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UTTAC

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TANDEM ACCELERATOR COMPLEX
Research Facility Center for Science and Technology
University of Tsukuba

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Editors : Tetsuaki Moriguchi, Kimikazu Sasa, Yoshihiro Yamato, Masumi Matsumura,
Masao Sataka, Hiroshi Naramoto, and Hiroshi Kudo

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PREFACE

This annual report covers research carried out at the University of Tsukuba Tandem Accelerator Complex (UTTAC) during the fiscal year 2015 (1 April 2015 ~ 31 March 2016), using the 1 MV Tandetron accelerator and radiation source experiments. Additionally, we report on the operation and performance of the new 6 MV tandem-type accelerator, as well as on the test experiments for applied use of the new accelerator.

The main part of the old 12UD Pelletron accelerator was destroyed by the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011. Immediately, the government decided to compensate us and we started to plan a new version. The new accelerator was designed by the National Electrostatics Corporation in Middleton, Wisconsin, USA and it arrived in mid-March 2014 at the UTTAC. Before starting to operate the new accelerator, we needed to finish the removal procedure for the damaged accelerator. The procedure was completed with the help of the university office and finally the accelerator operation was started at the beginning of March 2016.

At the end of this fiscal year, The Open Advanced Facilities Initiative supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) has been ended. We have very much appreciated this long term government assistance. We would like to continue a similar open facility system by ourselves without financial support. We are looking forward to reporting on our achievements with the new 6 MV accelerator.

Finally, Professor A. Uedono has succeeded the director of UTTAC, effective on 1 April 2016.

Eiji KITA
Director

CONTENTS

1. ACCELERATOR AND RELATED FACILITIES

1.1 Accelerator operation 2015	1
1.2 Decommissioning of the 12UD Pelletron Tandem Accelerator.....	4
1.3 First beam transport through the ion microbeam line from the 6MV tandem accelerator.....	7

2. NUCLEAR AND ATOMIC PHYSICS

2.1 Measurements of magnetic moments for unstable nuclei in AVF, RCNP.....	9
2.2 Production of unstable nuclei ^{25}Al and ^{30}P via resonant proton-capture reactions	11
2.3 Target thickness dependence of convoy electron yield observed in fast cluster ion bombardment on thin foils	13

3. ACCELERATOR MASS SPECTROMETRY

3.1 Detection tests of rare particles by the 6 MV tandem accelerator mass spectrometry system	15
3.2 ^{41}Ca -AMS measurement in UTTAC AMS system.....	17
3.3 Environmental impact of the Fukushima accident on iodine-129 levels in rainwater	19
3.4 Decrease of iodine isotopic ratio observed in the crater lake and the geothermal area at Zao volcano	20

4. BEAM AND ISOTOPE APPLICATIONS

4.1 Micro-PIXE analyses of melt inclusions in olivine crystals from Allende meteorite.....	22
4.2 Improvement of coincidence detection system of ion and secondary electron in HERDA.....	25
4.3 Vacancies in $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{N}/\text{GaN}$ multiple quantum wells fabricated on <i>m</i> -plane GaN probed by a monoenergetic positron beam	27
4.4 Analysis of low <i>Z</i> elements in solids employing non-Rutherford backscattering	29
4.5 Performance of superconducting magnet for Mössbauer study (part 1).....	31
4.6 Performance of superconducting magnet for Mössbauer study (part 2).....	33
4.7 High magnetic field Mössbauer study on $(\text{Mg})\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ nano-particles.....	35
4.8 Effect of annealing temperatures on crystal structure of CuFe_2O_4 nanoparticles studied with Mössbauer spectroscopy.....	37
4.9 PIXE measurements for light elements in inorganic materials by a silicon drift detector with a thin Si_3N_4 window	39

5. LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

5.1 Journals	41
5.2 Proceedings.....	45
5.3 Reviews.....	47
5.4 Books.....	47
5.5 International conferences.....	47
5.6 Presentation at academic meetings.....	50
6. THESES	55
7. LIST OF PERSONNEL.....	56

1.

ACCELERATOR AND RELATED FACILITIES

1.1 Accelerator operation 2015

K. Sasa, S. Ishii, H. Oshima, Y. Tajima, T. Takahashi, Y. Yamato, D. Sekiba, T. Moriguchi, E. Kita

The decommissioning procedure of the 12UD Pelletron tandem accelerator, which was seriously damaged by the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011 [1], was completed on March 2016 [2]. A new horizontal-type 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator was designed and developed by the National Electrostatics Corp., USA in collaboration with the University of Tsukuba. The official inspection of the relevant radiation facility has finished without any problem on March 1, 2016.

In this year, we operated and maintained the 1 MV Tandetron accelerator and the apparatus utilizing radio-isotopes, together with the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator mentioned above. Figure 1 shows a schematic layout of the experimental apparatus at UTTAC. The total service time for facility was 83 days in the fiscal year (FY) 2015.

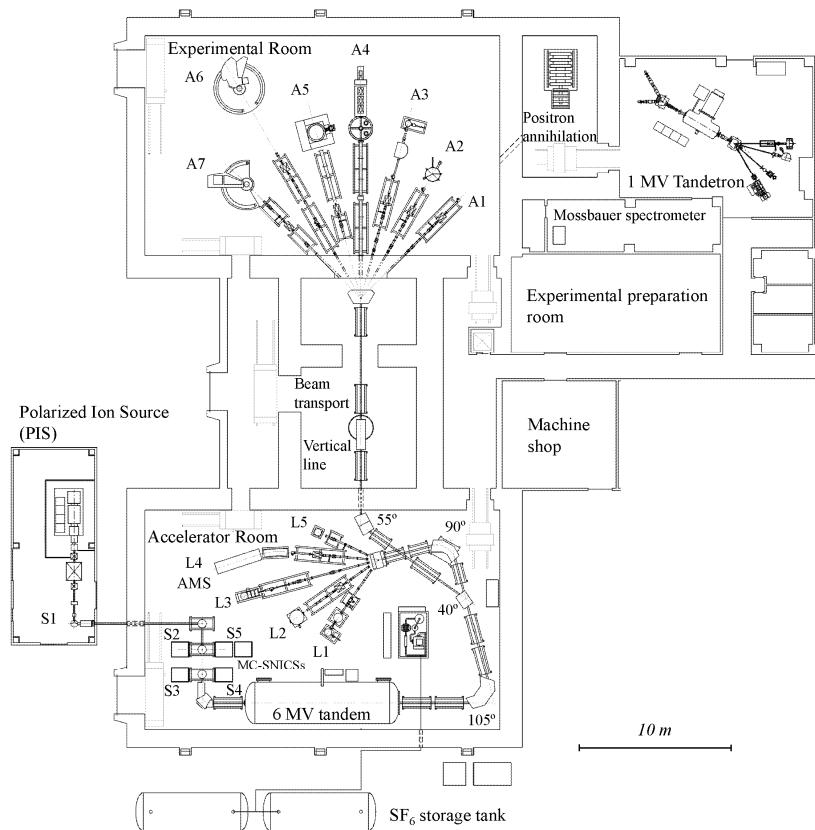


Fig. 1. Schematic layout of the experimental apparatus at UTTAC.

1 MV Tandetron accelerator

The 1 MV Tandetron accelerator has two negative ion sources and four beam lines. It has a permission to apply the terminal voltage up to 1.1 MV. However, the maximum voltage has been limited to below 0.95 MV because of the aged equipment. This also caused the recent instability of the terminal voltage. On November 2015, we replaced RF oscillating pair tubes in the Cockcroft-Walton circuits for the high-voltage generator in order to resolve the voltage instability. The terminal voltage up to 0.95 MV was stabilized after the replacement.

The operating time and the experimental beam time of the 1 MV Tandetron accelerator were 673.7 and 275.8 hours, respectively, during the total service time in FY 2015. Totally 52 research programs were carried out and 552 researchers used the 1 MV Tandetron accelerator. Figure 2 shows the percentage of accelerated ions for the 1 MV Tandetron accelerator. Figure 3 shows the percentage of research fields for the 1 MV Tandetron accelerator.

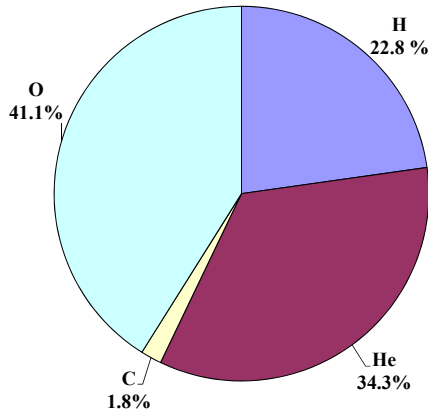


Fig. 2. Percentage of accelerated ions for the 1 MV Tandetron accelerator in FY 2015.

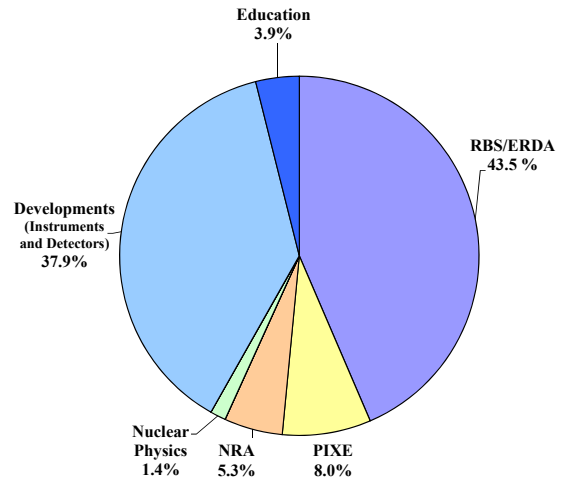


Fig. 3. Percentage of research fields for the 1 MV Tandetron accelerator in FY 2015.

6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator

Table 1 indicates specifications of the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator installed in the spring of 2014 at UTTAC. We have constructed incidental equipment, infrastructure and beam lines for the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator since 2014. The facility of the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator is shown in Fig. 4. The 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator is used for AMS, IBA, microbeam applications, high-energy ion irradiation and nuclear physics [3].

Table 1. Specifications of the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator.

• Model: 6 MV Pelletron Tandem (18SDH-2, National Electrostatics Corp., USA)	
• Accelerator Tank Size:	Length: 10.5 m Diameter: 2.74 m Line Height: 1.78 m Weight: 20,865 kg
• Terminal Voltage:	1.0 – 6.5 MV
• Voltage Ripple:	≤ 750 V p-p at 6.0 MV
• Voltage Control:	GVM & Slit Current Feedback System
• Maximum Beam Current:	H : 3 μA Heavy ions: ~50 μA
• Terminal Stripper:	Gas (Ar or N ₂) Foil Unit (80 Foil Holders)
• Insulation Gas:	SF ₆ (0.6 MPa)
• Beam Courses :	12 Lines and Vertical Transport Line
• Ion Sources:	Cs Sputtering Negative Ion Sources NEC SNICS II NEC MC-SNICS NEC CO ₂ Gas Type MC-SNICS RF Ion Source (NEC Alphasross) Lamb-shift Polarized Negative Ion Source
• Mass Energy Product (ME/Z ²):	15 amu MeV (LEBT) 176 amu MeV (HEBT)



Fig. 4. Photograph of the facility of the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator.

We got an authorization of management change for the radiation facility from the Nuclear Regulation Authority on Sept. 2015. After the adjustment of training and operation, we got a permission to use the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator from the Nuclear Safety Technology Center on January 2016. Routine beam delivery for experiments has started on March 1, 2016. The electric generator operates up to the terminal voltages of 6.5 MV. Its stability is estimated to be better than 1 kV at a 6.0 MV terminal voltage. Maximum beam currents are expected to be up to 3.0 μA for protons and 50 μA for heavy ions.

The operating time and the experimental beam time of the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator were 725.9 and 62.4 hours, respectively, during the total service time in FY2015. Figure 5 shows the beam time histogram with respect to the terminal voltage. Totally 9 research programs were carried out and 60 researchers used the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator on March 2016. Total experimental time was 17 days in FY 2015. Figure 6 shows the percentage of accelerated ions. The percentage of research fields for the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator is shown in Fig. 7.

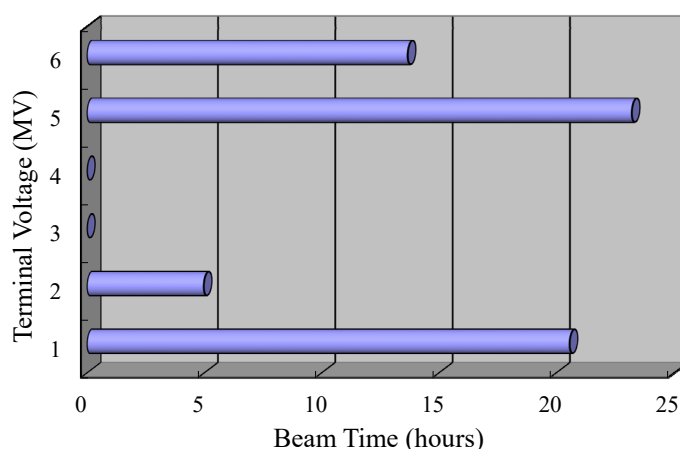


Fig. 5. Beam time histogram as a function of the terminal voltage for the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator in FY 2015.

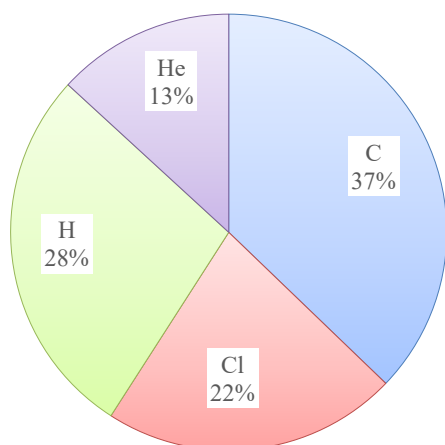


Fig.6. Percentage of accelerated ions for the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator in FY 2015.

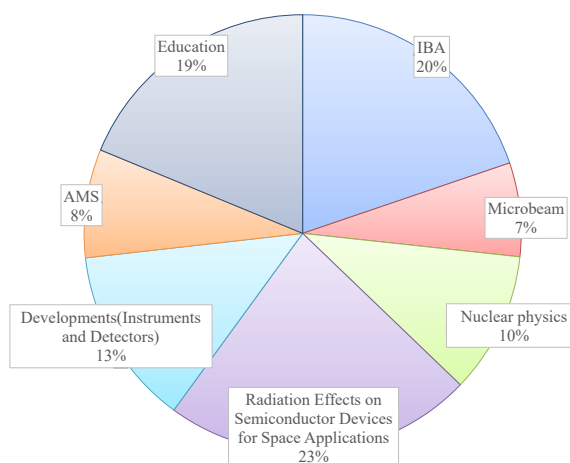


Fig. 7. Percentage of research fields for the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator in FY 2015.

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- [1] K. Sasa, AIP Conf. Proc.1533 (2013) 184-188.
- [2] T. Moriguchi et al., this annual report.
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1.2 Decommissioning of the 12UD Pelletron Tandem Accelerator

T. Moriguchi, K. Sasa, H. Oshima, S. Ishi, T. Takahashi, Y. Tajima, Y. Yamato, D. Sekiba, E. Kita, A. Uedono

Since 1975, the 12UD Pelletron tandem accelerator has been in operation for researches and student's education at University of Tsukuba. This machine, however, was damaged seriously by the Great East Japan Earthquake on 11 March 2011 [1], so that we decided to shut down this accelerator. This is partly because it has already been replaced by a new accelerator. For shutdown of the accelerator, it is necessary to treat radioactivated materials legally under the law (Act on Prevention of Radiation Hazards due to Radioisotopes). This is due to the law revision enforced on 1st April 2012. In this revision, "radioactivated materials" were added to the law as control subjects. We proceeded to the decommission procedure of the 12UD Pelletron tandem accelerator under the revised law.

Firstly, we performed calculations by using the Monte Carlo simulation code PHITS and DCHAIN-SP in order to investigate the range of induced radioactivity [2]. In this calculation, we assumed the accelerator's condition for maximum activation. Protons and deuterons were employed as projectile ions in the calculation. The irradiation time in the calculation was referenced from the operation log books of the accelerator. The terminal voltage was set to 10.5 MV, which is the actual maximum voltage. Duration of the accelerator operation was set to 39 years from 1976 to 2014, as well as no operation for the four years from 2011 to 2014. Figure 1 shows the produced nuclei and these radioactivity obtained by the calculation both in the SUS frame, which supports electron stripper foils made of carbon, and the beam duct in the accelerator tank. Bold bars in Fig. 1 indicate the clearance levels of the nuclides determined by the law. The values in the brackets in Fig. 1 indicate the sum of the ratio between the radioactivity obtained by the calculation and the clearance level. If this value of one object is higher than unity, we regarded it as a radioactivated material in the present calculation. With this criterion, the SUS frame was regarded as a radioactivated material, but the beam duct was not, as shown in Fig. 1.

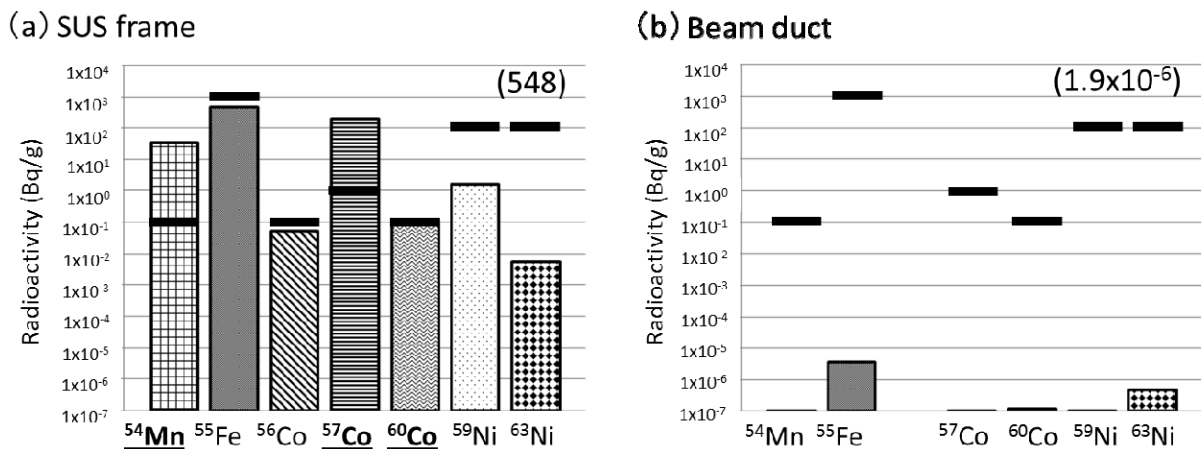


Fig. 1. Radioactivity obtained by the calculation (see the text for details).

Secondly, we confirmed the results of calculation by measurements with a NaI surveymeter (TCS-172B). The time constant of the survey meter, measurement time and distance between the survey meter and an object were set to ten seconds, thirty seconds and five mm, respectively [3]. In order to judge whether an object is activated or not, we employed the counting rate of the detection limit as follows.

$$N_d = \frac{K}{2} \left\{ \frac{K}{t_s} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{K}{t_s}\right)^2 + 4N_b \left(\frac{1}{t_s} + \frac{1}{t_b}\right)} \right\}$$

N_d : Counting rate of the detection limit
 K : Coefficient of standard deviation ($K=3$)
 N_b : Counting rate of the background

t_s : Measurement time of the sample
 t_b : Measurement time of the background

If the counting rate of one object after subtracting that of the background is higher than N_d , we regarded it as a radioactivated material. Objects regarded as radioactivated materials by the calculation were measured by a germanium detector for nuclide identification.

Table 1 shows summary of the calculation and the measurement for nineteen objects in the accelerator room, the analyzing magnet room and the measurement room. In the cases of slits, Faraday cups and beam stopper, we disassembled one object into two parts; one is a part irradiated directly by beams, the other is a remaining part. For example, “Object slit” and “Object slit (duct)” in Table 1 indicate four elements which are irradiated directly by beams and the remaining part, respectively, as shown in Fig. 2. As shown in Table 1, the results of calculation are confirmed by measurements except for the SUS frames. In the case of the SUS frames, they are thought to be less irradiated, and accordingly, less activated than expected from the calculation. Radioactivated materials including the SUS frames were packed properly and delivered to Japan Radioisotope Association. Since the flanges of switching magnet were reused as an object of the beam line of a new accelerator, nuclide identification using a germanium detector was not performed. From calculations and measurements, we found that objects irradiated indirectly by beams were activated, but the other parts were not activated in the case of the 12UD Pelletron tandem accelerator.

Finally, after removing the radioactivated materials, we confirmed with survey meters that floors, walls and beamlines in the accelerator building were not activated. The 3rd to 7th floors of the accelerator building were excluded from the radiation controlled area.

So far, there are few cases of decommissioning of accelerators on the revised law, like in the present case. This is a useful example to be referred in future.

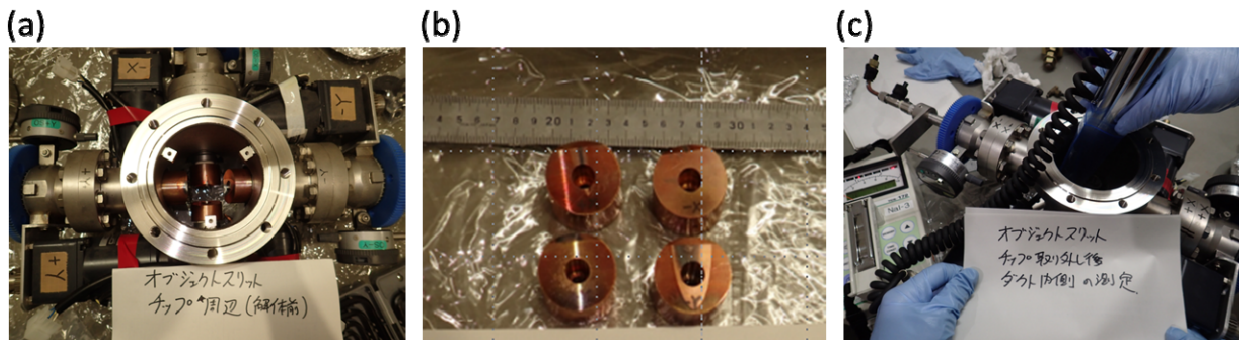


Fig. 2. Pictures of the object slit. (a)Before disassembling. (b)Four elements. (c)Measurement of radioactivity for the assembly after removing four elements.

Table 1. Summarized results of radioactivity evaluation based on calculation and measurements.

Room	Object	Material	Calculation		Measurement	
			Result	Nuclide	Result	Nuclide
Accelerator room	#01 SUS frame	Stainless steel	Activated	^{57}Co , ^{54}Mn , ^{60}Co	No activated	^{57}Co , ^{54}Mn , ^{60}Co
	#02 Beam duct (up)	Stainless steel	No activated	–	No activated	–
	#03 Beam duct (down)	Stainless steel	No activated	–	No activated	–
	#04 Terminal shell	Stainless steel	No activated	–	No activated	–
	#05 Tank (center)	Steel	No activated	–	No activated	–
	#06 Tank (bottom)	Steel	No activated	–	No activated	–
Analyzing magnet room	#07 Object slit	Copper	Activated	^{60}Co , ^{65}Zn	Activated	^{60}Co , ^{65}Zn , ^{22}Na
	#08 Object slit (duct)	Stainless steel	No activated	–	No activated	–
	#09 Image slit	Tantalum	Activated	^{179}Ta , ^{181}W	Activated	^{210}Pb , ^{22}Na
	#10 Image slit (duct)	Stainless steel	No activated	–	No activated	–
	#11 Faraday cup	Tantalum	Activated	^{179}Ta , ^{181}W	Activated	^{181}W , ^{210}Pb , ^{22}Na
	#12 Faraday cup (duct)	Stainless steel	No activated	–	No activated	–
	#13 Flange of switching magnet	Stainless steel	Activated	^{57}Co , ^{54}Mn , ^{60}Co , ^{55}Fe	Activated	–
Measurement room	#14 Course slit 1	Copper	Activated	^{60}Co , ^{65}Zn	Activated	^{60}Co , ^{65}Zn , ^{22}Na
	#15 Course slit 1 (duct)	Stainless steel	No activated	–	No activated	–
	#16 Course slit 2	Copper	Activated	^{60}Co , ^{65}Zn	Activated	^{60}Co , ^{65}Zn
	#17 Course slit 2 (duct)	Stainless steel	No activated	–	No activated	–
	#18 Beam stopper	Tantalum	Activated	^{181}W	Activated	^{182}Ta , ^{181}W , ^{210}Pb
	#19 Beam stopper (duct)	Stainless steel	No activated	–	No activated	–

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- [1] K. Sasa et al., UTTAC Annual Report 2010 (2011) 1.
- [2] T. Sato et al., J. Nucl. Sci. Technol. 50:9 (2013) 913.
- [3] Y. Uwamino, Japanese Journal of Radiation Safety Management 12:1 (2013) 36.

1.3 First beam transport through the ion microbeam line from the 6 MV tandem accelerator

A. Yamazaki, K. Sasa, S. Ishii, M. Kurosawa, S. Tomita, A. Uedono, E. Kita

Some characteristics of inorganic materials are strongly affected by light elements contained. Therefore, observation of these elements is important for research and development of new materials. With this as a background, setup of apparatus to observe or even visualize light elements in a material is widely required.

Ion beam analysis techniques are powerful tools for characterizing elemental concentration quantitatively. Particle induced X-ray emission (PIXE) is one of useful methods for elemental analysis and is in particular suitable for detecting trace elements. This is due to the high signal-to-background ratio, compared with the case of electron-induced emission. Combining PIXE with a microbeam scanning technology, we can obtain two-dimensional maps of trace elements in a sample material. Setup of microbeam PIXE apparatus should provide a useful as well as powerful tool for materials research and development.

In UTTAC, a new 6 MV tandem accelerator has been installed in the early 2015, and succeedingly several beam lines have been constructed. One of them is the ion microbeam irradiation line and its construction has been completed in February 2016. This has been connected to the 0 degree beam course after the switching magnet of the 6 MV tandem accelerator beam line. A submicron microbeam scanning end stage OM-2000 (Oxford Microbeams Ltd., UK) has been installed at the end of this line. This end stage consists of beam defining slits, ferrite cored pre-lens deflector coils for X-Y scan, a triplet of magnetic quadrupole lenses and a target irradiation chamber with a three-axis target positioning device.

Test experiments for transporting and focusing ion beam have started in March 2016. A 3 MeV proton beam was transported from the 6MV tandem accelerator to the microbeam line and collimated by a double collimator slits. The distance between the two slits is 7820 mm and that from the first slit to the target position is 8730 mm. The collimated proton beam was focused by the quadrupole magnetic lenses and was irradiated onto a CaF₂ crystal with the thickness of 0.5 mm positioned at the center of the irradiation chamber. The working distance (distance from the end of the quadrupole lenses to the target) is 180 mm. A photograph of the ion microbeam line is shown in Fig. 1.

A fluorescence caused by the irradiation of the CaF₂ crystal was observed by a CCD camera with a high-power lens from the opposite side of the beam irradiation surface. After optimization of beam transporting parameters and precise alignment of the quadrupole triplet lenses, we obtained a square beam spot with about 100 μm wide and an ellipsoidal spot with about 30 μm wide. We are going to obtain an ion beam of 1 μm in diameter on target by the end of FY2016.

Acknowledgement

The authors would like to thank technical experts H. Iso and Y. Higuchi of Neos Tech Co., Ltd. for their valuable advice and various technical supports. This work is supported by Cross-Ministerial Strategic Innovation Promotion Program - Unit D66 - Innovative measurement and analysis for structural materials (SIP-IMASM) operated by the cabinet office.



Fig. 1. Photograph of the ion microbeam line at UTTAC.

2.

NUCLEAR AND ATOMIC PHYSICS

2.1 Measurements of magnetic moments for unstable nuclei in AVF, RCNP

Y. Ishibashi, D. Nagae¹, Y. Abe¹, Y. Ichikawa, T. Moriguchi, S. Suzuki, Y. Tajiri, A. Ozawa, H. Ueno¹

The nuclear moment is one of the most important observables of the nuclear structure. For the measurements of the nuclear magnetic dipole moment (μ) of unstable nuclei, β -ray-detected nuclear magnetic resonance (β -NMR) method [1] is effectively used. In this work, we report a target study on the measurement of μ moment of ^{40}Sc by means of the β -NMR method at the Research Center for Nuclear Physics, Osaka University. In the β -NMR method, unstable nuclei must be spin-polarized. A spin-polarized ^{40}Sc nucleus was produced in the $^{40}\text{Ca}(\vec{p}, n)^{40}\text{Sc}$ reaction. In the reaction, the polarization of the beam particles is transferred to each nucleus. A \vec{p} beam was produced using a polarized ion source [2], and accelerated at $E = 72$ MeV using AVF cyclotron. The polarized protons were irradiated on a CaS, a CaO, and a CaF₂ targets to produce the polarized ^{40}Sc . The targets were placed at the center of the β -NMR apparatus at room temperature.

The higher the purity of ^{40}Sc , the more efficiently it can be measured; therefore, we performed purity measurement and comparison of the three targets. The β -rays emitted from ^{40}Sc were detected with plastic scintillator telescopes located above and below the targets. In order to deduce the purity of the ^{40}Sc , half-lives were measured using three targets. Figure 1(a), 1(b), and 1(c) are β -decay time spectra obtained using CaS, CaO, and CaF₂ targets, respectively. The time spectra obtained from the accumulated β rays in the ^{40}Sc experiment were fitted with two or three exponential functions in addition to a constant background arising from the long-lived impurities. The least squares method was applied to the analysis. The results of the fitting analysis are shown in Fig. 1(a), 1(b), and 1(c). The observed half-lives were slightly longer than the reported half-life of 182.3(7) ms. The estimated contaminations of ^{32}Cl ($T_{1/2} = 298$ ms), ^{29}P ($T_{1/2} = 4.142$ s), ^{13}N ($T_{1/2} = 9.965$ m), and ^{37}K ($T_{1/2} = 1.225$ s) have much longer half-lives than that of ^{40}Sc . Thus, the ^{40}Sc isotopes were correctly produced in the $^{40}\text{Ca}(\vec{p}, n)^{40}\text{Sc}$ reaction. The purities of the ^{40}Sc are obtained to be $23^{+36}_{-23}\%$, $23^{+33}_{-23}\%$, and $37 \pm 4\%$ using CaS, CaO, and CaF₂ targets, respectively.

From the half-life measurements, the purity of the ^{40}Sc using CaF₂ was determined to be the highest. Thus, we applied a CaF₂ target for the measurement of the μ moment of ^{40}Sc by the β -NMR method. In order to maintain the spin polarization, a static magnetic field $B = 543$ mT was applied. The up/down ratio R of the β -ray counts is written as $R_0 \sim a(1 + A_\beta P)/(1 - A_\beta P)$, where a , A_β , and P denote a constant factor representing asymmetries in counter solid angle and efficiencies, the β -ray asymmetry parameter, and the degree of spin-polarization, respectively. An oscillating magnetic field perpendicular to the static field was applied to the CaF₂ target using an rf coil. If the frequency of the rf field corresponds to the resonance field for the spin-polarized ^{40}Sc , the direction of the spin polarization is changed by the NMR. Then, the ratio changes to $R \sim a(1 - A_\beta P)/(1 + A_\beta P)$. The β -ray asymmetry $A_\beta P$ is written as $A_\beta P = \sqrt{(R_0/R) - 1}/\sqrt{(R_0/R) + 1}$. The μ moment is derived from the frequency of the observed peak or dip in the $A_\beta P$ spectrum. The analysis is in progress.

¹RIKEN Nishina Center

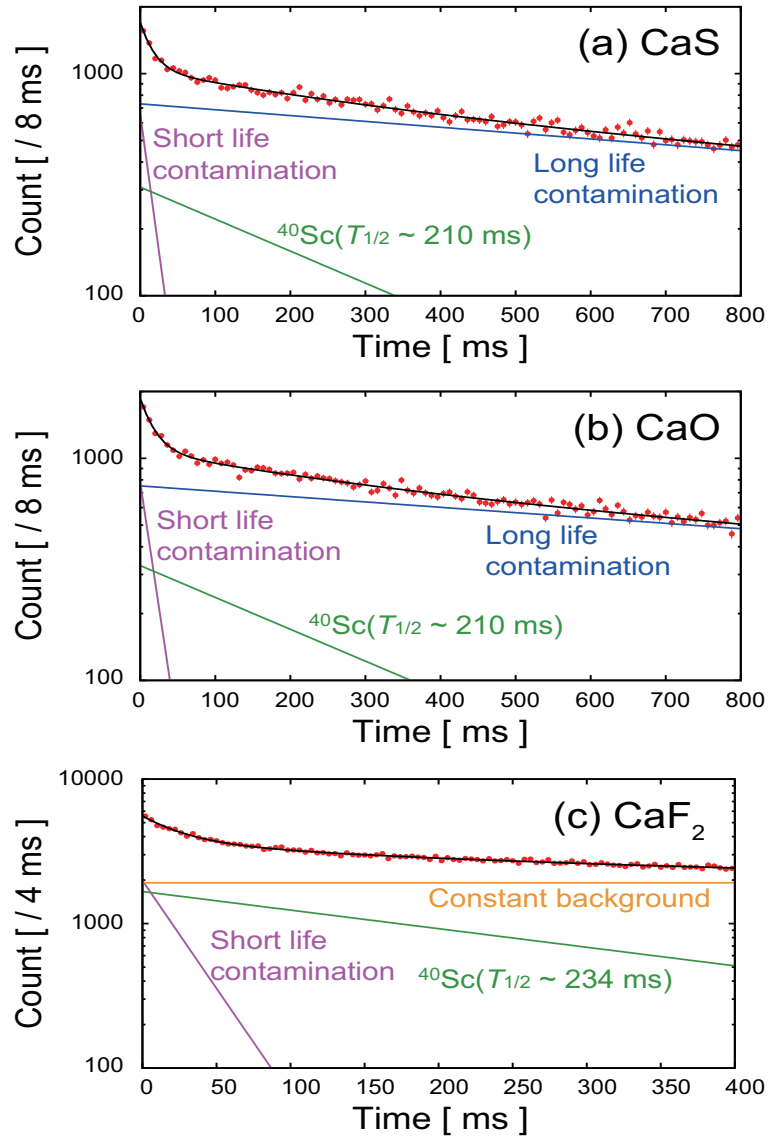


Fig. 1. β decay spectra for ^{40}Sc in different three targets (CaS, CaO and CaF₂.)

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2.2 Production of unstable nuclei ^{25}Al and ^{30}P via resonant proton-capture reactions

T. Matsumoto, K. Hiraishi, A. Ozawa, Y. Ichikawa, T. Moriguchi, S. Suzuki, Y. Tajiri

The proton-capture reactions have been investigated for long time for various stable nuclei and in the various energy range. In the point of production of unstable nuclei, the resonant proton-capture reactions are attractive. In the UTTAC, Lamb-shift type polarized ion source, where polarized proton beams are available, is installed. If the polarized protons are captured, reaction products will be highly polarized. If the products are unstable nuclei, we may obtain highly polarized unstable nuclei and can determine nuclear moments for these nuclei by using β -NMR method.

Thus, by the above motivation, we started investigation of resonant proton-capture reactions at UTTAC [1]. In this fiscal year, we investigated following two reactions by using natural Mg and Si targets, respectively; $^{24}\text{Mg}(p,\gamma)^{25}\text{Al}(I=5/2^+, T_{1/2}=7.1 \text{ s})$ and $^{29}\text{Si}(p,\gamma)^{30}\text{P}(I=1^+, T_{1/2}=150 \text{ s})$. The resonant proton-capture reactions for ^{25}Al and ^{30}P have been well investigated [2, 3]. Purposes of the present experiment were to check effective yields and contaminants. We used proton beams of $E_p=860 \text{ keV}$ accelerated in 1 MV tandem accelerator. We used natural Mg target for ^{25}Al production, and natural Si target for ^{30}P production. Thicknesses of the targets were 0.32 mm (Mg) and 0.51 mm (Si), respectively. A typical proton-beam current was 1 μA . γ -rays from reaction products were measured by two HP-Ge detectors. We calibrated energy and detection efficiencies for the Ge detectors by using ^{152}Eu source. We irradiated the protons for about 1500 and 1800 s to Mg and Si targets, respectively.

Since the target is thick enough to stop the proton beams, for ^{24}Mg in the Mg target, three resonances (E_r : resonance energy) $E_r=223, 419$ and 823 keV can be observed [2]. On the other hand, for ^{29}Si in the Si target, four resonances $E_r=333, 414, 695$ and 730 keV can be observed [3]. In each resonance, from the produced corresponding excited-states specific γ -rays are injected. For example, for ^{24}Mg in the Mg target, $E_\gamma=2610 \text{ keV}$ can be observed for the resonance with $E_r=823 \text{ keV}$, as shown in Fig. 1. We integrated events in the peak, taking into account detection efficiencies for the Ge detectors. Thus, we evaluated the yield for ^{25}Al in this resonance. As mentioned before, since three resonances can occur for ^{24}Mg in the Mg target, we summed the yields for the three resonances. The same procedure was done for ^{30}P .

Estimated total production yields for ^{25}Al and ^{30}P are about 1800 cps/ μA and 160 cps/ μA , respectively. For the ^{30}P case, natural abundance of ^{29}Si is only 4.7 %, thus contaminants from ^{28}Si (92.0%) and ^{30}Si (3.0%) should be considered. In $E_p = 860 \text{ keV}$, one resonance ($E_r=327 \text{ keV}$) can occur for ^{28}Si and five resonances ($E_r=500, 625, 675, 775$ and 840 keV) can occur for ^{30}Si . We also observed γ -rays related to these resonances. We estimated total production yields for ^{29}P and ^{31}P from the observed γ -rays. The total production yields for ^{29}P and ^{31}P are about 30 and 380 cps/ μA , respectively. It is noted that ^{31}P is a stable nucleus but ^{29}P has β -radioactivity ($I=1/2^+$) with $T_{1/2}=4.1 \text{ s}$. For the ^{25}Al case, natural abundance of ^{24}Mg is 79.0 %. We considered contaminants from ^{25}Mg (10.0%) and ^{26}Mg (11.0%). At $E_p = 860 \text{ keV}$, many resonances can occur since there are many excited states in ^{26}Al and ^{27}Al , respectively. It is noted that in ^{26}Al there is an isomer (^{26m}Al , $E_x=228 \text{ keV}$, $I=0^+$) with $T_{1/2}=6.3 \text{ s}$. We observed several γ -rays related to the

excited states in both nuclei ($E_\gamma=1843, 1622$ and 829 keV for ^{26m}Al , $E_\gamma=417$ keV for ^{26}Al and $E_\gamma=8036, 6821, 3957, 2982, 1015$ and 844 keV for ^{27}Al). Thus, we can estimate production yields (lower limit) for these nuclei. Presently observed production yields are 350 cps/ μA (^{26m}Al), 540 cps/ μA (^{26}Al) and 2100 cps/ μA (^{27}Al), respectively.

From the observed production yields and contaminants for ^{25}Al and ^{30}P , we noticed that determination of nuclear moments by β -NMR method for these nuclei are quite feasible. Since the electric quadrupole moment of ^{25}Al and the magnetic dipole moment of ^{30}P are unknown, we will measure the moments by using the resonant proton capture reactions with polarized proton beams at UTTAC.

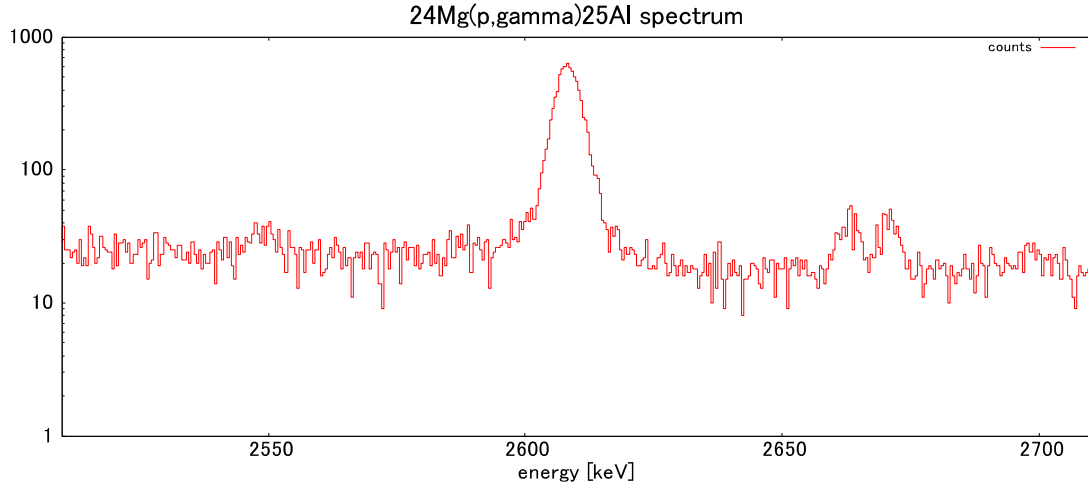


Fig. 1. γ -ray spectrum of $E_\gamma=2610$ keV observed in the present experiment with the Mg target in $E_p=860$ keV. This γ -ray corresponds to that injected from the excited state with $E_x=3062$ keV in ^{25}Al produced by the resonant $^{24}\text{Mg}(p,\gamma)^{25}\text{Al}$ reaction.

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2.3 Target thickness dependence of convoy electron yield observed in fast cluster ion bombardment on thin foils

Y. Shiina, R. Kinoshita, M. Matsuda¹, M. Imai², K. Kawatsura³, M. Sataka, K. Sasa, S. Tomita

Electronic excitation due to penetration of swift cluster ions through solids are different from that of atomic ions in some ways. For example, it is reported that convoy electron yields per constituent atom increase proportionally to the size of impinging clusters under 0.5 MeV/atom C_n^+ ion bombardment ($n=1-4$) on thin C foils [1]. On the other hand, low-energy secondary electron yields in cluster ion bombardments are suppressed by about 20-50% compared with those in bombardments of equal-velocity atomic ions. These previous studies suggest that the electron transport mechanism inside the material is affected by multiple projectile ions which are closely spaced with each other. In this work, thin C foils were bombarded with 3.5 MeV/atom C_n^+ cluster ions to investigate target thickness dependence of convoy electron yields.

Our experiments were performed at the 20-MV tandem accelerator in the Nuclear Science Research Institute of Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA). A schematic diagram of the experimental setup is shown in fig. 1. The C_n^+ ions ($n=1-3$) were accelerated to an energy of 3.5 MeV/atom and impinged on amorphous carbon foils. Thicknesses of carbon foils were 3.1, 4.8, 10.5, 19.5 and 29.7 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$. The energies of electrons emitted to the beam direction were analyzed by a tandem-type 45° parallel-plate electrostatic spectrometer with the pass energy fixed to 50 eV. The relative energy resolution of the spectrometer is 3.2%, which corresponds to 1.6 eV in absolute energy. The beam current was monitored by a Faraday cup placed behind the spectrometer to normalize electron energy spectra.

Target thickness dependence of convoy electron yields is shown in fig. 2. For all targets, convoy electron yields increased with larger cluster size, agreeing qualitatively with our previous results on 0.5 MeV/atom C_n^+ bombardments [1]. In atomic ion bombardments, convoy electron yields slightly increased with thicker target foil, probably owing to normalization using the Faraday cup. In C_2^+ and C_3^+ bombardments, convoy electron yield decreases as target thickness increases from 3.1 to 10.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$. C_3^+ ion bombardments are more significant, where the convoy electron yield decreases by about 40% as target thickness increases from 4.8 to 10.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$. Moreover, the attenuation length of convoy electrons is evidently longer for C_3^+ ions than for C_2^+ ions. Attenuation length of convoy electrons is reported longer than that of free electrons due to frequent transition between continuum and discrete states [2]. The present result may suggest that low-energy electrons in the projectile rest frame are delocalized and affected by multiple projectile ions simultaneously.

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² Kyoto University

³ Theoretical Radiation Research Laboratory

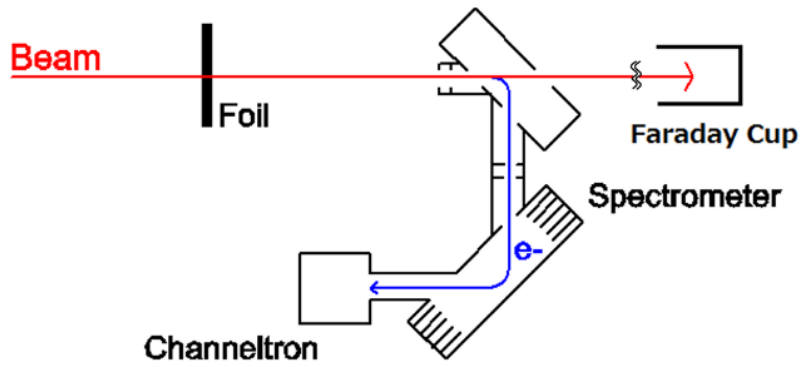


Fig.1. A schematic diagram of the experimental setup.

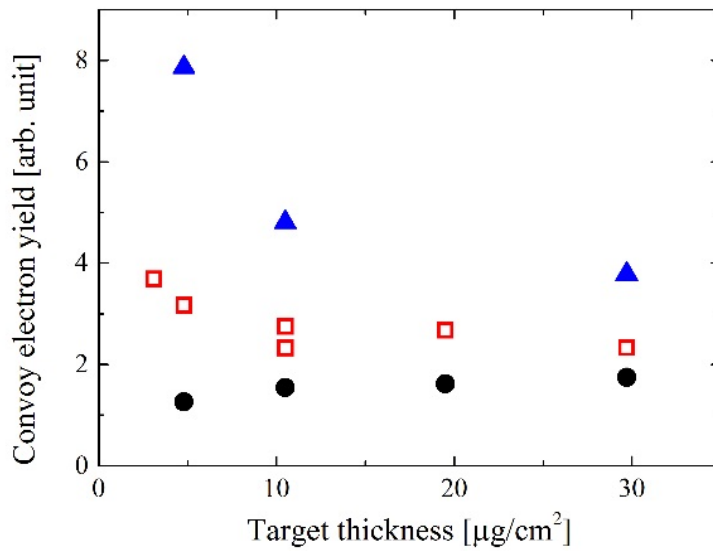


Fig.2. Target thickness dependence of convoy electron yield in 3.5 MeV/atom C^+ (circles), C_2^+ (squares), C_3^+ (triangles) bombardments on thin C foils.

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3.

ACCELERATOR MASS SPECTROMETRY

3.1 Detection tests of rare particles by the 6 MV tandem accelerator mass spectrometry system

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The rare-particle detection system on the 6 MV Pelletron tandem accelerator (Tsukuba 6 MV AMS system) was designed and constructed for the high-sensitivity detection of ^{10}Be , ^{14}C , ^{26}Al , ^{36}Cl , ^{41}Ca , and ^{129}I , and is also expected to measure other radioisotopes ^{32}Si and ^{90}Sr [1]. It has two Cs sputtering negative ion sources: a 40-sample MC-SNICS for the routine measurement of all nuclides and a hybrid source with a 39-sample MC-SNICS equipped with a CO_2 gas introduction system with either graphite or CO_2 samples for ^{14}C AMS. The main accelerator (model 18SDH-2 Pelletron accelerator developed by NEC, USA) has a long gas stripper tube assembly and a foil changer with 80 foil holders for equilibrium stripping ions. Carbon stripper foils will be mainly used for ^{36}Cl and ^{41}Ca AMS to obtain highly-charged positive ions. The rare-particle detection system has a 22.5° ESA (3.81 m radius) with a resolution of $E/\Delta E = 200$. A five-electrode gas ionization detector [2, 3] is installed on the end station of the rare-particle detection system. Figure 1 shows a schematic view of the Tsukuba 6 MV AMS system.

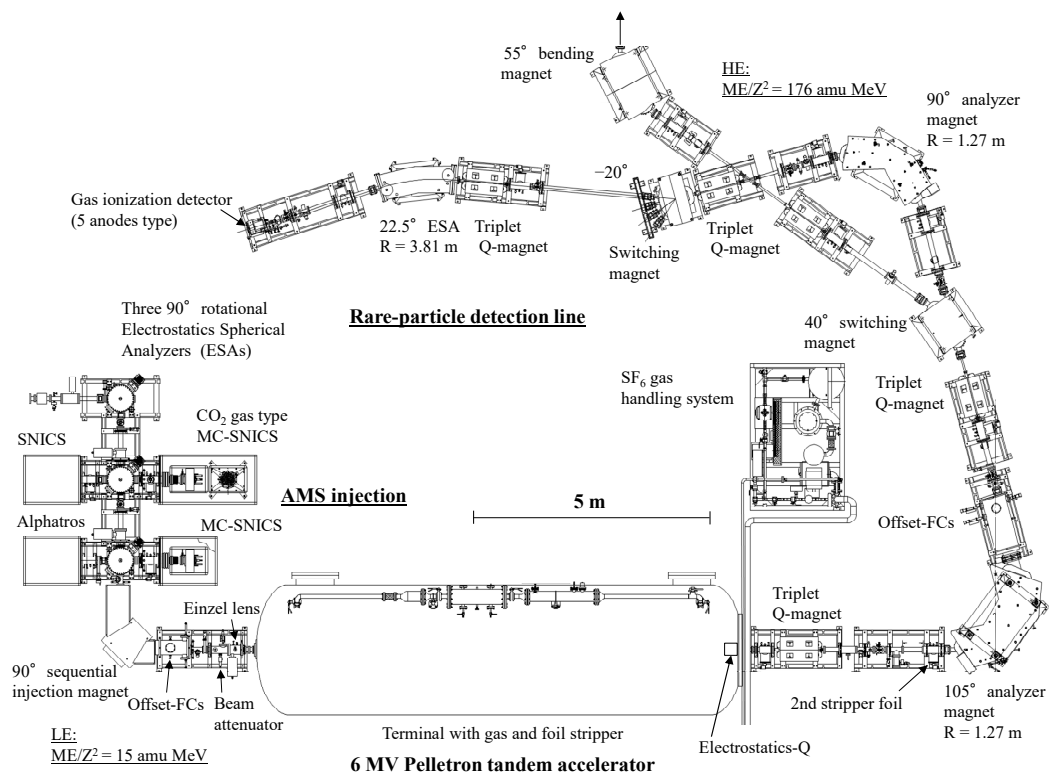


Fig.1. Schematic view of the Tsukuba 6 MV AMS system.

The first experiment of multi-nuclide AMS such as ^{14}C and ^{36}Cl was performed on March 2016. The background of the system for ^{14}C measurements using the 4+ charge state at 5.0 MV was reached to $^{14}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C} = 4.0 \times 10^{-16}$ (0.04 pMC). ^{36}Cl measurement was performed with carbon foil stripping into the 7+

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charge state at 6.0 MV. 48.0-MeV $^{36}\text{Cl}^{7+}$ was injected into the gas ionization detector. We used a 75-nm-thick Si_3N_4 foil for the entrance window of the gas ionization detector, and the optimal isobutane gas pressure is estimated to be 28 Torr for $^{36}\text{Cl}/\text{Cl}$. The ^{36}Cl was clearly separated from the ^{36}S in the gas ionization detector. Figure 2 shows a 2-dimensional spectrum for ^{36}Cl AMS with a standard sample of $^{36}\text{Cl}/\text{Cl} = 1.00 \times 10^{-11}$ [4]. The background of ^{36}Cl reached as low as $^{36}\text{Cl}/\text{Cl} = \sim 10^{-15}$. Results of the first test are summarized in Table 1, which demonstrates isobar separation performances of the Tsukuba 6 MV AMS system for ^{14}C and ^{36}Cl AMS.

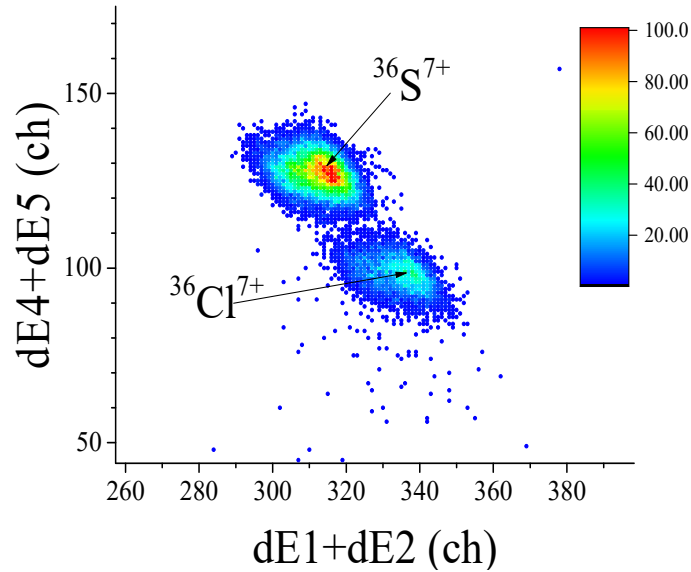


Fig.2. ^{36}Cl AMS spectrum with a standard sample of $^{36}\text{Cl}/\text{Cl} = 1.00 \times 10^{-11}$. A total of 6,600 counts for ^{36}Cl is detected during the measurement time of 3 min.

Table 1. Performances of the Tsukuba 6 MV AMS system in the trial measurements of ^{14}C and ^{36}Cl .

Isotopes	^{14}C	^{36}Cl
Target	Graphite	AgCl
Injected ion	C^-	Cl^-
Injectable ion current (μA)	50	30
Detected ion/stripper	$^{14}\text{C}^{4+}$ (Gas)	$^{36}\text{Cl}^{7+}$ (Foil)
Terminal voltage (MV)	5.0	6.0
Beam Energy (MeV)	25.0	48.0
Transmission (%)	60	5
Background	4.0×10^{-16}	$\sim 2 \times 10^{-15}$
Precision (%)	0.2	3

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3.2 ^{41}Ca -AMS measurement in UTTAC AMS system

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Accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS) is an ultra-sensitive technique to measure rare isotopes. We have previously measured ^{14}C , ^{26}Al , and ^{36}Cl using the 12UD Pelletron tandem accelerator at UTTAC [1]. After renewing the tandem accelerator [2], we are trying to develop multi-nuclide AMS measurement, for example ^{10}Be , ^{14}C , ^{26}Al , ^{36}Cl , ^{41}Ca and ^{129}I . ^{41}Ca is a long-lived radionuclide ($T_{1/2} = 1.04 \times 10^5$ yr), and can be mainly formed by neutron capture reaction of $^{40}\text{Ca}(n, \gamma)^{41}\text{Ca}$ with secondary cosmic ray. ^{41}Ca is one of Long-Lived Radio Nuclides (LLRN) to clarify the concentration in nuclear waste for their long-term management. The radiological characterization of nuclear waste is essential for managing storage sites. ^{41}Ca is also useful as a biological tracer for bone resorption [3] and as cosmogenic nuclide tracers for the environmental research. However, ^{41}Ca AMS is difficult because of interference by its isobar ^{41}K . It is necessary to suppress isobaric interference by various methods. One such method is the optimization of the detector to separate the ^{41}K contribution from that of ^{41}Ca . Usually, the gas counter detector has only one anode plate to identify the atomic number (Z), because the energy loss of heavy ions depends on Z . However, it is difficult to separate species with similar Z . A multi-plate gas counter can measure the energy loss at each plate, enabling a two-dimensional plot to be constructed by combining two regions of energy loss. This allows identification of species with similar Z . Changing the gas pressure in the detector can alter the separation between the ^{41}K and ^{41}Ca spectra. Therefore, we investigated the appropriate gas pressure using the PHITS [4].

A five-anode-type gas-ionization detector (Fig. 1) is used for the new 6 MV AMS system of UTTAC.

The PHITS simulation gave an optimum isobutane pressure range of 18-25 Torr. Figure 2 shows measurement results in isobutane at different pressure, 24 and 11 Torr. Regarding the peak top as the energy loss, M was calculated as the energy loss separation between ^{41}Ca and ^{41}K . Moreover defined separation ability M' as $M' = M / (W_{Ca} + W_K)$, where W_{Ca} and W_K indicates the FWHM for respective section's energy loss. A maximum separation ability ($M' = 2.2$) at isobutane 24 Torr was obtained. In the cases of poor separation ($M' < 1.0$) ^{41}K entered the ^{41}Ca counting gate area, increasing the background level. The

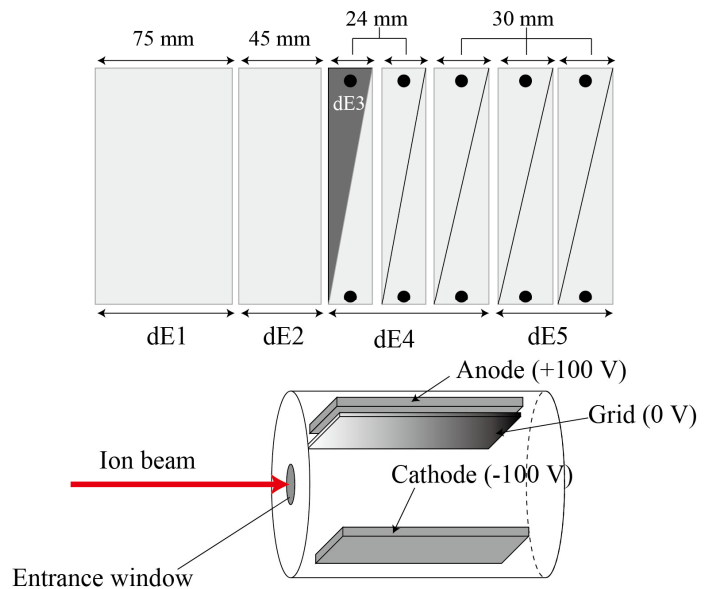


Fig. 1. Five-anode type ΔE -E detector.

¹ National Electrostatics Corporation, USA

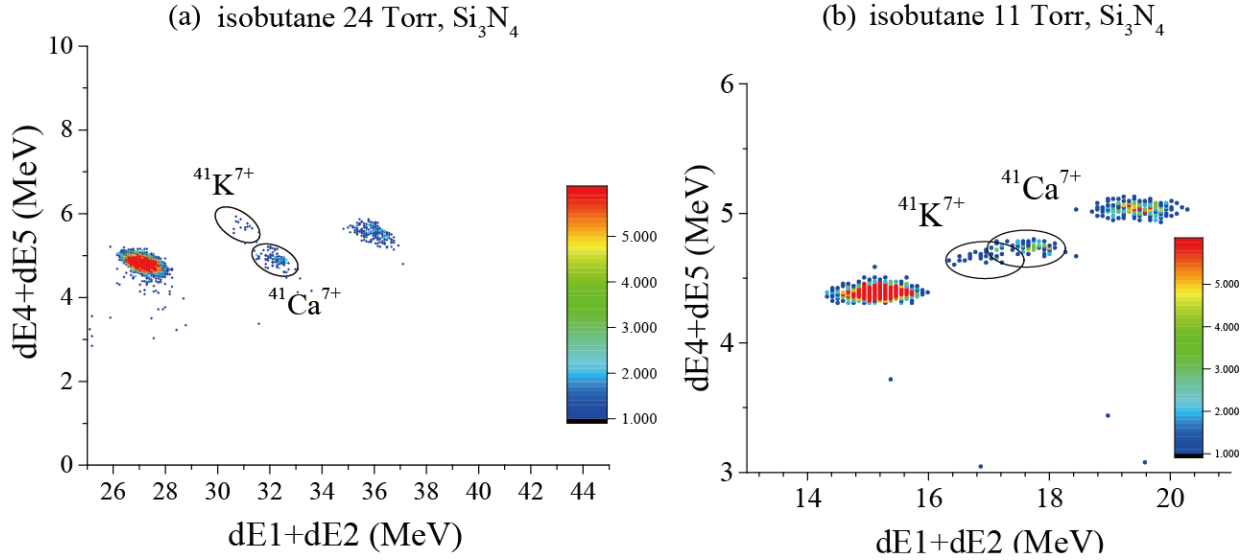


Fig. 2. ^{41}Ca AMS measured at different isobutane pressure: (a) 24 Torr and (b) 11 Torr. Separation ability M' is 2.2 in (a) and 0.9 in (b).

background level obviously decreased as the detector gas pressure increased, because there was no ^{41}K in the ^{41}Ca count gate area. We achieved a background level of $^{41}\text{Ca}/\text{Ca} \sim 6 \times 10^{-14}$ at the best separation. Table 1 gives the characteristics of the ^{41}Ca AMS measurement at UTTAC. However, other facilities obtained lower backgrounds [5], [6], [7]. The CaF_3^- current in our case was ~ 100 nA, while other published values are ~ 300 nA [5], [6], [7]. It's pointing out that present measurement was as a test using the new 6 MV AMS system, therefore we think that higher CaF_3^- currents and consequently lower background measurements will be improved by adjusting the ion source and accelerator parameters.

Table 1. Characteristics of the ^{41}Ca AMS measurement by the new 6 MV AMS system at UTTAC.

Isotope	^{41}Ca
Target	CaF_2
Injected ion	CaF_3^-
Injectable ion current (nA)	~ 100
Transmission (%)	~ 5
Detected ion	$^{41}\text{Ca}^{7+}$
Stripper	Carbon foil ($4.8 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$)
Terminal voltage (MV)	6.0
Total energy (MeV)	44.5
Background level ($^{41}\text{Ca}/^{40}\text{Ca}$)	$\sim 6 \times 10^{-14}$

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3.3 Environmental impact of the Fukushima accident on iodine-129 levels in rainwater

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In 2011, huge amounts of radionuclides were emitted into the atmosphere after the serious accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant (FDNPP). Radioactive contaminations spread on the large terrestrial environment. Rainwater is a primary factor to precipitate atmospheric radionuclides over a long term. We have measured ^{129}I (half-life: 1.57×10^7 y) deposition in meteoric water samples collected before and after the FDNPP accident. The measurement was done by using an accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS) system at the Micro Analysis Laboratory Tandem Accelerator (MALT), The University of Tokyo[1]. The bulk precipitation samples were collected monthly at the University of Tsukuba[2], prepared from rainwater located about 170 km southwest of FDNPP.

The AMS results, shown in the Fig. 1, conclude that ^{129}I concentration in the rainwater before the accident was approximately 10^8 atoms L^{-1} at Tsukuba. On the other hand, ^{129}I concentration in March, 2011 was higher than that before the accident by approximately three orders of magnitude. It took approximately one year to return to the background level before the accident. This suggests that the atmospheric ^{129}I -radioactivity is a sensitive measure for the FDNPP accident. Also, the period of re-suspension suggesting atmospheric ^{129}I concentration and deposition caused by the FDNPP accident was approximately one year.

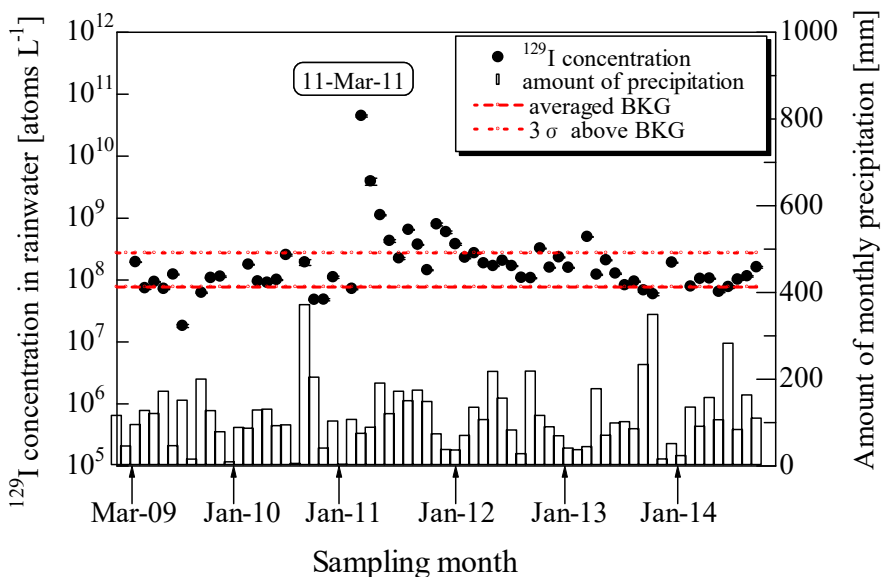


Fig. 1. The amount of precipitation and ^{129}I concentration in rainwater collected at University of Tsukuba.

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3.4 Decrease of iodine isotopic ratio observed in the crater lake and the geothermal area at Zao volcano

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The volcanic activity has become higher at Zao volcano in Miyagi and Yamagata Prefectures of Japan since January 2013 after the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake. Monthly volcanic earthquakes of up to 319 times were observed in April 2015, and twice of the white turbidity were found on the surface of crater lake in October 2014 [1]. Basic water quality of crater lake and geothermal area have been studied by Tohoku University since the water quality of hydrothermal system in volcano has been confirmed to be correlated with the volcanic activity [2]. As a part of this investigation, we have tried to monitor the volcanic activity using $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratios at Zao volcano. In our previous study, $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratios in the water samples collected in October 2013 from the crater lake at Zao volcano were in the range of $1.6\text{--}2.2 \times 10^{-9}$, which were affected by anthropogenic meteoric water with high $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratio ($> 9.0 \times 10^{-9}$) [3]. In terms of the global iodine cycle, chronologically-old iodine with low $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratio ($< 1.5 \times 10^{-12}$) [4] was considered to be supplied into the crater lake and geothermal area from underground corresponding to the volcanic activity, resulting the decrease in $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratio of the crater lake. The present study aims to elucidate the relation between the $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratio and volcanic earthquakes through the evaluation of $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratio distribution in order to monitor volcanic activity at Zao volcano.

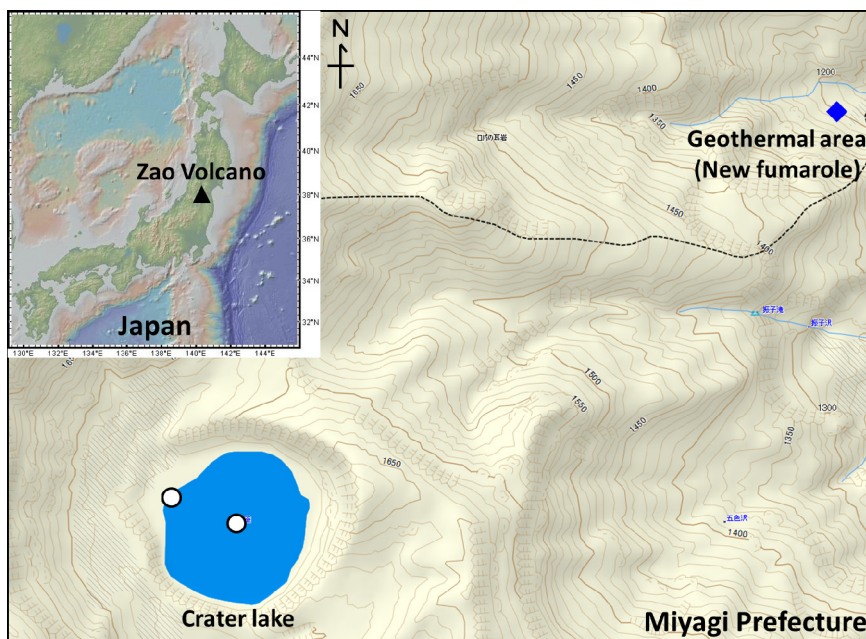


Fig.1. Map of Japan showing the location of Zao Volcano and sampling sites of water in the crater lake (white circles) and the geothermal area (blue diamond).

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Water samples (2000 ml) were collected 6–7 times from crater lake and geothermal area in eastern side of Zao volcano from October 2013 to October 2014 including before and after the white turbidity phenomena in the lake. After adding 2 mg iodine carrier to the filtered water sample of 1000 ml, the iodine was isolated and precipitated as AgI. The $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratio of AgI target was measured using an accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS) system at the Micro Analysis Laboratory Tandem Accelerator (MALT), The University of Tokyo. A terminal voltage of 3.47 MV and a charge state of 5+ were chosen for acceleration and detection. Concentration of ^{127}I in the water was measured by an ICP-MS at the University of Tsukuba. The original $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratios in the water samples were calculated using ^{127}I concentration and $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratio.

The $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratios of the crater lake increased from 2.2×10^{-9} to 5.6×10^{-9} during October 2013 to the middle of October 2014 corresponding to the decreased number of the volcanic earthquake, then, abruptly decreased to 4.3×10^{-10} soon after the white turbidity in the lake. While the $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratios of the geothermal area decreased from 5.3×10^{-9} to 1.6×10^{-9} at August 2015 corresponding to the increased number of the volcanic earthquake. There is a possibility that the $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratio in the crater lake is related to the volcanic activity at Zao volcano. Further investigations are needed to discuss the relationship of changes in $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratio of the hydrothermal system and the volcanic activity at Zao volcano.

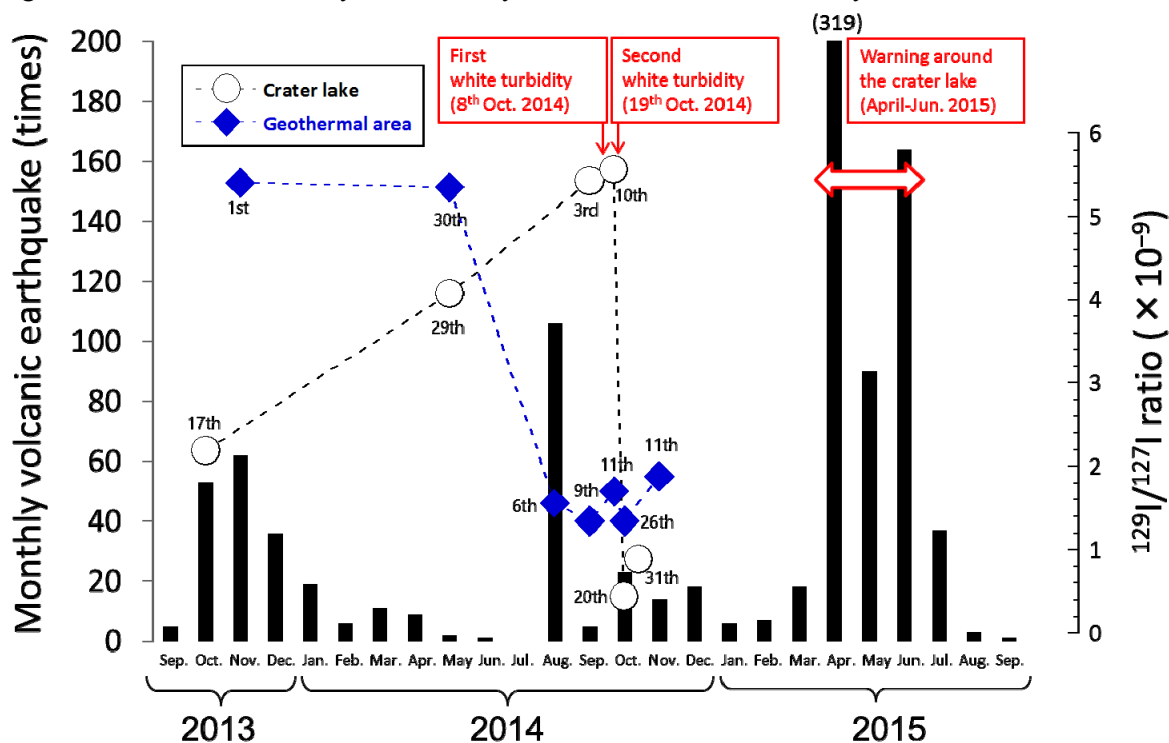


Fig.2. Number of monthly volcanic earthquake (black bars) at Zao volcano in 2013-2015. Also shown are the temporal changes in $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratio of surface water from the crater lake (open circles) and the geothermal area (blue diamonds). The red remarks indicate the date of the white turbidity observed on the lake and the date of warning around the lake.

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4.

BEAM AND ISOTOPE APPLICATIONS

4.1 Micro-PIXE analyses of melt inclusions in olivine crystals from Allende meteorite

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Introduction

Chondrules are millimeter-sized spherical particles consisting chiefly of olivine and pyroxene minerals embedded in matrices of primitive meteorites (chondrites) (Fig. 1a). They are thought to have been produced by the melting and sudden quenching of pre-existing silicate materials in the very early solar nebular before being accreted to their parent asteroids. They were formed at about 4564.7 ± 0.6 million age (Ma) [1], about 2.5 Ma after the birth of the solar system (4567.4 ± 0.6 Ma, [1]), within 5 astronomical unit (AU) from the proto-Sun as solidified melt droplets freely floating in space before the accretion [2]. They also constitute up to 80% of the volume of the most chondrites [3] that are believed to be the building blocks of the planetary system. Thus, an understanding of the formation of chondrules is important to elucidate the initial development of the early planetary system. Olivine crystals in chondrules usually contain tiny inclusions of Ca and Al-rich silicate glasses [2, 4-12] (Fig. 1b). The glasses have been generally regarded as small volumes of parental chondrule-melt trapped along olivine growth facets during chondrule formation [5-8, 12]. The chondrule melts are also thought to have reacted with the ambient nebular gas during the chondrule formation and to have incorporated the moderately volatile elements, Si, Fe, Cr, Mn, P, K, Na, Cl, Zn, and S from the nebular gas [2, 9-11, 13]. Thus, minerals and glass inclusions in chondrules are enriched in the moderately volatile elements [2, 9-11, 13]. Since the glass inclusions behave as a closed system during secondary alterations in their parent bodies [8-11], abundances of the moderately volatile elements in the inclusions are a clue to elucidate physico-chemical conditions in the early solar nebular gas and the chondrule formation processes. For the reason, we analyzed trace-element contents in glass inclusions from olivine crystals of Allende meteorite by using micro-PIXE.

Sample and Experimental

Allende meteorite is a carbonaceous chondrite classified as CV3 that is rich in refractory elements like Ca, Al, and Ti, and lacks secondary heating effects. The meteorite includes three types of olivine crystals: olivine phenocrysts in chondrules, isolated olivine crystals in the chondritic matrix, and irregular-shaped holocrystalline olivine aggregates in the matrix. In this study, glass inclusions in olivine phenocrysts from porphyritic olivine chondrules were analyzed. The glass inclusions were isolated or form clusters in the olivines. They were composed of

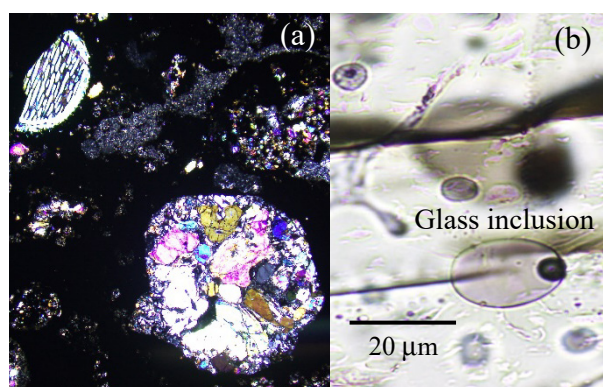


Fig.1. Photomicrographs of chondrules in Allende meteorite (a) and glass inclusions in olivine crystal within the chondrule (b). (a) Chondrules, bright parts of semicircular fragment (upper left) and spheroidal (lower right); matrix, dark area. (b) Ellipsoidal glass inclusions with transparent glass and dark shrinkage bubble.

clear glass plus shrinkage bubble (Fig. 1b) with sizes ranging from 5 to 30 μm . The surfaces of glass inclusions were exposed on surfaces of the olivine specimens by cutting and polishing and were coated with a carbon film to prevent electrostatic charging. Major element compositions of the glass inclusions were analyzed with a SEM-EDS prior to the PIXE analyses. The glass were rich in SiO_2 (50–61 wt%), Al_2O_3 (20–26 wt%), CaO (1.2–13.6 wt%) and have high contents of Na_2O (8.6–13.1 wt%).

PIXE analyses were performed at the 1MV Tandatron. A 0.1 to 0.3 nA beam of 1.92-MeV proton was focused to a $10 \times 10 \mu\text{m}$ spot on the sample using slits and magnetic lenses. The beam incidence was normal to the sample surface, and the X-ray measurement take-off angle was 45° [14]. The characteristic X-rays excited by the incident beam were collected by the Si(Li) X-ray-energy detector (Sirius 30+ detector; e2V Scientific Instruments, UK) with a nominal resolution of 139 eV at 5.9 keV. A 55- μm -thick Mylar film was used to attenuate the intense X-rays from the predominant light elements and to prevent the entry into the detector of protons scattered from samples. The total charge was determined by integrating the target currents, and all samples were analyzed to the integrated charges of 0.2 to 0.6 μC . Analytical points were chosen based on optical viewing using a CCD camera mounted on the microscope. Quantification was performed based on the model of Kurosawa et al. [14].

Results and Discussion

PIXE spectra of glass inclusions in the olivine crystals consisted of K X-ray peaks from Al, Si, Cl, K, Ca, Ti, Cr, Fe, Ni, Cu, Zn, and Sr (Fig. 2). All the glass inclusions in the olivines demonstrated the similar X-ray spectra. Element concentrations of the glass inclusions, determined by PIXE, were as follows: 22.7 to 25.9 wt.% for Si, 6.7–12.3 wt.% for Al, 3.4–9.8 wt.% for Ca, 0.2–1.1 wt.% for Fe, 0.22–0.47 wt.% for Ti and Cr, 180–9000 ppm for K and Ni, 600–960 ppm for S, and several tens to 400 ppm for P, Sc, Mn, V, Cl, Co, Cu, Sr, and Pb.

Contents of the refractory elements, Al, Ti, and Ca, were ten times higher than the solar-system abundances [15] and were comparable to those of glass inclusions from Kaba CV3 and Renazo CR2 carbonaceous chondrites [9, 10]. Contents of the moderately volatile elements, Si, V, and Cr were almost comparable to the solar-system abundances [15], and contents of S, Zn, and Cl were extremely lower than the solar-system abundances. Such volatility dependence agreed with those of glass inclusions from other carbonaceous chondrite [9, 10]. However, Na and K contents were extremely high contents, despite the moderately volatile elements. The high contents in the glass inclusions indicate their incorporations in extremely Na- and K-enriched conditions. Their moderately volatile elements may have been concentrated in the primordial nebular gas at the formation

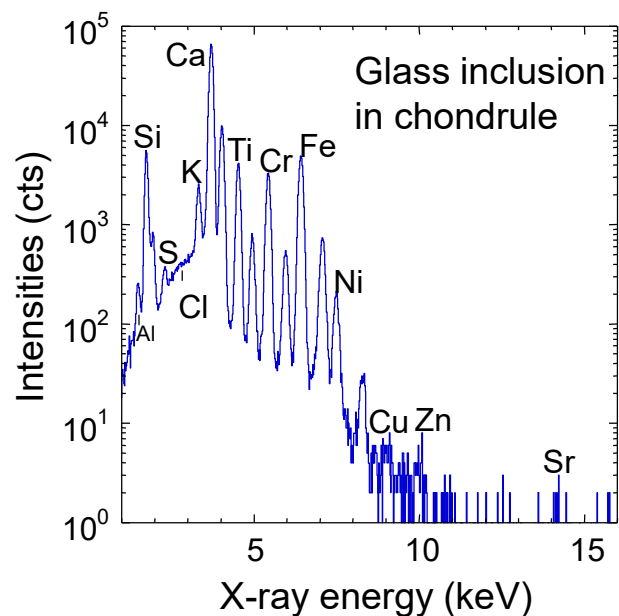


Fig.2. PIXE spectrum of glass inclusion in olivine crystal from Allende meteorite.

regions of the Allende chondrite.

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4.2 Improvement of coincidence detection system of ion and secondary electron in HERDA

T. Tamura, I. Harayama, Y. Watahiki, S. Ishii, D. Sekiba

In the previous annual report (2014) [1], we reported the development of coincidence detection system for high-resolution elastic recoil detection analysis (HERDA) [2, 3] to reduce the background level correlated to the dark current in micro-channel plate (MCP) used as the position sensitive detectors (PSDs). In the system, the H^+ ion and secondary electron from the stopper foil are coincidentally detected by PSD1 and PSD2, respectively as introduced by another group [4, 5]. We previously concluded that the dark current noise in the HERDA spectrum was significantly reduced down to $\sim 2\%$ of the original amount, meanwhile the signals of H^+ ion were also apparently suppressed down to $\sim 10\%$. In the present report we describe the recent resolution of this problem of the signal reduction.

We noticed that the problem of the signal reduction is attributed to the system parameter in the electronics units named “Universal coincidence” shown in Fig. 1. In the previous system, the outputs from the “Dual Sum” and “Delay Amp3” were directly sent to “Universal coincidence”. However this “Universal coincidence” accepts only the TTL signal, so that, when the pulse height of one of the outputs from “Dual Sum” and “Delay Amp3” was lower than 3 V, “Universal coincidence” did not work. As a result, “Universal coincidence” often did not create the “gate” of ADC, even though the H^+ ion and secondary electron were detected by PSD1 and PSD2, respectively. This problem happens due to the non-fixed gain of the MCP. Now we put the “Timing SCA (single channel analyzer)” in front of the “Universal coincidence”, then all the signals can successfully open the gate of ADC.

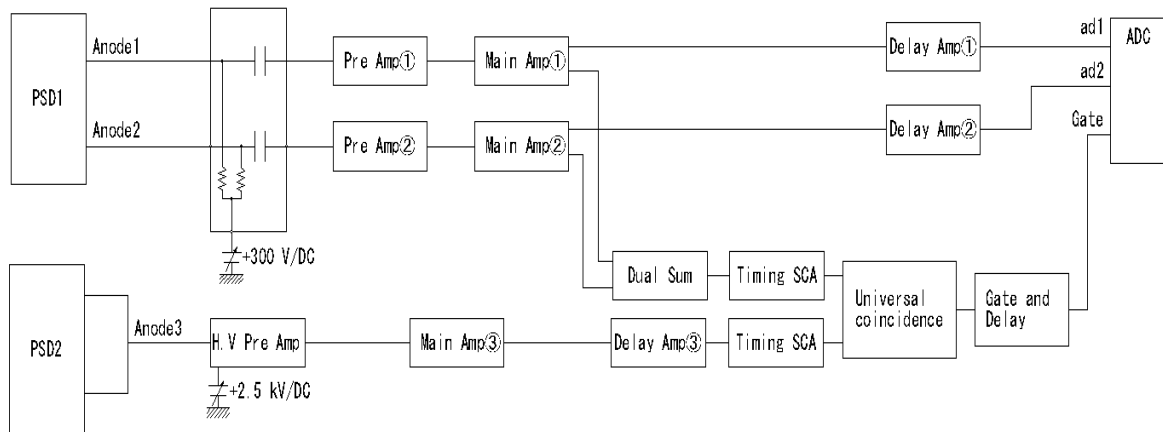


Fig.1. Schematics of data acquisition system in the coincidence detection system for HERDA.

The HERDA experiment with the new electronics was done at the D-course of 1MV Tandetron at UTTAC. The sample measured was hydrogenated amorphous carbon (a-C:H) film deposited on a Si wafer. The thickness of the a-C:H film is ~ 200 nm and chemical vapor deposition (CVD) was employed. The

500 keV $^{16}\text{O}^+$ ion was used as an incident beam, and the beam was shaped to 1 mm x 1 mm by a double slit system. The typical beam current was ~ 10 nA.

Figure 2 shows the HERDA spectra taken on the a-C:H film with (red) and without (blue) improved coincidence detection system. The yield of dark current (dotted lines) indicates that the dark current noise is reduced down to $\sim 1\%$. The background at the vacuum region (70~90 ch) is also suppressed by the coincidence detection system. On the other hand, the reduction of the H^+ ion yield (30~60 ch) due to the coincidence detection system is $\sim 75\%$. This is much better than the previous value of $\sim 10\%$. Taking into account the detection efficiency of MCP $\sim 60\%$, 75% is very reasonable assuming that the H^+ ion penetration induces emission of one or two secondary electrons. The difference between the background yield and the dark current yield with the coincidence detection system is interpreted by the multiple scattering of the incident beam.

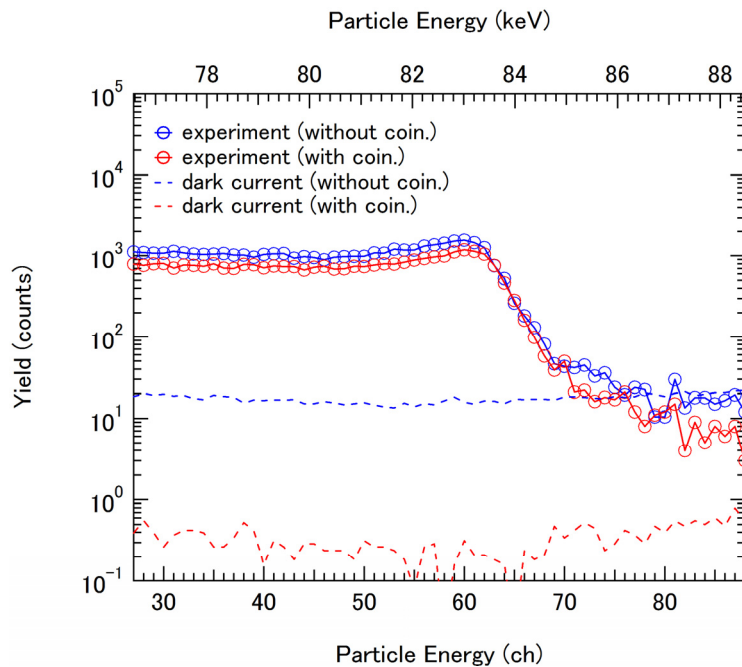


Fig. 2. HERDA spectra taken on the a-C:H film with (red) and without (blue) coincidence detection system. The dark current yield was measured without beam incidence.

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4.3 Vacancies in $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{N}/\text{GaN}$ multiple quantum wells fabricated on m -plane GaN probed by a monoenergetic positron beam

A. Uedono, K. Kurihara¹, N. Yoshihara, S. Nagao¹, S. Ishibashi²

Vacancy-type defects in $\text{In}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{N}/\text{GaN}$ multiple quantum well (MQW) structures fabricated on m -plane GaN by metal organic chemical vapor deposition have been studied using a monoenergetic positron beam [1]. Through measurements of Doppler broadening spectra of the annihilation radiation, vacancy-type defects in MQW were probed. The positron trapping rate of defects decreased under photon illumination, which is attributed to the emission of electrons from those defects and/or the suppression of the positron diffusion by optically active defects. The energy level of the defects was close to the energy of photoluminescence emissions. The relationship between the energy width of the photoluminescence line and the defects is discussed. Results are shown in Figs. 1-5.

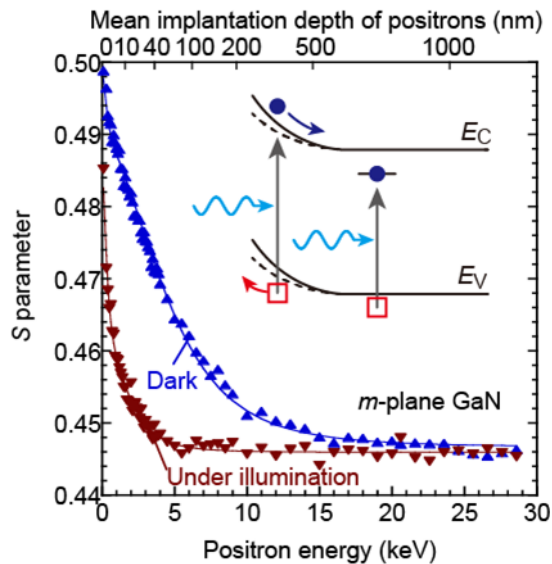


Fig. 1. S parameters as a function of incident positron energy E for m -plane GaN. The measurements were done in the dark (blue symbols) and under the illumination of HeCd-laser light (brown symbols). An inset shows a schematic band diagram for n -type semiconductor under illumination. A blue circle and a red square are an electron and a hole, respectively.

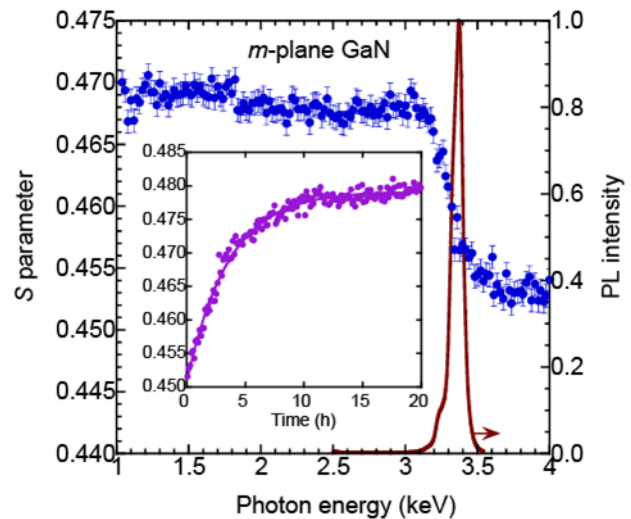


Fig. 2. Relationship between S and the photon energy for m -plane GaN. The PL spectrum is also shown. An inset shows the recovery of S after illumination with HeCd-laser light.

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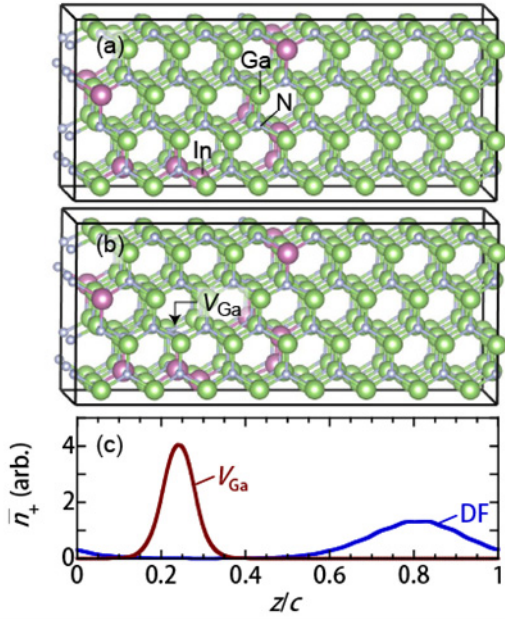


Fig. 3. (a) Atomic positions for the In_{0.125}Ga_{0.725}N/GaN heterostructure used in the calculations and (b) those with V_{Ga}, where purple, green, and gray spheres represent In, Ga, and N atoms, respectively. The planar averaged positron densities \bar{n}_+ corresponding to the defect-free structure (DF) and the structure with V_{Ga} are also shown in (c), respectively.

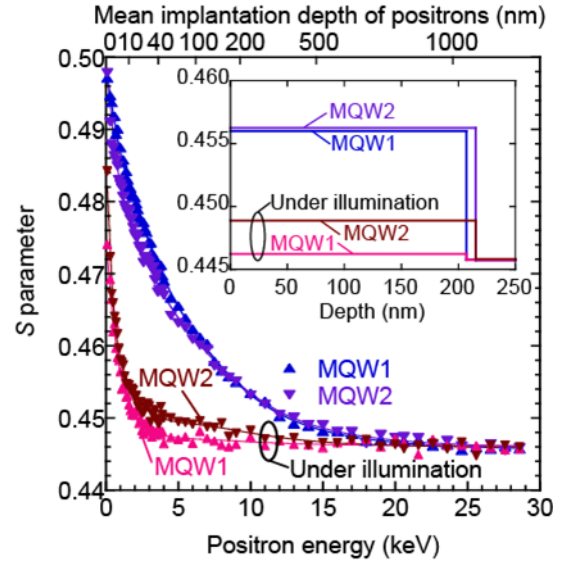


Fig. 4. S - E curves for the MQW1 and MQW2 measured in the dark (blue and violet symbols) and under the illumination of HeCd-laser light (pink and brown symbols). An inset shows the depth distributions of S derived from fittings.

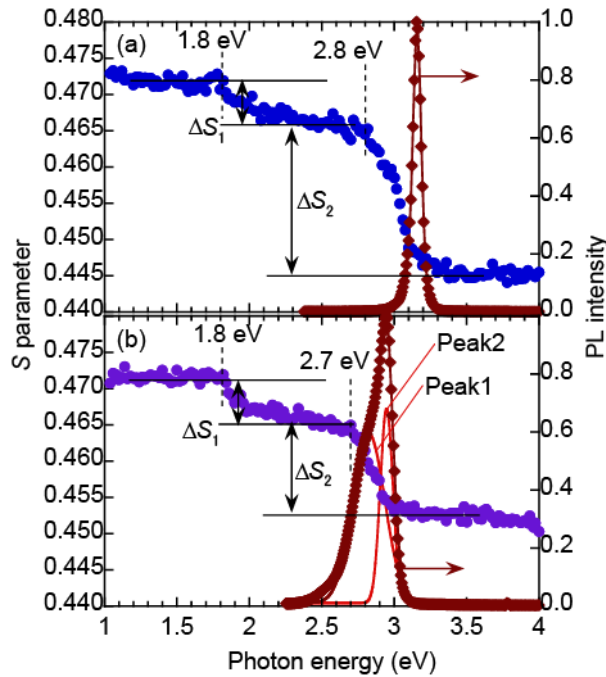


Fig. 5. Relationship between S and the photon energy for (a) MQW1 and (b) MQW2. The PL spectra are also shown.

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4.4 Analysis of low Z elements in solids employing non-Rutherford backscattering

H. Naramoto, H. Kudo, M. Sataka, H. Oshima, K. Sasa, A. Uedono¹

Interactions of fast ions with atoms in solids have been employed to perform the microstructural analysis of functional materials. The analytical information with the first priority in such a case is the depth distributions of relevant elements, which can be realized rather easily for heavy elements in low Z matrix by Rutherford backscattering spectrometry [1].

On the other hand, non-Rutherford process can be used to perform the sensitive analysis of low Z elements such as C, N and O in a surface-coating layer and/or compounds of functional materials [2, 3].

This can be realized advantageously, owing to the performance of the 6 MV tandem accelerator installed recently at UTTAC [4]. As the first step of this study, the energy calibration is performed employing the resonant nuclear elastic scattering $^{16}\text{O}(\alpha, \alpha_0)^{16}\text{O}$ around 3.04 MeV.

In non-Rutherford scattering, the differential cross sections of elastic scattering are strongly dependent on energy and scattering angle. Therefore, it is necessary in advance to perform the numerical approaches to such behavior of the cross sections. Figure 1 shows the numerically calculated excitation curves of $^{16}\text{O}(\alpha, \alpha_0)^{16}\text{O}$ nuclear elastic scattering at different scattering angles [5]. The peak energies are located at about 3.038 MeV. The peak increases from 140° up to 170° . One can realize the importance of a choice of scattering angle close to 170° where the cross section becomes larger by an order of magnitude compared with the Rutherford case.

For the energy calibration, naturally oxidized Al plate and single-crystalline $\alpha\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ were prepared. The energy of incident $^4\text{He}^{2+}$ ions (2 mm Φ in diameter, typically 10 nA) were changed across 3.040 MeV by small steps (5-20 keV/step), and the backscattered ^4He particles were detected with a surface barrier detector at a scattering angle of 168.5° over a solid angle of 2.76 msr.

Figure 2 shows the backscattering spectra from a naturally oxidized Al plate taken at 168.5° with different incident energies of $^4\text{He}^{2+}$ ions from 3.005 to 3.046 MeV. The thickness of oxidized layer is expected to be thin enough (several nm), so that the dependence of the resonance peak on the incident energy is drastic. The peak intensity shows the maximum at 3.045 MeV followed by the intensity drop at 3.046 MeV, which suggests that the resonant energy is around 3.045 MeV. For the quantitative evaluation,

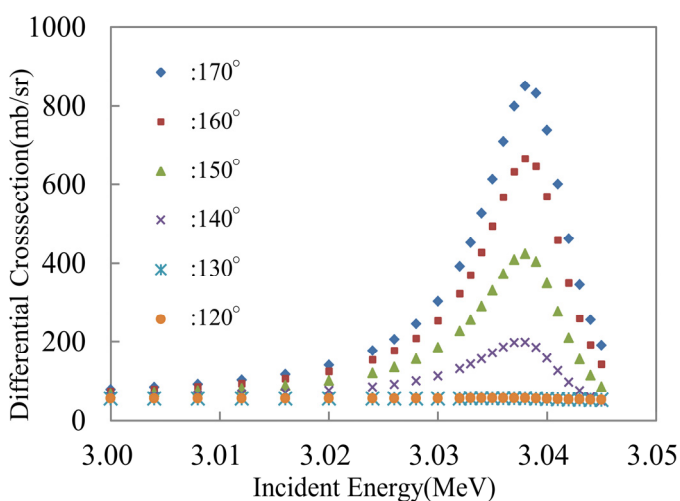


Fig. 1. The numerically calculated excitation curves of $^{16}\text{O}(\alpha, \alpha_0)^{16}\text{O}$ nuclear resonant scattering at six different backscattering angles.

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α -Al₂O₃ single crystal with the fixed chemical composition was used as a standard sample. The energy width of incident $^4\text{He}^{2+}$ ions cannot be controlled to remain unchanged when changing the incident energies, and accordingly the resonance feature was observed as the peak shift in backscattering spectra.

Figure 3 shows the dependence of the peak energy on the incident energy for the resonant backscattering spectra. The flat top region around 1.192 MeV results from the convolution of resonant peaks all over the oxide layer, which includes the effect of energy struggling of incident $^4\text{He}^{2+}$ ions. The abrupt decrease of peak energy in the high energy region is caused by the energy loss of $^4\text{He}^{2+}$ ions backscattered deep inside. From Fig. 3, it is reasonable to take 3.044 MeV located at the middle in the flat region as the resonant energy. The resonance energy thus obtained, 3.044 ± 0.002 MeV, is within the range of reported value [6].

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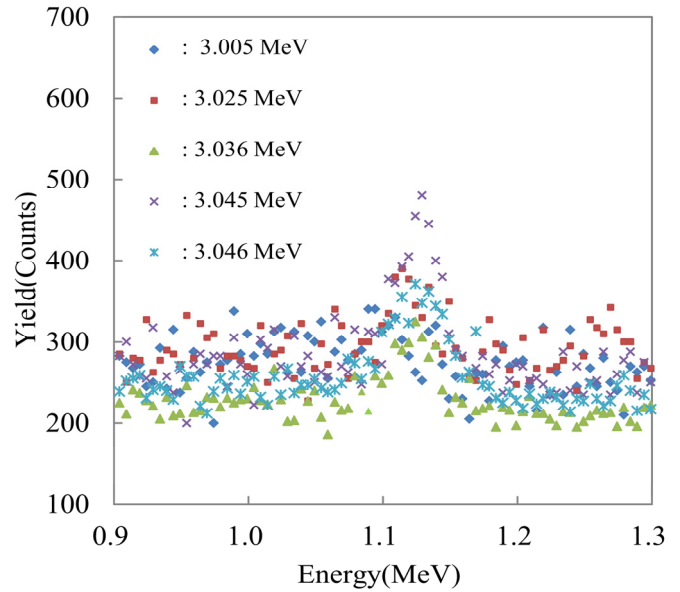


Fig. 2. Backscattering spectra of $^4\text{He}^{2+}$ ion from ^{16}O on naturally oxidized Al surface at 168.5° when the incident energy is changed from 3.005 MeV to 3.046 MeV.

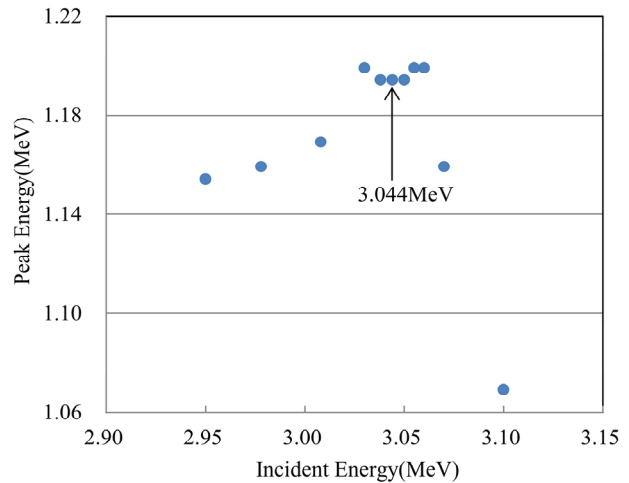


Fig. 3. The peak energy in resonant backscattering spectra of $^4\text{He}^{2+}$ ions in α -Al₂O₃ as a function of the incident energy. The arrow indicates the resonance energy determined in this work.

4.5 Performance of superconducting magnet for Mössbauer study (part 1)

S. Sharmin, H. Alima Latiff, H. Yanagihara, E. Kita

The Mössbauer effect is based on the principle that sometimes a nucleus in a solid matrix can emit and absorb gamma rays without recoil; this is because when it is in a solid matrix the nucleus is no longer isolated, but is fixed within the lattice. In general, the Mössbauer effect is optimized for low-energy gamma rays associated with nuclei strongly bound in a crystal lattice at low temperatures [1]. The applicability of superconducting magnets to studies of the Mössbauer effect stems from several factors. The fields obtainable are sufficiently large so as to produce useful magnetic hyperfine splittings by direct interaction with the nuclear magnetic moment. This permits the determination of nuclear magnetic moments even in nonmagnetic environments. Because the hyperfine fields are usually of the order of 40-50T, the external fields must often amount to several tesla, to resolve the spectra of the opposite magnetic moments in ferrimagnetic materials [2].

The magneto-optical system Spectromag (SM4000), an Oxford Instruments superconducting magnet capable of generating magnetic fields up to 6 T was set up in 2015-2016 at UTTAC for Mössbauer spectroscopic study purposes. The magnet is a so-called split-coil system, consisting of two Nb-Ti coils and a small cancellation coil. This coil produces a zero field at the location of the source. The goal of this design is to minimize the stray field while achieving the homogeneous high magnetic field required. In this configuration, the field is longitudinal, i.e. in the direction of the γ -rays. The whole magnet system is located in a cryostat with internal liquid helium and liquid N₂ vessel. The split-pair superconducting magnet system provides optical access to a sample in a variable horizontal magnetic field and low temperature environment. A variable temperature insert (VTI) to allow for temperatures ranging from 0.45 to 300K with optical access was provided. The Spectromag is operated using a standard set of Oxford Instruments electronics and accessories:

- i MercuryIPS-M superconducting magnet power supply
- ii Mercury iTC temperature controller
- iii ILM liquid helium/nitrogen level meter
- iv flexible liquid helium transfer tube (siphon).



Fig.1. Setup of the measurement system with superconducting magnet.

Stray fields can seriously affect the normal measurements which are made to effect a velocity calibration of the spectrometer. In Fig. 2, the stray field distribution of the Spectromag has been presented. The numbers and arrows indicate the amplitude and direction of the stray fields in Oe units. The linear driver experiences magnetic field of 83 Oe when it is separated by 36 cm from the edge of the SCM at 50 kOe. Since the shift in the velocity is proportional to the strength of the stray field, the transducer was kept apart from the dewar. In addition, as a magnetic shield, soft steel sheets were placed between the dewar and the transducer.

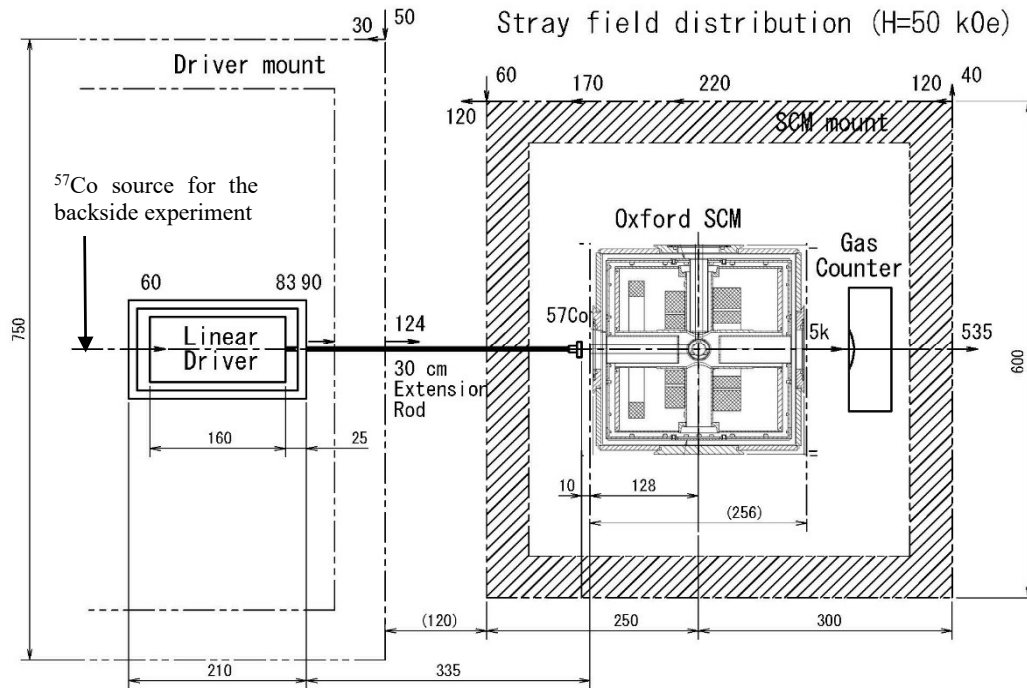


Fig. 2. Stray magnetic field distribution of the Oxford SPECTRO-MAG magnetized at 50 kOe. The numbers and arrows indicate the amplitude and direction of the stray fields in Oe units.

In order to populate the excited state of a Mössbauer isotope a radioactive isotope is needed which decays to its excited state. In the case of ^{57}Fe the radioactive isotope ^{57}Co is used. Also, $^{57}\text{Fe}(\text{Rh})$ was used as a host throughout. The source can be attached to two vibrating systems (transducers) named LABO and WissEL, thus providing opportunity for two separate measurements to be conducted simultaneously. Liquid helium was provided by the Cryogenics Division, Research Facility Center for Science and Technology from recovered helium gas, transferred through a pipeline from the laboratory. After the sample was mounted in the sample space, the extension rod of the ^{57}Co source was attached to the drivers. The transmission of γ - rays was checked to see if there was about 20 counts/30 sec in each channel. After repeated evacuation of the sample space, outer vacuum jacket (OVJ), and VTI, the superconducting magnet was ready for use (see Fig. 1).

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4.6 Performance of superconducting magnet for Mössbauer study (part 2)

S. Sharmin, H. Alima Latiff, H. Yanagihara, E. Kita

Mössbauer spectroscopy under a high external magnetic field was performed in transmission geometry, in which the absorption of the γ -ray is detected. To evaluate the performance of the Mössbauer system with the superconducting magnet, a comparison of Mössbauer spectra for standard Fe ($8\ \mu\text{m}$) with and without magnetic field was carried out. It was quite evident that the spectra change with the application of magnetic field, especially in the case of linewidth (LW), which increases as a magnetic field is applied (Fig. 1). Hyperfine field (H_{HF}) decreased from 330 kOe for $H = 0$ to 299 kOe under $H = 50$ kOe by about 30 kOe. The 2nd and 5th peaks disappeared due to the magnetization alignment parallel to the gamma-ray direction.

In order to double-check if the spectra really represent the Fe and exclude any experimental artifact, especially on the isomer shift (IS) and calibration factor, spectra of the α -Fe at the back side of the linear driver were also measured with the SCM charged at $H = 0$ and $H = 5$ T setting the another ^{57}Co source at the left side of the linear driver seen in Fig. 2 (secondary circuit side). These measurements directly test the effect of SCM magnetic field on the linear drive. Note that the α -Fe foil for the backside measurements was set with a distance of more than 60 cm from the SCM. Mössbauer spectra were shown in Fig. 2 and parameters are listed in Table 1. It was found that the linewidths for $H=0$ and $H= 5$ T were 0.32121 and 0.26247 mm/s respectively, almost equally opposite to the previous measurements where for $H = 0$ and $H = 5$ T the linewidths were 0.26057 and 0.33179 mm/s, respectively. If the system has the same velocity characteristics, then the calibration factors should not change. The calibration factor is 0.04586 for 5 T, which is almost the same as the zero field value, 0.04593. Therefore, we can say that the system characteristics remain the same and the effect of stray field from SCM on the driver is small.

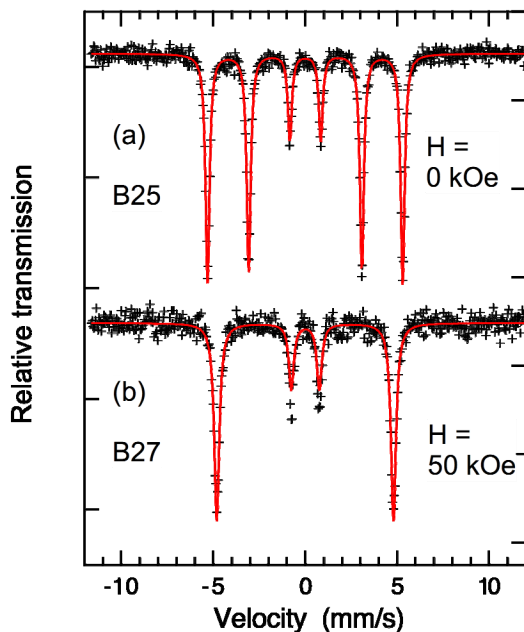


Fig.1. Mössbauer spectra of standard Fe ($8\ \mu\text{m}$) at room temperature (a) $H = 0$ and (b) $H = 50$ kOe.

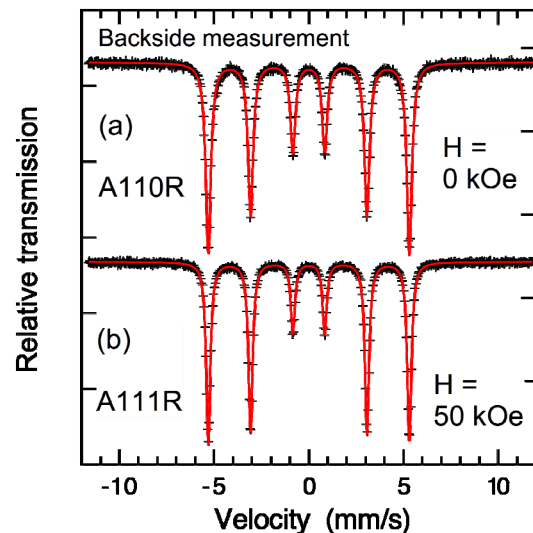


Fig.2. Mössbauer spectra of standard Fe ($8\ \mu\text{m}$) measured at the backside, (a) $H = 0$ and (b) $H = 50$ kOe.

Table 1. Mössbauer parameters of standard Fe 8 μm absorbers measured under/near the external field (H) generated by the Oxford SCM system. Data were collected at room temperature and were analyzed as standard spectra where hyperfine field (H_{HF}) and isomer shift (IS) were fixed as 330 kOe and 0 mm/s, respectively, except spectrum recorded under 50 kOe.

	H (kOe)	H_{HF} (kOe)	IS (mm/s)	LW (mm/s)	Center Ch. (channel)	Cal fact. (mm/s/ch)	Exp ID		
SCM	0	330	-	0.26057	253.609	0.046012	B25	Std	Fig 3(a)
	50	298.86	0.0003	0.33179			B27		Fig 3(b)
Backside	0	330	-	0.32121	254.708	0.045925	A110R	Std	
	50	330		0.26247	254.674	0.045858	A111R	Std	

4.7 High magnetic field Mössbauer study on (Mg)Fe₃O₄ nano-particles

S. Sharmin, D. Isaka, H. Alima Latiff, M. Kishimoto, H. Yanagihara, E. Kita

Spinel ferrites exhibit various magnetic properties and have been utilized for many applications such as high and medium frequency power devices and signal transformers. The basic structure of spinel ferrite is magnetite, Fe₃O₄, with an inverse spinel structure where divalent ions are preferably placed on the B sites. Namely in magnetite, Fe³⁺ ions occupy A sites and equal amounts of Fe²⁺ and Fe³⁺ ions occupy the B sites of spinel structure. Magnetic structures are mainly determined by the strong antiferromagnetic interaction between A and B sites. Addition of metallic elements replacing divalent Fe²⁺ ions can modify the physical and magnetic properties. For example, Mn and Ni addition improve soft-magnetic properties and Zn addition can increase saturation magnetization. These features have been used for actual applications. Furthermore, novel applications have been developed for bio-medicine fields such as drug delivery and magnetic hyperthermia because ferrite oxides can realize biocompatible materials.

Magnetic nanoparticles of spinel oxides have attracted much attention because of their potential to generate heat in magnetic hyperthermia and thermoablation for cancer therapy. The origin of magnetically generated heat from inductive mediators essentially depends on the size and magnetic properties of the particles. Hysteresis loss is a dominant mechanism of heat generation for ferromagnetic and ferrimagnetic particles. We have been studying ferromagnetic nanoparticles, especially cobalt-doped magnetite particles, as high heat generating materials for magnetic hyperthermia and thermoablation. We must consider the biocompatibility of magnetic materials for their practical use. The biocompatibility of elements other than iron, cobalt in particular, must be carefully checked, even when they are used as dopants. Since cobalt toxicity is not fully understood, preparing cobalt-free particles is beneficial for safety aspects. We synthesized Mg-containing iron oxide particles and reported the basic characteristics of the (Mg)Fe₃O₄ particles [1]. The magnitude of the coercive forces peaked for the MTH1 sample and then decreased with increasing Mg content for the other samples.

Mössbauer measurements under an external magnetic field have been used to understand the charge-state distribution of magnetic ions in ferrimagnetic materials because magnetic fields work in different directions on Fe ions parallel and anti-parallel to an external field [2]. To understand the Mg ion distribution, which affect much on the magnetic properties, Mössbauer spectra were measured on the Mg introduced spinel ferrite nano-particles under the external magnetic field.

Spinel-structured Mg-containing iron oxide nanoparticles, (Mg)Fe₃O₄, were synthesized by co-precipitation and a hydrothermal process. We have labeled the various nanoparticle samples MTH0 through MTH6 corresponding to the increasing Mg content from 0 to 10.0 at% with respect to the total Fe content: the concentration of 2 at% in MTH1 corresponds to Mg_{0.06}Fe_{2.94}O₄. Characterization of the sample was summarized in the previous report [1]. ⁵⁷Fe Mössbauer spectra for the MTH1 sample were recorded at room temperature under 0 kOe and 40 kOe of the external magnetic fields. The spectra were numerically analyzed using commercially available fitting software, MössWinn 4.0.

The Mössbauer spectra recorded at room temperature are shown in Fig. 1. The spectrum without

magnetic field ($H=0$) can fit the combination of two magnetic sub-spectrum with almost the same parameters as Fe_3O_4 . It is reasonable because only 2 % of Fe was replaced by Mg in the sample. The sub-spectrum with higher hyperfine field corresponds to Fe^{3+} on the A sites and the one with lower hyperfine field corresponds to $\text{Fe}^{2.5+}$ on the B sites. Under the magnetic field of 40 kOe, the spectrum is obviously composed of 3 sub-spectra. The sub-spectrum with highest hyperfine field should correspond to Fe^{3+} on the A site. However the other two sub-spectra cannot be understood simply and need to be analyzed carefully.

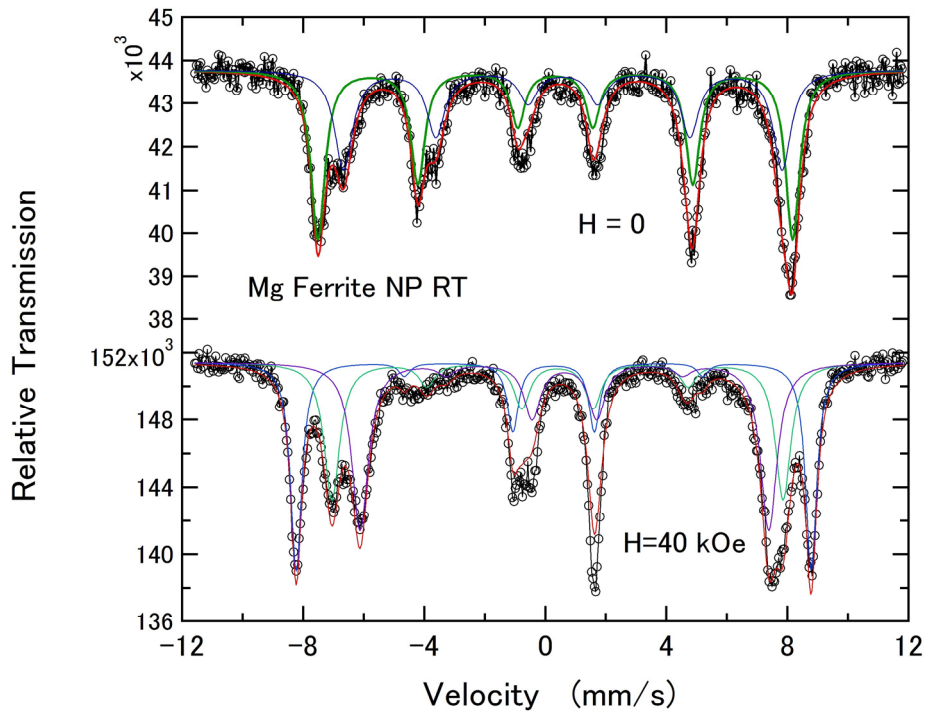


Fig. 1. Mössbauer spectra for $\text{Mg}_{0.06}\text{Fe}_{2.94}\text{O}_4$ nano-particles(NP) MTH1 measured at room temperature under no magnetic field (upper) and 40 kOe (lower).

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4.8 Effect of annealing temperatures on crystal structure of CuFe_2O_4 nanoparticles studied with Mössbauer spectroscopy

Hawa Latiff, M. Kishimoto, S. Sharmin, H. Yanagihara, E. Kita

Among all the spinel ferrites, cobalt ferrite (CFO) can exhibit extraordinarily large anisotropy when tetragonal distortion is introduced in the structure. In a previous study, we reported extraordinarily large perpendicular magnetic anisotropy in epitaxially strained CFO (001) thin films with K_u of almost 10 Merg/cm³ by introducing a tetragonal distortion ($c/a < 1$) [1]. Substrate-induced epitaxial distortion is controlled by the lattice constant mismatch of the substrate and the target. However, this type of distortion is only possible in thin films form of structure. In order for bulk production to be feasible, we propose the introduction of Jahn-Teller (JT) distortion in the nanoparticle structure. A typical example of the JT effect in spinel ferrite, is the tetragonal phase transformation of copper ferrite (CuFe_2O_4) observed at room temperature. In this report, CuFe_2O_4 particles were synthesized and the crystal structures were analyzed using Mössbauer spectroscopy.

CuFe_2O_4 particles were synthesized by coprecipitation and flux methods. Aqueous solutions containing Cu^{2+} , Fe^{2+} , and Fe^{3+} were mixed with NaOH aqueous solution to form precipitates. The precipitates were mixed with KBr flux, and heated at 850°C for 3 hours. The particles obtained in this way were then rinsed with water a few times to remove the flux. Finally, the particles were annealed at 700–900°C for 2 h in air and/or in vacuum to investigate effect of annealing conditions on the crystal structure.

The XRD patterns of the samples, CF1, CFH1, CFH2, CFH3, CFH4, are shown in Fig. 1. For the as-fluxed particles (CF1) most of the peaks are of cubic spinel with a slight trace of peaks attributable to CuO. When the CF1 particles were heated to 700–800°C in air, peaks splitting are observed showing the mixed phase of cubic and tetragonal CuFe_2O_4 . After heating at 900°C in air, a single phase tetragonal CuFe_2O_4 was obtained. On the other hand, when annealing treatment was carried out in vacuum environment, a cubic structure with fairly narrow line width was obtained. CFH4 has good crystallinity and no tetragonal distortion was confirmed from the XRD pattern.

⁵⁷Fe Mössbauer study was performed on CF1, CFH3 and CFH4 samples. The Mössbauer spectra recorded at room temperature are shown in Fig. 2 and the fitting parameters are tabulated in Table 1. Each spectrum was fitted to a combination of 1 or 2 sextets and/or 2 paramagnetic components. The values of $H_{h.f.}$, $I.S.$, $Q.S.$, and $L.W.$ of bulk CuFe_2O_4 for both cubic and tetragonal phase were compared with published results by Evans *et al.* [2]. Sample CF1 had a wide line width and the Fe^{3+} originated spectrum was unresolved for A and B sites. The $H_{h.f.}$ value is somewhat larger, whereas the line width is almost the same as the bulk value.

The magnetic properties for sample CF1, CFH3 and CFH4 are summarized in Table 2. The saturation magnetization for CF1 and CFH3 were about the same as that of a complete inverse spinel ($M_S \sim 21$

emu/g). For CFH4, the value of M_S is about double the theoretical value, which suggests that it may contain 10% of normal spinel ($M_S \sim 210$ emu/g).

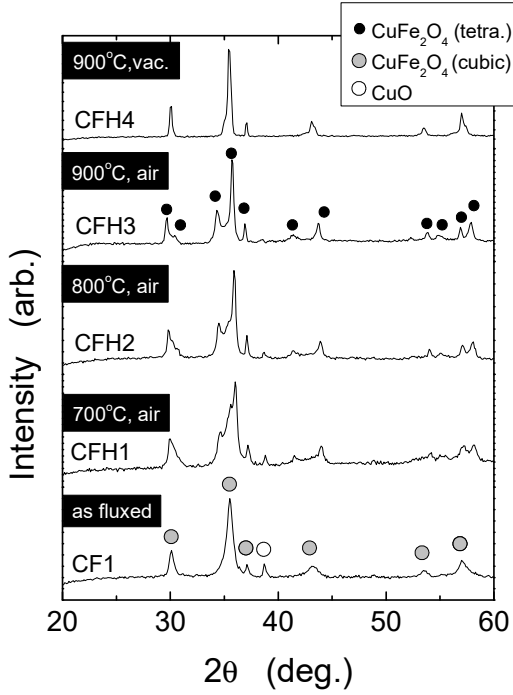


Fig. 1. XRD patterns of CuFe_2O_4 after annealing treatment at increasing temperature in air and/or vacuum.

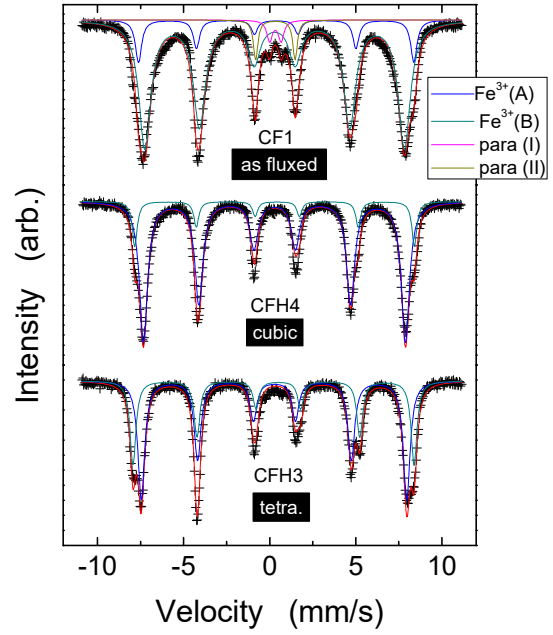


Fig. 2. Room temperature ^{57}Fe Mössbauer spectra of cubic and tetragonal CuFe_2O_4 particles.

Table 1. Mössbauer fitting parameters for spectra in Fig. 2.

Sample	XRD structure	Fit	$H_{h.f.}$ (T)	I. S. (mm/s)	Q. S. (mm/s)	L. W. (mm/s)	Area (%)
CF1	Cubic	Fe^{3+} (A, B)	50.8	0.30	-0.04	1.0	92.76
		Doublet (1)	-	0.35	0.70	0.38	2.40
		Doublet (2)	-	0.35	2.5	0.34	4.83
CFH4	Cubic	Fe^{3+} (A)	47.31	0.29	-0.015	0.57	84.61
		Fe^{3+} (B)	50.49	0.36	-0.158	0.35	15.39
CFH3	Tetragonal	Fe^{3+} (A)	47.94	0.27	-0.027	0.47	61.85
		Fe^{3+} (B)	50.76	0.36	-0.282	0.41	38.15

Table 2. Magnetic properties of the CF1, CFH3 and CFH4.

Sample	Structure (XRD)	D_{XRD} (nm)	M_S (emu/g)	H_C (Oe)
CF1	Cubic	13	25	133
CFH3	Tetragonal	36	26.9	823
CFH4	Cubic	66	41.2	57

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4.9 PIXE measurements for light elements in inorganic materials by a silicon drift detector with a thin Si₃N₄ window

A. Yamazaki, K. Sasa, S. Ishii, M. Kurosawa, S. Tomita, A. Uedono, E. Kita

Light elements such as boron, nitrogen, and oxygen often play important roles in various characteristics of materials. Accordingly, instruments and methods for observing the light elements are indispensable for materials research. Better detection sensitivity is strongly required for these methods when a trace of light elements involved in a material is of physical and essential importance.

Particle induced X-ray emission (PIXE) is one of useful methods for elemental analysis using an ion beam and is suitable for detecting trace elements because of its relatively large emission cross section of inner-shell characteristic X-rays. In addition, PIXE provides data with high signal-to-background ratio because the intensity of the projectile bremsstrahlung, which is one of the causes of the continuous background, is much less than that induced by electron beams.

In these days, silicon drift detectors (SDDs) are often used for observing characteristic X-rays because the mounted silicon photodiode with ring electrodes enables high-count-rate measurements. However, it is difficult to detect the low-energy characteristic X-rays from light elements, which is not only for SDDs but also ordinary X-ray detectors such as Si(Li) detectors.

In UTTAC, SDD with a thin window is adopted to observe characteristic X-rays emitted from light elements in the structural materials. The front entrance window is made of silicon nitride (Si₃N₄) film coated with aluminum. The thicknesses of the Si₃N₄ film and the Al coating are 40 and 30 nm, respectively. Photographs of SDD, XR-100FastSDD (Amptek Inc., US) with pulse processing unit and its front window are shown in Fig. 1.

In order to examine the performance of the detection of low energy X-rays of several hundred keV, PIXE measurements were performed at the 1MV Tandetron facility. A 1.92 MeV proton beam was provided from the Tandetron accelerator and transported to the C course. A boron nitride (BN) plate and a Kapton film were placed at the center of the chamber and irradiated by the proton beam. In the vacuum chamber, SDD was placed at an angle of 150° with respect to the beam axis and observed X-rays emitted from the sample. The distance from the target and SDD was 95 mm and the solid angle of the SDD was 2.2 msr. The typical beam current was 37 pA on target.

Examples of the X-ray energy spectra obtained are shown in Fig. 2. The data accumulation time was about 20 minutes. The characteristic X-rays of boron (183 eV), carbon (277 eV), nitrogen (392 eV), and oxygen (525 eV), are clearly shown in Fig. 2. The FWHM of the carbon peak in the Kapton spectrum was about 66 eV. It should be noted that the spectra below 100 eV are cut off to prevent enormous electronic noises from coming into ADC. Suppression of the noises is strongly required for observing characteristic X-rays emitted from light elements, especially from boron.

Acknowledgement

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Fig. 1. Photographs of the silicon drift detector XR-100FastSDD with digital pulse processor (Amptek Inc., US) (left). An entrance window is made of silicon nitride (Si_3N_4) with a thickness of 40 nm for observing characteristic X-rays from light elements (right).

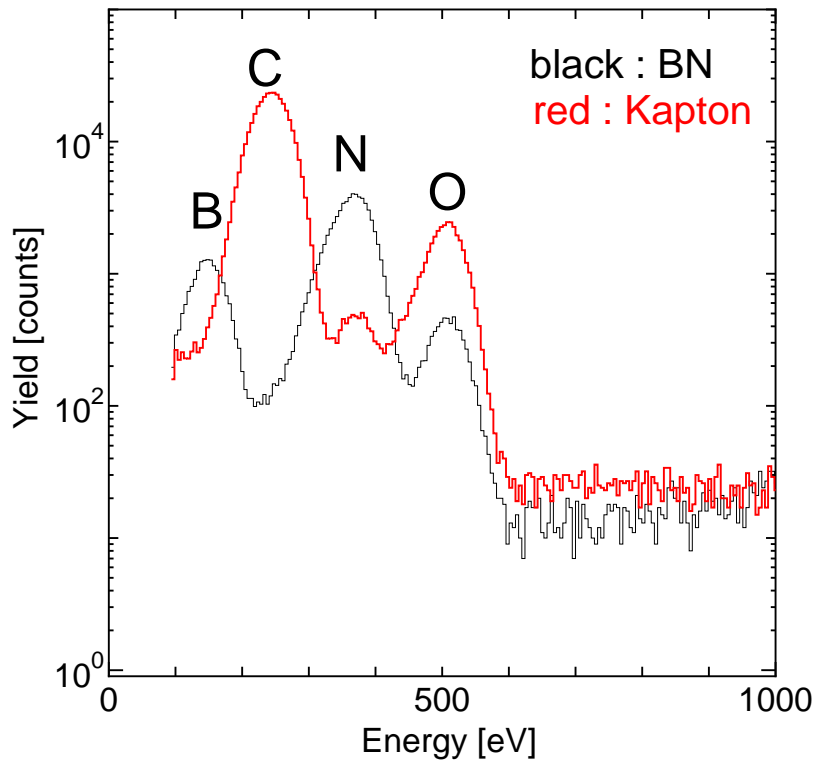


Fig. 2. X-ray energy spectra obtained by SDD with a thin silicon nitride (Si_3N_4) window.

5.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

5.1 Journals

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6.

THESES

Doctor theses

- Yasushi Abe Study of isochronous field in Rare-RI Ring for high-precision mass measurements.
- Yukihiko Satou Study of relationship between deposition of radioactive materials and radioactive particles in the difficult-to-return zone caused by the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant accident.

Master theses

- Yukina Ichikawa Developments of time-of-flight detector using crossed electric and magnetic fields.
- Hawa Alima Latiff Synthesis and physical properties of functional spinel ferrite particles
- Katsuya Yamazaki Detection of biomolecular ions using superconducting tunnel junction detectors
- Satomi Maeda Hydrogen observation by HERDA to elucidate hydrogen desorption mechanism on Pd(110)

Undergraduate theses

- Yoshiyuki Tajiri Developments of time-of-flight detector using mass measurements in Rare-RI Ring.
- Kentaro Hiraishi Production of unstable nuclei ^{30}P by using resonant proton capture reaction.
- Takuya Matsumoto Production of unstable nuclei ^{25}Al by using resonant proton capture reaction.
- Seiji Hosoya Development of AMS measuring condition using the PHITS code and measurement of cosmogenic nuclides.
- Yuhi Asakawa Zero degree electron spectroscopy of fast cluster ions
- Naoki Yamamoto Experiments of electron–molecule collisions using electrostatic ion storage ring
- Koki Tsujita Development of preamplifier for multichannel solid state detector in high-sensitivity HERDA
- Keisuke Nishio Chemical features of early solar nebular gas components recorded in glass inclusions from carbonaceous chondrites.
- Koichi Hattori Geochemical exploration method for sea-floor hydrothermal ore deposits.

7.

LIST OF PERSONNEL

Tandem Accelerator Complex

E. Kita	Director, Professor
K. Sasa	Associate Professor
D. Sekiba	Lecturer
T. Moriguchi	Assistant Professor
H. Oshima	Electrical Engineer
Y. Tajima	Mechanical Engineer
S. Ishii	Mechanical Engineer
T. Takahashi	Electrical Engineer
Y. Yamato	Electrical Engineer
M. Sataka	Research Fellow
M. Matsumura	Research Supporter
M. Ohyama	Administrative Staff
N. Yamada	Administrative Staff
H. Muromachi	Administrative Staff

Research Members¹

Inst. of Physics

I. Arai	A. Ozawa	T. Matsunaka	T. Moriguchi
K. Sasa	S. Suzuki	P. Schury	

Inst. of Applied Physics

S. Sellaiyan	E. Kita	A. Kashihuku	D. Sekiba
S. Sharmin	S. Tomita	A. Uedono	H. Yanagihara

Inst. of Geoscience

M. Kurosawa

Inst. of Chemistry

K. Sueki	A. Sakaguchi
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Staff of Open Advanced Facilities Initiative

H. Kudo	H. Naramoto	M. Sataka
K. Awazu (National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology [AIST])		
S. Aoki (Comprehensive Research Organization for Science and Society [CROSS])		

¹ The “research members” include the authors and coauthors within 5 years back from this fiscal year, as well as the members of research projects running at UTTAC.

Staff of Joint Research Projects with Other Organizations

A. Yamazaki (Cross-ministerial Strategic Innovation Promotion Program [SIP])²

Y. Watahiki (Nanotech Career-up Alliance [CuPAL])

Graduate students

Doctoral Programs of Pure and Applied Science

M. Ahmed	F. Arai	S. Fukuoka	I. Harayama
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M. Honda	Y. Satou	Y. Liu	R. Patel

Master's Programs of Pure and Applied Science

H. Latiff	R. Aoyama	Y. Asakawa	Y. Ichikawa
T. Kakizaki	T. Kuroiwa	S. Maeda	M. Matsumoto
T. Murayama	E. Noguchi	S. Nomoto	M. Oka
K. Okada	T. Sennba	S. Sakai	T. Tamura
R. Tomita	T. Tanoishou	K. Yamazaki	

Undergraduates

T. Eguchi	K. Hiraishi	Y. Hosoi	S. Hosoya
N. Hiruta	H. Onoda	Y. Tajiri	K. Tsujita
N. Yamamoto			

Scientific Guests and Fellows

Y. Tosaki	National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)
H. Matsumura	High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK)
N. Kinoshita	SHIMIZU Corporation
K. Hirata	National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)
T. Omori	The University of Tokyo
R. Katayama	The University of Tokyo
K. Ozeki	Ibaraki University

² Also, a staff of *Open Advanced Facilities Initiative*