

# Antarctic rock samples database: current status and future perspectives

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**Summary.** In Polar Science Resources Center of National Institute of Polar Research, the Rock Specimen Archive has collected and preserved some 20,000 rock and mineral specimens since the first Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition (JARE). The archive stores rocks and minerals not only from Antarctica but also Sri Lanka, India and Africa as international scientific research. Its collection is important for geological correlations and studies of earth's crust and mantle materials constituting Gondwana supercontinent. Specimens are organized according to year and region collection and are updated database. We will present the current status and future perspectives of the Antarctic rock samples database.

**Keywords.** Antarctic rock samples, Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition (JARE), Polar Science Resource Center.

## 1. Introduction

Antarctic rock samples belong to Polar Science Resource Center of National Institute of Polar Research. Rock samples and the related materials such as sample list, locality map and other information are also submitted and stored as archive. In order to arrange these to scientific purposes and museum exhibition, it is now ongoing the construction of the catalogue.

## 2. Current status

Around 20,000 rock samples are stored in the Rock Storage Room of National Institute of Polar Research, and many other rock samples are still kept in university researchers at their own institutes. All those rock samples will be finally catalogued and stored in National Institute of Polar Research except a few rock samples kept in university museums and storages permanently. Because of the limitation of enough budget and man power, the cataloguing process is still underway.

## 3. Future perspectives

The establishment of Join Support-Center for Data Science Research in Research Organization of Information and Systems this year is good opportunity for organize the Antarctic rock samples database, and we have just started the arrangements. We will present the status of the Antarctic rock samples database.

**Acknowledgments.** The Antarctic rock samples database is supported by ROIS-DS-JOINT (007RP2017) to T. Hokada.