

Thrust faults formation during the evolution of an accretionary prism ; are there any past earthquake faults ?

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Accretionary prisms develop along subducted continental margins by the continental deposits. The purpose of this study is to distinguish past-earthquake faults from faults related the Shimanto accretionary complex development by focusing on thermal anomaly along faults with fission track (FT) method.

The FT zircon age of a sample collected from the thrust gouge at the Nobeoka thrust fault, Kyusyu, is younger than that age of other samples. This result shows that the thrust gouge has undergone a higher maximum temperature than other samples. This thermal anomaly may be a result of fault movements that has been caused earthquakes at a plate boundary.

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