



# Virtual Geological Mapping and Development of Geospatial Analysis Competencies Using Google Earth and Related Digital Technologies

**Declan De Paor, ODU**

**and the GEODE Team:**

**Heather Almquist, Callan Bentley, Stephen Burgin, Cinzia Cervato, Gene Cooper, Mladen Dordevic, Janice Gobert, Paul Karabinos, Terry Pavlis, Jen Piatek, Bill Richards, Jeff Ryan, Ron Schott, Kristen St John, Barb Tewksbury, Steve Whitmeyer**



**DUE 1323419  
2013-2017**

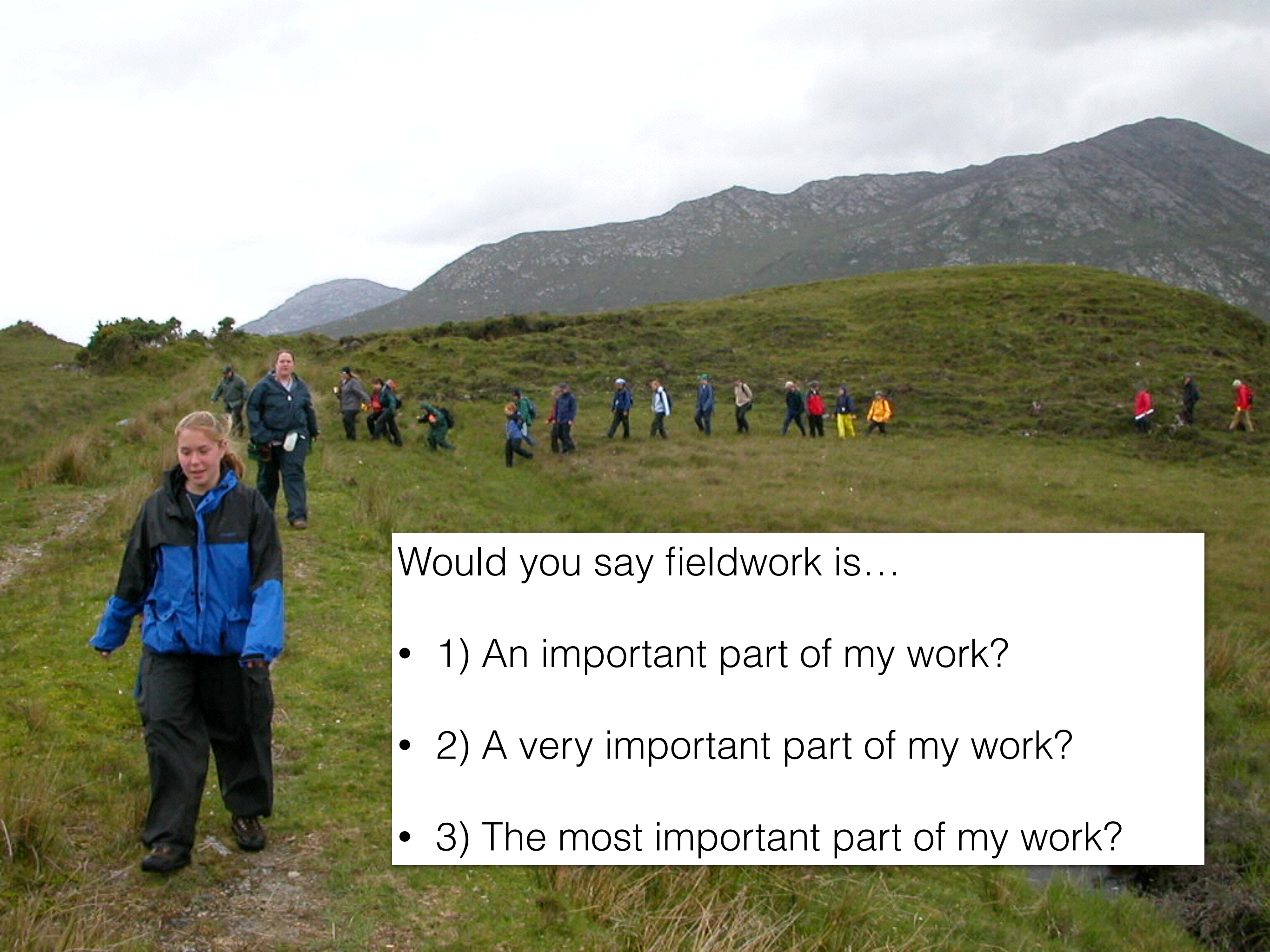


**GEO Curriculum  
Awards 2014**



**ODU Teaching with Technology Award  
and Faculty Innovator Grant 2014**





Would you say fieldwork is...

- 1) An important part of my work?
- 2) A very important part of my work?
- 3) The most important part of my work?



# Would you describe yourself as:

- Hispanic / Latino?
- African American?
- Native American?
- Paraplegic?



MiKayla Briere, Whitman College

# The Problem:

- Hispanic / Latino?
- African American?
- Native American?
- Paraplegic?



Carol Simpson & Steve Whitmeyer in Argentina



MiKayla Briere, Whitman College

Aspects of geoscience that attracted many of us—fieldwork, camping, hiking—are unavailable and / or unattractive to many (Maguire, 1998)





1) Create a "GRAND TOUR" of places every geoscience student should visit (virtually)

3) Use Google Maps Engine and Google Earth Engine to link big geoscience data to Google Earth

5) Deliver a sequence of faculty professional development workshops

2) Develop paleogeographic reconstructions in Google Earth

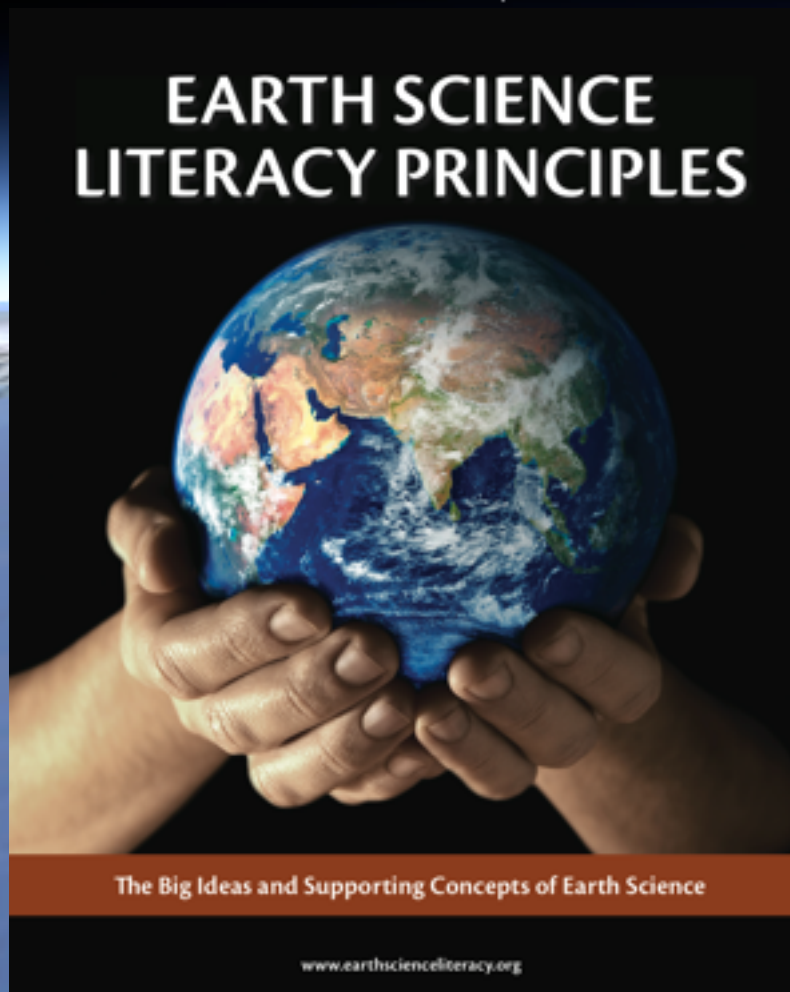
4) Build a gallery of innovative geological GigaPans





# The Grand Tour

Where on (Google) Earth should every geoscience student go?





# Tour Themes

**Plates  
and  
Plumes**

**Geology  
Through  
Time**

**Rocks  
and  
Regions**

**Resources  
and  
Hazards**

**National  
Parks**

**Magical  
Mystery  
Tour**

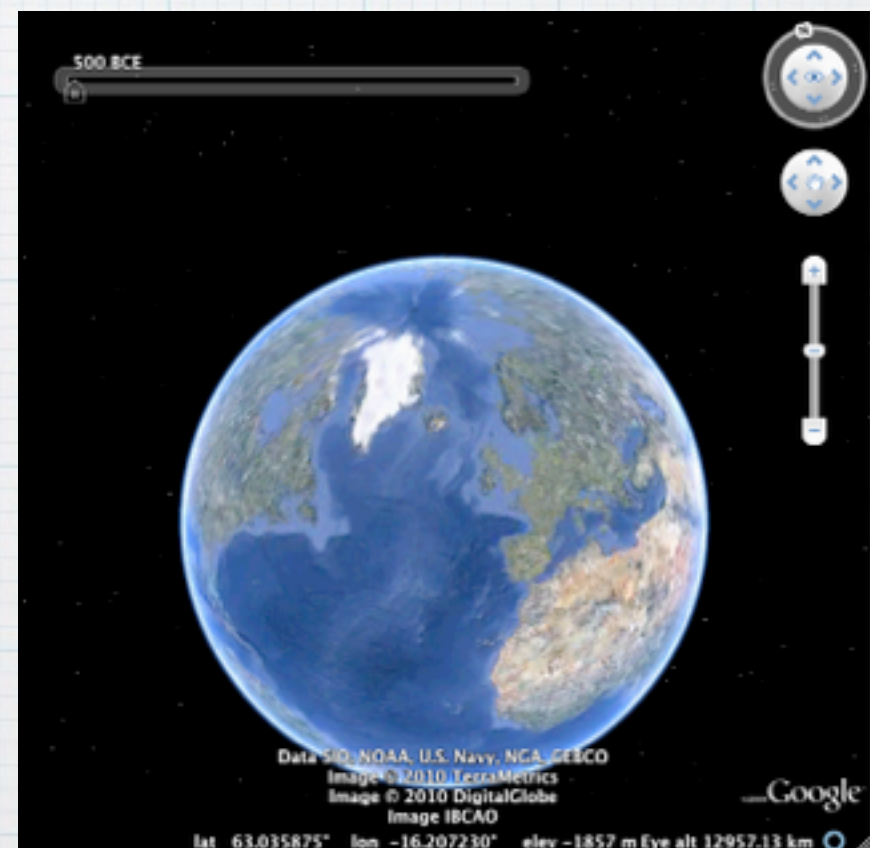
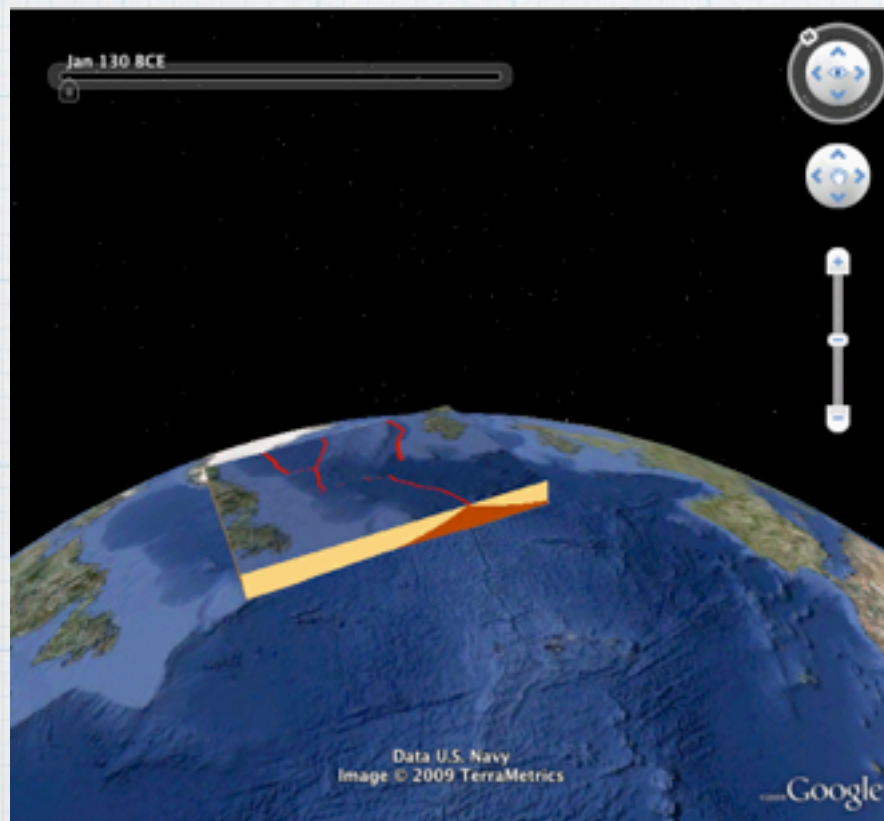
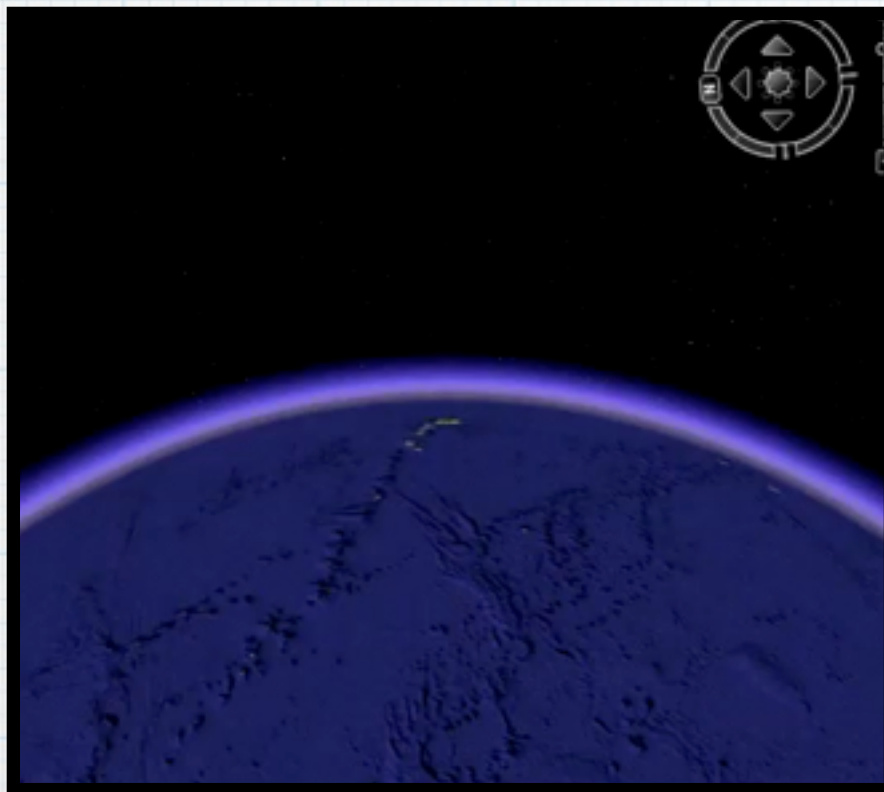
**Mapping  
Exercises**

**Layered  
Earth**

**Planets  
and  
Moons**



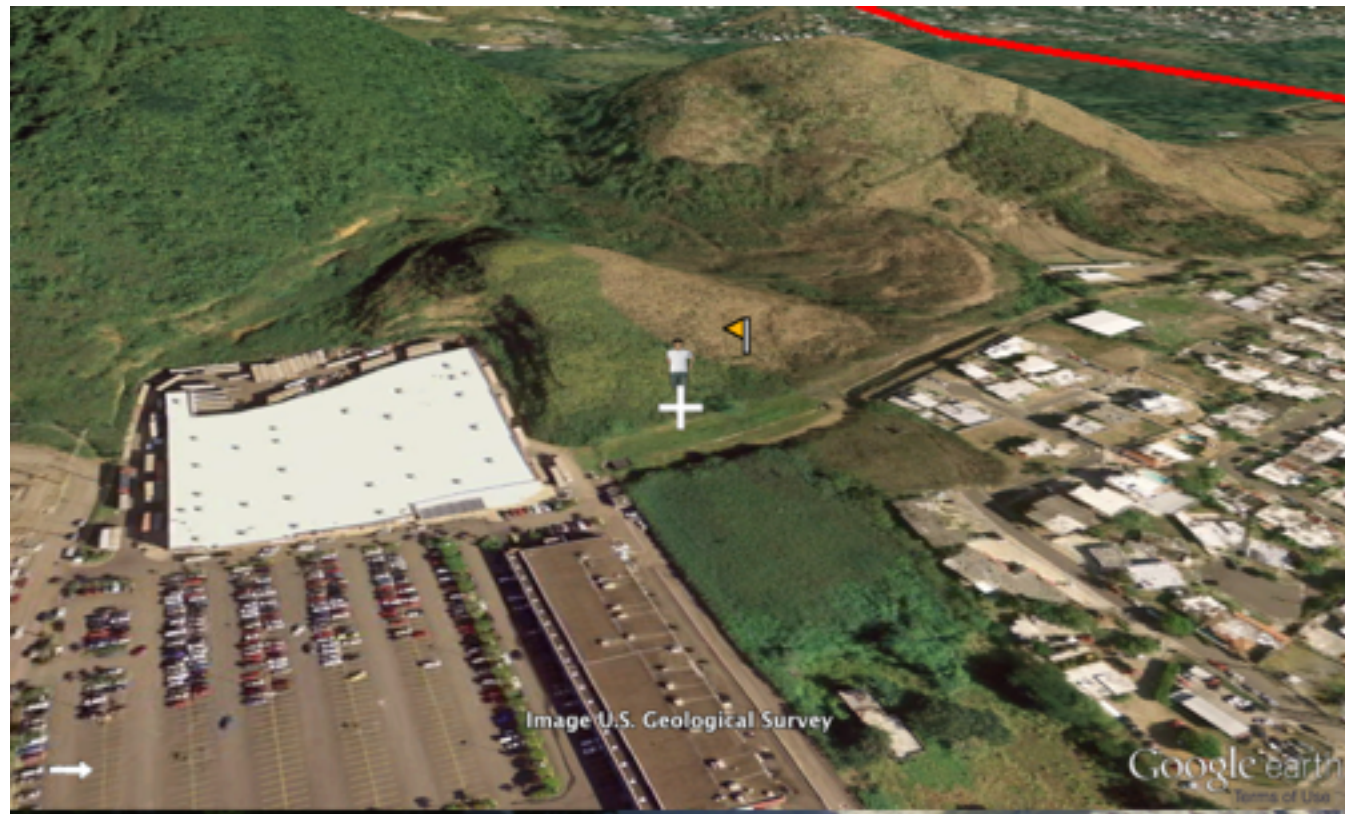
# A Tour of Plates and Plumes



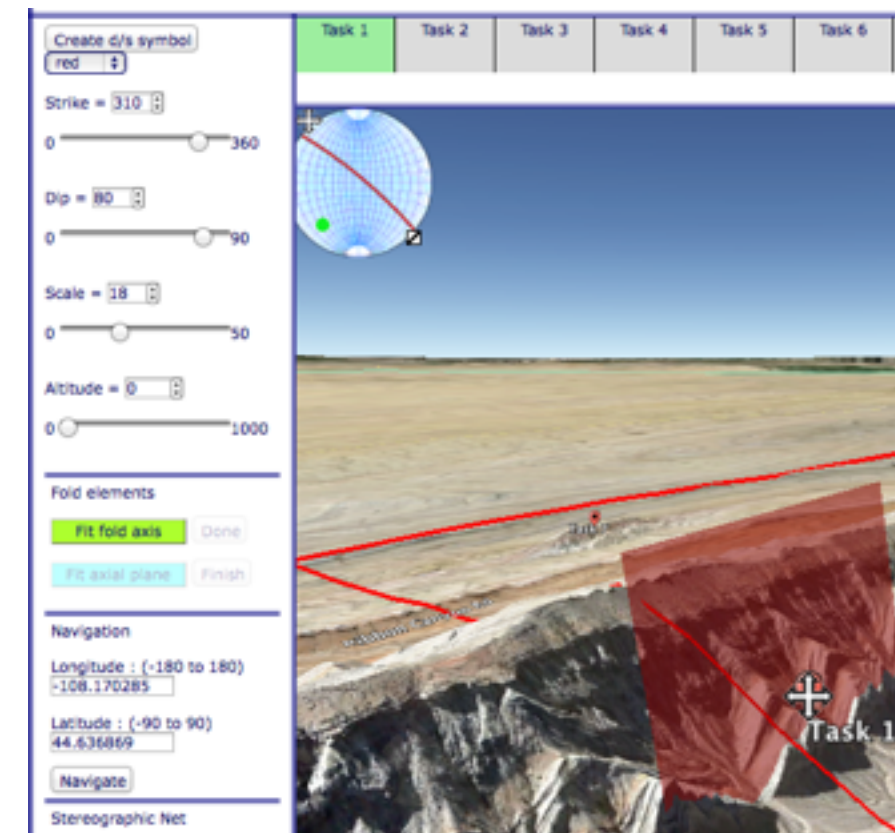


# Mapping Games

- Puerto Rico



- Wyoming





# Structural Mapping Puzzle

Create d/s symbol

none

Strike = 0

0 360

Dip = 90

0 90

Scale = 25

0 50

Altitude = 0

0 1000

Fold elements

Fit fold axis

Done

Fit axial plane

Finish

Navigation

Longitude : (-180 to 180)

-108.178002

Latitude : (-90 to 90)

44.641956

Navigate

Stereographic Net

Transparency

0 1

Net density [deg]

2-degree

☒ Display planes

☒ Display poles

Task 1

Task 2

Task 3

Task 4

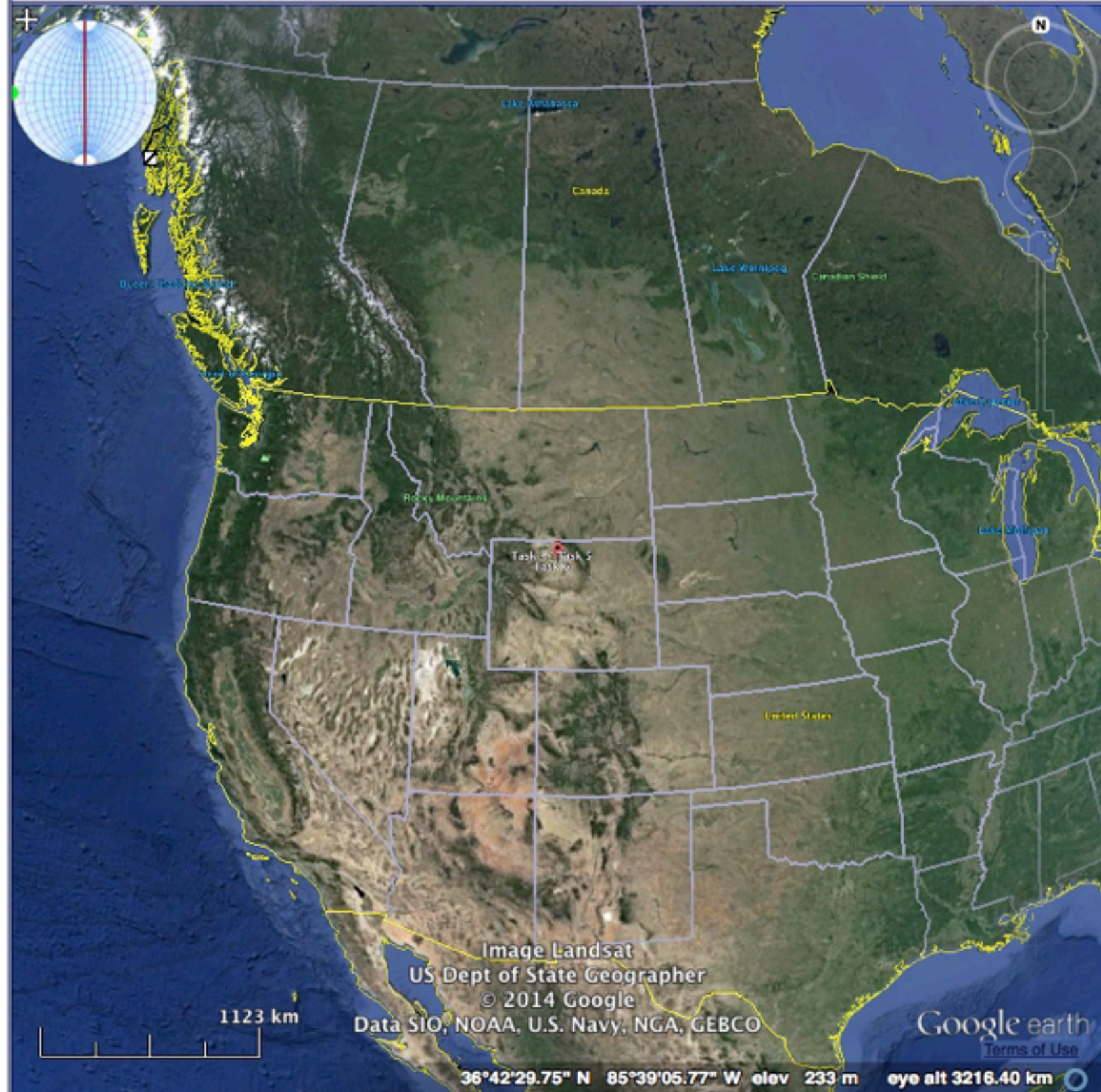
Task 5

Task 6

Task 7

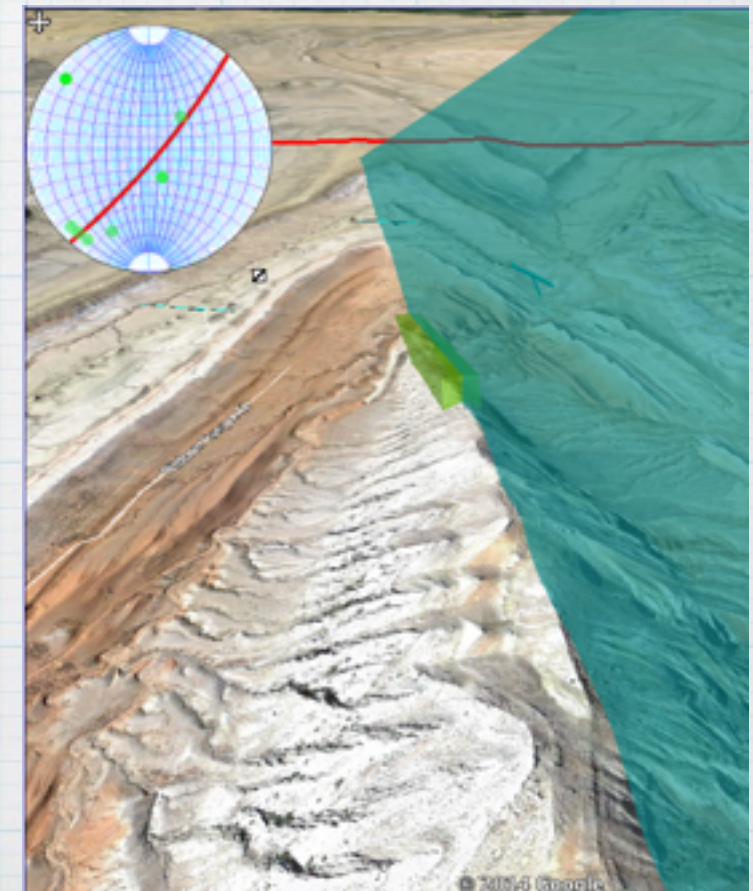
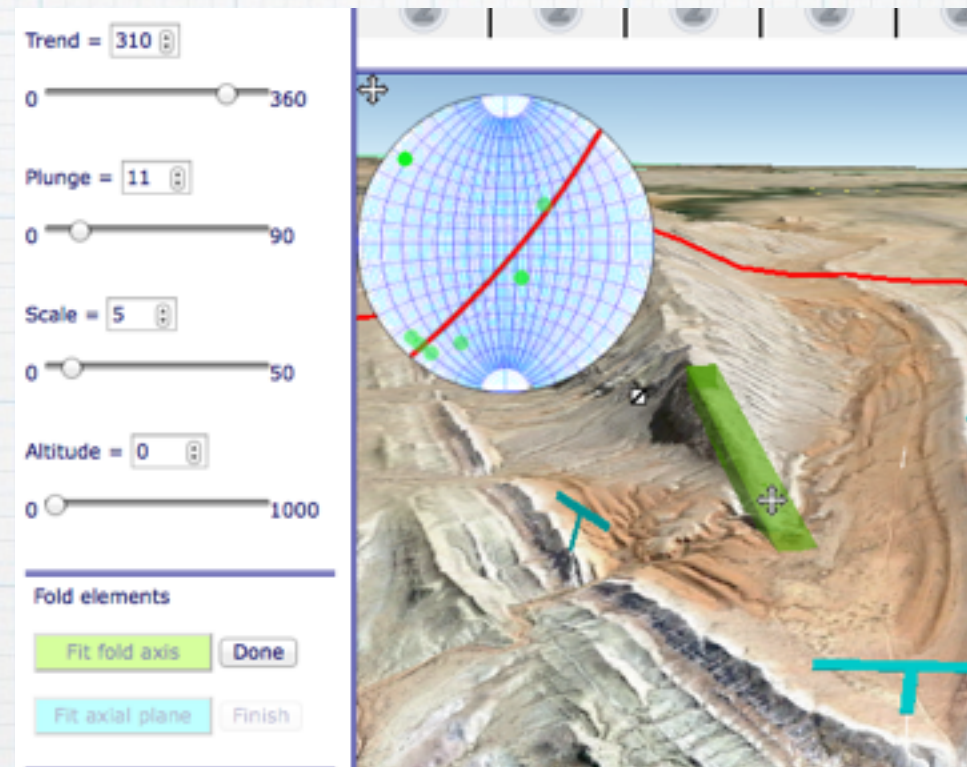
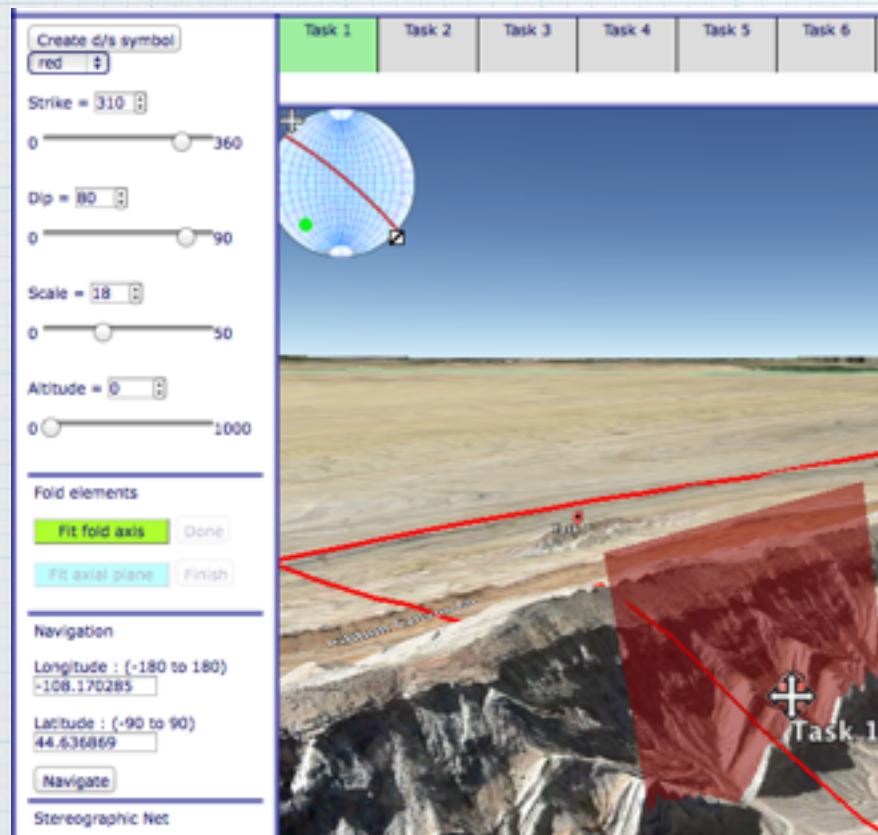
Fit fold axis

Axial plane  
fit





# New Structural Mapping Game



Next version will allow  
instructors to create their  
own game anywhere on Earth



# Asynchronous field coursework





# Fresh Air App Reality: “School of Mines”

Outcrop  
description/image/  
audio triggered by  
proximity

Instructor can  
select content:



# \* Google Glass for Accessibility (EAGER)



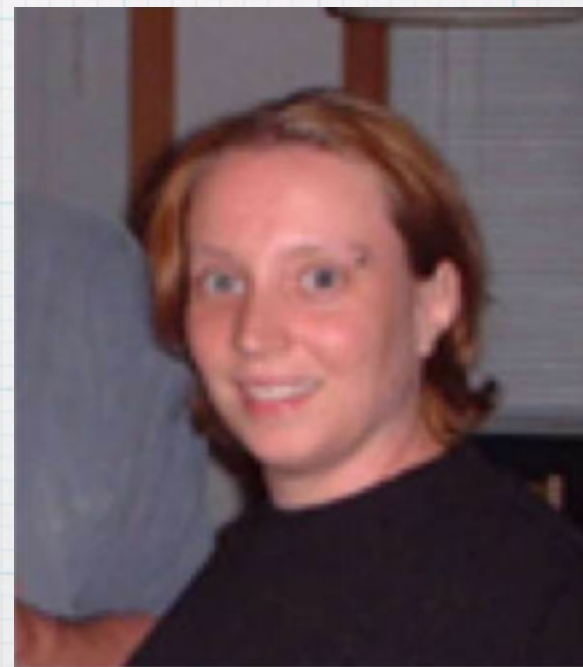
- Steve Whitmeyer



- Declan De Paor



- Chris Atchison



- Jen Piatek





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4) Build a gallery of innovative geological GigaPans

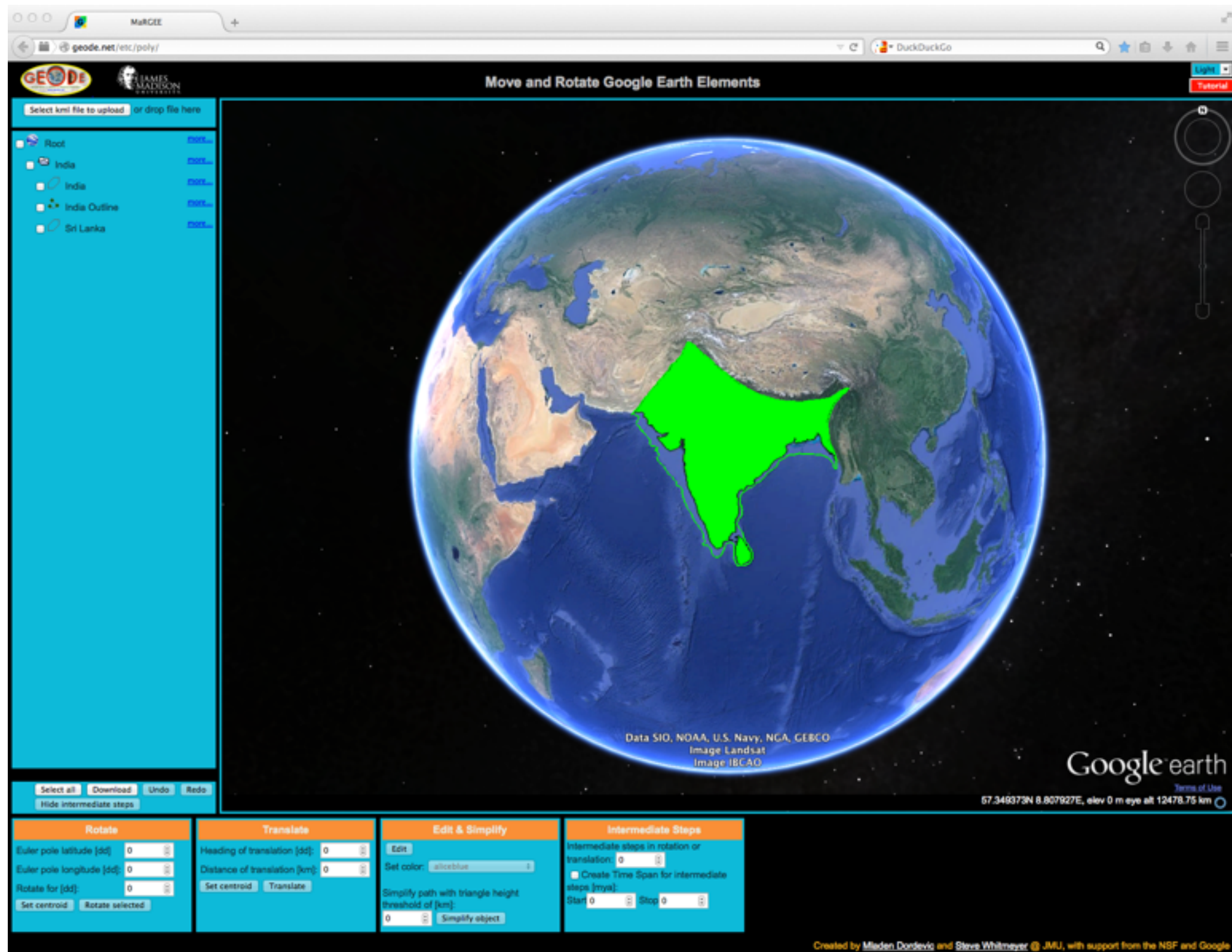




# 4D Tectonic Reconstructions in Google Earth

Move and/or rotate polygons and other KML elements

1. Load KML elements
2. Enter euler pole location and degrees of rotation  
or
3. Enter heading and distance for translation
4. Intermediate steps with or without a timespan can be created
5. Download resulting KML file





# 4D Tectonic Reconstructions in Google Earth

Directed inquiry for students:

Compare the Copley et al. (2010) and the Torsvik et al. (2010) models for the movement of India during the past 80 million years

1. At what times are there noticeable changes in the rate of movement of India?
2. How do the models for the movement of India differ?
3. How might the inherent parameters for each of the models influence the differences you noted?



Comparative movements of Greater India over the past 80 million years

Copley et al., 2010 (light green)

Torsvik et al., 2010 (dark green)





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# Google Maps Engine, Google Earth Engine

The screenshot shows the Google Maps Engine web interface. At the top is the Google logo and a search bar. Below it, the 'Maps Engine' header is visible. On the left sidebar, there are sections for 'Dashboard', 'Maps' (with options like 'Add layers', 'Remove selected', etc.), 'Layers', 'Data sources', 'Access lists', and 'Attribution'. The main map area displays a map of the San Francisco Bay Area with several custom layers overlaid: 'Declan's test layer' (green), 'EastCoastRules!' (blue), and 'Declan's coarse rivers...' (red). The 'Layers' panel on the left lists these layers with checkboxes. At the bottom left, quota usage information is shown: 'Quota usage as of Mar 18, 2013 9:49:57', 'Public map loads: 0% used', 'Private map loads: 0% used', and 'Storage: 6% used'.

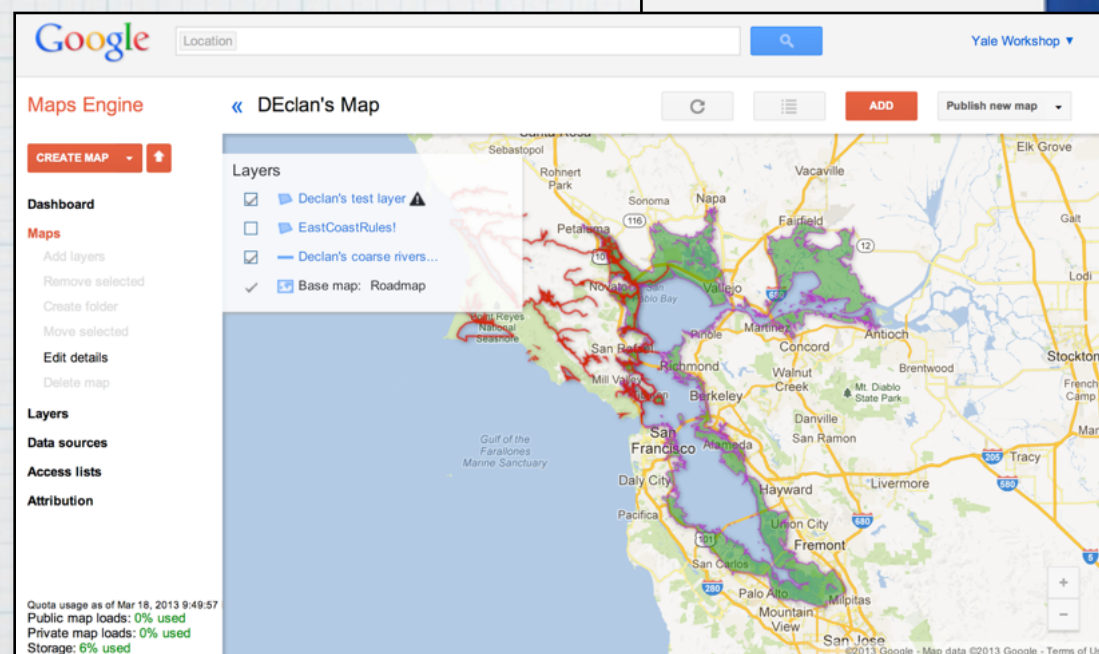
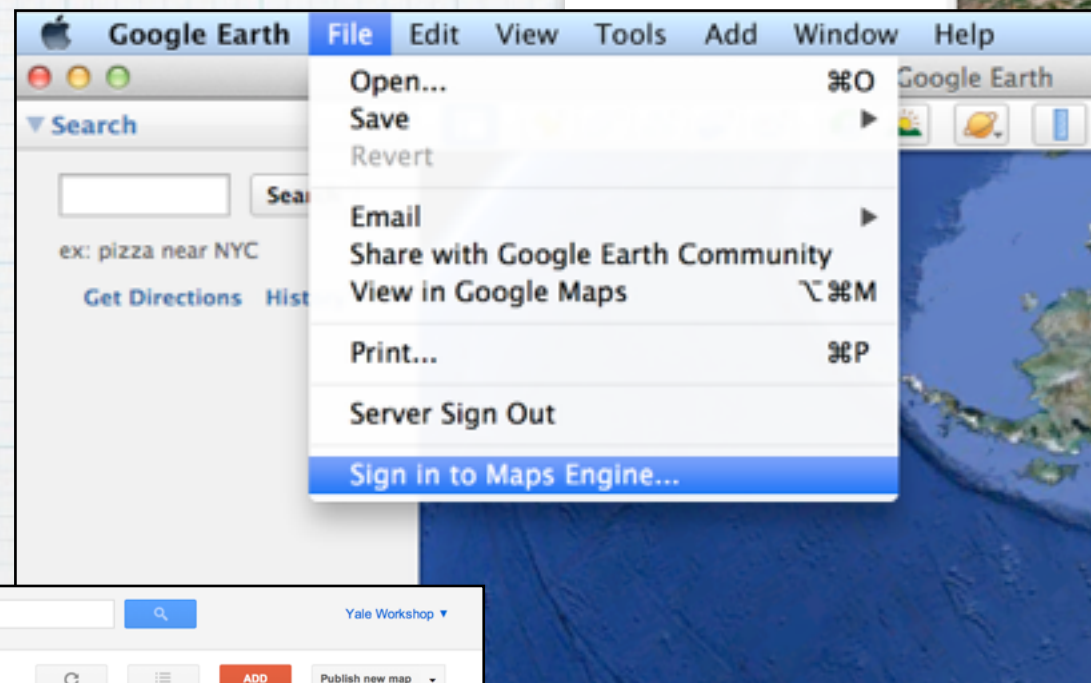
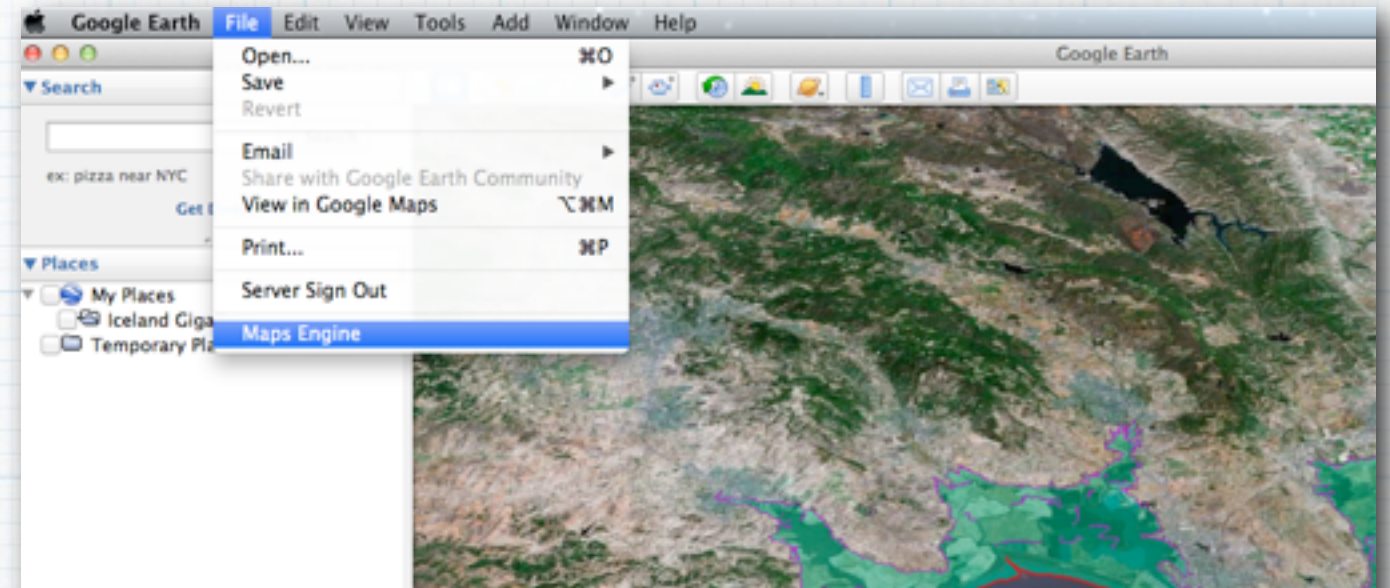
Google wants our map data in the cloud, not on hard drives



SanFranciscoBay.kmz



# Content created in Maps Engine



Viewed on Google Earth



# Philosophy of graduate program

Graduate students acting as teaching assistants develop and test teaching resources

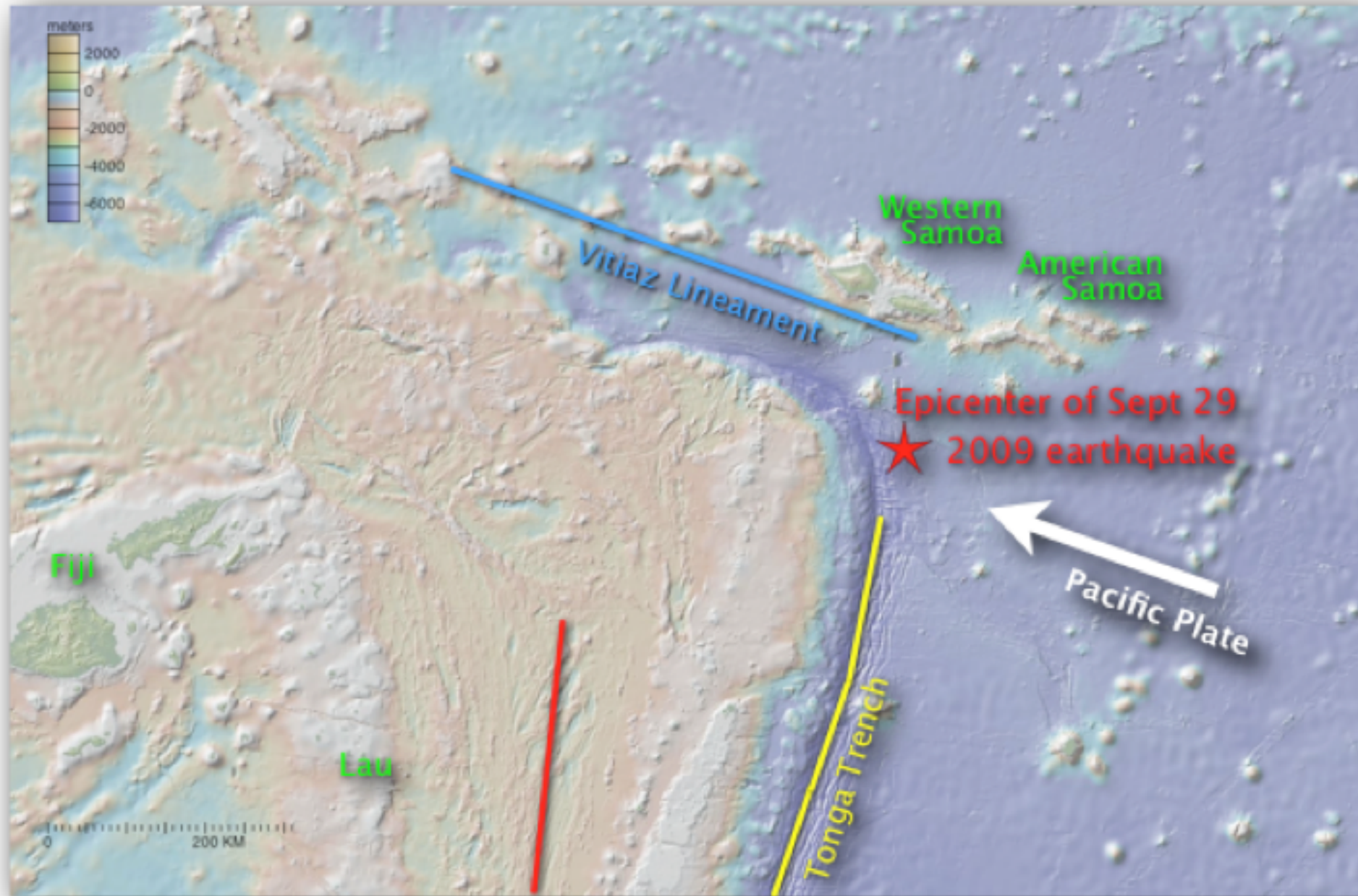
Research question emerge from this process

Graduate students acting as research assistants tackle the research questions



# Data Mining GeoMapApp Example 1: Tonga Project

Grad students Steve Wild and Mladen Dordevic



Hypocenter data from Syracuse and Abers



# Converted depth to KML altitude

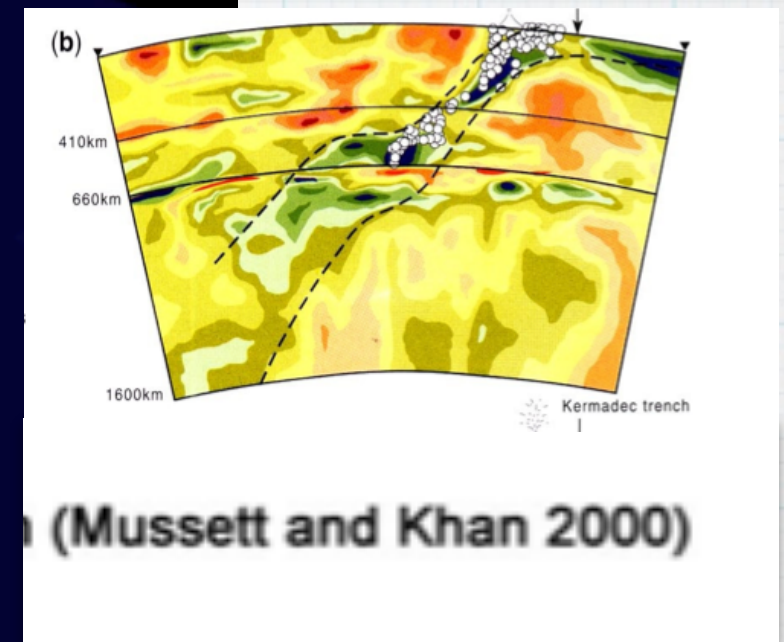
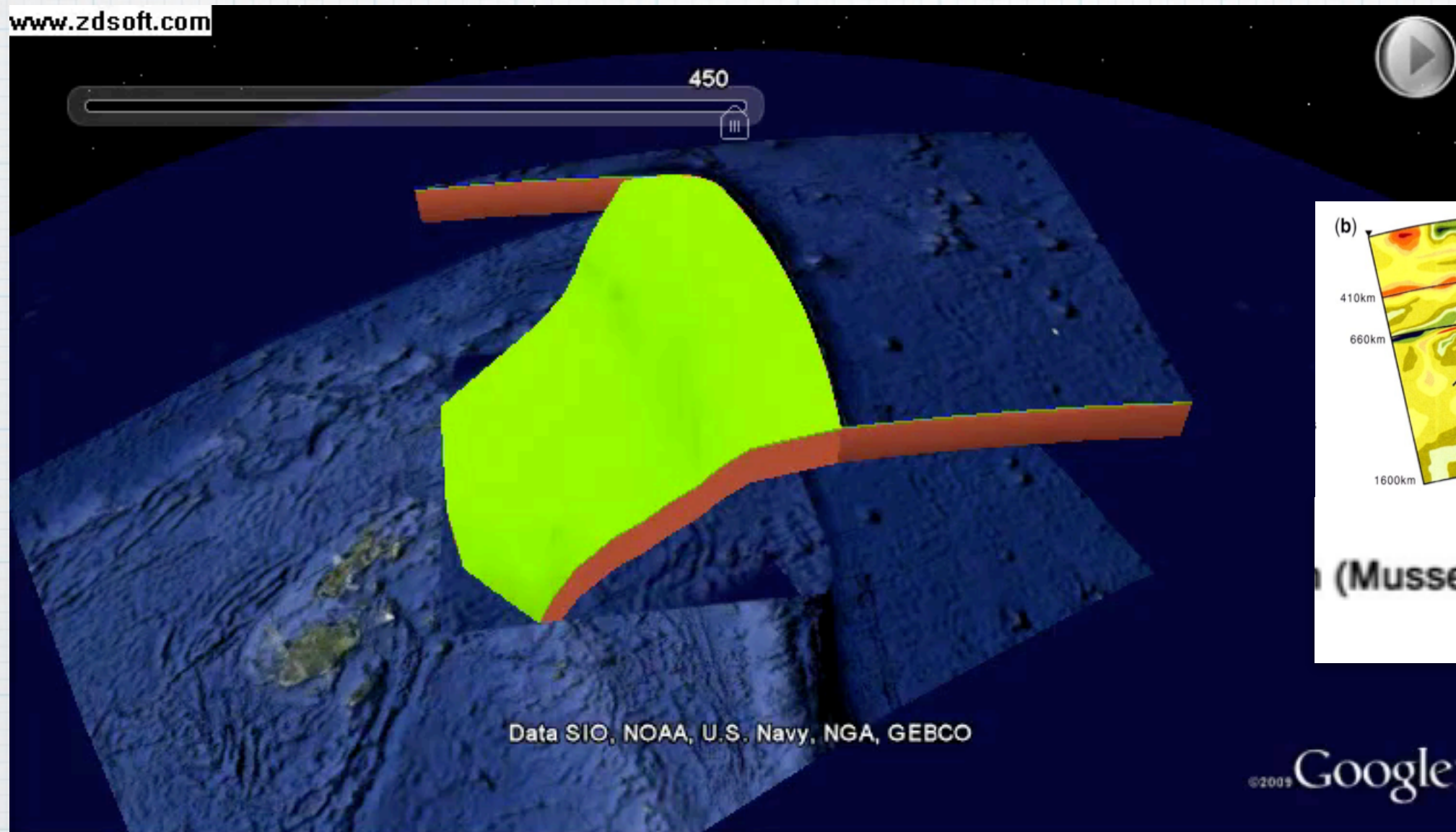
19	ID	Mw	location	date		lat		<latitude>	lon	</latitude>	<altitude>	depth (km)	</altitude>	Link
20	C201305112046A	6.4	TONGA ISLANDS	May 11 201	<longitude>	-17.89	</longitude>	<latitude>	-174.72	</latitude>	<altitude>	-242.1	</altitude>	http://global.shakemovie.princeton.edu/event.jsp?evid=C201305112046A
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22	C201302192229A	5.7	TONGA ISLANDS	Feb 19 201	<longitude>	-17.46	</longitude>	<latitude>	-173.01	</latitude>	<altitude>	-47.4	</altitude>	http://global.shakemovie.princeton.edu/event.jsp?evid=C201302192229A
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24	C201302100937A	5.6	TONGA ISLANDS	Feb 10 201	<longitude>	-18.59	</longitude>	<latitude>	-174.79	</latitude>	<altitude>	-216.4	</altitude>	http://global.shakemovie.princeton.edu/event.jsp?evid=C201302100937A
25	C201212120144A	5.5	TONGA ISLANDS	Dec 12 201	<longitude>	-19.52	</longitude>	<latitude>	-173.51	</latitude>	<altitude>	-83.4	</altitude>	http://global.shakemovie.princeton.edu/event.jsp?evid=C201212120144A
26	C201211301120A	5.7	TONGA ISLANDS	Nov 30 201	<longitude>	-18.86	</longitude>	<latitude>	-171.98	</latitude>	<altitude>	-12	</altitude>	http://global.shakemovie.princeton.edu/event.jsp?evid=C201211301120A
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28	C201204281008A	6.7	TONGA ISLANDS	Apr 28 201	<longitude>	-18.76	</longitude>	<latitude>	-172.32	</latitude>	<altitude>	-12	</altitude>	http://global.shakemovie.princeton.edu/event.jsp?evid=C201204281008A
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30	C201111160143A	5.3	TONGA ISLANDS	Nov 16 201	<longitude>	-17.63	</longitude>	<latitude>	-172.79	</latitude>	<altitude>	-12	</altitude>	http://global.shakemovie.princeton.edu/event.jsp?evid=C201111160143A
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Animated altitude using KML TimeSpan



# Created COLLADA model of Slab in SketchUp

Research Question: Explain Shape of Slab



Declan De Paor, Steve Wild, and Mladen Dordevic Geosphere 2012

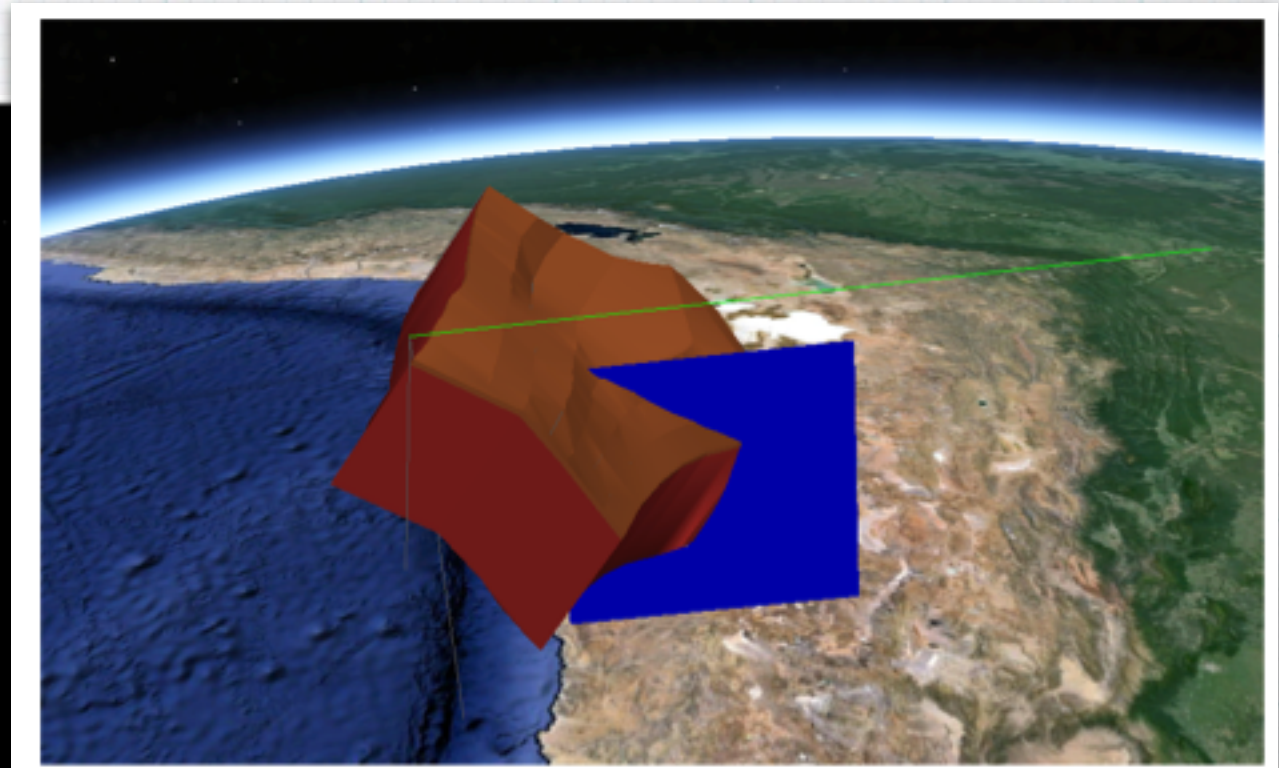
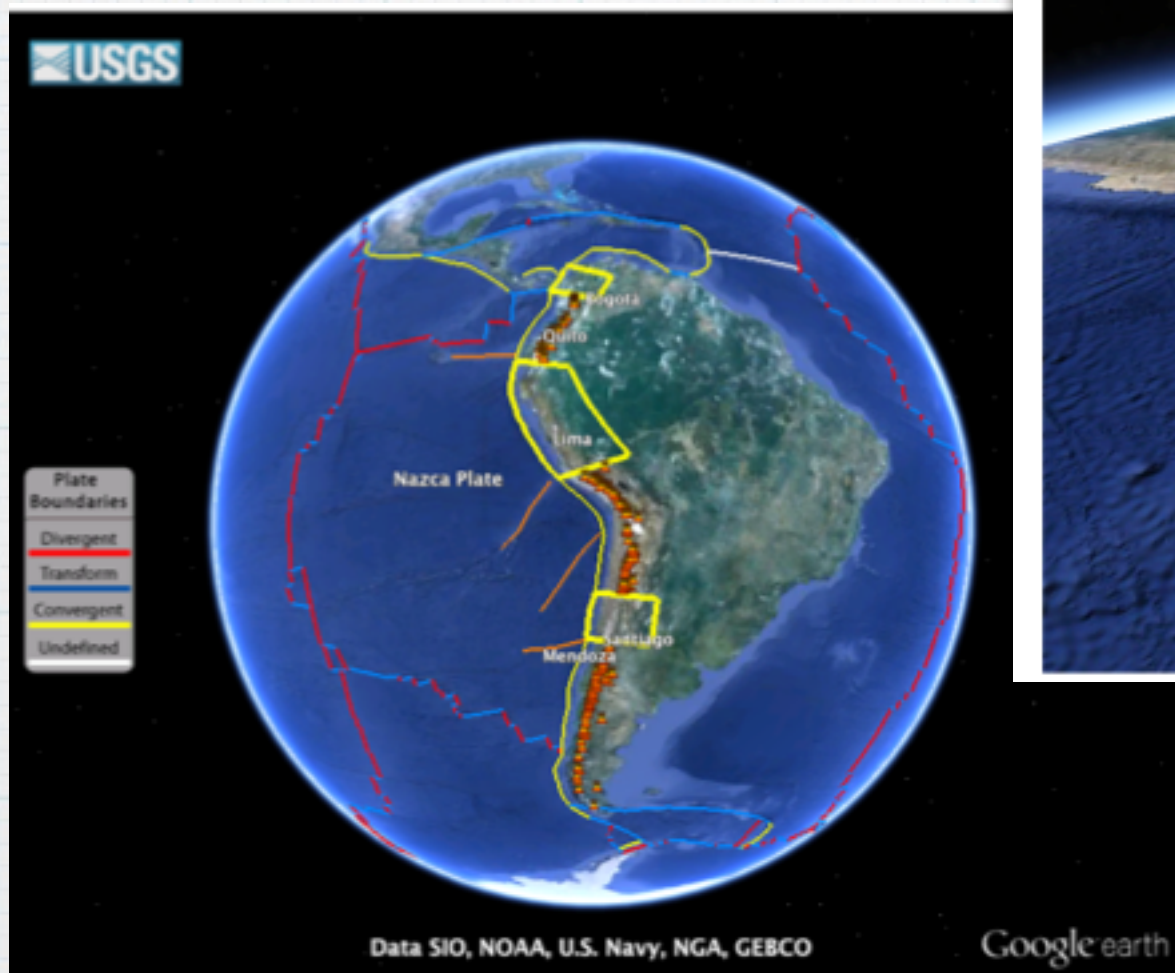


# Teaching tool

**COLLADA models Steep & Flat Slabs in Andes**

## Research Question

**Tearing or shearing between steep and flat slabs?**

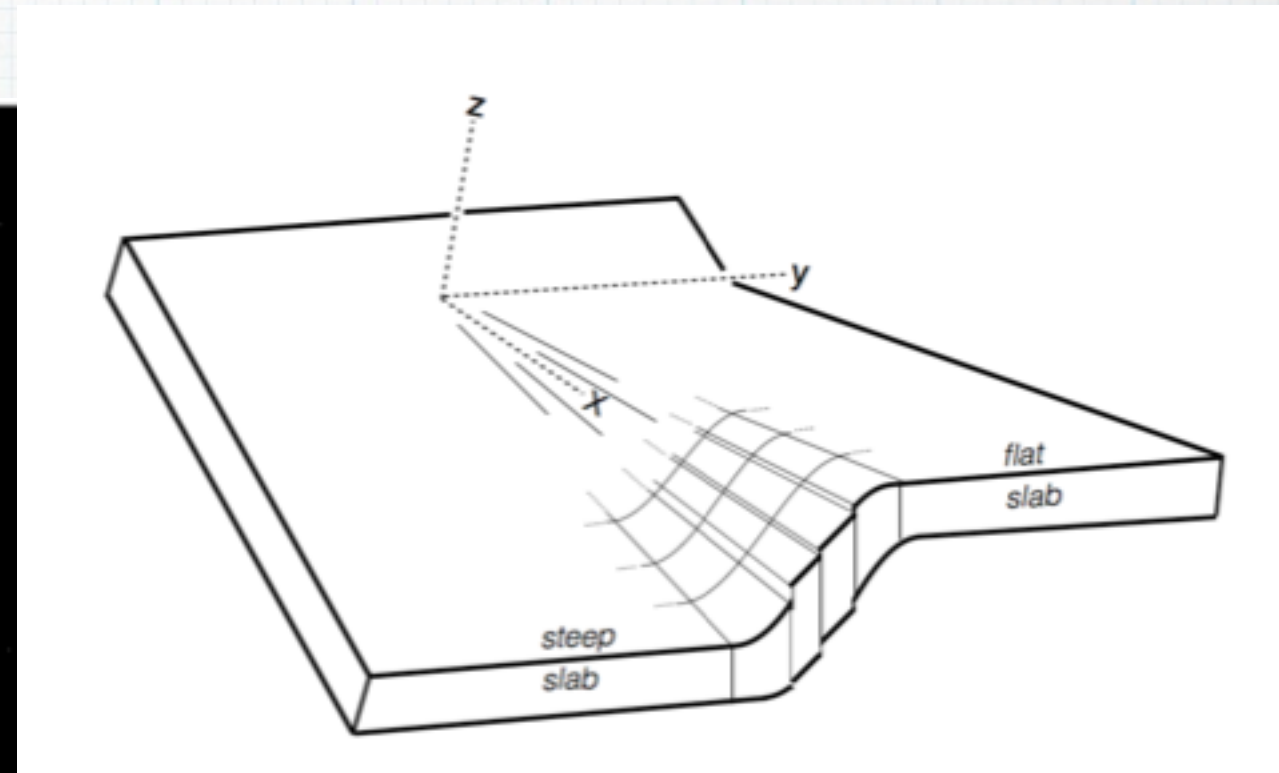
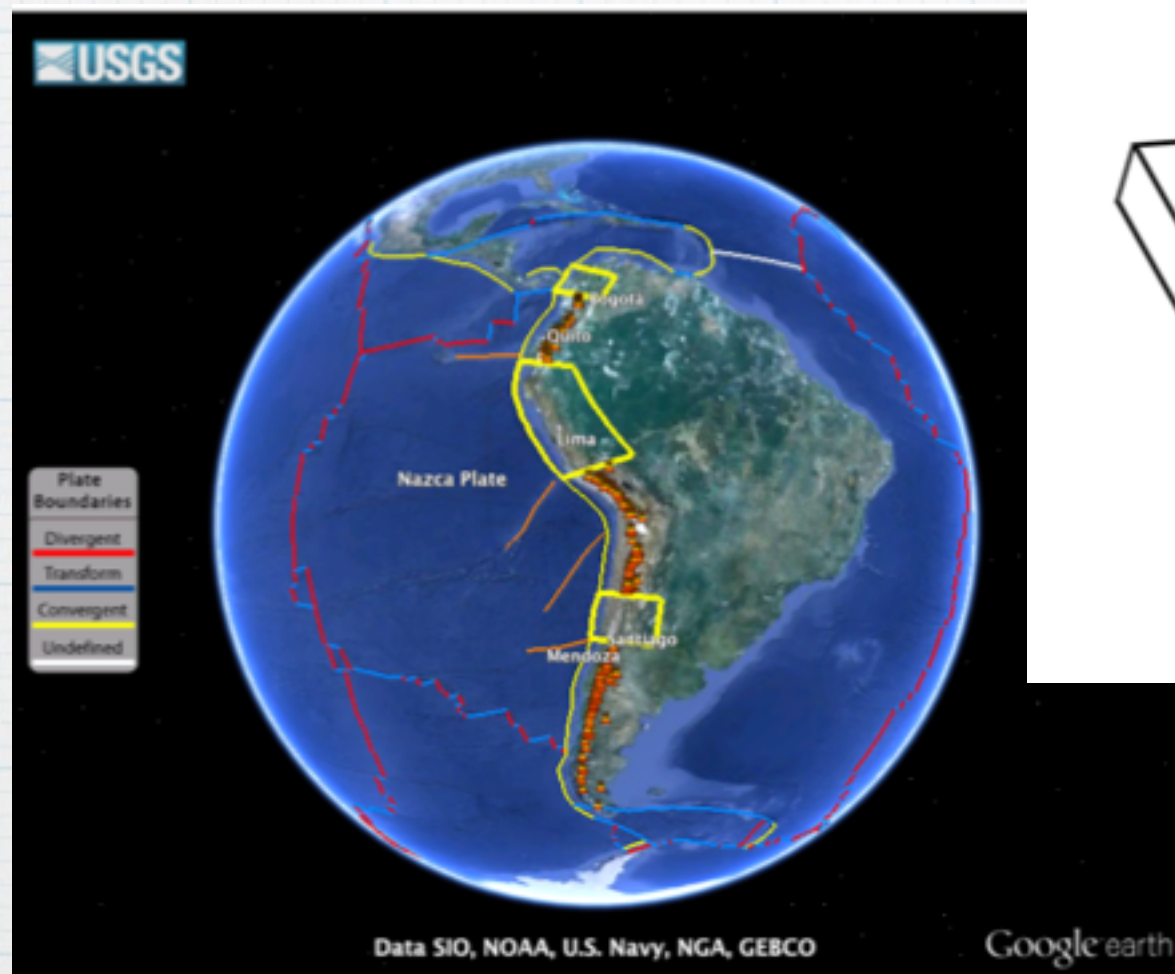


Syracuse & Abers 2006, Cahill and Isacks (1992), Anderson et al. (2007)



# Research Question

Tearing or shearing between steep and flat slabs?



De Paor & Wild, Journal of the Virtual Explorer, in dynamic review.





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Bill Richards, North Idaho College

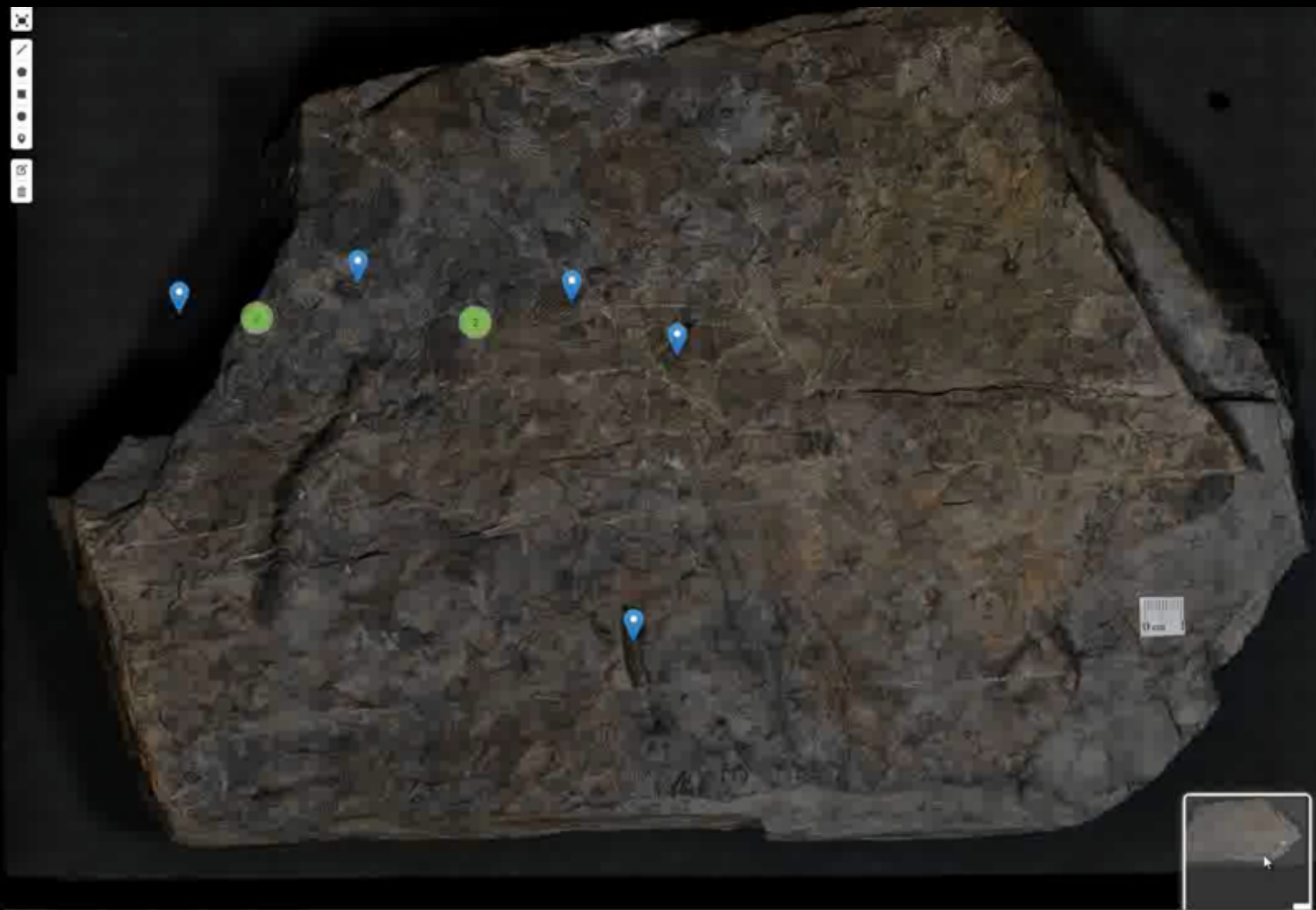


Microsoft®  
Silverlight™



North Idaho College





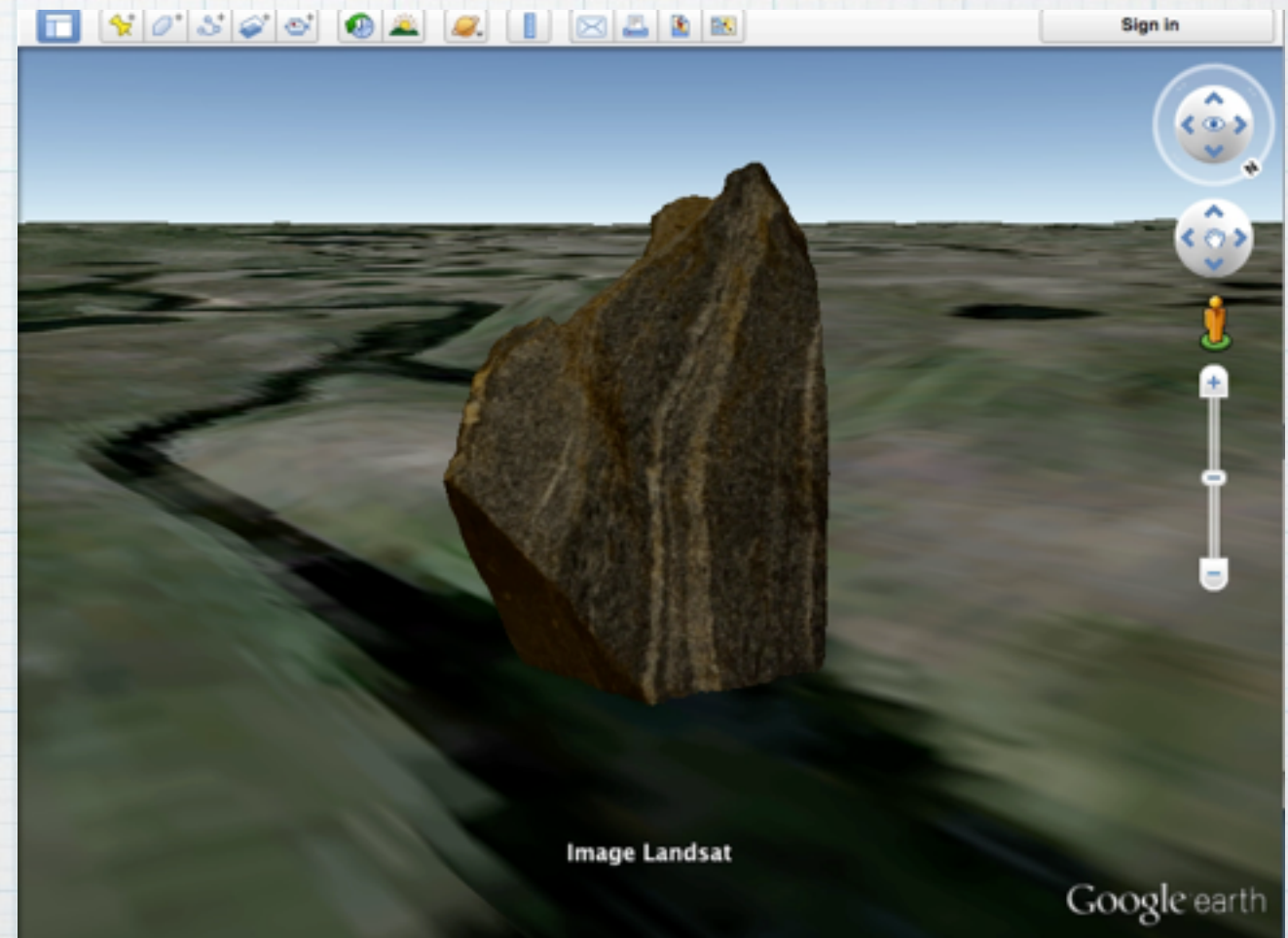


# Virtual Specimens



\* Salt Lake Crater, HI

\* Acasta Gneiss





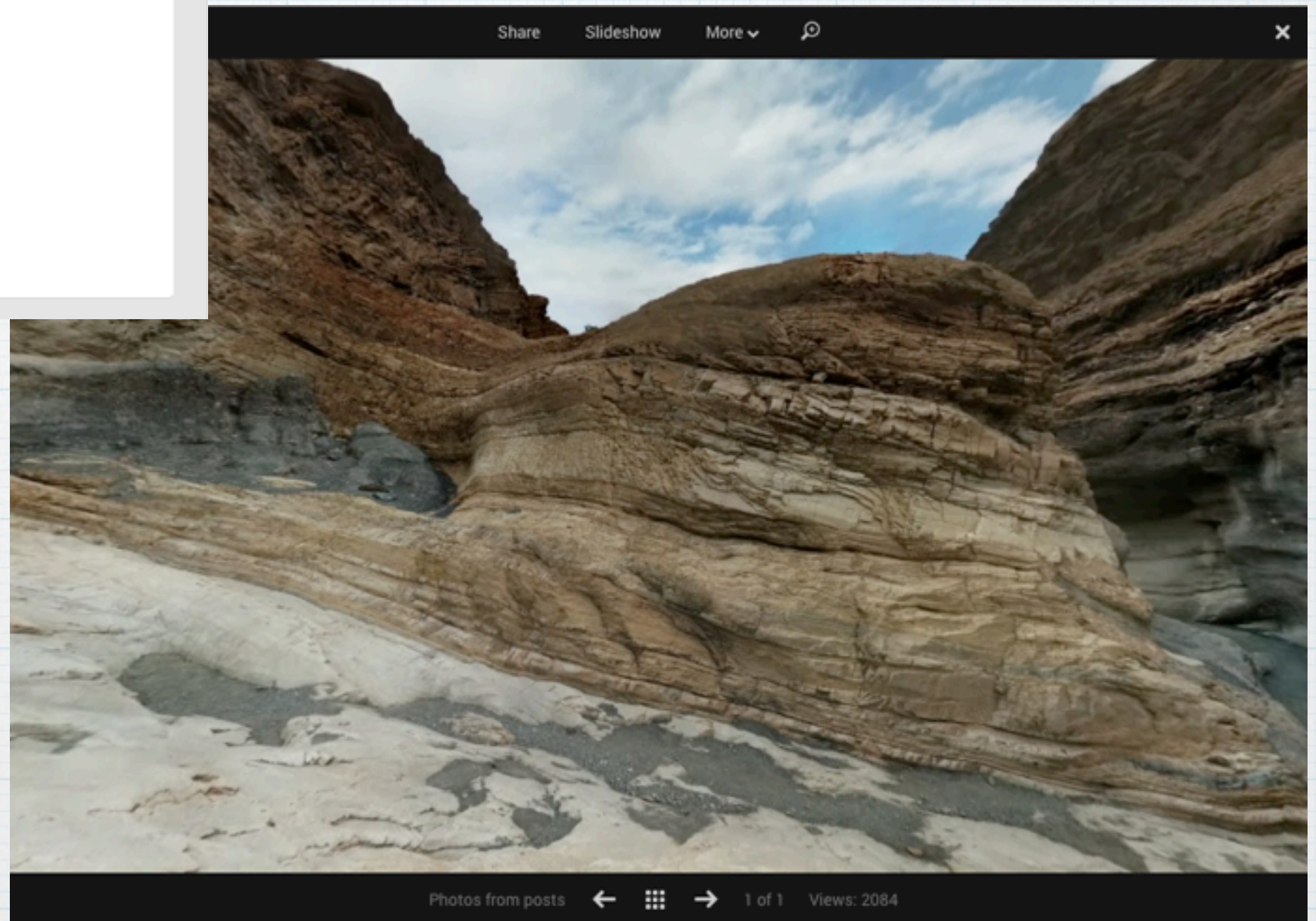
# Photo Sphere



Ron Schott

17,043 have him in circles

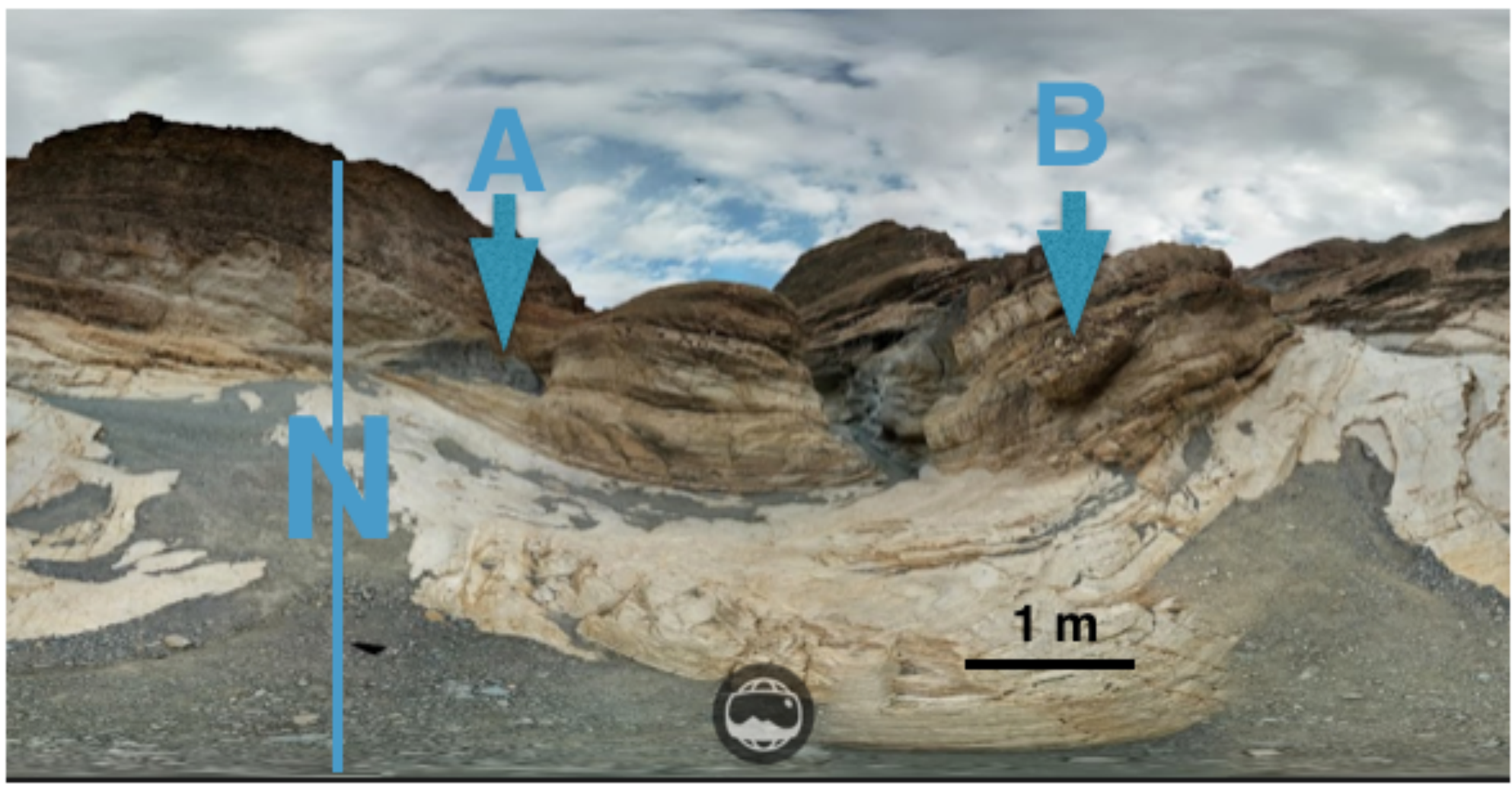
Add to circles



<https://plus.google.com/+RonSchott/posts/AJFDurQzMBC>



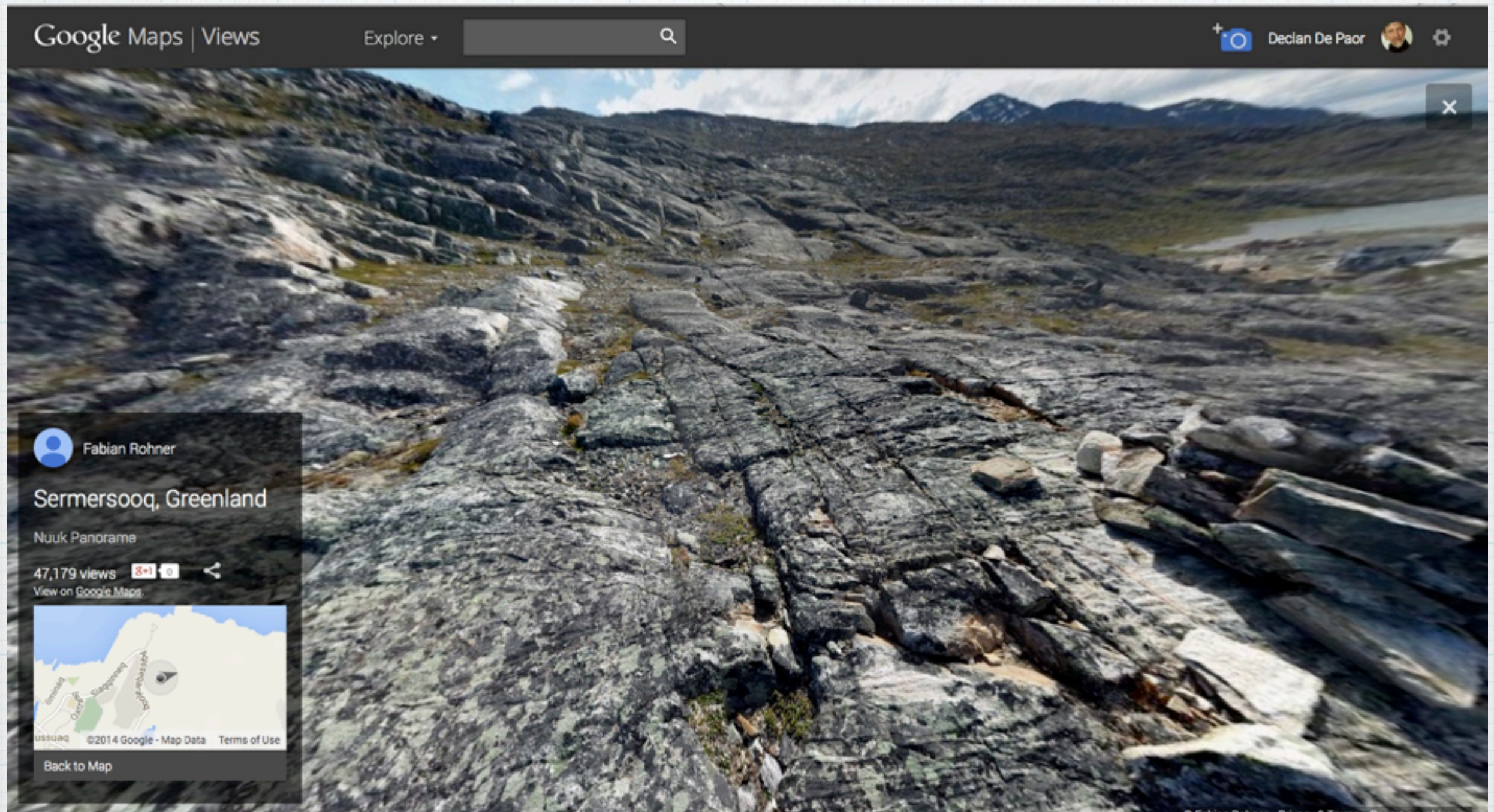
# Photo Sphere for Field Education



What type of rocks are these? What's the average bed thickness? What's the dip and strike? Discuss two working hypotheses for the rock labeled A: (i) it's an dark igneous intrusion, probably basalt; (ii) it's unconformable sediments. What's the average grain size of the rocks labeled B and what is this stuff doing there? What's the prominent direction of jointing? Is the longest joint just a joint or a fault? Etc.



There's a wealth of imagery  
awaiting to be geo-annotated!







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# GSA Vancouver: Four short courses & sessions

## 519A. Digital Mapping and Data Collection for Field Environments +

When: Sat., 18 Oct., 8 a.m.–noon

Where: Centre for Dialogue, Strategy Room 320

Cost: US\$50 for one course — or get two-for-one! — pay the same amount when combined with an afternoon course (add 519C or 519D)

Instructors: Steven Whitmeyer, James Madison Univ.; Terry Pavlis, Univ. of Texas–El Paso; Lawrence Malinconico, Lafayette College; Richard Langford, Univ. of Texas–El Paso

Cosponsors: GSA Environmental and Engineering Geology Division; GSA Geobiology & Geomicrobiology Division; GSA Geoscience Education Division; GSA Hydrogeology Division; GSA Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division; GSA Sedimentary Geology Division; GSA Structural Geology and Tectonics Division; and the National Association of Geoscience Teachers Geo2YC Division

## 519B. GigaPan and GigaMacro for the Geosciences +

When: Sat., 18 Oct., 8 a.m.–noon

Where: Centre for Dialogue, Executive Room 370

Cost: US\$50 for one course — or get two-for-one! — pay the same amount when combined with an afternoon course (add 519C or 519D)

Instructors: Jennifer Platek, Central Connecticut State Univ.; Bill Richards, North Idaho College; Ron Schott, Bakersfield College

Cosponsors: GSA Environmental and Engineering Geology Division; GSA Geobiology & Geomicrobiology Division; GSA Geoscience Education Division; GSA Hydrogeology Division; GSA Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division; GSA Sedimentary Geology Division; GSA Structural Geology and Tectonics Division; and the National Association of Geoscience Teachers Geo2YC Division

## 519C. Google Maps Engine, Earth Engine, and Big GeoData +

When: Sat., 18 Oct., 1–5 p.m.

Where: Centre for Dialogue, Strategy Room 320

Cost: US\$50 for one course — or get two-for-one! — pay the same amount when combined with a morning course (add 519A or 519B)

Instructors: Jeffrey Ryan, Univ. of South Florida; Kristen St. John, James Madison Univ.

Cosponsors: GSA Environmental and Engineering Geology Division; GSA Geobiology & Geomicrobiology Division; GSA Geoscience Education Division; GSA Hydrogeology Division; GSA Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division; GSA Sedimentary Geology Division; GSA Structural Geology and Tectonics Division; and the National Association of Geoscience Teachers Geo2YC Division

## 519D. Using Google Earth to Teach Interpretation of Geologic Processes, Bedrock Structures, and Geologic History +

When: Sat., 18 Oct., 1–5 p.m.

Where: Centre for Dialogue, Executive Room 370

Cost: US\$50 for one course — or get two-for-one! — pay the same amount when combined with a morning course (add 519A or 519B)

Instructors: Barbara Tewksbury, Hamilton College; Heather Almquist, Univ. of Montana

Cosponsors: GSA Environmental and Engineering Geology Division; GSA Geobiology & Geomicrobiology Division; GSA Geoscience Education Division; GSA Hydrogeology Division; GSA Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division; GSA Sedimentary Geology Division; GSA Structural Geology and Tectonics Division; and the National Association of Geoscience Teachers Geo2YC Division

Short course 519 A,B,C,D

T57. Digital Geology Sandpit  
(Digital Posters)

T59. A Grand Tour of the World's  
Most Important Geological Sites  
on Google Earth

NE GSA Bretton Woods: Workshop & Session



# The Challenges:

- To teach geospatial visualization to a diverse population of agile and sessile students





# Future of field geology:

- Must scale massively to meet national workforce needs
- Must involve both onsite and online geoscience courses
- May include synchronous and asynchronous delivery
- Must teach geospatial skills  $\pm$  field presence
- Must offer authentic research experiences

