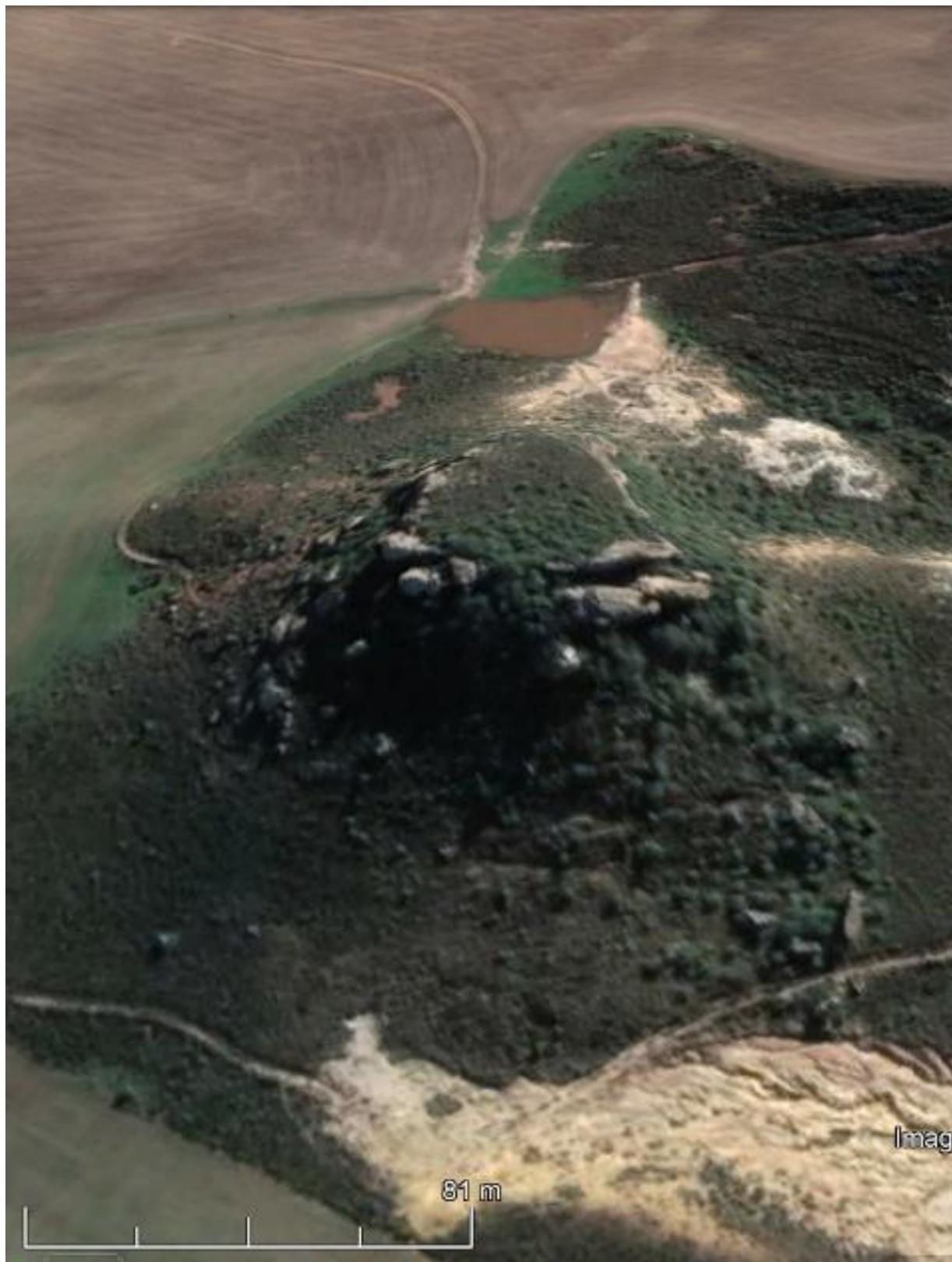




## D. DURICRUSTS

**Field Note D4a12. Pedogenic silcretes – L. Disintegration and weathering**



**Disintegrated silcrete hilltop.**

## D. DURICRUSTS

### Field Note D4a12. Pedogenic silcretes – L. Disintegration and weathering

#### *Disintegration*

As the kaolin under the hilltop silcrete is eroded, the cap is cracked and huge and small chunks of silcrete are detached from the top and roll down the slopes (Figures 1 to 4).

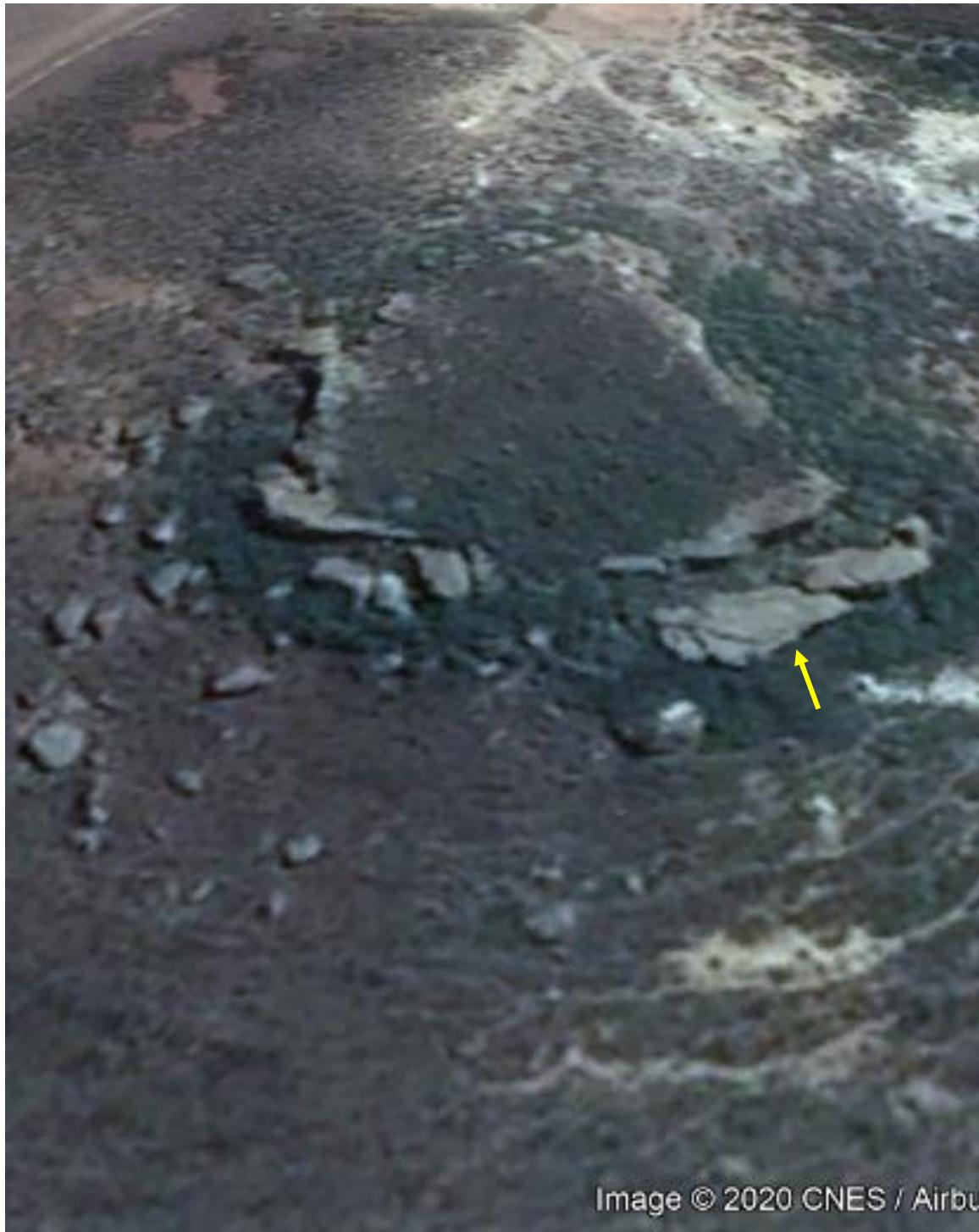


Image © 2020 CNES / Airbus

**Figure 1. Aerial view of a disintegrated hill cap. Length of the largest chunk (arrow) is ~20 m.**



**Figure 2. Top and bottom: ground views of the disintegrated cap shown in Figure 1.**

The largest silcrete pieces in the Study Area; the larger chunk is >20 m long, 10 m wide and >10 m thick), which were detached from the bulky hilltop.



**Figure 3. Hill cap disintegration. Top – blocks. Bottom – stacks.**



**Figure 4. Hill cap disintegration. Top – columns. Bottom – slabs.**



### **Weathering**

The weathering of silcretes results in the formation of small caverns (Figures 5 to 8).



**Figure 5. Weathered massive silcrete.**



**Figure 6. Weathered massive silcrete.**



**Figure 7. Weathered conglomeratic silcrete.**



**Figure 8. Weathered silcrete. Top – brecciated. Bottom – globular.**