

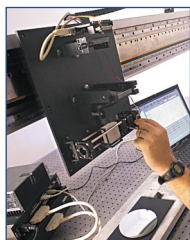
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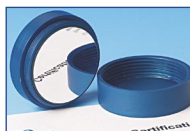
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a useful account of body and surface waveform modeling. Also notable is their discussion of ground deformation during the entire earthquake cycle, and new deformation mapping techniques, such as those using interference of space-based radar images.

The material on plate tectonics highlights one of Stein's research specialties, the thermal evolution of the lithosphere. The text offers a clear and complete explanation of how a single physical process—the cooling of the lithosphere at mid-ocean ridges—controls ocean depth, plate thickness, and heat flow.

The description of the heating of oceanic plates as they reenter the mantle at subduction zones is likewise well developed. The mathematical descriptions of the lithosphere lead naturally to a clear explication of the forces that drive tectonic plates. The book presents, as well, extended and appreciated discussions of faulting, friction, and crustal strength.

The clear, precise, but sometimes long-winded style of the book reflects its comprehensive nature. The lengthy, thorough discussions contrast with the elegant brevity of Peter Shearer's *Introduction to Seismology* (Cambridge U. Press, 1999). On some topics, the book's very thoroughness renders it unwieldy, and the mathematical formalism is sometimes more complicated than necessary. Look elsewhere for a quick refresher on Snell's law—even the subscripts have subscripts.

The book's numerous figures are a key asset. Those illustrations, available online, often seem to have been constructed particularly for the text. In many cases, they compactly convey large amounts of detailed information. For example, a number of figures illustrate the surprising complexity of the interaction of seismic waves with material having jumps or gradients in wave velocity. That complexity is better conveyed by Stein and Wysession's book than any other text I know of.

An Introduction to Seismology, Earthquakes, and Earth Structure is a very good text with an up-to-date point of view. It's a bit expensive for a course textbook, but it is quite versatile. The large amount of material covered makes the book useful for several different courses. As the basis for a standard seismology course, it would work best for the more tenacious student. The text is appropriate for a geophysically oriented plate-tectonics course or for a course on time-series analysis and inverse theory with examples and homework problems taken from geophysics. All in all, it is

an indispensable reference for serious students of solid-Earth geophysics.

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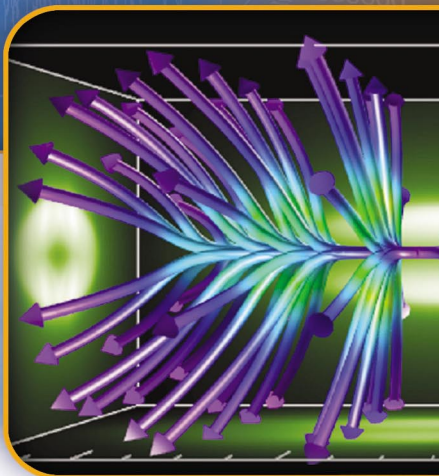
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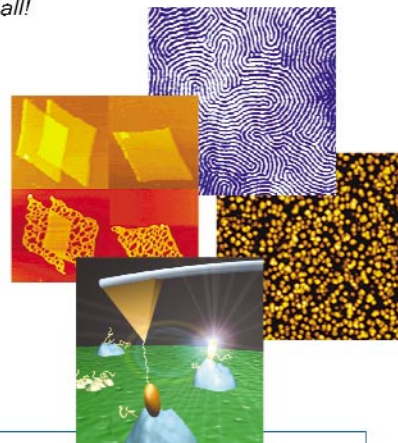
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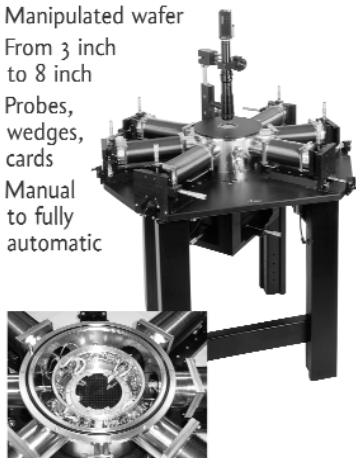
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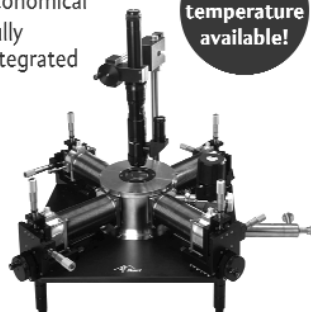


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