

# AUTOMATED WORKFLOWS FOR THE INTEGRATION OF REGIONAL 3D-GEOLOGICAL MODELS

Dirix Katrijn, Deckers Jef, Hamsch Lorenz, Van Haren  
Tom, De Koninck Roel, Rombaut Bernd, De Nil Katrien

# CONTEXT

## Context

- By order of 'Flemish Planning Bureau for the Environment and Spatial Development'
- [G3Dv2-model](#) (2013): first 3D geological model of Flanders (



### Goals 2013 – 2018:

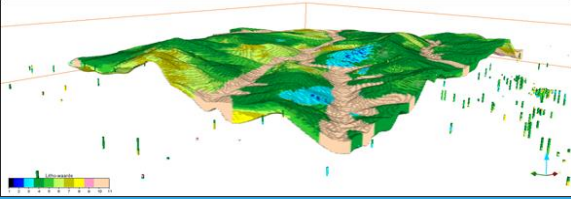
- **Detailed models** for subsurface applications
- **Faults in 3D** (SKUA-GOCAD)
- **Linking** geological and hydrogeological units/models
- Large existing **seismic dataset**
- **Parametrization** of near-surface resources (voxel models)
- **Cross-boundary** harmonization of models (H3O-projects)
- **Integration** existing and new models into **comprehensive models**
- **Intergration in DOV**

- **G3Dv3-model(2019)**: Updated & refined 3D geological model of Flanders
- **H3D-model (2019)**: G3Dv3-model translated into hydrogeological model for Flanders and adjacent areas

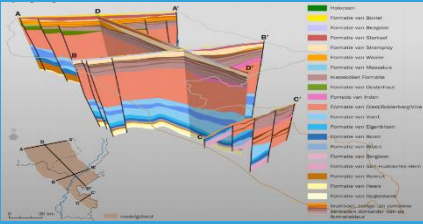
2013 - 2018

New models

Voxel models of resources (2015 & 2017)



H3O-projects (2014 & 2018)

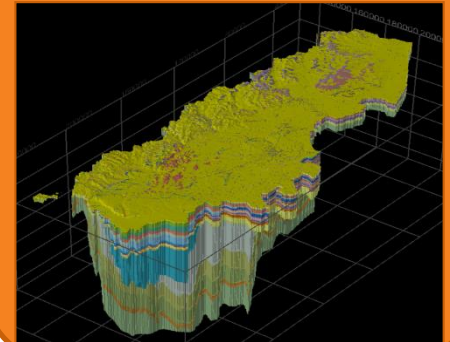


3D  
Faults

Modifying,  
updating &  
refining previous  
models

Existing models

G3Dv2



HCOV

DOV  
database

Integration & automatization

G3Dv3 + H3D  
models

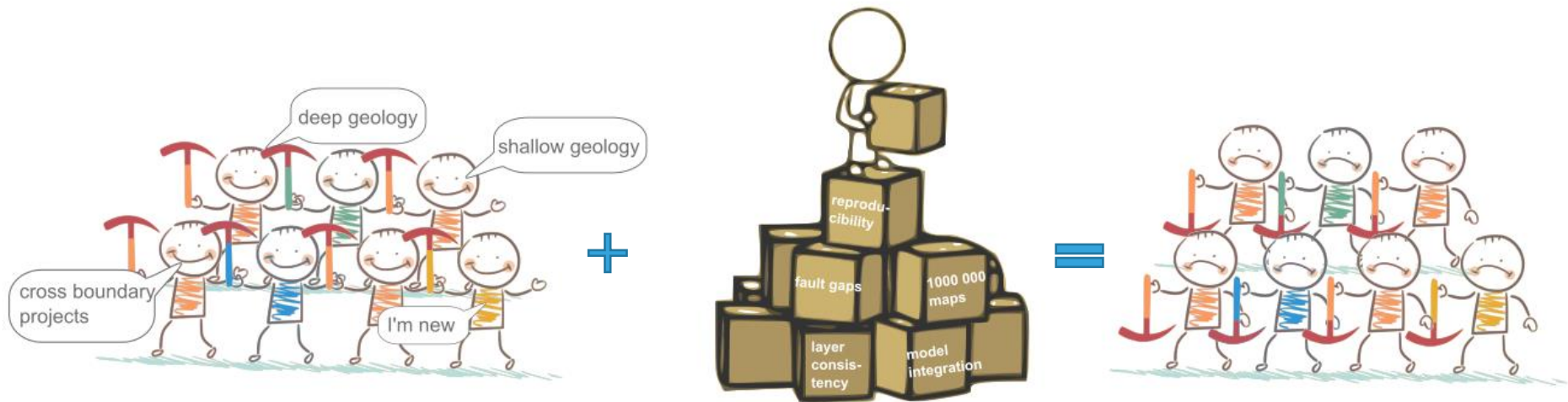
## CONTEXT

- New 3D (hydro)geological models of Flanders (Palaeozoic to Quaternary):
  - 117 geological layers
  - 139 hydrological layers
  
- Output for each layer:
  - 100 x 100 m raster files of top, base, thickness
  - Shapefiles of geological occurrences, fault intersections, isolines

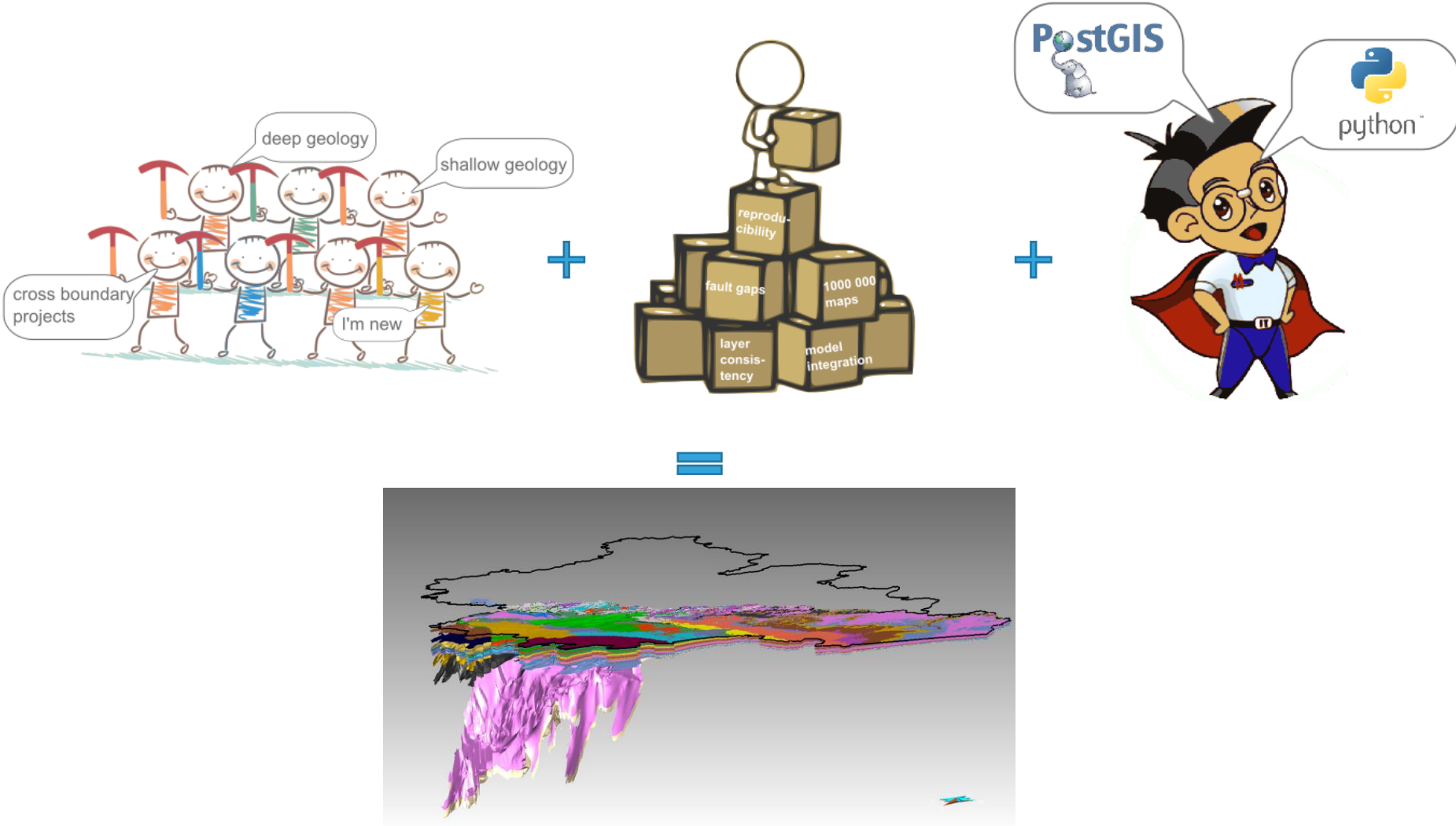


> 1500 maps needed to be produced

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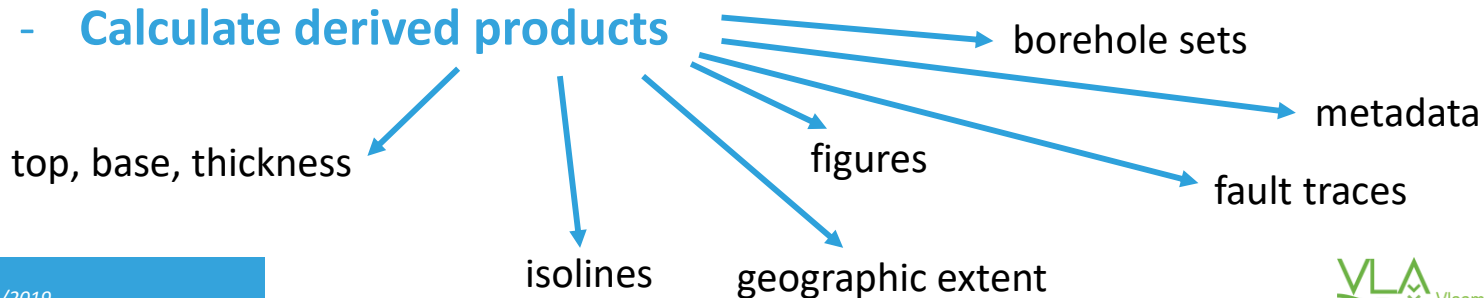


# AUTOMATED WORKFLOW

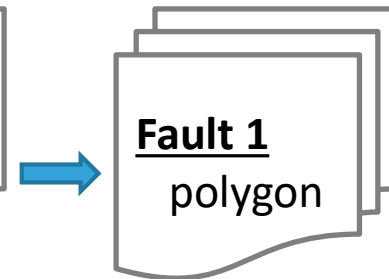
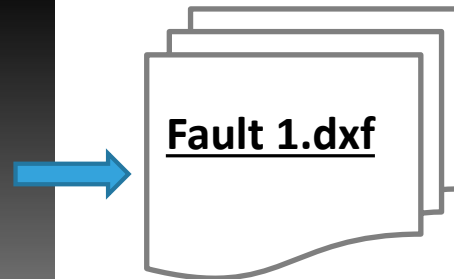
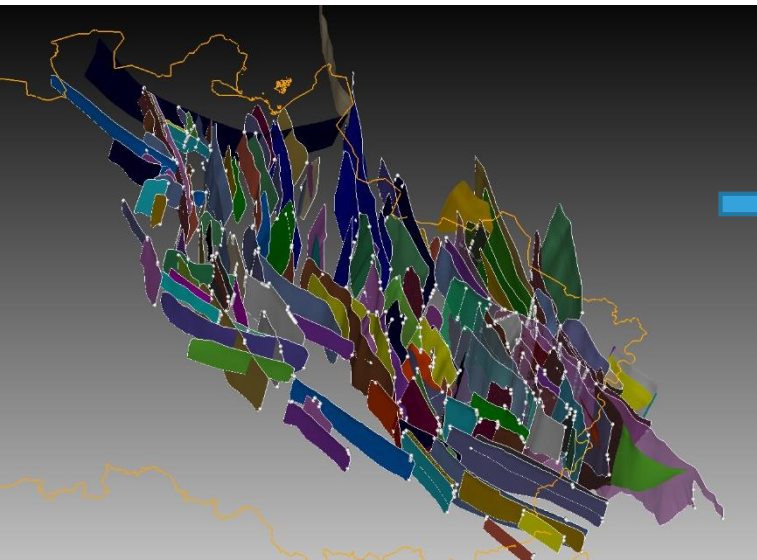
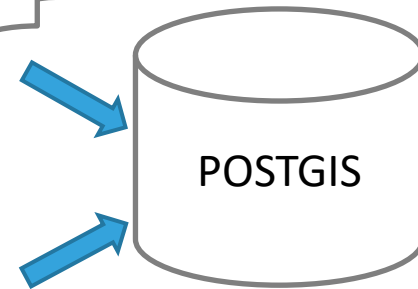
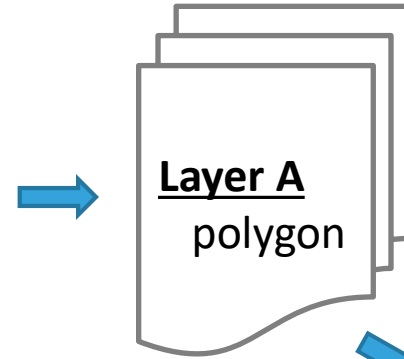
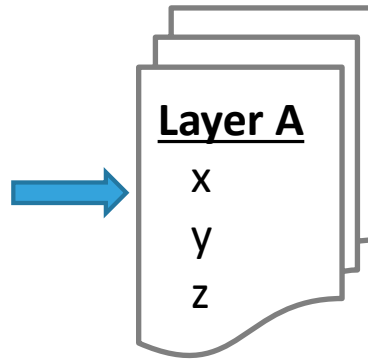
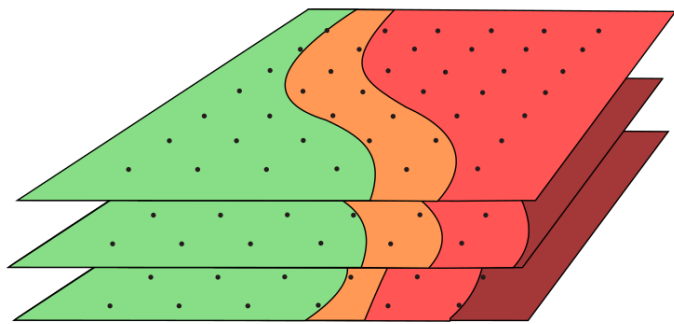


## MODELLING TASKS

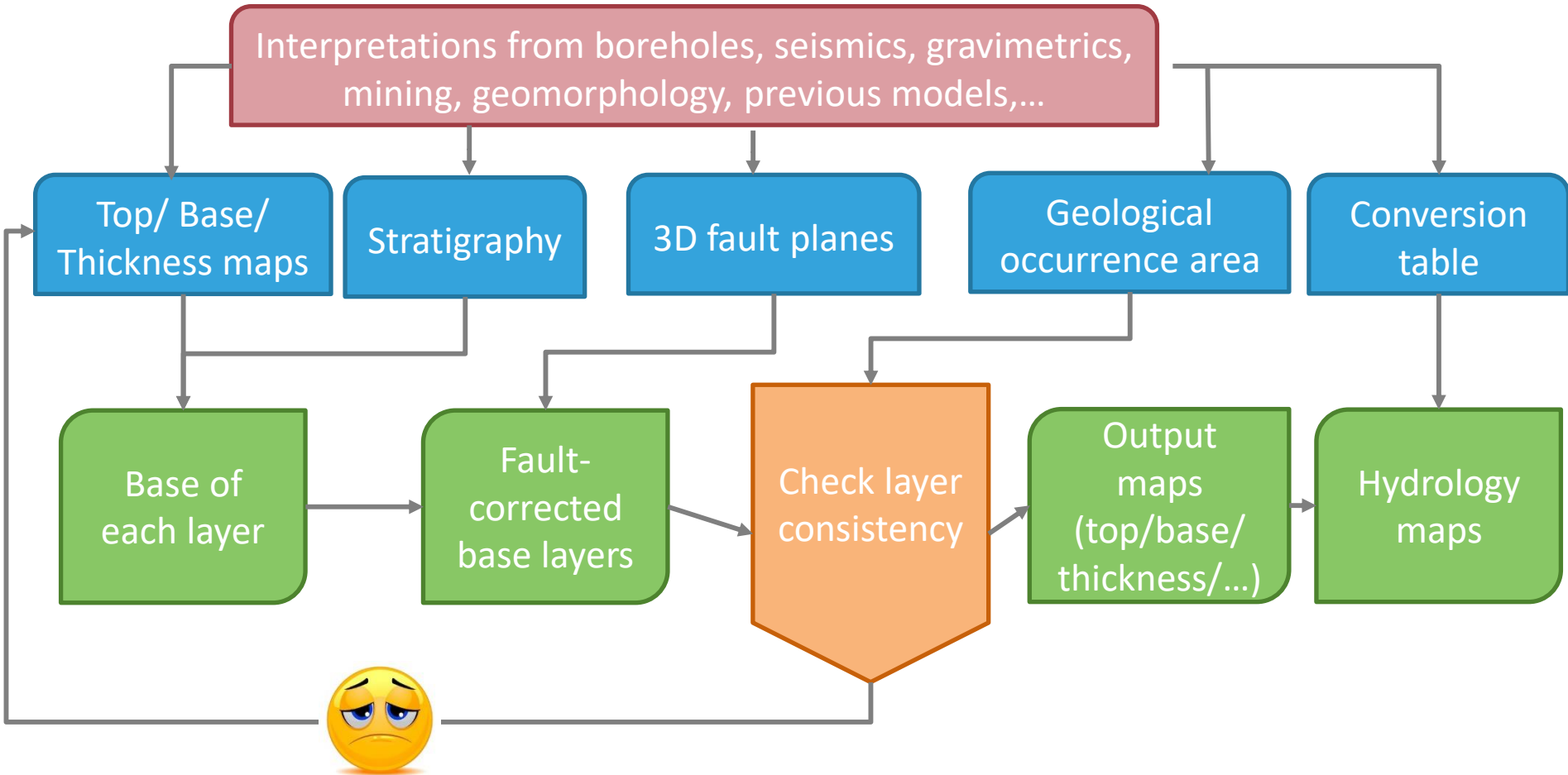
- **Combine** input data into standardized formats
- **Convert stratigraphy** (cross-boundary projects, (hydro)geological units)
- **Re-model** input data (if necessary)
- **'Knit' raster files** from layers of different projects together across buffer
- **Model detail (new layers)** into existing models
- **Model 3D fault planes** (and extend outside their limits in existing projects)
- **Ensure fault-fault contacts** from different model areas
- **Ensure layer-fault contacts**
- **Ensure overall model consistency** (detect modeling errors)
- **Store the model**
- **Calculate derived products**



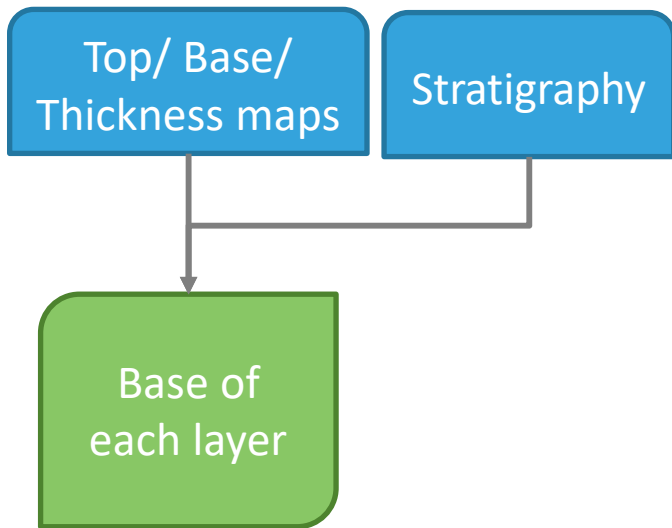
# DATA STORAGE



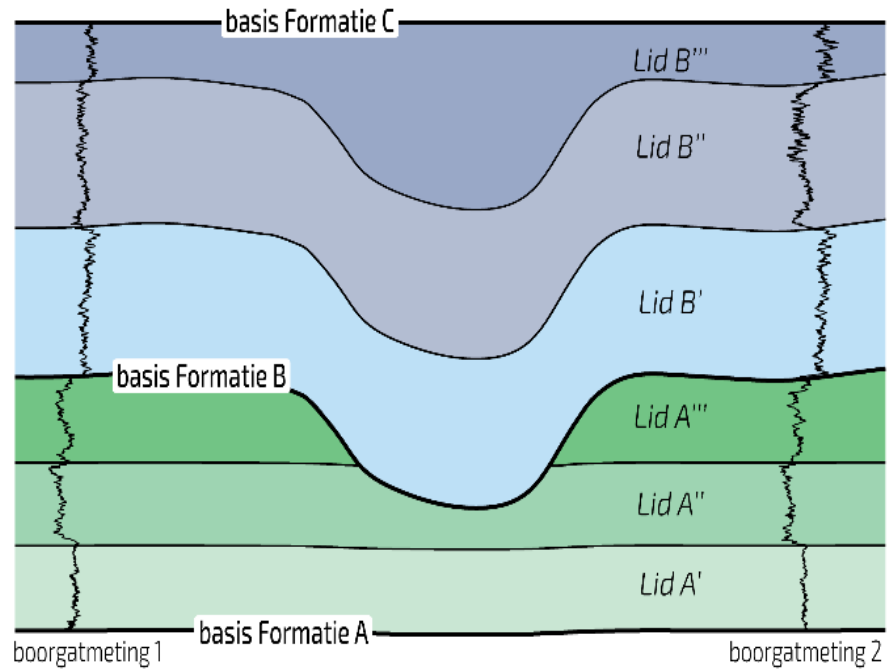
# SCRIPT TOOLCHAIN



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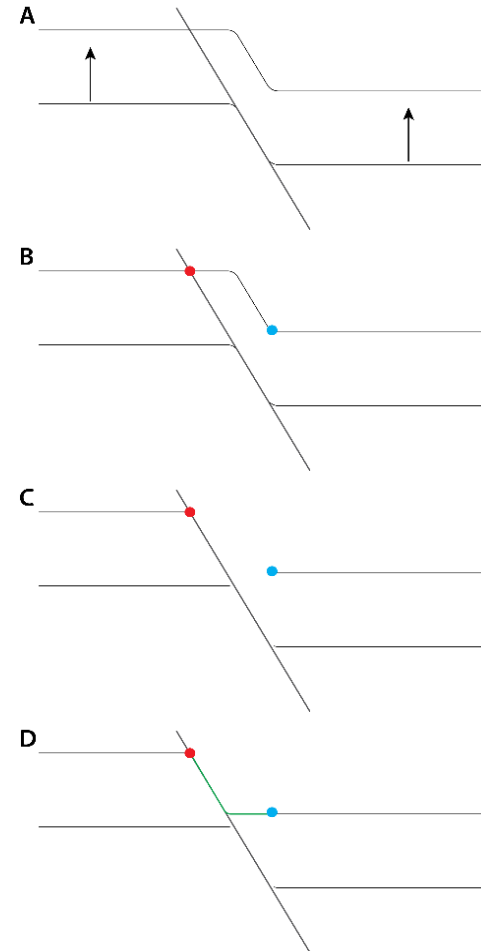
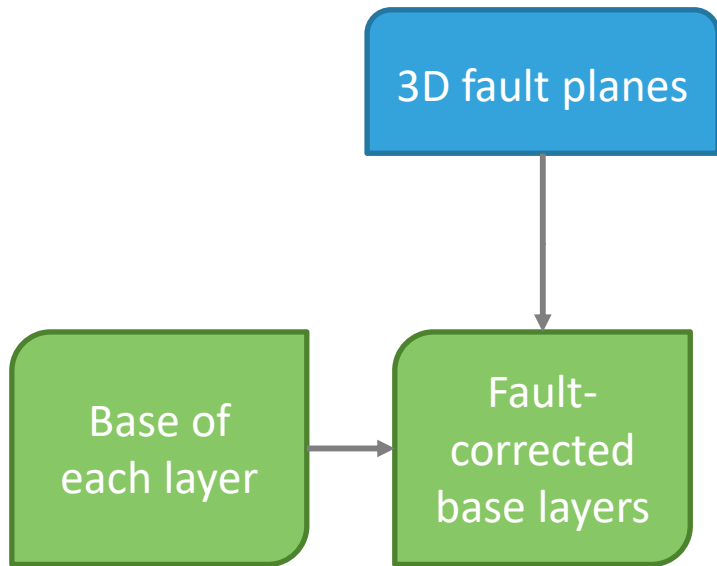


- Modeled layers = base or top or thickness
- Stratigraphy = list of stratigraphic position of modeled layers
- Set of logical rules uses stratigraphy to transform input into base layers for each unit
- Each base is stored in db for further use

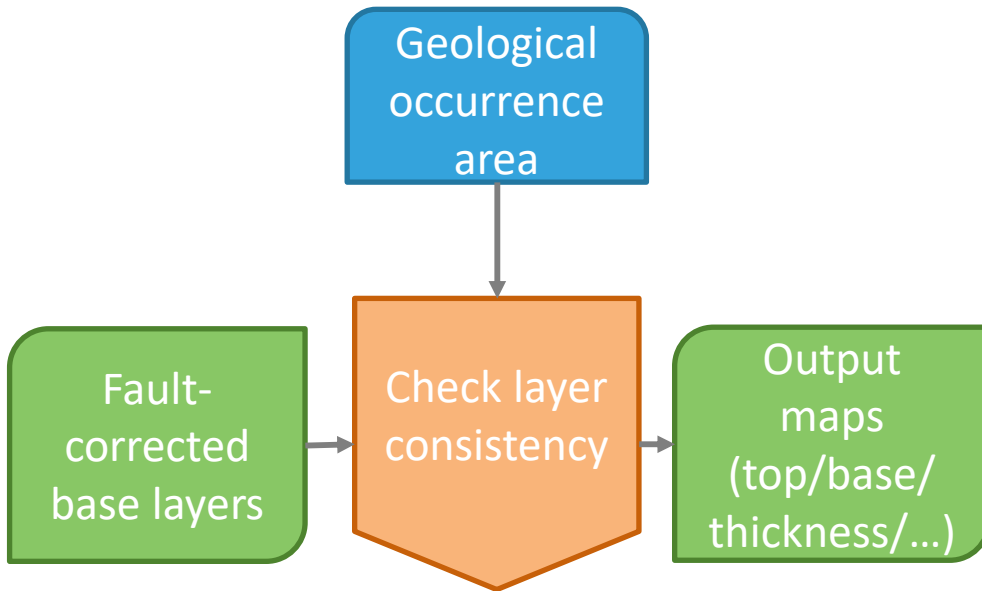


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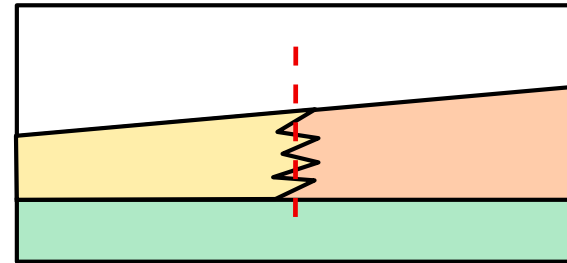
- In many base layers, faults were vertical → Needed tilting based on 3D fault planes



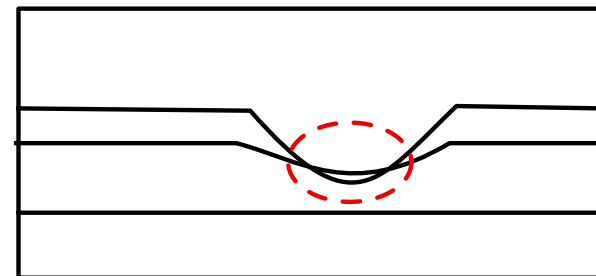
# SCRIPT TOOLCHAIN



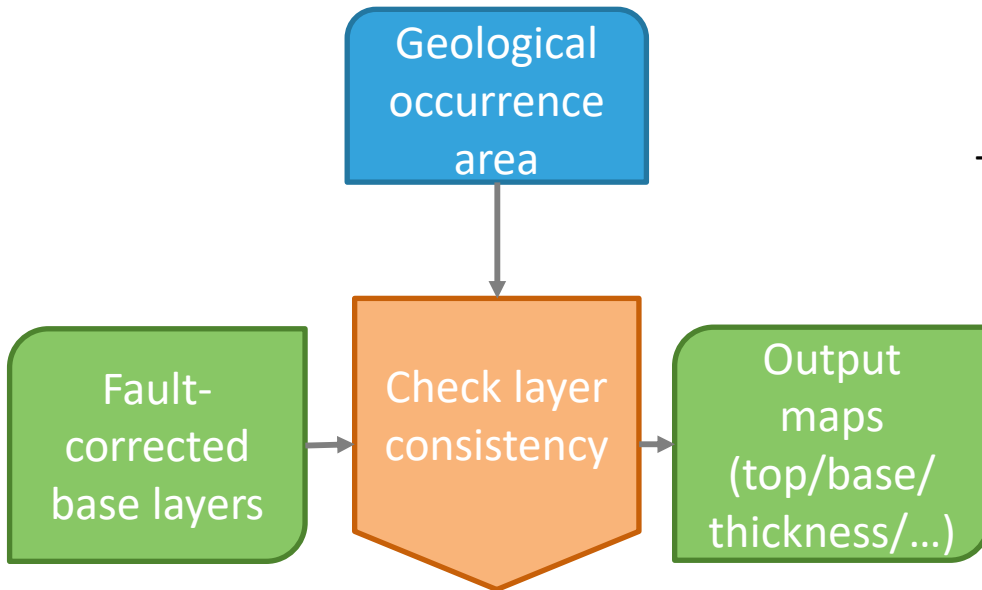
- Geological occurrence area to spatially clip base layers



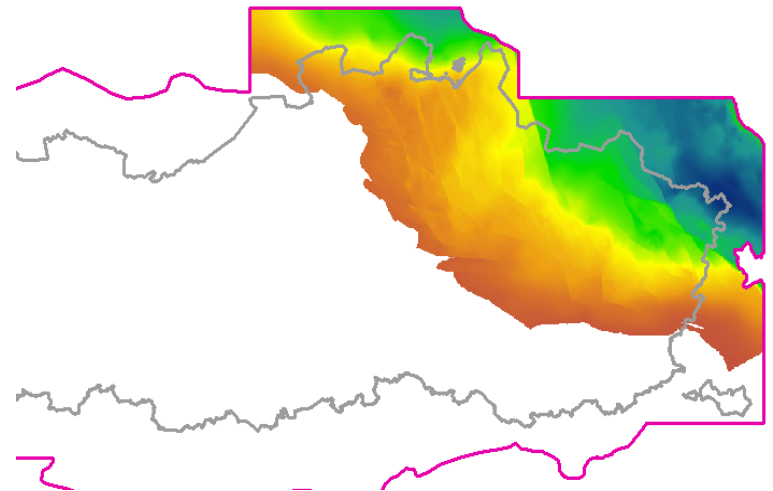
- Layer consistency check used stratigraphic column and thickness calculations to detect errors



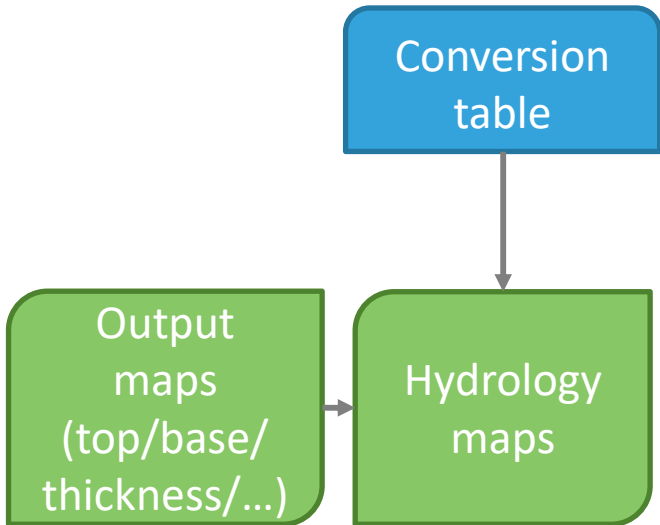
# SCRIPT TOOLCHAIN



- Stratigraphy table + clipped base layers are used to calculate top- and thickness layers for each unit
- Calculated layers are converted to required outputs, e.g.: 100 x 100 m raster maps in generic ASCII format



## SCRIPT TOOLCHAIN



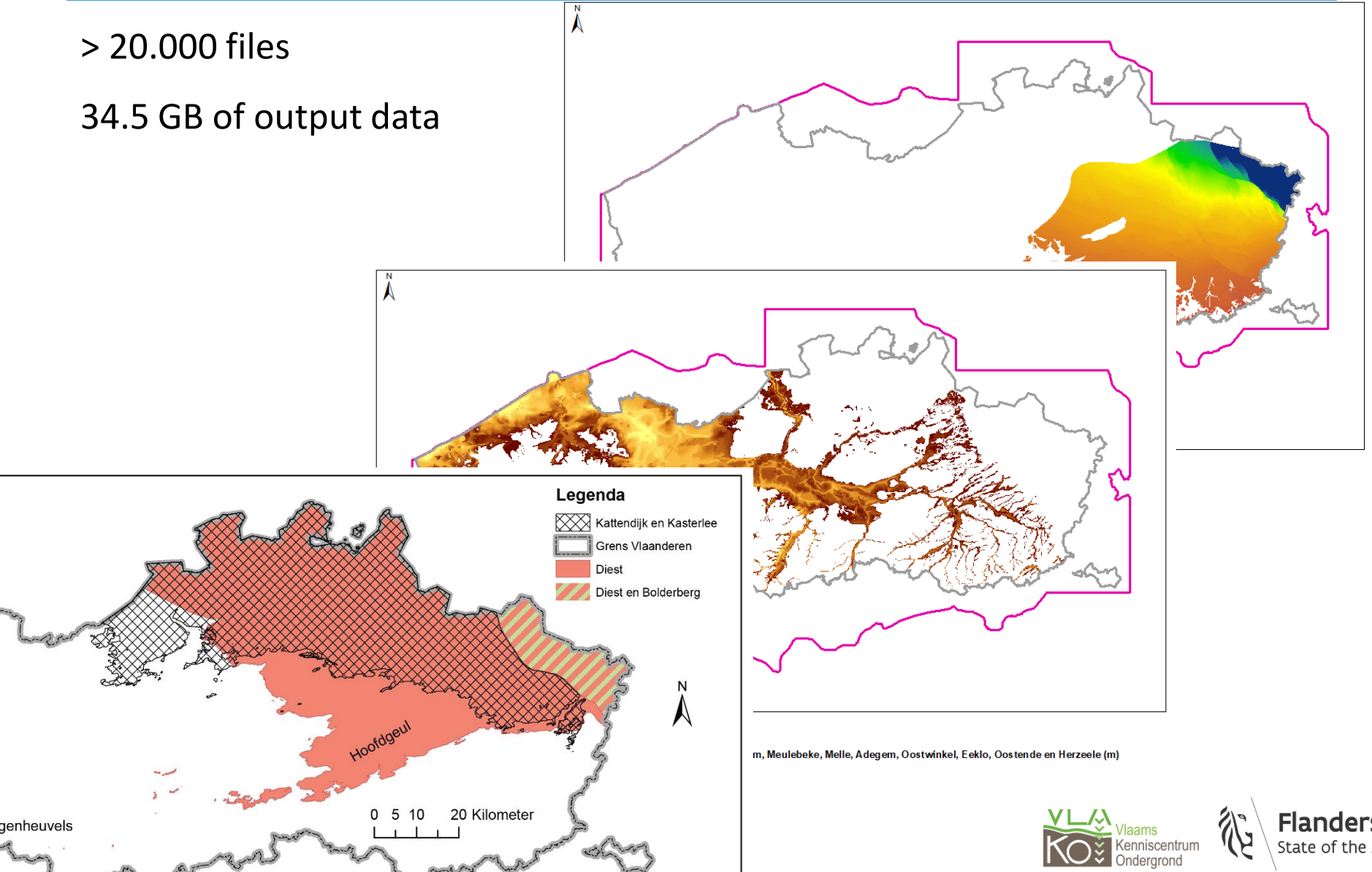
- Hydrology units can (generally) be derived from geology units
- Use conversion table + simple script to convert names



# RESULT

> 20.000 files

34.5 GB of output data



## TOOLS USED



# SQLAlchemy

Databank Ondergrond Vlaanderen

## Psycopg2



## CONCLUSIONS

### Lessons learned:

- Include IT from beginning of the project
- Make sure the geo-IT part does not become 'black box' for the geologists
- Foresee enough time for QC of the automated results

### Advantages:

- Efficiency gain => time saved by automated steps gives more space for geology
- Error reduction (iterative process of model generation)
- Reproducible results
- Structured methodology
- Data consolidation (no more data lost in subfolders or version problems)