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An injection experiment with small amount of Carbon Dioxide

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The renewable energy that doesn't consume the fossil fuel, the energy conservation technique and so on are requested as a technology against the Global Warming. On the other hand, the energy production with the fossil fuel is inevitable for continued economic development. The practical application of the CCS technology is requested that extracts CO_2 from the exhaustion gas of the fossil fuel and store it into the geological formation in order to reduce the discharge of CO_2 into the atmosphere. The development of the CO_2 geological storage technology in CCS is advanced at the geological units in AIST. The behaviour of the injected CO_2 in the saline aquifer has been clarified in the AIST research works. The geochemical mechanism for CO_2 to dissolve in formation water, to react with the rock, and to fix as a mineral is active soon after the injection (Okuyama et al., 20 08).

In AIST, the main subject of the research works has moved from the research of CO₂ storage mechanism to that of the monitoring. At the CO₂monitoring, seismic monitoring is most often used. High resolution of the result is obtain and the strong seismic refraction and the low velocity change are expected at the boundary between the brine and the super-critical or gaseous CO₂when CO₂ is stored widely. However CO₂ is expanded widely and the width of the stored CO₂ is small at the end. Moreover CO_2 is expected to be dissolved. The dissolved and thin CO_2 is hard to detect by the seismic refraction method. The resisivity is very sensitive for the dissolving CO₂. The breakthrough of the CO₂expand was detected by the resisivity logging of the monitoring well at the pilot plant in Nagaoka (Mito et al., 2009). Core sample experiment also suggested that the seismic velocity reduces during the injection of CO₂ with the lower relative permeability but there is a small change at the relative permeability more than 20% (Nakatsuka et al., 2008). The advantage of the seismic exploration and the domination of the resistivity survey are confirmed by the field experiment. To examine the analysis taking the advantages of the both exploration methods into account, a field experiment was carried out where gaseous CO₂was injected into a shallow aquifer by the shallow well and seismic and resisitivity survey lines were set across the well. The saline aquifer is located at the depth of 47.5m below the ground level and the casing pipe is set till the depth of 45m. The water table of the ground water is observed at the depth of 17m. Gaseous CO_2 with the pressure of about 0.3MPa was injected with the constant flow rate in order to control the expansion of CO_2 . In this presentation the summary of the experiment with the result of the well logging and surface CO₂flux survey.

Keywords: CCS, CO2, Geological Storage, Field experiment, Well logging, Surface survey