

3D-Structure of NEGIS shear margins from radar stratigraphy

Daniela Jansen¹, Steven Franke¹, Tobias Binder¹, Paul Bons², Dorthe Dahl-Jensen^{3,4}, Olaf Eisen^{1,5}, Veit Helm¹, Heinrich Miller¹, Niklas Neckel¹, John Paden⁶, Daniel Steinhage¹, and Ilka Weikusat^{1,2}



5: Bremen University, Department of Geosciences

6: Center for Remote Sensing of ice Sheets, Kansas, USA

- 1: Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research
- 2: Tübingen University, Department of Geosciences
- 3: Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- 4: Centre for Earth Observation Science, University of Manitoba, Canada





Ice streams today



observed

- Snapshot in time: Current status from satellite remote sensing data
- Deformation regime can be deduced, but only for the surface
- How does system evolve over longer timescales?

modified from Aschwanden, A. et al., Complex greenland outlet glacier flow captured. Nat. Commun. 7:10524 doi: 10.1038/ncomms10524 (2016).





Ice streams in the past



- ice streams leave traces on bedrock or in sediments on the continental shelves
- not well constrained: temporal activity, or the extent at a specific time

From: Stokes et al., 2016: Ice stream activity scaled to ice sheet volume during Laurentide Ice Sheet deglaciation, Nature (530), doi:10.1038/nature16947





Landsat satellite image from the Canadian Arctic, former Laurentide Ice Sheet (LIS)

Ice stream signatures



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Learning from structural geology



EGRIP-NOR Survey 2018 Of MIRED-WEGENE HELMHOLTZ-ZENTR

ELMHOLTZ ASSOCIATION

Radioglaciology:

We have the advantage compared to structural geology that we can cut through the ice!

Aims:

- Map the stratigraphy with the focus on shear margins
- Learning from an active system: Folding as it happens!

New **bedrock data** set published:

Franke et al., 2020, annals of glaciology DOI: https://doi.org/10.1017/aog.2020.12



EGRIP-NOR Data

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- Profile located 5 km upstream of EGRIP Camp
- Chevron or zig-zag folding in the active margin
- Folding is preserved when entering different regimes

HELMHOLTZ ASSOCIATION



EGRIP-NOR Data



- The section to the left shows an area no longer subject to strong shear, but folds are preserved downstream
- Advection of older features outside of the ice stream leads to a tilt in the vertical fold plane



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Velocity data: N. Neckel, pers. Comm

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2 km

EGRIP-NOR Data



Picking internal reflectors throughout the entire survey area and connecting them to horizons show the 3D-imprint of the ice stream at depth.



Summary

- Airborne radar data are essential for understanding large scale structures in ice sheet stratigraphy
- The quality of the data allows for analysing highly deformed structures, as found in the shear margins of ice streams
- The 3D horizons illustrate how the ice stream is influencing its surroundings and assimilates old structures into the margins

Questions?

daniela.jansen@awi.de steven.franke@awi.de

