

Hillforts on the Daugava waterway:

First results of archaeological and environmental research at Dzenes Kalns, Lūbasta and Zamečkas sites

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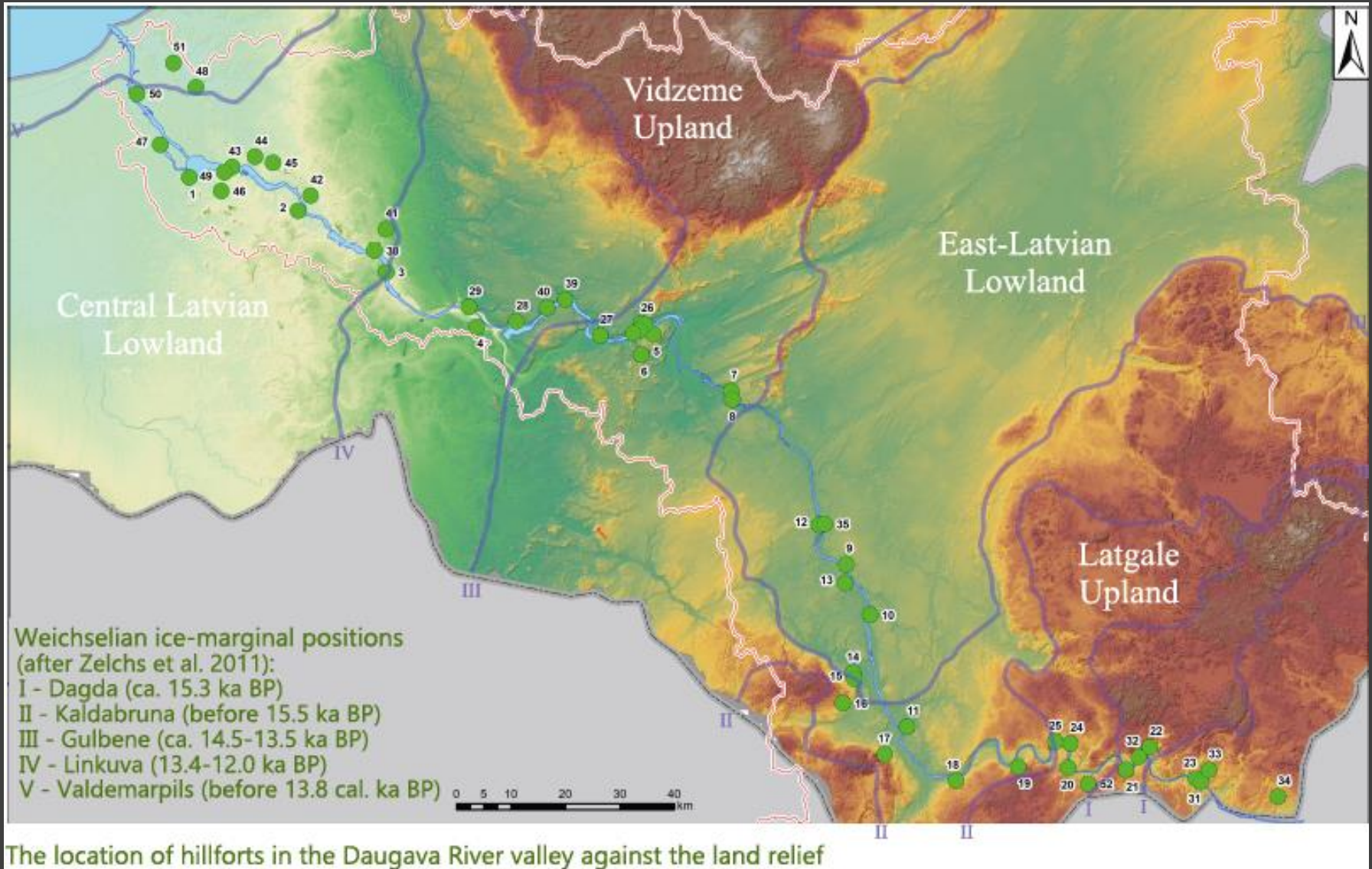
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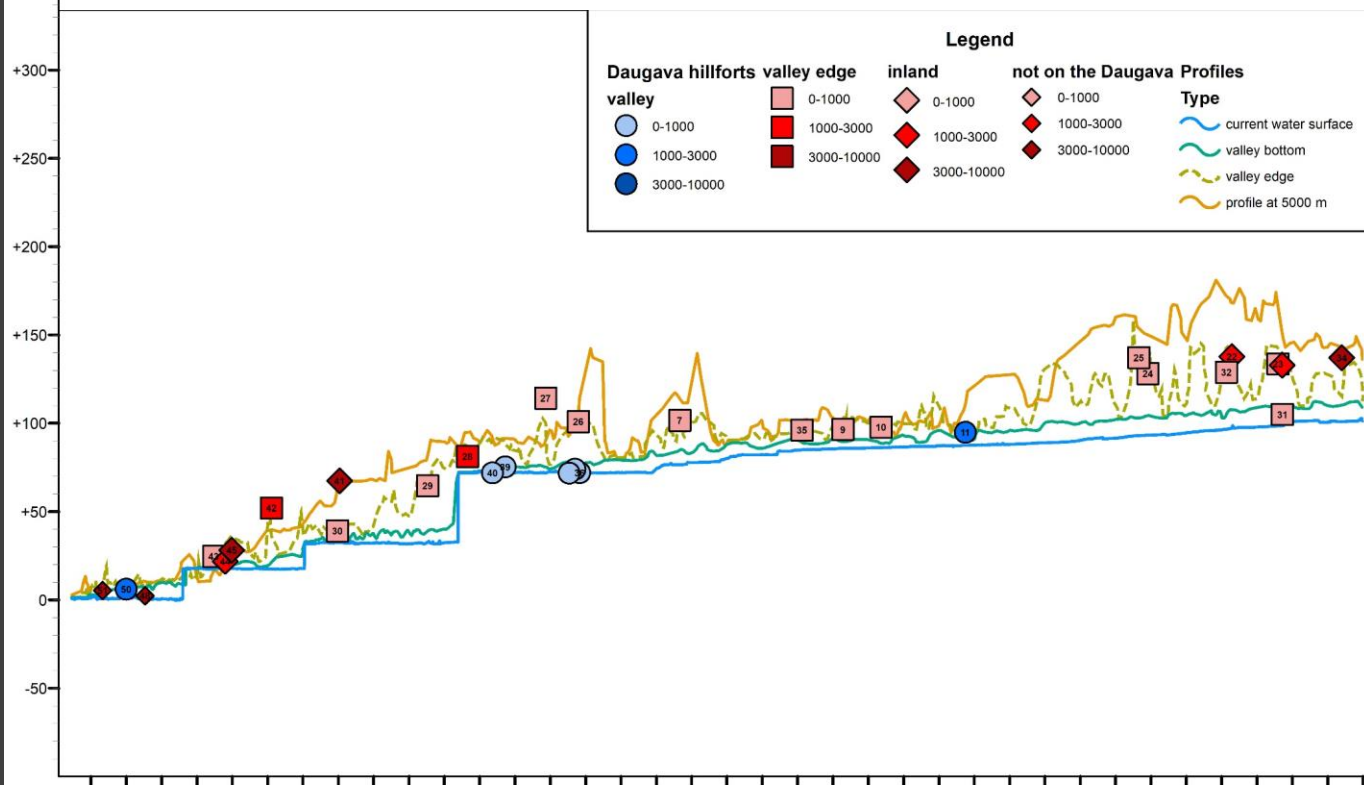
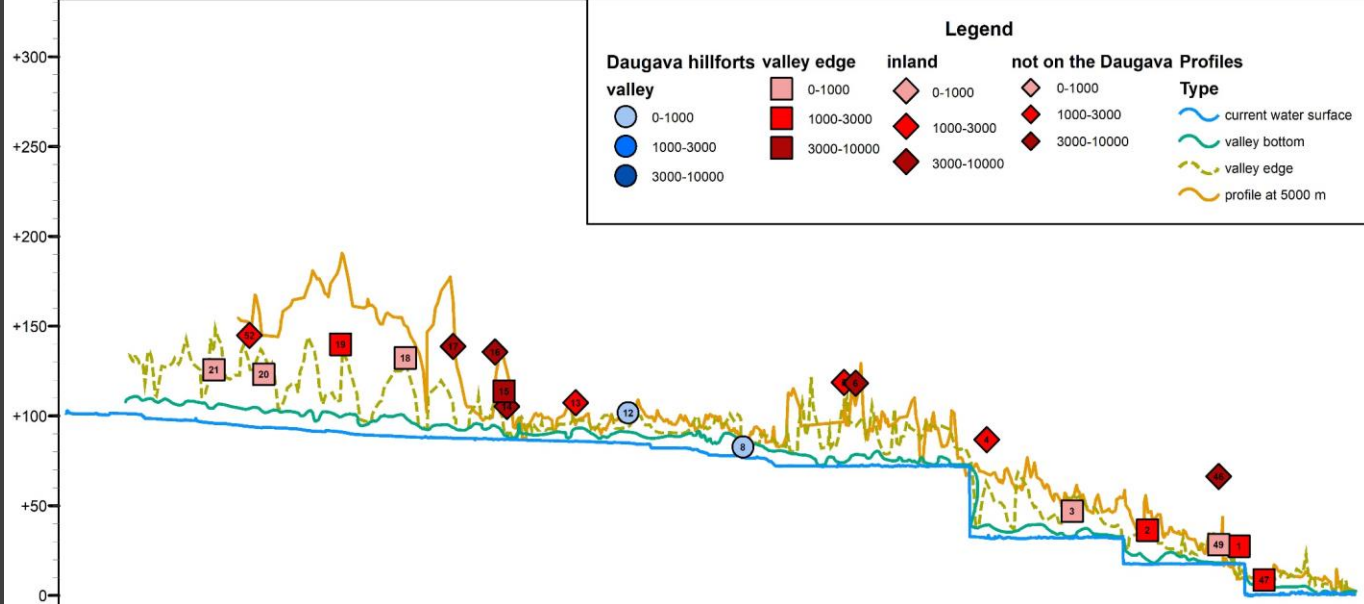
University of Latvia, Faculty of History and Philosophy

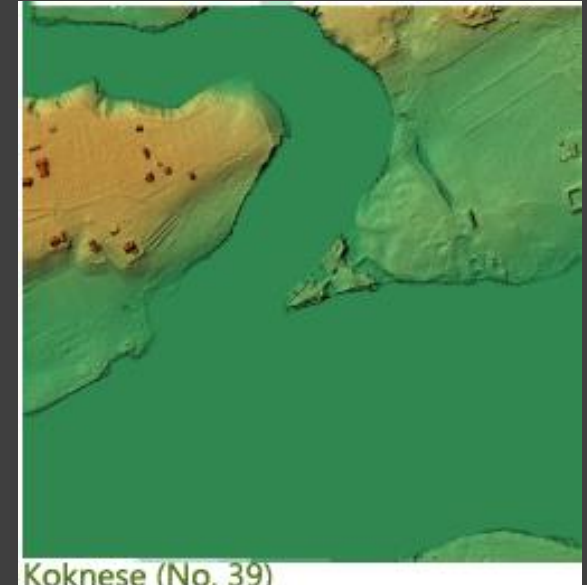
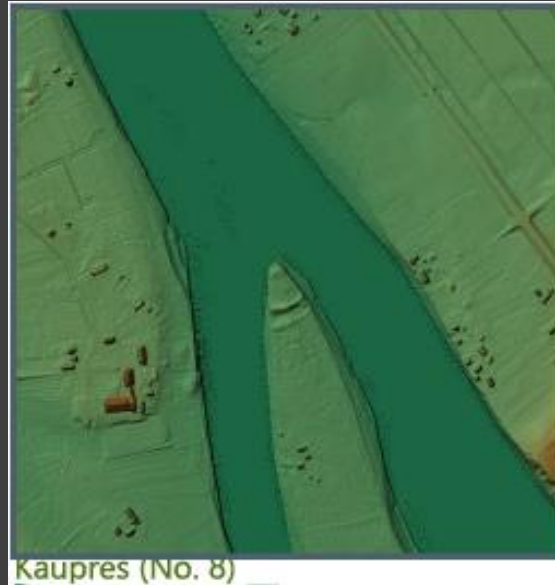
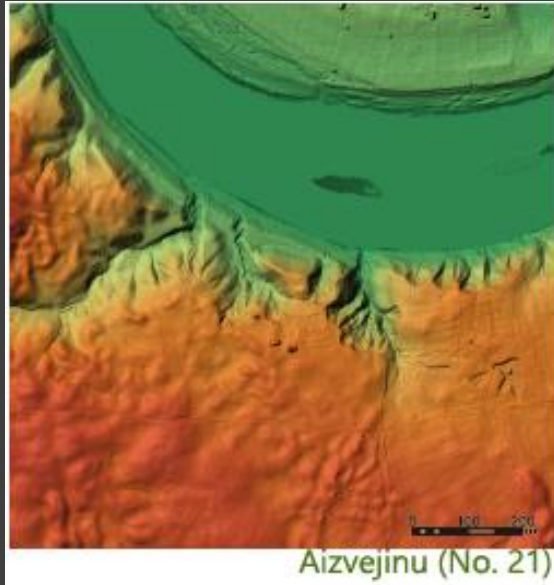
Structure

- Landscape: Paleoenvironmental Research
- Historiography: What was done before?
- Digging into the Past: Archaeological Investigations

Landscape: Paleoenvironmental Research







Examples for typical hillfort locations along the Daugava valley

Historiography of Dzenes kalns, Ļūbasta and Zamečka hillforts: What was done before?

- Dzenes kalns is located in Līvāni municipality district of Jersika next to ex Donas house
- Ļūbasta is located in Augšdaugava municipality district of Līksna on the left shore of Ļūbasta river, next to the railway
- Zamečkas is located in Augšdaugava municipality district of Pilskalne, near Avotiņi and Stādiņi houses



Location of the hillforts. 1 – Dzenes kalns, 2 – Zamečka, 3 - Ļūbasta

- Zamečkas was discovered in 1882 by Augusts Bīlenšteins
- Dzenes kalns and Zamečka hillforts has been measured and described in 1920s by Ernests Brastiņš
- Ļūbasta hillfort has been discovered in 2021 by Atis Blūms
- Previously archaeological excavation happened only in Zamečkas in the 1968 led by J. Graudonis



Dzenes kalns in 1920s. From: E. Brastiņš. Latvijas pilskalni. Latgale. 1928.



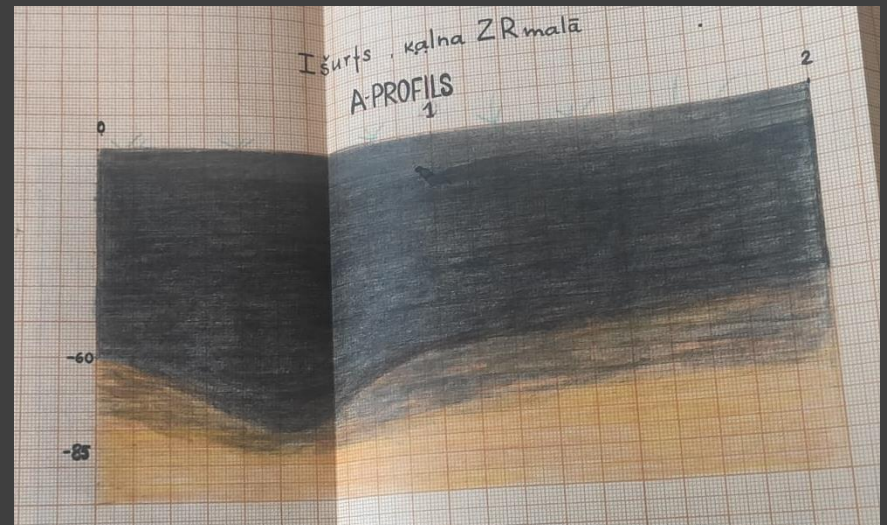
Zamečka in 1920s. From: E. Brastiņš. Latvijas pilskalni. Zemgale un Augšzeme. 1926.

What was discovered?

- In Dzenes kalns E. Brastiņš expedition found two medieval sherds, one polished sherd and horn with traces of use. Archival documents indicates that around 200 m from Dzenes kalns stone tools and head of clay pipe was found.
- In Zamečkas during the excavation striated pottery and bone chisel were found as well as some rusticated ware. Cultural layer reached 0.7 – 1.3 m



Old war trench on Zamečkas NE part. From: LVI AMK, Inv. No. VIAA 207



NW profile of first test pit. From: LVI AMK, Inv. No. VIAA 207

Digging into the Past: Archaeological Investigations

Dzenes Kalns (3 days)

identification



test pitting



drilling



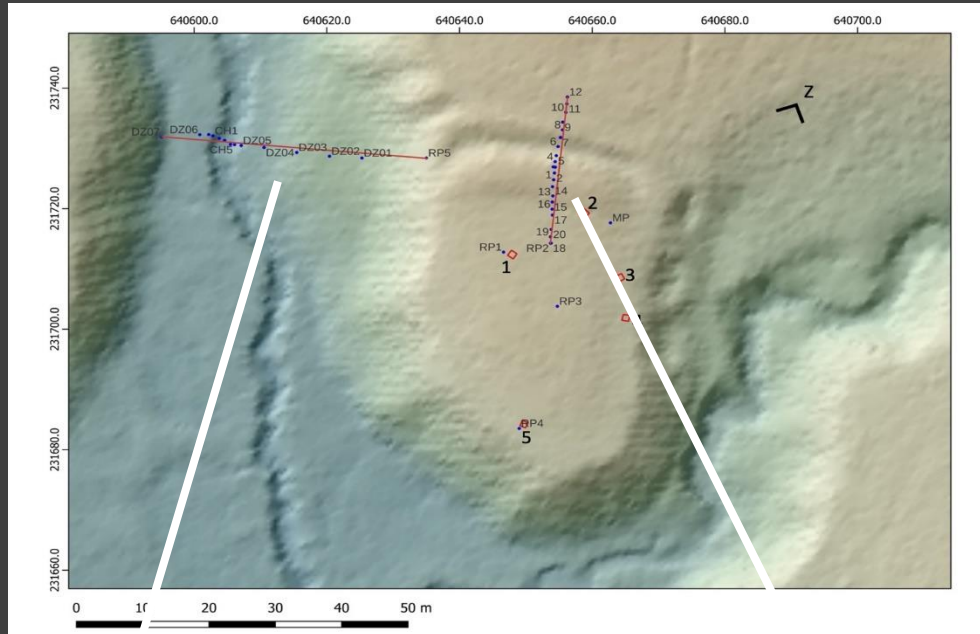
sampling and dating



landscapes



drilling

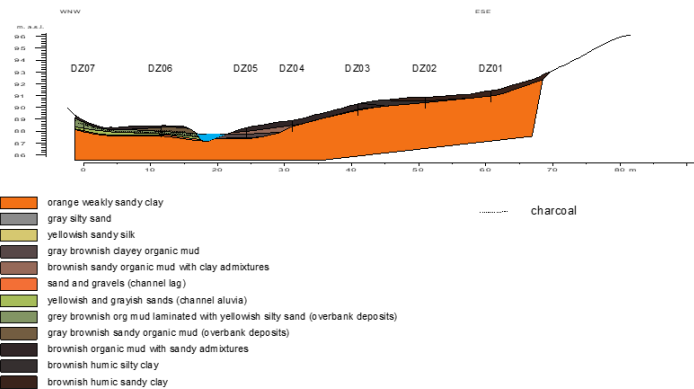


ramparts



Ģeoloģiskais šķersgriezums pilskalna pakājē un pie strauta senlejas (zondes DZ01-07).

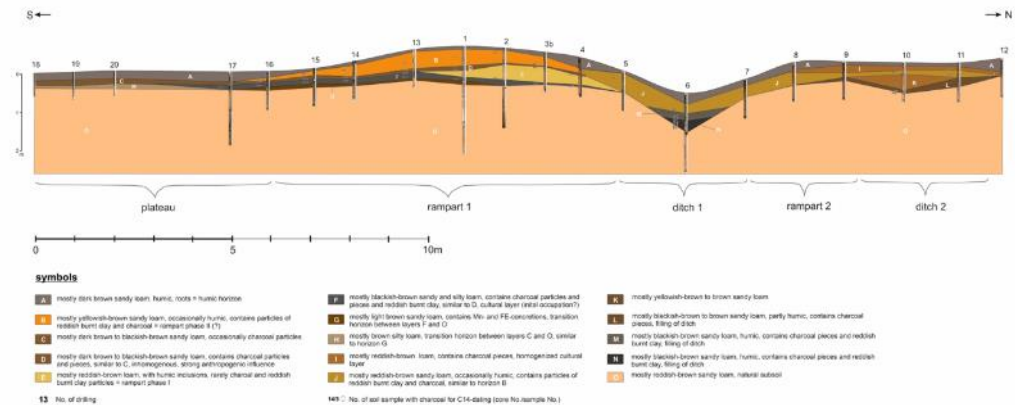
Autors: P. Kittels



Pilskalna ģeoloģiskais šķersgriezums balst. ties uz geoarheoloģiskajām mehānizētajām zondēm (zondes BOH1-20)

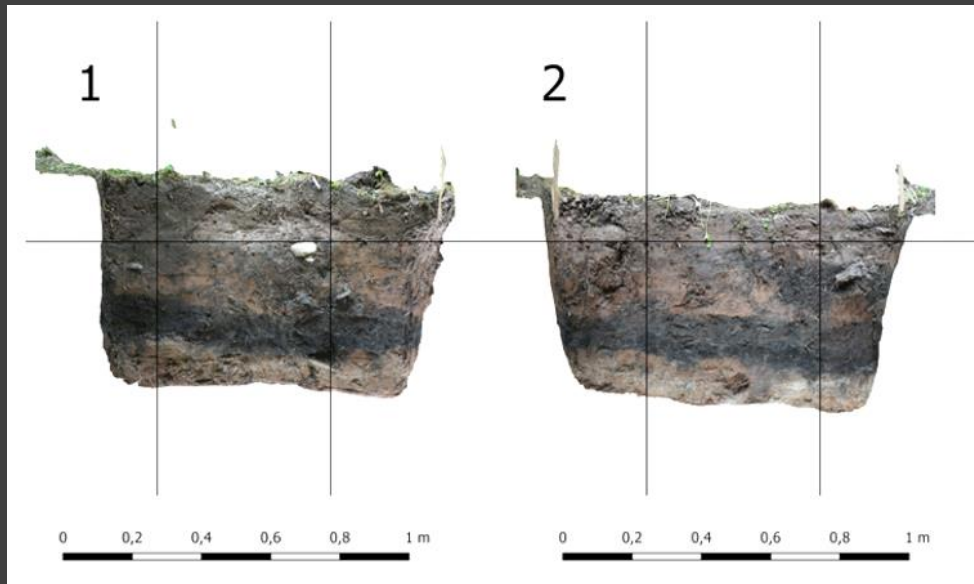
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Dzennes Kalns hillfort
schematic profile reconstruction, based on drillings
T. Ibsen, ZBSA Schleswig, 2022



excavations

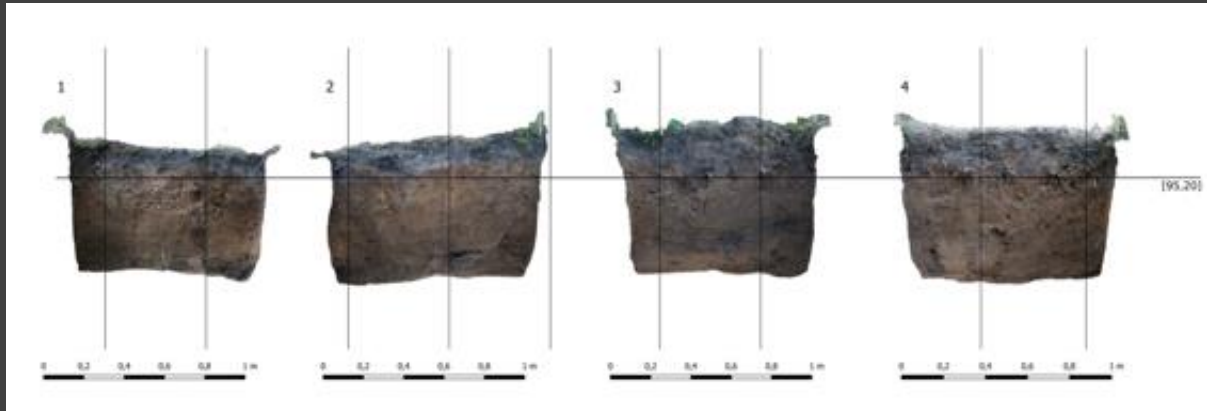
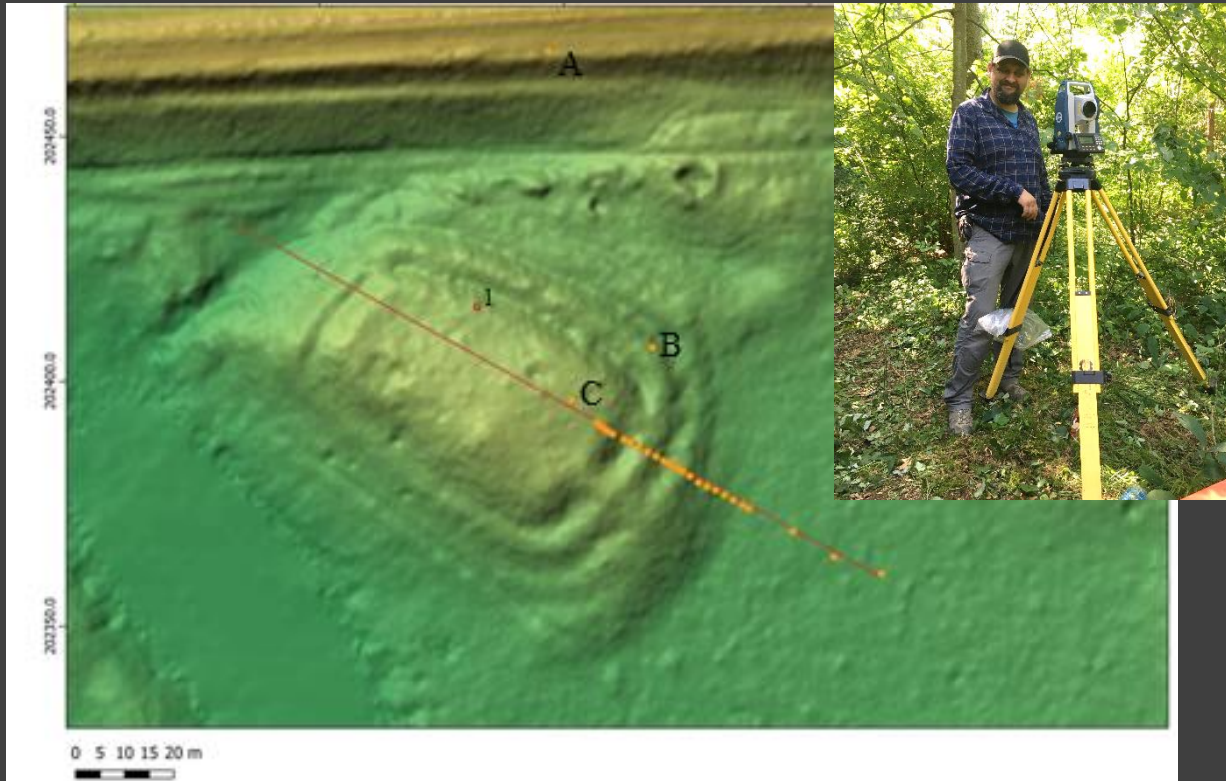
test pits



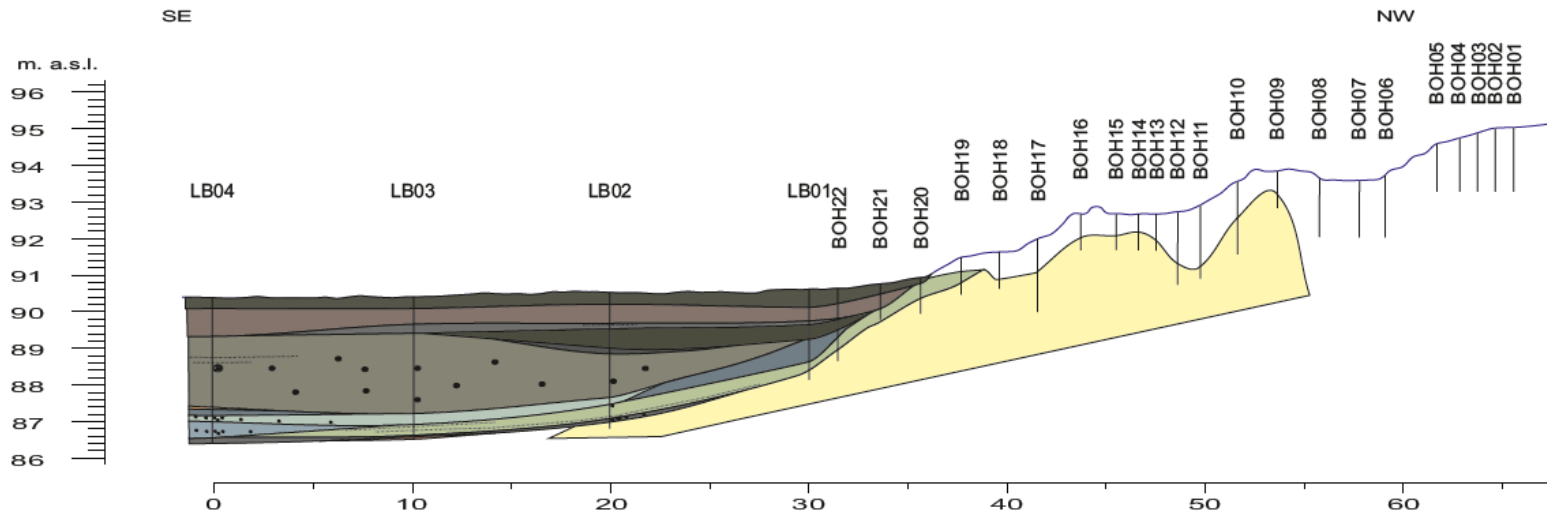
soil sampling



Łūbasta (2 days) drilling and test pit



landscape reconstruction



Fotogrāfija: LB02_0_100_DSC_3178, LB02_100_200_DSC_3188,
LB02_200_300_DSC_3198, LB02_300_370_DSC_3208



Apraksta autors: P. Kittels

rampart investigation and dating

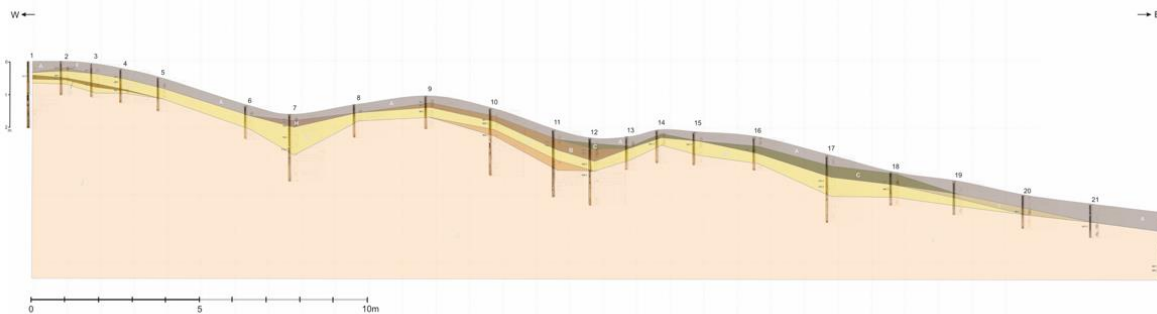


Bohrprotokoll				
Fundplatz Name:		Bohrstrecke: 1	Bohrung Nr: 2	
Lubasta		Bezeichnung:	Segment Nr: 1	
		Datum: 17.08.22		
		Bearbeiter: G. B.		
Tiefe	Farbprobe	Schicht	Schichtbeschreibung (Material, Farbe, etc.)	Profilnr.
0				
10		1	Kompakt	
15		2	grünlicher humoser FS	
20		3	hellbraun, feinkörnig, m. d. braun, stellenweise gelblich, o. v. l. Hk. - FS (Probe 1)	P1
25		4	gelber FS, stellenweise leicht humos	
30		5	brauner humoser FS, Hk. Schicht (Probe 2)	P2
35		6	hellbraun FS, sl. humos, Hk. - FS (Probe 3)	P3
40		7	gelber FS, stellenweise humos (im oberen Teil)	
45		8	gelber bis hellbr. FS, m. l. gelblich an Stellen	
50				
55				
60				
65				
70				
75				
80				
85				
90				
95				
100				
m / cm				
ZUSATZANGABEN:				
Sondentlänge: 100 cm		Sonden-Dm: 6 cm		
Witterung: (Regen / Sonne / bewölkt / 25°C)		Grundwasser: nein / ja (m/cm)		
Vegetation: Wald		Nutzung:		
Bemerkungen: liegt ca. 10 m östl. Böh 1				



Pilskalna ģeoloģiskais šķērsgriezums balstoties uz ģeoarheoloģiskajām mehanizētajām zondēm (zondes BOH1-22) Autors: T. Ibsens

Lubasta hillfort
schematic profile reconstruction, based on drillings
T. Ibsen, ZBSA Schleswig, 2022



symbols

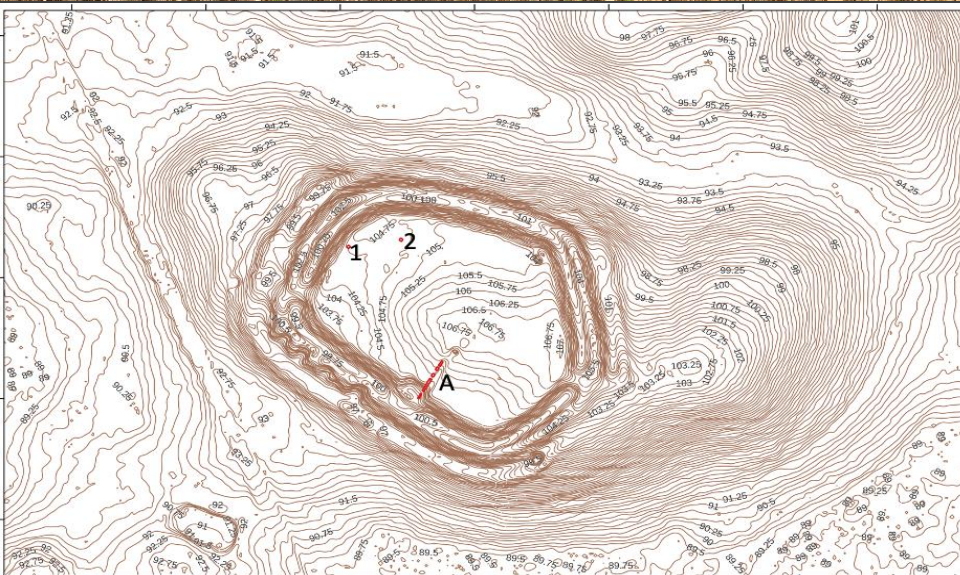
- 1 mostly dark brown fine sand, humic, roots = humic horizon
- 2 mostly blackish-brown to brown fine sand, occasionally humic, inhomogeneous, contains charcoal pieces
- 3 mostly yellowish-brown mixed with dark brown to blackish-brown sandy loam, inhomogeneous, occasionally contains charcoal particles
- 4 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, inhomogeneous, with varying degrees of humic content, contains charcoal particles
- 5 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 6 mostly yellowish-brown fine sand, natural subsoil
- 7 dark brown and brown fine sand, inhomogeneous, charcoal particles
- 8 mostly blackish-brown fine sand, inhomogeneous, slightly humic, contains charcoal particles
- 9 mostly brown silty loam, transition horizon between layers C and G, similar to horizon G
- 10 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 11 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 12 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 13 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 14 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 15 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 16 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 17 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 18 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 19 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 20 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 21 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles
- 22 mostly yellowish-brown to brown fine sand, humic, contains charcoal particles

13 No. of drilling

140 No. of soil sample with charcoal for C14 dating (see No. sample No.)

Zamečka (9 days)

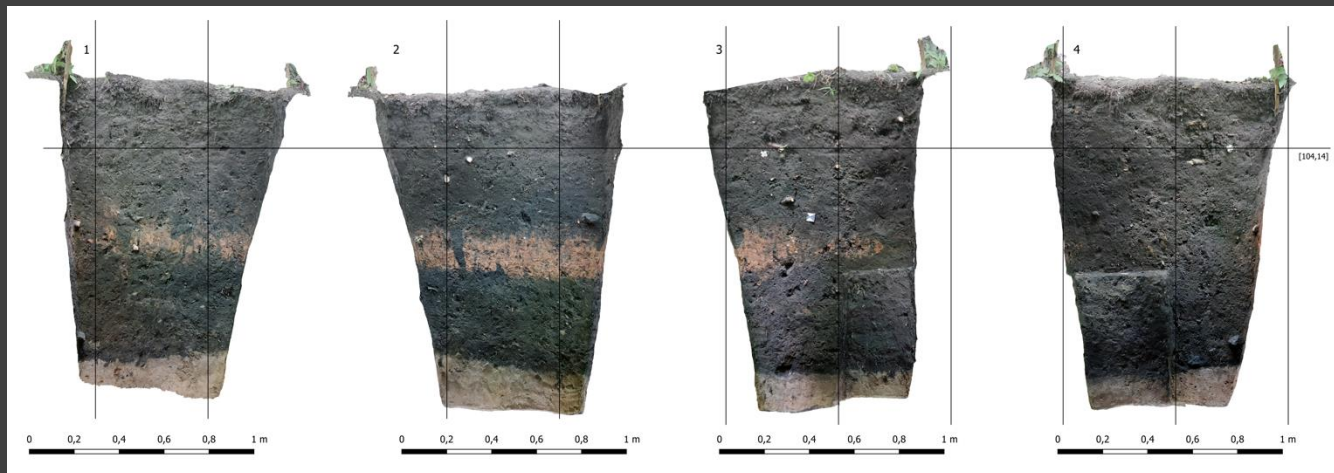
test pits and re-opening of old war trench profile



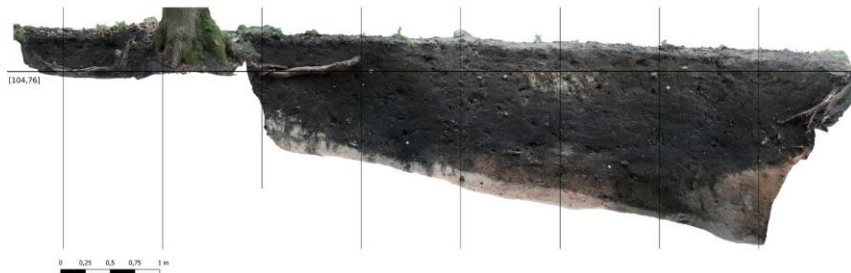
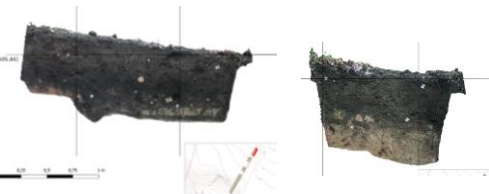
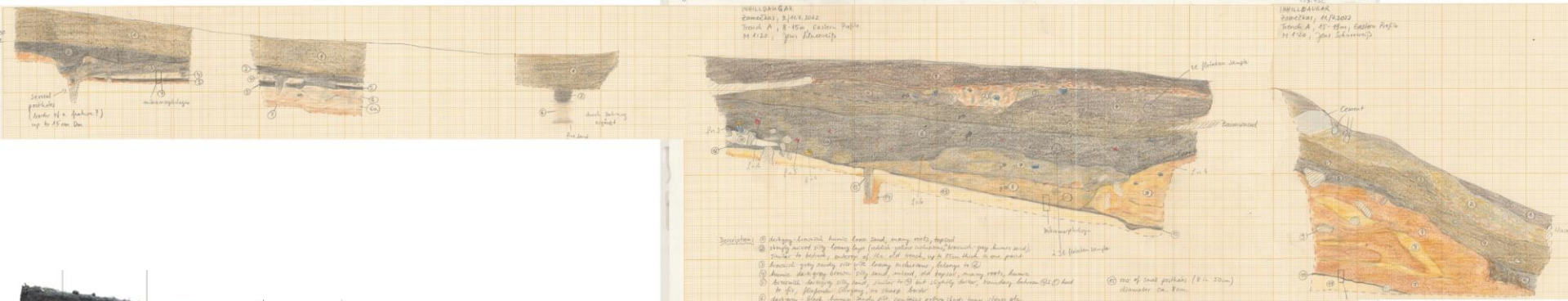
0 20 40 60 m

0 20 40 60 m

test pits



re-opening of old war trench profile





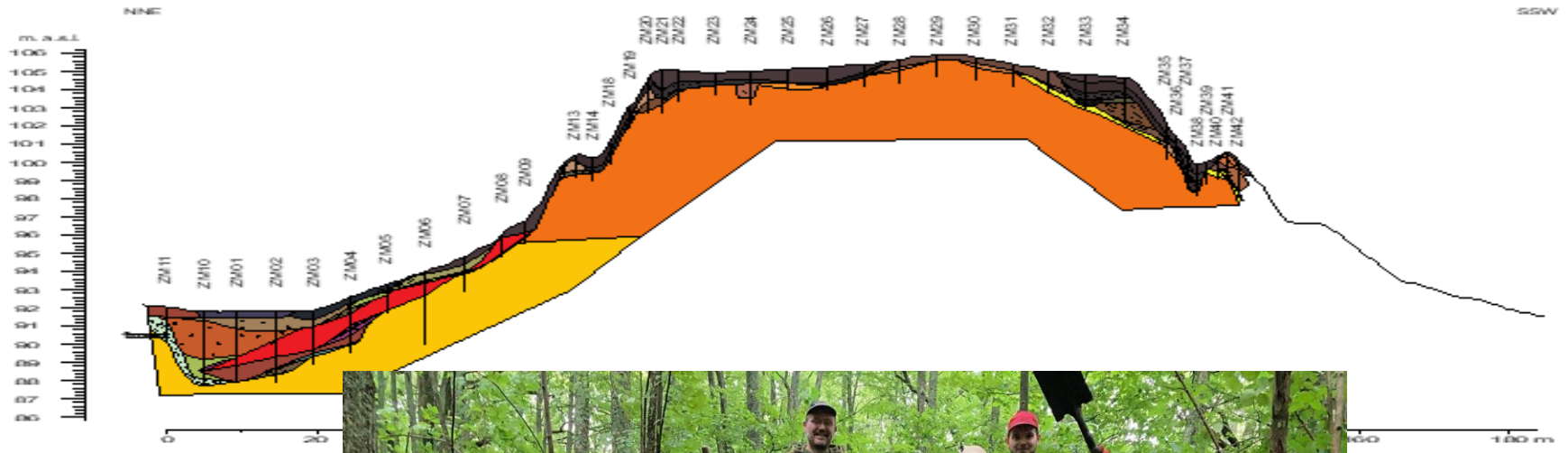
Archaeological finds



geomorphological studies

Zamečkas pilskalns ģeoloģiskais šķēsgriezums (zondes ZM01-42)

Autors: P. Kittels



Reports ...

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What's next?



Thank you for your attention!

