

## 部分的に電気還元された硫化ニッケル上における CO<sub>2</sub> 還元およびメタンチオールとの反応機構

(海洋機構<sup>1</sup>・東大院理<sup>2</sup>) ○岡田 賢<sup>1</sup>・高萩 航<sup>12</sup>・小野 重明<sup>3</sup>・北台 紀夫<sup>1</sup>

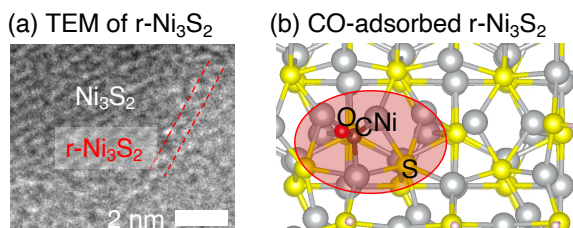
Mechanisms of CO<sub>2</sub> reduction followed by reaction with methanethiol on partially electroreduced nickel sulfide

(<sup>1</sup>*Institute for Extra-cutting-edge Science and Technology Avant-garde Research (X-star)*, *Japan-Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC)*, <sup>2</sup>*Graduate School of Science, The University of Tokyo*, <sup>3</sup>*Research Institute for Marine Geodynamics (IMG), JAMSTEC*) ○Satoshi Okada,<sup>1</sup> Wataru Takahagi,<sup>12</sup> Shigeaki Ono,<sup>3</sup> Norio Kitadai<sup>1</sup>

Deep sea hydrothermal vent, where reductive hot water is gushing out through chimney made of conductive sulfide minerals into oxidative seawater, generates geoelectrochemical potential on the minerals. The vent attracts attention in studies of origin-of-life and carbon cycle because of possible CO<sub>2</sub> electroreduction and further electrosynthesis. We previously showed partially electroreduced nickel sulfide (r-Ni<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>) as an electrochemical catalyst that reduces CO<sub>2</sub> to CO, followed by reaction with methanethiol to give methyl thioacetate, an analogue of metabolite.<sup>[1]</sup> However, its surface structure as well as the reaction mechanisms remained unknown. Here we estimated surface structure of r-Ni<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> by electron microscopy and first-principle calculation, and provided evidence for CO<sub>2</sub> electroreduction. The required potential/pH of calculated amorphous-like r-Ni<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> was in accordance with experimental results, and CO<sub>2</sub> reduction was revealed to proceed on a localized low-valent nickel cluster (Fig).

**Keywords :** *Electrochemistry; Hydrothermal vent; CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction; First-principle Calculation*

深海底において還元性熱水が噴出する熱水噴出孔では、導電性硫化鉱物からなる流路（チムニー）内外に電位差を生じる。チムニー表面の鉱物が CO<sub>2</sub> の電気還元および電気合成の触媒になる可能性があり、生命起源やカーボンサイクル等の観点で注目されている。我々は、部分的に電気還元された硫化ニッケル(r-Ni<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>)が CO<sub>2</sub> を CO へと還元後、メタンチオールと反応しチオ酢酸メチルという代謝性生物等価体の合成を触媒することを示したが、表面構造および反応機構ともに不明だった<sup>[1]</sup>。本研究では、透過電子顕微鏡と第一原理計算に基づき、r-Ni<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> のアモルファス様表面構造を推定し、CO<sub>2</sub> 還元が進行することを示した (図)。r-Ni<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 生成に必要な電位/pH は実験値と同等であり、CO<sub>2</sub> 還元が低原子価 Ni クラスター上で進行することを明らかにした。



[1] Thioester synthesis through geoelectrochemical CO<sub>2</sub> fixation on Ni sulfides. N. Kitadai, S. Okada, W. Takahagi *et al.*, *Commun Chem* **2021**, 4, 37.