EMPIRICISM, THEORY, AND PROBLEM SOLVING IN ROCK ENGINEERING

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Beaumont TBM Tunnel, 1880 : wedge-failure, stress-failure, tidal influence. Three photos separated by 150 m.



WHY THE 'OVER-BREAK'/ POTENTIAL INSTABILITY?

Because of adverse Jn, Jr, Ja (JRC, JCS, **¢**r), Jw, **SRF**

> and dip/dip direction, gravity, density.

The origin and numerous applications of these parameters (Jn, Jr, Ja, JRC, JCS, ϕ_r , Jw, SRF, Q) will be (part of) the subject of this lecture.

ACTUAL EMPIRICAL BEHAVIOUR or ASSUMED BEHAVIOUR ??

Empiricism: <u>a posteriori (= behaviour</u> based on experience) is better than <u>a priori (</u>= 'behaviour' (?) based on assumptions).

There are too many <u>a priori</u> assumptions (clothed in some amazing algebra) which are used by many of us these days....e.g. GSI/Phase 2?

PART 1

A DISCONTINUOUS (and idealized) EXPERIMENTAL/EMPIRICAL START IN 1966

at Imperial ('Empirical') College, London







DST on 200 artificial tension fractures in a variety of brittle model materials (Barton, 1971)







NOTE LACK OF ACTUAL COHESION <u>UNLESS</u> STEPPED ("secondary") FRACTURES ARE TESTED



(----- = no decimal places) $\tau = \sigma_n \cdot \tan \left[20 \cdot \log(UCS/\sigma_n) + 30^0 \right]$



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<u>2D</u> JOINTED "ROCK-MASS"

Tension-fracture models used for '*rock slope' studies* (at Imperial College) 1968-1969.

'Nuclear power plant' *rock cavern* investigations (50m) (at NGI) 1977-1978 (pre-UDEC)



2D 'rock mass' research conducted in the laboratory

Physical (1977) models (this colour) follow here which *pre-date* UDEC:

- Artificial, but some useful lessons
- They are physical, not conceptual
- They are 'a posteriori', not 'a priori' !



BIAXIAL LOADING

Scale-effect investigations

250, 1000, or 4000 blocks.

"Always" got rotational failures with small blocks!



Shearing by *rotation of individual blocks,* following local 'kinking' within the mass? BIAXIAL LOADING TESTS WITH HIGHLY ANISOTROPIC STRESS APPLICATION (as under a big rock slide?)



APPROPOS: LARGE DEBRIS and ROCK SLIDES (Front cover: eds. J.Clague, D. Stead)



FRANK SLIDE (Wikipedia)



TRAVEL DISTANCE VARIABILITY

- SAY 0.5 to 1 km TRAVEL DISTANCE EXPECTED
- WITH 'AIR-CUSHION' (Chinese research) 2km

- REALITY (sometimes) is > 20 km
- SLIDE MASSES TOO HOT FOR RESCUE PARTIES

WHY?: Rotational friction, block crushing, extreme heating, ground water converted to steam, 'steamcushioned slides' due to 'gas' pressure? $(V_2/V_1 = 1,400:1)$

SUCCESSIVE HALVING OF THE BLOCK SIZE – HAS DRAMATIC ROTATIONAL (degree-of-freedom) EFFECTS, ALSO WITH UDEC-MC. (helps to explain the drama of fault zones: worse with clay and water)



Shen, B. & Barton, N. 1997. The disturbed zone around tunnels in jointed rock masses.

ROCK JOINTS :

THEY (ALSO) SHOWED NON-LINEAR SHEAR STRENGTH (and no cohesion!)



130 joint samples. Roughness measurement and *tilt test* (Barton and Choubey, 1977)





TILT TEST 'THEORY'

σ _n (MPa)	$\arctan_{(\tau/\sigma_n)}$	arctan $(\tau/\sigma_n)^{\circ}$	
		JRC = 5	JRC = 10
100 †	$>\phi_{\rm r}$	>30°	>30°
10	$\phi_{\rm r}$ + JRC	35°	40°
1	$\phi_{\rm r}$ + 2 JRC	40°	50°
0.1	$\phi_{\rm r}$ + 3 JRC	45°	60°
0.01 ‡	$\phi_{\rm r}$ + 4 JRC	50°	70°
0.001 ‡	$\phi_{\rm r}$ + 5 JRC	55°	80°

$$JRC = \frac{\alpha^{\circ} - \phi_{r}^{\circ}}{\log \left[\frac{JCS}{\sigma_{n}}\right]}$$

where α° = arctan (τ/σ_n)

(Barton and Bandis, 1990)



130 rock-joint samples (Barton and Choubey 1977)

Three curved **peak shear strength** envelopes **and no cohesion!**

1.Maximum strength with JRC = 16.9

2. Mean parameters JRC = 8.9 JCS = 92 MPa φr = 28°

3. Minimum strength with φr = 26⁰





TO THOSE WHO HAVE PERFORMED PH.D.'s AND ARE SELLING SOFTWARE – PLEASE NOTE it is φr since 1977 !



VISUAL MATCHING OF ROUGHNESS – for JRC... USEFUL BUT HAS LIMITATIONS

(Barton and Choubey, 1977)





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EXAMPLE of ROUGHNESS CONTRAST – BACK-CALCULATED FROM DST (L = 400 mm: Nevada Test Site welded tuff)





ARCTAN (נ∕ס,)

MEASURED

NOTE: above JRC-**JCS** strength criterion was developed from tilt and push test correlation with DST

> (not from analysing roughness profiles!)

PREDICTED ARCTAN $(\tau / \sigma_n)^{\circ}$

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JCS < UCS

JCS > UCS (?)



SCALE EFFECTS FOR INDIVIDUAL JOINTS





Bandis 1980 Ph.D.

Ahead-of-their-time scale-effect investigations. One set of many joint replica tests.



The angular components of *peak shear strength*, with asperity strength (S_A), and peak dilation angle (d_n) each included. (Barton, 1971)





Asperity component S_A means that JRC (or φr) cannot be back-calculated by subtracting dilation (d_n) from peak strength. Φr or Φ_b would then be dangerously too high (e.g. 40°) as in some earlier Hong Kong work. (JRC would also be incorrect).





JRC_{mobilized} defined

(also with dimensionless displacement)

Barton, 1978, 1982



Then possible to predict/model shear stressdisplacement and dilationdisplacement behaviour.

(Barton, 1982, with scaling from Bandis et al. 1981).

Note (double) scale effect on shear stiffness (Ks), because it is strongly <u>scale-and-stress-dependent</u>.

(Ks usually < 1 MPa/mm, 0.1 MPa/mm if large blocks)



Well-jointed wedge. **Remains in** place because of the *higher* shear strength of the smaller component blocks?

 $\tau = \sigma_n \tan \left[JRC_n \log \left(\frac{JCS_n}{\sigma_n} \right) + \phi_r \right]$
Larger blocks defining wedge (failure at much shallower angle of dip)



Before leaving shear strength envelopes:

When a rock mass fails: 1st, 2nd, 3rd (and 5th) envelopes are mobilized at different strains - not like H-B / GSI estimation (Barton, 1976, 1999, 2006)



INTO THE FIELD !!

CHARACTERIZATION OF JOINTING, DEFORMABILITY, AT MAJOR DAM SITES

- IRAN: **KARUN IV** 230 m
- IRAN: BAKHTIARY 325 m
- CHINA: BAIHETAN 283 m (2 x 8,000 мw)

"You need to hire a *rock-climbing-engineering-geology* group to characterise the major joint planes that define the two major wedges that your company are worried about"



Some kilos lighter, and not telling his wife the reason, Iranian colleague M.Zargari is profiling major-joint MJ-67, Karun IV Dam, Iran



Schmidt rebound (R) on intact rock (> r on joint plane) Karun IV Dam site canyon, Iran





The a/L method for *roughness* is used when JRC is TOO LARGE



For the very rough bedding plane, had to use "a/L" method Mean $JRC_n = 11$ (for 2m block size)

COLUMNAR JOINTING AT A MAJOR DAM SITE IN CHINA

(Baihetan, 283m, 2 x 8000 MW)

BAIHETAN DAM and POWER GENERATION: 2 X 8,000 MW HydroChina/ECIDI







RECORDING OF ROUGHNESS FOR **JRC** ESTIMATION, 70 to 140 m into the canyon walls.

(May need stripping to this competent-rock depth)

RECORDING OF SCHMIDT-HAMMER REBOUND FOR JCS ESTIMATION



APPLICATION OF JRC and JCS to ROCK MASS DEFORMABILITY and to MODELLING with UDEC-BB

(see columnar basalt behaviour)



Stress-closure and scale-effect shear tests. (Bandis et al. 1981 and 1983)

The N, S components in rock mass *load-deformation* mechanisms. (Barton, 1986)

There is plate-load / block-test evidence for these three P-∆ type-curves.



UDEC-BB simulations (Chryssanthakis, NGI)

EMPHASISES WHY DISCONTINUUM ANALYSES GIVE MORE EXCITEMENT/INTEREST/ VALUE/REALISM than analyses without joints!

PART 2

Q-SYSTEM

- □ SINCE 1974 Q HAS ACTUALLY BECOME "A SYSTEM", SINCE THERE ARE NOW SEVERAL COMPONENTS.
- (50 rock types in first 210 cases, 1250 case records)
- **Q** rockmass classification, **Q**-histograms
- **Q** for *'single shell'* **NMT support** (B + Sfr, RRS)
- \Box Qc (= Q x UCS/100) for correlating with VP and EMASS
- **Q** as part of Qтвм for TBM prognosis
- **Q**SLOPE for selecting safe slope angles (in progress)
- **Qc split into CC and FC (***if* 'continuum' modelling)

EXAMPLE OF SLOPE ANGLE MATCHED TO GEOTECHNICAL PROPERTIES (*or to local Q-slope* = 0.1, 1.0, 10). (Panama expansion project, 2011. PCA photo)



<u>Why/how was Q developed</u>?

Because of a question to NGI in 1973: *"Why are Norwegian underground power houses showing such a variety of deformations"?*(from Norwegian State Power Board/ STATKRAFT)

Question passed to NB. Answer given after 6 months of *Q-system development!*

VARIABLES: Rock mass quality, support type/quantity, span/height, depth, stress.

212 case records used. B, S(mr), B+S(mr), CCA.



















VARIABLE WORLD NEEDS BROAD-REACH CHARACTERIZATION METHOD















VARIABLE WORLD CANNOT ALWAYS BE COMPUTER MODELLED – BUT IT CAN BE CHARACTERIZED 57

Strength contrast, modulus contrast, constructability contrast (15 years/1 year)! $0.001 \rightarrow 1000$, or $5 \rightarrow 95$, or $F7 \rightarrow F1$???



A GLIMSE OF NMT (SINGLE-SHELL TUNNELLING)

for which the Q-system was actually designed



The Q-system is most strongly associated with '<u>single shell'</u> solutions : (B+Sfr + water control) (= NMT= Norwegian Method of Tunnelling) in *mostly* better rock, costs about 1/5 x 'double-shell' NATM, e.g. 20,000 US \$/m compared to 100,000 US \$/m (Costs from many countries).



RRS is a flexible (until bolted) 'lattice' girder.

3D effect because of S(fr) arches.





QUESTION: SHALLOW METRO or DEEP METRO?

- MIXED-FACE OR ROCK?
- 5 m PER WEEK OR 20 m PER WEEK?

COST
DIFFERENCE
MAY BE 5:1
(at least)







RELATIVE <u>COST</u> FOR TUNNEL EXCAVATION AND SUPPORT (Barton, Roald, Buen, 2001)

......potential benefits of pre-grouting, especially if $Q \approx 0.1$



Pre-injection screen 30-70 holes, 20-30m long, 0.5-1.0 m c/c (Hognestad and Frogner, 2005..... and Garshol (ICE/HK, 2010)





BÆRUM TUNNEL RAIL TUNNEL. Pre-injection in progress. Truck mounted grout storage and mixing. Note up to 70 holes for dry 110m2 tunnel in shales and limestones. Packered injection 'lances' are chained for safety. 24-30 hours CYCLE time. Cost of finished NMT tunnel: < 25,000/m

Q-HISTOGRAM METHOD of logging



THE RESULT OF Q-HISTOGRAM LOGGING OF *SIX CORES* AT A PLANNED METRO PROJECT IN HONG KONG. DEVIATED HOLES.





How do the Q-parameter histograms change, as depth is increased in the same rock type?



CHARACTER OF SAPROLITE AND SOIL



LOGGED CHARACTER OF NEAR-SURFACE SANDSTONES



LOGGED CHARACTER OF DEEPER SANDSTONES





J & K rail-link, Kashmir. Here 12m/2 years.


Class 2: Q = 10 to 40









Class 3: Q = 4 to 10









Class 4: Q = 1 to 4









Class 5: Q = 0.1 to 1









VELOCITY-MODULUS-PERMEABILITY-Q-VALUE CHALLENGES, AT BAKHTIARY DAM SITE, IRAN (325 m)



How to characterize voids?

Velocity-moduluspermeability-Q-value correlation difficulties.





Upper diversion tunnel: top heading



In diversion tunnel $Q_{m.f.} = 40$ $Q_{mean} = 14$

Next steps:

 Convert Q to Qc (UCS?)
 Convert to Vp
 Convert to Emass



 $Q_{c} = \left[\frac{RQD}{J_{n}} \times \frac{J_{r}}{J_{a}} \times \frac{J_{w}}{SRF}\right] \frac{\sigma_{c}}{100}$

Seismic velocity (km/sec.

TBM prognosis and comparing with drill-and-blast



145 cases, ≈ 1000 km, open-gripper trends (Barton, 2000).



SEVERAL PAGES OF WORLD RECORDS BY TBM – ASSEMBLED BY ROBBINS, GIVE THE FOLLOWING RESULTS WHEN COMBINED Assume 24 hrs/day, 168 hrs/week, 720 hrs/month



LNS (Northern Svea Tunnel, Spitsbergen Norway 160 contractor) 140 Leonhard Nilsen & 120 Sonner A/S 100 Meter per week 32 weeks 80 >100m/week 60 (Drill-and-blast 40 mine access tunnel, one 20 face) 26 28 30 32 38 38 40 42 24 Week



WHY TBM DELAYS IN FAULT ZONES ? "Theo-empirical" reasons Lack of belief gets paid for!



'THEO – EMPIRICAL' REASONS WHY FAULT ZONES ARE SO DIFFICULT FOR TBM – THREE BASIC EQUATIONS:

- 1. AR = PR x U (all TBM must follow this)
- 2. $U = T^m$ (due to the decelerating advance rate with time)
- 3. T = L / AR (obviously time for length L must be proportional to 1/AR)
- 4. <u>T = (L / PR) (1 / (1+m)</u> (from #1, #2 and #3)
- 5. This is VERY important for TBM.....since (-)m is strongly related to Q-valuesin FAULT ZONES.
- It is important because very *negative (-)m* values make *1/(1+m)* TOO BIG – *giving 'huge delays' (T in months or years)*

BUT...Q CAN BE IMPROVED BY PRE-GROUTING ! (IMPROVE –m....to less negative value)



Rock mass quality
$$\mathbf{Q} = \left(\frac{\mathbf{R}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{D}}{\mathbf{J}_{n}}\right) \times \left(\frac{\mathbf{J}_{r}}{\mathbf{J}_{a}}\right) \times \left(\frac{\mathbf{J}_{w}}{\mathbf{S}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{F}}\right)$$

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RAIL TUNNEL PROGNOSIS – OSLO-SKI / FOLLO-BANEN





CENTRAL Q-VALUES AND Q_{TBM} VALUES ARE BEST FOR GOOD TBM PROGRESS. TAIL-DISTRIBUTIONS 'BETTER' WITH D+B !



Note records for *drill-andblast:* 176m/one face in 168 hours (7x24) week.

Whole project 104 m/week average – IN COAL-MEASURE ROCKS needing B+S(fr).

LNS Norway

PHYSICAL (2D) MODELS of ROCK CAVERNS, AS FORE-RUNNER TO *UDEC-BB* FLEXIBILITY (1977-1978)



THE 'jointed' NATURE OF THE MODELLING MATERIAL (Post- 'seismic' loading result, following 0.2 to 0.5 g)





Physical and FEM modelling (Barton and Hansteen, 1979) suggested possible 'heave' resulting from largecavern construction near the surface.....

.....depended on joint pattern and horizontal stress level in the physical models.

GJØVIK CAVERN

INCREASE OF LARGEST CAVERN SPAN BY ALMOST 2 x

(Note also the three deep caverns in a Norwegian road tunnel)





Gjøvik Olympic cavern represented a big jump.....in span and confidence!

(Figure from Sharp, 1996: UK Nirex study)

BLUE: Lærdal Tunnel (three lorry-turning and *'wake-up-driver'* caverns in 24.5 km long tunnel)

CAVERN PRECEDENT STUDY

LÆRDAL TUNNEL lorry-turning caverns (three of them) 30 m span, depths 1,000 to 1,400 m (Photo G.Lotsberg)



Gjøvik cavern : an 'extension' of 1974 Q-system data base. (Q_{min} , Q_{mean} , and Q_{max} values of **1**, **12**, **30** logged in the cavern) RQD = 60-90%, UCS = 90 MPa was typical.





REINFORCEMENT CATEGORIES

- 1) Unsupported
- 2) Spot bolting, sb
- 3) Systematic bolting, B
- 4) Systematic bolting (and unreinforced shotcrete, 4-10cm, B(+S)
- 5) Fiber reinforced shotcrete and bolting, 5-9cm, Sfr+B

- 6) Fiber reinforced shotcrete and bolting, 9 - 12cm, Sfr+B
- Fiber reinforced shotcrete and bolting, 12 - 15cm, Sfr+B
- 8) Fiber reinforced shotcrete > 15cm, reinforced ribs of shotcrete and bolting, Sfr, RRS+B
- 9) Cast concrete lining,CCA

GJØVIK CAVERN JOINT-GEOMETRY ASSUMPTIONS input data, boundary stresses

Barton, N., By, T.L., Chryssanthakis, P., Tunbridge, L., Kristiansen, J., Løset, F., Bhasin, R.K., Westerdahl,
H. & Vik, G. 1994. Predicted and measured performance of the 62m span Norwegian Olympic Ice
Hockey Cavern at Gjøvik. Int. J. Rock Mech, Min. Sci. & Geomech. Abstr. 31:6: 617-641. Pergamon.



TOP HEADING TOO WIDE TO OBSERVE FROM ONE LOCATION





The final modelled 7 to 9 mm (downwards directed) deformations matched the unknown (to be measured) result almost perfectly.

(UDEC-BB modelling by Chryssanthakis, NGI)



DEFORMATION RECORDS FROM MPBX AND LEVELLING



 Δ = 7 to 8 mm was typical.

Construction period: week 24 to week 52, following arrival of access tunnels (top and bottom).

B x H x L = 62 x 24 x 90 = 140,000 m3

Typical NMT B + S(fr) DRAINED

CONTINUUM (??) Or DISCONTINUUM MODELLING



Borehole stability studies at NGI

Continuum becomes a discontinuum!





Drilling into $\sigma_1 > \sigma_2 > \sigma_3$ loaded cubes 0.5 x 0.5 x 0.5 m of model sandstone


Jinping II (D+B) – ISRM News Journal Physical model – bored under stress (NGI) Jinping II (TBM) – ISRM workshop (NB)

Log-spiral shear modes in weaker rock types



Three FRACOD models showing fracturing development. Baotang Shen, 2004

Cundall and Cundall.....but the choice is clear!

(NGI modelling by Lise Backer)







Elastic-Plastic

NEED for **CHANGE**

CONVENTIONAL continuum modelling methods are suspect.

Poor simulation with Mohr Coulomb or Hoek and Brown strength criteria.

(Hajiabdolmajid, Martin and Kaiser, 2000 "Modelling brittle failure", NARMS.)

So why performed by so many consultants?

× Shear failure o Tensile failure







Degrade cohesion, mobilize friction: excellent match.

(Hajiabdolmajid, Martin and Kaiser, 2000 "Modelling brittle failure", NARMS.)

NOW AN ALTERNATIVE WAY TO ESTIMATE 'c' and '\varphi' FOR ROCK MASSES

(but still need to *degrade c* at small strain, and *mobilize φ* at larger strain)

CC and FC from Qc = Q x σ_c /100 : $Qc = \frac{RQD}{Jn x Jr} \frac{Jr}{Ja x Jw} \frac{SRF}{SRF} x \sigma_c \frac{100}{5}$ <u>CC = cohesive strength</u> (the component of the rock mass of requiring shotcrete)

<u>FC = frictional strength</u> (the component of the rock mass requiring bolting).

Cut Q_c into two halves \rightarrow 'C' and ' ϕ '



RQD	J _n	J _r	Ja	J _w	SRF	Q	σ _c	Q _c	FC•	CC MPa	V _p km/s	E _{mass} GPa
100	2	2	1	1	1	100	100	100	63 °	50	5.5	46
90	9	1	1	1	1	10	100	10	45 °	10	4.5	22
60	12	1.5	2	0.66	1	2.5	50	1.2	26 °	2.5	3.6	10.7
30	15	1	4	0.66	2.5	0.13	33	0.04	9 °	0.26	2.1	3.5

Four rock masses with successively reducing character: more joints, more weathering, lower UCS, more clay.

Low CC –shotcrete preferred

Low FC – bolting preferred







MINING AND CONSTRUCTION MAGAZINE

Picture of the mountain-side rock sculpture of the Indian chief 'Crazy Horse', in North Dakota, USA.

CC ≈ 100/6 x 1/5 x 150/100 ≈ 5 MPa

FC ≈ tan-1 (4/0.75 x 1/1) ≈ 79°



equations, as well as logged Q.

MPBX.

FLAC 3D

'c + σn **tan φ'** (left) 'c then σ_n tan ϕ' (below)

(Barton and Suneet Pandey, 2011)



'C then on tan ϕ ' (as used in Barton and Pandey, 2011)





	Original plotting method from Barton et al., 1994	Data from Chen and Guo (priv. comm.)
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$\Delta = \frac{\text{SPAN}}{\text{Q}}$	(central trend of all data: <u>approx</u>)	$\Delta_{\rm v} = \frac{\rm SPAN}{100 \rm Q} \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_{\rm v}}{\sigma_{\rm c}}}$	(more <u>accurate</u> <u>estimate</u>)
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NMT tunnel (= single-shell)

through pre-injected (10 MPa pressure) shales, limestones.

