

Distribution of earthquake hypocenters in and around the Japanese Islands and grouping of some types of earthquakes

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The Japanese archipelago is surrounded by four plates, known as one of the most earthquake-prone regions around the world. First, the dates, times, locations, and depths of hypocenters of the 282 earthquakes reported as earthquake bulletins by the Japan Meteorological Agency from January 1 to March 15 were recorded. Next, the depth of the hypocenters was classified based on the recorded data and plotted on a map of Japan. Finally, criteria for classifying earthquake types were established based on some previous research, and earthquake types were classified based on the recorded data. As a result, we roughly classified the earthquakes into four types. Some of the earthquake types cannot be clearly distinguished using only the data and criteria of this study, and those earthquakes were considered exceptions, taking into account the above discrimination criteria.

Keywords: Earthquake, Japanese Islands, Plate