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4-dimensional modelling of mineral belts



- **Why 3D-modelling?**
 - **Earth's crust and ore deposits are 3D!**
 - **Proper integration of three-dimensional source data**
 - Surface geology
 - Geophysics (seismic, potential field IP, resistivity)
 - Drillings
 - Mine data

- **Why 4D-modelling?**

- Much of the near-surface deposits already discovered and exploited → deep-exploration required = expensive
- **Complex geological terrains and uneven source data**
 - Distribution, type and reliability → remaining uncertainties in the 3D-models



– What do we get from 4D-modelling?

- Validation of the 3D-interpretations
- Improvements in understanding geological processes leading to ore deposition and their subsequent deformation = **distribution and form of the deposits**

Background

- **Two currently running projects**
 - ”Vinnova 4D-modelling of the Skellefte District”
 - Luleå and Uppsala Universities, Boliden Mineral AB, GeoVista AB
 - National funding
 - ”ProMine”
 - EU-funding

VINNOVA

- Multidisciplinary
- Geology, Geophysics

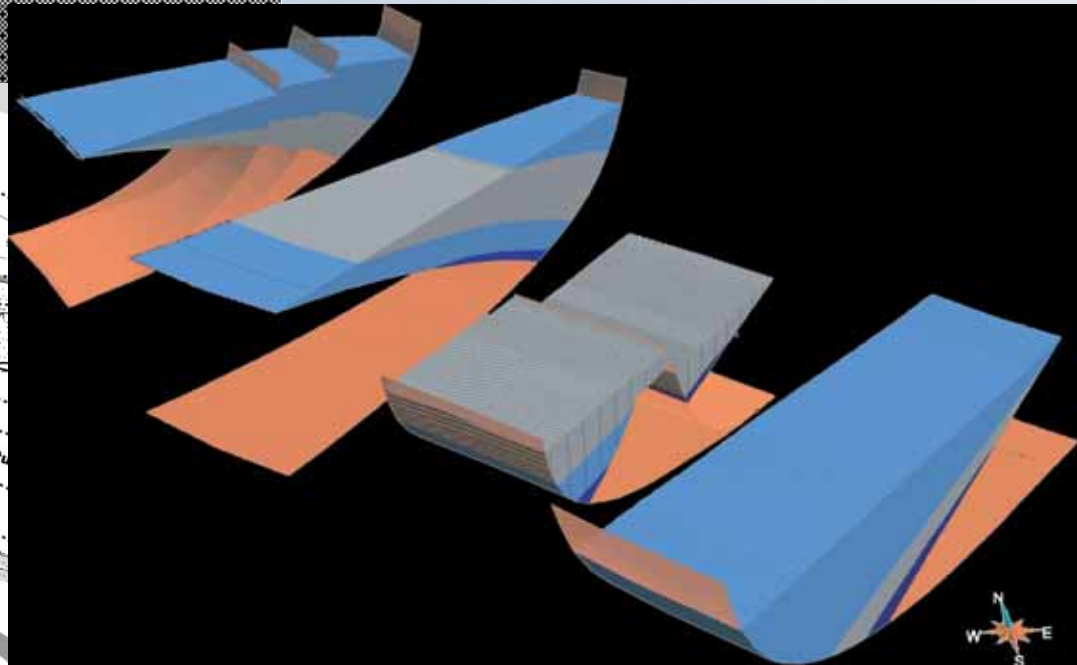
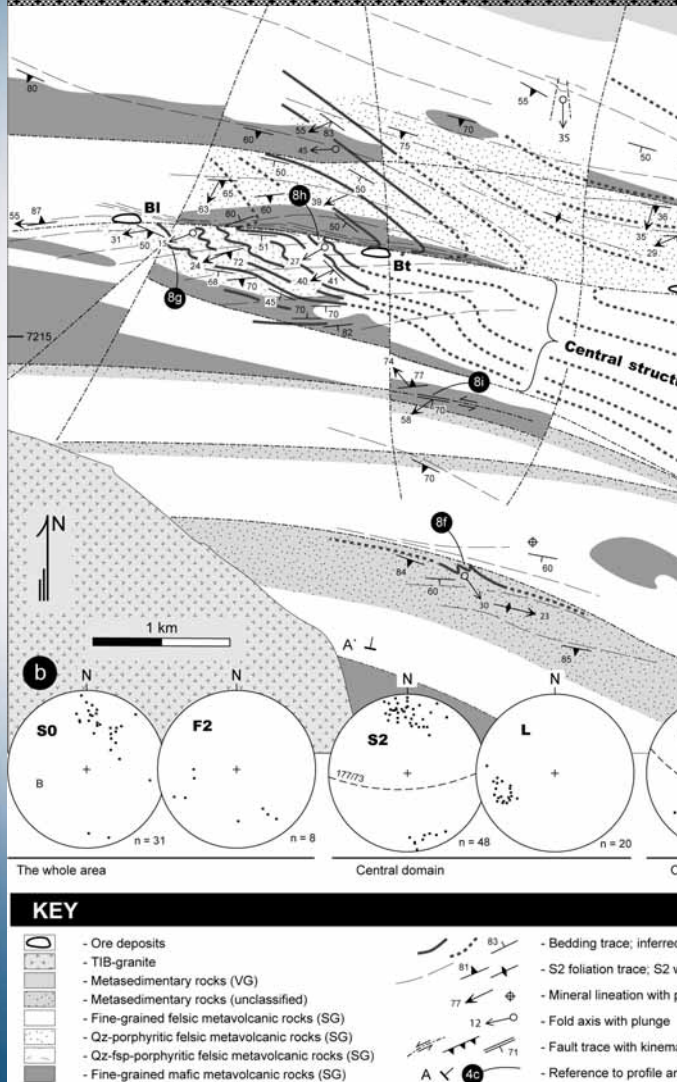
ProMine

- Several Mineral Belts through Europe involved

Financial support from Boliden Mineral AB,
VINNOVA and EU acknowledged!

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- Much of the work so far concentrated in structural analysis & synthesis



- Now the focus changing towards 3/4D-modelling

- gOcad (Paradigm)
- MOVE (Midland Valley Exploration)

Aim of the talk

- **Provide an overview of the possibilities and challenges of 3/4D-modelling within the Skellefte District**
 - Two geographical focus areas and three modelling scales

Case 1

- Regional-scale animations

Case 2

- Semi-regional scale with good surface geology constraints

Case 3

-Local-scale with input data from drilling and mine geology

- **Case 1: Simplified crustal evolution models**

- **Goals**

- A regional 3D context for activities in the district
- Aid in understanding large-scale tectonic processes
- Visualizations & presentations for decision-makers
- Teaching material

- **Input**

- *Concept*: Inversion tectonics in a segmented crust
- Geophysical and geological constraints acquired in the smaller-scale sub-projects

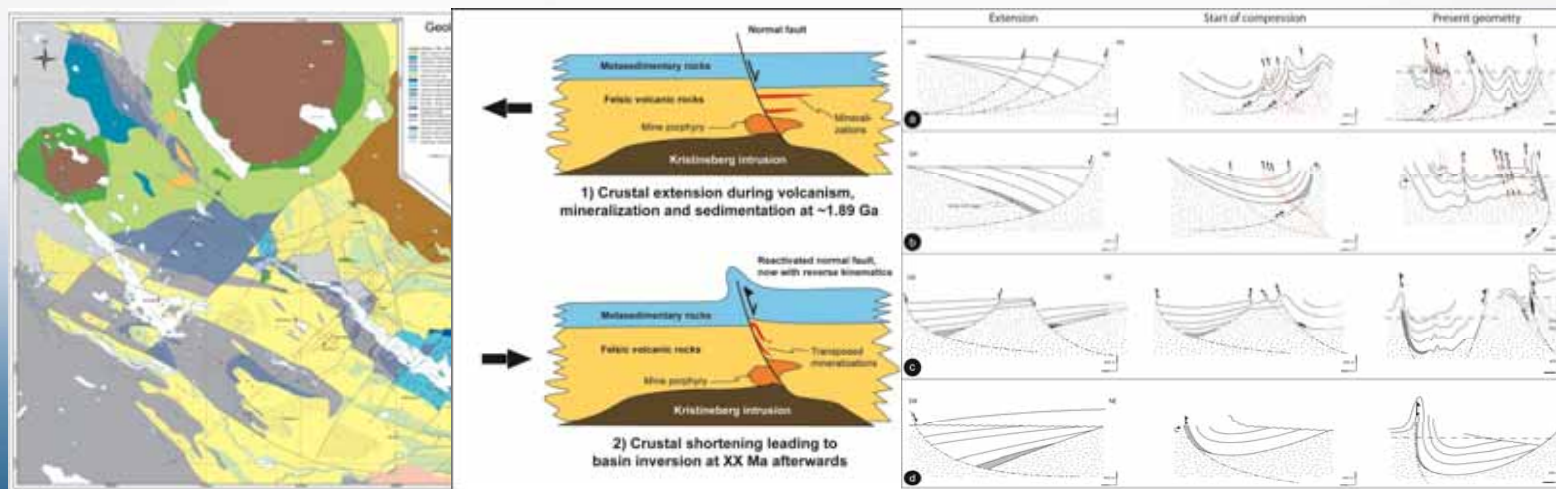
• Case 1: Simplified crustal evolution models

– Challenges

- Complexity → a suitable degree of simplification needed
- Correct conceptual model (may though hopefully evolve further)

– Advantages

- Possibility to present the sometimes "so-hard-to-understand" geological stories in an easier way



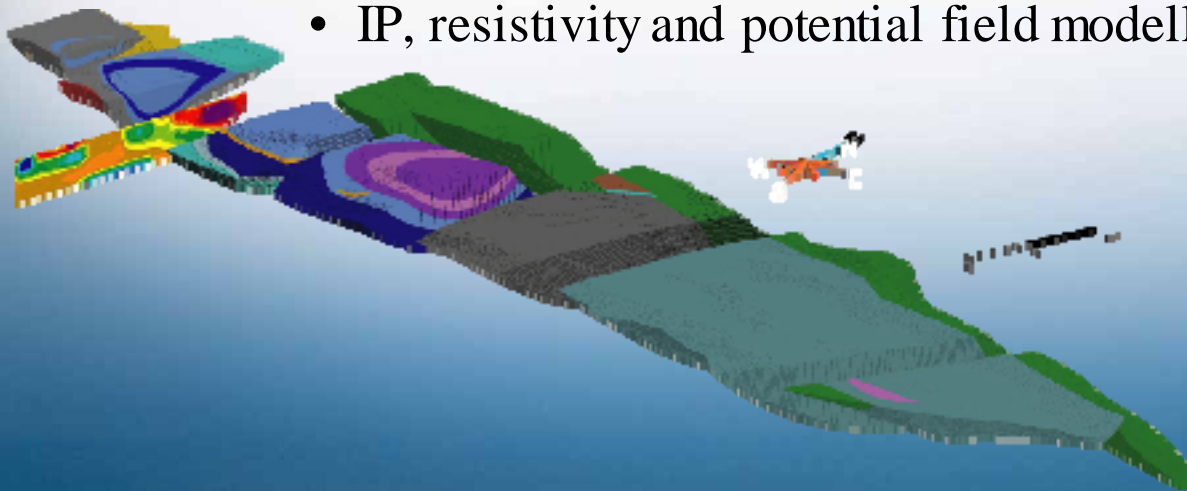
- **Case 2: Semi-regional scale model with good surface geology constraints**

- **Goals**

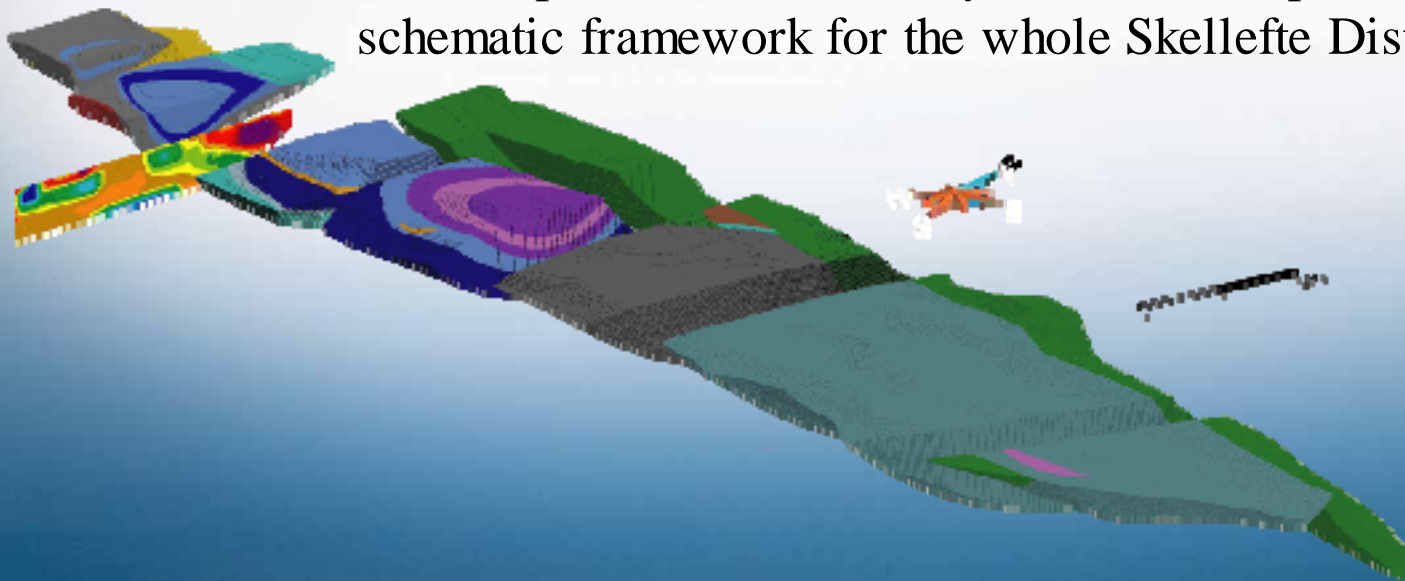
- Understanding the structural control on sedimentation, volcanism and mineralization + subsequent deformation patterns
- Input into district-scale models

- **Input**

- Geological mapping, structural analysis
- IP, resistivity and potential field modelling



- **Case 2: Semi-regional scale model with good surface geology constraints**
 - **Challenges**
 - Complex interplay between sedimentation and deformation
 - Correlation with the larger-scale seismics
 - **Advantages**
 - Good exposure and relatively low strain → possible to define a schematic framework for the whole Skellefte District





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- **Case 3: Local-scale with input data from drilling and mine geology**

- **Goals**

- Deposit/domain-scale 3D-framework for mineralizations by improved understanding on the structural evolution of the mine areas, e.g. the Kristineberg mine
 - *Fault-system geometry, kinematics and strain partitioning*
- Input into district-scale models

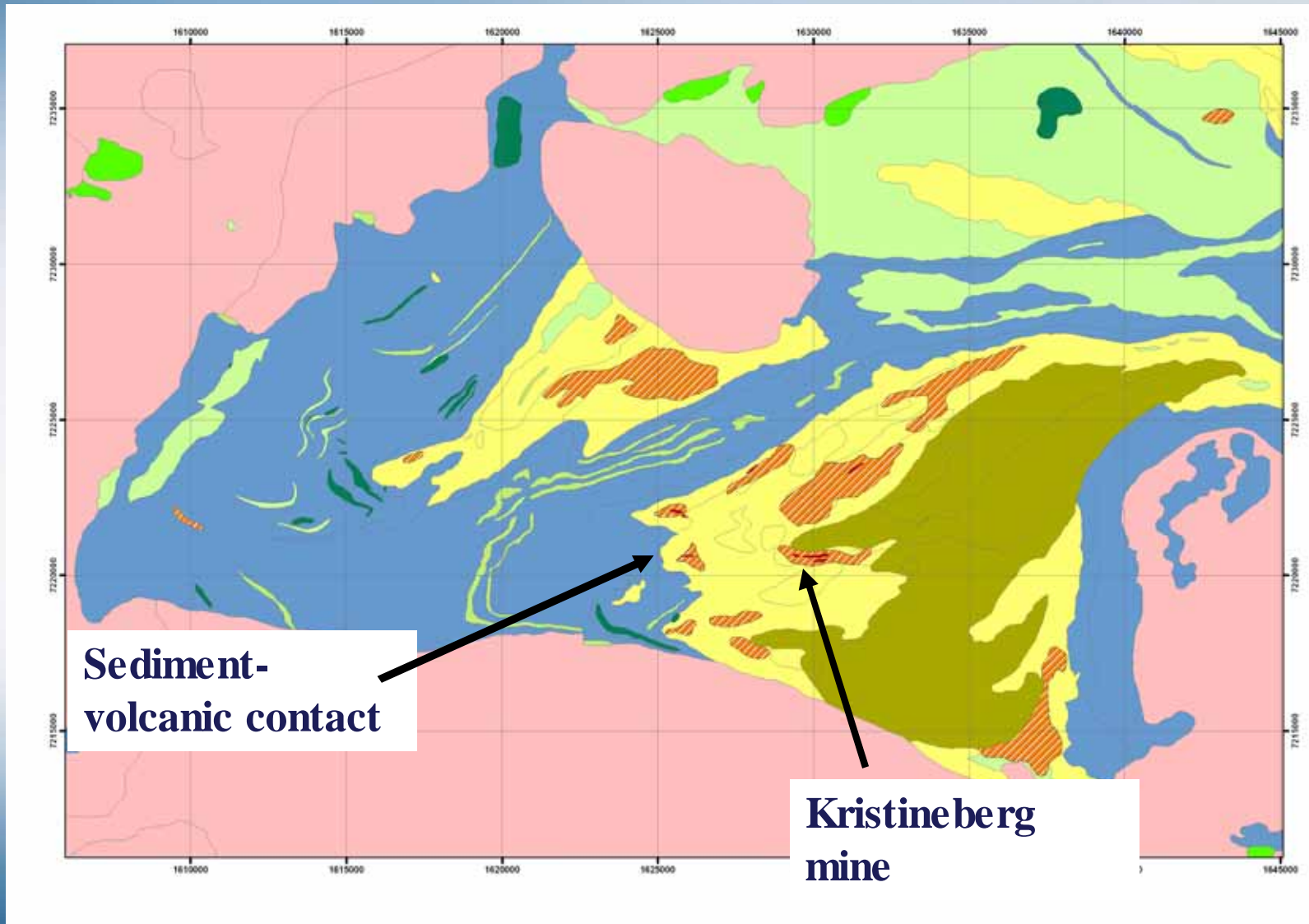
- **Input**

- Drill core observations, triangulated ore body surfaces in 3D, profiles and plan maps from the mine
- Geological mapping, structural analysis
- Seismics, magnetotellurics

- **Case 3: Local-scale with input data from drilling and mine geology**
 - **Challenges**
 - Few if any marker horizons due to extensive ore-related alteration systems
 - Complex ore transposition pattern
 - **Advantages**
 - Dense drillings for constraints about 3D-geometry



Kristineberg on map

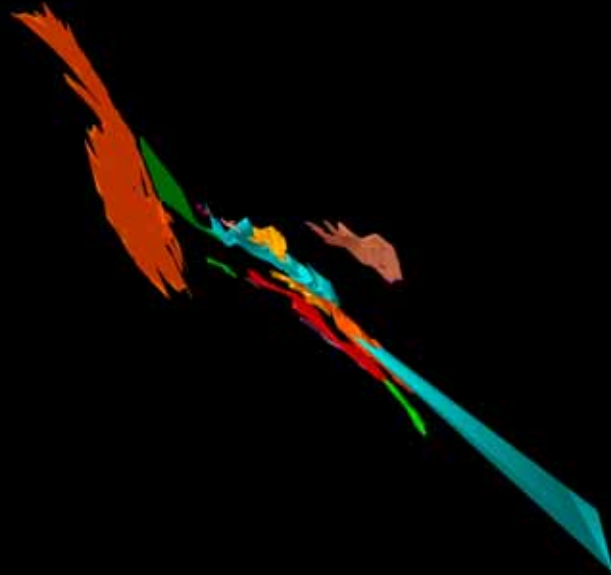


**Sediment-
volcanic contact**

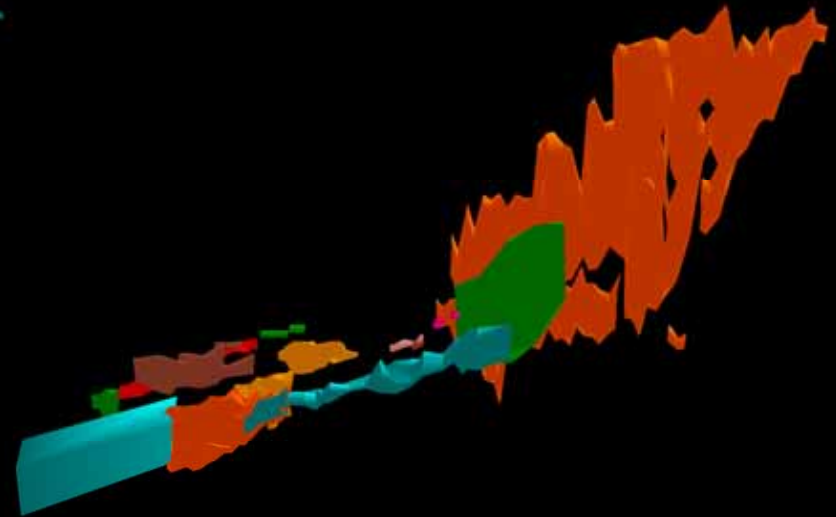
**Kristineberg
mine**



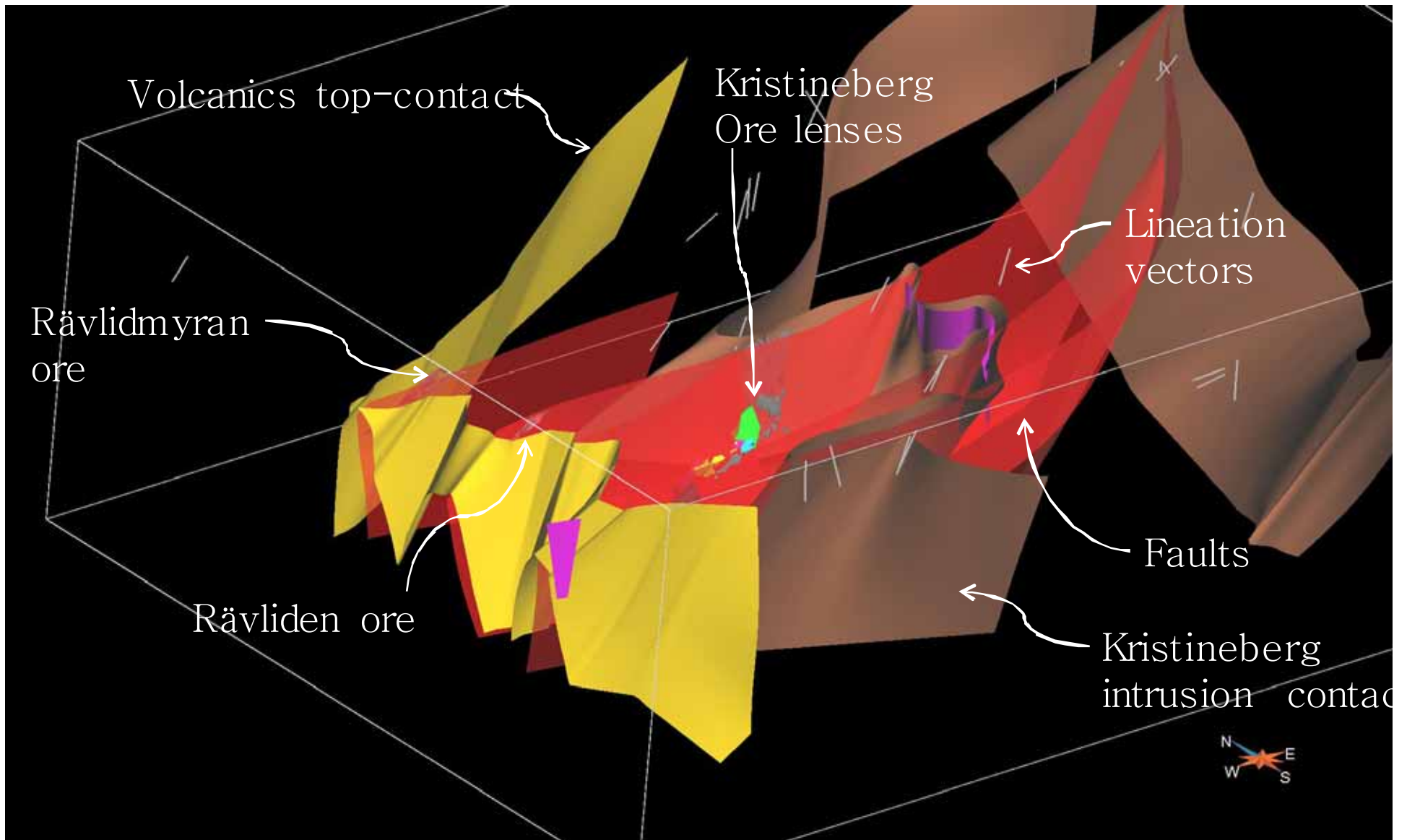
The Kristineberg ore deposit



Long-section, view towards E



Cross-section view towards N



A 3D-sketch of the same
- view towards NE

Outcomes

MODELLING

- 1) Feedback between the models in different scales and with different types of source data
- 2) Possibilities in defining deformation styles >> better interpretations on geometry and dynamics
- 3) Difficulties in quantifying deformation



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Thank you!