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# 纳米地球科学:内涵与意义

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**摘要:**纳米地球科学是纳米科技与地球科学的结合,是一门高度综合的交叉学科,很难划分出经典意义上的单科性研究。纳米地球科学的研究对象主要分为纳米物质与纳米孔隙,二者成因多样、尺度效应明显、广泛分布,对于前者,主要通过各类图像表征手段观察其形态、大小、聚集方式,通过各类谱学方法研究其晶体结构、分子结构等;对于后者,则主要通过图像表征手段、流体注入方法与数值模拟的结合来表征孔隙形态、孔径分布、连通性等特征。纳米地球科学的学科内涵主要体现于:在各传统地球科学学科研究的基础和框架上,针对地球不同圈层中纳米尺度微粒形成、运移、聚集和存在形式以及孔隙形成与演化等亟待解决的科学问题开展系统研究,从而加深对矿物、岩石、构造、地化以及资源、灾害、环境等分支学科纳米尺度特性的认知。纳米地球科学的产生与发展使人类在认识和改造自然方面进入了一个新层次,是地球与行星科学发展的必然途径,为矿床勘探、资源开发、新能源利用、环境污染和地质灾害的预防与治理等问题提供了新的理论依据,有着不可估量的科学意义和应用价值。

**关键词:**纳米地球科学;纳米物质;纳米孔隙;学科内涵;研究意义。

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## Nanogeoscience: Connotation and Significance

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**Abstract:** Nanogeoscience is a highly comprehensive and overlapping subject, with combination of nanotechnology and geoscience. It is hard to partition nanogeoscience into single discipline of the classical sense. Its research objects mainly include nano-materials and nanopores, which are widely distributed on the earth and have diverse causes and obvious scale effects. To nano-materials, researchers use various image analysis methods to observe their shape, size and aggregation model, also investigate the crystal structure and molecular structure through all kinds of spectroscopy methods. To nanopores, researchers use image analysis, fluid invasion combined with numerical simulation methods, to characterize pore morphology, pore size distribution, connectivity and other characteristics. On the basis and framework of traditional geoscience research, the systematic research of nanogeoscience as a discipline is to solve the scientific problems about nanomaterials and nanopores in each sphere of the earth, such as formation, migration, aggregation and existence form of nanomaterials, as well as formation and evolution of nanopores. Consequently, it deepens the cognition of nanoscale characteristics of branches like mineralogy, petrology, structural geology, geochemistry as well as resources, disasters and environment. The emergence and development of nanogeoscience have brought human beings into a new level in understanding and transforming nature. It is the inevitable way for the development of the earth and planetary sciences. Related research has provided new theoretical basis for mineral deposit exploration, resource development, new energy utilization, prevention and treatment of environmental pollution and geological disaster, etc. It has immeasurable scientific significance and application values.

**Key words:** nanogeoscience; nanomaterials; nanopores; discipline connotation; research significance.

## 0 引言

地球科学经过几百年的发展,在宏观和微观领域已经取得了重大进展。伴随着科技的巨大进步,地球科学正向超宏观和超微观两个方向发展:行星地球科学和纳米地球科学。在地球与行星系统,纳米级微粒普遍存在,纳米级微粒具有许多不同于其宏观物体的物化性质,包括表面与界面效应、小尺寸效应、宏观量子隧道效应和量子尺寸效应。纳米地球科学是主要研究地球各圈层中纳米尺度微粒形成、运移、聚集和存在形式及其孔隙形成与演化等各种作用过程及演化机制的科学。借助快速发展的纳米科学的研究手段、经验和成果,与地球科学相结合,能够从纳米尺度研究地球各圈层物质形貌、结构、成分,从而揭示地球各圈层物质记录的纳米尺度信息(琚宜文等,2016;Ju *et al.*, 2017)。综合国内外近些年(主要从20世纪80年代以来)的研究进展(唐孝威等,1991;章振根和姜泽春,1993;陈敬中,1994;Katube and Williamson, 1994;姜泽春, 1995; Daulton *et al.*, 1996;朱笑青和章振根,1996;童纯菡等,1998; Ferraris *et al.*, 2000; Herwigh and Kunze, 2002; Hochella, 2002a, 2002b, 2008; Lower *et al.*, 2002;琚宜文等,2004;陈天虎等,2005; Ju *et al.*, 2005a, 2005b, 2014, 2015, 2017; Lee *et al.*, 2005; Reich *et al.*, 2005, 2006; Anand *et al.*, 2007; Bargar *et al.*, 2008; Hassellöv and von der Kammer, 2008; Waychunas *et al.*, 2008;晁洪太等,2009; Loucks *et al.*, 2009, 2012;孙岩

等,2009; Schleicher, 2010; Emmanuel and Ague, 2011; Langworthy *et al.*, 2011; Oleynikova and Panova, 2011; Cheng *et al.*, 2012; Miller and Wang, 2012; de Paola, 2013; Siman-Tov *et al.*, 2013; Sun *et al.*, 2013; He *et al.*, 2014; Verberne *et al.*, 2014; Viti *et al.*, 2014;王学求等,2014; Yuan *et al.*, 2014; de Paola *et al.*, 2015; Das *et al.*, 2016;沈宝云等,2016; Wang *et al.*, 2016b; Chen *et al.*, 2017; Meng *et al.*, 2017; Zhao *et al.*, 2017),地球科学领域的学者逐渐认识到从纳米尺度认识地球物质运动过程的重要性,研究范围涉及行星地球各圈层纳米尺度特性及其成因,从而导致了纳米地球科学的兴起。

纳米地球科学是近年来地球科学与纳米科学技术交叉发展起来的国际前缘领域,大大扩展了地球科学各个领域的应用前景;纳米地球科学的兴起将会为21世纪地球科学的发展带来革命性的飞跃,从而获得地球科学在超微观尺度上的重大突破。

前人已将纳米科技引入地球科学的分支领域,并分别对纳米岩矿、纳米地球化学、纳米构造地质、纳米能源地质、纳米矿床以及纳米环境地学等方面进行了不同程度的研究,但主要是探讨了纳米地学领域中出现的相关科学问题,还没有对其纳米效应进行系统研究,纳米地球科学的理论体系还未建立,纳米成藏成矿的整体认识还未阐明。现阶段将借助纳米科学和地球科学的研究手段、经验和成果,进一步厘清纳米地球科学的基本内涵以及主要研究方向。在纳米地球科学发展过程中应充分发挥多学科

交叉的优势,广泛开展全球范围内科学家的合作,全面促进纳米地球科学及纳米成藏成矿科技项目攻关,系统研究并集中解决纳米地球科学的重大和关键科学问题,从而丰富和发展纳米地球科学理论和方法,为矿物与碳基新型材料利用、能源与矿产资源勘探开发以及环境保护和灾害预测等方面提供重要理论基础。

## 1 纳米地球科学研究方法

纳米地球科学方法除常规的方法外,更主要依靠以扫描隧道效应等为基础的纳米尺度物质观测技术、以各类谱学方法为代表的物质纳米结构表征和低温低压流体注入等纳米孔隙的表征方法,以及蒙特卡洛和分子动力学等模拟方法。纳米尺度物质的图像观测技术,包括扫描电子显微镜(SEM)、透射电子显微镜(TEM)、扫描隧道显微镜(STM)、扫描探针显微镜(SPM)、原子力显微镜(AFM)、磁力显微镜(MFM)、微米—纳米 CT(Micro- and Nano-CT)和阴极发光(CL),虽然其中的不少方法目前仍集中应用于材料学的研究上,但诸如 SPM、AFM 等手段能在大气、溶液中进行观测,并可发展成分子、原子调控技术及纳米加工技术,以全面开展地球系统物质纳米层次上的科学技术与生产开发工作(Bhushan, 2005; Milliken and Curtis, 2016)。

物质纳米结构的表征方法包括 X 射线晶体衍射、傅里叶变换红外光谱(FTIR)、激光拉曼光谱(Laser Ramen)、核磁共振谱( $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR)、能够检测纳米结构动态变化的脉冲激光法(Ju and Li, 2009; Yao et al., 2010; Ge et al., 2014),以及刻画地球演化过程中纳米物质的动态变化的超短激光和 X 射线脉冲实验等,在有机质的大分子结构研究上有出色的应用。

对纳米孔隙的研究离不开分辨率达纳米尺度的技术手段和分析方法,页岩和煤岩孔隙的表征和定量研究在实验室已经取得重要的进展。透射电子显微镜(Bernard et al., 2012; Chalmers et al., 2012)、原子力显微镜(Javadpour, 2009; 焦堃等, 2014)、超低压液氮/二氧化碳吸附(Clarkson et al., 2013; Wang and Ju, 2015; Wei et al., 2016)、核磁共振(Ju et al., 2005b; Odusina and Sigal, 2011)等均被应用在了对纳米孔隙的表征上,取得了不错的成果;近年来,针对致密储层,尤其是富有机质页岩储层孔隙特征的研究,仅仅是分辨率的提高已不

能满足需求,而是逐渐发展为观察、模拟其三维孔隙特征(Curtis et al., 2012; Ma et al., 2015; Sun et al., 2016; Wang et al., 2016c; Zhou et al., 2016b),以聚焦离子束扫描电子显微镜(FIB-SEM)和纳米透射 X 射线显微镜(Nano-TXM, 也被称为 Nano-CT)为代表,它们基于大量实验数据作出数字岩心模型,探寻纳米孔隙的三维发育特征及与周边不同物质组分的联系。

近年来,某些学者结合蒙特卡洛方法和分子动力学方法以研究微观条件下物质扩散规律及吸附行为,蒙特卡洛方法和分子动力学模拟方法为研究致密岩石纳米孔隙内流体赋存特征提供了一个有效的手段(Bartus and Bródka, 2011; Mosher et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2014),前者以概率统计理论为基础,利用相应的数学方法建立概率模型,并利用计算机进行模拟实验,最终求取符合要求的结果,后者则通过设定原子(分子)之间的相互作用(势函数)和相关的系统(亦即作用对象和条件),来确定其基本的模拟范畴。而基于分子动力学理论发展起来的格子 Boltzmann 数值模拟方法同样是一种典型的微观方法,不受连续性假设的限制,可以模拟多孔介质中微细喉道内的油气流动(Zhang et al., 2014)。同时,格子 Boltzmann 方法与其他数值计算方法相比,具有计算效率高、边界条件容易实现等优点,该方法已经逐渐应用于页岩储集层流体运移机制研究(Fathi and Akkutlu, 2012),格子 Boltzmann 数值模拟方法在致密多孔介质中微米—纳米尺度的流体流动领域具有广阔的应用前景(卢双舫等, 2016)。

## 2 纳米物质与纳米孔隙

从某种意义上来说,纳米物质是构筑地球系统的重要组成部分,它是由地球系统中原子和分子构筑的纳米尺度的物质(王焰新和田熙科, 2016),纳米物质在自然环境中无处不在,并在地球系统的各个圈层(岩、土、生、水、气)稳定存在(图 1),尤其是在地球关键带中广泛赋存(杨毅等, 2018)。虽然纳米物质具有许多不同于其宏观物体的物化性质,影响地球系统各圈层结构与演化过程,但由于其尺度较小,传统的技术与思维限制了对其的深入研究。与此相对应地,纳米孔在含孔介质中广泛存在,且由于其孔径小、整体大的储集空间,在地球系统演化过程中可能发挥了重要作用,研究表明,纳米孔的比表面积可能占据介质总比表面积的 90% 以上(Wang et al.,

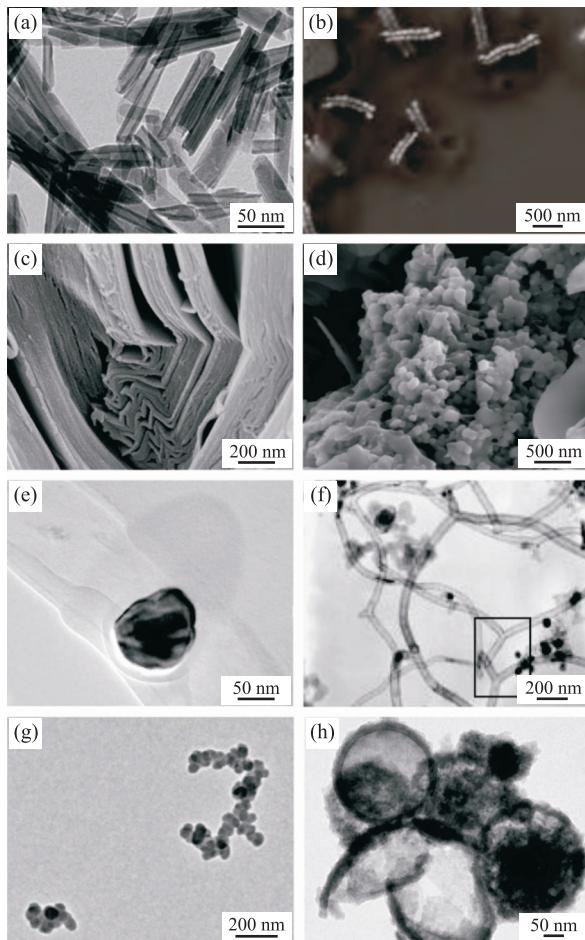


图 1 广泛发育的纳米物质/结构

Fig.1 Widely developed nanomaterials/nanostructures

a.透射电镜图像,埃洛石纳米管(Tian *et al.*, 2015);b.扫描电镜图像,趋磁细菌中发育的磁小体;c.扫描电镜图像,强烈变形的石英片岩(Ju *et al.*, 2017);d.扫描电镜图像,韧性剪切带中副片麻岩剪切面上发现的纳米结构(Liu *et al.*, 2017);e.透射电镜图像,金矿床上方土壤中的金—锌纳米颗粒(Wang *et al.*, 2017);f.透射电镜图像,基于煤岩制备出的枝状碳纳米管(Wang *et al.*, 2006);g.透射电镜图像,青藏高原上空发现的炭黑颗粒(Shao *et al.*, 2017);h.透射电镜图像,海底热液喷口中发现的纳米颗粒(Gartman *et al.*, 2014)

2003;万泉等,2016).

纳米物质是一个笼统的称呼,在地球科学的研究中,由于研究目的、关注对象的不同,纳米级矿物、纳米级流体包裹体、有机质大分子结构、纳米颗粒物、地气、微细浸染型金矿、纳米级线理、面理等都可归入纳米物质的范畴。

纳米矿物是目前研究最广的纳米物质,主要包括晶体粒度细小至纳米量级的矿物颗粒(零维)、具有一维纳米结构的线状、管状矿物(如纳米管结构的埃洛石)、具有二维纳米结构的片状、层状矿物(如粘土矿物)等。纳米矿物与其对应的大尺寸矿物颗粒在吸附行为、溶解速率、团聚状态、催化活性、界面电子

传递效率等方面差异显著(刘娟等,2018)。实际矿物的HRTEM、STM、AFM研究表明,矿物中的纳米微粒和结构是客观存在的,在矿物表面和界面上这种纳米现象更为普遍,且在一些特定的物理化学条件下也会出现纳米微粒聚合体,主要包括粘土矿物中的纳米矿物,准晶纳米结构,胶体中的纳米结构,以及结晶岩中的纳米结构。粒径大于 $1\mu\text{m}$ 的矿物能提供矿物生长后期的信息,而 $0.1\sim100\text{ nm}$ 粒径的微粒则能够提供矿物开始结晶时的信息,丁振华(1999)还认为矿物在纳米尺度的多形、多型、多体及显微交生体才是地质信息的最小保存者,只有这两种信息之和才能比较完整地反映出矿物形成时的物理化学环境。

岩石学中流体地质作用的研究已成为国际地学界重要的前沿研究领域之一,纳米级( $<100\text{ nm}$ )或亚微米级( $<1\mu\text{m}$ )尺度的流体包裹体能够记录其与寄主矿物之间的重要作用,对高压—超高压变质岩的形成过程和折返机制提供重要的微观依据,同时为岩石学中纳米结构、纳米微粒等的研究提供先例(Herwegen and Kunze, 2002),而透射电子显微镜(TEM)等超微仪器的问世为研究亚微米级或纳米级流体包裹体的精细结构状态和化学特征等提供了有利的条件。有机岩石包括各种煤炭(褐煤、烟煤、无烟煤)、油页岩、分散有机质页岩、地沥青等,是重要的能源资源,其中近年来有机质独有的大分子结构特征得到了更多学者的精细研究,有机质大分子能够反映有机质类型、有机质来源、沉积环境、变质变程度等岩石信息,为反演整个地质过程提供重要依据,尤其是在利用有机质大分子的杂乱或规律排布特征来反映其变形程度这方面,取得了较大的进展(Ju *et al.*, 2005a; Ju and Li, 2009)。在岩石流变的纳米结构方面,我国学者对国内不同区域岩石流变过程及其纳米尺度的流变特征做了比较多的研究(刘浩等,2009;孙岩等,2016)。孙岩等通过江西变质岩透入性面理滑移面扫描电子显微镜(SEM)观测,发现其表面普遍存在纳米粒子层状结构,并为岩石三轴试验所验证;在剪切滑移过程中纳米颗粒(直径 $40\sim95\text{ nm}$ )经过粒化—异化—分化,个体形态有别,结构层次分明;与变质岩面理发育3个阶段(剪切滑移强化作用—弱化作用—易剥作用)密切关联,进而可从粘—弹性变形行为揭示构造剪切的微观运动学机理(孙岩等,2009)。晁洪太等在构造剪切面普遍存在纳米颗粒结构层的基础上,对山东海阳断裂带泥质叶理带中两组样品进行扫描电子显微镜观

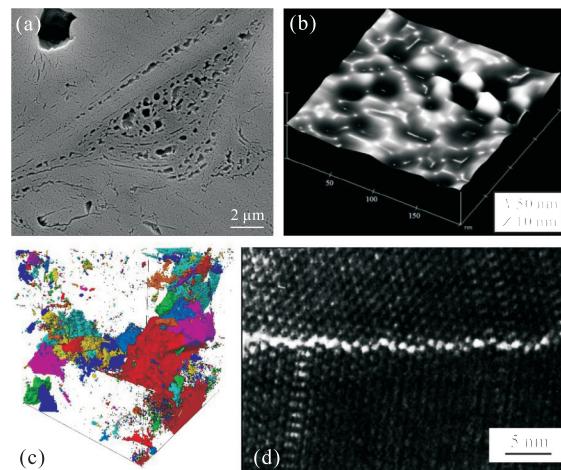


图2 地质体中发育的纳米孔隙

Fig.2 Nanopores developing in geologic body

a. 扫描电镜图像,页岩中的有机质孔(Zhao et al., 2017);b. 原子力显微镜图像,烟煤中广泛发育的连通孔隙及较大的孔喉(Pan et al., 2015);c. 纳米CT图像,致密砂岩中的孔隙(Zeng et al., 2017);d.透射电镜图像,两个角闪石矿物颗粒边界上发育的纳米尺度通道(Wang et al., 2003)

测发现:表现为擦面擦线破裂的发震断裂构造是由动态强摩擦粘滑滑移形成的脆性剪切变形带,厚度为毫米级(晁洪太等,2009)。

对自然界天然纳米物质的观察、分析,有助于我们认识、理解宏观地质现象的成生机理,而对纳米尺度孔隙的研究则帮助我们从另一个侧面探索能源的富集规律以及元素的迁移模式等(图2).我国对煤岩纳米级孔隙的研究走在了世界前列,琚宜文等(2004)就通过对构造煤的研究,得出构造变形作用在改变煤的大分子结构的同时,也会影响到其纳米级孔隙结构,而纳米级孔隙是煤层气的主要吸附空间.前人对煤系地层低孔低渗的特征早有认识,认为构造应力的强弱和方向对孔隙特征参数的演化起决定作用(Ju et al., 2005a;姜波等,2005).煤系页岩与煤层在孔渗特征方面有很多共性,但以往常被看作煤线的夹层或灰分含量高的煤层.近年来对煤系页岩微孔裂隙特征和矿物组分的研究(Wang et al., 2015)表明,广泛发育的纳米级孔隙以及较高的TOC值增强了它吸附气态烃的能力.

目前,基于世界范围内对致密岩层油气资源的勘探开发热潮,全球油气勘探目标也从微米一毫米孔喉的常规圈闭油气领域向纳米孔喉的源储一体或源储共生连续型油气聚集新领域发展,非常规油气(特别是煤层气、页岩油气、致密砂岩油气等)已逐步成为国内外油气勘探开发的热点(Curtis, 2002;

Chalmers and Bustin, 2007; 邹才能等, 2011; Zou et al., 2013; Ju et al., 2015).

近年来,对于致密储层孔渗特征的研究相对较多,认识程度也在不断提高,但由于致密储层的孔隙极小,大多在纳米尺度,形态又极其复杂,目前还存在许多问题亟需研究.非常规油气的勘探热潮起源于美国的“页岩气革命”(Kerr, 2010; Wang et al., 2014),原本作为烃源岩、盖层的致密岩层,由于对其内纳米级孔隙储烃能力的新认识,不仅颠覆了传统的油气理论,更是提供了一个新的油气勘探方向.目前,已发表了大量针对致密储层纳米尺度孔隙特征的研究文章(Chalmers and Bustin, 2007; Ross and Bustin, 2009; Chalmers et al., 2012; Curtis et al., 2012; Zou et al., 2013; Yang et al., 2016; Wang et al., 2016a; Chen et al., 2017; Zhao et al., 2017),覆盖了对其成因类型的划分、对其非均匀分布情况的研究、对其连通性的研究、对其发育情况与泥页岩物质组成、地化特征的关系研究、对其油气储运模型的建立等各个方面.

在地球科学领域,不仅限于致密的非常规油气储层,诸如天然沸石、煤系的多孔碳等,矿物/物质同样发育大量纳米孔隙(Lee et al., 2005),巨大的比表面积和孔体积给予他们无与伦比的吸附能力,因此可作为吸附剂去除气体或液体中的有害物质,用于环境污染的治理,天然矿物中尤以粘土矿物最具代表性(Cheng et al., 2012; Miller and Wang, 2012).同样基于吸附性良好这一特性,将CO<sub>2</sub>液化并封存于深部岩层中,成为可预见的解决温室效应的理想手段,而自然界中的纳米多孔物质则是重要的储存介质(Mao et al., 2011; Cudjoe and Barati, 2017).

### 3 纳米物质与结构的成因和特性

纳米地球科学研究中所涉及的天然纳米物质与结构,其成因多样,前者主要来源于宏观物质的破碎细粒化或者更细小物质(分子、原子尺度)的结晶等聚合作用,后者则以溶蚀、有机质生烃作用以及原生结构保存等为主要成因.此外,纳米尺度的物质与结构具有尺度效应、普遍性和不同于宏观物质的稳定性等特征.

#### 3.1 纳米物质与结构的成因

Hochella et al.(2008)曾对纳米矿物(nanominerals)和矿物纳米颗粒(mineral nanoparticles)作了区分并分别下过定义,纳米矿物为仅存在于纳米尺

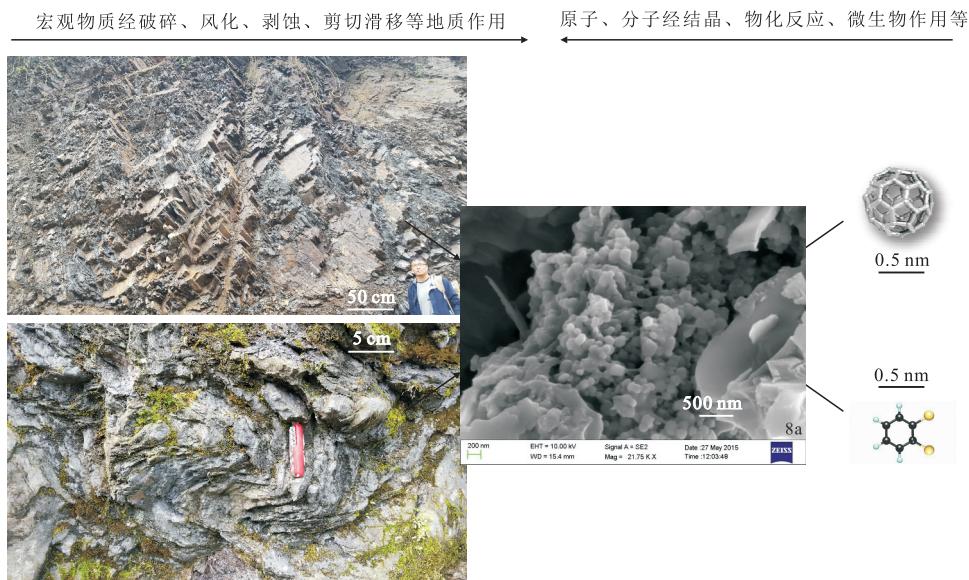


图 3 天然纳米物质的形成过程

Fig.3 The formation process of natural nanomaterials

电镜照片引自 Liu *et al.*(2017)

度下的矿物颗粒,矿物纳米颗粒则为宏观物质受地质作用等影响形成的纳米颗粒,但在讨论其成因时,通常不作详细区分。

天然纳米物质的形成过程可分为两大类(图 3),但在自然条件下,通常是两种过程互相依存、同时进行的。一类为宏观物质经破碎、风化、剥蚀、剪切滑移等地质作用形成。如微观风化作用能够导致岩面物质结构的破坏和微细裂隙的拓展(李德文等,2004);变质岩面理的 ab 组构面以及滑移带等狭窄变形集中区域,会经过韧滑—粒化—塑流变动产生金属物理上所称的纳米调幅(nano-modulated)、纳米涂抹作用(nano-smear layering)(Musil, 2000),产生并影响纳米颗粒的形态(Sun *et al.*, 2014)。孙岩等基于宏—微观的观察实践和力学分析,将断裂剪切带纳米结构的形成—发育—演化划为强化变形—弱化变形—脆化变形(enbrittlement deformation)3个阶段,和相应的纳米涂层(nanocoating)—纳米弱化(nano weakening)—纳米层裂(nanodelaminating)3种作用(孙岩等,2018)。

另一类为原子、分子经结晶、物化反应、微生物作用等形成。如粘土矿物常在纳米级尺度内出现的二维层片状构造;成矿金属元素在富集结晶时,会产生纳米颗粒并随地气流运移;沉积埋藏过程中微生物作用可直接驱动或催化相关反应生成多种矿物纳米颗粒(Bazylinski and Frankel, 2004);趋磁细菌可在细胞内矿化合成纳米尺寸、粒度均一、结晶良好、

化学纯度高的  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$  或  $\text{Fe}_3\text{S}_4$  成分的磁小体颗粒;洋底的喷出物在海水的冷却、中和等作用下会形成大量矿物纳米颗粒,海底铁锰结核的主要物质来源就是纳米颗粒组成的胶体。

纳米孔隙的成因类型也有很多,根据前人对富有机质页岩中纳米级孔隙的分类(Nelson, 2009; Loucks *et al.*, 2009, 2012; Chalmers *et al.*, 2012),可将其成因归纳为以下几种类型:沉积、埋藏过程中保留下来的原生孔隙,如粘土和云母矿物颗粒内的解理面孔、化石内部的孔隙、由多个脆性颗粒围限的狭小区域、塑性颗粒和脆性颗粒间的孔隙受压实作用而形成的纳米孔隙等;矿物溶蚀形成的孔隙,如矿物颗粒部分或全部溶解形成的铸模孔;矿物结晶/基质胶结作用形成的孔隙,如结晶、胶结作用压缩、封闭原生孔隙空间形成的孔隙、草莓状黄铁矿结晶核之间的孔隙;有机质生烃形成的孔隙,部分有机质在沉积埋藏热成熟过程中,化学键断裂生烃,会形成大量纳米级孔隙。

### 3.2 纳米物质与结构的特性

(1) 纳米物质与结构的尺度效应。纳米物质因其尺度较小(0.1~100 nm),具有很多不同于宏观物质的特性。首先,就纳米物质而言,由于粒径极小,导致其运移能力远远超过同种成分的宏观固体物质,能够在大气、海洋甚至土壤中以悬浮、漂浮等方式进行长距离运移,如地壳内的上升气流可以携带成矿元素上升至地表,为深穿透地球化学探测寻找隐伏矿

床提供了理论依据。通过对剪切滑移面上纳米结构的研究(孙岩等,2009)推断,纳米级粘土在断层带中起到润滑剂的作用,推动着古老断层的蠕动,可能是造成地震断层带相对稳定的主要原因。在海洋中,针对“黑烟囱”的相关研究表明,热液成因的纳米铁颗粒运移可超过 2 000 km(Wu et al., 2011),这为整个海洋内元素迁移规律的认识提供了新的想法和佐证。由于人类与大气中的纳米物质接触最为广泛和频繁而使其广受关注,纳米物质能够直接通过皮肤接触、呼吸作用等进入人体内,且可能沉淀下来难以祛除,长期接触有毒有害的纳米颗粒物,将对人体有巨大的负面影响。同时,纳米物质的小尺寸使其具有较大的比表面积,更易吸附其他颗粒,增强聚集能力和迁移能力,甚至改变自身物化性质。

针对纳米孔隙的研究表明,由于孔壁距离较近,与气体分子直径处于同一尺度,因此纳米孔隙会具有一些独特性质,广泛的吸附作用和巨大的吸附能力就是其中之一。致密岩石中的纳米孔隙为烃类的超压赋存提供了空间,另一方面,以煤岩为代表,超高的气体压力会使气体处于压缩状态,在卸压条件下突然释放,易造成瓦斯突出事故。近年来,通过对致密储层孔渗特征的研究,获得了以下认识:煤层气储层的孔喉下限约 0.5 nm,页岩油气储层的孔喉下限约 5 nm,烃类运移方式以解析和扩散为主;致密油气储层的孔喉下限约 50 nm,烃类运移方式以扩散—滑脱流、低速非达西流为主;常规油气储层的孔喉下限约 1 000 nm,烃类运移方式以达西渗流为主。

(2) 纳米物质与结构的普遍性。纳米物质与结构虽然肉眼不可见,但却广泛分布于地球的各个角落,相关研究在大气圈、水圈和岩石圈都直接观察、探测或提取出了纳米物质与结构(参见图 1),为其普遍性发育提供了直接证据。

近年来全球范围内的气候变化和大气环境污染事件促进了对大气圈中纳米物质的重视和相关研究,尤其是大气气溶胶、空气飘尘等,它们不仅来源复杂,而且在时间和空间上具有很大的不确定性,气温、风速风向、空气湿度等都会影响到大气中纳米物质的时空分布(Shao et al., 2017)。河流、海洋等水体中同样存在大量纳米物质,对河流中一些对人体有毒有害的重金属元素的研究表明,它们通常吸附在细微的(可至纳米级)颗粒物表面,富集并随水流运移(Yang et al., 2015);海洋中的黑烟囱、洋中脊等会将深部纳米物质携带至海底,在通道周围大量富集并扩散迁移,形成海底锰结核、黄铁矿等

(Gartman et al., 2014)。岩石圈中有关纳米物质与结构的研究成果更为丰富,包括天然形成的纳米矿物颗粒、岩石中纳米尺度的流体包裹体、断层带滑移带在构造应力作用下形成的纳米颗粒、陨石撞击作用及变质作用形成的纳米矿物、土壤中成矿金属元素的纳米颗粒富集体、致密油气储层中的有机质大分子结构和纳米孔隙等(Wang et al., 2016c; Ju et al., 2017; Liu et al., 2017; Zhao et al., 2017)。

(3) 纳米物质与结构的稳定性问题。由于纳米物质的化学活性高,可能发生一系列的物理化学变化,环境行为十分复杂。环境的变化,促使大多数纳米颗粒或纳米结构与其他环境介质相结合,改变自身的形态和物化性质。部分纳米颗粒或纳米结构为适应环境(流体、温度、压力等),最终以微米尺度形式出现,或在常规纳米尺度研究方法中无法稳定存在,因此,想要观察并精确测定目标纳米颗粒物和纳米结构是十分困难的。

纳米物质具有比表面积大、表面能大的特点,相较于大尺寸的矿物颗粒,纳米颗粒更倾向于发生团聚,并能够以团聚体的形式长期稳定存在。影响纳米矿物团聚行为的因素众多,而且形成的团聚体结构不稳定,极易发生变化(刘娟等,2018)。其团聚行为受到矿物本身的性质以及水环境的影响,因此同种矿物颗粒的团聚状态会随着颗粒粒径、形态、水环境的 pH 值、离子强度、天然有机物的类别和浓度等性质的变化而显著变化(Hotze et al., 2010; Sheng et al., 2016a, 2016b)。纳米物质的尺寸还会影响其相态的变化,天然环境中,磁赤铁矿( $\gamma\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ )的稳定性通常要低于赤铁矿( $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ )。但是,当颗粒粒径小于 40 nm 时,在无水环境下,赤铁矿会向磁赤铁矿晶相转化(Chernyshova et al., 2007)。部分纳米物质会具有较高的稳定性,Yücel et al.(2011)对海底热液喷口的物质组成和性质做了观察分析,指出其喷出物中,相较于二价铁离子和硫化亚铁,黄铁矿纳米颗粒更难被氧化,因此能够进行长距离运移。

在天然纳米结构方面,通常时代新、应变弱、规模小的断裂剪切作用面(带),易形成单体的、简单的、分散的、低序次组构(low-order fabric)的纳米结构;而时代老、应变强、规模大的断裂剪切作用面(带)则易造成复体的、复杂的、定向的、高序次组构(high-order fabric)的纳米结构(孙岩等,2018)。纳米孔隙广泛发育于富有机质岩石的生烃过程中,但其并不是最终状态,伴随着进一步地生烃作用,作为部分纳米孔隙孔壁的有机质转化为油气逸出,纳米孔

隙会扩大为微米级并逐渐连通;暴露于地表的富有机质岩石在风化过程中也会发生类似情况,矿物溶蚀导致基质减少、纳米孔隙的孔径增大。

部分(粒径极其细小的)纳米物质与结构在常规检测手段中无法保持稳定(袁鹏,2018),如最为常用的扫描电子显微镜与透射电子显微镜以电子束为入射源,对样品表面结构有一定破坏,会在一定程度上影响纳米尺度的结构信息,如有机质纳米颗粒在透射电镜下逐渐模糊、结焦的现象。利用聚焦离子束系统(Focused Ion Beam)制备出的超薄样品,可用于多种显微学和显微谱学的纳米尺度研究(李金华和潘永信,2015),然而其对样品制备时所处的环境条件要求更高,样品极易受到氧化或灰尘影响进而掩盖纳米结构信息。

## 4 纳米地球科学的学科内涵

虽然 20 世纪 80 年代后期,前人运用纳米科技解决某些地学问题早有先例,但纳米地球科学的概念却是近年才提出的,琚宜文等(2016)在总结前人研究成果并结合自身研究、认识的基础上,进一步凝练了纳米地球科学的概念:以纳米科学与地球科学为依托,以纳米技术与地学研究方法为手段,以地球物质为研究对象,对各圈层中已知或有待探知的纳米物质和纳米结构进行深入研究,从而揭示地球演化过程中纳米效应与地学现象的关系及其规律的科学。

纳米地球科学是主要研究地球各圈层中纳米尺度的微粒在形成、运移、聚集、存在形式及其孔隙形成与演化等各种作用过程及演化机制的科学,根据目前的研究方向和研究进展可具体分为:纳米矿物学、纳米岩石学、纳米地球化学、纳米构造地质学、纳米能源地质学、纳米矿床学、纳米地震地质学、纳米环境地质学、纳米大气科学和纳米海洋科学(图 4)。纳米地球科学是一门高度综合的交叉学科,很难划分出经典意义上的单科性研究,需要多门学科综合研究。

纳米地球科学相关学科根据研究对象的不同,可以简要分为两大类:纳米物质研究形成的相关学科和纳米孔隙研究形成的相关学科。针对纳米物质的研究,以矿物学最具代表性,借助高分辨率的技术手段,从纳米尺度揭示了矿物的微观结构、形貌、界面关系、形成机制,研究矿物生长、溶解、转变、演化过程、生物矿化、生物与矿物相互作用等(陈天虎等,2005; He *et al.*, 2014; Sánchez-Román *et al.*, 2014)。岩石学范畴的纳米物质研究也是通过微区分

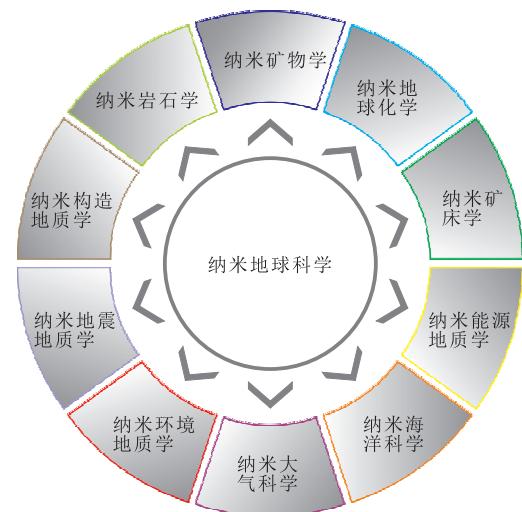


图 4 纳米地球科学的分支学科

Fig.4 Subdisciplines of nanogeoscience

析手段精度的提高而实现的,流体包裹体、有机质大分子结构等,其所蕴含的纳米尺度的信息能够揭示岩石的沉积埋藏、变质变形过程以及有机质—腐植酸的形成等(Herwegen and Kunze, 2002; 琚宜文等, 2004; 闫二艳和吴秀玲, 2004; Ju and Li, 2009)。在纳米物质研究的应用中最具经济效益的莫过于对金属矿产的形成机理、富集模式等的研究,金属元素能够以纳米颗粒的形式在土壤中迁移、富集,为深穿透地球化学提供了理论依据,也为“地气”探矿提供了直接的微观证据(Anand *et al.*, 2007; 王学求等, 2016);而一些金属矿产本身就是纳米金属颗粒的聚集体,具有代表性的卡林型金矿,是以纳米级自然金颗粒和固溶体形式存在的(Reich *et al.*, 2005; 华曙光等, 2012)。构造作用产生的纳米级变形现象和纳米颗粒同样属于纳米物质的研究范畴,纳米尺度下能够记录重要的地质过程,并影响剪切滑移、断裂活动乃至地震作用(Sun *et al.*, 2008; Yuan *et al.*, 2014; Huang *et al.*, 2017; Liu *et al.*, 2017),物理学中的临界理论认为,宏观和微观是相反相成的,宏观系统的失稳是极其大量的微观粒子释放能量所致,近年来越来越多的研究成果正从纳米尺度逐步揭开地震活动的发生机理(晁洪太等, 2009; de Paola *et al.*, 2015; Janssen *et al.*, 2016)。大气和水体中含有丰富的纳米颗粒物,通过参与重要的地球化学循环来影响地球表层的生态环境(He *et al.*, 2006; Sands *et al.*, 2012),尤其是大气纳米颗粒物,近年来大气雾霾等空气污染事件频发,借助高分辨率的仪器设备与技术手段,从本质上分析污染物纳米尺度颗粒的物质组成及结构特征,才能从根源上解决相关问题(Chen and Xie, 2014;

Xu *et al.*, 2016; Zhou *et al.*, 2016a).

针对纳米孔隙研究而形成的相关学科主要包括纳米能源地质学和纳米环境地质学,能源问题始终是全球范围内的大问题,近年来,部分国家对非常规油气的成功开采,使人们认识到致密岩层中纳米级孔隙的巨量储集能力,同时借鉴各类广泛应用于材料学等学科上的分析仪器、技术手段,相关研究不断跟进(Javapour, 2009; Curtis *et al.*, 2012; Clarkson *et al.*, 2013; Wang and Ju, 2015; Wang *et al.*, 2016a; Zhang *et al.*, 2016),对非常规油气勘探开发及瓦斯突出危险性评价等诸多方面有着极其重要的意义.目前对各类致密储层的孔径分布范围已有了大致的认识(煤层气储层:0.5~1 000 nm,页岩气储层:5~200 nm,页岩油储层:30~400 nm,致密灰岩油储层:50~500 nm,致密砂岩油储层:60~900 nm,致密砂岩气储层:25~700 nm),研究表明,美国的页岩气储层孔径较大,以 100 nm 以上孔裂隙系统为主,而中国的页岩气储层孔径较小,多数在 0.5~100 nm 范围内.因而,中国非常规储层核心问题是解决纳米(10~100 nm)而不仅仅是微米尺度的渗透率问题,必须采取新的储层改造方式.纳米孔隙巨大的内表面积不仅是油气的良好储集场所,还能够对大气中的纳米级漂浮、悬浮颗粒物,对水体中的重金属离子、有机污染物等进行有效吸附(Cheng *et al.*, 2012; Johnson *et al.*, 2014; Yang *et al.*, 2015; Civeira *et al.*, 2016),从纳米尺度上研究天然吸附剂的特性、吸附能力,和污染物的成因、聚集规律等,就能够从本质上提出污染治理的解决手段.此外,对于岩石中一些天然有机与无机碳纳米结构的研究表明其可以为纳米材料的制备提供廉价的原材料,对材料学有一定的启示意义,并逐渐引起了国内外学者的关注和重视(Wang *et al.*, 2006; Das *et al.*, 2016).

综上,在纳米尺度上对地学问题和现象进行深入研究,有助于揭示地球科学更本质的机理和过程,也是地球科学发展的一条必然途径.纳米地球科学的学科内涵体现在:针对地球不同圈层中纳米尺度的微粒在形成、运移、聚集和存在形式以及孔隙形成与演化等亟待解决的科技问题开展系统研究,从而加深对矿物、岩石、构造、地化、能源和矿床等分支学科纳米尺度特征的认知.

## 5 纳米地球科学的研究意义

纳米地球科学正为 21 世纪地球科学的发展带

来革命性的飞跃,从而获得地球科学在超微观尺度上的重大突破.为引导地球科学向更微观的层次迈进,进一步厘清纳米地球科学的科学内涵以及主要研究方向,深入探讨纳米矿物学与岩石学、纳米构造地质学与地球化学、纳米能源地质学与矿床学、纳米地震地质学与环境地质学、纳米科技应用于地球各圈层及其相互作用等核心科学问题尤为重要,本节对纳米地球科学的科学意义和应用价值作了简要的回顾和展望,旨在系统总结并集中凝练纳米地球科学及纳米成藏成矿领域的重大科学和关键前沿问题,全面促进纳米地球科学及纳米成藏成矿科技项目攻关,从而丰富和发展纳米地球科学理论和方法,为矿物与碳基新型材料利用、能源与矿产资源勘探开发以及环境保护和灾害预测等方面提供重要理论基础.

纳米科技及相关学科是当今国际的研究热点,它使人类在认识和改造自然方面进入了一个新层次,纳米科技与地球科学的结合也是必然的发展趋势.其科学意义主要体现在:

(1)从多学科交叉的角度,进一步认识和发展传统地球科学.纳米科技在地球科学中的应用异常广泛,各个分支学科均可在纳米理论的指导下取得突破性的进展.纳米矿物学的发展及纳米级矿物颗粒的开发利用是矿物学发展史上的又一里程碑,是纳米地球科学的支撑理论之一;纳米岩石学将为岩石学家展开纳米尺度观测的视野;纳米地球化学将向元素迁移过程的微观机制迈步;随着纳米技术在地学领域的发展和应用,矿床学也必定会以自身独特的优势取得里程碑式的进展;纳米构造地质学为超微尺度构造的研究提供了方法和依据;纳米技术在能源问题尤其是非常规能源方面具有很好的发展前景;纳米地震地质学有望在地震突发机制方面获得突破;纳米技术为环境地质学领域提供了新的研究机遇;纳米大气科学的发展有助于解释雾霾等污染物颗粒的来源、成因,从根源上防治空气污染;纳米海洋科学则帮助我们从新的视角认识海洋细粒沉积过程及元素迁移规律.

(2)纳米岩矿的研究对其他学科的启发.纳米矿物学的研究由来已久,对矿物晶体结构、顺磁性、导电性、微量杂质元素的研究取得了一系列成果,最受相关学者的关注和认可.纳米级岩石颗粒存在于岩石形成发展的各个阶段,储存了许多重要的地质信息,同时,有关纳米岩矿的研究与材料学、微生物学、能源地质学、地球化学等学科相结合,能够提供对材

料制备、生物矿化、能源生储环境、元素迁移机制的新认识与新思路。

其应用价值主要体现在:(1)纳米矿物与有机碳复合材料.Das *et al.*(2016)通过扫描电镜、高分辨率透射电镜、X 射线衍射等手段,在低成熟度煤样品中发现了不同尺寸(直径数个或数十个纳米)的碳纳米颗粒、单体碳纳米管以及簇状碳纳米管,碳纳米管作为纳米材料的典型代表,用途广泛但制备过程复杂,而天然环境下自然形成的碳纳米管等物质的成因乃至“提取”无疑为我们提供了一个新的研究方向与思路;(2)纳米探矿.近年来,通过对表层土壤中纳米级金属颗粒的探测、观察,相关学者找到了一种新的有效的探矿手段,随着纳米探矿手段的发展、完善,针对表土中纳米级金属颗粒赋存、运移机制等的研究取得了一系列成果(王学求等,2014; Wang *et al.*, 2016b);(3)非常规能源的勘探与开发.随着勘探开发技术的进步,常规化石能源呈现逐步减少的趋势,开发利用新能源迫在眉睫.近年来,世界范围内掀起开发非常规能源的热潮,极大地缓解了能源压力.而所谓的“非常规能源”理论本身正是基于对致密储层中纳米尺度孔隙巨量储集能力的新认识,同时辅以高分辨率的显微镜及纳米尺度吸附理论等技术、理论,才有了现今的“页岩气革命”; (4)分析地质灾害成因.地质灾害长久以来都是阻滞社会发展进步的重大障碍,矿井瓦斯突出、地震、泥石流等,无不对人身安全和财产安全造成巨大危害.近期的相关研究初步探讨了脆性粘滑发震断裂和韧性蠕滑孕震断裂的微观运动学机理,发现了地震作用与纳米尺度岩石摩擦、变形的紧密联系(Viti, 2011; 晁洪太等, 2016);同时纳米理论及技术手段的应用也为构造煤与瓦斯突出的研究提供了一个新的角度;(5)环境污染治理.环境污染的大量问题实际上是纳米微粒污染的问题,大气中附着大量污染物的空气飘尘、水体中的重金属纳米颗粒集合体等是造成污染的本质原因,分析这些纳米尺度颗粒的来源、成分、结构和迁移规律能够从根源上明确污染的成因并找到对症的解决办法.此外,针对一些孔隙发育、比表面积较大的天然矿物或岩石的研究,为污水中重金属离子处理、二氧化碳地下封存等提供了解决途径。

## 6 结语

地球科学从研究伊始至今已发展了数百年,相关学者不再满足于对地球系统“可视”范围内的研

究,探索范围逐渐扩展至“深地、深海、深空”,深地探测、大洋钻探和天体探索等一系列国际、国家项目,无一不代表了人类探索地球星际的信心和渴望.

对地球的了解与认知直接影响着人类的生存和发展,能源与矿床勘探与开发、灾害与环境预测与治理等,都是亟待解决的地球科学问题.从纳米尺度重新认识、分析这些问题,从纳米世界观地球,这将为我们开辟了一个新的视角和方向,这也是地球与行星科学发展的必经途径.近年来纳米地球科学的兴起,依靠的是层出不穷的高分辨率、高放大倍数的仪器设备,但更取决于思维方式的转变.纳米地球科学的研究对象主要指地球系统不同圈层纳米尺度的天然物质或孔隙,但不仅限于此,这是一门研究地球系统不同圈层的物质和结构纳米尺度的成生机理、运移规律、展布形态,进而解释、预测宏观地质现象的学科,“小纳米”与“大地球”从未如此紧密的联系在一起.

纳米地球科学是一门前沿学科,同时也面临着全新的机遇和挑战,它的发展还需要很多相关研究来填补空白.以往的一些研究成果可能会被推翻,一些认识可能会被颠覆,这是不可避免的.纳米地球科学还处于新生阶段,虽已取得一定的成就,但对矿物的形成机理、元素的迁移过程和构造的超微形式以及纳米微粒的致灾效应和纳米孔隙的成藏成矿等方面还缺乏细致的了解,因此纳米地球科学的发展前景非常广泛.目前,必须充分发挥多学科交叉的优势,广泛开展国内外科学家的合作,开拓纳米地球科学新领域,为矿床勘探、资源开发、新能源利用、环境污染及地质灾害预防和治理等问题提供新的理论依据.

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