

# Issues of Scale: Imaging Micro to Oversized Objects

Laura Vietti, Ph.D.

*Museum & Collections Manager,  
Departmental Scientific Collections,  
Geology and Geophysics*



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

# University of Wyoming Fossil Vertebrate Collection

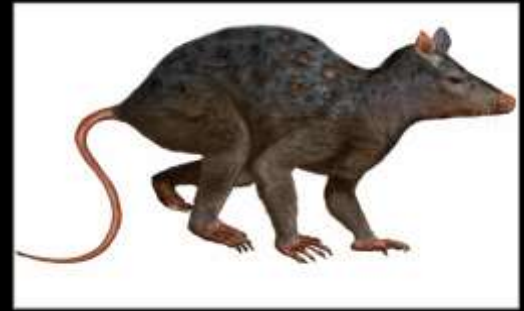
- 40,000 specimens
- 2,600 Localities
- 6,000 species represented
  
- Only 1 Full-Time (shared) Position
- Very Limited Income



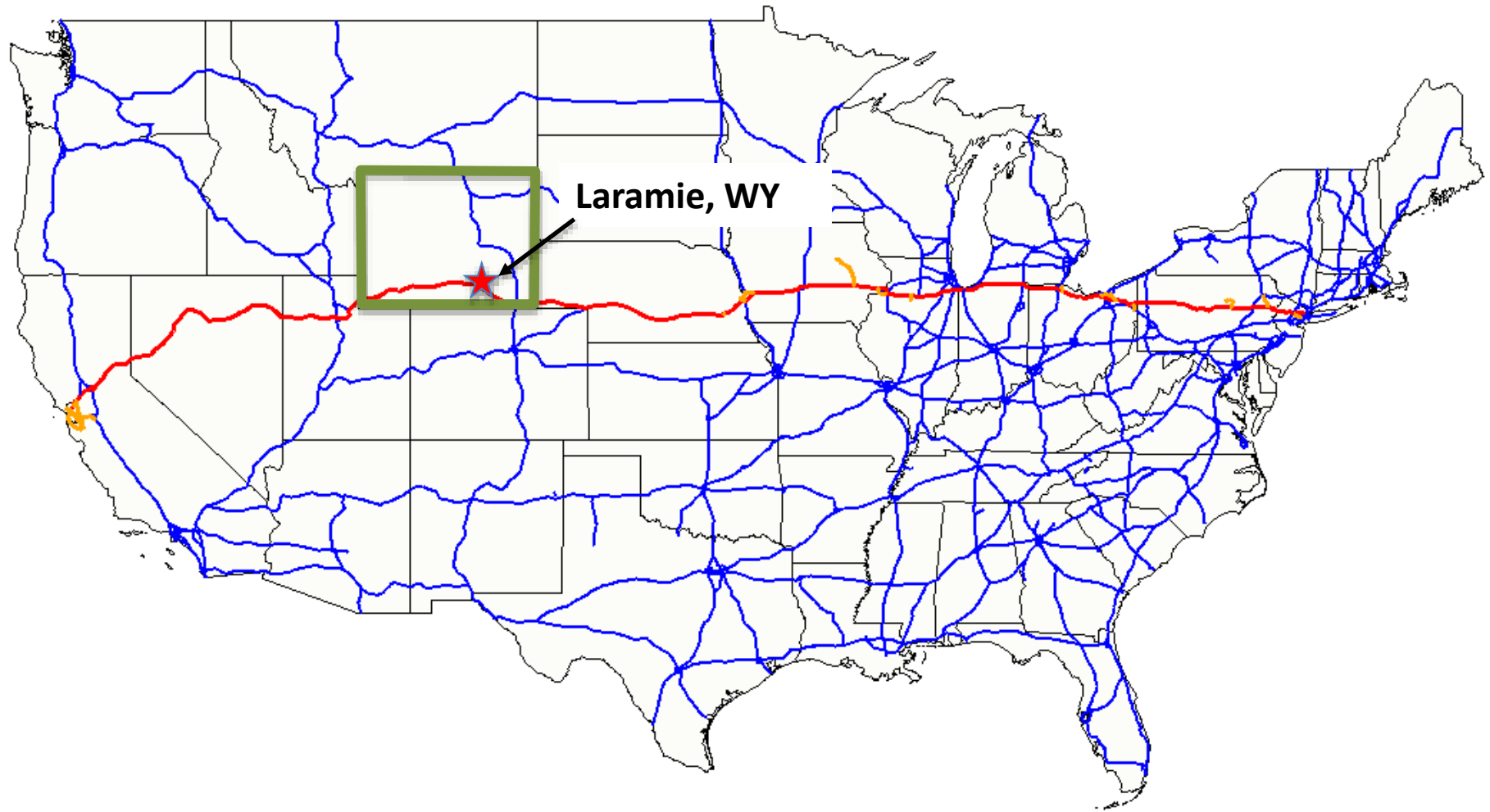
# Mesozoic Vertebrates (Dinosaurs and Marine Reptiles)



# Mesozoic and Paleogene Mammals

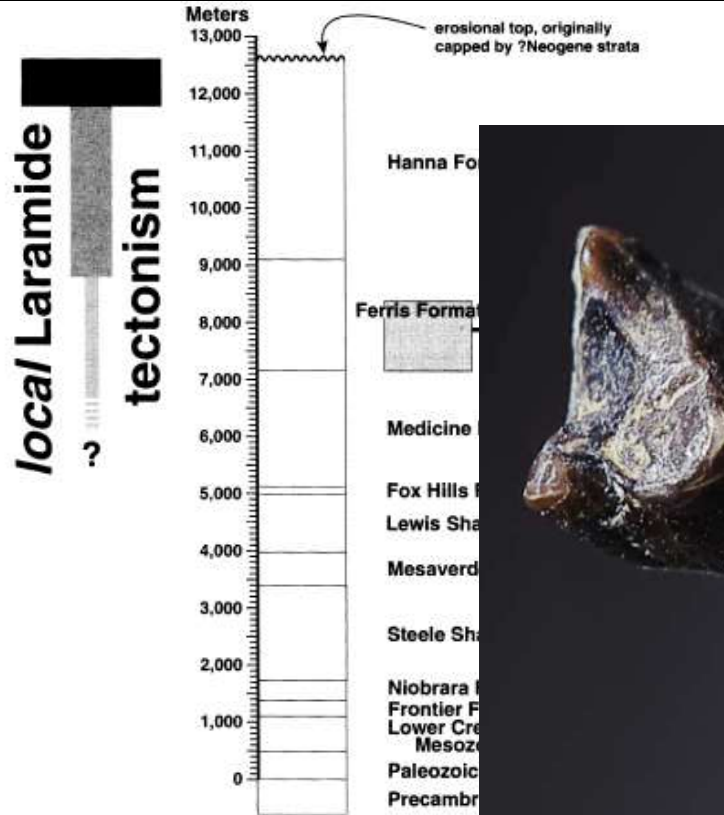


# Why Digitize

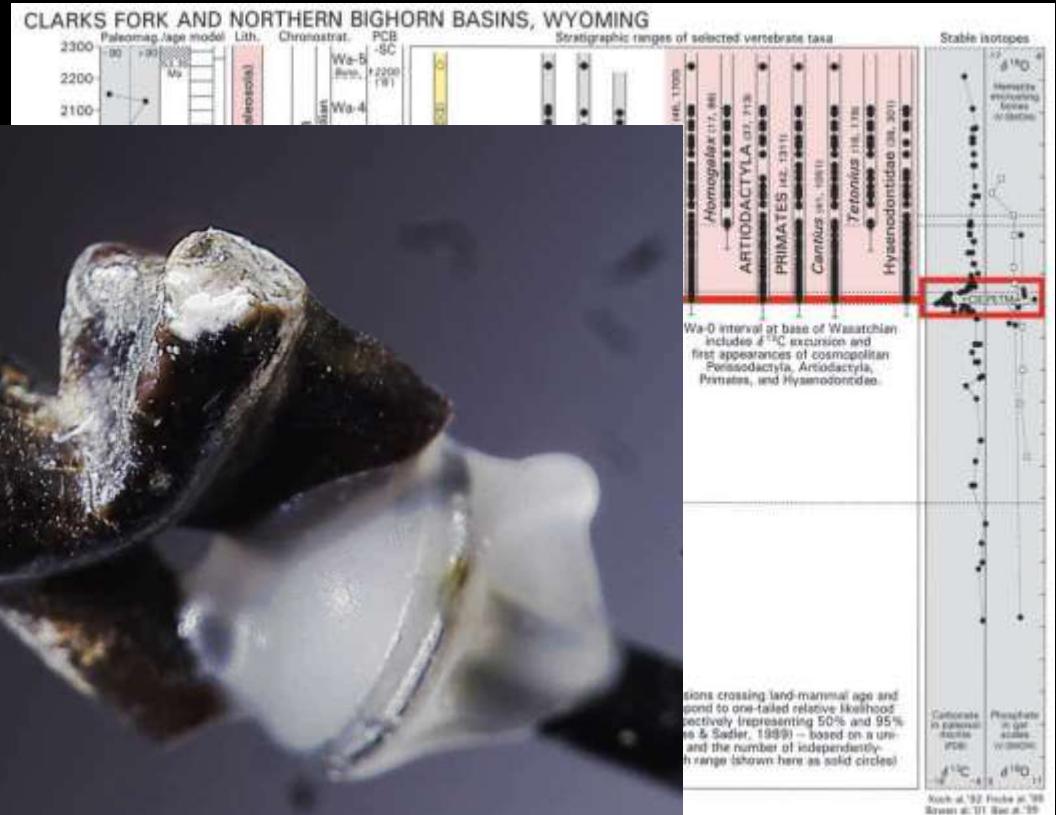




# Research Potential



Lillegraven & Eberle., 1979

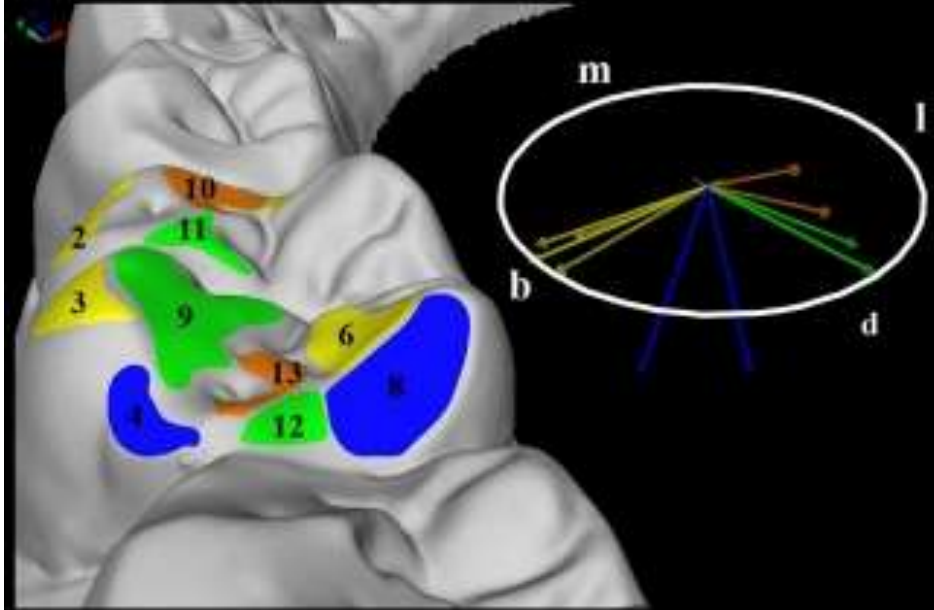
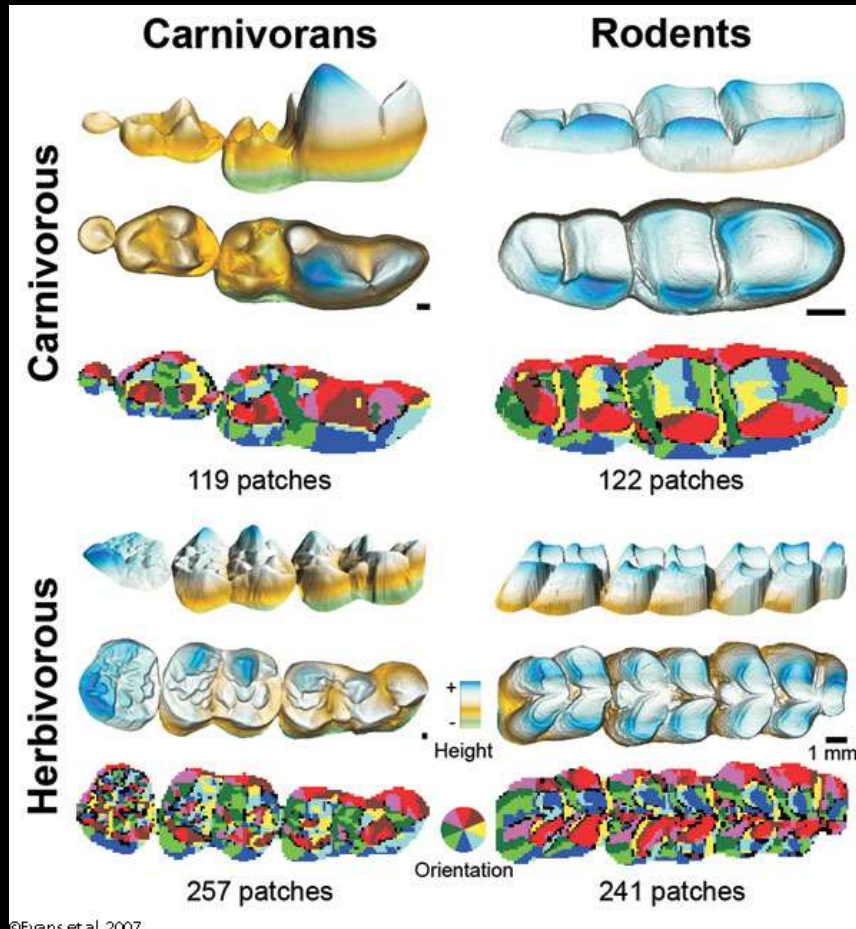


Gingerich (2006)

# Research Potential



# Research Potential



Fiorenza, 2011



# Outreach/Education Potential



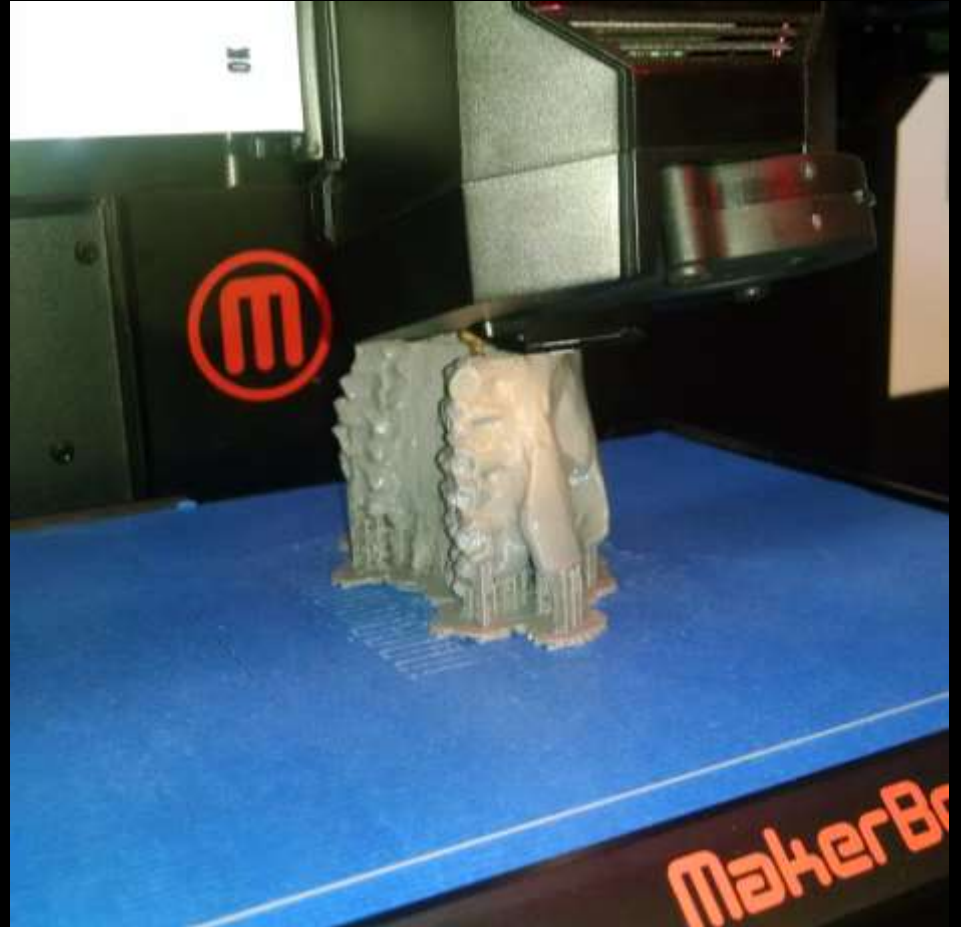
*Diceromyonia*  
© 2004 UCMP



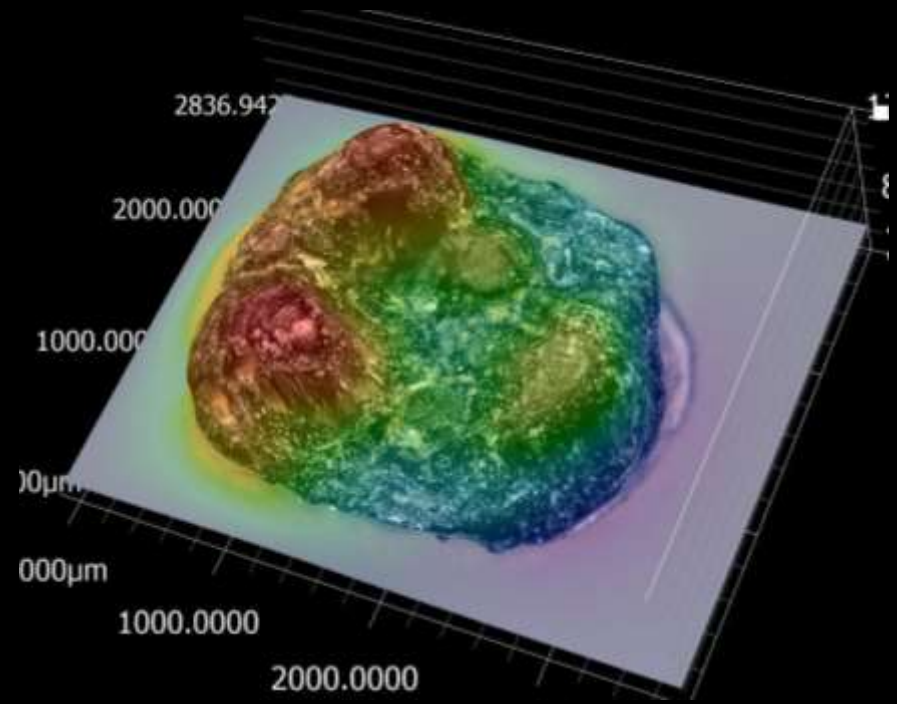
*Dinorthis*  
© 2003 Milwaukee Public Museum



*Platystrophia acutilirata*  
© 1998 Dr. Richard Paselk,  
Humboldt State University  
Natural History Museum



# Digitization Goals



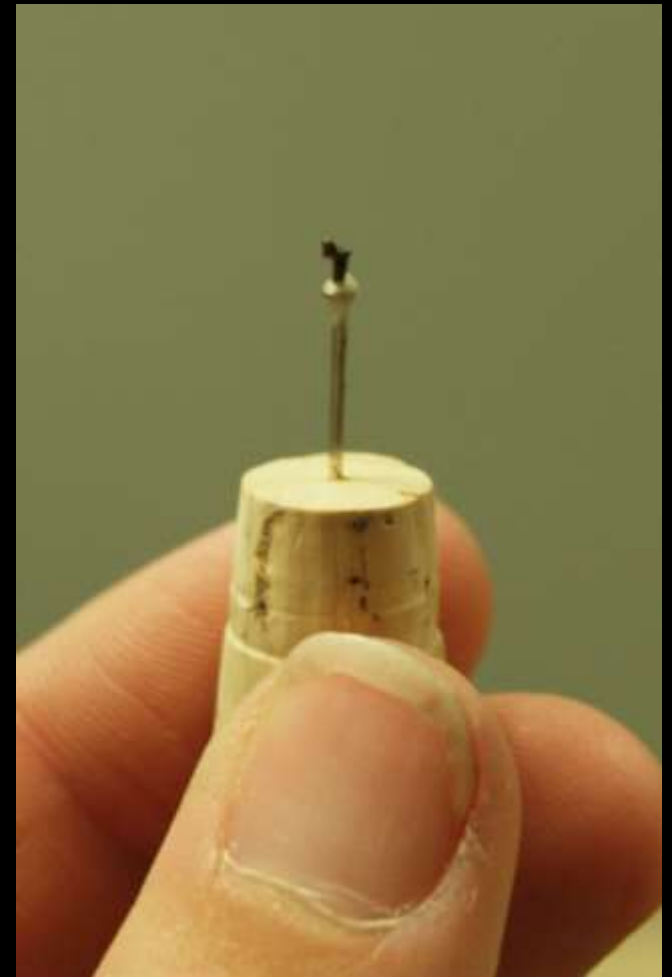
## (Variation in Color and Composition)





# Challenges

(Variation in Size)





# Challenges

(Variation in Size)

- Small mammal teeth are Especially Challenging
  - Limited Personnel
  - Limited Funds



# Digitization Requires Multiple Methods:

Micro-CT



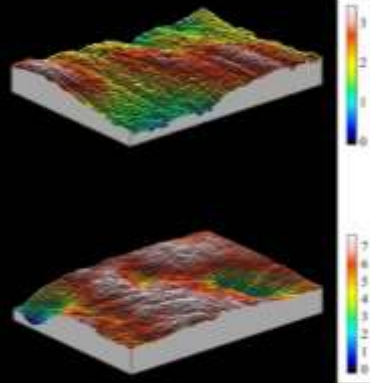
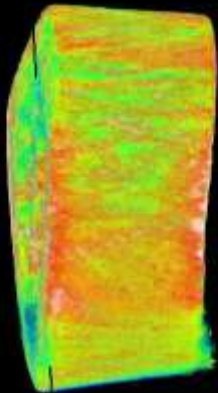
SEM



Next-Engine (Laser)



Photogrammetry

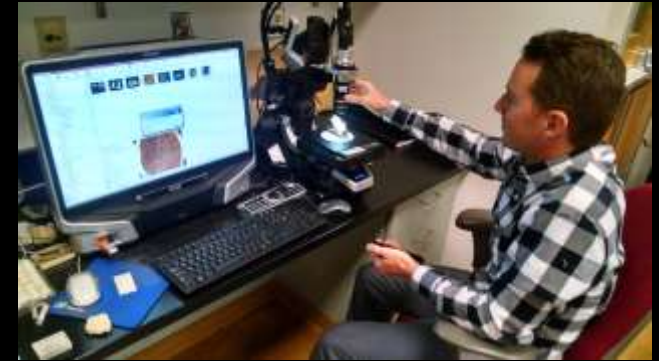


# Trade-Offs in Digitization to Consider

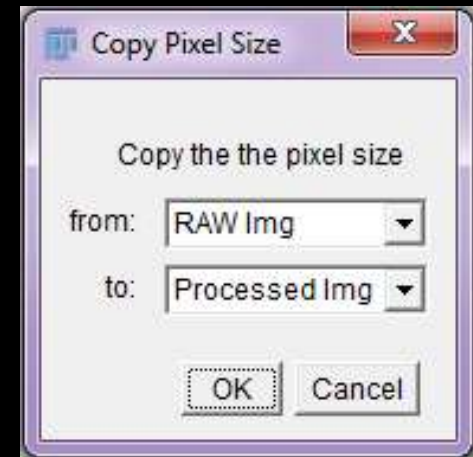
Time



Funds

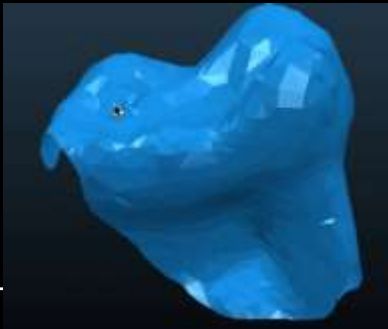


Ease of Use/ User- Interface



File Processing

Storage



Resolution



# Approach by the Univ. Wyoming Fossil Vertebrates

Large



Medium



Small





# Approach by the Univ. Wyoming Fossil Vertebrates

Large



Medium



Small



David Scanner  
(3-5k Dollars)



# Approach by the Univ. Wyoming Fossil Vertebrates

Large

Medium

Small

Proof of concept. Not tested  
on a collections level  
scale...stay tuned



© BNPS.CO.UK



1 mm



Cubify iSense



David Scanner  
(3-5k Dollars)



Keyence

# Large Specimens (Elements Larger than 1 meter)



© BNPS.CO.UK

# Large Specimens (Elements Larger than 1 meter)



© BNPS.CO.UK

Course Resolution (1mm)

Cheaper: \$200-\$500



Cubify iSense





# Medium Specimens (Elements 10cm - 1 meter)



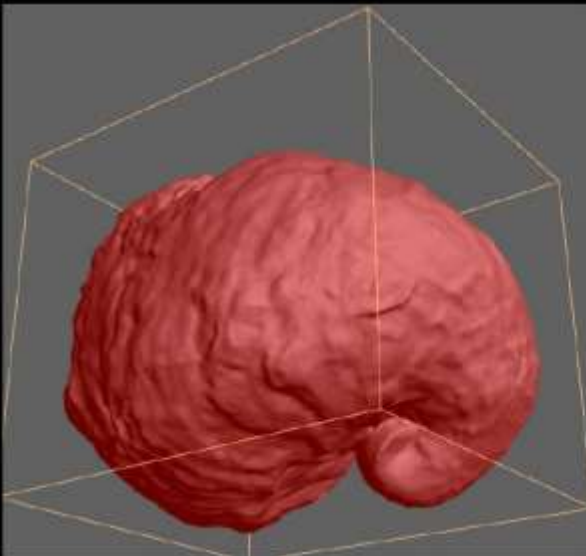
# Medium Specimens (Elements 10cm - 1 meter)



David Scanner  
(3-5k Dollars)

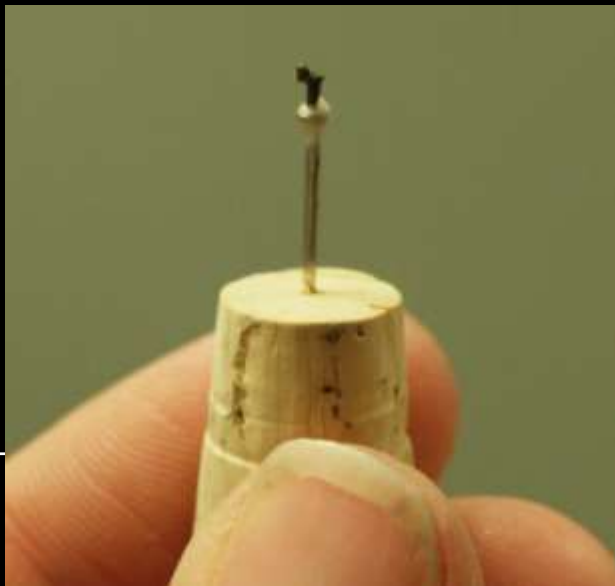
Moderate Resolution (best 50 microns)

Moderate Priced: \$2000-\$5000

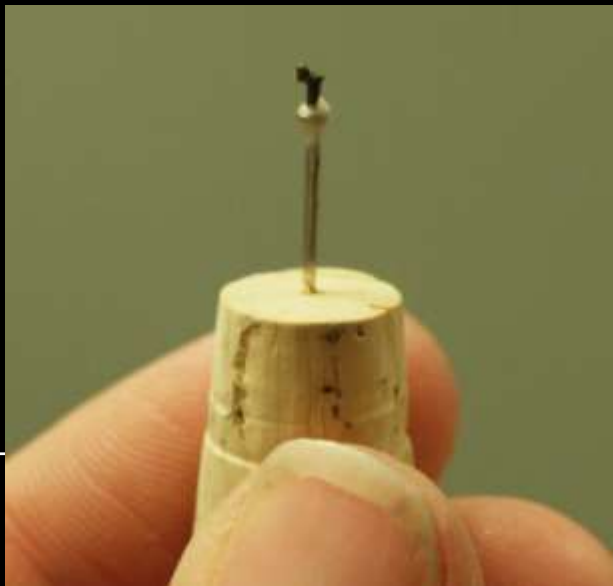


# Small Specimens

(Elements 100um - 5 cm)



# Small Specimens (Elements 100um - 5 cm)

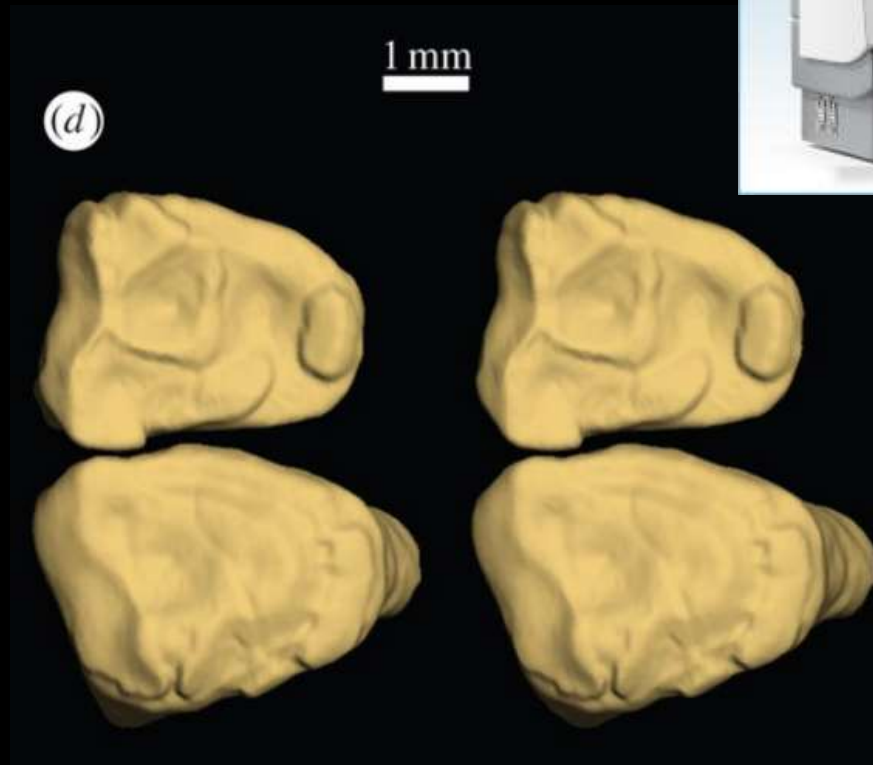




# Small Specimens (Elements 100um - 5 cm)



## Micro-CT

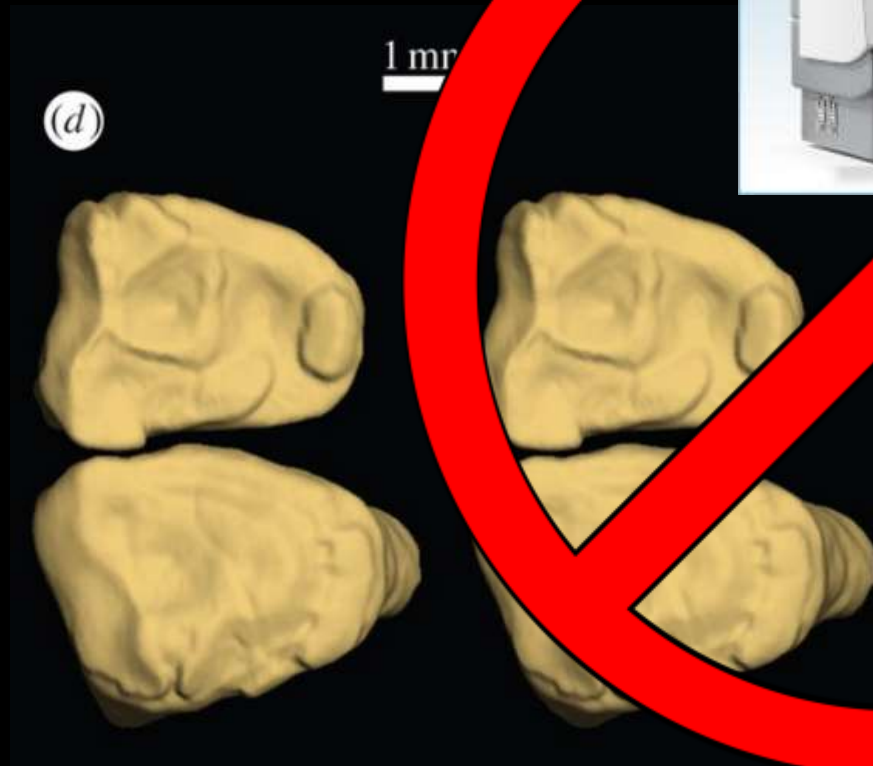


- \$300k
- Technicians
- 2+hours
- Lots of Post
- Processing
- Large Files

# Small Specimens (Elements 100um - 5 cm)



## Micro-CT



- \$300k
- Technician
- 2+hours
- Lots of Prep
- Processing
- Large files

# Small Specimens (Elements 100um - 5 cm)

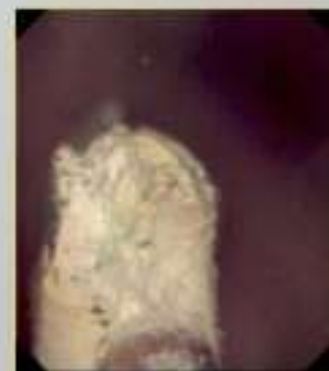
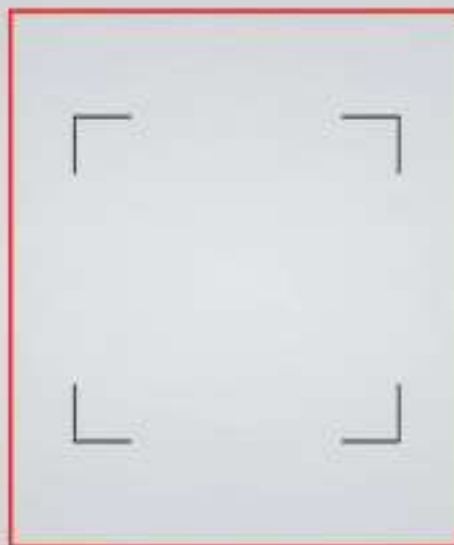
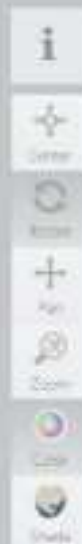
Dental  
Intra-Oral Scanners



00:01

3D images: 0

Default operator  
University of Wyoming

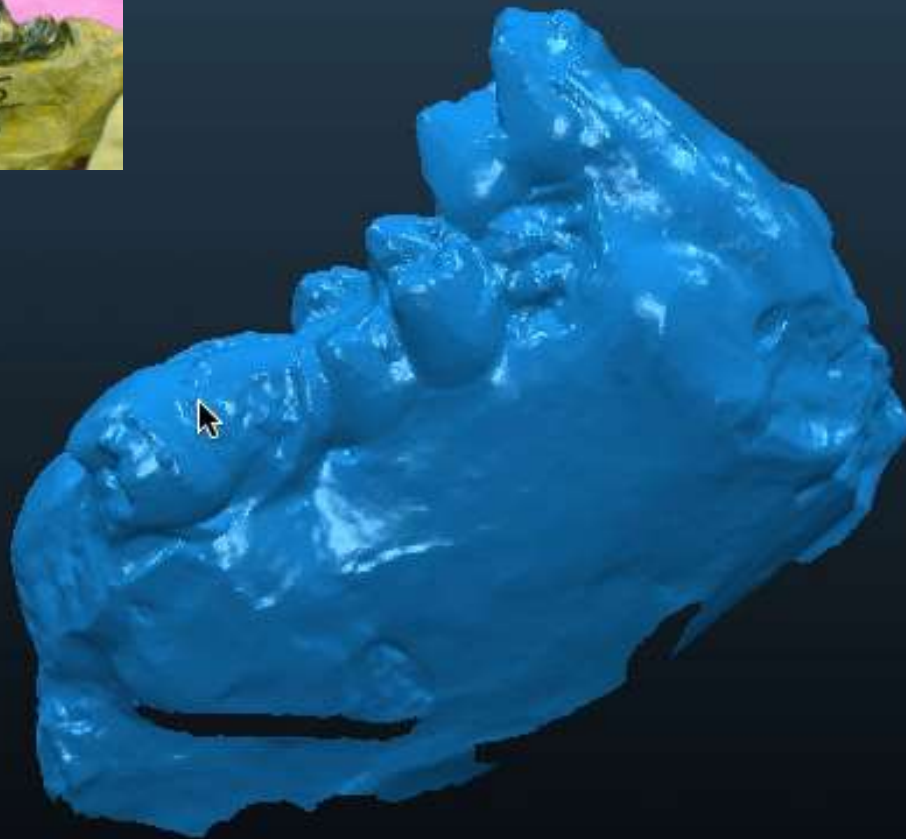


3shape

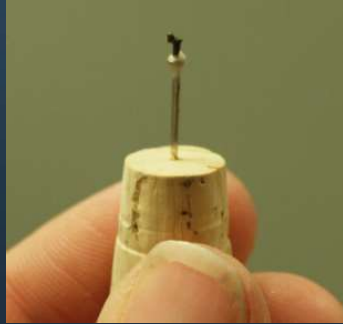




# Small Specimens (Elements 100um - 5 cm)



# Small Specimens (Elements 100um - 5 cm)



# Small Specimens (Elements 100um - 5 cm)



# Small Specimens (Elements 100um - 5 cm)

## Keyence

**54 Mega Pixel**  
CCD & Actuator



Digital Microscope

**VHX**  
DIGITAL MICROSCOPE



**VHX-600**



# Small Specimens (Elements 100um - 5 cm)

*Hirox Digital Microscope*



*Macropod Digital Camera Station*



# Multiple Lenses and Adaptors Increases number of samples it can digitize



0-2000x  
magnification

180 Deg. Lens Tilt

Detachable Lens

Multiple  
Adapter/Diffuser

# Automated Focal(z) Stacking

Single Frame from Stack



42 Stacked Images



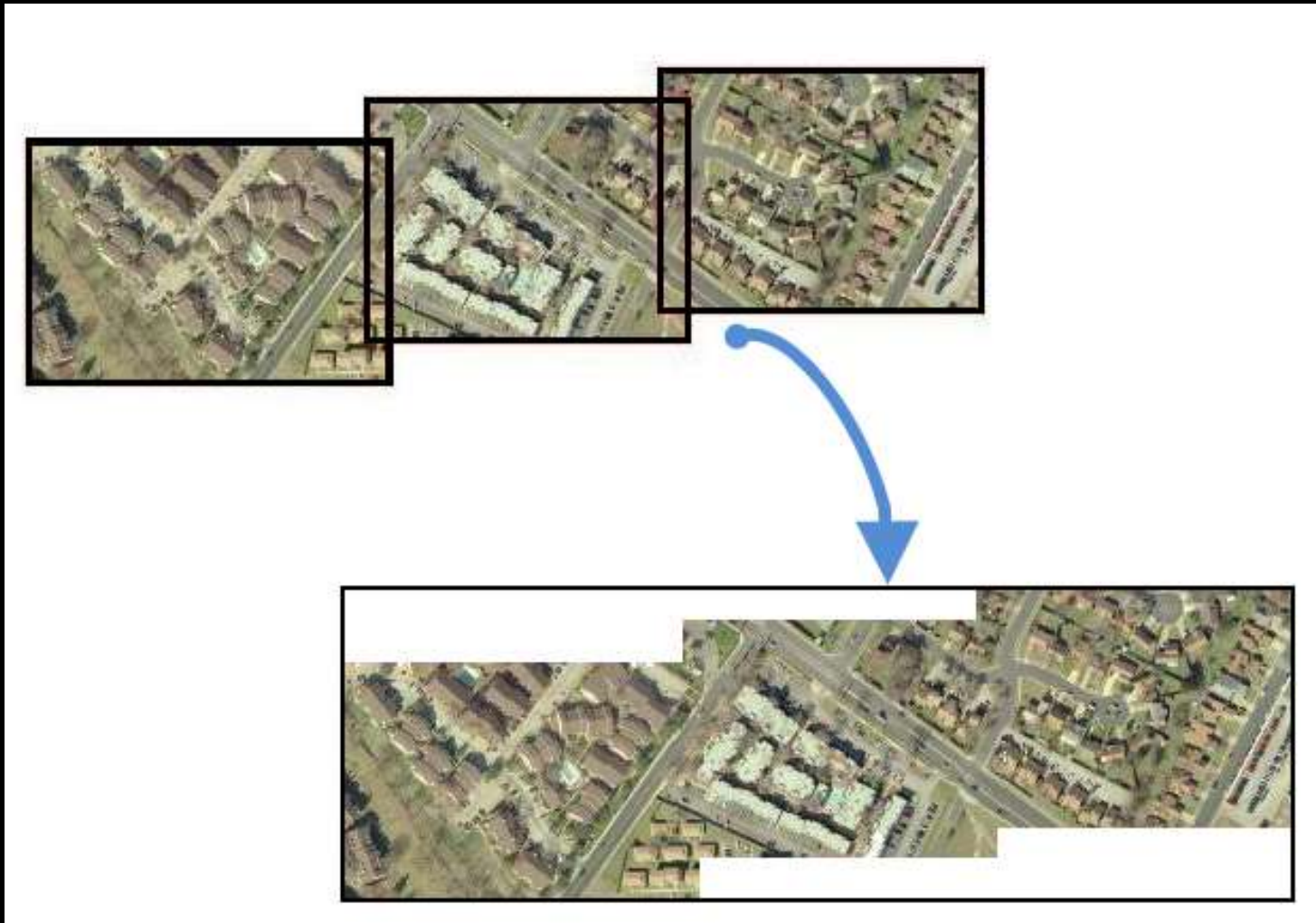
# Automated Focal(z) Stacking



1 mm



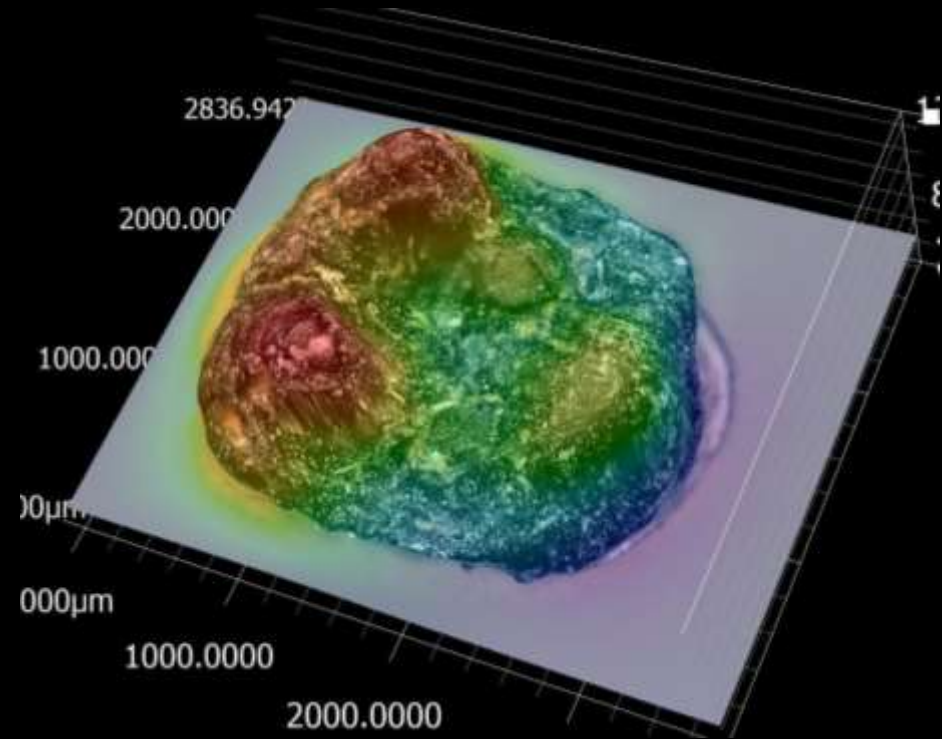
# Automated Tiling of Focal Stacked Sections



# Automated Tiling of Focal Stacked Sections



# 3D Model Generation





# Automated Mag/Scale and Annotation and Composite





# Multi-View



# Multi-View and Photogrammetry



# Thank you!

