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and Spatial Dynamics in Sediments of Niger Delta Mangrove,

Nigeria

(ナイジェリアのニジェールデルタマングローブ 堆積物における

地球化学組成と空間的動態の環境リスクアセスメント)

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論文内容の要旨

The geochemical evaluation of the mangrove environment in Niger Delta, Nigeria was carried out using trace and major element compositions of surface sediments, core sediments as well as Rhizophora racemosa sampled at Choba, Ogbogoro and Isaka. Fifteen surface sediment samples (Choba, n = 5; Ogbogoro, n = 5 and Isaka, n = 5) were collected. Six core sediment samples ranging from 31 - 35 cm in depth were collected. Each of the core sediments was subdivided into five. This yielded thirty sub core samples thus: Choba, n = 10; Ogbogoro, n = 10 and Isaka, n = 10. Also, the leaves, stems and roots of R. racemosa and A. germinans were collected and it gave a total of twenty seven samples (Choba, n = 9; Ogbogoro, n = 9 and Isaka, n = 9) and twelve samples (Ogbogoro, n = 3; Isaka, n = 9) respectively. The surface sediment, core sediment and R. racemosa samples were analysed using X-ray fluorescence (XRF). The XRF data of the surface sediments was used to evaluate their geochemical compositions, inter-element relationships and potential ecological impact. Results show that the highest mean concentrations in parts per million (ppm) of Pb, Zn, Cu, Ni, Cr, Y, Nb, Th and Sc in Choba sediments were 36.2, 65.2, 19.6, 47.4, 121.6, 21.4, 23.0, 13.8 and 16.8; As, V, Sr, Zr, TS and F in Ogbogoro sediments were 6.4, 192.3, 70.0, 273.4, 14627.0 and 104.8 while Br, I and Cl in Isaka sediments were 27.4, 41.4 and 4189.6, respectively. Box plots of the elements show contrasting concentrations in different sampling locations. Compared to the upper continental crust (UCC), As and Ni were higher in Choba, Ogbogoro and Isaka. The abundance of Pb was found to be higher in Choba and Ogbogoro.

Though Th and Sc were more concentrated in Choba and Ogbogoro relative to the UCC, they were found to be lower in Isaka. However, Zn, Cu, Cr, V, Sr and Zr concentrations in the UCC were found to be higher than the mean concentrations of these elements in Choba, Ogbogoro and Isaka mangrove sediments. Most of the trace elements correlated positively and strongly with Fe₂O₃. This implies that Fe₂O₃ is important in controlling metal concentrations in the area. The concentrations of As and Zn were either equal to or below the low effect level (LEL) and interim sediment quality guideline (ISQG). Pb, Cu and Ni were found to be higher than LEL and ISQG in Choba while Cr concentrations in Choba, Ogbogoro and Isaka all exceeded the LEL, ISQG and severe effect level (SEL) values but below probable effect level (PEL) value; thus indicating potentials for moderate to severe ecological harm. The XRF data of the core sediments was used to determine the element-depth geochemical composition and inter-element relationships. The ecological risk of the metal concentrations was assessed using Contamination Factor (CF) and Enrichment Factor (EF) while the quality of the sediments was determined using sediment quality guidelines. The results indicated contrasting metal concentrations with depth and location as shown by the box plot and cross sectional graph. The average concentration of Pb, Zn, Cu, Ni, Cr, V, Nb and Th were found to be most abundant in Choba while As, Sr and TS were most concentrated in Ogbogoro. Compared with the upper continental crust (UCC) values, As, Ni, Cr and V were higher in all the sampled locations. Pb and Th were higher in Choba and Ogbogoro while Zn, Cu and Nb were higher only in Choba. The concentration of biogenic and provenance metals in Isaka are largely geogenic due to strong TiO₂ association with Pb, Zn, Cu, Ni, Cr, V, Sr, Nb and Th. As enrichment in Choba, Ogbogoro and Isaka is anthropogenic. Comparison with the sediment quality guidelines showed that Ni impact in Choba was severe while Cr concentration level in Choba, Ogbogoro and Isaka might have adverse ecotoxic impact on biota. The XRF data of the R. racemosa and A. germinans was used in comparison to the core sediment data to determine heavy metals distribution and pattern in mangrove plant species. The results showed contrasting heavy metal concentrations in the sediments, R. racemosa and A. germinans. As, Pb, Cu, Ni, Y, Nb and Zr had higher concentrations in the sediments while the concentrations of Zn, Sr, Cl, TS, MnO, CaO and P₂O₅ were more in R. racemosa and A. germinans tissues. However, Cr, V and TiO₂ which had relatively high concentrations in the sediments were not detected in R. racemosa and A. germinans. Graphical analyses revealed a correlation between concentrations in sediment and R. racemosa as well as a similar pattern of heavy metal concentrations in the R. racemosa leaves, stems and roots in Choba, Ogbogoro and Isaka. But variations were found in the leaf/stem and leaf/root upward transport relationship. Most heavy metals were found to concentrate in R. racemosa roots while the least concentrations were found in the leaves. Similarly, PLI results showed that R. racemosa and A. germinans have root>stem>leaf pollution load.

論文審査結果の要旨

ワウイケ氏はナイジェリア出身で、自国の環境問題、特にニジェール川沿岸河口域の広大な地域に広がるマングローブの保全を通しての自然環境の保護に強い関心を持っていた。そのため、指導教員としてマングローブの現状の理解のために、現地での環境調査を行うことを進めた。特にマングローブの生息する地域は開発が進み、その土壌は人為的な影響を受けやすく、環境への負荷が蓄積されるところでもある。また、マングローブそのものへの重金属やその他の微量元素の生態学的な蓄積を評価することを目的として、現地での調査と試料採取を行った。

マングローブ土壌の地球化学的検討では、微量元素組成 (As, Pb, Zn, Cu, Cr, Ni, V, Sr, Y, Zr, Nb, Th, Sc, TS, Br, I, Cl [ppm]) および主元素組成 (TiO2, Fe2O3, MnO, CaO, P2O5 [wt%];主元素は酸化物で示す)の定量を行った。これらの分析結果を用いて、環境評価のためにその濃縮を示す様々な指標を用いて考察した。その結果、人為的な負荷の評価として用いられる、重金属元素など (Pb, Zn, Cu, Cr, Ni, V および As) の内、Cr, Ni が平均的な地球化学組成に対して高くなっていることを見出しいた。しかしこれは、アフリカ大陸の堆積物に両元素を含む重鉱物が存在して、濃縮率が高く評価されることを、後背地の地質組成との比較研究から明らかにした。

このような後背地の地質や人間活動の影響を受けていないと考えられる、地球化学組成については、20年以上前のアジアの干潟(マングローブの生息していない地域)の試料を引用して比較検討を行い、アフリカのコンゴ川の河川堆積物との比較研究からも検討した。

マングローブそのものについては、オオバヒルギとヒルギダマシという代表的な種の葉、茎(幹)、根をそれぞれ分割して採取して、分析を行った。その結果をもとに各部位の機能について考察した。もとよりマングローブは潮間帯に生息するため、植物体内に摂取される塩類をいかに排出するかがその重要な働きとなっている。検討結果からは茎や根に比較して葉に塩類が濃縮していることを分析値の定量から確認した。また、根や茎は生体元素(Zn, Cu, MnO, CaO, P_2O_5 など)の濃縮を行っていることを明らかにした。マングローブは染料や薬品としての利用が高まり、有機地球化学的検討は進んできたが、特殊な塩耐性を持つ植物としての基礎的な多元素の分析結果が示されたのは初めてである。既に公表された 3 編と合わせこの成果の続報は受理の段階にある。

このように論文ではマングローブの土壌とマングローブの地球化学的検討と分析結果からの環境評価と考察が記述され、研究成果として極めて重要なものとなっている。これらを総合して博士の学位に値するものと審査委員会では評価した。