

Oral presentation | S3: Rheology and Material Transfer in Mantle and Crust (Special Session)

📅 Thu. Sep 11, 2025 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM JST | Thu. Sep 11, 2025 5:00 AM - 9:00 AM UTC 🏛️ Oral  
Presentation C(Room No. 28)

### **S3: Rheology and Material Transfer in Mantle and Crust (Special Session)**

Chairperson: Ikuo Katayama(Hiroshima University), Miki Tasaka(Shizuoka University), Tomoaki Kubo(Kyushu University)

#### ◆ Invited Lecture

4:00 PM - 4:25 PM JST | 7:00 AM - 7:25 AM UTC

#### **[S3-07] Seeing fault failure in real time: s4D $\mu$ CT of gypsum dehydration**

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Keywords : s4D $\mu$ CT、Dehydration、Shear

Synchrotron-based 4D microtomography (s4D $\mu$ CT), the time-resolved extension of three-dimensional X-ray computed microtomography, offers a non-invasive way to visualize and quantify internal microstructural changes during dynamic processes. Utilizing the progression in synchrotron radiation, fast detectors, and digital volume correlation (DVC), this technique enables high-resolution imaging and quantification of evolving systems under controlled mechanical, thermal, and chemical conditions. In this study, we apply s4D $\mu$ CT to investigate the syn-deformational dehydration of gypsum in a direct-shear experiment. This experiment can be considered an analogue for serpentine dehydration in subduction zones. The process involves complex hydraulic, mechanical, and chemical (HMC) interactions that remain poorly understood, especially under shear stress. We conducted a series of operando direct shear experiments on high-purity gypsum powders using the x-ray transparent Heitt Mjölur rig at the ID19 beamline of the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF). These experiments captured the real-time evolution of microstructures during dehydration, under conditions of 10 MPa confining pressure, 2 MPa fluid pressure, and heating from 60 °C to 125 °C, with concurrent shear strain applied at a constant displacement rate. s4D $\mu$ CT imaging allowed us to discriminate between gypsum, hemihydrate, and pore space with high fidelity, providing insights into the spatial and temporal evolution of deformation structures such as Riedel shears, compaction bands, and boundary shears. Our analyses use DVC to resolve grain-scale deformation and reaction rate during coupled deformation and dehydration in the s4D $\mu$ CT data. The initial results demonstrate a clear link between microstructural changes and variations in frictional and transport properties. These findings underscore the power of s4D $\mu$ CT in capturing the feedback between chemical reactions and hydro-mechanical behavior during shear, with broader implications for understanding fault zone processes. Future work will extend to other lithologies and focus on quantifying rate-and-state friction to better characterize sliding stability in deforming systems.

