

Towards real-time fault monitoring: A real-time gas composition data delivery by GROWDAS

Kuniyo Kawabata^{1*}, Fumiaki Tsunomori², Hidemi Tanaka¹

¹Department of Earth and Planetary Science, Graduate school of science, The University of Tokyo, ²Geochemical Research Center, Graduate school of science,

Understanding fault activity is important to estimate earthquake generation process and for disaster prevention, however, there is no certain index for the fault activity based on geochemical observation. The goal of the GROundWater Data Analysing System (GROWDAS) Project is to understand the fault activity by continuous observation of dissolved gas composition in ground water within a fault. To observe gas composition continuously and automatically, a new gas analyzer GROWDAS was developed. Currently, the GROWDAS provides relative concentration of gases within the Atotsugawa fault. We aim to reveal the relationship between fluctuations of gas concentration and change in the fault condition using the data, and establish a model for the evaluation of the fault activity. We believe the data are important not only for researchers but also for the public to predict the fault activity, and therefore, we are trying to open all the data.

The GROWDAS is mainly composed of five systems, which are Purification-system, Analysis-system, Exhaust-system, Control-system and Power control-system. Analysis-system consists of the Heating and Cooling subsystems. We currently measure relative concentrations of ⁴He, CH₃⁺, H₂O, N₂, O₂, ³⁶Ar, ⁴⁰Ar and CO₂ gases, which are analyzed with the following procedure.

1. Get gases from pumping groundwater by degassing in Purification-system, which are dried by Cooling-system and conducted to Analysis-system. The degassed water is disembogued to outside of GROWDAS.
2. The purified and dried gas is analyzed in Analysis-system. The gas is then conducted to Exhaust-system after analysis. An external PC is linked for recording and monitoring the data.

All above procedure is done automatically by Control-system and the data is sent to the data server installed at the University of Tokyo. The data of daily average (Day data) is uploaded to the web server and displayed in a chart for recent 30 days. This quasi-real-time data delivery is opened to public (<http://growdas.com>). We plan to provide a new download system, with which anyone can access and download the original and processed data and the charts in selected period.

Keywords: fault, growndwater, continuous observation, gas, Mass Spectrometry