Hydrological and geochemical research for earthquake prediction by Geological Survey of Japan, AIST

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AIST groundwater observation wells



Water level change in a confined aquifer 'strain model'



Water level change in a confined aquifer 'strain model'



Water level change and earthquake swarms in Izu Peninsula













Estimation of groundwater level change due to preseismic sliding before the anticipated Tokai earthquake

Model for preseismic sliding at the Tokai seismic gap

Tidal response in groundwater level

Smaller amplitude is used as a tidal response of the site.

"Maximum value of noise component"

| difference | (mm) | Number |
|------------|------|--------|
| x < | -6 | 0 |
| -6 < x < | -4 | 1 |
| -4 < x < | -2 | 99 |
| -2 < x < | 0 | 2150 |
| 0 < x < | 2 | 2013 |
| 2 < x < | 4 | 119 |
| 4 < x < | 6 | 2 |
| 6 < x < | 8 | 1 |
| 8 < x | | 0 |

Difference with data of 1-hour lag at Kusanagi well from Oct., 1999 to March, 2000.

- Take difference with data of 1-hour, 3-hours and 24hours lag.
- Get maximum absolute value for each difference.
- In this case, 6.0 mm is the maximum value (standard deviation is 1.0 mm)

Maximum difference – comparison groundwater levels with borehole strainmeters

(10⁻⁸ cubic strain) 45 difference with 1-hour lag 40 Maximum difference: difference with 3-hours lag 35 cubic strain converted from difference with 24-hours lag groundwater level using tidal sensitivity 30 25 Maximum difference: 20 borehole strainmeter (BSM) oparated by 15 Japan Meteorological Agency 10 5 0 Haibara Haibara Shizu-Shizu-Hama-Hama-Haibara Haibara Ogasa Hama-Kusa-Daito BSM BSM oka oka oka oka 1992 1997 oka nagi (During BSM BSM BSM BSM (No rainfall) rainfall) (No (During (No (During

rainfall) rainfall) rainfall) rainfall)

Detectivity of preseismic sliding using groundwater levels

We assume M6 preseismic sliding started three days before the mainshock at 10 km depth under each well.

We can observe anomalous groundwater level data associated with the preseismic sliding 1 - 45 hours before the mainshock.

Coseismic changes in water level vs. volumetric strain?

Water-level in the Haibara well

- 28 coseismic changes in 16 years
- Poor relationship between coseismic water level and strain change

- (water level change)
 - = 1.69 x (vol. strain change)

by using coseismic changes.

- (water level change)
 = 0.02 x (vol. strain change)
 by using tidal response.
- 33% of estimated coseismic volumetric-strain step are contraction.

Water level vs. estimated vertical ground motion $(10^{M}\Delta^{-1.73})$

 Better relationship than water level vs. volumetric strain

Possible mechanisms of changes in water level

- Volumetric strain
- Shaking-induced dilatancy
- Mobilization of bubble gas
- Fracture of impermeable fault
- Unknown reason?

Mechanism of coseismic changes in water level

Mechanism of preseismic water level change

Mechanism of coseismic changes in water level

Mechanism of preseismic water level change

Mechanism of coseismic porepressure changes

Mechanism of coseismic changes in water level

- Mechanism of preseismic water level change
 - Mechanism of coseismic porepressure changes
 - Triggered seismicity
 - Aftershock

CONCLUSION

• We established 40 observation wells in confined aquifer. We detect water level change before earthquake swarms related to volumetric changes. We also estimate waterlevel change related to preseismic sliding before the anticipated Tokai earthquake.

• However, we observed coseismic changes poorly related to strain change. We described possible mechanisms of the coseismic change. We need to know the mechanism not only for investigating preseismic water-level changes but also for triggered seismicity and aftershock.