

Developments of teaching modules about seismology for high school students

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<http://rikyoa.sci.utsunomiya-u.ac.jp/hi-net/index.html>

A teaching module to teach the focal mechanism of earthquakes was developed for high school students. In this module, we use waveform data of moderate earthquakes observed and published by Hi-net, the High Sensitivity Seismograph Network Japan, operated by the National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention.

We developed a computer application working on Windows computers. The user of the application can pick the arrival times of P and S waves, calculate hypocenters, and obtain the distribution of polarities of P wave first motions.

The module was tried out in the Science Partnership Program promoted by Utsunomiya University for several high school students. Although the contents of this module were a little bit difficult for high school students, their impression about this module was generally very positive.

