

Tutorial video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3eFS4WhsrHA>

Seismic Wave Types:

Recall that there are three basic types of seismic waves: P-waves, S-waves, and Surface waves. P and S-waves are body waves and travel through the interior of the Earth. P-waves are fastest and reach the seismic station first. S-waves arrive at the seismic station after the P-waves. The amount of time that passes between the P-wave arrival and the S-wave arrival helps seismologists determine the epicenter of the earthquake. Review the information below:

FIGURE A

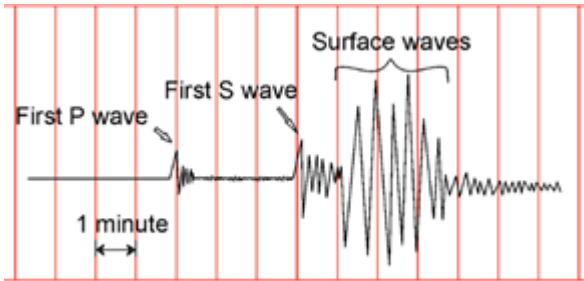
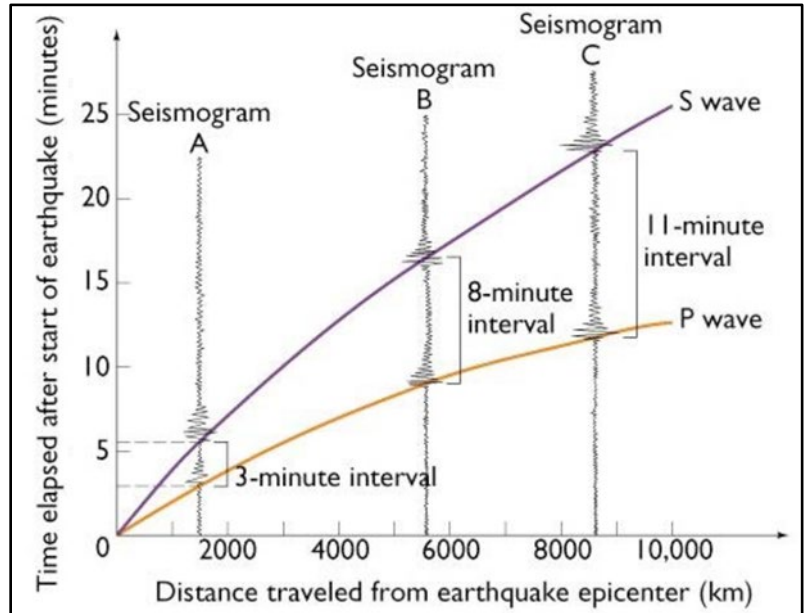


Figure 1. A typical seismogram

FIGURE B



1) Rank the seismic waves based on their destructiveness: (from most destructive to least destructive) [3 pts]

- 1] _____
- 2] _____
- 3] _____

2) What is another term given for the 3-minute interval, 8-minute interval, and 11-minute interval?

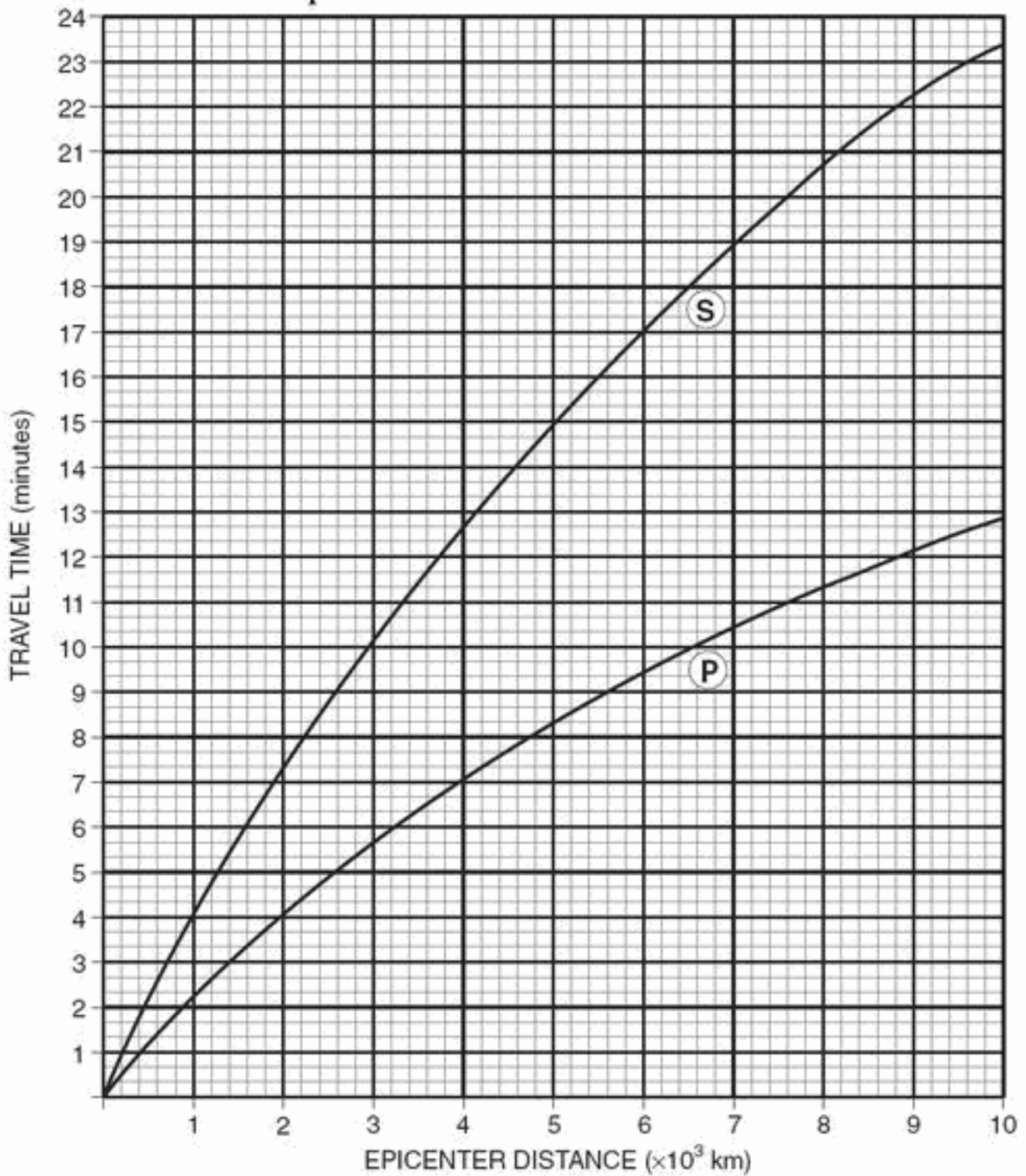
3) Which seismogram came from a city that was farthest away? (A,B, OR C?) _____

4) The seismogram from the city that was the second farthest away had an 8-minute interval between what waves? _____ (2 PTS)

5) The S wave is curved and not a straight diagonal. This means that

- a) The s wave slows down over time
- b) The s wave speeds up over time
- c) The s wave maintains a constant speed over time
- d) The s wave does not move over time

Earthquake P-wave and S-wave Travel Time



*Each box on the Y axis represents 20 seconds. Each box on the X axis represents 200 miles.

- 6) P wave travel time is 5 minutes. How far did the seismic wave travel during this time period?

- 7) How long does it take a P wave to travel 3000 kilometers? _____
- 8) How far does an S wave travel in 13 minutes and 40 seconds? _____
- 9) If an S wave travels 6000 km, how much time did it take? _____
- 10) If an earthquake's P wave travels 2000 kilometers and arrives at a seismic station at 1:00, what is the origin time of the earthquake? (when did the earthquake start?) _____
- 11) If an Earthquake's P wave travels 1000 kilometers and arrives at 1:00pm. When will the first S wave arrive?

- 12) The P wave has travelled 5000 km. What is the lag time for the S wave?
- 13) The first S-wave arrived at a seismograph station 11 minutes after an earthquake occurred. When did the first P-wave arrive? _____

Use a sticky note to do the "wedge method" on the following questions.

P arrival= 9:00 am S arrival=7 min and 20 seconds later

- 14) What is the lag time? _____
- 15) How far away is the epicenter? _____

P arrival= 2:21pm S arrival=2:30:20 pm

- 16) What is the lag time? _____
- 17) How far away is the epicenter? _____
- 18) Lag time 3 minutes and 20 seconds. How far away was the earthquake? _____

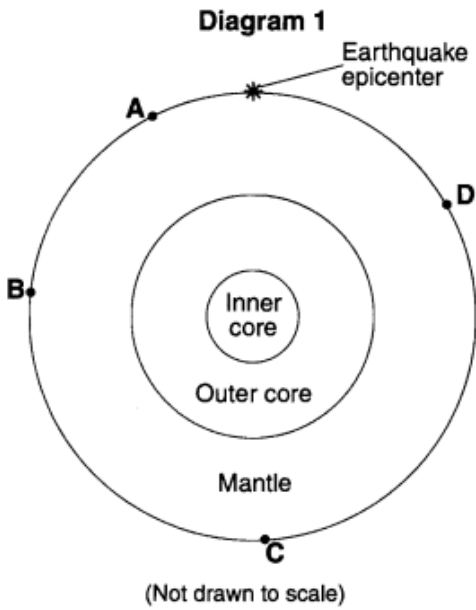
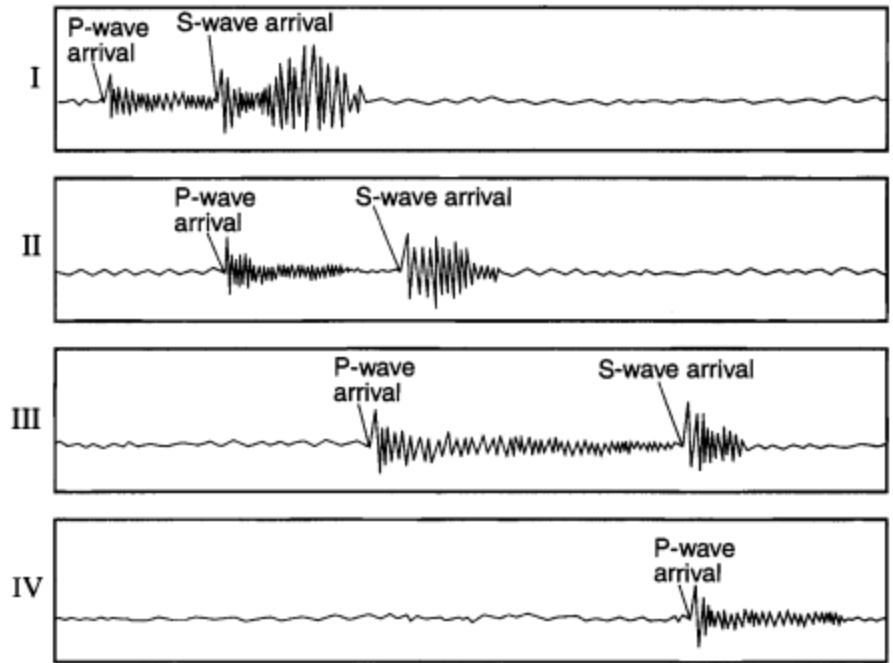


Diagram 2



19) Station D is 8000 kilometers from the earthquake epicenter. How long did it take for the first P-wave to travel from the epicenter to station D?

20) Match the seismograms in diagram 2 to the stations in diagram 1. The stations are marked A, B, C, D.

seismogram I - station _____

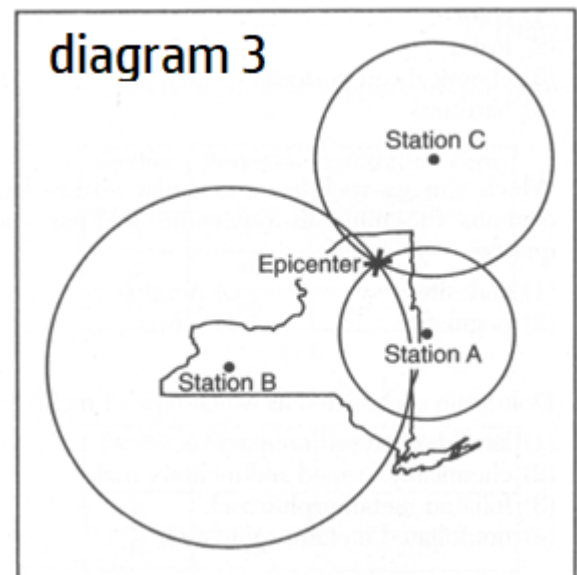
seismogram III - station _____

seismogram II - station _____

seismogram IV - station _____

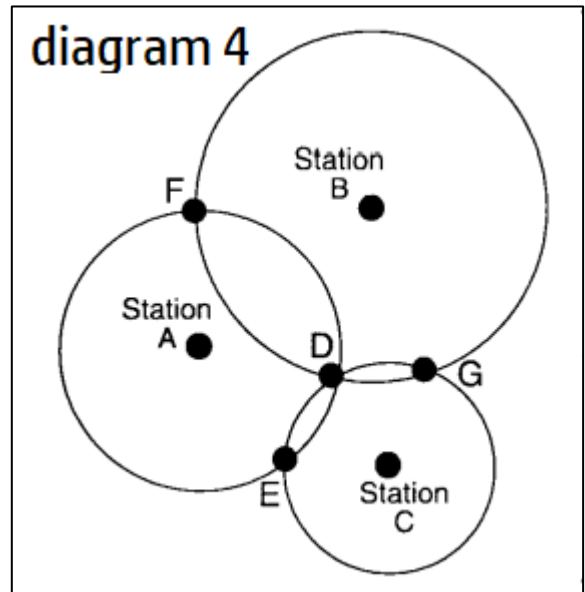
21) Look at diagram 3. The seismogram from station A would show _____.

- A) arrival of P-waves, only
- B) earliest arrival time of P-waves
- C) greatest difference in the arrival times of P-waves and S-waves
- D) arrival of S-waves before the arrival of P-waves

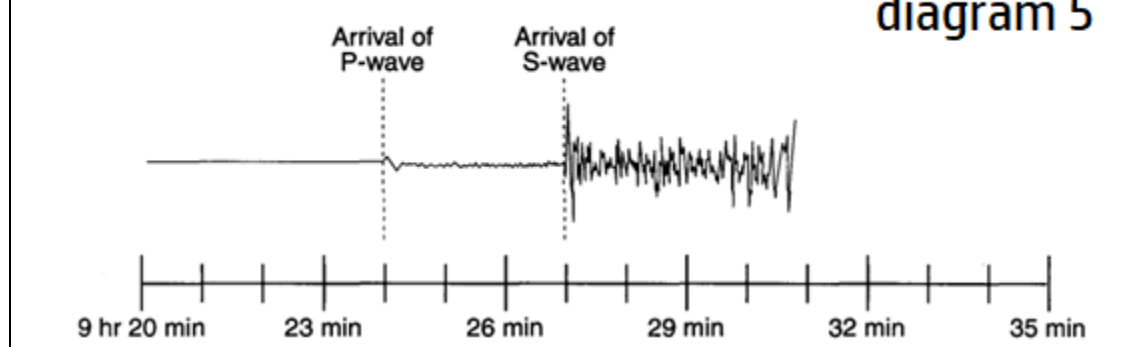


22) Look at diagram 4. The epicenter is closest to point

- a) F
- b) D
- c) G
- d) E



The seismogram below shows the arrival times of an earthquake's *P*-wave and *S*-wave recorded at a seismic station in Portland, Oregon.



23) Look at diagram 5. What was the distance from Portland to the earthquake's epicenter?

- A) 1800 km
- B) 2500 km
- C) 3200 km
- D) 4100 km