

## Heterogeneity of tectonic erosion and plate coupling at the Japan Trench

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Multichannel seismic reflection surveys were conducted in the Japan Trench convergent margin since 1996, to figure out a relevance between tectonic structures and regional heterogeneity in the interplate earthquake occurrence. We report here regional variation of tectonic structures caused by that of tectonic erosion. From the reflection data, it is suggested that the tectonic erosion may contribute a coupling of the plate boundary, leading to a heterogeneous distribution of the background seismicity.