



Hydrochemistry and origin of CO₂ gas and noble gas of carbonated mineral water in the Gyeongbuk-Gangwon Province, South Korea

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Hydrochemical, carbon isotopic ($\delta^{13}\text{CDIC}$) analyses of 11 samples, and noble gas isotopic analyses of 8 samples collected in the Gangwon and the Gyeongbuk area of South Korea were carried out to elucidate hydrochemical characteristics and to interpret the source of noble gases and CO₂ gas.

The carbonated mineral waters show a weak acidic pH between 5.59 and 6.04. An electrical conductivity of carbonated mineral waters ranges from 302 to 864 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$. The chemical composition of all carbonated mineral waters can be grouped into only one type such as Ca-HCO₃. A high content of Fe and Mn in carbonated mineral waters exceeds a regulation limit of drinking water.

The $\delta^{13}\text{CDIC}$ values of carbonated mineral waters show the range of -5.30 [U+FF5E]-2.84 ‰. This range indicates that the carbon of carbonated mineral waters is mainly supplied from a deep-seated source and partly from an inorganic carbonate source. The $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ ratios of the carbonated mineral waters show the range of 1.51×10^{-6} to 6.45×10^{-6} .

The carbonated mineral waters on the $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ and $^4\text{He}/^{20}\text{Ne}$ diagram are plotted into three groups: deep seated area such as mantle source, atmospheric area, and air-mantle mixing area. A wide range of $^4\text{He}/^{20}\text{Ne}$ ratios is observed (0.036×10^{-6} to 1.76×10^{-6}), showing evidence that while radiogenic ^4He is dominant in these water samples, He of mantle-origin is also supplied to these waters. It is estimated that supply of CO₂ gas and noble gas of a deep-seated source into carbonated waters is closely related to geologic structures such as fault and geologic boundary.

Key words: carbonated mineral waters, hydrochemical composition, carbon isotope, $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$, deep-seated origin