

## Structure of sheeting joints of lamination type in granitic rocks of Shodoshima Island, Kagawa Prefecture, southwest Japan

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Sheeting joints of lamination type, showing parallel or sub-parallel arrangement of fractures with spacing of the millimeter order, are well developed into granites in Shodosima Island. The disintegration of granites is not due to chemical weathering but due to fragmentation by sheeting. From the attitude of sheeting joints it is considered that the development of valleys deepened in the investigated area was not contemporaneous with the formation of sheeting joints caused by unloading of overburden pressure. The sheeting joints abut against the contact between the surrounding granites and fine-grained rocks and quartz-free or -poor rocks. The generation and characteristic of fracture surfaces of sheeting joints are controlled not only by geomorphic agent but also by petrologic features.