Jadeite and jadeitite–bearing rock in the Sanbagawa and the Kamuikotan belts, Japan: A review

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The mode of occurrence of jadeitic pyroxenes and their origins were reviewed using literatures published in the Sanbagawa belt (sensu lato), SW Japan, and the Kamuikotan belt, Hokkaido. Jadeite + quartz assemblage is found from tectonic blocks both in the Yorii area of the Kanto Mountains in the Sanbagawa belt and the Kamuikotan Gorge area, and its formation timing is predated to the main metamorphism in each area, where albite is stable along with metamorphic pyroxenes with lower jadeite contents (namely Jd<50). The jadeite + quartz assemblage is recently found as inclusions in garnet grains in some rocks with peculiarly lower CaO and/or MgO bulk compositions, which suffered the eclogite facies metamorphism in the Sanbagawa belt of Shikoku area, although it is not detected from the matrix of the eclogite facies rocks. Recent zirconology applied to the jadeite + quartz rock in the Yorii area causes a hot argument on its origin, i.e., the wholesale metasomatic replacement origin or the vein precipitation origin. In either case, this methodology gave new insight on fluid activity recorded in Jurassic or post-Jurassic subduction zone.

Keywords: Jadeite, Sanbagawa, Kamuikotan, Mesozoic, Japan

INTRODUCTION

The jadeite + quartz assemblage is one of the diagnostic assemblages in metamorphic rocks formed under the eclogite–facies and the lawsonite-jadeite blueschist facies (e.g., Hacker et al., 2003). Therefore the identification of this assemblage has a paramount importance not only to elucidate the developing history of the high-pressure (HP) type metamorphic belts (e.g., Miyashiro, 1965, 1973) but also to understand the mass circulation in the subduction zone (e.g., Hacker et al., 2003).

During the last decade, U-Pb dating and the rare earth element (REE) concentration of zircon grains, so called zirconology newly developed in 21st century, can shed a light to discuss the origin of jadeitite and the fluid activity in the subduction/collision system (e.g., Tsujimori and Harlow, 2012; Harlow et al., 2015). A hot argument on the origin of jadeitite has been done among two schools; 1) the wholesale metasomatic replacement and 2) the vein precipitation (e.g., Yui et al., 2010; Tsujimori and Harlow, 2012; Harlow et al., 2015). These two mechanisms imply contrasting chemical cycling paths for elements such as Al, Na, Zr, and Hf in subduction zones, which in turn should result from different physiochemical conditions.

This article aims to overview jadeite-bearing rocks from the Sanbagawa (sensu lato) and the Kamuikotan belts on the abovementioned context.

Brief overview of the Sanbagawa belt (sensu lato)

The recent data accumulation of detrital zircon ages from metasedimentary rocks of so-called ‘Sanbagawa belt’ has brought reconsideration of subdivision of the belt; see the review by Itaya et al. (2011). In this paper, we use the term ‘Sanbagawa belt’ in the broad sense; i.e., the Sanbagawa belt (sensu lato) includes so-called Sanbagawa schist, Mikabu greenstone complex and associated low-grade HP rocks in the Northern Chichibu belt.

The Sanbagawa schist and the Northern Chichibu belts stretch through SW Japan over a length of 800 km from the Kanto Mountains in the eastern end, through Chubu district and Kii peninsula in Honshu, and Shikoku, to Saganoseki Peninsula, Kyushu, in the western end (Fig. 1). The Mikabu greenstone complex is sporadically exposed between the Sanbagawa schist and the Northern Chichibu belt from the Kanto Mountains to the western Shikoku.
The Sanbagawa belt suffered subduction related high \( P/T \) type metamorphism at East Asian margin in Cretaceous (e.g., Itaya et al., 2011, other references therein). The protolith of the Sanbagawa schist and the Northern Chichibu belt formed by the accretion of ocean floor materials and trench-fill sediments, but their sedimentation timing is different, such as Cretaceous for the Sanbagawa schist (Tsutsumi et al., 2009; Aoki et al., 2011) and from Permian to the earliest Cretaceous for the Northern Chichibu belt (Matsuoka et al., 1998). The Mikabu greenstone complex is mainly composed of metabasic rocks derived mainly from gabbro, pillow lava and volcaniclastic sediments and minor amounts of ultramafic rocks, chart and pelitic rocks.

Based on the mode of occurrence of the diagnostic metamorphic minerals in metapelite, the Sanbagawa schist is subdivided into three mineral zones, from chlorite, garnet and biotite zones with the increasing grade of the metamorphism (e.g., Kurata and Banno, 1974; Enami, 1983; Banno and Sakai, 1989; Higashino, 1990). The metamorphic zoning has also been defined by the mineral assemblages in mafic schists from pumpellyite-actinolite to the epidote-amphibolite facies (e.g., Nakajima et al., 1977; Otsuki and Banno, 1990). The eclogite facies rocks are distributed in the higher grade zone in central and eastern Shikoku, and possibly in Kii peninsula (e.g., Kunugiza et al., 1986; Wallis and Aoya, 2000; Aoya, 2001).

Both the Nagasaki and Nishisonogi metamorphic complexes in the Western Kyushu have been considered as an extension of the Sanbagawa belt (Fig. 1). The detail review on the jadeite in the Nishisonogi complex refers Nishiyama et al. in this issue.

**Jadeite-bearing rocks in the Kanto Mountains of the Sanbagawa belt**

**Titibu–Hisui.** In the Kanto Mountains, so called ‘Titibu–Hisui (jade)’ has been known as precious stones excavated from some remains of the Heian (794–1185 AD) or much older periods, but most of them are ‘nephrite jade’ consisting of actinolite and tremolite (e.g., Sakurai and Nagashima, 1957; Hayashi et al., 2013). Even in the present day, Titibu–Hisui can be collected in the upper stream of Misawa river, probably derived from some serpentinite bodies in the Sanbagawa schist or the Mikabu greenstone complex. The following description will concentrate on jadeite or omphacite-bearing rocks associated with or without quartz in the Kanto Mountains.
The jadeite study before EPMA age. The first identification of jadeite was done by means of the optical microscopy and the X-ray diffraction (XRD) method in the eastern part of the Kanto Mountains through the campaign of the zonal mapping of the relevant area by Seki (1958, 1960). Seki (1958) divided the study area into six mineral zones from zone 1 to 6 with the progressive mineral changes; such as 1) for unmetamorphosed zone, 2, 3, and 5) for pumpellyite dominant zones, 4) for lawsonite appearance zone and zone 6) for epidote garnet zone. Subsequently, Seki (1960) reported the occurrence of jadeite from the zone 4), mainly corresponding to a part of the Mikabu greenstone complex. Based on the mode of occurrence of those diagnostic minerals of the glaucophane schist facies, Seki (1960) pointed out that his zone 4) showed the highest P/T gradient in the Kanto Mountains (Fig. 3A of Seki, 1960). Subsequently, his works were cited as an example of typical glaucophane schist facies metamorphism in Japanese Island by Miyashiro’s text books (Miyashiro, 1965, 1973), i.e., the pressure type of the Sanbagawa metamorphism in the Kanto Mountains had been regarded as higher than the rest of the Sanbagawa belt.

After Seki’s pioneering work, jadeite and omphacite were found from five areas in the Kanto Mountains, 1) jadeite from an albite in the Kanasaki (Kanagasaki) area (Seki, 1961), 2) omphacite veins in metadiabase from the Mikabu greenstone complex in the Asahine area (Hashimoto, 1964), 3) pebbles of jaditic pyroxenes found from sandstone beds in the Sanchu graben with lower Cretaceous age (Seki, 1965), 4) jadeite and omphacite, not associated with quartz, in meta-basalts from the Mikabu greenstone complex in the Shimoni area (Tanabe et al., 1982; Arai et al., 2011) and 5) Jadeite + quartz assemblage in a leucocratic tectonic block exposed at the unit boundary between the Sanbagawa schist and the Tochuya Formation, the latter could be the member of the Atokura nappe (Hirajima, 1983a).

Jadeite from albite (Seki, 1961) and omphacite in the monomineralic vein (Hashimoto, 1964) should be originated closely related to aqueous fluid, although subsequent modern petrological studies using EPMA and/or ICP-MS have not been done for these rocks.

The finding of detrital jadeite grains from the Sanchu graben with Hauterivian to Turonian fossils, i.e., 135.0–88.5 Ma, as well as the previous discovery of lawsonite and pumpellyite-bearing rocks as clastic materials in the same horizon could be interpreted that the Sanbagawa metamorphism of the Kanto Mountains must have occurred before the deposition of lower Cretaceous formation (Seki, 1965).

The geochronological studies on the Sanbagawa schist in the Kanto Mountains suggest K-Ar phengite ages from 90–60 Ma (Hirajima et al., 1992; Miyashita and Itaya, 2002) and the youngest detrital zircon SHRIMP ages from 95–79 Ma with ~13 Ma older age than the K-Ar phengite age in each sample (Tutsunami et al., 2009). Therefore, the Sanbagawa belt is unlikely for the provenance of the jadeite grains found in the Sanchu graben, and the identification of source region of those HP minerals remains as a future problem.

Jadeite identification using EPMA; a) Jadeite-aragonite rocks in the Shimoni area. Tanabe et al. (1982) found jadeite-aragonite assemblage from metavolcanics in the Mikabu greenstone complex of the Shimoni area, located in the western extremity of the Kanto Mountains. This is the first report of metamorphic aragonite and the first confirmation of jadeite done by EPMA in the Sanbagawa belt. The meta-volcanics include both pillow lavas and massive varieties, and they are characteristics of rock difficult schistosity in contrast with the surroundings, mainly composed of schistose actinolite rocks (Arai et al., 2011).

Jadeite-bearing meta-volcanics are completely re-crystallized and free from any igneous minerals: The rock matrix is mainly composed of jadeite, taramite/magnesio-katophorite, phengite, green-colored biotite, pumpellylite, albite, epidote, chlorite, and tatanite with/without aragonite and/or calcite. The vesicles of pillow basalts are completely filled by jadeite, taramite, titamite, muscovite, green-colored biotite, chlorite, albite and aragonite/calcite with/without andradite. Generally jadeite grains show dark-green color in their core with higher aegirine component, and do pale-green to colorless in their rim with lower aegirine component (Fig. 2; Fig. 5B of Arai et al., 2011). Later stage omphacite/aegirine-augite and glaucophane are identified at the rim of jadeite and taramite/magnesio-katophorite grains. Quartz was not detected from those jadeite-bearing rocks.

Tanabe et al. (1982) concluded that those rocks are tectonic blocks in the Mikabu greenstone complex, because they did not detect jadeite and aragonite from the surroundings.

Arai et al. (2011) pointed out the jadeite-aragonite bearing meta-basaltic lavas, along with jadeite-free paragige rocks and jadeite-free garnet epidote rocks, are embedded as blocks/lenses in the matrix mainly composed of the actinolite rock. They also reported that the actinolite rock is mainly composed of actinolite, chlorite and albite along with epidote, pumpellyite and omphacite with lower jadeite content (Jd<50; Fig. 2).

The observed block-in-matrix structure is generally one of the characters of the tectonic mélangé. However, Arai et al. (2011) did not apply this idea, because of the
lack of the common deformation structure seen in the tectonic mélange, and the similarity of the concentrations of high field strength elements of the jadeite–bearing metavolcanics (~10 wt% Na₂O in bulk composition) to oceanic island basalts (OIBs) in the Mikabu greenstone complex of Shikoku, and those of relict Ca–pyroxenes in the actinolite rock to tholeiitic MORB in the Mikabu greenstone complex of the Kanto Mountains. Finally, they concluded that the jadeite–bearing metabasaltic rocks suffered a Na enrichment event before the Sanbagawa metamorphism and then jadeite grew during the HP metamorphism.

Jadeitic and omphacitic pyroxenes not associated with quartz do not manifest the high pressures, which normally attributed to silica–saturated or oversaturated rocks (e.g., Fig. 3). Suzuki and Ishizuka (1998) reported the metamorphic aragonite from the metabasite in the Mikabu greenstone complex of the Shikoku area. Therefore, aragonite and jadeite not associated with quartz can be stable under the albite stable condition of the Sanbagawa metamorphism.

In either case, appropriate geochronological study for jadeite–bearing rocks is indispensable to conclude the origin of jadeite in the Shimonita area.

Jadeite identification using EPMA; b) Jadeite + quartz rock in the Yorii area. Hirajima (1983a) found a leucocratic rock with the jadeite + quartz assemblage from an unexpected geologic unit in the Yorii area, the eastern part of the Kanto Mountains, i.e., the Tochiya Formation, which could be the member of the Atokura nappe and overlaid to the Sanbagawa belt. The main block of the leucocratic rock, 5 × 5 × 10 m, exists at the top of the small hill of the terrane of the Tochiya Formation near the boundary with the Sanbagawa schist and the similar rock is exposed ~30 m in length. The close association of the leucocratic rock and serpentinite may suggest the tectonic block origin of those rocks, although the clear contact relationship between the leucocratic rocks and the surroundings is not found.

The leucocratic rock shows grayish–white color for unaided eyes along with blue glaucophane veins and colorless quartz veins. The rock matrix is mainly composed of equigranular quartz aggregates and jadeite + albite aggregates with 3–5 mm in diameter. Jadeite generally occurs as blade/columnar/acicular shape fragments (0.5–1.0 mm in long dimension) enclosed by albite along with fine-grained pale-green pyroxene (0.03–0.02 mm), and hence jadeite does not directly contact with the quartz aggregate. However, submicron size quartz grains enclosed in jadeite are identified by EPMA. The majority of pale-green pyroxenes occur near the boundary between the quartz aggregate and the jadeite + albite aggregate, but always in the latter. Some jadeite fragments show the same extinction position. These facts indicate that early stage jadeite decomposed to albite and pale-
green pyroxenes by the following reaction:

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\text{Impure jadeite + quartz} = \text{albite} + \text{pale–green pyroxenes}
\] (1).

Both jadeite \((\text{Jd}_{78-84}\text{Aeg}_{6-16}\text{Quad}_{4-14})\) and pale-green pyroxenes \((\text{Jd}_{10-30}\text{Aeg}_{35-50}\text{Quad}_{28-45})\) which grow near the glauco phane vein (open circle in Fig. 4; Fig. 4 of Hirajima, 1983a) are slightly richer in Quad content than jadeite \((\text{Jd}_{44-99}\text{Aeg}_{1-14}\text{Quad}_{4-14})\) and pale-green pyroxenes \((\text{Jd}_{10-30}\text{Aeg}_{50-75}\text{Quad}_{10-35})\) in the grayish-white matrix (solid circle in Fig. 4). The variation of Quad contents in jadeite is obviously inherited in secondary pale-green pyroxenes. This fact also supports the development of the reaction (1) under the mostly closed chemical system from the first higher-\(P\) stage characterized by jadeite-quartz equilibrium, to the second moderate-\(P\) stage by albite-pale-green pyroxene equilibrium. The Jd content of the secondary pyroxenes are similar with those in Mi- kabu metabasites of the Kanto Mountains (Hirajima, 1983b). Therefore, Hirajima (1983a) concluded that the formation of the jadeite + quartz assemblage predated the Sanbagawa metamorphism, and the jadeite-bearing leucocratic rock was metamorphosed plagiogranite based on the lack of K\(_2\)O-bearing phase and the occurrence of zircon and allanite.

Tsutsumi et al. (2010) reported a SHRIMP U-Pb zircon age of 159 ± 5 Ma for the jadeite-bearing leucocratic rock. Dated zircon grains show an oscillatory zoning and have high Th/U ratio (0.44–1.35), but they reserved the decision on the origin of zircons, whether the igneous origin or the hydrothermal growth.

Fukuyama et al. (2013) also presented the results of U-Pb dating and REE analysis of zircons separated from the leucocratic rock. They divided these zircons into two types. Type I zircons are generally euhedral to subhedral crystals, with 0.08–0.50 mm in size, and show yellow to colorless in appearance. The oscillatory zoning is confirmed in these zircons. Submicron-scale fluid inclusions were also observed at the rim. SHRIMP analyses on Type I zircons yielded an age of 162.2 ± 0.6 Ma (\(n = 21\), MSWD = 1.4), comparable with the previous report of Tsutsumi et al. (2010) within the error. These zircons show typical HREE enriched REE patterns with distinct Ce and Eu anomalies, and have Th/U ratios in the range of 0.50–1.96.

On the other hand, Type II zircons are mostly subhedral to anhedral and porous, 0.10–0.50 mm in size, and colorless. No fluid inclusions were observed. Type II zircons showed scattered SHRIMP ages from 159 to 141 Ma. Th/U ratio for these zircons falls in the range of 0.15–1.50. In contrast to Type I zircons, Type II zircons exhibit flatter REE patterns and smaller Ce and Eu anomalies.

Due to the presence of fluid inclusions and solid inclusions of quartz, jadeite and albite in Type I zircon, Fukuyama et al. (2013) interpreted that Type I zircons would have crystallized from a fluid concurrently with other minerals in the jadeite-quartz rock, i.e., ‘vein precipitation’ origin. Type II zircons are porous and have REE patterns indicative of a hydrothermal zircon. They would have resulted from zircon (re)crystallization after the formation of jadeite-quartz rock in the presence of a fluid phase.

However, Yui and Fukuyama (2015) provided a re-interpretation of Fukuyama et al. (2013) based on new observations obtained from the jadeite-quartz rock. The re-examination of mineral inclusions in zircons clearly showed that these zircons contain mineral inclusions of both primary (igneous, such as biotite, K-feldspar, and hematite) and secondary (metasomatic, such as aegir ine-augite, quartz, and albite) origin. The former are not present in the matrix of jadeite-quartz rock and the latter are present in the rock matrix and interpreted as pseudo-inclusions. Yui (2013) proposed that zircons with Th/U > 0.1, Ce anomaly (i.e., Ce/Ce*) > 10, Eu anomaly (i.e., Eu/Eu*) < 0.6 or \(\Sigma\text{REE} > 550 \mu\text{g/g}\) should be considered to be inherited or incompletely recrystallized zircons, and would not be of metasomatic origin, although there remain some against opinions, e.g., Flores et al. (2013). Yui and Fukuyama (2015) pointed out that all Type I zircons of Fukuyama et al. (2013) have Th/U ratios higher than 0.1 and most show Ce anomaly higher than 10, and then concluded that Type I zircons therefore should not be categorized as metasomatic ones but inher-
ited, incompletely recrystallized and metasomatic ones. Therefore, the jadeite–quartz rock should have formed through “wholesale metasomatic replacement” process at an age younger than 141 Ma from a protolith of probable igneous origin aged at 162.2 ± 0.6 Ma.

The investigation on the origin of jadeite using the REE and age data of zircon is a charming methodology. Jadeite from Itoigawa, Osayama and Nishisonogi areas are free or less in SiO₂ phase (e.g., Tsutsumi et al., 2010). However, the Yorii rock contains a significant amount of quartz, so the author of this article does not prefer to call this rock as the jadeite and he agrees with the conclusion of Yui and Fukuyama (2015). According to the available data cumulated at present, the Yorii rock experienced at least three/four geological events; the data is supported by Seki (1960) and Seki et al. (1960) do not coexist in Nagano Prefecture. Therefore, even if jadeite grains re-crystallized, incompletely recrystallized and metasomatic ones. Jadeitite from Itoigawa, Osayama and Nishisonogi areas are free or less in SiO₂ phase (e.g., Tsutsumi et al., 2010). However, the Yorii rock contains a significant amount of quartz, so the author of this article does not prefer to call this rock as the jadeite and he agrees with the conclusion of Yui and Fukuyama (2015). According to the available data cumulated at present, the Yorii rock experienced at least three/four geological events; the first igneous event, zircon crystallization form a magma, jadeite–quartz formation event at high-P metamorphic conditions, and the last albite–aegirine–augite formation event at moderate–P metamorphic conditions. The ‘wholesale metasomatic replacement’ proposed by Yui and Fukuyama (2015) should take place before or concurrent with the jadeite–quartz formation. At present, the timings of high–P and moderate–P stages are still unknown. Hirajima (1983a, 1983b) pointed out that the pressure condition of the albite–aegirine–augite formation event is comparable to the Mikabu greenstone complex in the Kanto Mountains. If the last thermal event of the the Yorii rock would be concurrent with the Sanbagawa metamorphism, and hence the jadeite–quartz formation should take place before the Sanbagawa metamorphism. The determination of these timings and further zirconology are indispensable to understand the formation process of the Yorii rock and the systematics of high-field-strength elements in the subduction zone as pointed out by Fukuyama et al. (2013).

Jadeite-bearing rocks in the Chubu district of the Sanbagawa belt

Seki (1960) and Seki et al. (1960) reported the occurrence of jadeite from meta-gabbroic rocks surrounded by serpentinite in the Shibukawa district, Shizuoka Prefecture, central Japan, using XRD method. Note that they could not show the close association of jadeite and quartz. Watanabe (1977) obtained only one available chemical analysis of impure jadeite (Jd₈₃Aeg₁₃Quad₄) from a meta-gabbro embedded in serpentinite in the Shibukawa district, but he also could not find jadeite grains in contact with quartz. Instead, Watanabe (1975, 1977) pointed out that lower jadeitic Na-pyroxene (Jd₂₀) were common in the lower grade metamorphic rocks in the Oshika district, Nagano Prefecture. Therefore, even if jadeite grains reported by Seki (1960) and Seki et al. (1960) do not coexist with quartz, they can be formed by the Sanbagawa metamorphism under the albite stable condition (Fig. 3).

Jadeite–bearing rocks in the Shikoku Island of the Sanbagawa belt

Jadeite–quartz association is one of the diagnostic mineral assemblages of the eclogite facies, but its occurrence is limited in Ca–poor variety of the host rock, such as granitic rocks, greywackes and charts, although omphacite is major clinopyroxene in mafic rocks under the eclogite facies conditions (e.g., Ernst, 1971; Hirajima et al., 1988). The eclogite facies rocks of the Sanbagawa belt are mainly exposed in the Besshi area of the central Shikoku, and Kotsu and Bizan areas of the eastern Shikoku, but Na-pyroxenes with lower jadeite contents are reported from quartz schists in the relevant areas (e.g., Enami et al., 1994; Ubukawa et al., 2007).

Recently, jadeite grains with or without quartz have been identified as tiny inclusions in garnets of the eclogite facies rocks in the Besshi area (Endo and Tsuboi, 2013) and Bizan area (Kabir and Takasu, 2016), and in a composite–zoned garnet of a metapelite of the Asemi-gawa area (Taguchi and Enami, 2014), one after another. Endo and Tsuboi (2013) found jadeite inclusions (<10 µm) along with omphacite, kyanite, quartz and rutile in Mg–rich rim of garnet grains of a massive metabro, which shows the peak P–T conditions of ~ 2.5 GPa and 570 °C, in the eastern Iatsu body. The sample is mainly composed of garnet, omphacite, kyanite, quartz, phengite, epidote, albite, amphibole, and apatite in the well equilibrated domain and the former igneous/granulitic clinopyroxene domains. Clinopyroxene shows the three mode of occurrence; i) inclusion in garnet, ii) a major constituent phase in the matrix and iii) relict igneous/granulitic clinopyroxene (Fig. 5).

Most clinopyroxene inclusions are omphacite (Jd₃₇Aeg₆₆Quad₄–₅₆) but impure jadeite and jadeite-rich omphacite (Jd₆₄Aeg₆₂Quad₁₃–₃₃) are also present. The latter group pyroxenes occur as tiny (<10 µm across) discrete grains or composite grains with jadeite and omphacite. For the case of the inclusion pair of omphacite and jadeite, the omphacite grains are generally richer in aegirine component than the jadeite grains (Fig. 5).

P–T pseudosection modellings for MORB suggest that the stability field of jadeite does not appear in the eclogite facies meta-MORB (e.g., Diener and Powell, 2012 and references therein). However, Endo and Tsuboi (2013) attributed the occurrence of impure jadeite to the attainment of Na– and Al–rich effective bulk composition due to the persistence of relict igneous/granulitic clinopyroxene and a bit lower H₂O activity than the para-
gonite–bearing eclogite. They considered the heating of the early stages of the exhumation enhanced the transformation of jadeite to omphacite in the rock matrix.

Kabir and Takasu (2016) also found jadeite grains as inclusions in garnet showing the prograde zoning from garnet–glaucophane schists, of which peak–PT conditions are 580–600 °C and 18–20 kbar, in the Bizan area. Jadeite grains occur as tiny anhedral discrete inclusions (<0.03 mm across) or as polyphase inclusions along with glau- cophane or quartz. Jadeite contents of the clinopyroxene inclusions in garnet gradually increase from the core (Jd46–64), to the mantle and the rim (Jd65–75) with almost constant quadrilateral pyroxene content (Quad) (namely Quad1–12) (Fig. 6). Their pseudosection calculation suggests the occurrence of the jadeitic clinopyroxene in their sample is strongly ascribed to the low CaO (4.4–4.5 wt%) and MgO (2.1–2.3 wt%) of the host rock.

Taguchi and Enami (2014) found jadeite and quartz inclusions from an inner segment of a composite–zoned garnet from a metapelite in the southern albite–biotite zone of the Asemigawa area, located about 15 km ESE of the Besshi area. The jadeite (Jd92)–quartz assemblage gives 1.4–1.9 GPa at 500–700 °C as the minimum–P for their formation, which beyond the estimated pressure of the relevant area. They also reported that the measured residual pressure of quartz grains included in garnet shows the similar value to those of the eclogite unit of the Besshi area. Based on these data, they pointed out that a part of the southern albite–biotite zone once suffered the eclogite facies metamorphism.

Jadeite not associated with quartz is found from the Kamuikotan belt, Hokkaido

The Kamuikotan belt runs north to south along the axis of
the Hokkaido more than 300 km with a maximum width of 30 km (Fig. 1). The belt is mainly composed of HP type metamorphic rocks and LP type ones. The Horokanai ophiolite belongs to the latter and it overlays the HP type metamorphic rocks (e.g., Asahina and Komatsu, 1979; Ueda, 2010). Available geochronological data mainly of K–Ar and Ar–Ar phengite extracted from HP type metamorphic rocks show Cretaceous metamorphic timings but those data diversely scatter from 135 to 45 Ma (Shibakusa and Itaya, 1992; Ota et al., 1993; Iwasaki et al., 1995). The HP type metamorphic rocks are mainly composed of the coherent unit, exotic blocks and serpentinite mélange zone (e.g., Ueda, 2010). There still arguments on the metamorphic zonal mapping and the special extent of each coherent unit, and on their development history, along with the origin of exotic blocks, among the different researcher groups. This article does not treat these issues but do the description of jadeite-bearing rocks.

The identification jadeite in this belt was initially done by the XRD method by Seki and Shido (1959) and Shido and Seki (1959) as well as the case both in the Kanto Mountains and the central Japan. Gouchi (1983) reported the first identification of jadeite associated with quartz in metabasic/metapelitic rocks using EPMA. He proposed that the studied rocks experienced two stage metamorphisms, such as the first higher-P metamorphism (>1 GPa) represented by the clinopyroxene core with higher jadeite contents (Jd>90) along with lawsonite and Na-amphibole with/without stilpnomelane and pumpellyite, and the subsequent lower-P type metamorphism represented by the clinopyroxene rim with omphacite composition (Jd<60).

Takayama (1986) found jadeite associated with quartz in pelitic rocks and metaplagiogranites in the gorge area. However, such rock-types never occur as a part of the coherent metamorphic sequence, but are found only as exotic blocks enclosed in serpentinite. The serpentinite matrix may carry jadeite + quartz-bearing metapelites and metaplagicranites into the coherent metamorphic sequence, which suffered the lawsonite–albite facies metamorphism (Fig. 3).

Osada et al. (2007) find jadeite (Jd>95)-quartz-K-feldspar assemblage from metagranitoids, which occur as bullder size river floats in and around the serpentinite in the gorge area. They also proposed a P–T history similar to Takayama (1986).

Shibakusa and Hirajima (1988) reported that jadeite contents of Na-pyroxenes in contact with quartz and albite vary from 0.56 to 0.74 in metabasites of the coherent unit in the Horokanai-Kamietanbetsu area and pointed out that the coherent unit of the Kamuikotan HP type metamorphic rocks was formed under albite stability field.

Thus, these four papers published after 1980’s attained the same conclusion that jadeite-quartz bearing rocks occur only as tectonic blocks trapped in serpentinite. It is noteworthy that two articles pointed out that protolith of the jadeite-quartz bearing rocks is granitic rocks, as well as the case of the Yorii area in the Kanto Mountains. The future application of zirconology to these rocks will give a new light for understanding both the development history of the Kamuikotan belt and the deep fluid activity in the subduction zone in NE Japanese Islands.

**EPILOGUE**

The first breakthrough of the finding of jadeite in Japanese metamorphic rocks is mainly led by Dr. Yotaro Seki and his coworkers in the 1960’s using the XRD method. Some of their result was cited in the famous text books of Miyashiro (1965, 1973), as the metamorphic pressure of the Kanto Mountains in the Sanbagawa belt is higher than the rest of the belt. The development of EPMA–based studies since the 1970’s causes its second breakthrough in the 1980’s. Works of this period done in the Kanto Mountains reveal that the Sanbagawa metamorphic rocks were formed under albite stability field and jadeite pyroxene can occur in quartz free rocks (Tanabe et al., 1982; Hirajima, 1983a, 1983b). Probably now it would be reaching a new movement, as the jadeite + quartz assemblages are accidentally found throughout so-called ‘inclusion mineralogy’ in the eclogitic garnet in the Shikoku area (Endo and Tsuboi, 2013; Taguchi and Enami, 2014; Kabir and Takasu, 2016). The movement has a great potential to determine the areal extent of the eclogite unit in the Sanbagawa belt.

The jadeite–quartz rocks found from the Yorii area and the Kamuikotan gorge are interpreted as the tectonic block against the surrounding metamorphic rocks, but formation timings of the jadeite + quartz assemblage are still unknown.

Thus far, zirconology was applied only to the Yorii sample at present. The expansion of this study to other rocks in Japanese Island will unravel the developing history of the deeply subducted rocks.

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