

- I. Factors that determine structural damage
 - A. Intensity of the earthquake
 - 1. Duration of the vibrations
 - 2. Nature of the material upon which the structure rests
 - 3. The design of the structure
 - B. Destruction from
 - 1. Ground shaking
 - 2. Liquefaction of the ground
 - a. Saturated material turns fluid
 - b. Underground objects may float to surface
 - 3. Tsunami, or seismic sea waves
 - 4. Landslides and ground subsidence
 - 5. Fires: San Francisco, 1906—Jack London's account
<http://london.sonoma.edu/Writings/Journalism/sfearthquake.html>
 - C. Examples of destructive earthquakes
 - 1. Alaska 1964
 - a. Moment magnitude 9.2, Richter magnitude 8.7
 - b. Duration of shaking: 3-4 minutes
 - c. Damage
 - 1) on 'quick-clay' that was subject to liquefaction
 - 2) from tsunami, especially in Resurrection Bay
 - 2. New Madrid, Missouri, 1811-1812
 - a. Series of earthquakes
 - 1) 5 of Magnitude 7 to 8
 - 2) Shaking lasted between 30 seconds and two minutes
 - 3) As many as 200 greater than 4.3
 - b. Subsidence and uplift 3-5 meters widespread
 - 3. Loma Prieta, 1989
 - a. Moment magnitude 7.2
 - b. Duration 7 to 15 seconds
 - c. Movement about 1.5 meters
 - d. Structural collapse
 - 4. Northridge, 1994
 - a. Magnitude 6.9
 - b. Duration 10 to 20 seconds
 - c. Landslides in surrounding mountains, absence of liquefaction
 - 5. Kobe, Japan, 1995
 - a. Magnitude 6.9 (Mw), 7.2 (Ms)
 - b. Duration 20 seconds
 - c. Damage from building collapse, gas leaks, lack of water, wood-paper construction with charcoal heating in older parts of city

6. Niigata, Japan 1964
 - a. Magnitude 7.5
 - b. Liquefaction
 - 1) tilted buildings as much as 80°
 - 2) building designed to resist earthquake damage
 - a) people climbed out of upper story windows
 - b) building jacked up to vertical and rehabilitated

II. Earthquake prediction

- A. Short-range – no reliable method yet devised for short-range predictions
- B. Long-range forecasts
 1. Premise is that earthquakes are repetitive
 2. Region is given a probability of a quake

III. Earth's layered structure

- A. Most of our knowledge of Earth's interior
 1. comes from the study of P and S earthquake waves:
 2. we've only drilled to about 12 km—0.2% to center
- B. Travel times of P and S waves through Earth vary depending on the properties of the materials
 1. travel faster at depth—
 - a. due to increased pressure enhancing elastic properties of rock
 - b. results in curved paths of seismic waves through Earth
 2. abrupt velocity changes of waves at particular depths—causes refraction of waves
 - a. S waves travel only through solids
 - b. allows us to model Earth's interior based on seismic wave behavior
- C. Layers defined by composition
 1. Crust
 - a. Thin, rocky outer layer
 - b. Two types. Varies in thickness
 - 1) Oceanic crust—does not extend below entire continental crust!
 - a) Roughly 7 km (5 miles) in oceanic regions
 - b) Basaltic composition--relatively homogeneous
 - c) Density about 3.0 g/cm³
 - d) Younger (180 million years or less) than the continental crust
 - 2) Continental crust
 - a) Continental crust averages 35-40 km (25 miles)
 - b) Exceeds 70 km (40 miles) in some mountainous regions
 - c) Upper crust composed of granitic rocks
 - d) Lower crust is more like basalt
 - e) Average density is about 2.7 g/cm³

- f) Up to 4 billion years old
- 2. Mantle—over 82% of Earth's volume
 - a. Below crust to a depth of 2900 kilometers (1800 miles)
 - b. Composition of the uppermost mantle is the igneous rock peridotite (changes at greater depths)
 - c. average density 3.3 gm/cm^3
- 3. Core
 - a. Below mantle
 - b. A sphere having a radius of 3486 km (2161 miles)
 - c. Composed of an iron-nickel alloy
 - d. Average density of nearly 11 g/cm^3
- D. Layers defined by physical properties
 - 1. Lithosphere
 - a. Crust and uppermost mantle (about 100 km thick)
 - b. Cool, rigid, solid
 - c. Two types: continental and oceanic
 - 2. Asthenosphere
 - a. Beneath the lithosphere
 - b. Upper mantle
 - c. To a depth of about 660 kilometers
 - d. Soft, weak layer
 - e. Easily deformed
 - 3. Lower mantle
 - a. 660-2900 km
 - b. More rigid layer
 - c. Rocks are very hot and capable of gradual flow
 - 4. Outer core
 - a. Liquid layer
 - b. 2270 km (1410 miles) thick
 - c. Convective flow of metallic iron generates Earth's magnetic field
 - 5. Inner core
 - a. Sphere with a radius of 1216 km (754 miles)
 - b. Behaves like a solid
- E. Discovering Earth's major layers
 - 1. Discovered using changes in seismic wave velocity
 - 2. Mohorovičić discontinuity (Moho)
 - a. Velocity of seismic waves increases abruptly below 50 km of depth
 - b. Separates crust from underlying mantle
 - 3. Shadow zone
 - a. Absence of P waves from about 105 degrees to 140 degrees around the globe from an earthquake
 - b. Explained if Earth contained a core composed of materials unlike the overlying mantle