

Engineering classification of rock masses for the design of tunnel support

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Summary

Engineering Classification of Rock Masses for the Design of Tunnel Support

An analysis of some 200 tunnel case records has revealed a useful correlation between the amount and type of permanent support and the rock mass quality Q , with respect to tunnel stability. The numerical value of Q ranges from 0.001 (for exceptionally poor quality squeezing-ground) up to 1000 (for exceptionally good quality rock which is practically unjointed). The rock mass quality Q is a function of six parameters, each of which has a rating of importance, which can be estimated from surface mapping and can be updated during subsequent excavation. The six parameters are as follows; the RQD index, the number of joint sets, the roughness of the weakest joints, the degree of alteration or filling along the weakest joints, and two further parameters which account for the rock load and

water inflow. In combination these parameters represent the rock block-size, the interblock shear strength, and the active stress. The proposed classification is illustrated by means of field examples and selected case records.

Detailed analysis of the rock mass quality and corresponding support practice has shown that suitable permanent support can be estimated for the whole spectrum of rock qualities. This estimate is based on the rock mass quality Q , the support pressure, and the dimensions and purpose of the excavation. The support pressure appears to be a function of Q , the joint roughness, and the number of joint sets. The latter two determine the dilatancy and the degree of freedom of the rock mass.

Detailed recommendations for support measures include various combinations of shotcrete, bolting, and cast concrete arches together with the appropriate bolt spacings and lengths, and the requisite thickness of shotcrete or concrete. The boundary between self supporting tunnels and those requiring some form of permanent support can be determined from the rock mass quality Q .

Key words

Classification rock mass joints shear strength tunnels support pressure shotcrete bolts

With 8 Figures

Zusammenfassung

Technische Klassifikation von Gebirgsqualität zwecks Projektierens von Hohlraumsicherungen im Fels

Eine Untersuchung von Daten aus etwa 200 fertiggestellten Tunnelbauten ergab einen nutzbaren Zusammenhang zwischen Umfang und Typ des permanenten Verbaues und der Gebirgsqualität Q . Die numerische Leitziffer erfaßt Werte von 0,001 (äußerst schlechter, langsam rutschender oder quellender Boden) bis auf 1000 für hochwertigen, fast bruchfreien Fels. Die Gebirgsqualität Q ist eine Funktion von sechs Parametern, die aus Oberflächenbeobachtungen und nach skalierten Gewichten bestimmte Leitziffern erteilen werden. Die Werte können während des Bauvortriebes justiert werden. Die sechs Parameter sind: RQD -Leitziffer, Anzahl der Kluftsysteme, Rauigkeit (für schwächste oder ungünstigste Spaltebene), Umwandlungsgrad (Charakter der Risse oder Füllung längs der schwächsten Spalten) und des weiteren zwei Parameter, die Spannungsniveau und

Wasserzufluß berücksichtigen. Wenn man diese Parameter koordiniert, vertreten sie den Einfluß der Körnung, der Scherfestigkeit an den Anschlußflächen zwischen den Felsblöcken und den einwirkenden Spannungen. Die vorgeschlagene Klassifikation wird mittels Beispielen im Felde und einer Auswahl der Berichte aus fertiggestellten Anlagen erläutert.

Detaillierte Analysen der Gebirgsqualität und der entsprechenden Sicherungsmaßnahmen haben erwiesen, daß es möglich ist, einen angemessenen Ausbau fürs ganze Spektrum der Gebirgsqualität zu veranschlagen. Die Bemessung ist auf die Qualität Q des Gebirges, den Ausbaudruck und die Dimensionen und den Zweck des Hohlraumes ausgerichtet. Der Ausbaudruck ist scheinbar eine Funktion von Q und von der Rauigkeit und Anzahl der Spaltsysteme. Die beiden letzteren entscheiden die Dilatanz der Felsmasse und den Freiheitsgrad der Felsblöcke.

Detaillierte Anleitungen für Sicherungsmaßnahmen umfassen verschiedene Kombinationen von Nägeln, Ankern, Spritzbeton und Ortsbetongewölben sowie auch Angaben über Ankerabstände und erforderliche Stärke des Spritz- oder Gußbetons. Die Grenze zwischen selbsttragenden Tunnels und denjenigen, die irgend eine Art permanenten Verbaues benötigen, kann aus der Gebirgsqualität Q ermittelt werden.

Résumé

Classification technique des roches en vue de l'étude des soutènements a prévoir dans les cavités creusées dans la roche

Une analyse de données provenant de quelque 200 cavités creusées a permis d'établir une relation utile entre, d'une part, l'envergure et le type de soutènements permanents et, d'autre part, la qualité Q des masses rocheuses, en ce qui concerne la stabilité. La valeur numérique de Q s'étend de 0,001 (roche particulièrement mauvaise, fluante ou gonflant) jusqu'à 1000 pour une roche d'excellente qualité, pratiquement exempte de fissurations. La qualité Q de la roche est une fonction de six paramètres dont chacun, dans des échelles données, s'est vu attribuer un coefficient pondéré déterminé qu'on peut estimer en se basant sur des observations faites en travaillant à ciel ouvert et qui pourra être ajusté et mis à jour au cours de l'avancement des travaux. Ces paramètres sont: l'indice RQD , le nombre de systèmes de fissuration, la rugosité (celle du plus faible plan de fissuration), le degré d'altération (caractéristiques de ce dont les fissures sont remplies), et, en outre, deux paramètres qui tiennent compte du niveau de tension et de l'afflux d'eau. Dans leur ensemble, ces paramètres représentent l'influence qu'exercent la grandeur des pierres, la résistance au cisaillement existant sur les surfaces de contact entre les pierres, et les

tensions actives. La classification suggérée est mise en évidence à l'aide d'exemples tirés de l'expérience acquise sur le terrain ou tirés d'une sélection de rapports concernant des ouvrages exécutés.

Des analyses détaillées de la qualité, accompagnée d'une prise en considération de la pratique de soutènement utilisée, ont permis de démontrer qu'il est possible d'estimer un soutènement approprié pour toute la variété de qualités de roche. Cette estimation est basée sur la qualité Q de la roche, sur la pression supportée par le soutènement, sur la taille de la cavité et sur la destination de celle-ci. La pression supportée par le soutènement semble être une fonction de Q et de la rugosité et du nombre des systèmes de fissuration. Ces deux derniers paramètres semblent déterminer la dilatance et le degré de liberté (liberté de mouvement) des pierres dans la roche.

Des recommandations détaillées de mesure de sûreté englobent différentes combinaisons de béton projeté, de boulonnage et d'arcs en béton coulés, accompagnées de l'indication de la distance appropriée entre boulons, de la longueur de ces derniers et de l'épaisseur à respecter tant pour le béton projeté que pour le béton coulé. La limite séparant les cavités autoportantes de celles nécessitant un soutènement permanent d'une manière ou d'une autre, peut être déterminée à partir de la qualité Q de la roche.

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