



Overcoming Layers of DIFFICULTY

Peter Duimstra, an undergraduate student at Calvin University is conducting research to record the sedimentary archive of a sand dune at J Hoffmaster State Park. Duimstra has utilized a ground penetrating radar to be able to record the layers of sediment without having to disturb the ground. Being able to understand the different layers of sediment gives insight into how lake levels have changed. Which can be useful knowledge, because changing lake levels can make certain areas unsafe to build on.

While analyzing the data he collected, Duimstra was able to create a 3-d model which mapped the different layers of the subsurface. The data collected proved rather difficult to stitch together in three dimensions. After sometime he was able to generate two different models, which can be used for analysis and presenting the data. This MSGC project has inspired Duimstra to continue doing research after graduating, and he hopes to attend grad school sometime in the future. He says that working on a research project during the time of Covid-19 not only brought him technical experience, but it taught him about perseverance and overcoming difficulties of the situation.



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