An Introduction to Geology 地質學入門



VW 12.2012

Content

• Formation of the Earth 地球的構造

• Geological Time Table 地質年代表

Continental Drift & Plate Tectonic 大陸飄移說
与版塊運動

 Rock Formation, identification & related landform 岩石与地貌

• The Geology of Hong Kong 香港地質簡介

Formation of the Earth 地球的構造

The Big Bang 13.82 Bya 宇宙大爆炸 Creation of the COSMOS





Meteorite – remnants of the Big Bang







Fireball Earth 4.567 Bya



Formation of the Earth

Weight differentiation kicked in forming Iron nickel Core 鐵鎳地核(Inner solid, outer liquid) Fe, Mg, Al, Si Mantle 鐵鎂鋁矽地幔(plastic) Sima & Sial Crust 矽鎂/矽鋁地殼



Formation of the Earth Continental Crust 大陸地殻 – SIAL Ocean Crust 海洋地殻 - SIMA



Heavy Iron Nickel Core creates Earth's Gravity Field 地心吸力 retaining our Atmosphere & Hydrosphere









Earth's Magnetic field 磁場

A solid inner core & a liquid outer core plus earth's rotation act like a dynamo creating a magnetic field





<u>Effect of Earth's Magnetic field</u> 磁場 Migration of birds, fish, butterflies & sea tortoise







Bird Navigating Using Earth's Magnetic Field









Earth's Magnetic field 磁場

Acting as Earth's protective shield against solar wind Aurora borealis ("Northern Light") & Aurora australis





Last major collision with an asteroid at 4.527 Bya led to a 23.5 degree inclination of the earth's axis resulting to 4 seasons, longer days & the formation of the moon



Gravity field strength of the moon is only 17% of that on Earth but enough to create very important tidal movement on Earth

Lunar Interior











Importance of tide & lunar cycle

Feeding mangrove with nutrient; sea turtle egg laying; coral & giant clam reproduction & annual surge in Qiantang Jiang

錢塘觀潮















The Geological Time Table 地質年代表

Geological Time Table 地質年代表 Eon 宙, Era 代, Period 紀, Epoch 世, Age 期



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		保羅紀 Jurassic 防衛繁盛 - 高段出现 Boom of dirosaurs and appearance of pinds	145
		三 皇紀Triassic 花島:赤根:埼克豚正根 Accearance of reptiles, dinosaurs, manunals	51
	古生代 Paleoroic 负担 用臣部時代 An era of fah and amphibians	二 登記 Permian 大派語Extinction	
		石炭纪 Carboniferous 高程鏡出現 Appearance of emphibiane	299
		完全纪 Devonian 新期出現 Appearance of fathers	359
		志備紀Silurian	416
		奥陶纪 Ordovician	-444
		寒武紀 Cambrian	488
无古面Proterozokt 家庭期生物至最要多感期生物			542
Concerns all second developed and makes and concerns administration			2500
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The Earth is far from static: Continental Drift Theory & Plate Tectonic 大陸飄移說与板塊運動



Goodmana existed from approximately \$20 to 220 million years ago.

Continental Drift Theory by Alfred Wegener 1913 <u>Basis 1</u> : matching outline of the continents <u>Basis 2</u> : similar distribution of animal & plant fossils in disconnected continents





Continental Drift Theory by Alfred Wegener 1912 Basis 3 : Similar geology



Basis 4 : Evidence of glacial erosion



Continental Drift did occur but actual crust structure is much more complex



Existing Plate Structure



Forces behind Continental Drift & Plate Tectonic



3 main types of tectonic plate boundary (張裂,聚合,錯動)



Direction of Plate movement



Examples of tectonic boundary <u>Divergent – Plate Creation</u>

- Mid Atlantic Ridge
- East Africa Rift Valley

<u>Convergent – Plate distruction</u>

- The Himalayas
- Szechuan Basin
- Japanese Island Arc
- Taiwan
- Cascade Mountain
- Andes Mountain

<u>Transform – Plate neutral</u>

- St. Andreas Fault
 - The Dead Sea Transform

Divergent : The Mid Atlantic Ridge







Divergent : The Mid Atlantic Ridge & Hydrothermal Vents











Divergent : The Mid Atlantic Ridge over Iceland











Divergent : The East Africa Rift Valley

















<u>Convergent</u>: the Himalaya was formed 40/50 mya when the Indian Plate collided with the Eurasia Plate & Subduction 俯沖 occured





Convergent -2003 Szechuan earthquake (Collision between the India Plate & Eurasia Plate)







Convergent -5.12.08 Wenchuan 汶川 earthquake (R8.5 Yangtze Plate/Tsinghai Tibet Plate)



Convergent : Japanese Island Arc











Convergent : Taiwan (150 Mya to 12,000ya)











<u>Convergent</u> : New Zealand









<u>Convergent</u>: The Cascade Range A chain of volcanoes formed by subduction of the Juan de Fuca plate under the North America Plate


<u>Convergent</u> : The Cascade Range





Cascade Eruptions During The Past 4,000 Years



<u>Convergent</u> : Andes Mountain formed in the Cretaceous (145 mya)











Lateral slipping/Transform fault

St. Andreas Fault (30 Mya) 1,300 km long & at places tens of km wide



Transform fault : St. Andreas Fault







The Dead Sea Transform

- It is formed in the Miocene (23.8-5.3 mya) by transform faults between the Africa Plate & the Arabian Plate
- 1,388 ft below sea level and 1,237 ft deep





Related processes

• Volcanism 火山活動

 Earthquakes / Tsunamis 地震与海嘯: average 800,000 earthquakes occurred each year

- Folding & faulting 褶皺與斷層
- Hydrothermal vents

Location of active volcanoes 活火山分佈圖



Volcanic Island Arc

Volcanic Island Arc is formed above a geological hot spot called a <u>Mantle Plume</u>. Example includes the Hawaii Islands ,the Galapagos, the Caribbean Islands & Kamchaka. Some islands still have active volcanos whilst others are dead as they moved further and further away from the hot spot by the force of plate tectonic



Volcanic Island Arc

The Galapagos Islands





The Hawaii Islands





Volcanic Island Arc

The Caribbean Islands



The Kamchaka Islands













Upright fold



Faulting 斷層





Rock Formation & related Geomorphology 岩石與地貌

Three types of rocks

 Igneous Rock (火成岩) – from magma 岩漿 (intrusive) or lava 溶岩 (extrusive) = "Primary Rock"

- <u>Sedimentary Rock</u> (沈積岩/水成岩) weathered rock redeposited & hardened = "Secondary Rock". About 70% of the surface rock is Sedimentary rock
- Metamorphic Rock (變質岩) formed when Igneous or Sedimentary rock are recrystallized by heat & pressure associated with volcanic or tectonic activities

Rock formation cycle 岩石循環圈



Rock formation cycle



Igneous Rock 火成岩

Igneous Rocks Intrusive (侵入性) & Extrusive (噴出性) Intrusive: batholith 岩基, laccolith 岩盤, Pluton 岩体, dykes 岩牆/岩脈, sills 岩床 Extrusive: volcano 火山 & fissure flow



Extrusive – Volcano & fissure vent

 Shield Volcano 盾狀火山 (Mona Lua), Cinder Volcano 火山渣錐 (Paricutin) & Composite Volcano 複成火山 (Fuji Yama)









Key Rock forming minerals 主要造岩礦物
Quartz (SiO2) 石英





• Feldspar (NaAlSi3O8 – CaAl2Si2O8) 長石



Micas (family of silicates – biotite & muscovite)







• Pyroxene (family of silicates) 輝石



• Olivine (family of silicates) 橄欖石



Composition of igneous Rocks Increased acidity/viscosity



Classification of igneous Rocks ↓ Increased acidity 酸性/viscosity 黏度

Texture		Felsic (light color)	Intermediate		Mafic (dark color)	Ultramatic
	Coarse	Granite	Diorite		Gabbro	Peridotite
	fine	Rhyolite	Andesite		Basalt	
	Vesi- cular	Pumice		S	coria	
	Glassy	Obsidian				
		Minerals Present				
		QUARTZ K-FELDSPAR NA-PLAG	NA-CA PLAG		CA PLAG PYROXENE	PYROXENE OLIVINE

Intrusive Igneous Rocks 侵入性火成岩(深成岩)

Intrusive Igneous rock granite 花崗岩, diorite 閃長岩, gabbro 輝長岩, peridotite 橄欖岩 & pegmatite 偉晶岩











Typical granite landscape Half Dome, Yosemite National Park formed 100 Mya











<u>Typical granite landscape</u> Huang Shan (黃山), Hua Shan (華山), Lion's Rock (獅子山)







Typical granite landscapeSong Shan (崧山)Sanqing Shan (三清山)Lo Shan (崂山)



















Tor formation 突石 in granite (飛來石, 望夫石, 姻緣石, 佛手石)















Tor formation 突石 in granite Examples in Po Toi Islands



Extrusive Igneous Rocks 噴出性火成岩

Extrusive Igneous Rocks















Lava fields 溶岩場 in Iceland & Hawaii









Lava tubes 溶岩管 in Jiju Island 濟洲島, S.Korea





Extrusive igneous rocks – rhyolite 流紋岩, andesite 安山岩, basalt 玄武岩, vesicular basalt 多孔玄武岩, tuft 凝灰岩, obsidian 黑曜岩, pumice 浮石, scoria 火山渣


Columnar joints are usually formed by basalt eg. in USA (Devil's Tower), Ireland (Giant's courseway), Japan 北海道 , Taiwan 澎湖 & S. Korea 濟洲. Those found in HK are composed by volcanic tuff











Cappadocia Turkey "Devils chimneys" are formed by hard basalt over soft volcanic ash



"Black Gold" - volcanic ash soil is very fertile eg. Hawaii, Indonesia & Japan





Sedimentary Rock 沉積岩

Types of sedimentary rock

- <u>Clastic</u> 碎屑沉積 rocks weathered into boulder, cobble, pebble, sand, silt, clay being redeposited in river mouth, lakes & shallow seas
- <u>Biological</u> 生物沉積 formed from large quantities of living organism die & accumulated
- <u>Chemical</u> 化學沉積 formed by chemical precipitation from solutions

Clastic Sedimentary rock mudstone 泥岩, siltstone 粉砂岩, sandstone 砂岩, shale 頁岩, breccia 角礫岩, conglomerate 礫岩



Clastic Sedimentary rock

Desert deposit, lake deposit, beach deposit





You can tell they are tide-formed ripples because they are symmetrical, formed as the water flowed backwards and forwards over the soft sediment.





Beddings in Clastic Sedimentary Rock 層理

Features include horizontal bedding, graded bedding, cross bedding & Liesegang bedding. The latter are color banded sandstone believed to have been formed deep underground by rhythmic deposition of iron & manganese compounds from mineral rich water that once flowed within the rock



Other features : sandstone & shale layers/ ripple marks/ vortex structure 旋捲構造









<u>Biological Sedimentary Rock – of marine organism</u> Limestone 石灰岩, chalk 白堊, Chert 燧石, Flint 黑燧石, Jasper 碧玉 & Chalcedony 玉髓













<u>Biological Sedimentary rock – plant remains</u> <u>coal</u> (from peat 泥炭 to lignite 褐煤 to bituminous 煙煤 & anthracite 無煙煤) = "fossil fuel"











<u>Chemical Sedimentary rock</u> – Halite 石鹽/岩鹽 (rock salt), Gypsum 石膏, Tufa 泉華 & Travertine 石灰華













Strata Sedimentary rock landscape The Grand Canyon



Strata Sedimentary rock landscape The Grand Canyon/ Utah







<u>Uluru (Ayer's Rock)</u> Composed of arkose 長石砂岩 & conglomerate which was later thrusted vertically by tectonic movement



<u>Sedimentary rock landscape in China</u> Zheungjiajie, 張家界 – sandstone (75-95% quartz – grit stone)









Danxia landscape (丹霞地貌)

Refers to a special landscape formed in "Red Bed" composed of sedimentary rock. In China there are 780 Danxia landforms located in 7 major areas :

Danxiashan 丹霞山 in Guangdong
Taining 泰寧 in Fujian
Langshan 諒山 in Hunan
Longhushan 龍虎山 in Jiangxi
Jianglangshan 江郎山 in Zhejiang
Chishui 赤水 in Guizhou
Zhangye 張掖 in Gansu



Danxiashan 丹霞山 at Shaoguan



Taining Danxia 泰寧丹霞 in Fujian















Longhushan in Jiangxi 江西龍虎山



Jianglangshan 浙江江郎山



Chishui 赤水 danxia in Guizhou 貴州









Zhangyi Danxia 張掖 at Gansu 甘肅









Zhangyi Danxia 張掖 at Gansu 甘肅



Danxia landform in HK - Port Island sandstone 赤洲



Other H.K. sedimentary rock landscape Tung Ping Chau東平洲, Ap Chau 鴨洲, Wong Chuk Kok 黃竹角, Ma Shi Chau 馬屎洲









Typical limestone landscape – Karst topography (喀斯特地貌) Guilin 桂林漓江, 肇慶七星岩, Halong Bay 越南下龍灣









Surface features of Karst topography sink holes 溶洞, pinnacles 石林





Underground features of Karst topography – caves, stalactite 石鍾乳, stalagmite 石筍, pillars 石柱 & underground river system & lakes 地下水系













Karst topography — tufa & travertine Tufa 泉華 is CaCO3 deposited at ambient temperature. Travertine 石灰華 is formed by rapid precipitation of calcium carbonate in hot spring











Tufa Pools 泉華池





Tufa deposits & tufa pool - Huanglong (黃龍)









Loess Plateau (黃土高原)













Metamorphic rocks



Metamorphism – heat, pressure & fluid (Contact, Dynamic, Regional)



Metamorphic rock transformation



Metamorphism – heat, pressure & fluid (Contact - volcanic, Dynamic – folds/fault, Regional – plate tectonic)


Metamorphic rock









• Tuft to schist 片岩







• Sandstone to quartzite 石英岩







Metamorphic rock

•Limestone to marble 大理石/雲石







•Granite to Gneiss 片麻岩



Marble mining in North Italy



Intrusion & Metamorphism rock often associate with mineral & gem deposits



Ma On Shan Iron Mine Magnetite 磁鐵礦 & hematite 赤鐵礦 formed by skarnization 矽卡岩化







馬鞍山區地質略圖 (GCO 1986)



The Geology of HK 香港地質

Southeastern China Geology North China Block, Yangtze Block, Cathaysia Block



Simplified Geological Map of HK 60% Extrusive, 30% Intrusive, 7% Sedimentary, 3% Metamorphic



<u>Major structural features in HK</u> Predominated by 3 sets of fault of which the Lai Chi Kok – Tolo Channel Fault Zone which starts at Lai Chi Kok & passes through Sha Tin along the north coast of Tolo Channel to Bluff head is most representative cutting HK into 2 halves & probably linked with the Linhuashan Fault Zone in China





H.K. Geology – Sedimentary Rocks

 <u>Devonian</u> (410 – 360 Mya) 泥盤紀: Sediments from rivers and their deltas deposited in HK region forming the oldest rocks of the <u>Bluff Head Formation</u> 黃竹角咀組 composing of conglomerates & sandstone



Bothriolepis (Devonia) 溝鱗魚 Dr. C.M.Lee 李作明教授 discovered this fossil in Plover Cove in 1980 dated to be Devonian (410 Mya)





Fossil find pushes HK back in history

A fossil expert of the Polytechnic has pushed the geological history of Hong Kong back for more than 100 million years to at least the Late-Middle Devonian time with his discovery of some fish fossils in the Plover Cove

area. Mr Lee Cho-min, who works in the geological laboratories of the Department of Civi and Structural Engineering, has made a series of prominent finds of fossils in the recent years. The most significant of such finds was a collection of fish fossil specimens from Harboar Island, Plover Cave in 1980.

Island, Plover Core in After investigation by the Director of the Geological Society of China, these fash fossile were believed to be Placodermi, which lived in Yate-Middle Deconian, 370 million years ago.

Cont on Page 6







Devil's Fist at Wong Chuk Kok Tsui (Bluff Head)



H.K. Geology – Sedimentary Rocks

- <u>Carboniferous</u> (360 299 Mya) 石炭紀: Warm & shallow sea environment. With sea level falling coastal marshes turned into forest. Earth movement later led to metamorphism
 - The Yuen long Formation marble is buried beneath the

sediment of Yuen Long Plain. The Ma On Shan iron ore was hosted in skarn formed by the alteration of marble by igneous intrusion



The Lok Ma Chau Formation at 340 Mya contains quartzite & graphite schist but also with no outcrop

H.K. Geology – Sedimentary Rocks

<u>Permian</u>(300 – 250 Mya) 二疊紀: Area covered by a shallow sea with lots of sand, silt & mud brought down by rivers which also buried marine animal & coral with some being fossilized.

Typical rocks of the <u>Tolo Harbour Formation</u> 大埔海組 & <u>A Chau Formation</u> 丫洲組 including siltstone, mudstone & sandstone are found in Ma Shi Chau 馬屎洲 & A Chau 丫洲 which are commonly deformed by slump folding





- <u>Triassic</u> 三疊紀
 No record
- <u>Early Jurassic</u> 早侏羅紀 (200 190 Mya): <u>Tolo Channel</u> <u>Formation</u> 赤門組 fossil bearing siltstone exposed at Shan Chung, Tai Tong & Fung Wong Wat



 <u>Middle Jurassic</u>中保羅紀(190 – 180 Mya): Tai O Formation 大澳組 – sedimentary



HK RED BEDS

Extensive Red Bed basins located in Guangdong Province including those found in HK as Pat Sin Lang Formation, Port Island Formation, Kat O Formation & Ping Chau Formation 香港丹霞



<u>Early Cretaceous</u> (147 Mya): Pat Sin Lang Formation 八仙嶺組 of conglomerate, sandstone & siltstone



Late Cretaceous (around 100 Mya): Port Island Formation 赤洲組 & Kat O Formation 吉澳組 Port Island Formation





Late Cretaceous (around 100 Mya): Port Island Formation 赤洲組 & Kat O Formation 吉澳組 Port Island Formation









Port Island 赤洲 "Red Beds" conglomerate & sandstone





<u>Tertiary (66 – 2.6 Mya)</u>:

<u>Kat O Formation</u>: the "Red Beds" of the Paleogene (66 – 23 Mya) are located at Crooked Island & Ap Chau 吉澳, 鴨洲 - breccia, conglomerate, sandstone, siltstone





• <u>Tertiary</u> 第三紀

Ping Chau Formation (平洲組) – sedimentary, formed 0.5 Mya, the youngest rock formation in HK comprising mainly of thin layers of siltstone 粉砂岩 & mudstone 泥岩





社画的来平用創業会員 Progened Tung Ping Chao Marine Par









H.K. Geology

 <u>Quartenary</u> (2.6 Mya to present): The Ice Age led to lowering of sea level. Down by as much as 120 m at the peak. Sea level rised again after the ice retreated & formed HK's present <u>Ria</u> coast 谷灣海岸 line with up to 260 islets. About 14% of HK's land surface is covered with Quaternary deposits greater than 2 meters thick



No record until the Mesozoic 中生代 which experienced very active volcanic activities



 Jurassic Volcanic Rocks 保羅紀火山岩 (200 – 190 Mya) Tuen Mun Formation – andesite lava



Shing Mun Formation

Tai Mo Shan Formation

Yim Tin Tsai Formation – volcanic bomb in tuff



Jurassic Volcanic Rocks 保羅紀火山岩(200 – 190 Mya)

Chert beds – Repulse Bay Group at Lai Chee Chong







H.K. Geology

 Middle Jurassic <u>Tsuen Wan Volcanic Group</u> (164 – 160 Mya) – coarse ash crystal tuff & tuff breccia











- Late Jurassic Lantau Volcanic Group (148 146 Mya) rhyolite lava, tuff & volcaniclastic rocks
- Late Jurassic Needle Hill fine grained granite



 Late Jurassic Lantau Dyke Swarm – Feldsparphyric rhyolite



 <u>Cretaceous Volcanic Rocks</u> 白堊紀火山岩 (147 – 66 Mya)

> Sai Lau Kong Formation Lantau Volcanic Group Lai Chi Chong Formation Long Harbour Formation Mount Davis Formation Ngo Mei Chau Formation Ap Lei Chau Formation Che Kwu Shan Formation Mang Kung Uk Formation Pang Long Wan Formation **Clear Water Bay Formation High Island Formation**

 <u>Early Cretaceous</u> (141 - 140 mya): <u>Kau Sai Chau</u> <u>Volcanic Group</u> 滘西洲火山岩群 — rhyolitic lava and tuff including the hexagonal columns of High Island Formation











High island Formation: gigantic caldera 巨破火山口



Eagle's Beak Rock 鷹嘴石 in Tung Lung Chau (東龍島) formed by compressed pumice (浮石)











Hong Kong Geology – Plutonic Rocks Jurassic (205 – 144 mya): Lamma suite (南丫島)/Kwai chung (葵涌) suite – granitic





<u>Hong Kong Geology – Plutonic Rocks</u> <u>Cretaceous</u> (135 Mya): Lion Rock/Cheung Chau Suite - Granite Plutons





Quartz Monzonite 石英二長岩

It is an intrusive igneous rock containing approximately equal amounts of plagioclase feldspar & alkali feldspar. Quartz Monzonite in Sharp Island is formed by intrusion in Clear Water Bay Formation around 140 Mya (Cretaceous)

Result of exfoliation 頁狀剝落(菠蘿包) - 橋嘴洲



H.K. Geology Dolerite dykes 粒玄岩(輝綠岩)脈, Quartenary at Castle Peak power station




H.K.Minerals 香港礦產 Apart from granite, currently there is no mining activity in HK



H.K.Minerals

Iron 鐵: magnetite: Ma On Shan 馬鞍山





• <u>Lead 鉛</u>:galena:Lin Ma Hang 蓮麻坑





H.K.Minerals

• <u>Wolframite 鎢</u>: Needle Hill 針山



• <u>Graphite 石墨</u>: West Brother Island 磨刀





H.K.Minerals

Molybdenite 组:
Needle Hill 針山



 Kaolin 高嶺土: Cha Kwo Ling, Chek Lap Kok



The Geoparks of HK 香港地質公園



香港地質公園地質圖 Geological Map of Hong Kong Geopark



Geological Museum in HK

- HKU Stephen Hui Geological Museum : Monday to Friday 1300 1800
- Bank of China The Living Earth exhibition: Closing September 2013
- H K Museum of History Tsim Sha Tsui & Shatin
- Rock Garden at Lion's Nature Education Center, Saikung



