# Sharpening our view of earth processes with high resolution topography



Sunset Crater Arizona hillshade (US NPS)

Granite Dells AZ point cloud (NCALM student seed grant)

# **Presentation outline**

- Introduction and measuring topography
- "Seeing" and working at the appropriate scale
- Applications

# **Main Application types**

- Feature mapping at fine scale
- Differencing of repeat surveys
- Landscape reconstruction (offsets)
- Surface process interactions with tectonic or volcanic processes

Major US community studies recognize the scientific value of high resolution topography



# **Example scientific motivations**

- How do geopatterns on the Earth's surface arise and what do they tell us about processes?
- How do landscapes influence and record climate and tectonics?
- What are the transport laws that govern the evolution of the Earth's surface?
- How does the landscape record evidence of prior earthquakes?
- Coupled hydrogeomorphic-ecosystem response to natural and anthropogenic change
- Landscape and ecosystem dynamics
- Volcano form and process
- Changes in volume of domes, edifice, flows over time



Air



Global and regional topography/bathy (10s-100s m/pix)

adar Topograph

ARINE GEOSCIENCE DATA SYSTEM

+ASTER

## Getting the right coverage in time, space, and resolution for the question

motion of camera

provides depth

information

laser pulse

Local to site scale topography (dm to m / pix)

A Airborne LiDAR

onboard GPS and IMU constrain position and orientation of aircraft

distance between scanner and ground return determined from delay between outgoing pulse and reflected return

Structure from Motion

shotographs scene structure refers to both camera positions and orientations and the topography

requence of

features matched in multiple photographs

#### **B** Terrestrial LiDAR

lines show track of scan across ground circles show actual ground return footprints

Johnson, K., Nissen, E., Saripalli, S., Arrowsmith, J.R., McGarey, P., Scharer, K., Williams, P., Blisniuk, K., Rapid mapping of ultra-fine fault zone topography with Structure from Motion, Geosphere, v. 10; no. 5; p. 1-18; doi:10.1130/GES01017.1, 2014.

hadow zor

Stereo-Photogrammetric **Elevation Model (Polar** 

Geospatial Center)

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# Science requirements

- Need topography data with sufficient spatial extent and resolution to capture phenomena of interest
- Need topography data with sufficient temporal repeat to capture changes of interest





#### 430km of ground rupture, above 4000m

Yann Klinger, IPGP;

http://peer.berkeley.edu/events/2009/sfdc\_workshop/Klinger\_Kunlun\_EQ.pdf

# Length scales >10<sup>5</sup>m and <1 m



## For differencing, need pre-event data



High-resolution TanDEM-X DEM: An accurate method to estimate lava flow volumes at Nyamulagira Volcano (D. R. Congo) Albino, et al., 2015 "Seeing" at the appropriate scale means measuring at the right scale



Surface processes act to change elevation through erosion and deposition while tectonic processes depress or elevate the surface directly their record is best characterized with the right fine scale.

10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Applies in particular to statistical self similarity

How long is the coast of Britain? Statistical self-similarity and fractional dimension Science: 156, 1967, 636-638

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/How Long Is the Coast of Britain%3F Statistical Self-Similarity and Fractional Dimension

B. B. Mandelbrot



## **Cinder cone slope analysis**



#### **UNAVCO** Terrestrial Laser Scanner



Granite Dells AZ point cloud (Haddad, et al. 2012)

absolute measurement capability sufficient to characterize features and changes in challenging geometric arrangements

#### **Structure from Motion**



Dirt Road



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Bellemont

## Sunset Crater topographic data

Flagstaff

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#### Lidar: full feature (all returns)







## Mapping active fault traces

Classic, field, and virtual LiDAR views

An example from the Cholame section of the San Andreas Fault Arrowsmith and Zielke, 2009

#### Explanation for fault strip mapping

#### Vedder and Wallace, 1970

- Local features with annotation
- —— Regional features
- Recently active breaks, certain
- Recently active breaks, less obviousPonds and lakes



#### Stone and Arrowsmith

- Fault trace
- ----- Fault trace, concealed
  - --· Fault trace, inferred
    - Lineament
      - Landslide deposit
      - Landslide scarp

Sag

#### Zielke, this study

Fault traces: red for main trace, blue for secondary traces

- Fault trace, certain
- --- Fault trace, inferred
- ---? Fault trace, queried
- Fault trace, uncertain

Landslide deposit and scarp



# Going beyond pretty pictures: the hillshades are very nice, but...









Quantitative morphology, recent evolution, and future activity of the Kameni Islands volcano, Santorini, Greece

Pyle and Elliott, Geosphere, 2006



Contour Map of Spectral Power with Moving Windows - Profile 3

"Buckling with an ~20 m wavelength can be observed near the vent; downstream, a 30–40 m wavelength becomes dominant"

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200

400

600

800

ce (meters)

1000

1200

1400

The emplacement of the active lava flow at Sinabung Volcano, Sumatra, Indonesia, documented by structure-frommotion photogrammetry -Carr, et al., in review.

1600

1600

## Fault zone deformation and shallow slip from LiDAR differencing

#### Ed Nissen (Colorado School of Mines)

Tadashi Maruyama (AIST), Ramon Arrowsmith, Sri Saripalli, Aravindhan Krishnan (Arizona State University)

with thanks to:

SC/EC

*Vertical displacements in the 2011 Mw 6.6 Iwaki earthquake* 

an NSF + USGS center





#### The 2008 Iwate-Miyagi earthquake (Mw 6.9), Japan



Pre-earthquake DEM (2m)

## The 2008 Iwate-Miyagi earthquake (Mw 6.9), Japan



Post-earthquake DEM (1m)

#### The 2008 Iwate-Miyagi earthquake (Mw 6.9), Japan



Dense 3-D displacements in an area InSAR cannot image

The displacement sense and magnitude agrees with (limited) field observations

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## Historical Rupture

## 3-D Trenching

## Rockwell

Salisbury

## Geomorphology

## Fault-normal Trenching

Madden

Dawson



Figure 2. Oblique view of Hector Mine earthquake surface rupture that experienced 3.5–4.5 m of right-lateral displacement. The rupture trace is pointed out by finger icons; the light and dark bands below and above the surface rupture are subparallel, topographic escarpments. Several offset ridges are now juxtaposed with gullies, forming 'shutter' ridges. Raw laser hits are used to illuminate the ground surface in this pointcloud image. From tens to hundreds of hits per square meter were collected along the primary surface ruptures.



High-Resolution Topography along Surface Rupture of the 16 October 1999 Hector Mine, California, Earthquake ( $M_w$  7.1) from Airborne Laser Swath Mapping

by K. W. Hudnut, A. Borsa, C. Glennie, and J.-B. Minster



Figure 6. (a) Cross sections through the raw laser data on either side of the surface rupture, along the east and west profiles shown in Figure 4, are shown projected onto the fault plane (a ground-slope correction has already been removed). (b) Comparison of the topographic profiles on either side of the fault, after shifting the profiles shown in Figure 6a to remove our best estimate of the lateral and vertical offset along this 300-m section.





Red profile with overlay of back-slipped blue profile













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## Understanding geomorphic response to uplift



#### -G. E. Hilley



## Dragon's Back Pressure Ridge, Carrizo Plain California

#### Arrowsmith, 1995; Hilley, 2001; Hilley and Arrowsmith, 2008





Hilley and Arrowsmith, 2008

#### Duvall, Kirby, and Burbank, 2004, JGR-ES

U = Rock Uplift Rate

# Concavity (θ) invariant with U

#### Steepness (Ks) varies with U





## Summary

- LiDAR provides dm to cm global accurate measure of the earth's surface
- Meter scale is critical for volcanic, structural geomorphic processes
- Main applications in volcano- and faulting-related investigations can be separated into fault zone mapping, reconstructing offsets, investigating geomorphic responses to active deformation, and differencing of repeat surveys

# Looking ahead

- Lots more data and problems out there!
- 4 dimensions: directly measuring the displacements
- Processing and filtering enhancements: looking for the signal in all the data (e.g., Hilley, et al., 2010; Delong, et al., 2010)
- Bring these data and their depiction of the earth's volcanic, geomorphic, and tectonic processes to geoscience education

#### B Where Do Strike-Slip Faults and Shear Zones Form?

During strike-slip movement, one block of rock is sheared sideways past another block of rock. This can various settings, including transform plate boundaries and within the interiors of plates.



Shear stresses can be imposed on rocks hortcortally, vertically, or at some intermediate angle. When the shear stresses are hortcortal ( $\Delta$ ), they act to shear the two sides of a block in opposite horizontal directions. As a result of the stresses, shearing moves rocks hortcontally past one another. Shearing in the upper parts of the crust occurs along a fault, as shown here, and is accompanied by fracturing of adjacent rocks. Shearing at depth will occur along a zone of ductile deformation and will be accompanied by metamorphism and the formation of foliation and lineation. Stresses can form a strike-slip zone that functions as a plate boundary or that is totally within a tactonic plate (IP). A strike-slip zone may offset the rocks hundreds of kilometers or less than a meter. A strike-slip fault with relatively small amounts of displacement is typically a single fault or several adjacent faults, but zones with larger displacements are thick zones of shear (shear zones).



08.10.bZ



All transform boundaries are faults that accommodate the la placement of one plate past a Most are a boundary between oceanic plates, as are the or here by small white arrows, transform fault can also se two continental plates or separate an oceanic plate a continental one.

dg.10.b.3

#### C What Features Form Along Strike-Slip Faults?

08. 10.c2 Cantzo Plain, CA

Strike-slip faults result in a number of distinctive features, including offset streams. They also can have fo formed where one block of rock shears past another or where rocks are forced around a bend in the fau

Strike-slip faults displace rocks on either side hortsontally relative to one another, so in a simple case would not uplift or downdrop either side. However, many strike-slip faults have bends, where the fault changes its trace across the land surface from one orientation to another. Right-lateral motion on the fault shown here causes compression along the bend, forming ridges and broughs that are the surface expression of folds and thrust faults.



Faults that are currently active can offset.

streams, ridges, and other topographic

California is the linear feature cutting

features. The San Andreas fault in central

across drainages in the center of this com-

large offset stream takes a jog as it crosses the fault. Is this fault a left-lateral or right-

puter-generated view (looking east). The

lateral strike-slip fault? Hint imagine you

side of the fault, and then observe which

way the streambed on the opposite side

has been displaced relative to you.

are standing in the streambed on the near

Horizontal displacement surface features, includir agricultural fields, and i beds. Over time, offse develop a characteris where they jog para fault, before contin

their prefaulting of direction of the juthe direction of in movement across

08.10.c1

#### Before You Leave This Be Able To

- Describe or sketch how def and metamorphism occur in continental rifts, rifted conti margins, and mid-ocean rid
- Describe strike-slip faults, s settings where they occur, a features formed on the land



JOHNSON

REYNOLDS

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MORIN CARTER

THIRD EDITION