

Occurrence mechanism of rockslide at the  
time of the Chuetsu earthquake in 2004  
- A dynamic response analysis by using a  
simple cyclic loading model -

Norihiro TANAKA  
A.Wakai, S.Abe, H.Kawabata,  
M.Genda, H.Yoshimatsu

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A stylized, dark blue silhouette of a mountain range is located in the bottom right corner of the slide, extending from the right edge towards the center.

# The point of this presentation

## Recent trend in seismic response analysis

### Problems:

Not easily applicable for reviewing the occurrence mechanism of the landslide in mountainous area during an earthquake.

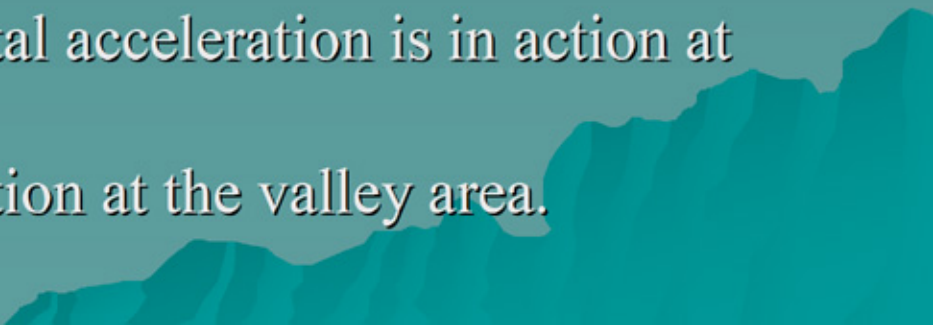
### Solutions:

Application of UW model capable of dealing with dynamic deformation characteristics and shear strength together.

## Case study analysis: The Hitotsu-minesawa Landslide

The Hitotsu-minesawa Landslide was induced by the Niigata Chuetsu Earthquake which occurred in Japan 2004.

### Results:

1. A large increase of horizontal acceleration is in action at the ridge area.
  2. A large shear stress is in action at the valley area.
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# Map of the landslide damaged area (from the Chuetsu earthquake, 2004)

## <Profile of the earthquake>

Date:

at 17:56 on 23rd October 2004

Location:

E.L.  $138^{\circ} 52' 00'' \pm 24''$

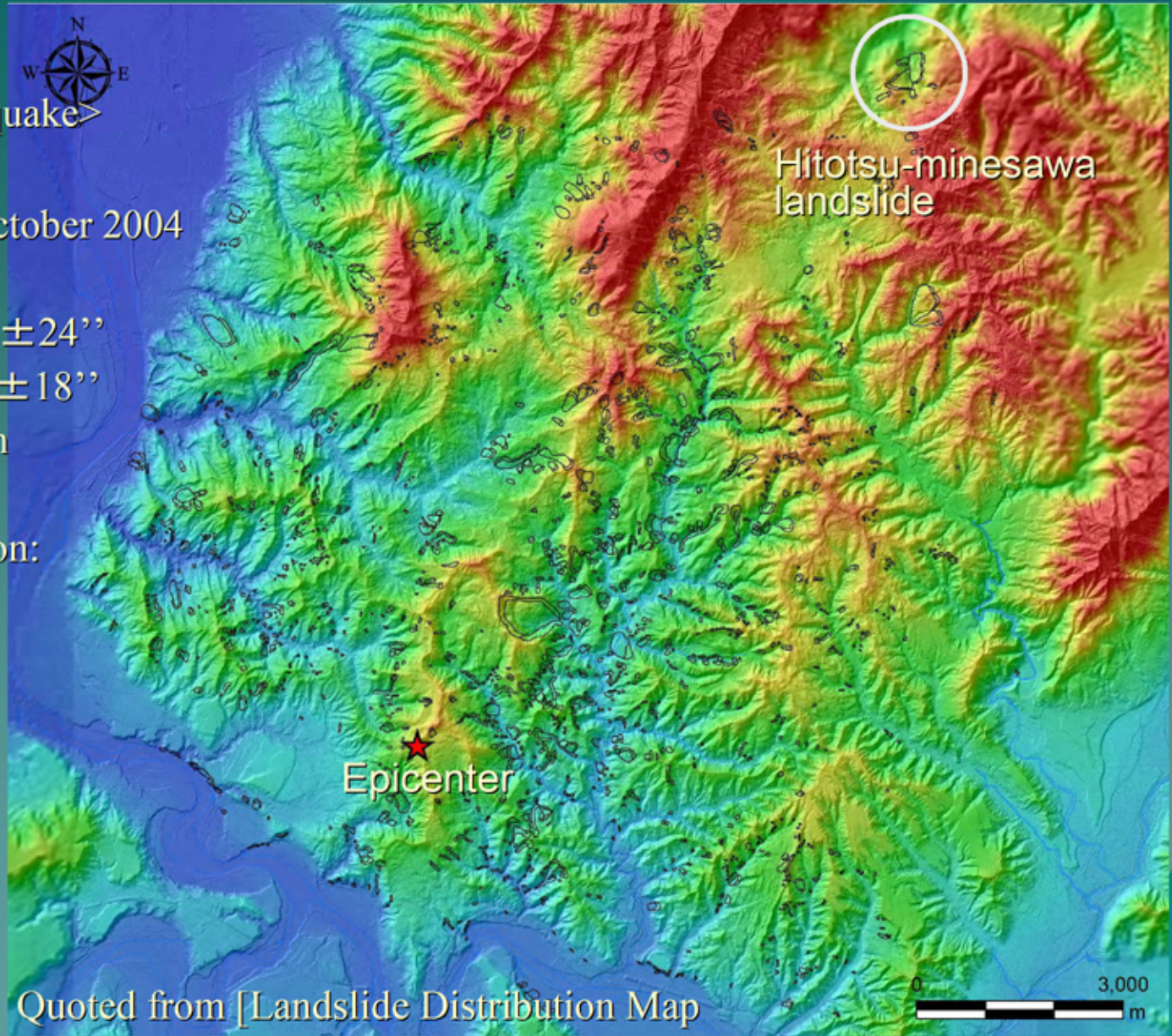
N.L.  $37^{\circ} 17' 30'' \pm 18''$

Depth of focus: 13km

Magnitude: 6.8

Maximum acceleration:

over 1000 gal



Quoted from [Landslide Distribution Map  
(Yagi et al. ,Japan Landslide society, 2004)]



# The Hitotsu-minesawa Landslide: Profile 1

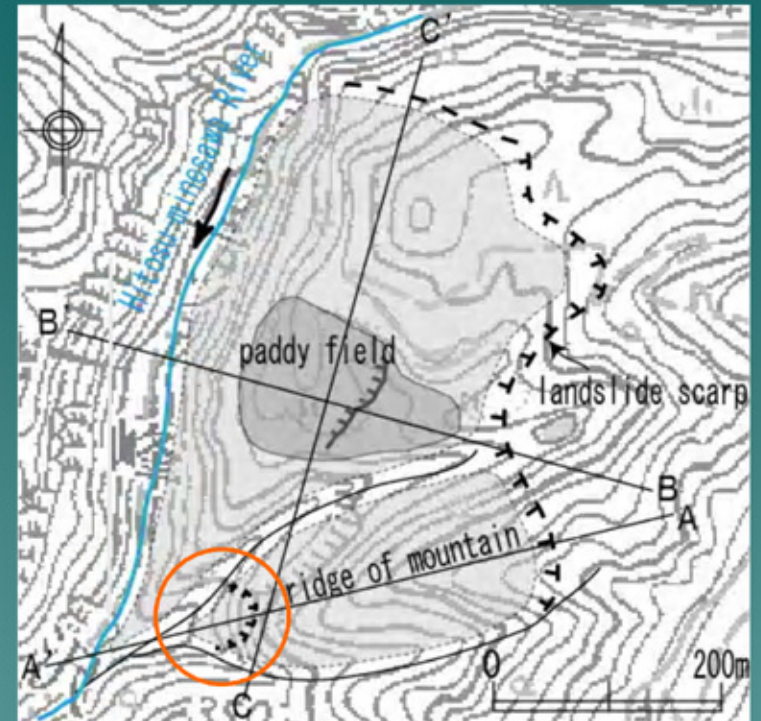


Overall view of Hitotsu-minesawa (Photo by Haraguchi, 2004)

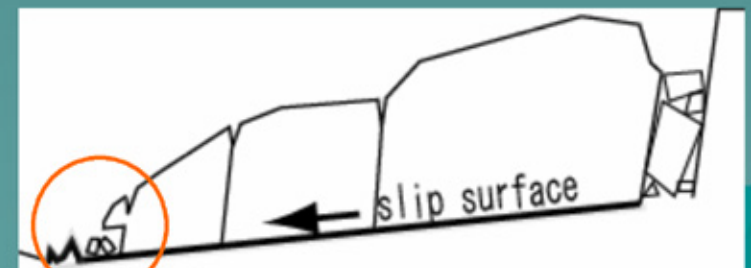


# The Hitotsu-minesawa Landslide: Profile 2

Severe fractures at the front-end of the slide



<Location>



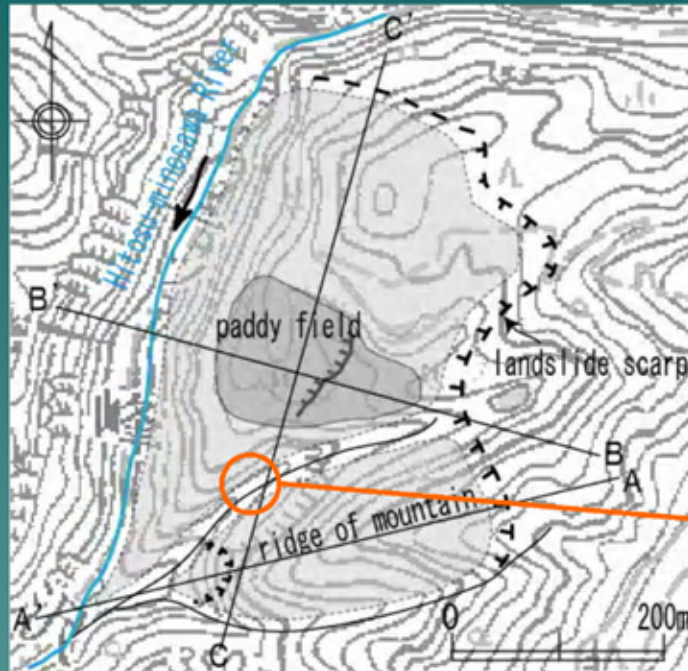
<A-A' section>

A summary by the photograph (Photo by Haraguchi, 2004)



# The Hitotsu-minesawa Landslide: Profile 3

Many cracks occurred in the stream by the ridges.



<Location>

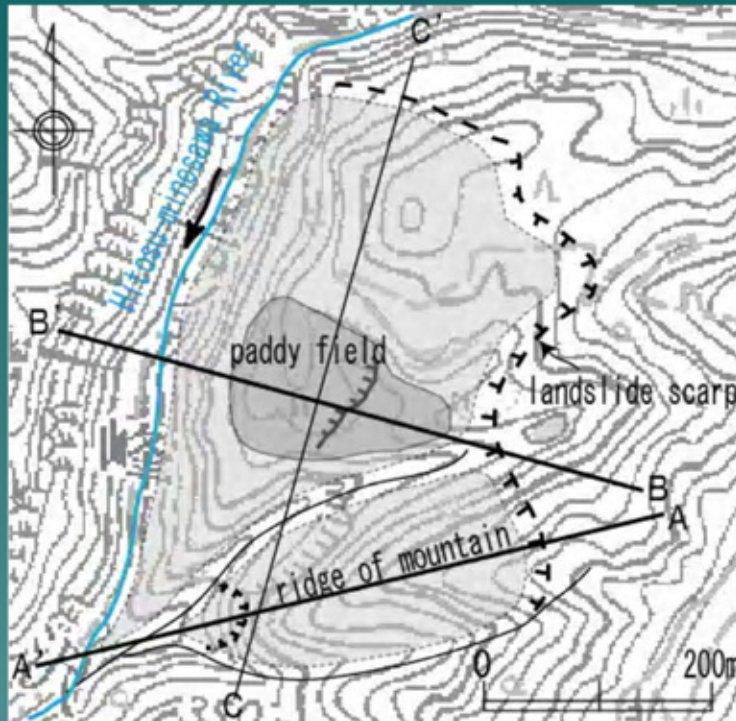


(Photo by Haraguchi, 2004)

- The fractures at the front end of the landslide body
  - Many cracks occurred in the stream
- Suggestion : Strong inertial force being at work on the slope-end.



## The geological structure of the Hitotsu-minesawa landslide



## Moving zone:

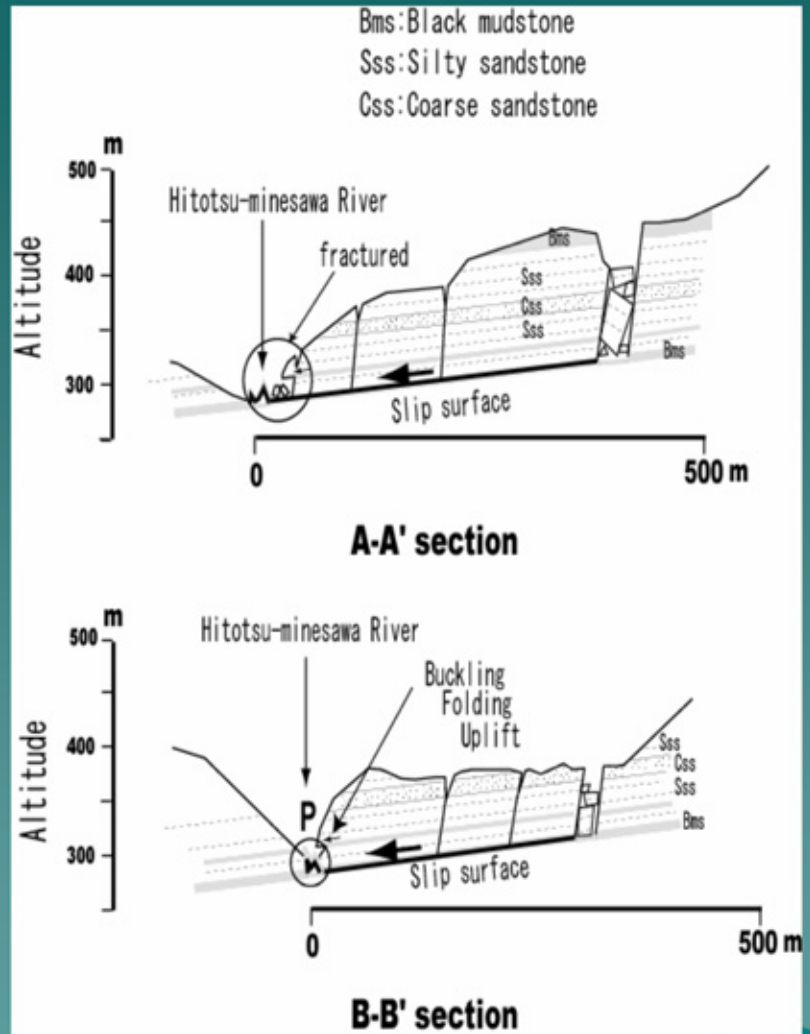
mainly of silty sandstone

## Slip surface:

black mudstone

### Strike and dip of the layer:

approx. N15° E, 0~5° W



# 3D dynamic response FEM applied to the mountainous area

## Response analysis method

applied to the Hitotsu-minesawa landslide:

A simple cyclic loading model (Ugai & Wakai model)

### <Characteristics>

1. Shear strength is based on the Mohr-Coulomb standard
2. Capacity to take  $G-\gamma$ ,  $h-\gamma$  relationship into consideration
3. Employment of the substructure calculation algorithm for time and memory saving purpose (ability to analyze wide area using a generally available PC)
4. Both wide area geology and physical properties per geological attribution can be taken into consideration



# 3D Analysis Model

## Ground Layer

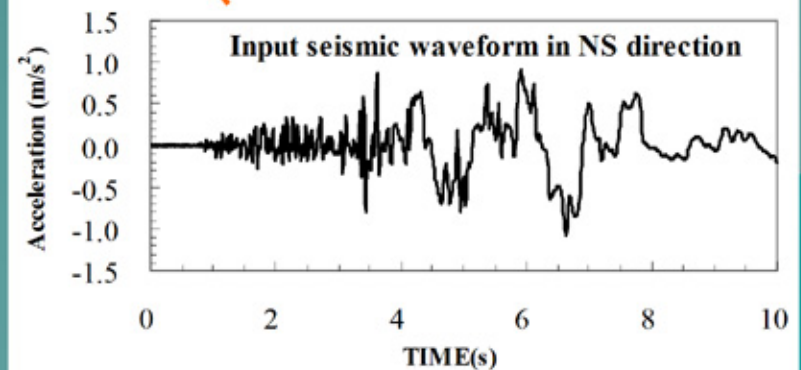
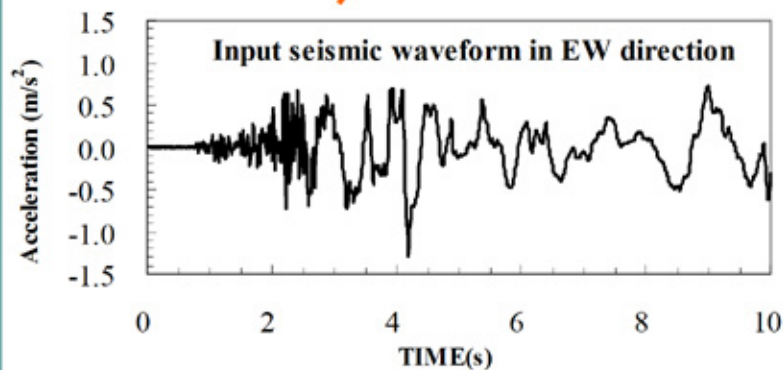
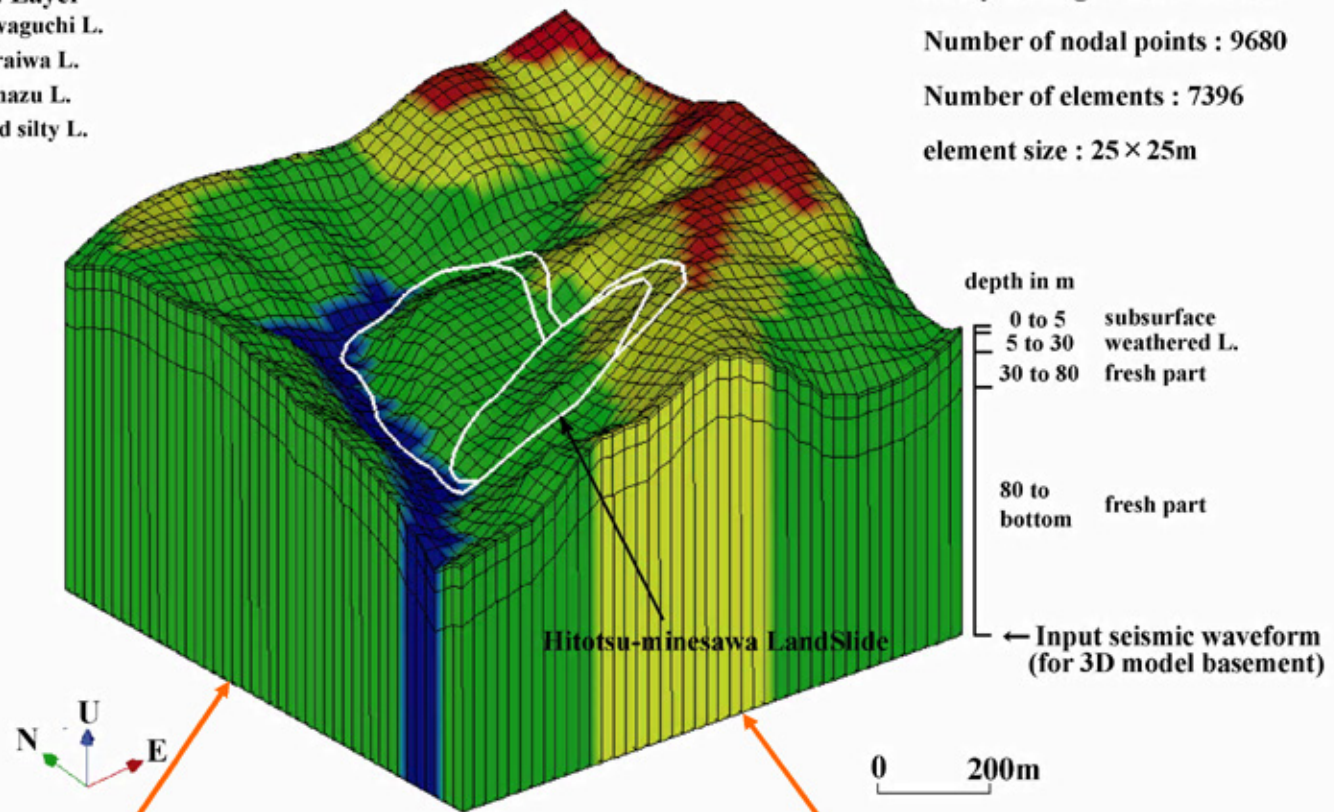
- Kawaguchi L.
- Shiraiwa L.
- Wanazu L.
- Sand silty L.

Analysis range :  $1075 \times 1075\text{m}$

Number of nodal points : 9680

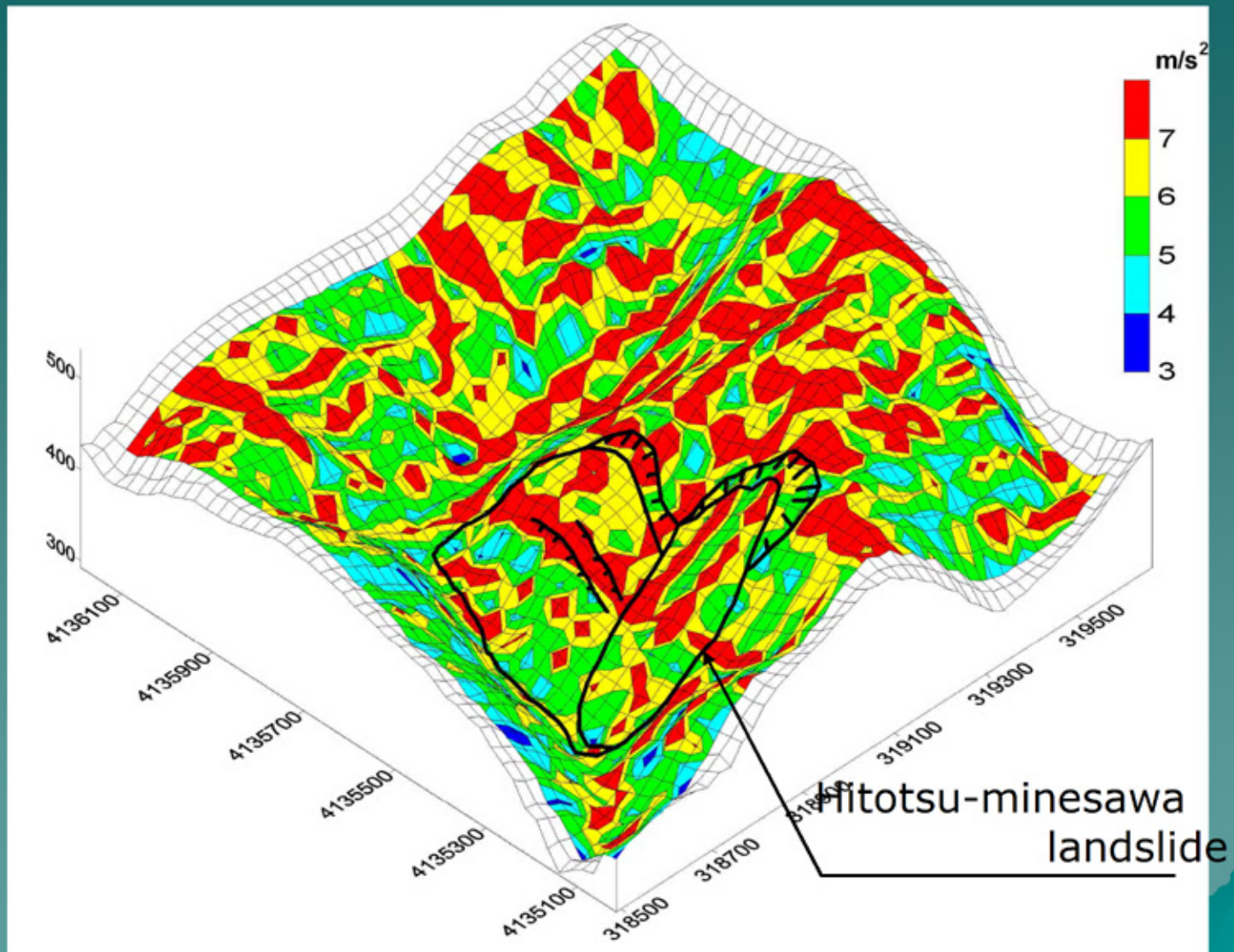
Number of elements : 7396

element size :  $25 \times 25\text{m}$





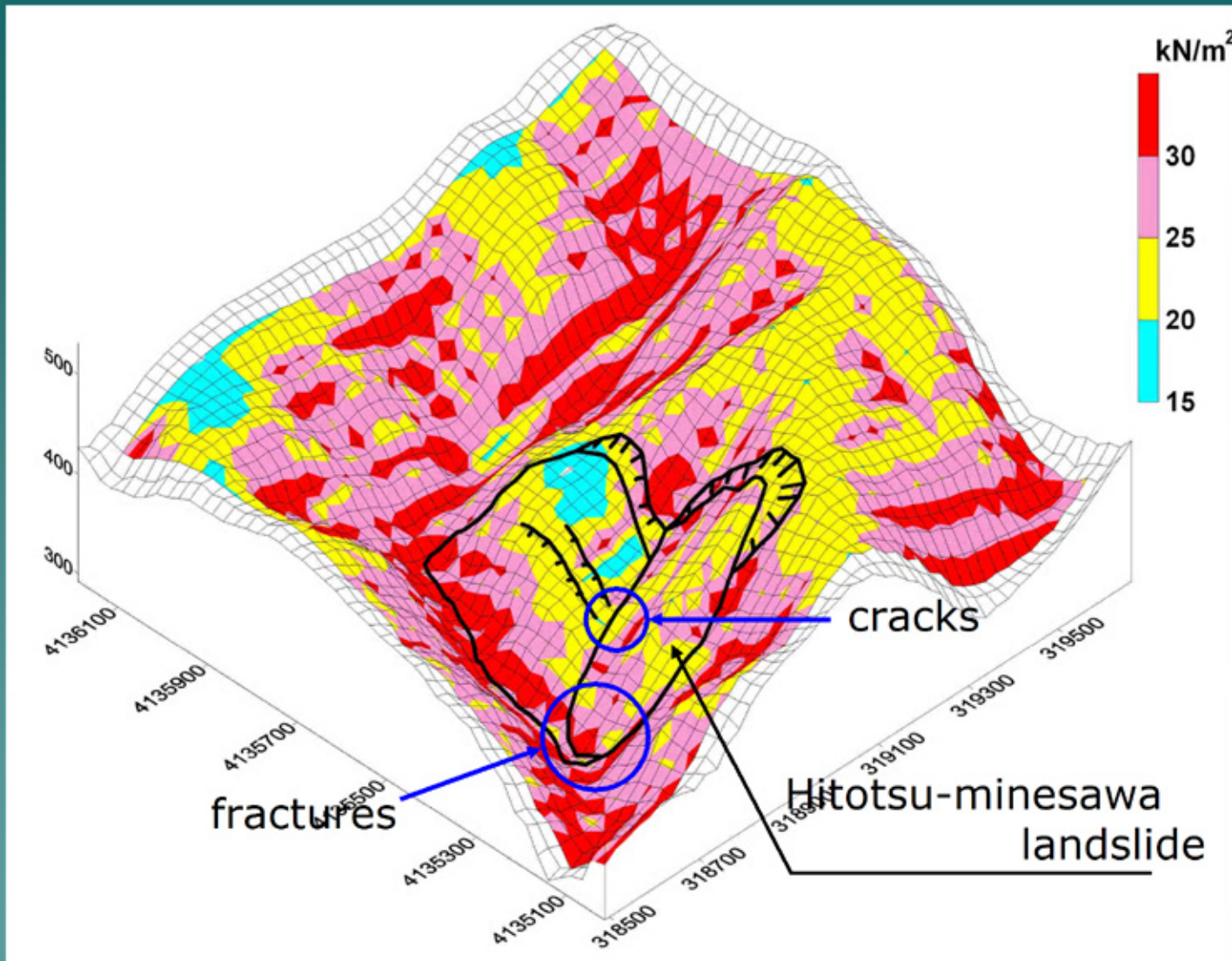
# 3D Dynamic Response Analysis Results (maximum horizontal acceleration)



Markedly amplified acceleration at topographically sharp area



# 3D Dynamic Response Analysis Results (maximum shear stress)

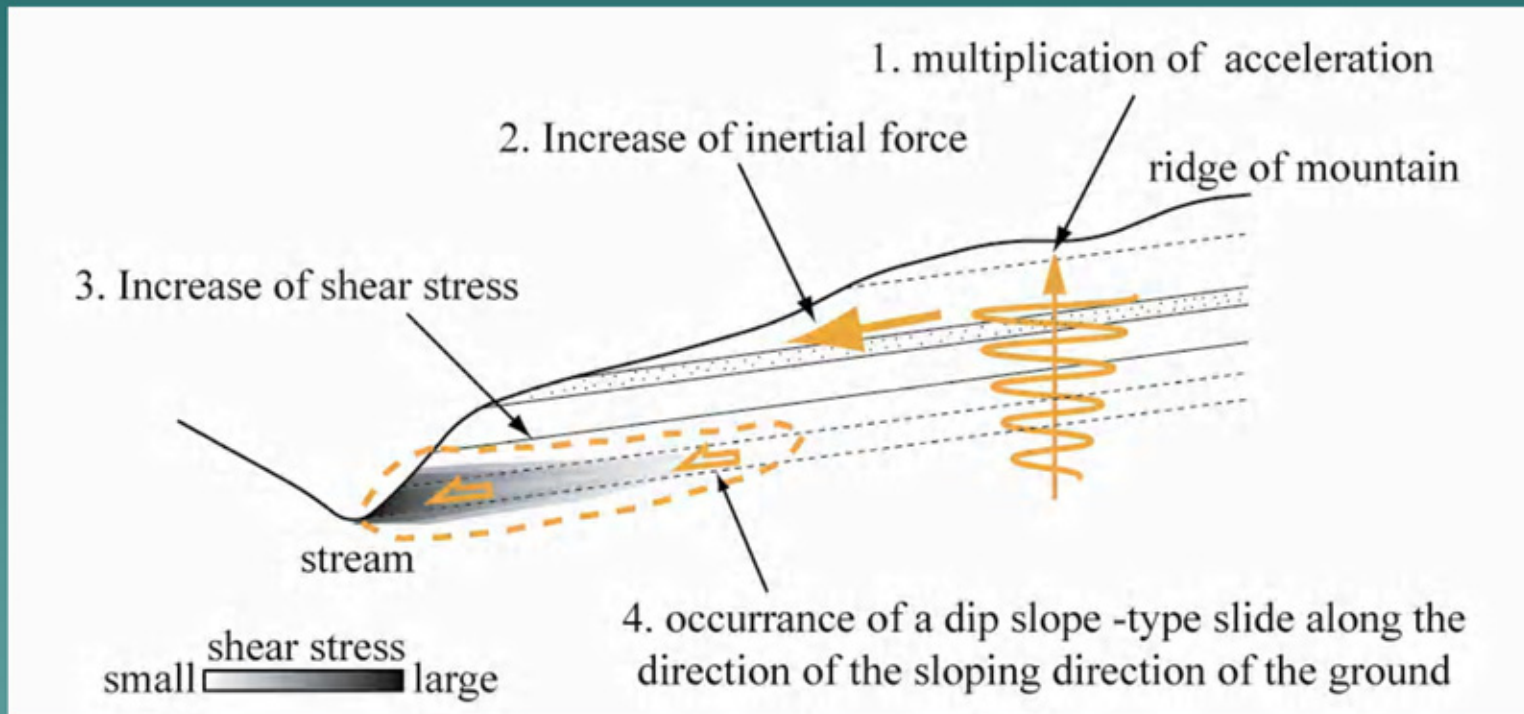


Tendency of shear stress increase at the stream area



# Discussion on the Occurrence mechanism of landslides

1. A large increase of horizontal acceleration at the ridge area
2. Development of inertial force induced by amplified acceleration.
3. A large shear stress at the valley area
4. A highly developed inertial force induces the slip surface formation.



<Additional causing factors>

The ridge protrusion and the slope of the layer point to the same direction.  
The both sides of the ridge are open.



## Similar case

Togawa landslide:

A rockslide of primary  
landslide with the  
Senpoku earthquake

Geology:

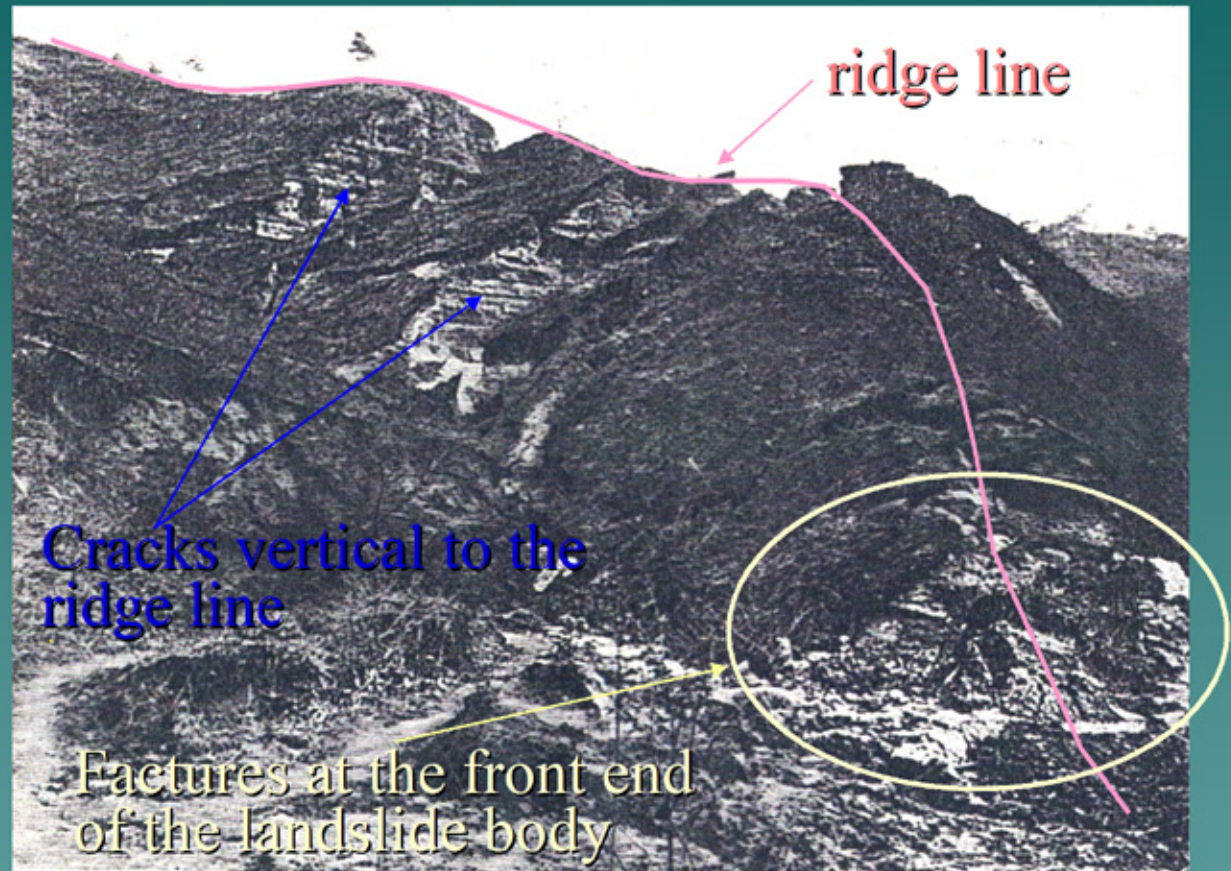
Sandstone and mudstone  
from the Oligocene-  
Neogene

Senpoku earthquake:

15th March 1914

Magnitude: 7.1

(direct hit earthquake)



Quoted from [Seismic intensity and geomorphological/geological feature of landslides due to earthquakes in the area of Tertiary strata in Japan.

(S.Abe et al. Journal of the Japan Landslide Society, Vol.43, No.3, pp.27-34, 2006)]



# Conclusion

Occurrence mechanism of rockslide at the time of earthquake:

A highly developed inertial force generating plasticised boundary that promoted the formation of slip slid surface.

- Above findings are supported by the evidence found at the subject area.
  - Some questions on rockslide occurrence mechanism have been answered.
  - A step nearer to accurately predicting the behavior of slopes at the time of a large-scale earthquake.
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