

## Thursday, Feb 12

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- Title: Seismic Waves Notes

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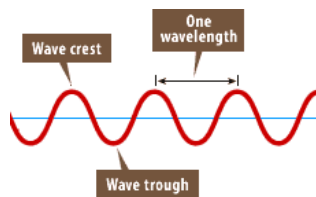
Seismic Waves Notes

Key Terms

Notes

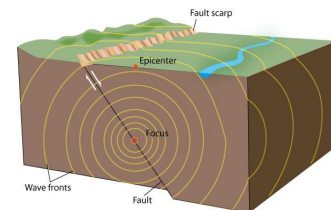
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- **Waves:** a transport of energy
  - water waves, electromagnetic waves (light, radio), seismic waves

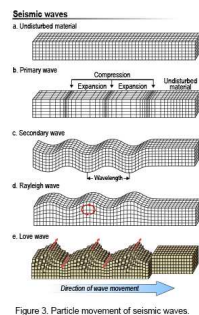


- **Seismic Waves:** waves of energy created by earthquakes

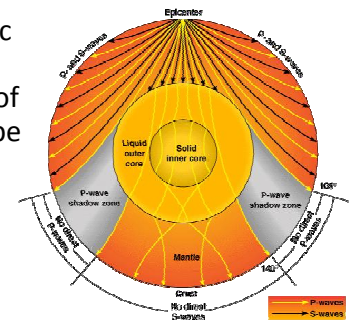
### Seismic Waves Radiate from the Focus of an Earthquake



- Types of Seismic Waves
  - Body Waves
    - P-waves (primary waves)
    - S-waves (secondary waves)
  - Surface Waves
    - L-waves (Love waves)
    - R-waves (Rayleigh waves)

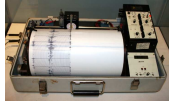


- **Body Waves:** seismic waves that travel through the "body" of the Earth. Fastest type of waves, can travel through the entire planet.



- **P-waves (Primary Waves):** Fastest waves. Can travel through gas (air), liquid (water, magma), and solid (rock). A type of pressure wave, just like sound waves. Arrive first, or primary, at seismic stations.

- **S-waves (Secondary Waves):** Fast, but slower than p-waves. Also called shear waves. Can only travel through solids (rock). Arrives at seismic stations second, after p-waves.



- **Surface Waves:** seismic waves that only travel along the surface of the Earth. Slower than body waves, also “decay” or disappear quicker. Causes the most damage to landscape and buildings.

- **L-waves (Love Waves):** also called q-waves, horizontal shifting of Earth

- **R-waves (Rayleigh Waves):** also called Lamb waves. A rolling motion through the Earth

- Scientists use body waves, p-waves and s-waves, to determine where the epicenters of earthquakes are located.

