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会場:コンベンションホール

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オホーツク海網走沖海底堆積物中の間隙水溶存ガス組成および同位体比 Molecular and isotopic signatures of dissolved gas in sub-bottom sediments retrieved off Abashiri, the Sea of Okhotsk

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We measured molecular and isotopic compositions of dissolved gas in sub-bottom sediments retrieved off Abashiri, the Sea of Okhotsk, where sub-bottom profiler revealed the existece of gas chimneys ascending from the deep sediment layer. In the cruise of TK11 (September 2011), we obtained sea-bottom sediment cores by using a gravity corer (1.5m length) and sampled (1) dissolved gas in pore water, (2) dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC), and (3) dissolved gas in the sea-bottom water. Methane concentration in the four sediment cores increased rapidly at aroud 40-70cmbsf, that indicates shallow SMI (sulfate-methane interface) and high methane flux. Compared to the gas data obtained off Sakhalin Island, these high concentration of methane and shallow SMI imply that gas hydrate layers could exist below 1mbsf. Because the length of the corer was only 1.5m, the length of core recovery was less than 1m and we could not get gas hydrate samples. At the SMI depths, delta ¹³C profiles of methane showed their minimum value (less than -85 permil VPDB), suggested ongoing biogeochemical process: anaerobic oxidation of methane (AOM) produces ¹³C-depleted CO₂, and ¹³C-depleted methane also is generated via CO₂ reduction (Borowski et al., 1997). In this process, hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) is still produced by sulfate reduction at the depth of SMI, however, we could not detect H₂S in the headspace samples due to the simplified process of sampling procedure, delta ¹³C and dD of dissolved methane ranged from -87 to -75 permil VPDB and from -210 to -203 permil VSMOW, respectively. Molecular ratio of hydrocarbons (mehtane/ethane) below the SMI depth ranged 5000-40000. Therefore, we conclude that these gases are microbial origin produced by CO₂ reduction. In the upper SMI layer, the concentration of methane was depleted and its delta ¹³C increased because methane oxidation was dominant. The profiles of DIC delta ¹³C agrees with that of methane delta ¹³C and showed minimum delta ¹³C at the SMI depth.

キーワード: ガスハイドレート, 安定同位体, オホーツク海, 網走沖 Keywords: gas hydrate, stable isotope, Sea of Okhotsk, off Abashiiri

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