Heterogeneous velocity structure around the asperity of the 2003 Tokachi-oki earthquake deduced from ocean bottom seismograph

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The 2003 Tokachi-oki Earthquake (M=8.0) has occurred in the area off the southeastern coast of Hokkaido on September26, 2003. In the south off Hokkaido region, seismic activity is very high and the large earthquakes occurred repeatedly because the Pacific plate is subducting beneath the North America plate. In the off Tokachi area, the 2003 Tokachi-oki earthquake occurred at the plate boundary and ruptured the same asperity as the 1952 Tokachi-oki earthquake (M=8.2).

We deployed about 40 sets of Ocean Bottom Seismometer (OBS) immediately after the earthquake in the focal area to observe aftershocks. Although the recording period was not same for all OBSs, we conducted the aftershock observation October 1 until 20, 2003.

Although some results were obtained from this aftershock observation and the precise aftershock distribution was reported (Shionhara et al., 2004, Yamada et al., 2005 etc), a fine structure of Vp and Vp/Vs in the source region has not estimated. It is important to clarify the relation between the occurrence of an earthquake and subsurface structure in the source region in order to understand the mechanism of the occurrence of an earthquake. We select P and S arrival times with high accuracy and relocate the aftershocks. We also estimate Vp, and Vp/Vs structure by using SIMULPS13Q (Eberhart-Phillips, 1990), we focus on the velocity structure around the asperity of the 2003 Tokachi-oki earthquake.