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Multi-temporal analysis of scarp expansion in the Kamitokitozawa landslide: insights from tree-ring, UAV data, and Google Earth imagery

Kawakami, R.<sup>1,\*</sup>, Tsou, C.-Y.<sup>2</sup>, Ishikawa, Y.<sup>2</sup>, Ogita, S.<sup>1,3</sup>, Hayashi, K.<sup>3</sup>, Kuriyama, D.<sup>3</sup>, Ito, K.<sup>3</sup>

- 1. United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Iwate university
- 2. Faculty of Agriculture and Life Science, Hirosaki University
- 3. Okuyama Boring Co. Ltd.,



## **1. Introduction**





Tension cracks, step-like terrain, and other signs of landslide reactivation are prominent in the study area, highlighting the need to study their temporal changes.

This study aims to reveal the temporal development of a NW-SE trending counter scarp, using multiple methods.

scarp 2. landslide body 3. crack 4. counter scarp
failure 6. disc sampled trees 7. sampled shade-intlerant trees



counter scarp

## A. Satellite image (Google Earth imagery)

multi-temporal imagery in the period 2010-2024 (2010.06.09; 2012.09.17; 2014.11.12; 2016.10.19; 2017.09.05; 2020.10.09; 2024.09.01)

**B. UAV Lidar data** multi-temporal data in the period 2008-2023 *Resolution: 50 cm mesh* (2008; 2019; 2021; 2022.05; 2022.11; 2023)

## C. Dendrogeomorphological analyses

Sample year: 2024

- Establishment year of shade-intolerant trees *Aralia elata* (2) and *Clerodendrum trichotomum* (3)
- Recovery age of stem wounds Japanese ceder *Cryptomeria japonica* (2)



• Tree-ring eccentricity analysis

**counter** Disc samples taken from Japanese ceder *Cryptomeria japonica* (11) **scarp** 

tree-stem wounding shade-intolerant species

ff X

forest gap (formed around counter scarp)

\* ( ): numbers of samples

### **3. Methods: Dendrogeomorphological analyses**

- Tree-ring eccentricity analysis (Šilhán et al., 2024)
- to extract the landslide-induced tree Growth Disturbance (referred to as GD here)



 $e = \frac{D - T}{D + T}$  *e*: tree-ring eccentricity value *D*: lower tree-ring width *T*: lateral side tree-ring width • to constrain the timing of counter scarp formation using threshold values of GD and landslide response index  $(I_t)$ 

$$GD \ge 2 \& I_t \ge 18\%$$

\* values set based on a eyewitness account of counter scarp activity in 2022

$$I_t(\%) = \frac{\sum R_t}{\sum N_t} \times 100$$

Shroder (1978)

- $I_t$  : Landslide response index
- $R_t$ : Number of trees showing GD as a response to landslide in year t
- $N_t$  : Number of disturbed trees alive in year t

## A. Satellite image (Google Earth imagery)

#### multi-temporal imagery in the period 2010-2024



## A. Satellite image (Google Earth imagery)



Example cases of interpretation of forest gap and counter scarp:

2010: forest gap near counter scarp

2012–: gradual development of counter scarp

2020: significant development of counter scarp

## A. Satellite image (Google Earth imagery)

2010: forest gap near counter scarp2012–2024: gradual development of counter scarp2020: significant development of counter scarp



#### **B. UAV Lidar data**



### **C.** Dendrogeomorphological analyses

• Establishment year of shade-intolerant trees

tree ages: 2–6 years old (establishment years: 2019–2023) **timing of counter scarp enlargement (2019–2023)** 

• Recovery age of stem wounds



Numbers of shade-intolerant trees ages



Fining of counter scarp enlargement (2016 or 2017; 2020 or 2021)

### **C.** Dendrogeomorphological analyses

Number of estimated event responses per tree

Estimated timing of counter scarp enlargement event years

(11994, (21995, (31997, (42000, (52008, (62011, (72014, (82018, (92019, (192020, (192021, (192022, (192021, (192022, (19202, (19202, (19202, (19202, (19202, (19202, (19202, (19202, (19202, (19202, (19202, (19202, (19202, (1920



Red columns represent the reconstructed counter scarp events that met threshold values (GD  $\ge 2$  and  $I_t \ge 18\%$ ).

# **5.** Conclusion

This study examined the temporal development of a NW-SE trending counter scarp, using tree-ring samples, UAV data, and Google Earth imagery for constraints.

- The counter scarp has evolved over time, likely beginning in 1994.
- The scarp develops periodically and shows reactive activity between 2019 and 2022.
- This period of increased activity suggests a significant phase of enlargement, with notable changes in the terrain.
- The continuous evolution of the scarp underscores dynamic processes driven by both environmental and geological factors, the details of which are still under investigation.



Thank you for listening

#### **B. UAV Lidar data**

