

A database and an interface for digital data of world-wide rock samples to research the Earth's evolution

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Systematic analyses of geological rock samples that cover a cosmogonical-time and global-scale is essential to reveal the Earth's evolution. To pioneer or promote such researches, we construct an integrated digital database for geological rock samples from the world in various ages. The core of the database is a list of over 160,000 geological rock samples that are the properties of the Museum of the Evolving Earth, Tokyo Tech (MEE). The sample localities and the geological maps were digitized by using MapInfo(R), and the samples can be searched with various kinds of petrographic properties. To look up samples in the database, we constructed an interface that can work on the standard Web browsers. Through the interface, one can download the locality information of the looked up samples in the form of KML, which allows us to recognize the sample localities on the Google Earth(R). After completing the construction of the database and intereface, we are planning to lend the rock samples in the MEE for researchers in the near future.