



ES 212_303

Earth and Environmental Sciences

(2nd and 3rd Year)

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Assistant Professor

School of Engineering Sciences

30th Jan 2019



**Mahindra
Ecole Centrale
College of Engineering**



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Team

Faculty

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Dr. Somsubhra Chattopadhyay

Research Assistant

Bharat P

Rakesh K



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Contents

- 1. The Earth System** *Earth in the solar system. Earth layers, Continental Drift Theory, Tectonic Plates, Earthquakes, Atmosphere and oceans: Origin and evolution; Atmosphere-ocean interaction; Ocean currents and waves. Lithosphere, Hydrosphere, Cryosphere and atmosphere and their Interactions.*
- 2. Environment and Environmental Studies** *Definition and Components of Environment, Relationship between the different components of Environment, Man and Environment relationship, Impact of technology on Environment, Environmental Degradation, Multidisciplinary nature of the Environment studies, its scope and importance in the present day Education System.*
- 3. Ecology and Ecosystems** *Ecology- Objectives and Classification, Concept of an ecosystem- structure and functions of ecosystem, Components of ecosystem- Producers, Consumers, Decomposers. Bio-Geo- Chemical Cycles- Hydrologic Cycle, Ocean currents and waves. Lithosphere, Hydrosphere, Cryosphere and atmosphere and their Interactions, Carbon cycle, Energy Flow in Ecosystem, Food Chains, Food webs, Ecological Pyramids Major Ecosystems: Forest Ecosystem, Grassland Ecosystem, Desert Ecosystem, Aquatic Ecosystem, Estuarine Ecosystem*



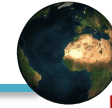
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4. Population and Economic Growth *The nature of human population growth, population parameters, industrialisation, urbanisation, sustainable development, sustainable consumption, health and the environmental impacts. Environmental pollution: Types of Environmental Pollution: Water Pollution: Introduction – Water Quality Standards, Sources of Water Pollution: Industrial Agricultural, Municipal; Classification of water pollutants, Effects of water pollutants, Eutrophication Marine pollution- Air Pollution: Composition of air, Structure of atmosphere, Ambient Air Quality Standards, Classification of air pollutants, Sources of common air pollutants like PM, SO₂, NO_x, Natural & Anthropogenic Sources, Effects of common air pollutants Land Pollution: Land uses Land degradation: causes, effects and control, soil erosion. Noise Pollution: Introduction, Sound and Noise, Noise measurements, Causes and Effects Thermal Pollution: Causes and effects, Role of individual in the prevention of pollution.*

5. Social Issues and the Environment *From unsustainable to sustainable development – urban problems related to energy – water conservation, rain water harvesting, watershed management – resettlement and rehabilitation of people; its problems and concerns, case studies – role of non-governmental organization. Environmental ethics: Issues and possible solutions – climate change, global warming, acid rain, and ozone layer depletion, nuclear accidents and holocaust, case studies. Wasteland reclamation – consumerism and waste products. Environment production act – Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) act – Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) act – Wildlife protection act – Forest conservation act – enforcement machinery involved in environmental legislation- central and state pollution control boards- Public awareness.*



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Evaluation of Course



- Minor-1
15%
- Minor-2
15%
- End Sem
30%
- Project & Assignments
30%
- Random quizzes
10%



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Information

Week 1

Week 2

Week 3

Week 4

Week 5

Week 6

Week 7

Week 8

Week 9

Week 10

ESS 1: Introduction to Earth System Science (English)

Course Information

This course introduces Earth System Science, which, at its core, involves viewing Earth's environment in a holistic fashion. Topics covered in the course include: the origin and evolution of the Earth, its atmosphere, and oceans, from the perspective of biogeochemical cycles, energy use, and human impacts on the Earth system.

Earth System Science Dept. | Physical Sciences Sch. | University of California,
Irvine

Keywords: earth system science, evolution, earth, oceans, biogeochemical cycles, energy use, Human
Impacts on Earth, atmosphere —

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**Author:**

Julie Ferguson

Title:

Lecturer

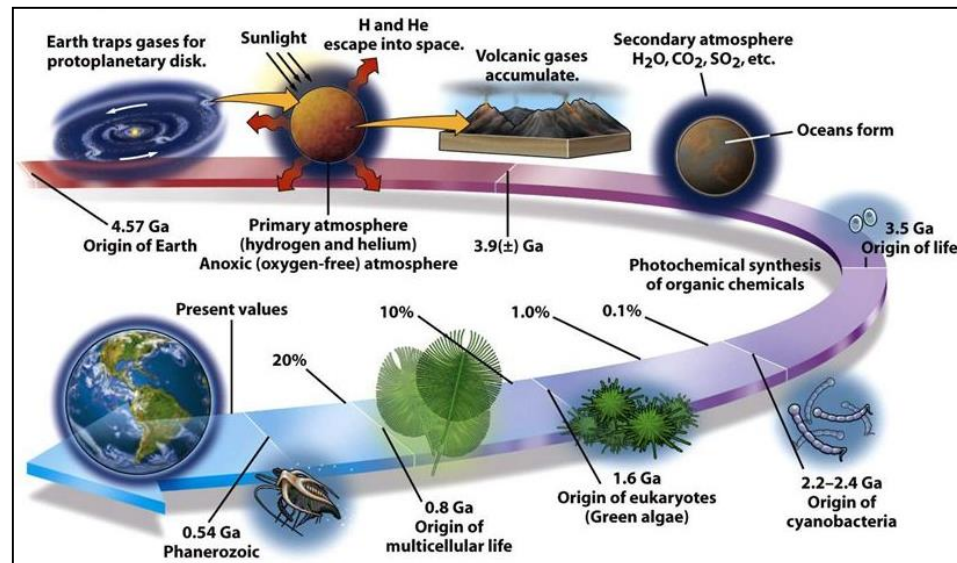
Department:

Earth System Science

http://ocw.uci.edu/courses/ess_1_introduction_to_earth_system_science.html



Atmosphere Formation and Evolution





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Minerals vs Rocks

Developed societies depend on mineral resources

Metals - Iron, copper, lead, zinc, nickel, aluminium, etc.

Non-metals - Gypsum, limestone, clay

Must be

- Naturally formed
- inorganic
- solid

Must have a

- specific chemical composition
- characteristic crystal structure





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Minerals vs Rocks

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Metals - Iron, copper, lead, zinc, nickel, aluminium, etc.

Non-metals - Gypsum, limestone, clay





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Minerals vs Rocks

What is rock

Naturally formed

Non-living

Solid

Aggregate mass of one or more mineral





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Rocks

Three Types

Igneous rocks: formed by cooling and consolidation of magma

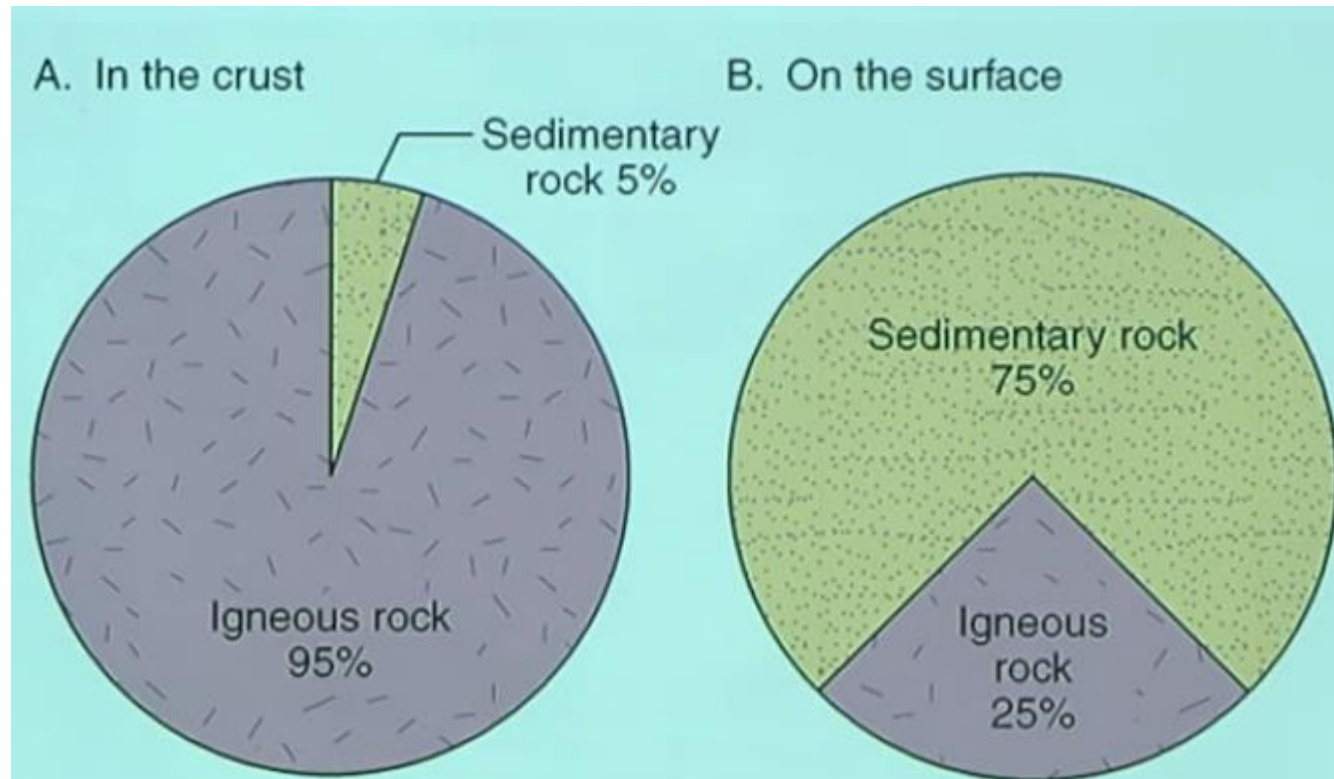
Sedimentary rocks : formed by chemical precipitation of dissolved material or by deposition of mineral particles transported by water, wind or ice

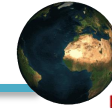
Metamorphic rocks: igneous or sedimentary rock that has been changed as a result of high temperatures, high pressures or both





What types of rock make up the crust

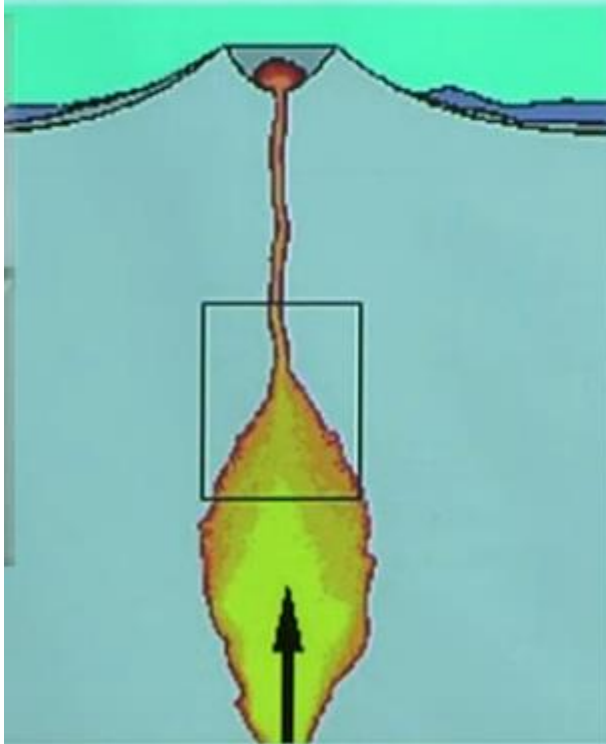




Magma

“mixture of molten rock, suspended mineral grains, and dissolved gases that forms in the crust or mantle”

(**Lava** = magma that reaches the surface)



Characterized by

1. Composition
2. Viscosity (ability to flow)
3. Temperature



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Volcanoes

Any vent hole or opening from which lava, solid rock debris, or gases are erupted.



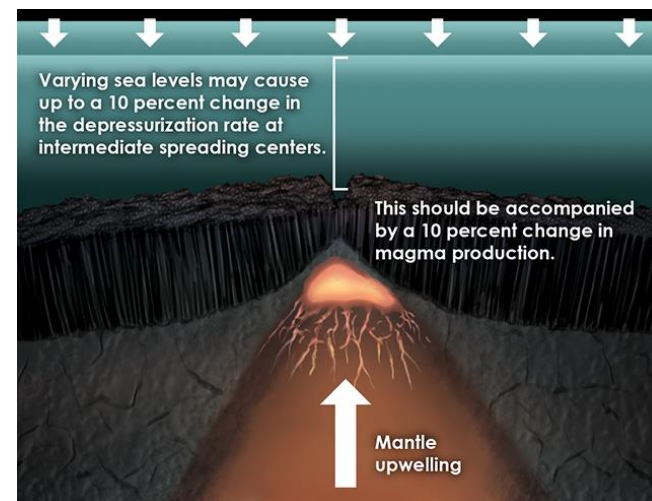


Volcanoes

Any vent hole or opening from which lava, solid rock debris, or gases are erupted.

Important for Earth and Environmental Science because

- reveal inner earth structure and processes
- influence gaseous composition of atmosphere
- particles can change radiative balance
- re-distribute energy through the earth system (mid-ocean ridges)





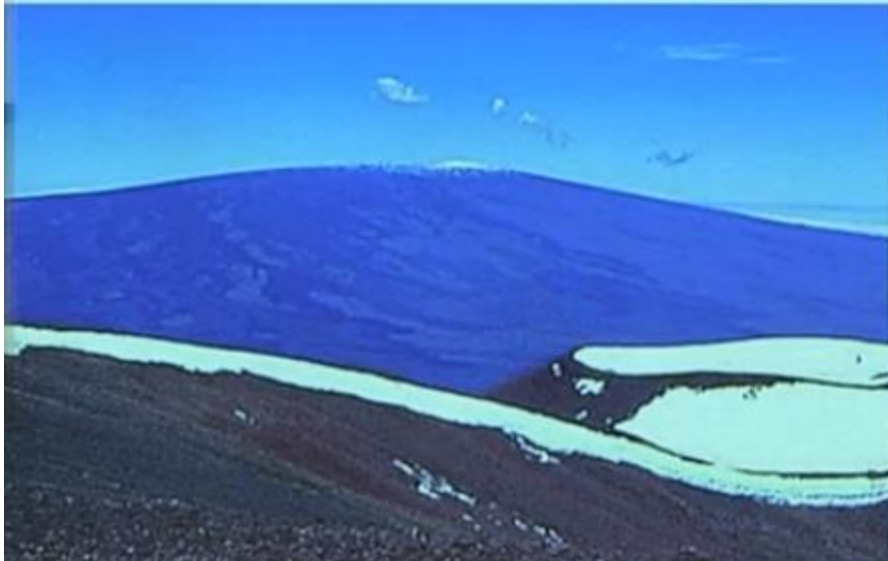
Types of Volcanoes

1. Shield volcanoes

- Formed from basaltic lava flows
- Non-explosive eruptions
- Low angle slopes
- Low amounts of ash/tephra

2. Stratovolcanoes

- Formed from andesitic/rhyolitic lava flows and tephra
- Explosive eruptions
- High angle slopes and BIG
- Lots of ash/tephra





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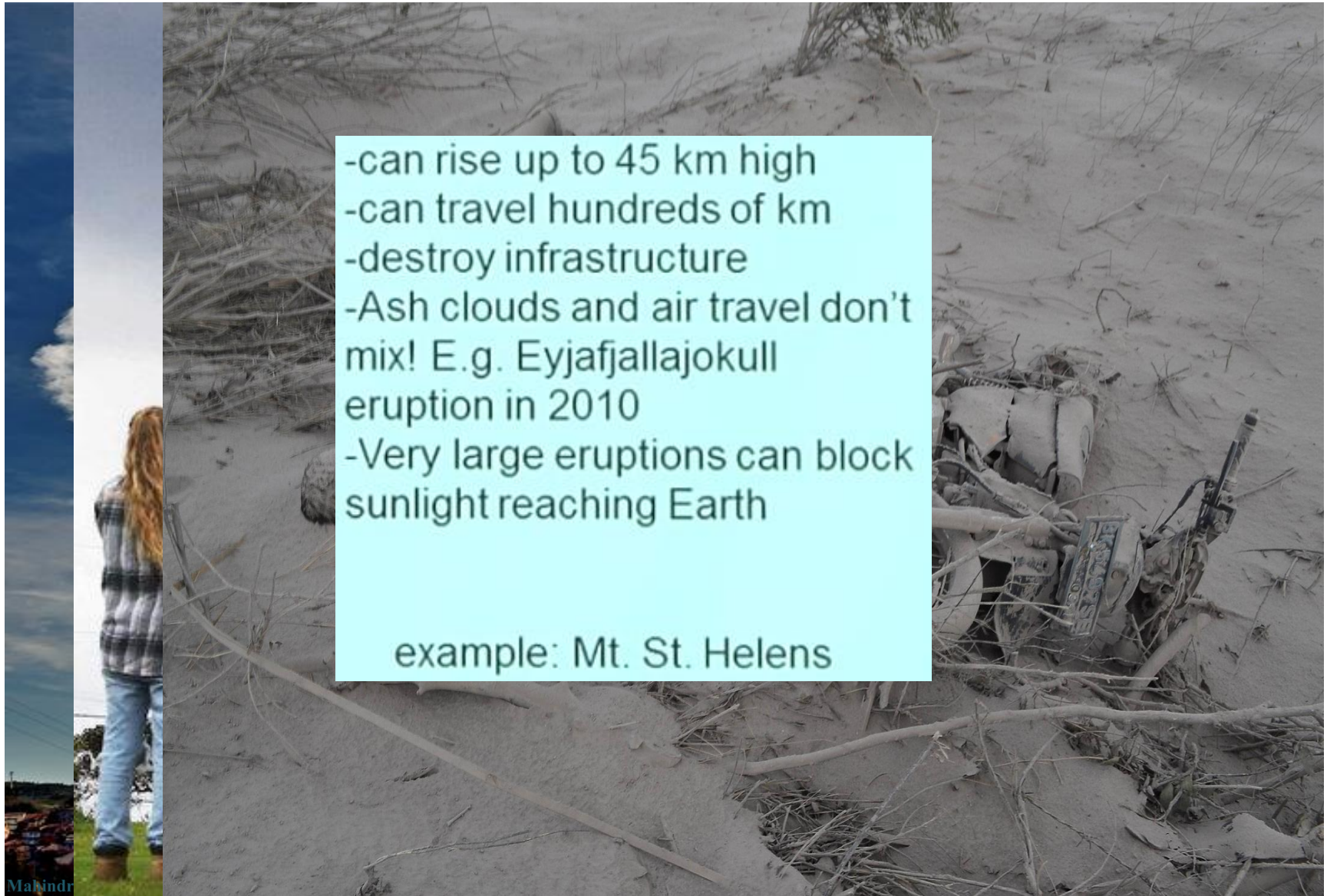
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Volcanic ash

- can rise up to 45 km high
- can travel hundreds of km
- destroy infrastructure
- Ash clouds and air travel don't mix! E.g. Eyjafjallajokull eruption in 2010
- Very large eruptions can block sunlight reaching Earth

example: Mt. St. Helens





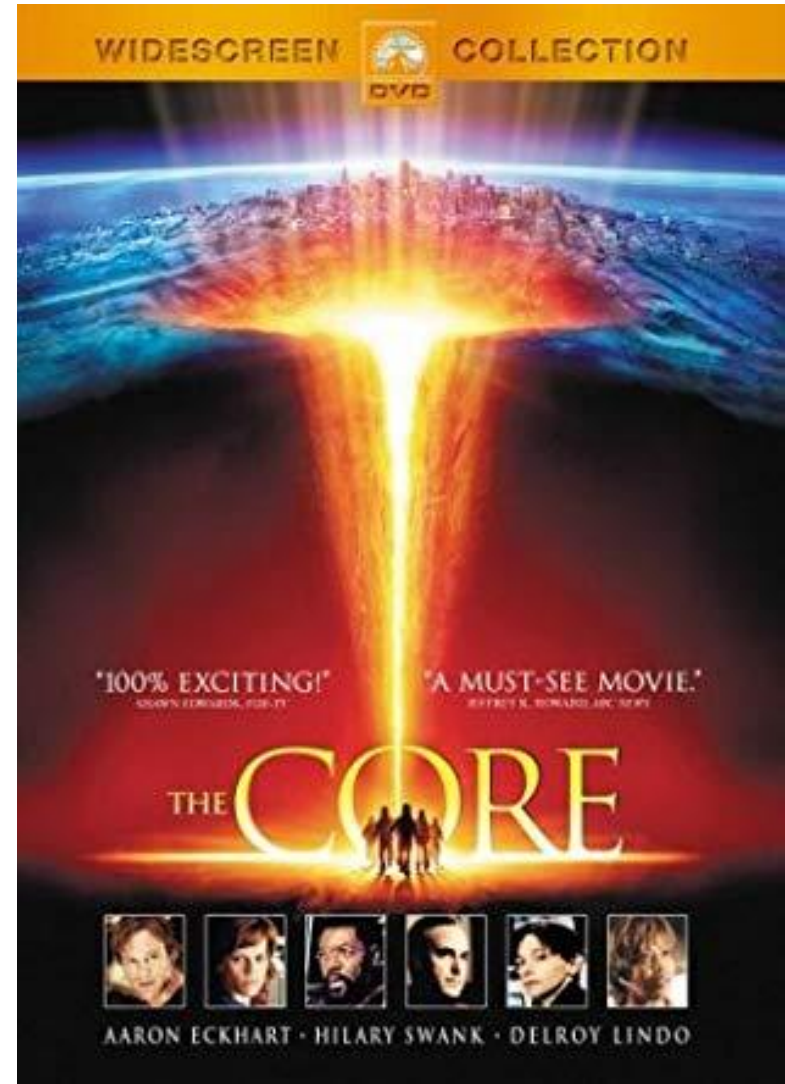
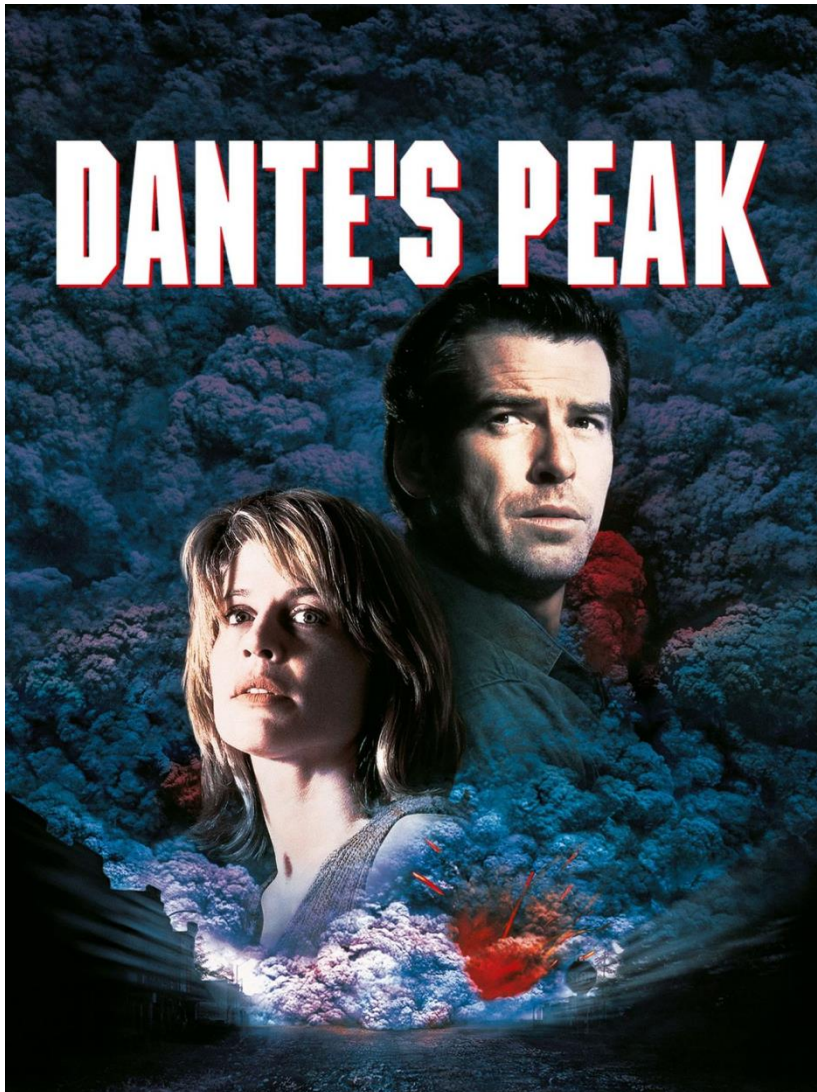
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Hollywood





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Earth System



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► The Earth system has five main spheres:



Atmosphere - mixture of gases (N, O, Ar, CO₂, H₂O vapor) that surrounds the earth.

Hydrosphere - all of Earth's water e.g. Oceans, lakes, underground water, snow and ice (Cryosphere)

Geosphere - Solid earth (rock and regolith)

Biosphere - all of Earth's organisms + any organic matter which has not decomposed

Anthroposphere - part made or modified by humans



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Atmosphere

"the gaseous envelope that surrounds a planet or other celestial body"

Air - mixture of gases and suspended particles that surrounds Earth.





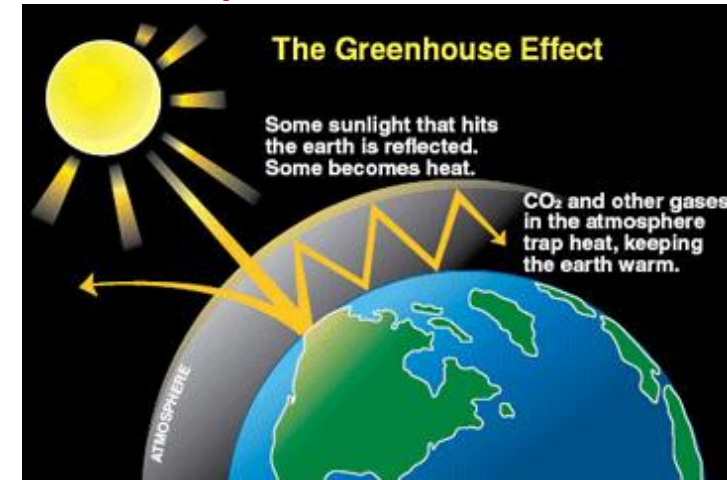
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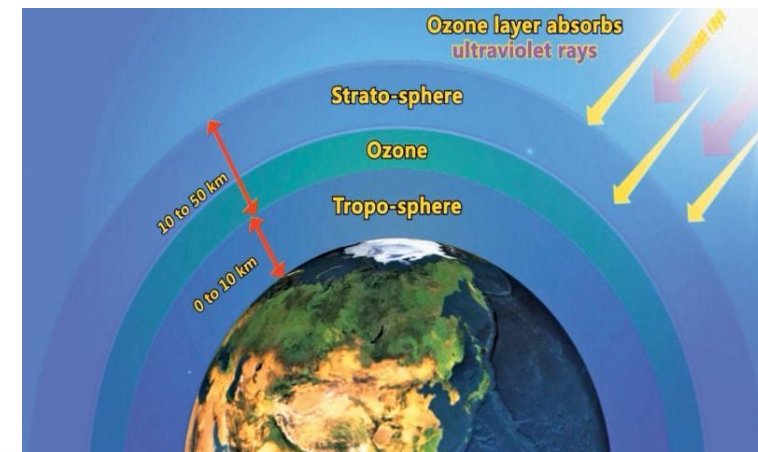
Why is atmospheric Composition important ?

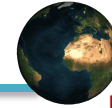
Affects Earth's surface temperature - greenhouse effect because of the presence of gases like water vapor and carbon dioxide



What we breathe - oxygen allows us to exist but atmosphere also contains reactive gases (like ozone) which will react with tissues in your lungs and affect health.

Ozone higher in atmosphere protects life on earth by absorbing UV rays which can damage cells





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Aerosols

"tiny liquid droplets or tiny solid particles that are so small they remain suspended in the air"



Smoke

ice-crystals

sea-salt crystals

dust

volcanic emissions

industrial pollution



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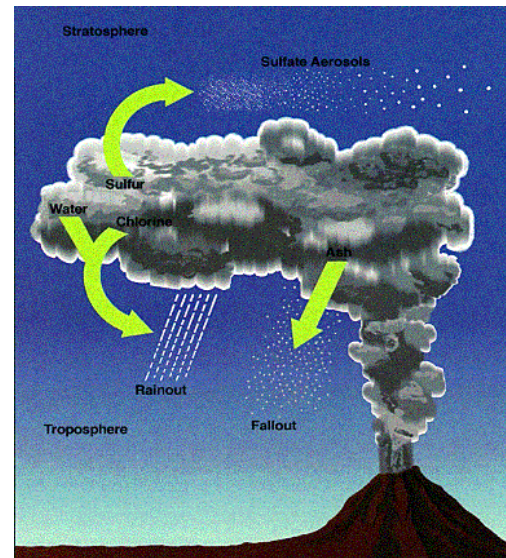
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Climate effects of Aerosols are complicated

Some aerosols directly absorb solar radiation (heat the atmosphere) e.g. soot

Others reflect incoming radiation from space (cooling effect) e.g. sulfur

Some enable easier formation of clouds, which can reflect radiation (cooling) or cause increased absorption of infrared radiation (warming) depends on the type of clouds






Earth Spheres

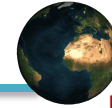
As a rock body builds up through accretion, the energy from the collisions results in some melting which allows different layers to form

Earth's 1st Atmosphere

- Composed of hydrogen (H) and helium (He) which are most common elements in solar system
- Lost quickly over first 50 Myrs to space because:
 - H and He not retained by gravity
 - Solar wind as Earth did not yet have a magnetic field
 - Collisions

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ibV4M>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IO45ZiGqI8>





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Earth Spheres

As a rock body builds up through accretion, the energy from the collisions results in some melting which allows different layers to form

Earth's 2nd Atmosphere

- Composed of carbon dioxide (CO_2), water vapor (H_2O) and sulfur dioxide
- From volcanoes and comets





Composition of Volcanic gases

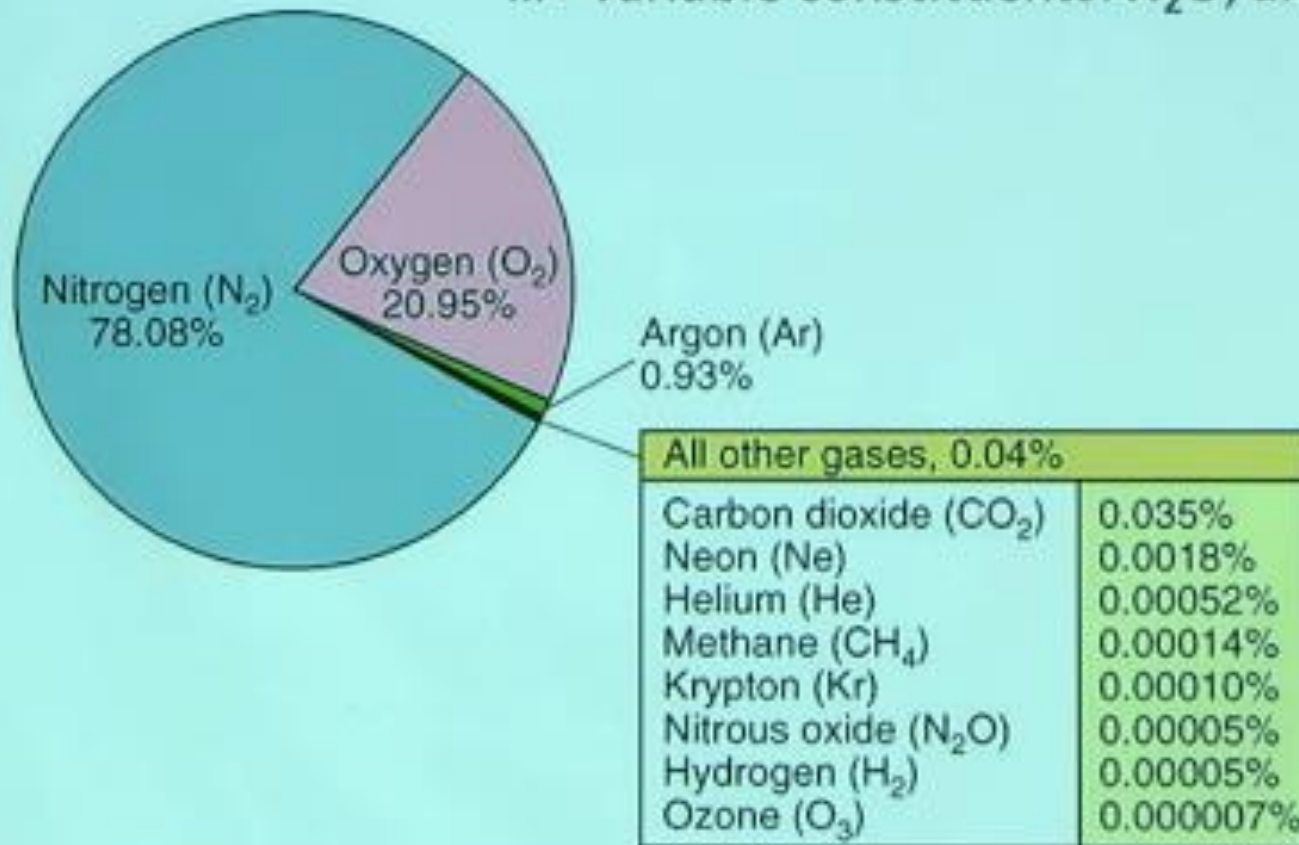
volume percents (from Symonds et. al., 1994)

Volcano Tectonic Style Temperature	Kilauea Summit Hot Spot 1170°C	Ertu Ale Divergent Plate 1130°C	Momotombo Convergent Plate 820°C
H ₂ O (water)	37.1	77.2	97.1
CO ₂ (carbon dioxide)	48.9	11.3	1.44
SO ₂ (sulfur dioxide)	11.8	8.34	0.50
H ₂ (hydrogen gas)	0.49	1.39	0.70
CO (carbon monoxide)	1.51	0.44	0.01
H ₂ S	0.04	0.68	0.23
HCl	0.08	0.42	2.89
HF	---	---	0.26



Composition of the (dry) atmosphere today

...+ variable constituents: H_2O , and aerosols



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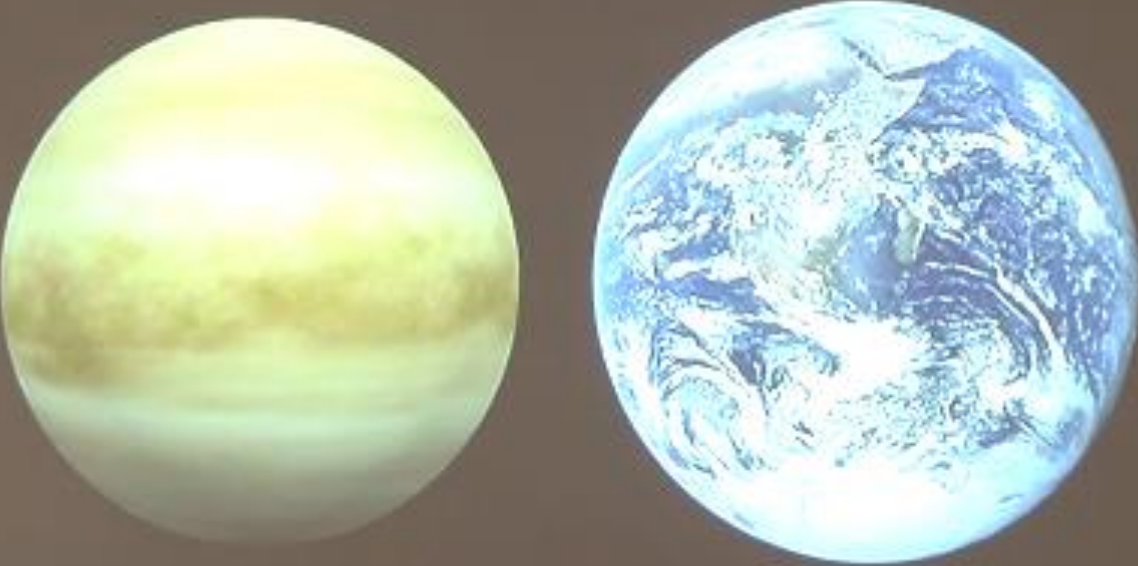
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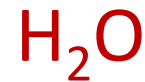
Earth Spheres

Why so different?



What happened to the atmospheric H_2O ?
What happened to the atmospheric CO_2 ?
Where did the O_2 come from?

Images from NASA website



- The atmosphere can only hold small fraction of the water vapor injected into it from volcanoes
- Water vapor condensed into clouds and over time formed the oceans.

Table 1.2
An inventory of the hydrosphere^{a,b}

Component	Percentage of mass of hydrosphere
Oceans	97.
Ice	2.4
Fresh water (underground)	0.6
Fresh water in lakes, rivers, etc.	0.02
Atmosphere	0.001

^a Total mass = 1.36×10^{21} kg = 2.66×10^6 kg m⁻² over surface of earth.

^b Based on data given in H. H. Lamb, "Climate: Present, Past and Future," Methuen Co. Ltd., London, 1972, p. 482.



CO₂

- CO₂ removed from the atmosphere by
 - biosphere
 - dissolution in oceans
 - chemical weathering
- Chemical weathering is a process where CO₂ dissolves in rainwater producing weak carbonic acid that reacts with rock to form carbonate compounds
- Over time, carbon was locked away in minerals and rocks (and fossil fuels)

Table 1.3

Inventory of carbon near the earth's surface^a

Biosphere	marine	1
	nonmarine	1
Atmosphere (in CO ₂)		70
Ocean (in dissolved CO ₂)		4000
Fossil fuels		800
Shales		800,000
Carbonate rocks		2,000,000

^a Given in relative units. After P. K. Weyl, "Oceanography," John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1970.



- Released in small amounts by volcanoes but....
 - Is chemically inert
 - Is not very soluble in seawater
- Amount of N_2 removed from the atmosphere was small
- Over time, with the removal of CO_2 , N_2 became the most abundant gas in the atmosphere



Argon

- Radioactive decay in the rocks of the planet added Ar to the atmosphere
- Like N₂ it is chemically inert and insoluble so has built up through time in the atmosphere



Oxygen

- Photosynthesis was primary process which increased oxygen in atmosphere
- Anaerobic photosynthetic bacteria may have appeared as early as 3.5 billion years ago in the oceans
- O_2 appeared in Earth's atmosphere about 2.5 billion years ago at low levels
- Since 550 million years ago O_2 has made up between 15-35% of the atmosphere



The Earth's atmosphere today

- Permanent gases – constant proportion in most of atmosphere
 - 78 % Nitrogen (N_2)
 - 21 % Oxygen (O_2)
 - 1 % Argon (Ar)
- Variable gases – distribution varies with time and location
 - <0.25 %, but important
 - » Water vapour (H_2O)
 - » Carbon dioxide (CO_2)
 - » Methane (CH_4)
 - » Ozone (O_3)
 - » Nitrous oxide (N_2O)



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