

Machinations

Uwe Brand
 Centre for Sedimentary Studies
 Department of Geological Sciences
 Brock University
 St. Catharines, Ontario L2S 3A1

The Old Feature Series

The feature series "Machinations" was first introduced in 1984 by the Editor of *Geoscience Canada*. Its purpose was to publicize innovations in equipment and laboratory procedures and bring them to the attention of the specialist and non-specialist in the Earth Sciences. The arduous task of soliciting and wrenching papers from a sometimes reluctant Earth Science community fell on Norm Evensen. Since its inception, a number of articles have appeared under the logo of Machinations. Topics ranged from methods of solid-source mass spectrometry (Bell and Blenkinsop, 1984) to using ground-probing radar as a high-resolution sub-surface mapping technique (Davis and Annan, 1986). As such, the articles which appeared in Machinations

fulfilled the stated objectives. The "new" Machinations feature series hopes to build on the excellent beginning marked by the Editor and Assistant Editor.

The New Feature Series

Articles in the continuing series will appear under the revised series name of Machinations — M^3 . This new heading more closely reflects the contents of the series. The M^3 alludes to the expansion of the field to encompass articles of interest not only to methods of equipment and lab procedures, but to encompass other aspects of Earth Science interests, such as computer programs and audio-visual presentations. The M^3 designates Machine (M^1), Methods (M^2) and Media (M^3) topics covered by the revamped feature series. In addition, the old logo (above) will be replaced by four new logos. Articles dealing with simple or complicated machinery/equipment will appear under the revised logo depicting a machine sampling good old mother Earth and spitting out the information/data at the other end to make its way into papers and conference presentations (Figure 1). Logo two (Figure 2) shows a mortar and pestle, and will be used to introduce articles dealing with laboratory or field procedures and methods. The third logo represents a flow chart and will be used to introduce articles dealing with computer programs used to solve geological problems (Figure 3). These problems may range from how to automate machines to statistical evaluations of geological materials and numbers (data). The last logo of the series depicts a projector (Figure 4) and its purpose is to introduce articles dealing with audio-visual topics applicable to conference, classroom and in general any type of presentation

which requires projectors (film, slide, overhead) or computer-mediated diagrams/charts. The M^3 is a common feature of the four logos and is a symbolic representation of the topics covered in Machinations — M^3 .

Articles dealing with any aspect of Earth Sciences falling under the above mentioned topics are welcomed. At present, I have coerced some colleagues to contribute papers to the series, and want to take this opportunity to extend this invitation to all my friends in geology to share their ideas for making machines work better, improve an old methodology, write a computer program to solve a problem or do the old nasty statistical analysis, make presentations more colourful and easier to read for the crowd in the back rows, and present new ideas and concepts for classroom instruction. The articles should be as concise as possible, but peppered with figures to illustrate the concept(s). Format of papers should follow the *Geoscience Canada* "Instructions to Authors" (March and December issues, each year) or write to me for instructions. Articles submitted for publication in the Machinations series will be peer reviewed and the final decision regarding acceptance of an article will be made by the Editor, with recommendations from the Assistant Editor.

References

- Bell, K.J. and Blenkinsop, J., 1984, Multiple collection in solid-source mass spectrometry: *Geoscience Canada*, v. 11, p. 50-52.
 Davis, J.L. and Annan, A.P., 1986, High-resolution sounding using ground-probing radar: *Geoscience Canada*, v. 13, p. 205-208.

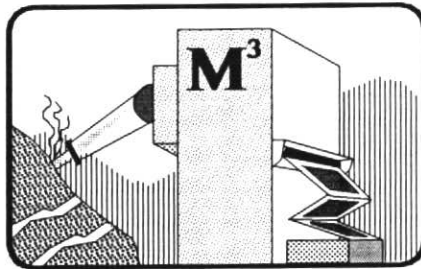


Figure 1

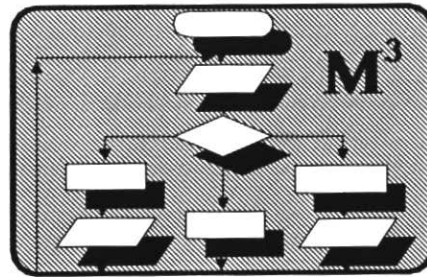


Figure 3

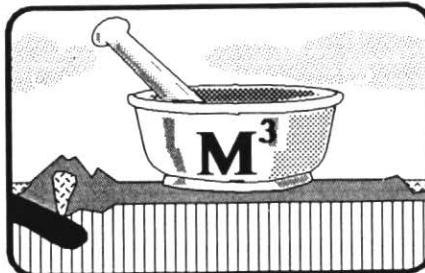


Figure 2

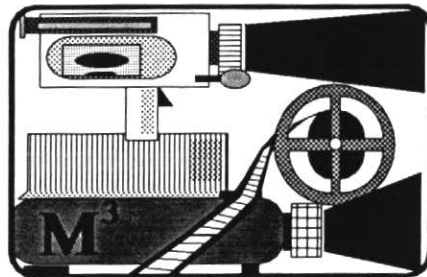


Figure 4