

1 **Hydrochemistry and Stable Isotope Indication of Mineral Water** 2 **and Surface Water in Changbai Mountain, China**

3 **Running title: Study on mineral water in Changbai Mountain, China**

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13 **Abstract**

14 Changbai Mountain is the source region of Songhua River, Tumen River and Yalu River. It is
15 a famous concentrated distribution area of high quality mineral water in China, which has great
16 economic value. Antu County is one of the main distribution areas of basalt and mineral water in
17 Changbai Mountain. The distribution of mineral springs has a strong hydraulic relationship with
18 surface water, which constitutes abundant recharge reserves. It is necessary to study the
19 hydrochemical characteristics and relationship between surface water and mineral water, so as to
20 provide a theoretical basis for further discussion on the formation process and rational utilization
21 of mineral water resources in Changbai Mountain. 57 water samples from 2016 to 2020 were
22 collected, including precipitation, mineral water and surface water. Geostatistics, Piper and Gibbs
23 diagram are used to analyze the hydrochemical characteristics. Hydrochemical component tracing
24 and stable environment isotope technology with end-number calculation are used to reveal the
25 transformation relationship between mineral water and surface water. Results demonstrate:
26 Surface water and mineral water are weak alkaline and low salinity. The hydrochemical type of
27 mineral water is mainly $\text{HCO}_3\text{-Na}\cdot\text{Mg}\cdot\text{Ca}$ and of surface water is mainly $\text{HCO}_3\text{-Na}$. The isotopes
28 of precipitation are more enriched in summer due to the influence of water vapor source and
29 temperature effect. The temporal and spatial differences between D and ^{18}O of mineral water is
30 obvious, and isotopes are enriched abundant in autumn. The recharge source and interaction
31 between mineral water and surface water have changes in different periods. In summer, mineral
32 springs in Erdaobai River and Sandaobai River watershed replenished surface water, and the
33 recharge proportion is more than 60%. The interaction between Toudao Baihe river and mineral
34 water is weak. In autumn, precipitation is the main recharge for mineral water and surface water.

35 **Key words:** mineral water; surface water; stable isotopes; hydrochemistry; Changbai Mountain

36 **1. INTRODUCTION**

37 Surface water and groundwater transformation is an important part of watershed water cycle,

38 and is also the basic research of river maintenance mechanism, groundwater regeneration rate and
39 ability(Sophocleous, 2002). Groundwater and surface water resources and the process of
40 hydrochemical formation and evolution are closely related to the interaction between
41 them(Chapman et al., 2007; Intaraprasong & Zhan, 2009). As one of the main groundwater forms
42 in Changbai Mountain area, mineral water has a significant influence on the water resources in the
43 watershed. The basalt area of Changbai Mountain is the third largest existing source of high-
44 quality natural mineral water in the world after the Caucasus Mountain and the Alps. Mineral
45 spring resources are mainly distributed in Jingyu, Fusong and Antu county(Song, 1984). Along
46 with the social and economic development, people's healthy awareness of drinking water is
47 increasing, which makes the demand for high quality mineral water increase. Antu County is one
48 of the main distribution areas of basalt and mineral water in Changbai Mountain. Its mineral water
49 types are diverse, with abundant reserves. So there is great development potential and economic
50 value. The water system in this region is developed and the river network is interlaced. The
51 distribution of mineral springs has a strong hydraulic relationship with surface water, which
52 constitutes abundant recharge reserves. With the deepening development and utilization of mineral
53 water resource formation mechanism in Changbai Mountain , the mineral water replenishment's
54 changes and quality's sustainability in different periods, seasons and utilization stages should be
55 further ascertained. Studying the relationship between mineral water and surface water in this area
56 will provide a new way for the research on the formation of mineral water and theoretical basis for
57 the sustainable development and utilization of mineral water resources in Changbai Mountain.

58 Various studies of mineral water in Changbai Mountain have been conducted. Some
59 researchers summarized the characteristics and distribution regularity of natural mineral water
60 resources in Changbai Mountain area(Wang & Zhang, 2019; Zhao et al., 2005), and analyzed the
61 significance of mineral water to human health(Liu & Zhang, 2009; Yin et al., 2008). According to
62 the existing data, there were comprehensive analysis of the geological background and distribution
63 characteristics of Jingyu mineral water field(Duan & Qi, 2014; Zhang, 2001). And basing on
64 experiments, Xiao, Yuan, Liang, Yang, & Sun (2019) and Yan, Xiao, Liang, & Wu
65 (2017)explored the formation process of the characteristic component H_3SiO_3 in Jingyu basalt
66 mineral water. By combining experiments and simulations, the recharge conditions and sources of
67 mineral water and formation mechanism of mineral springs in Fusong and Jingyu area were
68 respectively studied(Gao et al., 2016; Liang et al., 2019; Yan et al., 2016; Zhang et al., 2020;
69 Zhang et al., 2017). Bian et al. (2019) studied the carrying capacity of Fusong mineral water
70 resources. In a whole, these researches mainly focus on the evaluation and utilization and
71 formation mechanism of mineral water resources in the basalt area of Jingyu and Fusong area,
72 with emphasis on the influence of geological conditions and water-rock interaction. However, the
73 research on the relationship between mineral water and surface water in Antu area is still
74 insufficient.

75 Chemical components in groundwater and surface water are related to recharge, runoff and
76 discharge and occurrence conditions. Solutes in water exchange synchronously with the change of
77 water quantity. And chemical composition of natural water records the history of water formation
78 and transport to a certain extent(Vaughn & Fountain, 2005). The migration of hydrochemical
79 components of surface water and groundwater along the flow direction can reflect the different
80 degrees of hydrochemical reactions in water with the change of distance. And by analyzing the
81 change of hydrochemical components, the transformation relationship between surface water and

82 groundwater can be qualitatively determined and the cyclic evolution characteristics of
83 groundwater and surface water can be revealed. The environmental isotopes in groundwater are
84 stable, so they play a tracer role in groundwater circulation. Changes in the concentration of stable
85 isotopes (D and ^{18}O) in different water bodies can trace their formation and migration patterns, and
86 reveal the law of water circulation and mutual transformation process of different water bodies
87 under the changing environment(Song et al., 2002; Unnikrishna et al., 2002). Usually, the mixing
88 of isotopes is an important reason for the change of isotopes in water bodies. The common mixing
89 of atmospheric precipitation and other types of water is a binary mixture(Gu, 2011). According to
90 the stability of hydrogen and oxygen environment isotopes, the conversion relationship between
91 different water bodies can be described quantitatively.

92 Since the 1950s, environmental isotope technology has developed rapidly and been widely
93 used in the study of water recharge sources and interrelationships. By using the environmental
94 isotope technology to analyze the changes of stable isotopes, the recharge source and range of
95 different water bodies can be obtained(Guo et al., 2015; Liu & Yamanaka, 2012; Mohammed et
96 al., 2012; Payne et al., 1978; Strauch et al., 2006; Vaughn & Fountain, 2005; Zhong et al., 2019).
97 Katz, Coplen, Bullen, & Davis (2010)proposed a quantitative research method for surface water
98 and groundwater system by using the isotopes and water chemical composition characteristics of
99 groundwater and surface water. In addition, a lot of studies have shown that combining
100 hydrochemical and isotopic characteristics in different water bodies can reveal the transformation
101 relations among them(Katz et al., 2010; Musgrove et al., 2010; Rautio & Korkka-Niemi, 2015;
102 Song et al., 2006; Sophocleous, 2002; Zhang et al., 2016).

103 On the base of the hydrochemistry and stable isotope data of mineral water and surface water
104 from data collection and field sampling, this paper analyzes hydrochemistry type and the source of
105 main chemical components. By comparing hydrochemistry and isotope distribution
106 characteristics, we describe the influencing factors of them and reveal the mutual transformation
107 relationship between mineral water and surface water, which will provide a reference for
108 protection and rational utilization of mineral water resources in Changbai Mountain area.

109 **2. DATA AND METHODS**

110 **2.1 Study area**

111 Antu County is located in Yanbian Prefecture, Jilin Province, at the northern foot of Changbai
112 Mountain. The location of the study area and the distribution of main mineral springs are shown in
113 Figure 1.

114

115 [Insert Figure 1]

116

117 The climate of study area has a temperate monsoon sub-humid climate with long winters and
118 short summers. The average monthly climate change is shown in Figure 2. The annual average
119 temperature is 4.0°C , and the annual average precipitation is 752.43mm. Temperature and
120 precipitation show a uniform trend of change. But the annual distribution of precipitation is
121 uneven. About 60% of the precipitation is concentrated in July and August, and it shows a
122 decreasing trend from south to north in space. The annual average evaporation is 761.11mm, and
123 the evaporation reaches its maximum value in April. Except for June and August, the evaporation

124 value is larger than the precipitation value.

125

126 [Insert Figure 2]

127

128 The water system in this area is developed, all of which originates from Changbai Mountain
129 and belongs to Songhua River system. The river valleys are deep and narrow with steep riverbed,
130 rapid water flow and rich water resources. There are mainly Toutoubai River, Erdaobai River and
131 Sandaobai River, etc. The rivers are roughly parallel from west to east and flow into Erdao
132 Songjiang River. Among them, Erdaobai river originates from Tianchi of Changbai Mountain,
133 with a total length of 104.9km, river slope of 6.8‰ and total watershed area of 2933 km². It is a
134 mountainous river with winding river course, steep slope and rapid flow, steep banks and large
135 drop gap. From south to north, the terrain on both sides gradually opens up and there is a large
136 area of forest.

137 The terrain of the study area is high in the south and low in the north. Its highest point is
138 located near Huangsongpu Forest Farm with an elevation of 1308m, and its lowest point is located
139 north of Hongfeng Spring in the north with an elevation of 685m. Under the influence of multi-
140 stage tectonics, the geological structures in the area are complex. The Xinghua-Baitou Mountain
141 Tianchi fault zone is mainly developed in this area. And the type of topography is mainly erosional
142 volcanic lava mountain platform, erosional tectonic mountain, intermountain denudation basin and
143 intermountain valley plain. The main strata is the Neozoic Quaternary Lower Pleistocene System,
144 and the covered rock is the lava rocks of Junjian mountain group(βQ_1).

145 Groundwater type in the area is complete, including fracture pore water of clastic rock,
146 carbonate fissure-cavern water, basalt pore fissure water, loose rock pore water and bedrock
147 fissure water. The distribution of basalt pore fissure water is widespread. And it is closely related
148 to the occurrence and formation of mineral springs with fracture pore water of clastic rock

149 At present, 106 springs have been found in Antu County, among which 27 springs have been
150 surveyed and evaluated. The main distribution locations of the mineral springs are shown in
151 Figure 1. Most of the mineral springs are located near rivers. In the proved mineral water
152 resources, the main type is metasilicic acid and a few are rare compound mineral springs enriched
153 in CO₂. Abundant precipitation in study area provides amount guarantee for the formation of
154 mineral water. The extensive distribution of metasilicate basalt in the area makes groundwater
155 form mineral water which is rich in metasilicic acid through the runoff process. The existence of
156 fracture and lush vegetation provide a good migration, cultivation and storage condition for the
157 formation of high-quality mineral water.

158 Since 2013, Antu County has engaged in the protection and management work of mineral
159 water resources, and introduced a large number of enterprises into production with an annual
160 output of 601,000 m³. With the continuous development of mineral water and increasing
161 construction, to ensure sustainable utilization of water resources and maintain its forming
162 conditions and water quality is very important. Under the condition of mass exploitation in the
163 future, the impact on other water bodies such as surface water resource can not be ignored. Thus,
164 exploring the relationship between surface water and mineral water is of vital importance in the
165 study area.

166 2.2 Data collection

167 A total of 57 water samples were collected for hydrochemistry and isotope analysis including
168 mineral water, surface water and precipitation (Figure 3).

169 According to the distribution location and types of mineral springs and the flow direction of
170 river, mineral and surface water samples were collected in July and October. 500ml-polyethylene
171 bottles were used to collect water samples. After field work, the bottles were sealed, stored at 4°C
172 and transported to the laboratory for test in the shortest time.

173

174 [Insert Figure 3]

175

176 2.3 Analysis methods

177 Electrical conductivity (EC) and water temperature were measured by handled electrical
178 conductivity meter at the field sites. The chemical composition and stable isotope (¹⁸O、D) were
179 measured by the Public Technology Service Center of Northeast Institute of Geography and
180 Agroecology, Chinese Academy of Sciences. The cations and SO₄²⁻ were measured by inductively
181 coupled plasma emission spectrometer (ICP-7500, Agilent Technologies Inc., USA), and the
182 detection limit was less than 10μg/L. Other anions were measured by titration, and the detection
183 limit was 1mg/L. All the detection accuracy is 5%. Anion balance verification is carried out to
184 ensure that the error range of credibility is ±10%. The hydrogen and oxygen isotopes were
185 measured by stable isotope mass spectrometer (MAT253, Thermo Finnigan Inc., USA) and the
186 determination accuracy of δD and δ¹⁸O is ±2‰. The results were reported in per mil deviation
187 relative to VSMOW standard:

$$188 \quad \delta = \left(\frac{R_{sample} - R_{VSMOW}}{R_{VSMOW}} - 1 \right) \times 1000 \text{‰} \quad (1)$$

189 where R_{sample} is the ratio of D/H or ¹⁸O/¹⁶O in water samples, and R_{VSMOW} is the ratio of D/H or
190 ¹⁸O/¹⁶O of VSMOW standard.

191 The professional statistical analysis function of SPSS was used to the maximum value,
192 average value and standard deviation of hydrochemical data. Through Aquachem, Piper diagram
193 was drawn to analyze hydrochemical type of water samples. And Gibbs diagram was made to
194 analyze the source of main chemical components.

195 Based on isotopic mass conservation, end elements are divided to calculate the conversion
196 ratio of different water bodies. The calculation formula of two-end element method is as follows:

$$197 \quad f_A = \frac{\delta_{mix} - \delta_B}{\delta_A - \delta_B} \quad (2)$$

$$198 \quad f_B = 1 - f_A \quad (3)$$

199 where, f_A is the proportion of water A, f_B is the proportion of water B, δ_{mix} is δD or δ¹⁸O of water
200 mixed by A and B.

201 **3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

202 **3.1 Hydrochemical characteristics**

203 *3.1.1 Characteristics of electricity conductivity (EC) and temperature in water* 204 *samples*

205 Conductivity (EC) is an overall reflection of the total dissolved ion content in water. In the
206 process of water transport, soluble rocks will be dissolved continuously and ion exchange will
207 take place in surrounding rocks and soil. To a certain extent, it reflects the runoff path and
208 retention time of water flow in the regional water cycle(Song et al., 2006).

209 As shown in Figure 4, EC value of mineral water in July is 84~1718 μ s/cm and of surface
210 water is 117~165 μ s/cm. In October, EC value is 90~1680 μ s/cm and 120~190 μ s/cm respectively.
211 On the whole, the EC of surface water fluctuates more in different months and in October it is
212 slightly higher than that in July. That is because there is more precipitation in summer and the
213 river runoff becomes larger, which will dilute the concentration of chemical components. The
214 differences of EC among different mineral water is small and the overall EC is smaller than that of
215 river water due to more intensive evaporation of surface water. There are two mineral springs with
216 abnormally high EC value, namely Q-1-1 and Q-2-4. The main reason for this phenomenon is that
217 the two springs are both compound mineral springs rich in CO₂ and the high content of HCO₃⁻
218 leads to the increase in the total dissolved ion content in the water. So the EC is much higher than
219 others.

220

221 [Insert Figure 4]

222

223 Water temperature in July is higher than that in October, which is in line with the law of
224 climate change in the study area. Surface water is warmer than mineral water. The reason may be
225 that mineral springs are generally distributed in the forest areas with high vegetation coverage,
226 which leads to less direct sunlight. And the change of ground temperature has slight impact on the
227 underground temperature. So the water temperature is lower and the change range is small. As a
228 hot spring, Q-2-4 has the highest temperature and its temperature maintain at a certain level all the
229 year and is almost not affected by climate change. Surface water exposed to the sunlight directly,
230 so it is greatly affected by climate change and the change of water temperature is more obvious.

231 *3.1.2 Main hydrochemistry characteristics*

232 The hydrochemistry data of mineral water collected from 2016 to 2019 are summarized. The
233 results are shown in Table I.

234

235 [Insert Table I]

236

237 Mineral water in the study area is alkalescence. pH range is 6.96~7.89 with the perennial
238 average is 7.34. TDS is at a low salinity level ranging from 93.8 to 188.0mg/L, with an average
239 value of 131.80mg/L. The metasilicic acid concentration of each spring point conforms to the
240 provisions in the “National Standard for Food Safety -- Drinking Natural Mineral
241 Water”(GB8537-2018) and meets the standard for metasilicic acid content of mineral water
242 (25mg/L). The content of metasilicic acid range from 49.6 to 59.13mg/L, and the average value is

243 up to 55.37mg /L. There is a small difference in the content of cations. The average values of K^+ ,
244 Na^+ , Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} are 2.83 mg/L, 8.26 mg/L, 6.77 mg/L and 4.53 mg/L respectively. In anion,
245 HCO_3^- is dominant with a perennial average of 59.78 mg/L. The concentration of F^- range is
246 0.38~1.77 mg/L. The maximum F^- concentration of Q-3-3 in 2018 and 2019 exceeds 1 mg/L, the
247 value is 1.34 mg/L and 1.77 mg/L respectively. Cl^- concentration of two springs is also higher than
248 that in other years. The reason is in the volcanic area the release of Cl^- and F^- is closely related to
249 the deep magmatic activity and magmatic degassing. When the content of both is positively
250 correlated, it indicates that the source of the spring is related to the degassing of the deep
251 magmatic sac(Lin et al., 1999). The variation trend of TDS is consistent with that of HCO_3^- , which
252 indicates HCO_3^- is the main factor affecting TDS.

253 As shown in Figure 5, the perennial variation coefficient and of the main components in
254 mineral water is shown. It can be seen that the variation degree of pH and characteristic
255 component metasilicic acid relatively stable. The variation degree of TDS is the largest, which is
256 mainly affected by the content of HCO_3^- and the strength of water-rock interaction during runoff
257 process.

258

259 [Insert Figure 5]

260

261 The hydrochemical data of mineral water and surface water collected in 2020 are
262 summarized. The statistical results are shown in Table II.

263

264 [Insert Table II]

265

266 The pH range of surface water is 7.20~7.76 and the average value was 7.41 with a small
267 fluctuation. TDS is at a low salinity level with a range of 98.0~182.0mg/L and an average of
268 123.57mg/L, which is slightly lower than mineral water. The variation range of metasilicic acid
269 concentration is 23.89~52.38mg/L and the average value is 43.01mg /L. Except for B-1, all the
270 other surface waters reach the standard of metasilicate acid content of 25 mg/L. The F^-
271 concentration varies from 0.47 to 1.56mg /L with an average of 1.01mg/L, which is slightly higher
272 than that of mineral water. The highest F^- concentration is B-3-1, which is close to Q-3-3. There
273 may be a hydraulic connection between them making the F^- concentration high and close.
274 Different from mineral water, Na^+ has the most obvious advantage among cations in surface water
275 with an average value of 17.08 mg/L. The dominant anion is HCO_3^- , which is as same as spring
276 water, and with an average value of 71.52mg/L.

277 **3.1.3 Hydrochemical type and source of main ions**

278 The Piper diagram was made by using Aquachem software to analyze the hydrochemical
279 types of surface water and mineral water, as shown in Figure 6.

280

281 [Insert Figure 6]

282

283

284 The distribution of anions in surface water and mineral water in different watersheds is
285 relatively concentrated. The main anion is HCO_3^- . But cations are relatively dispersed and the
286 hydrochemical types of surface water and spring water in each watershed are greatly different.

287 Among them, the cations of spring water in Toudaobai river watershed are obviously inclined to
288 Mg^{2+} and the hydrochemical type is HCO_3 -Mg. While the cations of surface water fall in the
289 middle of Piper diagram with no obvious dominant cations, the hydrochemical type is HCO_3 -Na-
290 Mg-Ca. In Erdaobai river watershed, there are some differences in the hydrochemical types among
291 water samples. The cations of surface water fall in the lower right part of Piper diagram, The main
292 cation is Na^+ . The hydrochemical type is HCO_3 -Na. Most of the cations in the spring fall in the
293 middle of Piper diagram with no obvious dominant cations. The hydrochemical type is HCO_3 -Na-
294 Mg-Ca. But as a compound mineral spring, Q-2-4 is significantly deviated from the distribution
295 position of other springs in the Piper diagram. The cations fall in the left side and the main cation
296 is Ca^{2+} . The hydrochemical type is HCO_3 -Ca. The hydrochemical types of surface water in
297 Sandaobai river watershed change along with the flow direction. The main cation in the upper and
298 middle reaches is Na^+ , and there is no dominant cations in the lower reaches. The hydrochemical
299 type changes from HCO_3 -Na to HCO_3 -Na-Mg-Ca, indicating that more Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} are
300 dissolved due to the change of environmental conditions. Most of the cations in the springs fall in
301 the middle and the dominant cations are not obvious. The hydrochemical type is HCO_3 -Na-Mg-
302 Ca.

303 Gibbs diagram can be used to quantitatively describe the sources of ions in water by
304 reflecting the dominant processes of precipitation, rock weathering or evaporation(Gibbs, 1970).
305 Gibbs diagrams of water samples in study area are shown in Figure 7.

306

307 [Insert Figure 7]

308

309 From Figure 7, it can be seen that most of the surface water and metasilicate mineral springs
310 fall in the middle of the figure. The ions mainly come from the weathering release of rocks. The
311 two compound mineral springs fall on the top of the figures and outside the distribution model.
312 There is no evaporation conditions for the location of two springs, so the source of ions may be
313 the deep underground water after a strong water cycle and water-rock interaction.

314 **3.2 Stable isotopic characteristics**

315 The hydrogen and oxygen isotopic relationships of precipitation, mineral water and surface
316 water samples collected in 2020 are analyzed, as shown in Figure 8.

317

318 [Insert Figure 8]

319

320 **3.2.1 Precipitation**

321 It can be seen from the Figure 8 that the precipitation points fall below the local meteoric
322 water line (LMWL). The isotope of two precipitation samples in July is more enriched than that in
323 October, mainly for the following reasons.

324 First, the re-evaporation of precipitation will affect the slope of the precipitation line. This is
325 because the air humidity of the atmosphere or near-earth gas layer that the precipitation passes
326 through is very low, which makes the precipitation vaporize when it reaches the ground. The
327 precipitation may exchange isotopes with the rising water vapor in the clouds, resulting in the
328 change of isotopic composition.

329 Second, the sources of water vapor in the study area in summer are mainly local water vapor

330 in the west and northwest directions, as well as the water vapor brought by the monsoon from the
331 Pacific Ocean. Due to the generally high temperature and strong evaporation in the interior of the
332 continent in summer, lakes and rivers in the interior of the continent have absorbed most of the
333 local water vapor(Cui, 1995; Li et al., 2012). So the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of precipitation brought by terrestrial
334 water vapor from the northwest and local re-evaporating water vapor is relatively high. In autumn,
335 sources of water vapor are mainly the polar Arctic Ocean moisture and the Atlantic ocean moisture
336 transported by westerlies(Li et al., 2012). Influenced by monsoon climate, the air mass from the
337 ocean in the whole northeast region from May to October is characterized by high humidity, weak
338 evaporation and high precipitation. So during this period $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ has smaller fluctuation..

339 In addition, affected by temperature effect(Clark & Fritz, 1997), the moisture content in the
340 air and the water vapor pressure increase with the increase of temperature, $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values also
341 increase. In July the temperature is higher than in October, therefore isotopes are more enriched.

342 **3.2.2 Surface water and mineral water**

343 In July and October, there is no obvious difference between the isotopic composition of
344 Erdaobai river and Sandaobai river. So the supply conditions and evaporation intensity did not
345 change much. Isotopes of Sandaobai river are close to LMWL, indicating that the river is mainly
346 recharged by atmospheric precipitation and is less affected by evaporation. Caused by
347 evaporation, Erdaobai river deviate from LMWL slightly, but the slope and deuterium surplus (d)
348 value is close to it. Isotopes of two river enrich and d values decrease gradually along the flow
349 direction, indicating the river is a continuous flow, and the water body has certain variability. The
350 evaporation influence during the flow process is different and unbalanced, and the water cycle
351 becomes more intense along the flow direction.

352 There is a big difference between the isotopic enrichment degree of Toutaobai river and
353 mineral water. In July, Toutaobai river fall on the lower right of LMWL and is far away from it,
354 indicating that it is also recharged by other supplies except atmospheric precipitation. It might be
355 the glacier melting snow of Changbai Mountain. The isotope of Toudaobai river is the most
356 enriched, and the d value is negative. This phenomenon always appears in the arid region(Gu et
357 al., 1998). But the climate in the study area is sub-humid climate and the water vapor is rich. For
358 the abnormal phenomenon, climate factors can be ruled out. It may be due to the long recharge
359 path and slow runoff process, which makes the interaction with the surrounding rocks is intensive.
360 And there may occur secondary evaporation during the recharge process. However, the isotope of
361 Toudaobai River falls near the LMWL in October, indicating an obvious change in the recharge
362 source. Atmospheric precipitation recharge has a certain delay. After the precipitation
363 concentration period in July and August(Figure 2), the supply source changed from glacier melting
364 to precipitation, leading to changes in the isotopic composition.

365 Isotopes of mineral water in July fall in the lower left corner, above the LMWL. Slope of δD -
366 $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ fitting line is 3.31, less than atmospheric precipitation line slope 7.77. d value ranges
367 11.56~15.89. Along with the flow direction, the change law is not significant, indicating the
368 recharged degree of each mineral spring is different. Some mineral spring may be recharged by
369 deep underground water, and in the infiltration process of atmospheric precipitation, evaporation
370 and water-rock interaction will happen. In October, isotope composition is more enriched and
371 close to the isotope composition of LMWL and surface water, indicating the recharge supply
372 changes into precipitation. Combining EC and ions change of surface water and mineral water, it
373 can be preliminarily determined that there are frequent mutual transformation processes between

374 them.

375 **3.3 Analysis of relationship between surface water and mineral water**

376 In combination with the hydrochemical characteristics of water bodies in the study area, the
377 characteristic components of mineral water, metasilicic acid (H_2SiO_3) and the conventional ion Cl^-
378 are used as tracers. Due to the slow cycling rate of mineral water, δD and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ are in a low value
379 state compared with surface water. When the isotope values change, the transformation
380 relationship between different water bodies can also be revealed.

381 **3.3.1 Toudaobai river watershed**

382 The tracing component content of mineral water and surface water in Toudaobai River
383 watershed is shown in Figure 9.

384

385 [Insert Figure 9]

386

387

388 From Figure 9, there is a large difference of isotopic composition between Q-1-1 and B-1 in
389 July. In October, the isotopic compositions of the two points are similar, but the Cl^- concentration
390 of Q-1-1 is 18.46mg/L, and the concentration of H_2SiO_3 is 111.74mg/L. The corresponding
391 concentrations of B-1 are 9.66mg/L and 23.89mg/L, respectively.

392 Combined with the actual situation, Q-1-1 locates at a high altitude and is rich in CO_2 .
393 Therefore, its hydraulic connection with surface water is weak. In July and October the main
394 recharge source of mineral water and surface water is greatly change. After concentrated period of
395 precipitation, the recharge sources of Q-1-1 change from atmospheric precipitation and
396 underground water mainly to atmospheric precipitation.

397 **3.3.2 Erdaobai river watershed**

398 The tracing component content of mineral water and surface water in Erdaobai River
399 watershed is shown in Figure 10.

400

401 [Insert Figure 10]

402

403 From Figure 10, Cl^- content of the surface water in Erdaobaihe River basin is greater than
404 that of mineral water, and the content of H_2SiO_3 is less than that of mineral water. $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ is enriched.
405 There is oxygen shifting along the flow direction. Cl^- content of mineral water also presents an
406 increasing trend, and the upstream isotope is more enriched than downstream. The variation of
407 H_2SiO_3 in mineral water is small and shows an increasing trend, but the concentration of H_2SiO_3 in
408 surface water decreases. On the whole, isotopes and hydrochemistry show a uniform trend of
409 change. According to equation (2), the recharge proportion of mineral water to surface water is
410 about 61%. The isotopic composition and change of surface water in October are same as that in
411 July. Although the isotopic of mineral water is enriched obviously compared with that in July, the
412 variation trend is opposite to that of surface water. And there is also a certain difference in
413 hydrochemical change. Therefore, the hydraulic connection between the two is weak in October.

414 **3.3.2 Sandaobai river watershed**

415 The tracing component content of mineral water and surface water in Sandaobai River
416 watershed is shown in Figure 11.

417

418 [Insert Figure 11]

419

420 It can be seen from Figure 11, in July the other components content of surface water are
421 higher than that of mineral water except for H_2SiO_3 , among which $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ is consistent with the
422 change trend of Cl^- . According to equation (2), the recharge proportion of mineral water to surface
423 water is about 69%.

424 In October, the contents of H_2SiO_3 and Cl^- in surface water and mineral water change little,
425 but $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ shows great difference. The change trend between surface water and mineral water is
426 opposite, which was consistent with the rule of Erdaobaihe river watershed. The interaction
427 between surface water and mineral water is weak in October.

428 From the above analysis, it can be seen that the hydraulic connection between surface water
429 and mineral water is weak in different periods in Toutaobai river watershed. But there is an
430 obvious interaction between mineral water and surface water in Erdaobai river watershed and
431 Sandaobai river watershed, as shown in Figure 12.

432

433 [Insert Figure 12]

434

435 Mineral water recharges surface water in July, and the recharge ratio is more than 60%.
436 Precipitation has an obvious lag effect on the recharge of mineral water and surface water. After
437 the concentrated precipitation in July and August, the hydrogen and oxygen isotopes of surface
438 water and mineral spring in all watersheds in October are obviously close to the local meteoric
439 water line, and the main recharge sources are mainly precipitation. Therefore, mineral water is one
440 of the main factors affecting the amount of surface water resources in summer. In the process of
441 mineral water resources development, it is necessary to pay attention to the change of river flow to
442 avoid the damage of regional water resources balance caused by excessive development.

443 4 CONCLUSIONS

444 A combined application of hydrochemical indicators and stable environment isotope
445 characterization are performed to study the mineral water and surface water in Changbai Mountain
446 area. The conclusive remarks are summarized as follows:

447 In the study area, EC changes little in summer and autumn and EC of surface water is
448 slightly higher than that of mineral water. Besides, EC changes slightly along the flow direction of
449 groundwater and surface water. Temperature change conforms to the climate change characteristic.

450 The annual fluctuation of surface water and mineral water hydrochemistry in the study area
451 is relatively slight. The hydrochemical type of surface water is mainly HCO_3^- -Na, while the
452 hydrochemical type of mineral water is mainly HCO_3^- -Na-Mg-Ca type. And it does not change
453 significantly along the river flow direction. Most of the ions in mineral water mainly come from
454 rock weathering. Ions of two compound mineral springs rich in CO_2 may be from deep
455 groundwater through strong water circulation and water-rock interaction.

456 The main recharge source of water in study area is precipitation. Precipitation isotope
457 deviates from LMWL and is rich in $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, which is affected by the water vapor source. Slopes of
458 different δD - $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ relation lines are smaller than LMWL caused by evaporation. The isotopes of
459 surface water are more enriched than mineral water. The water cycle and evaporation of surface

460 water are more strongly.

461 The recharge sources of mineral water and surface water in different watersheds have
 462 changes in each period, and precipitation has a certain delayed effect to the replenishment of
 463 different water resource. In July, in addition to atmospheric precipitation, the Toudaobai River
 464 received the glacier melt snow supply of Changbai Mountain. The Erdaobai River and Sandaobai
 465 River receive the joint recharge of precipitation and mineral water and the recharge proportion is
 466 above 60%. In October, precipitation is the main source of water supply. Mineral water resource in
 467 summer is the main factor affecting the water amount. Therefore, in the process of mineral spring
 468 development, attention should be paid to the balance of other water resources to avoid excessive
 469 development.

470

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