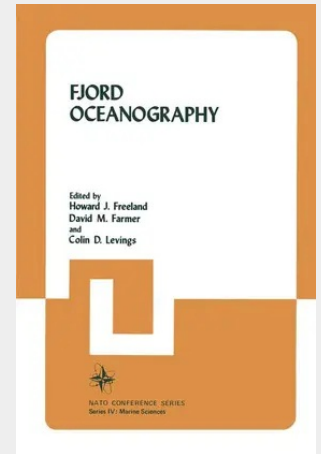


Fjord Oceanography

Fjords are deep, glacially carved estuaries that are peculiar to certain coastlines, and have several characteristics that distinguish them from shallower embayments. At higher latitudes they indent the western coastlines of Scandinavia, North and South America, and New Zealand. They are also a common feature of much of the arctic coastline. The papers contained in this volume were presented at a workshop funded by the NATO Advanced Studies Institute in Victoria, British Columbia. It may seem curious to the reader that this special class of estuaries should have attracted an international gathering of oceanographers from several different disciplines. The reason for this interest stems from both practical and scientific considerations. On the one hand, fjords are a feature common to the coastlines of several countries that depend heavily on the oceans for communication, fisheries and other resources. The impact of man's activities on these coasts has created a demand for new knowledge of the physical, biological and chemical aspects of fjords. Sometimes man's influence on the ocean is intentional as, for example, in the artificial control of ice cover; often it is the more insidious build-up of toxic wastes that is of concern. These problems are particularly acute where the conflicting demands of fisheries, industrial development and recreation meet in a single fjord; and indeed, this is a common occurrence along several of the fjords in Scandinavia and Canada.

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