Three large intraplate earthquakes that recently occurred in Japan

Yoshihisa Iio[1]

[1] DPRI, Kyoto Univ.

A common feature is seen in the aftershock distributions of three large intraplate earthquakes that recently occurred in Japan, the 2000 Western Tottori Prefecture earthquake, the 2004 Chuetsu earthquake, and the 2005 West-of Fukuoka Prefecture earthquake. The lower limits of those aftershock distributions are deepest in the central part of the aftershock region and become shallower to both the ends. This feature can be explained by the hypothesis that a very low strength region exists in the lower crust only beneath the central part and that anelastic deformation in the region accumulate stress in the seismogenic fault above the region.