

ENGINEERING & HYDROGEOLOGIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ROCKS (03)

I Main Topics

A Engineering & hydrogeologic characteristics of rocksB Engineering uses of rocks: *Recognition of potential uses*

II Engineering & hydrogeologic characteristics of rocks: general trends

A "Hard" rocks generally have higher unconfined compressive strengths and higher Young's moduli (E) than "soft" rocks.B Compressive strength generally less than tensile strengthC Poisson's ratio (ν ; $\nu \approx 0.25$)

1 Effect of Poisson's ratio for 1-D strain (for isotropic materials)

a $\epsilon_y = -\nu \epsilon_x$; $\epsilon_z = -\nu \epsilon_x$; $\epsilon_y = \epsilon_z$.b $\nu > 0$: shortening in x-direction \Rightarrow lengthening in y and zc $\nu < 0$: shortening in x-direction \Rightarrow shortening in y and z

2 Effect of Poisson's ratio for 3-D strain (for isotropic materials)

a $e = \Delta V/V_0 = (V_1 - V_0)/V_0 \approx \epsilon_x + \epsilon_y + \epsilon_z = \epsilon_x (1 - 2\nu)$ b $\nu < 0.5$: shortening in x-direction \Rightarrow volume decreasec $\nu = 0.5$: shortening in x-direction \Rightarrow no volume changed $\nu > 0.5$: shortening in x-direction \Rightarrow volume increaseD Chemical stability of rocks depends on chemical environmentE Hydraulic conductivity (K) of continuous porous media1 $K_{\text{hard rocks}} > K_{\text{soft rocks}}$ 2 $K_{\text{fractured rocks}} > K_{\text{unfractured rocks}}$ F Shape of rock bodies relevant to isotropy and continuity of rockG Wide range in properties requires site-specific characterization

III Engineering uses of rocks

A Building stone

1 Granite (Good if fractures are not closely spaced)

2 Slate (Very durable, high tensile strength, difficult to work)

3 Sandstone (Durability depends on porosity and cement)

4 Marble (e.g. Washington Monument)

- B Crushed stone (for road fill, dams, riprap; \$3 B in 1973)
 - 1 Limestone! (Needs to be pure; location & hardness keys)
 - 2 Basalt
 - 3 Granite
- C Sand & gravel
 - 1 Greatest extracted tonnage of any resource
 - 2 Expensive to transport; needs to be available locally
- D Concrete Aggregate
 - 1 Material should be clean, *poorly* sorted, strong, and stable
 - 1 Good rocks: granite, clean sandstone
 - 2 Reactive (bad) rocks: chert, opal, rhyolite, andesite, phyllite, shale, tuff, siliceous limestone, sulfide-bearing rocks
- E Lime (CaO), Cement, and plaster
 - 1 *Slightly* impure limestone
 - 2 Coral
 - 3 Gypsum
- F Clay and sand (ceramics, glass, & abrasives)
 - 1 Kaolinite clay for china, paper, paint, plastic, etc.
 - 2 Bentonite (Na-rich montmorillonite) for drilling mud and sealer; from devitrified volcanic ash
 - 3 Clays for bricks (e.g. kaolinite, gibbsite)
 - 4 Sand - needs to be 93%+ pure to avoid reactions and discoloration
 - a Foundry molds
 - b Glass
 - c Abrasives

Crystalline Rocks ("Hard" rocks)										
Mineral Composition	Young's Modulus (MPa)	Young's Modulus (GPa)	Poisson's ratio	Chemical Stability	Grain size	Discont.	Nature of Permeability	Hydraulic Conductivity m/sec	Porosity	Shape
Plutonic Rocks										
Granite	00-900/15-3	16-86	(0.28)-0.30	Stable	mm-cm	Fractures	Fractures and pores	<1E-13 - 2E-10	<0.01-0.05	Spheroidal or sheets
Gabbro	30-300/15-3	85-119	0.33	Stable	mm-cm	Fractures	Fractures and pores	6E-9 -- 2E-4	<0.01-0.05	Spheroidal or sheets
Diorite	00-800/15-3	55-107	0.22-0.30	Stable	mm-cm	Fractures	Fractures and pores		<0.01-0.05	Spheroidal or sheets
Volcanic Rocks										
Basalts	50-300/10-3	18-78	0.09-0.35	Stable	mm	Fractures	Fractures and pores	3E-9 -- 3E-5	-0.10	Tongues/sheets
Andesite	Silicate	???	0.18	Stable	mm	Fractures	Fractures and pores	3E-9 -- 3E-5	-0.10	Tongues/sheets
Welded Tuffs	Ash (Silicate glass)	???	???	"Stable"	µm-dm	Fractures	Fractures	3E-9 -- 3E-5	0.10-0.80	Tongues/sheets
Unwelded Tuffs	Ash (Silicate glass)	???	???	"Stable"	µm-dm	Beds	Fractures and pores			Sheets
Metamorphic rocks										
Slate	Silicate	100-200/7-20	88	Stable	µm	Foliation	No frax	<1E-13 - 2E-1	Similar to plutonic rx	Sheets
Schists	Silicate	25-162/?	14-98	Stable	mm-cm	Fractures	Fractures	6E-9 -- 2E-4		Sheets
Gneisses	Silicate	50-230/5-20	37-103	Stable	mm-cm	Foliation	Fractures			Spheroidal or sheets
Quartzite	Silicate	50-629/10-3	1-171	Stable	mm	Fractures	Fractures			Sheets
Marble	Carbonate	55-274/7-20	48-89	Soluble	mm	Fractures	Fractures and pores			Sheets

Sources: Costa and Baker, 1981, p. 120, p.320; Carmichael, 1989, p. 689-707; Freeze and Cherry, 1979, p. 29.

Sedimentary Rocks ("Soft" rocks)										
Mineral Composition	confined Strength (MPa)	Young's Modulus (MPa)	Poisson's ratio	Chemical Stability	Grain size	Discont.	Nature of Permeability	Hydraulic Conductivity	Porosity	Shape
Shale*	Clay 2-216/2-10	0.4-68	(0.43)-0.34	Stable	µm	Beds Fractures and pores	Fractures and pores	<1E-13 - 8E-10		Sheets
Siltstone*	Silica 3-256/7?	0.1-26	0.05-0.35	Stable	µm	Beds Fractures and pores	Fractures and pores			Sheets
Sandstone*	Varies 3-256/4-25	0.4-69	(0.51)-0.36	Depends on cement	mm	Beds Fractures and pores	Fractures and pores	E-10 -- 3E-6	0.05-0.30	Tongues/sheets
Conglom.*	Varies depends on cement	??	??	Depends on cement	mm-cm	Beds	Fractures and pores	E-10? -- 3E-5	0.05-0.30	Tongues/sheets
Breccia*	Varies depends on cement	??	??	Depends on cement	mm-cm	Beds	Fractures and pores			Tongues/sheets
Limestone†	CaCO ₃ 6-245/5-25	2.9-97	(0.13)-0.64	Soluble	µm-mm	Beds Fractures and pores	Fractures and pores	3E-10 -- E-2	0.01-0.10	Sheets
Dolomite	CaMg (CO ₃) ₂ 44-322	12.7-95	(0.09)-0.51	Stable	µm-mm	Beds Fractures and pores	Fractures and pores	6E-10 -- 3E-6		Sheets
Evaporite†*	NaCl, KCl, CaSO ₄ ·2H ₂ O 31	(salts flow) 3.0-35	0.03-0.19	Soluble	µm-cm	Beds	Fractures and pores	††		Sheets

Sources: Costa and Baker, 1981, p. 120, p.320; Carmichael, 1989, p. 689-707; Freeze and Cherry, 1979, p. 29.

† Sedimentary crystalline rock

†† Hydraulic conductivities may be off scale at both ends for evaporites

*Note: The strength and permeability depend heavily on the degree of cementation and the orientation of bedding or foliation