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Tsunami deposit investigation in the Fukushima coastal area

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Jogan tsunami deposit which was caused by AD869 Jogan earthquake, is distributed in the Fukushima coastal area (from Sendai plain to Soma city: e.g., Sawai et al., 2007; Sugawara et al., 2002), and this information has been used to construct and verify the fault models (Satake et al., 2008). The detailed distribution of the Jogan Tsunami deposit, however, has been not clear. Therefore, in order to obtain the more detailed distribution of the Jogan tsunami deposit, we investigated in the five investigation points (south Matsukawaura, Urajiri, Hotokehama, Shimo-Asamigawa and Takaku) of the Fukushima coastal area. Here we report investigation results of the hand breaker boring core sample by geological and geochronological methods.

In south Matsukawaura, we found two tsunami deposits. The upper tsunami deposit is possibly thought to be ca. AD1500 tsunami deposit (Sawai and Shishikura, 2010), and the lower one is the Jogan tsunami deposit determined by the carbon dating. The run up height by the Jogan tsunami is possibly 0.5m above sea level.

In Urajiri, we found four tsunami deposits. These tsunami deposits were estimated to be AD1500 tsunami deposit, AD970 to AD1160 tsunami deposit, the Jogan tsunami deposit and BC730 to AD420 deposit, respectively. The run up height of the Jogan tsunami deposit is estimated less or equal 4m above sea level.

In Hotokehama, Shimo-Asamigawa and Takaku, we did not find the tsunami deposits.