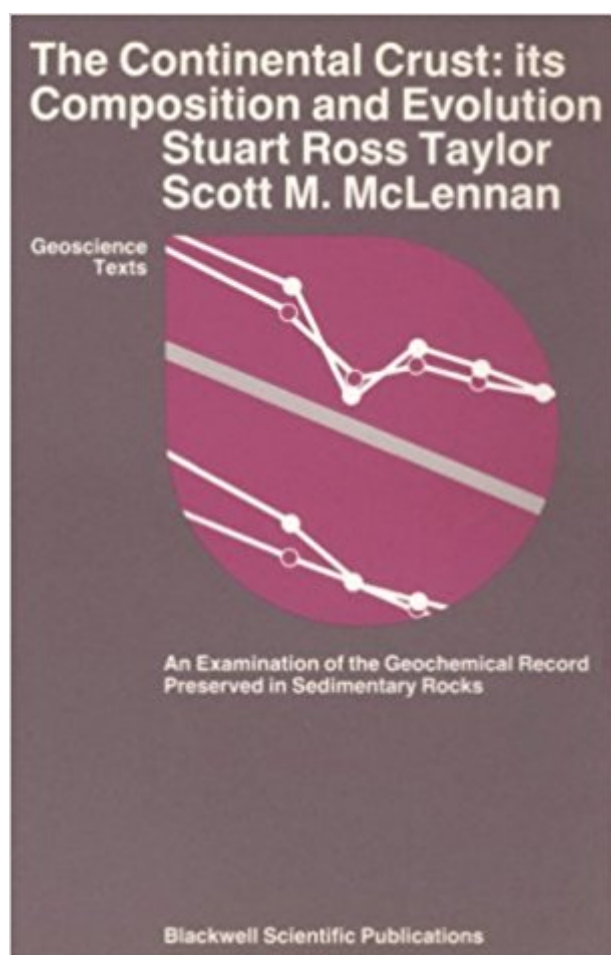


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The Continental Crust: Its Composition And Evolution: An Examination Of The Geochemical Record Preserved In Sedimentary Rocks



Synopsis

Graduates in geology, geochemistry and geophysics will find this volume in the Geoscience Texts series a valuable reference text. The book begins by describing the known composition of the present upper crust, then deals with possible compositions for the total crusts and the inferred composition of the lower crust. The question of the uniformity of crustal composition throughout geological time is discussed. The rate of growth of the crust through time is assessed, and the effects of the extraction of the crust on mantle compositions are considered. Finally, the question of early pre-geological crusts on the Earth is debated, and comparisons are given with crusts on the Moon, Mercury, Mars, Venus and the Galilean Satellites.

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Customer Reviews

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The Continental Crust: its Composition and Evolution is a 1985 dated book. I was particularly

interested by the chapter dealing with the "Archean Crust" and the discussion about the basement of greenstone belts, and the emergence of new continents. Because it is a 300 pages book, I have not read all the book but it seems to be very interesting. It is worth of its low cost.

This work centers on the evolution of the Earth from a geochemical perspective. For instance, the inferred composition of the Archean crust is given. The authors compare their crustal-growth curves with those of several other authors. Owing to its repeated comprehensive listing of the REEs, the title of this book could as well be "The Rare Earth Elements in Earth History and in Present-Day Earth Materials". Tabulation of the REEs, and other trace elements, is given for: the upper continental crust (p. 46), bulk continental crust (p. 67), inferred lower continental crust (p. 92), oceanic crust (p. 274), etc. There is also data on the average REE contents of common igneous and metamorphic minerals (pp. 35-37), greywackes (p. 126), shales, etc.

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