

ABSTRACT
SPELEO BRAZIL 2001

Brasília DF, 15-22 de julho de 2001

13th International Congress of Speleology
4th Speleological Congress of Latin América and Caribbean
26th Brazilian Congress of Speleology

Cave Development in Central Scandinavia

Trevor FAULKNER

Limestone Research Group, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate, Huddersfield, HD1 3DH, UK

Metacarbonate outcrops occur in most nappes of the central Scandinavian Caledonides, but their numbers, lengths, areas and foliation dip-angles decline to the east. Caves of all complexities occur in the higher metalimestone-bearing nappes, from valley shoulder positions down to valley floors, and in (commonly homoclinal) Vertical, Angled, and Non Stripe karst types that guide internal morphologies. Total cave dimensions show no systematic trend when normalised against the length of outcrops, and are not related to catchment areas. Vertical distributions of outcrops and cave entrances are essentially random. Cave depth is always much smaller than the outcrop vertical range: caves in stripe karst have formed entirely within an upper 50m-thick zone of fractured rock. Similar cave inception, development and removal processes may have operated across the whole area from the time of the Caledonian Orogeny, and under the direct, and indirect, influences of the many glaciations since the late Miocene.