

An Atlas of Deformation Microstructures with Selected Animations

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Abstract: We here present an extensive set of digital images of deformation microstructures to serve as learning objects for undergraduate structural geology classes. Each image is accompanied by explanatory text and some are linked to Flash animations.

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As a result of four decades of field and laboratory research on four continents, Carol Simpson made thin sections of a large collection of specimens showing various styles of deformation. We have captured high-resolution digital images of 100 photomicrographs which we consider suitable for teaching at undergraduate and even graduate level. Each image is accompanied by a brief description and some are linked to explanatory animations created in FlashTM. A digital atlas such as this has certain advantages over a traditional atlas. Notably, descriptions include hyperlinked cross-references that permit the student to check related microstructures without losing their place in the sequence.

The atlas was previously distributed on CD ROM but is here available as a web download.