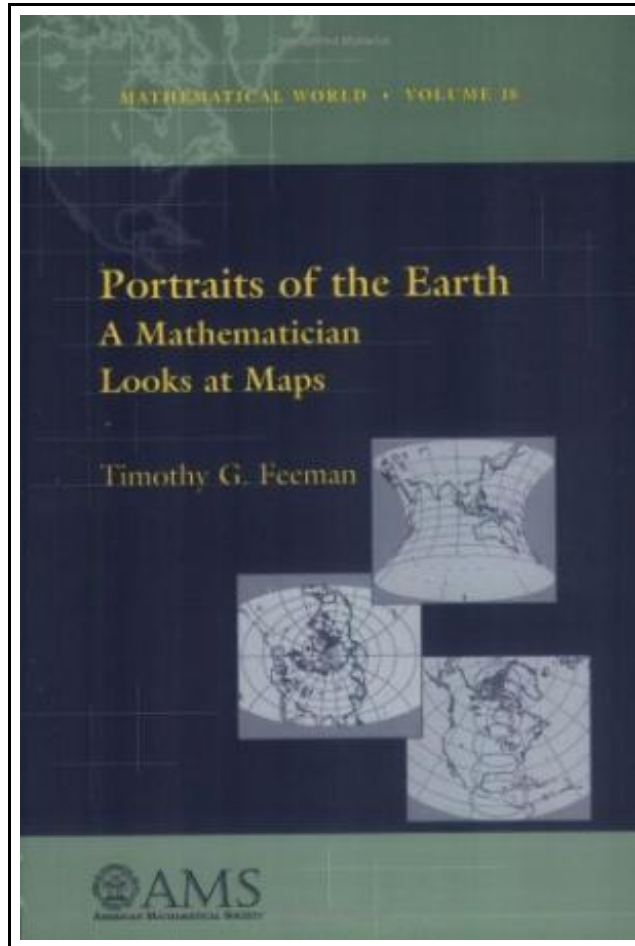# Portraits of the Earth: A Mathematician Looks at Maps

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Reviews

Undoubtedly, this is the greatest job by any author. It is actually filled with wisdom and knowledge I am quickly could get a pleasure of reading a written book.
(Kade Ankunding)

PORTRAITS OF THE EARTH: A MATHEMATICIAN LOOKS AT MAPS

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American Mathematical Society. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Portraits of the Earth: A Mathematician Looks at Maps, Timothy G. Feeman, 'Every map is a tool, a product of human effort and creativity, that represents some aspects of our world or universe.[This] course was powered by the belief that by exploring the mathematical ideas involved in creating and analyzing maps, students would see how mathematics could help them to understand and explain their world' - from the Preface. ""Portraits of the Earth"" exemplifies the AMS' mission to bring the power and vitality of mathematical thought to the nonexpert. It is designed to teach students to think logically and to analyze the technical information that they so readily encounter every day. Maps are exciting, visual tools that we encounter on a daily basis: from street maps to maps of the world accompanying news stories to geologic maps depicting the underground structure of the earth.This book explores the mathematical ideas involved in creating and analyzing maps, a topic that is rarely discussed in undergraduate courses. It is the first modern book to present the famous problem of mapping the earth in a style that is highly readable and mathematically accessible to most students. Feeman's writing is inviting to the novice, yet also interesting to readers with more mathematical experience. Through the visual context of maps and mapmaking, students will see how contemporary mathematics can help them to understand and explain the world. Topics explored are the shape and size of the earth, basic spherical geometry, and why one can't make a perfect flat map of the planet.The author discusses different attributes that maps can have and determines mathematically how to design maps that have the desired features. The distortions that arise in making world maps are quantitatively analyzed. There is an in-depth...

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