## Geodynamics Seminar

## 第359回ジオダイナミクスセミナー

Structure and stability of carbon nitride under high pressure and high temperature

## Yohei Kojima (Ph.D. student, Ehime University)

主催:愛媛大学地球深部ダイナミクス研究センター

日時:6/7(金)午後4時30分~ 場所:総合研究棟4F会議室





## Abstract

Since the theoretical calculation predicted that β-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> potentially has superior hardness and elastic property to those of diamond, there are considerable interests on carbon nitride (C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>). In five polymorphs predicted by Teter and Hemley (1996), cubic-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> is predicted to have the highest bulk modulus ( $K_0 = 496$  GPa) and transform from graphitic- $C_3N_4$  (g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>) above 12 GPa. Based on these theoretical calculations, many researchers attempted to synthesize such a super-hard phase of C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>, but none of them claimed clear evidence for successful synthesis. Sougawa et al. (2010) reported that g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> transformed to an orthorhombic phase (a=7.635, b=4.487, c= 4.040 Å) at 40 GPa and 1800 K, but, the structure of the obtained phase is similar to that of hydrogen-bearing carbon nitride, Our LHDAC study showed that g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> also transformed to a similar orthorhombic phase (a=7.6251(19), b=4.4904(8), c= 4.0424 (8) Å), although the C/N ratio of the recovered sample was measured to be 3:4, which is apparently different from that of the carbon nitride imide phase. The chemical composition might be expressed as  $C_2N_2(NH)_{2/3}$  or  $C_2N_2[(NH)_{6/7}, (CH_2)_{1/7}]$ . These results suggest that in the studied wide pressure and temperature range, hydrogen-bearing carbon nitride favors the orthorhombic structure with a fundamental composition of C<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>X where NH, CH<sub>2</sub>, and even potentially vacancies can be flexibly accommodated in the X site.

The result of the present study suggests that the theoretically predicted superhard  $C_3N_4$  phases can likely not be synthesized in laboratory unless preparing hydrogen-free starting materials. So, we recently conducted an annealing experiments on the starting carbon nitride under  $N_2$  and Ar condition and found that the anneal is indeed effective to remove hydrogen, although it also causes the amorphization of the graphitic framework of the starting carbon nitride. I will talk detailed results in this seminar.