unequivocal evidence to prove that India, Antarctica and South [Africa](#) were together in geological past.

The results have also shown that the crust (top 20 kms) is thick towards the eastern part as compared to western side. The thick crust was found near Schirmacher Oasis, the eastern part of Antarctica.

The research was done over several years by [Gujarat](#) Energy Research Management Institute (GERMI) director T Harinarayana, when he was with CSIR-run National Geophysics Research Institute (NGRI) at Hyderabad, along with researchers D N Murthy, K Veeraswamy, M Santosh and U K Singh.

"Understanding the deep crust in Antarctica is a major problem in the continent and doing measurements to know this information involves large logistical problems. We have used very economical way

from the measurements of natural electromagnetic signals to map the earth's deep structure," Harinarayana said.

"We also found evidence of continuity of the Mozambique mobile belt in east Antarctica on the western side of Schirmacher Oasis," the paper states.

The results were collected during the 24th Indian Antarctic Scientific Expedition.

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