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12.001 Introduction to Geology Spring 2008

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Minerals

Rocks

Dating: Radiodecay and paleontology

Rock deformation: Folds, faults, brittle vs. ductile

Field techniques

Planetary formation

Plate tectonics

Earthquakes

Volcanoes

Formation of continents

Rivers

Deserts

Glaciers

Coastlines

5. The atomic structure of minerals

CATIONS	Silicon (Si ⁴⁺)	Aluminum (Al ³⁺)	Iron (Fe ³⁺)	Magnesium (Mg ²⁺)	Iron (Fe ²⁺)	Sodium (Na ⁺)	Calcium (Ca ²⁺)	Potassium (K ⁺)
	•	٠	•	•				
	0.27	0.53	0.65	0.72	0.73	0.99	1.00	1.38
	Oxygen (O ²⁻)	Chloride (Cl ⁻)	Sulfide (S ²⁻)					
ANIONS	1.40	1.81	1.84					



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Figure by MIT OpenCourseWare.

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Is this the world's oldest known fossil?

Is it an ancient cyanobacteria, or a partially-resorbed inorganic mineral grain?

It was found in the 3.465 Ga Apex chert in western Australia.

Schopf (1992, 1993)

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Normal faults in volcanic ashes and paleo-soils, El Salvador, photo by Chuck DeMets. U. Wisc.

Courtesy of Dennis Charles Demets. Used with permission.

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GLOBAL SEISMIC HAZARD MAP

Produced by the Global Seismic Hazard Assessment Program (GSHAP).

a demonstration project of the UN/International Decade of Natural Disaster Reduction, conducted by the International Lithosphere Program.

Global map assembled by D. Giardini, G. Grünthal, K. Shedlock, and P. Zhang

1999



Courtesy of The Global Seismic Hazard Assessment Program. Used with permission.





Harmen Bijwaard, Utrecht Courtesy of Harmen Bijwaard. Used with permission.

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Courtesy of NASA/Magellan.





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