



EARTH AND ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES



Crossroads 2024

2024

CROSSROADS CONFERENCE



# Crossroads Conference 2024

Indiana University  
Earth and Atmospheric Sciences  
1001 East 10th Street  
Bloomington IN 47405  
[earth.indiana.edu](http://earth.indiana.edu)  
[sigmagamma.so.indiana.edu](http://sigmagamma.so.indiana.edu)

## Table of Contents

Crossroads Judges .....	<a href="#">page 4</a>
Schedule .....	<a href="#">page 5</a>
Keynote Speaker (TBA).....	<a href="#">page 6</a>
Career Fair .....	<a href="#">page 6</a>
Oral Session Student Presenters .....	<a href="#">page 7</a>
Oral Session 1 Abstracts.....	<a href="#">page 8</a>
Oral Session 2 Abstracts .....	<a href="#">page 13</a>
Poster Session Student Presenters.....	<a href="#">page 17</a>
Poster Session 1 Abstracts .....	<a href="#">page 18</a>
Poster Session 2 Abstracts .....	<a href="#">page 26</a>

## Sigma Gamma Epsilon, Rho Chapter

Ricardo Ely .....	President
Thomas LeBarge.....	Vice President
Trenton Meier .....	Secretary
Mia Keller .....	Treasurer
Dr. Erika Elswick .....	Faculty Advisor

## Crossroads Committee

Ricardo Ely .....	Chair
Isabelle Caban, Kenia Caro .....	Catering Leads
Kirsten Hawley, Alex Siurek.....	Judge/Career Fair Liaisons
Trenton Meier .....	Judge/Career Fair Logistics
Anupama Chandroth, Arif Islam .....	Presenter Liaisons
Durga Acharya.....	Advertising Lead

## Welcome

We would like to extend a special thank you to all of those participating in the 22nd annual Crossroads Conference at Indiana University. This conference is a rich tradition for the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and we anticipate that this year’s presentations will uphold previous standards of excellence.

We are excited to incorporate our sixth annual career fair and we want to thank all the individuals and companies that are participating.

Finally, we want to thank our judges, career panelists, the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at Indiana University, and all of those who have volunteered their time for the preparation and execution of Crossroads 2024.

*- The Crossroads Committee and members of the Rho chapter of Sigma Gamma Epsilon*

Crossroads Judges

Jon Eldon .....	SPEA, Indiana University Bloomington
Stanley Carpenter .....	Colonial Pipeline Company
Ben Macuga .....	Michael Baker International
Joel Degenstein.....	EAS Advisory Board/Retired El Paso E&P
Mark Fisherkeller .....	Arcadis
Stuart Kenderes .....	IUPUI Dept. of Earth Sciences
Sydney Olund .....	Arcadis

Crossroads Sponsor



## MORNING

7:30-8:30..... breakfast + registration

8:30-8:45..... welcome

8:45-10:00..... oral session 1

10:00-11:30..... poster session 1

11:30-1:00 ..... career fair + lunch

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## AFTERNOON

1:00-1:45..... KEYNOTE ADDRESS

1:45-2:00 ..... break

2:00-3:30 ..... oral session 2

3:30-5:00 ..... poster session 2

5:00-6:30 ..... judges meeting

5:00-6:30 ..... break

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## EVENING

6:30-9:00 ..... networking dinner  
and awards ceremony

Crazy Horse | 214 W. Kirkwood  
Bloomington, IN 47404

# schedule

FRIDAY MARCH 22

## career fair

IGWS 2022  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

### Representatives

Matthew Griles ..... Arcadis

Darren Tollstrup IOMS Sales Manager-Americas  
..... Thermo Fisher Scientific

Ryan Kammer Research Manager, Carbon Management  
..... Great Plains Institute

## keynote speaker

IGWS ROOM 2022  
1:00 - 1:45 pm

TBA

Session 1 Presenters (8:45-10:00 am)

8:45 am Kenia YasminCaro

9:00 am Yu Peng

9:15 am Ricardo Ely

9:30 am Sierra Lopezalles

Session 2 Presenters (2:00-2:30 pm)

2:00 pm Xander Lowry

2:15 pm Hrishikesh Sivanandan

2:30 pm Trent Stegink

**oral  
sessions**  
GY 2023





# oral session 1

GY 2023



KENIA YASMIN CARO

Indiana University

Undergraduate Student

Petrology, Geochemistry, Volcanology

### What changes are occurring in Yellowstone Caldera's geothermal activity with changes in precipitation?: A Thermal Model Study

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*Abstract:* Yellowstone Caldera (YC), USA, is an area of geothermal activity fueled by a volcanic hotspot. This study aims to analyze the impacts climate change, specifically precipitation change, has on the hydrothermal system. I do this in three ways: (1) understanding the relationship between precipitation and geyser eruptions, (2) comparison with other volcanic systems, and (3) thermal modeling of the YC. My initial study of the area shows a correlation between rainfall and geyser eruptions. Precipitation data from NOAA shows that annual average precipitation has increased by 1.41 inches over the last century. Geyser eruption events were collected from [geysertimes.org](http://geysertimes.org), a publicly sourced database of geyser eruptions. In comparing geyser eruption and precipitation data, there are trends in geyser activity with increasing precipitation in some geysers. I also compared YC to two other calderas, Valles Caldera (VC) in New Mexico and Long Valley Caldera (LVC) in California, which had more active geothermal activity in the past. Both calderas also once had lakes, now dried up, which altered the hydrothermal system. Presently, NOAA shows that the yearly average precipitation near VC has decreased by 0.79 inches over the last century, and the region of LVC has seen little change. This contrasts sharply with YC, which is generally trending toward increasing precipitation. I propose that VC and LVC can be blueprints for future activity at YC.

Using a two-dimensional thermal cooling model, I am modeling the YC volcanic–hydrothermal systems to better assess the relationship between geyser activity and thermal cooling of the magma chamber. I use a four-layer model: (1) hydrothermally active, altered volcanic upper layer, (2) unaltered volcanic rock, (3) granite crust, and (4) the magma chamber. I vary the upper layer between 0–30 % water saturation. This model will help show the role geyser activity plays in the cooling of the magma chamber.

YU PENG

Indiana University Indianapolis  
PhD.Student, Climate Resilience

### Synergistic effects of cover crop and no-tillage to greenhouse gas emission under real farming conditions

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Sciences, Indiana University Indianapolis

*Abstract:* Agricultural production is a significant contributor to anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, contributing approximately 1.4-1.7 gigatons of carbon emissions and accounting for more than 60 % of global N<sub>2</sub>O emissions. Cover cropping and tillage management have long been touted for their conservation benefits to soil and crop performance. However, previous research has yielded mixed results when combining cover crops and tillage practices in terms of GHG emissions from agricultural soils. The specific contributions of this combination to agricultural GHG emissions remain uncertain. Therefore, while NT and cover crops have been promoted for their conservation benefits, there is the possibility that such gains can be offset by potentially increasing GHG emissions. To address this question, this study conducted field simulation experiments at three farm sites from 2021 to 2023 in northeastern Indiana focused on monitoring and comparing CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, and CH<sub>4</sub> emissions to assess the variations in GHG emissions under three different treatments: cover crop plus no-till (CCNT), no-till alone (NT), and a control treatment (conventional tillage, CT).

Based on the data, the preliminary results indicate that the utilization of CCNT (1.56±0.33) resulted in 31 % higher global warming potential (GWP) than NT (1.19±0.24). The increased GWP is mainly caused by increased CO<sub>2</sub> emission, especially during the growing season. CO<sub>2</sub> flux under CCNT was measured at 1.84±0.33 g C m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup> which is the main contributor to the increase in GWP.

*Abstract:* Ichthyosaurs, fish-shaped marine reptiles occurring throughout the Mesozoic Era, have been the focus of many studies on the tempo and mode of groups originating in the aftermath of the End Permian Mass Extinction (EPME). Ichthyosaurs evolved an impressive variety of morphologies, rapidly exploiting the ecological opportunities left behind in the wake of the EPME. Ichthyosaur morphological disparity has often been labelled a case of 'early high disparity' (EHD), peaking in the Triassic then decreasing throughout the Mesozoic. Many fossil groups display EHD, a pattern evaluated analytically through a variety of methods, but lack development in the field of phylogenetic comparative methods (PCMs). I introduce a novel PCM which combines two modes frequently utilized in PCMs, the Early Burst (EB) and Ornstein-Uhlenbeck (OU) processes, a combination which produces an EHD pattern. This novel mode is tested here using a time-calibrated set of phylogenies and skull length of ichthyosaurs, since this group has often been described as displaying such a pattern. Using a maximum likelihood framework, I fit three canonical modes of evolution, Brownian Motion (BM), OU, EB, as well as the combined OU+EB (EHD) mode to detect if the latter mode best describes the evolution of ichthyosaur disparity. In a set of 108 ichthyosaur phylogenies, EHD is retrieved as best-fitting in 60 % of trees, and EB in 40 % of trees, although mean AICc scores across the phylogenies indicate EB as best-fitting. We can conclude a strong signature of an EB-like process occurring in the early portions of each tree, with conflicting signal between EHD and EB after the time of highest disparity. Even in cases where EHD best describes the data, peak disparity of ichthyosaurs seems to coincide with changes in abiotic processes influencing the potential strength of geological biases on the true pattern of morphological disparity, such as rock area availability and unconformity biases.

RICARDO ELY

Indiana University  
PhD Student, Paleontology

## Evaluating Early High Disparity Phenotypic Evolutionary Rates and Modes in Ichthyosauria

Ely, R.C.

Department of Earth and Atmospheric  
Sciences, Indiana University

SIERRA LOPEZALLES

Indiana University

Ph.D. Candidate, Paleontology

### The Shape of Speed: The Relationship Between 3d Humerus Shape and Maximum Running Speed

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Department of Biology, Indiana University

*Abstract:* Estimates of running speed are useful for many kinds of paleontological reconstructions, including the co-evolution of predators and prey and inferring the hunting strategies of extinct species, however previous studies have failed to find a significant relationship between skeletal morphology and speed. This study capitalizes on the high degree of variation in morphology and functional ability across domestic dog breeds to investigate whether shape data can be used for estimating running speed effectively. Here I utilize three-dimensional landmark-based geometric morphometrics and the exceptional historical records from competitive dog races to assess the relationship between humerus shape and relative maximum running speed across dog breeds. Selective breeding of dogs has pushed the morphological variation in dog breeds to the extremes, creating breeds with a variety of humeral shapes and a wide range of maximum running speeds from the Basset Hound at 34 km/h to the Grey Hound at 65 km/h. For each breed, maximum running speed was determined using records from the AKC's Fast-CAT, which is a timed 100-yard sprint. Speeds were normalized by calculating their Froude number and then regressed onto shoulder height in order to obtain an accurate metric of breeds that are fast for their size. Results indicate that there is a strong and significant relationship between the maximum relative speed of the breed and shape of the humerus driven by a combination of the shape of the distal articulation and bone robustness ( $R^2 = .47$ ,  $p < .001$ ). Overall, breeds that are fast for their size have generally more slender humeri with less curvature in the shaft. Tests of this dog-based predictive equation on wild canids have low error rates (%SEE = 12.9 %, PPE = 12.4 %) and support the use of these methods to estimate locomotor performance in fossil canids. Additionally, this method is applied to estimate maximum running speed in a selection of fossil canids, including the dire wolf.

# oral session 2

GY 2023

XANDER LAWRY

Indiana University

Undergraduate Student, Atmospheric  
Sciences

### Extreme Rapid Intensification of Hurricanes Otis (2023) and Patricia (2015): Machine Learning Diagnoses

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*Abstract:* Hurricane Otis (2023) presented a particular event for which all current operational hurricane models failed to predict its rapid intensification (RI) repeatedly cycle after cycle. In contrast, the RI onset of Hurricane Patricia (2015), which occurred almost within the same period and location in the Eastern Pacific basin, was much more predictable across operational models. While Otis's extreme RI magnitude in a very short period has always been challenging for models to capture, the fact that the previous generation of hurricane models could capture the even more extreme RI of Hurricane Patricia apparently highlights some missing ingredients in Otis that we wish to explore. Using different architectures of classification and deep learning models, we find an effective combination of environmental features that control the probability of RI onset for both hurricanes Otis and Patricia. Specifically, by trying different groups of environmental features along Otis's track, we show it is the combination of Otis's bigger storm size, stronger vertical wind shear, and slower storm moving speed that is the main cause for the failure of Otis's RI prediction in the model. Decreasing Otis's size and increasing its movement in a weaker shear environment could help improve its RI onset prediction significantly. These results suggest that the failure of operational hurricane models may be due to the large-scale flow inherited from global models when imposing on the larger size of Otis. Our approach presents a new diagnostic approach for RI prediction based on machine learning, as well as a different way to understand RI onset variability beyond the traditional ensemble modeling methods.

*Abstract:* Atmospheric Gravity Waves (AGWs) are buoyancy oscillations in a stably stratified atmosphere. They can be excited by topography, convection, severe weather and wind shear. In recent times, wind farms were found to act as semi-permeable mountains that redirect part of the incoming flow upwards, thereby triggering AGWs akin to mountains.

The wind farm-induced AGWs and their impact on wind power production have been studied. The AGWs cause pressure perturbations that substantially impacts the boundary layer flow characteristics at the inlet and within the wind farm. In that, AGWs induce an adverse pressure gradient that decelerates flow ahead of the wind farm and accelerates it towards the lee of the farm. While most of the mountain wave studies use linear theory with the Boussinesq assumption, the wind farm-induced AGWs are studied using incompressible Boussinesq Large Eddy Simulations. However, the impact of the compressibility approximation on AGW characteristics is not studied or quantified.

In the present work, we analyze the impact of compressibility approximations on AGW characteristics excited by a ridge (shaped as the Witch of Agnesi) using linear theory, incompressible LES (NREL SOWFA) and a fully compressible LES (WRF LES). Further, we compare the characteristics of the AGWs (such as amplitude, effective wavelength, path of propagation, phase angle, phase velocity and group velocity) for varying Froude numbers and slope parameter of the hill.

HRISHIKESH SIVANANDAN

Indiana University  
PhD Candidate, Atmospheric Sciences

### Impact of compressibility approximations on Atmospheric Gravity Wave characteristics

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TRENT STEGINK

Indiana University

MSc Candidate, Geochemistry

### Lead Translocation and Isotopic Fractionation After Uptake by *Brassica juncea* (Brown Mustard)

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Department of Earth and Atmospheric  
Sciences, Indiana University

*Abstract:* Despite efforts to limit its introduction into the environment, lead (Pb) remains a concerning pollutant for many communities. The utilization of phytoremediation has drawn interest to control the spread of Pb contamination as an alternative to other, more costly and invasive remediation techniques. Additionally, Pb within these plants may be analyzed to detect unique isotopic signatures related to certain contamination sources, providing a way to trace Pb within the soil back to its origin. However, the behavior of Pb during plant uptake is still poorly understood, particularly as it pertains to plant isotopic fractionation patterns and whether they can accurately reflect unique geogenic or anthropogenic sources of contamination. Here, we characterize concentrations and changes in plant Pb ratios during uptake and to determine the feasibility of bioremediation and isotopic fingerprinting for Pb sourcing in *Brassica juncea*, a known accumulator of Pb. Results demonstrate significant translocation of Pb from the roots to the leaves, showing a mean leaf translocation factor of 3.64. Other above-ground parts' translocation factors were consistently below 1 (TF = 0.40, on average). Results also show little biologically induced isotopic fractionation of Pb during uptake. Above-ground part  $\text{Pb}^{206}/\text{Pb}^{207}$  (1.17 – 1.19) were within range of initial substrate values (1.14 – 1.18), though the roots did show a significant enrichment in  $\text{Pb}^{206}$  (1.21 – 1.22). We were unable to differentiate plants grown from each treated substrate, making them unreliable for the isotopic fingerprinting of the soil. This confirms the limitations of *B. juncea* as a phytoextractor and biomonitoring apparatus, but demonstrates a greater than expected ability to translocate Pb to its above-ground parts.



# poster sessions

IGWS 2022

Poster session 1 (10:00 - 11:30 am)

Anupama Chandroth

Syan Das

JeongYeon Han

Moses Jatta

Mia Keller

Zax Lin

Sasha Marfin

Poster session 2 (3:30-5:00 pm)

Trung Nguyen

Isheka Orr

Yu Peng

Brianna Pinnick

Charles J. Salcido

Samantha Sheahan

Brooke Vander Pas

Therra Wilbrandt



# poster session 1

IGWS 2022

**Abstract:** Using Scleractinian growth forms for modern and fossil hermatypic corals, we analyze morpho-functional groups in the Caribbean and assess their impact on macroevolutionary trends. Occurrences of shallow water corals of the Caribbean region was extracted from published literature and Paleobiology Database (PBDB). A species can express more than one growth form, so we use a presence-absence matrix of growth forms to establish morphofunctional groups. A PCOA was performed on the morpho-functional groups to map their locations and visualize shifts over time and space across the Caribbean. We identified a total of 15 and 17 functional groups of the 127 possible combinations for 58 extant and 502 fossil species, respectively. Branching and massive related groups emerged as the largest occupants in both the extant and fossil data. We noticed that in the fossil record 49.4 % of the species belonged to Massive adjacent groups, and it has remained the dominant group throughout Cenozoic. This implies that present-day dominance of massive groups could be associated with its historical functional redundancy. Additionally, the trajectory of morpho- functional groups through the Cenozoic follows the general trajectory of reef development, thus potentially achieving reef stability in this region.

Our study revealed that despite diversity and population of massive groups they did not show any significant impact on either extinction or emergence. We did not observe a significant among the individuals within a group, which implies that biotic interaction does not play a significant role in the origination or extinction of species within a morpho- functional group and thus indicating the co-existence of similar species. However, we noticed multiple groups such as branching, laminar\_massive had a significant impact on the extinction of the co-extincting groups. Suggesting that their present-day decline would severely impact the survival and proliferation of other functional groups.

ANUPAMA CHANDROTH  
Indiana University  
PhD Student, Paleontology

**Impact of Morpho-functional group  
redundancy on the origination and  
extinction of Caribbean corals**

Chandroth, Anupama and  
Johnson, Claudia C.

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## poster session 1

SAYAN DAS

Indiana University

PhD Candidate, Geomorphology

### Disentangling the relationship between tectonic uplift, channel morphology and sediment grain size

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Yanites, B.J., Chiang, P.C., Johnson, K.M.

Department of Earth and Atmospheric  
Sciences, Indiana University

*Abstract:* Evolution of orogenic landscapes occurs in response to the complex interaction between tectonics and climate. The bedrock rivers draining through the landscape propagate sediment from hillslope and erode the uplifted underlying bedrock. Thus, their local morphology preserves evidence of local drivers, such as rock uplift, lithology, and upstream erosional patterns. Disentangling the influence of these factors over bedrock channel morphology remains an important problem in tectonic geomorphology. The arccontinental collisional orogen of Taiwan provides a natural laboratory for addressing this problem as it is characterized by high seismicity, large gradients of exhumation rates, relatively uniform precipitation with frequent typhoons, and high relief dominated by landslides and fluvial processes. To understand the role of grain size on topography, we collected fluvial grain size data in Central Taiwan across varying lithologies to compare to channel morphology and rates of tectonic rock-uplift. We categorize the data based on the major geological divisions - Hsuehshan Range (HR), Slate belt (SB), Metamorphic complex (MC) and Western Foothills (WF). Testing the sensitivity of the grain size data with rock uplift and morphometric parameters while constraining lithology leads to various first-order conclusions- the largest drainage basins in pre-Tertiary MC produces the coarsest grains (D50: 10.6 cm), while, the smallest basins of WF exhibit the smallest grain size (D50: 3.4 cm). Local channel steepness exhibits variable trends between geological divisions which can be attributed to long term rock uplift. Combining with previous research, the results allow us to analyze orogen-wide grain size patterns which on comparison with local channel morphology and transport capacity, provides valuable insights on the underlying physical mechanism and influence of tectonic uplift on deformation patterns in Central Taiwan.

*Abstract:* The erosion, distribution, and storage of sediment occur at the margin of the channel and floodplain. This set of processes generates natural levees which, when breached, release water and sediment to the floodplain, creating crevasse splays or avulsions. Despite the importance of levees, which dictate the floodplain construction and channel mobility, their growth is poorly understood and no model can fully explain dynamic channel-levee evolution. A common simplifying assumption is to set levee and in-channel aggradation rates equally, yet observations indicate otherwise. Here we use a one-dimensional numerical model to create levees with an advectionsettling equation to quantitatively investigate levee growth decoupled from channel bed aggradation. In our model, we consider two flood mechanisms: 1) when the elevation of overflow exceeds the levee crest height (i.e., frontloading); and 2) when the flooded level is lower than the levee crest height resulting in partial inundation of the distal levee deposits (i.e., backloading). The initial levees aggrade rapidly, which confines the channel, increases bankfull depth and reduces floods. In response to confinement, the channel bed aggrades until the bankfull depth recovers a value close to its initial condition, after which flood frequency increases. This releasing process further promotes overflows, increasing sediment flux onto the floodplain. It suggests aggradational channels undergo confinedrelease phases of sediment delivery to the floodplain with episodic levee growth and fluctuations in bankfull depth. The number of backloading and confined-release phases are mainly controlled by the in-channel aggradation rate. Rapid in-channel aggradation facilitates more backloading stages and confined-release phases over time. Our results imply avulsions might preferentially occur in decoupled channel-levee systems, which have relatively rapid in-channel aggradation with increasing confined-release processes.

JEONG YEON HAN

Indiana University

PhD Student, Sedimentology

## Decoupling in-channel and levee sedimentation in a morphodynamic model of a channel-floodplain system

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Republic of Korea

## poster session 1

MIA KELLER

Indiana University  
Undergraduate, Geohazards

### Flood Risk in British Columbia

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<sup>2</sup>School of Public and Environmental Affairs,  
Indiana University

**Abstract:** In this report, we investigate the factors contributing to flood hazard in British Columbia and their impacts on health, infrastructure, economy, and the environment. We identify the Fraser River Valley as a particularly high-risk area of potential flood risk with impacts on US citizens. We detail Canadian government resources pertaining to flood forecasting, risk mitigation, and preparedness strategies. Using the devastating November 2021 flood in southern British Columbia as a case study, we assess challenges in disaster management and analyze emergency communication strategies utilized during such events. We provide recommendations for the Consulate, including leveraging available resources through the Consulate's social media platforms during significant flood events; educating American citizens regarding flood risk in British Columbia through educational materials; and integration of real-time flood warning systems and educational resources onto the Consulate's website.



*Figure 3 - a bridge washed away at Carolin Mine interchange with Coquihalla Highway 5 near Hope, B.C. due to extreme flooding during November of 2021. (photo from Baum et al. 2021)*

**Abstract:** The Greenland Ice Sheet (GrIS) is rapidly melting, reaching 42 Gt of ice per year over the last two decades. This meltwater, emerging at the glacier terminus, undergoes chemical changes forming naledi ice platforms. Our study focuses on Isunnguata Sermia in western Greenland, a significant outlet of the GrIS, crucial for understanding climate impacts on ocean circulation, sea levels, and weather patterns.

We investigate naledi alongside subglacial meltwater to understand geomicrobiology's role in meltwater chemistry, crucial as flow conditions shift. We aim to use naledi ice to trace subglacial conduits, microbial activity, and seasonal variations. Analyzing sulfate and dissolved inorganic carbon isotopes will differentiate microbial from mineral processes, despite challenges posed by similar isotopic signatures.

Our hypothesis suggests microbial activity increases during winter-to-spring transitions under limited oxygen conditions, resulting in  $\delta^{34}\text{S-SO}_4$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O-SO}_4$  increases and  $\delta^{13}\text{C-DIC}$  decreases. Conversely, warmer seasons promote mineral erosion, leading to decreases in all isotopes, particularly if pyrite oxidizes.

Initial findings indicate high sulfate concentrations during spring melt, indicating potential pyrite oxidation. Our research promises insights into temporal and environmental factors shaping meltwater chemistry in West Greenland.

MOSES JATTA

Indiana University Indianapolis  
MSc Student, Geochemistry

## Tracing Microbial Footprints In Greenland's Subglacial Naled Ice Meltwater: An Isotopic Perspective

Jatta, M. [mjatta@iu.edu](mailto:mjatta@iu.edu)

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<sup>2</sup>Northumbria University Newcastle,

<sup>3</sup>University of Minnesota

## poster session 1

YA-SHIEN (ZAX) LIN

Indiana University

PhD Candidate, Geomorphology

### Characterizing sinuosity in the Oregon Coastal Range for enhanced landscape evolution insights

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*Abstract:* Interaction between climatic and tectonic forces shapes the process of landscape evolution, with bedrock channels playing a key role. Bedrock channels can respond to climate and tectonic activity, preserving traces of deformation and rock uplift while also embodying the landscape's climate history in morphological features such as slope and sinuosity. Understanding these responses is vital for decoding the complexities of landscape evolution. Our focus here is understanding channel sinuosity, an important but often overlooked morphological feature of bedrock rivers. Traditional models, like the one-dimensional stream power incision model, tend to simplify the intricate processes that shape the 2D planform of a river system, neglecting the influence of sinuosity on the landscape. This is a critical oversight, given that, for a given channel slope, meandering channels can generate a higher relief than straight channels, highlighting the influential role of sinuosity in landscape evolution. To address the influence of sinuosity on landscape evolution, we have developed a novel framework which not only recognizes the significant impact of sinuosity but also quantifies the distribution of energy and geomorphic work along the lateral and vertical axes of river channels. Using lidar data, we have examined the morphology of more than 10 basins across a gradient in tectonic rock-uplift within the Oregon Coastal Range (OCR). Our analysis leverages this rich geomorphologic dataset to investigate the correlation between drainage size and energy allocation. Preliminary findings reveal a rise in the proportion of geomorphic energy expended on lateral erosion relative to vertical incision as drainage area increases in the OCR. Furthermore, our data highlights that channels with larger drainage areas show higher sinuosity, and those with steeper slopes exhibit lower sinuosity. These observations suggest that sinuosity may be influenced by factors such as rock uplift rate and lithology.



Abstract: Arc magmatism plays a crucial role in generating continental crust and in mass transfer between surface and mantle. A subducting slab is often highly enriched in volatiles such as water, sulfur, and carbon dioxide, which may be lost, along with fluid-mobile elements, during subduction as water-rich mineral phases become unstable at higher pressure, resulting in a slab-derived fluid. These fluids interact with and metasomatize the overlying mantle, known as the mantle wedge, subsequently enriching the magmatic source feeding the arc volcanic system. To track this process, nontraditional stable isotope systems such as molybdenum, lithium, boron, and others are widely used. Here we present thallium (Tl) isotopic compositions (shown as  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ , which is  $^{205}\text{Tl}/^{203}\text{Tl}$  relative to SRM NIST 997) and trace element data from the north Kamchatka arc setting for 11 Bezymianny volcano (BV) basaltic andesite samples and five mantle wedge spinel harzburgite xenoliths. BV is an andesitic volcano located in the Klyuchevskaya group of volcanoes, with a slab depth of approximately 180 km and a subduction rate of around 8 cm/year. All studied volcanic samples are K-medium basaltic andesite and are characterized by flat rare earth element (REE) distribution (normalized to chondrite),  $\text{Gd}/\text{Yb} \sim 1.5$ ,  $\text{La}/\text{Sm} \sim 2$ ,  $\text{Th}/\text{Yb} \sim 0.5$ ,  $\text{Nd}/\text{Hf} \sim 4.5$  and  $\text{Sr}/\text{Y} \sim 18.5$ , which is consistent with Kamchatka volcanic rocks. Basaltic andesite  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$  values are indistinct from that of the mantle, ranging from -2.7 to -1.1 (average  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -1.5 \pm 1$ ,  $n=11$ ). Peridotite xenoliths have a flat REE distribution pattern and high Ni and Cr content (greater than 1,500 ppm). Here,  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$  values vary significantly, from -1.8 to 18.2. We interpret this  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$  variation to be the result of multistage metasomatism by isotopically heavy dehydration slab fluids during subduction.

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### Heterogeneity of the mantle beneath the Kamchatka arc: Tl isotope evidence

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# poster session 2

IGWS 2022

*Abstract:* During the last four decades, global warming has exaggerated extreme precipitation over most of the United States, particularly in the Midwest region (defined here as the region covering Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky). To enable climate change adaptation and resilience among various economic-societal sectors, we need updated information on how climate will change in the future. This study introduces a framework to construct the intensity-duration-frequency (IDF) curves of heavy precipitation, which are prominent tools for infrastructure design and water resources management. This framework takes advantage of a 150-year dynamical downscaling dataset at convection-permitting resolution, as well as hourly in situ observations, to generate IDF curves at both sub-daily and multi-day duration. A modified quantile mapping bias-correction technique and the assumption of non-stationary in the distribution parameter fitting process are implemented in this workflow. In comparison with historical IDF curves of 1980–2022, the future projected IDF curves based on the RCP8.5 scenario, during 2058–2100 over 74 stations, show an increase of 10 to 20 % in intensity over most of stations and during all four seasons of interest.

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### Future intensity-duration-frequency curves of extreme precipitation in the Midwest United States

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### The impacts of Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) events on microbial water quality in urban waterways

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*Abstract:* Current research findings show that the effluent received in urban waterways from CSO events affects the bacterial and viral load (Arnone *et al.* 2007). This poses serious health risks to the people that interact with these waterways and the other organisms that rely on it. Fecal coliform bacteria such as *Escherichia coli* is a useful indicator often used for the presence of sewage and potential pathogens but this is still not enough to determine the health risks associated with fecal pathogens present. Therefore, the aim of this research is to quantify and characterize the fecal coliform present in the Pleasant Run Waterway in Indianapolis, Indiana. Water samples were collected before and after precipitation events at sampling sites along the Pleasant Run Waterway. A Qiagen DNA extraction kit was used to extract DNA from the water samples which were then sent for <sup>16</sup>S rDNA at Creative Biogene facilities.

The preliminary data showed observable differences in the type of microbes present during wet and dry events and the relative abundance. Overall, the relative abundance of species present in samples collected after a precipitation event was more than twice that of samples that did not experience a precipitation event. Additionally, the results showed that opportunistic bacteria and pathogenic bacteria were present in some of the samples analyzed. One notable observation was the pathogenic bacteria *shigella* present in three of the samples. In conclusion, the results show that CSO events significantly affect the microbial water quality of urban waterways, emphasizing the need for proper mitigation strategies to safeguard public health and environmental integrity.

*Abstract:* Agricultural production is a significant contributor to anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, contributing approximately 1.4-1.7 gigatons of carbon emissions and accounting for more than 60 % of global N<sub>2</sub>O emissions. Cover cropping and tillage management have long been touted for their conservation benefits to soil and crop performance. However, previous research has yielded mixed results when combining cover crops and tillage practices in terms of GHG emissions from agricultural soils. The specific contributions of this combination to agricultural GHG emissions remain uncertain. Therefore, while NT and cover crops have been promoted for their conservation benefits, there is the possibility that such gains can be offset by potentially increasing GHG emissions. To address this question, this study conducted field simulation experiments at three farm sites from 2021 to 2023 in northeastern Indiana focused on monitoring and comparing CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, and CH<sub>4</sub> emissions to assess the variations in GHG emissions under three different treatments: cover crop plus no-till (CCNT), no-till alone (NT), and a control treatment (conventional tillage, CT).

Based on the data, the preliminary results indicate that the utilization of CCNT (1.56±0.33) resulted in 31 % higher global warming potential (GWP) than NT (1.19±0.24). The increased GWP is mainly caused by increased CO<sub>2</sub> emission, especially during the growing season. CO<sub>2</sub> flux under CCNT was measured at 1.84±0.33 g C m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup> which is the main contributor to the increase in GWP.

YU PENG

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## Synergistic effects of cover crop and no-tillage to greenhouse gas emission under real farming conditions

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**BRIANNA PINNICK**

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### **Channel Response to an Anthropogenic Water Diversion in Dump Creek**

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**Abstract:** The study of channel response to anthropogenic events is crucial for effective landscape management as it helps understand how human activities impact river systems and guides strategies to mitigate adverse effects on ecosystems and water resources. Within Idaho's Salmon National Forest, the Dump Creek channel has eroded at an accelerated rate, greatly impacting the Salmon River. Evidence suggests this increase in erosion was caused by hydraulic mining. In 1897, a tunnel was driven from the Dump Creek drainage area and tapped Moose Creek, resulting in a water diversion. Due to this diversion, large volumes of material are continuously deposited into Dump Creek from massive slope failures. This material is transported into the Salmon River, where it causes gravel bar buildup, channel change, slope undermining, and degradation of water quality. By comparing satellite imagery and a DEM over the Dump Creek Channel, the area shows an increase of 36 % between 1947 and 2019. This DEM was also used to estimate the amount of erosion and aggradation as of 2019. The volume of material deposited in the channel from each landslide is estimated by interpolating each landslide area. By taking cross-sections across the channel and projecting a predicted elevation, representing the channel profile before the water diversion, the amount of erosion and aggradation throughout the channel is estimated. Cross-sections are also taken in a control channel, Boulder Creek, at points where the drainage area matched that of Dump Creek. These profiles compare the width difference between the two channels to visualize the impact of the Dump Creek erosional event. Even a century later, this event is still changing the landscape and causing adverse impacts.

**Abstract:** An increasing awareness of paleontological resources in national parks has been followed by an increase in National Park Service (NPS) paleontological inventories to better manage such resources. Theodore Roosevelt National Park (THRO), established in 1947 and located in western North Dakota, preserves portions of badlands containing the Bullion Creek Formation and Sentinel Butte Formation representing six million years of deposition during the Paleocene. Paleontological studies of these formations have been primarily outside of park boundaries and have documented various plants, invertebrate, and vertebrate taxa. Previous surveys of the park showed that these units in the park's boundaries have been very fossiliferous with petrified wood being a known feature and a 1994–1996 survey that recorded 400 localities. This highlights THRO's importance as an area with great potential for scientifically significant material as it is one of the few park units in the NPS system that contains Paleocene fossil-bearing geological units, and only one of two with substantial Paleocene terrestrial records.

The author conducted a survey of THRO in 2020–2021 to create a paleontological resource inventory to determine the scope, significance, distribution, and management issues associated with fossil resources in the park. The survey included 14 weeks of fieldwork which recorded 158 localities over 9.1 km<sup>2</sup> of the park in both the North and South Units. Over 75 % of the localities were from the Sentinel Butte Formation. This survey has shown that the park's geologic units are as fossiliferous as they were in past surveys and has yielded previously unidentified taxa within the park's boundaries. These included two mammalian taxa, one avian chnotaxon, and high-yield fossils.

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### A paleontological resource inventory of Theodore Roosevelt National Park reveal potential for future vertebrate paleontological research and management

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SAMANTHA SHEAHAN

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### Assessing the viability of phosphorus fertilizer rate reduction as a water quality protection strategy in agricultural watersheds of the US Midwest.

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Abstract: The export of nutrients such as phosphorus (P) and nitrogen (N) from intensively managed croplands of the US Midwest has been linked to water quality degradation and the eutrophication of aquatic ecosystems, an ecological condition marked by excessive growth of nuisance algae. Previously evaluated land management strategies (no-till, cover crop) have yielded mixed results in terms of their capacity to reduce nutrient loss from cropland. An edge-of-field study was conducted to assess whether crop yield can be sustained, and agricultural P loading can be reduced with application of less P fertilizer. The study sites (Central Indiana, USA) include two adjacent agricultural fields under the same tillage (no-till) and crop rotation (corn-soybean), but different P fertilizer management. Both fields (West and East) received P fertilizer at the Tri-State recommended rate of 78 kg P/ha in 2016-2017. Starting in 2018, the West field continued to receive P at the recommended rate while the East field was switched to a lower rate of 22 kg P/ha. At its outlet, each field was equipped with flumes, flow sensors, and auto-samplers for continuous collection of both surface and subsurface tile water samples. Samples were analyzed for sediment concentration, nitrate, soluble reactive phosphorus (SRP), and total dissolved P (TDP). Results showed that nutrient loss occurred primarily through subsurface tile drainage for both P and N. With implementation of precision P fertilizer management (70 % reduction in application rate) in the East field, a sharp decline (>85 %) in TDP flux was recorded. The drop in TDP flux was from 4.9 to 0.3 for tile discharge and from 0.18 to 0.03 kg P/ha/yr for surface runoff. These results suggest that P fertilizer rate reduction could be a promising strategy to protect water quality in the regions, but additional research at sites under conventional tillage is needed. Most importantly, the impact of the strategy on crop yield requires further investigation.



**Abstract:** The Ordovician period was a pivotal era characterized by significant climatic, geologic, and evolutionary transformations. The transition from an Early Ordovician “hot-house” climate to a Late Ordovician “ice-house” condition, marked by glaciation and cooling, led to major environmental changes, increased biodiversity (GOBE), and a mass extinction event. This mass extinction, one of the “big five” in Earth’s history, resulted in the loss of up to 50 % of genera and a staggering 85 % of marine species. In addition, the first appearance and colonization of land plants during the Ordovician may have had extensive consequences on terrestrial and marine ecosystems including fluctuations in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> concentrations and periods of increased organic carbon burial rates, and subsequent anoxia, evident in two Late Ordovician global positive carbon isotope excursions (GICE and HICE). The evolution of land plants, particularly their ability to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> levels through enhanced calcium-magnesium silicate weathering, including extensive shallow-water phosphate deposits from the Late Ordovician, has been proposed as an important contributor for the decrease in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and subsequent cooling during the Ordovician. Our study focuses on an end- Ordovician sequence collected from the IMI Pendleton Quarry in Indiana, comprised of interbedded dolostones, limestones, and shales, indicative of shallow marine facies.  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{carb}}$  values show a ~4.5 ‰ excursion in the upper sediments after a period of relatively stable values. This is reminiscent of the HICE and is likely some of the first evidence of the HICE in the Cincinnati region. There is also evidence of local-scale nutrient loading with P/Ti and P/Al showing a sustained period of enhanced nutrient flux. In addition,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{pyrite}}$  values do not reflect the global parallel positive excursion seen in other records. Instead, it is probable that they were influenced by local-scale processes,

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## Late Ordovician Environmental Dynamics in the Cincinnati Region: New Evidence of the HICE from a Shallow-Marine Sequence in Indiana, USA

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### Exploring Iron Dynamics Along the Atlantic Mid-Ocean Ridge: A Sequential Extraction Approach

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**Abstract:** The Atlantic Mid-Ocean Ridge is the cause of new seafloor being created via the Wilson Cycle. This seafloor gives a unique look into how processes in a specific place have changed over geologic time. The sites that were chosen for the 390/393 expeditions range from 6.6 Ma to about 60 Ma. The samples taken give the chance to study how processes have changed overtime. Site U1559 is the youngest, located closest to the Mid Atlantic Ridge, and site U1556 is the oldest and located furthest from the ridge. By analyzing the data and studying the distribution of the different iron species via the sequential iron extraction process, can give insight into the geochemical processes that have influenced and altered the iron minerals in the samples. By performing the sequential iron extraction iron speciation will be known and past processes and conditions will be known. The hypothesis is that the iron species will reveal how influential hydrothermal activity has influenced the samples, as well as mineralogical data. The ratio of  $\text{Fe}^2$  to  $\text{Fe}^3$  will indicate how oxidizing or reducing the environment was.



<https://sigmagamma.so.indiana.edu>



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