

# Bedding Unconformities

---

# Bedding or stratification

- Stratigraphy studies bedded rocks
- Sedimentary, metasedimentary metamorphic rocks and volcanoclastic rocks
- The Bed is the basic unit of bedding
- Each Bed a homogenous body differentiating from the others in terms of composition, texture (size, shape, sorting, arrangement of grains) , colour, hardness, diagenesis, structure
- **Stratification** (= layering or **bedding**) is the most obvious feature of sedimentary rocks. The layers (or beds or strata) are visible because of differences in the color, texture, or composition of adjacent beds.

# Bed (stratum)

- Confined between two contacts, bedding planes, bed floor and bed roof
- Contacts sharp or gradual
- Based on their thickness strata separated into Beds (>1cm) and Laminae (<1cm)

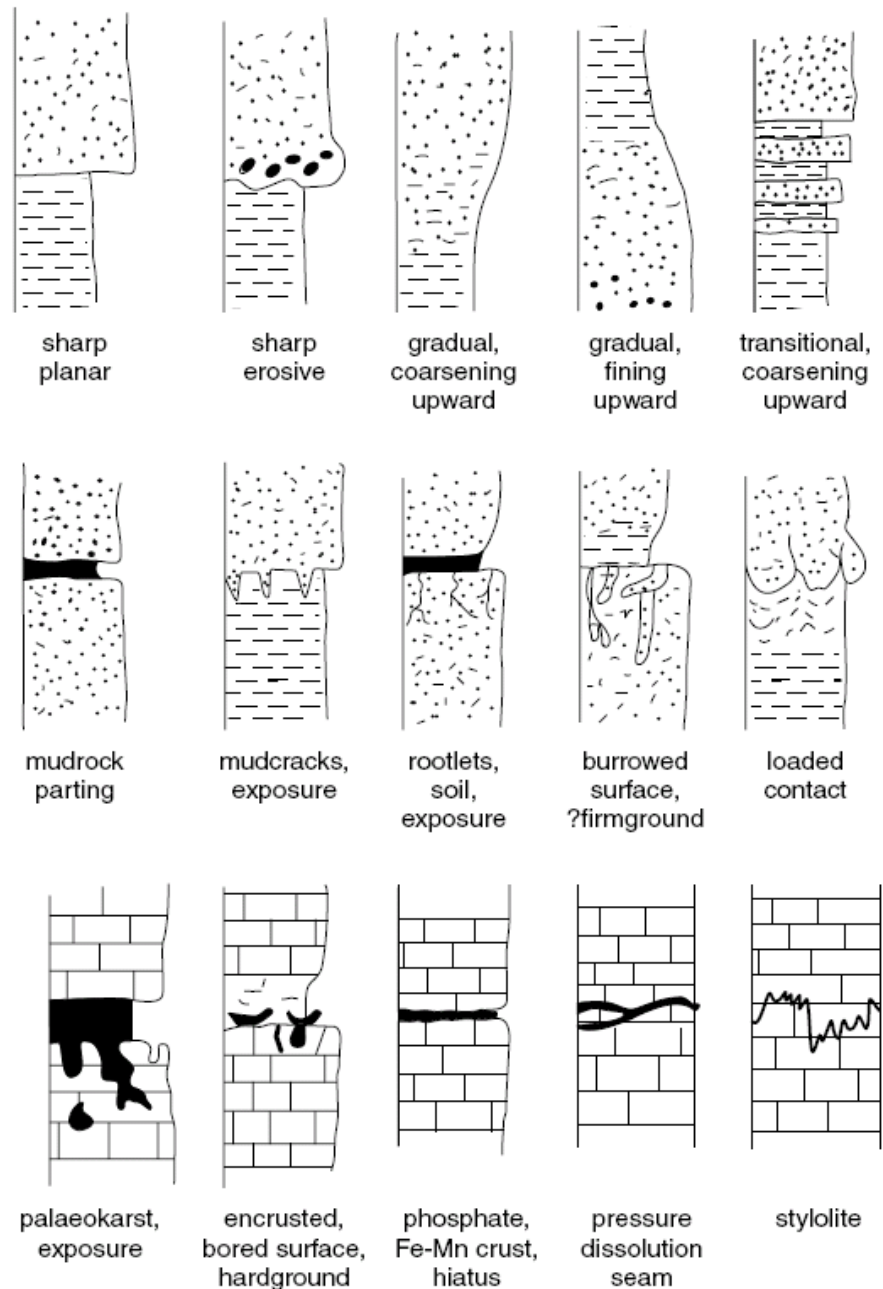


Figure 5.5 Bedding planes and bed contacts: the range of possibilities.



# Strata

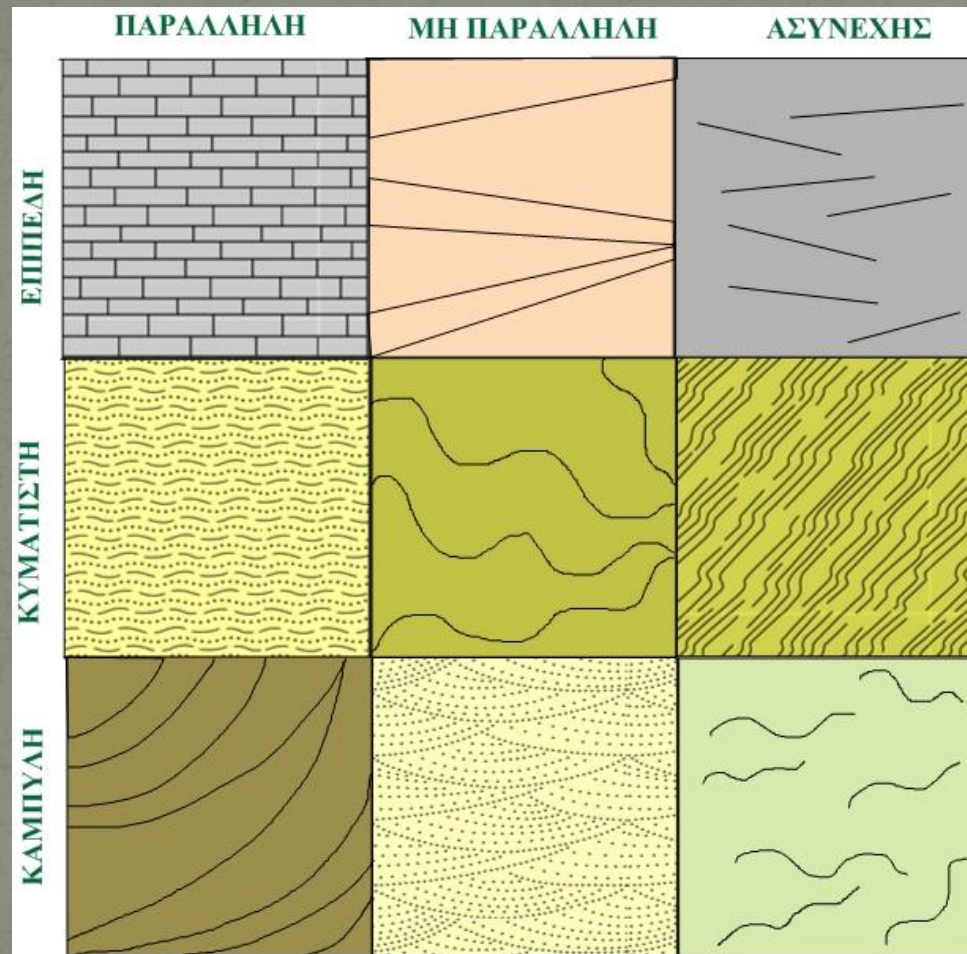
	type	thickness
Beds	Very thick bedded	>100 cm
	Thick bedded	30-100 cm
	Medium bedded	10-30 cm
	Thin bedded	3-10 cm
	Very thin bedded	1-3 cm
Laminae	laminated	0,3-1 cm
	Thinly laminated	<0,3 cm







# Types of bedding



Διαφορετικοί τύποι στρώσης

# Kinds of bedding

- Graded Bedding
- Annual Bedding
- Cyclic Bedding or Cyclothem
- Parallel Bedding
- Cross-bedding or cross-stratification
- Compact Bedding



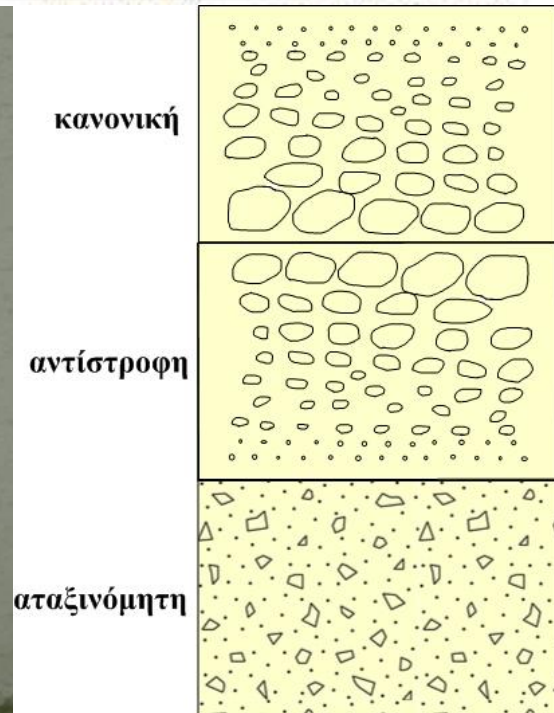
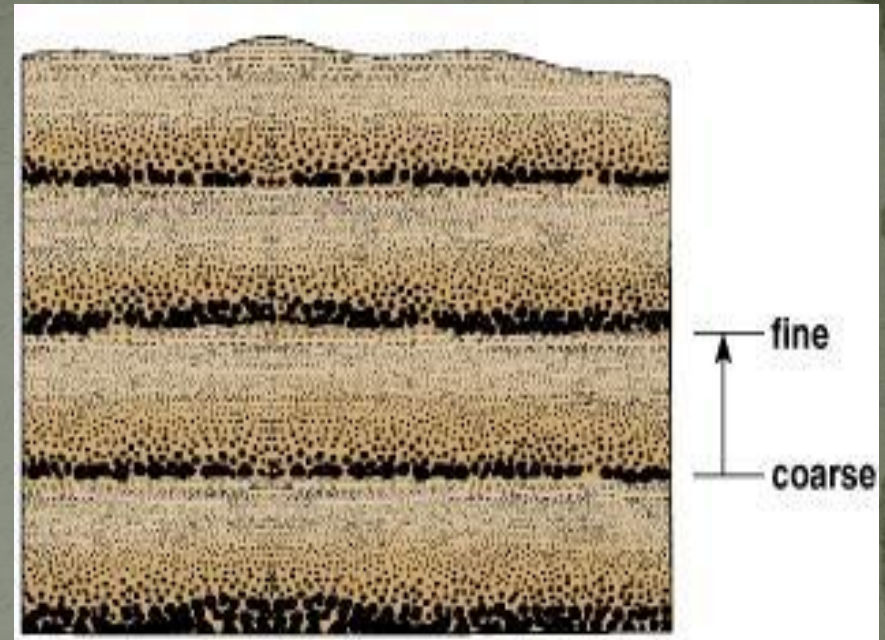
# Graded Bedding

- The grain size in a graded bed is coarser at the bottom and finer at the top.
- Graded bedding results when a sediment-laden current (such as a turbidity current) begins to slow down.
- Three types:

Normal grain sorting (gradual decrease in energy)

Normal grain sorting with fine grains scattered throughout the mass (e.g. Turbidites)

Reverse grain sorting (gradual increase in energy)



# Annual Bedding



- Annually recurring and rhythmic bedding
- Alternating coarse-grained – fine-grained sediments
- Each pair corresponds to one year
- Coarse-grained and usually dark-colored - winter deposits
- Fine-grained and usually light-colored - summer deposits



# Cyclic Bedding or Cyclothem

Large-scale repeating bedding with the same bed sequences





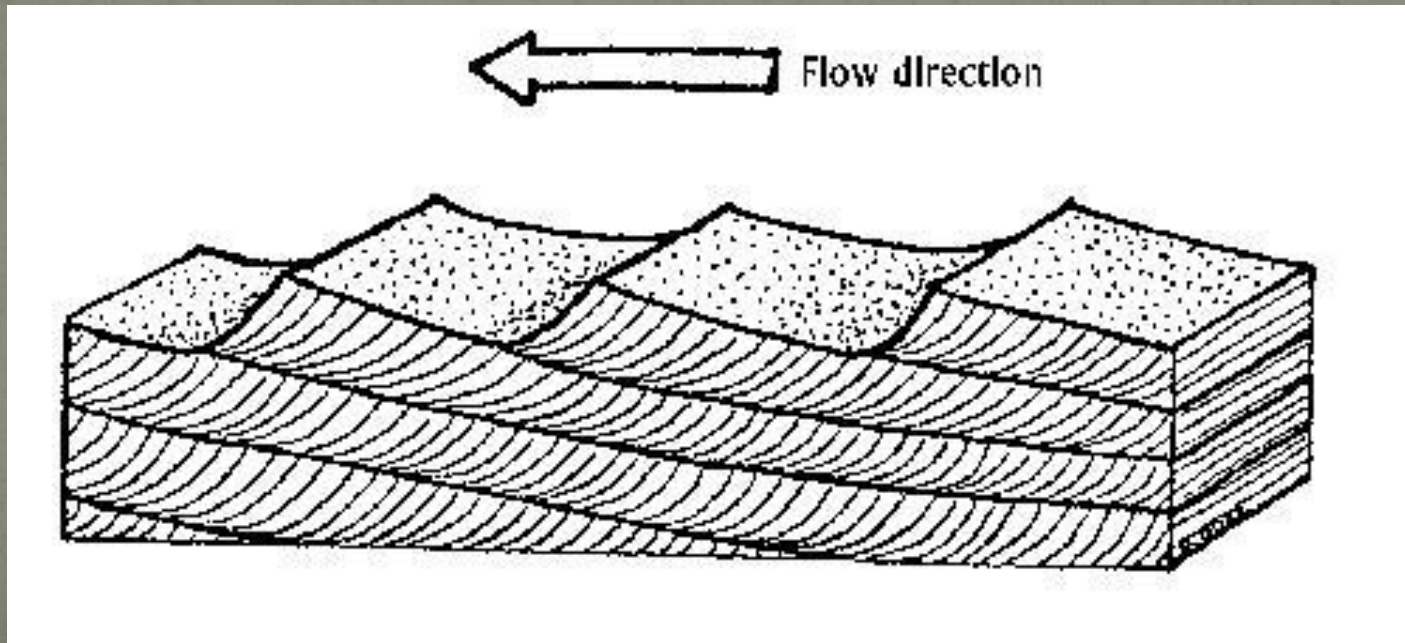
# Parallel Bedding

- Rhythmic bedding with laminal parallel beds
- Formation in a calm environment  
Rhythmic or seasonal conditions of feeding, flow,
- Rhythmites



# Cross-bedding or cross-stratification

An arrangement of beds or laminations in which one set of layers is inclined relative to the others.

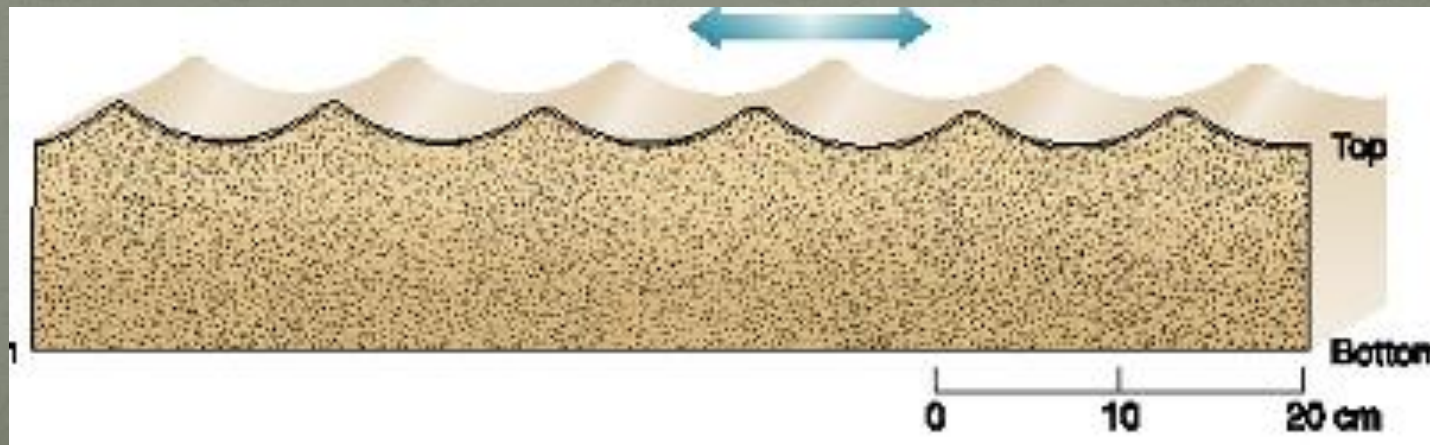




# Ripple marks

Undulations of the sediment surface produced as wind or water moves across sand.

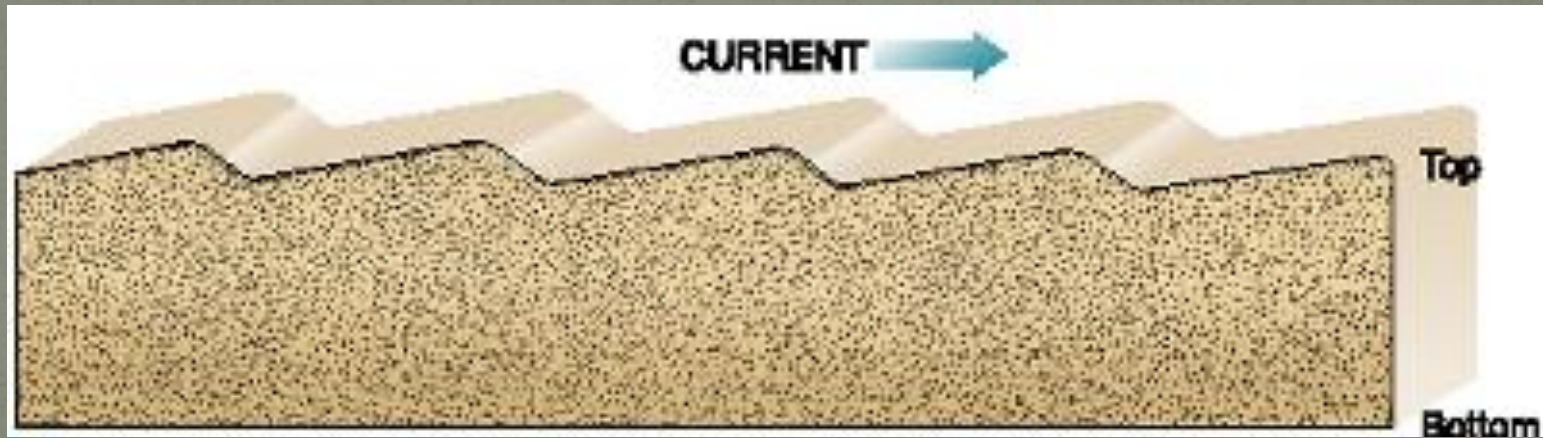
- **Symmetric ripple marks** are produced by waves





# Ripple marks

**Asymmetric ripples** form in unidirectional currents (such as in streams or rivers).

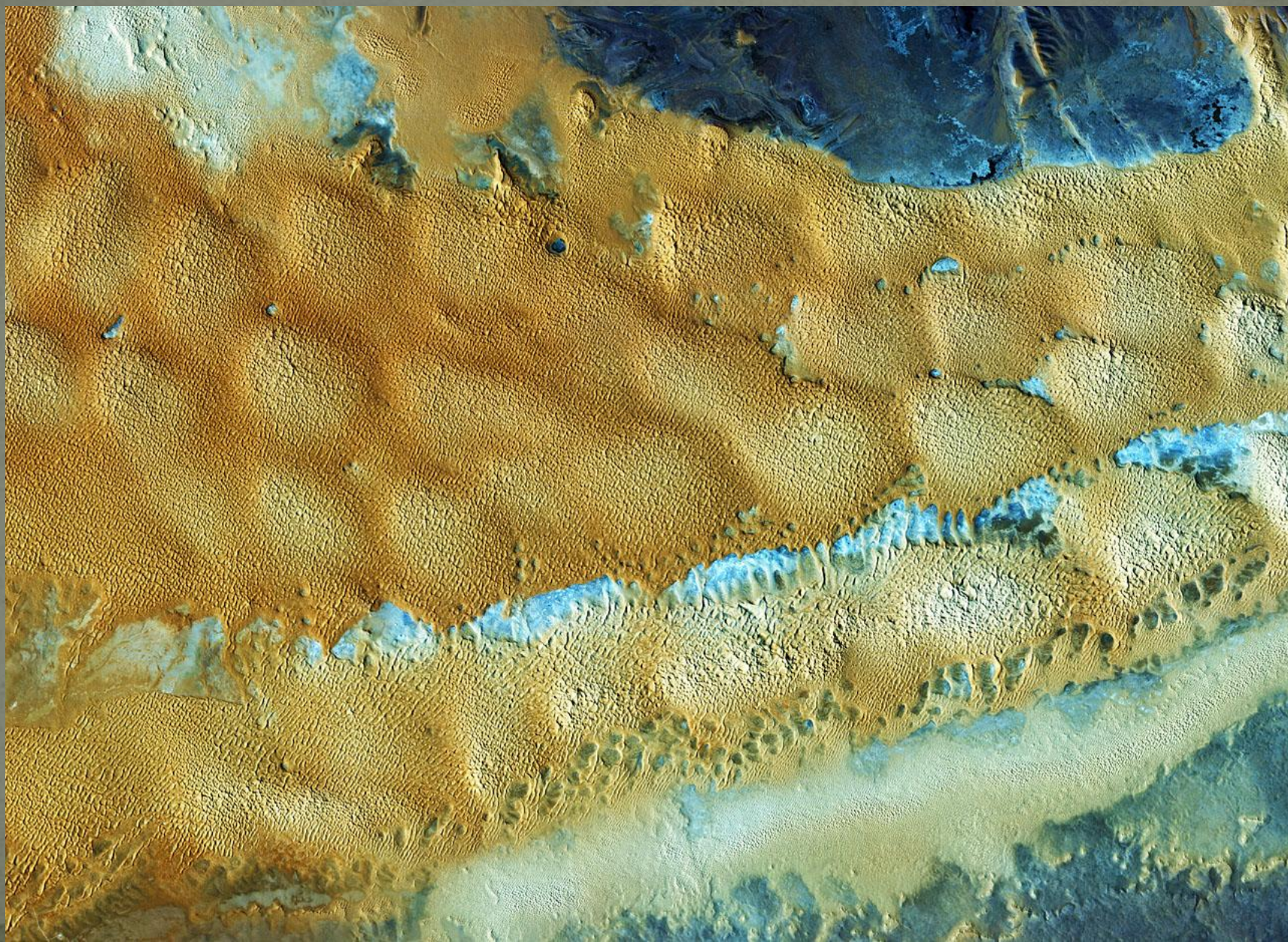




# Διαστρωρούμενη στρώση

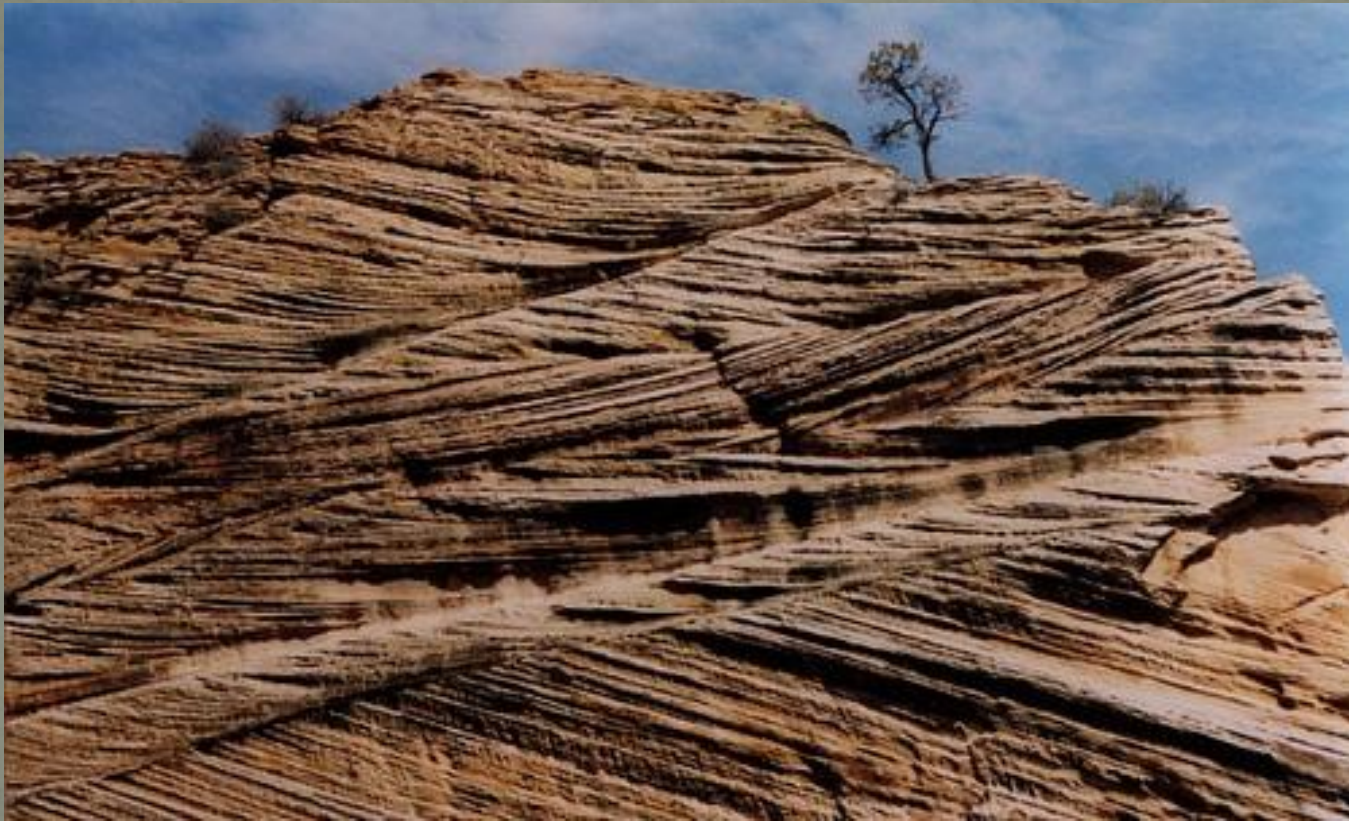








# Διασταυρούμενη στρώση 2

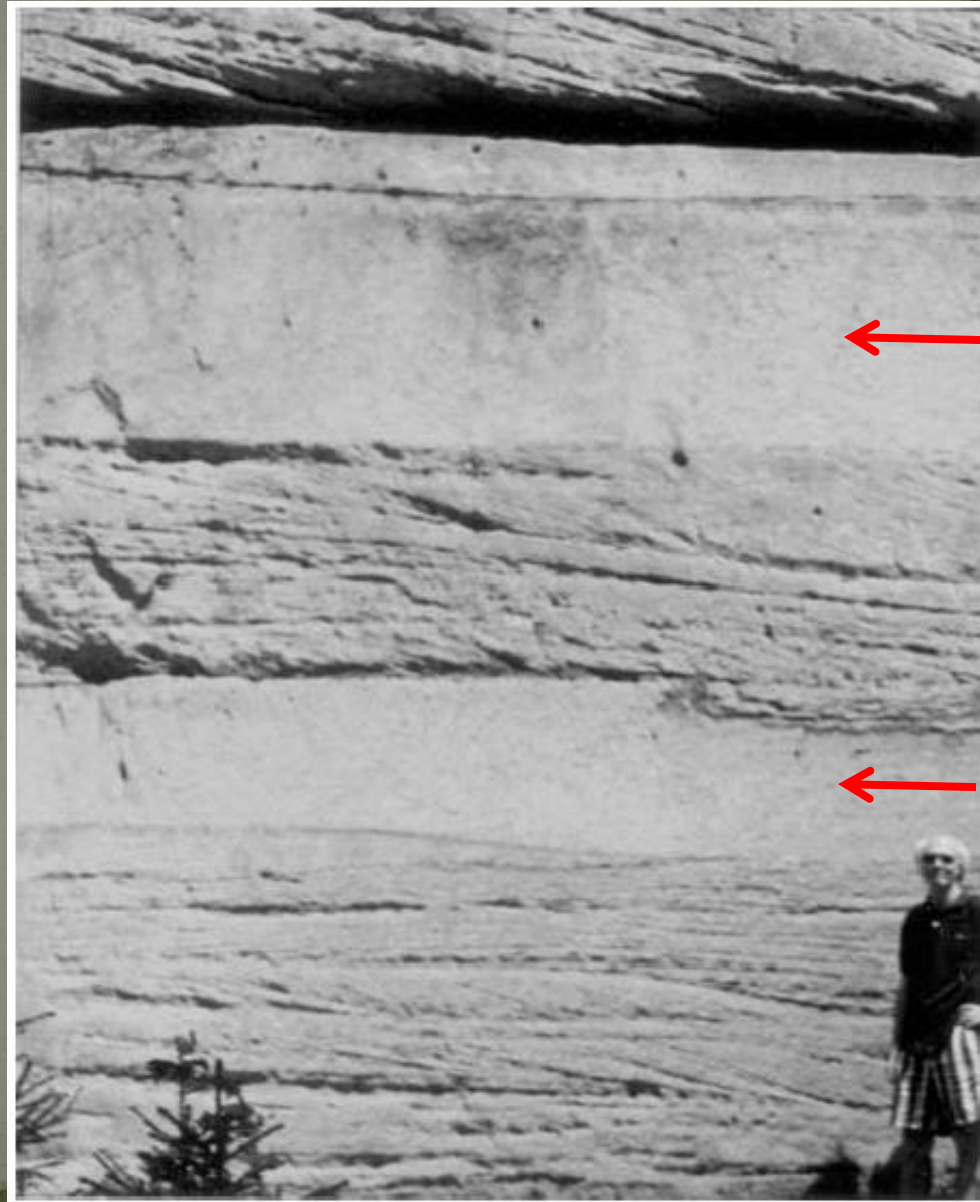


Διασταυρούμενη στρώση στο Navajo sandstone



# Compact Bedding

- Bedding without internal structure
- Due to rapid deposition of fine-grained materials in a calm environment
- Due to recrystallization
- Due to bioturbation



# Criteria of superimposition

What happens when we do not have an undisturbed sequence but modified, even inverted, layers?

Using criteria to find the correct position of layers

- Stratigraphic
- Tectonic



# Stratigraphic Criteria

1. Local sequence
2. Graded bedding
3. Cross-bedding
4. Discontinuity
5. Fossils
6. Small stratigraphic structures

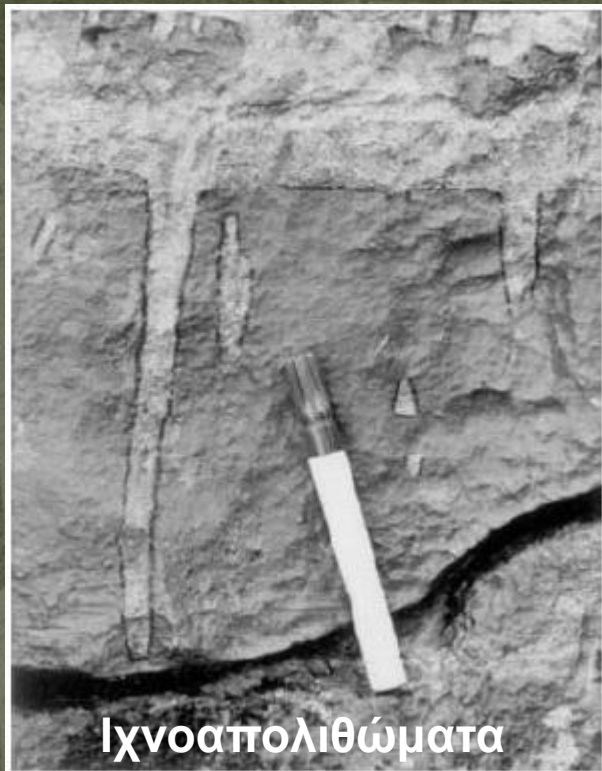


1. Trace fossils, 2. Dessication cracks,  
3. Ripple marks, 4. Graded bedding









Ιχνοαπολιθώματα

Κυρτά κελύφη

Γεώδη κελυφών

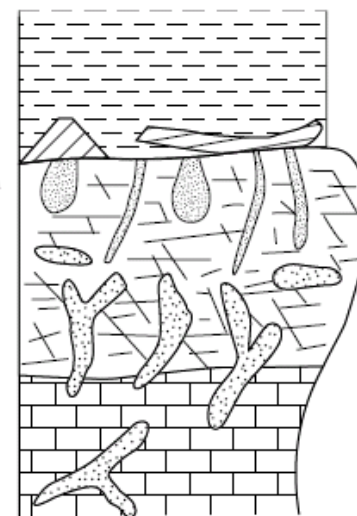
Ιχνοαπολιθώματα



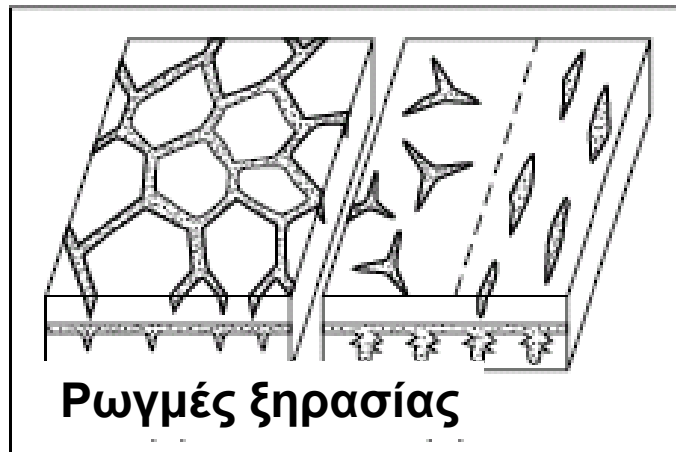
Ίχνη κίνησης



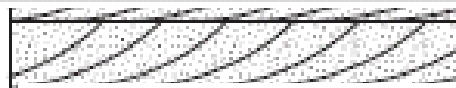
more Fe-rich  
↑  
well-cemented  
  
less well-cemented



← encrusting fossils, e.g. oysters, crinoids  
← borings, e.g. bivalves, sponges, annelids  
← burrows



Ρωγμές ξηρασίας



Διασταυρούμενη στρώση



Γεωειδή σε απολιθώματα



Ρωγμές ξηρασίας



Pamela Gore 1985

Ασυνέχειες

# Stratigraphic section

- The graphical representation of lithological, and structural components such as thickness, fossil content, of a certain sequence in a certain position
- Basic element and foundation of any geological study
- Data collected from:
  1. Natural sections
  2. Artificial sections
  3. Drillings
  4. Geophysical tomographies







# Artificial section



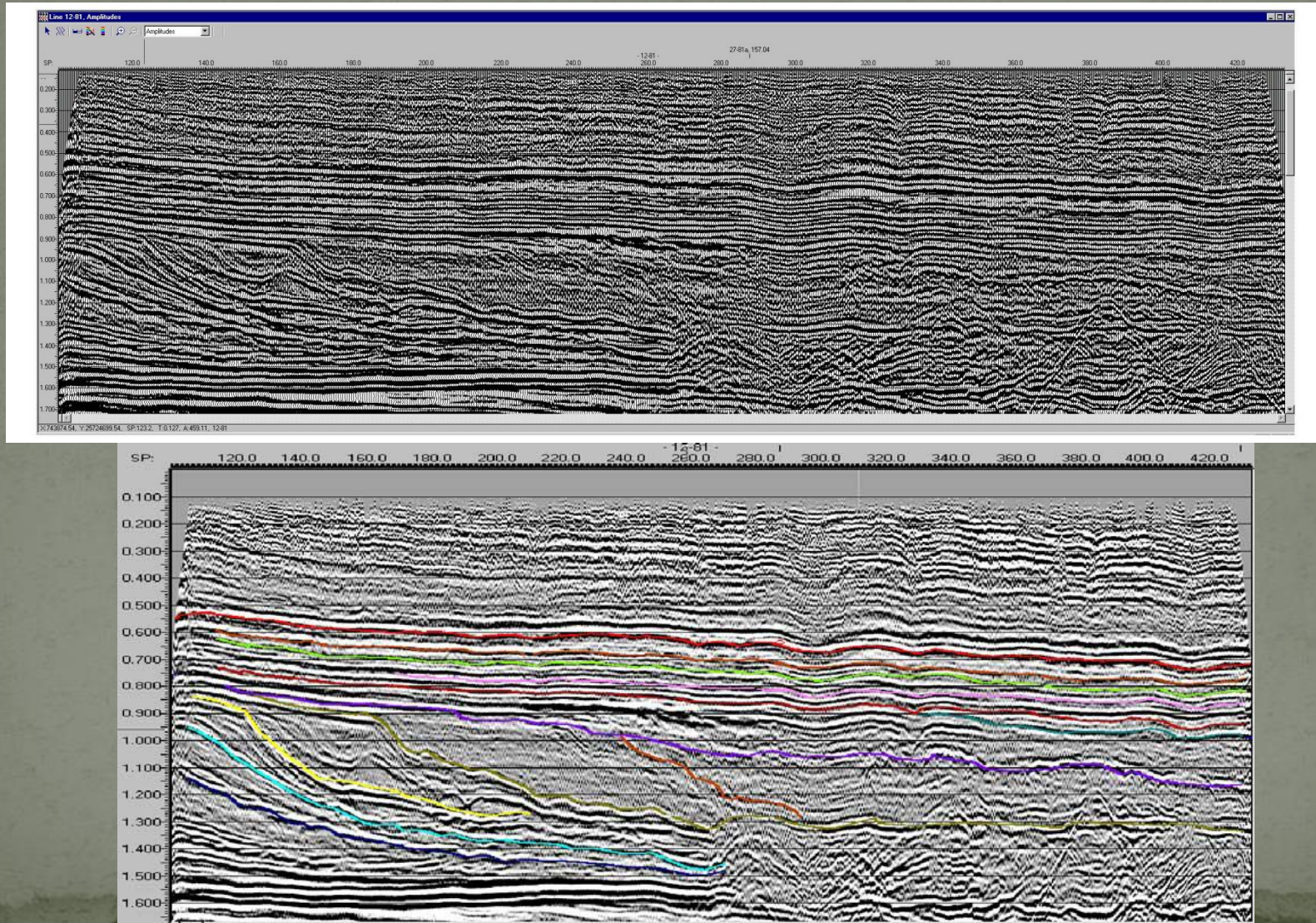


# Drillings



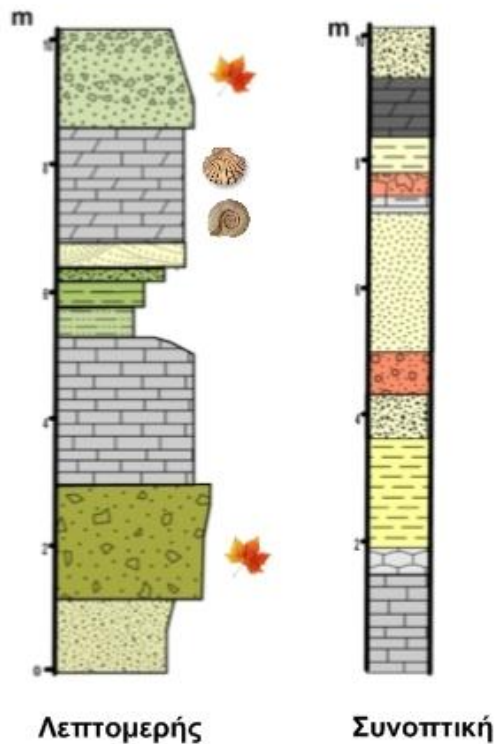


# Geophysical tomographies





# Detailed – Brief Stratigraphic column

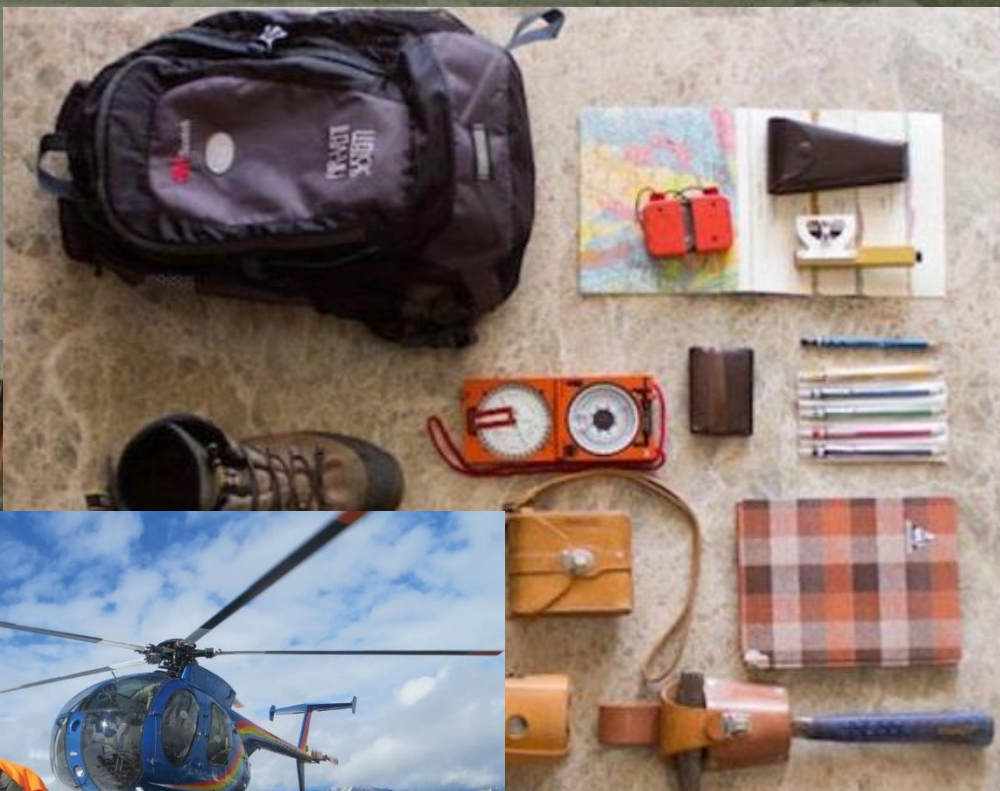


In the detailed stratigraphic column, the variations in grain size are depicted as well as the transition from one layer to another, in contrast to the brief one in which the changes in the sediments are shown by the different symbolism and the transitions are not clear.

# Construction of a stratigraphic section

1. Field stage
2. Laboratory stage
3. Stratigraphic section construction

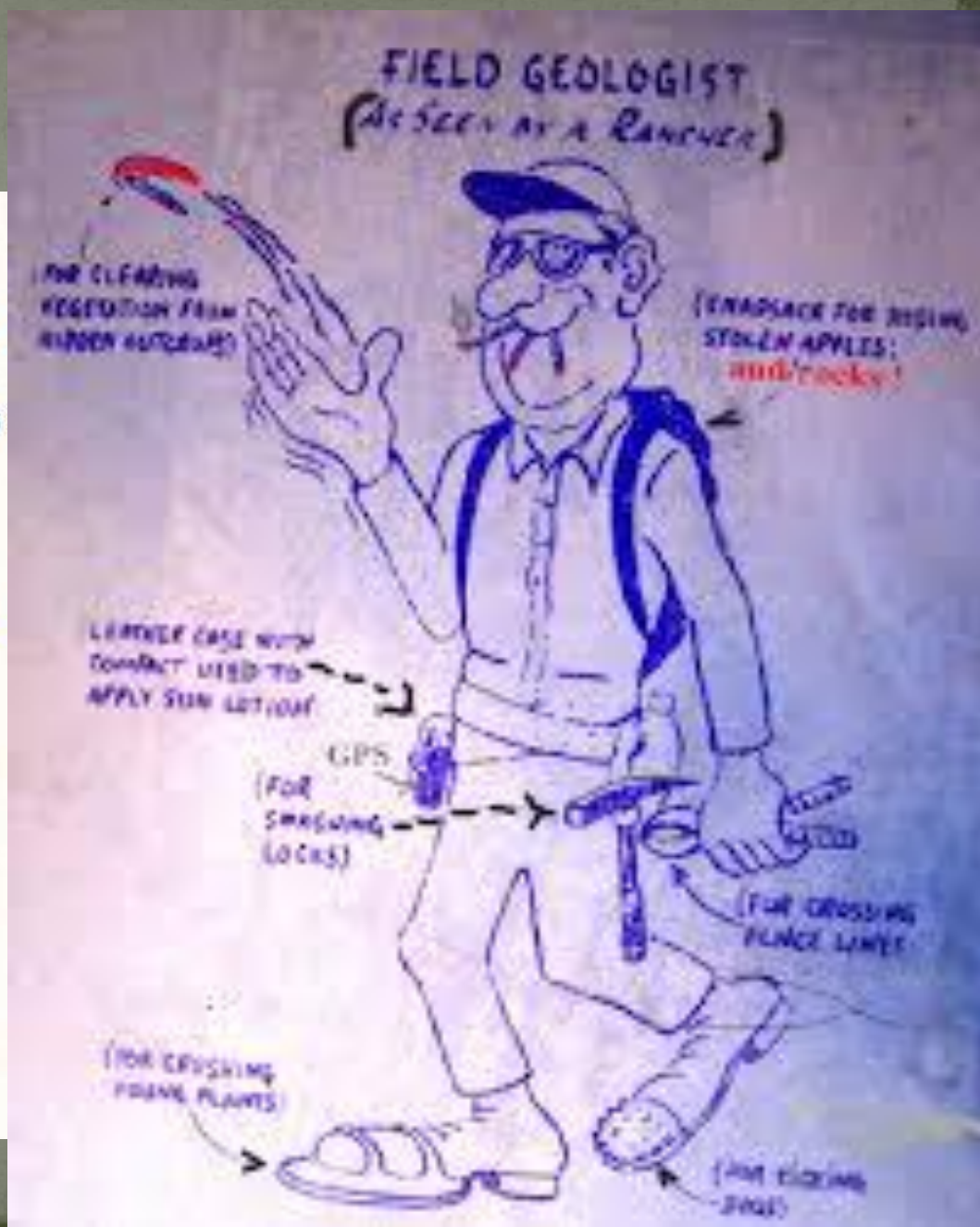




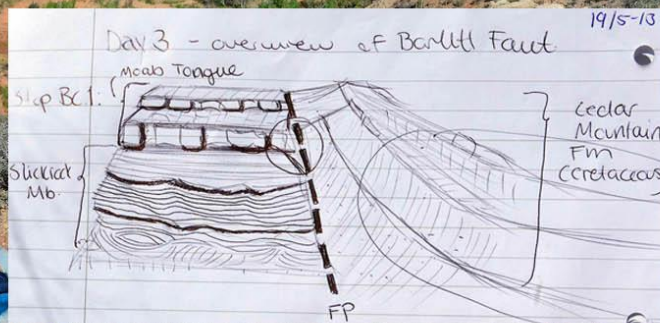
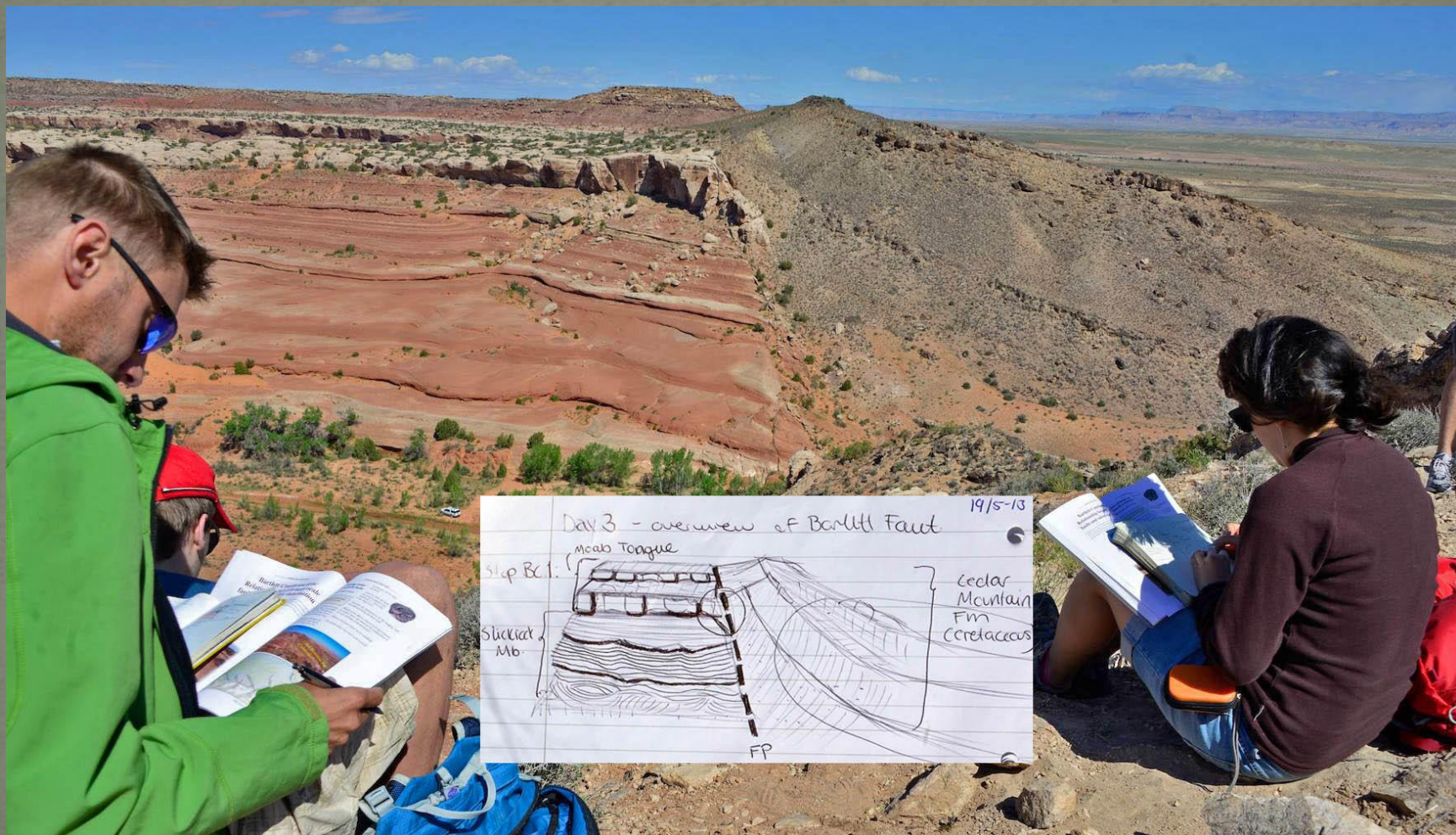




*Wot the well-dressed 'ologist  
is wearing this summer*







# Στάδιο υπαίθρου

[illegible]

Example sedimentary log						
SCALE (m)	LITHOLOGY	LIMESTONES	STRUCTURES & FOSSILS	NOTES	PROCESS INTERPRETATION	ENVIRONMENT INTERPRETION
		MUD SAND GRAVEL				
		mud wacke pack grain rud & bound				
		day slt vt f c vc gran pebb cobbl boul				
4				coal	Low energy, vegetated	river floodplain
3				20cm sets	Low energy, vegetated	
2				60cm sets palaeoflow 120, 175, 150, 160	ripple migration	scour and fill of river channel
1				polymict	arcuate dune migration	
				dark	scoured surface	
					low energy	





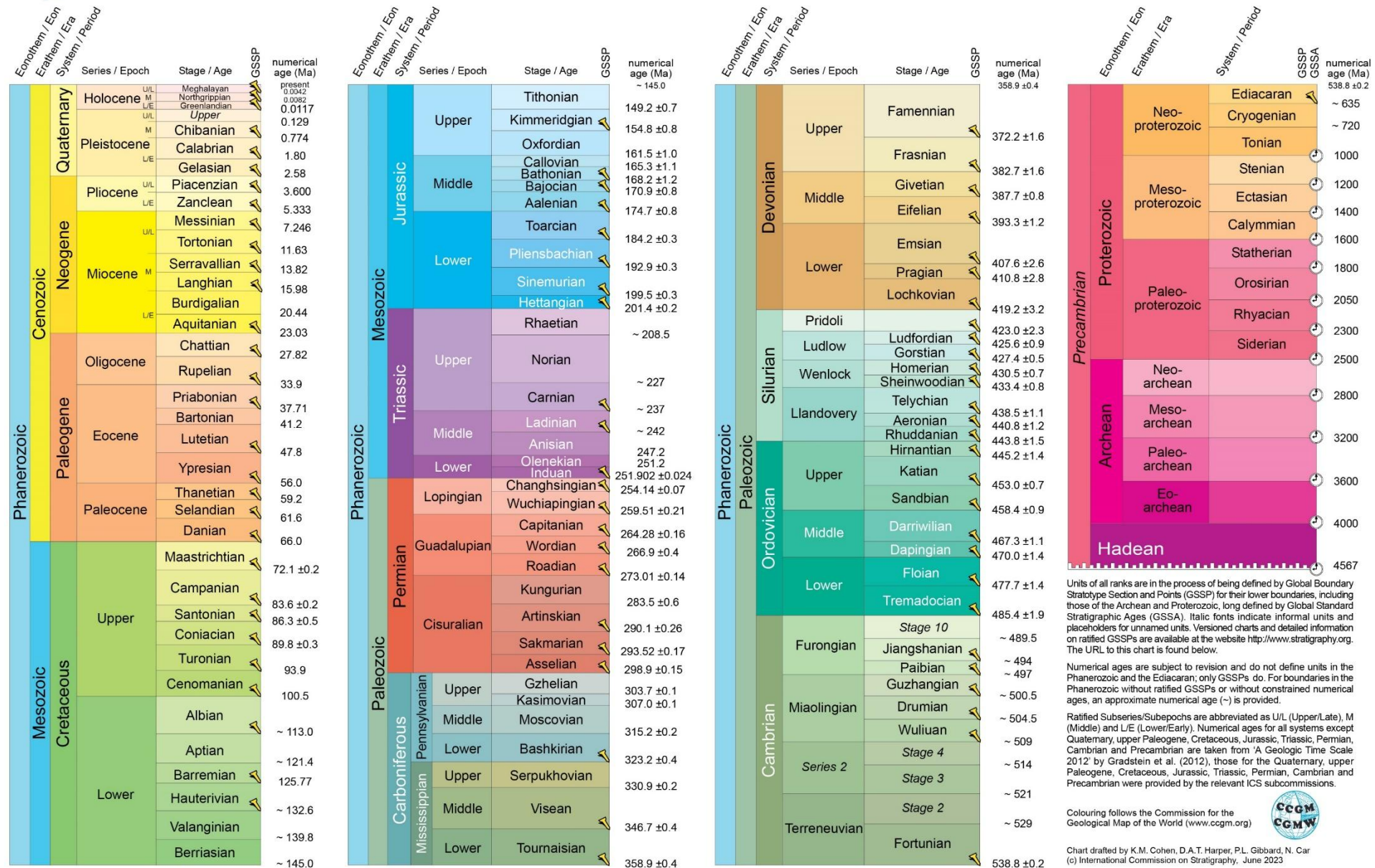
IUGS

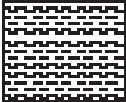
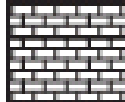



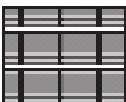
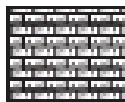



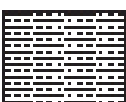
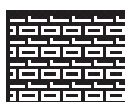



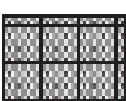









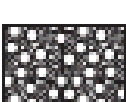









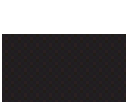



















## INTERNATIONAL CHRONOSTRATIGRAPHIC CHART

www.stratigraphy.org

International Commission on Stratigraphy

v 2023/06



	Claystone		Limestone		Current ripple cross-lamination		Bivalves		Vertebrates
	Shale		Limestone (e.g. grainstone)		Planar cross-bedding		Gastropods		Undifferentiated fossil material
	Siltstone		Limestone (e.g. wackestone)		Trough cross-bedding		Cephalopods		Plant material
	Mudstone		Dolomite		Wave ripple cross-lamination		Brachiopods		Tree stumps
	Sandstone		Gypsum or anhydrite		Horizontal lamination		Solitary corals		Logs
	Conglomerate (clast-support)		Halite		Hummocky/swaley cross-stratification		Colonial corals		Roots
	Conglomerate (matrix-support)		Volcaniclastic sediment		Ooids Peloids		Echinoids		Indicates fragmented material
	Coal		Volcanic rock (lava)		Mud cracks		Crinoids		Bioturbation (moderate)
	Chert		Intrusive rock		Convolute beds or lamination		Foraminifera		Bioturbation (intense)
					Water escape structures		Algae	 sharp  gradational  erosional	
					Load casts		Bryozoa		
					Σγκρίματα, κόνδυλοι		Stromatolites		Palaeocurrent direction



# Completeness of rock record

- The rock record is the set of rocks that have been deposited (sedimentary record) or formed in a specific area or across the planet.
- The record is always incomplete and discontinuous
- Why?

# Incomplete rock record

- It is most often interrupted by countless Discontinuities, Unconformities or diastemas
- Rocks are destroyed by various exogenous and endogenous processes
- The deposition or formation of rocks is often interrupted by such processes
- Such temporary and short interruptions are found, as we said earlier, on each layer surface.
- The elements that the rocks contain in these interruptions are also part of Stratigraphy and a very important contribution to understanding the history of our planet.



# Discontinuities

Any change/interruption in the lithological continuity or coherence of a layer.

Two types

1. **Stratigraphic**
2. **Tectonic**

# Stratigraphic Discontinuities

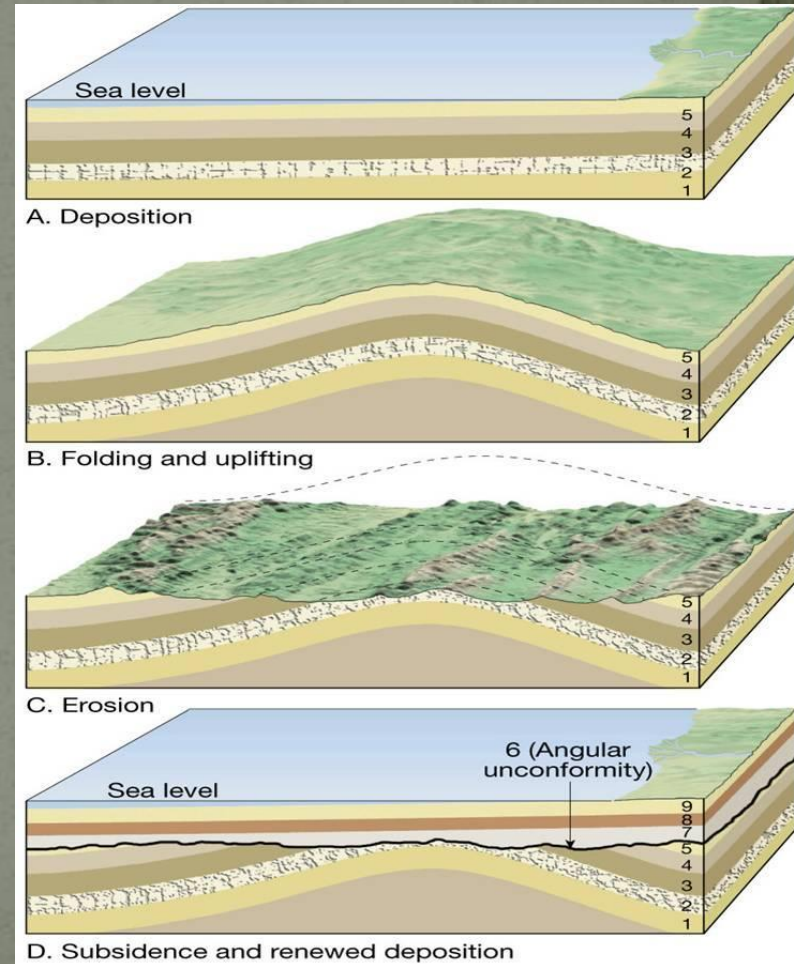
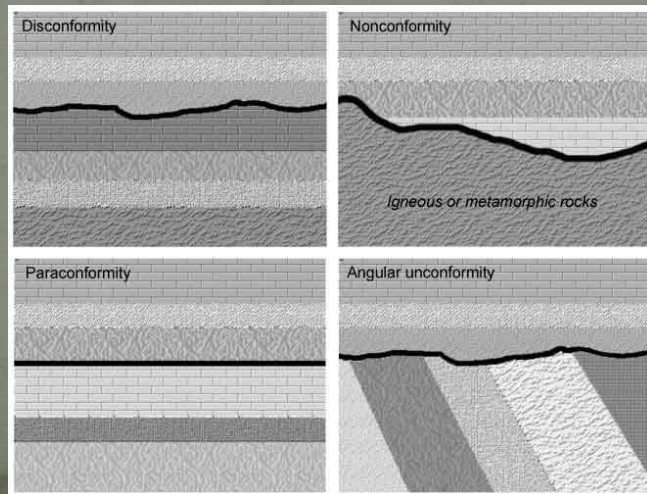
- A. Bed contacts
- B. Unconformities
- C. Diastems



# Unconformities

«the stop of sedimentation for a significant time period»

1. Nonconformity
2. Angular conformity
3. Disconformity
4. Paraconformity





# Angular conformity



Γωνιώδης ασυμφωνία



# Nonconformity



Συνεχής ασυμφωνία



# Disconformity



Διαβρωσιγενής ασυμφωνία



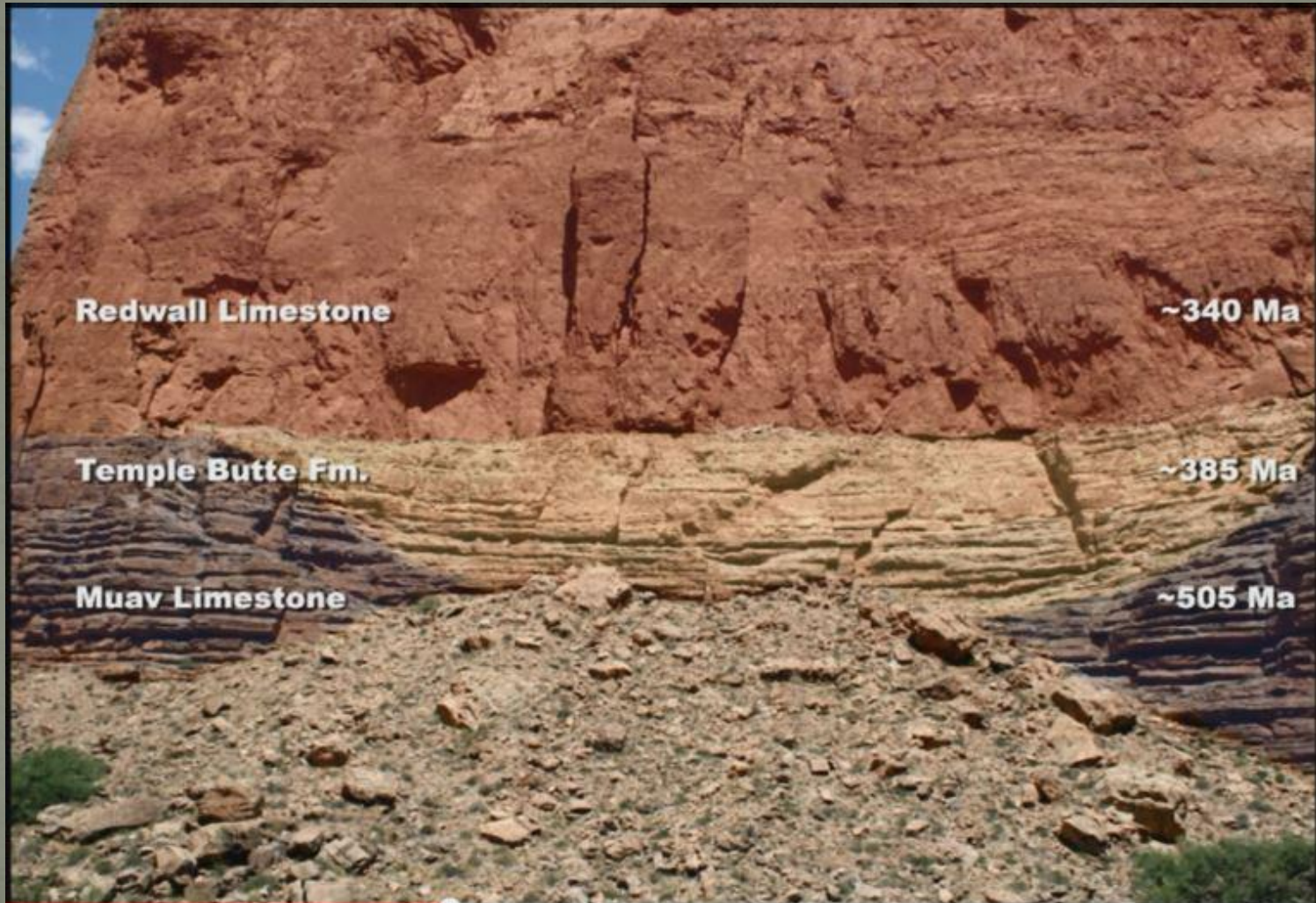
# Paraconformity



Παρα- ασυμφωνία



# diastema



Πρωτογενείς ασυμφωνίες στο Grand Canyon



# Diastema

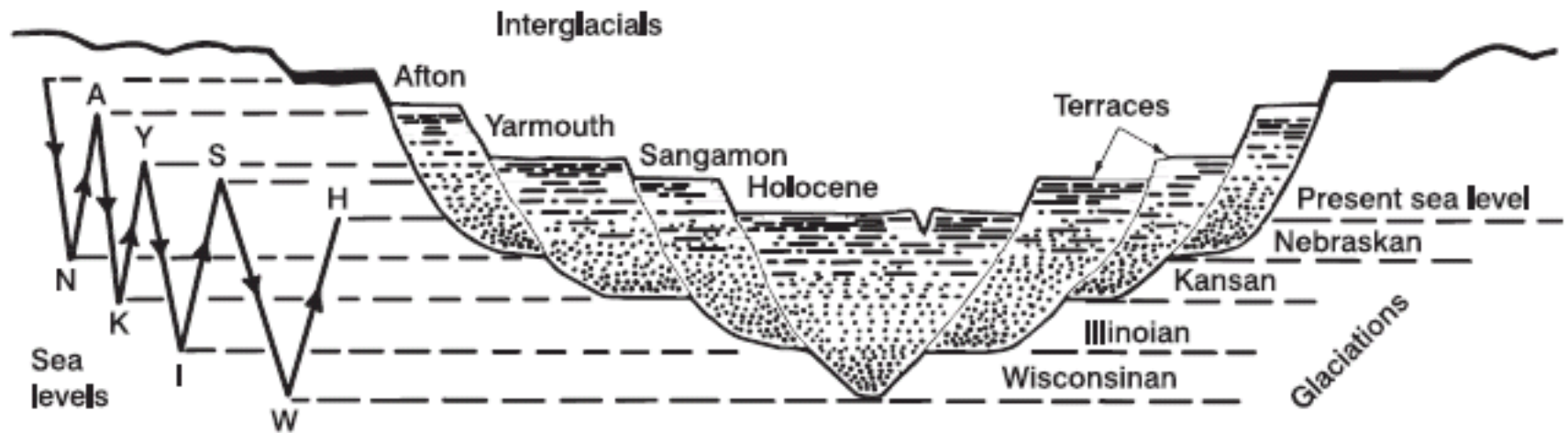


Fig. 5.13 Interglacial terraces and glacial valley cutting, lower Mississippi River, USA (from Strahler 1971, fig. 41.18).

# Tectonic Discontinuities

## 1. faults

- normal
- reverse
- strike slip

## 2. high angle thrusts

## 3. low angle thrusts

thrust sheets and nappes







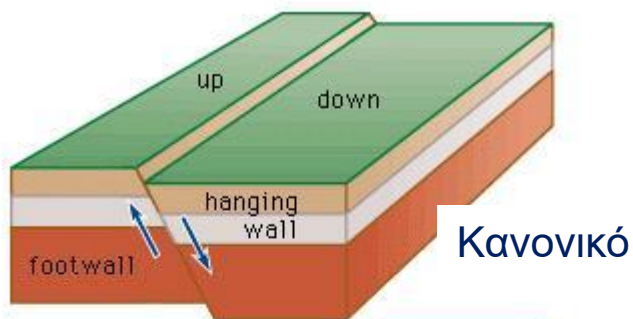




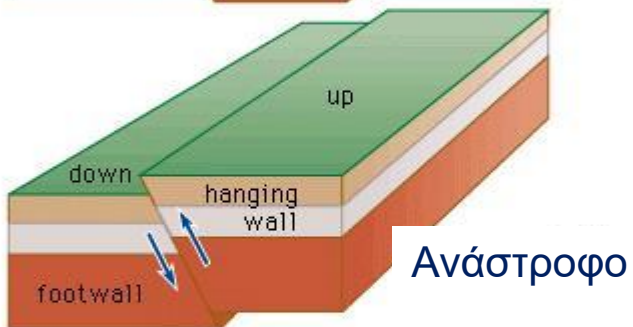




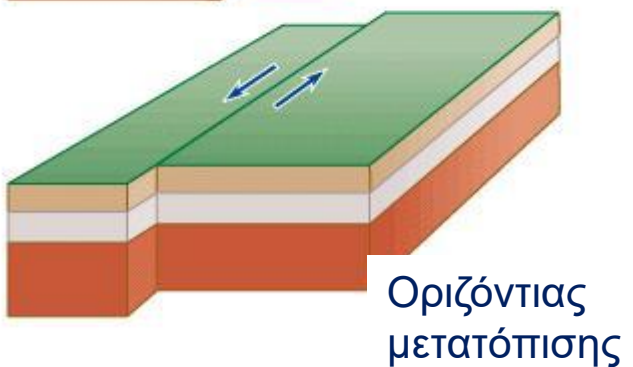




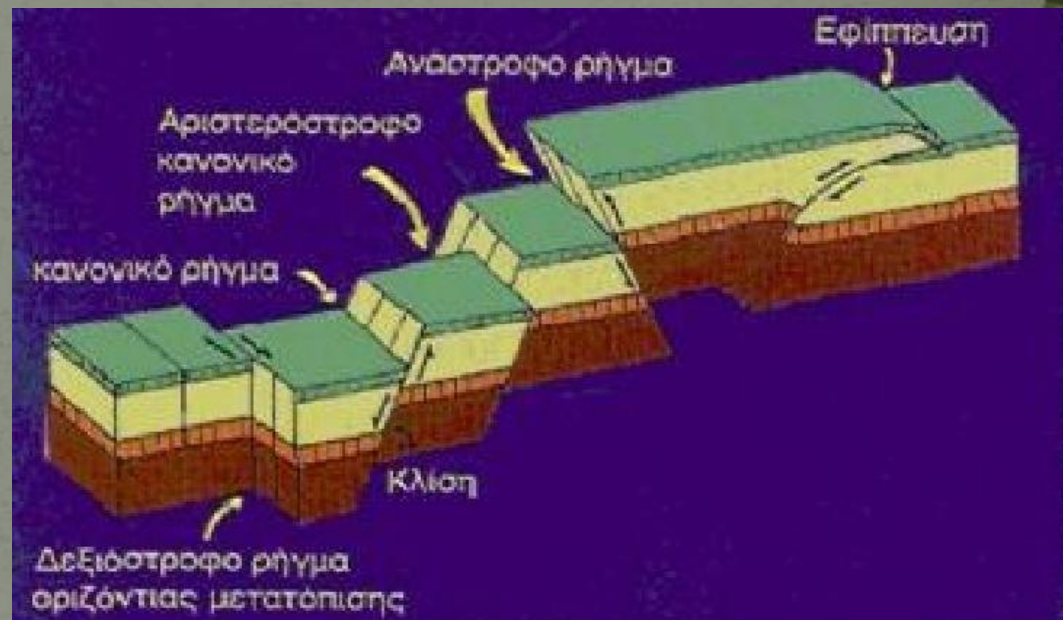
Κανονικό



Ανάστροφο

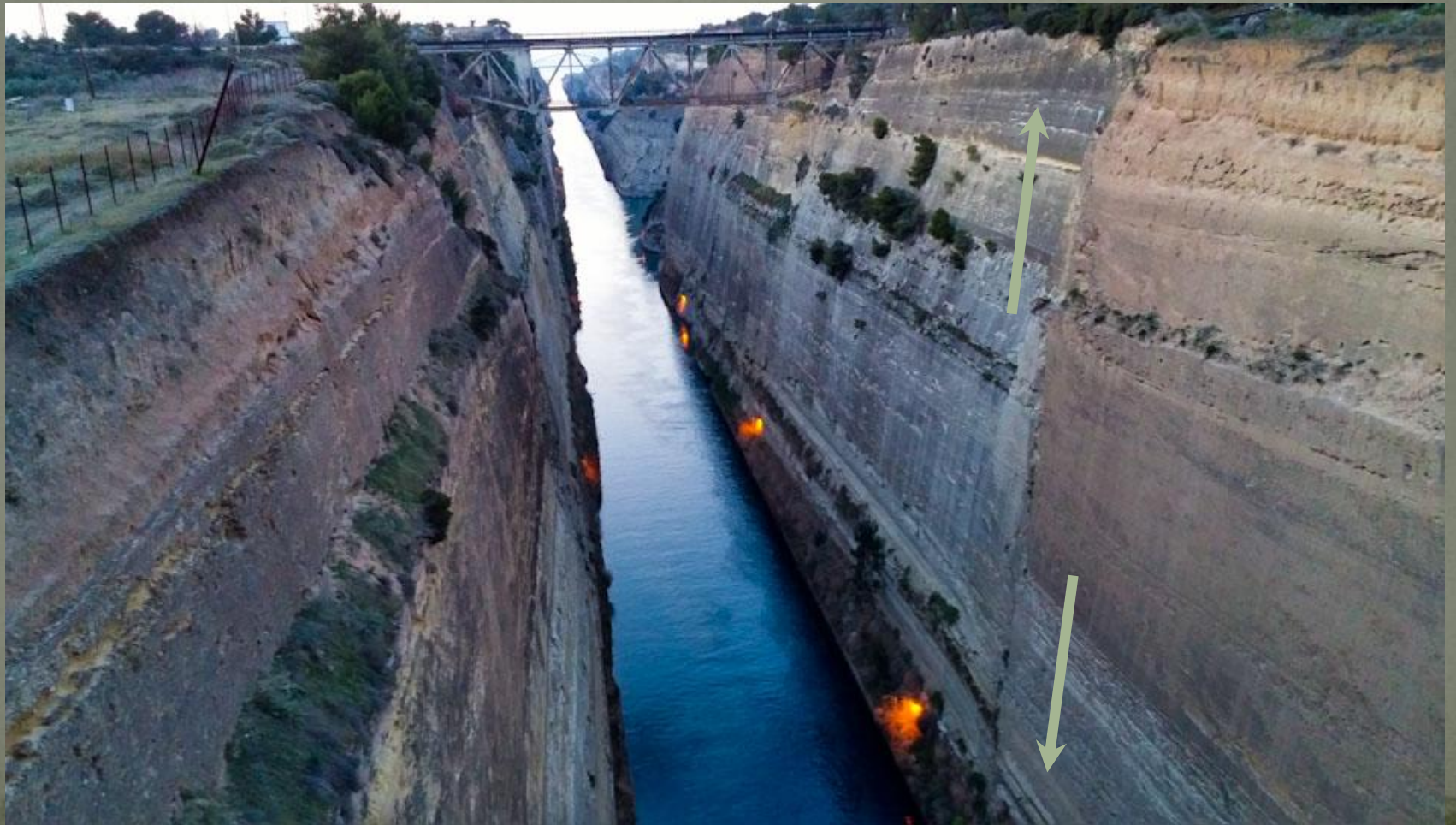


Οριζόντιας μετατόπισης



**Ρήγμα:** διάρρηξη (σπάσιμο) στο φλοιό της γης. Υπάρχουν τρία είδη ρημάτων: 1. Κανονικά ρήματα, 2. Ανάστροφα ρήματα, 3. Ρήματα οριζόντιας μετατόπισης.

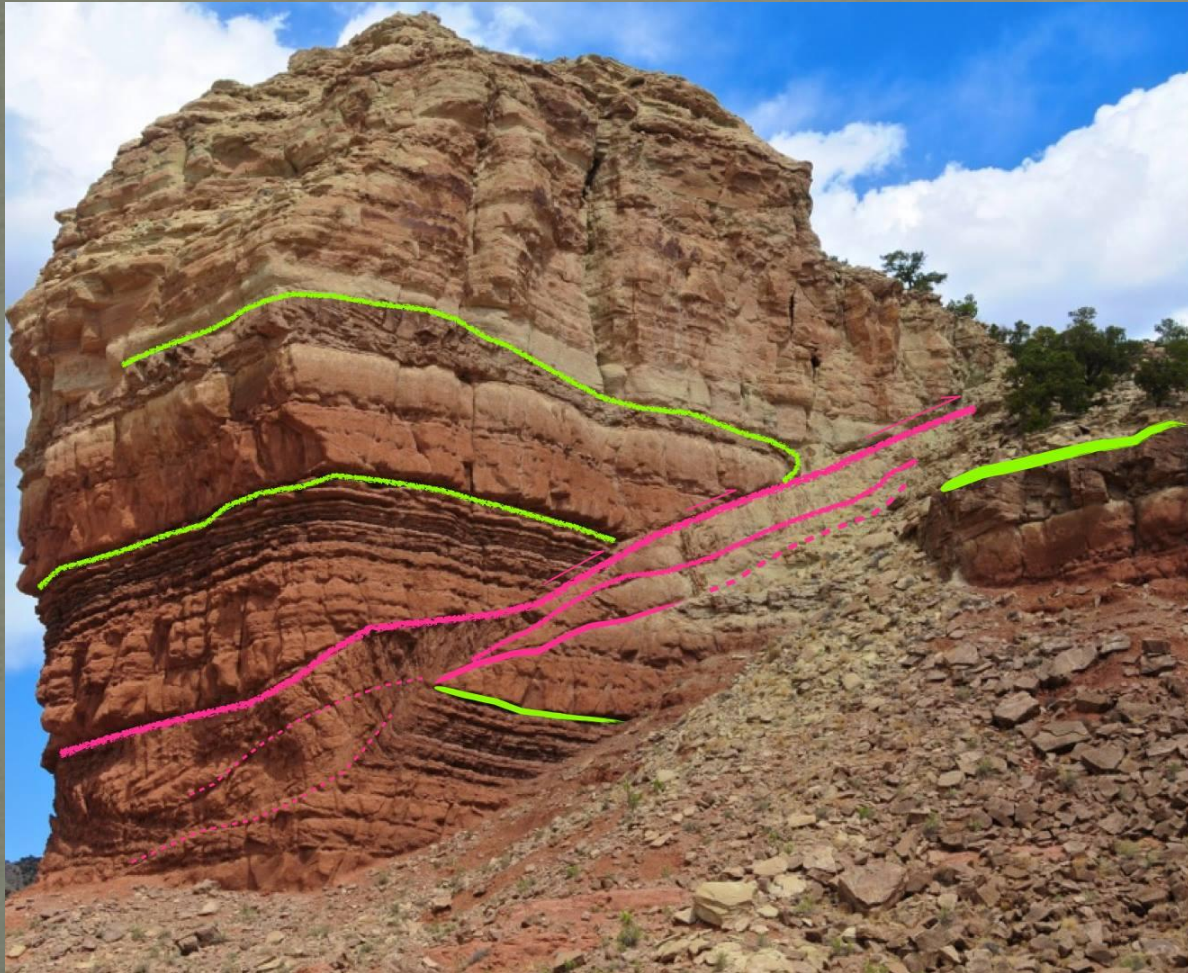








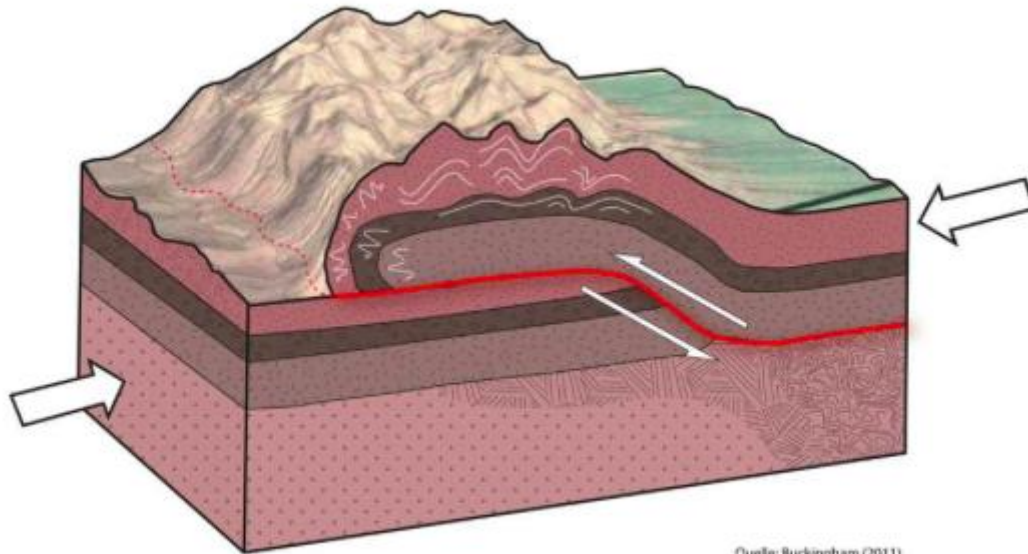




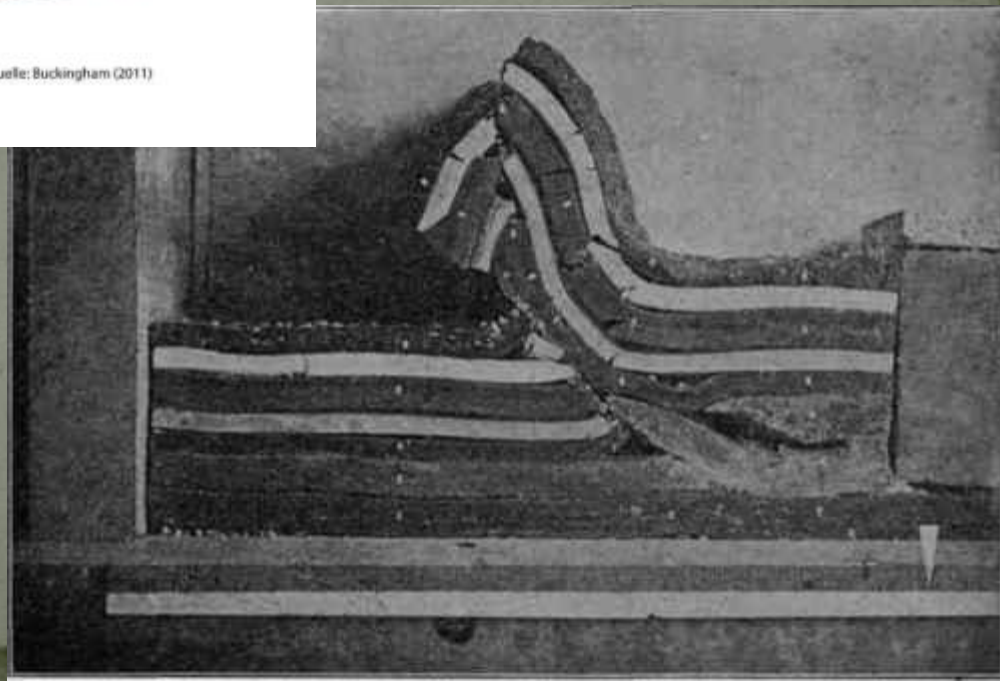
an interpretation  
of the  
**Reverse Fault**  
(fault zone) at  
**Cedar Mountain,**  
Utah, USA.



# Επωθήσεις



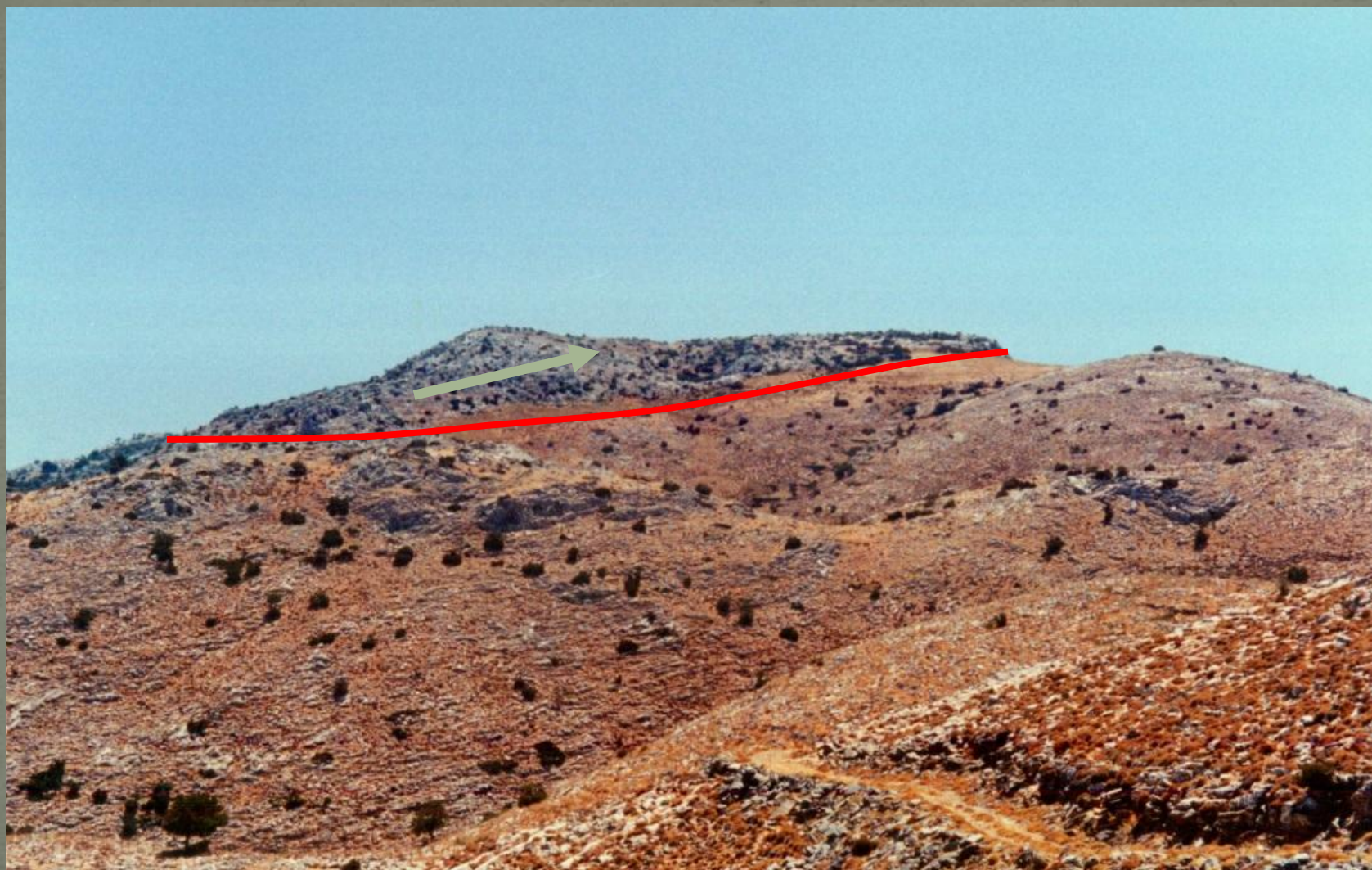
Quelle: Buckingham (2011)













# Thrusts

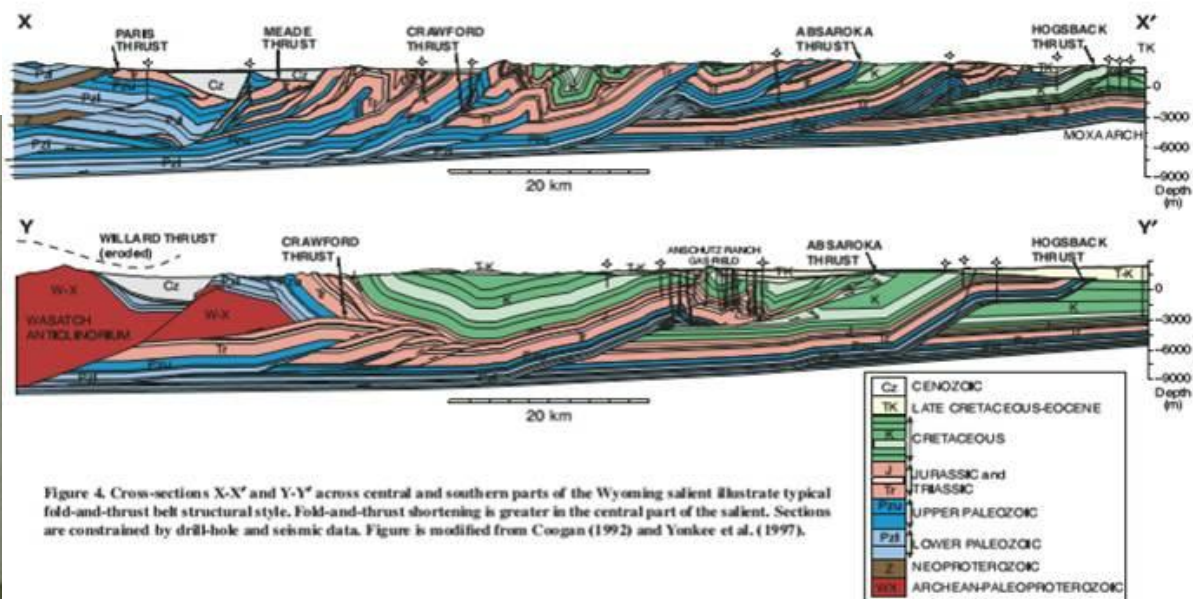
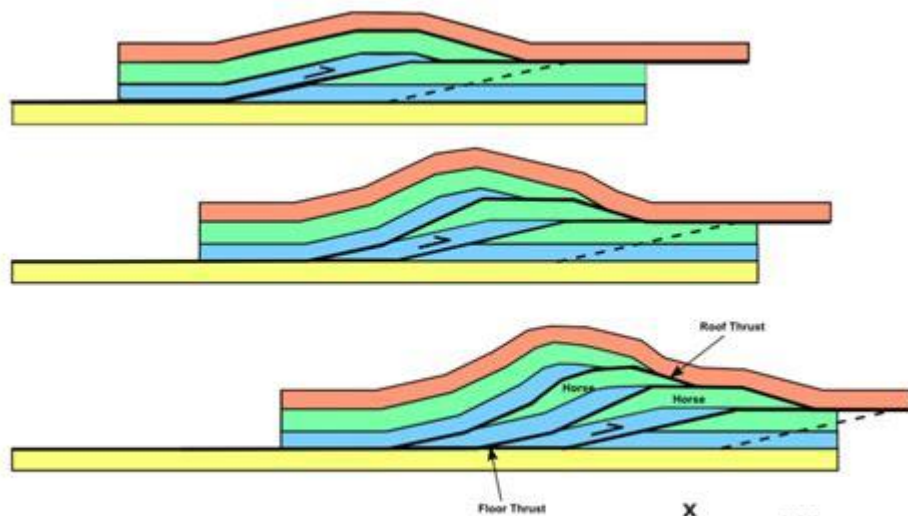


Figure 4. Cross-sections X-X' and Y-Y' across central and southern parts of the Wyoming salient illustrate typical fold-and-thrust belt structural style. Fold-and-thrust shortening is greater in the central part of the salient. Sections are constrained by drill-hole and seismic data. Figure is modified from Coogan (1992) and Yonkee et al. (1997).

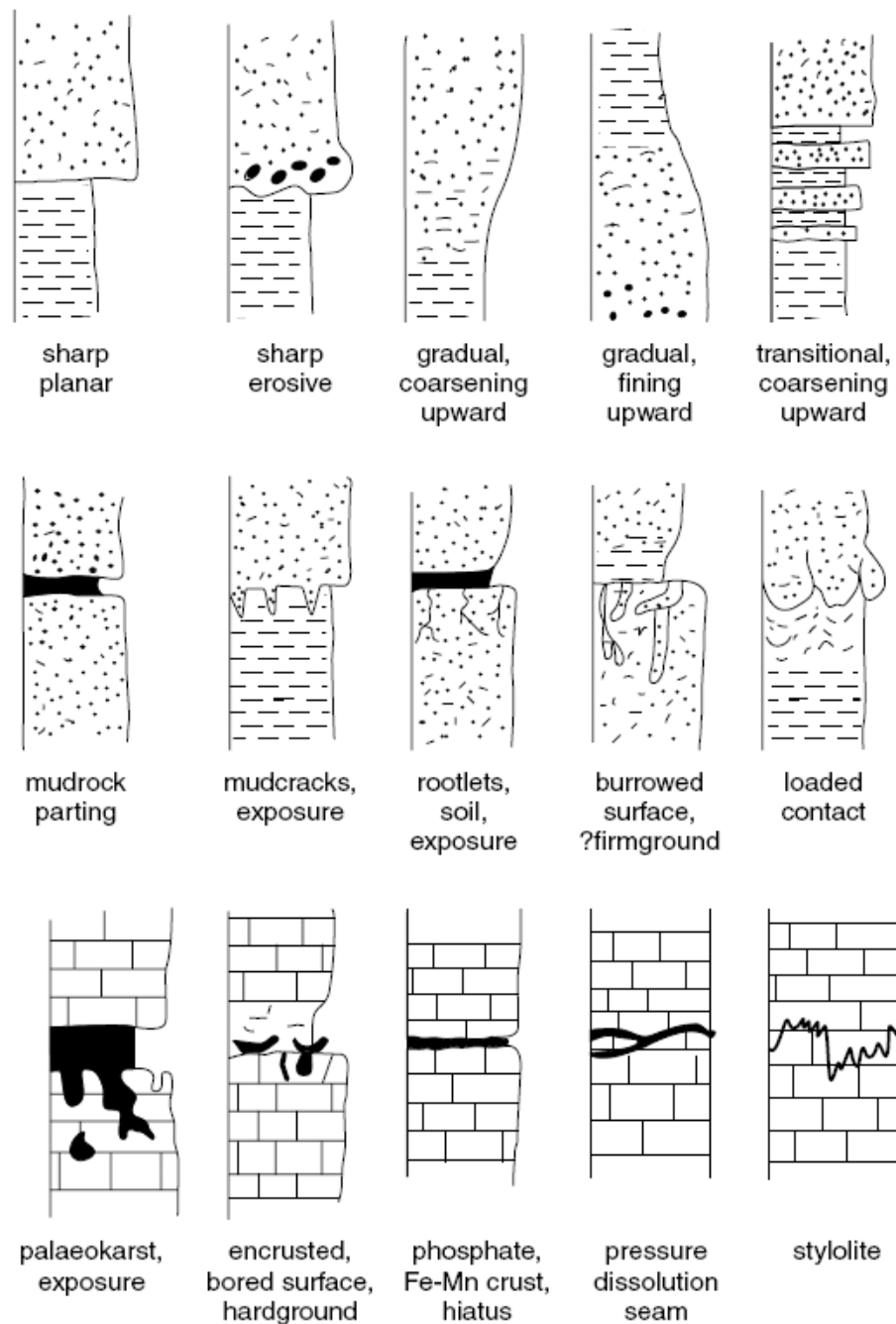


Figure 5.5 Bedding planes and bed contacts: the range of possibilities.