

## Intraplate earthquake clusters and interplate coupling at subduction zones

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From the analysis of earthquake grouping into clusters and non-clusters for a number of small earthquakes in the descending and overlying plates in the Tokai subduction zones, we show the cluster events have fractal property in spatial distribution and in the magnitude-frequency relation. We emphasize that the appearance and disappearance of the localized earthquake clusters seem to reflect directly the change of stress field and fluid movement in the plate associated with the pre-seismic sliding at the locked plate interface.