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Sedimentology And Sedimentary Basins: From Turbulence To Tectonics





Synopsis

The sedimentary record on Earth stretches back more than 4.3 billion years and is present in more abbreviated forms on companion planets of the Solar System, like Mars and Venus, and doubtless elsewhere. Reading such planetary archives correctly requires intimate knowledge of modern sedimentary processes acting within the framework provided by tectonics, climate and sea or lake level variations. The subject of sedimentology thus encompasses the origins, transport and deposition of mineral sediment on planetary surfaces. The author addresses the principles of the subject from the viewpoint of modern processes, emphasising a general science narrative approach in the main text, with quantitative background derived in enabling â ^cookieâ ™ appendices. The book ends with an innovative chapter dealing with how sedimentology is currently informing a variety of cognate disciplines, from the timing and extent tectonic uplift to variations in palaeoclimate. Each chapter concludes with a detailed guide to key further reading leading to a large bibliography of over 2500 entries. The book is designed to reach an audience of senior undergraduate and graduate students and interested academic and industry professionals.

Book Information

Paperback: 784 pages Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell; 2 edition (February 21, 2011) Language: English ISBN-10: 1405177837 ISBN-13: 978-1405177832 Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 1.4 x 9.8 inches Shipping Weight: 3.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (3 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #694,835 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Geology > Sedimentary #234 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Rocks & Minerals #1405 in Books > Textbooks > Science & Mathematics > Earth Sciences

Customer Reviews

I think Leeder's textbook will appeal to anyone who's striving to learn more about sedimentology and dynamic stratigraphy. It's a concise, yet thorough introduction to many topics selected within the vast, ever-expanding (and worryingly so!) field of sedimentary geology... The author's main goal was probably to provide readers with a clear sense of how well integrated sedimentary geology now is with many other branches of earth and life sciences, physics and chemistry. And in my opinion that aim is succesfully achieved. The book will be suitable read to all those who have already taken an introductory, comprehensive course in sedimentology, on the look for something else to be inspired in their reflections. Reading through many of the chapters, newcomers will learn how sedimentology gained many precious contributions from other sciences, as well as just how much of a contribution the discipline itself can be to the whole bandwagon of geology. It takes a holistic approach to Earth system science to highlight this, and the book hits this mark real well... I appreciated particularly a brief, separate chapter dealing with the properties and stuctures of fine, cohesive sediments, which is a refreshing perspective on the physical and dynamical sedimentology of muds... And a longer one introducing sediment sources as resulting from the interaction of tectonics and erosional processes. What left me rather disappointed was a too cursory mention of base-level control on sedimentary successions, and its logical development into sequence stratigraphy, not as a preconceived model but as a new philosophy in tackling with the complexity of the stratigraphical record. But something had to be probably neglected or the tome would have become real cumbersome to handle physically!

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