



# Geodynamics

*By Donald L. Turcotte, Gerald Schubert*

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First published in 1982, Don Turcotte and Jerry Schubert's *Geodynamics* became a classic textbook for several generations of students of geophysics and geology. In this second edition, the authors bring this text completely up-to-date. Important additions include a chapter on chemical geodynamics, an updated coverage of comparative planetology based on recent planetary missions, and a variety of other new topics. *Geodynamics* provides the fundamentals necessary for an understanding of the workings of the solid earth, describing the mechanics of earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and mountain building in the context of the role of mantle convection and plate tectonics. Observations such as the earth's gravity field, surface heat flow, distribution of earthquakes, surface stresses and strains, and distribution of elements are discussed. This new edition will once again prove to be a classic textbook for intermediate to advanced undergraduates and graduate students in geology, geophysics, and earth science.

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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

"...an excellent choice as a textbook or reference for teachers and students of our home planet. If you are looking for a single, comprehensive treatment of plate tectonics, I highly recommend this book. If, like me, you already own a well-worn first edition, the second edition offers enough new material to be worth adding to your library as well." *The Leading Edge*

"Geodynamics provides practical insight into the governing physics of many processes in geology and geophysics. ... Ideal for providing essential background for upper-level undergraduates and graduate students. ... Geodynamics also provides benchmark material for graduate student qualifying examinations. Researchers will find Geodynamics to be an excellent reference tool for basic equations and concepts, as well as for definitions and numerical values of many physical properties of the Earth and other planetary bodies. This textbook will also be valuable to scientists addressing problems outside of their fields of expertise, and to those expanding into new areas. ... The second edition of Geodynamics, like its predecessor, stands alone in its ability to link basic theory and geologic observation. Geodynamics should continue to benefit new generations of Earth scientists and students for decades to come." *EOS*

### About the Author

Donald L. Turcotte is Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the Department of Geology, University of California, Davis. In addition to this book, he is author or co-author of 3 books and over 400 research papers, including *Fractals and Chaos in Geology and Geophysics* (Cambridge University Press, 1992 and 1997) and *Mantle Convection in the Earth and Planets* (with Gerald Schubert and Peter Olson, Cambridge University Press, 2001). Professor Turcotte is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union, Honorary Fellow of the European Union of Geosciences, and Fellow of the Geological Society of America, and is also a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is the recipient of several medals, including the Day Medal of the Geological Society of America, the Wegener Medal of the European Union of Geosciences, the Bowie and Whitten Medals of the American Geophysical Union, the Regents (New York State) Medal of Excellence, and Caltech's Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Gerald Schubert is Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the Department of Earth, Planetary and Space Sciences at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is co-author with Donald Turcotte and Peter Olson of *Mantle Convection in the Earth and Planets* (Cambridge University Press, 2001) and author of over 530 research papers. He has participated in a number of NASA's planetary missions and has been on the editorial boards of many journals, including *Icarus*, the *Journal of Geophysical Research*, *Geophysical Research Letters*, and *Annual Reviews of Earth and Planetary Sciences*. Professor Schubert is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union and a recipient of the Union's James B. MacElwane medal and the Harry H. Hess medal. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

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