

Solid Earth Discuss., author comment AC2
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Reply on RC1

Steven Whitmeyer et al.

Author comment on "The Mid Atlantic Appalachian Orogen Traverse: a comparison of virtual and on-location field-based capstone experiences" by Steven Whitmeyer et al., Solid Earth Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/se-2021-107-AC2>, 2021

We appreciate reviewer Pavlis' comments and points. In our revised manuscript we will improve the figures to highlight important details of the outcrops, both as annotations on the figures and via better descriptive text/captions. All of the specific line-by-line comments are valuable and will be addressed in the revised manuscript. In particular, the reviewer's suggestion about including references to the application of 3D terrain models will be a good and relevant addition to the manuscript. We also appreciate the suggestion to address the importance of tactile experiences on memory. This is an important component of on-location field trips that is unfortunately not easily reproducible in virtual field experiences.

The section on "3.3 Stratigraphic Analysis and Basin Evolution" (starting at line 332) was highlighted by both reviewers as lacking clarity and needing better articulation on how this is addressed during a virtual field trip. We will substantially revise this section to clarify how stratigraphic analyses are conducted on virtual field trips, in comparison to how this is done on traditional on-location field trips. Suggested changes to phrasing in other places are appreciated and will be implemented.