

True dip: maximum dip angle of a plane measured in vertical section perpendicular to the strike line.

Determine strike and dip from two apparent dips

Example: A fault trace is exposed in two adjacent cliff faces. In one wall the apparent dip is 15° , $S50^\circ E$, and in the other it is 28° , $N45^\circ E$ (Fig.1-a). What is the strike and dip of the fault plane?

Solution: (Fig.1-b)

1-Use the two trend lines, OA and OC, as fold lines. Also, use a vertical line of arbitrary length d. Draw the two trend lines in plan view.

2-From the junction of these two lines (point O) draw apparent dip angle α_1 and α_2 .

3-Draw a line of length ($d=h$) perpendicular to each of the trend lines to form the triangle COZ and AOX. The value of d must always be drawn exactly the same length because it represents the depth to the layer along any strike line.

4- Triangles COZ and AOX Folded up into plan view with the two apparent-dip trend lines used as fold lines. In Fig.1-b, line AC is horizontal and parallel to the fault plane; therefore it defines the fault's strike.

5-Line OB is then plotted perpendicular to line AC; it represents the direction of true dip.

6-Using line OB as a fold line, triangle BOY (Fig.1-b) can be projected into the horizontal plane, again using length d to set the position of point Y. The true dip can now be measured directly.

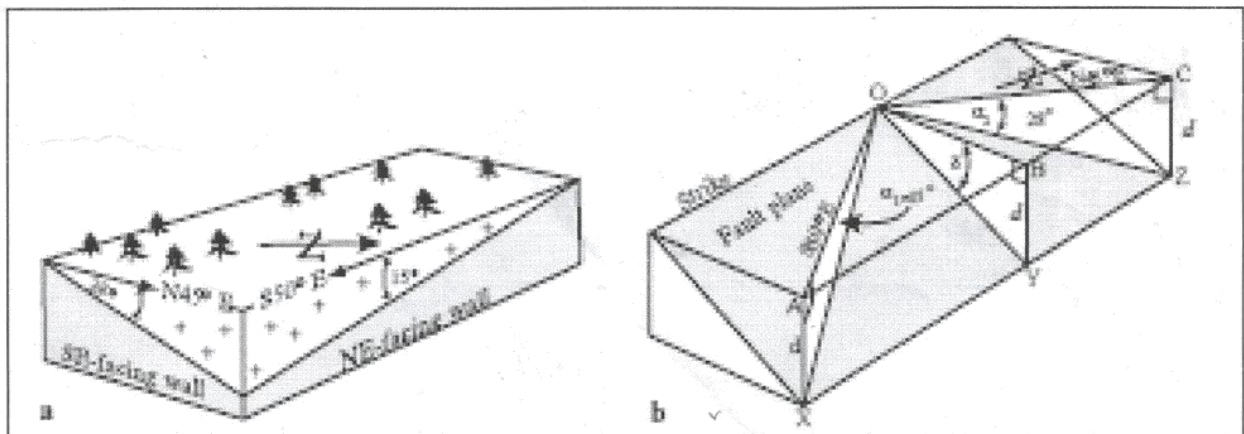


Fig.1 : (a) Block diagram. (b) Block diagram showing triangles involved in orthographic projection and trigonometric solutions

Exercise: Find the true dip and strike for the following pairs of app. dips.

First app. dip

Second app. dip

a) $069^\circ/21^\circ$

$198^\circ/19^\circ$

b) $N84^\circ W/32^\circ$

$N65^\circ E/15^\circ$ (H.W.)