

# *Working with the SEP Seismometer*



Hanspeter Meier Seismo@School  
Trainings Course, Sion Oct. 2014

# *Working with the SEP Seismometer*

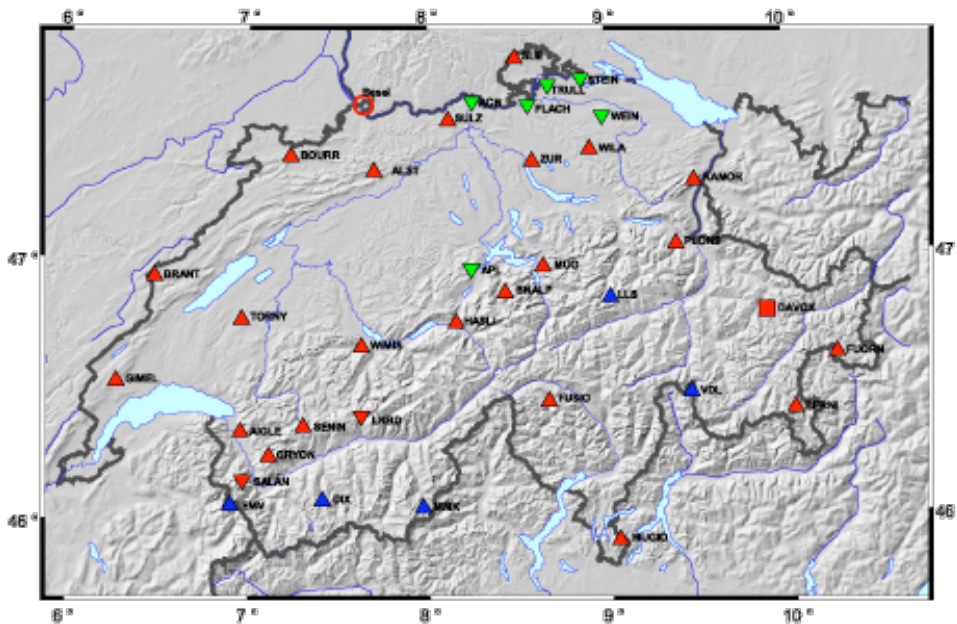
A school project with 10<sup>th</sup> graders  
from Bülach/Switzerland  
using Geosience  
in cooperation with the GLOBE-project



Earthquakes in Switzerland are registered since 250 A.C.



# Module 1: Understanding Theory



▲ Breitbandseismometer    ▽ Kurzperiodisches Seismometer    ■ Breitbandseismometer CTBT    ○ Bohrlochseismometer  
 rot: SDSNET, blau: SDSNET Stauanlagen, grün: SDSNET - Nagra

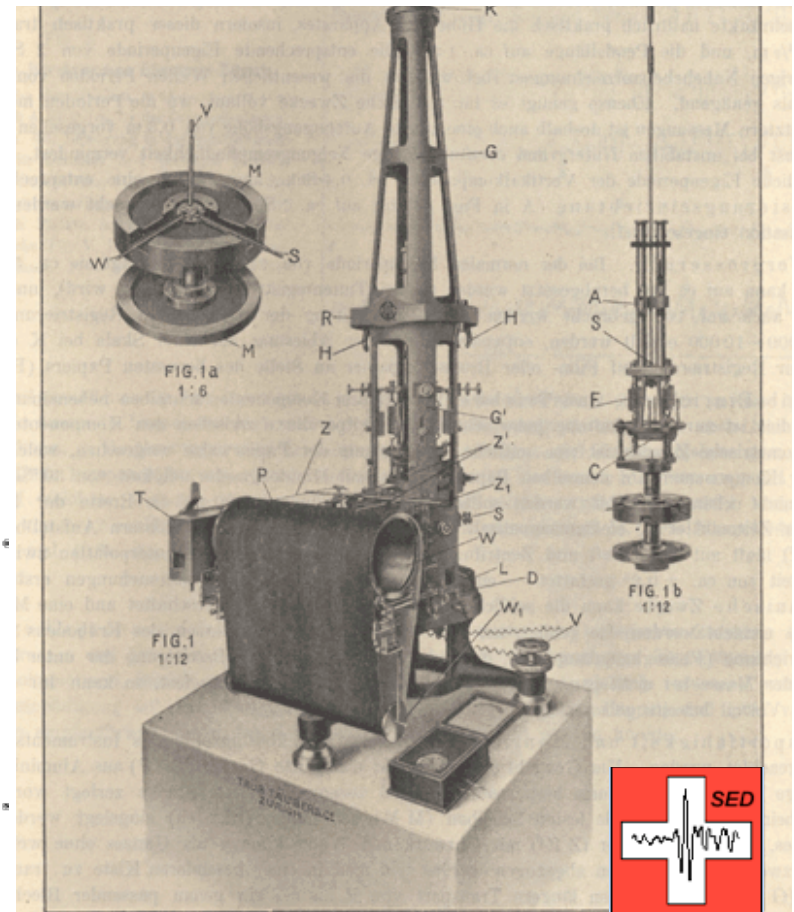
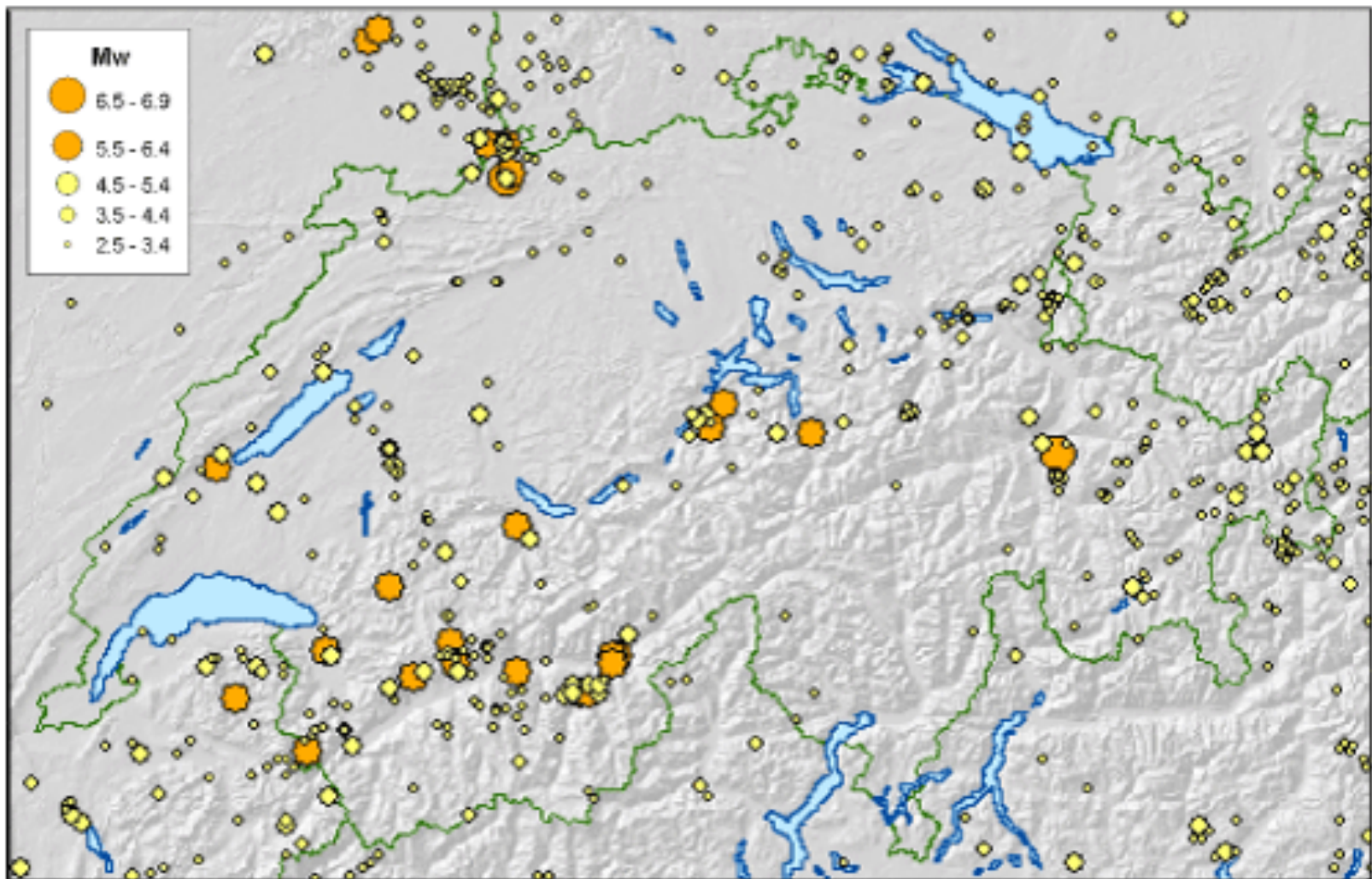


Fig. 1. Transportabler Seismograph und Erschütterungsmesser Quervain-Picard mit 3 Komponenten, ausgeführt von der Firma Trüb-Täuber, Zürich.



# Epicenter – Map of Switzerland since 1300



# Frequency of earthquakes

**Value on Richterscale / Earthquakes per year**

*Typical effects of shocks in populated areas*

**< 3,4 / 800 000**

*only be registered by seismographs*

**3,5 - 4,2 / 30 000**

*by a few people felt only*

**4,3 - 4,8 / 4 800**

*felt by many people*

# Frequency of earthquakes

**Value on Richterscale / Earthquakes per year**

*Typical effects of shocks in populated areas*

**4,9 - 5,4 / 1 400**

*felt by everyone*

**5,5 – 6,1 / 5 000**

**little damage to buildings**

**6,2 – 6,9 / 100**

*damage to many buildings*

The continents moved for 250 millions years to reach the recent position



PERMIAN  
225 million years ago



TRIASSIC  
200 million years ago



JURASSIC  
135 million years ago



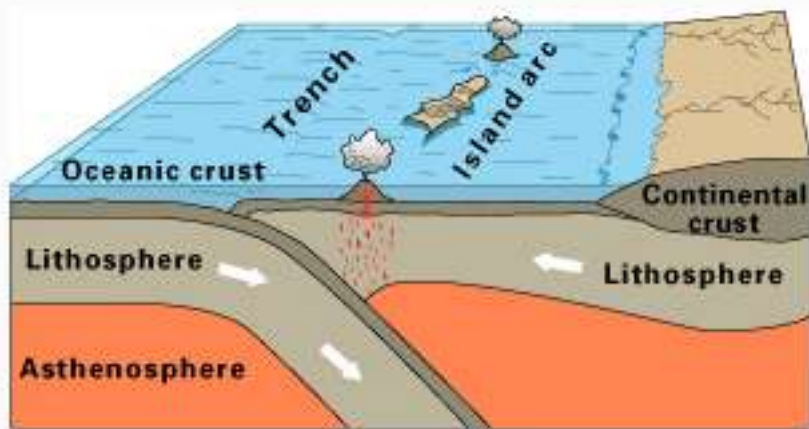
CRETACEOUS  
65 million years ago



PRESENT DAY

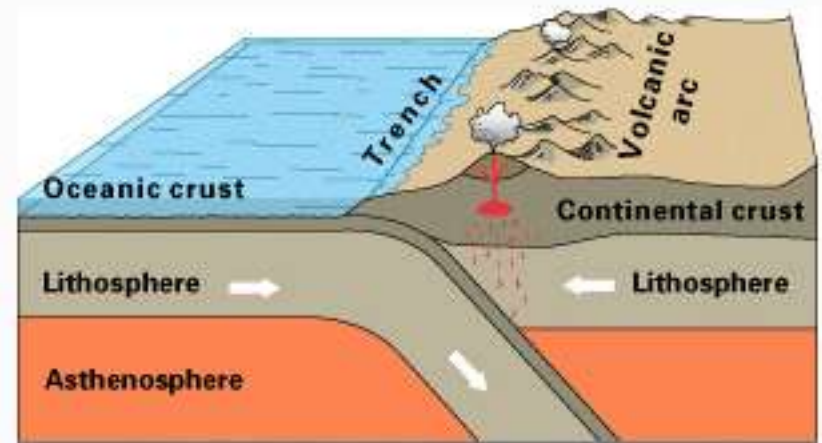
# The collision of two tectonic plates caused by rising magma > volcanic arcs

Collision of 2 oceanic plates



Oceanic-oceanic convergence

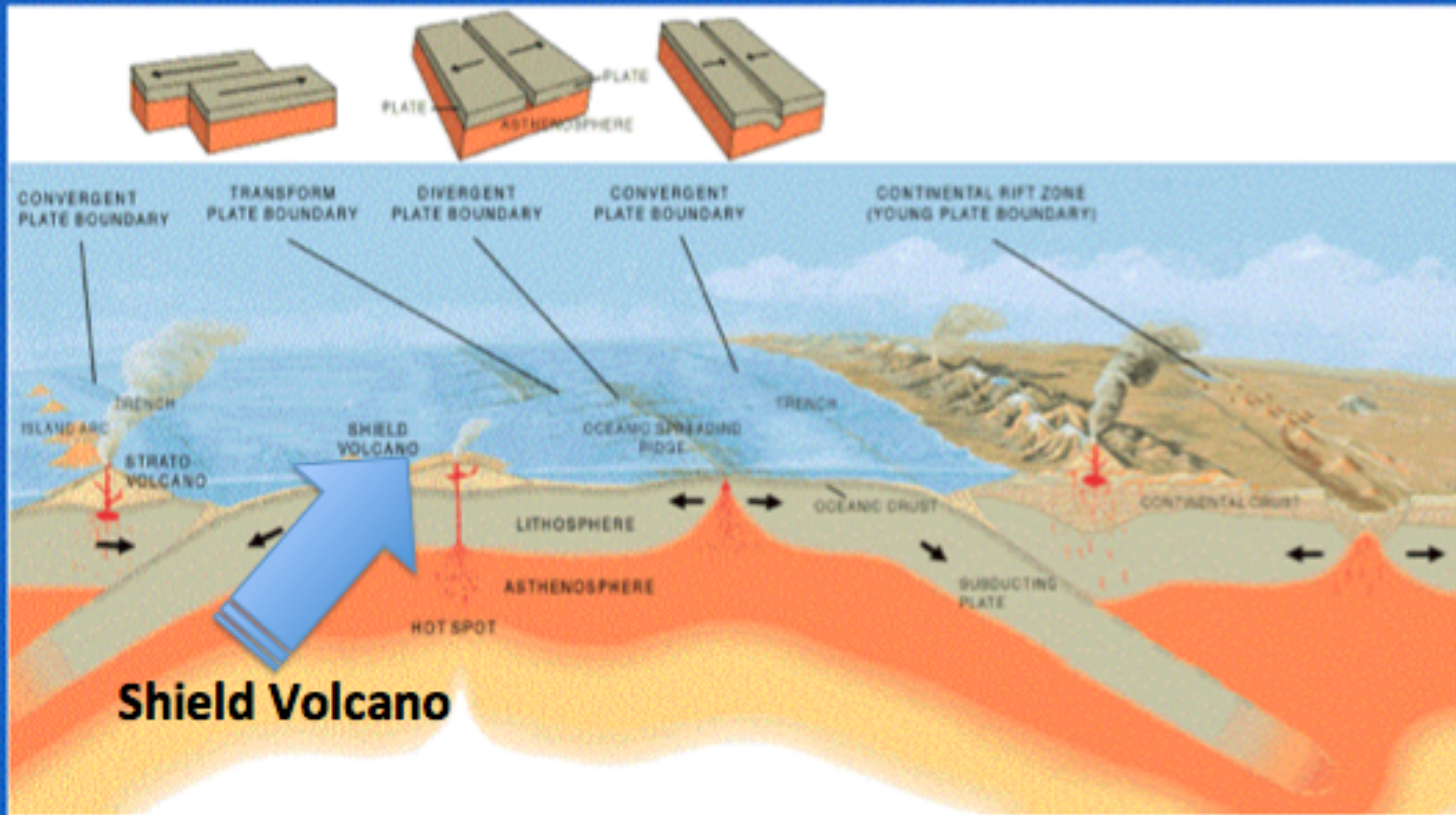
Collision of an oceanic plate  
with a continental plate



Oceanic-continental convergence



# Plate Boundaries



## Module 2:

# The Hawaiian hotspot

All the Hawaiian volcanoes, were created as the **Pacific tectonic plate** moved over the **Hawaiian hotspot** in the Earth's underlying mantle.

The Hawaii island volcanoes are the most recent evidence of this process that, over 70 million years, has created the 6,000 km - long Hawaiian–Emperor seamount chain.

*[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mauna\\_Loa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mauna_Loa)*

**Nordpazifischer Ozean**

**Midwayinseln**

**Hawaii - Archipel**

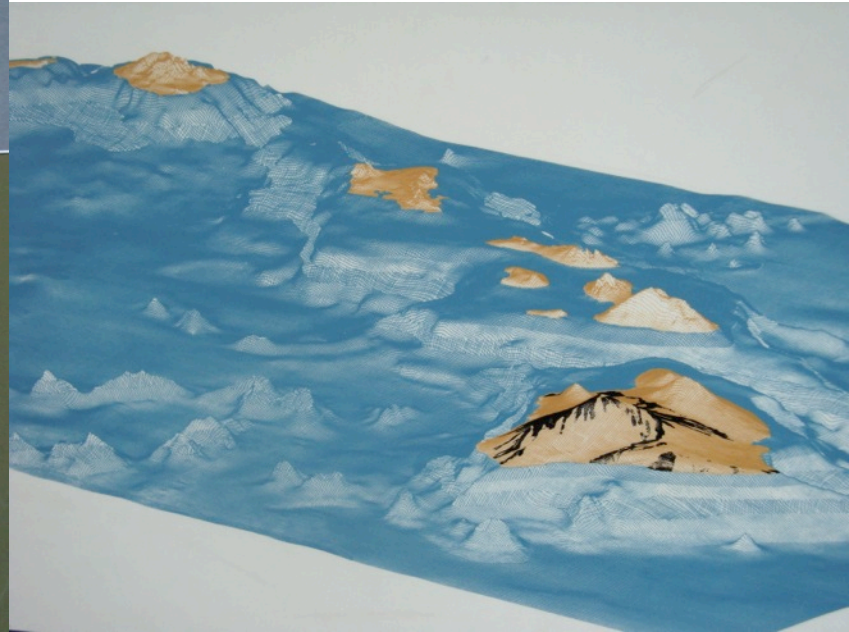
**Honolulu, HI**



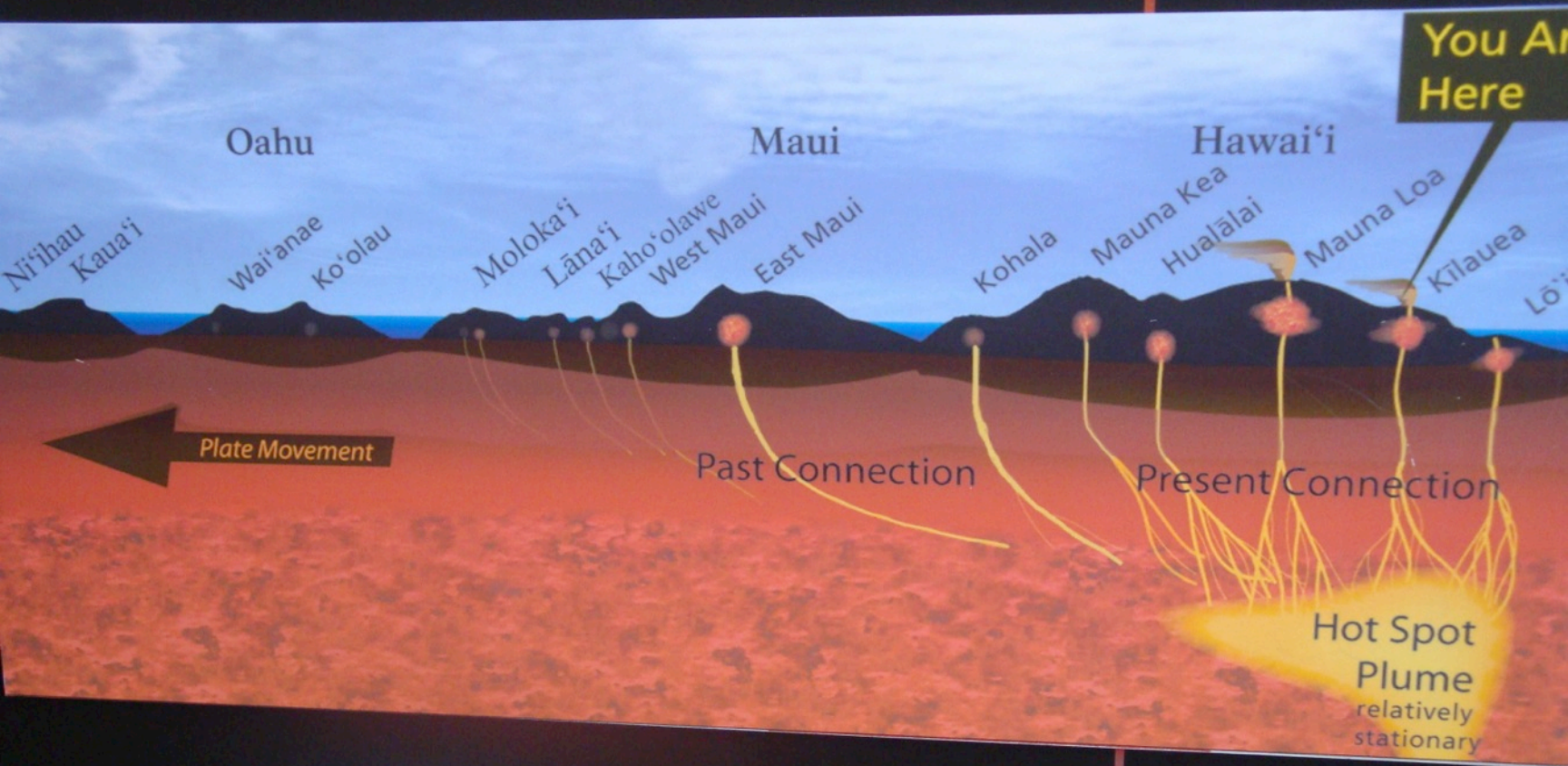
# Hawai'i GROWS

The island of Hawai'i is made up of five relatively young volcanoes. The oldest volcano is Kohala. It last erupted about 60,000 years ago. Mauna Kea (white mountain) last erupted approximately 4,600 years ago.

The three remaining volcanoes; Hualālai, Mauna Loa and Kīlauea, have all erupted in the last 250 years—Hualālai in 1801, Mauna Loa (long mountain) on March 24, 1984, and Kīlauea on January 3, 1983.







#### The Islands Show Their Age

As Hawaiian shield volcanoes grow old, they become less active and finally become extinct. This process, from growth to decay, occurs over hundreds of millions of years. Of the eight main Hawaiian islands, Ni'ihau is the oldest, while Hawai'i is the youngest. The oldest rocks on Ni'ihau are at least 4.5 million years old and those on Hawai'i are younger than 500,000 years.

North of Ni'ihau is Nihoa Island (pictured at left), whose oldest rocks are at least 7.2 million years old.

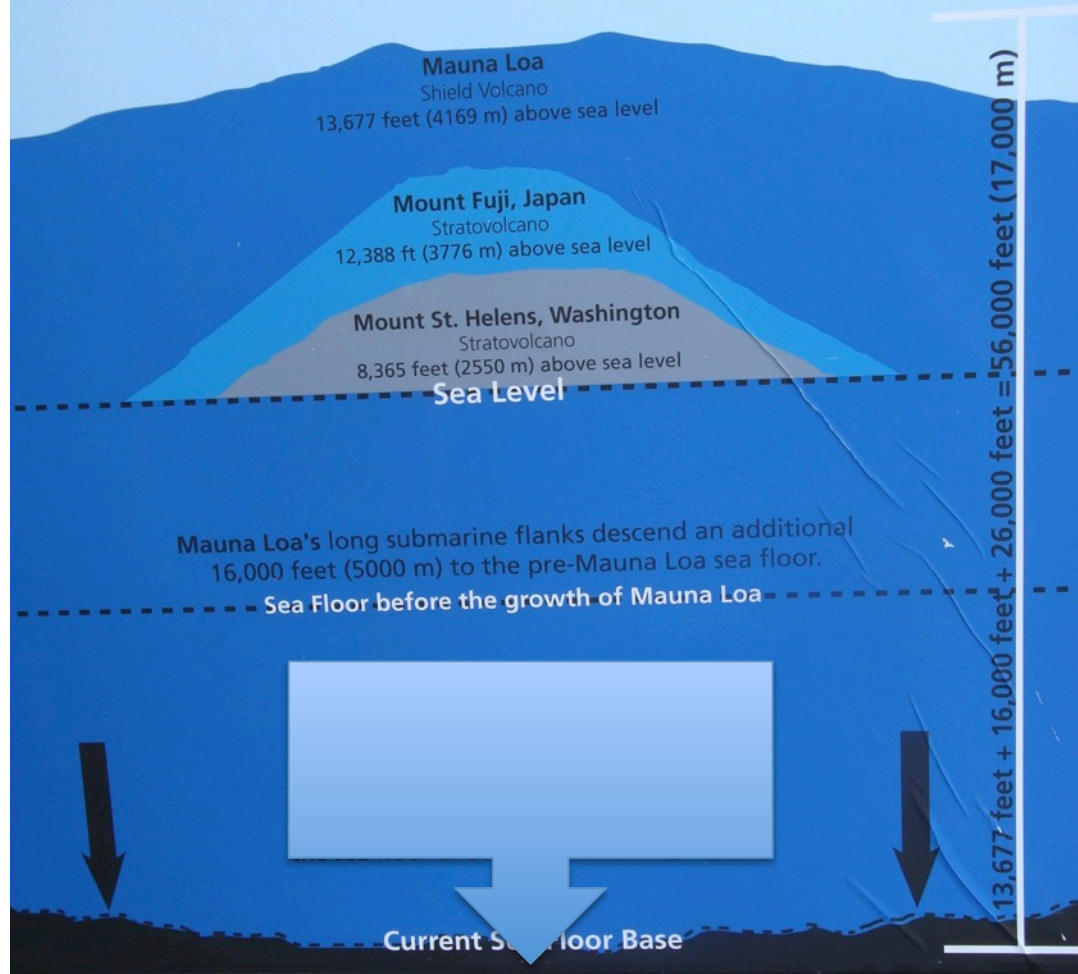
The Pacific floor moves slowly northward over a stationary hot spot. Magma forces its way through a weak spot in the crust to form an island.

The island is gradually moved northward and a new island is formed. The source of magma is the hot spot plume.



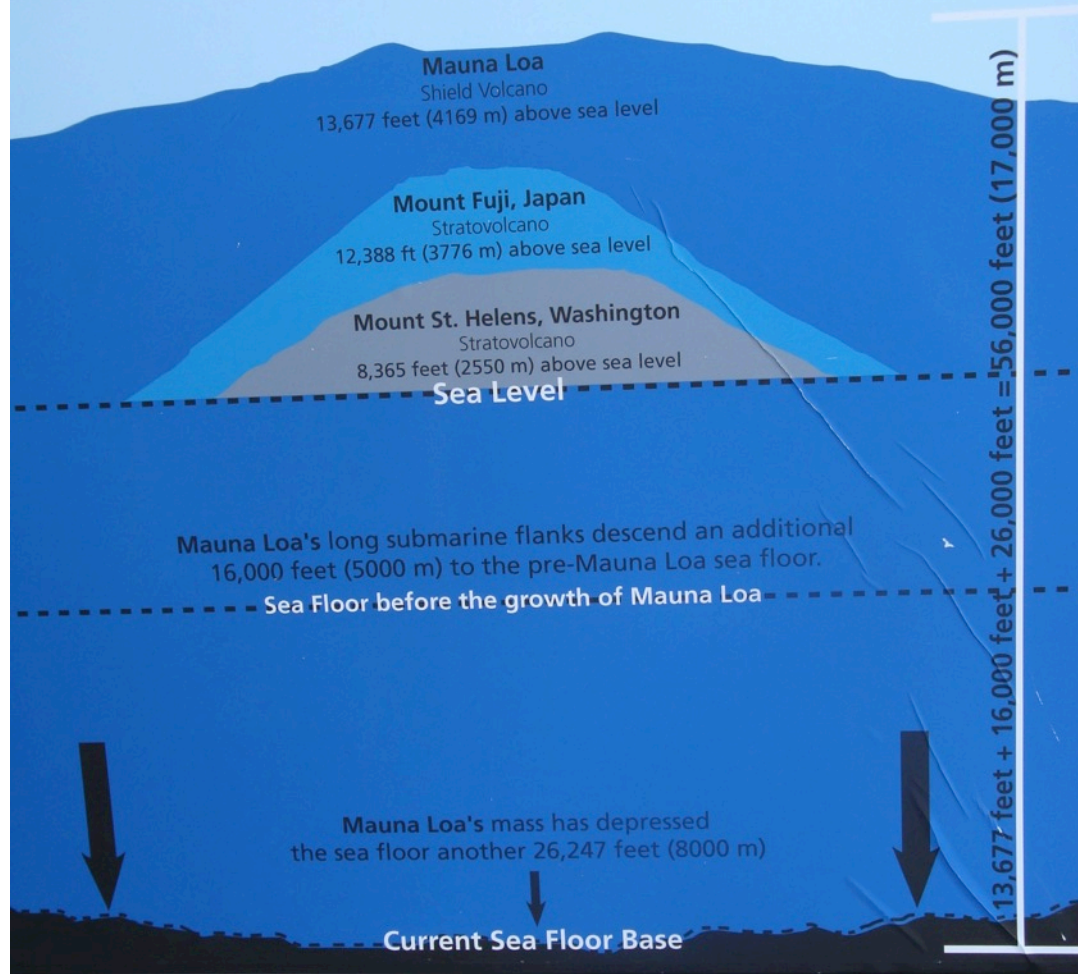


Mauna Loa—The Earth's Largest Volcano  
stands approximately 56,000 feet (17,000 m) above it's true base.

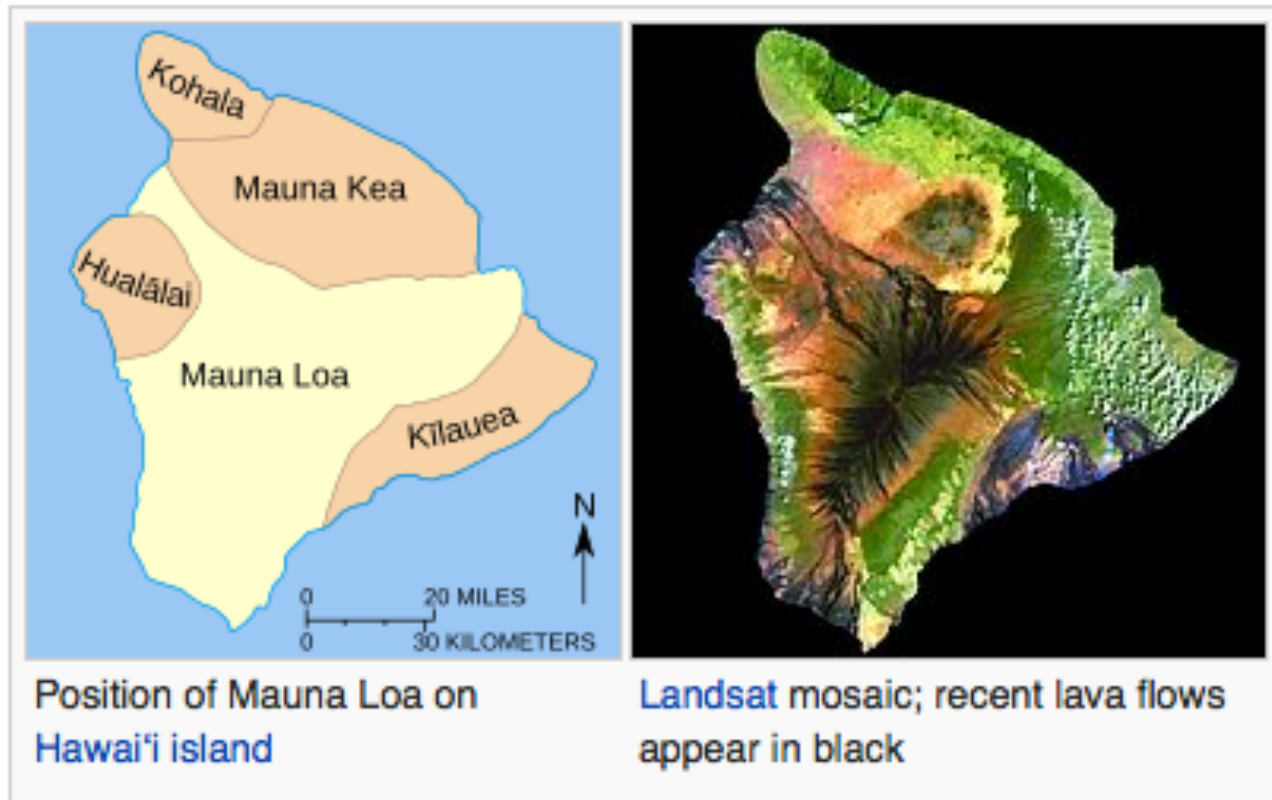


The immensity of Hawaii—in both height and mass—is seen in this relative scale drawing.

Mauna Loa—The Earth's Largest Volcano  
stands approximately 56,000 feet (17,000 m) above it's true base.



The immensity of Hawaii—in both height and mass—is seen in this relative scale drawing.



Mauna Loa has historically been considered the largest volcano on Earth both mass and volume, and. It is an active shield volcano.





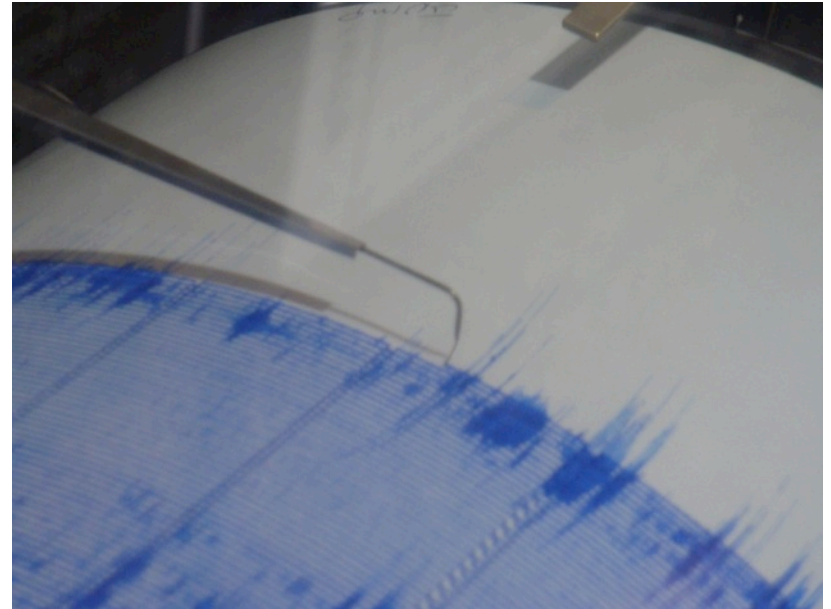
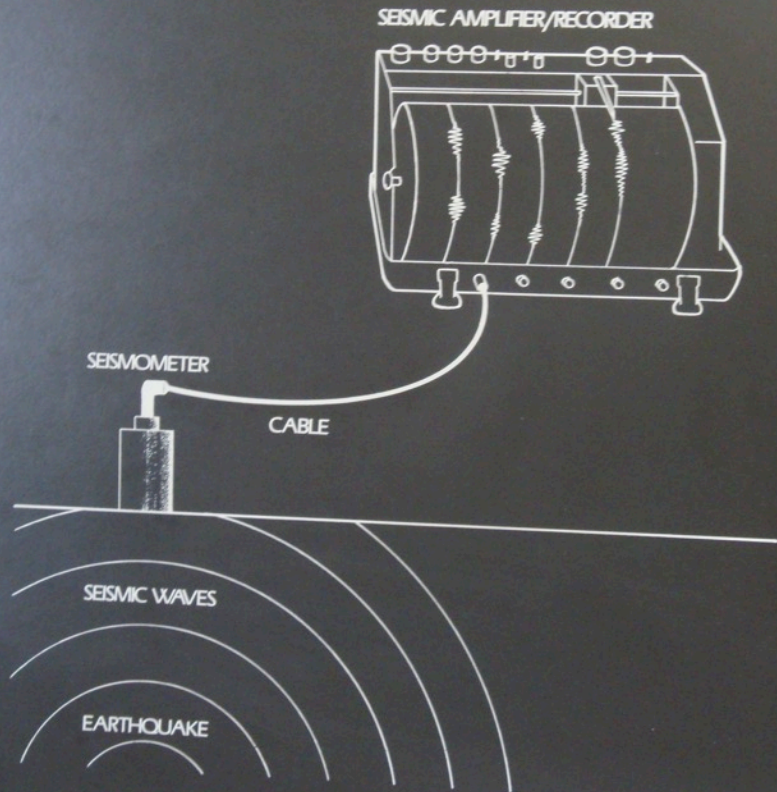
On Kilauea at Hawai'i = Big Island

Seismographs  
at the *Jaggar  
Museum*  
on Hawai'i  
= Big Island





# Seismographs



# Pre-eruption Indicators

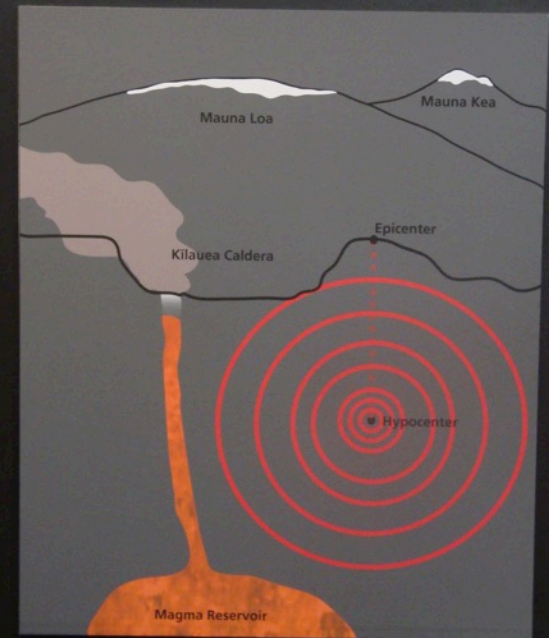
Tilt of ground surface indicates inflation or deflation of the area due to magma activity below. When this happens, signals from tilt sensors are transmitted to observatory tilt meters that produce records such as the one shown here.



Inflation-related swarm of short-period earthquakes at the summit of Kilauea.

Magma in earthquakes preceding

# Finding the Earthquake



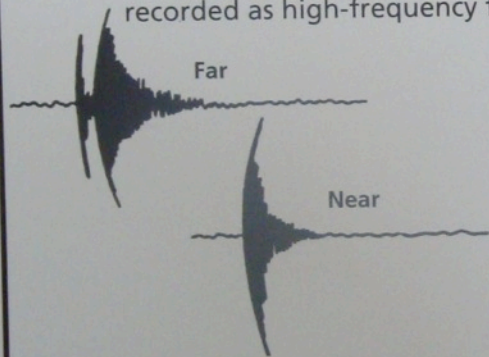


# What Shows on the Recorder?

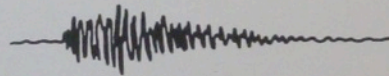
## Ordinary Seismicity

### A. Local Earthquakes

a. Short-period (SP) earthquake:  
Tectonic related earthquakes that are recorded as high-frequency features.

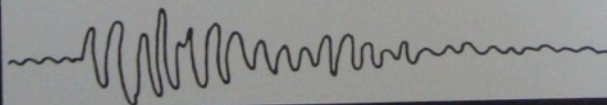


b. Long-period (LP) earthquake:  
Volcanic related earthquakes that are recorded as low-frequency features.

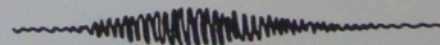


### B. Teleseism: Earthquake that occurred a great distance away

a. P (Primary) wave: A compressional seismic wave that has traveled through the earth.



b. T-phase: A seismic wave that has traveled through the ocean



Natural

Man-Induced

G. Shallow Explosions



Each  
or a  
seisr



Other types of Seismicity

Natural

**C. Volcanic Tremor:**

Continuous rhythmic signal often associated with the movement of magma through a volcano.

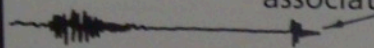


**D. Rockfall**



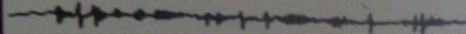
**E. Volcanic "Gas" Explosions**

associated sonic burst

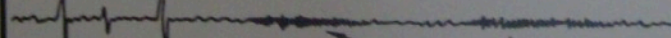


**F. Weather Disturbances**

a. Wind, rain



b. Electrical storm



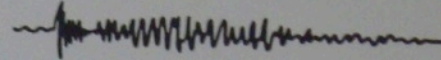
electrical pulses from lightning

thunder-sonic disturbances

Man-Induced

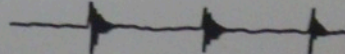
**G. Shallow Explosions**

quarry or construction blast



**H. Sonic Bursts**

artillery fire



**I. Helicopter and**

**Light Aircraft**

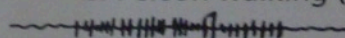


**J. Ground Traffic**

a. Automobile



b. Person walking (footsteps)



# The observatory has a worldwide reputation as a leader in the study of active volcanism.

Update time = Mon Mar 22 18:00:02 HST 2010

Here are the earthquakes appearing on this map, most recent at top ...

<u>MAG</u>	<u>DATE</u> <u>y/m/d</u>	<u>LOCAL-TIME</u> <u>h:m:s</u>	<u>LAT</u> <u>deg</u>	<u>LON</u> <u>deg</u>	<u>DEPTH</u> <u>km</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
2.1	<a href="#">2010/03/20</a>	<a href="#">22:30:26</a>	<a href="#">19.390N</a>	<a href="#">155.497W</a>	<a href="#">8.3</a>	15 km ( 9 mi) SE of Mauna Loa Summit
1.9	<a href="#">2010/03/20</a>	<a href="#">19:33:28</a>	<a href="#">19.327N</a>	<a href="#">155.194W</a>	<a href="#">5.5</a>	8 km ( 5 mi) NW of Ka`ena Point
2.0	<a href="#">2010/03/20</a>	<a href="#">10:40:36</a>	<a href="#">19.336N</a>	<a href="#">155.190W</a>	<a href="#">6.0</a>	9 km ( 5 mi) NW of Ka`ena Point
2.3	<a href="#">2010/03/16</a>	<a href="#">12:24:12</a>	<a href="#">19.384N</a>	<a href="#">155.492W</a>	<a href="#">8.7</a>	16 km (10 mi) SE of Mauna Loa Summit
2.3	<a href="#">2010/03/16</a>	<a href="#">11:35:01</a>	<a href="#">19.422N</a>	<a href="#">155.310W</a>	<a href="#">3.8</a>	4 km ( 2 mi) W of Kilauea Summit
2.0	<a href="#">2010/03/15</a>	<a href="#">21:56:20</a>	<a href="#">19.321N</a>	<a href="#">155.225W</a>	<a href="#">30.9</a>	11 km ( 7 mi) WNW of Ka`ena Point
2.3	<a href="#">2010/03/15</a>	<a href="#">19:25:44</a>	<a href="#">19.418N</a>	<a href="#">155.312W</a>	<a href="#">5.2</a>	4 km ( 2 mi) W of Kilauea Summit
1.9	<a href="#">2010/03/13</a>	<a href="#">22:35:14</a>	<a href="#">19.365N</a>	<a href="#">155.220W</a>	<a href="#">3.2</a>	8 km ( 5 mi) SSE of Volcano
1.8	<a href="#">2010/03/13</a>	<a href="#">10:19:20</a>	<a href="#">19.490N</a>	<a href="#">155.388W</a>	<a href="#">6.0</a>	14 km ( 9 mi) NW of Kilauea Summit
2.0	<a href="#">2010/03/12</a>	<a href="#">15:44:57</a>	<a href="#">19.363N</a>	<a href="#">155.214W</a>	<a href="#">3.3</a>	8 km ( 5 mi) SSE of Volcano
2.7	<a href="#">2010/03/12</a>	<a href="#">06:04:00</a>	<a href="#">19.417N</a>	<a href="#">155.311W</a>	<a href="#">5.6</a>	4 km ( 2 mi) W of Kilauea Summit
2.2	<a href="#">2010/03/11</a>	<a href="#">12:07:58</a>	<a href="#">19.329N</a>	<a href="#">155.109W</a>	<a href="#">6.6</a>	6 km ( 4 mi) NNE of Ka`ena Point
2.2	<a href="#">2010/03/10</a>	<a href="#">18:53:06</a>	<a href="#">19.313N</a>	<a href="#">155.221W</a>	<a href="#">5.4</a>	10 km ( 6 mi) WNW of Ka`ena Point
1.8	<a href="#">2010/03/10</a>	<a href="#">09:01:13</a>	<a href="#">19.251N</a>	<a href="#">155.442W</a>	<a href="#">2.8</a>	6 km ( 4 mi) NE of Pahala
2.5	<a href="#">2010/03/10</a>	<a href="#">00:57:39</a>	<a href="#">19.456N</a>	<a href="#">155.259W</a>	<a href="#">2.8</a>	4 km ( 2 mi) NW of Volcano







The GLOBE student research group







## Module 3: Unpacking & Installing



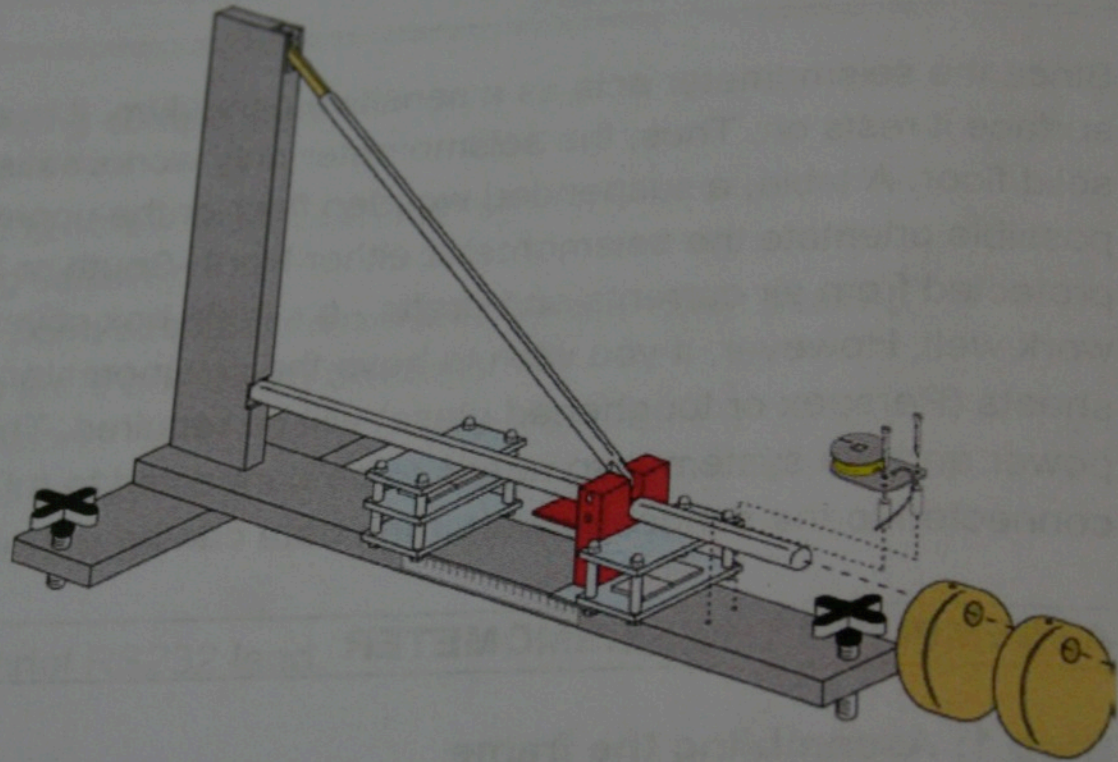


unpack the seismometer, you  
that the sensor magnet  
is already attached to the

to attach the sensor coil  
meter frame - but this  
AFTER the boom arm is  
brass masses are  
of all.

photographs show the  
ions.

meter on the floor where you plan on operating it. Put the steel cage with the  
on the baseplate near the upright. Gently hook the top pivot point into place, and  
arm on the bottom pivot point. The length of the boom arm is factory set and  
adjusting.



Is our English good enough?







# Lost ?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zogw8dl3fUQ>



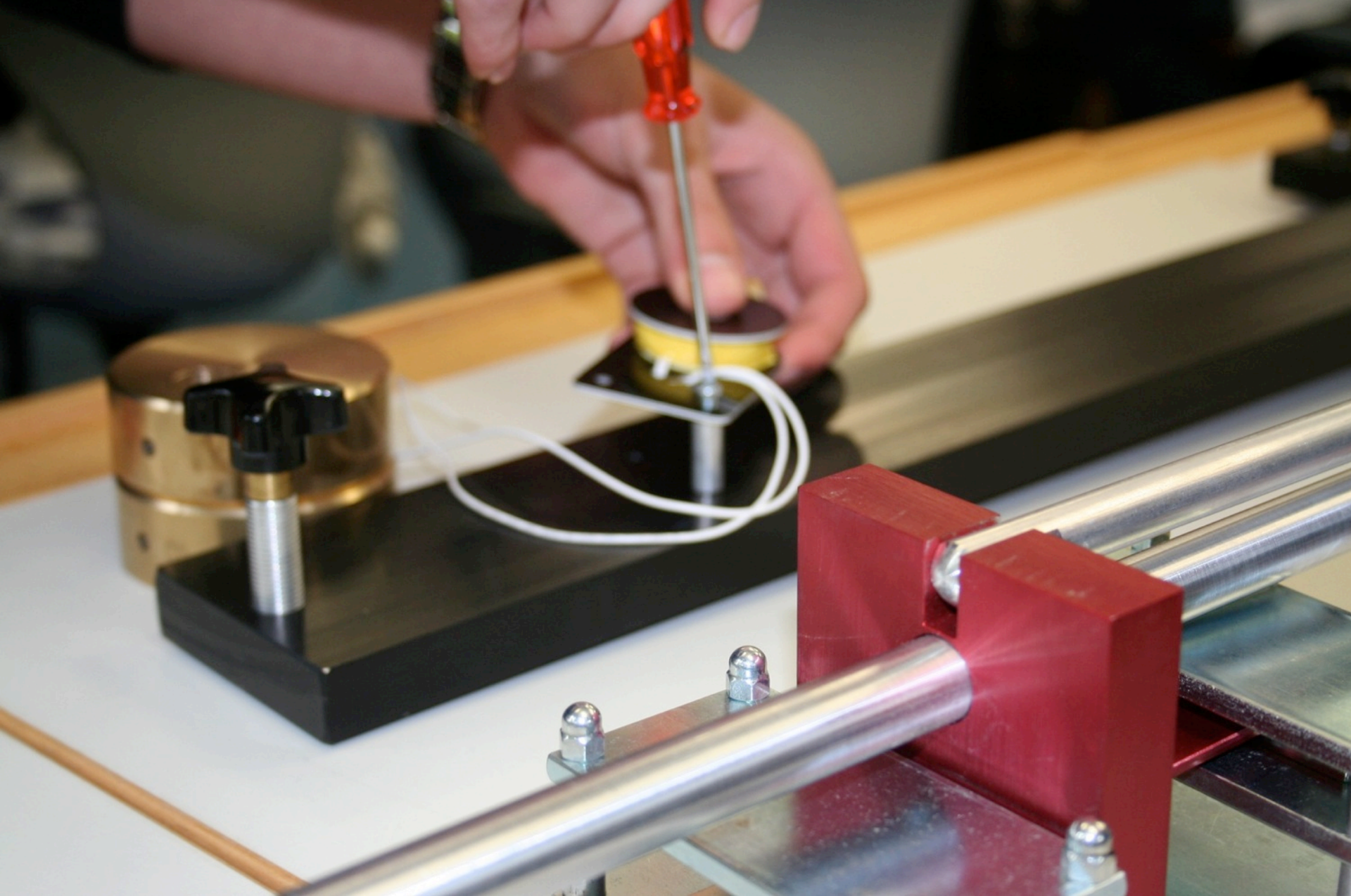




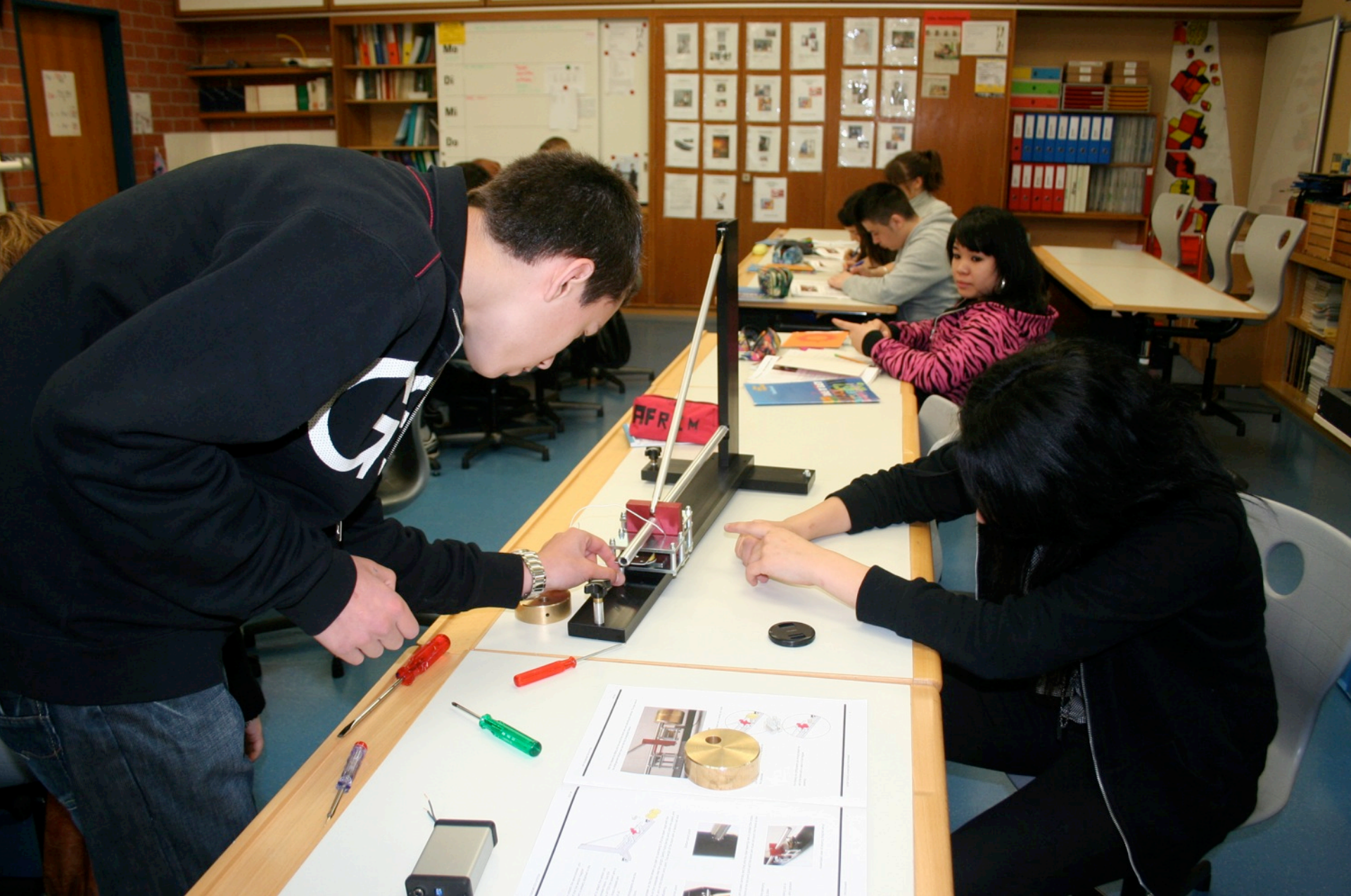




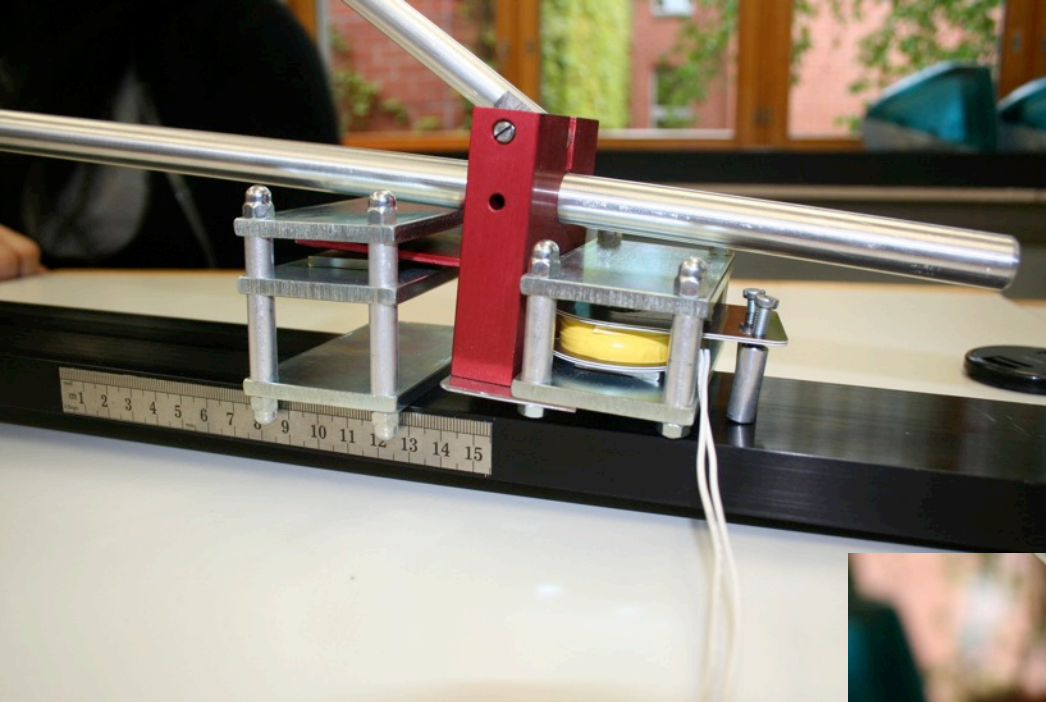




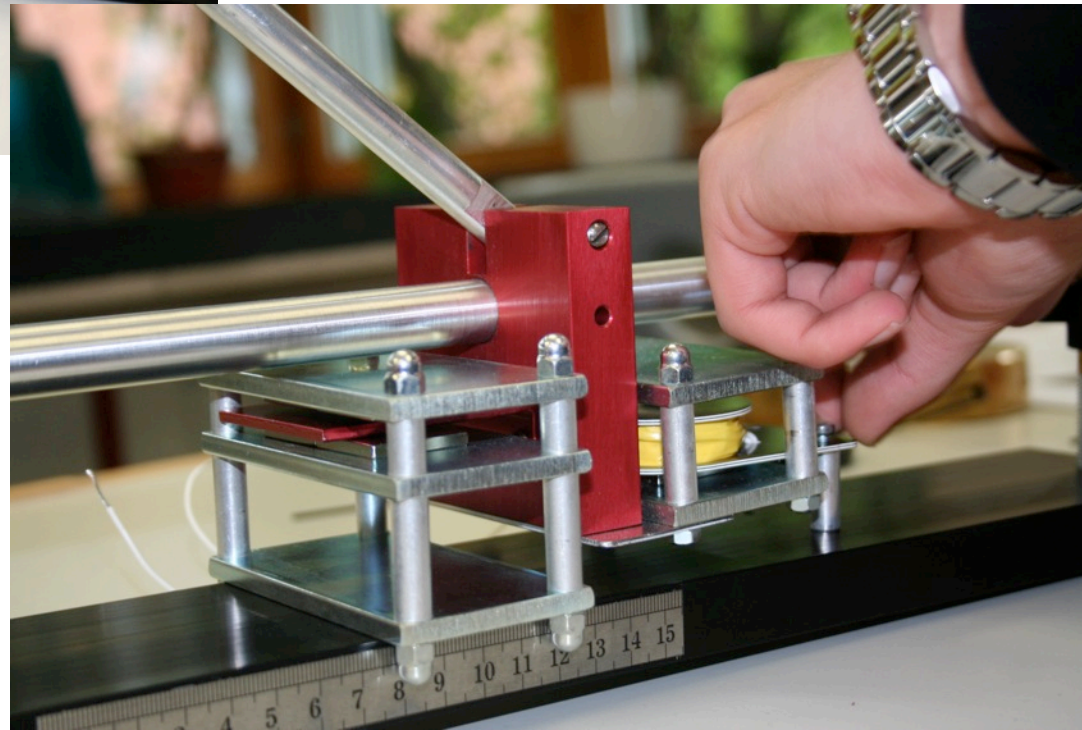






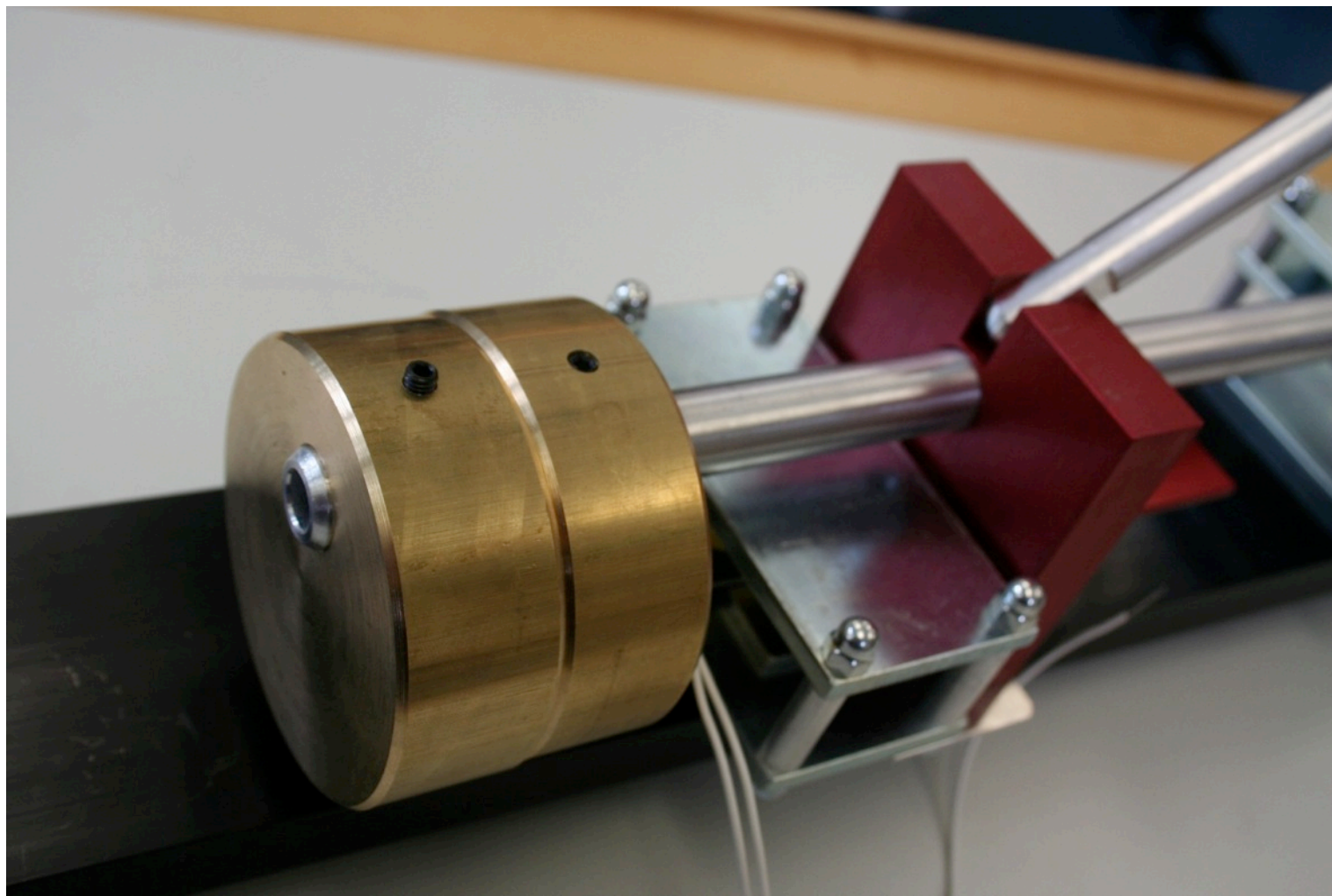


Sensing magnets  
and coil...



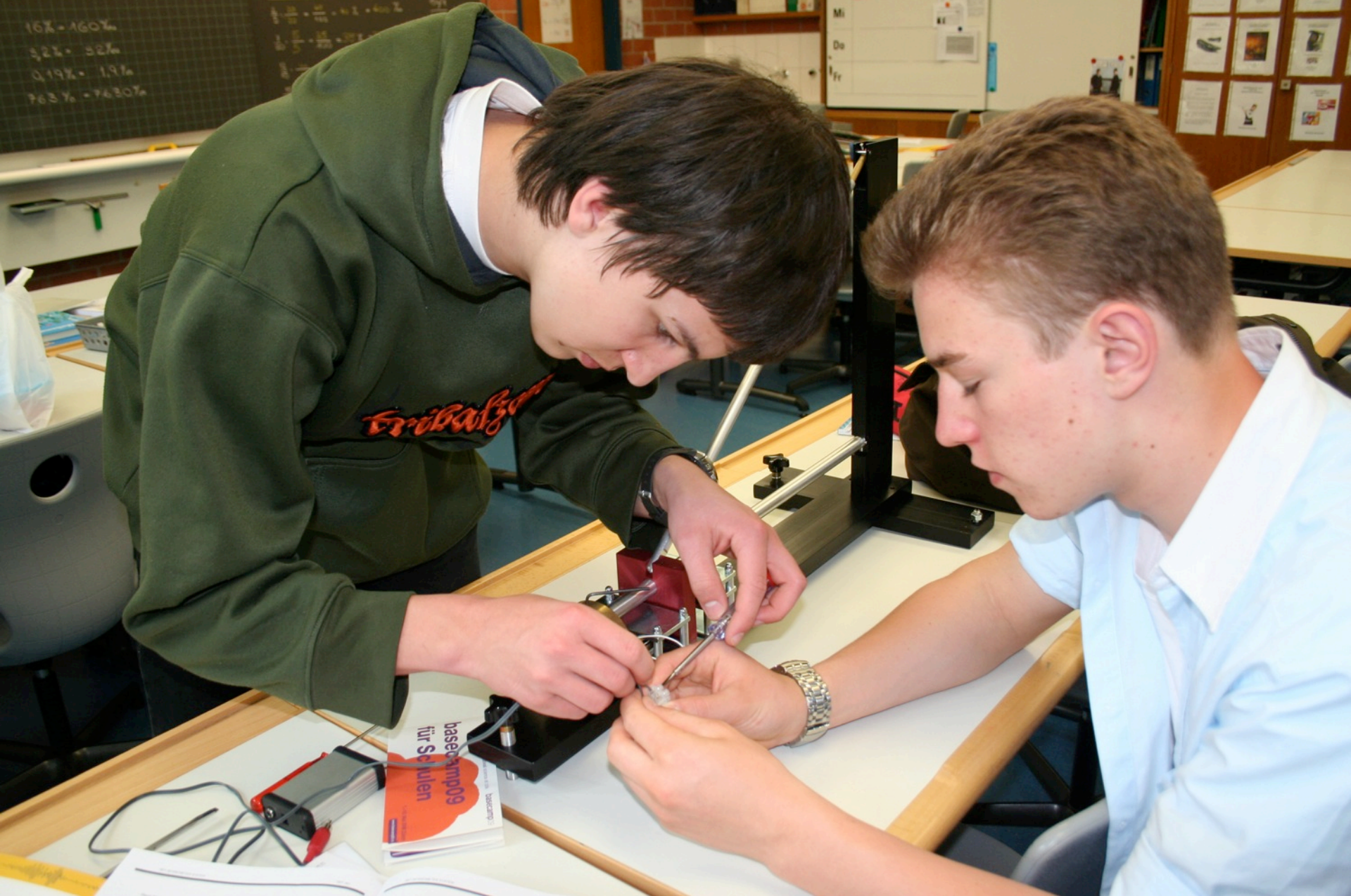
...damping magnets





Brass masses with locknut



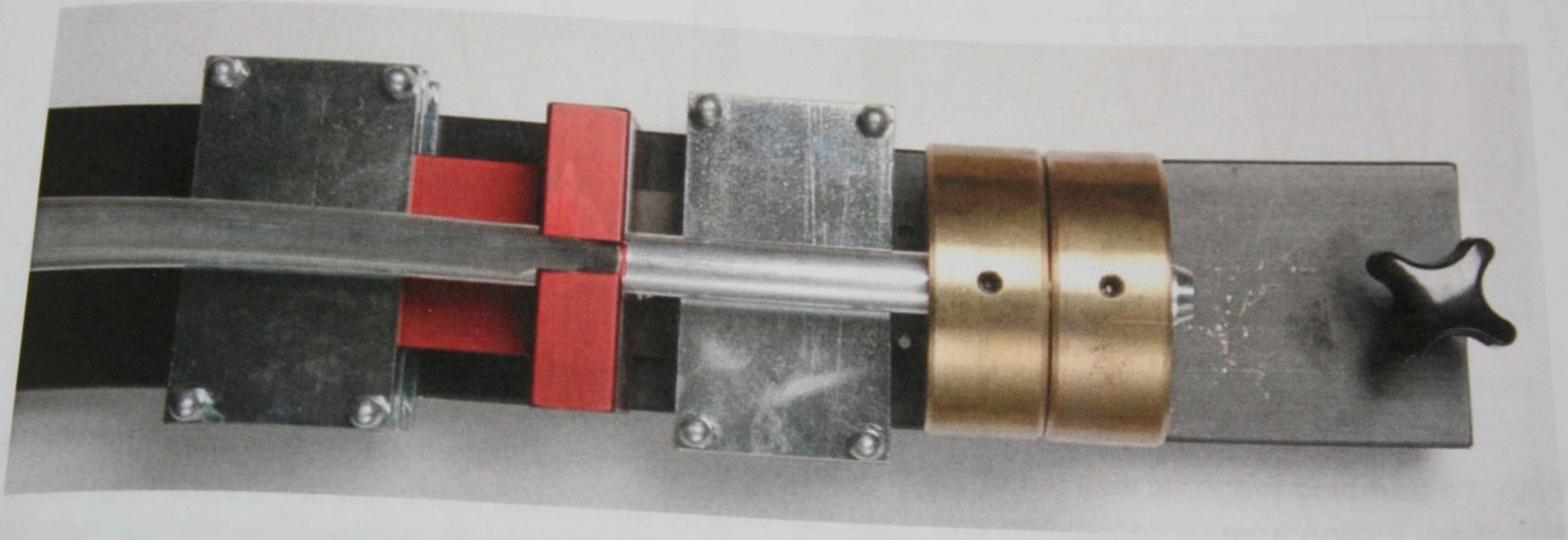


Fitting the electronic parts



The screw on the long base frame (by the mass) is used to adjust the period of the seismometer by changing offset between the top and bottom hinges.

Adjust the levelling screws on the short frame base until boom is swinging freely. Make fine adjustments of the levelling feet on the short frame base until the boom arm and brass mass are stable along the centreline of the long frame base.



#### Step 4: Adjusting the natural period

The natural period of the seismometer depends on the angle of the line joining the top suspension point and the roller bearing point to the vertical. The closer this angle is to vertical the longer will be the natural period of the seismometer. The period can be adjusted by...

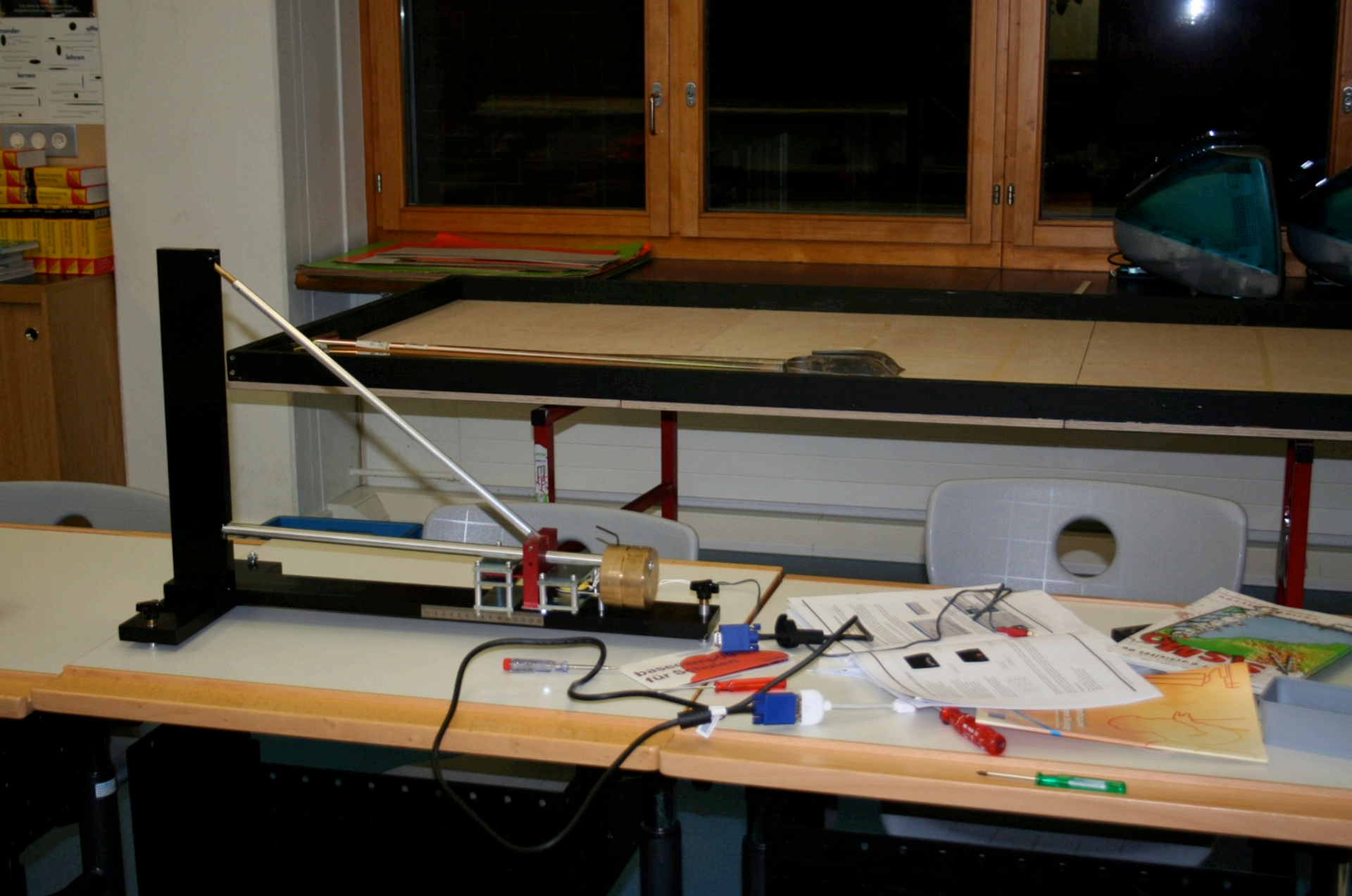
School- or Technical-English?

The electronic box contains an amplifier, a filter circuit and a digitiser circuit...

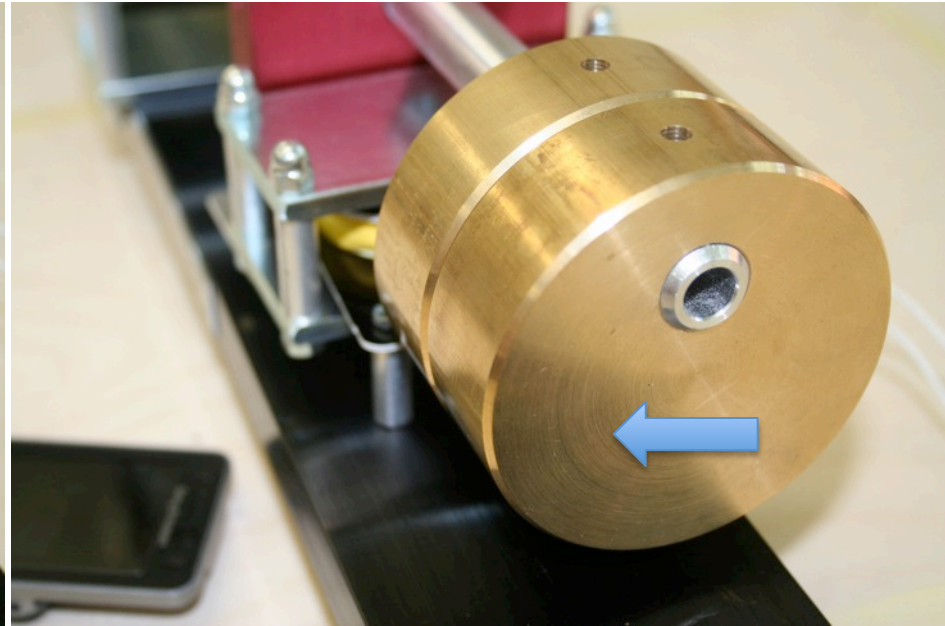
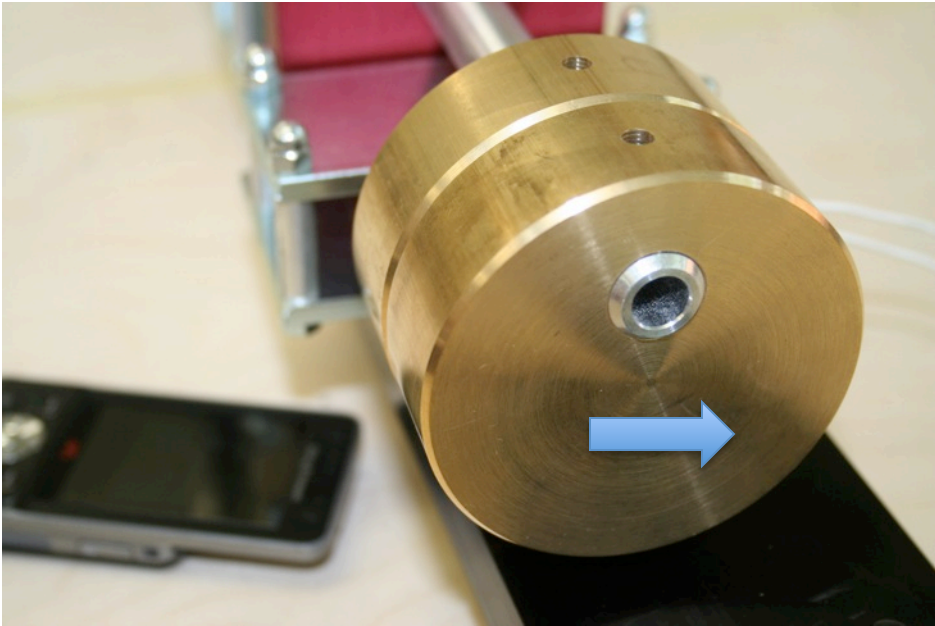
...that converts the changing voltage into digital data - readable by the AmaSeis program (Windows only).



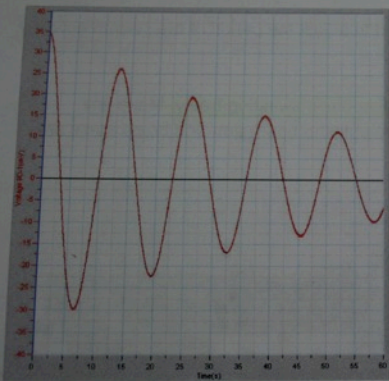




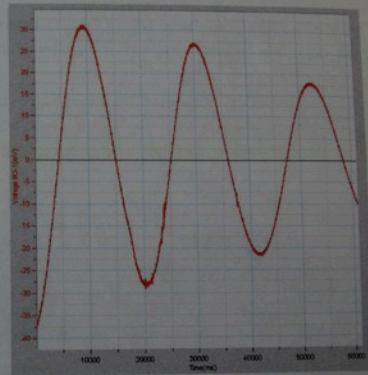
The completed SEP Seismometer



The following screen dumps were taken during a setup procedure and show the recorded signal from the coil after the mass is disturbed by gently blowing on it (using Fourier Systems Multilink datalogger with +/-50mV input).



13 second natural period

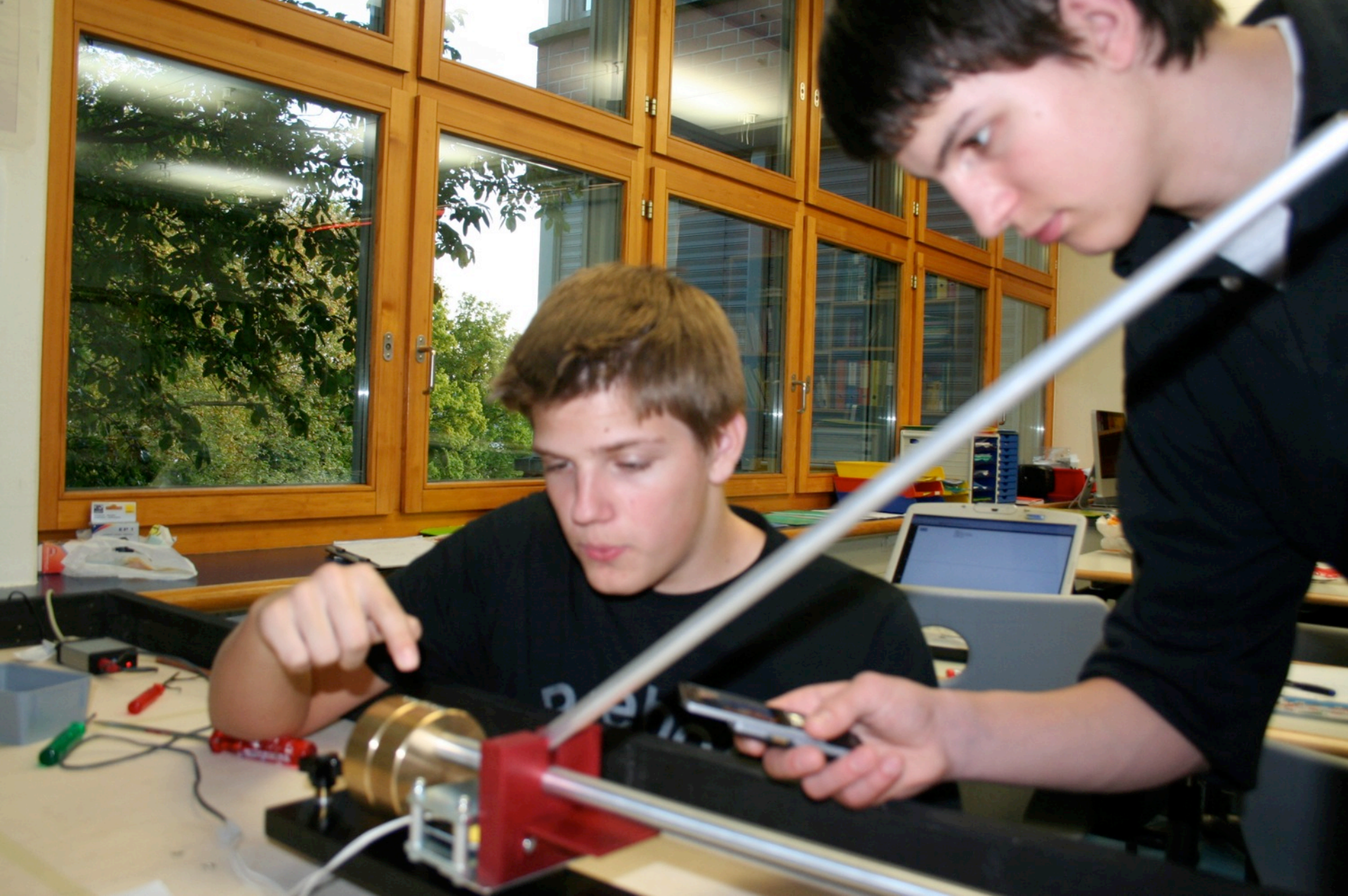


21 second natural period

With the damping magnets well out of the way the mass should oscillate for a few minutes after being disturbed, friction from air resistance and electrical energy generated in the coil will cause the

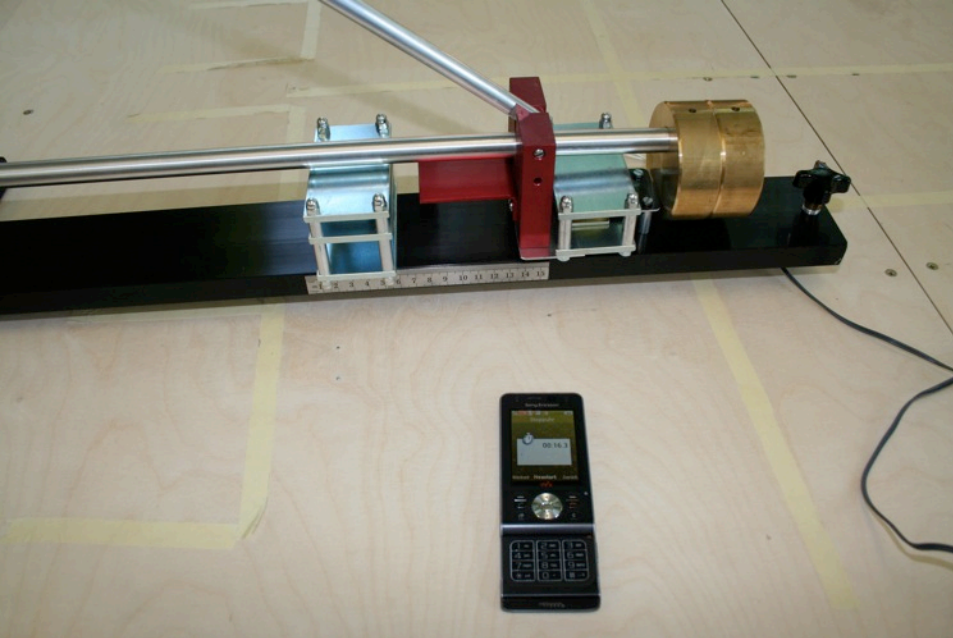
Observe one period-  
movement (  $\longleftrightarrow$  ) of  
the brass masses !





## Testing and Calibration





Calibration of the movement of the Suspension Arm  
with the two brass masses:

1 Periode = 15 – 20 seconds

(use cellphone stop-watch)

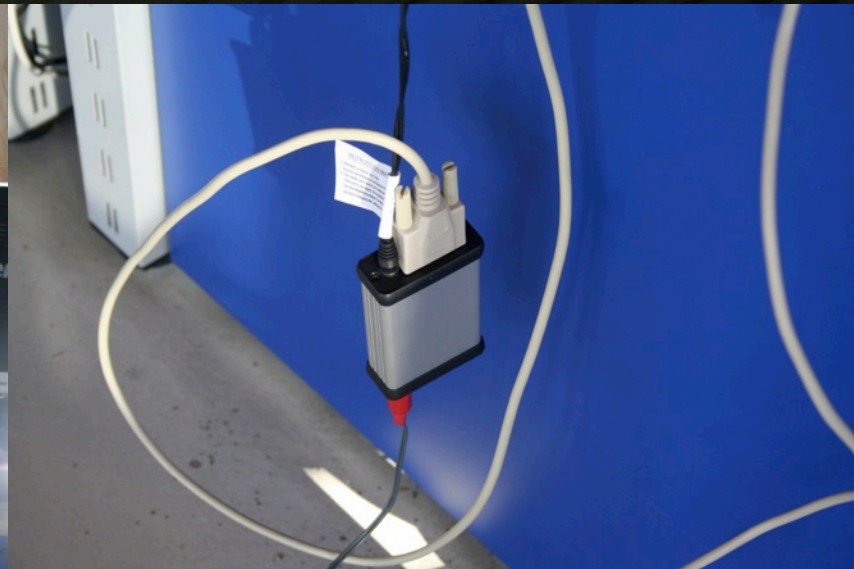




BB COM

- Computer
- PC-Reparaturen
- Netzwerke
- Web-Hosting

Last minute update of Hardware with the IT-specialist



# Module 4: Evening Training



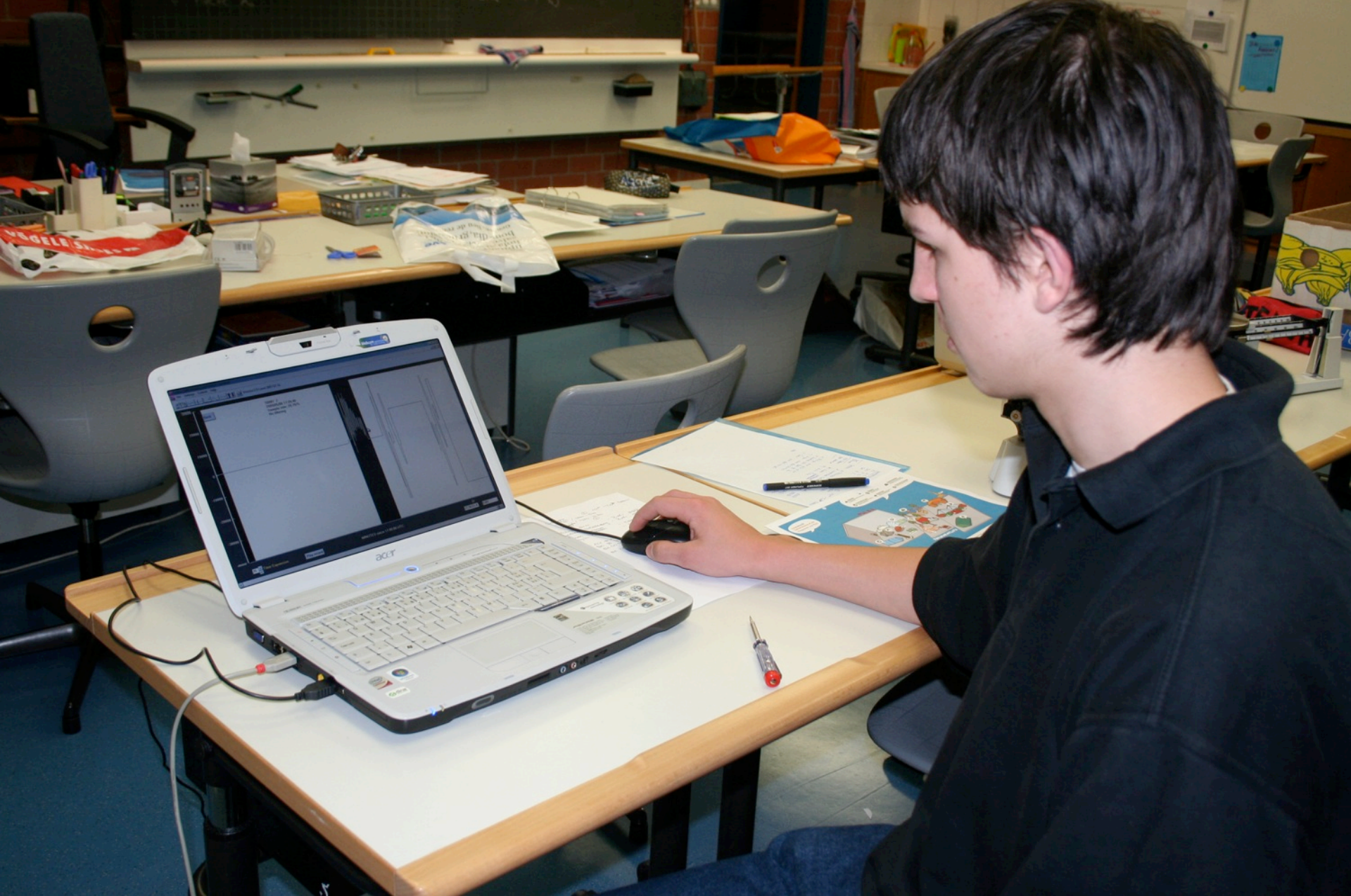




Experiment for Wave Propagation  
> one drop only!







Getting to know the software *AmaSeis*







## Studies of earthquake-Web information





## Module 5: Ready for University







The exhibition *focusTerra* at ETH Zurich







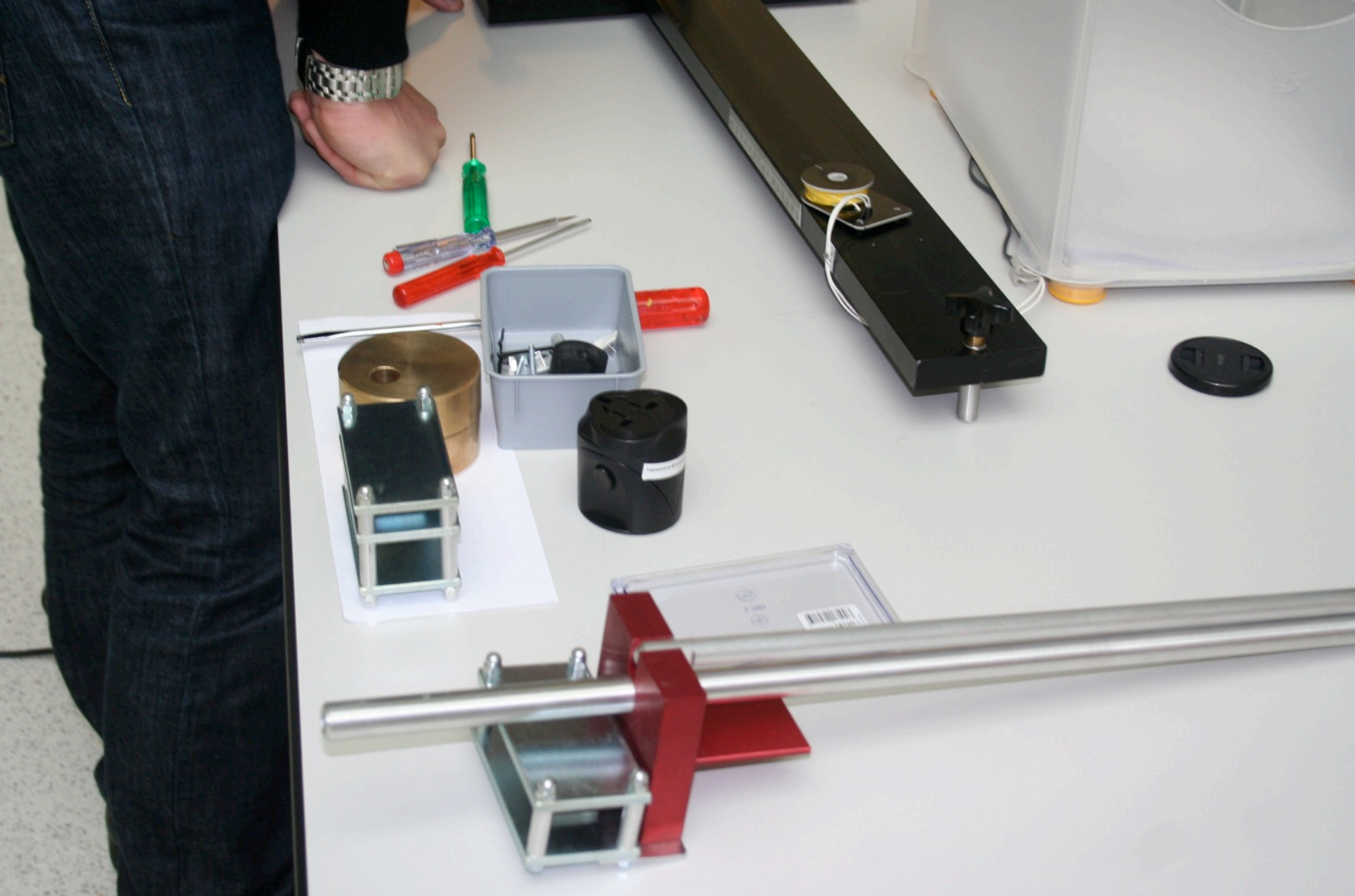




Institute of Geophysics, exhibit *focusTerra*







# Re-assembly of the seismometer





# Final calibrations





Setting on of the side-workshops







Adjusting Displays for public viewing









Ready for the public to visit our exhibition





*Thank you for your attention!*

