

ACCELERATOR MASS SPECTROSCOPY AT TOKYO UNIVERSITY TANDEM

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Use of accelerator as an ultra-sensitive mass-spectrometer has a great advantage in radio-isotope dating in that it requires less measuring time and less sample material. This method is being developed in many laboratories in the world.¹⁾ We report our development at Tokyo University tandem accelerator by two groups, one aiming detection of ^{10}Be for cosmo-science and the other of ^{14}C .

Our accelerator mass spectroscopy (AMS) system is illustrated in Fig 1. Major components added specifically for AMS are a beam monitor in the 90° analyser magnet and an electro-static deflector. The beam monitor measures the stable isotope current accelerated at the same time (^9Be when ^{10}Be is to be detected) and serves to monitor ion production efficiency at the ion source and beam transmission of the accelerator. The electro-static deflector eliminates background ions which originate from charge exchange in the accelerating tube. Ions are detected with an SSD preceded by a gas absorber to discriminate isobars (^{10}B against ^{10}Be). SSD will be replaced by a $\Delta\text{E-E}$ gas counter in order to increase particle identification power. Another detector was prepared in the beam switching magnet. It is a position sensitive $\Delta\text{E-E}$ gas counter to form a spectrograph in conjunction with the magnet, though background ions were too numerous without an electro-static deflector.

Beryllium samples were prepared in the form of BeO and mounted in the sample cone for HICONEX 834 sputter ion source, and BeO^- ions were extracted in back-focusing geometry. Fig 2 shows sample cone used. BeO were mixed with silver powder, pressed into small hole in the cone and baked in vacuum before mounted into the ion source. $^{10}\text{Be}^{16}\text{O}^-$ and $^9\text{Be}^{17}\text{O}^-$ ions were injected and accelerated together and $^{10}\text{Be}^{3+}/^9\text{Be}^{3+}$ ratio were measured. Transmission of $^{10}\text{Be}^{3+}$ between analyser magnet and detector were measured with

$^{10}\text{B}^{3+}$ beam in order to get correct $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratio. Comparison of the ^{10}Be concentration in the sample with that measured by radioactivity shows a reasonable agreement.

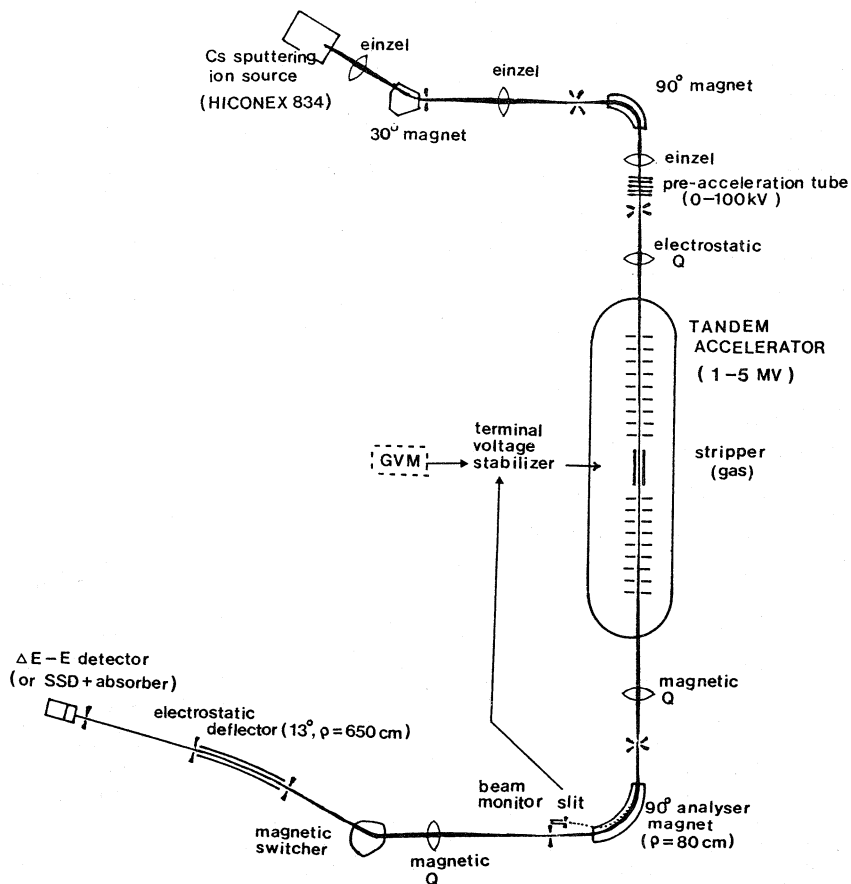


Fig 1. Accelerator mass spectrometry system at Tokyo University Tandem.

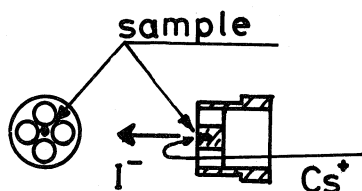


Fig 2. Sample cone.

¹ Proceedings of the First Conference on Radiocarbon Dating with Accelerators, Rochester, April 1978, H.E.Gove, ed. Proceedings of the Tenth International Radiocarbon Conference - Bern, August 1979, Radiocarbon, vol 22, nos 2 & 3, 1980. Proceedings of Symposium on Accelerator Mass Spectrometry, Argonne, May 1981, ANL/PHY-81-1.