

## Do large aftershocks decrease similarly to smaller ones?

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It has been considered that the decay pattern of aftershock activity does not depend on the lowest magnitude (Utsu, 1995). We found, however, that large aftershocks become apparently deficient in later time periods by examining temporal decrease of aftershock activities for large earthquakes that occurred in and around Japan in recent years. It, however, does not necessarily mean that the  $p$  value for large aftershocks is large compared to that for smaller aftershocks. Instead it indicates that a model of the modified Omori formula obtained by using data in early time period gives an over estimate for the number of large aftershocks in later time periods. We think it is important to take this fact into consideration to understand generation mechanism of aftershocks.