

Rupture process of the 2003 Tokachi-oki earthquake, suggested from dynamic strain records

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The 2003 Tokachi-oki earthquake is an earthquake with the largest seismic moment (M_W 8.3) which occurred in Japan in recent years. The dynamic strain variations that have caused by this earthquake were observed by BYB, which is a geophysical observatory of TRIES, at Tono area, central Japan (Okubo *et al.*, 2004). Kasahara *et al.* (2006) has reported that dynamic strain variations were observed by many observatories, which locate in Hokkaido.

In this study, we estimate the rupture process of this earthquake from time variations of principal strain azimuths that calculated by the procedure proposed by Okubo (2005).