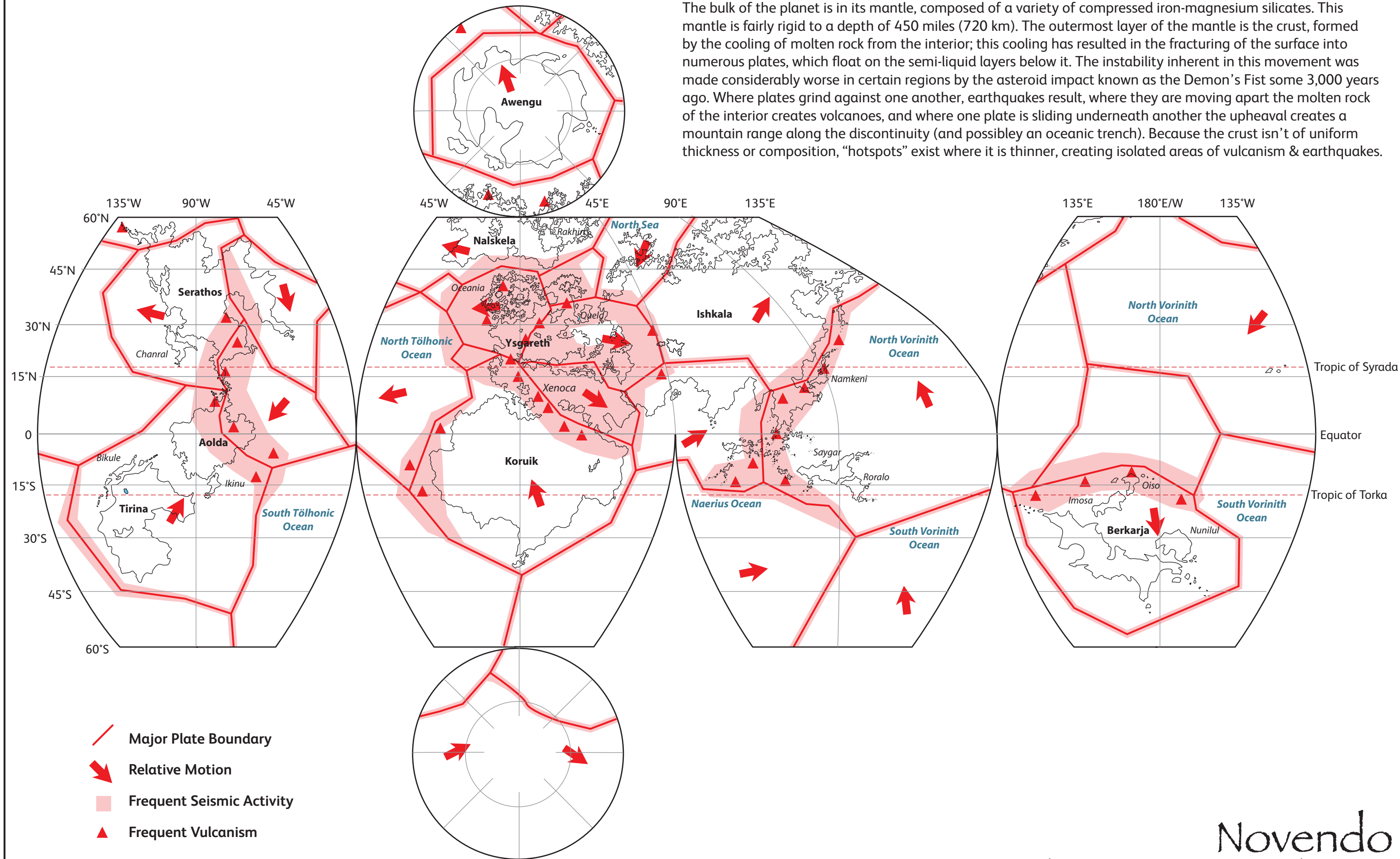


Novendo has a nickel-iron core, kept solid by immense pressure. Around this is a layer of molten nickel-iron. The bulk of the planet is in its mantle, composed of a variety of compressed iron-magnesium silicates. This mantle is fairly rigid to a depth of 450 miles (720 km). The outermost layer of the mantle is the crust, formed by the cooling of molten rock from the interior; this cooling has resulted in the fracturing of the surface into numerous plates, which float on the semi-liquid layers below it. The instability inherent in this movement was made considerably worse in certain regions by the asteroid impact known as the Demon's Fist some 3,000 years ago. Where plates grind against one another, earthquakes result, where they are moving apart the molten rock of the interior creates volcanoes, and where one plate is sliding underneath another the upheaval creates a mountain range along the discontinuity (and possibly an oceanic trench). Because the crust isn't of uniform thickness or composition, "hotspots" exist where it is thinner, creating isolated areas of vulcanism & earthquakes.



Novendo

Plate Tectonics & Vulcanism