

Some Aspects Concerning the Stability of Waste Dumps

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ABSTRACT: The present paper aims to contribute to the improvement of ecological management decisional process, in the view of rehabilitate environment quality - from the point of view of environmental factor soil by establishing the necessary objectives for stability of waste dams

1 THEORETICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The mining activity performed in Romania until the year 1989 was focused mainly onto reaching high production levels, fact which had led to neglect ecological issue and that had resulted in time of very serious damages for the environment

Rehabilitation of mining wastes dams represents a constant concern of all specialists, who had cooperated along the years with very good results

The sliding of side slopes is part of the most complex natural processes, by the large number and variety of the factors involved in bringing them about and that is why side and slope stability has to be taken into account and assessed

Table 1 Situation of waste dumps in accordance with the sources of waste deposits affeient to mining activities

Provenance of stored deposit	Storage surface (ha)		Total (ha)
	Active	Passive / In conservation	
From underground works	23 64	93 08	116 72
From coal processing plants	45 62	44 91	90 53
Total (ha)	69 26	137 99	207 25

As a result of the activity carried out at underground and processing coal plants had been resulted a large amount of waste that were deposited in waste dumps

Present situation of the waste dumps as well as their location into the mining perimeter of Jiu Valley is presented in Table 1

In the view of rehabilitating the Jiu Valley environmental quality, as regard the "soil" factor, it is imposing the improvement of ecological manage-

ment It will be establish the affeient objective concerning the ecological reconstruction

From geological point of view, these deposits consist of the following types of rocks: shale, mainly shales, marls, shaly - marls, marls - limestone, shales, etc.

Deposits of waste dumps resulted from coal processing plants in addition to the waste slimes resulted from the coal processing activity, includes also a large of elements such as: chemical reagents, lubricants, diesel, tar, etc.

The settling ponds affeient to Coroesti coal processing plant, with 24 8 ha total surface, occupy an important land area located in the Western Jiu light riverside, at 250m distance to the coal processing yard. From technological point of view, the settling ponds have been formed by storing the residual slimes resulted from coal processing process performed at Coioesti coal processing plant onto a horizontal platform embanked all around its surface. Onto the settling ponds' supporting sides, the large size waste resulted from coal screening and crushing processes together with other residues resulted from the technological process of Coioesti coal processing plant, have been transported and stored. In order to protect the settling ponds against the possible Western Jiu water floods, protective walls have been built

2 THE SYSTEM ANALYSIS OF SIDE STABILITY

The study stages of the instability phenomena are presented in flow chart in Figure 1. The assessment of the mining works' stability was performed by taken into consideration the structural and physical characteristics of the locks and the stress - strain

state in the rock massif representing the input parameters, (Mannescu, 1988)

Besides, the deterministic and probabilistic methods based on measurements and observations, stability analysis can be undertaken by estimating the *stability factor*

A complete definition of the stability factor can be given by compounding the stress state in the sliding plane, $F_s = t/r$, where, t represents the value of the mobilized shearing strength and r is the value of the tangential thrust produced in the rock-mass

Numerous methods of analyzing stability can be classified according to different criteria, nevertheless they can be classified into two large categories

Methods of static equilibrium

Methods of deformation, based on the stress-strain relation,

or mixed methods (Manea, 1998)

In the second category, the determination of the Stress State in the rock-mass, this is compared and done by several techniques

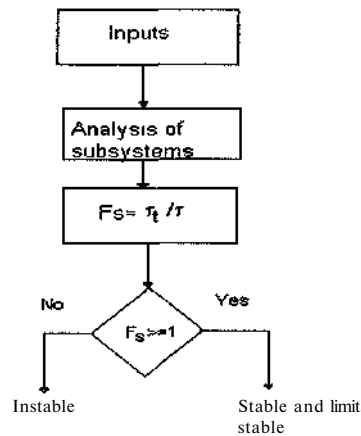


Figure 1 The flow chart of stability system

The method divides the analyses environment into small domains, on which a simple distribution of stresses and strains is considered, while the stresses are average on a finite volume in the rock mass. The 'a priori' knowledge of the position of break surface, by applying the finite element method indicates the areas with stress concentration and their evolution with the load state, the areas with tensile stress and

the displacements before slope break (Aiad et al 2000 a)

3 RESULTS AND COMMENTS

In the paper, the determination of the Stress State was earned out using the finite element method (Salvador and Baron, 1972)

In the case of a waste dump, which can become unstable owing to weather phenomena the analysis method of the Stress and Strain State by the finite element method had been applied. For the conditions from Jm Valley coal Basin at Ileana 1 waste dump the solution of the numerical modeling was obtained. The Ileana 1 waste dump lies on an area of 14.26 ha, having 21 m average height and a volume of 4.283.656 m³

From the laboratory tests and the material characteristics it is known that the elasticity module, $E = 200 \times 10^9 \text{ N/m}^2$, Poisson coefficient $\nu = 0.3$, inner friction coefficient $\phi = 34^\circ$, apparent specific gravity $\gamma = 2.2 \times 10^4 \text{ N/m}^3$, volume weight $\gamma = 2.31 \times 10^4 \text{ N/m}^3$ (Arad et al, 2000 a)

The displacement on the contour of the slope and Stress tensor has been plotted in Figures 2 and 3

In Table 2, are given the values of the parameters characterizing the stress state calculated in the point at the side bottom, the side top and the critical point to right extremity of the geometric model. The model of the slope waste dump is rendered in Figures 2 and 3

Table 2 The parameters of the stress state for the geometric model

Parameter (UM)	At the slope top	At the slope bottom	In the critical point
	Value		
$S_x(m)^*$	100	0.89	0.79
$S_y(m)^*$	-0.71	0.52	100
$CT_{xx}(10^9 \text{ N/m}^2)^*$	4.14	2.07	6.21
$a_{xx}(10^9 \text{ N/m}^2)^{**}$	1.89	3.11	4.9
$\sigma_{xx}(10^9 \text{ N/m}^2)^{**}$	2.96	0.916	4.8
$aW \text{ (N/m)}^{***}$	28	169	355
$i_{xx} < 10^9 \text{ N/m}^2$	1.82	0.85	2.59

* Displacement

** Tresca and von Mises Stress

*** Stress tensor

Legende
 —*— Stress c

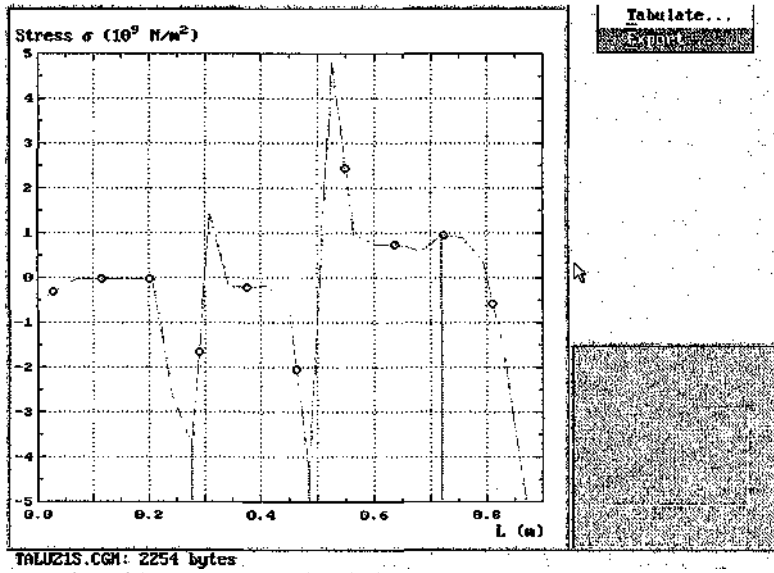


Fig. 2. The Variation form of the stress tensor .on the side slope

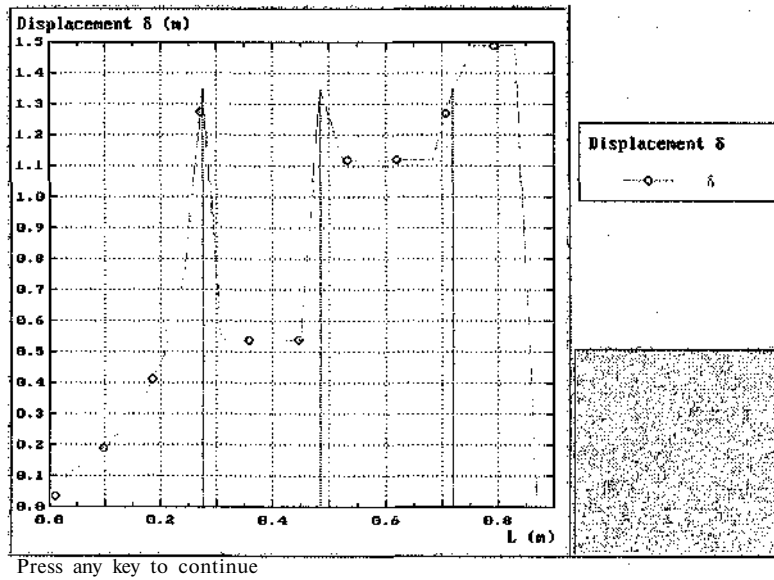


Fig.3 The variation of the displacement of the slope contour

4 CONCLUSIONS

Corroboration of the results obtained by numerical methods, of slope modeling, and the statistical processing of the large number of instability phenomena by long term observations on them imposes making out prevision charts of instability phenomenon

The prediction on slope stability, and in general on that of sides, is a requirement due to the negative impact of the instability phenomenon on the environment

The numerical methods for the simulation of the Stress State in the waste dump of block were examined to assess their use in prediction sliding of the slope (Aiad, 2000b)

From the analysis of the results obtained we find out that the stresses occurring in the waste dump slope are higher than the corresponding mechanical resistances ($\sigma_{\text{ro}} = 5 \times 10^6 \text{ N/m}^2$, $\sigma_a = 1 \times 10^6 \text{ N/m}^2$, $i_{\text{rt}} = 3.41 \times 10^6 \text{ N/m}^2$) determined in the laboratory, therefore the slope is unstable. Regarding displacements, it is found out that these have maximum values on the vertical, which does not, however, affect waste dump stability

The accident data recorded from mine tailings dams indicate that the great majority of the sliding of these deposits occurred as function of the bad and low strength of dam foundation properties

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