

# **DIGITAL MAPPING TECHNIQUES 2020**

**The following was presented at DMT'20  
(June 8 - 10, 2020 - A Virtual Event)**

**The contents of this document are provisional**

**See Presentations and Proceedings  
from the DMT Meetings (1997-2020)**

**<http://ngmdb.usgs.gov/info/dmt/>**



# Attribute Rules and Dictionary Symbology in ArcGIS Pro Help Streamline Geologic Map Compilation in GeMS

**Tracey J. Felger**

**USGS, Geology, Minerals, Energy, and Geophysics Science Center**

**Flagstaff, AZ**

**([tfelger@usgs.gov](mailto:tfelger@usgs.gov))**

# Talk Overview

- **Background**
- **What are Attribute Rules?**
  - Test Case – apply to ‘Traditional’ workflow
- **What is Dictionary Symbology?**
  - Test Case – apply to ‘Granular’ data-driven workflow
- **Combining Attribute Rules and Dictionary Symbology for an Optimized Workflow**
- **Summary**

# Background

- **Current projects** - *all funded by the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program (NCGMP)*
  - Mojave Desert/Eastern California Shear Zone (MOJO)
  - Lower Colorado River (LOCOS)
  - Enterprise GIS for the NCGMP Community
- **Goals for Fiscal Year 2020**
  - Embrace the *Geologic Map Schema (GeMS)*, which is mandated by NCGMP, instead of just coping with it!
  - Transition compilation workflow from ArcMap to ArcPro in order to leverage new functionality that would improve compilation efficiency and data quality

# Traditional vs Granular Approach

- **Traditional (Cartography-driven)** –the symbol and the data are intertwined, and can be easily represented in one field (e.g. ALACARTE)
  - Main purpose is to make a cartographic product
- **Granular (Data-driven)** – information is disaggregated into the smallest pieces possible, and is stored in many fields (e.g. GeMS)

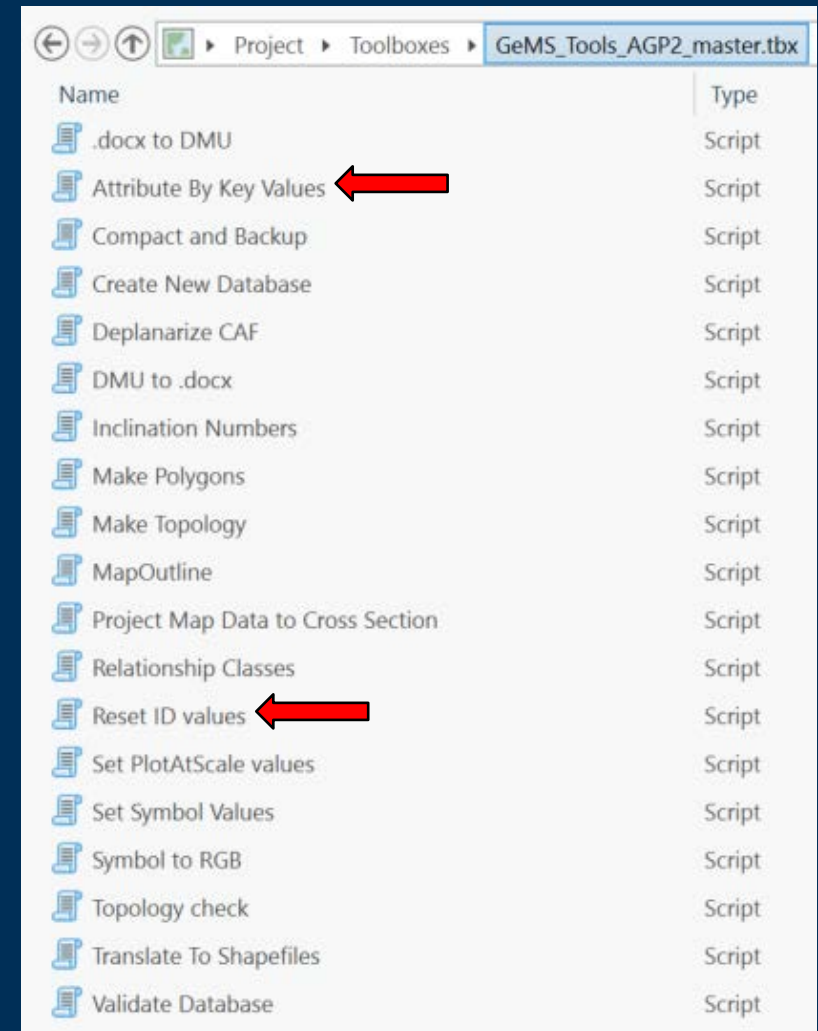
Feature Layer	ALACARTE Fields	GeMS Fields
Contacts and Faults	1	9
Map Units	1	6
Structural Measurements	3	12

- Machine readable (good for analysis)
- Can be aggregated and disaggregated in different ways as needed
- Easily merged with other data and effectively integrated and managed
- *Better for making a multi-map compilation!*

# Coping Strategy...

- Populate 1 or 2 fields while editing and then use scripts in the GeMS toolbox, such as **Attribute By Key Values** and **Reset ID Values** (shown in snapshot to right) to populate other fields, either when map is finished, or periodically during compilation
  - GeMS toolbox (<https://github.com/usgs/gems-tools-pro>)
  - Ryan Crow's Map Extractor and Schema Converter tools includes other useful scripts not available in the GeMS toolbox ([https://github.com/rcrow/MapExtractor\\_SchemaConverter](https://github.com/rcrow/MapExtractor_SchemaConverter))

***\*This works, but for me it isn't very satisfying, and is an obstacle to embracing GeMS!***



# December, 2019 - Started compiling new MOJO mapping

- Downloaded the GeMS toolbox for Pro (<https://github.com/usgs/gems-tools-pro>)

- Ran the Create New Database script (and it worked – yay!) 

- *It took 12 minutes to create an empty gdb with all the bells and whistles – the ArcMap version took < 2 minutes!*

- Symbolized ContactsAndFaults twice, once on Symbol, and a second time on LocationConfidenceMeters (LCM)

- *This is a neat trick that Ralph demonstrated at the 2019 DMT that makes it very easy to visualize LCM spatially*

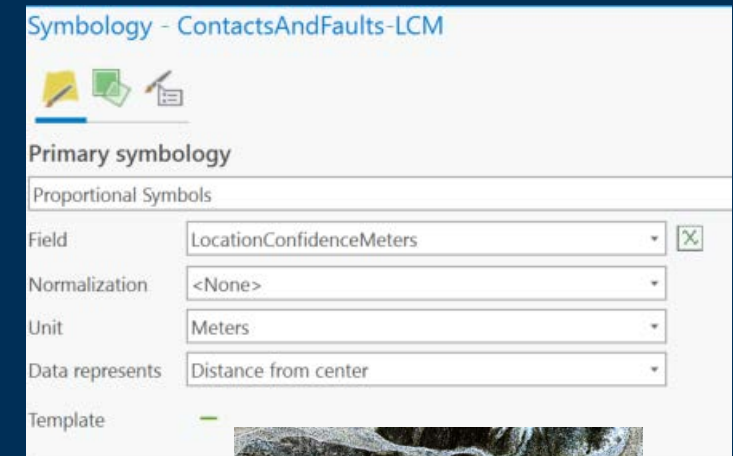
- Started compiling using a ‘traditional’ workflow

- Digitize ContactsAndFaults - Populate Symbol, LCM, and DataSourceID fields
  - Digitize MapUnitPoints - Populate MapUnit and DataSourceID fields
  - Build MapUnitPolys from ContactsAndFaults and MapUnitPoints

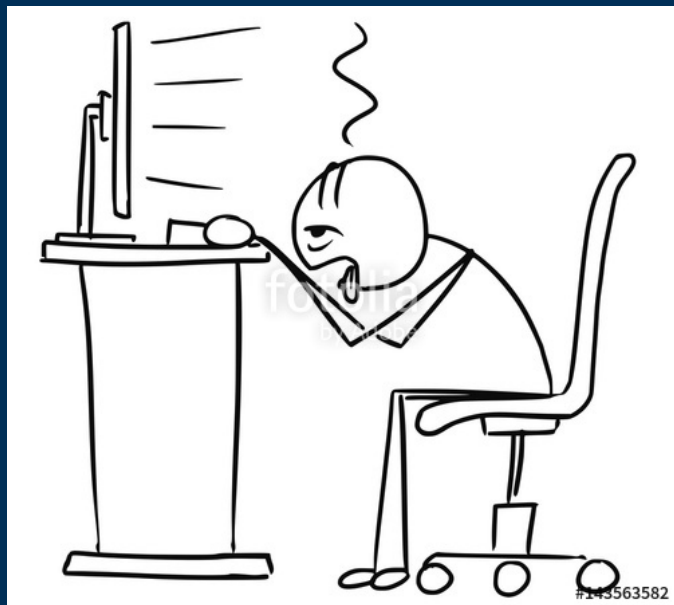
- Ran the Validate Database script (and it worked – yay!) 

- *But I had a lot of errors because of unpopulated fields (boo-hiss!)*

- Run Reset ID values, Attribute by Key Values; rerun Validate Database (*sigh...*)   



*There's gotta be  
a better way!!*



Tracey



# Can Attribute Rules Lighten the GeMS Workload?

- **Attribute rules:**
  - user-defined **Arcade** scripts embedded within a geodatabase
    - \*Arcade is a lightweight scripting language specific to the ESRI platform; similar to JavaScript*
  - triggered automatically by editing operations or can be run on-demand
    - \*Similar to formulas and macros in Microsoft Excel, and triggers and stored procedures in SQL*
  - 3 types of rules:
    - calculation rules - automatically populate attributes
    - constraint rules - restrict invalid edits during edit operations
    - validation rules - perform quality assurance checks on existing features

# Test Case – Apply Attribute Rules to a ‘Traditional’ Workflow

- **Goals:**
  - Don't let me create or modify features unless certain fields are populated
  - Automatically populate feature\_ID field
    - *so I don't need to run the Reset ID values script*
  - Automatically populate dependent fields based on the value in Symbol
    - *so I don't need to run the Attribute By Key Values script*
- **I guess I need to learn Arcade!**
  - *\*Arcade is a lightweight scripting language specific to the ESRI platform; similar to JavaScript*

# ContactsAndFaults (Traditional) – Constraint Rules

test\_edit - Attribute Rules: ContactsAndFaults - ArcGIS Pro

Project **Attribute Rules** Insert Analysis View Share XTools Pro Appearance Labeling Data

Clipboard Design Add Rules Attribute Rules

GrassValleyField Catalog Attribute Rules: ContactsAndFaults

Calculation **Constraint** Validation

Rule Name	Description	Subtype
check LCM	LocationConfidenceMeters must be populated	<All>
check DSID	DataSourceID must be populated	<All>

*If LCM and DSID are not populated and you try to create a feature (or modify an existing feature), you will get a message like this one, and you won't be able to create the feature or save changes.*

Violated attribute constraint rule. [ Rule name: check DSID, Triggering event: Update, Class name: ContactsAndFaults, GlobalID: {09B197F1-67BB-485D-A130-79A09588839E}, Error number: 2, Error message: populate DSID]

check LCM

Constraint

Rule Name: check LCM

Description: LocationConfidenceMeters must be populated

Subtype: <All>

Expression:  if (\$feature.LocationConfidenceMeters == null) return false  
return true

▼ Error

Error Number: 1

Error Message: populate LCM

▼ Triggers

Insert  Update  Delete

► Execution

Tags

2 of 2 Constraint rules listed at 05/29/2020 2:20:20 PM.

# MapUnit Points (Traditional) – Constraint Rules

The screenshot shows the ArcGIS Pro interface with the 'Attribute Rules' tab selected. The 'Constraint' sub-tab is active, displaying a list of rules. The 'check MapUnit' rule is selected, and its configuration is shown in the right-hand pane. The rule's description is 'MapUnit must be populated' and its subtype is '<All>'. The expression is 'if (\$feature.MapUnit == null) return false; return true;'. The error message is 'populate MapUnit'. The triggers for 'Insert' and 'Update' are checked, while 'Delete' is not. The execution section is partially visible.

Rule Name	Description	Subtype
check MapUnit	MapUnit must be populated	<All>
check DataSourceID	DataSourceID must be populated	<All>

**check MapUnit**  
Constraint

Rule Name: check MapUnit  
Description: MapUnit must be populated  
Subtype: <All>  
Expression:  if (\$feature.MapUnit == null) return false; return true;  
Error Number: 1  
Error Message: populate MapUnit  
Triggers: Insert , Update , Delete   
Execution: > Execution  
Tags:

*Note: The same rules can be applied to MapUnitPolys if you create polys interactively, instead of from lines and points.*

# ContactsAndFaults (Traditional) – Calculation Rules

**Calc Type #2**

Calculation

Rule Name: Calc Type

Description: calc Type from Symbol

Subtype: <All> **215 else-if statements! Easily created from FGDC\_Lookup.xls**

Field: Type

Expression:

```

if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.01"){return "Contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.02"){return "Contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.03"){return "Contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.04"){return "Contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.05"){return "Contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.06"){return "Contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.07"){return "Contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.08"){return "Contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.09"){return "Internal contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.10"){return "Internal contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.11"){return "Internal contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.12"){return "Internal contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.13"){return "Internal contact"}
else if ($feature.Symbol == "01.01.14"){return "Internal contact"}
    
```

Triggers: Insert  Update  Delete

TestPro - Attribute Rules: ContactsAndFaults - ArcGIS Pro

Project | **Attribute Rules** | Insert | Analysis | View | Share | XTools Pro | Appearance | Labeling | Data

Clipboard | Design | Add Rules | Attribute Rules

Calculation | Constraint | Validation

Order	Rule Name	Description	Subtype	Field
1	Calc_ID	calc_ID from <b>GID</b>	<All>	ContactsAndFaults
2	Calc Type	calc Type from Symbol	<All>	Type
3	Calc IsConcealed	calc IsConcealed from Symbol	<All>	IsConcealed
4	Calc ExistenceConfidence	calc ExistenceConfidence from Symbol	<All>	ExistenceConfidence
5	Calc IdentityConfidence	calc IdentityConfidence from ExistenceConfidence	<All>	IdentityConfidence
6	Calc GeMS_Ltype	Calc GeMS_Ltype from components	<All>	GeMS_Ltype

**Must add GlobalID field to use attribute rules (ESRI-defined, auto-populated)**

**User-populated fields = Symbol, LCM, and DSID**

**Calc IdentityConfidence #5**

Rule Name: Calc IdentityConfidence

Field: IdentityConfidence

Expression: \$feature.ExistenceConfidence

**Rule #1 = Reset ID values script**

**Rules #2-5 = Attribute By Key Values script**

**Example:**

**If Symbol = 01.01.01 (Contact = Identity and existence certain, location accurate)**

**Type = Contact**

**IsConcealed = N**

**ExistenceConfidence = certain**

GeMS\_Ltype

Contact, certain, not concealed, LCM=10
Contact, questionable, concealed, LCM=10
Fault, certain, not concealed, LCM=5
Normal fault, questionable, not concealed, LCM=50
Normal fault, questionable, not concealed, LCM=50

**Calc GeMS\_Ltype #6**

Rule Name: Calc GeMS\_Ltype #1

Description: Calc GeMS\_Ltype from components

Subtype: <All>

Field: GeMS\_Ltype

Expression:

```

if ($feature.IsConcealed == "Y")
return $feature.Type + ", " + $feature.IdentityConfidence + ", concealed, LCM=" + $feature.LocationConfidenceMeters
else if ($feature.IsConcealed == "N")
return $feature.Type + ", " + $feature.IdentityConfidence + ", not concealed, LCM=" + $feature.LocationConfidenceMeters
else if ($feature.IsConcealed == "X")
return $feature.Type + ", " + $feature.IdentityConfidence + ", IsCon=N/A, LCM=" + $feature.LocationConfidenceMeters
    
```

**Logic-based concatenation of Type, IsCon, ExConf, and LCM**

Triggers: Insert  Update  Delete



# MapUnitPoints (Traditional) – Calculation Rules

The screenshot shows the ArcGIS Desktop interface with the 'Attribute Rules' tab active. The 'Calculation' sub-tab is selected, and the 'Calc Label' rule is highlighted in the rule list. The right-hand pane shows the configuration for this rule, including the expression: `When($feature.IdentityConfidence == "questionable", $feature.MapUnit+"?", $feature.MapUnit)`.

**Calculation Rule List:**

Order	Rule Name	Description	Subtype	Field
1	Calc_ID	calc_ID from GID	<All>	MapUnitPolys_ID
2	Calc Label	Calc Label	<All>	Label
3	Calc Symbol	Calc Symbol from Label	<All>	Symbol

**Calc Label Rule Configuration:**

- Rule Name: Calc Label
- Description: Calc Label
- Subtype: <All>
- Field: Label
- Editable:
- Expression: `When($feature.IdentityConfidence == "questionable", $feature.MapUnit+"?", $feature.MapUnit)`

*User-populated fields = MapUnit, IDConf, and DSID*

*Could be changed to populate with the FGDC symbol number*

*Could be changed to something more complicated, such as incorporating Geofont symbols (e.g. ^ for Triassic), or compound surficial map units*

# Attribute Rules –Test Case Results

*Yay! I don't have to run Reset ID Values and Attribute By Key Values anymore!*

## Goals:

- ✓ Don't let me create or modify features unless certain fields are populated
- ✓ Automatically populate \_ID
- ✓ Automatically populate dependent fields based on the value in Symbol

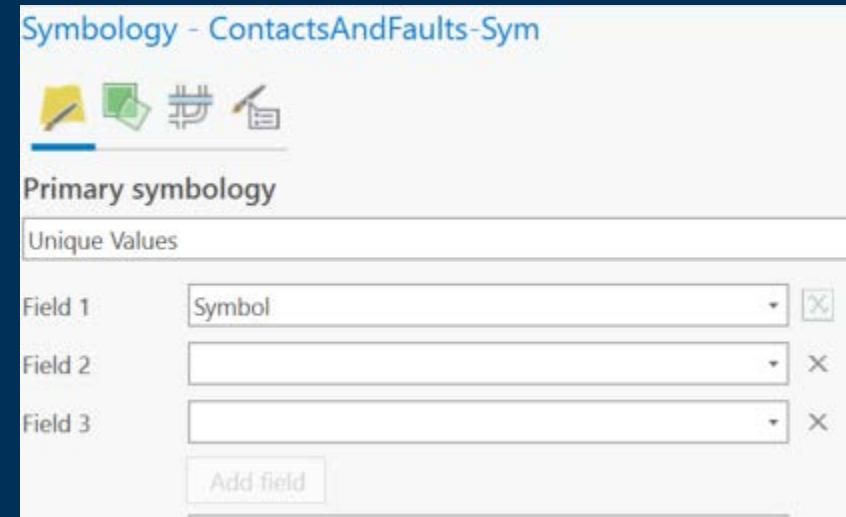


Tracey

*But I'm still thinking in a cartographic, not 'granular', data-driven way, partly because of the way we symbolize our data...*

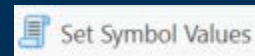
# ContactsAndFaults (Traditional) Symbology

- Symbolize on unique values in a field
  - E.g. Match to FGDC\_GSC.style on Symbol
  - All symbol permutations must exist
  - Limited to unique values in no more than 3 fields



*But the intent of GeMS is that the symbol would be calculated on the basis of map scale and the attributes Type, IsConcealed, LocationConfidenceMeters, ExistenceConfidence, and IdentityConfidence*

- *The Set Symbol Values script will do this, but I want to symbolize on all of those attributes while I'm editing!*



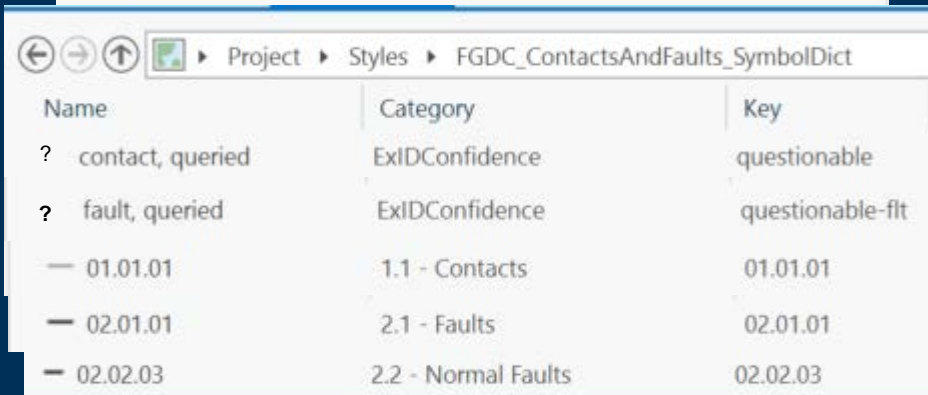
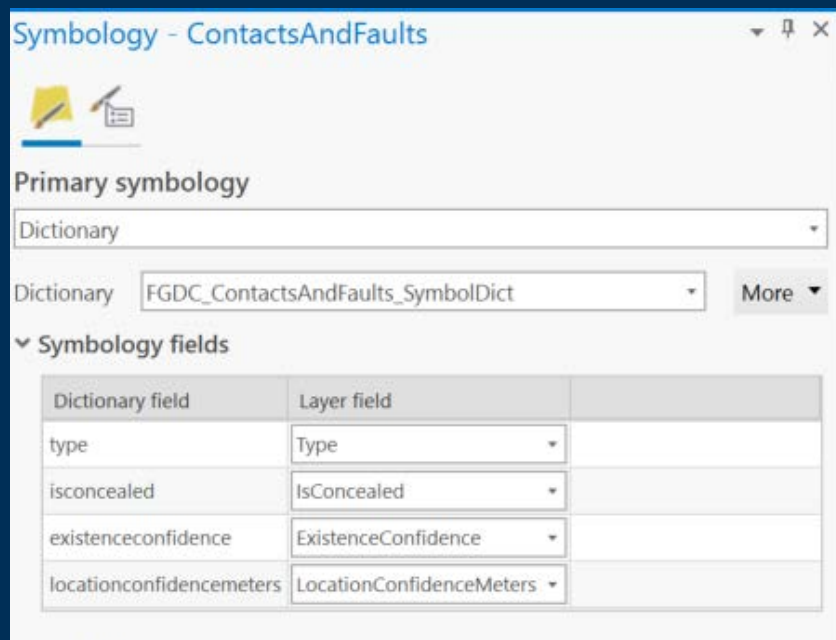


# Can Dictionary Symbology Help?

- **Dictionary Symbology:**
  - An 'intelligent' style file (mobile .stylx) stored in an SQLite database that contains:
    - Symbol 'building blocks'
    - Embedded configuration parameters (JSON)
      - Specifies which fields are used for symbology, which fields are used for text, and properties that can be user-controlled
    - Embedded dictionary of rules
      - user-defined **Arcade** scripts that control how symbol components are aggregated to visually represent the data, depending on the feature attributes
  - Builds symbols on-the-fly from components, based on **one or more attributes of a feature**, and logic (optional)

***Very powerful and complicated - hard to explain in < 20 minutes!***

# Dictionary Symbology – Interface and functionality



1. Get the value in Type (e.g. Contact)
2. Get the value in IsConcealed (IsCon)
  - If IsCon = Y, get a dotted contact line
  - If IsCon = N, go to Step #3
3. Get the value in LocationConfidenceMeters (LCM)
  - If LCM <= 20, get a solid contact line
  - If LCM >20 and <50, get a short-dash contact line
  - If LCM >=50, get a long-dash contact line
4. Get the value in ExistenceConfidence (ExConf)
  - If ExConf = questionable, get a contact-weight questionmark
5. Symbolize the line with the symbol parts 'collected' in steps 1-4

Type	IsConcealed	LCM	ExistenceConfidence	Symbol
Contact	No	10	certain	—————
Contact	Yes	10	questionable	.....?.....?
Fault	No	5	certain	—————
Normal fault	No	50	questionable	—T—?—?—

# Dictionary Symbology –Test Case Results

*Yay! Now I can  
interact with my data  
on a granular level!*



Tracey

**Attribute  
Rules** + **Dictionary  
Symbology** = **Optimized  
GeMS  
Workflow**

# ContactsAndFaults – Optimized Workflow

**#1. Populate Type, IsCon, LCM, ExConf, and DSID, and use Constraint rules to make sure LCM and DSID are populated**

Type	IsConcealed	LCM	ExistenceConfidence	DataSourceID
Contact	No	10	certain	TFELGER
Contact	Yes	10	questionable	TFELGER
Fault	No	5	certain	TFELGER
Normal fault	No	50	questionable	TFELGER
Normal fault	No	50	questionable	TFELGER

Calculation		Constraint	Validation
Add Rule		Columns	Filter
Rule Name	Description		
check LCM	LocationConfidenceMeters must be populated		
check DSID	DataSourceID must be populated		

**#2. Use Calculation rules to populate \_ID, IdentityConfidence, Symbol, and GeMS\_Ltype**

Calculation			Constraint	Validation
Add Rule			Columns	Filter
Order	Rule Name	Description		
▼ Immediate 4 Rule(s)				
1	Calc_ID	calc_ID from GID		
2	Calc IdentityConfidence	calc IdentityConfidence from ExistenceConfidence		
3	Calc FGDC Symbol	Calc FGDC Symbol		
4	Calc GeMS_Ltype	Calc GeMS_Ltype from components		

ContactsAndFaults_ID	IdentityConfidence	Symbol	GeMS_Ltype
(CFAF9A38-20E9-49E9-B5BA-23778BFB6396)	certain	01.01.01	Contact, certain, not concealed, LCM=10
(30E332E2-E14A-4AE3-A874-B9BEC15C9AE5)	questionable	01.01.08	Contact, questionable, concealed, LCM=10
(0CAB0748-9DCF-4865-9D66-0E689EB6F78F)	certain	02.01.01	Fault, certain, not concealed, LCM=5
(21A53DEA-FA29-441B-A9D4-A1E8658DDEFF)	questionable	02.02.04	Normal fault, questionable, not concealed, LCM=50
(C870B29A-8D12-436F-AC35-FF71FAFE3E02)	questionable	02.02.04	Normal fault, questionable, not concealed, LCM=50

**#3. Symbolize twice – once using Dictionary Symbology, again on LocationConfidenceMeters**

▼ Symbology fields	
Dictionary field	Layer field
type	Type
isconcealed	IsConcealed
existenceconfidence	ExistenceConfidence
locationconfidencemeters	LCM

Symbology - ContactsAndFaults-LCM

Primary symbology

Proportional Symbols

Field: LocationConfidenceMeters

Normalization: <None>

Unit: Meters

Data represents: Distance from center

Template: —





# MapUnitPolys – Optimized Workflow

**#1. Create polys interactively, and populate MapUnit, IdConf, and DSID, and use Constraint rules to make sure MapUnit and DSID are populated**

MapUnit	IdentityConfidence	DataSourceID
d	certain	TFELGER
fpq	certain	TFELGER
rcqlu	questionable	TFELGER
rcqlu	certain	TFELGER
rcqlu	questionable	TFELGER

Calculation	Constraint	Validation
Add Rule Columns Filter		
Rule Name	Description	
check MapUnit	MapUnit must be populated	
check DataSourceID	DataSourceID must be populated	

**#2. Use Calculation rules to populate \_ID, Label, and Symbol**

Calculation	Constraint	Validation
Add Rule Columns Filter		
Order	Rule Name	Description
▼ Immediate 3 Rule(s)		
1	Calc_ID	calc_ID from GID
2	Calc Label	Calc Label
3	Calc Symbol	Calc Symbol

MapUnitPolys_ID	Label	Symbol
{02AA7CB6-2C88-406B-B677-717B74714449}	d	d
{EEF002E0-A7C2-4926-82F8-637D6F5041CF}	fpq	fpq
{1AA19A9A-DE21-4555-AF29-673A0BDB5271}	rcqlu?	rcqlu?
{2F35D6CC-9349-46E5-BEA7-15B96A376696}	rcqlu	rcqlu
{F0885EE6-CAF9-47F8-9440-B21E2E46128B}	rcqlu?	rcqlu?

**#3. Create polys interactively from ContactsAndFaults, but maintain a MapUnitPoints layer in case I don't stick with that! Use Calculation rules to get all attributes from 'parent' poly**

Calculation	Constraint	Validation
Add Rule Columns Filter		
Order	Rule Name	Description
▼ Immediate 7 Rule(s)		
1	MU from MUPolys	get MU from MUPolys
2	IDConf	get IDConf from MUPolys
3	Label from MUPolys	get Label from MUPolys
4	Symbol from MUPolys	get Symbol from MUPolys
5	DSID from MUPolys	get DSID from MUPolys
6	Notes From MUPolys	get Notes form MUPolys
7	_ID from MUPolys	get _ID from MUPolys

```
Expression 
var fsMapUnit = featureSetByName($datastore, "MapUnitPolys", ["MapUnit"])
var fsMapUnitIntersect = Intersects(fsMapUnit, $feature)
var MU = First(fsMapUnitIntersect)

return MU.MapUnit
```

# Summary *Game changer!*

## Benefits:

1. **Improved efficiency** – attributes automatically populated on the fly, no need to periodically run several scripts
2. **Improved data quality** –
  - a) features can't be created/modified unless certain fields are populated
  - b) all fields are always fully populated, so Validate database script produces fewer errors
3. **Helping me embrace GeMS instead of just coping with it!**

## Challenges and Limitations:

1. Can only use in Pro - not backward compatible with ArcMap (*there are workarounds*)
2. Have to learn Arcade
3. Dictionary symbology is very powerful, but very complicated and not well documented!!

## Testing so far:

- Spatial data only (haven't tested on non-spatial tables)
- ContactsAndFaults and MapUnitPts/Polys only
- Calculation and constraint rules only (haven't tried validation rules) (*I'm happy to share!*)
- Limited to 215 FGDC contacts and fault types so far
- Latitude 7212 ruggedized tablet; Windows 10, Pro 2.5 (I started in 2.4; after upgrading to 2.5 the GeMS Validate Database script stopped working!)

## Next Steps:

- Expand and refine as I need to for my mapping
- Try validation rules
- Dictionary symbology - implement user-control options, and symbol override capabilities