Estimation of the airborne ash density for Sakurajima using PUFF model

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Airborne volcanic ash is a danger object for the aviation safety. Once the jet aircraft encounters the ash cloud and engine failure occurs, the damage is estimated to reach to a billion of US dollar. Hence the real-time monitoring and estimation of the airborne ash density is an important research subject. According to ICAO report, the ash density above 2 mg/m³ is a threshold for the danger zone of the aircraft. A system to predict the airborne ash density is desired to develop in urgent based on the real-time observation of the emission rate and plume height.

In this study, we conducted numerical simulations of volcanic ash dispersal from Sakurajima volcano using the real-time volcanic ash dispersion transport model PUFF for one year period in 1985 when volcanic activity was considerably high. According to the numerical simulation by the Lagrangian formulae of PUFF model for one year given the observed emission rate and plume height, the total particle number of the ash fallout was 1,962,976. On the other hand, the total amount of the observed ash fallout for one year period was 28,870,000 ton. The comparison shows an important measure of the particle mass, which is estimated as 14.7 ton/particle in the PUFF model. Based on this mass measure, we are now able to estimate the airborne ash density as a function of 3D space and time. The developed new system at Sakurajima volcano will now be applied to other volcanoes in Indonesia under the SATREPS project by JST and JICA.

Keywords: Volcanic ash prediction, Emission rate of volcanic ash, Aviation safety, Sakurajima Volcano, PUFF model, SATREPS
Three-Dimensional Radar Data Analysis Tools of Volcanic Ash Clouds

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Weather radar data analysis tools have been developed to investigate the internal structures of volcanic ash clouds. The analysis tools calculate statistical parameters, three-dimensional distributions of polarimetric radar parameters that can be used to retrieve the inner structures of ash columns and ash clouds, echo top heights, ash amounts, and the ascent or descent speeds of pyroclastic material. The analysis tools were applied to 31 explosive eruptions of the Sakurajima volcano that occurred in 2013, which eruptions were selected with the condition that their ash column heights were greater than 3000m from the crater. The radar data were collected by operational X-band polarimetric radar, which was located approximately 10 km south-southeast of the volcano. Analysis of the temporal change of the histogram of the radar parameters in the ash clouds shows interesting results; while both reflectivity and differential reflectivity had no peak just after the eruption, they began to exhibit a normal distribution with time. While the reflectivity peak value decreases, depending on time, the differential reflectivity peak value increases. This is probably due to the size sorting mechanism and the uniformity of the shape of the falling ash particles. The specific differential phase was less than 1 deg/km. Doppler velocity measured above the crater can be used to estimate the speed of the pyroclastic materials, which determines the scale of eruption and ash column height.

Keywords: Weather radar, volcanic ash column, volcanic ash clouds, volcanic ash smokes, statistic, size sorting
Particle segregation from bent-over plume detected by reconstruction of eruption plume

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Recently, calculation of tephra fall distribution is utilized in forecasting and hazard analysis. On the other hand, such calculation often fails to reconstruct observation.

Such discrepancy could be caused by lack of modeling during transportation (i.e. particle aggregation); however over simplification of the particle source is also attributed to the defect. In fact, recent reconstruction of particle source based on Tephra2 analysis showed that there is a large heterogeneity of particle segregation as a function of column height (particle segregation along the column; PSC: Mannen, 2014; JVGR 284, 61-78). In addition to that, vertical source that is assumed in many tephra fall calculation including Tephra2 could be the source of the large error.

We conducted sampling and sieving for tephra fall deposit of the 2011 eruption of Shinmoedake and prepared a dataset of mass loading per unit area for several particle size classes of 1 phi interval. Using this dataset and a mesoscale analysis of Japan Meteorological Agency, we reconstructed PSC based on method of Mannen (2014).

The reconstructed source shows that most of the particles are segregated from the source less than 5 km high. This result is consistent to the column height that is analyzed from satellite images and trajectory models.

However, tephra deposit observed more than 20 km from the source vent was not reconstructed by Tephra2 calculation based on the optimum PSC and wind data. Distribution axis of such deposit is parallel to the wind direction of approximately 4 km high. Thus bent-over plume that drifted approximately 4 km high is implied as a significant source of the tephra deposit. We consider introduction of bent-over plume to the source model is key to improve tephra fall calculation.

Keywords: tephra, Tephra2, Kirishima volcano, Shinmoedake, ash fall forecast
Vulnerabilities in thermal power systems: dust-loading tests for air filters with volcanic ash

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We experimented with air filters to evaluate ash-fall impact on thermal power systems. Because, the electricity in Japan highly depends on thermal power plants after the Fukushima nuclear accident. The most of the thermal power plants use gas turbines, which can easily be damaged by inhalation of ash as in the case of jet engines of aircrafts. Although there is an air filter system in the thermal power plants, it may be clogged up by ash and partially or totally blocking the air flows into the gas turbines. We carried out the dust-loading test for pre-filter, middle-effective filter and combined filters with various spatial density of 3-phi-diameter volcanic ash in 70, 700, 7000 mg/m^3 under inhalation flux in 56 m^3/min. The middle-effective and combined filters were clogged up from 1 hour 30 minutes to 1 minute 40 seconds and from 3 hours to 3 minutes 30 seconds, respectively. Although the pre-filter took much longer times for clogging, half of the ash passed the pre-filter.

Keywords: volcanic ash, air filters, dust loading test, thermal power system
A review of volcanic phenomena caused by phreatic eruption in Japan

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We reviewed volcanic phenomena caused by phreatic eruption. Pyroclastic flow by phreatic eruption occurred in Tarumaesan 1978 eruption, Asozan 1979 eruption, Miyakejima 2000 eruption and Ontakesan 2014 eruption. Mud flow by phreatic eruption occurred in Yakedake 1915 eruption, Niigatayakeyama 1974 eruption, Meakandake 2006 eruption and Ontakesan 2014 eruption. Only 40% of maps of the phreatic eruption are made with the volcano hazard map in Japan. Ballistic projectiles, ash falls and debris flows are often displayed to a hazard map. It is a problem that a hazard map has few mentions of pyroclastic flow and the mud flow. We think that the revision such as volcano hazard map and disaster prevention plans is necessary.

Keywords: phreatic eruption, ballistic projectiles, pyroclastic flow, mud flow, hazard map
Evaluation of volcanic disaster risk: the cooperation between lava flow simulator and building database

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Volcanic disaster is caused by the various volcanic phenomena, affecting some damages around neighbors. For the evaluation of volcanic disaster, the eruption event tree (Newhall and Hoblitt, 2002) is widely applied and we judge the forthcoming phenomena from several possibilities at the event tree nodes. Each node of the event tree is defined as: node 1: unrest, 2: origin, 3: outcome, 4: magnitude, 5: phenomena, 6: sectors, 7: distance, 8: exposure and 9: vulnerability. For nodes 1 ? 7, the evaluation is based on volcanology, but for nodes 8 and 9, social factors are incorporated For the area in risk of the volcanic disasters, we made a time- and space dependent model of population, real estates, transportation infrastructures, and production bases, and evaluate its temporal evolution. Our volcanic disaster risk management system applied the RDBMS (Relational Database Management System). LavaSIM, lava flow simulator is used for volcanic hazard evaluation. In addition, for the evaluation of exposures and vulnerabilities, we used the data developed by CSIS, the University of Tokyo. The new system enables quick evaluation of volcanic disaster by comparing lava flow and building data by use of the comparison in RDBMS, and expresses the results in GIS. In near future, people flow data is also incorporated into system as the data of exposures and vulnerabilities.

Keywords: volcanic disaster, risk evaluation, lava flow simulation, building database, exposure, vulnerability
Unmanned observation robot demonstration test in preparation for the Izu Oshima eruption

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In the case of a volcanic eruption, in order to carry out evacuation guidance, it is important to observe the changing situation from just after the eruption to the completion of evacuation. In the 1986 eruption of Izu-Oshima, the explosive eruptions occurred at the unexpected points such as caldera floor and outside of a caldera. Therefore, volcanologists could not approach the vents and the opportunity of observation to gain the precious data for scientific understanding of the eruption phenomenon or disaster mitigation was lost. Moreover, during the evacuation from the island, the situation of the eruption had not been announced correctly to residents, and the mistaken information that the lava flow cut off the traffic between Okada-Motomachi was spread. Today, 20 years or more pass since a previous eruption in Izu-Oshima, and it has become the time to prepare the next eruption. In order to improve the situation at the time of the next eruption, development of the new observation robot which can respond immediately to an eruption and the establishment of an operation framework are required. From such a viewpoint, the author started Izu-Oshima Unmanned Observation Robot Symposium in 2009. This symposium is intended to bring together experts developing unmanned observation robots from different study fields such as volcanology, space engineering, and disaster relief to Izu-Oshima and to provide them the opportunity of field tests and exchange of knowledge to make them accelerate the development of the robots and the establishment of the operation framework. For these four years, many participants gathered to perform field test and to have an active information exchange. 8 UGV and 2 UAV from 9 research groups (2009), 5 UGV and 2 UAV from 5 groups (2010), 13 UGV and 3 UAV from 9 groups (2011), and 13 UGV and 6 UAV from 10 groups (2012) participated in the symposium. In the 2013 fiscal year, Izu-Oshima was hit by the 27th typhoon of the year just before the symposium. While an open lecture meeting was canceled, 5 UGV and 1 UAV from 6 groups performed field tests. In the 2014 fiscal year, 6 UGV and 1 UAV from 5 groups performed field tests. Because some robots have already been reached practical range, we will present the ability of the robots and the results of our activity so far and excavate a new observation requests.

For further detail of the symposium in the current fiscal year please refer to the following URL (http://www.volcano-robot.org/index.html). Since 2013, our activity has been supported by an accommodation of the research funds from the specific joint research B of Earthquake Research Institute of the University of Tokyo.

Keywords: Izu Oshima, unmanned observation robot, UAV, UGV
The characteristics of rockfall and accident on Mount Fuji

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Among the mass wasting on mountains, rockfall is general phenomena. These events in active volcanic area, including small slope failures are common, even if that is at quiet interval period. Nevertheless, in the case of Japan which disaster prevention measures around roads and settlements have been applied, rockfall phenomenon is recognized as affairs of other people. On the other hand, in the well developed country in terms of tourism and mountaineering business, actual risk of rockfall to the peoples will be high, if they enter to mountain areas without knowledge of landslide hazard.

In the Japanese mountain sightseeing route and trail, most accident-prone area by rockfall is Shirouma-daisekkei (Nagano Prefecture), then Mt. Fuji (Shizuoka and Yamanashi Prefecture). Besides, the most deadly accident occurred at Yoshida-osawa valley in Mt. Fuji in 1980. In spite of descending route was closed after the 1980 tragedy, fatal and injury rockfall accident almost every year. Furthermore, in the last seven years, more than 300,000 visitors passed through the 8th station (EL. 3500 m) of Mt. Fuji in every year. Hence, detail study for prior incidents of rockfall and possible danger area along the trail are required.

The past cases in rockfall accident were collected and studied based on newspaper, mountain journals and police reports. The following characteristics were revealed,

- major accidents have been occurring between the 8th station and the summit on all four mountain route (trail from Fujiyoshida/Subashiri, Fujinomiya and Gotenba)
- most of the accidents were recorded in the end of July to the middle of August
- temporal trend of occurrence time of the day is obscure
- human-induced rockfall is prone to occur from descending person or at descending route.
- the sources of regular rockfalls are cracky lava or weak agglutinated rock. A rock face with open crack near the summit of the Fujinomiya route seems to be ready to fall down. The location of present route should be shifted to elsewhere.

Keywords: mountaineering, mountain tourism, agglutinate, human-Induced rackfall, quiet interval, case study
Development of G-EVER volcanic hazard assessment support system, and earthquake and volcanic hazard information system

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The G-EVER volcanic assessment support system is developed based on eruption history, volcanic eruption database and numerical simulations (Takarada et al., 2014). The volcanic eruption database is developed based on past eruption results, which only represent a subset of possible future scenarios. Therefore, numerical simulations with controlled parameters are needed for more precise volcanic eruption predictions. The “best-fit” parameters of the past worldwide major eruptions have to be estimated and the simulation results database should be made. Using the volcano hazard assessment system, the time and area that would be affected by volcanic eruptions at any locations near the volcano can be predicted using numerical simulations. The system could estimate volcanic hazard risks by overlaying the distributions of volcanic deposits on major roads, houses and evacuation areas using GIS enabled systems. The G-EVER hazard assessment support system is implemented with user-friendly interface, making the risk assessment system easy to use and accessible online. The volcanic hazard assessment support system using Energy Cone and Titan2D simulations is available online (http://volcano.g-ever1.org). The system can assess any volcano in the world using ASTER Global DEM (10m resolution DEM is used in Japan). Links to major volcanic databases, such as Smithsonian, VOGRIPA, ASTER Satellite images, and Volcanoes of Japan are available on each volcano information popup on the map. A new fast-processing version of energy cone simulation system using elevation tiles is available (g-ever1.org/quick). The updated Titan2D simulation system could be run using DEM data uploaded by the user and download more detailed simulation results. It also provides informative and user friendly interface.

The Asia-Pacific region earthquake and volcanic hazard mapping project aims to make an advanced online hazard information system (ccop-geoinfo.org/G-EVER) that provides past and recent earthquake and volcanic hazards information and links to global earthquake and volcanic eruption databases. It could also be used as earthquake and volcanic hazard risk assessment tool. The information system also shows tsunami inundation areas, active faults distributions and hazard maps. The online hazard information system provides useful information about earthquake and volcanic hazards in an interactive and user-friendly interface. This project will be implemented with the cooperation of major research institutes and organizations in the Asia-Pacific region such as the Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation (CVGHM) of Indonesia and Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS).

The Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP) and Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ) started the CCOP-GSJ Geoinformation Sharing Infrastructure for East and Southeast Asia (GSi) project. The project aims to compile various geoscientific information in CCOP countries and develop a Web-based database and Geographic Information System (Web-GIS) using Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) and Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) based standards. The preliminary portal site of the project (ccop-geoinfo.org/GeoPortal) provides spatial data about geohazards, geology, geoenvironment, groundwater, mineral resources, remote sensing, geophysical and topography covering the countries in East and Southeast Asia. Development of spatial data model standard, data integration and sharing and capacity building are the major targets of this project.

Keywords: G-EVER, volcanic hazard mitigation, hazard assessment, simulation, Asia Pacific, International Standardization
Augmentation of Magma Database by using a simple method to estimate groundmass SiO2 content

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We developed a simple method to estimate groundmass SiO2 contents (preeruptive melt SiO2 contents) by using massbalance calculation between bulk rock, bulk phenocryst and melt compositions. This method helps us to augment the Magma Database, which has been constructed to examine relationship between magma properties and eruption behavior for volcanic eruptions in Japan during the last one hundred thousand years.

The simple method is based on uniformity in total phenocryst SiO2 content. We examined total phenocryst SiO2 contents of 44 magmas, ranging from basaltic to rhyolitic bulk composition, in the Magma Database. The total phenocryst SiO2 contents were calculated from modal data and representative phenocryst compositions. We found that the magmas have uniform total phenocryst SiO2 contents of 47.4 wt% (S.D.=1.5 wt%) if their phenocyst assemblages are quartz-free. If quartz phenocyst are contained, the total phenocryst SiO2 contents increase with fractions of quartz phenocyst and have 64 wt% at the maximum. This evidence validates an assumption of uniform total phenocryst SiO2 contents (47.4 wt%) in massbalance calculation for the quartz-free magmas.

We compiled ca.40 literature data of bulk SiO2 and phenocryst content for mainly lava eruptions, which are minor in the Magma Database. Melt SiO2 contents of the compiled examples were estimated by the simple method, and their relationship between melt SiO2 content and eruption magnitude (M) were compared with those of the Magma Database. This compilation augmented examples of small to intermediate magmatic eruptions (M=3-5) with basaltic to rhyolitic melt compositions. This data augmentation has little effect on the already known maximum magnitude of M=5 for basaltic to dacitic melt eruptions.

Keywords: magma, petrological analysis, eruption magnitude, database
Meakan-dake is an active volcano, erupted four times in the last 20 years, latest eruption occurred in 2008, located on the east of Hokkaido, Japan. Municipalities around this volcano have already published hazard maps regarding the hazardous area when it erupts to citizen. However, the expected area where fallout products will cover is drawn as true circles centered at the craters on the maps. We have therefore tried to assess the probability of the ash fall area using “Tephra2”, by considering the tephra volume of the past eruption and the wind data. We have used latest wind data obtained online from Japan Meteorological Agency of Kushiro, the nearest observatory from Meakan-dake, located 55 km away from the craters. We also have assumed three patterns of the tephra volumes selected when its hazard maps were made. As a result, the probability distributions of the more voluminous ash falls are drawn as ellipses extended toward east, affected by westerlies. On the other hands, those of the smaller volume types show more likely true circle shapes. It means lower column is more affected by the wind of lower layer which have relatively wider variability than that of higher regarding the wind directions. It is important for us to have knowledge which directions ash falls would likely distribute on preliminarily because these knowledge provide us the higher priority area to prepare possible volcanic hazards. We have shown that Tephra2 would be an effective tool to assess the probability of ash falls. Especially, there are three airports, broad daily land and world natural heritage (Shiretoko) around Meakan-dake. We believe that our attempts will be developed to assess the risk of these important facilities and lands.

Keywords: volcanic hazard, tephra fallout simulation, probabilistic assessment, Meakan-dake volcano
Detailed bathymetric map of Lake Monoun, Cameroon: A new interpretation for the limnic eruption in 1984

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Introduction

In August 1984, the Lake Monoun discharged a large amount of CO2 gas killing 37 of residences around the lake. The explosive discharge of CO2 gas is called as limnic eruption. Accepting the request by the Cameroonian government, Sigurdsson et al (1987) carried out a field research at the lake and found a remnant of water wave on the east shore of lake with a scarp on the shore. They also detected a dissolved CO2 with high concentration in the bottom layer of lake. Sigurdsson et al (1987) conclude that the rock dropped from the scarp disturbed the bottom layer of lake, then a CO2 enriched water was lifted, triggering the trigger of limnic eruption. On the other hand, Kusakabe et al (2008) suggested a spontaneous start of limnic eruption is possible in Lake Monoun based on the temporal variation of lake water after the eruption in 1984. On the floor of Lake Monoun seems to preserve the remnant of eruption which is an important key to reveal the fact of limnic eruption. In this study, a detailed topographic map was obtained by a multibeam sonar survey. In the map, a feature was recognized which is inconsistent to the conclusion by Sigurdsson et al (1987).

Bathymetric survey

The multibeam sonar emits a flat ultrasonic wave with strong directionality of 200 to 400 kHz targeting the bottom of lake. The reflected ultrasonic wave is received by the array of sonic sensors. The system of sonar is composed by the emitter and receiver of ultrasonic wave, GPS sensors, a gyro-sensor for detecting the perturbation of system, the controller of system and an engine power generator. The above system was assembled and installed on a rubber boat. The operation of the survey was carried out by 2 or 3 persons. Moving on the lake surface, the topography of lake floor was scanned. In this study, we used a multibeam sonar, Sonic2022 of R2SONIC co Ltd. The survey was carried out on 31th Oct to 4th November.

Results and discussions

The topography of lake bottom was measured with the precision $\pm$ 30 cm. The lake is extending in the direction of east and west. In the lake three basins, west, central and east were recognized. The depth of west and central basin was 46 and 56 m, respectively. Those basin looks to be the remnant of circular explosive crater the diameter of which is 145 and 134 m, respectively. The north wall of the central basin was well preserved. On the other hand, most of the crater wall of west basin was eroded, suggesting the central basin is younger than the west crater. The depth of the east basin reaches to 100 m. The shape of the east basin was ellipsoidal. The length of longer and shorter axis was 360 and 290 m, respectively. The south wall of the east basin was almost vertical. The floor of the east basin was flat with two small depression, the diameter of which was about 40 m and the depth of which was 1 to 2 m lower than the surrounding floor. The depressions were located near the east and south wall of east basin. Between the depression and the wall of basin, a bank was detected for each depression. The bank looks like the remnant of landslide.

The coupling of the depression and the bank brings us a new idea for the triggering of limnic eruption. At first, we assume the depression near the east shore of east basin is the outlet of CO2 enriched fluid, and assume that the CO2 concentration of lake water was close to the saturated concentration just before the eruption in 1984. Because the fluid from the depression is diluted with the lake water, the limnic eruption would happen above the depression. A big wave of water generated by the limnic eruption attacked the east shore of east basin, developing the scarp. If the landslide is the cause of limnic eruption, the coupling of the depression and the bank is difficult to be explained. There is another depression near the south wall of the east basin, suggesting another limnic eruption before 1984.

Keywords: Limnic eruption, Cameroon, Lake Monoun, CO2, Bathymetry
Disaster prevention issues of sulfur lava

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1. Introduction

In Japan, around 1960 all of many sulfur mine sites in craters and geothermal zones of active volcanoes were closed. However, in the sulfur mine sites, there are many cases that sulfur material has been deposited around the fumarole. Meanwhile, in the case of temperature of the fumarolic gas is increased, it is not a rare case that liquid lava flows out. During the lava flows, there are dangerous cases to generate wildfire and a large amount of sulfur dioxide gas. In this poster, based on the examples of lava flows in active volcanoes in Japan, we discuss the problems against volcano disaster prevention. Meanwhile, we introduce morphological characteristics of sulfur lava flow compared with the case of basaltic lava flow.

2. The case of Tateyama Jigokudani

In Jigokudani of Midagahara volcano, fumarolic activity has been increased recently. Due to that, trail has been closed in 2012 then. In May of 2010, due to sulfur lava flow, wildfire was generated (Masubuchi, 2013). In this site, it is clear that sulfur lava flows had been repeatedly occurred according to reports and geological observation.

The sulfur lava flow in this site, shows variation of color coordination such as black, yellow and and green. Although the thickness of the lava flows is only about 1 to 10 cm, the flows show morphological characteristics of aa lava flow, pahoehoe flow, columnar joints, and pillow -like lava. In this poster, we will show photos and videos, as well as the real samples.

Analogue model of basaltic lava flow is also interesting.

3. Summary

In Shiretoko Iozan eruption during 1935 and 1936, a large amount of sulfur was erupted. The erupted amount was reached several thousands tons per day in max, the total amount of erupted volume reached about 200,000 tons. Due to the eruption, Kamuiwakka river and beach was covered with yellow sulfur (Watanabe et al., 1937). In the case of Tateyama, although the scale is different, it is possible to conduct detailed discussion, and also will be an important step to consider the disaster prevention measures against such sulfur lava flow.

Keywords: Tateyama, Sulfer, pillow lava, aa lava, pa-hoe-hoe lava, disaster prevention