

Yasunori Sawaki, Ph.D.

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TITLE: Ph.D., Science, Kyoto University

LAST NAME: Sawaki

FIRST NAME: Yasunori

NATIONALITY: Japanese

INSTITUTION: Ritsumeikan University, Japan

DEPARTMENT: Department of Physical Sciences / College of Science and Engineering

POSITION: Assistant Professor

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Physical Address: 1-1-1 Noji-Higashi, Kusatsu, Shiga 525-8577, Japan

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Employment

Assistant Professor

Apr. 2025–Present College of Science and Engineering, Ritsumeikan University, Kusatsu, Japan

Postdoctoral Researcher

Apr. 2023–Mar. 2025 Geological Survey of Japan, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), Tsukuba, Japan

Education

Ph.D. (Science), Graduate School of Science, Kyoto University, Japan

Dissertation title: "Heterogeneous seismic structure in onshore and offshore areas of the Nankai subduction zone with receiver-side responses to regional deep-focus and teleseismic earthquakes"

Supervisor: Prof. Yoshihiro Ito, Disaster Prevention Research Institute, Kyoto University, Japan

MSc., Graduate School of Science, Kyoto University, Japan

Supervisor: Prof. Yoshihiro Ito, Disaster Prevention Research Institute, Kyoto University, Japan

BSc., Faculty of Science, Tohoku University, Japan

Supervisor: Prof. Akio Suzuki, Faculty of Science, Tohoku University, Japan

Areas of Specialization

Geophysics (Seismology)

Professional Memberships

Japan Geoscience Union
Seismological Society of Japan

Honors & Awards

- 2025 AIST President Award 2024 (Special Contribution)
“Contribution to National Earthquake Disaster Prevention Measures: Response to the 2024 Noto Peninsula Earthquake”
- 2022 Outstanding Student Presentation Award, Seismological Society of Japan

Grants

- Aug. 2023–
Mar. 2026 Principal Investigator:
Grant-in-Aid for Research Activity start-up, KAKENHI, Japan Society for the Promotion Science (JSPS), 2,100k JPY

Publications & Talks

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Author type	# papers
First author	5
Corresponding	5
Co-author	3
Total	8

- 2025 *Sawaki, Y., T. Shiina, and T. Uchide (2025). Steep intraplate reverse faulting adjacent to the hypocenter of the 1923 Kanto earthquake: The Mw 5.0 western Kanagawa earthquake in eastern Japan on 9 August 2024. **Earth, Planets and Space*, 77, 186. doi: [10.1186/s40623-025-02311-9](https://doi.org/10.1186/s40623-025-02311-9)
- 2025 *Shiina, T., H. Horikawa, Y. Sawaki, K. Sagae, and K. Imanishi (2023). Aftershock distribution of the 2024 Noto Peninsula Earthquake, Japan, determined using a 3D velocity structure and uncertainty quantification. *Earth, Planets and Space*, 77, 94. doi: [10.1186/s40623-025-02227-4](https://doi.org/10.1186/s40623-025-02227-4)
- 2025 *Sawaki, Y., T. Shiina, K. Sagae, Y. Sato, H. Horikawa, A. Miyakawa, K. Imanishi, and T. Uchide (2025). Fault Geometries of the 2024 Mw 7.5 Noto Peninsula Earthquake from Hypocenter-Based Hierarchical Clustering of Point-Cloud Normal Vectors. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth*, 130, e2024JB030233. doi: [10.1029/2024JB030233](https://doi.org/10.1029/2024JB030233)
- 2024 *Sawaki, Y., Y. Ito, E. S. M. Garcia, A. Miyakawa, and T. Shibutani, (2024). Deep plutonic bodies over low-frequency earthquakes revealed from receiver-side Green's functions. *Tectono-physics*, 892, 230536. doi: [10.1016/j.tecto.2024.230536](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tecto.2024.230536)
- 2023 *Ruan, Y., Y. Ito, and Y. Sawaki, (2023). Anisotropic Velocity Structure Beneath Shikoku, Japan: Insights From Receiver Function and Shear Wave Splitting Analyses. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth*, 128, e2023JB027178. doi: [10.1029/2023JB027178](https://doi.org/10.1029/2023JB027178)

2023

- *Akuhara, T., Y. Yamashita, S. Ohyanagi, **Y. Sawaki**, T. Yamada, and M. Shinohara, (2023). Shallow low-velocity layer in the Hyuga-nada accretionary prism and its hydrological implications: Insights from a passive seismic array. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth*, 128, e2022JB026298. doi: [10.1029/2022JB026298](https://doi.org/10.1029/2022JB026298)
- ²⁰²³ ***Sawaki, Y.**, Y. Yamashita, S. Ohyanagi, E. S. M. Garcia, A. Ito, H. Sugioka, T. Takahashi, M. Shinohara, and Y. Ito, (2023). Seafloor depth controls seismograph orientation uncertainty. *Geophysical Journal International*, 232(2), 1376–1392, doi: [10.1093/gji/ggac397](https://doi.org/10.1093/gji/ggac397)
- ²⁰²¹ ***Sawaki, Y.**, Y. Ito, K. Ohta, T. Shibutani, and T. Iwata, (2021). Seismological structures on bimodal distribution of deep tectonic tremor. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 48, e2020GL092183. doi: [10.1029/2020GL092183](https://doi.org/10.1029/2020GL092183)

INVITED OR KEYNOTE TALKS

- ²⁰²⁵ **Sawaki, Y.** Seismological structures in subduction zones, *Symposium for early career researchers toward integration of seismology and geology*, AORI U-Tokyo, 28 Aug 2025
- ²⁰²³ **Sawaki, Y.**, Y. Yamashita, S. Ohyanagi, E. S. M. Garcia, A. Ito, H. Sugioka, T. Takahashi, M. Shinohara, and Y. Ito. Heterogeneous seismic structure at Hyuga-nada from receiver-side Green's functions. *Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2023*, SSS04-01, Chiba, Japan, May 2023

Teaching Experience

- ²⁰²⁵ **Earth Science (Instructor of Record)**
A Liberal Arts course in Ritsumeikan University
- ²⁰²⁵ **Researches of Physical Science 2 (Contributing Instructor)**
College of Science and Engineering, Ritsumeikan University
- ²⁰²⁵ **Experimental Physics 2 (Contributing Instructor)**
College of Science and Engineering, Ritsumeikan University
- ²⁰²⁵ **Laboratory Work in Earth Science (Contributing Instructor)**
College of Science and Engineering, Ritsumeikan University
- ²⁰²⁵ **Thesis (Co-instructor)**
College of Science and Engineering, Ritsumeikan University
- ²⁰²¹ **Experiments on Earth Science (Teaching Assistant)**
Institute for Liberal Arts and Sciences, Kyoto University