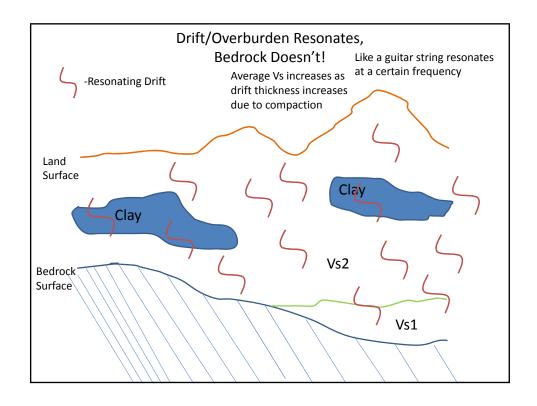


## **Special Thanks**

- Val Chandler Minnesota Geological Survey
- John Lane USGS
- Dr. Al Kehew
- Dr. William Sauck

#### Bedrock Surface/Drift Thickness-Who Cares!

- Bedrock Surface: the ultimate unconformity!
- Can learn much about the geological history of an area by understanding the bedrock surface.
- bedrock resistance
- regional structures
- inferences to subsurface structures
- Invaluable for geologists of many disciplines: hydrogeologists, mining geologists etc.,
- Fundamental surface for quaternary geologists



#### Take home points

- HVSR- Horizontal-to-Vertical Spectral Ratio Method
- Passive/Ambient Seismic Technique
  - Uses natural and anthropogenic noise
- Used to Determine/Estimate Depth to bedrock (drift thickness)
- Single station measurements
- Looking for a single very sharp high amplitude peak site resonance frequency
- Z = Vs/4fo
- Resonance Frequency related to bedrock depth
  - Low Frequency deeper bedrock depth
  - High Frequency shallow bedrock depth
- Calibration Points/Curve generally needed

#### Take home points

- How large or what defines a calibration area?
- Not a silver bullet (may not work everywhere, may give good resonance frequency but it may be due to some contact other than the top of bedrock
- Concepts proposed 1950s
- 'Nakamura' Method-Seismic Hazards Delineation Method
- Widely adopted in 1990s (Japan and Europe)
- Introduced to USA by USGS, slow to take off
- Same instrument used for seismic hazard studies
- Drift/Overburden resonates due to noise Bedrock doesn't!

#### **Use in Seismic Hazard Studies**

• Amplifaction\_\_\_\_

# Noise-Microtremors This is data (noise) that seismologist filter out

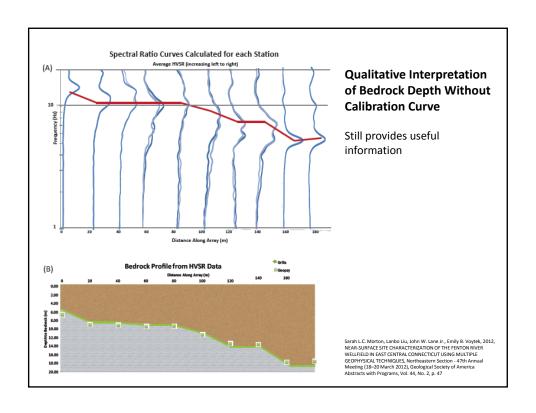
- Natural
  - Wind
  - Waves
  - Distant Weather
  - Tectonic
- Anthropogenic
  - Traffic
  - Industry
  - Utilities
  - Pedestrians/Geologists
  - Airplanes (sometimes)
  - GeoProbe???
  - Ducks
- Not Microseismic
- Not traditional seismic reflection or refraction!
- HVSR records Ambient Seismic Noise (3 components)

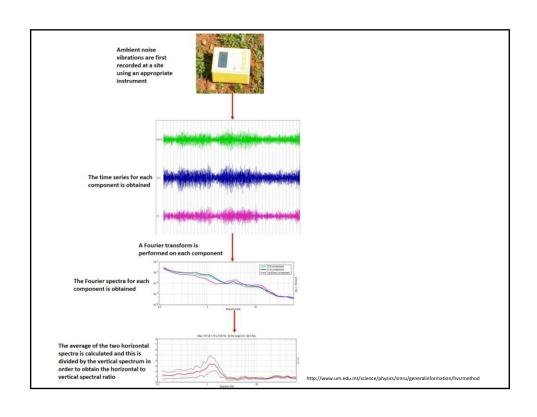
#### What You Can Do With the Data?

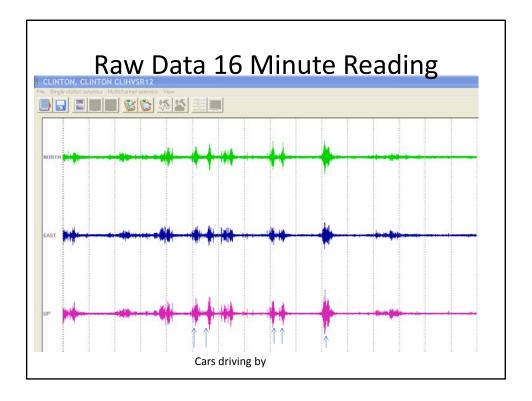
- 1. Collect HVSR Calibration Points at wells/borings of known bedrock depth to develop local/regional HVSR curve and HVSR Equation. Pick  $f_0$ , plot in Excel: log rock depth vs log  $f_0$ . Use local HVSR curve equation ex> y =  $328.33x^{-1.682}$  and then solve for y (depth to bedrock).
- If Vs is Known (from some other source), gather HVSR data, pick f<sub>o</sub>, Z=Vs/4f<sub>o</sub> solve for Z (depth to bedrock)
- If small site w/a few bedrock depth calibration points, gather HVSR data, pick f<sub>o</sub>, Vs=f<sub>o</sub>\*4Z. Solve for Vs. Calculate Vs average, then solve for h (depth to bedrock)
- Quick and Dirty-don't need actual bedrock depths, just relative depths, plot the f₀ in cross-section, contour or chart 1/f₀, or plot the HVSR curves in cross-section
- Make relative comparison of f0 from a reading at a known bedrock depth to single an field reading at unknown bedrock depth

#### Two Steps

- 1. Develop (local/regional) HVSR Calibration Curve
  - Take HVSR "Calibration Readings" at wells/borings with good depth to bedrock picks (water wells, oil & gas wells, environmental borings, etc.,)
  - Download/process the data & pick resonance frequency
  - Develop (local/regional) Calibration Curve of depth to rock vs resonance frequency and resulting curve equation
- 2. Take "Exploration Readings" at places on unknown depth to rock
  - Download/process the data & pick resonance frequency
  - Plug resonance frequency into Calibration Curve Equation in Step 1 above and solve for depth to rock

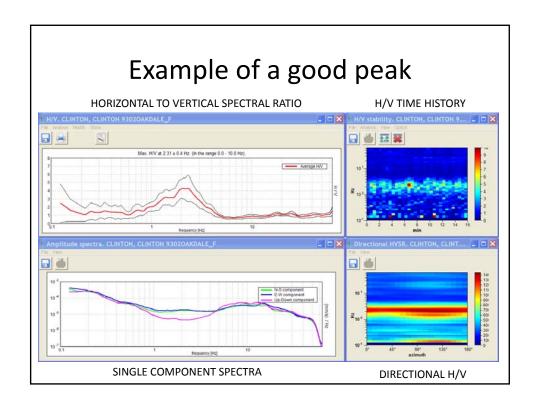


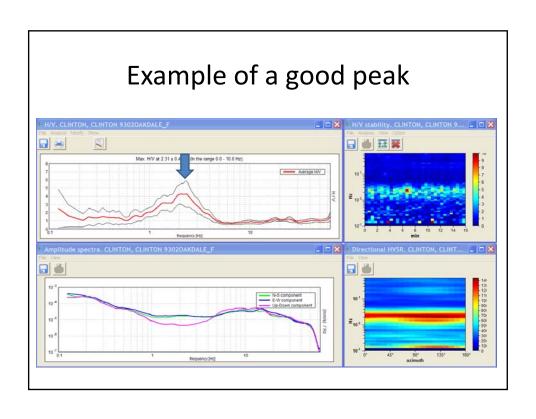


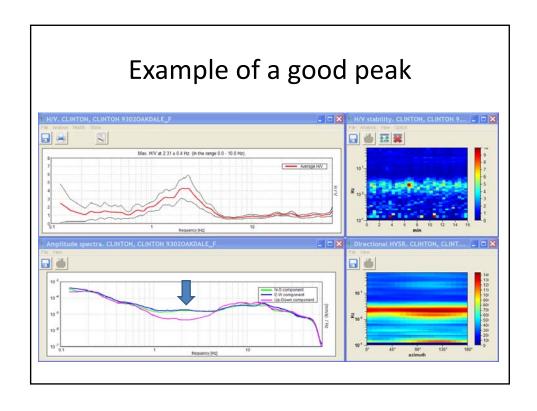


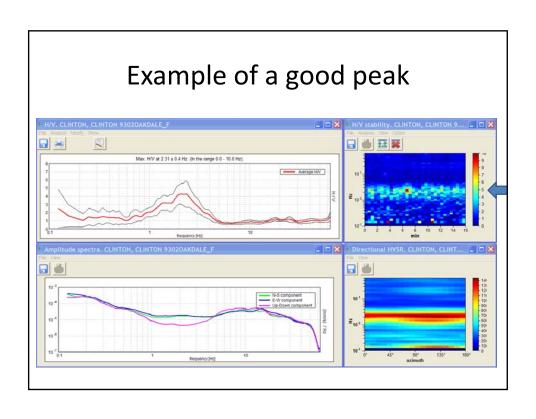
### **Looking For:**

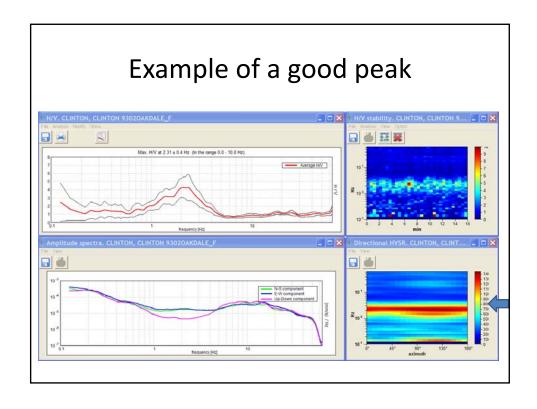
- Single high amplitude sharp peak
- With "eye" anomaly directly below peak.
   Horizontal: EW & NS curves track together
   Vertical curve under peak less
- Left side lower frequency-deeper to rock
- Right side higher frequency-shallower to rock

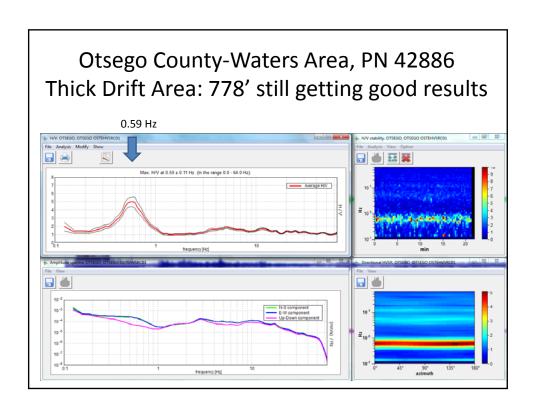


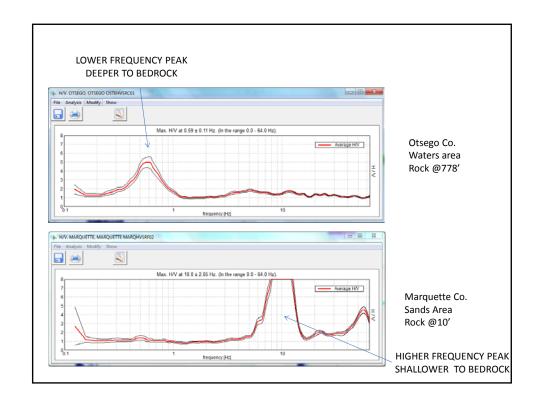


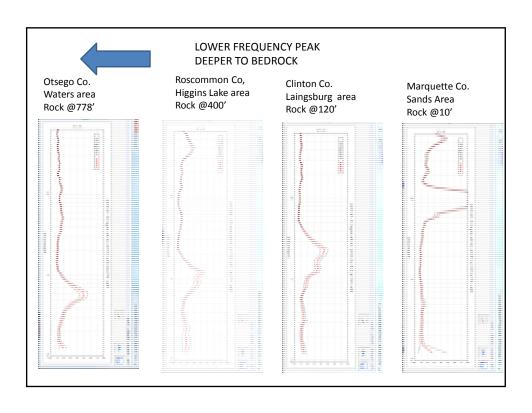


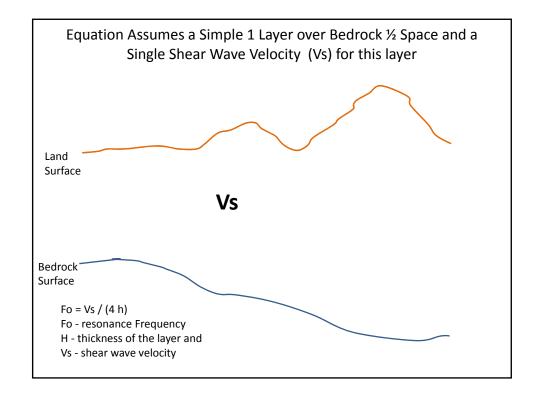


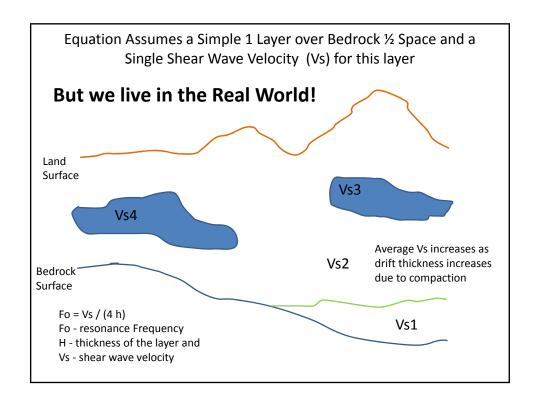


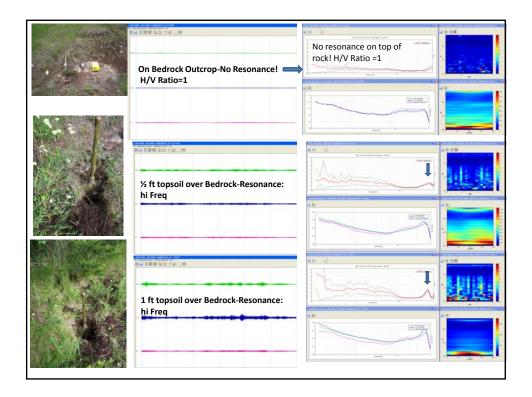












# Deeper bedrock depth or overly noisy area Sample longer

- 0-50 feet (0-15 m) 6 min
- 50-130 feet (15-40 m) 8 min
- 130-300 feet (40-90 m) 12-14 min
- 300-500 feet (90-150 m 14-16 min
- 500-800 feet (150-240 m) 16-20 min
- 800-1300 feet (240-390 m) 20 min
  - Longer sample-better, can remove too noisy periods,
  - Shorter sample-length can collect more samples
  - USGS samples for 30 minutes
  - Minnesota Geological Survey samples for 20 minutes

#### **Acoustic Impedance Contrast**

- Need Strong Acoustic Impedance Contrast between drift/bedrock or regolith/bedrock
- Assumed to need 2.5 x higher bedrock than drift
- Acoustic Impedance Contrast
  - Velocity
  - Density
- So in theory a lacustrine clay or till over a weathered shale likely doesn't have as good an impedance contrast as a sand over unweathered granite.

## **HVSR Equation**

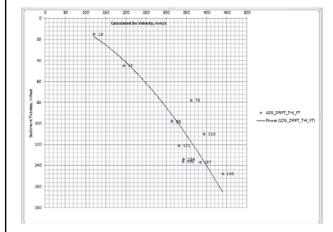
- Vs=f<sub>o</sub>\*4Z
  - $f_0 = Vs / (4 Z)$
- Z=Vs/4f<sub>o</sub>



- f<sub>o</sub> Resonance Frequency
- Z Thickness of the layer (depth to rock)
- Vs (the shear wave velocity in the same layer)

#### Vs - Shear Wave Velocity

- clay has Vs typically 100-180 m/s,
- sand has Vs typically 180-250 m/s,
- gravel has Vs typically 250-500 m/s



- Drift thickness Dependent
- Thus: Compaction
- Michigan Vs Ranges
  - 50 m/s
  - 700 m/s

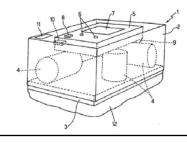
#### Taking a Reading in the Field

- Select site
- Remove topsoil and loose dirt if necessary
- Set instrument on ground, orient instrument north
- Level seismometer bubble level, good coupling is critical
- Turn on instrument and set sample length, sensitivity (gain) and frequency
- · Record current partition on log sheet
- Set timer on your watch to match the sample length
- Setup anemometer to measure wind speed during reading (max and ave) if wind is >14 mph, may be too windy (too much noise). If no wind don't need to measure wind speed.
- Start reading and start timer on watch ~ same time
- Walk a safe distance away and try to remain stationary as possible during reading (see note on dancing).
- Fill out HVSR log sheet: Station ID, location info, noise sources and distances, calibration/field reading, specific transient noise events: "car 250' south @ 4:30, 4:35, 6:10..."
- When reading is finished (watch timer beeps) turn off instrument, pack up and put in case.
- Collect GPS location of site, record wind speed (max and ave) on log sheet

		HVSR Fie	eld Sheet			
DATE			TIME			
LOCATION	LOCATION			CITY, STATE		
LATITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		ft/m	
SENSOR TYPE	SENSOR TYPE			NEAREST WELL (If known)		
SENSOR NUM	SENSOR NUMBER			OCK	ft/m	
FILE NAMES						
FILE DURATION	FILE DURATION 5 min / sec			TION 30	min/sec	
GAIN				10	io Hz	
WEATHER CONDITIONS	RAINnon	e weak (sn/s) e weak	☐ medium	strong	m/sec	
GROUND TYPE	Hard County Hard County (bard (art))					
ARTIFICIAL GR SENSOR COUP		none gravi	meter plate	other		
BUILDING DEN	ISITY	none scatte	ereddens	e other		
TRANSIENTS  CAYS  ENGINE  ENGINE  DOGETIONS  GODET	few moderate	distance N	☐no ☐yes,	TTC SOURCES (factor type	e, description	
NOTES/OBSER	VATIONS			FIELD CALCULATED FREQUENCY	Н	
					07/08/09	

## Tromino

- Small
- Simple
- AA batteries
- Inexpensive
- 3 Component Geophone NS, SW, V







## $\label{thm:contal-to-vertical} \mbox{ (H/V) ambient-noise seismic method for estimation of bedrock depth}$





Three-component seismometer connected to field laptop for  $\mbox{H/V}$  seismic surveys

This is my kind of field work!

Lane, J.W., Jr., White, E.A., Steele, G.V., and Cannia, J.C., 2008, Estimation of bedrock depth using the horizontal-to-vertical (H/V) ambient-noise seismic method, *in Symposium* on the Application of Geophysics to Engineering and Environmental Problems, April 6-10, 2008, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Proceedings: Derwer, Colorado, Environmental and Engineering Geophysical Society, 13 p.

## Which would you prefer?





#### No Rock & Roll and Especially no Dancing!

"Concerning the recording team,...not good to forget to turn the car engine off, and that while it is not a problem to listen to music while waiting for the data to be recorded, as long as it is not too loud, it is recommended not to dance around the sensor, even though the music is great."

Chatelain J-L, etal, 2008, Evaluation of the influence of experimental conditions on H/V results from ambient noise recordings, <u>Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering</u> February 2008, Volume 6, <u>Issue 1</u>, pp 33-74







Not All Readings Have a Single High Amplitude Peak

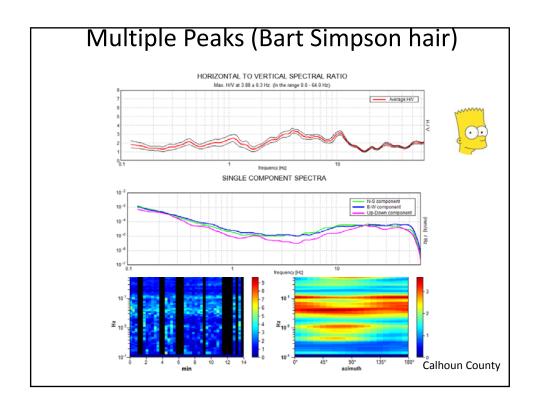
- Bart Simpson Peaks
- Multiple Smaller Peaks on a Broad Low Amplitude Peak
- Multiple Peaks-Indicating Different Units
  - Generally Pick the Lowest Amplitude Peak (but not always)
  - Can often use 1<sup>st</sup> Trough/2 to help in selecting correct one
  - Simple back of envelope calculation
    - Fo ~ 40 hz ~ 2'
    - Fo ~ 20 hz ~10'
    - Fo ~ 10 hz ~ 25'
    - Fo ~ 2 hz ~ 120'
    - Fo ~ 1 hz ~ 300'
    - Fo ~ 0.5 hz ~ 900'

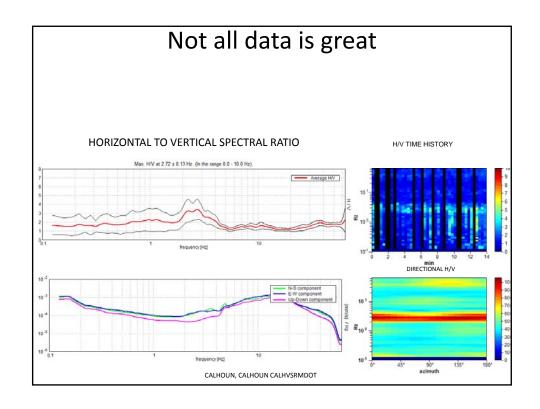
### Qualitative

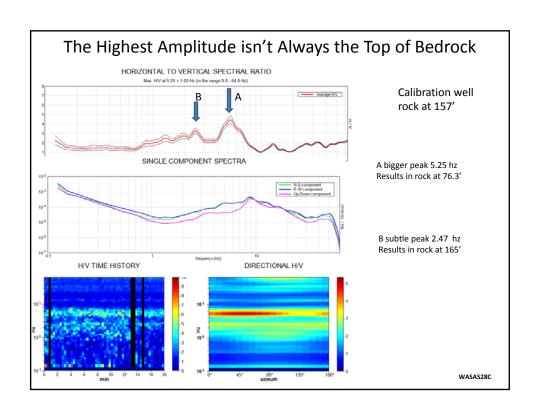
- Very Good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- No Peak
- Single Peak
- Compound Peak on Hump
- Multiple Peaks (Bart Simpson hair)

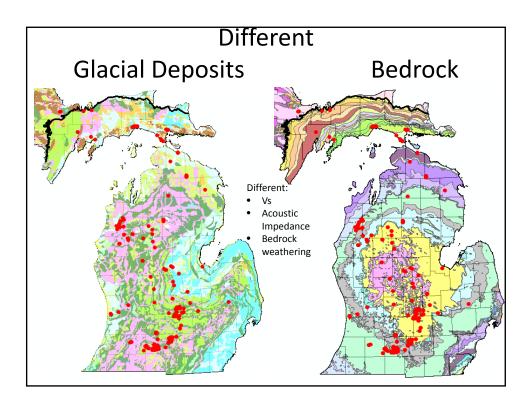












#### Why HVSR?

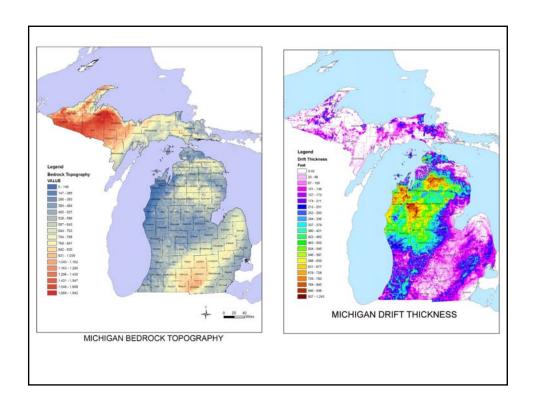
- To add additional control for bedrock topography and drift thickness mapping
- Poor bedrock depth control over large areas
  - Northern Schoolcraft County, Leelanau & Monroe Counties
- Anomalous bedrock highs or lows
- Better define bedrock valleys
- Cheaper then other drilling and geophysical techniques (seismic refraction)
- Poor quality of bedrock depth control in certain areas
  - Central basin area
  - Calhoun County oil and gas well data..

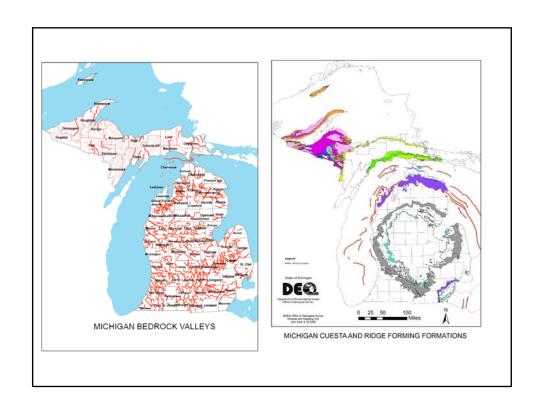
#### Why HVSR 2?

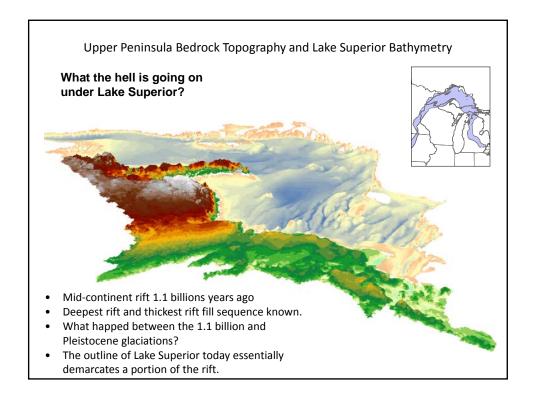
- Geological mapping
  - Quaternary
  - Bedrock Geology mapping in mostly drift covered areas like Michigan- how much more effective will the mapping be if it is done in the context of mapping the bedrock topography at the same time
- Oil and gas exploration
- Minerals exploration
- Groundwater exploration
- Groundwater contaminant investigations
- Site characterization
- Geotechnical/engineering... (pipeline planning Western U.P. ...)

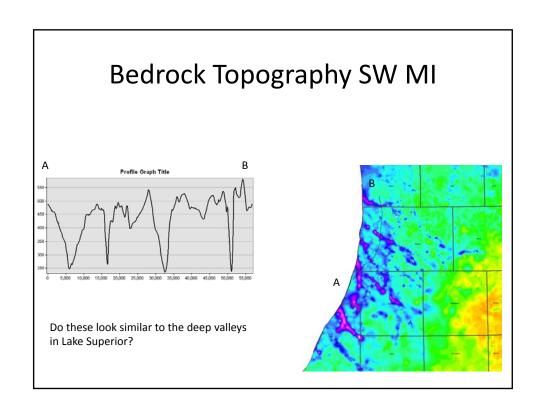
## Bedrock Valleys/Bedrock Surface

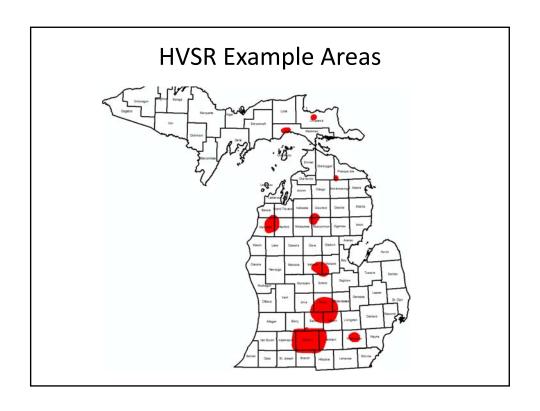
- Oil an Gas Well Drilling Casing/cementing 1<sup>st</sup> line of defense
- Blowout-Marshall 1968
- Contamination sinker-brine bedrock valleys
- Drift Gas in areas down dip from Antrim subcrop can come from bedrock valleys
- Water Withdrawal Tool doesn't handle shallow bedrock or bedrock valleys
- Industry wants this data for seismic static correction
- Mining industry wants this data

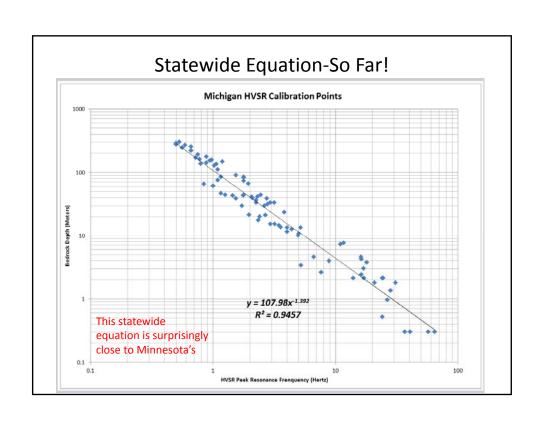


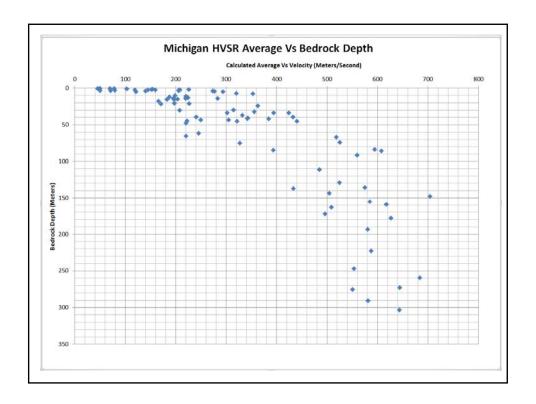








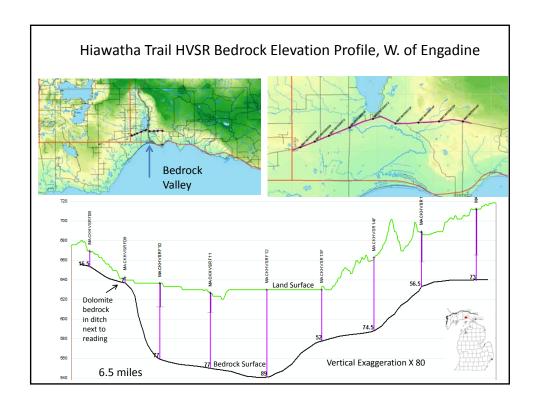


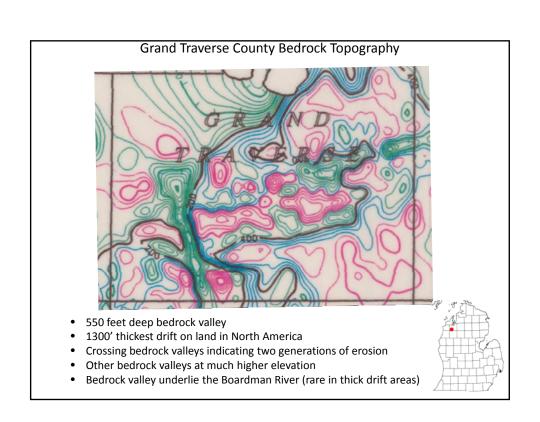


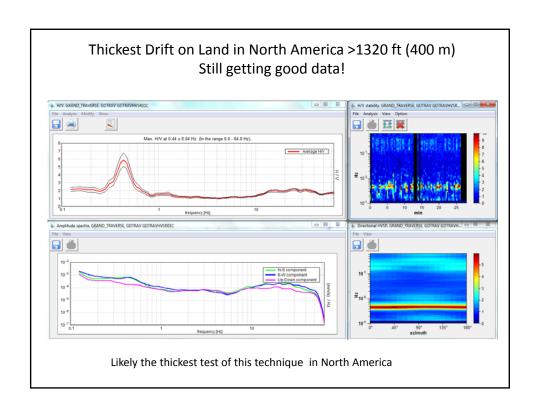
## Examples

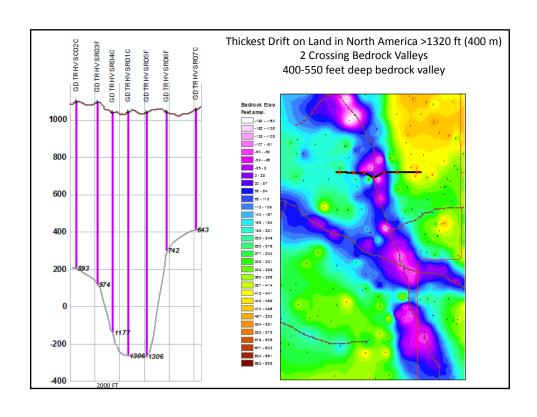
- Hiawatha Trail bedrock valley U.P.
- 500 feet deep bedrock valley and thickest drift in North America-Grand Traverse County
- Bellevue, Eaton County-pseudo sinkhole
- Former Raco Airbase, Chippewa County
- Presque Isle County-Sinkholes Pathway
- Used to constrain geophysics data
- Western Ann Arbor
- Kalamazoo Moraine transects (Dr. Sauck, WMU)
- South Manitou Island





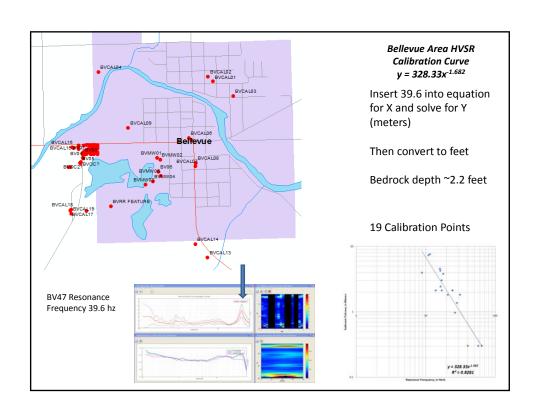


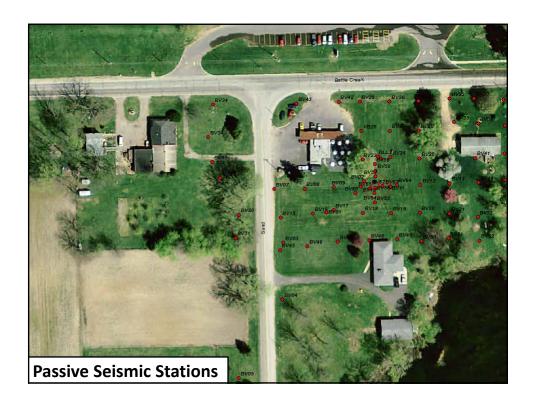


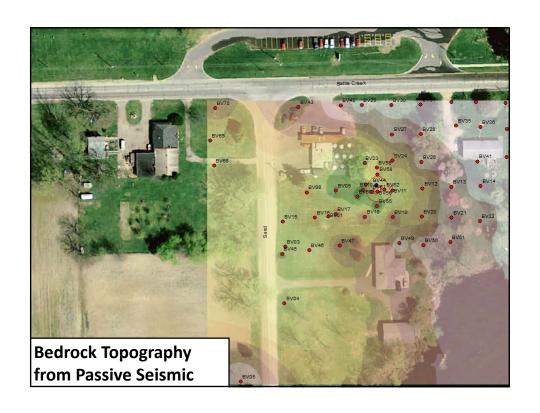


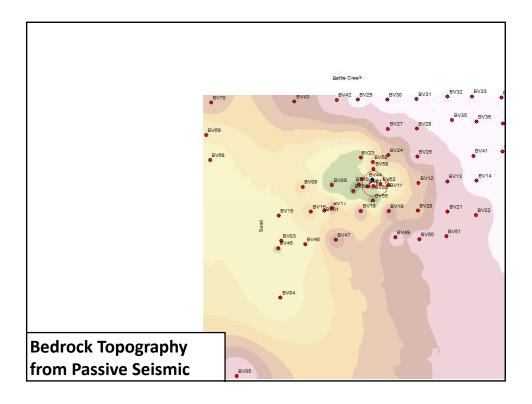
## Bellevue "Sinkhole"? SW Eaton County



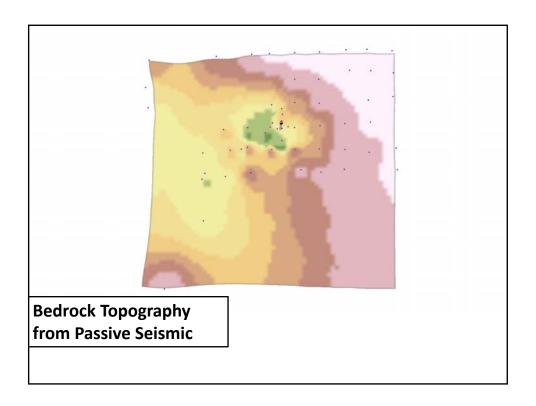


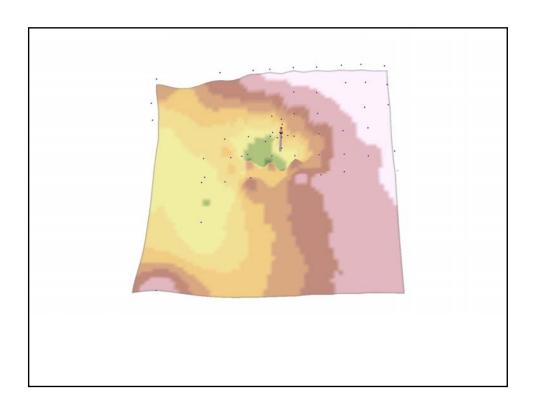


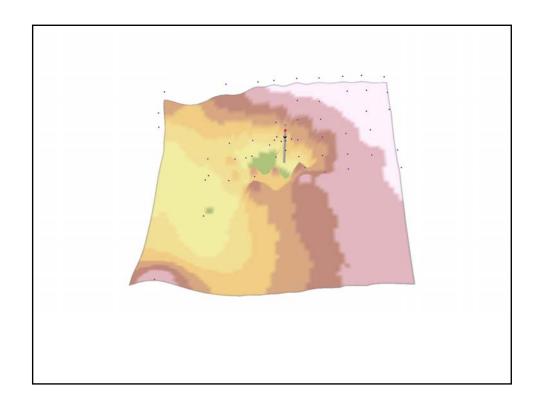


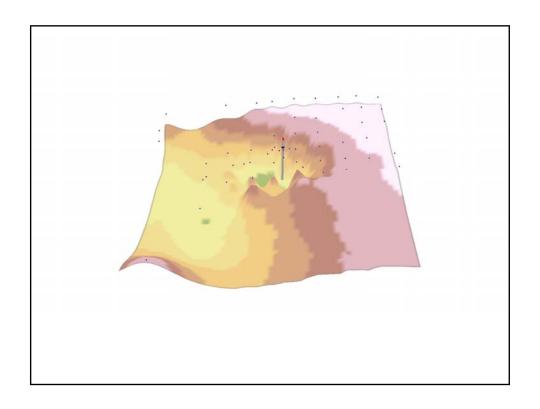


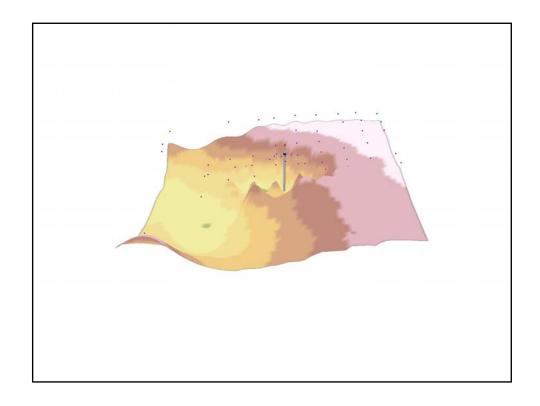
Bellevue Area 3D View

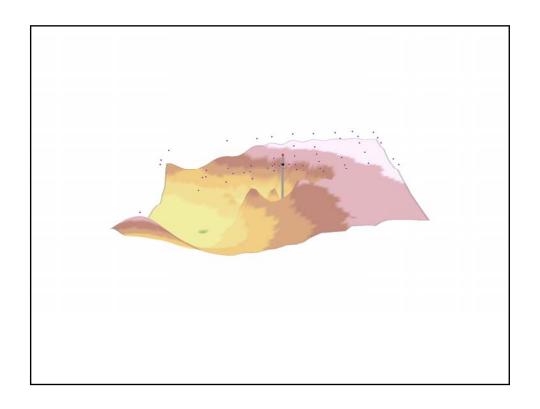


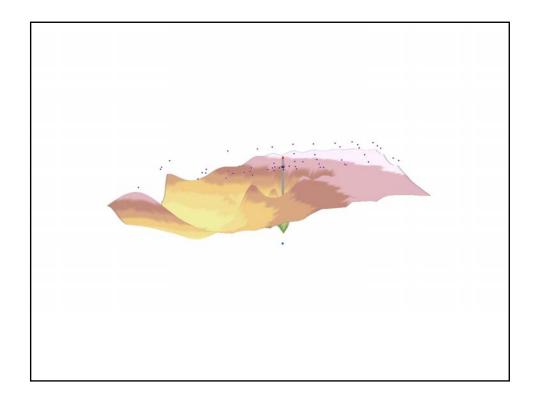


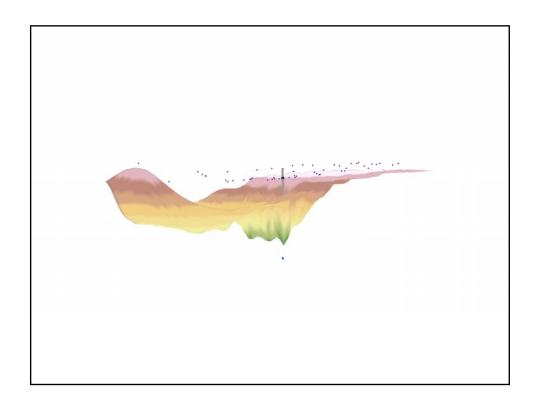


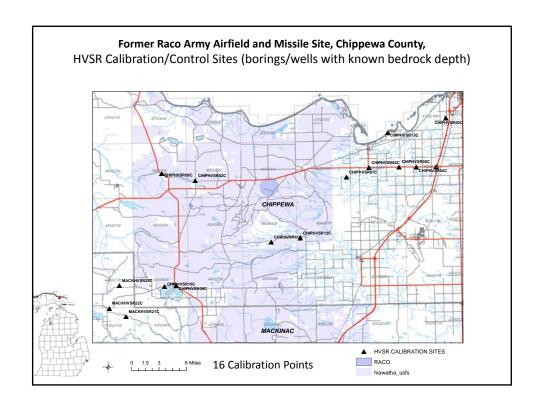


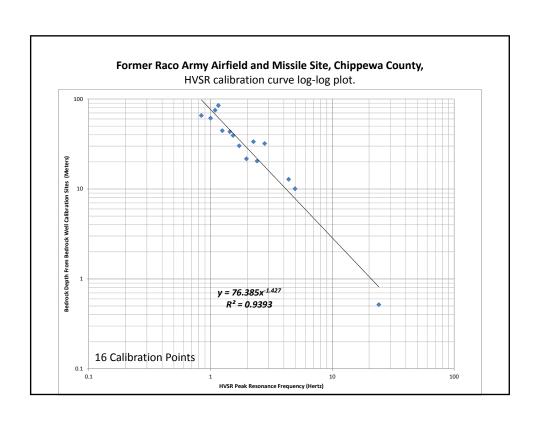


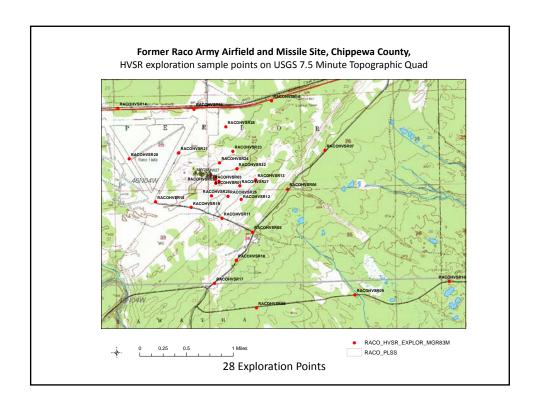


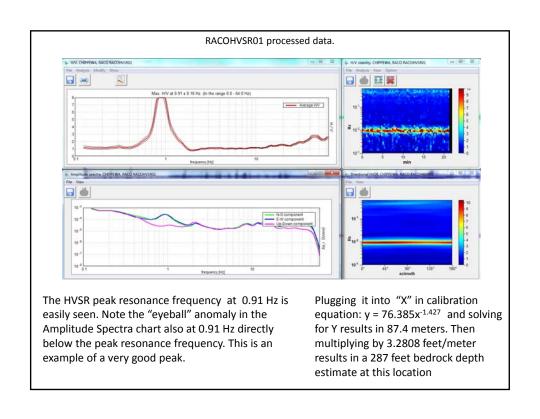


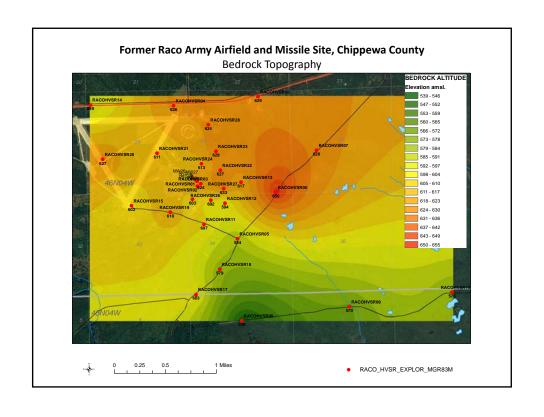


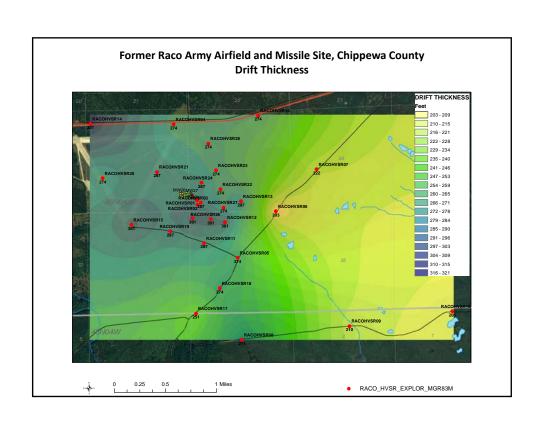


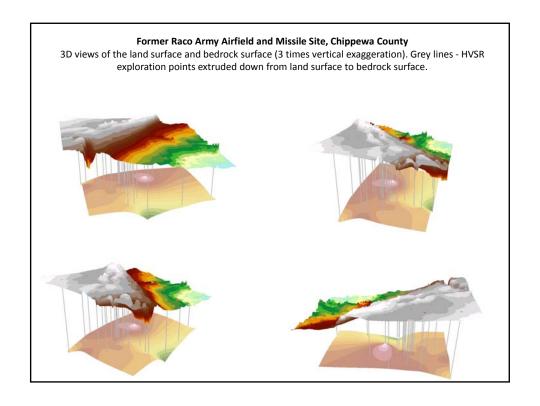


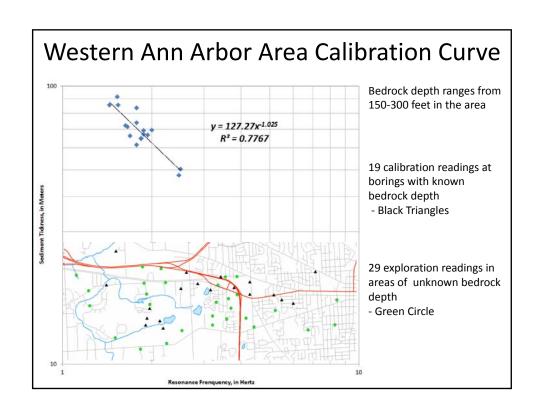


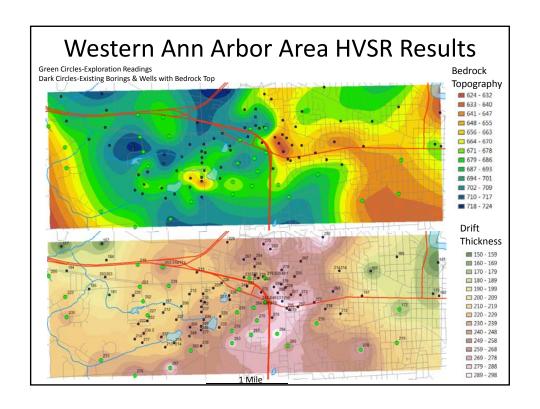


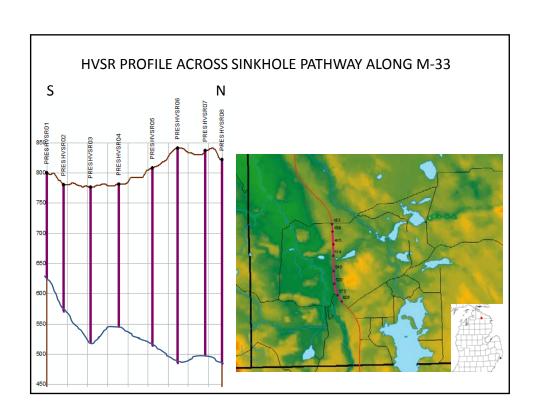


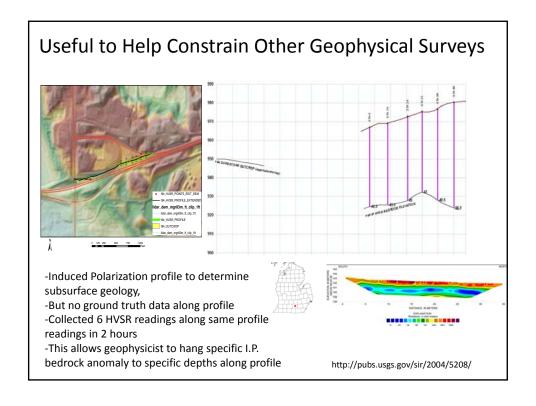


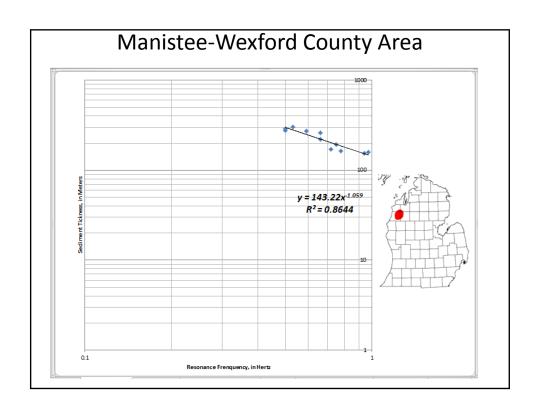


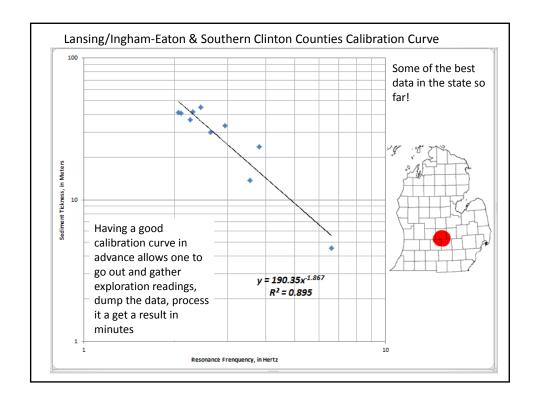




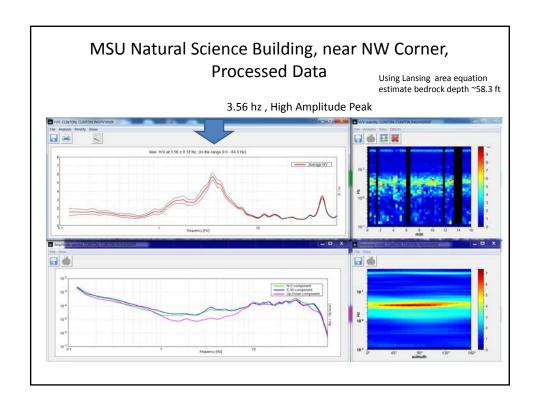


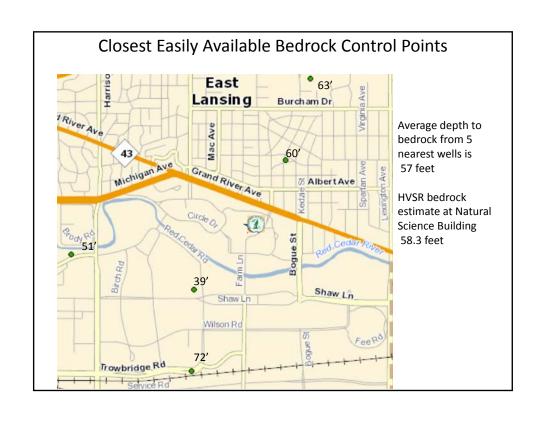


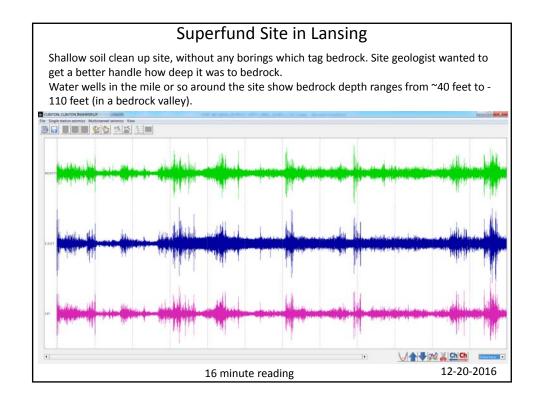


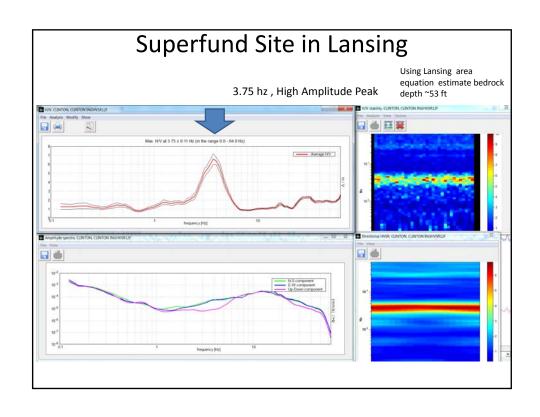


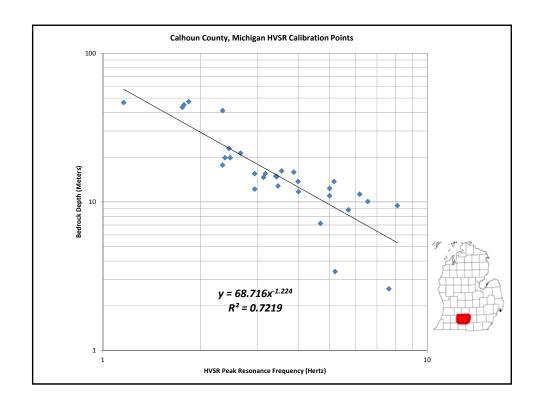


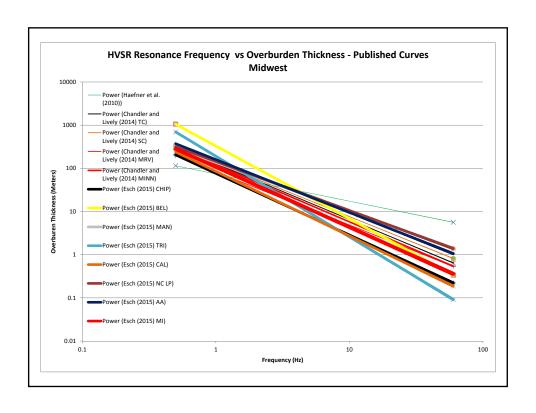












#### **HVSR Advantages**

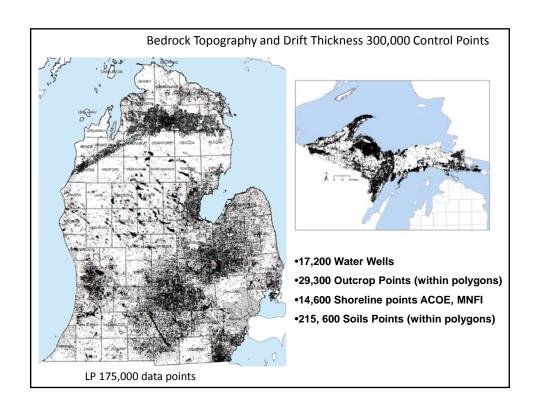
- Quick
- Inexpensive
- One man operation
- Fairly Easy in Field
- Fairly Intuitive Processing
- Non-Invasive
- Can be used in culturally noisy areas
- May be telling us more about the subsurface geology than just depth to bedrock
- Could be used to as independent depth calibration for other geophysical surveys and modeling: resistivity soundings, gravity, seismic, GPR

#### Advantages

- Portable When compared to
  - Drilling
  - Other geophysical techniques
- Potentially large cost savings when comparing to what it would cost for
  - Drilling
  - Other geophysical surveys
  - Area of coverage, speed compared to drilling/other geophysical techniques

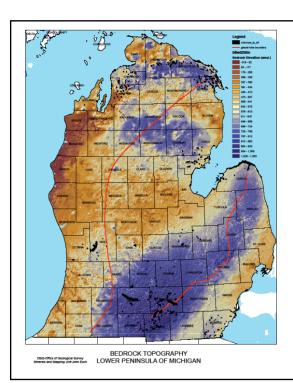
# Why Do We Need More/Better Depth to Bedrock Control Points?

- Additional Bedrock Topography/Drift
   Thickness Control Points: fill in data gaps,
   check anomalous data points
- Site specific projects: Bellevue
- Groundwater contamination investigations
- Oil and Gas wells data often differs from water wells picks
- Many places have little of no bedrock control

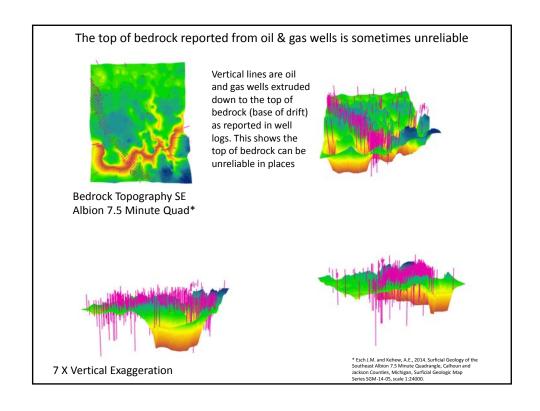


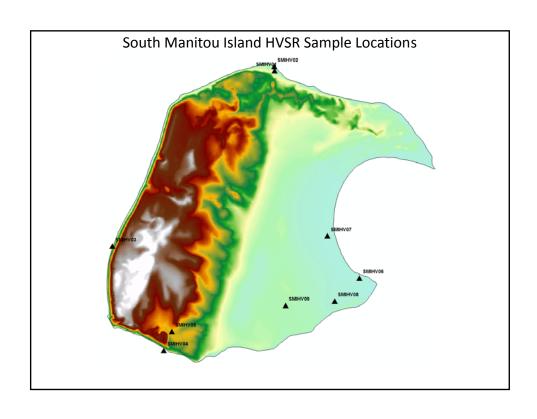
# Filling in Data Gaps With Little Bedrock Top Control

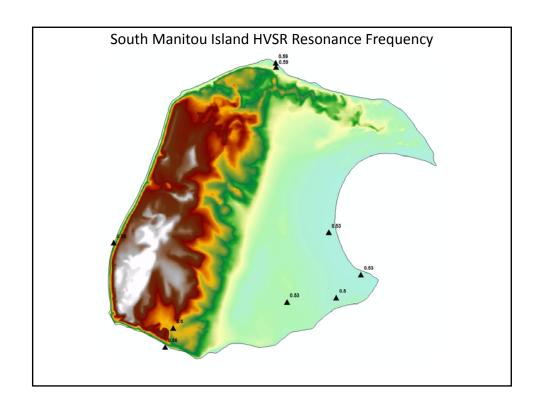
- Lenawee,
- Ionia
- Leelanau
- E Up.
- Manitou Islands (Cuesta under them or not)

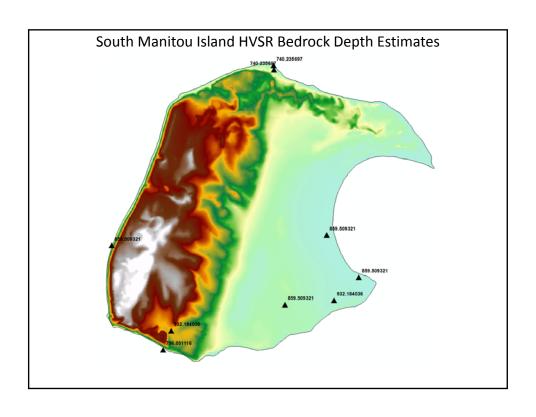


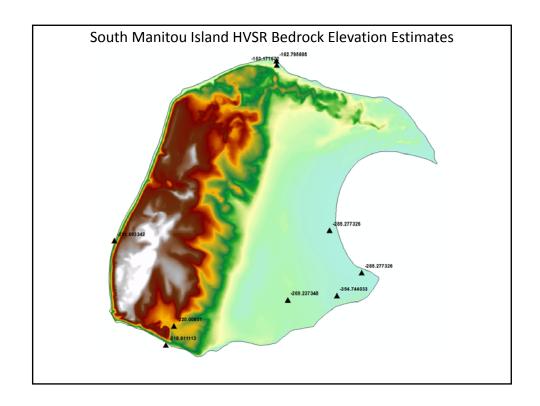
## Anomalous Bedrock Topography Elevation

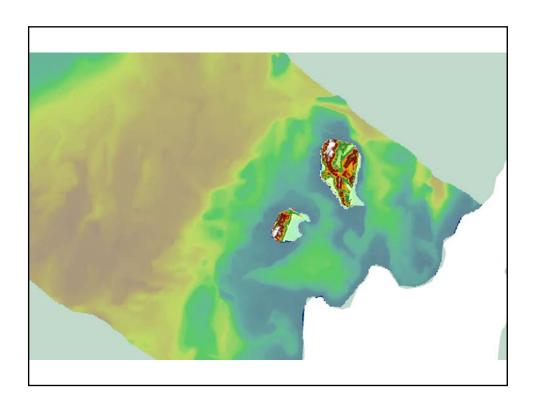


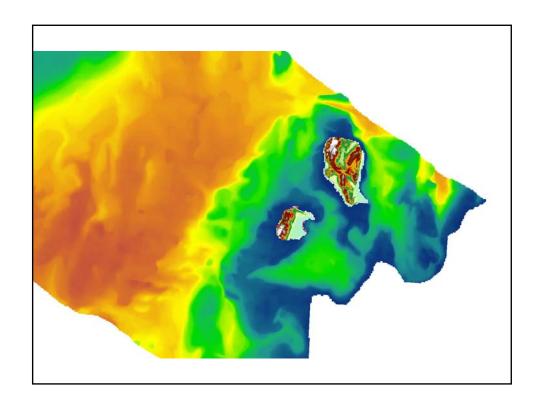


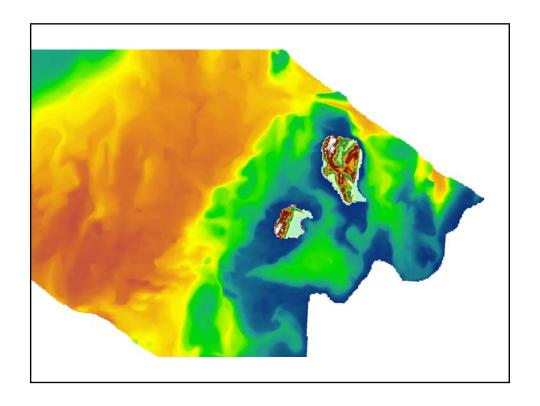


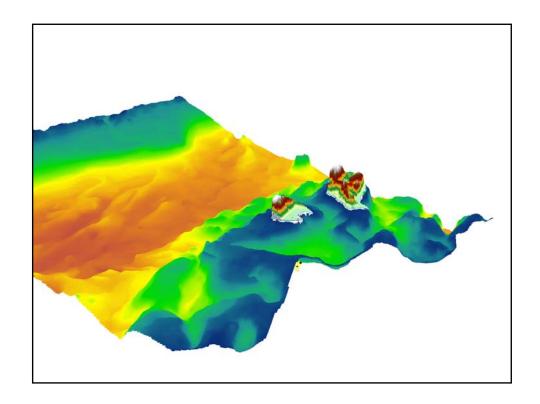


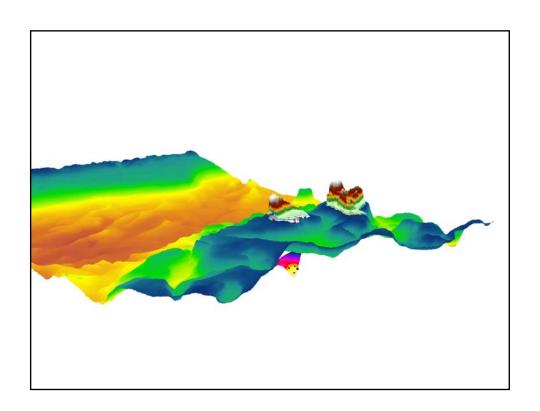


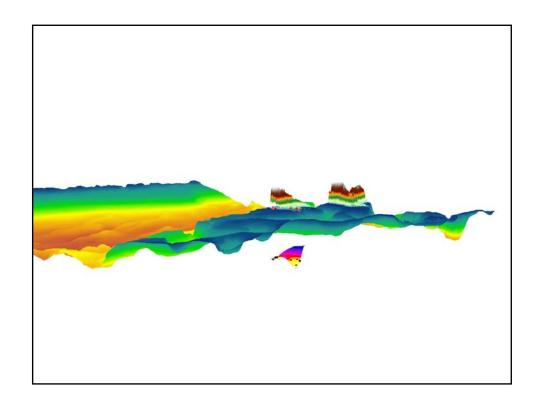


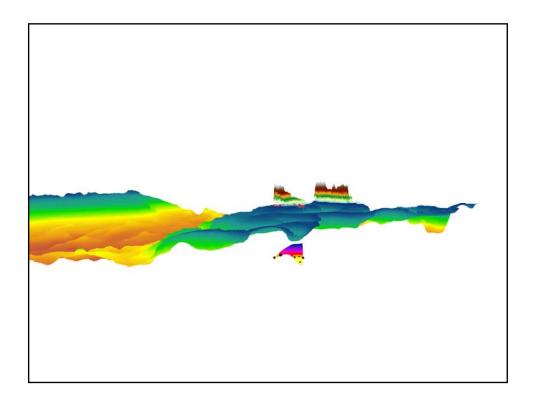


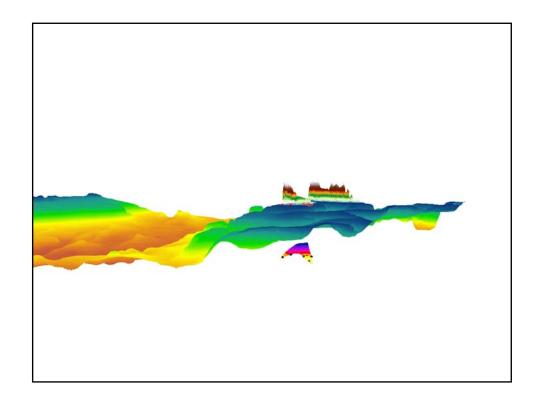


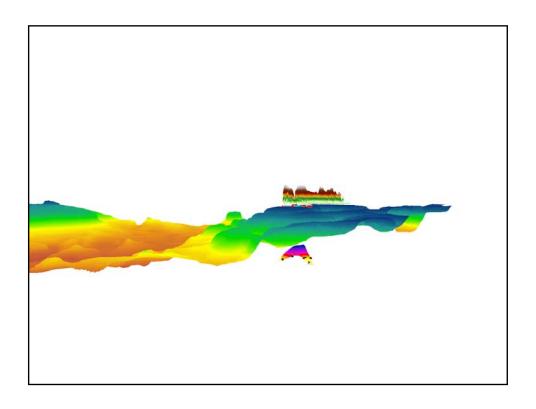


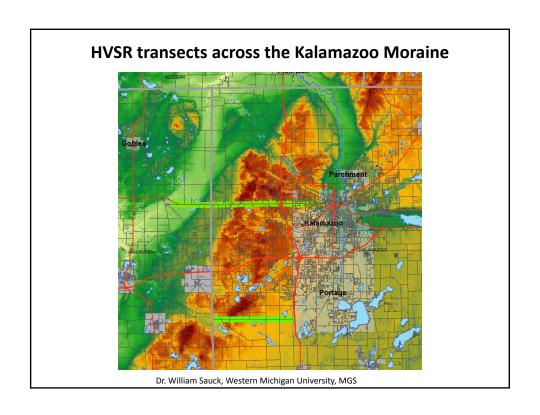


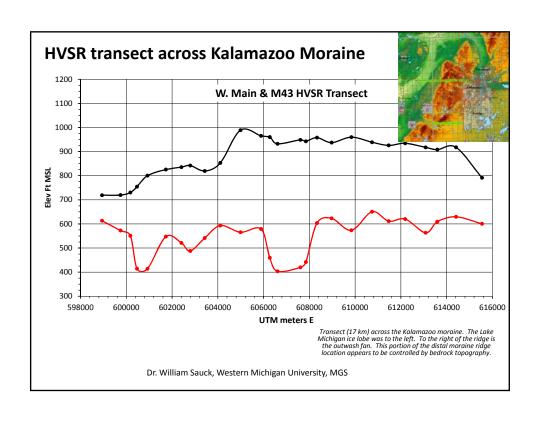


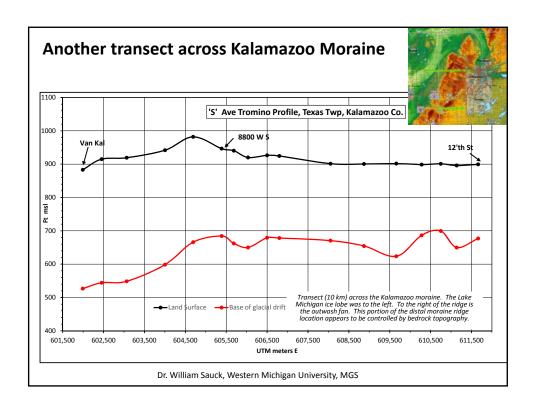






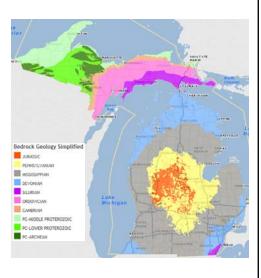






## Jurassic Redbeds

- Consolidated-poorly consolidated red-purple sandstone, shale, and gypsum in the middle of the Lower Peninsula
- Youngest bedrock below the drift in the Michigan Basin
- Often spotty occurrence and highly variable thickness
- Sometimes lumped in with the glacial drift on older well logs
- Unclear how well the HVSR technique will work over them
- W & NW Minnesota similar poorly consolidated Cretaceous aged bedrock below the drift.
- HVSR technique is not working so well. The HVSR technique is seeing the base of the Cretaceous aged material, not the top.



#### SESAME, 2004, Guidelines

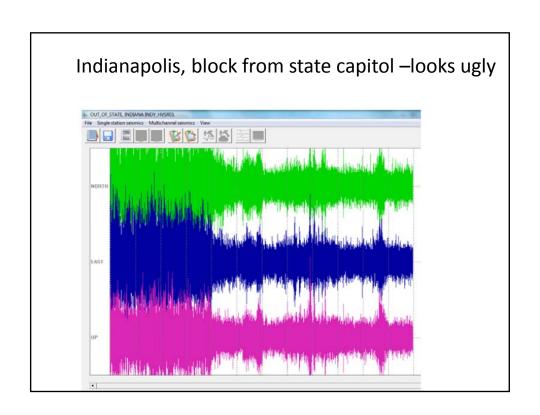
SESAME:

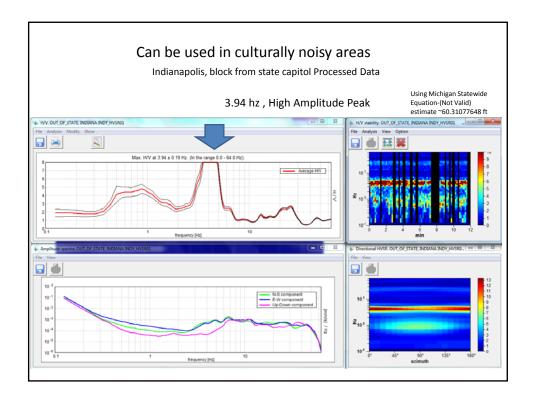
#### Site EffectS assessment using AMbient Excitations

- Nine criteria for determining a have a good peak:
  - 3 Criteria for a reliable H/V curve
  - 6 Criteria for clear H/V peak
- Incorporated into Grilla Processing Software
- Even with very good peaks, often only 7/9 nine criteria met
- Practical guidelines recommend procedures for field experiment design, data processing and interpretation of the results



SESAME, 2004, Guidelines for the implementation of the H/V spectral ratio technique on ambient vibrations. Measurements, processing and interpretation, WP12 European commission - Research general directorate project no. EVG1-CT-2000-0026 SESAME, report D23.12, 62 pp.





#### Can it be used to help in finding more oil & gas?

- Collect HVSR data along seismic reflection line to give independent bedrock elevation profile to assist in reflection static corrections.
- Run along gravity profiles to give independent bedrock elevation profile to assist in gravity filtering and modeling.

### Places it has not worked so well

- Calhoun County area
  - Transitional drift to bedrock contact?
  - Tectonized bedrock surface?
  - Buried cemented gravels?
- Northern Clinton County

## Vs - Shear Wave Velocity

- What is it?
- How to get it?
- Empirical relationship w/ Split-spoon sampling blow counts n-value
- Seismic Surveys

#### How large or what defines a calibration area?

Same geological system...county, Twp, Saginaw Lowland, size of your project?

- Drift lithology
- Drift stratigraphy complexity
  - 200' of sand and gravel or
  - 200' of sand & gravel w/thick tills and or lacustrine clay units
  - Overconsolidated tills or cemented gravels
- Drift thickness-thicker drift more compaction higher Vs
- Bedrock lithology Coldwater Shale or Marshall SS
- · Weathered or non-weathered bedrock surface
- No clear bedrock surface –(transition from basal till to weathered shale over 30-40 feet)

Or do all these things below our feet change more than we have the data to now these changes are occurring.....

### Winter Frozen Ground & Freeze/Thaw

- Poor ground coupling with unit on frozen ground
- Potential velocity inversion at surface due to frozen ground and frost
- Late winter freeze/thaw can get poor results
- Experimenting with different materials to place on frozen ground to help with coupling (fine sand, Play dough, modeling clay, Silly Puddy)
- Geologists get cold!

#### **Questions?**

- How big is an area for calibration purposes?
- How accurate are the depths? Depends!
- Use in Winter?
- Some places where it should work but doesn't?
- What if the nice response in area is the top of dense basal till, cemented gravels, not top of bedrock?

#### **Future Work**

- More work over in the Jurassic Redbeds-Will it see the top of them or the bottom of them?
- Are the good results seen so far in Northern Lower Peninsula the true bedrock surface of potentially buried overconsolidated tills above the bedrock surface
- If over a deep steep walled bedrock valley, can it see it?
- Use in winter

- Paul Jankowski
- Adam Wygant
- Steve Wilson
- Beth Carlson
- USGS: John Lane
- Bill Sauck, WMU/MGS
- Alan Kehew WMU/MGS
- Val Chandler Minn. Geol. Survey

## Thanks



