

## ***Interactive comment on “A statistical feature of anomalous seismic activities prior to large shallow earthquakes in Japan revealed by the Pattern Informatics method” by M. Kawamura et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #1**

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The paper is an interesting study which does a reasonable job of demonstrating the usefulness of this method for intermediate-term forecasting. Three points should be addressed prior to publication: 1. There are significant issues with the English grammar. Please revise, with special care for appropriate verb tenses. 2. The figures, particularly 3, 4, and 5, need to be enlarged (although the Molcan diagrams are also too small). They are not legible and it makes it difficult to validate the authors points in the text. 3. Some discussion as to the particulars of the anomalies, ie whether they are a function of quiescence or activation, and to what degree, would be illuminating.

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