

# Noise-Free Estimation of Temporal Change in Seismic Wave Attenuation Using High-Stable Vibration Sources.

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**Full paper**

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1 **Title page:**

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13

## 14 **Abstract**

15           We developed a method to detect changes in attenuation in transfer functions  
16 obtained by precisely controlled artificial seismic sources, namely Accurately  
17 Controlled Routinely Operated Signal System (ACROSS), and applied it to monitor the  
18 temporal changes for in-situ data collected by previous studies. Our method, together  
19 with the usage of the ACROSS sources, is less susceptible to change in noise level to  
20 which conventional methods such as envelope calculation suffer. The method utilizes  
21 the noise level that is independently estimated in the frequency domain. Thus, we can  
22 eliminate the influence of the noise by subtracting it from the observed signal. To test  
23 the performance, we applied this method to a dataset obtained at Awaji Island, Japan  
24 from 2000 to 2001. We detected the changes in amplitude with several causes including  
25 ground motion in an earthquake and water injection experiment. At the 2000 Western  
26 Tottori earthquake ( $M_w = 6.6$ , Epicenter distance of 165 km), a sudden decrease in  
27 amplitude up to 5% followed by gradual recovery are clearly observed. These coseismic  
28 changes in amplitude are consistent with the opening of fluid-filled cracks as proposed  
29 by previous studies. We convert the amplitude change into  $\Delta Q^{-1}$ , which gives similar

30 values as reported by previous studies using natural earthquakes. Increases in amplitude  
31 up to 5% associated with water injection experiments are also observed. During these  
32 experiments, the amplitude increased several days after the beginning of the injection  
33 and recovered to the previous level. This may be the result of a stress increase caused by  
34 the injection followed by a saturation increase by water diffusion.

35

## 36 **Keywords**

37 attenuation; amplitude; coseismic change; water injection; artificial seismic source;

38 ACROSS

39

## 40 **Main Text**

### 41 **Introduction**

42 Temporal changes in the propagation property of seismic waves have  
43 been studied using both seismic velocity and attenuation. In previous studies  
44 coseismic changes, among others, draw the attention of researchers because  
45 they display clear synchronization to earthquakes and their relation to

46 relevant phenomena can be discussed quantitatively.

47           Coseismic changes in subsurface structure are often reported as  
48 changes in seismic velocity. Various methods have been used to detect delays  
49 in seismic velocity during earthquakes in many locations. Seismic  
50 interferometry (e.g. Brenguier et al. 2008; Hobiger et al. 2016; Ikeda and Tsuji  
51 2018), which does not need artificial sources, is generally used to measure the  
52 temporal variation of seismic velocity in recent years. In contrast,  
53 experiments with artificial seismic sources (e.g. Ikuta et al. 2002; Tsuji et al.  
54 2018; Wang et al. 2020) are also carried out to identify coseismic velocity  
55 changes with better resolution. In most cases the seismic velocity delays  
56 during the earthquakes and recovers gradually over time. These phenomena  
57 are accounted for with a fracturing of subsurface rock (Sawazaki et al. 2009;  
58 Nakata and Snieder 2011) and/or crack opening by stress (Grêt et al. 2006;  
59 Silver et al. 2007) or pore pressure changes (Ikuta and Yamaoka 2004;  
60 Sawazaki and Snieder 2013) caused by the strong ground motions of  
61 earthquakes.

62           The coseismic changes are also detected by changes in attenuation.

63   Temporal changes in the spectral ratio of natural earthquakes are often used

64   to estimate the change of attenuation (Chun et al. 2004; Titzschkau et al.

65   2010; Kelly et al. 2013). As the source amplitudes are difficult to estimate

66   precisely, spectral ratio is used assuming that the  $Q$  is independent of

67   frequency. Coda- $Q$  has often been used to estimate the temporal variation of

68   attenuation in the region surrounding earthquake faults (Chouet 1979;

69   Huang and Kisslinger 1992; Sugaya et al. 2009) or in volcanic regions (Fehler

70   et al. 1988; Tonatiuh Domínguez et al. 2003). As the coda- $Q$  reflects both

71   scattering and intrinsic attenuation, they also pay attention to the spectral

72   ratio in discussing intrinsic attenuation. In contrast to these studies,

73   Yamamura et al. (2003) revealed the periodic variation of attenuation

74   associated with earth tides using a piezo-electric actuator as a seismic source,

75   which produces seismic signals of constant amplitude. Despite the use of high

76   resolution seismic sources, no remarkable earthquakes occurred in their

77   experiment period and they did not detect a coseismic change of attenuation.

78                   We have recently been developing effective methods to measure the  
79   temporal change of amplitude of seismic signals observed by high stability  
80   artificial sources. Here we show the result of the application of one of our  
81   methods to the data set which includes the effects of strong earthquake  
82   motions. We used the Accurately Controlled Routinely Operated Signal  
83   System (ACROSS) as a high stability artificial source which makes it possible  
84   to obtain accurate and stable transfer functions with adequate estimation of  
85   noise level. ACROSS was developed for precise monitoring of propagation  
86   property by means of continuous seismic waves excited by a precisely  
87   controlled rotating eccentric weight (Kumazawa and Takei 1994), which  
88   enables us to obtain transfer functions between sources and receivers  
89   continuously and with precision (Kumazawa et al. 2007). With these  
90   characteristics, ACROSS is able to monitor very small changes in the medium  
91   in various fields, such as Sakurajima volcano, Japan (Yamaoka et al. 2014;  
92   Maeda et al. 2015) or the Nankai trough subduction zone (Tsuji et al. 2018).

93                   The data set used in this study was obtained in the experiment at

94 the Awaji site, western Japan (Ikuta et al. 2002; Ikuta and Yamaoka 2004),  
95 where a surface fault appeared at the 1995 Hyogo-ken Nanbu Earthquake  
96 (Kobe earthquake,  $M_{jma}$  7.3) (Nakata and Yomogida 1995). At this site, an  
97 experiment with two ACROSS vibrators was carried out from January 2000  
98 to April 2001. They monitored change in travel time for P and S waves and  
99 found coseismic changes in two earthquakes which caused relatively large  
100 ground motion at the site (Ikuta et al. 2002; Ikuta and Yamaoka 2004). These  
101 two earthquakes, the 2000 Western Tottori earthquake (WT) and the 2001  
102 Geiyo earthquake (GY), had magnitudes and epicenter distances of  $M_W$  6.6,  
103 165 km and  $M_W$  6.4, 215 km, respectively. Ikuta and Yamaoka (2004) proposed  
104 a possible mechanism for these observations from the anisotropic changes of  
105 transfer function and the strain change observed at a bore-hole strain meter  
106 in the site. They interpret that the changes in the travel time were caused by  
107 self-opening of the preferred oriented, fluid-filled cracks due to pore pressure  
108 increase. Their interpretation indicates that changes in seismic attenuation  
109 can be caused by friction loss of fluid in the cracks by the earthquake motion.

110 This is the direct motivation for this study.

111

## 112 **Experiments at Awaji site**

### 113 **ACROSS experiments**

114 First, we review the experiment that were carried out at Awaji site.

115 Two ACROSS vibrators and two deep borehole seismometers were deployed

116 at this site to monitor the temporal changes in the propagation property of

117 the seismic wave (Yamaoka et al. 2001; Ikuta et al. 2002). The ACROSS

118 vibrators were operated continuously for 15 months in the period from

119 January 4, 2000, through April 9, 2001. The two ACROSS vibrators generated

120 elastic waves with frequency modulation in different frequency ranges

121 covering between 10 to 23 Hz. As the modulation period is 5 s, the sources

122 produce discrete signals with an interval of 0.2 Hz in the frequency domain.

123 Unlike recent experiments with ACROSS sources, no rotation switching had

124 been implemented at that time, i.e. the weight rotates only clockwise viewing

125 from the top throughout the experiment period. Seismic waves excited by the

126 ACROSS vibrators are observed at the bottoms of two boreholes in the

127 experiment site. The seismometers in the boreholes are three-component  
128 velocity-type sensors with a natural frequency of 3 Hz and 2 Hz for vertical  
129 and horizontal components in the 800 m deep borehole, and 4.5 Hz for the  
130 1700 m deep borehole. Both sensors are located almost vertically downward  
131 from the sources with small horizontal distances of 50 m and 120 m from the  
132 vibrators, respectively (Figure 1).

### 133 **Water injection experiments**

134           In this site, water injection experiments were conducted repeatedly  
135 from 1997 to monitor a healing process in the Nojima Fault zone after the  
136 1995 Kobe earthquake (Ando 2001). Water was pumped into the 1700 m  
137 borehole to inject the water into the bedrock. The effects of injection are  
138 monitored by a pressure gauge in the 800 m borehole, a strain meter at the  
139 bottom of the borehole, and seismic stations around the site. An optical fiber  
140 thermometer is deployed in the 1700 m borehole to measure the temperature  
141 distribution in the well. During the injection, no appreciable change is  
142 observed below a depth of 580 m, and Yamano and Goto (2001) conclude that  
143 the water leaked out from a joint near the 540 m mark. A contraction of

144 approximately  $10^{-8}$ – $10^{-7}$  was observed by the strain meter at the 800 m  
145 borehole (Mukai and Fujimori 2007). A cluster of earthquakes migrated with  
146 the speeds of 20–80 m/h, which are interpreted as induced earthquakes  
147 (Tadokoro et al. 2000). Hydraulic conductivity estimated by strain records  
148 reduced by 50% from 2000 to 2003 (Mukai and Fujimori 2007), which are  
149 interpreted as a healing of the fractures after the Kobe earthquake.

150           One of the water injection experiments was carried out in the  
151 experiment period of ACROSS monitoring at this site. Four injection  
152 operations were conducted. The 1<sup>st</sup> operation was performed on January 4,  
153 2000, but was aborted due to the leaking of the water at the well top. The  
154 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> operations were performed in January 22–26, January 31–  
155 February 5, and March 3–11, respectively, and were completed successfully.  
156 The water was injected at constant pressures of 2.9, 4.0, and 4.5 MPa  
157 respectively during each of the three operations. A total of 457 kL of water  
158 was injected during the four operations (Nishigami 2001). Transfer  
159 functions during the water injections were obtained only for the 800 m

160 borehole. The transfer function for the 1700 m borehole was hidden by the  
161 noise of the injection into the borehole. The analysis of the transfer function  
162 shows that the S wave travel time started to change after the beginning of  
163 the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 4<sup>th</sup> operations and recovered before the end of each injection  
164 period (Yamaoka and Ikuta 2001).

165

## 166 **Method**

167           We estimated a temporal change in attenuation using a series of  
168 transfer functions that are obtained in Ikuta et al. (2002). In this study, we  
169 performed an independent data screening to remove the observation period  
170 in which ACROSS vibrators are not in proper operation. The first step of the  
171 data screening was conducted based on operation logs of the ACROSS source.  
172 Rotation frequency and mass position are logged in 1-s intervals and can be  
173 used to evaluate the quality of the operation. Cross covariance of the transfer  
174 functions for each 1-h interval with the reference time is also used for data  
175 screening in the second step. We removed the data for which the cross

176 covariances are less than 0.75. The low cross covariance may imply flaws in  
177 the seismic observation systems.

178           After screening, the continuous wave records were divided into 100-  
179 s segments which are stacked together in hourly intervals. The stacking was  
180 carried out with a weighted average adopting the inverse maximum  
181 amplitude in each segment as the weight. The stacked waveforms were  
182 deconvolved with the source function of the force of the ACROSS vibrators  
183 in the frequency domain to obtain transfer functions. As we used 100 s long  
184 data for stacking, its Fourier transform contains spectral components with  
185 an interval of 0.01 Hz. As the period of frequency modulation was 5 s, the  
186 source signal gives spectral components with an interval of 0.2 Hz. This  
187 causes an ACROSS source signal to appear every 20 components in the  
188 frequency series for each vibration source. We refer to the components of the  
189 ACROSS signal as signal channels. With the exception of the signal channels,  
190 the components consist of noise referred to as the noise channel. We assumed  
191 that the signal channels also contain noise whose variance is equivalent to

192 the mean of the variance of the two noise channels next to it.

193 We selected P and S waves in the transfer function in the time  
194 domain, which is calculated by inverse Fourier transformation of the signal  
195 channel. P and S waves were selected for the 800 m and 1700 m boreholes  
196 in the same way as Ikuta et al. (2002) and Ikuta and Yamaoka (2004) for  
197 comparison. The waveform including either P or S waves were selected with  
198 a 20% Hanning window of 0.3 s centered at the travel time of P or S waves  
199 estimated from the typical velocity of the country rock. P waves were  
200 selected from the vertical components and S waves were selected from the  
201 horizontal components (Figure 2). The transfer functions in the time domain  
202 shown in Figure 2 was obtained by inverse Fourier transformation of those  
203 in the frequency domain. P, S, and several later phases were identified in the  
204 transfer functions for the seismometers in both the 800 m and the 1700 m  
205 boreholes.

206 We estimated a temporal change in amplitudes of P and S waves  
207 by calculating the ratio of the total energy of the ACROSS signal in

208 selected time windows of the 1-h transfer functions to those of the  
209 reference transfer function. We selected the transfer function from 14:00 to  
210 15:00 of January 19, 2000 as the reference transfer function as used in  
211 Ikuta et al. (2002). The ratio  $r$  can be calculated as the following equation

$$212 \quad r_l^2 = \frac{\sum_k (G_{kl} G_{kl}^* - \sigma_{kl}^2)}{\sum_k G_{k0} G_{k0}^*} \quad (1)$$

213 where  $G_{kl}$  denotes the Fourier transform of the transfer function extracted  
214 by the windows in the time domain.  $\sigma_{kl}^2$  denotes noise variance in the time  
215 window.  $G_{k0}$  is the Fourier transform of the reference transfer function under  
216 the same time window for  $G_{kl}$ . The subscripts  $k$  and  $l$  denote the frequency  
217 component and calendar time, respectively. The method can avoid the  
218 apparent change of signal amplitude caused by the changes of noise  
219 amplitude, which conventional methods such as envelope calculation suffer.  
220 This method takes the advantage of ACROSS in that noise level can be  
221 estimated accurately.

222           The transfer functions and noise variance used in the equation (1)  
223 for the selected windows including P and S waves are estimated based on

224 the method in Ikuta et al. (2002). The transfer functions  $G_k$  extracted with  
225 the Hanning window onto the time domain data is calculated as equation (4)  
226 in Ikuta et al. (2002) as follows:

$$227 \quad G_k = \sum_{j=0}^N \frac{X_j}{S_j} H_{k-j} \quad (2)$$

228 where  $X_j$  and  $S_j$  is the  $j$ -th spectral component of the stacked  
229 waveform and the source function, respectively.  $H_{k-j}$  is the  $(k-j)$ -th  
230 component of the Fourier transform of the Hanning window.  $N$  is the  
231 number of data in the frequency domain. Similarly, we can calculate noise  
232 variance corresponding to each component of the transfer functions. The  
233 noise variance extracted by the window function can be calculated as follows:

$$234 \quad \sigma_k^2 = \sum_{j=0}^N \frac{\varepsilon_j^2}{S_j^2} H_{k-j}^2 \quad (3)$$

235 where  $\varepsilon_j^2$  is noise variance at  $j$ -th frequency component.

236 We applied this method to the same data that are obtained by  
237 Ikuta et al. (2002) at the Awaji site. However, we analyzed the signal of each  
238 component of the seismometers instead of synthesizing the radial and

239 transverse component. Thus, we name two horizontal components as H1  
240 and H2 for both sensors in the 800 m and 1700 m boreholes. H1 and H2  
241 components in the 800 m borehole are directed N126°E and N216°E and  
242 those of the 1700 m borehole are directed N90°E and N180°E. The S phase  
243 that appears in each component is denoted S-H1 and S-H2.

244

## 245 **Results**

246 Temporal variation in amplitudes and travel times estimated for P, S-  
247 H1, and S-H2 observed by the sensors in the 800 m and 1700 m boreholes are  
248 shown in Figure 3. The variations of the amplitudes are calculated using the  
249 method explained above for each component. We plot hourly data to show the  
250 daily variations as well as long-term or event related variations. The travel  
251 time variation is also calculated after Ikuta et al. (2002) for comparison. In  
252 this plot, we calculated them for each component and showed hourly variation  
253 instead of the plots as in Ikuta et al. (2002), which showed radial and  
254 transverse components with a moving average over 24 h.

255

256 **Change in travel time**

257           We confirmed that the variation in the travel time is similar to  
258 Ikuta et al. (2002). Estimated travel time is shown in the top three panels in  
259 Figure 3. General trends in variation for the 800 and 1700 m boreholes are  
260 quite similar. Long term variation for P and S waves such as gradual delay  
261 from January to March in 2000, gradual recovery from April to May, and  
262 gradual advance from July to September are observed. Sudden delay at  
263 extremely heavy rain on September 11 is visible in all the components. The  
264 delay is preceded by a two-month-long advance of travel time, which  
265 corresponds to the dry summer season at this site. Coseismic delay and  
266 gradual recovery are observed at the teleseismic event on October 6. In  
267 addition, changes which may be associated with the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> water  
268 injection experiments are clearly observed for the 800 m borehole, although  
269 there is no mention of this event in Ikuta et al. (2002).

270

271 **Change in amplitude**

272           Several characteristics in the amplitude variation are seen  
273 throughout the experimental period (See the bottom three panels in Figure  
274 3). The amplitude of the P wave for both the 800 m and 1700 m boreholes  
275 gradually decreased from January to February, shortly following the onset of  
276 the ACROSS experiment. The overall pattern of the amplitude variation of P  
277 waves is similar for both the 800 m and the 1700 m boreholes, although  
278 variation is larger in the 1700 m than that in the 800 m borehole. This may  
279 indicate that the region causing the attenuation change spreads below the  
280 sensor of the 800 m borehole as well as above it. Relatively large amplitude  
281 increases are observed for S-H2 of the 1700 m sensor from February to April.

282           Extremely heavy rainfall on September 11 changes the amplitudes  
283 suddenly for the S-H1 for both the 800 m and the 1700 m boreholes after a  
284 gradual change from the mid-August. They changed in the opposite direction.  
285 The amplitude decreases for the 800 m borehole after a gradual increase but  
286 increases for the 1700 m borehole after a gradual decrease. On the other hand,  
287 few changes can be seen in P and S-H2. In contrast to the amplitude change,

288 the travel time is delayed for both P and S waves. This change is interpreted  
289 as the delay of the source motion with reference to the weight rotation caused  
290 by energy dissipation immediately local to the source. It is difficult to  
291 interpret the cause of the amplitude variation in terms of the source-ground  
292 interaction only. It may be caused by the interference of multi-path waves  
293 that suffer radiation variation near the source.

294 Diurnal variations that correlated well with the changes in  
295 temperature (Figure 4), were also observed. For the 800 m borehole, the  
296 amplitude has positive correlation with temperature for all the phases. The  
297 P and S-H1 often show larger variation than that of the S-H2. The maximum  
298 variation in the P and S-H1 reach approximately 5% and that of the S-H2  
299 approximately 3%. For the 1700 m borehole, daily variation of P and S-H1 are  
300 opposite to that of S-H2. P and S-H1 have positive correlation with the  
301 temperature whereas S-H2 has negative correlation. The daily variation of P  
302 (approximately 10%) is larger than that of S-H1 and S-H2 (approximately 3%).

303 On October 31, a step-like decrease in the amplitude of all the

304 phases for the 1700 m boreholes is seen. We checked total energy of the  
305 transfer function in the frequency domain and found a step-like decrease in  
306 energy at 08:00 on October 31. The ratio of this decrease is almost the same  
307 for all the components. The level of ground noise of all the components of the  
308 sensor were analyzed because we suspected that this change was caused by  
309 a problem in the observation system, such as a change in amplification gain.  
310 However, no significant difference in noise level was found except for a small  
311 step-like increase of noise level in the UD component. The spectrum of the  
312 noise also did not change at that time. This means that data-logging  
313 instruments did not cause the signal decrease. The change might be caused  
314 by a change in the coupling of the sensors against the well casing.

315

### 316 **Coseismic Change**

317 We analyzed the seismic changes caused by the Western Tottori  
318 earthquake (WT) in 2000 and the Geiyo earthquake (GY) in 2001, as their  
319 effect on the travel time is intensively discussed in Ikuta and Yamaoka (2004).

320 Figure 4 shows the temporal changes in amplitude during the ten

321 days before and after the earthquakes. The amplitude decreases at the  
322 earthquakes, and the change in amplitude at the WT earthquake is larger  
323 than the GY earthquake, which follows the same tendency as travel times.  
324 For the WT earthquake, a sudden drop of approximately 3% and 5% are  
325 observed in S-H2 for the 800 m borehole and S-H1 for the 1700 m borehole.  
326 Gradual recoveries lasted approximately one week after the earthquakes  
327 are observed in P and S for both boreholes (Figure 4a). The amplitude  
328 recovered to almost the same level as before the earthquake. However, for  
329 the GY earthquake, only S-H2 of the 800 m borehole shows a clear step-like  
330 decrease of 1% (Figure 4b). Gradual recovery is not observed in any phases  
331 of any sensors.

332

### 333 **Change at water injections**

334 Water injection causes a change in the transfer function both in  
335 amplitude and travel time (Figure 5). Significant increases in amplitude are  
336 observed in P and S-H1 of the 800 m borehole in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> period of  
337 water injection. The magnitude of the change is up to approximately 3% for

338 both phases of the 2<sup>nd</sup> period and approximately 5% for both phases of the  
339 4<sup>th</sup> period. Travel times of S-H1 and S-H2 also show advances in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and  
340 4<sup>th</sup> periods of the injection experiment although neither Ikuta et al. (2002)  
341 nor Ikuta and Yamaoka (2004) noted these findings in their studies. The  
342 timing of the advances in the travel times are almost the same as those of  
343 the increase in amplitude. The period to the recovery is almost the same for  
344 S-H2 of travel time and P and S-H1 of amplitude. No significant change in  
345 amplitude and travel time is observed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> period.

346

## 347 **Discussions**

### 348 **Interpretation of the change in amplitude**

349 Fluid migration in cracks or pores is usually considered as a cause of  
350 attenuation. The effects of fluid saturation in attenuation have been widely  
351 studied with laboratory experiments. For example, Winkler et al. (1979)  
352 measured attenuation for dry, partially saturated, and fully saturated  
353 Massillon sandstone under several confining pressures. They demonstrated  
354 that the attenuation generally increases with saturation increase, and

355 decreases with an increase of confining pressure. The effect of confining  
356 pressure is noticeable in saturated rocks. Pressure increase causes closure of  
357 cracks or pores and thus, reduces the attenuation.

358           The change in amplitude in the water injection experiment can be  
359 explained by a combination of saturation and pressure increase. The  
360 amplitude observed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 4<sup>th</sup> periods of the injection experiments  
361 increased for several days following the beginning of the injection and then  
362 returned to original levels. This observation may reflect a pressure increase  
363 from the water injection from the well reducing attenuation along the ray  
364 path, but diffusion of the injected water increased the fluid saturation in the  
365 ray path region, increasing attenuation. However, if this mechanism operated  
366 identically also in the 3<sup>rd</sup> period the amplitude should be increased. This  
367 suggests the existence of other compromising factors.

368           The coseismic change in amplitude can be explained by the  
369 mechanism proposed by Ikuta and Yamaoka (2004), where they explained  
370 the delay of travel time during earthquakes with the opening of fluid-filled

371 cracks due to an increase in pore pressure caused by strong vibrations.

372 When new fluid-filled cracks are generated in the rock, viscous loss by the

373 fluid causes energy dissipation and increases attenuation.

374

### 375 **Comparison in terms of change in attenuation**

376 We try to convert the changes in amplitude to that of  $Q^{-1}$  for

377 comparison with coseismic changes observed in other studies. We assume the

378 amplitude ratio  $\gamma$  can be written as,

$$379 \quad \gamma(f) = \frac{\frac{1}{d} A_0 \exp\left(-\frac{2\pi f d}{2c} Q^{-1}\right)}{\frac{1}{d} A_0 \exp\left(-\frac{2\pi f d}{2c} Q^{*-1}\right)} = \exp\left(-\frac{\pi f d}{c} \Delta Q^{-1}\right) \quad (4)$$

380 where,  $d$  is the distance of sensors from the source,  $A_0$  is the amplitude at

381 the source,  $\omega$  is the angular frequency of an elastic wave,  $c$  is the velocity of

382 an elastic wave,  $Q^{*-1}$  and  $Q^{-1}$  is the inverse of quality factor before and

383 after the earthquake. We put  $\Delta Q^{-1} = Q^{-1} - Q^{*-1}$ .

384 We may assume that the amplitude ratio we obtained in this study

385  $\alpha$  is equivalent to the amplitude ratio at the mean frequency used in our

386 experiment  $\bar{f}$ . Then, the change in  $\Delta Q^{-1}$  can be written as follows:

387 
$$\Delta Q^{-1} = -\frac{c}{\pi f d} \ln(\alpha) \quad (5)$$

388 Herein, we assumed no velocity change in the equation because the coseismic  
 389 velocity change is sufficiently small (<0.5%). With this method, the amplitude  
 390 changes associated with the WT and GY earthquakes were converted into  
 391  $\Delta Q^{-1}$  and compared with the changes in  $Q^{-1}$  that had been obtained in  
 392 various regions by other methods. Table 1 shows the amplitude ratio of the  
 393 transfer function before and after the earthquake obtained by the amplitude  
 394 changes at the WT and GY earthquakes.

395

396 **Table 1: Coseismic steps of amplitudes**

	Step at WT		Step at GY	
	0800m	1700m	0800m	1700m
P-UD	0.95	0.94	--	--
S-H1	--	0.95	--	--
S-H2	0.97	0.97	0.99	--

397 Ratio of the amplitude of the transfer functions before and after the  
 398 earthquakes in each sensor and each phase obtained by the comparison of  
 399 the estimated change in amplitude. This corresponds to  $\alpha$  in equation (4). “-  
 400 -” indicates that no significant change was observed.

401

402 We calculated  $\Delta Q^{-1}$  by equation (5) using the amplitude ratio  
403 shown in Table 1 and  $V_p = 4.0$  [km/s],  $V_s = 2.5$  [km/s]. In this calculation  
404 we put  $f = 16$  [Hz] which corresponds to the center of the source frequency  
405 of the ACROSS operation. The results are shown in Table 2, in which  $\Delta Q^{-1}$   
406 are estimated in range of  $1.0 \times 10^{-3}$  to  $1.0 \times 10^{-2}$ .

407

408 **Table 2:  $\Delta Q^{-1}$  obtained with equation (3)**

	Step at WT		Step at GY	
	0800m	1700m	0800m	1700m
P-UD	0.01	0.003	--	--
S-H1	--	0.002	--	--
S-H2	0.002	0.001	0.001	--

409  $\Delta Q^{-1}$  estimated with equation (5) under the assumption of  $V_s = 4.0$  [km/s],  
410  $V_p = 2.5$  [km/s]) and  $f = 16$ Hz.

411

412 These  $\Delta Q^{-1}$  are of the same order of magnitude as reported in the  
413 previous studies with spectral ratio methods. For example, Kelly et al. (2013)  
414 reported that  $\Delta Q^{-1}$  in the fault region of the 2004 Parkfield earthquake ( $M_w$

415 6.0) was of the order of  $1.0 \times 10^{-3}$ . Wang and Ma (2015) found a decrease in  $Q_s$   
416 associated with the 1999 Chi-Chi earthquake ( $M_W$  7.6). The  $Q_s$  was changed  
417 from 238 to 157, which corresponds to  $2.2 \times 10^{-3}$  of  $\Delta Q^{-1}$ .

418

## 419 **Conclusions**

420 We developed a method to detect amplitude changes using a stable  
421 artificial seismic source, ACROSS, and applied it to in-situ data. The  
422 amplitude change was obtained by calculating the energy ratio of the  
423 transfer function of each period to that of a reference time. The energy of the  
424 noise is estimated to avoid apparent change in amplitude caused by noise  
425 level drift. We applied this method to the data acquired at the Awaji site by  
426 Ikuta et al. (2002). Various changes including the effects of water injection  
427 and strong ground motion by earthquakes are detected. An amplitude  
428 increase of 10% is observed associated with the water injection experiment.  
429 The changes in the water injection experiments can be explained by the  
430 changes in the degree of saturation of cracks in rocks. A coseismic decrease

431 of amplitude was observed for the 2000 Western Tottori earthquake and the  
432 2001 Geiyo earthquake with a maximum decrease of approximately 10%. The  
433 coseismic changes can be explained by the mechanism proposed by Ikuta and  
434 Yamaoka (2004).

435

436

## 437 **Declarations**

### 438 **Availability of data and materials**

439 Please contact Dr. Ikuta Ryoya for the transfer functions and operation  
440 logs which we used for this analysis.

441 Precipitation and temperature data at Gunka station are retrieved from the

442 JMA website

443 (<http://www.data.jma.go.jp/gmd/risk/obsdl/index.php> , In

444 Japanese)

### 445 **Competing interests**

446 The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

447

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448

This study was founded by Nagoya University.

449

## **Authors' contributions**

450

TS developed the method, carried out the analysis, and drafted the

451

manuscript. YK supervised TS and developed the method together. IR

452

provided the data of the experiments at Awaji Site and supported in

453

developing the method. All authors read and approved the final

454

manuscript.

455

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456

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457

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458

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459

460

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572

## 573 **Figure Captions**

574 ● Figure 1

575 Location of Awaji site, epicenter of earthquakes, ACROSS vibrator, and  
576 borehole seismometers. Figures are from Figure 1 in Ikuta et al., 2004.  
577 (a) Location of the ACROSS site and epicenter of four earthquakes with  
578 strong ground motion during the ACROSS experiment. The open star  
579 indicates the location of the ACROSS at Awaji site. (b) Location of the  
580 ACROSS and borehole seismometers. The solid triangles show the  
581 location of 0800 m and 1700 m-deep boreholes. The onset map shows the  
582 details of the location configuration. The circles show seismometers in the  
583 borehole. (c) Cross section of the 800 m and 1700 m-deep boreholes.

584 ● Figure 2

585 Reference transfer function in time domain and selected P and S phase  
586 for 800 m and 1700 m sensors. Transfer functions on 14:00 January 19,  
587 2000 are used for the reference. Area with red background shows selected  
588 P and S phase for calculating the change in amplitude and travel time.  
589 We selected P waves from UD components (P-UD) and S waves from two  
590 horizontal components (S-H1 and S-H2).

591 ● Figure 3

592 Change in travel time and amplitude in all period. The changes in travel  
593 time (yellow back) that are calculated after Ikuta et al., (2002) and  
594 changes in amplitude (green back) that is obtained by the proposed  
595 method. The center row indicates rainfall observed at Gunka station, the  
596 nearest meteorological station. Periods with blue shading show the  
597 periods of the water injection experiments. Red vertical lines show the  
598 timing of the earthquakes mentioned in Ikuta and Yamaoka (2004).

599 ● Figure 4

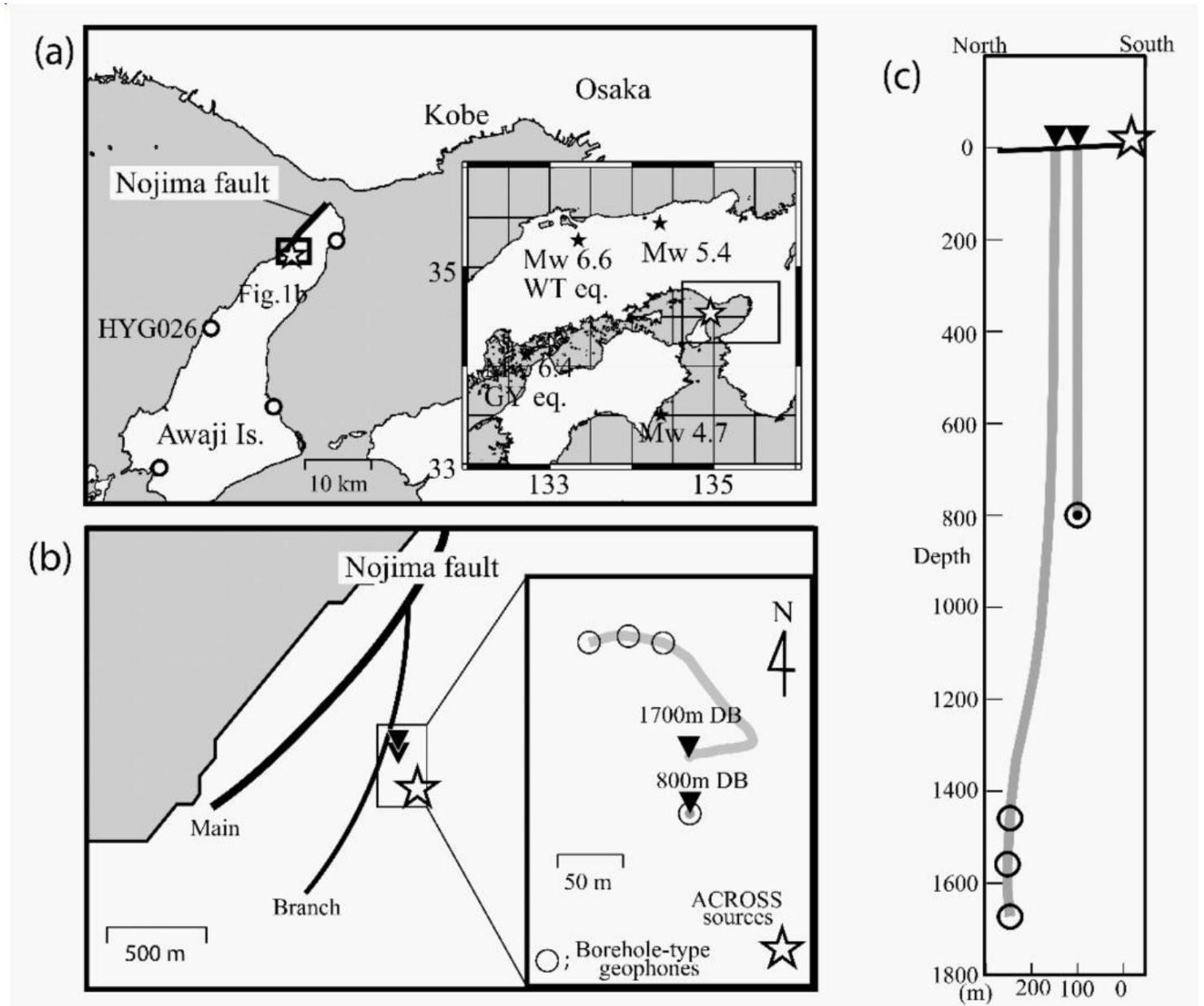
600 Change in amplitudes approximately 10 days before and after the  
601 occurrence of the 2000 Western Tottori (WT) earthquake and 2001 Geiyo  
602 (GY) earthquake. The magnitudes and epicenter distances for WT and GY  
603 are  $MW = 6.6$ , 165 km and  $MW = 6.4$ , 215 km, respectively. Bottom row  
604 shows temperature at Gunka station.

605 ● Figure 5

606 Change in amplitude around the water injection experiments. The bottom

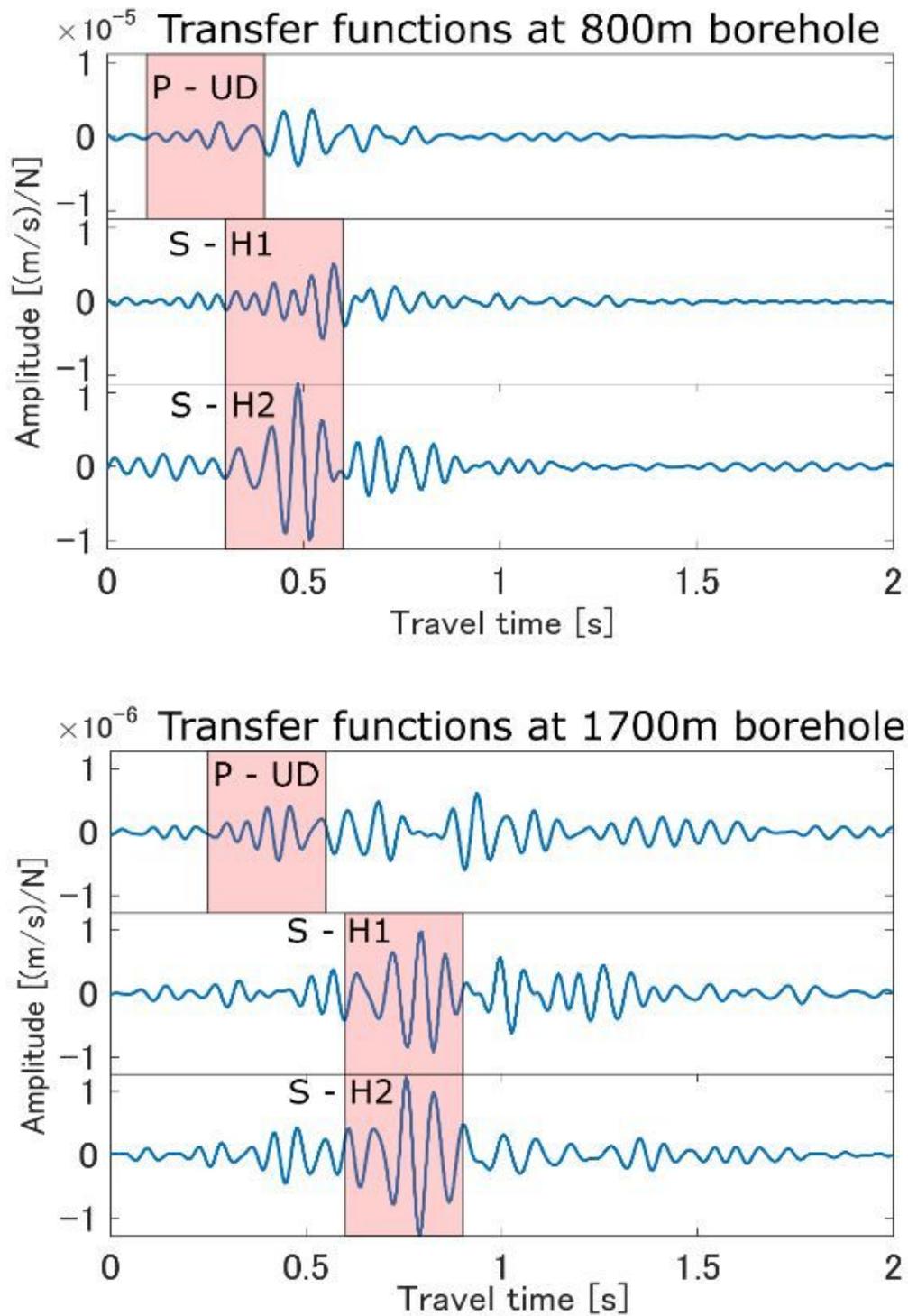
607 row shows the temperature observed at Gunka station. Blue background  
608 indicates the periods of the injection experiments. In the period of the  
609 water injection experiment, the transfer function of the 1700 m sensor  
610 could not be analyzed because of the noise of the injection.

# Figures



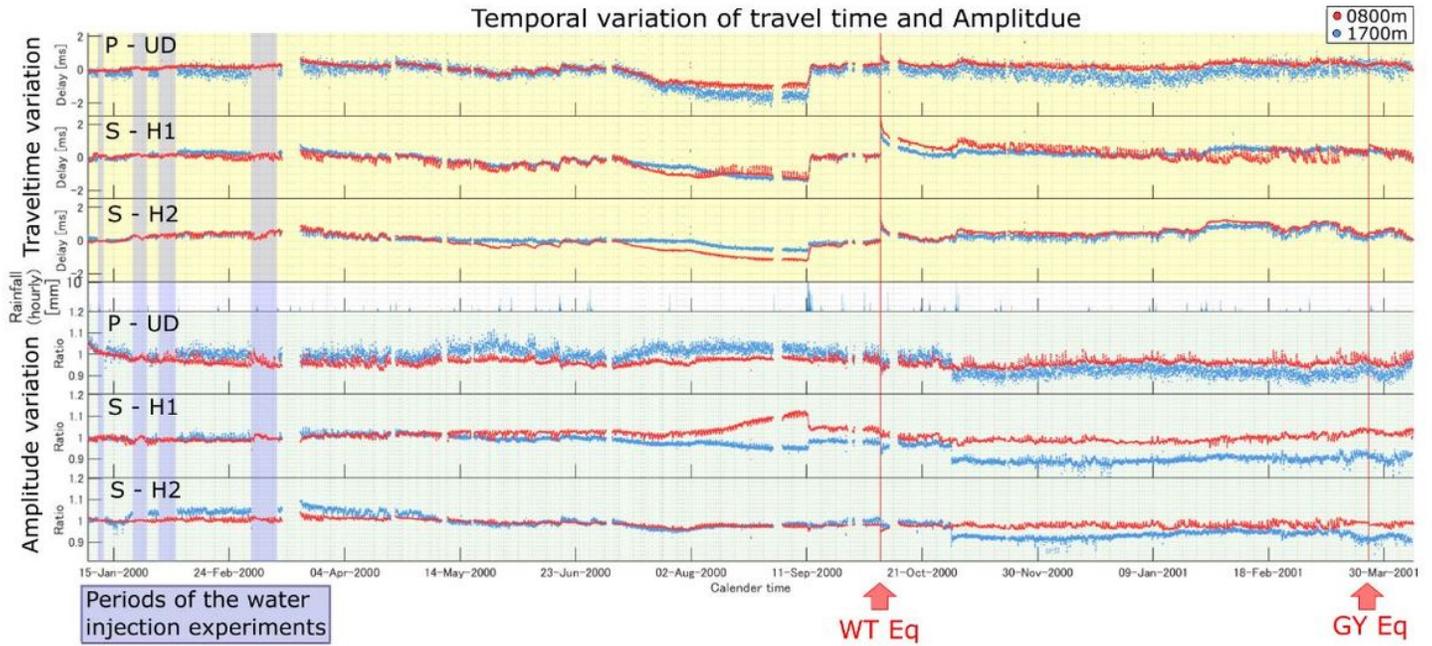
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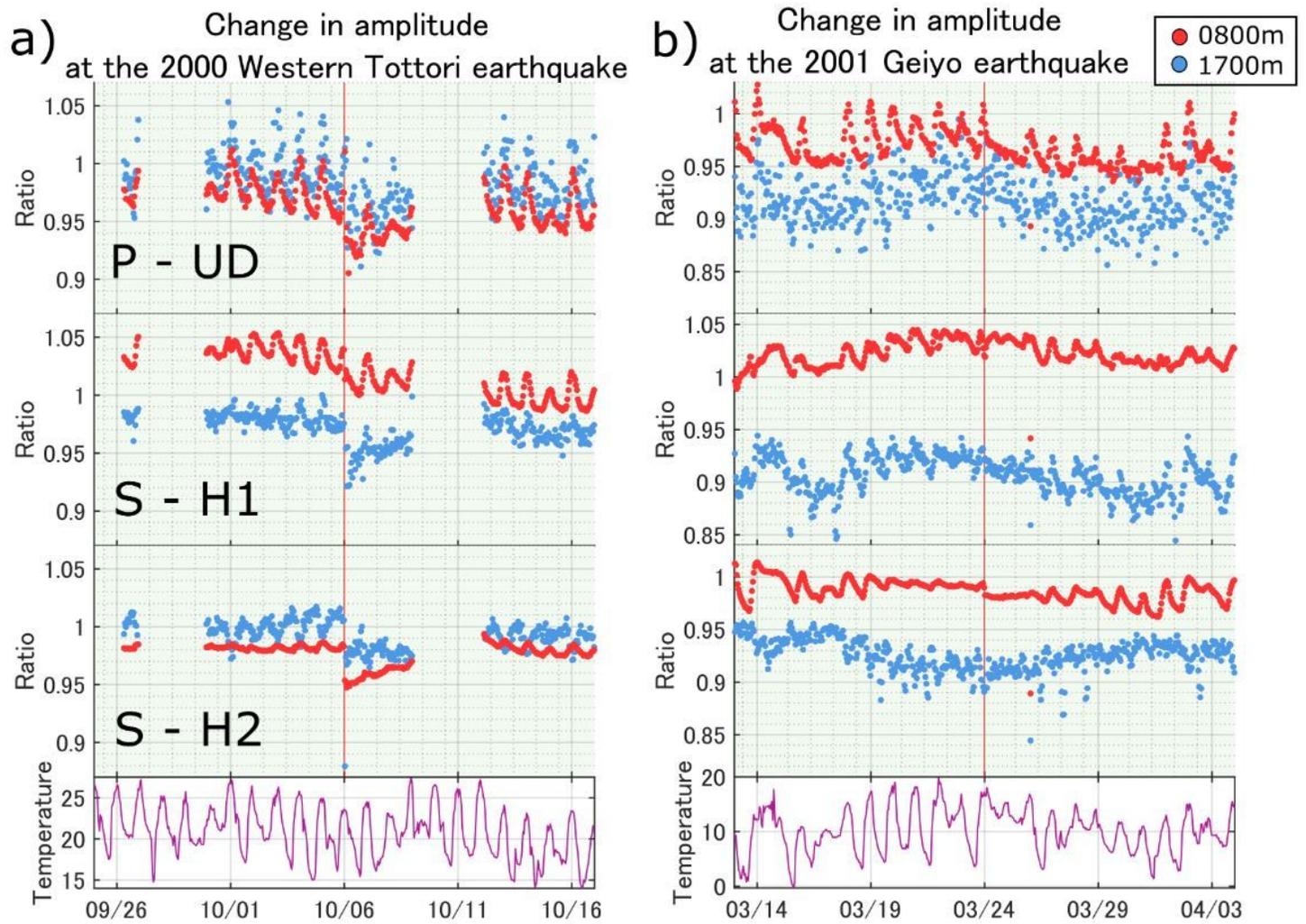
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Reference transfer function in time domain and selected P and S phase for 800 m and 1700 m sensors. Transfer functions on 14:00 January 19, 2000 are used for the reference. Area with red background shows selected P and S phase for calculating the change in amplitude and travel time. We selected P waves from UD components (P-UD) and S waves from two horizontal components (S-H1 and S-H2).



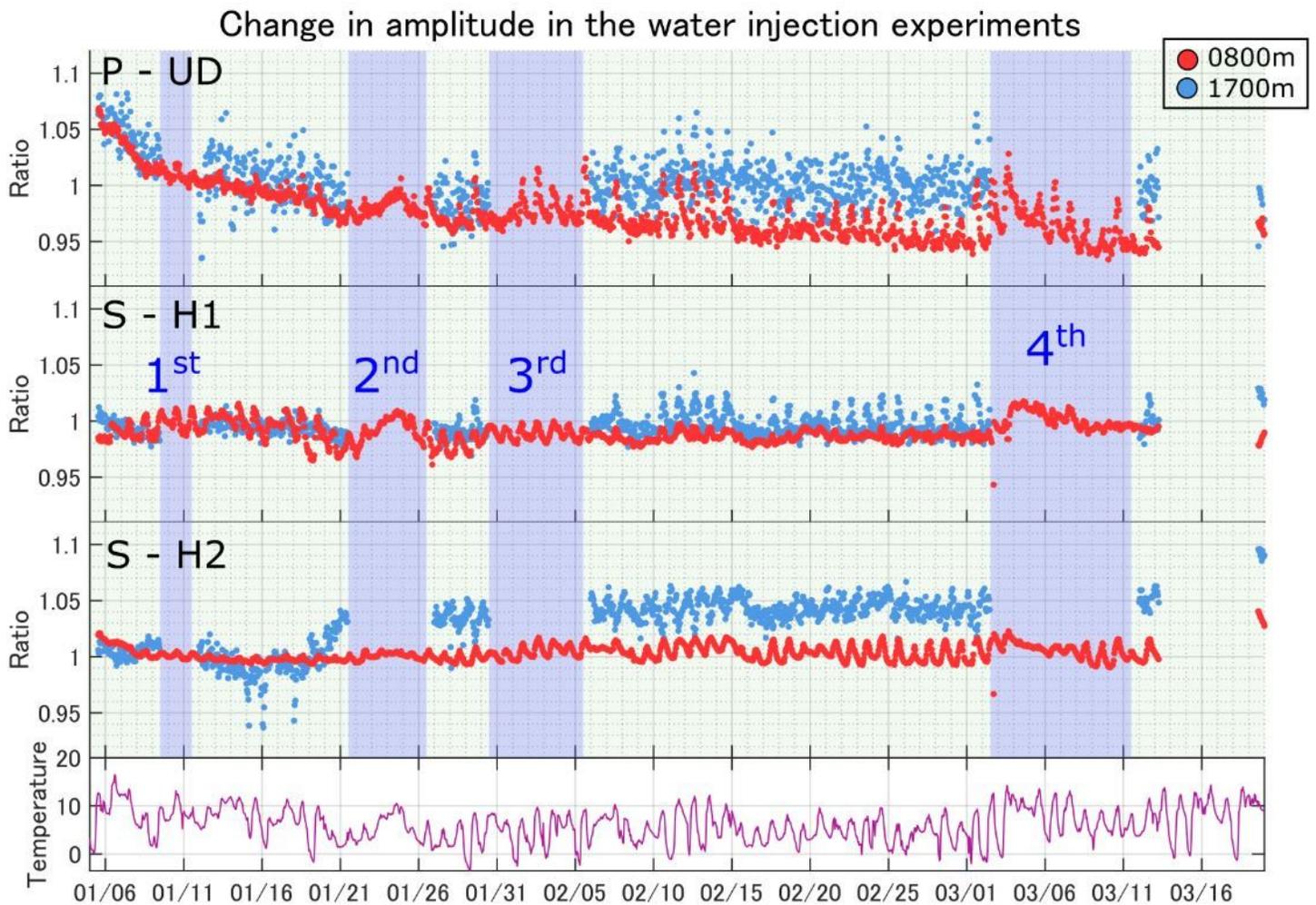
**Figure 3**

Change in travel time and amplitude in all period. The changes in travel time (yellow back) that are calculated after Ikuta et al., (2002) and changes in amplitude (green back) that is obtained by the proposed method. The center row indicates rainfall observed at Gunka station, the nearest meteorological station. Periods with blue shading show the periods of the water injection experiments. Red vertical lines show the timing of the earthquakes mentioned in Ikuta and Yamaoka (2004).



**Figure 4**

Change in amplitudes approximately 10 days before and after the occurrence of the 2000 Western Tottori (WT) earthquake and 2001 Geiyo (GY) earthquake. The magnitudes and epicenter distances for WT and GY are  $M_W = 6.6$ , 165 km and  $M_W = 6.4$ , 215 km, respectively. Bottom row shows temperature at Gunka station.



**Figure 5**

Change in amplitude around the water injection experiments. The bottom row shows the temperature observed at Gunka station. Blue background indicates the periods of the injection experiments. In the period of the water injection experiment, the transfer function of the 1700 m sensor could not be analyzed because of the noise of the injection.

## Supplementary Files

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