International Joint Workshop Slow-to-Fast Earthquakes 2022 Nara, Japan

My name is Caroline Mouchon, and I am a second-year graduate student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences. I study slow slip event and their small time-scale dynamics using both geodetic and seismic datasets. I had the pleasure to attend the International Joint Workshop of Slow-to-Fast Earthquakes this year in Nara. I was able to receive the travel grant to fly to Nara from Boston, USA. I attended the full meeting and did an oral presentation of 15mins on the 1st Day of the meeting (09/14). I did not participate in the field trip organized at the end of the workshop. I really enjoyed this workshop for the incredible environment and venue, the interesting and broad scientific content, and the opportunities to meet and discuss with expert researchers on fast and slow earthquake rupture processes.

Summary of the workshop

The 1st Day was the most interesting for me as it was focused on slow earthquakes, and how we can explain the full spectrum of dynamics between fast and slow earthquakes. My presentation was the last of the morning session.

The 2nd Day was more focused on new methods and technology to study slow and fast earthquakes, like DAS or machine learning approach to study seismic and aseismic slip behavior. The 3rd Day was mostly about geological evidence of changes in structures linked to slow or fast earthquakes. Some presentations also shared work on fluid dynamics and their link with slow rupture processes.

Overall, the Poster breaks were nicely organized but could have been longer or more divided. That way, we would have had more time to visit all the posters and still have meaningful and interesting conversations with the scientists.

I really enjoyed the breakout session, particularly the one focused on Slow Earthquakes Terminology (even if I wasn't in this group for the discussion). It was a great topic to discuss as slow earthquake terminology is still a very ongoing debate, with different communities using different names to probably talk about the same processes observed with different methods or approaches, in different regions.

Organization and venue

The location of this workshop was really beautiful, and I used the small break or lunch break to go visit the park and temples around the venue. Speakers were presenting their work on a stunning traditional Japanese stage. The hybrid format was very well organized; in-person people were not affected at all by the online part of the conference.

I thank you very much for this great meeting, the amazing opportunity to be in Japan, and meet very interesting researchers.

Some pictures of Nara and the surrounding of the conference center:

