

ROCK MASS CONSTANTS and NATM

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1. Introduction

The concept of the NATM is to construct a tunnel on the basis of scientifically established principles and ideas, which have been proved in practice. The most important principles is that, the essential bearing component part of a tunnel is the surrounding rock mass. Therefore Rock Classification and Rock Mass Constants play an important role in this concept.

2. Estimation of Rock Mass Constants

It is very difficult if not impossible to calculate the exact values of the rock mass constant. Based on the Engineering Classification of Rock Mass for New Austrian Tunneling Method and using more than 450 set of the datas which were obtained from various tunnels across Japan where NATM were applied, a series of equation which relates the values of rock mass constant to the velocity of elastic wave is proposed (table 1). Knowing the measured values of the rock mass constants and these calculated values, estimated equations for rock mass constants were found by using the theory of random function as follows:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \rho &= \rho^*(1 + \varepsilon_\rho), \quad \sigma = \sigma^*(1 + \varepsilon_\sigma) \\ E &= E^*(1 + \varepsilon_E), \quad \nu = \nu^*(1 + \varepsilon_\nu) \end{aligned} \right\} (1)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \varepsilon_\rho &= (\rho - \rho^*) / \rho^*, \quad \varepsilon_\sigma = (\sigma - \sigma^*) / \sigma^* \\ \varepsilon_E &= (E - E^*) / E^*, \quad \varepsilon_\nu = (\nu - \nu^*) / \nu^* \end{aligned} \right\} (2)$$

Table-1 mass constants with respect to elastic velocity

			correlation	RMS	r ²
Specific weight density g/cm ³	a	$\rho = 0.1032 V_p + 2.155$	0.834	0.1004	0.875
	b	$\rho = 0.4203 V_p^{1/2} + 1.741$	0.851	0.0954	0.796
	c	$\rho = 2.064 V_p^{0.1438}$	0.859	0.0932	0.764
	d	$\rho = 1.978 V_p^{1/4} + 0.09956$	0.859	0.0931	0.762
Compressive strenght kgf/cm ²	e	$\sigma = 161.3 V_p - 102.4$	0.693	264.4	2.075×10^4
	f	$\sigma = -48.39 V_p^{1/2} + 576.4 V_p - 888.3$	0.759	222.4	1.620×10^4
	g	$\sigma = 22.83 V_p^{1.187}$	0.622	307.5	3.439×10^4
	h	$\sigma = 16.83 V_p^{1/2} + 244.2$	0.629	265.5	2.636×10^4
Young modulus kgf/cm ²	i	$E = 1.382 \times 10^3 V_p - 3.325 \times 10^3$	0.837	1.325×10^3	8.081×10^4
	j	$E = 8.156 \times 10^2 V_p^{1.143}$	0.852	1.361×10^3	1.443×10^4
	k	$E = 2.351 \times 10^4 V_p^{1/2} - 6.345 \times 10^4 V_p + 4.939 \times 10^4$	0.864	1.221×10^3	9.987×10^4
Poisson ratio ν	l	$\nu = 2.608 \times 10^{-2} V_p + 0.3818$	-0.629	0.0472	1.878
	m	$\nu = 0.3407(1/V_p) + 0.1780$	-0.645	0.0465	1.775
	n	$\nu = 0.4501(1/V_p)^{0.1402}$	-0.645	0.0465	1.815
	o	$\nu = 0.4729(1/V_p)^{1/2} - 0.0303$	-0.652	0.0461	1.762

Table-2 Error random values by χ^2 test

	1	2	3	4	5
ρ	5.137**	0.353**	8.023**	10.307*	2.187**
σ	4.632**	7.592**	2.389**	8.751*	8.750**
E	13.940*	4.886**	1.358**	35.578	1.844**
ν	12.335**	5.980**	0.704**	4.737**	3.052**

*1% confidence level, **5% confidence level

Where ρ , σ , E , ν and ρ^* , σ^* , E^* , ν^* are the expected and random error values of the mass density, compressive strenght, Young modulus and poisson ratio of rock mass. These values are shown in table 2.

3. Effect of the crack

One of the factors which influences the values of rock constants is the existence of crack. For considering the effect of the crack under different conditions, the ratio of the stresses in horizontal and vertical direction, and the displacement of a rock mass when the crack exists and when the crack does not exist were calculated by using no tension method. We call these ratio as: R_x, R_y and R_d , where $R_x = \sigma_{cx} / \sigma_{nx}$, $R_y = \sigma_{cy} / \sigma_{ny}$ and $R_d = D_c / D_n$ ($\sigma_{cx}, \sigma_{cy}, D_c$ are the stresses and displacement when crack exist and $\sigma_{nx}, \sigma_{ny}, D_n$ are stresses and displacement when there is no crack). It was seen that the ratio of vertical pressure with respect to the horizontal pressure; rather than each of them separately, the angle of the crack, the distance between the crack and the mechanical properties of the crack have an effect on these ratios. For different ratios of the vertical pressure to the horizontal pressure the values of R_x and R_y , with respect to the angle of the crack first decrease and when this angle is almost equal to 45° it starts increasing. But the shape of R_d is quite different when the pressure ratio is greater than one, equal to one or smaller than one. When the crack were in vertical or horizontal direction, the rock mass layer were acting almost independently of each other, and therefore the values of R_x and R_y were almost equal to one. Using multi-regression analysis the effect of each of the above mentioned parameters were studied and the following equations are proposed:

$$R_x = 1 - e^{-1.26 \left[(P_v/P_h)^{.504} (\varphi(\pi/2 - \varphi))^{3.85} (K_s/E)^{.179} (K_n/E)^{-.717} (d/L)^{-.676} \right]} \quad (3)$$

$$R_y = e^{-.342 \left[(P_v/P_h)^{.0137} (\varphi(\pi/2 - \varphi))^{-.458} 1/E (1.68 K_n + .00003/K_s)^{.00272} (d/L) \right]} \quad (4)$$

$$R_d = e^{-3.94 \left[(P_v/P_h)^{.168} (\varphi(\pi/2 - \varphi))^{-.2408} (K_n/E)^{-.512} (K_s/E)^{-.042} (d/L)^{-.715} \right]} \quad (5)$$

Where P_v and P_h are the vertical and horizontal pressure; φ is the angle of crack; K_s and K_n are the shear and normal stiffness of crack; d is the distance between the cracks; E and L are the Young modulus and the length of the model of the rock. The R-square values for eq. (3), (4), (5) are equal to .900, .848, .861 respectively.

Knowing the relation between stresses and displacements when the crack exist and when the crack does not exist and also knowing the estimated equation for rock mass constants the values of the Stresses and the displacements at any point of the rock when NATM is applied can be obtained by using Stochastic Finite Element.

Reference

T. Chishaki, M. Taguchi, T. Hirata, M. Saito, H. Takasaki and A. Aikawa : Engineering Classification Of Rock Masses for New Austrian Tunneling Method Memoirs of the Faculty of Engineering Kyushu University : Vol. 44, No. 1