

KINEMATICS (1)

I Main Topics

A Definition and use

B Relative ages

C Displacements vs. relative displacements

II Definition and use

A The study of the position of bodies through time without regard to the forces causing motion

B Used to describe how a body changes position, orientation, shape, and/or size through time

III Relative ages

A Cross-cutting relationships

1 Younger features can cut older features; older features cannot cut younger ones

2 Examples

a Unconformities

a Angular unconformities

b Nonconformities

b Dikes

c Joints

d Faults

e Plutons (can cut older deformed rocks)

3 "Pathologic" examples

a Pay careful attention to relative displacements, what you don't know, and stay sharp

b Einstein: "I had to divest myself of intuition - then I could think clearly (Press and Siever, 1978, p. 133)

B Inclusions

- 1 Older material (e.g., xenoliths) can be incorporated in younger rocks
- 2 Examples
 - a Igneous inclusions
 - b Sedimentary inclusions (e.g., shale rip-up clasts)

C Interaction of structures

- 1 Older structures can affect the initial formation of younger structures, but younger structures cannot affect the origin of older structures
- 2 Examples
 - a Tee-shaped intersections: the "crossbar" is older
 - b Curving fractures

D Paleomagnetic phenomena: paleomagnetic poles can predate or post-date folding (for example)

IV Displacements vs. relative displacements

- A Most of the displacements geologists measure are relative displacements (GPS is sort of the exception)
- B A lack of relative displacement does not equate to a lack of absolute displacement (examples: joints and faults)
- C Structural geologists usually cannot measure displacements relative to an undeformed initial state; we only see the final deformed state
- D Models influence what we measure, where we measure, and how we interpret our measurements
 - 1 Faults and joints (see B)
 - 2 Dependence on our concept of the initial state: is it deformed or undeformed?

"PATHOLOGICAL" EXAMPLES

Fig. 12.1

