

Estimation of Fluid-rock Interaction Process and Recharge Area of the Tampomas Geothermal Field, West Java, Indonesia by Water Chemistry

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ABSTRACT

Geochemistry is one of the most effective methods used in the geothermal exploration process, especially related to subsurface temperature, interaction process, and geothermal fluid source. This preliminary research is aimed to clarify the origin of geothermal fluid and process of rock and fluid interaction that occurred in the Tampomas geothermal field in the northern Bandung Basin, one of the geothermal potential fields in this basin. The potential in the northern Bandung basin is estimated to be lower than the southern basin in which several fields such as Kamojang, Darajat, and Wayang Windu produce considerable geothermal energy, ranging from 200 to 300 MWe. To reveal this potential difference is an important issue for the geothermal system in the plate subduction zone. The geochemical analysis was applied to it. Generally, water type of hot spring in the Tampomas area is dominated by chloride-bicarbonate water, where water is formed in the marginal area near the surface. CO₂ gas and water vapor are condensed into cold groundwater as well as steam heated processes. The low B / Cl ratio in the hot springs indicates a close relationship with the magmatic geothermal system. The Ciuyah hot spring has the highest concentrations of chloride, calcium, and lithium among the other manifestations, which is probably due to fluid interaction with the Tertiary marine sedimentary rocks in this area, in particular the Tertiary claystone of the Subang Formation. The maximum subsurface temperature in the Tampomas area is 168 °C based on a silica geothermometer. Study on stable isotopes of oxygen and hydrogen suggest that the recharge area in the Tampomas geothermal manifestation is located in the elevation range from 425 to 900 m.a.s.l. Consequently, through our geochemical data, the geothermal fluids originating from meteoric water have been influenced by the volcanic process of Mt. Tampomas and interacting with the sedimentary rocks around it.

1. INTRODUCTION

Tampomas geothermal is located in West Java province, Indonesia, about 42 km northeast of Bandung, with Tampomas mountaintop position at 6°45'54.00"S and 107°57'37.43"E (Figure 1). Tampomas is one of several geothermal sites in the volcanic mountain range of West Java that were formed as a result of the subduction activity between the Indian-Australian plate and the Eurasian plate in the South of Java Island. Based on data from Directorate General of New, Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation (DG NREEC, MEMR) Indonesia, the Tampomas area is estimated to have geothermal potential ranging from 20-50 MWe (Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, 2016).

Hot spring manifestation is commonly found in this area, particularly at the eastern slopes of Mt. Tampomas. The presence of some manifestations indicates the occurrence of thermal and magmatic subsurface processes. Several studies have been conducted for the Tampomas area, such as Abdulah et al. (2015) that identified outflow areas using fluid geochemical data. Petrography of Mt. Tampomas rocks, as well as its relationship with the subduction systems, has been investigated by Dirk (2008). He concluded that volcanic rocks in the Tampomas are associated with the basalt, andesite basaltic, and andesite groups. The sources and processes that form variations in the chemical composition and rocks are the picrite magmatic or olivine basaltic rock from the N-MORB mantle, enrichment by of Rb, Ba, Th, K, and La elements of the crust. Dermawan et al. (2017) conducted geochemical research and stable isotopes in cold springs and several manifestations in this area.

This research is conducted as a part of the research of geothermal system in the Bandung basin, including Wayang Windu, Patuha, Tangkuban Perahu and Tampomas geothermal areas. Research in Tampomas area is preliminary research, aimed to clarify the origin of geothermal fluid and process of rock–fluid interaction.

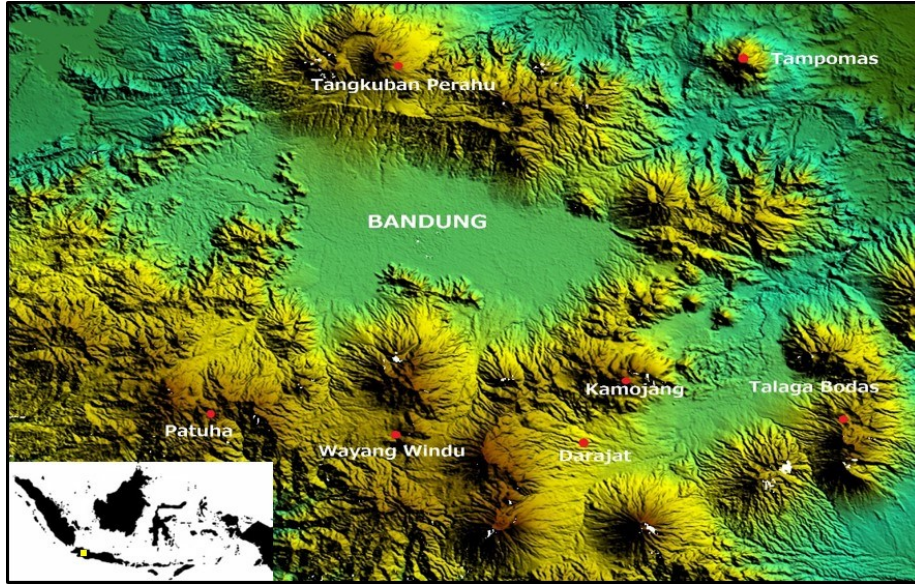


Fig 1. Tampomas geothermal field located in the northeast of Bandung, Indonesia and one of several geothermal sites around the Bandung Basin.

2. GEOLOGICAL SETTING

The Indonesian archipelago is seated between three large tectonic plates, the Indian-Australian, Eurasian and Pacific Plate (Figure 2). These plates contribute significantly to the evolution of geological settings in Indonesia. Java Island is one of the many islands influenced by the movement of the Indian-Australian plate in the south and the Eurasian plate in the north (Clements and Hall, 2007; Hall, 1995; Hamilton, 1979; Katili, 1975, 1973; Whittaker et al., 2007). The present subduction beneath Java began at about 45 Ma and has been almost perpendicular to the Java Trench (Hall 2012). The subduction zone between the Indian-Australian plate and Eurasian plate is located about 200 km south of the Java island by forming subducted slab dips gradually over 60 degrees and moving sliding approximately northward beneath Java and Sumatra at a velocity probably near 6 cm/yr (Le Pichon, 1968)

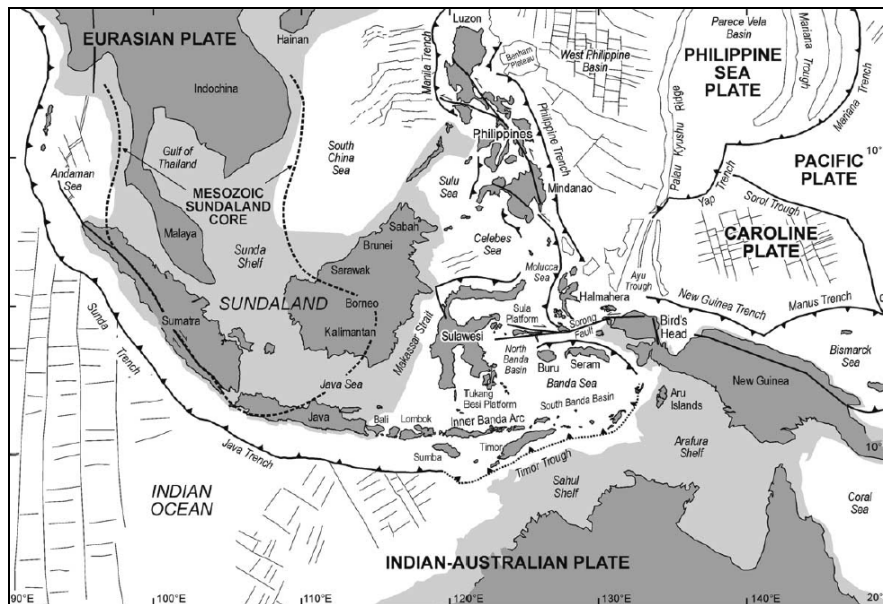


Fig 2. Schematic tectonic of Indonesia region influenced by three primary plates, Indian-Australian in the south, Eurasia in the north and Pacific Plate in the east. The subduction between two plates in the southern island of Java is the primary factor affecting the formation of Java volcanism (Hall, 2012)

Based on the physiography zone of Java island (Bemmelen, 1949), Mt. Tampomas is classified as a member of Bogor Zone that is characterized by Quaternary volcanic activities such as Mt. Salak, Mt. Gede, Mt. Tangkuban Perahu and Mt. Tampomas. According to geological map of Bandung and Arjawanangun (Geological Research and Development Centre, 2003; 2011), the Tertiary sedimentary deposit is the oldest rock and underlies the volcanic rock complex. Subang (Upper Miocene), Kaliwangu (Lower Pliocene) and Citalang Formation (Middle Pliocene) are major sedimentary rocks that has been directly affected by a tectonic process with fault and fold as a result. Generally, the strike of sedimentary rock is Northwest to Southeast, with dip slope to Southwest. The oldest sediment is Subang Formation (Miocene), dominated by claystone and in some areas laminated by limestone and glauconite sandstone.

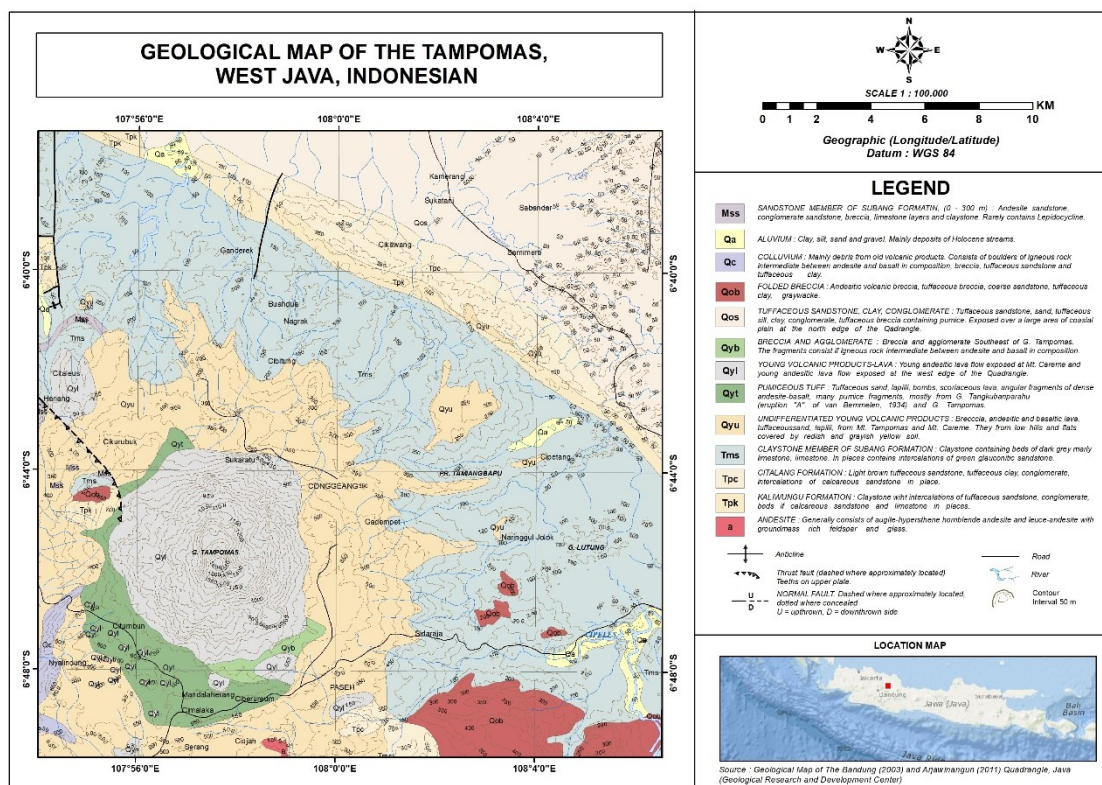


Fig 3. Geology of Mt. Tampomas, dominated by sedimentary rock of Subang Formation (modified from Geological Research and Development Center, 2003; 2011)

3. METHODS

A total eight samples were taken directly from hot spring manifestations around the Tampomas area. Some measurements such as pH, Electric Conductivity (EC) and Temperature were measured on site. Anion and cation sampling methods use common standard procedure noted in Clark (2015) and Arnorsson et al. (2006), which all samples were filtered through 0.20 μ m membrane. To avoid the changes in oxygen and hydrogen isotope ratios as a result of atmospheric contact, water isotope sample were taken using glass bottle without gas bubbling inside.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Field and Laboratory data are described in Table 1, showing that the pH in the Tampomas manifestation is relatively neutral, between 6.2 to 7.1 with Na and HCO₃ as a dominant cation and anion. Only in Ciuyah (CYH) thermal fluid, the anion is dominated by Chloride (10407.5 mg/L). The content of silica is ranging from 86 to 199 mg/L. In thermal water, the high Na, HCO₃ and Cl contents suggest an increase in groundwater residence time which could enhance rock-water interaction. High bicarbonate concentration is due to the reaction of circulating meteoric waters with limestone, forming CO₂-rich waters, and possibly from magmatic fluid input as well (Pasvanoğlu and Çelik, 2018).

By plotting the data in the HCO₃-SO₄-Cl ternary diagram (Giggenbach, 1988), the Tampomas thermal water is revealed to divided into three group (Figure 4). Bicarbonate water type, including water samples from CBT, CHS, CHSKL, and COG, has value of bicarbonate 188.3, 1098.6, 771.6 and 812.3 mg/L. Bicarbonate water is formed by steam and gas condensation in the marginal area through poorly

oxygenated sub-surface groundwater (Nicholson, 2013). Chloride-bicarbonate water of CLR, CTRB, and CLS samples is occurred by dilution of chloride fluid by groundwater or bicarbonate water during lateral flow (Nicholson, 2013). The third group is chloride water type Including CYH. CHY is the only site in the Tampomas area with chloride water type. In the geothermal sites, this type is a type of deep geothermal fluid that is often found in high-temperature systems. In CYH site, the high chloride content, reaching 10407.5 mg / L, is not expected to be caused by geothermal activity, but rather the product of connate water trapped during the claystine sedimentation of the Subang Formation. The chloride content is almost the same as the chemistry data from the Java seawater (Deon et al., 2015). The value of Na concentration at the CHY site is predicted as a hydrolysis reaction or chemical weathering process of feldspar in the Tertiary Subang Formation. Therefore, it is considered tha the CHY thermal is not directly related to deep water evolution of the Tampomas geothermal site.

Table 1. Chemical compositions of the Tampomas area, West Java, Indonesia.

No	NAME	CODE	pH	EC (μS/cm)	Na (mg/L)	K (mg/L)	Li (mg/L)	Ca (mg/L)	Mg (mg/L)	Fe (mg/L)	As (mg/L)	NH ₃ (mg/L)	HCO ₃ (mg/L)	Cl (mg/L)	SO ₄ (mg/L)	B (mg/L)	F (mg/L)	SiO ₂ (mg/L)	O ₁₈ (‰)	H ₂ (‰)
1	Cileungsing	CLS	6.8	2860.0	516.2	30.1	1.3	87.7	37.0	-	-	2.9	790.1	754.4	2.0	4.6	1.0	179.3	6.70	40.59
2	Cilendre	CLR	6.4	1906.0	352.8	18.4	0.9	71.7	32.3	-	-	3.4	643.9	523.6	2.0	3.4	1.5	147.8	6.67	39.89
3	Congeang	COG	7.1	1413.0	259.7	21.7	0.4	77.7	41.8	-	0.1	3.7	812.3	257.4	2.0	3.8	1.0	199.9	6.54	41.20
4	Ciuyah	CYH	6.7	13800.0	6202.3	189.1	21.3	600.7	140.7	-	-	21.6	1445.2	10407.5	-	81.1	-	122.0	0.15	25.39
5	Cihaseum	CHS	6.5	770.0	196.9	20.0	0.8	108.9	64.1	-	-	2.4	1098.6	117.1	2.7	1.3	-	139.0	6.59	41.23
6	Cibitung	CBT	6.2	105.0	7.5	3.7	0.2	21.8	12.5	-	0.1	1.8	188.3	3.7	5.5	0.1	-	86.0	7.36	43.20
7	Cituruban	CTR	6.6	650.0	209.4	22.2	0.8	69.3	36.2	-	0.1	1.2	190.9	158.6	7.0	4.4	-	172.0		
8	Cihaseum Kolot	CHSKL	6.6	700.0	212.5	23.6	0.9	80.2	33.3	-	0.1	10.8	771.6	176.1	3.0	5.3	-	179.0		

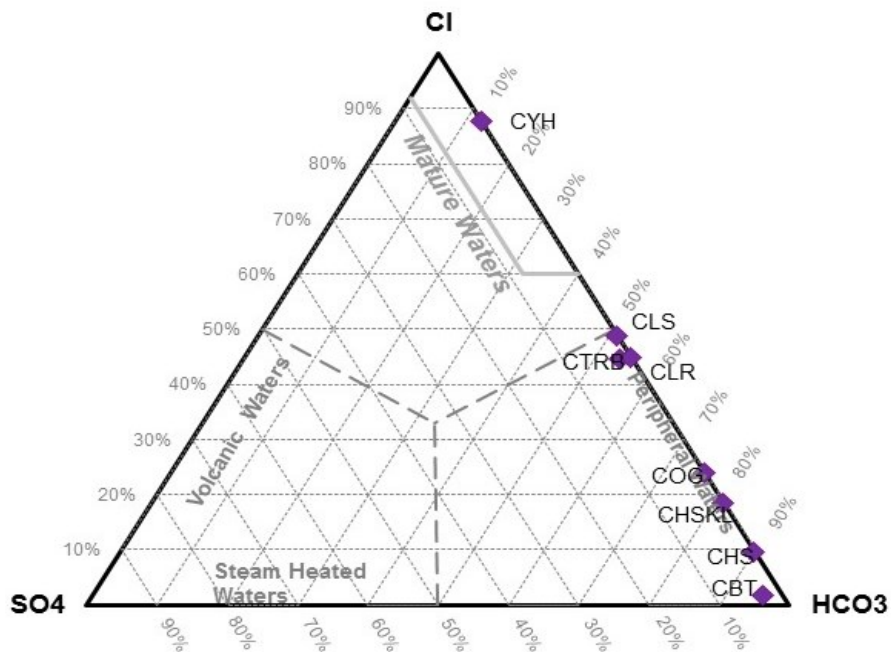


Fig 4. HCO₃-SO₄-Cl diagram (Giggenbach, 1988), showing three groups of water type, bicarbonate, Chloride, and Chloride-bicarbonate type.

Ternary diagram Cl-Li-B in Figure 5, can be used to interpret the origin of geothermal fluids in general. Since the alkali metal of Li is least affected by secondary processes, it may, therefore, be used as a tracer for the initial deep rock dissolution process and as a reference to evaluate the possible origin of two important conservative constituents of geothermal waters; B and Cl (Torbehbar et al., 2015). This ternary diagram, shows the formation three large groups. The first group has a relatively low B / Cl content at the CLR, CLS, and COG sites. This low B / Cl level indicates that the fluid origin is the older hydrothermal system, and the low B / Cl ratio can be representative of andesitic geothermal reservoir group. At the CHY site, although this diagram indicates high Cl, the other data is more indicative of a separate system. It appears that the B content of the CHY site is quite high, reaching 81.1 mg/L. According to Harder (1970), in sedimentary rocks, the B content is very high, with an average of 85 ppm, especially in clay. This is also supported by the high NH_3 value at the CHY site reaching 21.6 mg / L, which is estimated as originating from organic-rich sediment.

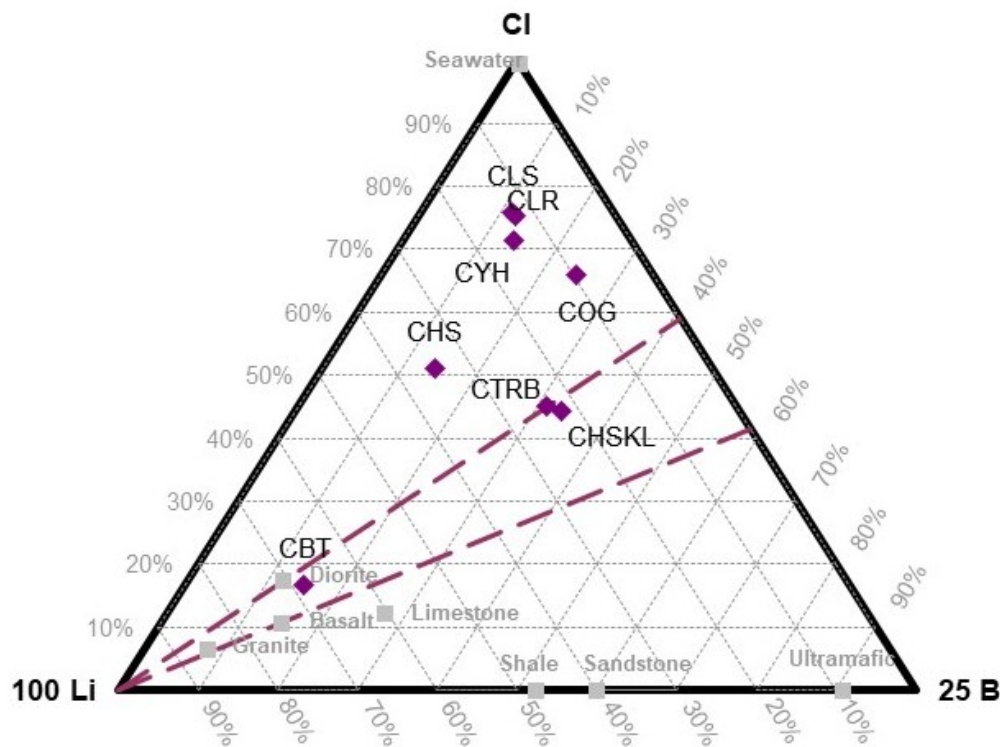


Fig 5. CI-Li-B ternary diagram of the Tampomas area

Ternary diagram of Na-K-Mg (Fig.6) shows that the majority of the samples are plotted close to Mg as immature waters, which indicates that the thermal water has been through a mixing process with shallow groundwater and that all waters have unreliable temperatures and the fluid is not at equilibrium phase with host rock. The calculation of subsurface temperature based on silica geothermometer derives temperature in the Tampomas area as 168 °C. The diagram of $10\text{K}/(10\text{K}+\text{Na})$ versus $10\text{Mg}/(10\text{Mg}+\text{Ca})$ (Giggenbach, 1988) is the major cations curve (Figure 7). No sample shows full equilibrium and all samples follow a common trend, the transition from rock dissolution to rock equilibrium.

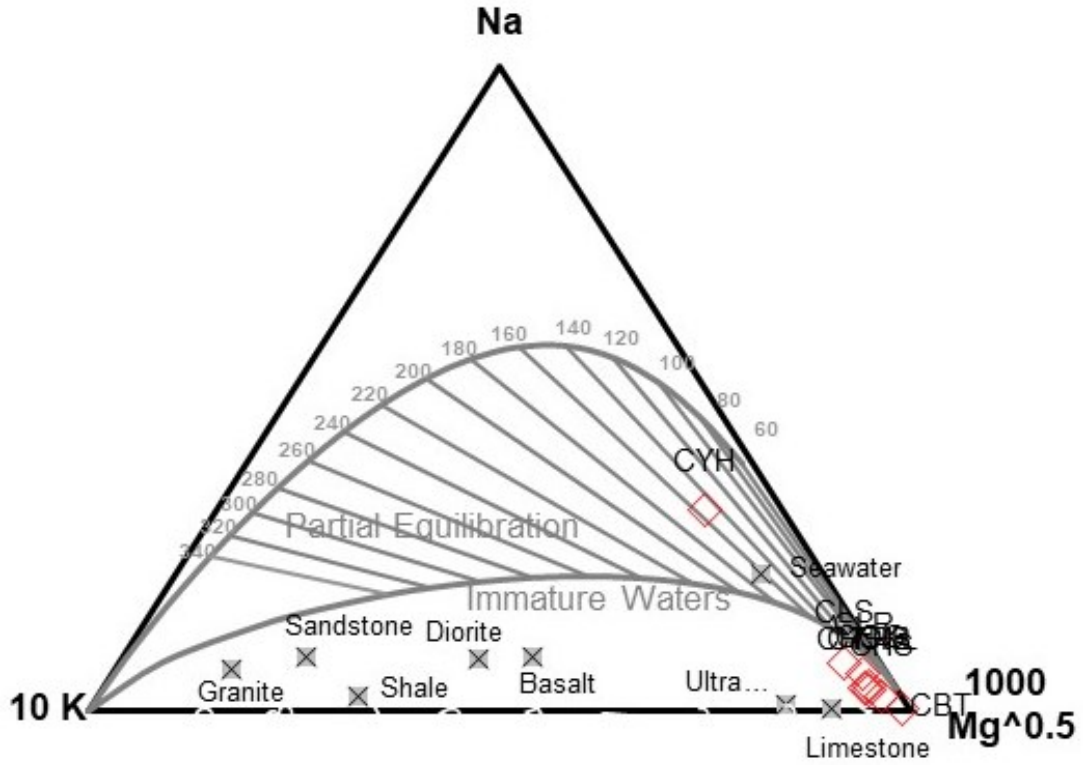


Fig 6. Ternary diagram of Na-K-Mg. Most samples are immature waters, indicating mixing process between thermal water and shallow groundwater.

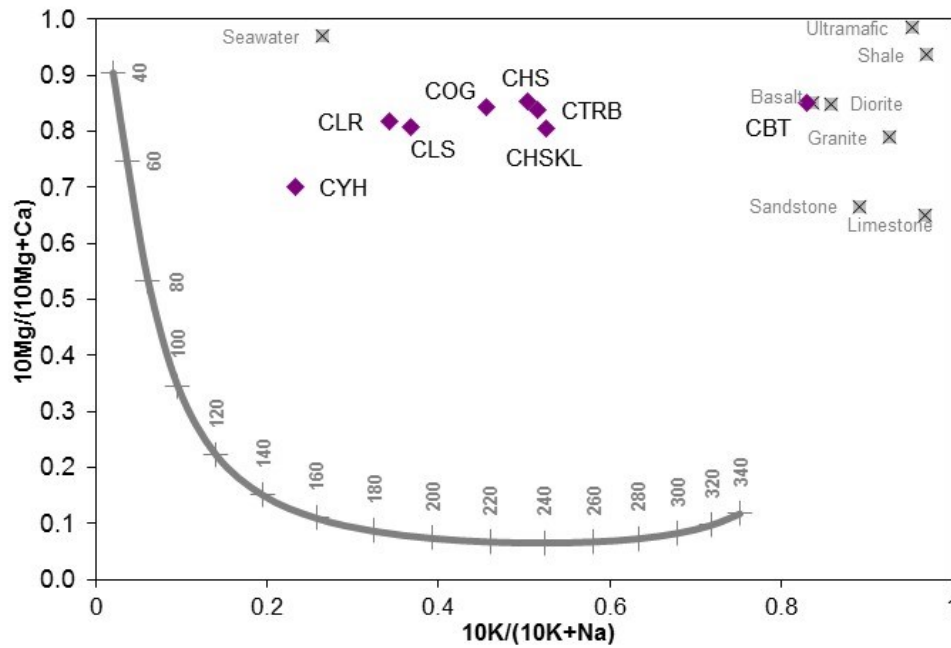


Fig 7. Giggenbach (1988) diagram of $10K/(10K+Na)$ versus $10Mg/(10Mg+Ca)$

Water isotope data reveal that shows almost all of the samples are plotted along the meteoric water line (Figure 8), which indicates that meteoric water is a source for thermal fluids. Some data show the negative shifting of O-18, effected by seasonal water cycle (Belgaman et al., 2017; Suwarman et al., 2013) or likely produced by isotope exchange between water and CO₂ (Cartwright et al., 2002; Cinti et al., 2014). Positive shifting of the CHY data can be affected by other reasons, such as evaporation, magmatic input or sedimentary fluids. Many data support that the CHY shifting is more likely caused by sedimentary fluids, especially claystone of the Subang Formation. Stable isotopes of oxygen and hydrogen suggest that the recharge area in the Tampomas geothermal manifestation is located in the elevation range from 425 to 900 m.a.s.l.

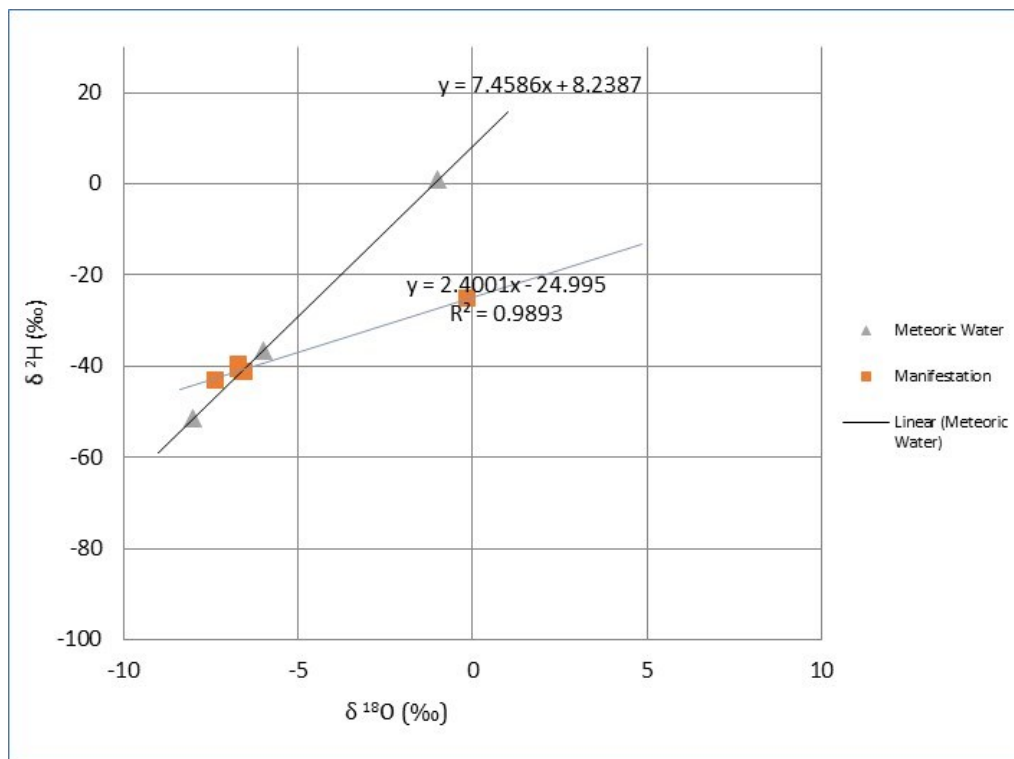


Fig 8. δ -diagram of oxygen and hydrogen isotope ratios, showing almost all samples plot along the local meteoric water line

5. CONCLUSION

The type of thermal water in the Tampomas area is mainly bicarbonate water, and chloride-bicarbonate water type may have been formed from steam and gas condensation in the marginal areas into poorly oxygenated sub-surface groundwater and dilution of chloride fluid by groundwater or bicarbonate water during lateral flow. Chemical and isotope data clarify that the fluids in this area are derived from meteoric water. Ciuyah water is a manifestation of the separated system, in this case, that could be originated from connate water in the claystone sediment layers.

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