Gas Monitoring by QMS

Present Situation and Future Prospects

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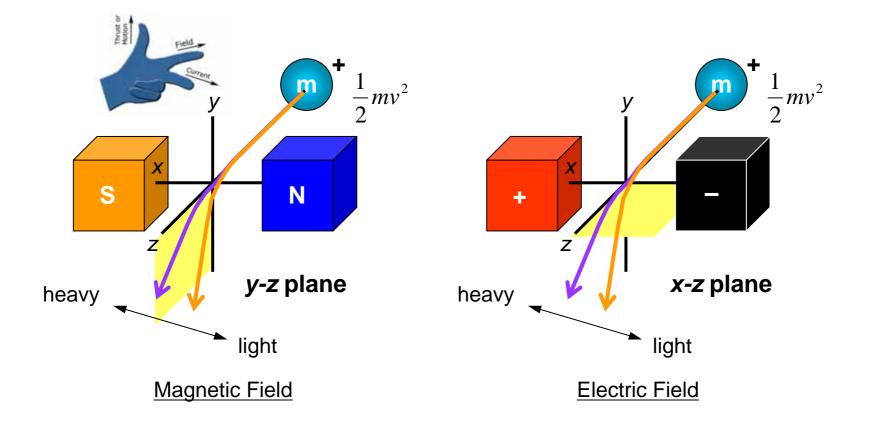
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Outline

- Mass Spectrometry
- Gas Monitoring for Earthquake Research
- Gas Monitoring for Elemental Process Research
- Next Stage of Gas Monitoring by QMS

Mass Spectrometry

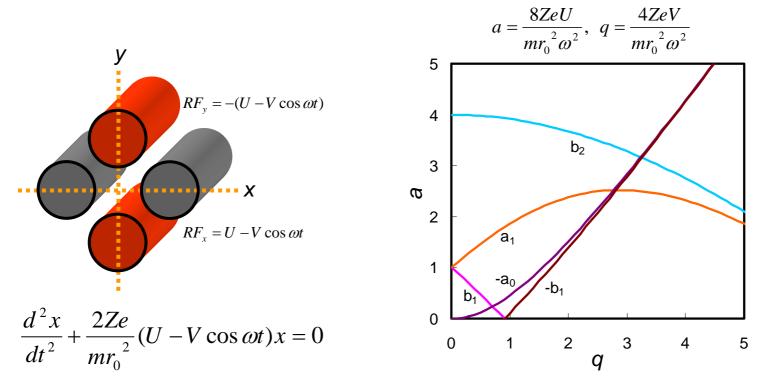
Principle: Trajectory of a cation is determined by mass weight



Gas composition can be analyzed by mass weight of molecules

Quadrupole Mass Spectrometer (QMS)

Quadrupole: Motion of a cation is governed by Mathieu's equation



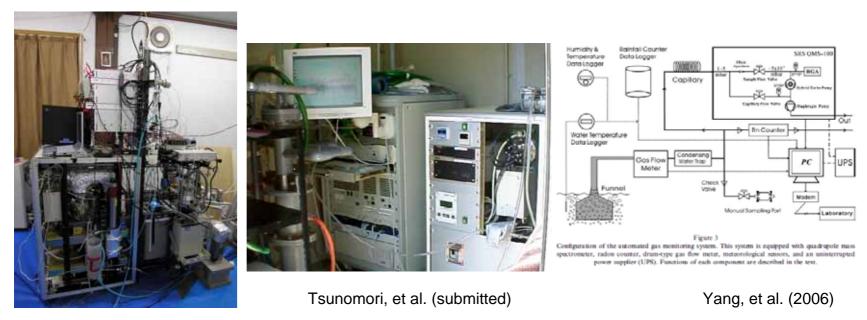
a-q stability diagram of Mathieu's equation

Quadrupole behaves as a mass filter under stated electronic condition

QMS as Gas Monitor

Advantage: Isotope analysis, High sensitivity, High time resolution

Gas monitoring using a QMS was realized by Takahata et al. in 1997.

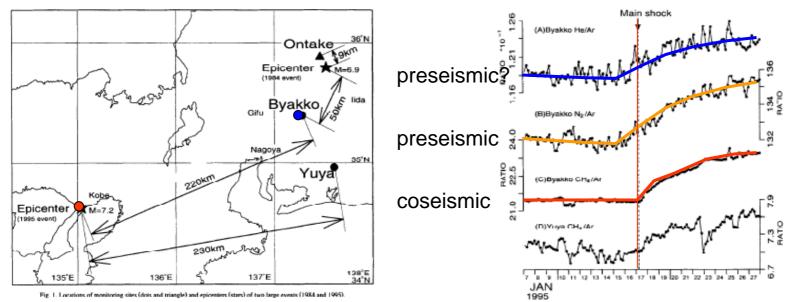


Shimada, et al. (in preparation)

Quadrupole mass spectrometer is useful for a long-term observation

Gas Composition Change in Spring Water

Spring water gathers chemical substances from wide area



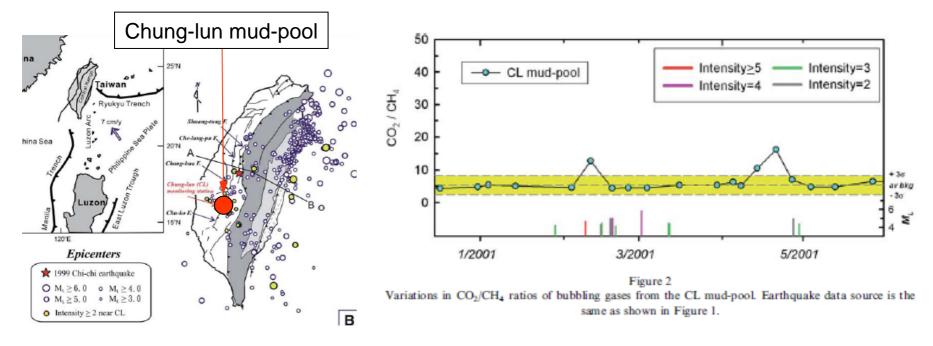
Monitored by a gas chromatograph with oxygen carrier.

Fig. 3. Changes in gas concentration ratios at Byakko (A, B, C), and CH₄/Ar change at Yuya (D) for the 1995 event. Each point represents an average value during 4 hours (8 and 2 readings at Byakko and Yuya, respectively). Arrow indicates occurrence of the earthquake. Note that the N₂/Ar ratio began to increase 1 day before the event.

Sugisaki, et al. (1996)

Gas Composition Change in Mud-Pool Bubble

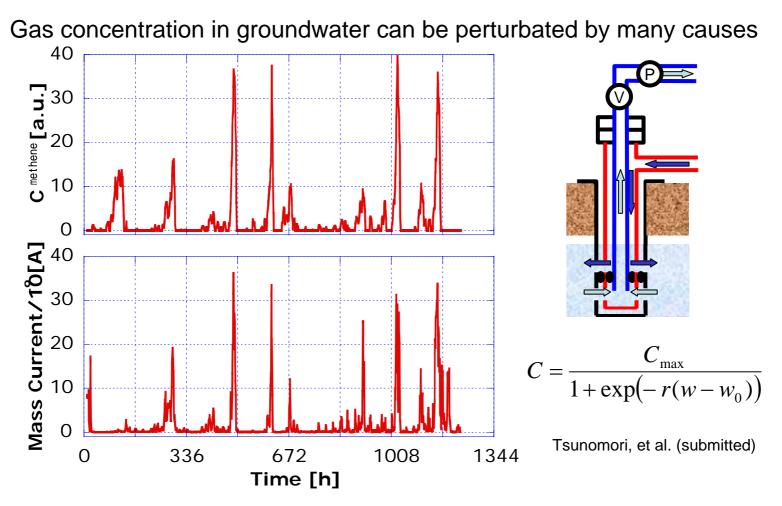
Gas concentration in groundwater can be perturbated by many causes



T.F. Yang, et al. (2006)

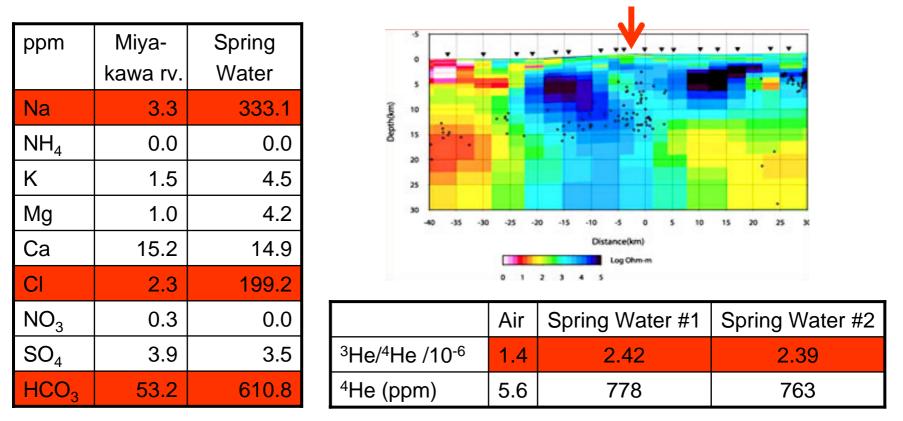
Monitoring subsurface gas must be helpful for earthquake prediction

Spike-like Methane Concentration Change



Groundwater flow affect methane concentration in groundwater, too

Spring Water of Active Fault



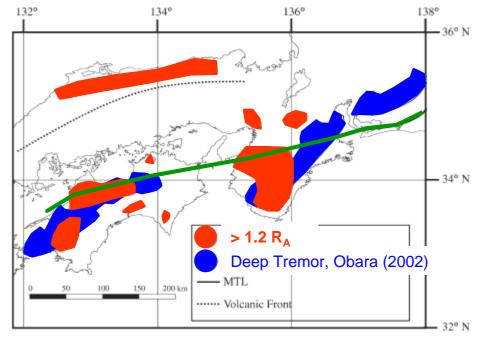
Active fault is connected to a focal region

Shimada, et al. (in preparation)

Deep subsurface gas is included in fault gas

³He/⁴He and Low Frequency Tremor

Low frequency tremor is thought to be related to fluid generation in the crust



Dogan, et al. (2007)

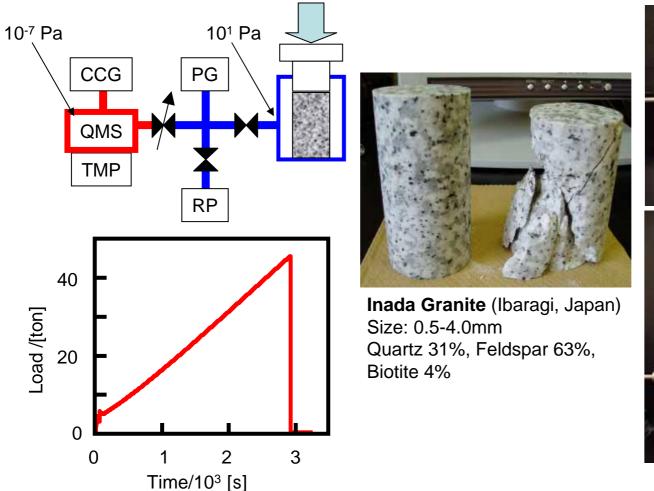
Spatio-temporal monitoring of ³He/⁴He will be a powerful tool for constraining the underground structure

Gas Monitoring for Earthquake Research

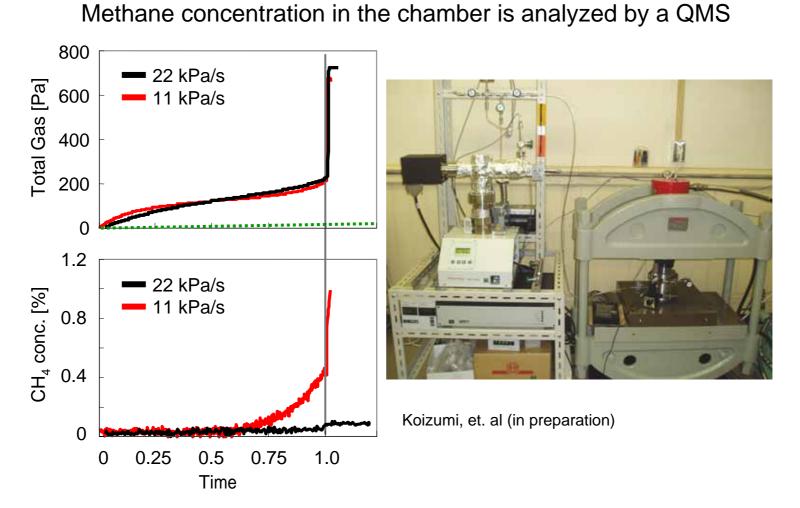
- Monitoring subsurface gas must be helpful for earthquake prediction
- Groundwater flow also affect methane concentration in groundwater
- Deep subsurface gas is included in fault gas
- Spatio-temporal monitoring of ³He/⁴He will be a powerful tool for constraining the underground structure

Methane Emission under Compressive Force

Cylindrical granite is uni-axially compressed in a vacuum chamber

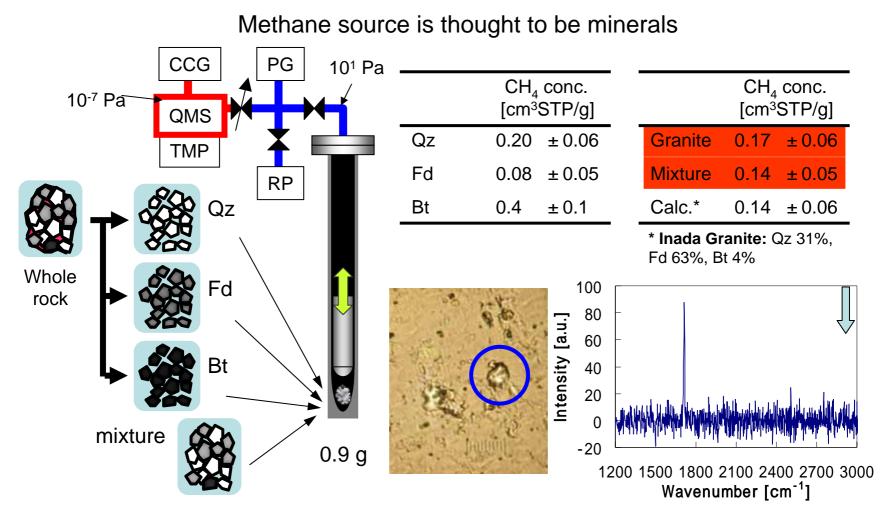


Methane Emission and Compressive Rate



Temporal change of methane concentration seems to depend on compressive rate

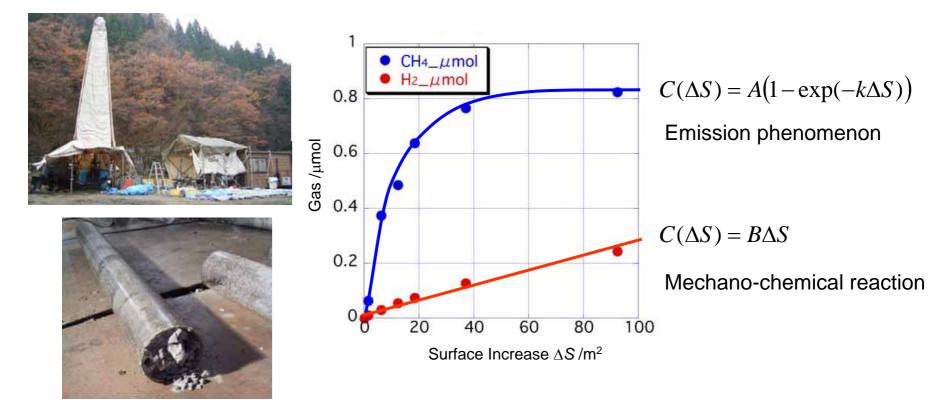
Methane Concentration in a Rock



Methane concentration may reflect the amount of cracks generated in a rock

Methane Included in a Rock

Granitic rocks of Atotsugawa active fault were grinded in a closed cell



Saito, et. al (in preparation)

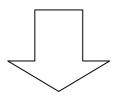
Methane is not reaction product but included in a rock

Gas Monitoring for Elemental Process Research

- Emission behavior of methane from a granite seems to depend on compressive rate.
 The dependency is being confirmed now.
- The methane source is inclusions in minerals
- The amount of methane emitted may indicate degrees of crack generation.

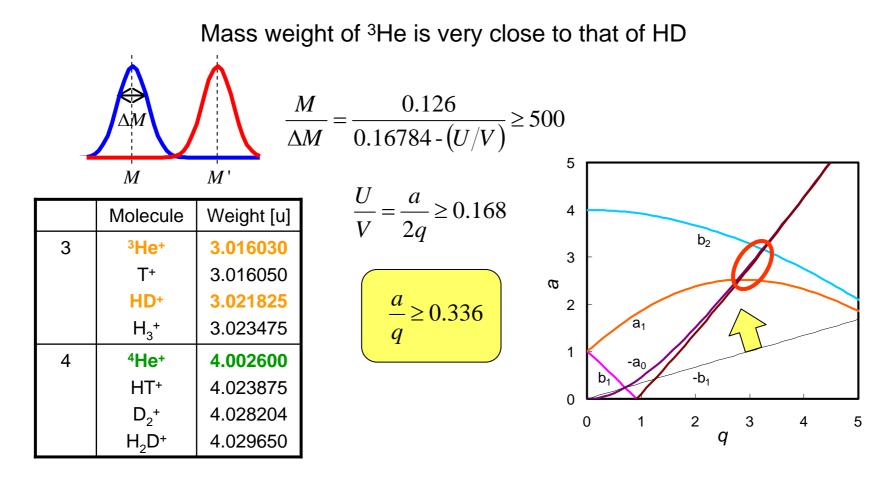
Next Stage of Gas Monitoring by QMS

- Spatio-temporal monitoring of ³He/⁴He must be important for earthquake prediction research.
 - Active fault zone
 - Area above focal region of low frequency tremor
 - Hot spring



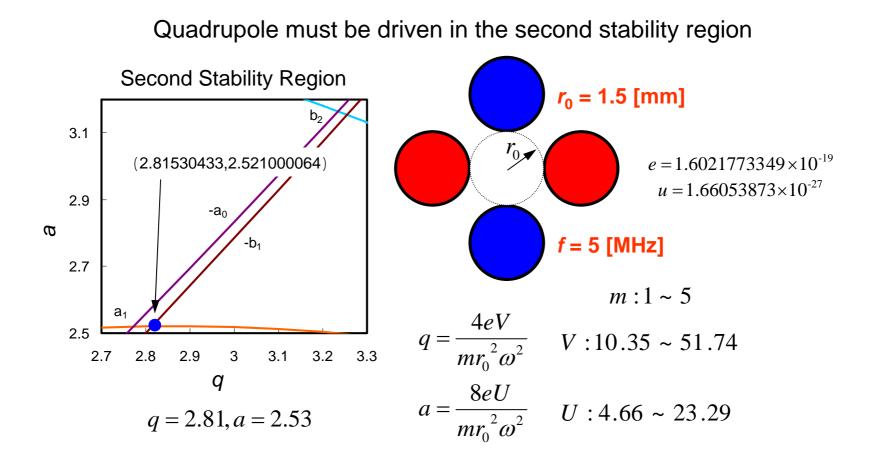
• High performance mass spectrometer is definitely required.

Development of High Resolution QMS



QMS should be driven in the second stability region

Requirement for High Resolution QMS



Problem is only to make an electric circuit for RF voltage generation

Summary

- Gas monitoring is powerful tool for groundwater (geochemical) research related to earthquakes
- Laboratory experiments are important for understanding mechanism of observation results
- Spatio-temporal monitoring of ³He/⁴He must be important for earthquake prediction research.