



Rock Mechanics From a Broad View Civil, Mining, Petroleum

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The purpose of this course is
to share knowledge
-mine & yours
I want to learn too!
Today should not be a
monologue

The need to understand the geology

- Nothing in the ground can be put into any sensible context without a knowledge of the geology.
- What rock type is it?
- What order did it arrive in?
- What has happened to it since it got there?
- What is happening to it now? strains, erosion, igneous activity, earthquakes.

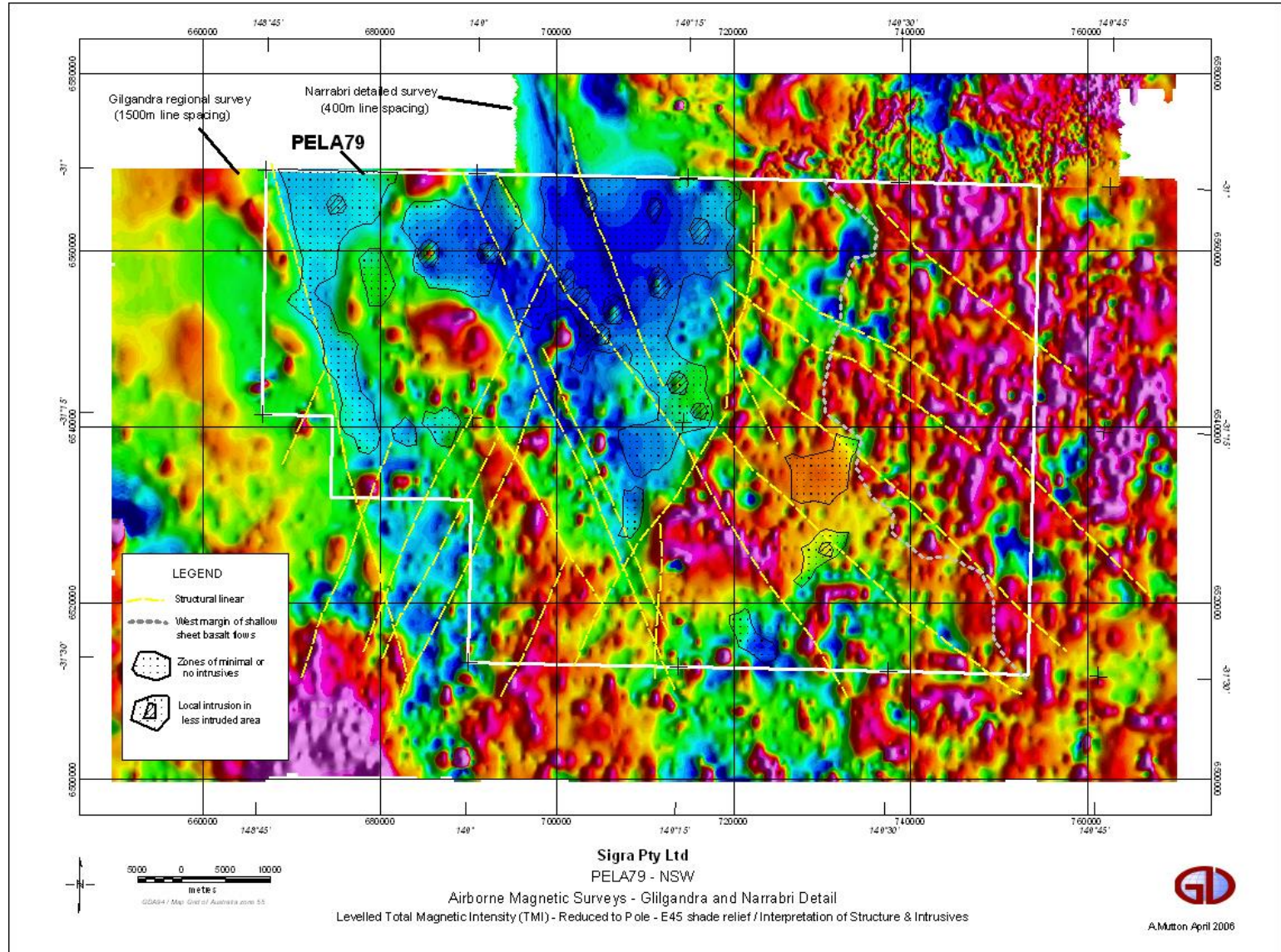
Rock Types

- Sedimentary – depositional process
Transition from soil to rock with
lithification and diagenesis
maturation of contained fluids, fluid loss
and replacement
- Igneous – plutonic & extrusive
- Metamorphic - anything can be changed
- Weathering changes everything

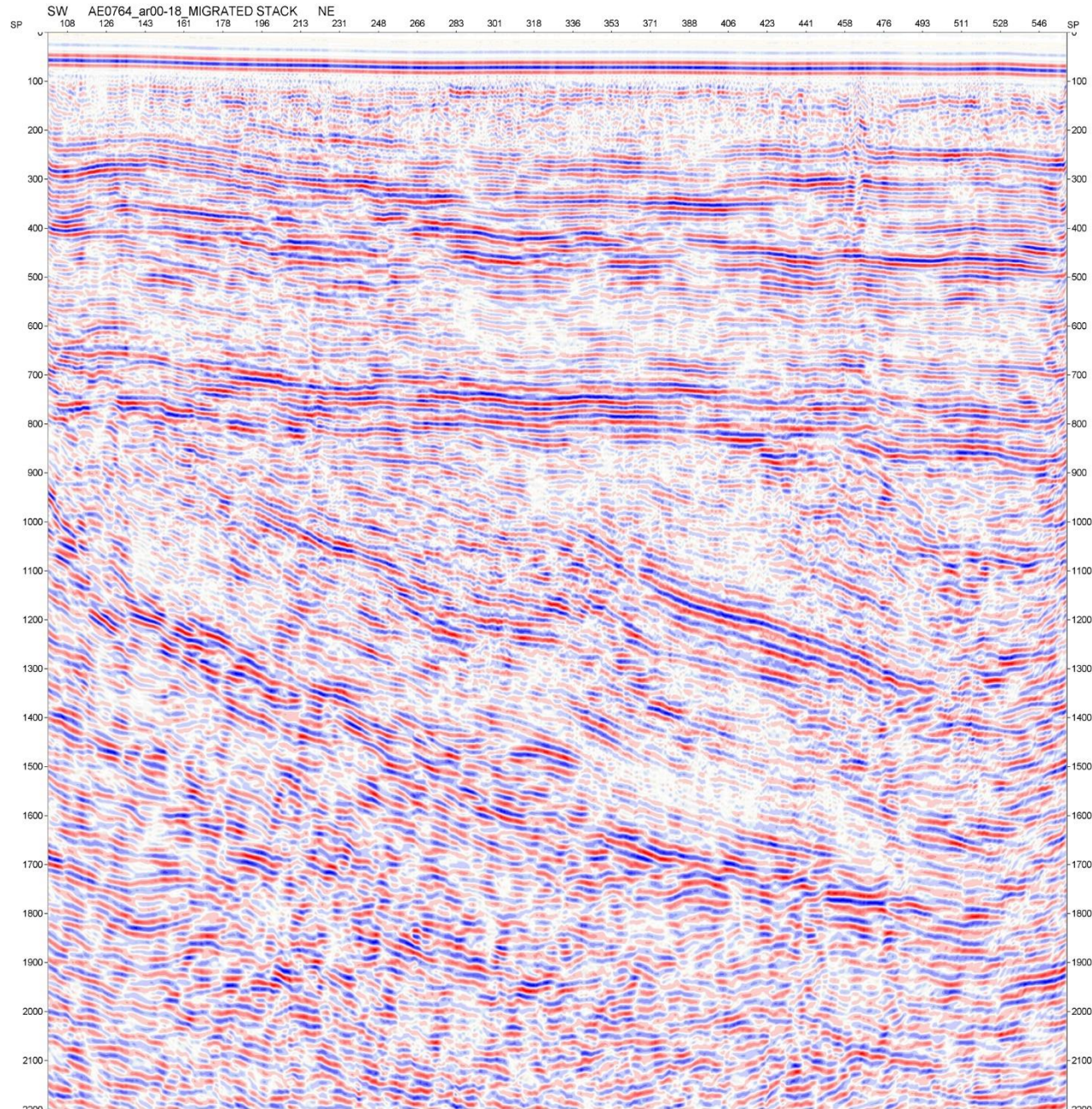
Investigation/Exploration

- Geological survey
- Aerial or satellite survey information
- Surface mapping – rock types and landform
- Broad geophysics - gravity, magnetic, seismic, resistivity, induced polarisation etc.
- Natural seismic event records – what is moving?
- Drilling – open hole -mud, air, reverse circulation
- Coring – (un)conventional or wireline
- Borehole geophysics – sonic, density, resistivity, natural gamma, neutron etc.
- Acoustic and optical scans, calliper logs

Magnetic Survey

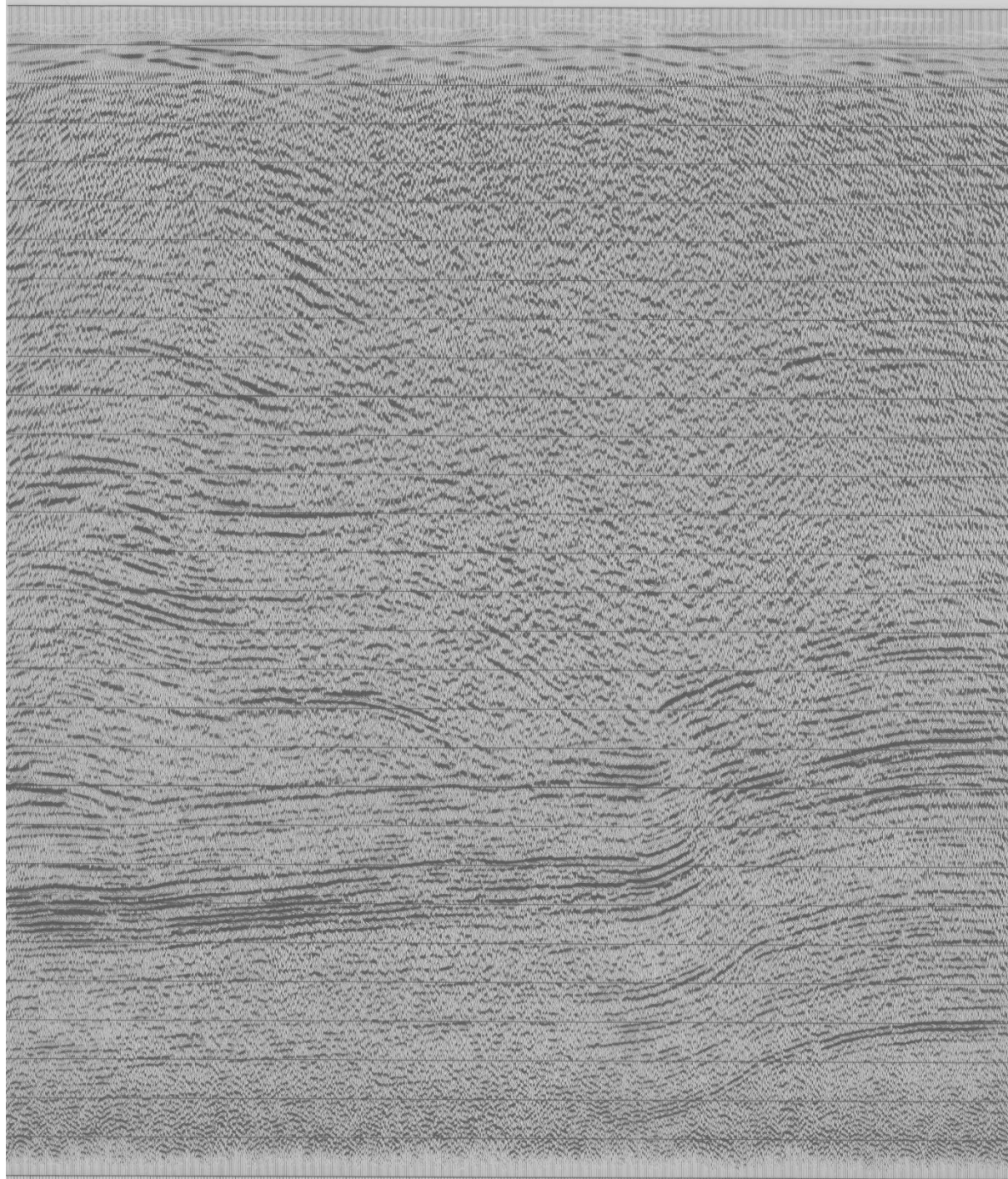


2 D Seismic Line showing unconfor- mity

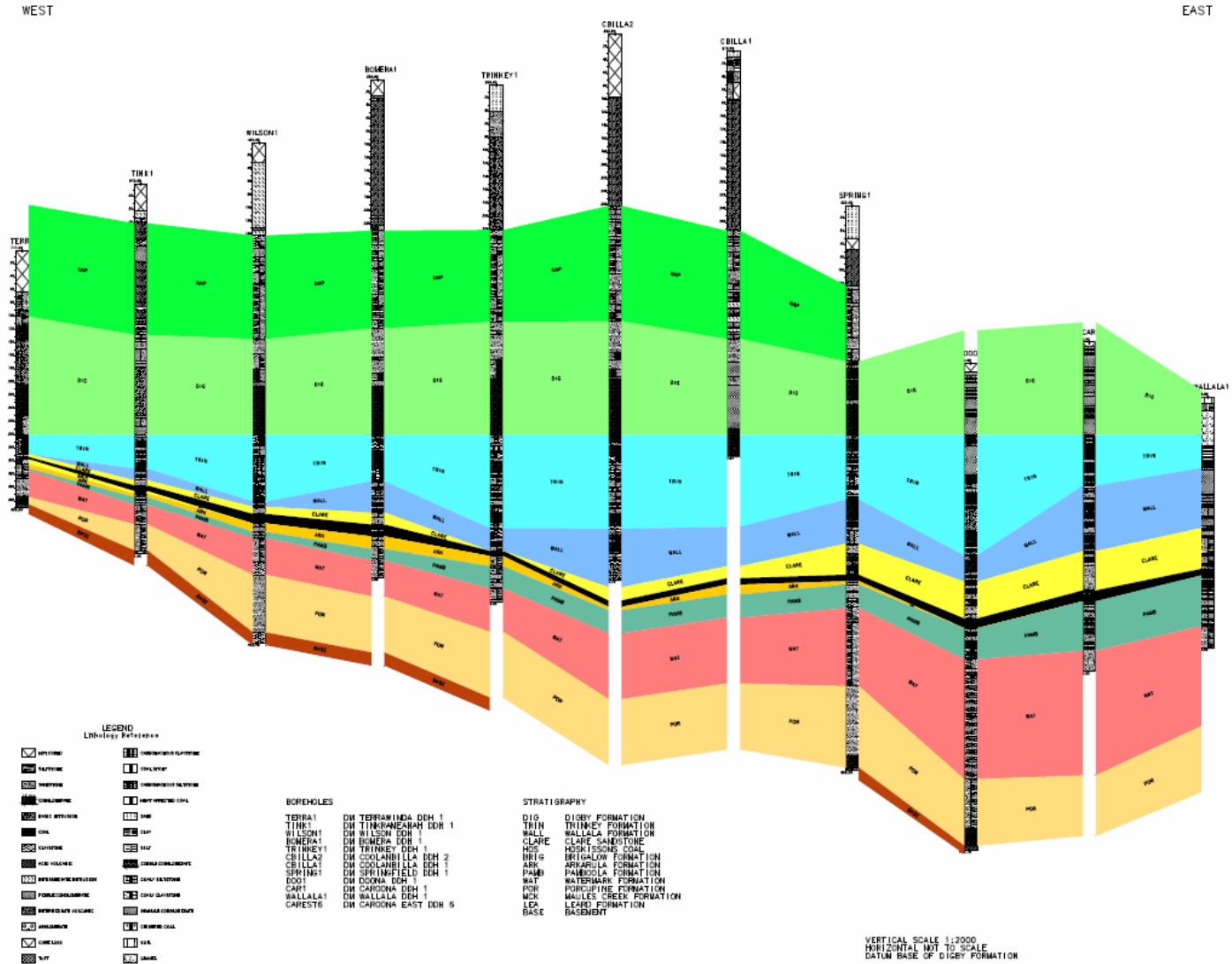


Seismic
Survey

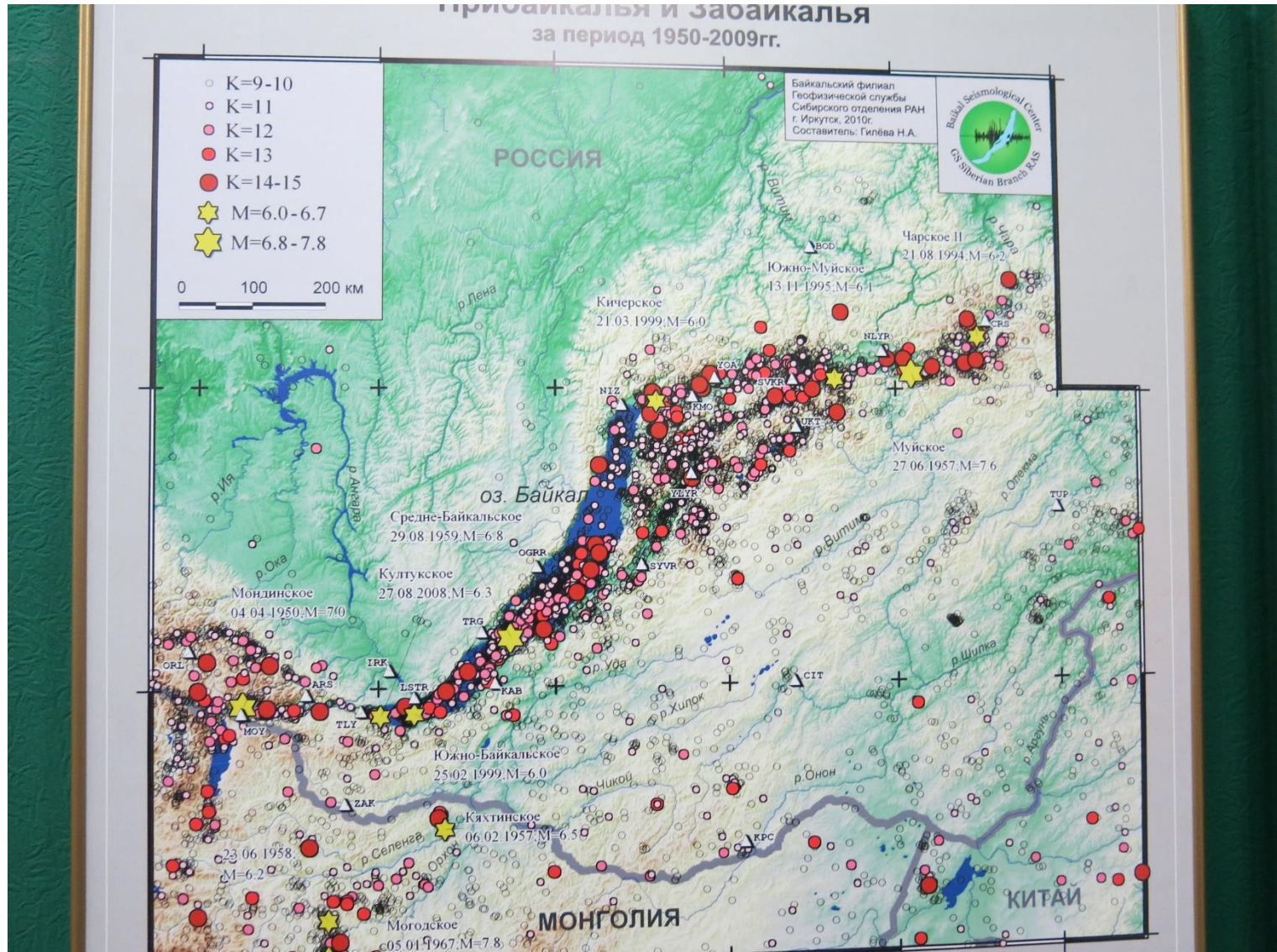
Reverse
Fault



Fence Diagram



Natural Seismic Activity



Open Hole Drilling

Air Drilling

- Top Hammer – shallow tool

- Down the hole hammer – deep, usually limited by water

- Reverse circulation hammer – dual tube drill string sample from bit face

Mud Drilling

- Rotating drill string

- Downhole motor

What you get >>

- Samples from cuttings

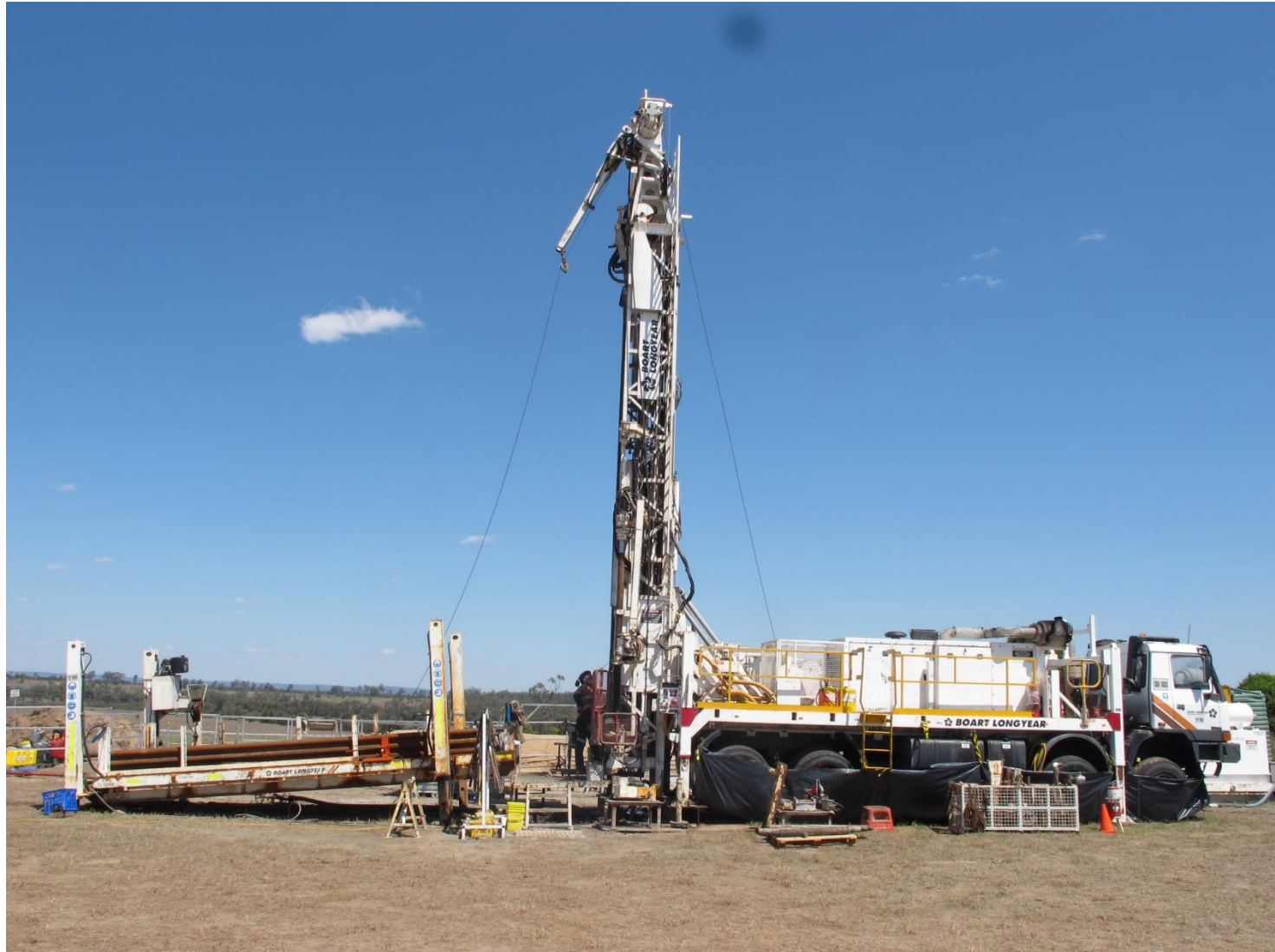
- Logging of penetration rate

- Hole for geophysics

Cuttings Taken From Drilling Mud



UDR1200 Drill Rig - General Purpose



Core Drilling

- Conventional coring needs pulling of the drill string to retrieve the core barrel. This is generally unacceptably slow.
- Wireline coring has become the norm. It is now conventional. Most operations that we deal with are drilled using the Boart Longyear wireline system. It has been in use since 1958 and is robust.
- The HQ-3 triple tube is most common and cuts a 60.9 mm core. This is a good size to work with.

Alpine Core Drilling in New Zealand



Core Pumped Out of Splits



Core Photos



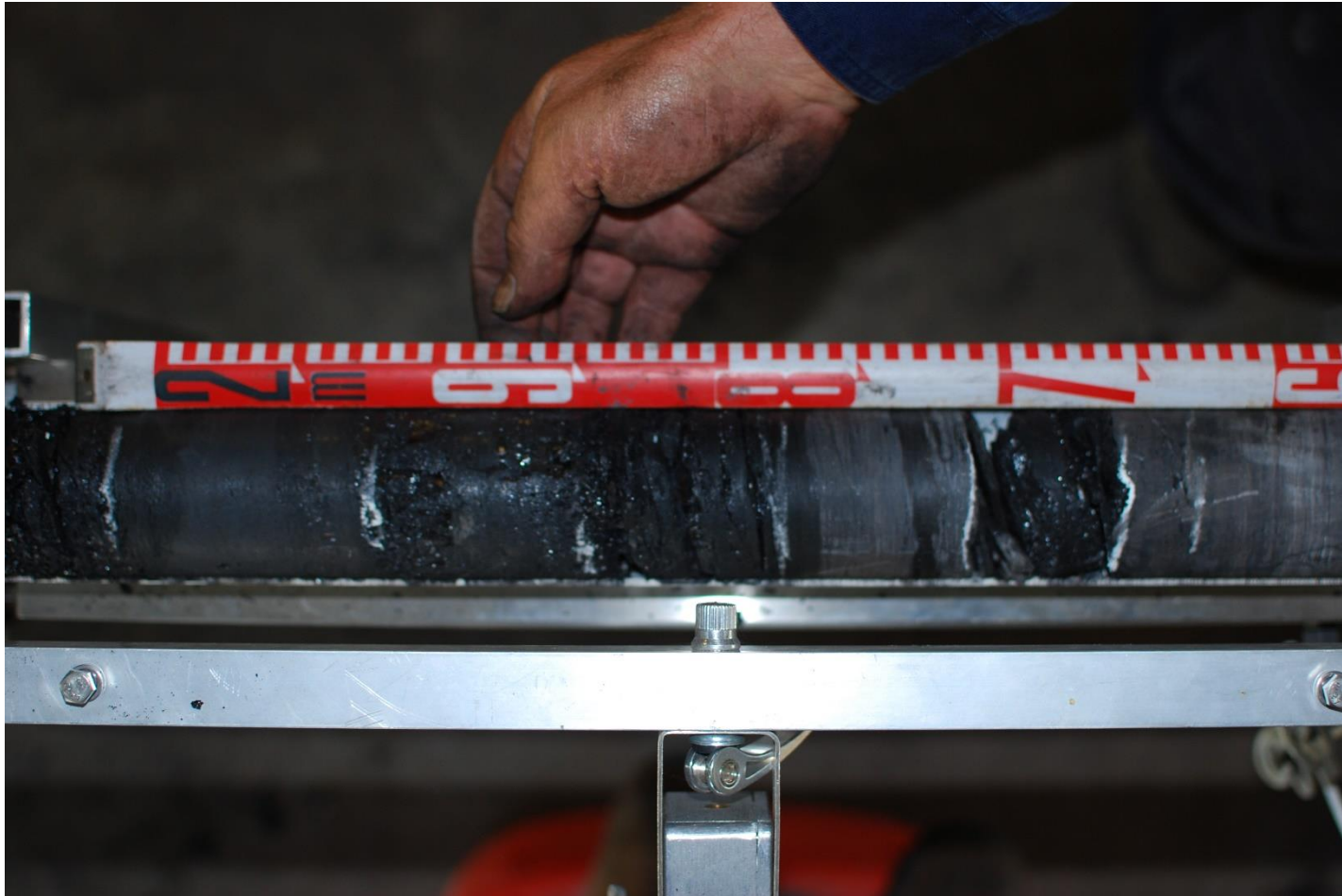
Logging Table PC view

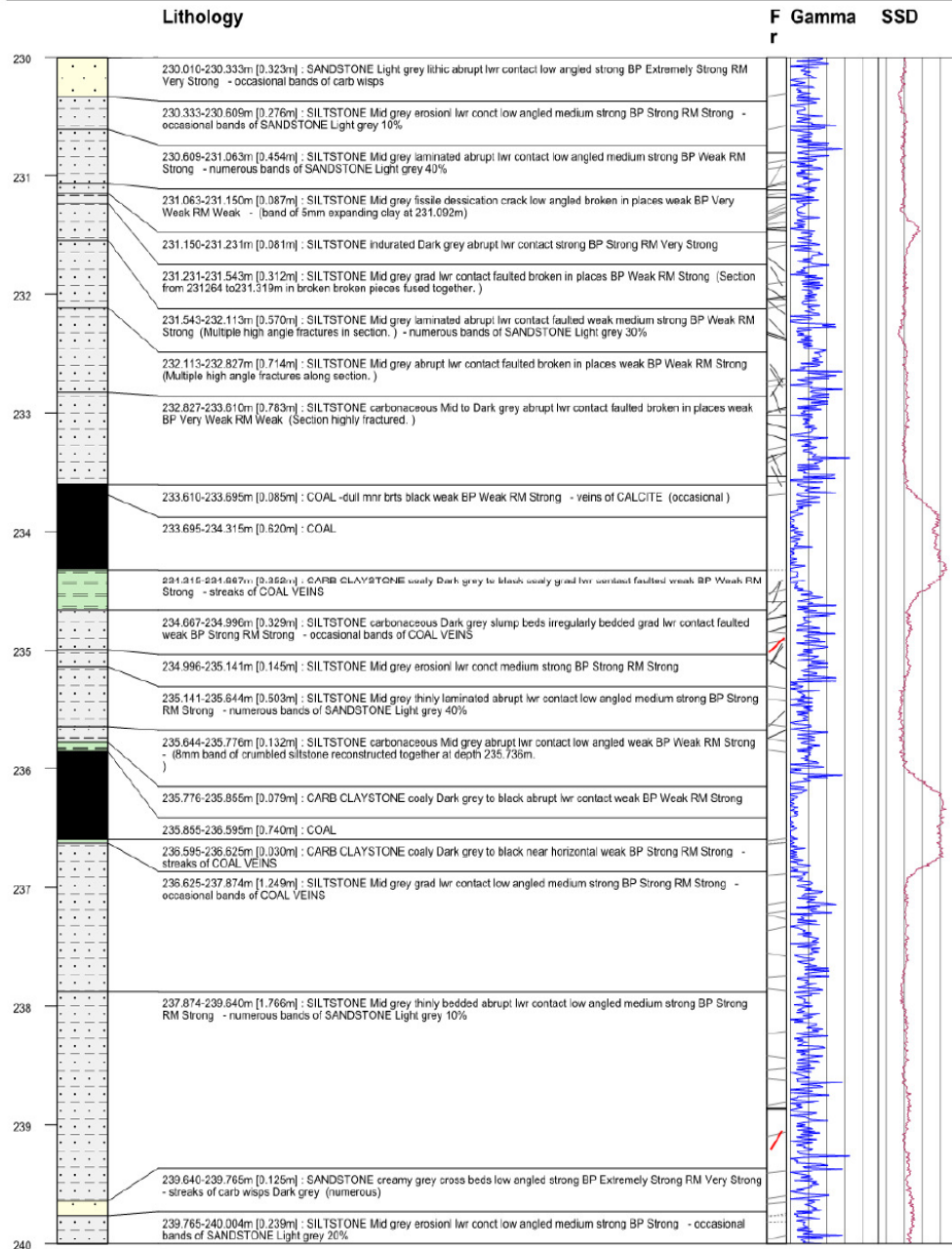


Logging Table

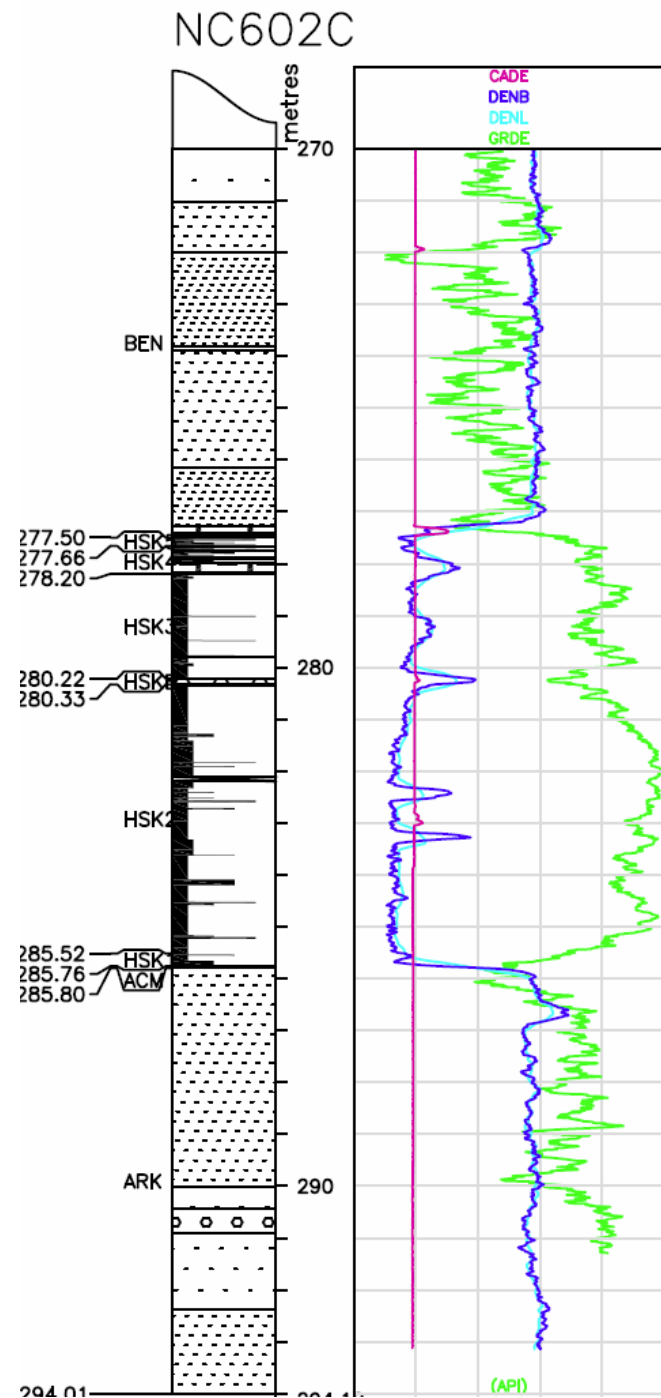


Photo of Core from Logging Table





Borehole Geophysics Natural Gamma Calliper Density



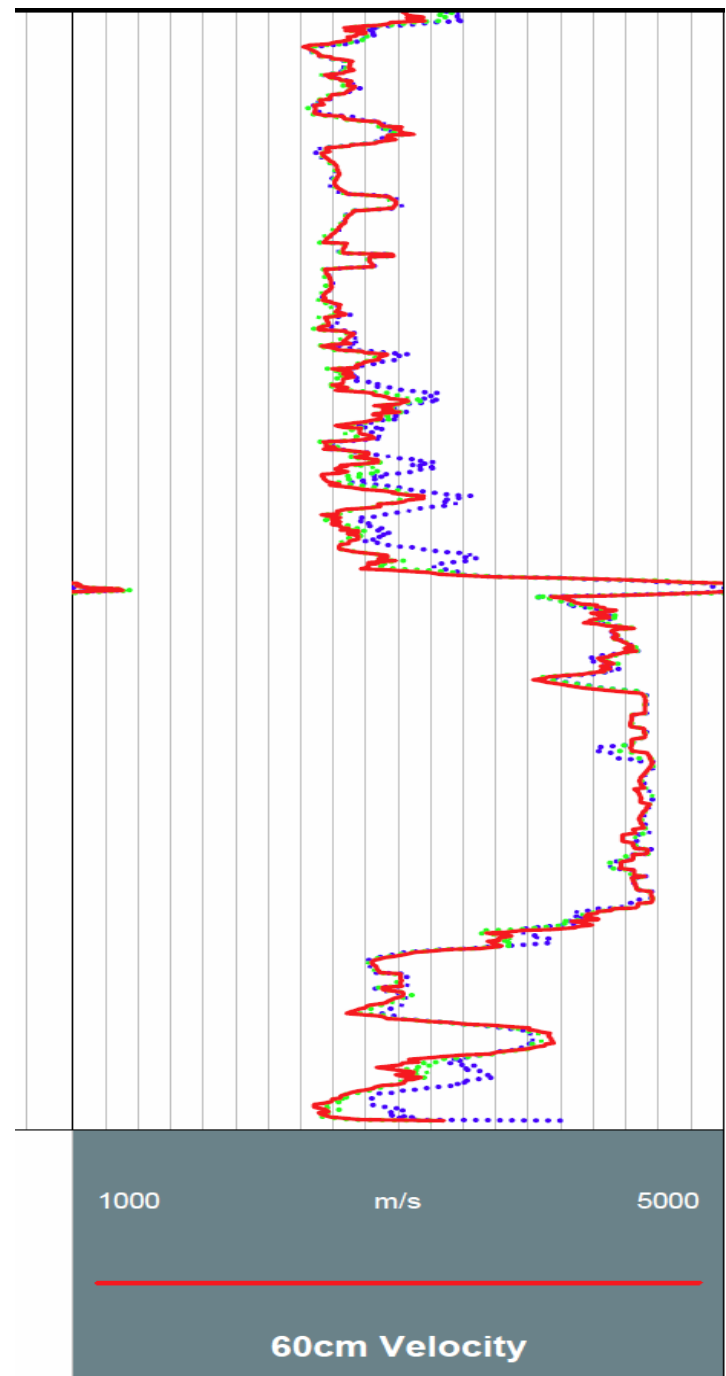
Sonic Log

-

A wealth of information

-

Should use
P & S
wave logs



Modulus relationships for sonic data

$$\text{Poisson's Ratio} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{dts}{dvc} \right)^2 - 1}{\left(\frac{dts}{dvc} \right)^2 - 1}$$

$$\text{Shear Modulus} = \frac{\text{Bulk Density}}{dts^2}$$

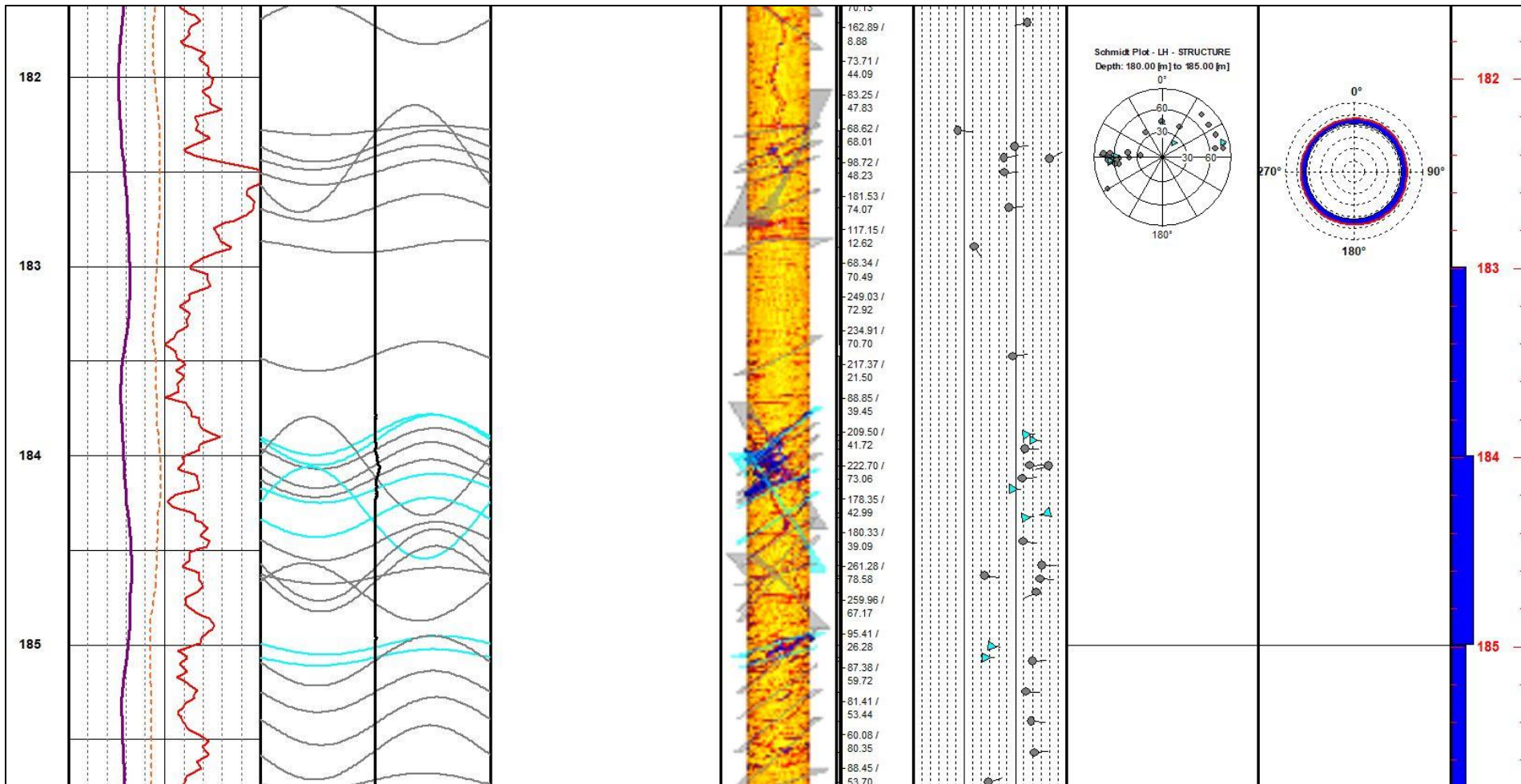
$$\text{Young's Modulus} = 2 \cdot \text{Shear Modulus} \cdot (1 + \text{Poisson's Ratio})$$

$$\text{Bulk Modulus} = \text{Bulk Density} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{dvc^2} - \frac{4}{3 \cdot dts^2} \right)$$

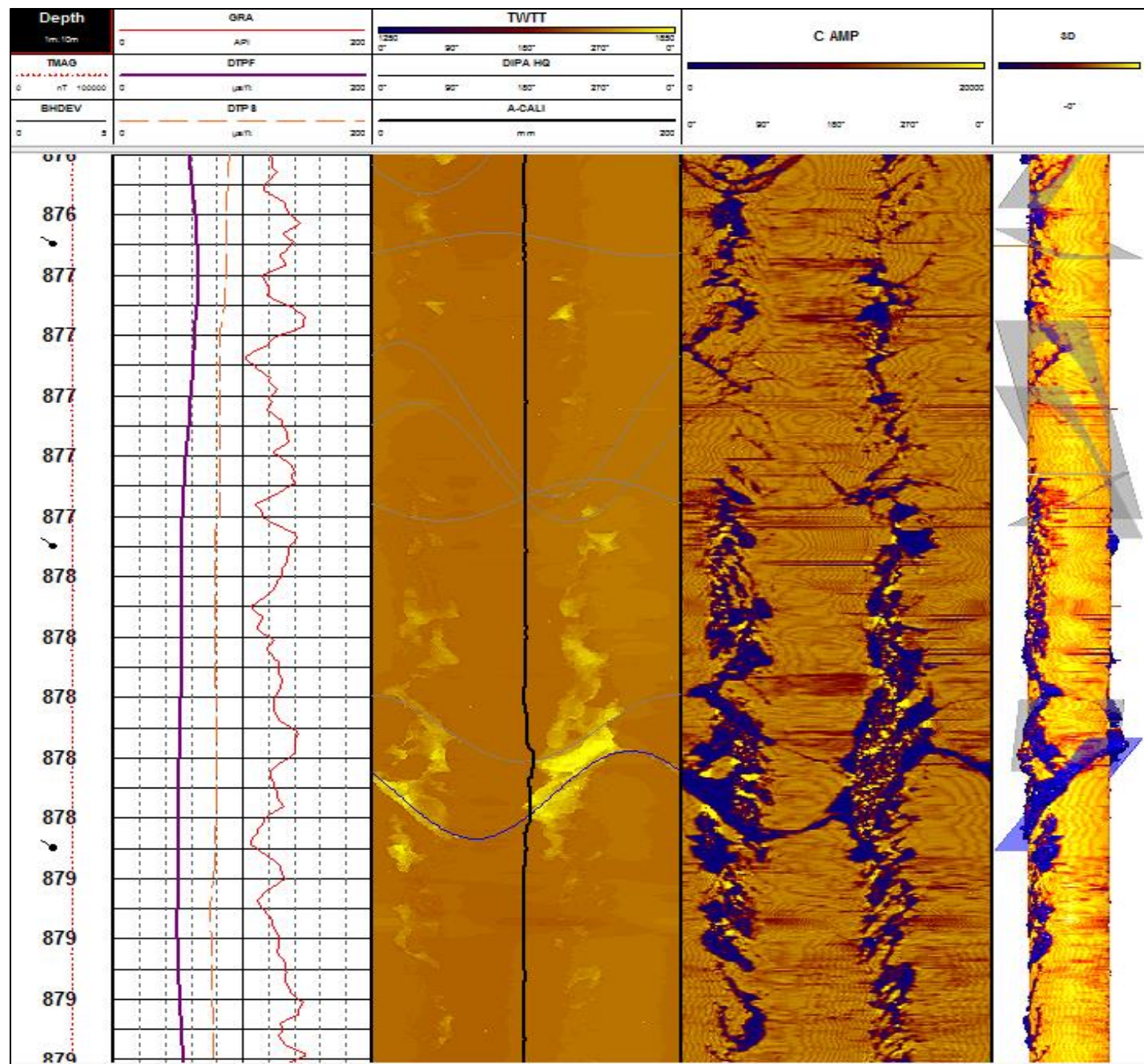
$$\text{Bulk Compressibility} = \frac{1}{\text{Bulk Modulus}}$$

- dvc
compressional
wave
transit time
- dts
shear wave
transit time

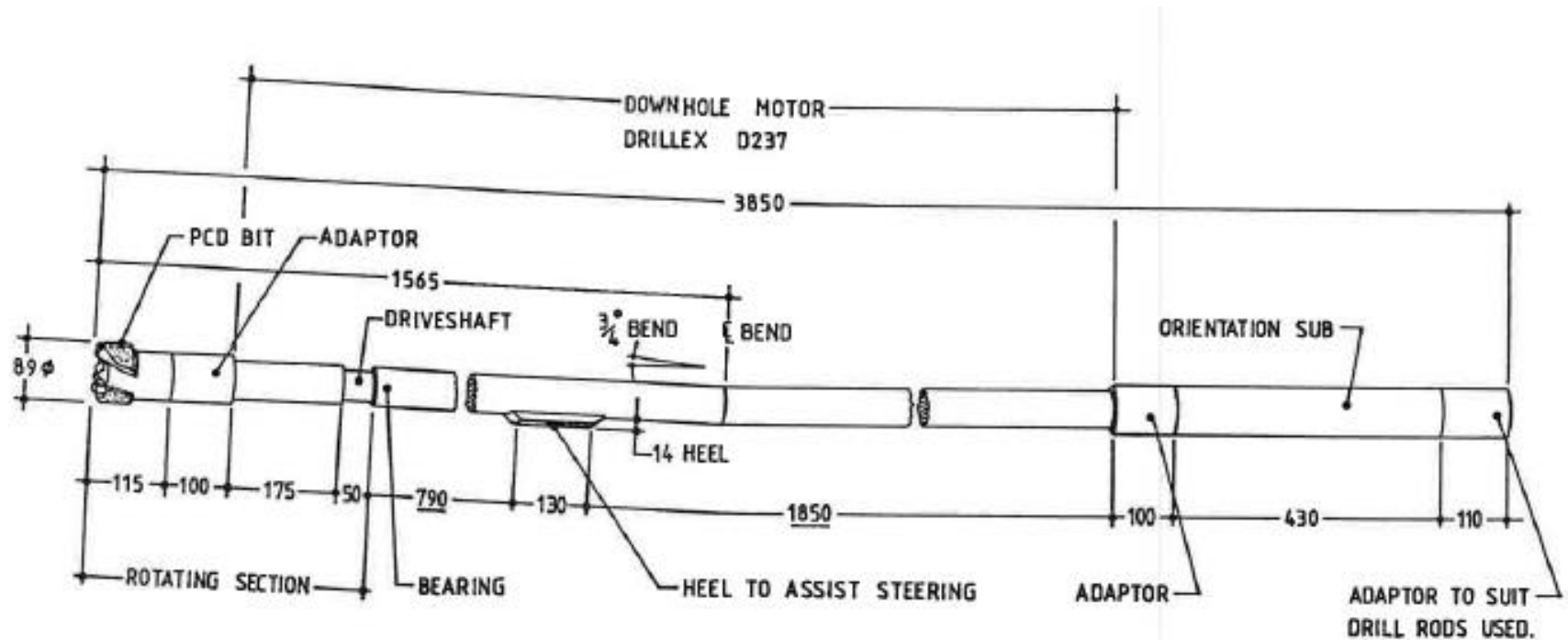
Acoustic Televiewer Data



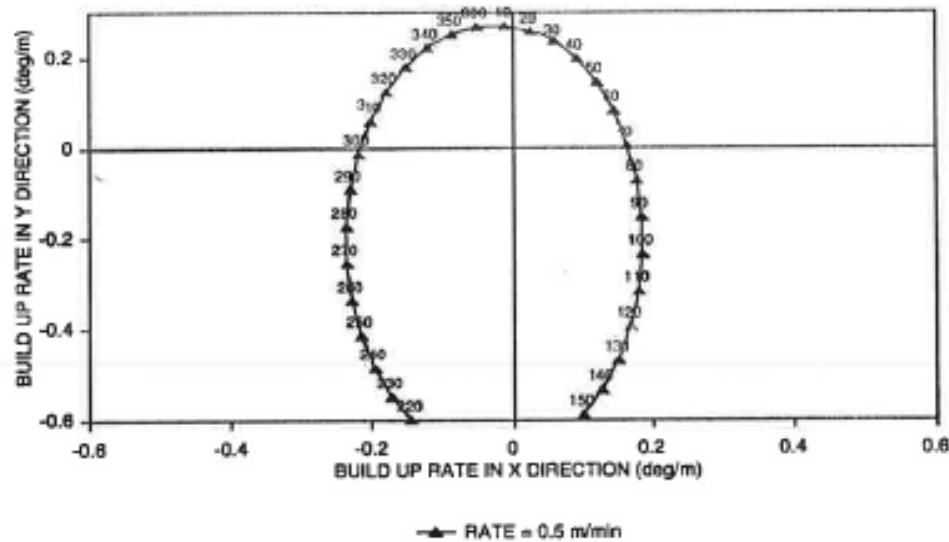
Borehole Breakout



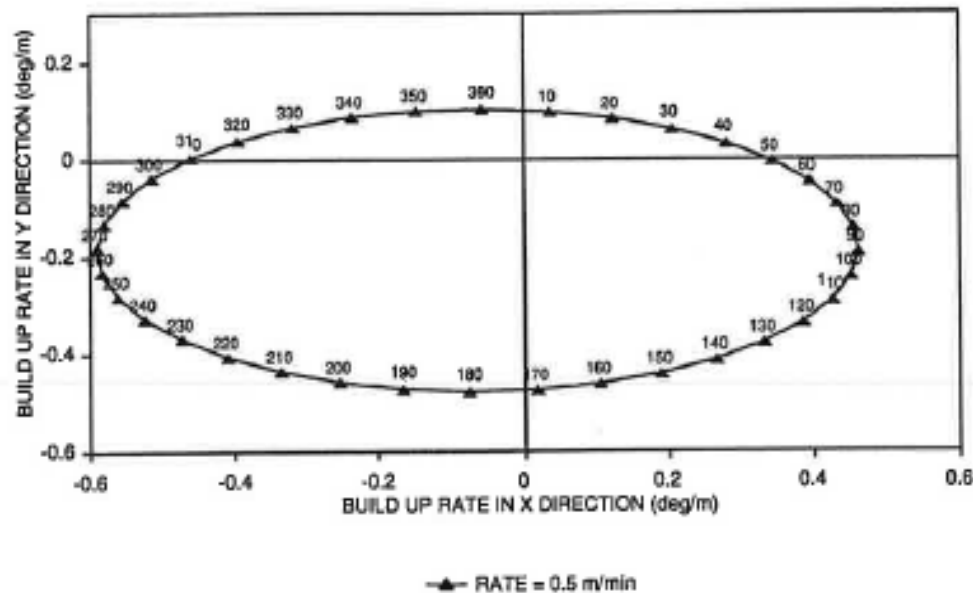
Directional Drilling - Downhole Motor



TAHMOOR 312, A HDNG, 17 C/T
MEAN ERRORS (deg/m) X= 0.094, Y= 0.09



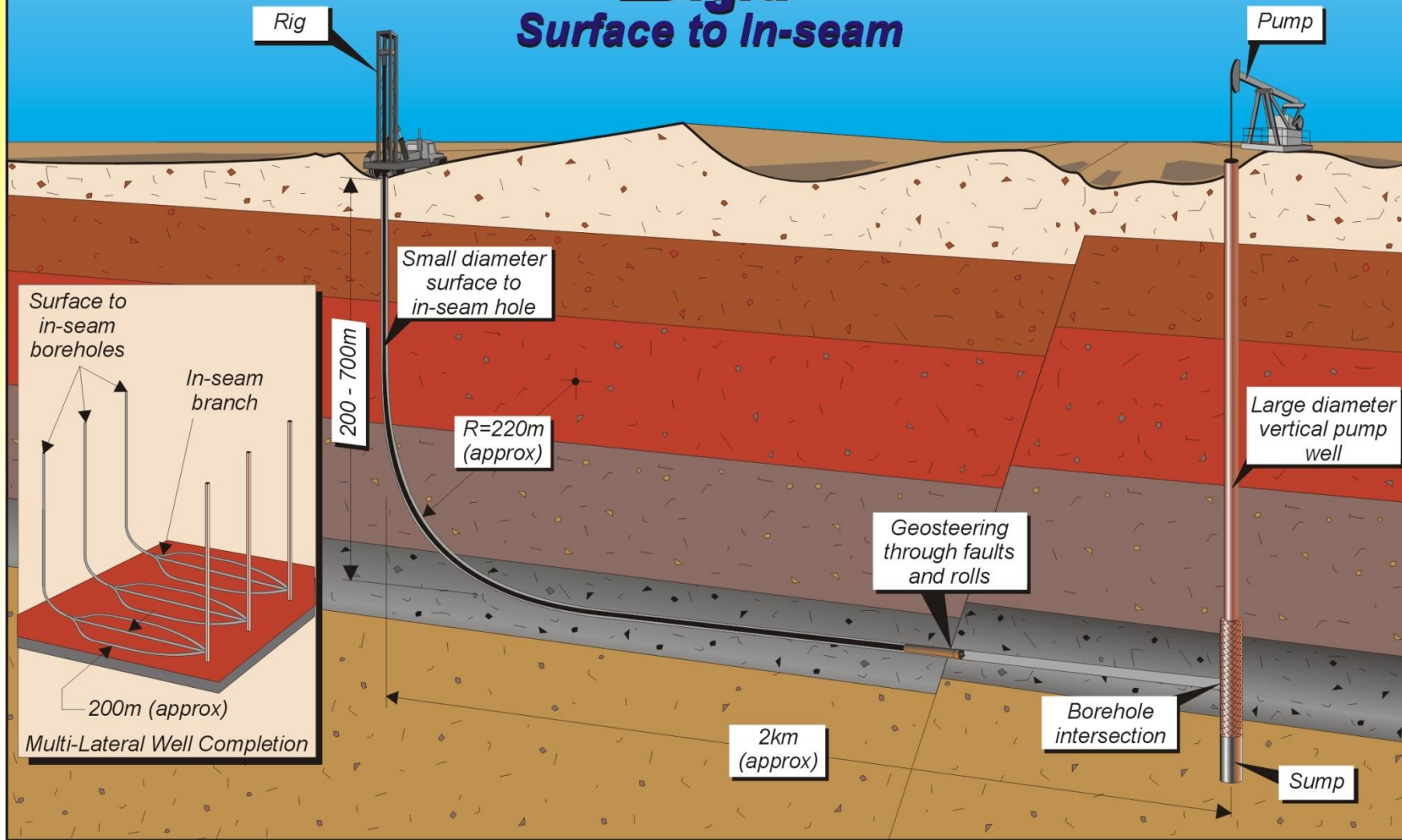
TAHMOOR 313, A HDNG, 11 C/T
MEAN ERRORS (deg/m) X= 0.079, Y= 0.09



Mud motor
build up
behaviour
-
Very
dependent
on geological
structure
-
On average
the tool drills
down

Sigra

Surface to In-seam



Limitations of Downhole Motors

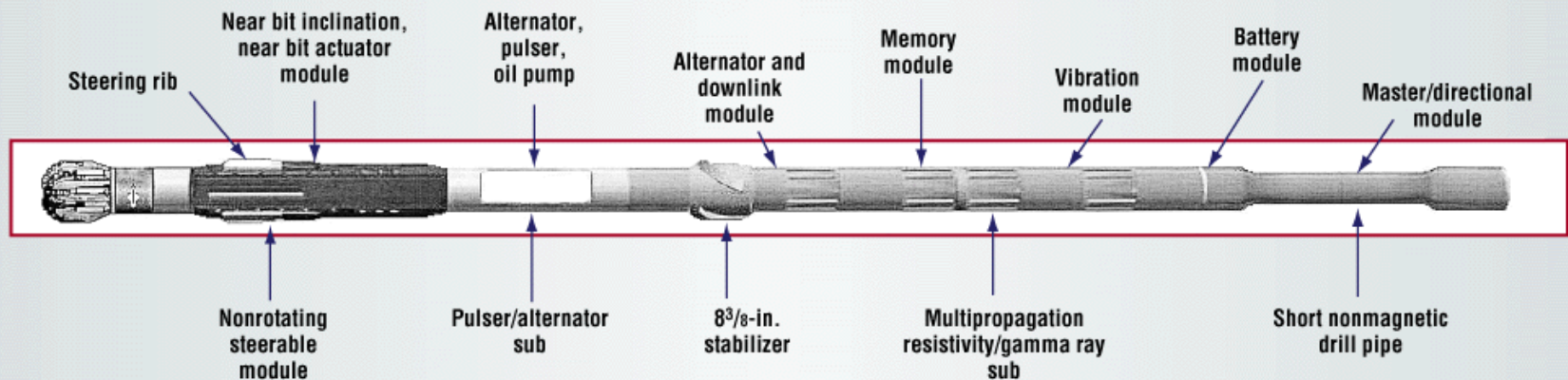
- Slide drilling without rotation
- Cuttings build - up
- Frictional build up – stick slip drilling then helical buckling leading to lockup in the hole
- Practical limit of lateral well 1 to 2 km

Rotary steering systems

- Rotate the entire drill string
- Use pads to push or point the drill string
- Mostly have closed loop control to maintain trajectory
- Rotation stirs up the cuttings bed thus clearing the annulus of the hole
- Shell achieved 12 km lateral in 12 days off Kamchatka
- Rotary steering has huge potential for many investigations, it just needs to be lower cost. (Watch this space!)

A rotary steering system

RCLS CONFIGURATION



Open directional holes

- Limitation is frequently not the drilling hardware but the ability to pump drilling fluid through the hole.
- To make full use of these need to have geophysical logging of the holes while drilling LWD or subsequent to drilling. The latter may be a tractor system or record on board geophysics conveyed by the rod string.