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Detection of Submarine Volcanic activities by OBS arrays

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From September to December 1999, swarms of T-phases were observed by two OBS arrays deployed off Boso(4 OBS) and Sannriku(3 OBS), Japan. We read the arrival times and envelope maximum of T-phase and solve a linearized equation for source location, origin time and sound velocity in the SOFAR channel. We found that these events occured around Fukutokuoka-no-Ba,indicating high submarine vaolcanic activity there. We also showed the maximum amplitude of T-phases measured on the bandpass-filtered records (5-9 Hz) as a time function. The distribution indicate that 12 sequential submarine volcanic events Generally, the distributions showed a small gradient at the beginning but a sharp gradient at the end of each event, indicating a slow start and a sudden end of submarine volcanic activities.

The permanent ocean bottom seismographs (OBS) have been installed off the southeast of Boso Peninsula and the coast of Sannriku, Japan. We hereby report the use of these two submarine cable OBS arrays deployed 4 stations at Boso and 3 stations at Sannriku. From September to December, 1999, swarms of T-phases were observed by OBS networks off the Boso Peninsula and the coast of Sannriku, Japan.

The observed T-phases were accompanied by no P or S waves. They had shorter duration and higher prominent frequency than those of tectonic earthquakes, and their spectra showed striking peaks at about 6Hz. All these characteristics are similiar to those of volcanic T-phases reported before, therefore we conclude that they were excited by submarine volcano activities.

We read the times of arrival and envelope maximum of T-phase for each OBS record and solve a linearized equation of observation for source location, origin time and sound velocity in the SOFAR channel. We found that these events occured around Fukutokuoka-no-Ba, indicating high submarine vaolcanic activity in this region. The mean interval time of these repeated T-wave packets was about 25 s. We also showed the maximum amplitude of T-phases, measured on the bandpass-filtered records (5-7 Hz) at BSO4 station located near the axial depth of the SOFAR channel, as a function of time. The distribution indicate that 12 sequential submarine volcanic events occured in this period and each istribution function have a peak. In general, the distributions showed a relative small gradient at the beginning but a very sharp gradient at the end of each event, which suggest that a relative slow start and a sudden end of submarine volcanic activities.