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Master's Thesis

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# **Geotechnical characterization of the rock mass surrounding the Aljustrel mining compound**

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## Declaration of authorship

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„I declare in lieu of oath that this thesis is entirely my own work except where otherwise indicated. The presence of quoted or paraphrased material has been clearly signaled and all sources have been referred. The thesis has not been submitted for a degree at any other institution and has not been published yet.”

Tiago Rodrigues

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## **Preface, Dedication, Acknowledgment**

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## Abstract

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In an underground production environment, the most evident impact from rock blasting activities are ground vibrations. In mining operations near urban areas disturbance and complaints on behalf of populations are not uncommon.

This document studies the ground surface geotechnical properties of the Aljustrel town (Alentejo province, Portugal). To achieve the objectives of this study, a database is considered compiling information relative to 2.175 vibration records measured at ten structures within different sections of Aljustrel between 2018 and 2022. These served as a basis to estimate, by means of multiple linear regression, 23 valid characteristic attenuation equations according to the mathematical expression presented by Johnson (1971). Such equations consider categorical variables like the existence of a rock mass discontinuity created by an initial production blast; section of the Aljustrel town where the records were monitored; geographical orientation between the blasting and the monitoring points; initiation pattern geometry; and time delay between adjacent holes. Results suggest that for reduced distances, the inexistence of a rock mass discontinuity directly above the blasted volume and the north-south direction influence the propagation of seismic waves released by the explosive charges, being that smaller maximum charges per delay are recommended in these situations. For great distance values, a spiral initiation geometry contributes to the measurement of greater vibration amplitudes.

A detailed study considering four structures, where the respective building materials' waves propagation velocity and geometrical parameters are measured, indicates that no significant vibration amplification caused by resonance has occurred for events registered at these locations.

### Keywords:

Ground vibration, Prediction models, Natural frequency, Underground production blasting, Aljustrel mining compound

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# Zusammenfassung

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In einer unterirdischen Produktionsumgebung sind die offensichtlichsten Auswirkungen von Felssprengungen Bodenvibrationen. Bei Bergbaubetrieben in der Nähe städtischer Gebiete sind Störungen und Beschwerden der Bevölkerung keine Seltenheit.

Dieses Dokument untersucht die geotechnischen Eigenschaften der Bodenoberfläche der Stadt Aljustrel (Provinz Alentejo, Portugal). Um die Ziele dieser Studie zu erreichen, wird eine Datenbank in Betracht gezogen, die Informationen zu 2.175 Schwingungsaufzeichnungen zusammenstellt, die zwischen 2018 und 2022 an zehn Strukturen in verschiedenen Abschnitten von Aljustrel gemessen wurden. Diese dienten als Grundlage, um mittels multipler linearer Regression 23 gültige charakteristische Dämpfungsgleichungen gemäß dem von Johnson (1971) vorgestellten mathematischen Ausdruck zu schätzen. Solche Gleichungen berücksichtigen kategoriale Variablen wie das Vorhandensein einer Diskontinuität der Gesteinsmasse, die durch eine anfängliche Produktionsexplosion verursacht wurde; Abschnitt der Stadt Aljustrel, in dem die Aufzeichnungen überwacht wurden; geografische Ausrichtung zwischen den Sprengungen und den Überwachungspunkten; Geometrie des Initiationsmusters; und Zeitverzögerung zwischen benachbarten Löchern. Die Ergebnisse deuten darauf hin, dass bei verringerten Entfernungen das Fehlen einer Diskontinuität der Gesteinsmasse direkt über dem Sprengvolumen und die Nord-Süd-Richtung die Ausbreitung der von den Sprengladungen freigesetzten seismischen Wellen beeinflussen, da in diesen Situationen kleinere maximale Ladungen pro Verzögerung empfohlen werden. Für große Abstandswerte trägt eine spiralförmige Initiationsgeometrie zur Messung größerer Schwingungsamplituden bei.

Eine detaillierte Studie unter Berücksichtigung von vier Strukturen, bei denen die Wellenausbreitungsgeschwindigkeit und die geometrischen Parameter der jeweiligen Baumaterialien gemessen werden, zeigt, dass für Ereignisse, die an diesen Orten registriert wurden, keine signifikante Schwingungsverstärkung durch Resonanz aufgetreten ist - Diskontinuität direkt über dem gesprengten Volumen und die Nord-Süd-Richtung beeinflussen die Ausbreitung von seismischen Wellen, die von den Sprengladungen freigesetzt werden, da in diesen Situationen kleinere maximale Ladungen pro Verzögerung empfohlen werden. Für große Abstandswerte trägt eine spiralförmige Initiationsgeometrie zur Messung größerer Schwingungsamplituden bei.

## Stichwörtern:

Bodenvibration, Vorhersagemodelle, Eigenfrequenz, Produktionssprengung unter Tage, Bergbaukomplex Aljustrel

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# 1. Introduction

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The oldest records and evidence of Human activity date back to Prehistory. Examples of such evidence are rock art, ancient stone carvings, stone cores, flint tools and hammerstones. These elements have helped ancient cultures to develop themselves and to thrive in adverse conditions. As such, even before the first sedentary people, nomadic tribes have included geological materials in their daily life, fundamental to their survival. The importance of the Human dependency on natural raw materials such as stone and metals is well documented and served as an inspiration when naming the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages. Initially, inorganic elements such as rocks, which were subject to further changes in shape and size were collected at the surface. However, after the discovery of excavation techniques, it quickly became evident that the subsurface was also rich in these components. After this discovery and subsequent development, the extraction of such materials has become an important activity for civilizations, being now known as mining.

According to some authors, mining, smelting and refining of metals has been documented since the Bronze Age (Darling, 2011). The final products of these activities were used to produce jewelry, coins, cutting and farming tools, and metal alloys.

In his work, entitled *De Re Metallica* and containing 12 books, Georgius Agricola describes mining exploitation methods, and both the smelting and refining processes which constituted the state-of-the-art in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. This endeavor was the first one in the Mining Engineering field to be published. At this time, rock fragmentation was performed by means of picks and chisels which percussed against the rock mass disintegrating it along its discontinuities. However, if these discontinuities were inexistent, or if the rock revealed high resistance to excavation due to its hardness and/or abrasivity, bonfires would be utilized at the rockface. The increase in temperature would induce thermal expansion and workers would put out the fire by pouring cold water on it. The contact between the rock and cold water would cause a sudden contraction of the rockface, being that this abrupt variation in volume induced by a dilation-contraction cycle would form cracks and fractures within the face. After showing a vaster net of discontinuities, the rock was more easily excavated using the aforementioned percussion tools.

Until the Industrial Revolution, mining was characterized by small productivity and efficiency levels. Thereby, the emergence of new technologies such as steam machines and, later on, electric or diesel systems, has changed the paradigm in the mining industry once more rock could be excavated, transported and processed. Allied to this, pumping engines, initially developed by Thomas Newcomen in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, permitted exploitations to work faster and for longer periods, in a safer environment and to advance in depth. Further, innovations in rock excavation techniques after the introduction of black powder into mining operations, and the inventions of the safety fuse, by William Bickford in 1831 and dynamite, by Alfred Nobel in 1867, contributed to a rapid development of the mining industry (Darling, 2011). It is worth mentioning that the advances in excavation methods have not only revolutionized Mining Engineering in the last three centuries, but also Civil Engineering, where these are necessary for the construction of dams, roadways, tunnels or water and sanitation infrastructure.

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## 1.1. Fundamental principles of Mining Engineering

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The evolution of some Engineering Sciences such as Mechanical, Civil and Electrical Engineering, has made it possible to produce even more sophisticated objects like cars, large structures such as dwellings, offices or cultural facilities, and electronic devices such as computers or sensors, respectively. Taking this into consideration, to allow the maintenance of the living standards nowadays, it is necessary to ensure a rational and sustainable management of raw materials including mineral resources. Likewise, one should also guarantee that the origin of these resources is as sustainable as possible, meaning that the extractive industry complies with its four underlying fundamental principles: safety, economy, maximized recovery of the resources and, most recently, environmental protection (Bernardo, 2004).

Like in every other activity, safety is the first and most important principle to consider in a mining exploitation. As an inspector general of mines in France, Frédéric Le Play's statement – *The most important thing to come out of a mine is the miner* –, reveals the industry's concerns over the workers occupational health and safety. Safety can be defined as the condition of safeguarding a person or an object connected to an industrial activity from a given hazard. Here, it is important to mention that the *person* is any stakeholder which is directly (workers) or indirectly (third-party) involved in this activity. An *object* may be a structure, equipment, fauna and flora, or a landscape.

The second principle (economy) is directly connected to the economic viability of an investment. Hence, the extraction of mineral resources can only take place if the unitary costs are lower than the commodity price on the market, i.e., if there is profit. One should highlight the increasing integration and internationalization of national economies that depend, most of the times, on foreign suppliers to purchase raw materials. This trend obliges companies to be competitive by pursuing state-of-the-art technology and optimizing operations, being able to lower production costs, thus maximizing the recovery of a mineral deposit. Most of the times, mine reserves change over time (dynamic process), due to commodity price fluctuations. As such, supply and demand – which influence the market price – have a direct impact on the analyzed principle.

The output products of mining activities (energetic, ore and industrial minerals, gemstones or construction materials) are characterized as non-renewable raw materials. The progressive exploitation of a mineral deposit leads to its depletion at a medium-long term. Thereby, resources have to be sustainably managed and exploited, and the recovery of a deposit has to be maximized. This maximization principle implies that companies should avoid selective mining, whereby high-grade ore is extracted and low-grade ore is left in the deposit, maximizing a company's profit. This unsustainable practice should be avoided and controlled by governments.

Lastly, with an increasing concern over ecosystems and nature degradation, most countries have created standards and legislation aiming at promoting the protection of stakeholders and societies. These mechanisms intend to encourage and oblige companies to pursue the best available techniques and to mitigate environmental impacts that may result from the exploitation process, protecting the environment and contributing to a sustainable development of the society.

The four mentioned principles cannot be individually maximized. Likewise, a very economical operation may be hazardous and environmentally unsustainable, whereas an operation subject to stringent environmental guidelines on physical and chemical contaminants – dust and gases, respectively – may be expensive and originate a minimized recovery of the reserves. As such, a sustainable and well-dimensioned operation is one that balances the four fundamental principles and defends the interests of all stakeholders.

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## 1.2. Dissertation subject framework

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Two major classes of mining operations are common in the industry: open pit (surface) and underground mining. The first is defined as the removal of overburden from the topographic surface, if applicable, and consequent excavation of the orebody using horizontal benches. After removing overburden and waste rock, and producing tailings originated at the beneficiation plant, these subproducts are transported to a specified disposal site outside the final pit perimeter. In some cases, such as coal mining, subproducts may be disposed at the mined out area, if these do not pose a threat to the environment. This method is usually applied in shallow deposits of metallic or non-metallic minerals (including construction materials). Some advantages related to open pit mining are the following: higher productivity, lower costs and good recovery of the deposit, when compared to underground mining; and little ground support requirement. However, besides being limited to shallow deposits due to high stripping ratio values and high transportation costs for deeper operations, these require large disposal areas, tend to be associated with evident environmental impacts such as noise, dust and flyrock, and activities may be conditioned by the weather (Altitì et al., 2021). Underground mining methods, on the other hand, are used when the mineral deposit is sufficiently deep and due to technical, environmental or economic reasons open pit mining methods are not an option. If sufficiently deep, underground exploitations require complex infrastructure such as drifts, pillars, drawpoints, or shafts to transport rock and workers and to ventilate stopes and drifts. Normally, the following groups of mining methods can be applied: selective (cut-and-fill and shrinkage stoping), bulk (block caving, sublevel open stoping, sublevel caving and vertical crater retreat) and those used to mine (sub)horizontal mining deposits (room-and-pillar and longwall mining) (Abzalov, 2016). Such complex infrastructure involves greater production costs and, in some cases, lower levels of productivity. However, the main advantages of underground mining are the mitigation of environmental impacts like the ones previously addressed, lower visual impact and waste disposal areas comparing with open pit mining, and the possibility of stope backfilling. This reduces the necessity of large tailings storage facilities, improves ground stability, reduces the airflow demand and ore dilution, and provides a safer working area (Pagé et al., 2019). Nowadays, due to social (*social license to operate* – public acceptance) and environmental concerns, some companies opt for underground mining methods in shallow deposits rather than conventional open pit ones which tend to be associated with lower production costs, as mentioned before.

In underground mines, both mechanical rock excavation methods and excavation with explosives (drill and blast) are applicable. The first group comprises roadheaders, continuous miners, coal ploughs, impact hammers and backhoe excavators. In general, these are productive methods which work continuously and with lower operating costs. The possibility of automation and remote control diminish the miners exposure to hazards and the necessary workforce. In this category, roadheaders are a frequent option to some operations after its flexibility, mobility and ability to excavate selectively (Bilgin et al., 2014). Compared to drill and blast, mechanical excavation methods are responsible for less environmental impacts – less vibration, noise and rock mass damage; and most machines emit fewer toxic gases, once they include electric motors in their constitution. Furthermore, the excavation profile registers little overbreak, so floor, crown and rib surfaces are smooth. Nevertheless, competent rock masses characterized by great uniaxial compressive strength and abrasivity (usually defined by the CERCHAR Abrasivity Index – CAI) values may hinder the economic application of mechanical rock cutting methods such as excavation using roadheaders. Figure 1 summarizes three situations considering this equipment: rock mass economically cuttable by means of current mechanical excavation methods (green area); critical range where a rock mass may be economically cuttable with improved technology (new pick characteristics, design and layout – margin for research and development) and operating procedures (blue area); and rock mass that cannot be economically excavated using today’s methods such as those relying on roadheaders (white region).

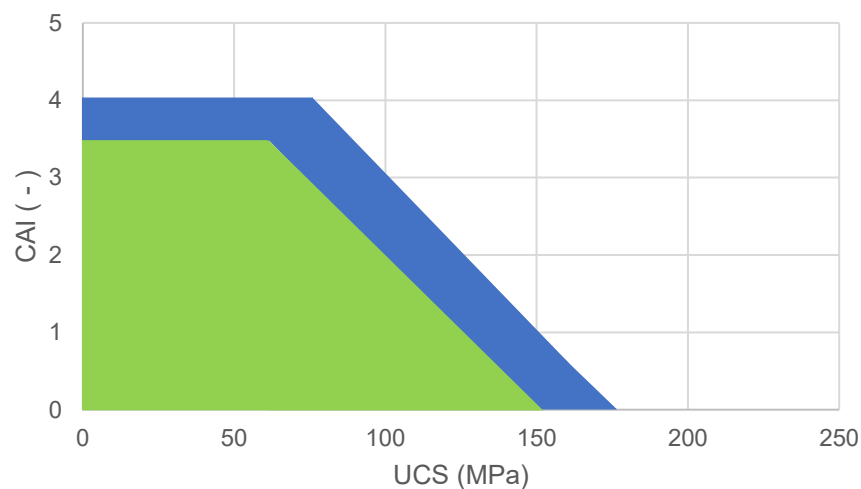


Figure 1 - Range of CERCHAR Abrasivity Index and Uniaxial Compressive Strength that define the applicability of roadheaders (adapted from Hartlieb, 2013).

Considering the uneconomical range in Figure 1, drill and blast excavation methods are a suitable alternative in this situation. Moreover, high investment costs in mechanical excavation methods and lower flexibility in terms of section to be covered (determined by the boom extension or plough surface area) may be reasons to excavate a rock mass using explosives.

Despite its cost-benefit relationship and versatility (usage in mining environments, trench excavation or underwater construction works, for example) the application of explosives, has undesirable side effects which in most cases cannot be ignored given the proximity between the blasting

point and the various parties to protect such as people, structures, equipment and ecosystems. The predominant environmental impacts that may occur as a consequence of drill and blast are rock mass instability after overbreak, flyrock, noise/air blast, dust and ground vibrations. The majority of these impacts are circumscribed to the mining operation perimeter. However, once they are perceived at a greater distance, vibrations may be a source of concern, being this a common reason for complaints and disputes between neighboring communities and mining companies.

Given the amount of energy released after a blast, which is directly proportional to the quantity of explosives employed per delay, it is necessary to register ground vibrations at a reduced distance from the blast. It is not uncommon to measure and feel vibrations more than one kilometer away from the excavation point. Hence, this phenomenon is associated with two critical aspects: disturbance of people and damage to objects like structures (dwellings or cultural heritage) and equipment located in the surroundings of the operation. Likewise, considering the damage potential of ground vibrations, most countries have created or adopted regulations and norms, suggesting limits concerning ground vibration amplitudes measured at nearby structures, to minimize damage risks. Additionally, human exposure to blast-induced vibration is also regulated in some nations.

Since 1983, there is a Portuguese technical document that recommends vibration velocity limits originated from geotechnical activities (NP 2074). The main purpose of the definition of conservative values is to protect structures (private and public) from vibrations due to blasting or similar events. This was later on updated, in 2015, with even more restrictive vibration amplitude values. Considering this technical framework and in order to comply with it, companies are recommended to design blasting patterns after predicting vibration velocities at a given distance defined by a receiver which is intended to protect, ensuring that this value does not exceed the threshold limit value. Usually, the blast design process is carried out after estimating a vibration velocity propagation model.

Lastly, given the amplification effect caused by resonance, it is important to consider the dominant frequency of the blasting event and the monitored structures natural frequency.

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### **1.3. Study objectives and organization**

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This dissertation is going to analyze more in detail the use of drill and blast as an excavation method in an underground environment characterized by a complex geology, where the most relevant and perceptible secondary effect are ground vibrations. The area of study is a mining town located in southern Portugal, where two mines (Feitais and Moinho) are currently active and producing base metals employing sublevel open stoping and longitudinal bench and fill as the main methods of ore excavation. Despite the existing social license to operate and considering the proximity of the mines to residential areas, the license holder has been carrying out monitoring campaigns to assess the exploitation's impacts like the visual one and others caused by noise and, most importantly, vibrations originated by blasting.

In the present work, data collected during a four-year period and using engineering seismographs are going to be considered and analyzed (according to structural and human response vibration standards) with the aim of modelling ground vibration amplitude prediction equations that characterize the mining area under study in a dynamic way. Multiple models will be estimated, considering different operational and geographical scenarios, and geological factors. As operations are advancing towards the urban area and closer to the surface, the existence of such tool is becoming increasingly relevant. The resulting models would then allow a more accurate blasting pattern design, considering vibration amplitudes as the dependent variable, hence ensuring a more sustainable excavation process that complies with the technical framework in force, not compromising the surrounding structures integrity or disturbing populations. Initially, two independent variables are going to be included in the model. The second stage will take into account other variables such as the section of the studied area, the initiation pattern geometry and direction between the source and the receiver. Additionally, the time delay between holes is going to be considered, pursuing a greater coefficient of determination between the experimental data and the regression models. By including some of these variables, the main goal is to determine optimal timing and initiation sequence patterns that maximize the explosives energy effectively consumed in fragmentation rather than in adverse undesired effects. Moreover, one intends to assess eventual directions and regions in space through which stress waves travel without suffering considerable attenuation. Likewise, other preventive mechanisms will be suggested as an attempt to mitigate the measured vibration velocities at a certain location, thereby ensuring that these are below the recommended limits. An additional methodology, aiming at testing the application domain of a formula to estimate some of the monitored structures natural frequency, is going to be performed. This will culminate with an assessment on the existence of resonance at the considered structural elements.

Hence, this document consists of eight chapters which can be grouped in two parts as follows. As an initial approach, the first part constitutes a theoretical framework that describes the most relevant properties of explosive substances and respective importance, concerning rock mass excavation. The most common blasting patterns and basic principles of rock and soil dynamics are addressed here. Moreover, this section analyzes one of the secondary effects of drill and blast, ground vibrations, as well as the respective mitigation and monitoring measures. Lastly, given the scope of this work, a brief introduction to ground vibration amplitude prediction models and some of the most prominent European ground vibration monitoring standards, with emphasis on structural damage and human discomfort is carried out.

The second and last part of this dissertation comprises a historical, geographical and geological framing of the studied area. The methodology used to collect real data from diverse production blasts in the two considered mines, and respective analysis and formulation of vibration prediction models are described. Finally, to achieve the proposed objectives, not only regression models are estimated, but also an optimal time delay pattern is suggested, with the purpose of decreasing the energy transmitted through the rock mass upon blasting. A study considering the effect of resonance at four different structures is also performed, after determining their respective natural frequency.

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## 2. Application of explosive substances in rock mass excavation

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Given the amount of energy released by explosive products, it is relevant to understand the hazards while applying it in geotechnical activities to avoid eventual fatalities related to an improper handling and application of explosives, and to mitigate the impact of rock blasting on descriptors in the vicinity of these operations. This is fundamental, once people often associate the intensity of secondary effects related to drill and blast with an uncontrolled or incorrect use of explosives. As such, an updated knowledge of the existing substances available on the market and best available techniques is essential to ensure a safe environment within and around mining operations, guaranteeing and maintaining the social license to operate.

In this section, a broad description of the explosive substances composition, characteristics and fields of application in geotechnical activities is performed. After discussing the importance of each blasting pattern geometrical parameter for both underground and open pit scenarios, a special emphasis is given to ground vibration. Concerning vibration amplitudes, the physical properties used to describe it and its impact on structures are mentioned. Additionally, the importance of frequency as a structural damage assessment criterion, monitoring campaigns relevant outputs and measures to mitigate vibrations are discussed. The rock fragmentation mechanism during a detonation is also addressed.

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### 2.1. Mining operations

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To work efficiently and safely, mining exploitations rely on two kinds of operations: unit and auxiliary ones. Unit operations have a direct influence on the excavation process of the rock mass, contributing to the recovery of the mineral of interest. These contribute to the mining advance and depend on auxiliary operations. The second group usually supports the production process (Bernardo, 2004). Table 1 compiles the two different types of mining operations and provides examples for both cases.

Table 1 - Typical mining unit and auxiliary operations (adapted from Bernardo, 2004).

Unit operations		Auxiliary operations
Drilling	Mechanical excavation	Hoisting
Blasting		Pumping
Loading		Ventilation
Hauling		Illumination
Primary crushing		Ground support, survey, maintenance, etc.

The unit operations described above constitute a cyclical process that is repeated after each advance, i.e., after removing the intended volume of rock submitted to the application of excavation mechanisms. Due to the importance of blasting to this work, this operation is going to be thoroughly analyzed in the following chapters.

Generally, open pit and underground mining methods do not reveal considerable variations with regards to the involved unit operations. Considering the underground environment, illumination and ventilation play a crucial role, whilst in open pit operations only the first may be necessary in particular situations. Stripping, on the other hand, is only observed in open pit mines or quarries, once the access to the deposit is made through the surface. The following schemes (Figures 2 and 3) aim to describe the two considered production scenarios and highlight the most evident differences between them:

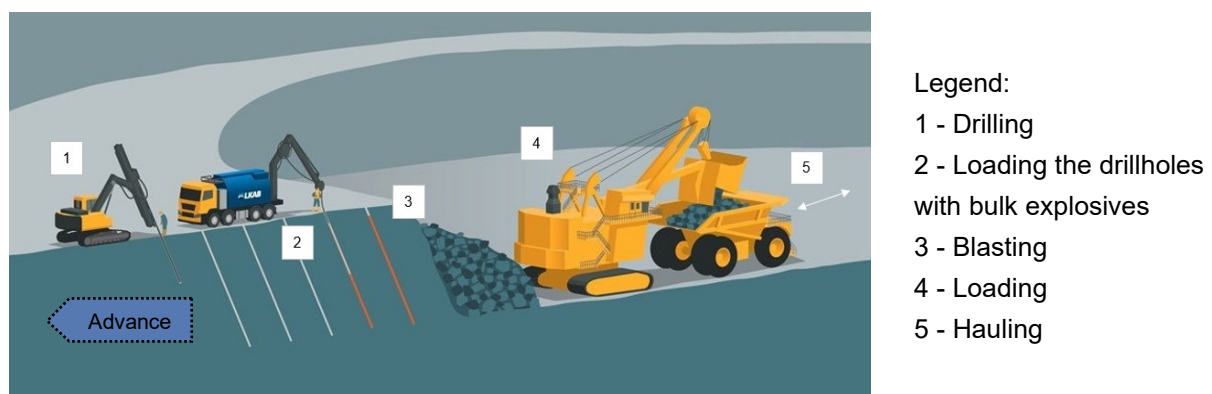


Figure 2 - Open pit operations in hard rock (adapted from LKAB, 2022).

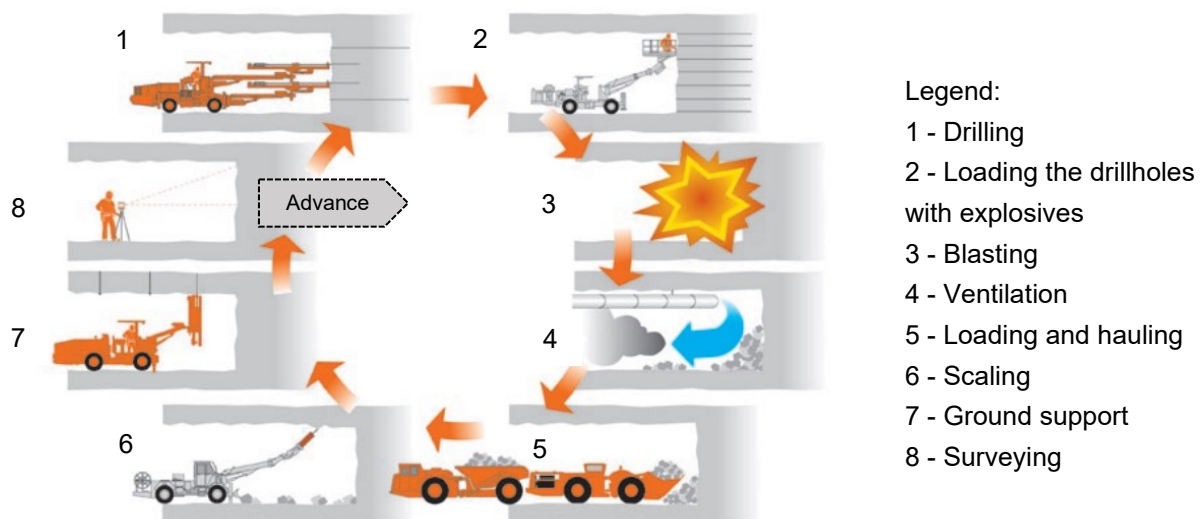


Figure 3 - Underground (drift) operations in hard rock (adapted from Heiniö, 1999).

Apart from the aforementioned differences between both production environments, scaling is usually carried out in underground mines where the rock face is required to be as intact as possible to be further supported. In underground tunneling there is only one free face, whilst in open pit mining this number is not smaller than two. Despite not represented in Figures 2 and 3, in most cases, crushing



and beneficiation succeed loading and hauling in the production process to obtain the final sellable product (Table 1).

Considering the second principle of mining engineering (economy) and a competitive globalized market, companies have to perform an integrated and intensive study on all unit operations as a whole (Figure 4).

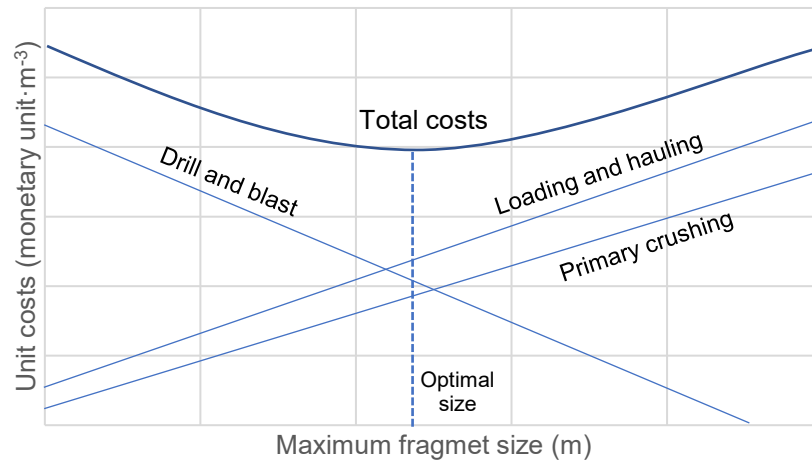


Figure 4 - Correlation between the unit and total costs and fragment size (adapted from Bernardo, 2004).

As is evident from Figure 4, the minimization of one operation does not imply that the total costs are near the optimal point (defined by an optimal fragment size). Considering this aspect, each operation has to be fully understood and adjusted on a regular basis in such a way that the integrated system is as efficient, economical and sustainable as possible. In this regard, drill and blast has to be associated with monitoring plans with the objective of registering, in real time, all the key performance indicators, allowing production managers to perform the necessary changes when sudden variations in the rock mass geology or equipment performance occur. This also contributes to the compliance of the fourth fundamental principle (environmental protection).

In the geotechnical domain, to optimize and ensure safety in rock excavation using civil explosives, it is important to understand the definition of explosive, its properties, available products on the market, how to design a blasting pattern and mitigate its environmental impacts and, most importantly, the legal and technical bases governing the use of explosives that intend to ensure the execution of an operation which is safe to both people and structures. The following sections have the objective of describing the mentioned elements.

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## 2.2. Explosive substances properties and product selection

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Explosive substances are chemical compounds or a mixture of compounds which, when initiated by friction, impact or heat, decompose very rapidly, releasing substantial amounts of energy in

the form of heat, gas and shock. Two major categories of reactions within explosives can be differentiated: deflagration and detonation. The first is characterized by a rapid combustion of the explosive, although this velocity of reaction is inferior to the sonic velocity (about  $340 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ). This reaction produces mainly heat and gases. On the other hand, detonation occurs when the rate of reaction exceeds the speed of sound, thus producing a shockwave (Heiniö, 1999; Bernardo, 2004; Lusk and Worsey, 2011). Usually, explosives can be used for both civil (commercial) and military purposes. Within the scope of this work, only civil explosives are going to be analyzed. Commercial explosives register detonation velocities that range from  $1.500 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  to  $7.830 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ , generating a great volume of gases (around 1 liter per gram of product) at extremely high temperature ( $1.500$  to  $4.000 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ) and pressure (2 to 40 GPa) values (Aimone, 1992; Lusk and Worsey, 2011).

Since the introduction of black powder in mining projects, more innovative explosives formulas have been discovered, revolutionizing the industry at a gradual rate. After the discovery of nitroglycerin by an Italian chemist in 1846, Alfred Nobel invented dynamite (in 1866), which would be widely used in mining endeavors later on. Since 1950, dynamite has been replaced by cheaper and safer ANFO (Ammonium Nitrate – Fuel Oil) products. This last formula, once applied in drillholes in the bulk form, poses a threat to the environment when dissolved in water, given its toxicity. As such, when drillholes containing water are loaded with ANFO products, there is the risk of contamination of the surrounding aquifers (Bernardo, 2004). Some authors mention that at high temperatures, ANFO reacts exothermally with pyrite (hot ground), originating spontaneous unplanned blasts. This reaction can be delayed by including urea and potassium in the ANFO chemical composition, nevertheless these elements do not prevent such hazard from occurring (Miron et al., 1979). These two factors contributed to the development of the most widely used explosives formula nowadays: ammonium nitrate-based emulsions. According to FEEM (as cited in Bernardo, 2017), in 2015, the emulsions, ANFO and dynamite market share in Europe represented 65,7 %, 26,8 % and 7,5 %, respectively. Usually, civil explosives are consumed in the bulk (ANFO and emulsions) or in the packaged (dynamite and emulsions) form, depending upon the blast size.

A successful blast is always supported on a proper and planned blast design. This design includes the selection of explosive, which depends upon economic, environmental and field conditions. Hence, the explosive substances chosen must ensure that the excavation unit costs are close to the lowest possible point, without disregarding the required displacement and degree of fragmentation of the rock (Figure 4) and the possible environmental impacts. According to Dick et al. (1983), the following aspects have to be considered when selecting the explosive products to be applied:

1. Explosive costs – the unit cost of explosive products is key in their selection. Ammonium nitrate-based explosives (namely ANFO) are the most competitive ones on the basis of cost per unit of energy. Depending on the proportion of nitroglycerin in dynamite, ANFO products are four to six times cheaper than the first one.
2. Charge diameter – this parameter is limited by the borehole diameter and by the critical diameter of the explosive. ANFO's efficiency increases proportionally to the charge diameter. The drillhole diameter can be changed. However, the critical diameter of the explosive cannot.
3. Rock blastability – geological and geotechnical characteristics of the rock mass must be assessed and taken into consideration. Hard and dense rocks contribute to expensive drilling activities and difficulties in the fragmentation process. Once explosives with high velocity of

detonation (VOD) are more efficient in fragmenting competent rock masses, the proportion of nitroglycerin is to be considered when blasting in such conditions, given the fact that this substance increases the VOD and thus the released energy. Aluminum, on the other hand, increases the released heat of explosion and consequently the relative effective energy, contributing to a greater detonation pressure.

4. Water conditions – when drillholes contain water, water-resistant explosives may be preferred over granular ones like ANFO. However, this explosive can be used if packaged in a plastic container forming a cartridge, or if applied into a hole lined with a water-proof liner, although this solution may have a limited effectiveness due to the possibility of rupture.
5. Fumes release – in underground environments, the release of toxic fumes after a blasting event is an occupational concern. Some explosives formulas like dynamite and emulsions are preferred over ANFO, after their oxygen balance that minimizes fumes emissions. Further to this, an improper explosive ingredient mix may cause non-optimal fumes emissions.
6. Other conditions – like ambient temperature (low temperatures may cause explosives insensitivity); propagating ground (that may cause unintended detonations between drillholes or dead pressing); storage and transportation requirements (magazines have to be designed in such a way that weather conditions or fires have a minimal impact on the stored explosives and the risk of theft is minimized); and the existence of explosive atmospheres (hot grounds), which require the usage of determined explosives to avoid unplanned blasts.

Up to this point, only secondary explosives have been described. Comparing with primary explosives, these are less sensitive to friction, impact or heat. Additionally, they require at least a primary explosive for initiation (Lusk and Worsey, 2011). Thus, initiation systems include primary explosives in their composition and examples of these products are detonating cords, detonators and boosters.

To safely initiate dynamite, in 1863 Alfred Nobel invented the detonator. This simple system consists in a slow-burning safety fuse attached to a blasting cap that contains primary and base charges. Due to the fact that a cutoff in the safety fuse or its mixture with water may leave uninitiated detonators, Nobel's invention was quickly superseded by electric detonators – invented in 1895 (Lusk and Worsey, 2011).

Electric detonators that work with millisecond delays were developed in 1950's and allow safer blasts with minimized side effects. These are initiated by an electrical resistance which heats up and initiates a pyrotechnic element. In consequence, the delay element is ignited, initiating both the primer and the base charge. They have some drawbacks attached to them, such as the limited number of delays per blast, the delay scatter which can contribute to overlaps (aggravating the blast environmental effects) and its sensitivity to stray currents, lightning events or batteries (Lusk and Worsey, 2011).

In the second half of the twentieth Century shock-tube non-electric detonators were introduced onto the market. These elements are initiated by shock and allow a larger number of delay timings, being the most cost-effective detonator available. Furthermore, this system is not sensitive to stray currents and is more resilient than electric detonators which depend on electrical wires. The usage of these detonators requires surface connectors, which determine the hole delay. However, these have some disadvantages like the inability to test the system connections, the associated delay scatter and the limited number of delays, which for drift or tunnel blasts with a considerable number of holes implies

that some detonators are initiated at the same instant, increasing the maximum charge per delay and consequently vibration amplitudes (Lusk and Worsey, 2011).

Lastly, in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, programmable electronic detonators were developed, offering a considerable flexibility in the delay design – greater than that of non-electric detonators. These systems can be remotely initiated by a unique exploder (*blast box*) and have an incorporated chip used to control the delay timing, which uses electrical energy stored in one or more capacitors to supply power for timing clock and initiation energy. Compared to the preceding detonators, the timing error associated with electronic detonators is lower (around 1 ms or 0,01 %). Hence, it is possible to control overlaps, mitigating environmental effects such as vibrations and flyrock. These detonators also improve fragmentation, decrease overbreak and allow the frequency control of ground vibration, being this an aspect to be later described. Nevertheless, the considerable detonator costs and the necessary *blast box*, increase of the unit costs related to blasting using electronic blasting systems (Lusk and Worsey, 2011).

The second initiation element to be described is the detonating cord. Invented in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the detonating cord initiates explosive charges radially, once it is placed in parallel to them along the hole, connecting different drillholes. Given its reduced linear charge, this penthrite-based explosive is frequently used in presplitting or in the contour series of underground tunnels (to be later described). The main advantages of detonating cord are its resistance to tension, abrasion and humidity (given its waxed or plastic coating), safety and ease of handling, and the available linear charges – that vary from 3 g·m<sup>-1</sup> to 100 g·m<sup>-1</sup> – which can be chosen depending on different site requirements. Nonetheless, the usage of this initiation system does not allow precise delay timings, may contribute to misfires due to the fact that the cord can be ripped apart, and contributes to an increase in the blasting side effects like noise, air blast, dust and flyrock (given its exposure on the surface, between drillholes) (Lusk and Worsey, 2011).

Like the detonating cord, boosters have a high VOD (around 7.000 m·s<sup>-1</sup>). They are generally used together with a detonator to initiate a low-sensitivity bulk explosives column, forming a primer. A booster is generally composed by nitroglycerine, penthrite or pentolite. It is water-resistant, safe to handle and applicable in the following temperature range: -40 °C to 70 °C (Lusk and Worsey, 2011).

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## **2.3. Rock fragmentation mechanism in blasting**

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In rock blasting, the energy released during detonation results in rock fragmentation and in the previously mentioned five environmental side effects: overbreak, flyrock, noise/air blast, dust and ground vibrations. This chapter analyzes the rock fragmentation mechanism originated by the energy released by civil explosives.

The detonation of an explosive charge within a hole drilled in a rock mass promotes fracturing of the surrounding rock and consequent failure. According to Winzer and Ritter (1980) (as cited in Dowding and Aimone, 1992), this process is associated with two distinct phases of breakage mechanism:

1. Effect of stress waves generated from the detonation shock force – the generated shock wave travels into the rock with a velocity that depends on the rock and explosive properties, violently and dynamically disturbing the rock mass within a reduced time period. The cylindrically divergent wave gradually decays in peak pressure amplitude and is described by both a stress and radial component.
2. Effect of detonation gas pressure within the borehole – upon detonation the formed gas products increase the borehole and adjacent cracks pressures. These pressures promote the extension of the existing radial cracks and the formation of isolated blocks, increasing fragmentation. Usually, this phase occurs during a period longer than the initial one.

Figure 5 depicts the sequence of events during a rock blast close to a free face.

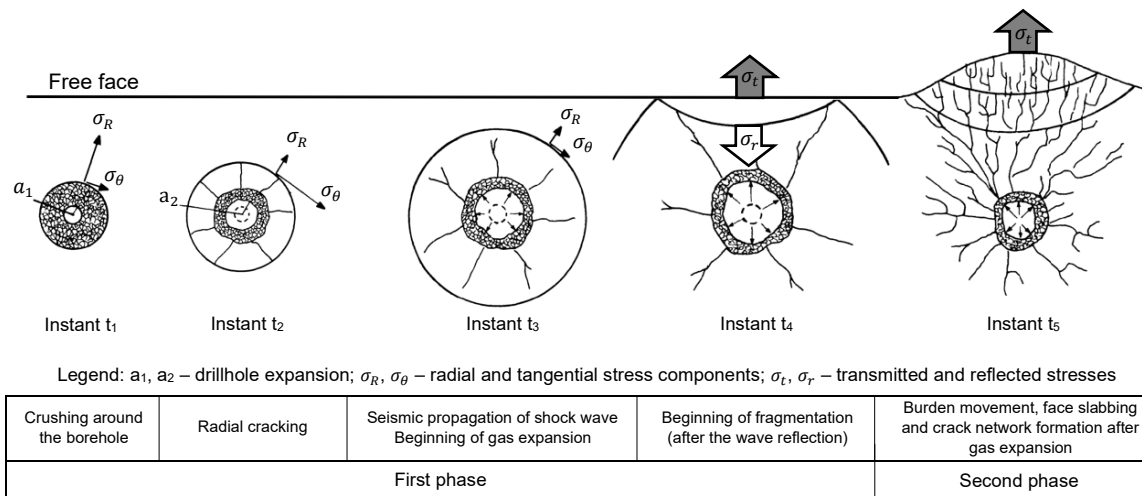


Figure 5 - Temporal sequence of events occurring in the rock mass (near a free face) after detonation (adapted from Dowding and Aimone, 1992).

The described phases act together, promoting local pressure values greater than the rock dynamic resistance. According to Figure 5, close to the drillhole, the radial component of the stress wave ( $\sigma_R$ ) is compressive, exceeding the dynamic compressive strength of the rock. At this stage ( $t_1$ ), the rock surrounding the drillhole behaves like a fluid, showing no elastic properties. The attenuation of  $\sigma_R$  below the rock strength defines the end of the crushing zone, which ranges from two to four drillhole radii away from the center of the drillhole.

As the shockwave travels away from the center of the borehole  $\sigma_R$  is attenuated below the rock strength and the tangential stress component ( $\sigma_\theta$ ) increases, overpassing the dynamic tensile rock strength, creating a fractured area that can be extended up to 50 borehole radii away ( $t_2$ ).

As the shock wave is further attenuated in such a way that the involved stresses occur below the rock elastic limit, the fractures cease and the wave travels away in a radial form as an elastic sound wave ( $t_3$ ). The energy released by the explosive in the form of gases contributes to the propagation of the existing radial fractures.

Instants  $t_4$  and  $t_5$  are characterized by the enhancement of fracture patterns near the free face, after the transition of  $\sigma_R$  from a compressive to a tensile wave as it is reflected ( $\sigma_r$ ) at the free face. Multiple reflections of transmitted and reflected waves occur, promoting successive fracturing, thus

originating new cracks in the vicinity of the drillhole. The originated fragmentation is also dependent on preexisting geological discontinuities.

Given the amount of energy released during a blasting event, the knowledge of the seismic or elastic zone is of importance, principally in the case where there is the risk of vibration-induced damage to structures. At this zone, like in natural seismic events, stress waves prevail (Bernardo, 2004).

As discussed in chapter 2.2., various aspects contribute to the selection of the explosive to be applied in an excavation activity. However, to maximize the energy efficiency and minimize the energy released to the environment in the form of noise and air pressure, some of the explosives properties have to meet the rock characteristics: impedance matching of these elements. Equation 1 denotes the calculation of the characteristic impedance ( $I_p$ ) in a given medium.

$$I_p = \rho \cdot c \quad (\text{Equation 1})$$

Where  $\rho$  represents the medium density ( $\text{kg}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ ) and  $c$  its waves propagation velocity ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ). The characteristic impedance of a given material consists in the resistance with which the shock waves propagate through it.

As such, when considering the rock mass density and the waves propagation velocity its characteristic impedance can be calculated using Equation 1 and a given explosive is chosen in such a way that both impedance values are similar. After selecting a particular explosive product to be applied, the maximum theoretical pressure within the explosive column (detonation pressure) can be calculated (Equation 2).

$$P_D = \frac{\rho_e \cdot VOD^2}{4} \quad (\text{Equation 2})$$

Where the  $P_D$  is the detonation pressure (Pa),  $\rho_e$  is the explosive density ( $\text{kg}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ ) and  $VOD$  is the characteristic velocity of detonation ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ), as seen before. It should be noted that the detonation pressure is directly linked to the crushing pressure (fragmentation), whilst the released gases are related to the fractures propagation and displacement of the formed fragments during the blast. Given the direct proportionality between the detonation pressure and the released energy, it is expected that greater values of the first originate greater ground vibration velocities for fixed ground conditions and distance values.

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## 2.4. Conventional blasting patterns

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According to Bernardo (2004), blasting pattern is a technical document where one defines the drilling works to be carried out at the working face and the respective explosive charges to be applied, both in quantity and quality, aiming at excavating hard rock which cannot be economically or technically excavated by means of conventional mechanical excavation methods. Despite considering economical aspects and comparing the different excavation methods available, a blast design also takes into consideration environmental restrictions and assigns a determined firing sequence with a predefined

delay timing in such a way that the explosives energy is efficiently used in the excavation and undesired side effects of the blast are mitigated.

This chapter intends to describe different blasting patterns both in open pit and underground production scenarios, highlighting the geometrical parameters involved and the way these may vary according to different rock mass properties.

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### 2.4.1. Open pit excavations

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In 1963, Ash presented linear numerical relationships concerning geometrical parameters of an open pit bench blasting pattern, which are validated and widely used in quarries and mines worldwide (Hustrulid, 1999). Namely in open pit operations, empirical formulas are commonly used to describe the geometrical properties of bench blasting patterns (Figure 6).

Legend:

- B – Burden
- S – Spacing
- H – Bench height
- T' – Stemming
- G – Subdrilling
- L – Drillhole length
- ∅ – Drillhole diameter
- CC – Column charge
- BC – Bottom charge
- TC – Total charge

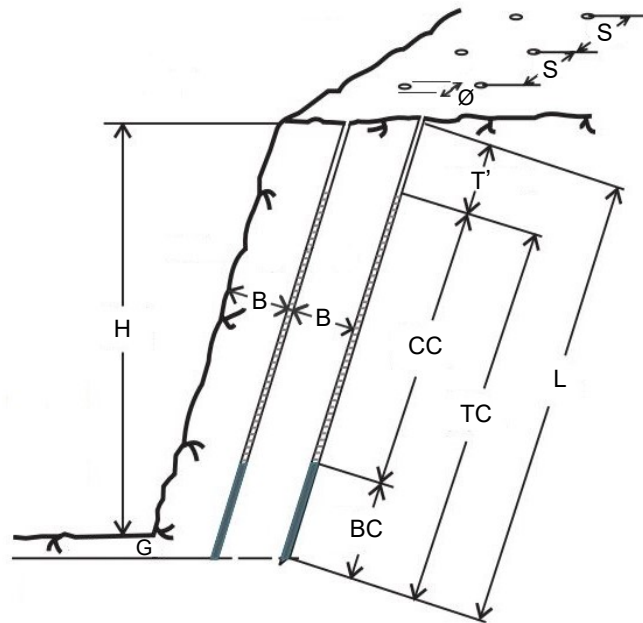


Figure 6 - Main geometrical parameters of a bench blasting pattern (adapted from Heiniö, 1999).

According to Ash's work, the geometrical parameters present in Figure 6 are dependent upon the drillhole diameter, which may vary based on production and environmental restrictions and geological conditions. As such, this author proposes the utilization of a set of empirical constants ( $K_i$ ) varying within fixed range values which depend on characteristics like the explosives density, rock mass geology, timing between holes, environmental concerns (mainly on air blast and flyrock) and planned production volume (Table 2).

Table 2 - Geometrical design of a bench blasting pattern after Ash (adapted from Gama, 1998, as cited in Bernardo, 2004).

Geometrical parameter	Empirical constant	Expression	Range of variation	Depending on:
Burden (B)	$K_B$	$B = K_B \cdot \varnothing$	$25 \leq K_B \leq 40$	Explosive density and rock mass strength
Spacing (S)	$K_S$	$S = K_S \cdot B$	$1,25 \leq K_S \leq 5$	Delay interval between adjacent charges
Bench height (H)	$K_H$	$H = K_H \cdot B$	$1,5 \leq K_H \leq 4$	Production volume
Stemming (T')	$K_{T'}$	$T' = K_{T'} \cdot B$	$0,5 \leq K_{T'} \leq 1$	Environmental concerns on noise and flyrock
Subdrilling (G)	$K_G$	$G = K_G \cdot B$	$0,2 \leq K_G \leq 0,5$	Bench height and floor roughness

Table 2 shows that the burden – directly proportional to the drillhole diameter ( $\varnothing$ ) – influences the values for the remaining geometrical parameters. As such, patterns with greater hole diameters tend to be wider (greater burden and spacing), and have longer drillholes (once subdrilling increases) and greater bench heights, being more productive. This, however, increases the average grain size resulting from the blast (which may require secondary fragmentation), the risk of flyrock and rock mass instability after overbreak, and most importantly, the risk of ground vibrations and noise. In the case of pronounced bedding at the toe bench, subdrilling may be dismissed ( $K_G = 0$ ). In Portugal, the Decree-Law nº162/90 (Article 126) sets the maximum bench height in open pit exploitations at 15 m. After reclamation, this value cannot exceed 10 m. In several cases, given the imposed legal restrictions,  $H$  is defined *a priori*, conditioning the calculation of the remaining geometrical parameters.

It is worth mentioning that the empirical formulas presented in Table 2 serve as a first approximation in the design of a blasting pattern. Hence, if the calculated geometrical parameters are not economically (Figure 4) nor environmentally optimal, these should be adjusted according to the site properties and requirements to mitigate the side effects of the excavation process (with a particular emphasis on vibrations) and/or to minimize the mining operation unit costs.

In open pit blasting patterns, there is an uneven energy distribution along the explosives column (Figure 6). Given the greater confinement at the bench toe which offers more resistance to the energy released by the explosives, a denser bottom charge (with greater  $P_D$  – Equation 2) is applied in this region. As such, the stress released during the blast has to overcome the rock resistance at this part of the bench, so that failure occurs. The bottom charge has also the role of initiating the column charge, which normally has a lower density, is associated with lower costs and generates a greater volume of gases. As an initial approximation, one of the used criteria to estimate the bottom charge (BC) is based on the estimated burden (B) (Equation 3) (Bernardo, 2004).

$$BC = 1,3 \cdot B \quad \text{(Equation 3)}$$

Once the burden (B) is usually determined in meters, the length of the bottom charge is estimated considering the same unit.



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## 2.4.2. Underground excavations

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Underground blasting rounds can be divided into two basic types: those with one free face and those with more than one free face. The first is used in drifts, tunnel and shaft rounds, and in certain room-and-pillar operations. Blasting rounds with more than one free face are used in open stopes, large-diameter tunnels using bench methods and sublevel caving. It is common that multiple-face rounds are designed in a similar way to surface blasting, where two to four free faces exist (Dick et al., 1983; Dowding and Aimone, 1992). For this reason, this section will only cover rounds falling under the first type. When comparing stope blasting with open pit bench excavation, the major difference may reside in the fact that drillholes within the same ring may have different rotation angles, and in the application of up-hole drilling. The confinement associated with the drift access, which can limit the jumbo drill rig positioning or the stope geometry have an influence on the drillholes orientation, and thus rotation and inclination angles. In terms of blastholes loading, these may not be charged along their full length to allow an adequate distribution of explosive within the ring. However, the distance between explosive charges should not exceed the defined spacing (usually similar to the burden), in such a way that ore recovery and fragmentation are not compromised by an inaccurate loading design.

Considering the importance of underground excavations to this work, one intends to know the involved design variables in an underground blasting pattern, which may be subject to changes to minimize ground vibration levels in surrounding structures. The design procedure is well-described in the literature (Langefors and Kihlstrom, 1978; Heiniö, 1999) by means of analytical expressions and graphical representations. This process is especially influenced by the opening cut geometry. The purpose of the cut is to create additional free faces providing relief for the rest of the blast. Two major types of opening cuts can be identified: parallel (burn cut) and angled (V-, fan and pyramid cut) hole cuts (Figure 7).

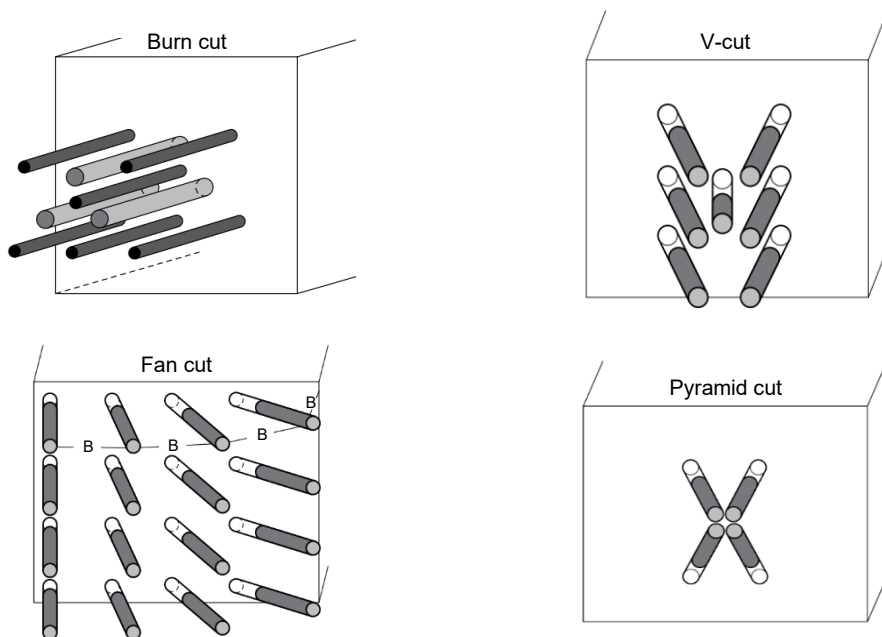


Figure 7 - Detail of different opening cut layouts in a drift round (rock's eye view) (adapted from Lusk and Worsley, 2011).

According to Figure 7, with the exception of the fan cut, the remaining layouts have cut drillholes in a specific location of the drift face, i.e., they do not cover the entire face. It should be noted that the location of the cut can vary, dictating the direction and distance of throw. In the fan cut, the distance between adjacent holes toes is the burden (B).

In burn, V- and pyramid cut designs, the drillholes can be divided into three principal series: cut, blast/stopping and perimeter holes (Figure 8). Some authors divide the perimeter holes into floor/lifter and contour (rib and back) holes (Dowding and Aimone, 1992; Heiniö, 1999).

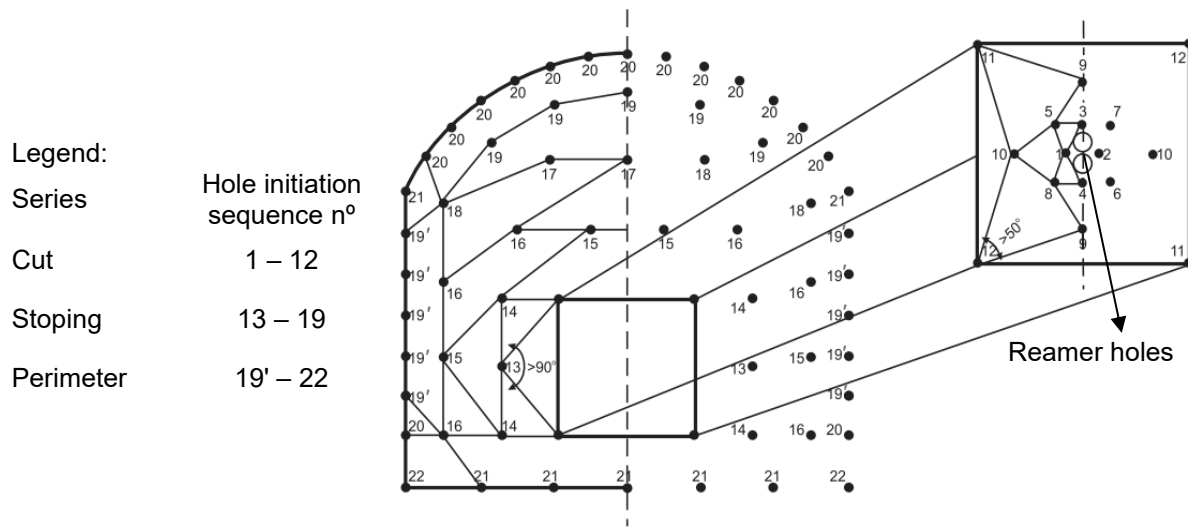


Figure 8 - Drillhole series in a drift round (adapted from Heiniö, 1999).

The series depicted in Figure 8 have the following objectives:

1. Cut – creation of additional free faces providing relief for the rest of the blast;
2. Stopping – usage of the created free faces to increase the blast efficiency, excavating most of the intended rock volume;
3. Perimeter – definition of the real excavation perimeter as close to the theoretical contour as possible.

The numbers assigned to each hole represent the firing pattern, where the cut holes are the first ones to be fired, being followed by the stopping (13 – 19) and, lastly, by the perimeter holes (19' – 22). In the cut, it is noteworthy that long enough delay times between holes should exist, allowing the rock to suffer sufficient breakage and be thrown through the narrow empty reamer holes (represented in light grey – burn cut – in Figure 7, and in white in Figure 8).

Regarding the explosive charges to be applied, given the greater confinement in the cut, a higher specific charge (concentration) is used in this series, whilst this value decreases with the increasing distance from the cut. Considering the high number of simultaneous delays to be fired in the contour, to mitigate environmental impacts such as vibration and damage to the surrounding rock mass,

guaranteeing a smooth drift contour, the perimeter holes are the ones with the lowest linear charge. In the contour series, time delay precision is important in such a way that the simultaneously fired holes induce the creation of a regular surface defined by fractures which coalesce and provide a split, contributing to the approximation between the real excavation perimeter and the planned one. This suggests the importance of using electronic detonators in this series. Moreover, according to Figure 8, taking into consideration the greater number of stopping holes, when compared to the remaining series, if there is a considerable number of blast holes, it may not be possible to initiate each one at different instants of time using non-electric detonators, contributing to an increase of vibration amplitudes. For this reason, electronic detonators are recommended in drift blast rounds.

The confined environment associated with underground excavation activities diminishes the environmental constraints. Here, air blast, noise, flyrock and dust do not pose a hazard to surrounding structures and other descriptors such as people outside the mine operation perimeter. Thereby, rock mass instability and ground vibration have a greater importance. For this reason, like in open pit blasts, in addition to determining the geometrical parameters of the drilling pattern, one has to determine the maximum charge per delay with the objective of minimizing the mentioned impacts.

Similar to what has been described in 2.4.1., after considering the indicated influencing factors and, above all, normative restrictions in terms of blast-induced environmental impacts the empirical design process can be performed. However, the obtained blasting pattern may not be the optimal one and may be continuously corrected and adjusted, according to the results observed in the field, aiming to improve the following blast rounds.

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## **2.5. The ground vibration phenomenon**

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Dynamic events such as an earthquake (natural) or blasting (anthropogenic) are transmitted through the ground and occur in the form of vibrations, which in turn propagate in the form of stress waves, until attenuation totally dissipates the initially transmitted energy. Within this context, it is important to define the concept of vibration.

According to the literature (Kramer, 1996), vibration is an oscillatory movement of any physical system (in the solid, liquid or gaseous state), which is displaced from its equilibrium condition. Within the scope of this work, vibration is considered to be the ground elastic response to the stress waves that travel through the considered medium. This phenomenon is usually described by the amplitude (expressed as a function of displacement, velocity or acceleration), period, wavelength, frequency and duration. As the stress wave travels through a three-dimensional space, it can be characterized by mutually perpendicular components: longitudinal (L), transverse (T) and vertical (V). As the name suggests, the V direction is the vertical one, L is directed along the line between the blast and the monitoring point, and T is perpendicular to the first two (Dowding, 1992).

### 2.5.1. Classification of stress waves

After a blasting event, the sudden release of energy into the ground (rock and/or soil mass) takes place, promoting the propagation of body and surface waves. These waves may impact nearby people and structures, having vibration amplitudes that depend on the quantity of energy released by the blast, the distance between the source and the monitoring point, the transmission and dissipation properties of the ground, and the dynamic resistance of structures as well as its weakest elements (Gama, 2003).

As mentioned before, the transmitted stress or seismic waves can be divided into body and surface waves (Figure 9). Body waves travel radially at small distances from the energy source through the rock and soil mass, until they intersect a boundary such as another rock layer or the ground surface, producing shear and surface waves. These have relatively high frequencies (10 to 40 Hz) and rapid attenuation, when compared to surface waves. Surface waves travel along surfaces and interfaces within the rock and soil mass. This last group registers, however lower propagation velocities and frequencies (2 to 8 Hz), being perceived at greater distances given the greater energy associated with them (Dowding, 1992; Bernardo, 2004).

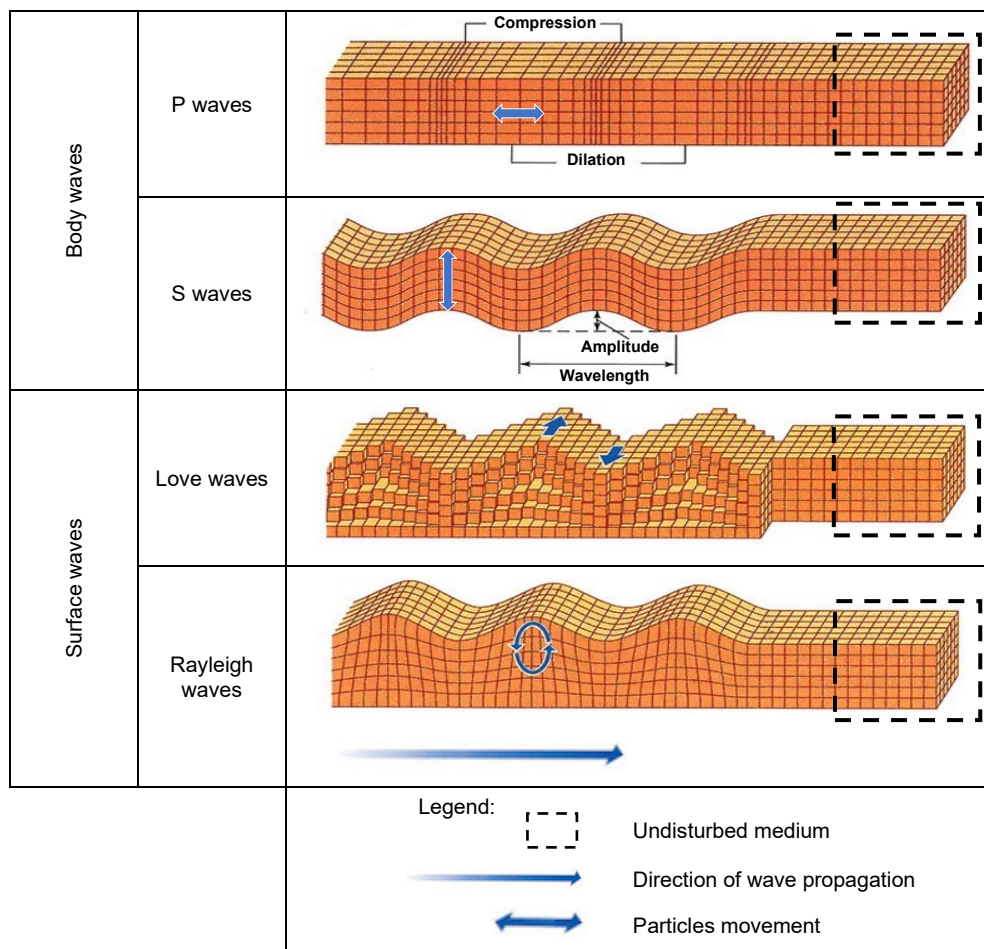


Figure 9 - Seismic waves (adapted from Das, 2022).

As illustrated in Figure 9, body waves can be divided into compressive (P) and distortional, secondary or shear (S) waves. On the other hand, Love and Rayleigh waves constitute surface waves. Also known as primary ones, P waves involve alternating compression and dilation of the ground material, promoting variations in its volume. As S waves propagate, they cause shearing in the surrounding rock or soil material, changing its shape, but not its volume. Love waves have no vertical component and the horizontal particle movement is perpendicular to the direction of the waves propagation. Lastly, Rayleigh waves involve vertical and horizontal components at the surface according to an elliptic orbit. These may contain up to 80 % of the total energy and once they are perceived at the surface and at greater distances, structures located hundreds of meters from the energy source, such as a blast, are associated with potential damage risks (Kramer, 1996; Bernardo, 2004).

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### **2.5.2. Importance of ground vibration amplitude as a structural damage criterion**

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According to Dowding (2011), the response of surface structures is dependent upon peak particle velocity amplitudes and frequency of vibration. For belowground structures, waves propagation velocity and frequency determine the rock mass and founded structures response. In the two cases, cracking is originated by induced strains, being that particle velocity values are used as an index of strain. Firstly, it is important to analyze the influence of vibration on structures.

As mentioned before blast-induced vibrations may be produced by several geotechnical operations. These can be divided into three categories (Sarsby, 2013):

1. Steady-state or continuous – when an approximately constant level of vibration lasts for a substantial period of time (for example: vibrations originated from earthworks, compressors or large pumps working during a prolonged period);
2. Transient or impact – if the vibration peak levels result from a sudden impact, which is followed by a prolonged time after complete attenuation (for example: pile-driving using a drop hammer or detonation of isolated explosive charges);
3. Intermittent – when a sequence of brief vibration events is separated by intervals of considerably lower vibration amplitudes (for example: ground motion after percussion drilling or detonation of delayed explosive charges).

In this work, it is assumed that no permanent displacements on structures are caused by excavation by means of drill and blast. However, it is important to highlight some of the effects blasting events may have on structural elements. Some examples are structural distortion, faulted or displaced cracks, falling objects and cosmetic cracking of wall coverings. These are not expected to occur when vibration levels are below the recommended limits defined to prevent cosmetic cracking. Apart from structural response, excessive instrument, machine and human response, and micro disturbance may occur (Dowding, 2011).

Some authors divide excessive structural response into three categories (Northwood et al., 1963; Siskind et al., 1980a; Dowding, 2011). These are presented in order of declining severity and

increasing distance of occurrence, beginning with effects that, if observed, occur closest to the blasting area:

1. Major (permanent distortion) – compromising the structure integrity (e.g. large cracks or differential settlement of the foundations that result in the distortion or weakening of the superstructure);
2. Minor (displacement cracks) – surficial damage that does not affect the structure strength (e.g. broken windows, hairline cracks in masonry, and fissuring of interior and exterior wall plaster coatings);
3. Threshold (cosmetic cracking) – formation of new plaster cracks and extension of preexisting ones with oscillation of loose objects such as bricks and furniture).

With regards to cosmetic cracking, it is worth noting that these do not affect structure stability and are similar to those that occur during the structures natural aging. Apart from blasts, these can be caused by differential thermal expansion, structural overloading, chemical changes in construction materials, shrinkage and swelling of wood, fatigue and aging of wall coatings, and differential foundation settlement.

From the previously mentioned elements that define vibration, amplitude (normally described by velocity or acceleration) of vibration and frequency are the two most important ones to consider when it comes to its effect on structures. Structural damage is correlated with the first parameter. The expressions present in Equations 4, 5 and 6 denote the existing relationships between amplitude (expressed as velocity,  $v$ , ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ) and acceleration,  $a$ , ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-2}$ ) and frequency,  $f$ , ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ ).

$$f = \frac{1}{T''} \quad (\text{Equation 4})$$

$$v = 2 \cdot \pi \cdot f \cdot \delta \quad (\text{Equation 5})$$

$$a = 2 \cdot \pi \cdot f \cdot v \Leftrightarrow a = 4 \cdot \pi^2 \cdot f^2 \cdot \delta \quad (\text{Equation 6})$$

Where  $T''$  is equivalent to the wave period (s) and  $\delta$  the particle displacement (m) when excited by the wave.

Ground vibrations originated by any seismic event are directly proportional to the induced dynamic stresses,  $\sigma_d$ , (Pa) as Equation 7 shows (Dowding, 1992). This last physical quantity can easily be correlated with the structures dynamic resistance. The constant of proportionality involved in this expression corresponds to the medium characteristic impedance  $I_p$  (Equation 1).

$$\sigma_d = \rho \cdot c \cdot v \quad (\text{Equation 7})$$

Similar to the previous equations,  $v$  is equal to the rock mass particles vibration velocity ( $\text{mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ) and  $\rho \cdot c$  is the rock characteristic impedance, being  $\rho$  its density and  $c$  its typical wave propagation velocity. In consequence, the effect of ground vibration on structures is also dependent on the lithology on which they are founded. Thereby, it is essential to characterize and understand the ground a structure lays on, to prevent the occurrence of damage induced by blasts.

According to Rinehart (1975) (as cited in Bernardo, 2004), static stresses in rock materials may be five to thirteen times less than equivalent dynamic ones – in the case of hard and soft rock, respectively. The reason for this is that, in dynamic loads, rock mass discontinuities such as joints and microfractures are not involved in the fracturing process, given the very limited time period of the loading phase. This reasoning is depicted in Figure 10.

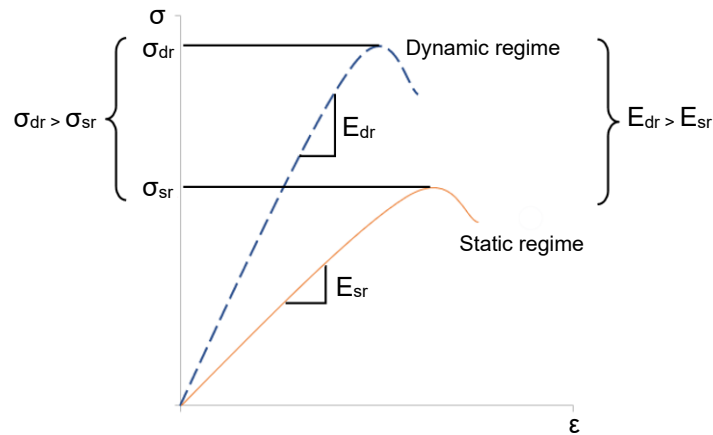


Figure 10 - Stress-strain curves in static and dynamic regimes (adapted from Bernardo, 2004, as cited in Gama, 1971).

Where the curves slopes  $E_{dr}$  and  $E_{sr}$  correspond to the elastic moduli in the dynamic and static regimes, respectively. The remaining physical quantities mentioned in this figure  $\sigma_{dr}$  and  $\sigma_{sr}$  are equivalent to the rock material dynamic and static resistance, respectively.

Once the main objective of the detonation process in geotechnical activities is rock fracturing,  $\sigma_d$  should exceed  $\sigma_{dr}$ . Fracturing will occur until the dynamic stress is lower than  $\sigma_{dr}$ . From that moment onwards, only rock deformation as a consequence of stress waves propagation will be verified.

In a real situation, with interest to this work, in which stress waves travel through a rock mass (which is not ideal, i.e., inelastic, anisotropic, heterogeneous and discontinuous), the energy released by a detonation is going to be dissipated with time due to energy attenuation mechanisms. This attenuation process is verified by means of decreasing vibration amplitudes (Dowding, 1992). For this reason, for increasing distance values from the blast, one should expect decreasing values of  $\sigma_d$ . Sarsby (2013) provides a more detailed analysis on waves attenuation; indicating that the factors influencing this phenomenon are the waves geometrical spreading; the progressive separation of surface, P and S waves components given the different propagation velocities that characterize them; the presence of discontinuities in the rock mass; and internal friction that causes frequency-dependent attenuation.

Nevertheless, in practice, stress waves may not suffer attenuation with distance. By way of example, in stratified rock masses, waves may concentrate or overlap to reflected ones (constructive interference), measuring greater ground vibrations at more distant points (Azevedo and Patrício, 2003, as cited in Bernardo, 2004). Moreover, the lithology on which the structures foundations are based, has an important influence on vibration levels measured on these constructions, as Figure 11 suggests.

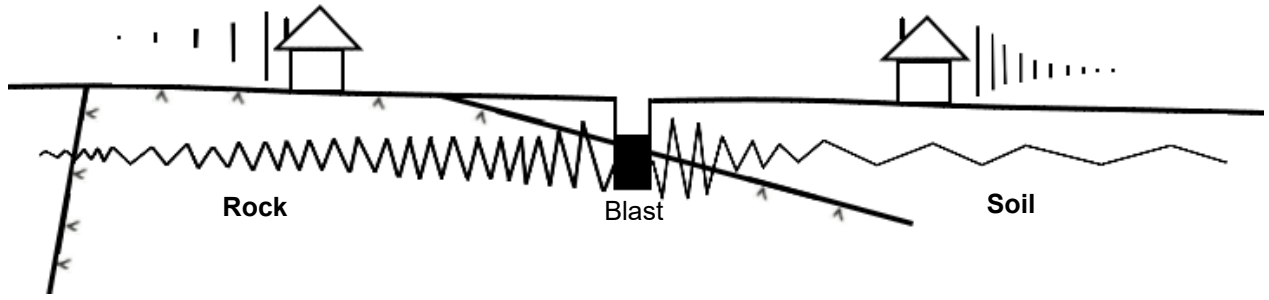


Figure 11 - Foundation lithology influence on vibration levels at two similar structures, equidistant from a blast (adapted from Lopez Jimeno et al., 1995).

According to Figure 11, the building founded on rock registers a lower vibration velocity than the one founded on soil. This is due to the fact that geological formations that have a higher wave attenuation capacity originate greater vibration velocities than those that register lower vibration energy dissipation levels, such as a competent rock mass. In reality, this phenomenon is explained by the relationship between ground vibration velocities and dynamic stresses (Equation 7), where for a constant  $\sigma_d$  if the characteristic impedance decreases, the vibration amplitude increases and vice versa. In other words, formations with lower impedance values (where attenuation occurs at a greater rate for a given distance interval) attenuate dynamic stresses more rapidly, though this is not the case for particle vibration velocities.

If a wave is transmitted through different media, with different  $I_p$ , its propagation is ruled by the relationship between the characteristic impedance that defines each medium. Considering Snell's law, Equation 8 shows the relationship between the amplitudes of the incident ( $A_i$ ) and transmitted ( $A_t$ ) waves (m) that propagate through the interface of two media as a function of their impedance. It is noteworthy that the wave travels from medium 1 to 2 (Bernardo, 2004).

$$A_t = \frac{2}{1 + \frac{\rho_1 \cdot c_1}{\rho_2 \cdot c_2}} \cdot A_i \quad (\text{Equation 8})$$

The quotient between the first and the second medium impedance is equivalent to the refractive index ( $n'$ ). Thereby, the previous equation may be defined by the following expression (Equation 9):

$$A_t = \frac{2}{1 + n'} \cdot A_i \quad (\text{Equation 9})$$

As such, considering Equations 7 and 9, if the vibration velocity measured on a structure founded on rock is defined as  $v_r$ , the vibration velocity measured at a structure founded on soil is deduced by Equation 10.

$$\rho_s \cdot c_s \cdot v_s = \frac{2}{1 + n'} \cdot \rho_r \cdot c_r \cdot v_r \Leftrightarrow v_s = \frac{2 \cdot n'}{1 + n'} \cdot v_r \quad (\text{Equation 10})$$

According to this expression and Figure 11, if the incident wave propagates through the rock mass and reaches an interface between this lithology and a soil mass, given the fact that  $n'$  is greater than one, one can conclude that  $v_s$  is greater than  $v_r$ .



### 2.5.3. Importance of frequency as a structural damage criterion

As mentioned in the previous section, the analysis of possible damage to structures is carried out through amplitude of vibration and frequency. Hence, it is also convenient to define frequency and its relationship with eventual undesired effects on construction elements. This physical property is intrinsically related to the rock mass response, as it is going to be addressed below.

The proximity of the dominant frequency of rock or soil mass vibrations to one of the buildings natural frequency may generate the condition of resonance, i.e., an amplified structural vibratory response (Svinkin, 2008). Nevertheless, if only a reduced number of blast-induced motion cycles at a similar amplitude and frequency are observed, resonance vibrations are not verified. This phenomenon is not only dependent on structure stiffness, but also damping ratio ( $\beta$ ) and mass of the main structural components (Dowding, 2011). Figure 12 represents a graphical method to determine the dynamic magnification factor, according to the frequency ( $f/f_n$ ) and damping ratios, where  $f$  and  $f_n$  are the vibration event and structure natural frequency, respectively. The dynamic magnification factor ( $R_d$ ) can be defined as the quantification of a structures response, when submitted to a dynamic load such as a vibratory event, i.e., the ratio of the peak to the static amplitude (Smith et al., 2007).

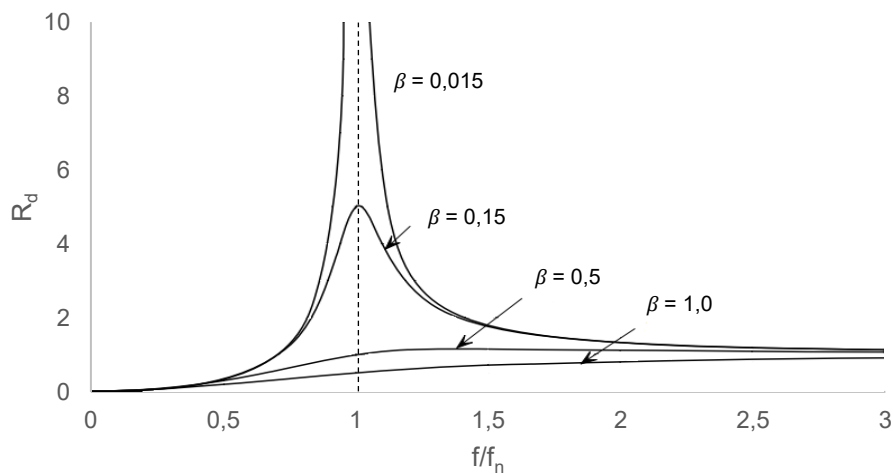


Figure 12 - Dynamic magnification functions (adapted from Smith et al., 2007).

This figure illustrates the increasing dynamic magnification factor and thus structural response when the frequency ratio is close to one. Lower damping ratios, which in turn imply longer steady-state periods, are related to greater dynamic response factors, increasing the probability of structural damage occurrence. Regarding different building materials, one may expect that lower damping ratios (for example 0,015) are associated with steel structures, whereas greater values (1,0) may characterize wooden structures. Additionally, buildings with masonry or reinforced concrete in their constitution are characterized by intermediate  $\beta$ , such as 0,15.

As demonstrated, the structures natural frequency is a fundamental property when estimating its response to dynamic events. This physical quantity can be estimated as an inverse function of the building's number of stories  $N_s$  (Equation 11). However, this relationship is only accurate for one- or two-story structures, indicating its limited application domain (Newmark and Hall, 1982). Notwithstanding this consideration, the simplistic approach shown below may be used in rural areas, where most mines are located, once multistory buildings are unlikely to be found in the vicinity of these operations.

$$f_n = \frac{10}{N_s} \quad (\text{Equation 11})$$

For unusual tall structures and slender ones, its natural frequency cannot be estimated with Equation 11. Taking this into consideration, Bernardo (2004) suggests a new formula (Equation 12), where  $f_n$  is a function of the structure's height ( $H_s$ ), respective building material's waves propagation velocity ( $C_p$ ) and porosity ( $n$ ) – ratio between volume of voids, including non-structural elements, and total volume. As such, according to this formula, the structures natural frequency is influenced by its geometrical parameters and building material physical properties.

$$f_n = \frac{C_p}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot H_s} \cdot \sqrt{1 - n} \quad (\text{Equation 12})$$

Buildings' walls and floors register typical  $f_n$  values in the range of 12 to 20 Hz, while their superstructure responds to lower frequency values (5 Hz). Taking into consideration that low-frequency waves (like Rayleigh waves) are the most energetic ones, this response is a concern if resonance occurs, further incrementing eventual damages. Moreover, according to Equation 5, for the same velocity, low-frequency vibrations produce greater levels of displacement. Therefore, lower frequencies induce greater structural response (Dowding, 2011).

Some authors (Sarsby, 2013) argue that at a given distance from the vibration source, the ground verifies a *filtering effect* of the stress waves propagating through it, causing it to vibrate at a limited frequency range (from 5 to 100 Hz), known as dominant frequency  $f_d$ . This is equivalent to the transmitted frequency to structures founded on the considered medium and can be estimated by means of Equation 13 (Esteves, 1993).

$$f_d = \frac{C_s}{4 \cdot h} \quad (\text{Equation 13})$$

Where  $C_s$  is the S waves propagation velocity ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ) and  $h$  is the layer thickness (vertical distance between the ground surface and the first geological interface). As shown in Equation 13, ground dominant frequencies depend the lithology resistance, which is directly related to the waves propagation velocity. Thus, one can conclude that a soil mass, which is considered as less competent (lower resistance) tends to register lower dominant frequency values than a continuous and homogeneous rock mass (Sarsby, 2013). The following example (Figure 13) illustrates a situation where similar buildings (with a natural frequency of 10 Hz) founded on the same rock mass (B, with  $C_s = 1.000 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ) are affected by the same seismic event showing, however, different dominant frequencies given the existing variations in  $h$ .

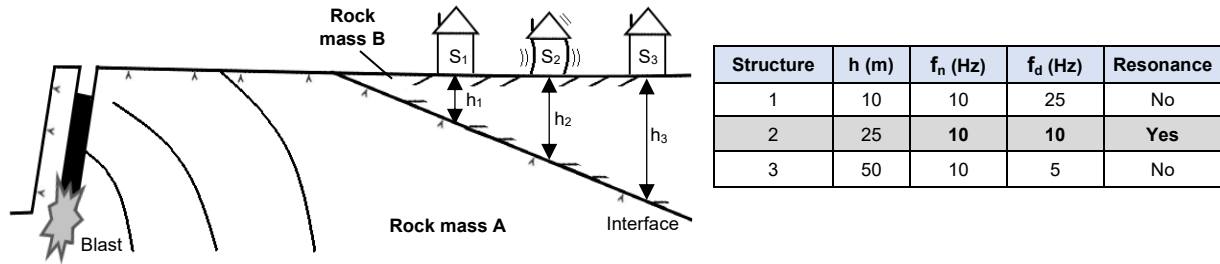


Figure 13 - Vibration amplification caused by resonance (adapted from Bernardo, 2004).

In this figure,  $f_d$  is estimated through the use of Equation 13. As can be concluded, regardless of the considered distance, the structures reveal distinct dynamic responses. This is justified by  $h$ , where for an intermediate layer thickness ( $h_2$ ), there is an approximation of frequencies (natural and dominant), inducing an increase in the vibration amplitude verified in structure  $S_2$ , which may damage this but not the neighboring ones.

Despite the theoretical approaches previously mentioned, the dominant frequency can be estimated (taking into account the three components L, V and T) by visual inspection of a seismogram (amplitude vs. time graph) considering Equation 4, or calculated using the Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) in the three directions. In addition to lithology, Dowding (2011) states that dominant frequencies are generally inversely proportional to distance and to the size of the blast. Thereby, construction blasts, which involve smaller charge values and distances from structures tend to produce higher frequencies than mining ones, being less hazardous to adjacent structures.

In this context, electronic detonators are preferable in civil blasting, because they enable a precise control of the time delays between consecutive blastholes. In consequence, the resulting dominant frequency may be estimated (Equation 4) in such a way that an overlapping of frequencies and consequent structure resonance are avoided. This same reasoning may be considered when using non-electric detonators, despite the lower control on delay timings. Another advantage of electronic detonators is the control of potential overlaps, ensuring that the maximum charge per delay does not exceed the predetermined one, maintaining vibration levels within the expected interval.

## 2.6. Ground vibration monitoring

To describe ground vibration, particle velocity is the most preferable element amongst the three amplitude descriptors, once it has the best correlation with blast-induced cracking empirical formulas. Hence, it constitutes the basis of vibration monitoring. When assessing structural-response motions induced by blasting events, it is easier to consider this parameter, rather than the dynamic stress (Equation 7), given the fact that the first can be directly obtained by monitoring instruments without the need of calculation, and international standards limit vibration amplitude and not  $\sigma_d$  (Dowding, 1992). Although geotechnical operations assign greater importance to blast-induced effects on structures, countries like Germany or Great Britain, have published standards that recommend limits on human

exposure to vibration in buildings (DIN 4150-2 and BS 6472-2, respectively). When these standards are complied with, the vibrations produced will not normally lead to human discomfort in dwellings and similar buildings (British Standards, 2008; Deutsches Institut für Normung, 2016a). For these reasons, it is critical to measure ground motions (namely vibration velocity) and determine the associated frequency.

With regards to particle velocity, this can be measured by means of calibrated engineering seismographs endowed with triaxial geophones, which are appropriately located on the ground, considering the blast geometry. These convert mechanical vibration energy into electrical energy, directly proportional to the ground vibration amplitude and discriminate the three motion L, V and T components. At the moment of each detonation, the existing geophones (velocity transducers) receive the corresponding seismic events and register them in the case they are between the detection limits and over the trigger value. During this process, the onboard computer analyzes the data and generates event and FFT reports that can be downloaded and further analyzed on any portable computer.

Usually, an event report contains the peak acceleration and displacement, and a sensor check. Moreover, the following elements are generated: peak particle velocity, PPV, (maximum vibration velocity registered for a given component) and respective time relative to trigger, and peak vector sum (PVS), where this is the resultant vector of PPV and is considered as the maximum vibration velocity measured at the monitored location. It is mention worthy that PVS results from the calculation of the resultant vector (L, V and T) considering the three coordinates ( $v_L$ ,  $v_V$  and  $v_T$ ) at the same instant that yields the largest result for the considered event. As such, PVS is less than the resultant vector considering the maximum components (PPV<sub>L</sub>, PPV<sub>V</sub> and PPV<sub>T</sub>) at distinct instants (Equation 14).

$$PVS = \left| \sqrt{v_L^2(t) + v_V^2(t) + v_T^2(t)} \right| < \left| \sqrt{PPV_L^2(t_1) + PPV_V^2(t_2) + PPV_T^2(t_3)} \right| \quad (\text{Equation 14})$$

Dowding (2011) suggests that it is common to observe PVS values at the same instant as the one that corresponds to the maximum registered PPV. Moreover, the peak vector sum may be as much as 10 % greater than the maximum single-component peak.

The last element to be considered on an event report is the analysis of the registered velocity and frequency according to a specific vibration control standard that is selected by the user.

With regards to the FFT report, this contains three FFT spectra (one for each direction), where the events dominant frequency may be calculated. This frequency corresponds to the direction in which the vibration amplitude is maximum.

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## 2.7. Ground vibration mitigation measures

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To promote rock mass fracturing by dynamic actions, vibration velocities over 700 to 1.000 mm·s<sup>-1</sup> are required (Holmberg and Persson, 1978). Gama (1998) indicates that only 5 to 15 % of the energy released by the detonation of explosives is effectively used to promote rock fragmentation.

Such empirical evidence highlights the relative amount of energy transmitted through the surrounding rock mass, which can impact, as seen before, neighboring structures. For this reason, to protect the different stakeholders and objects, the control of undesired blasting effects and mitigation measures have to be considered upon blasting pattern design and further optimization of this process.

In their work, Rosenthal and Morlock (1987) present diverse factors related to blasts and blasting patterns which can have varying impacts on the resultant vibration velocities (Table 3).

Table 3 - Factors which influence blast-induced vibrations (adapted from Rosenthal and Morlock, 1987).

Controllable variables	Influence on ground vibrations		
	Significant	Moderately significant	Insignificant
Charge weight per delay	•		
Delay interval	•		
Charge confinement	•		
Burden	•		
Specific charge	•		
Drillhole inclination	•		
Direction and type of initiation	•		
Spacing		•	
Bench height/charge depth		•	
Subdrilling		•	
Covered or uncovered detonating cord			•
Amount and type of stemming			•
Uncontrollable variables	Significant	Moderately significant	Insignificant
Local geology and rock mass properties	•		
Type and depth of overburden	•		
Distance from the blast	•		
Time delay error		•	
General surface terrain			•

Beginning with the uncontrollable variables, the most relevant factor influencing a blast design is local geology. This is intrinsically connected to the rock mass properties, being that these have to be known and characterized with the objective of adjusting the applied explosive charges to the required minimum to achieve the desired rock fragmentation, hence optimizing the firing pattern. Moreover, heterogeneity leads to differential waves propagation and stratified rock masses may concentrate the reflected waves, increasing vibration velocities. On the other hand, rock mass discontinuities may lead to vibration attenuation – destructive interference.

As discussed before, one should expect to measure greater vibration values at a lower distance from the source, given direct relationship between this last variable and attenuation.

In some cases, depending on the scatter (function of the detonator type), time delay errors may originate an overlapping in time of different blastholes, thus increasing the charge per delay, or even changes in the initiation sequence. This should be accounted for, once detonators are associated with errors which can be responsible for an increase in undesired blast effects in particular ground vibration. In this case, electronic detonators are more reliable and the preferred ones, once they are more accurate timewise, and allow frequency estimation and consequent resonance prevention.

For the controllable factors, considering the geometrical pattern parameters indicated in Table 2, burden is the one that has the greatest importance to ground vibration control, due to the fact that it maximizes the efficiency of the explosive energy in terms of rock fragmentation and consequently minimizes the amount of released energy into the rock mass in the form of seismic waves. As described by Table 2, burden increases with an increasing drillhole diameter and the constant of proportionality  $K_B$  should be within the considered range. Values of this constant larger than its upper limit (40) originate significant vibration levels without proper rock breakage and displacement. On the other hand,  $K_B$  values below the suggested lower limit (25) contribute to excessive rock fragmentation and displacement, leading to flyrock, air pressure and dust hazard. This scenario, however, substantially decreases vibrations.

In bench blasting, the use of inclined drillholes influences the blast performance and the associated impacts, not only in terms of the achieved fragmentation and displacement, but also in terms of slope stability, specific charge and vibrations transmitted through the rock mass, as Figure 14 suggests.

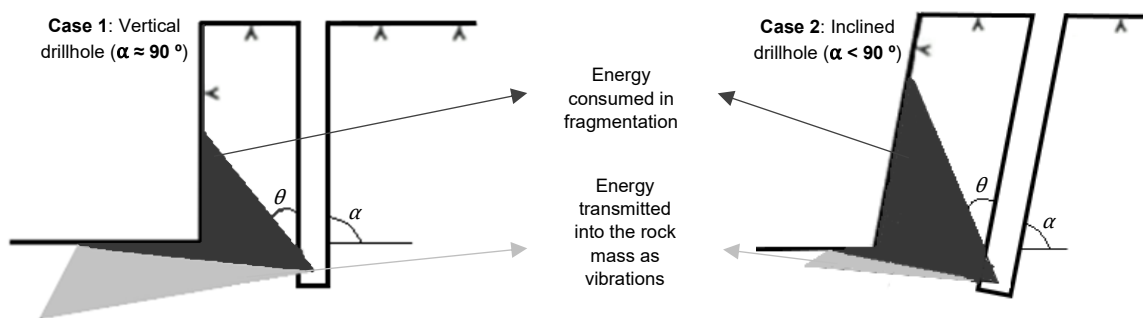


Figure 14 - Influence of drillhole inclination on blast performance and environmental impacts magnitude (adapted from Gama, 1971).

The analysis of Figure 14 indicates that the application of vertical drillholes (with inclination,  $\alpha$  close to  $90^\circ$ ) is less favorable in the sense that a greater quantity of energy is transmitted into the rock mass (light grey area), while the useful energy consumed in fragmentation (influenced by  $\theta$ , function of the explosive VOD) is lower, when compared to the case (2) where inclined drillholes are used. As such, inclined drillholes are recommended to mitigate impacts on different descriptors promoted by ground vibration.

An increase in the charge weight per delay may be caused by multiple factors like an increase in the bench height, subdrilling, and explosive cartridge dimensions (diameter and/or length) and confinement. As it will be further discussed, a greater charge weight per delay implies that more energy is released at a given time frame, which in turn increases vibration amplitudes.

In the case where the bench height is high in such a way that concerns associated with the charge weight may arise, several authors (Lopez Jimeno et al., 1995; Heiniö, 1999; Bernardo, 2004; Dowding, 2011) suggest two practices whose objective is to decrease the charge per delay, and consequently vibrations: division of the bench into two or more smaller benches and decking. The first consists in dividing the original bench into smaller units which are blasted separately. Decking, on the other hand, is carried out through a physical separation of the explosives column into at least two parts with stemming between them, which are initiated at different delays (Figure 15). The more decks, the more partitioned is the energy in time and along the hole. Again, this practice is important mainly when there are nearby structures to protect and there is the risk of not complying with the recommended limits, because the amount of explosive per delay is high.

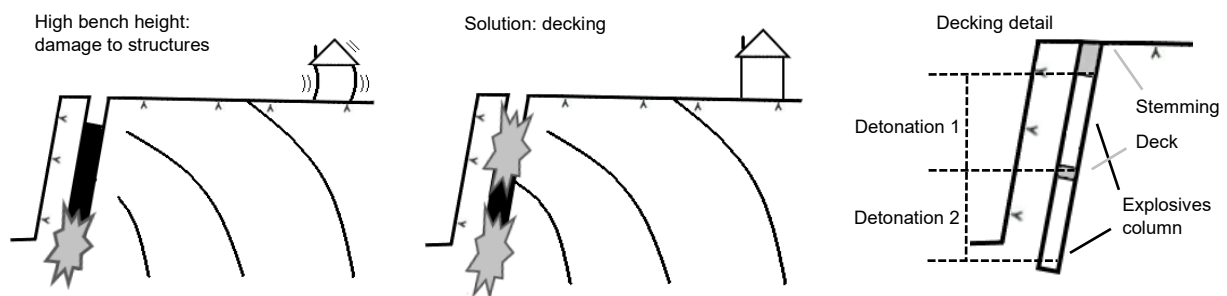


Figure 15 - Ground vibration mitigation using decking (adapted from Bastos, 2003, as cited in Bernardo, 2004).

Both the stemming and the deck (depicted in this figure) usually consist in aggregates and the adjacent charges (each one composed by bottom and column charges) are initiated at different delays by the respective detonators and not by sympathetic detonations. Here, it is noteworthy that the charge located at the upper part of the bench (detonation 1) is the first one to detonate. This diminishes the confinement associated with each charge, which is dependent upon the number of free faces, mitigating impacts like vibration and flyrock. Regarding the deck dimensions, for dry and wet holes, the thickness of this barrier should be 6 and 12 times the hole diameter, respectively (Dowding, 2011).

Taking into account blasthole initiation, top initiation generates lower vibration levels (Hagan and Kennedy, 1977). This, however, compromises stemming efficiency, aggravating other impacts like flyrock, dust and air blast.

The use of delayed charges, i.e., the distribution of the detonation process in time is of relevance, not only because of the charge reduction per timing, but also because of the successive creation of free faces, improving the fragmentation process and decreasing the amount of energy released into the rock mass, due to the lower confinement (Bernardo, 2004).

Lastly, the application of presplitting (instantaneously firing lightly-charged holes) or slot drilling can be highlighted as additional vibration mitigation measures. These aim at creating a physical

discontinuity (fracture plane) on the rock mass between the source of seismic energy and the monitoring point, decreasing overbreak and vibration levels, consequently protecting a given building from possible damage. The created void may be filled with air or water. According to Heiniö (1999), if a slot is drilled close to and along a structure's foundation, vibration velocities measured at this location can be reduced by up to 80 %. These techniques are effective and recommended principally when sensitive structures like slender ones or monuments are to be protected and the associated suggested limits are lower. Yet, it is critical to ensure their successful execution, justifying the additional involved time, costs and means of production.



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### **3. Analysis of ground vibration monitoring standards**

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Regarding vibrations, generally, technical documents such as standards only consider intermittent and transient vibrations. In the United States, ground vibration monitoring standards (USBM RI 8507) are based upon the occurrence of threshold cosmetic cracking of plaster wall coverings. As such, regulatory control limits are lower than the levels at which cosmetic cracking may exist. This is simultaneously verified in similar international standards. To assess structural damage, conservative values are usually considered. These, however, may be relatively high when compared to those associated with human comfort. In fact, the human being is ten times more sensitive to vibration than structures (Dowding, 2011). The vibration perception threshold is equal to  $0,3 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  (Kiely, 1999). This justifies regular complaints on behalf of different stakeholders surrounding mining operations, once humans associate the discomfort promoted by blast-induced vibrations to cosmetic damage on structures. Furthermore, it is not uncommon that complainants associate pre-existing cosmetic cracks to blasting events, even if this form of damage is caused by non-mining factors such as differential thermal expansion or chemical changes in construction materials (as mentioned in chapter 2.5.2.).

From the existing international ground vibration monitoring standards created to protect structures from blasting-related damages, the German (DIN 4150-3) and the British (BS 7385-2) ones may be highlighted. Given the framework of this work, it is also relevant to consider the Portuguese standard (NP 2074). In this chapter, these documents are both individually and collectively analyzed, where a broad comparison is finally carried out. Lastly, a brief introduction to the British document on human exposure to vibration in buildings is performed.

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#### **3.1. Ground vibration monitoring standards with emphasis on structures**

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##### **3.1.1. Portuguese standard: NP 2074**

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Created in 1983 and updated in 2015, the Portuguese standard NP 2074 has the objective of recommending limit values for intermittent vibrations originated from geotechnical activities (like rock blasts) to prevent any damage to structures caused by these dynamic events (Instituto Português da Qualidade, 2015). The performed updates were based on International Organization for Standardization (ISO 2041:2009 and ISO 5348:1998) and German (DIN 4150-3:1999) standards, promoting the existence of some similarities between these and the Portuguese version.

In Portugal and lusophone countries that have adopted the considered standard, intermittent vibrations occurring between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. have to comply with this document, though they may

not be perceived by the Human Being. For time periods between 8 p.m. and 7 a.m. these events can occur, as long as they are not uncomfortable to people in the vicinity. It is noteworthy that the assessment of human discomfort and the influence on sensitive devices located at hospitals or laboratories whose limits may be more restrictive are not addressed by NP 2074.

In this standard, structures are divided into three categories, according to the degree at which they may be affected by vibrations: sensitive, current and reinforced. This classification takes into account the structures conditions (considering old buildings or those with tiles installed on mortar as sensitive), slenderness ratio (where towers and chimneys are classified as sensitive) and equity value (classifying monuments and transportation infrastructure as sensitive structures). Current structures correspond to dwellings or offices whose slenderness is not high. The last category, reinforced structures, includes those built with reinforced concrete, including metallic elements in their superstructure, or with an industrial use. Additionally, the document suggests the performance of a *previous assessment*. This constitutes an *a priori* inspection of the nearby buildings to survey eventual existing cracks and its dimensions, and compare the effect dynamic geotechnical events have on these.

To monitor ground vibrations close to structures that must be protected from blasting events, for example, NP 2074 suggests that the monitoring system must include triaxial transducers, a central processing unit and an analog-to-digital converter. Transducers must point towards the vibration source and be mounted on a surface of the structure connected to its foundation, and at a height less than 0,5 m from the yard's surface level. Furthermore, the system has to be calibrated on a yearly basis, and be able to measure frequencies from 2 to 80 Hz and PVS values ranging between 0,5 and 100 mm·s<sup>-1</sup>.

For compliance analysis, both the event's dominant frequency ( $f_d$ ) and the maximum vibration velocity at a given instant (PVS considering Equation 14) must be registered. After recording these physical properties and classifying the structures to be protected, the resulting PVS is compared with the standard's limit value (Table 4).

Table 4 - Recommended limit values for vibration velocity, in mm·s<sup>-1</sup>, according to NP 2074 (Instituto Português da Qualidade, 2015).

Type of structure	Dominant frequency, $f_d$		
	$f_d \leq 10$ Hz	10 Hz < $f_d \leq 40$ Hz	$f_d > 40$ Hz
Sensitive	1,5	3,0	6,0
Current	3,0	6,0	12,0
Reinforced	6,0	12,0	40,0

After monitoring hundreds of blasts worldwide and correlating these with the damage probability Siskind et al. (1980b) concluded that below 12 mm·s<sup>-1</sup> no cosmetic cracking or extension of hairline cracks was observed. This conclusion was taken considering a wide range of frequency values (between 2 and 400 Hz). For this reason, it is possible to verify the conservative values present in the analyzed standard where, for frequencies less than or equal to 40 Hz, the recommended vibration velocities are not greater than the suggested 12 mm·s<sup>-1</sup> threshold. However, one should not disregard

resonance effects and the fact that structure classification is subjective. Hence, not all vibratory events deemed compliant with this standard will not induce visible damage to a given building. Conversely, not all vibration measurements over the recommended limit values are expected to damage a structure.

Lastly, within the scope of the Portuguese standard and for rock blasting vibrations, the creation (or use) of a vibration velocity prediction equation that depends on the charge per delay and distance between the blast and the structure is recommended. This practical tool should be used upon blasting pattern design, maximizing the probability of not exceeding the limit values. A more detailed analysis on this subject is presented in the next chapter. Moreover, in unfavorable situations such as sensitive structures to be protected from vibrations, the use of electronic detonators is proposed to control time delays and frequency.

### 3.1.2. German standard: DIN 4150-3

Similar to NP 2074, the German standard DIN 4150-3 (revised in 2016) considers the dominant frequency and the type of structure as determinant factors for the measured vibration limit value. This one, however, takes into account the maximum vibration velocity for a given component (PPV<sub>L</sub>, PPV<sub>V</sub> or PPV<sub>T</sub>) at the foundations or uppermost story of a structure as the input value for compliance assessment (Table 5).

Table 5 - Recommended limit values for vibration velocity, in mm·s<sup>-1</sup>, according to DIN 4150-3 (Deutsches Institut für Normung, 2016b).

Type of structure	Dominant frequency, $f_d$				
	Short-term			Long-term	
	At the foundations			Uppermost story	Uppermost story
	$f_d \leq 10$ Hz	10 Hz < $f_d \leq 50$ Hz	50 Hz < $f_d \leq 100$ Hz	Any frequency	Any frequency
Commercial/ industrial	20,0	20,0 to 40,0	40,0 to 50,0	40,0	10,0
Dwellings	5,0	5,0 to 15,0	15,0 to 20,0	15,0	5,0
Sensitive/ historical	3,0	3,0 to 8,0	8,0 to 10,0	8,0	2,5

According to the previous table, dynamic loads originate short-term and long-term vibrations. The first do not occur frequently enough to cause fatigue on structures and are not prone to be amplified by resonance. If these conditions are not verified, vibrations are classified as long-term ones. For this reason, due to the greater probability of damage, the recommended limit values for this category are more restrictive.

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### 3.1.3. British standard: BS 7385-2

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Contrary to the Portuguese and German documents, the British ground vibration standard BS 7385-2 establishes limit values for continuous, transient and intermittent vibrations, with the objective of mitigating damages to structures after such dynamic events. The definition of maximum vibration velocity follows the same reasoning as the one in DIN 4150-3. However, this standard suggests that the monitoring point should be located on the yard's surface and not on the structure's ground floor (Bacci et al., 2003). Alternatively, transducers may be buried if there is no founded hard surface close to the building. Regarding the compliance assessment criteria, these are the dominant frequency and type of structure (reinforced or framed structures such as industrial and heavy commercial buildings, and unreinforced or light framed structures like residential or light commercial type buildings). The suggested vibration limits are shown in Table 6.

Table 6 - Recommended limit values for vibration velocity, in  $\text{mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ , according to BS 7385-2 (British Standards, 1993).

Type of structure	Dominant frequency, $f_d$		
	$4 \text{ Hz} < f_d \leq 15 \text{ Hz}$	$15 \text{ Hz} < f_d \leq 40 \text{ Hz}$	$f_d > 40 \text{ Hz}$
Reinforced	50,0	50,0	50,0
Unreinforced	15,0 to 20,0	20,0 to 50,0	50,0

When comparing the British standard to NP 2074 and DIN 4150-3, one can conclude that the first is more permissive, mainly for frequency values below 40 Hz. With regards to possible damage to structures, this document distinguishes between cosmetic, minor and major damages (classification concomitant to the one addressed in 2.5.2.).

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### 3.1.4. Comparative analysis of different European ground vibration monitoring standards

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In Europe, most international norms make a distinction between different types of structures, where vibration velocity limits are dependent on this category and on the dominant frequency. However, as is evident from the individual analysis carried out for of each document, there are some particularities and differences between them (Table 7).

As mentioned in Table 7, for compliance assessment, NP 2074 includes PVS as the input value, contrary to DIN 4150-3 and BS 7385-2. Moreover, the first and the last register the same upper dominant frequency threshold (40 Hz). Regarding this physical property, one can notice that as it increases, so does the frequency range. In other words, the difference between the frequency extreme values that characterize a soil mass is lower than the one associated with competent rock masses, which tend to filter out lower frequencies (Equation 13). The British standard, distinguishes between reinforced and unreinforced structures, being this a simpler structure classification criterion. Finally, for all types of

structures, the Portuguese document registers more conservative maximum limits for a high-frequency range (over 40 Hz).

Table 7 - Summary of the analyzed standards in force and respective particularities (adapted from Luz, 2017).

Standard	Type of structure	Maximum recommended vibration limit	Corresponding frequency range	Particularity
Portuguese (NP 2074)	Sensitive	6,0 mm·s <sup>-1</sup>	$f_d > 40$ Hz	The use of electronic detonators is recommended in unfavorable cases such as sensitive structures to be protected from vibrations. Consideration of PVS
	Current	12,0 mm·s <sup>-1</sup>	$f_d > 40$ Hz	
	Reinforced	40,0 mm·s <sup>-1</sup>	$f_d > 40$ Hz	
German (DIN 4150-3)	Commercial/ industrial	50,0 mm·s <sup>-1</sup>	$50 \text{ Hz} < f_d \leq 100 \text{ Hz}$	Consideration of short- and long-term vibrations and monitoring at the foundations and/or uppermost story
	Dwellings	20,0 mm·s <sup>-1</sup>	$50 \text{ Hz} < f_d \leq 100 \text{ Hz}$	
	Sensitive/ historical	10,0 mm·s <sup>-1</sup>	$50 \text{ Hz} < f_d \leq 100 \text{ Hz}$	
British (BS 7385-2)	Reinforced	50,0 mm·s <sup>-1</sup>	$f_d > 40$ Hz	The monitoring point should be on the yard's surface and only two structure categories are considered
	Unreinforced	50,0 mm·s <sup>-1</sup>	$f_d > 40$ Hz	

The following graph (Figure 16) intends to compare, in a graphical way the three analyzed standards, considering the vibration velocity limits for reinforced/industrial structures:

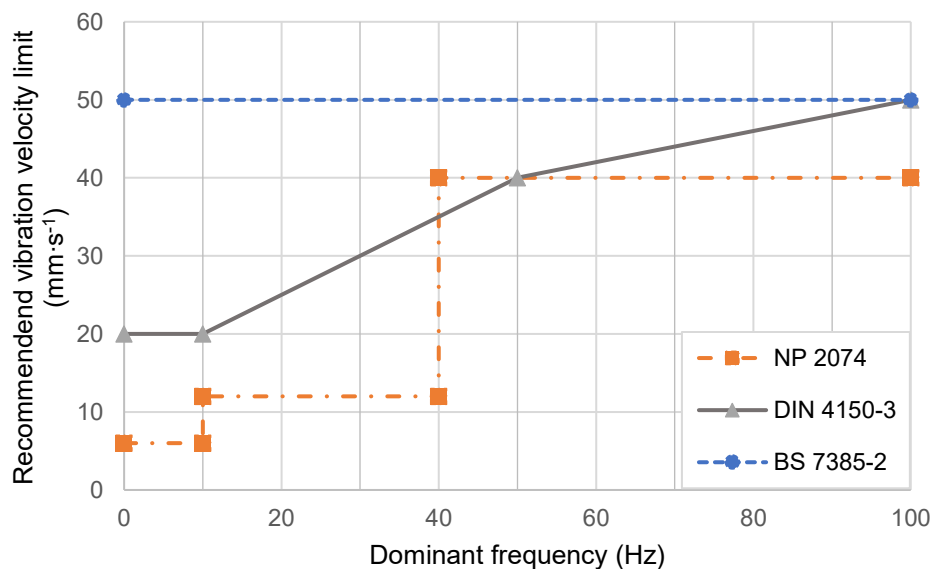


Figure 16 - Recommended vibration velocity limits for the updated analyzed standards for reinforced/industrial structures.

Figure 16 confirms the greater frequency range, typically verified in the high-frequency domain. Additionally, for lower dominant frequency values, the three norms show a more pronounced difference regarding the vibration limits. The Portuguese document is more conservative, recommending vibration

limits than can be up to eight times lower than the ones suggested by the remaining standards – comparing the NP 2074  $6 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  with the BS 7385-2  $50 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  limit. Conversely, BS 7385-2 is the least restrictive one. It should be mentioned that the limits for DIN 4150-3 illustrated in this figure are the ones relative to short-term vibrations measured at the structure foundations. Additionally, it is noteworthy that the presented limits in NP 2074 correspond to PVS, whereas the remaining standards suggest limits for PPV values.

Lastly, it is important to consider the differences between PPV- and PVS-based standards. Table 8 depicts six scenarios with different *PPV* and *PVS* values. The last is calculated according to Equation 14. It should be noted that both physical quantities are registered at instant  $t_1$ .

Table 8 - Different scenarios where PPV and PVS, in  $\text{mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ , occur at the same instant.

Scenario	$PPV_L(t_1)$	$PPV_V(t_1)$	$PPV_T(t_1)$	$PVS(t_1)$
1	11,0	0,0	0,0	11,0
2	0,0	11,0	0,0	11,0
3	0,0	0,0	11,0	11,0
4	11,0	11,0	0,0	15,6
5	11,0	11,0	11,0	19,1
6	18,0	4,8	4,0	19,1

When analyzing this table, one can conclude that although scenarios 1 to 3 register the same *PPV* and *PVS* the effect dynamic events have on a given structure is different. In the second case, once slabs present in a building have a greater degree of freedom according to the vertical direction, this event could induce a greater damage to such element, whilst in the remaining scenarios, pillars – that register a greater response according to the longitudinal and transverse directions – could crack when vibration amplitudes are greater in the horizontal plane – 1 and 3.

The comparison of scenarios 1 to 3 with 4 and 5 shows that, in this case, PPV-based ground vibration standards are more favorable when assessing vibratory events than those that consider PVS. The second type of technical documents focus on the impact on structures as a combination of the vibration components at the same instant rather than the different directions individually. Hence, for the fifth scenario, the *PPV* is equal to  $11,0 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ , while the *PVS* is equivalent to  $19,1 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ , disregarding the most critical direction to structures.

Regarding the impact a vibratory event has on pillars, although the *PVS* values are similar in scenarios 5 and 6, the potential damage to this element is greater in the event that registers a *PPV* closer to the *PVS*: 6. In conclusion, PVS-based standards do not differentiate between the impact stress waves have on a particular structural element, while those that consider PPV do.

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## 3.2. Ground vibration monitoring standards with emphasis on human exposure: BS 6472-2

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The previously addressed standards do not focus on the impact rock blasting has on other elements such as people in the vicinity of mining or construction activities. As mentioned before, Great Britain and Germany have published documents specifying concrete recommendations in terms of vibration limits perceived by humans inside buildings. The International Organization for Standardization has also composed a standard on this subject: ISO 2631-2, being its most recent version updated in 2003. Currently, this document is being adapted for further publication in Portugal.

Initially published in 1984, BS 6472-2 aims at establishing specific and *satisfactory* vibration velocity limits to mitigate the impact on one of the descriptors not covered by BS 7385-2: humans. It should be noted that the compliance of this standard is not mandatory within the Portuguese territory. Its most recent version entitled *Guide to evaluation of human exposure to vibration in buildings – Part 2: Blast-induced vibration* was amended in 2008 and is chiefly applicable to blasting related to mineral extraction, construction works and demolition activities that register temporally spaced detonations.

Apart from ground vibrations, the considered standard addresses the air overpressure phenomenon which is defined as the combination of *both audible (noise) and inaudible (concussion) energy produced by a detonation of explosives*, propagating in the form *pressure wave in the atmosphere*. With regards to this topic, BS 6472-2 suggests that the sound level meter used to measure air overpressure has a low frequency response (2 Hz high-pass system) to fully capture the dominant low frequency component. Additional to the measurement of air overpressure, its prediction and suggested limit values are discussed. For 150 dB(lin), it is demonstrated that poorly mounted windows can crack, although most windows crack when air overpressure levels reach 170 dB(lin). Structures are not expected to suffer any damage for air overpressure levels below 180 dB(lin). According to this standard, the highest air blast levels associated with mineral extraction measured in the United Kingdom are less than 1 % of those that start to induce structural damage. (British Standards, 2008).

Regarding blast-induced ground vibration, BS 6472-2 suggests the same procedure for measuring this phenomenon as BS 7385-2 does. The standard assumes that the external measured levels are defined in such a way that vibration amplitudes inside the buildings are deemed satisfactory. Seismographs should measure PPV values between 0,1 and 100 mm·s<sup>-1</sup>, by means of transducers, over the frequency range 4,5 to 250 Hz. Similarly to air overpressure, the estimation of vibration prediction models (equation on the plane PPV (mm·s<sup>-1</sup>) vs. scaled distance (m·kg<sup>-0.5</sup>)) is mentioned.

Lastly, the suggested vibration magnitudes for up to three daily blast events are presented below (Table 9). These should not be exceeded by more than 10 % of the events. Here, special attention should be given to the place where people are located at, the period between the blasts and the number of blasts in a given time period, once these aspects could influence the perception of the satisfactory magnitude. For blasting activities related to the mining industry, the normal working period (daytime) can be considered as 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, with no

detonation events on Sundays or Public Holidays. The night period ranges between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. During this time, it is recommended that no vibration or air overpressure should be perceptible at residential structures. Routine blasting is not considered on Sundays or Public Holidays. *Other times*, excluding the night-time, cover the period outside the working day.

Table 9 - Recommended limit values for vibration velocity, in  $\text{mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ , with respect to human response for up to three daily blast vibration events, according to BS 6472-2 (British Standards, 2008).

Place	Time	Satisfactory PPV magnitude
Residential	Day	6,0 to 10,0 <sup>B)</sup>
	Night	2,0
	Other times	4,5
Offices and workshops <sup>A)</sup>	Any time	14,0

- A) *Critical working areas where delicate tasks impose more stringent criteria than human comfort are outside the scope of this standard.*
- B) *Within residential properties people exhibit a wide variation of tolerance to vibration. Specific values are dependent upon social and cultural factors, psychological attitudes and the expected degree of intrusion. In practice the lower satisfactory magnitude should be used with the higher magnitude being justified on a case-by-case basis.*

If more than three blasts occur in a working day, then a factor  $F$  should be multiplied to the suggested limits present in Table 9, reducing them. This multiplication factor can be calculated according to Equation 15.

$$F = 1,7 \cdot N^{-0,5} \cdot T_b^{-d} \quad (\text{Equation 15})$$

Where  $N$  is the number of blast events per day (greater than 3);  $T_b$  (s) is the blast event duration typical for the site; and constant  $d$  is equal to 0,32 for wooden floors, 1,22 for concrete floors, and 0 if  $T_b$  is less than 1 second.

According to Goldman (1948), notwithstanding humans are sensitive to vibration velocities, frequency is also an influencing factor. As such, disturbance caused by vibratory events decreases with frequency. The analyzed standard, however, does not recommend vibration amplitude limits that depend on the frequency of the event.

Despite differing in the field of application, when comparing BS 6472-2 with the Portuguese document, the first is broader with regards to the covered time period. During the period at which the second is valid (7 a.m. to 8 p.m.) it can be concluded that it proposes more conservative limits. It is important to mention that the values considered in the British standard are corresponding to PPV, whereas NP 2074 takes into account the peak vector sum. Both norms establish specific limits depending on the type of structure. Nevertheless, in BS 6472-2 these values are also suggested according to time and daily number of blasts, and not dominant frequency.



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## 4. Ground vibration amplitude prediction models

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After characterizing the structures to protect, understanding the ground on which these are founded and determining the vibration velocity limits (based upon ruling standards similar to those addressed in chapter 3.), it is necessary to determine a vibration amplitude prediction model capable of extrapolating the maximum charge per delay to be applied, knowing the distance between the monitoring point and the blasting event properties. These tools are usually created taking into account experimental data collected in the area of study, given the fact that there is a high degree of complexity associated with each soil and rock mass. The present chapter intends to briefly mention some of the existing prediction models and how these may be influenced by the blasting (controllable) and geological (uncontrollable) conditions.

In 1927, Rockwell concluded that the best physical quantity that describes the structures resistance to ground motion is the displacement its particles suffer after a given dynamic event. Under this premise, Morris (1950) proposed one of the initial wave attenuation models where the building's particle displacement is directly proportional to the detonated charge and inversely correlated with the distance from the energy source. Later, Heelan (1953), Blair and Duvall (1954), Duvall and Fogelson (1962), and Langefors and Kihlstrom (1963) suggested similar expressions – valid for cylindrical charges – that correlate the maximum vibration velocity with the explosives charge and the distance (Bernardo, 2004; Ainalis et al., 2017). Several authors included additional variables in their models like thermodynamic properties of the explosives (Louro, 2009), average burden (Pires, 2021), time delay between adjacent blastholes (Bernardo and Negreira, 2015; Urbano, 2020) and rock mass rating (Luz, 2017).

To date, the scientific community has not defined a universal vibration attenuation expression that is able to predict blast-induced vibration amplitudes. Nevertheless, Lopez Jimeno et al. (1995) and Hustrulid (1999) state that Johnson's mathematical formula (1971) (Equation 16) is the one that has been widely used in the construction and mining sectors (Bernardo and Torres, 2005).

$$v = a \cdot Q^b \cdot D^c \quad (\text{Equation 16})$$

According to Equation 16 the resulting vibration velocity  $v$  ( $\text{mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ) is a function of the explosives charge per delay  $Q$  (kg) and distance between the detonation and the monitoring points  $D$  (m). The dimensionless constants  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are dependent upon the blast design (burden, spacing, stemming, charge weight, etc.) and the *in situ* parameters (geological discontinuities and respective orientation, rock formation, etc.). These constants are determined by multiple linear regression, usually by means of a statistical software or programming language. Therefore, one requires an experimental database with vibration velocity and frequency values registered at different monitoring points near the blasting area, and respective  $Q$  and  $D$ . It should be noted that several regression attempts, excluding a maximum number of events of 10 % may be carried out in order to obtain the greatest possible coefficient of determination (Bernardo and Torres, 2005). The constants that correspond to the maximized

adjustment, i.e., to the greatest coefficient of determination define the model. After computing the characteristic attenuation equation and, according to the vibration control standard in force, determining the maximum vibration velocity at a given distance, it is possible to estimate the maximum charge per delay, minimizing, hence the potential hazard to structures. Figure 17 synthesizes a modelling methodology suggested by Bernardo and Torres (2005), where after creating an initial database and estimating a vibration velocity prediction model, the determination of the maximum charge per delay becomes possible.

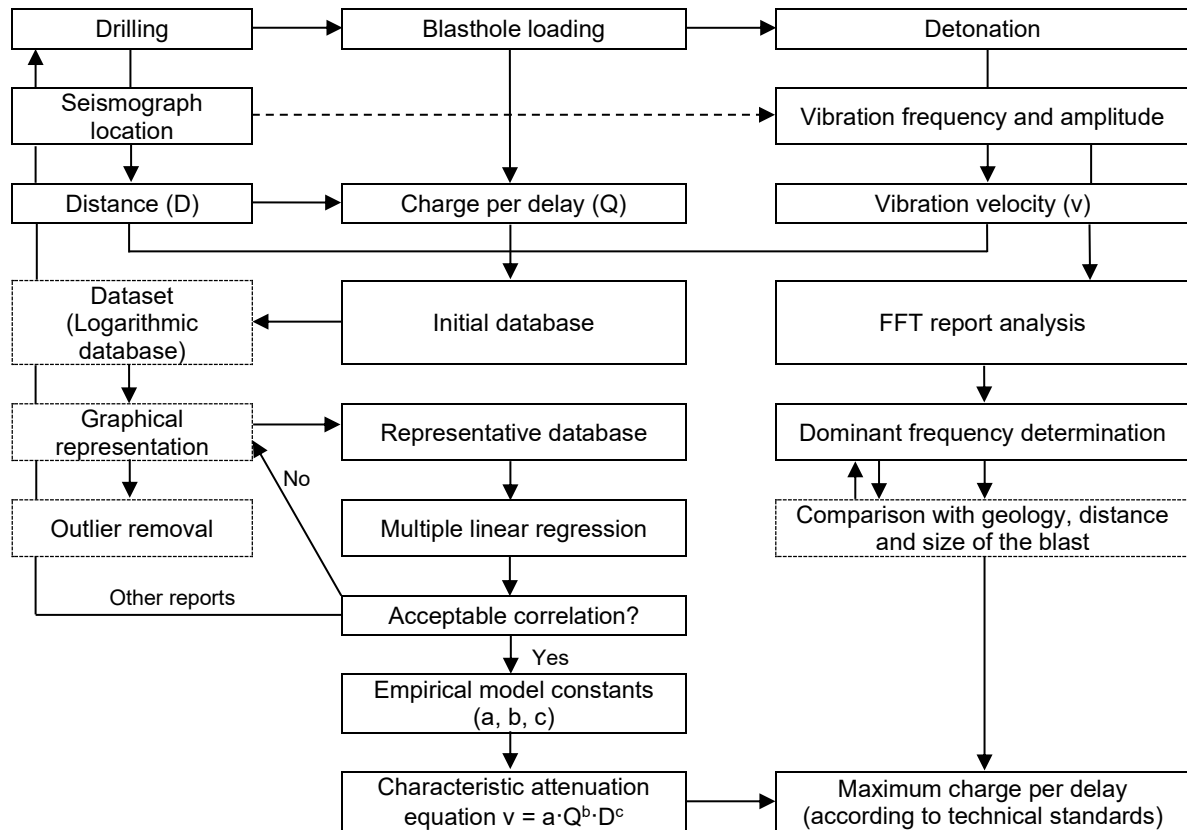


Figure 17 - Control methodology of ground vibration induced by rock blasting events (adapted from Bernardo and Torres, 2005).

Considering the procedure illustrated in Figure 17, it is noteworthy that the vibration velocity is dependent upon both controllable (charge per delay) and uncontrollable variables (distance between the structure and the monitoring point). As mentioned before, the first may be influenced by dividing the bench into smaller units or decking. At a preliminary phase of a mining operation, where no model has been defined, it is recommendable to use models suggested in the literature (Table 10), with the objective of designing the blasting pattern (as a function of the charge weight per time delay –  $Q$ ). As the operation progresses and event reports are gathered, the three variables can be conjugated, creating an initial database which allows the formulation of the area's characteristic attenuation equation (Equation 16). This may be updated with time, as more data are acquired. Lastly, after attaining a satisfactory model with an acceptable coefficient of determination which fits the experimental data,  $Q$

may be determined with a greater accuracy. This type of approach minimizes the probability of damaging structures in the surrounding area and, most importantly, the risk of not complying with the technical recommendations defined by national standards.

Table 10 - Johnson's model constants for different lithologies (adapted from Bernardo and Torres, 2005).

Lithology	Source	a	b	c
Basalt	Gama (1997)	2.000	0,70	-1,90
Limestone (unspecified)	Gama (1997)	580	0,60	-1,40
Limestone (unspecified)	Bernardo and Torres (2005)	1.271	0,32	-1,37
Pisolitic limestone	VISA Consultores (1999)	500	0,42	-1,22
Granite, gneiss and pegmatite	Holmberg (1982)	700	0,70	-1,50
Hematite	Gama (1979)	380	0,73	-1,87
Schist-greywacke	Remísio (1994)	1.598	0,88	-2,06

According to Table 10, different rock types tend to be characterized by different models. Within a given lithology, the constants  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  may vary, after different geomechanical properties of a specific rock mass, its alteration state or the existence of discontinuities. Nevertheless, the estimated constants should not differ considerably from those suggested in the literature. Moreover, one should verify positive  $b$  and negative  $c$  coefficients, once the vibration velocity is expected to decrease with distance, and increase with the maximum charge per delay, as previously discussed. This physical quantity is null or positive and hence,  $a$  has to be positive.

The isokinetic curves of the presented models can be projected on the  $Q$  vs.  $D$  plane and serve as an expeditious tool to estimate the maximum charge per delay, in such a way that the considered vibration velocity at a given distance is not likely exceeded (Figure 18):

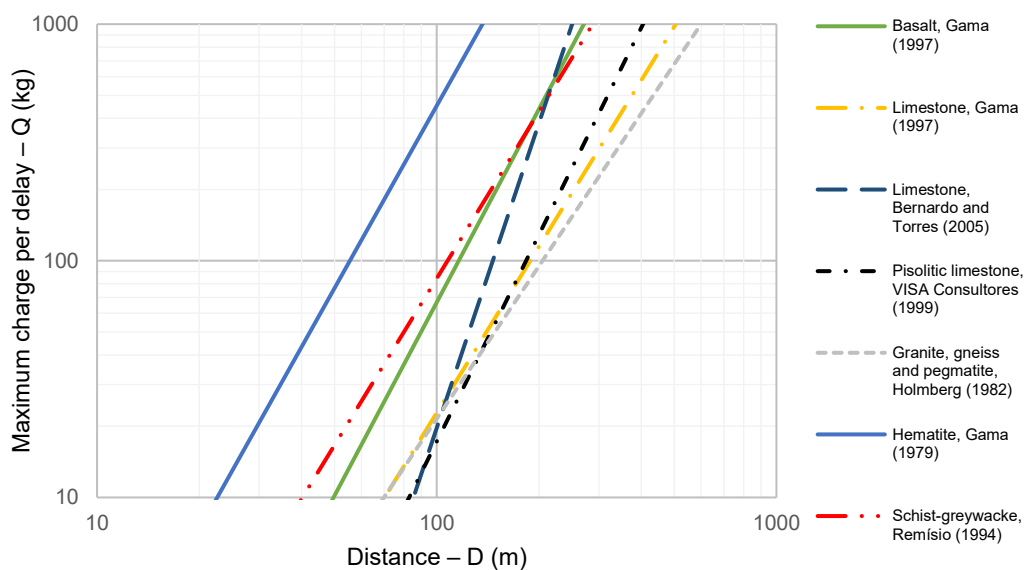


Figure 18 - Isokinetic curves corresponding to different lithologies considering  $v = 6 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ .

According to this figure, for distances over 100 m, the most conservative models are the ones relative to pisolitic limestone (VISA Consultores, 1999), limestone (Gama, 1997), and granite, gneiss and pegmatite (Holmberg, 1982). As such, for a fixed distance and vibration velocity, a lower Q value may be applied. Conversely, the least restrictive model, suggested by Gama (1994) corresponds to hematite. It can also be highlighted that the depicted curves have different slopes. The model with the greatest gradient (limestone – Bernardo and Torres, 2005) indicates that for a constant variation in D, a greater differential is verified in Q, suggesting that the analyzed rock mass attenuates vibrations at a greater rate when compared to the remaining models. Contrary to this, the equation with the lowest gradient (granite, gneiss and pegmatite – Holmberg 1982) indicates that the rock mass is more competent and thus, attenuates stress waves at a lower rate. The remaining propagation laws have similar slopes, being that the attenuation degree of the rock mass is intermediate compared to the two indicated scenarios.

As previously mentioned, other variables may be included in ground vibration amplitude models. In fact, NP 2074 suggests the consideration of an energy weighting factor that takes into account the bottom and column charge mass and thermodynamic properties. This expression is shown below (Equation 17) and was studied by Louro (2009).

$$v = a \cdot W^b \cdot D^c \quad (\text{Equation 17})$$

Where  $W$  (kg) is equivalent to the weighted maximum charge per delay considering the properties of the applied explosive products. This factor may be calculated according to different characteristics such as the detonation pressure or effective energy. The following formula (Equation 18) expresses the calculation of  $W$  according to the detonation pressure of the column and bottom charges ( $P_{acc}$  and  $P_{dBC}$ , respectively), and to the maximum total charge per delay ( $Q_{TC}$ ) considering the differentiation between column and bottom charges ( $Q_{CC}$  and  $Q_{BC}$ , respectively):

$$W = Q_T \cdot \left( \frac{P_{acc}}{P_{acc}} \cdot \frac{Q_{CC}}{Q_{TC}} + \frac{P_{dBC}}{P_{acc}} \cdot \frac{Q_{BC}}{Q_{TC}} \right) \quad (\text{Equation 18})$$

As such, once the bottom charge releases more energy per unit of mass of explosive – expressed as a function of  $P_d$  –, this expression highlights the greater contribution of this type of explosive to the weighted maximum charge per delay when compared to column charge products.

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## 5. Case study mines and respective framing

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The underground mines, object of analysis in this work, are located in southern Portugal (Alentejo province), more precisely in the town of Aljustrel. This case study has provided real data from stope blasts with the final objective of creating models similar to the one suggested by Johnson (Equation 16) that are able to estimate ground vibration amplitudes in the vicinity of a detonation. The inexistence of propagation equations adjusted to the studied area has motivated the development of this work.

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### 5.1. Geographical and geological framework

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Initially exploited by the Phoenicians during the Bronze Age, and then by the Romans which named the town *Vipasca* and, later on, *Metallum Vipacensis*, Aljustrel has an important mining history that started more than four millenniums ago (Schermerhorn et al., 1987). These populations were responsible for the extraction of ore minerals from surface gossans, producing gold, silver and other metals. In this area, modern mining started in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century by Companhia de Mineração da Transtagana and after successive alterations in ownership, ALMINA – Minas do Alentejo, S.A. is currently the lease owner. In 2019, the mining industry in Aljustrel was responsible for 327 direct and 691 indirect jobs within ALMINA's industrial facilities.

Until 1980's the Aljustrel deposits were mined for pyrite. Soon after the extraction of this commodity became uneconomic, the production of base metals such as copper, lead and zinc started. Precious metals like gold and silver are also present in the orebody, despite at lower grades. This endeavor involved the construction of a 1,2 Mtpa processing plant and other infrastructure like an underground crushing station and a shaft (Chilcott and Owen, 2007). Later on, the processing unit was expanded, reaching its actual capacity: 6 Mtpa. Currently, ALMINA produces zinc, copper, silver and lead concentrates sold to China, Spain, Belgium and Sweden.

Today, six orebodies are well documented in an area of 6 x 2 km belonging to the Aljustrel mining district: Feitais, Estação, Gavião, Moinho, Algares and São João, being distributed across two major zones. The first two deposits are located on the normal limb of the Feitais anticline, whereas the remaining ones are lined along the Southwest anticline. These geological occurrences are located at the Iberian Pyrite Belt, hosting the largest concentration of massive sulfides deposits worldwide. This metallogenic province is estimated to hold 800 million tons of reserves, from which 250 million are located in the Aljustrel area (Carvalho et al., 1976; Sousa and Oliveira, 1983; Schermerhorn et al., 1987). The most relevant ore minerals are pyrite (more than 70 % of the total reserves), sphalerite, galena, chalcopyrite, arsenopyrite and tetrahedrite. The prevailing gangue minerals are barite, carbonates and quartz. The existing deposits were formed between the Late Devonian and the Early Carboniferous (Chilcott and Owen, 2007). At present, only the Feitais and Moinho deposits are being exploited.

Aljustrel geology and the orebodies known to date have been extensively studied and described by authors like Schermerhorn and Stanton (1969), Schermerhorn (1971), Barriga and Fyfe (1988), Chilcott and Owen (2007), Barrett et al. (2008), Leitão (2014), and Morais et al. (2020). Some have divided the area stratigraphy into six main units, from the oldest to the most recent one: Phyllite Quartzite Group (composed by slate, quartzite, limestone and conglomerate), Lower Rhyolite unit, Massive Sulfide horizon (containing mainly zinc, pyrite and copper facies), Upper Rhyolite unit, Lower Sedimentary unit (where chert siltstone and argillite are often present), and Upper Sedimentary unit (mainly composed by wacke, schist and argillite).

Regarding the region tectonics, faults, folds, thrust faults and verging folds may be observed. The most relevant structures are the Messejana, Moinho, Castelo, Represa and Feitais faults. It is noteworthy that a thrust contact is commonly verified between the Lower and Upper Sedimentary units. The mentioned elements suggest the existing heterogeneity in the Aljustrel mine area, which influences the propagation of energy through the ground in the form of vibrations. Figure 19 illustrates the existing orebodies (with the exception of Gavião – located 2,5 km southwest of the São João deposit), geotechnical features of the region, the mining concession boundaries (a), and area where structures are founded on, with the respective use type (b). Here, the proximity between the urban area and the blasts carried out at the two active mines is evident. For this reason, vibrations are frequently perceived by local people, eventually causing their discomfort and, ultimately, originating complaints.

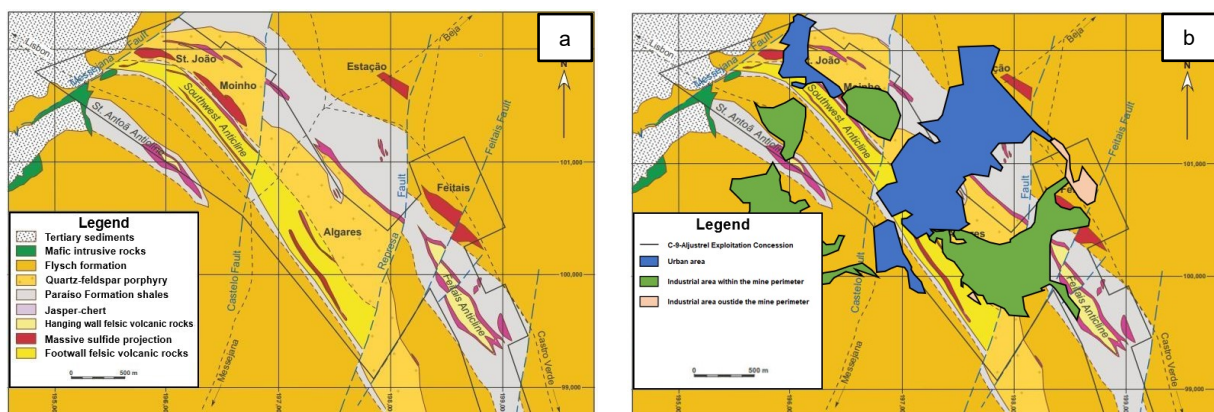


Figure 19 - a. Geology of the Aljustrel mining area and surface projection of the known orebodies. b. Aljustrel town structures use map (adapted from Barrett et al., 2008; Oliveira et al., 2009).

According to Figure 19 (b), the C-9-Aljustrel Exploitation Concession comprises both urban and industrial areas. The last group includes facilities which are mainly within the mine perimeter.

### 5.1.1. Feitais mine

In the Aljustrel mining area, the deposits are usually zoned with zinc-rich and high-grade copper zones near the hanging and footwall, respectively, being separated by a sterile to low-grade pyrite.

The Feitais orebody, represented in Figure 20, occurs in stratiform and lenticular beds on the normal limb of the anticline with the same designation. The Feitais anticline axis strikes 315 ° and reveals a moderate dip northeast. A second phase of intense compressive stresses has induced the first phase fold axes to plunge moderately to northwest and southeast, resulting in axial planes that run perpendicular to each other. Feitais genesis is related to felsic volcanism and hydrothermal activity, which promoted the concentration of metal rich hot fluids. The orebody is a mass of complex sulfides with a length of 1.000 meters, width of 700 meters and thickness of 100 meters, striking 305 ° and dipping 50 ° northeast. The deposit does not outcrop, however the mineralized area starts 50 meters below surface (Chilcott and Owen, 2007).

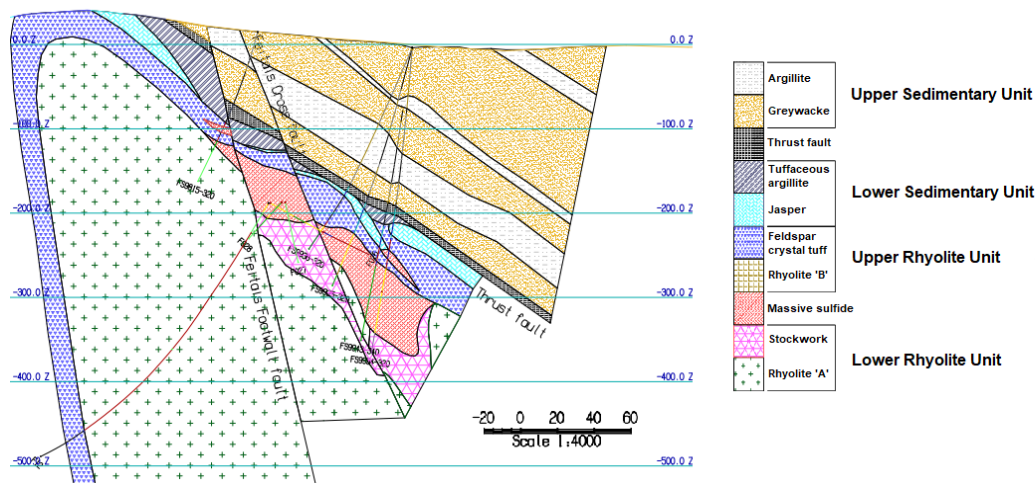


Figure 20 - Feitais orebody SW-NE cross-section (units in meters) (adapted from EuroZinc Mining Corporation, 2000).

The copper-rich footwall zone of the orebody is not only associated with massive sulfides, but also with a stockwork formation revealing pyrite and chalcopyrite veins. The deposit contains fine-grained sulfide minerals such as pyrite, the most abundant one, sphalerite, galena, chalcopyrite, tetrahedrite, arsenopyrite and trace amounts of lead antimony sulfides like bournonite, boulangerite and meneghinite. The aforementioned lithological subgroups that are observed in the Aljustrel mining area are equally verified in the described orebody, where the Late Devonian's Lower Rhyolite unit and the Carboniferous' Upper Sedimentary unit are the oldest and youngest formations, respectively (Chilcott and Owen, 2007). Feitais is characterized by several discontinuities such as the Feitais footwall, cross and thrust faults and Represa fault (Figures 19 (a) and 20).

### 5.1.2. Moinho mine

Considering the Moinho orebody, it has suffered a higher degree of deformation and has been exploited for a longer period than Feitais – mining activities started in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century and in the late 20<sup>th</sup> Century, respectively. The deposit known as Moinho is located on the normal limb of the Southwest anticline and in the northern part of the Aljustrel mining area (Figure 19 (a)). Cleavage



associated with this deformation strikes northwest and southeast, being that later compressive stresses have forced the fold axes to plunge northwest and southeast. Geological surveys have proven that Moinho has many similarities to the Feitais orebody, namely with regards to the existing lithological units. Additionally, these studies have indicated that this deposit strikes 315 °, dips 60 to 70 ° to the northeast, and reveals a length of 700 meters, width of 700 meters and thickness that varies from 1 to 100 meters (Chilcott and Owen, 2007). The described geological formation is depicted in Figure 21.

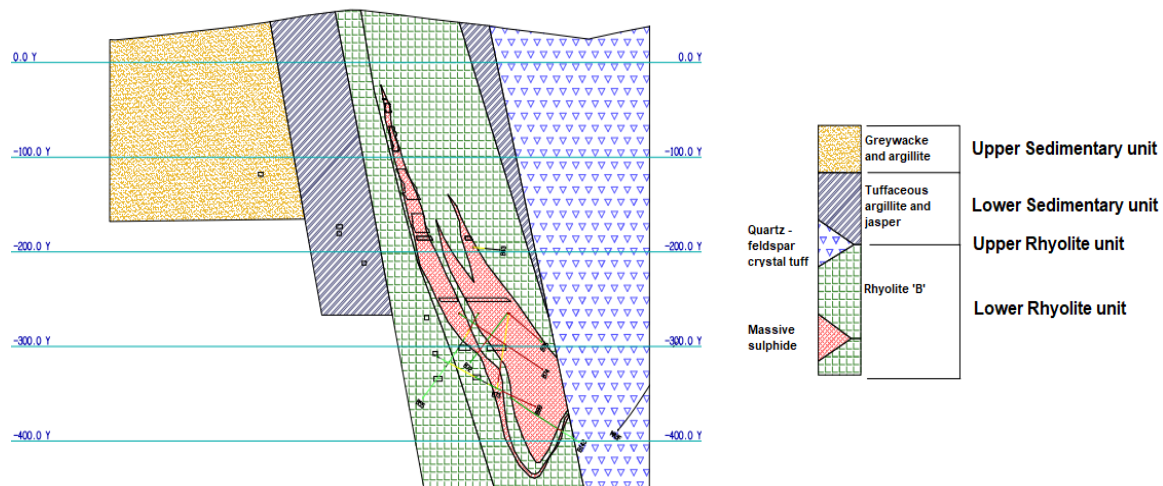


Figure 21 - Moinho orebody SW-NE cross-section (units in meters) (adapted from EuroZinc Mining Corporation, 2000).

The deposit is associated with several structural features such as the Southwest anticline and the Moinho cross faults. According to Chilcott and Owen (2007), the deposit is *truncated down-dip by the northwest-southeast striking Moinho hanging wall fault*. An additional feature known as the Footwall fault records a similar orientation and coincides with the axial plane of the Southwest anticline. The hanging wall and footwall stratigraphy is strongly foliated and a certain degree of movement is revealed by the majority of the contacts. Lastly, other faults sub-parallel to the axial plane of the folds limit the massive sulfide and include the volcanic units, forming a physical barrier to ground vibrations, promoting consequent reflection, refraction, diffraction and dispersion of vibration-related stress waves. The anisotropy caused by foliation and the stratigraphic sequence that includes the same units as the Feitais orebody are additional factors contributing to an eventual attenuation or constructive interference of stress waves.

The Moinho orebody is, in its majority, fine-grained massive sulfides such as pyrite (more than 70 %), sphalerite, galena, chalcopyrite, tetrahedrite, arsenopyrite and other sulfosalts.

Despite the heterogeneity and anisotropy that characterize the Aljustrel mining area, which was severely deformed by geological phenomena, both mines are, at first, studied individually, considering the surrounding rock mass as a continuous, homogeneous, isotropic, linear and elastic entity, discarding the effect of different lithologies and geotechnical structures. Later on, a more detailed examination on the existence of an eventual anisotropy is carried out.



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## 5.2. Mining method

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### 5.2.1. Feitais mine

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Both mines apply bulk mining methods, characterized by high productivity and low costs due to the stopes dimensions. At Feitais mine, the orebody is mined using sublevel open stoping with backfilling. It is noteworthy that the stope is blasted in two phases: an initial lower volume followed by the upper part. Both phases are approximately 20 meters high. From the footwall, drawpoints are driven on 40 m intervals (stope height), approximately 5 by 5 m. After reaching the end of the stope, the drifts are enlarged in both directions by 10 m, reaching a total width of 15 meters. Then, a slot raise is mechanically excavated or drilled using parallel drillholes between consecutive sublevels to create an initial free face. Afterwards, up-hole benching is used to enlarge the existing free face and further enable blasting of the remaining rings belonging to the lower 20-meter portion of the stope. At this phase, drillholes are usually charged with an adhesive bulk emulsion and primed with boosters combined with programmable electronic detonators. Lastly, after the stope is remotely mucked, its upper portion is drilled downwards, charged with packaged emulsion explosives (primed with electronic detonators) and blasted, where blastholes that belong to rings closer to the slot raise are the first ones to be initiated. In most cases, bottom and column charge explosives are used. The remaining rings are then blasted until the planned ore volume is excavated. Figure 22 illustrates the described sequence of the stopes excavation process. Drillholes with 89 mm in diameter are parallel or fanned, depending on factors like the stope shape or the drawpoints relative position. Primary and secondary stopes are later backfilled with paste and uncemented waste from underground development, respectively.

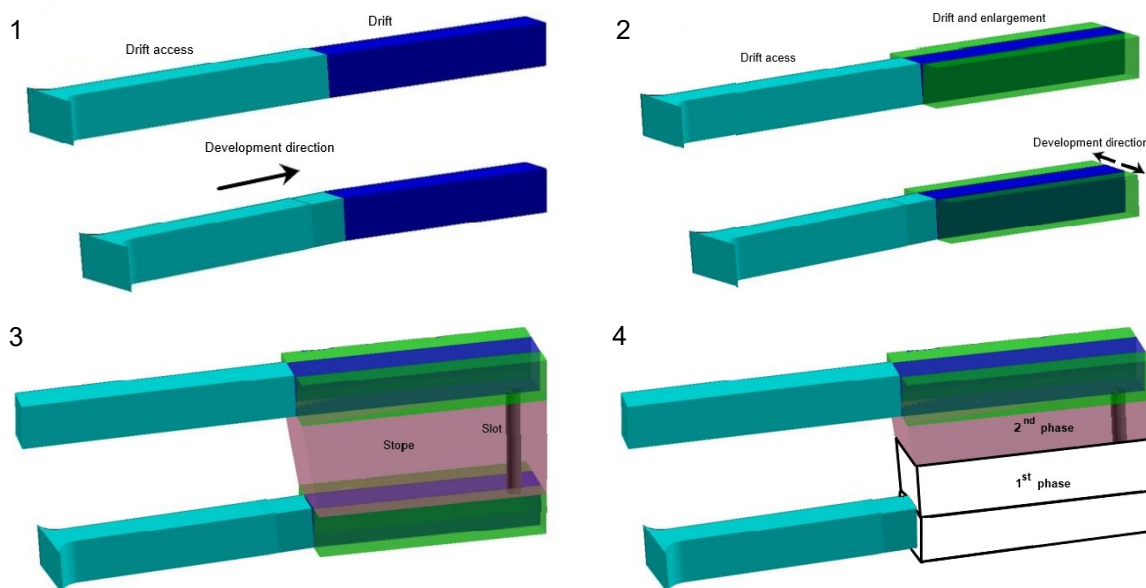


Figure 22 - Stope development sequence (adapted from ALMINA – Minas do Alentejo, S.A., n.d.).

It should be mentioned that, in particular circumstances, due to mine planning considerations, stopes are 20 meters high. These rare cases may involve up-hole, downhole benching, or a combination of both. At Feitais mine, an additional geometry is verified, where stopes between the 160 m and the

210 m levels are 50 meters high. Regarding ground vibrations, these are a concern given their proximity to the surface and the extension of the explosives column, motivated by the stopes dimensions, which may involve greater charge per delay values. Once in the first phase of the stope blast, the rock mass is more continuous and confinement is greater, this is prone to generate greater vibration velocity amplitudes than downhole bench detonations, where a discontinuity created by the previously excavated lower part decreases the energy transmitted into the rock mass. This will be studied and assessed in chapter 7.

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### **5.2.2. Moinho mine**

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Regarding the older Moinho mine, the employed mining method is longitudinal bench and fill with loose rockfill. Stopes are developed in the longitudinal direction and are 20 meters high. As such, drawpoints are driven every 20 meters. Depending upon planning considerations, these may register widths of up to 15 meters. Due to geotechnical concerns, a pillar is left between adjacent stopes.

The development sequence of the stopes at Moinho is similar to the one shown in Figure 22, corresponding to the Feitais mine. However, some changes can be highlighted. Usually, 76 and 89 mm diameter drillholes are drilled downwards using long-hole drilling rigs, being that their orientation depends on the stopes geometry. Blastholes are charged with packaged emulsion explosives (typically bottom and column charge) and primed with electronic detonators. The initial rings to be blasted are the ones closer to the slot raise and the remaining ones are then blasted until the planned volume is excavated. Here, it is important to consider that the stope is only blasted in one phase. Thus, with regards to ground vibrations, these are not attenuated by the lower confinement promoted by an existing discontinuity in the rock mass, created by the initial up-hole blasted volume, as verified at Feitais. In limited situations, stopes are blasted using up-hole benching, or a combination of this one and downhole benching. In this case, due to the jumbo drill rigs characteristics, blast holes have a diameter of 89 mm.

Considering environmental impacts mitigation measures, with emphasis on vibrations, ALMINA applies the following measures: multiple initiation for blast holes more than 20 meters long and slot raise excavation by means of mechanical excavation, rather than conventional and drill and blast methods which are less frequent for this stope element. Electronic detonators are used, rather than non-electric ones, reducing the probability of delay overlapping and ensuring a wider range of available delay timings.

It is necessary to add that the company carries out permanent monitoring campaigns to assess the compliance of NP 2074 and optimize the blasting pattern with regards to the vibration impact on nearby descriptors. This procedure includes seven Instatel engineering seismographs strategically placed at five different monitoring points (located at the industrial area within and outside the mining area, and within the urban perimeter). Such devices are verified by a certified institution on a yearly basis, ensuring that the measured values do not have considerable deviations. The transducers placement, orientation, and PVS and frequency detection intervals are compliant with the recommendations provided by NP 2074. Between 2018 and 2020, four other structures were monitored during different periods. The majority of the records collected from 2018 to 2022 are considered in the present work.

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## 6. Methodology

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The present section intends to describe the process of data collection and consequent compilation, fundamental to achieve the objectives proposed in chapter 1.3. This step can be divided into two parts: analysis of information collected during ALMINA's systematic vibration monitoring campaign and fieldwork. An additional description of a particular stope blast is carried out.

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### 6.1. Database organization

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Regarding the first stage, the license holder is responsible for the real-time monitoring of blast-induced ground vibrations at structures within the Aljustrel town, originated by development and production blasting activities. Once the last category of blasts is more relevant concerning environmental impacts, given the greater explosive charge per delay, these are the only ones to be considered in this work. In terms of production blasts responsible for generating vibration velocities over the trigger, the monitored data are then added into a database that includes the stope designation; used seismograph and respective geophone; monitored structures location; event date; maximum vibration amplitude in the FFT spectrum; dominant frequency; and PVS. The stope designation includes a letter (F and M for stopes located at the Feitais and Moinho mines, respectively), level identification, type of ore and respective number within the level at issue. By way of example, the zinc ore stope number 027 located at the 270 m level at Feitais is designated as F270SZ027.

The contribution of the present dissertation to the database, which involved the consultation of stope holes charging records (example in Annex A), is the addition of complementary parameters to the existing records such as type of blast (up-hole or downhole benching); the maximum real explosive charge per delay (including the explosive substance designation and quantity in the considered blast hole) and respective hole theoretical geographical coordinates; orientation angle between the blast and the receiver; time delay between adjacent holes and rings; seismographs geographical coordinates; and initiation geometry. To estimate the blast hole coordinates, georeferenced AutoCAD drilling patterns were considered, whilst the determination of the monitoring points absolute position was carried out using Global Navigation Satellite Systems survey equipment. The considered reference system (geodetic datum) was the Lisbon Datum. Once the coordinates between the two points are known, it becomes possible to estimate the respective distance – last parameter to be included in the database. The orientation of the waves path between the energy source and the monitored points is considered for anisotropy assessment of the rock mass surrounding the studied area. For azimuth angles between 45 and 135 °, and 225 and 315 °, the orientation is equivalent to north-south (N-S), whereas the complementary angles correspond to east-west (E-W). Apart from the regular monitoring campaign, additional seismographs were placed at points of interest, being this detailed in the following section.

The described database is present in Annex B and includes 2.362 records from 1.078 production blasts (2.359 of which are part of the original monitoring campaign and the remaining three constitute additional records) from a period between February 2018 – period at which the mining methods were reviewed and updated – and August 2022. During this time frame, a total of 1.215 stope blasts was carried out, suggesting that 137 events (11 %) did not generate vibration amplitudes over the trigger level ( $0,51 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ). Once multiple seismographs were placed at different locations during coincident time periods, it is common to monitor vibrations originated by the same blast at distinct points. Additionally, the compilation of events includes 111 trim blasts. This technique is usually carried out after the scheduled production blasts in a given stope have taken place and when a considerable mineralized volume such as pillars is not excavated as initially planned (underbreak), therefore aiming at maximizing ore recovery. Under this condition, given the fact that the rock mass reveals to be less continuous when compared to ring blasts, events associated with trim blasts are discarded from this work. For the same reason, secondary fragmentation of oversize material in the muckpile that generate vibration amplitudes over the trigger is not considered. Lastly, 76 events are discarded from this study once it was not possible to determine the maximum charge per delay ( $Q$ ). As such, the total of valid events present in the database is equal to 2.175.

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## 6.2. Fieldwork

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The second step consisted in the development of fieldwork, which included two distinct activities. The initial one corresponded to the placement of an engineering seismograph at a public structure (Aljustrel Town Hall), within the urban area of Aljustrel, following the procedure suggested by NP 2074 and described in detail in chapter 3.1.1. A second seismograph was placed at a residential structure. Considering the additional activity, this one included the calculation of relevant elements from several structures such as height, building material's waves propagation velocity and porosity to test the validity of an expeditious formula, given by Equation 12, to estimate one of the structures dynamic response properties: natural frequency.

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### 6.2.1. Ground vibration monitoring within the Aljustrel mining area

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The location of the monitored buildings, where seismographs were installed in the previous four years is present in Figure 23 that corresponds to an orthophoto of the Aljustrel town. It is relevant to note the strategic relative position of the monitoring points that cover a wide area, including different directions, between the town and the location of the blasting events.



Figure 23 - Surface projection of the Feitais and Moinho orebodies and location of the monitored points within the Aljustrel mining compound.

Regarding this figure, the location of the ten monitored structures is identified with letters and color coded according to their respective type. The classification criteria used are the ones described in NP 2074. This code is described as follows:

1. Sensitive structures are identified in red: A and B;
2. Current structures are presented in yellow: C, D, E and F;
3. Reinforced structures are shown in green: G, H, I and J.

The blasting events considered in this work (production ones) are circumscribed to the illustrated surface projection of both orebodies, being that the proximity between these and descriptors like humans and structures at the Aljustrel town, sensitive to ground vibrations is evident.

It is important to note that the seismographs were strategically placed between the mines perimeter, equivalent to the blasting source, and elements to protect such as constructions located within the Aljustrel mining compound and people inside them, trying to cover multiple surface distance range values and directions. Structures H and J are within the mine perimeter, whereas the remaining ones are located outside this perimeter (within the industrial area – B, G and I – and within the urban area A, C, D, E and F). The structures monitored in parallel with the previously addressed ALMINA's campaign are depicted by letter C and E and ground vibration recording was started on July 12<sup>th</sup> and July 25<sup>th</sup>, respectively, and ended on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. In 2020 a monitoring campaign was carried out at structure E, being that data previously obtained here were also considered in this study. It is noteworthy that the trigger level was set to 0,3 mm·s<sup>-1</sup>, corresponding to the human vibration perception threshold (Kiely, 1999). Figure 24 represents the first location, where a verified Instante! Micromate®



engineering seismograph coupled with a DIN triaxial was placed. The second location included an Instantel Minimate® seismograph coupled with an ISEE geophone (Figure 25).



Figure 24 - Structure C: Aljustrel Town Hall.



Figure 25 - Structure E: residential building.

Figures 26 to 33 illustrate the remaining monitored structures relevant to this work.



Figure 26 - Structure A: church.



Figure 27 - Structure B: gas station.



Figure 28 - Structure D: swimming pool ancillary facilities.



Figure 29 - Structure F: residential building.



Figure 30 - Structure G: workshop.



Figure 31 - Structure H: primary ventilation fan ancillary facility.



Figure 32 - Structure I: workshop.



Figure 33 - Structure J: primary ventilation fan ancillary facility.

Finally, after the end of the monitoring campaign at structures C and E, the recorded vibration events were uploaded from the seismographs to a computer and latter processed using a specific software developed by InstanTEL (THOR™) to obtain PVS and dominant frequency values from the generated event and FFT reports, respectively. Apart from the three registered events (two at structure C and one at E), additional two were recorded. These, however were characterized by anomalous PVS values and FFT reports, which could be justified by spurious energy released during the activity of people and equipment located near the two monitored structures. Annex C depicts an example of generated event and FFT valid reports. These reports correspond to the production blast that took place at Feitais mine, more specifically at the 510 m level and longitudinal stope 027L (F510SZ027L), on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. The event was registered at structure E.

To provide an objective example of a production blast and consequent result in terms of fragmentation, production volume and specific explosives consumption, the stope F410SZ041 is going to be analyzed. The considered blast involved a secondary stope from the Feitais mine at the 410 m level. The blast took place on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, and contained five parallel rings (R7 to R11). These are illustrated in Figure 34.



Figure 34 - Stope F410SZ041 before (a) and after (b) blasting rings 7 to 11.

As is evident from Figure 34 (a), the blast involved loading up-holes with adhesive bulk emulsion which is visible around some holes collars. In total, 3.134 kg of explosive were used to blast 2.127 m<sup>3</sup> (9.228 tons) of ore – equivalent to a powder factor of 1,47 kg/m<sup>3</sup> (0,34 kg/ton). The estimated value is similar to the one obtained for hard rock production blasts carried out on granite.

When considering Figure 34 (b), one can notice that the explosive energy was efficiently used in rock fragmentation, due to the inexistence of oversize material in the muckpile. It should be noted that the drawpoint represented in the right figure is a 5 by 5 m drift.

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### 6.2.2. Estimation of structures geometrical parameters and respective building materials waves propagation velocities

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To complement the study on ground vibrations in the Aljustrel mining area, one considers relevant the estimation of the monitored structures natural frequency, allowing the identification of eventual resonance phenomena and consequent performance of changes in the blasting pattern aiming at protecting the considered buildings. At this stage of the fieldwork, the analyzed structures are A, C, D and E given their importance in terms of ground vibrations control. It should be remembered that the buildings in cause are classified as sensitive and current ones – according to NP 2074 –, and once they are located at the urban area and it is expected that sensitive descriptors such as humans may be within these elements during the blasting period, more attention should be given to them. Structure F, a residential one, is not considered because no permission was granted to carry out the intended descriptive study.



Thus, to apply the formula present in Equation 12, it is necessary to determine the monitored buildings height, the respective porosity (dependent on its geometrical parameters), and  $C_p$ . To complete the determination of the first two elements, a tape measure is used, whereas the last physical property is estimated by means of an ultrasound device equipped with two piezoelectric transducers (one receiver and one transmitter) with predominant frequencies of 55 kHz. In some cases where the respective floor plan is available, this document is observed and considered, once it provides a better understanding of the building's characteristics, such as its geometry, area and possible location of most structural elements.

Initially, the buildings and respective levels height is estimated. Afterwards, the product of this variable and the area corresponds to the volume of the building. The next step consists in determining the structural elements location and corresponding volume. Such elements are essentially pillars and slabs. Lastly, the structures porosity, defined by Equation 19, is estimated.

$$n = \frac{\text{volume of voids of the structure}}{\text{total structure volume}} = \frac{\text{total structure volume} - \text{volume of structural elements}}{\text{total structure volume}} \quad (\text{Equation 19})$$

As can be inferred from the equation, a void is considered as a volume in the structure which does not correspond to a resistant element of the building such as pillars or slabs, therefore transmitting a reduced amount of seismic energy.

The estimation of the building materials' waves propagation velocity was carried out as Figure 35 illustrates.



Figure 35 - Estimation of the building material's waves propagation velocity for structure C.

After calibrating the ultrasound equipment and placing the two transducers at a known distance (d) on the same surface of a structural element, one can estimate  $C_p$  by the division between the distance and the travel time of the transmitted signal. Ideally, the transducers are placed at a wall on a surface that contains structural elements such as pillars. Several distances from 5 to 30 cm and according to an interval of 5 cm were considered. Nevertheless, it should be mentioned that for structure A no accurate readings were obtained for distances of 25 and 30 cm. The geometrical parameters were however, determined for the intended elements.

Table 11 synthesizes the values measured in the field regarding the estimation of the mean  $C_p$  value –  $\overline{C_p}$  –, structures height and porosity. Annex D compiles information regarding each of the studied structures, relevant to determine the respective building materials' propagation velocity and porosity.

Table 11 - Results of the building materials' waves propagation velocity, structures height and porosity estimation.

Structure	Sample material	$\overline{C_p}$ (m·s <sup>-1</sup> )	Height (m)	Porosity (-)
A	Masonry	3.152,2	8,7	0,64
C	Reinforced concrete	2.189,7	8,1	0,91
D	Reinforced concrete	2.030,9	10,5	0,87
E	Wood	2.383,0	2,7	0,99

Similar studies developed for buildings with characteristics similar to structure A have determined that the waves propagation velocity for masonry ranges between 1.050 and 3.050 m·s<sup>-1</sup> (Zielińska and Rucka, 2018). The estimated velocity is similar to the interval upper limit. This is greater than the  $C_p$  that characterizes reinforced concrete, which according to the bibliography is about 2.140 m·s<sup>-1</sup> (Feng and Yi, 2017). Such difference may be justified by the compaction degree of the structure and the geological material that characterizes the structural element (masonry), which for structure A is unknown. It should be mentioned that the propagation velocities estimated for structures A and E are deemed relatively high, being unexpected. Lastly, Fabisiak et al. (2007) have concluded that the  $C_p$  of pine wood varies between 4.000 and 5.800 m·s<sup>-1</sup>. This diverges from the values measured in the field, suggesting that the possible aging and treatment the wood has suffered may contribute to a decrease in this physical quantity values.

## 7. Analysis of the obtained data and results

After the fieldwork, a database was created, compiling the initial and additional information regarding each blasting event. The data present in this compilation were thereafter analyzed, verified, and finally processed. As it will be described later on in detail in this chapter, a preliminary investigation of the variables distribution is performed. This is followed by a compliance assessment regarding two different ground vibration monitoring standards. The present chapter ends with a detailed study of the compilation of vibration events with the objective of determining the variables relevance and performing the removal of outliers. This process culminates in the creation of ground vibration propagation models for both Feitais and Moinho mines considering Johnson's mathematical formula (Equation 16) and additional relevant variables – geographical and operational ones. The estimation of these models is performed by means of a commercial statistical software (SPSS), more specifically, utilizing a multiple linear regression tool.

As mentioned before and according to Figure 22 that describes the development sequence of a stope, two operational conditions that affect the propagation of vibrations through the ground can be highlighted: one where there is no considerable void adjacent to the blast (i.e. first phase of the production blasts), and another one characterized by a direct discontinuity under the remaining blasted volume (second phase). Figure 36 illustrates these scenarios.

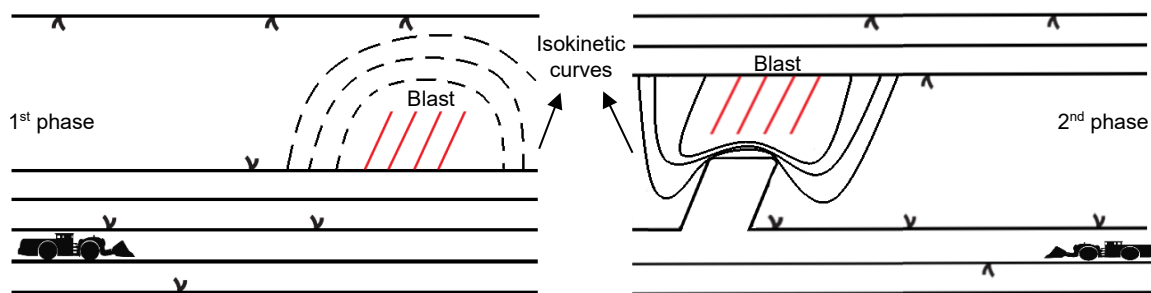


Figure 36 - Influence of the void created by previous production blasts on the propagation of ground vibrations.

Under this condition, it is expected that in the first phase of the blast, given the greater rock mass continuity between the source of energy and the receiver, vibration amplitudes registered at the monitored structures are greater than in its subsequent stage. Conversely, after the discontinuity imposed by the initial blasts, stress waves are deviated by this void, suffering successive reflections before reaching the surface. Nevertheless, this hypothesis is going to be tested later on. Hence, three operational scenarios will be considered: vibration events registered after blasts from the Feitais mine without an existing discontinuity (FWOD) and with an existing discontinuity (FWD), and from the Moinho mine without an existing discontinuity (MWOD). Once it is not possible to integrate in a simple model the influence of the existing voids such as drifts, open stopes and other infrastructure on the propagation of stress waves these will not be considered in this study. It is noteworthy that the reduced number of

blasting events carried out at 20-meter high stopes at the Feitais mine – excavated in one phase – are considered in FWOD.

## 7.1. Exploratory data analysis

Firstly, one should perform an exploratory data analysis where simple statistical elements of the most relevant variables are calculated and discussed. As such, it becomes possible to identify the respective measures of central location (arithmetic mean and median) and dispersion (standard deviation, maximum, minimum and range). Additionally, this procedure provides information on the possible correlation between variables, allowing the creation of preliminary assumptions.

After calculating simple statistical elements of the most relevant variables  $PVS$ ,  $Q$ ,  $D$ ,  $f_d$ , and time delay between adjacent holes ( $T$ ) these values are summarized in Table 12. As previously mentioned, the number of valid samples is equivalent to 2.175 from which 1.203 contain information about  $T$  (discrete variable). The ones that contain this variable were originated after 542 production blasts.

Table 12 - Statistical description of the five considered variables for the three operational scenarios.

		Minimum	P <sub>25%</sub>	Mean	Median	P <sub>75%</sub>	Maximum	Standard deviation	Range	Number of samples
MWOD	PVS (mm·s <sup>-1</sup> )	0,52	0,64	1,09	0,77	1,27	3,66	0,69	3,13	40
	Q (kg)	21,42	54,91	79,08	70,12	98,70	162,50	31,34	141,08	
	D (m)	512,67	547,39	678,72	589,73	781,08	1.476,78	192,61	964,11	
	T (ms)	50,00	75,00	73,04	75,00	75,00	75,00	5,50	25,00	
	f <sub>d</sub> (Hz)	2,13	26,73	38,62	40,00	49,96	73,50	17,37	71,38	
FWD	PVS (mm·s <sup>-1</sup> )	0,30	1,20	2,55	1,97	3,26	16,70	2,06	16,40	1.011
	Q (kg)	16,07	87,28	107,78	100,01	125,01	254,57	39,71	238,51	
	D (m)	161,79	380,06	488,35	447,94	540,89	1.912,53	199,00	1.750,75	
	T (ms)	50,00	50,00	58,99	50,00	65,00	75,00	10,28	25,00	
	f <sub>d</sub> (Hz)	2,25	20,00	32,88	26,75	40,10	146,00	19,81	143,75	
FWOD	PVS (mm·s <sup>-1</sup> )	0,36	1,05	2,25	1,77	2,90	12,80	1,70	12,64	1.124
	Q (kg)	10,71	113,75	140,89	152,00	171,00	281,00	49,13	270,29	
	D (m)	179,26	411,42	520,84	478,33	576,16	1.922,29	203,79	1.743,04	
	T (ms)	25,00	50,00	60,20	50,00	75,00	75,00	11,39	50,00	
	f <sub>d</sub> (Hz)	2,13	20,00	33,42	28,90	40,07	120,00	17,12	117,88	
<b>Total</b>										2.175

According to the previous table, most of the samples were recorded after blasts at the Feitais mine, justifying its higher productivity. Given the lower minimum and mean values for  $D$  considering FWOD and FWD, both the mean and maximum  $PVS$  measured at the monitored structures are greater than in MWOD. Despite the reduced difference, the mean dominant frequencies associated with the events from Feitais are lower than the one calculated for Moinho (38,62 Hz), suggesting that the rock mass has different characteristics, revealing a different filtering effect in both cases. Regarding  $T$ , the

most frequented values for this variable are 50, 65 and 75 ms. However, in limited cases other time delay sequences were used (25, 42 and 60 ms).

## 7.2. Preliminary analysis of the monitored events

Once the existing standards addressed in chapter 3. indicate vibration limits below which it is not likely to observe cosmetic, minor or major structural damage, it is pertinent to analyze the monitored events taking into consideration such technical bases. Moreover, given the geographical framework of the mining operation under study that is characterized by the relative proximity between geotechnical activities – dependent upon explosives to successfully excavate the rock mass – and the surrounding populations, one cannot disregard a technical approach on human exposure to blast-induced vibrations.

### 7.2.1. Study of the obtained ground vibration records according to NP 2074

Motivated by the vast number of samples, to simplify the study of the obtained results considering the national standard in force, records measured at both sensitive and current structures are analyzed separately from those belonging to industrial ones.

Firstly, it should be mentioned that all the records are deemed compliant according to the national legislation. The initial group to be studied is the one that compiles records registered at sensitive and current structures, including a total of 122 samples. As such, comparing the obtained data with the most unfavorable and conservative ground vibration limits present in NP 2074 (equivalent to sensitive structures, according to Table 4) the results are shown in Figure 37. This figure corresponds to a projection of the samples on the PVS vs. Q and PVS vs. D planes, and the suggested vibration velocity limits.

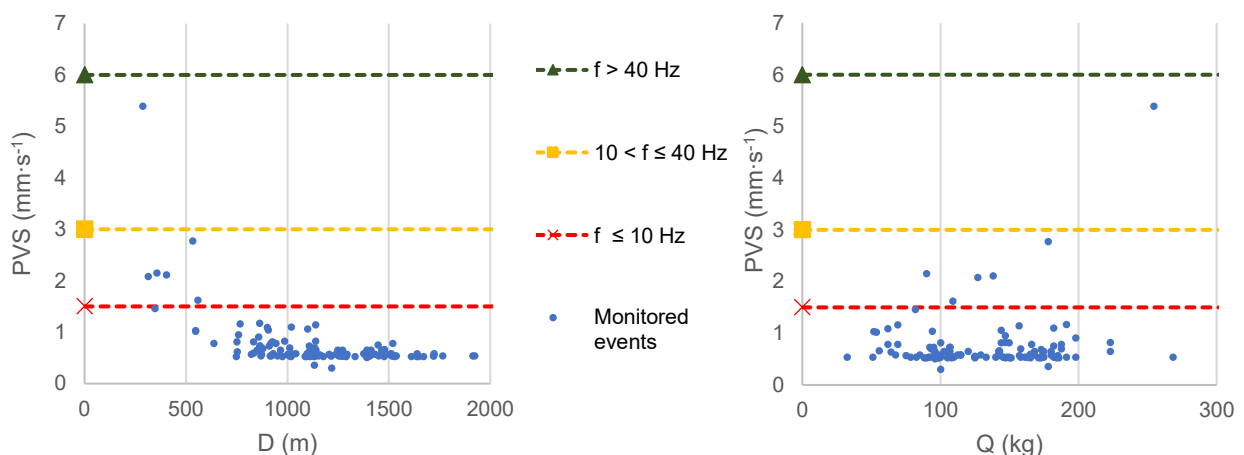


Figure 37 - Projection of the samples measured at sensitive and current structures, and comparison with ground vibration amplitude limits suggested by NP 2074 for sensitive structures.

The observation of Figure 37 suggests that the majority of the records (116 in total – 95 % of the samples) are below the most restrictive limit (represented by the red dashed line). The six points located above this limit were recorded at structure B, which is within the industrial area outside the mine perimeter (Figure 23). The reduced distance (less than 558 m) and great charge per delay (between 90 and 255 kg) associated with these observations justify the high PVS values, when compared with the remaining points. The mean PVS of the considered samples is equal to  $0,74 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ , which is equivalent to half of the lower limit. It is possible to conclude that if the structures addressed in this analysis (A, B, C, D, E and F) were classified as sensitive ones, most of the projected records would be below the  $1,5 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  threshold and thus, regardless of the dominant frequency, these events would comply with the standard. As mentioned before, there were no events registering PVS values over the respective limit. Hence, it is unlikely that the blasting events were responsible for direct damage verified in the studied buildings.

In this graph, the representation of the samples coordinates is not performed, once it would make the plot unreadable. It is more relevant, however, to consider the group as a whole in such a way that anomalous and alarming vibration values are detected and studied more in detail. Additionally, the inverse relationship between PVS and D and the direct proportionality between the dependent variable and Q can be verified.

Now, the representation of the remaining class that includes reinforced structures is carried out (Figure 38).

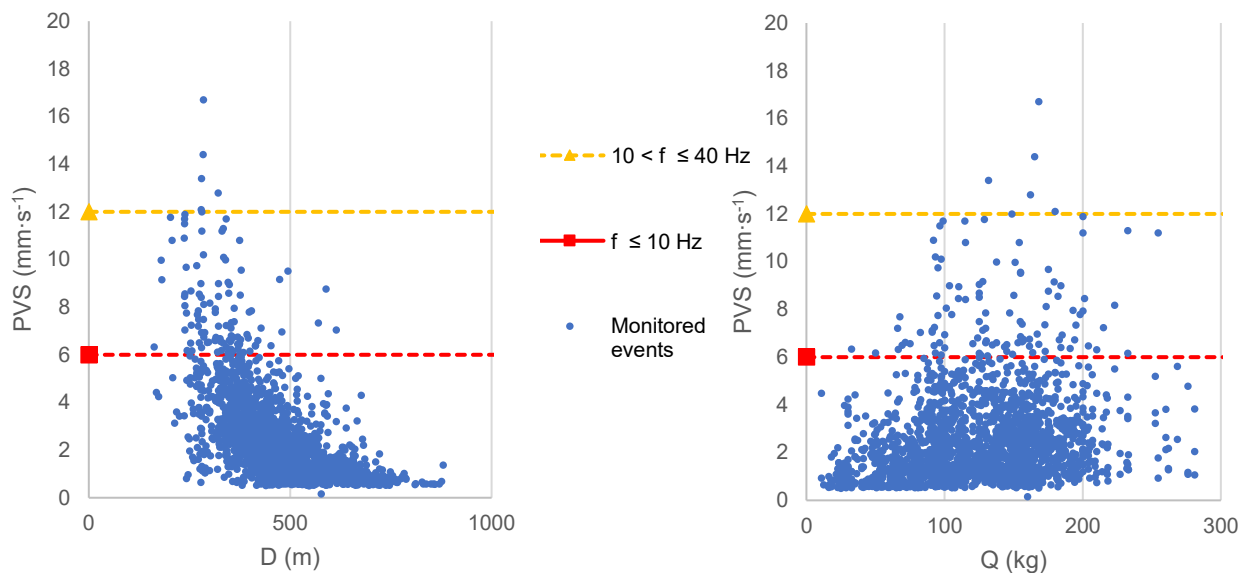


Figure 38 - Projection of the samples measured at reinforced structures, and comparison with ground vibration amplitude limits suggested by NP 2074 for sensitive structures.

Motivated by the considerable number of observations (2.053), an individual study of the projected elements is not possible. Nevertheless, it is evident that the greatest PVS monitored at a reinforced structure corresponds to  $16,7 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ . This is less than half of the upper vibration limit for this class of buildings, which is not depicted in Figure 38, once it would increase the density of the

represented points. In this situation, the lower distance values imply greater PVS recorded at structures G, H, I and J, where the mean vibration amplitude is equal to  $2,47 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ . Almost 94,7 % of the samples are below the most conservative limit. The remaining 5,0 % – PVS between 6 and  $12 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  (102 observations) – and 0,3 % (PVS above  $12 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ : 6 samples) were monitored at lower distances, as illustrated in the figure.

In conclusion, under the premise that the considered records comply with the Portuguese standard and that in both situations 95 % of the observations are located below the most restrictive limits for the respective structure categories, the license holder blasting activities are safe and are not expected to damage the surrounding structures. This does not invalidate a continuous effort to follow the best available techniques and mitigate ground vibration amplitudes by optimizing blasting patterns, protecting different stakeholders and reducing the likelihood of possible complaints.

## 7.2.2. Study of the obtained ground vibration records according to BS 6472-2

Once there is no Portuguese standard suggesting maximum limits concerning human exposure to blast-induced vibrations, an analysis considering the British document BS 6472-2 is going to be performed. Taking into account that blasts in Aljustrel mines occur between 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. (which according to Table 9 fall into the *other times* period), and that the majority of the people living in the town are within residential structures during this time, the recommended vibration limit is equal to  $4,5 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ . Additionally, they are more susceptible and sensitive, and less tolerant to ground vibrations, being this the principal reason for assessing the impact blasting events have on them. The data collected at the remaining current structures that are not deemed residential are also included in this study. This grouping is performed, because of the structures location (urban area). Consequently, only records relative to structures C, D, E and F are subject to study in this case. The projection of the considered samples, along with the mentioned velocity limit is illustrated in Figure 39.

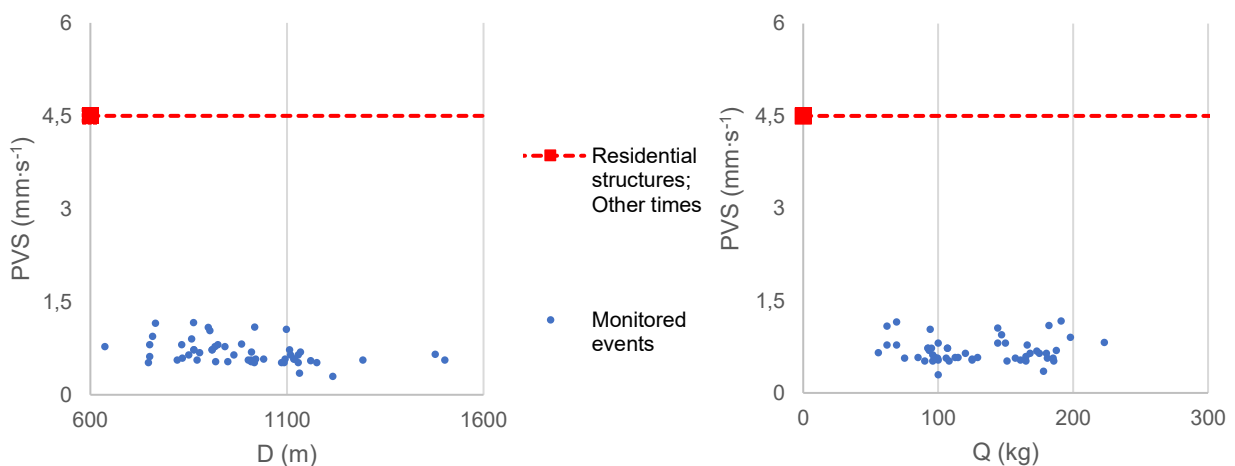


Figure 39 - Projection of the samples measured at current structures, and comparison with ground vibration amplitude limits suggested by BS 6472-2 for residential structures.

According to this figure, the projected samples register PVS values below  $1,5 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  (at least one third of the suggested limit of  $4,5 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ). As such, in this situation and during the studied period, BS 6472-2 is complied with. Although the recorded PVS values are over the human perception threshold ( $0,3 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ), these are not excessive and the considered blasts had a reduced impact on humans. When analyzing Figures 37 and 39, it is possible to verify the greater vibration amplitudes measured at structures A and B in relation to the rest, once they are not depicted in the second graph.

Now, taking into account the expression present in Equation 15, one intends to estimate the maximum number of blast vibration events per day, in such a way that the vibration limit is equivalent to the previously considered value of  $4,5 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ . Therefore, rearranging this equation to solve it for  $N$  yields the following expression (Equation 20):

$$PVS_{max} = 4,5 \cdot F \Leftrightarrow PVS_{max} = 4,5 \cdot 1,7 \cdot N^{-0,5} \cdot T_b^{-d} \Rightarrow N = \left( \frac{4,5 \cdot 1,7 \cdot T_b^{-d}}{PVS_{max}} \right)^2 \quad (\text{Equation 20})$$

Considering the mentioned limit and that the structures floor is made of concrete ( $d$  equal to 1,22);  $T_b = 2,175 \text{ s}$ , for the case where 30 equally delayed in time holes are blasted with a timing difference of 75 ms; and the maximum vibration velocity ( $PVS_{max}$ ) recorded which is equal to  $1,171 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ , the obtained value for  $N$ , according to this equation, is 6,41. Hence, under the assumed conditions, no more than six blasts can be carried out per day. During the studied period – between February 2018 and August 2022 – a maximum of four production blasts were carried out daily. Thus, it is equally verified that the standard in study would be complied with considering this more restrictive scenario.

After addressing different normative scenarios, the main conclusion is that ground vibration limits suggested by the technical documents are complied with and that no significant disturbance to humans located at residential structures and damage to buildings caused by rock blasting in the studied structures are expected to occur.

Although the maximum PVS recorded at structures C, D, E and F is  $1,171 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ , for these structures, it is recommended that BS 6472-2 is also taken into consideration when designing blasting patterns, minimizing the impact stope blasting has on humans and, consequently, on structures – if the suggested limit according to this standard is more conservative than the one indicated by NP 2074.

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### 7.3. Geotechnical modelling of the studied area

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The statistical and normative study of the samples compiled in the database serves as a preliminary mechanism to identify different hypotheses to be further tested and verified. In this work, it is expected that the performance of models considering groups with different characteristics allows one to test the validity of such hypotheses and take further conclusions.



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### 7.3.1. Outliers: detection and removal

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Firstly, before performing any modelling task it is important to consider the samples most relevant variables (PVS, Q and D), assessing their eventual relationship and removing anomalous values. This process minimizes the risk of developing a model which is not accurate in estimating the true value of the dependent variable (PVS). In other words, it guarantees more reliable models, with an expected increase in the coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ). According to Dodge (2009), this coefficient assesses the ability of a linear regression model to predict a dependent variable after the input of one or more independent ones. As such,  $R^2$  measures the strength of the linear relationship between the involved variables, ranging from 0 to 1. Greater values of  $R^2$  indicate a better adjustment of the model to the data points.

To minimize the impact of anomalous values on the calculated models, experimental data have to be analyzed and filtered out to identify and remove them, respectively. These are usually known as outliers and, as mentioned in chapter 4., not more than 10 % of the samples should be removed. The existence of such samples may be due to innumerable reasons such as an incorrect orientation of the geophone towards the blasting point or inadequate coupling of this device to the monitored structures surface, constructive or destructive interference of the stress waves caused by the existing heterogeneities of the rock mass, differences in the transmission of energy into the rock mass after the stemming quality, etc.

Given the considerable number of elements present in the database, it is not recommended nor accurate to remove the existing outliers by means of a visual inspection of the data, as Figure 40 suggests.

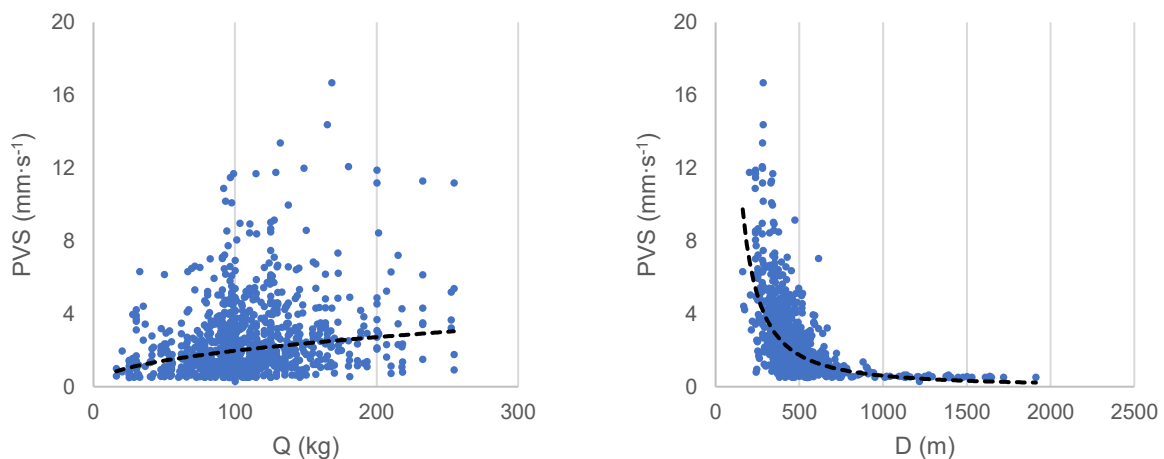


Figure 40 - Projection of the samples corresponding to the FWD scenario with outliers.

Consequently, after the projection of 1.011 samples – represented in blue – on the depicted planes, one can notice the density of points which makes the task of individually removing a maximum

of 101 samples (10 % of the events belonging to the considered class) a difficult one. The dark dashed lines correspond to the power regression curves for each scatter plot.

As such, an alternative method to identify outliers has to be tested. In this case, an initial Johnson's model is estimated for each group: FWOD, FWD and MWOD. This step is performed using multiple linear regression in SPSS. To estimate the models constants a, b and c by means of a regression tool and obtain an expression equivalent to the one presented in Equation 16, it is important to previously determine the logarithm of the variables PVS ( $v$ ), Q and D, so that the following expression is obtained (Equation 21):

$$v = a \cdot Q^b \cdot D^c \Leftrightarrow \log(v) = \log(a) + b \cdot \log(Q) + c \cdot \log(D) \equiv \quad \text{(Equation 21)}$$

$$y = b_0 + b_1 \cdot x_1 + b_2 \cdot x_2$$

As such, after obtaining a linear relationship between the three variables, the rock mass constants can be determined by the following formulas:

- $a = 10^{b_0}$ ;
- $b = b_1$ ;
- $c = b_2$ .

After estimating the coefficients a, b and c for the three cases, the dependent variable is estimated for all samples ( $\widehat{PVS}$ ) by means of the application of the respective inferred model. This is followed by the calculation of the absolute value of the residuals, corresponding to the modulus of the difference between the observed and the estimated/predicted PVS value (Equation 22).

$$|Residual| = |Observed\ value - Predicted\ value| = |PVS - \widehat{PVS}| \quad \text{(Equation 22)}$$

After determining the modulus of the residuals, an equivalent to 10 % of the samples with the greatest residual value are considered as outliers and, thus removed from the analysis that follows. Figure 41 illustrates the scatter plots that combine the two independent variables (Q and D) with the dependent one (PVS) after performing this removal.

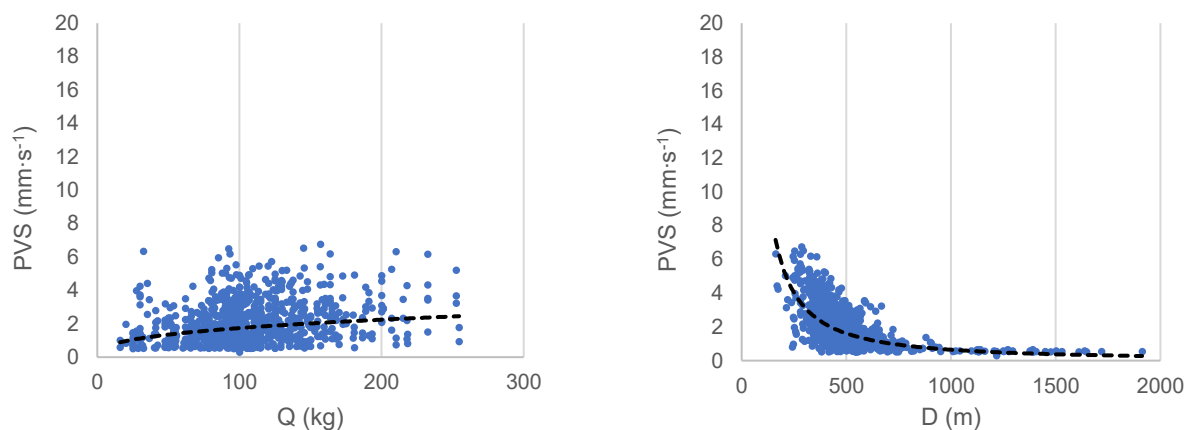


Figure 41 - Projection of the samples corresponding to the FWD scenario without outliers.

When comparing Figures 40 and 41, it is possible to verify that the removal of outliers (101 in total) has created a denser concentration of points around the power regression. Table 13 summarizes the changes in the three production scenarios after removing the respective outliers.

Table 13 - Johnson's model constants for the three operational scenarios before and after the removal of outliers.

Operational scenario		Number of samples	a	b	c	R <sup>2</sup>	Number of outliers
MWOD	With outliers	40	8.549	-0,05	-1,38	0,43	4
	<b>Without outliers</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>0,05</b>	<b>-1,08</b>	<b>0,41</b>	
FWOD	With outliers	1.124	3.729	0,50	-1,63	0,60	112
	<b>Without outliers</b>	<b>1.012</b>	<b>1.315</b>	<b>0,49</b>	<b>-1,46</b>	<b>0,64</b>	
FWD	With outliers	1.011	2.379	0,63	-1,63	0,61	101
	<b>Without outliers</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>0,57</b>	<b>-1,45</b>	<b>0,62</b>	

It is important to note that, for both cases at the Feitais mine, R<sup>2</sup> has increased (4 % for FWOD and 1 % for FWD) after removing the outliers – one tenth of the samples. Nevertheless, for MWOD the coefficient of determination has decreased 2 %. This is due to the low correlation between variables in the initial scenario, originating a negative b coefficient (positive after removing four anomalous values), which contradicts the theory. As such, to allow a more detailed study of this category, despite having a lower value for R<sup>2</sup>, the group with 36 samples is going to be considered. For FWD and FWOD, the posterior analysis is going to consider the dataset without the identified outliers.

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### 7.3.2. Determination of ground vibration attenuation equations after Johnson's model

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Although three operational cases are considered, given the distance range between each of the monitored structures and the location of the blasts, events monitored at structures located at the industrial area within and outside the mine perimeter (IA Mine and IA Outside the Mine, respectively), and at the urban area (Urban area) are going to be studied separately. The main objective of this differentiation is to assess the heterogeneity of the rock mass at different sections of the Aljustrel town in terms of ground vibrations propagation.

According to Figure 19 (a), the studied region reveals a complex geology at the surface. The predominant stratigraphic unit is the Upper Sedimentary one, mainly composed by greywacke, wacke, schist and argillite. To compare the obtained models with the ones inferred in previous studies and assess the validity of the results, the equation present in the literature for schists and greywackes is going to be deemed as the theoretical model for the region in analysis (Table 10). As such, considering

the mentioned categories, the estimated equations (using SPSS) and respective coefficients of correlation are compiled in Table 14.

Table 14 - Johnson's model constants for the three operational scenarios and sections within the Aljustrel town.

Operational scenario	Section	Number of samples	a	b	c	R <sup>2</sup>
MWOD	IA Mine	30	24.003	0,21	-1,73	0,43
	<b>Urban area</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>-0,09</b>	<b>0,22</b>	<b>0,50</b>
FWOD	IA Mine	296	9.300	0,55	-1,83	0,76
	IA Outside the Mine	657	7.695	0,49	-1,75	0,53
	Urban area	59	10	0,07	-0,45	0,20
FWD	IA Mine	276	4.673	0,64	-1,78	0,68
	IA Outside the Mine	586	3.597	0,57	-1,66	0,51
	<b>Urban area</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>-0,26</b>	<b>-0,39</b>	<b>0,33</b>

This table shows that some models are not valid, due to the respective coefficients which contradict the expected direct proportionality between PVS and Q and the inverse relationship between PVS and D. For this reason, these will not be considered hereinafter. Such equations are highlighted and are the following: MWOD and FWD Urban area. The coefficient of determination of the models estimated for the Feitais mine, indicate that increasing distances tend to generate less accurate equations, which may be due to the greater probability of the waves being reflected and refracted on the existing rock mass interfaces (constructive or destructive interference). Figures 20 and 21 highlight the existence of such discontinuities that affect the propagation of stress waves before these reach the surface. For this reason, the value of R<sup>2</sup> for FWOD Urban area, IA Outside the Mine and IA Mine suggest a weak, moderate and strong relationship between the variables, respectively (according to the classification suggested by Landis and Koch (1977)). For MWOD, given the reduced number of samples and the previously mentioned weak correlation between variables, R<sup>2</sup> does not follow this trend. Comparing the different propagation laws with the one present in the literature (Table 10) – deduced by Remísio (Bernardo and Torres, 2005) –, the ones that have a weaker adjustment to the experimental data (below 51 %) show a greater deviation in the rock mass coefficients than those with greater R<sup>2</sup>.

It is also important to project the isokinetic curves on the Q vs. D plane, to compare the different laws, assessing the ones that are more restrictive. As such, taking into consideration the mean and median dominant frequencies for the three operational scenarios (Table 12) – which according to NP 2074 fall under the intermediate frequency class – and the type of structure that is subject to more conservative vibration limits, it is reasonable to consider vibration velocity values equal to 3 mm·s<sup>-1</sup>. Figure 42 corresponds to the projection of the determined models present in the previous table. The theoretical model is also included in this representation.

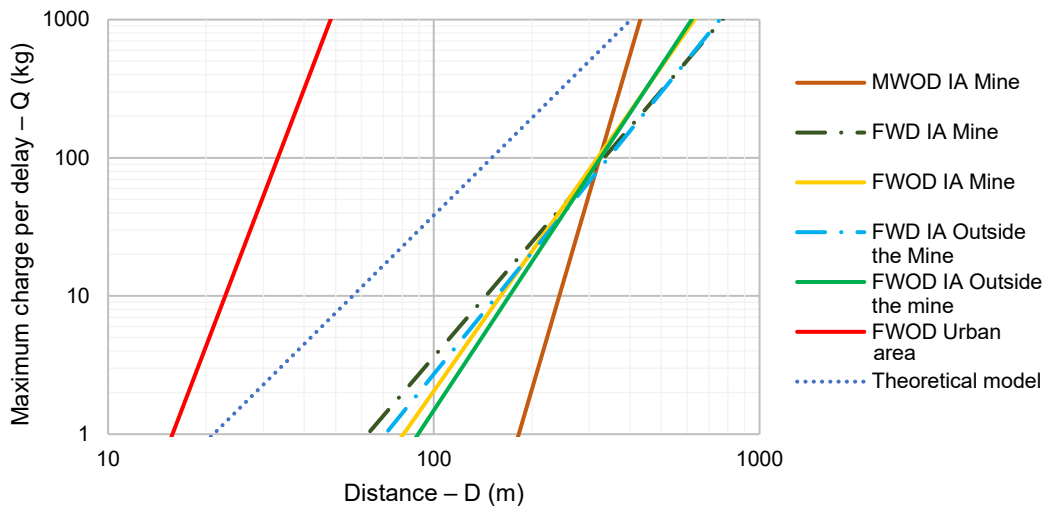


Figure 42 - Isokinetic curves corresponding to the theoretical and inferred models for each operational scenario and section of the town considering  $v = 3 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ .

According to this figure, if the distance  $D$  is less than 300 m, the rock mass attenuates stress waves originated from blasts carried out at the Moinho mine at a lower rate. One possible reason for this may be the fact that the mine in consideration has a lower production rate and, consequently the rock mass has less discontinuities induced by the existing voids such as excavated drifts and stopes. For events belonging to FWD IA Mine and IA Outside the Mine, and  $D$  over 300 m, these models show an evident convergence and are the most conservative ones (more than those that describe FWOD). The least restrictive law is FWOD Urban. The reason for this may be related to the greater distance between the blasting and monitoring points, which increases the probability and impact of destructive interference after the contact between vibration waves and rock mass discontinuities including lithological transitions and geotechnical accidents.

Considering distance values below 300 m, FWD equations for IA Mine and IA Outside the Mine allow greater maximum charges per delay than FWOD (for the same sections), suggesting the influence of the previously blasted volume within the proximity of the blast, which may attenuate part of the released energy. Consequently, at greater distance values, it is expected that more relevance is assigned to the rock mass heterogeneities than to physical barriers artificially created, such as previous excavations.

For increasing distance values, the equations developed for Feitais (excluding FWOD Urban) converge to the theoretical model. This may indicate that, as the stress waves propagation becomes progressively less impacted by the existing voids, the geotechnical characteristics of the studied rock mass approximate to those that define the geology studied by Remísio (Bernardo and Torres, 2005). However, the disparity between the inferred and the theoretical laws highlight the importance of the formulation of different models that have a better adjustment to the samples measured at an area characterized by a complex geology and where previously developed formulas do not have much applicability and accuracy.

Now, considering the most conservative models that characterize each of the mines (regarding Feitais, both FWOD and FWD IA Outside the Mine are going to be addressed), one intends to create an expeditious auxiliary tool in the design of a charging diagram, taking into account fixed Q and D values for a determined velocity limit. To estimate Q and D, it is necessary to solve Equation 16 for each variable, respectively, as Equations 23 and 24 suggest. Given the aforementioned criteria, the limit is equivalent to 3 mm·s<sup>-1</sup>. The Q values to consider correspond to the respective mean for this variable at both mines, whereas the D reference values are equal to the minimum for each case (Table 12).

$$Q = \left( \frac{v}{a \cdot D^c} \right)^{\frac{1}{b}} \quad (\text{Equation 23})$$

$$D = \left( \frac{v}{a \cdot Q^b} \right)^{\frac{1}{c}} \quad (\text{Equation 24})$$

Thereby, the application of both expressions yields the results present in Table 15 as follows:

Table 15 - Estimated maximum charge per delay and distance for each operational scenario and respective most conservative model considering v = 3 mm·s<sup>-1</sup>.

Operational scenario	Section	For a defined D		For a defined Q	
		D (m)	Estimated Q (kg)	Q (kg)	Estimated D (m)
MWOD	IA Mine	160	0,3	80	314,5
		510	3.904,1	125	332,4
FWD	IA Outside the Mine	160	8,0	80	305,2
		510	500,8	125	345,8
FWOD	IA Outside the Mine	160	10,7	80	318,2
		510	317,3	125	370,8

The analysis of this table and Figure 42 suggest that for MWOD IA Mine, for reduced D values (below 160 m) blasts are impracticable, once Q should not exceed 0,3 kg. However, for distances over 510 m, this value may be greater than 3.904 kg. The minimum distance verified in blasts at Moinho is equal to 500 m (Table 12). Thus, no concerns on excessive vibrations at the monitored structures are expected to occur, considering a maximum vibration amplitude of 3 mm·s<sup>-1</sup>. Regarding the Feitais mine, the minimum registered distance is 160 m, which according to the estimated laws, demands some attention during charging planning for values close to this reference.

Lastly, for the three addressed operational scenarios and Q around 80 kg, it is important to take into account the distance, which should not be inferior to 305 m. If blastholes require charges over this limit, one suggests the implementation of multiple initiation (decking). An alternative option would be to reduce the stope height, or to divide this volume into more than one stope in such a way that this charge per delay limit is respected.

It is important to note that in up-hole blasts, given the rockfall hazard while charging blast holes and the complexity associated with this process, it is not advisable to perform decking. In fact, according to Table 12, the maximum Q value for the registered events is equal to 281 kg. Hence, the reduction of the up-holes length is recommended as a ground vibration mitigation measure, in such a way that

multiple initiation is carried out at the upper portion (second phase) of the stope, therefore reducing ground vibration amplitudes.

An additional hypothesis to consider as an influencing factor of ground vibrations is the orientation between the blasting and monitoring points. Taking into account the binary orientation classification system mentioned in chapter 6.1., for the different operational scenarios, samples were divided into two categories (N-S and E-W) and the respective characteristic attenuation equations calculated. These are summarized in Table 16, as follows:

Table 16 - Johnson's model constants for the three operational scenarios and according to the orientation.

Operational scenario	Orientation	Number of samples	a	b	c	R <sup>2</sup>
MWOD	N-S	27	220	0,07	-0,90	0,22
	E-W	9	1.973	0,03	-1,22	0,42
FWOD	N-S	724	7.893	0,52	-1,78	0,59
	E-W	288	687	0,46	-1,31	0,78
FWD	N-S	685	3.482	0,59	-1,68	0,54
	E-W	225	484	0,57	-1,32	0,80

In this case, all the models can be validated, given the positive a and b, and negative c coefficients. It can also be verified that R<sup>2</sup> is greater in E-W models in all operational scenarios. This may indicate the lower impact rock mass discontinuities have on stress waves propagation in terms of constructive or destructive interference according to this direction, influencing the measured PVS.

For a velocity limit of 3 mm·s<sup>-1</sup>, the six obtained models can be projected on the Q vs. D plane (Figure 43).

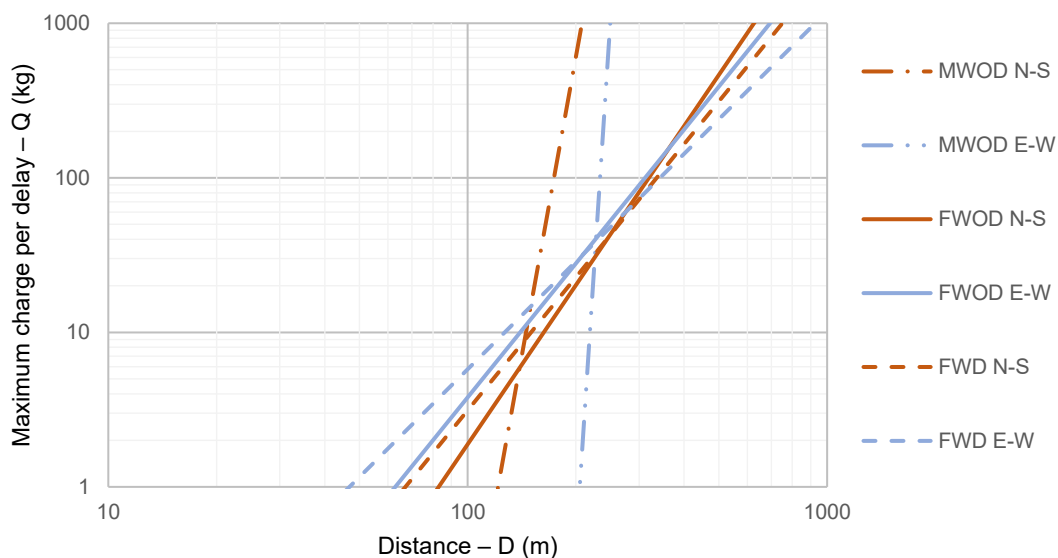


Figure 43 - Isokinetic curves corresponding to the inferred models for each operational scenario and orientation considering  $v = 3 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ .

The results suggest that for the Moinho mine, in the E-W direction, the rock mass is more competent, offering less resistance to ground vibration propagation, involving thus more restrictive limits in terms of Q, at a given distance. For D below 275 m, the N-S direction implies more conservative models at Feitais. Over this threshold, a consistent pattern is not observed, although FWD models are the most restrictive ones, when compared to those with the same orientation.

In underground production situations, depending on the period at which stopes are blasted, the firing or initiation pattern geometry may vary. At the enlargement phase, where the free face area is more reduced and rings adjacent to the slot raise are blasted, the initiation sequence is similar to a spiral. Here, with the objective of expanding the free face, blast holes closer to the raise are initiated following this spiral pattern. The charging record present in Annex A serves as an example of this initiation geometry. Considering the greater confinement and energy concentration required to enlarge the free face, more energy may be transmitted into the rock mass in the form of ground vibrations. The additional geometry to be included in this study is the one where a regular free face, parallel to the rings is present, as Figure 6 suggests. In this last case, the blast holes initiation direction is parallel to the free face and, after a ring is completely excavated, holes belonging to the adjacent ring are detonated. The considered variable, which is going to be tested, includes therefore two categories: spiral and parallel initiation geometry and after individualizing both classes, the estimated vibration propagation laws are the following (Table 17):

Table 17 - Johnson's model constants for the three operational scenarios and according to the initiation geometry.

Operational scenario	Initiation geometry	Number of samples	a	b	c	R <sup>2</sup>
MWOD	Parallel	31	1.065	0,03	-1,11	0,40
	<b>Spiral</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-0,27</b>	<b>-0,01</b>	<b>0,99</b>
FWOD	Parallel	763	2.443	0,43	-1,51	0,64
	Spiral	249	360	0,53	-1,28	0,65
FWD	Parallel	678	1.448	0,47	-1,44	0,60
	Spiral	232	1.047	0,64	-1,52	0,69

As can be noted in this table, the b coefficient associated with the model MWOD spiral is negative. This equation is not going to be taken into consideration in the posterior description. Additionally, laws estimated for parallel initiation have lower coefficients of determination.

Figure 44 shows the isokinetic curves for the valid equations.



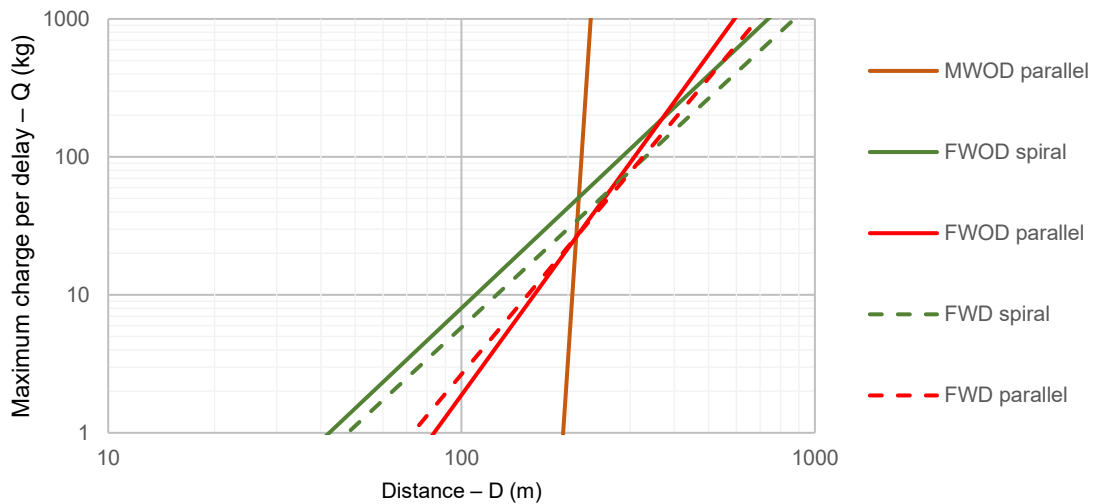


Figure 44 - Isokinetic curves corresponding to the inferred models for each operational scenario and initiation geometry considering  $v = 3 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ .

By analyzing the influence of the initiation geometry on the Q vs. D plane it is verified that MWOD does not have practical utility in terms of ground vibration prediction given the low absolute value of the b coefficient. It is noteworthy that all the obtained models were estimated using the same mathematical approach: multiple linear regression. Nevertheless, within the interval considered in this figure, MWOD parallel does not have significance and, as such, should not be used. A possible reason may be the low number of considered events, suggesting that more samples have to be collected in future monitoring campaigns. For D below 250 m, FWD and FWOD parallel suggest that a lower charge per delay may be applied when comparing with the models developed for spiral initiation. Over this threshold, for the same initiation pattern, rock mass continuity is directly related to less restrictive models. If the distance is greater than 500 m, both equations defined by spiral initiation are more conservative. Considering spiral initiation, FWD is more restrictive regardless of the distance, as both curves are almost parallel to each other. Lastly, FWOD parallel is the most conservative equation at reduced distances – below 200 m.

To complete this study, a fourth variable – time delay between adjacent holes – is going to be included in the Johnson’s mathematical formula, as Equation 25 suggests.

$$v = a \cdot Q^b \cdot D^c \cdot T^d \quad (\text{Equation 25})$$

The inclusion of a weighting factor that considers timing between blast holes involves the estimation of a fourth coefficient. If the initiation of adjacent holes is more spaced in time, it is expected that the explosives column promotes a greater expansion of a new free face, reducing hence the confinement around the next blasthole to be detonated. Furthermore, greater time delays contribute to a lower constructive interference between waves released after the initiation of adjacent holes, reducing ground vibration amplitudes. Therefore, the d coefficient should be negative. This, however implies more flyrock and compromises fragmentation once if breakage occurs and free face movement (associated with the consequent fragments displacement) takes place before the next holes are initiated, the energy

released by consecutive rings and holes does not act constructively, requiring therefore a narrower drilling pattern.

As such, the models obtained for MWOD, FWOD and FWD are the present in Table 18.

Table 18 - Johnson's model constants for the three operational scenarios considering the time delay between adjacent holes.

Operational scenario	Number of samples	a	b	c	d	R <sup>2</sup>
<b>MWOD</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>0,098</b>	<b>-1,115</b>	<b>0,366</b>	<b>0,432</b>
FWD	447	1.693	0,582	-1,462	-0,132	0,613
<b>FWOD</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>1.502</b>	<b>0,489</b>	<b>-1,483</b>	<b>0,003</b>	<b>0,656</b>

This table indicates that the only model that respects the conditions imposed by theory, i.e., positive a and b, and negative c and d coefficients is FWD. For this reason, this is the only equation that is deemed valid. Although positive, the d value associated with FWOD is almost null, suggesting that the consideration of *T* has a negligible influence on this model. When comparing Tables 13 (models created without the consideration of outliers) and 18, it is possible to verify that the addition of a third independent variable (*T*) increases the coefficient of determination by 2 % for MWOD and decreases R<sup>2</sup> for FWD and FWOD at about 1 % and 2 %, respectively. Two models (FWOD and FWD) suggest that the *T* has a lower weight on vibrations than *Q* and *D*, because of the absolute value of the d coefficient. Taking into consideration the three time delays between holes most frequently used (present in 99 % of the charging records) – 50, 65 and 75 ms – the isokinetic curves associated with FWD and the respective values are illustrated in Figure 45. The considered velocity is 3 mm·s<sup>-1</sup>.

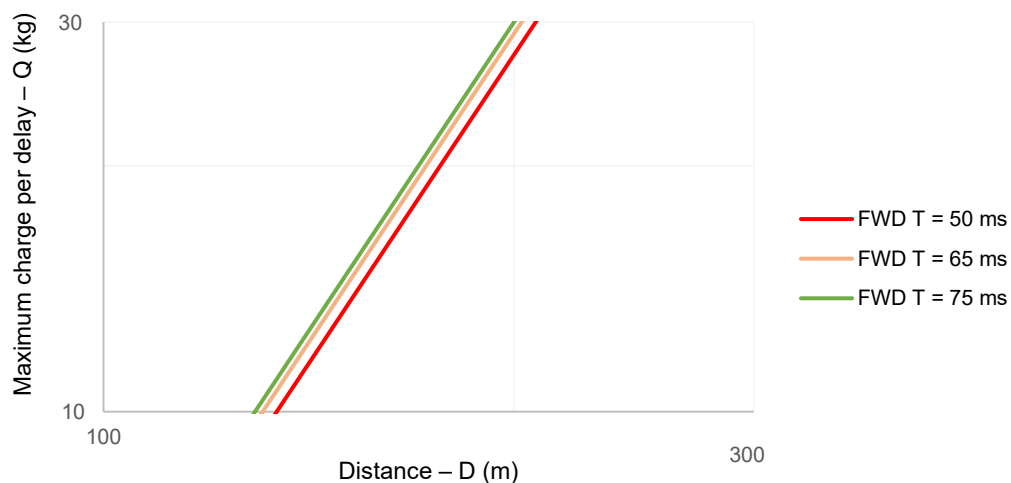


Figure 45 - Isokinetic curves corresponding to the inferred model for FWD and the most frequent time delays between adjacent holes considering  $v = 3 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ .

The results of the projection confirm the negative d coefficient, where greater time delays are responsible for less conservative equations. Nevertheless, due to its low absolute value (0,132) its influence on the maximum recommended charge per delay is reduced. For distance values equal to 200 m, the Q variation when using 50 and 75 ms is equal to 2,5 kg. As such, despite the optimal delay

time is 75 ms in terms of ground vibration, this may not be the recommended value in terms of flyrock and fragmentation. Similar to what has been described in Figure 4, it is important to pursue a time delay that does not compromise subsequent operations such as loading and hauling nor the compliance of ground vibration standards such as NP 2074 or DIN 4150-3. According to Andrews (1981) (as cited in Dowding and Aimone, 1992), in multiple-ring blasting, 3,3 to 16,4 ms·m<sup>-1</sup> within the same ring and 6,6 to 49,2 ms·m<sup>-1</sup> of burden between rings are suggested, improving fragmentation and safety – reducing the risk of misfires and the impact of flyrock or ground vibration. Thereby, once the burden that characterizes production blasts at Feitais and Moinho mines is 2,5 m, time delays of 8 to 41 ms between adjacent holes and 16 to 123 ms between rings are recommended. A combination of values within the mentioned ranges may be tested, to conclude if the delays used are deemed optimal and, eventually suggest ones that optimize production blasts. It should be noted, however, that if the burden is not constant between rings, i.e., if they have different inclinations due to design considerations, an average burden that considers the center of gravity of the charges within the ring should be taken into account.

In total, 29 models considering the previously mentioned variables were estimated, from which 23 were deemed valid ones. Due to coefficients that contradict theoretical principles, the remaining six were not validated. From the valid models, those that were associated with the greatest and the lowest coefficients of correlation are, respectively: FWD E-W ( $R^2 = 80 \%$ ) and FWOD Urban area ( $R^2 = 20 \%$ ).

## 7.4. Estimation of structures natural frequency

Considering the data present in chapter 6.2.2. and Equation 12 the yielded results for the structures natural frequency ( $f_n$ ), along with a simple statistical description of the variable dominant frequency ( $f_d$ ) of the registered events are present in Table 19.

Table 19 - Estimated natural frequency and statistical description of the variable dominant frequency for the considered structures, in Hz.

Structure	Number of samples	Estimated $f_n$	Dominant frequency, $f_d$		
			Mean	Minimum	P <sub>25%</sub>
A	61	34,9	12,1	2,3	3,0
C	1	13,2	50,0	50,0	50,0
D	33	11,2	28,6	2,1	13,4
E	11	14,5	54,2	33,0	46,7

Structure	Dominant frequency, $f_d$				
	Median	P <sub>75%</sub>	Maximum	Standard deviation	Range
A	13,0	13,5	40,0	9,8	37,8
C	50,0	50,0	50,0	0,0	0,0
D	26,8	40,0	66,8	20,5	64,6
E	53,3	60,1	80,0	13,8	47,0

When analyzing this table, one can conclude that the mean dominant frequency registered at each structure diverges from the respective estimated natural frequency. As such, no significant resonance is expected to occur. However, it is possible to verify that for structures A and D, the minimum  $f_d$  is less than  $f_n$ . Therefore, a more conservative study addressing these two elements can be performed.

As can be seen from Figure 12, for a damping ratio of 0,015 (below the 0,05 value suggested by Dowding (1985) for one- to two-story buildings) the frequency ratio that may originate a significant increase in the structures dynamic response (and thus possible damage to them) varies between 0,9 and 1,2 –  $R_d$  over 3. If this frequency ratio interval is deemed as a resonance hazard threshold, from samples registered at structures A and D, only four records are within this limit. Table 20 compiles information about these records.

Table 20 - Records within the resonance hazard limit.

Monitored structure	Dominant frequency (Hz)	$f_d/f_n$ (Hz)	PVS ( $\text{mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )
A	40	1,15	0,539
A	40	1,15	0,568
A	40	1,15	0,648
D	13,38	1,19	0,648

Once A and D are sensitive and current structures, respectively, and given the dominant frequency associated with the events present in this table, according to NP 2074, the most conservative recommended PVS threshold is  $3 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ . This indicates that the records vibration amplitudes are at least four times lower than the suggested limit. In this case, for dynamic magnification factors over four, vibration events monitored at this structure could induce potential damage. However, although  $\beta$  is not known, a graphical analysis of Figure 12 indicates that amplification factors for the events present in this table are likely below four. Thereby, damage to structures A, C, D and E caused by blast-induced vibration it is not expected to occur, suggesting that the records present in the database show no evidence of noncompliance with the Portuguese standard on ground vibration monitoring nor damage to the monitored structures.

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## 8. Conclusions and recommendations

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### 8.1. Conclusions

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Although the subject of ground vibrations has been studied for more than 90 years, the scientific community has not reached a consensus on the most effective vibration attenuation expression. The principal reasons underlying this are the complexity and singularity associated with each rock and soil mass, indicating that different ground vibration equations have to be adjusted for different regions of study.

In the state of the art, the most recent technologies concerning blasting pattern design and rock excavation using civil explosives were addressed. A brief description of the ground vibration phenomenon, normative documents related to this side effect and respective mitigation measures was performed. In underground production scenarios associated with sublevel open stoping and longitudinal bench and fill, the underlying principles of blasting pattern design are similar to those applied in open pit bench blasting, being that these were also mentioned in this chapter. Such theoretical bases are not recent, however they constitute the best available techniques to date.

The present dissertation had two main objectives: to model ground vibration amplitude prediction equations and to estimate the natural frequency by means of a theoretical formula, assessing then the existence of resonance at the considered structures.

The objectives proposed for this study were accomplished. In total, using a multiple linear regression tool in SPSS software, 29 models were estimated considering relevant variables  $v$ ,  $Q$  and  $D$ , as suggested by Johnson (1971). From these, six were deemed invalid ones. These equations were deducted based on a database that included information relative to 2.175 real ground vibration records originated after production blasts at the Aljustrel mines (Alentejo province, Portugal). The records were registered at ten different structures between February 2018 and August 2022. Other variables such as the existence of a rock mass discontinuity imposed by an initial production blast, section of the town where the events were monitored, orientation between the blasting and monitoring points, initiation pattern geometry and time delay between adjacent holes were tested. Such models allow the estimation of ground vibration amplitudes and may be considered when performing blasting pattern designs according to the adequate operational scenarios and variables one intends to consider, and ground vibration standards.

The analysis of the compiled records indicate that NP 2074 and BS 6472-2 are complied with. Allied to this, the fact that no resonance is expected at the considered structures within the Aljustrel urban area indicate that descriptors exposed to ground vibrations such as humans and buildings are not significantly affected by blast-induced vibrations from geotechnical activities carried out at the

studied mines. When designing blasting patterns, the consideration of ground vibration limits suggested by BS 6472-2 is also relevant, protecting both descriptors.

Additional conclusions provided by the analysis of the valid models suggest that, considering the section of the Aljustrel mining area, increasing distance values tend to be associated with lower coefficients of determination. The reason for this may be the influence of the rock mass heterogeneities and lithological interfaces that contribute to local attenuation or amplification of the seismic waves generated by blasting events. For distance values below 300 m, models developed for the Feitais mine without an existing discontinuity are more conservative, highlighting the influence of the previously excavated stope volume on vibrations attenuation. At Feitais, within a 275 m radius centered at the blasting point, the north-south direction is less resistant to vibration propagation. For distances over 500 m, the initiation of blastholes according to a spiral pattern generates vibration amplitudes greater than those originated by a standard pattern where holes within the ring closer and parallel to the free face are the first ones to be detonated. Lastly, vibration propagation models that include time delay as the third independent variable attribute a low weight to this factor, when comparing with the remaining ones. From the tested values, the optimal delay regarding ground vibration is 75 ms. However, such timing may not be recommended once it compromises fragmentation and increases other undesired side effects such as flyrock, negatively influencing subsequent operations.

From the set of valid models, those that registered the greatest and lowest coefficients of correlation are the following ones, respectively:

- Feitais mine with an existing discontinuity considering the east-west direction:  
 $v = 484 \cdot Q^{0,57} \cdot D^{-1,32}$ , with  $R^2 = 80 \%$ ;
- Feitais mine without an existing discontinuity considering the urban area:  
 $v = 10 \cdot Q^{0,07} \cdot D^{-0,45}$ , with  $R^2 = 20 \%$ .

After testing the most restrictive models considering the town section, for a maximum vibration velocity equal to  $3 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$  and distances equal to 305 m, a charge per delay equivalent to 80 kg should not be exceeded. For values below this distance or over this charge, decking is recommended.

To mitigate the impact of ground vibration, the following measures are recommended: reduction of the stopes height or division into smaller stopes, and reduction of the up-holes length, i.e., the volume associated with the first excavation phase, once here the application of decking is a hazardous task. This last measure would allow the performance of multiple initiation when charging downholes, reducing hence the maximum charge per delay.

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## 8.2. Recommendations for future work

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Motivated by the reduced number of samples measured at the urban area, mostly after blasts carried out at the Moinho mine, some models could not be validated. To overcome this limitation, the

reinforcement of the monitoring campaign with the installation of more seismographs within this section of the Aljustrel town is suggested.

It should be noted that the developed models did not take into account the drillholes deviation nor mean burden. Once these factors significantly influence ground vibrations, the inclusion of such variables in new models is recommended. These parameters may be estimated with the conjugation of topographic surveys of the free face and Boretrak® inclinometers. Additionally, the inclusion of an energy weighting factor to attenuation equations, rather than the maximum charge per delay that does not consider different thermodynamical properties of the explosives, is of relevance. Such properties may be the detonation energy and pressure. Furthermore, by varying the column-to-bottom charge ratio, it would be possible to estimate the optimal charge proportion with regards to ground vibrations.

To diversify the monitoring locations and consider lower distances from the blast, vibration monitoring within underground infrastructure such as drifts adjacent to the blasts should be performed. This would allow the integration of the collected data to the existing database and consequent creation of a new model, and an eventual quantification of the influence underground infrastructure and stopes have on ground vibration amplitudes. Possibly, this experimental data would allow the formulation of a model with a greater coefficient of correlation given the greater rock mass continuity between the blasting and monitoring points.

To assess if the time delays between adjacent holes frequently used (50, 65 and 75 ms) are optimal, other values may be tested. As such, according to theory, one suggests testing time delays of 8 to 41 ms between adjacent holes and 16 to 123 ms between rings, comparing the results obtained after each test taking into consideration the production blasts side effects, namely ground vibration amplitudes and flyrock, and resulting fragmentation.

Lastly, as a ground vibration mitigation measure, the implementation of slot drilling, i.e., the creation of a discontinuity imposed by a series of drillholes between the blasting and monitoring points is recommended. To quantify its influence on ground vibrations, records before and after performing this measure at different stopes could be considered.

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## List of Abbreviations and Symbols

All the abbreviations and symbols are described as they are mentioned in the text, as well as their respective units according to the International System of Units. This table serves as an auxiliary and expeditious tool to identify the majority of the physical quantities and abbreviations present in the document.

Abbreviation	Designation	Unit
$\alpha$	Drillholes inclination	°
$\beta$	Damping ratio	%
$\delta$	Displacement	m
$\varepsilon$	Strain	dimensionless
$\rho$	Density	kg·m <sup>-3</sup>
$\rho_e$	Explosives density	kg·m <sup>-3</sup>
$\sigma_{dr}$	Dynamic resistance	Pa
$\sigma_{sr}$	Static resistance	Pa
$\sigma_d$	Dynamic stress	Pa
$\emptyset$	Drillhole diameter	m
a, b, c	Johnson's model coefficients	dimensionless
a	Acceleration	m·s <sup>-2</sup>
$A_i$	Incident wave amplitude	m
$A_t$	Transmitted wave amplitude	m
ANFO	Ammonium Nitrate - Fuel Oil	-
B	Burden	m
BC	Bottom charge	m
c	Waves propagation velocity	m·s <sup>-1</sup>
CC	Column charge	m
CAI	CERCHAR Abrasivity Index	dimensionless
$C_p$	Building material's waves propagation velocity	m·s <sup>-1</sup>
$C_s$	S waves propagation velocity	m·s <sup>-1</sup>
D	Distance	m
$E_{dr}$	Elastic moduli in the dynamic regime	Pa
$E_{sr}$	Elastic moduli in the static regime	Pa
f	Vibration frequency	Hz
$f_n$	Structures natural frequency	Hz
$f_d$	Dominant frequency	Hz
F	Multiplication factor	dimensionless
FFT	Fast Fourier Transform	-
FWOD	Feitais mine without an existing discontinuity	-

Abbreviation	Designation	Unit
FWD	Feitais mine with an existing discontinuity	-
G	Subdrilling	m
H	Bench height	m
H <sub>s</sub>	Structure's height	m
h	Layer thickness	m
I <sub>P</sub>	Characteristic impedance	kg·m <sup>-2</sup> ·s <sup>-1</sup>
K <sub>i</sub>	Ash's constants	dimensionless
L, V, T	Space directions (longitudinal, vertical, transverse)	-
L	Drillhole length	m
MWOD	Moinho mine without an existing discontinuity	-
N	Number of blast events per day	dimensionless
n	Porosity	dimensionless
n'	Refractive index	dimensionless
N <sub>s</sub>	Building's number of stories	dimensionless
PPV	Peak particle velocity	mm·s <sup>-1</sup>
PVS	Peak vector sum	mm·s <sup>-1</sup>
P <sub>D</sub>	Detonation pressure	Pa
Q	Maximum charge per delay	kg
R <sub>d</sub>	Dynamic magnification factor	dimensionless
R <sup>2</sup>	Coefficient of determination	dimensionless
S	Spacing	m
T	Time delay between adjacent holes	ms
T'	Stemming	m
T''	Period	s
T <sub>b</sub>	Blast event duration	s
TC	Total charge	m
UCS	Uniaxial Compressive Strength	Pa
v	Vibration velocity	mm·s <sup>-1</sup>
VOD	Velocity of detonation	m·s <sup>-1</sup>
W	Weighted maximum charge per delay	kg



# Annex A - Example of a production blast charging record

Charging record corresponding to stope F270SZ027 (downhole benching). Rings 1 to 5 depicted in this record were blasted on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The slot raise is identified in the diagram and blastholes adjacent to it are charged with Senatel™ Pulsar™ and/or Senatel™ Magnafrac™. The remaining holes are charged with a bottom charge – Senatel™ Magnafrac™ – which has a lower energy concentration, when compared with Senatel™ Pulsar™. Relevant translation is provided in the report.

ALMINA

DESMONTES E SERVIÇOS  
**RELATÓRIO DE CARREGAMENTO DESCENDENTE**  
Downhole benching loading report

Data 11/05/22  
Equipa A/C B

BANCADA 1720SZ027 PISO 1070

EXPLOSIVOS	I-KON						20mts	40mts	60mts	Cordão det. 200m	Cabo harness
	Powerpac 60x500 (1.563kg/cartucho) 1cx=16 cartuchos	Magnafrac 60x500 (1.705kg/cartucho) 1cx=14 cartuchos	Pulsar 60x500 (1.785kg/cartucho) 1cx=14 cartuchos	Powerpac 75x500 (2.273kg/cartucho) 1cx=11 cartuchos	Magnafrac 75x500 (2.5kg/cartucho) 1cx=10 cartuchos	Pulsar 75x500 (2.5kg/cartucho) 1cx=10 cartuchos					
Levantado (ET)	—	34 cx	10 cx	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	400m
Devolvido (ET)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Consumido (BANCADA)	—	34 cx	10 cx	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	400m

**DIAGRAMA DE CARREGAMENTO**  
ID FUROS

**LEGENDA**

Tempo/delay (ms)

Compr. real (m)

Explosivos (p/cx)

Diã (m)

Explosivos (p/cx)

**Legend**

- Time delay (ms)
- Blast hole length (m)
- Quantity and type of packaged explosives

Ring number

ID FIADAS

Observações:

Chefe de equipa

# Annex B - Database containing information relative to production blasts and respective monitored events

Database compiling information relative to the considered monitored events:

Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Date	Monitored structure	Scope	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm/s per day)	Maximum charge (kg)	Delay between adjacent holes (ms)	Operational scenario	Initiation pattern/grainity	Distance (m)	Orientation	Type of blast
05/02/2018	G	F41852038A	33.0	0.58	17.9	50	WOD	Spiral	473	N-S	Downhole
05/02/2018	I	F41852038A	54.3	0.64	17.9	50	WOD	Spiral	447	E-W	Downhole
05/02/2018	G	F41852038A	94.3	0.3	18.0	50	WOD	Spiral	421	N-S	Uphole
05/02/2018	G	F41852038A	145.3	0.3	18.0	50	WOD	Spiral	430	N-S	Uphole
05/03/2018	G	F41852044	74.3	1.70	64.3	50	WOD	Parallel	449	N-S	Uphole
05/03/2018	G	F41852044	94.3	0.64	64.3	50	WOD	Parallel	366	N-S	Uphole
05/03/2018	G	F41852044	148.0	0.58	66.6	50	WOD	Parallel	442	N-S	Downhole
05/03/2018	G	F41852044	193.0	0.66	66.6	50	WOD	Parallel	367	N-S	Uphole
05/03/2018	G	F41852044	240.0	2.70	184.1	50	WOD	Spiral	449	E-W	Downhole
05/03/2018	G	F41852044	285.0	5.63	184.1	50	WOD	Spiral	414	E-W	Downhole
10/03/2018	G	F41852038A	78.8	1.30	56.3	50	WOD	Spiral	463	N-S	Uphole
10/03/2018	G	F41852038A	80.0	2.08	56.3	50	WOD	Spiral	437	E-W	Downhole
14/03/2018	G	F41852028	80.1	6.30	199.9	50	WOD	Parallel	443	E-W	Downhole
14/03/2018	G	F41852028	20.0	3.20	199.9	50	WOD	Parallel	418	E-W	Downhole
16/03/2018	G	F41852038A	59.1	2.50	57.1	50	WOD	Parallel	466	N-S	Downhole
16/03/2018	G	F41852038A	78.3	1.63	57.1	50	WOD	Parallel	436	E-W	Downhole
16/03/2018	G	F41852038A	100.0	3.80	56.9	50	WOD	Parallel	437	E-W	Downhole
16/03/2018	G	F41852038A	133.3	2.70	56.9	50	WOD	Parallel	436	E-W	Downhole
16/03/2018	G	F41852038A	166.7	1.80	56.9	50	WOD	Parallel	436	E-W	Downhole
20/03/2018	G	F41852028	40.0	3.40	184.1	50	WOD	Parallel	451	E-W	Downhole
20/03/2018	G	F41852028	40.0	0.64	184.1	25	WOD	Parallel	514	N-S	Uphole
23/03/2018	G	F41852038A	59.3	3.20	49.2	50	WOD	Parallel	440	E-W	Downhole
23/03/2018	G	F41852038A	38.9	2.20	49.2	50	WOD	Parallel	464	N-S	Downhole
10/04/2018	G	F41852044	20.0	19.0	150.0	50	WD	Spiral	340	N-S	Downhole
10/04/2018	G	F41852044	38.9	1.50	150.0	50	WD	Parallel	435	N-S	Downhole
11/04/2018	G	F41852028	30.3	1.30	21.8	50	WOD	Parallel	482	N-S	Downhole
11/04/2018	G	F41852028	30.3	1.30	21.8	50	WOD	Parallel	482	N-S	Downhole
12/04/2018	G	F41852044	20.0	4.80	200.0	50	WD	Parallel	339	N-S	Downhole
12/04/2018	G	F41852044	40.0	2.70	200.0	25	WOD	Parallel	449	E-W	Uphole
13/04/2018	G	F41852038A	27.5	1.50	80.0	25	WOD	Parallel	478	N-S	Uphole
15/04/2018	G	F41852038A	40.0	1.70	180.0	50	WOD	Parallel	478	N-S	Uphole
15/04/2018	G	F41852038A	20.3	1.70	180.0	50	WOD	Parallel	536	N-S	Downhole
15/04/2018	G	F41852038A	40.0	1.70	180.0	50	WOD	Parallel	536	N-S	Downhole
20/04/2018	G	F41852044	21.3	1.40	111.0	44	WOD	Spiral	377	N-S	Uphole
20/04/2018	G	F41852044	21.3	0.64	111.0	44	WOD	Spiral	666	N-S	Uphole
20/04/2018	I	F41852044	21.3	1.10	161.0	50	WOD	Spiral	543	N-S	Uphole
20/04/2018	I	F41852044	19.9	1.80	151.0	50	WOD	Parallel	379	N-S	Uphole
27/04/2018	G	F41852044	40.0	1.70	151.0	50	WOD	Parallel	463	N-S	Uphole
27/04/2018	G	F41852044	26.8	1.40	151.0	50	WOD	Parallel	473	N-S	Uphole
03/05/2018	J	F41852028	20.3	0.93	194.0	65	WOD	Parallel	542	N-S	Uphole
03/05/2018	J	F41852028	40.0	6.70	194.0	50	WOD	Parallel	358	N-S	Uphole
03/05/2018	G	F41852028	20.0	0.72	194.0	50	WOD	Parallel	664	N-S	Uphole
03/05/2018	G	F41852028	20.0	0.64	60.0	50	WOD	Parallel	544	N-S	Uphole
08/05/2018	J	F41852028	40.0	2.50	60.0	50	WOD	Parallel	374	N-S	Uphole
10/05/2018	J	F41852042	40.0	1.90	50.0	50	WOD	Parallel	520	N-S	Uphole
10/05/2018	J	F41852042	20.0	2.70	50.0	50	WOD	Parallel	520	N-S	Uphole
10/05/2018	J	F41852042	20.0	2.70	50.0	50	WOD	Parallel	520	N-S	Uphole
10/05/2018	J	F41852042	20.0	2.70	50.0	50	WOD	Parallel	520	N-S	Uphole
11/05/2018	J	F41852042	40.3	8.40	201.2	50	WD	Parallel	321	N-S	Downhole
11/05/2018	J	F41852042	20.1	2.90	201.2	50	WD	Parallel	638	N-S	Downhole
16/05/2018	G	F41852048	20.0	0.54	150.0	50	WOD	Parallel	682	N-S	Uphole
16/05/2018	G	F41852048	20.0	2.60	150.0	50	WOD	Parallel	538	N-S	Uphole
16/05/2018	G	F41852048	20.0	0.97	150.0	50	WOD	Parallel	539	N-S	Uphole
16/05/2018	J	F41852048	40.3	3.60	150.0	50	WOD	Parallel	359	N-S	Uphole
16/05/2018	J	F41852048	20.3	0.93	150.0	50	WOD	Parallel	544	N-S	Uphole
16/05/2018	G	F41852048	20.0	0.93	150.0	50	WOD	Parallel	666	N-S	Uphole
16/05/2018	J	F41852048	108.0	7.50	41.1	65	WD	Parallel	435	N-S	Downhole
19/05/2018	J	F41852048	30.8	2.70	41.1	65	WD	Parallel	350	N-S	Downhole
19/05/2018	G	F41852048	30.8	2.00	41.1	65	WD	Parallel	652	N-S	Downhole
21/05/2018	J	F41852038A	20.0	1.00	160.0	50	WOD	Parallel	477	N-S	Uphole
21/05/2018	J	F41852038A	60.0	0.98	160.0	50	WOD	Parallel	476	N-S	Uphole
21/05/2018	J	F41852038A	20.0	1.10	160.0	50	WOD	Parallel	476	N-S	Uphole
21/05/2018	J	F41852038A	20.0	1.10	160.0	50	WOD	Parallel	476	N-S	Uphole
24/05/2018	J	F41852042	30.8	1.70	150.0	65	WD	Spiral	497	N-S	Uphole
24/05/2018	J	F41852042	15.4	4.80	150.0	65	WD	Spiral	340	N-S	Downhole
24/05/2018	G	F41852042	30.3	2.80	150.0	65	WD	Spiral	657	N-S	Uphole
25/05/2018	J	F41852038A	20.0	1.20	217.0	50	WOD	Parallel	449	E-W	Uphole
25/05/2018	J	F41852038A	23.3	4.40	217.0	50	WOD	Parallel	463	N-S	Uphole
26/05/2018	J	F41852038A	20.0	3.60	217.0	50	WOD	Parallel	478	N-S	Uphole
26/05/2018	J	F41852048	18.8	3.20	150.0	50	WOD	Parallel	463	N-S	Uphole
26/05/2018	G	F41852048	20.1	4.40	150.0	50	WOD	Parallel	478	N-S	Uphole
26/05/2018	G	F41852048	20.1	3.80	150.0	50	WOD	Parallel	381	N-S	Downhole
26/05/2018	J	F41852048	60.0	5.14	173.0	50	WOD	Spiral	469	N-S	Uphole
26/05/2018	J	F41852048	60.0	2.00	173.0	50	WOD	Spiral	384	N-S	Uphole
26/05/2018	J	F41852048	38.3	1.90	173.0	50	WOD	Spiral	469	N-S	Uphole
26/05/2018	J	F41852048	20.1	1.30	250.0	50	WOD	Parallel	411	N-S	Downhole

Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Date	Monitored structure	Orientation	Distance (m)	Initiation pattern geometry	Operational scenario	Delay between adjacent holes (ms)	Maximum charge per delay (kg)	PVS (mm <sup>2</sup> )	Maximum charge per delay (kg)	Delay between adjacent holes (ms)	Operational scenario	Initiation pattern geometry	Distance (m)	Orientation	Type of blast
21/07/2018	G	N-S	525	Parallel	WD	50	51.6	0.884	51.6	50	WD	Parallel	525	N-S	Up-hole
21/07/2018	G	N-S	504	Parallel	WD	50	97.3	1.370	97.3	50	WD	Parallel	504	N-S	Up-hole
26/07/2018	G	N-S	391	Parallel	WD	65	97.3	2.460	97.3	65	WD	Parallel	391	N-S	Up-hole
26/07/2018	G	N-S	635	Spiral	WD	65	175.0	2.000	175.0	65	WD	Spiral	635	N-S	Up-hole
26/07/2018	G	N-S	531	Parallel	WD	65	175.0	2.540	175.0	65	WD	Parallel	531	N-S	Up-hole
27/07/2018	G	N-S	551	Parallel	WD	65	103.4	2.290	103.4	65	WD	Parallel	551	N-S	Up-hole
27/07/2018	G	N-S	432	Parallel	WD	50	103.4	3.150	103.4	50	WD	Parallel	432	N-S	Up-hole
28/07/2018	G	N-S	489	Parallel	WD	50	121.6	2.460	121.6	50	WD	Parallel	489	N-S	Up-hole
28/07/2018	G	N-S	705	Parallel	WOD	50	161.0	3.850	161.0	50	WOD	Parallel	705	N-S	Up-hole
01/08/2018	G	N-S	582	Parallel	WD	50	161.0	1.020	161.0	50	WD	Parallel	582	N-S	Up-hole
02/08/2018	I	N-S	387	Parallel	WD	50	3.860	1.250	3.860	50	WD	Parallel	387	N-S	Up-hole
02/08/2018	J	N-S	487	Parallel	WD	50	2.250	2.250	2.250	50	WD	Parallel	487	N-S	Up-hole
02/08/2018	K	N-S	450	Parallel	WD	50	2.250	2.250	2.250	50	WD	Parallel	450	N-S	Up-hole
02/08/2018	L	N-S	415	Parallel	WD	50	2.250	2.250	2.250	50	WD	Parallel	415	N-S	Up-hole
03/08/2018	G	N-S	463	Parallel	WD	50	190.0	1.130	190.0	50	WD	Parallel	463	N-S	Up-hole
03/08/2018	H	N-S	675	Parallel	WD	50	190.0	0.807	190.0	50	WD	Parallel	675	N-S	Up-hole
05/08/2018	G	N-S	620	Spiral	WD	50	145.0	1.360	145.0	50	WD	Spiral	620	N-S	Up-hole
05/08/2018	G	N-S	721	Spiral	WD	50	145.0	0.741	145.0	50	WD	Spiral	721	N-S	Up-hole
05/08/2018	J	E-W	369	Spiral	WOD	50	5.710	2.000	5.710	50	WOD	Spiral	369	E-W	Up-hole
06/08/2018	I	E-W	585	Parallel	WOD	50	144.0	0.859	144.0	50	WOD	Parallel	585	N-S	Up-hole
06/08/2018	J	E-W	706	Parallel	WOD	50	144.0	0.884	144.0	50	WOD	Parallel	706	N-S	Up-hole
06/08/2018	K	E-W	386	Parallel	WOD	50	144.0	4.820	144.0	50	WOD	Parallel	386	E-W	Up-hole
07/08/2018	J	N-S	534	Parallel	WD	50	53.6	1.460	53.6	50	WD	Parallel	534	N-S	Downhole
07/08/2018	J	N-S	438	Parallel	WD	50	53.6	3.880	53.6	50	WD	Parallel	438	N-S	Downhole
08/08/2018	G	N-S	638	Parallel	WD	50	53.6	1.460	53.6	50	WD	Parallel	638	N-S	Downhole
08/08/2018	G	N-S	385	Parallel	WD	50	111.4	3.250	111.4	50	WD	Parallel	385	N-S	Up-hole
08/08/2018	G	N-S	492	Parallel	WD	50	111.4	2.380	111.4	50	WD	Parallel	492	N-S	Up-hole
08/08/2018	G	N-S	390	Parallel	WD	50	111.4	3.660	111.4	50	WD	Parallel	390	N-S	Up-hole
08/08/2018	G	N-S	724	Spiral	WD	50	8.623	1.450	8.623	50	WD	Spiral	724	N-S	Up-hole
08/08/2018	G	N-S	603	Spiral	WD	50	145.0	0.833	145.0	50	WD	Spiral	603	N-S	Up-hole
08/08/2018	J	E-W	370	Spiral	WOD	50	6.240	2.250	6.240	50	WOD	Spiral	370	E-W	Up-hole
08/08/2018	K	E-W	619	Parallel	WOD	50	134.0	4.390	134.0	50	WOD	Parallel	619	N-S	Up-hole
10/08/2018	G	N-S	444	Parallel	WOD	50	134.0	0.864	134.0	50	WOD	Parallel	444	N-S	Up-hole
10/08/2018	J	N-S	355	Parallel	WOD	50	134.0	4.440	134.0	50	WOD	Parallel	355	N-S	Up-hole
11/08/2018	G	N-S	690	Spiral	WD	65	135.0	0.848	135.0	65	WD	Spiral	690	N-S	Up-hole
11/08/2018	G	N-S	562	Spiral	WD	65	135.0	1.250	135.0	65	WD	Spiral	562	N-S	Up-hole
11/08/2018	J	N-S	327	Spiral	WD	65	276.0	1.250	276.0	65	WD	Spiral	327	E-W	Up-hole
14/08/2018	G	N-S	371	Parallel	WOD	50	276.0	4.760	276.0	50	WOD	Parallel	371	E-W	Up-hole
14/08/2018	G	N-S	729	Parallel	WOD	50	276.0	1.180	276.0	50	WOD	Parallel	729	E-W	Up-hole
14/08/2018	G	N-S	608	Parallel	WOD	50	276.0	3.000	276.0	50	WOD	Parallel	608	N-S	Up-hole
15/08/2018	J	N-S	685	Spiral	WD	65	252.5	3.220	252.5	65	WD	Spiral	685	N-S	Downhole
15/08/2018	G	N-S	441	Parallel	WD	65	252.5	3.670	252.5	65	WD	Parallel	441	E-W	Downhole
15/08/2018	G	N-S	399	Spiral	WD	65	252.5	1.500	252.5	65	WD	Spiral	399	N-S	Up-hole
16/08/2018	G	N-S	641	Parallel	WD	50	95.5	1.830	95.5	50	WD	Parallel	641	N-S	Downhole
16/08/2018	G	N-S	437	Parallel	WD	50	95.5	2.850	95.5	50	WD	Parallel	437	N-S	Downhole
16/08/2018	G	N-S	536	Parallel	WD	50	95.5	1.490	95.5	50	WD	Parallel	536	N-S	Downhole
17/08/2018	G	N-S	436	Parallel	WD	50	208.8	2.830	208.8	50	WD	Parallel	436	E-W	Downhole
17/08/2018	G	N-S	655	Parallel	WD	50	208.8	1.630	208.8	50	WD	Parallel	655	N-S	Downhole
17/08/2018	G	N-S	652	Parallel	WD	50	208.8	3.520	208.8	50	WD	Parallel	652	N-S	Downhole
18/08/2018	J	E-W	329	Parallel	WOD	50	79.6	4.000	79.6	50	WOD	Parallel	329	E-W	Downhole
18/08/2018	J	E-W	563	Parallel	WOD	50	79.6	1.110	79.6	50	WOD	Parallel	563	N-S	Downhole
20/08/2018	G	N-S	712	Spiral	WD	50	232.5	1.910	232.5	50	WD	Spiral	712	N-S	Up-hole
20/08/2018	J	N-S	333	Spiral	WD	50	232.5	11.300	232.5	50	WD	Spiral	333	E-W	Downhole
20/08/2018	G	N-S	585	Parallel	WD	50	100.0	1.400	100.0	50	WD	Parallel	585	N-S	Up-hole
22/08/2018	G	N-S	638	Parallel	WD	50	100.0	2.800	100.0	50	WD	Parallel	638	N-S	Up-hole
22/08/2018	J	N-S	437	Parallel	WD	50	100.0	1.000	100.0	50	WD	Parallel	437	N-S	Downhole
22/08/2018	G	N-S	533	Parallel	WD	50	100.0	1.360	100.0	50	WD	Parallel	533	N-S	Downhole
22/08/2018	G	N-S	440	Parallel	WD	50	113.3	1.440	113.3	50	WD	Parallel	440	E-W	Downhole
23/08/2018	J	N-S	695	Parallel	WD	50	113.3	1.830	113.3	50	WD	Parallel	695	N-S	Downhole
23/08/2018	J	N-S	395	Parallel	WD	50	113.3	3.850	113.3	50	WD	Parallel	395	E-W	Downhole
24/08/2018	G	N-S	695	Parallel	WD	50	105.2	1.824	105.2	50	WD	Parallel	695	N-S	Downhole
24/08/2018	G	N-S	327	Parallel	WD	50	105.2	4.180	105.2	50	WD	Parallel	327	E-W	Downhole
24/08/2018	G	N-S	567	Parallel	WD	50	105.2	1.000	105.2	50	WD	Parallel	567	N-S	Downhole
24/08/2018	G	N-S	536	Parallel	WD	50	120.5	2.250	120.5	50	WD	Parallel	536	N-S	Downhole
24/08/2018	J	N-S	361	Parallel	WD	50	120.5	2.860	120.5	50	WD	Parallel	361	N-S	Downhole
24/08/2018	J	N-S	416	Parallel	WD	50	120.5	3.100	120.5	50	WD	Parallel	416	N-S	Downhole
28/08/2018	G	N-S	484	Spiral	WOD	65	152.0	2.800	152.0	65	WOD	Spiral	484	N-S	Up-hole
28/08/2018	G	N-S	454	Spiral	WOD	65	152.0	3.190	152.0	65	WOD	Spiral	454	N-S	Up-hole
28/08/2018	J	N-S	372	Spiral	WOD	65	152.0	3.960	152.0	65	WOD	Spiral	372	N-S	Downhole
31/08/2018	G	N-S	484	Parallel	WD	50	113.9	2.860	113.9	50	WD	Parallel	484	N-S	Downhole
31/08/2018	G	N-S	482	Parallel	WD	50	113.9	3.860	113.9	50	WD	Parallel	482	N-S	Downhole
31/08/2018	G	N-S	373	Parallel	WD	50	113.9	4.310	113.9	50	WD	Parallel	373	N-S	Downhole
02/09/2018	G	N-S	462	Parallel	WD	50	150.0	3.190	150.0	50	WD	Parallel	462	N-S	Downhole
02/09/2018	G	N-S	310	Parallel	WD	50	150.0	3.310	150.0	50	WD	Parallel	310	N-S	Downhole
02/09/2018	G	N-S	372	Parallel	WD	50	150.0	4.800	150.0	50	WD	Parallel	372	N-S	Downhole
03/09/2018	G	N-S	501	Spiral	WD	50	162.0	1.490	162.0	50	WD	Spiral	501	N-S	Downhole
03/09/2018	J	N-S	431	Parallel	WD	50	162.0	2.410	162.0	50	WD	Parallel	431	N-S	Downhole

Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Date	Monitored structure	Step	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	Maximum charge per delay (kg)	Delay between adjacent holes (ms)	Operational scenario	Initiation pattern geometry	Distance (m)	Orientation	Type of blast
04/10/2018	J	F27052064	50.6	1,200	254.6	50	WD	Parallel	629	N-S	Downhole
04/10/2018	G	F27052064	50.6	1,200	254.6	50	WD	Parallel	290	N-S	Downhole
04/10/2018	J	F27052064	50.6	1,200	254.6	50	WD	Parallel	290	N-S	Downhole
04/10/2018	B	F43052068	40.0	1,620	109.0	50	WOD	Parallel	568	N-S	Up-hole
08/10/2018	J	F43052068	40.0	1,620	109.0	50	WOD	Parallel	495	N-S	Up-hole
08/10/2018	J	F43052068	60.0	0,920	109.0	50	WOD	Parallel	643	N-S	Up-hole
08/10/2018	J	F43052068	60.0	0,920	109.0	50	WOD	Parallel	453	E-W	Up-hole
08/10/2018	J	F43052064	66.0	1,340	131.8	50	WD	Parallel	280	N-S	Downhole
08/10/2018	G	F27052064	20.0	1,370	131.8	50	WD	Parallel	630	N-S	Downhole
08/10/2018	G	F27052064	20.0	2,630	131.8	50	WD	Parallel	483	N-S	Downhole
10/10/2018	G	F43052068	40.0	0,780	109.0	50	WOD	Parallel	489	N-S	Up-hole
10/10/2018	G	F43052068	40.0	1,730	109.0	50	WOD	Parallel	689	N-S	Up-hole
10/10/2018	G	F43052068	60.0	2,330	109.0	50	WOD	Parallel	484	E-W	Up-hole
10/10/2018	G	F43052068	60.0	2,330	109.0	50	WOD	Parallel	484	E-W	Up-hole
11/10/2018	J	F31052062	20.0	4,200	120.5	50	WOD	Parallel	372	N-S	Downhole
11/10/2018	J	F31052062	20.0	4,200	120.5	50	WOD	Parallel	403	N-S	Downhole
11/10/2018	J	F31052068	59.9	3,660	120.5	50	WOD	Parallel	403	N-S	Downhole
11/10/2018	J	F31052068	30.8	1,750	193.0	65	WOD	Spiral	568	N-S	Up-hole
13/10/2018	J	F31052068	64.8	7,860	193.0	65	WOD	Spiral	381	E-W	Up-hole
15/10/2018	J	F31052068	31.0	1,020	114.0	50	WOD	Parallel	674	N-S	Up-hole
15/10/2018	J	F31052068	30.8	1,090	114.0	50	WOD	Parallel	563	N-S	Up-hole
15/10/2018	J	F31052068	41.8	4,270	114.0	50	WOD	Parallel	360	E-W	Up-hole
17/10/2018	J	F27052068	20.0	1,480	200.0	50	WOD	Parallel	562	N-S	Up-hole
18/10/2018	J	F27052064	66.1	12,000	148.7	50	WD	Parallel	280	N-S	Downhole
18/10/2018	G	F27052064	20.0	0,950	148.7	50	WD	Parallel	625	N-S	Downhole
18/10/2018	G	F27052064	20.0	1,910	148.7	50	WD	Parallel	488	N-S	Downhole
18/10/2018	J	F43052068	106.0	0,880	44.6	50	WOD	Parallel	779	N-S	Downhole
18/10/2018	J	F43052068	20.1	0,807	114.0	50	WOD	Parallel	689	N-S	Downhole
18/10/2018	G	F43052068	60.0	2,010	114.0	50	WOD	Parallel	488	E-W	Up-hole
18/10/2018	G	F43052068	60.0	2,010	114.0	50	WOD	Parallel	488	E-W	Up-hole
20/10/2018	G	F31052062	102.0	3,480	137.5	50	WOD	Parallel	402	N-S	Downhole
20/10/2018	G	F31052062	20.0	2,380	137.5	50	WOD	Parallel	479	N-S	Downhole
20/10/2018	G	F31052062	20.0	2,380	137.5	50	WOD	Parallel	479	N-S	Downhole
20/10/2018	G	F43052068	20.0	0,882	26.6	50	WOD	Spiral	510	E-W	Up-hole
20/10/2018	G	F43052068	20.0	0,882	26.6	50	WOD	Spiral	509	E-W	Up-hole
24/10/2018	G	F43052068	40.1	1,470	112.5	50	WOD	Spiral	509	E-W	Up-hole
24/10/2018	G	F43052068	80.0	1,280	112.5	50	WOD	Spiral	509	E-W	Up-hole
25/10/2018	J	F31052068	20.0	5,200	188.0	50	WOD	Parallel	368	E-W	Up-hole
25/10/2018	J	F31052068	20.0	1,090	188.0	50	WOD	Parallel	679	N-S	Up-hole
25/10/2018	J	F31052068	20.0	1,110	188.0	50	WOD	Parallel	566	N-S	Up-hole
28/10/2018	G	F43052064	26.8	2,730	65.9	50	WOD	Parallel	467	N-S	Downhole
28/10/2018	I	F43052064	20.0	4,120	65.9	50	WD	Parallel	413	N-S	Downhole
28/10/2018	I	F43052064	109.0	1,330	65.9	50	WD	Parallel	413	N-S	Downhole
27/10/2018	G	F31052064	27.8	2,160	138.7	50	WOD	Parallel	452	N-S	Downhole
27/10/2018	I	F31052064	19.8	3,070	138.7	50	WOD	Parallel	350	N-S	Downhole
27/10/2018	I	F31052064	99.9	2,250	138.7	50	WOD	Parallel	350	N-S	Downhole
28/10/2018	G	F43052068	20.0	1,370	62.5	50	WOD	Parallel	527	E-W	Up-hole
30/10/2018	G	F31052068	26.8	1,000	95.0	50	WOD	Parallel	683	N-S	Up-hole
30/10/2018	G	F31052068	30.8	1,500	95.0	50	WOD	Parallel	683	N-S	Up-hole
30/10/2018	G	F43052068	40.0	1,750	120.5	50	WOD	Parallel	509	N-S	Downhole
30/10/2018	G	F43052068	40.0	1,750	120.5	50	WOD	Parallel	509	N-S	Downhole
01/11/2018	G	F43052068	12.5	1,510	193.0	50	WOD	Spiral	636	N-S	Up-hole
01/11/2018	I	F43052068	30.5	1,980	193.0	50	WOD	Spiral	541	N-S	Up-hole
01/11/2018	I	F43052068	40.1	3,210	193.0	50	WOD	Spiral	541	N-S	Up-hole
02/11/2018	G	F43052068	40.1	1,950	90.9	50	WOD	Parallel	524	E-W	Up-hole
02/11/2018	G	F43052068	20.0	1,330	90.9	50	WOD	Parallel	503	E-W	Up-hole
03/11/2018	I	F43052064	20.0	2,110	170.0	50	WOD	Parallel	448	N-S	Up-hole
04/11/2018	G	F31052064	25.8	3,780	120.5	50	WOD	Parallel	463	N-S	Downhole
04/11/2018	I	F31052064	19.8	6,690	120.5	50	WD	Parallel	351	N-S	Downhole
08/11/2018	G	F31052064	19.8	2,290	120.5	50	WOD	Parallel	351	N-S	Downhole
08/11/2018	G	F43052068	60.0	2,340	150.0	50	WOD	Parallel	520	E-W	Up-hole
08/11/2018	G	F43052068	60.0	1,480	150.0	50	WOD	Parallel	487	E-W	Up-hole
08/11/2018	G	F43052068	60.0	1,480	150.0	50	WOD	Parallel	487	E-W	Up-hole
08/11/2018	J	F43052064	20.0	2,300	110.2	50	WD	Parallel	458	N-S	Downhole
08/11/2018	J	F43052064	20.0	2,880	110.2	50	WD	Parallel	413	N-S	Downhole
12/11/2018	G	F31052064	20.0	2,350	147.7	50	WOD	Parallel	489	N-S	Downhole
12/11/2018	G	F31052064	20.0	4,070	147.7	50	WOD	Parallel	384	N-S	Downhole
14/11/2018	G	F43052068	40.0	1,648	64.6	50	WOD	Parallel	321	E-W	Up-hole
14/11/2018	G	F43052068	40.0	1,648	64.6	50	WOD	Parallel	321	E-W	Up-hole
16/11/2018	J	F43052068	40.1	2,240	122.0	50	WOD	Parallel	482	N-S	Up-hole
16/11/2018	J	F43052068	30.8	0,813	122.0	50	WOD	Parallel	637	N-S	Up-hole
16/11/2018	J	F43052068	30.8	0,978	122.0	50	WOD	Parallel	543	N-S	Up-hole
16/11/2018	J	F43052068	46.1	2,780	191.0	50	WOD	Parallel	480	N-S	Up-hole
17/11/2018	I	F43052068	30.8	1,530	191.0	50	WOD	Parallel	641	N-S	Up-hole
18/11/2018	J	F43052068	30.8	1,910	191.0	50	WOD	Parallel	546	N-S	Up-hole
18/11/2018	J	F31052068	20.0	2,260	64.1	50	WOD	Parallel	323	E-W	Downhole
18/11/2018	J	F31052068	20.0	0,648	64.1	50	WOD	Parallel	673	N-S	Downhole
18/11/2018	J	F31052068	20.0	0,648	64.1	50	WOD	Parallel	544	N-S	Downhole
18/11/2018	J	F31052068	20.0	0,916	64.1	50	WOD	Parallel	446	N-S	Downhole
20/11/2018	J	F31052068	20.0	1,470	125.0	50	WOD	Parallel	446	N-S	Downhole

Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Date	Monitored structure	Step	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	Maximum charge per delay (kg)	Delay between adjacent holes (ms)	Operational scenario	Initiation pattern geometry	Distance (m)	Orientation	Type of blast
08/01/2019	J	F310S2043	30.8	5.070	181.0	65	WOD	Spiral	372	N-S	Up-hole
09/01/2019	J	F310S2043	15.3	1.910	78.4	50	WOD	Spiral	507	N-S	Up-hole
10/01/2019	G	F270S2074	20.0	0.524	78.4	50	WOD	Parallel	737	N-S	Downhole
10/01/2019	G	F270S2074	20.0	1.140	78.4	50	WOD	Parallel	603	N-S	Downhole
11/01/2019	J	F270S2074	40.0	4.730	78.4	50	WOD	Parallel	302	E-W	Downhole
11/01/2019	J	F310S2050	21.5	1.980	125.0	65	WOD	Spiral	471	N-S	Downhole
11/01/2019	J	F310S2050	48.8	3.280	125.0	65	WOD	Spiral	363	N-S	Downhole
11/01/2019	J	F310S2050	49.8	1.750	125.0	65	WOD	Spiral	418	N-S	Downhole
12/01/2019	G	F270S2054	20.3	2.170	204.0	50	WOD	Parallel	595	N-S	Up-hole
12/01/2019	G	F270S2054	20.3	2.410	204.0	50	WOD	Parallel	380	N-S	Up-hole
12/01/2019	J	F310S2054	44.9	3.080	204.0	50	WOD	Parallel	374	N-S	Up-hole
12/01/2019	J	F310S2050	31.0	2.440	86.0	65	WOD	Parallel	416	N-S	Downhole
12/01/2019	J	F310S2050	31.0	3.640	86.0	65	WOD	Parallel	485	N-S	Downhole
12/01/2019	J	F310S2050	31.0	3.640	86.0	65	WOD	Parallel	485	N-S	Downhole
08/01/2019	G	F270S2066	40.1	6.890	193.4	50	WOD	Parallel	277	N-S	Downhole
08/01/2019	G	F270S2066	40.1	6.890	193.4	50	WOD	Parallel	277	N-S	Downhole
18/01/2019	J	F270S2066	20.0	2.420	103.4	50	WOD	Parallel	510	N-S	Downhole
18/01/2019	J	F270S2066	20.0	0.933	103.4	50	WOD	Parallel	648	N-S	Downhole
18/01/2019	J	F410S2040A	40.0	0.860	105.0	50	WOD	Parallel	711	N-S	Downhole
18/01/2019	J	F410S2040A	40.0	1.440	105.0	50	WOD	Parallel	482	E-W	Up-hole
18/01/2019	G	F410S2040A	59.9	1.260	105.0	50	WOD	Parallel	517	E-W	Up-hole
18/01/2019	G	F310S2032	31.0	0.933	205.0	65	WOD	Spiral	629	N-S	Up-hole
18/01/2019	G	F310S2032	16.5	2.200	205.0	65	WOD	Spiral	399	E-W	Up-hole
18/01/2019	G	F310S2032	16.4	1.610	205.0	65	WOD	Spiral	483	E-W	Up-hole
20/01/2019	J	F310S2030	40.1	0.751	170.0	50	WOD	Spiral	642	N-S	Downhole
20/01/2019	J	F310S2030	19.8	2.680	170.0	50	WOD	Spiral	384	E-W	Downhole
20/01/2019	G	F310S2030	19.8	1.200	170.0	50	WOD	Spiral	432	E-W	Downhole
21/01/2019	G	F310S2050	20.1	2.680	158.0	50	WOD	Parallel	411	N-S	Downhole
21/01/2019	G	F310S2050	20.1	3.400	158.0	50	WOD	Parallel	388	N-S	Downhole
21/01/2019	G	F310S2050	20.1	1.400	158.0	50	WOD	Parallel	478	N-S	Downhole
23/01/2019	G	F310S2043	20.0	5.280	185.0	65	WOD	Parallel	389	N-S	Downhole
23/01/2019	G	F310S2043	20.0	3.150	185.0	65	WOD	Parallel	455	N-S	Downhole
23/01/2019	G	F310S2043	20.0	1.850	185.0	65	WOD	Parallel	467	N-S	Downhole
24/01/2019	G	F270S2064	40.0	1.680	174.0	50	WOD	Parallel	379	N-S	Up-hole
24/01/2019	J	F270S2064	40.0	2.920	174.0	50	WOD	Parallel	611	N-S	Downhole
24/01/2019	J	F270S2064	20.0	2.320	174.0	50	WOD	Parallel	384	N-S	Up-hole
24/01/2019	J	F310S2030	40.0	1.050	114.8	60	WOD	Parallel	639	N-S	Downhole
27/01/2019	J	F310S2030	20.0	3.470	114.8	60	WOD	Parallel	387	E-W	Downhole
28/01/2019	J	F310S2030	20.0	1.090	114.8	60	WOD	Parallel	438	E-W	Downhole
28/01/2019	J	F410S2060	33.4	3.030	89.8	60	WOD	Parallel	444	N-S	Downhole
28/01/2019	J	F410S2060	16.8	2.540	89.8	60	WOD	Parallel	515	N-S	Downhole
28/01/2019	J	F410S2060	16.8	1.370	89.8	60	WOD	Parallel	618	N-S	Downhole
30/01/2019	J	F410S2064	20.0	0.950	68.4	50	WOD	Parallel	487	N-S	Downhole
30/01/2019	J	F410S2064	20.0	1.200	68.4	50	WOD	Parallel	464	N-S	Downhole
30/01/2019	J	F410S2064	20.0	1.080	68.4	50	WOD	Parallel	547	N-S	Downhole
31/01/2019	J	F310S2050	40.0	2.680	82.3	50	WOD	Parallel	417	N-S	Downhole
31/01/2019	J	F310S2050	20.0	3.330	82.3	50	WOD	Parallel	382	N-S	Downhole
31/01/2019	J	F310S2050	40.0	1.840	82.3	50	WOD	Parallel	488	N-S	Downhole
01/02/2019	J	F270S2064	40.0	2.450	119.0	65	WOD	Parallel	383	N-S	Up-hole
01/02/2019	J	F270S2064	40.0	2.450	119.0	65	WOD	Parallel	380	N-S	Up-hole
02/02/2019	G	F270S2074	40.1	4.340	67.1	50	WOD	Parallel	301	E-W	Downhole
02/02/2019	J	F270S2074	30.3	1.170	67.1	50	WOD	Parallel	605	N-S	Downhole
04/02/2019	J	F310S2032	30.8	1.030	181.0	65	WOD	Parallel	628	N-S	Downhole
04/02/2019	J	F310S2032	15.4	1.570	181.0	65	WOD	Parallel	397	E-W	Downhole
05/02/2019	G	F310S2032	20.0	1.200	80.7	50	WOD	Parallel	442	E-W	Downhole
05/02/2019	J	F310S2030	20.0	3.910	80.7	50	WOD	Parallel	389	E-W	Downhole
06/02/2019	J	F310S2030	40.0	0.978	80.7	50	WOD	Parallel	637	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2019	J	F410S2040A	15.5	2.300	174.0	50	WOD	Spiral	447	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2019	J	F410S2040A	61.6	1.980	174.0	50	WOD	Spiral	476	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2019	J	F410S2040A	30.9	1.160	174.0	50	WOD	Spiral	643	N-S	Downhole
07/02/2019	G	F270S2072	31.0	1.670	197.0	65	WOD	Parallel	582	N-S	Up-hole
07/02/2019	G	F270S2072	24.5	0.898	197.0	65	WOD	Parallel	710	N-S	Up-hole
08/02/2019	J	F310S2050	20.0	3.540	97.0	50	WOD	Parallel	325	E-W	Downhole
08/02/2019	J	F310S2050	20.0	3.690	97.0	50	WOD	Parallel	380	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2019	J	F310S2050	40.0	1.620	61.8	65	WOD	Parallel	485	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2019	J	F310S2050	40.0	2.430	61.8	65	WOD	Parallel	485	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2019	J	F310S2050	40.0	2.450	61.8	65	WOD	Parallel	485	N-S	Downhole
09/02/2019	G	F270S2064	60.0	4.450	136.4	50	WOD	Spiral	478	N-S	Downhole
09/02/2019	J	F270S2064	40.0	4.450	136.4	50	WOD	Spiral	384	N-S	Downhole
10/02/2019	G	F410S2040A	60.0	2.360	165.0	50	WOD	Parallel	446	E-W	Downhole
10/02/2019	G	F410S2040A	60.0	2.360	165.0	50	WOD	Parallel	477	E-W	Downhole
10/02/2019	J	F410S2040A	40.1	1.030	165.0	50	WOD	Parallel	637	N-S	Up-hole
10/02/2019	J	F270S2072	33.5	1.030	133.0	60	WOD	Parallel	595	N-S	Up-hole
12/02/2019	J	F270S2072	33.4	0.718	133.0	60	WOD	Parallel	713	N-S	Up-hole
12/02/2019	J	F270S2072	66.6	4.330	133.0	60	WOD	Parallel	327	E-W	Up-hole
13/02/2019	G	F270S2062	15.5	1.090	162.0	65	WOD	Spiral	375	N-S	Downhole
13/02/2019	G	F270S2062	46.0	1.090	162.0	65	WOD	Spiral	489	N-S	Downhole

Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Date	Monitored structure	Step	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm s <sup>-2</sup> )	Maximum charge per delay (kg)	Delay between adjacent holes (ms)	Operational scenario	Initiation pattern geometry	Distance (m)	Orientation	Type of blast
28/03/2019	G	F370S2066	40.1	2.440	143.2	50	WD	Parallel	517	N-S	Downhole
29/03/2019	J	F370S2066	40.1	6.430	143.2	50	WD	Parallel	517	N-S	Downhole
30/03/2019	J	F410S2042	39.8	1.380	172.0	50	WD	Parallel	518	E-W	Up-hole
03/04/2019	J	F370S2064	20.0	4.450	105.0	50	WD	Parallel	382	N-S	Downhole
03/04/2019	J	F370S2064	20.0	0.889	105.0	50	WD	Parallel	638	N-S	Downhole
03/04/2019	I	F370S2064	20.0	1.440	105.0	50	WD	Parallel	524	N-S	Downhole
04/04/2019	I	F370S2064	19.9	1.110	157.0	50	WD	Parallel	515	E-W	Up-hole
04/04/2019	I	F370S2064	29.8	1.310	157.0	50	WD	Parallel	481	E-W	Up-hole
05/04/2019	J	F370S2064	60.0	2.080	183.0	50	WD	Spiral	486	N-S	Up-hole
05/04/2019	J	F370S2064	60.0	2.610	183.0	50	WD	Spiral	536	N-S	Up-hole
08/04/2019	J	F370S2064	40.0	3.220	186.0	50	WD	Parallel	481	N-S	Up-hole
08/04/2019	G	F370S2064	39.9	2.280	186.0	50	WD	Parallel	484	N-S	Up-hole
08/04/2019	G	F370S2064	40.0	1.380	186.0	50	WD	Parallel	484	N-S	Up-hole
09/04/2019	G	F370S2064	40.0	1.400	186.0	50	WD	Parallel	515	E-W	Up-hole
09/04/2019	G	F370S2064	40.0	1.380	186.0	50	WD	Parallel	490	E-W	Up-hole
11/04/2019	G	F410S2042	20.0	3.180	160.2	50	WD	Parallel	466	N-S	Downhole
11/04/2019	G	F410S2042	20.0	3.510	160.2	50	WD	Parallel	413	E-W	Downhole
12/04/2019	G	F370S2064	40.0	1.450	146.0	50	WD	Parallel	539	N-S	Up-hole
13/04/2019	I	F270S2070	60.0	1.730	146.0	50	WD	Parallel	465	N-S	Up-hole
13/04/2019	I	F270S2070	60.0	1.020	150.0	50	WD	Spiral	453	E-W	Downhole
14/04/2019	I	F270S2070	28.5	1.780	150.0	50	WD	Parallel	542	N-S	Downhole
14/04/2019	I	F270S2062	20.0	1.930	118.2	50	WD	Parallel	488	N-S	Downhole
14/04/2019	I	F270S2062	20.0	3.770	143.2	50	WD	Parallel	347	N-S	Downhole
18/04/2019	I	F370S2064	20.0	2.670	143.2	50	WD	Parallel	366	E-W	Downhole
18/04/2019	J	F370S2064	40.1	1.770	143.2	50	WD	Parallel	436	N-S	Downhole
20/04/2019	J	F270S2070	40.1	6.750	156.8	50	WD	Parallel	285	E-W	Downhole
20/04/2019	I	F270S2070	21.0	1.230	156.8	50	WD	Parallel	550	N-S	Downhole
20/04/2019	J	F370S2064	20.0	0.884	156.8	50	WD	Parallel	684	N-S	Downhole
21/04/2019	J	F370S2064	20.0	1.090	217.8	50	WD	Spiral	748	N-S	Downhole
21/04/2019	J	F370S2064	29.3	4.280	217.8	50	WD	Spiral	474	E-W	Downhole
21/04/2019	J	F370S2064	29.3	1.870	217.8	50	WD	Spiral	360	N-S	Downhole
21/04/2019	J	F370S2066	43.4	2.700	156.8	50	WD	Spiral	360	N-S	Downhole
24/04/2019	J	F370S2063	15.3	1.330	156.0	50	WD	Spiral	637	N-S	Downhole
24/04/2019	J	F410S2042	19.9	1.040	75.8	50	WD	Parallel	610	N-S	Downhole
25/04/2019	J	F410S2042	20.0	1.940	75.8	50	WD	Parallel	427	E-W	Downhole
25/04/2019	J	F410S2042	20.0	1.200	75.8	50	WD	Parallel	482	N-S	Downhole
26/04/2019	I	F370S2063	40.0	1.750	173.0	50	WD	Parallel	510	N-S	Up-hole
26/04/2019	I	F370S2063	40.0	1.300	173.0	50	WD	Parallel	632	E-W	Downhole
27/04/2019	I	F370S2064	20.0	1.970	77.3	50	WD	Parallel	371	E-W	Downhole
27/04/2019	I	F370S2064	20.0	0.833	77.3	50	WD	Parallel	442	N-S	Downhole
28/04/2019	I	F270S2070	40.0	1.140	166.0	50	WD	Parallel	569	N-S	Up-hole
28/04/2019	I	F270S2070	40.0	0.648	166.0	50	WD	Parallel	688	N-S	Up-hole
30/04/2019	I	F370S2064	20.0	2.510	114.6	50	WD	Spiral	428	N-S	Downhole
30/04/2019	J	F370S2064	40.0	2.420	114.6	50	WD	Spiral	518	N-S	Downhole
02/05/2019	G	F270S2064	25.3	3.890	144.3	50	WD	Parallel	389	N-S	Downhole
02/05/2019	G	F270S2064	19.9	2.880	144.3	50	WD	Parallel	495	N-S	Downhole
04/05/2019	G	F370S2063	26.0	1.620	171.0	50	WD	Parallel	512	N-S	Up-hole
04/05/2019	G	F370S2063	26.0	1.920	171.0	50	WD	Parallel	488	E-W	Downhole
06/05/2019	G	F370S2064	60.0	2.320	122.7	50	WD	Parallel	468	E-W	Downhole
08/05/2019	G	F370S2064	20.0	1.650	122.7	50	WD	Parallel	484	E-W	Downhole
08/05/2019	G	F370S2064	20.0	2.160	112.5	50	WD	Parallel	430	N-S	Downhole
11/05/2019	G	F270S2070	24.6	0.898	182.0	50	WD	Parallel	524	N-S	Downhole
11/05/2019	G	F270S2070	20.0	0.588	182.0	50	WD	Parallel	570	N-S	Downhole
14/05/2019	I	F370S2063	20.0	2.050	142.5	50	WD	Spiral	495	N-S	Downhole
14/05/2019	I	F370S2063	40.0	1.050	142.5	50	WD	Spiral	623	N-S	Downhole
18/05/2019	I	F370S2064	20.3	2.640	155.0	50	WD	Parallel	482	E-W	Downhole
18/05/2019	I	F370S2064	40.0	2.160	155.0	50	WD	Parallel	491	E-W	Downhole
18/05/2019	I	F270S2066	19.5	3.420	141.0	50	WD	Spiral	346	N-S	Up-hole
18/05/2019	I	F270S2066	20.3	1.470	141.0	50	WD	Spiral	444	N-S	Up-hole
18/05/2019	I	F370S2063	27.8	1.510	192.3	50	WD	Parallel	483	N-S	Downhole
18/05/2019	G	F370S2063	20.0	0.813	192.3	50	WD	Parallel	622	N-S	Downhole
18/05/2019	G	F370S2064	18.8	4.250	141.0	50	WD	Spiral	353	N-S	Up-hole
18/05/2019	G	F370S2064	35.3	2.750	141.0	50	WD	Spiral	458	N-S	Up-hole
18/05/2019	G	F370S2064	35.3	0.813	192.3	50	WD	Parallel	456	N-S	Downhole
21/05/2019	G	F370S2070	30.0	4.180	153.0	50	WD	Parallel	447	N-S	Downhole
21/05/2019	G	F270S2066	30.8	4.180	167.0	50	WD	Parallel	350	N-S	Up-hole
22/05/2019	G	F370S2064	30.8	2.720	167.0	50	WD	Parallel	453	N-S	Downhole
22/05/2019	G	F370S2063	19.8	1.620	182.2	50	WD	Parallel	500	N-S	Downhole
26/05/2019	I	F270S2070	20.0	1.030	150.0	50	WD	Parallel	566	N-S	Downhole
26/05/2019	I	F270S2070	20.0	0.648	150.0	50	WD	Parallel	692	N-S	Downhole
28/05/2019	I	F370S2064	40.0	1.430	124.0	50	WD	Parallel	512	E-W	Up-hole
28/05/2019	I	F270S2066	24.8	3.250	163.0	50	WD	Spiral	403	N-S	Up-hole
28/05/2019	G	F270S2066	46.1	2.040	114.8	50	WD	Parallel	721	N-S	Downhole

Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Date	Monitored structure	Step	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm <sup>2</sup> )	Maximum charge per delay (kg)	Delay between adjacent holes (ms)	Operational scenario	Initiation pattern geometry	Distance (m)	Orientation	Type of blast
18/07/2019	G	F370S2024L	20.0	4.830	114.8	50	WD	Parallel	465	E-W	Downhole
18/07/2019	G	F370S2024L	20.0	4.830	114.8	50	WD	Parallel	465	E-W	Downhole
21/07/2019	G	F410S20240	100.0	0.820	113.6	50	WD	Parallel	584	N-S	Downhole
21/07/2019	G	F410S20240	100.0	0.820	113.6	50	WD	Parallel	584	N-S	Downhole
21/07/2019	G	F410S20240	20.0	2.320	113.6	50	WD	Parallel	425	E-W	Downhole
24/07/2019	G	F370S2024L	40.0	0.889	135.2	50	WD	Parallel	700	N-S	Downhole
24/07/2019	G	F370S2024L	40.0	1.450	135.2	50	WD	Parallel	481	E-W	Downhole
24/07/2019	G	F370S2024L	20.0	1.990	135.2	50	WD	Parallel	447	E-W	Downhole
25/07/2019	G	F410S20261	39.8	4.390	150.6	50	WOD	Parallel	459	N-S	Downhole
25/07/2019	G	F410S20261	20.0	2.120	150.6	50	WOD	Parallel	632	N-S	Downhole
26/07/2019	J	F310S20265	19.9	3.270	150.6	50	WOD	Parallel	528	N-S	Downhole
26/07/2019	J	F310S20265	40.0	3.830	150.6	65	WOD	Parallel	358	N-S	Downhole
26/07/2019	J	F310S20265	46.1	1.038	150.6	65	WOD	Parallel	522	N-S	Downhole
26/07/2019	J	F310S20265	61.3	2.169	150.6	65	WOD	Parallel	400	N-S	Downhole
27/07/2019	J	F310S20265	61.3	2.169	150.6	65	WOD	Parallel	422	E-W	Downhole
27/07/2019	J	F310S20265	25.8	1.530	153.0	65	WOD	Parallel	589	N-S	Downhole
28/07/2019	J	F270S20268L	41.8	16.200	188.2	50	WOD	Parallel	284	E-W	Downhole
28/07/2019	G	F270S20268L	21.8	2.220	188.2	50	WOD	Parallel	647	N-S	Downhole
28/07/2019	G	F270S20268L	27.8	4.330	188.2	50	WOD	Parallel	515	N-S	Downhole
30/07/2019	J	F160S2074R	113.0	3.430	65.0	224	WOD	Spiral	224	N-S	Up-hole
30/07/2019	J	F160S2074R	113.0	3.430	65.0	224	WOD	Spiral	224	N-S	Up-hole
30/07/2019	J	F370S20268L	20.0	0.783	152.0	50	WOD	Parallel	696	N-S	Downhole
30/07/2019	J	F370S20268L	66.1	2.100	152.0	50	WOD	Parallel	423	E-W	Downhole
30/07/2019	J	F370S20268L	22.3	1.140	152.0	50	WOD	Parallel	585	N-S	Downhole
01/08/2019	G	F310S2024L	59.9	2.200	155.0	50	WOD	Spiral	525	N-S	Downhole
01/08/2019	G	F310S2024L	20.3	3.680	155.0	50	WOD	Spiral	463	N-S	Downhole
01/08/2019	J	F310S2024L	29.0	9.550	155.0	50	WOD	Spiral	378	N-S	Downhole
02/08/2019	G	F310S20265	39.9	5.930	204.0	50	WOD	Parallel	357	N-S	Downhole
02/08/2019	G	F310S20265	39.9	1.310	204.0	50	WOD	Parallel	657	N-S	Downhole
03/08/2019	J	F430S2037A	19.8	1.050	60.7	50	WOD	Spiral	647	N-S	Downhole
03/08/2019	J	F430S2037A	19.8	1.050	60.7	50	WOD	Spiral	647	N-S	Downhole
03/08/2019	J	F430S2037A	19.8	1.050	60.7	50	WOD	Spiral	647	N-S	Downhole
03/08/2019	J	F430S2037A	19.8	1.050	60.7	50	WOD	Spiral	647	N-S	Downhole
07/08/2019	G	F310S2024L	20.0	6.920	204.0	50	WOD	Parallel	467	N-S	Downhole
07/08/2019	J	F310S2024L	20.0	6.920	204.0	50	WOD	Parallel	374	N-S	Downhole
07/08/2019	J	F310S2024L	40.1	1.520	204.0	50	WOD	Parallel	526	N-S	Downhole
07/08/2019	J	F310S2024L	40.1	2.870	204.0	50	WOD	Parallel	423	E-W	Downhole
14/08/2019	G	F370S20268L	25.5	1.100	164.0	50	WOD	Parallel	580	N-S	Downhole
14/08/2019	G	F370S20268L	25.5	1.100	164.0	50	WOD	Parallel	691	N-S	Downhole
16/08/2019	J	F270S20260	40.0	4.180	154.0	50	WOD	Spiral	413	N-S	Downhole
16/08/2019	J	F270S20260	19.9	5.080	154.0	50	WOD	Spiral	327	N-S	Downhole
16/08/2019	J	F270S20260	20.0	2.880	154.0	50	WOD	Spiral	466	N-S	Downhole
16/08/2019	J	F430S2037A	68.6	2.140	64.3	50	WOD	Parallel	663	N-S	Downhole
16/08/2019	G	F430S2037A	33.9	2.650	64.3	50	WOD	Parallel	435	E-W	Downhole
16/08/2019	G	F430S2037A	20.0	1.770	64.3	50	WOD	Parallel	462	N-S	Downhole
17/08/2019	J	F310S2024L	40.0	1.940	156.0	50	WOD	Parallel	531	N-S	Downhole
17/08/2019	J	F310S2024L	20.0	2.370	156.0	50	WOD	Parallel	483	N-S	Downhole
17/08/2019	J	F310S2024L	60.0	4.570	156.0	50	WOD	Parallel	483	N-S	Downhole
17/08/2019	J	F310S2024L	60.0	5.020	156.0	50	WOD	Parallel	483	N-S	Downhole
23/08/2019	G	F310S2024L	19.9	1.150	151.0	50	WOD	Parallel	534	N-S	Downhole
23/08/2019	G	F310S2024L	20.0	4.310	151.0	50	WOD	Parallel	377	E-W	Downhole
23/08/2019	G	F310S2024L	20.0	1.720	151.0	50	WOD	Parallel	460	N-S	Downhole
25/08/2019	J	F270S2032	59.8	1.280	233.0	50	WOD	Spiral	608	N-S	Downhole
25/08/2019	J	F270S2032	20.0	1.910	233.0	50	WOD	Spiral	375	E-W	Downhole
26/08/2019	G	F270S2032	39.8	1.300	233.0	50	WOD	Spiral	438	E-W	Downhole
26/08/2019	J	F310S20265	19.9	3.280	133.0	50	WOD	Spiral	321	N-S	Downhole
26/08/2019	J	F310S20265	19.9	3.280	133.0	50	WOD	Spiral	639	N-S	Downhole
26/08/2019	J	F270S2032	60.0	1.110	187.0	50	WOD	Parallel	613	N-S	Downhole
27/08/2019	J	F270S2032	20.0	2.000	187.0	50	WOD	Parallel	371	E-W	Downhole
27/08/2019	G	F270S2032	60.0	1.050	187.0	50	WOD	Parallel	430	E-W	Downhole
29/08/2019	G	F310S2024L	20.0	3.380	159.0	50	WOD	Parallel	540	N-S	Downhole
29/08/2019	G	F310S2024L	20.0	3.380	159.0	50	WOD	Parallel	379	E-W	Downhole
31/08/2019	J	F270S20260	40.0	3.880	146.0	50	WOD	Parallel	489	N-S	Downhole
31/08/2019	J	F270S20260	20.0	3.880	146.0	50	WOD	Parallel	487	N-S	Downhole
31/08/2019	J	F270S20260	20.0	1.440	146.0	50	WOD	Parallel	487	N-S	Downhole
31/08/2019	J	F270S20260	20.0	1.440	146.0	50	WOD	Parallel	487	N-S	Downhole
31/08/2019	J	F270S20260	20.0	1.000	158.0	50	WOD	Parallel	664	N-S	Downhole
01/09/2019	J	F430S2037A	59.8	1.120	84.0	50	WOD	Parallel	666	N-S	Downhole
01/09/2019	J	F430S2037A	21.6	3.400	84.0	50	WOD	Parallel	437	E-W	Downhole
02/09/2019	G	F430S2037A	41.8	4.250	84.0	50	WOD	Parallel	466	N-S	Downhole
02/09/2019	G	F430S2037A	41.4	4.250	177.0	50	WOD	Spiral	629	N-S	Downhole
02/09/2019	G	F430S2037A	28.4	2.130	177.0	50	WOD	Spiral	629	N-S	Downhole
02/09/2019	G	F430S2037A	19.0	0.648	177.0	50	WOD	Spiral	478	N-S	Downhole
03/09/2019	J	F160S2074R	41.4	10.800	115.0	50	WOD	Spiral	206	N-S	Up-hole
03/09/2019	J	F160S2074R	20.0	1.780	115.0	50	WOD	Spiral	583	N-S	Up-hole

Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Date	Monitored structure	Stope	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	Maximum charge per delay (kg)	Delay between adjacent holes (ms)	Operational scenario	Initiation pattern geometry	Distance (m)	Orientation	Type of blast
15/10/2019	G	F2/05/2050	20.0	1.084	86.6	50	WD	Parallel	474	N-S	Downhole
17/10/2019	I	F4/05/2050	20.0	1.084	107.0	50	WD	Spiral	479	N-S	Downhole
17/10/2019	J	F4/05/2050L	56.0	0.648	107.0	50	WD	Spiral	532	N-S	Downhole
18/10/2019	J	F3/05/2044	4.0	1.120	161.0	50	WD	Parallel	559	N-S	Downhole
18/10/2019	J	F3/05/2044L	20.0	3.330	161.0	50	WD	Parallel	382	E-W	Downhole
18/10/2019	G	F3/05/2044	20.0	1.200	161.0	50	WD	Parallel	458	N-S	Downhole
18/10/2019	G	F4/05/2043	19.9	2.330	191.0	50	WD	Spiral	450	E-W	Downhole
21/10/2019	J	F4/05/2043L	48.6	1.700	191.0	50	WD	Spiral	608	N-S	Downhole
21/10/2019	G	F4/05/2043	60.0	1.530	191.0	50	WD	Spiral	487	N-S	Downhole
24/10/2019	J	F2/05/2068	43.4	1.380	93.2	50	WD	Parallel	284	E-W	Downhole
24/10/2019	J	F2/05/2068L	43.5	1.200	93.2	50	WD	Parallel	284	E-W	Downhole
24/10/2019	G	F2/05/2068	28.4	2.340	93.2	50	WD	Parallel	585	N-S	Downhole
24/10/2019	G	F3/05/2044	50.3	1.930	154.0	50	WD	Parallel	385	N-S	Downhole
24/10/2019	G	F3/05/2044L	20.0	4.130	154.0	50	WD	Parallel	470	E-W	Downhole
27/10/2019	J	F4/05/2043	38.5	1.420	175.0	50	WD	Parallel	602	N-S	Downhole
27/10/2019	J	F4/05/2043L	24.3	1.430	175.0	50	WD	Parallel	454	E-W	Downhole
30/10/2019	G	F4/05/2043	38.5	1.080	175.0	50	WD	Parallel	484	N-S	Downhole
30/10/2019	J	F3/05/2044	40.0	1.110	155.0	50	WD	Parallel	570	N-S	Downhole
30/10/2019	G	F3/05/2044L	20.0	3.140	155.0	50	WD	Parallel	384	E-W	Downhole
01/11/2019	J	F2/05/2030	61.3	1.200	95.5	65	WD	Spiral	618	N-S	Downhole
01/11/2019	J	F2/05/2030L	17.0	3.990	95.5	65	WD	Spiral	370	E-W	Downhole
01/11/2019	G	F2/05/2030	50.5	2.210	95.5	65	WD	Spiral	432	E-W	Downhole
02/11/2019	J	F4/05/2043	38.9	3.950	112.5	50	WD	Spiral	582	N-S	Downhole
02/11/2019	J	F4/05/2043L	19.0	5.330	112.5	50	WD	Spiral	418	E-W	Downhole
04/11/2019	G	F4/05/2043	59.9	4.780	112.5	50	WD	Spiral	459	N-S	Downhole
04/11/2019	J	F2/05/2030	60.1	1.020	109.1	50	WD	Parallel	616	N-S	Downhole
04/11/2019	J	F2/05/2030L	20.3	2.520	109.1	50	WD	Parallel	371	E-W	Downhole
08/11/2019	J	F3/05/2063	52.5	1.200	109.1	50	WD	Parallel	434	E-W	Downhole
08/11/2019	J	F3/05/2063L	40.0	1.710	109.1	50	WD	Parallel	353	E-S	Downhole
08/11/2019	J	F3/05/2044	50.0	3.140	95.5	65	WD	Parallel	460	N-S	Downhole
08/11/2019	J	F3/05/2044L	44.9	6.310	95.5	65	WD	Parallel	279	E-W	Downhole
08/11/2019	G	F2/05/2074	25.1	1.140	210.0	50	WD	Spiral	623	N-S	Downhole
08/11/2019	G	F2/05/2074L	45.0	0.744	210.0	50	WD	Spiral	782	N-S	Downhole
08/11/2019	G	F4/05/2043	45.0	6.060	129.6	50	WD	Parallel	419	E-W	Downhole
08/11/2019	G	F4/05/2043L	19.3	4.800	129.6	50	WD	Parallel	463	E-W	Downhole
09/11/2019	I	F3/05/2044	18.2	118.2	118.2	50	WD	Parallel	354	E-W	Downhole
09/11/2019	G	F3/05/2044L	48.4	2.000	118.2	50	WD	Parallel	438	N-S	Downhole
10/11/2019	I	F3/05/2044	21.0	4.650	118.2	50	WD	Parallel	354	E-W	Downhole
12/11/2019	G	F2/05/2030	42.5	1.980	90.9	50	WD	Parallel	389	E-W	Downhole
12/11/2019	G	F2/05/2030L	15.6	3.670	90.9	50	WD	Parallel	430	E-W	Downhole
13/11/2019	I	F2/05/2063	39.9	9.520	90.9	50	WOD	Parallel	389	E-W	Downhole
13/11/2019	G	F2/05/2063L	13.9	1.050	155.0	50	WD	Spiral	624	N-S	Downhole
13/11/2019	I	F2/05/2063	30.6	2.700	155.0	50	WD	Spiral	484	N-S	Downhole
13/11/2019	G	F3/05/2063	36.0	4.070	136.0	65	WD	Spiral	400	N-S	Downhole
14/11/2019	G	F3/05/2063L	15.5	5.180	136.0	65	WD	Spiral	460	N-S	Downhole
15/11/2019	G	F4/05/2043	34.3	4.970	106.8	50	WD	Parallel	421	E-W	Downhole
15/11/2019	G	F4/05/2043L	34.1	2.470	106.8	50	WD	Parallel	468	N-S	Downhole
16/11/2019	I	F4/05/2043	36.4	3.900	106.8	50	WD	Parallel	614	E-W	Downhole
16/11/2019	G	F2/05/2074	23.5	0.925	90.9	50	WD	Parallel	754	N-S	Downhole
16/11/2019	G	F2/05/2074L	36.1	1.650	90.9	50	WD	Parallel	614	N-S	Downhole
17/11/2019	G	F3/05/2044	38.9	1.450	97.7	65	WD	Parallel	354	E-W	Downhole
17/11/2019	G	F3/05/2044L	24.0	2.230	97.7	65	WD	Parallel	438	N-S	Downhole
18/11/2019	I	F3/05/2044	22.8	5.100	97.7	65	WD	Parallel	354	E-W	Downhole
18/11/2019	G	F2/05/2030	40.3	1.400	70.0	50	WD	Parallel	363	E-W	Downhole
18/11/2019	G	F2/05/2030L	20.3	1.870	70.0	50	WD	Parallel	425	E-W	Downhole
18/11/2019	G	F3/05/2063	39.9	3.670	135.0	50	WD	Parallel	406	N-S	Downhole
18/11/2019	G	F3/05/2063L	20.0	1.980	135.0	50	WD	Parallel	507	N-S	Downhole
18/11/2019	G	F3/05/2063	39.9	3.170	135.0	50	WD	Parallel	406	N-S	Downhole
18/11/2019	G	F3/05/2063L	20.0	1.980	135.0	50	WD	Parallel	507	N-S	Downhole
20/11/2019	G	F3/05/2063	40.0	4.000	97.5	65	WD	Parallel	466	N-S	Downhole
20/11/2019	G	F3/05/2063L	16.0	5.180	97.5	65	WD	Parallel	466	N-S	Downhole
24/11/2019	G	F3/05/2063	38.9	2.270	137.0	50	WD	Parallel	510	N-S	Downhole
24/11/2019	G	F3/05/2063L	15.4	2.900	137.0	50	WD	Parallel	407	N-S	Downhole
27/11/2019	J	F2/05/2074	30.0	1.550	90.9	50	WD	Parallel	606	N-S	Downhole
27/11/2019	J	F2/05/2074L	34.1	5.320	90.9	50	WD	Parallel	269	E-W	Downhole
27/11/2019	G	F2/05/2074	23.6	0.684	90.9	50	WD	Parallel	745	N-S	Downhole
27/11/2019	J	F2/05/2068A	35.5	1.330	120.0	65	WD	Parallel	538	N-S	Downhole
27/11/2019	J	F2/05/2068A	36.6	4.060	120.0	65	WD	Parallel	316	E-W	Downhole
27/11/2019	J	F2/05/2068A	30.6	0.582	120.0	65	WD	Parallel	667	N-S	Downhole
28/11/2019	I	F3/05/2063	30.8	2.460	137.0	50	WD	Parallel	410	N-S	Downhole
28/11/2019	G	F3/05/2063	46.5	1.630	137.0	50	WD	Parallel	515	N-S	Downhole



Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Date	Monitored structure	Step	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm s <sup>-2</sup> )	Maximum charge per delay (kg)	Delay between adjacent holes (ms)	Operational scenario	Initiation pattern geometry	Distance (m)	Orientation	Type of blast
18/01/2020	J	F270S2068	46.3	1.050	22.5	65	WOD	Spiral	288	E-W	Downhole
18/01/2020	G	F270S2068	36.6	2.210	22.5	65	WOD	Spiral	691	E-W	Downhole
17/01/2020	J	F410S2043A	35.0	1.150	75.0	65	WOD	Parallel	579	N-S	Downhole
17/01/2020	J	F410S2043A	41.3	1.160	75.0	65	WOD	Parallel	283	E-W	Downhole
18/01/2020	J	F270S2068	41.5	0.448	12.5	65	WOD	Parallel	278	E-W	Downhole
18/01/2020	J	F270S2068	46.6	1.048	156.0	65	WOD	Parallel	484	E-W	Downhole
20/01/2020	G	F270S2068	41.5	0.539	82.5	65	WOD	Spiral	677	N-S	Downhole
20/01/2020	J	F270S2068	46.1	4.220	82.5	65	WOD	Spiral	287	E-W	Downhole
22/01/2020	H	M440S2004	33.8	0.648	54.7	50	WOD	Parallel	743	N-S	Downhole
23/01/2020	G	F310S2053	32.6	3.010	81.8	65	WOD	Parallel	395	N-S	Downhole
23/01/2020	G	F310S2053	28.0	4.080	81.8	65	WOD	Parallel	379	N-S	Downhole
23/01/2020	J	F310S2053	20.0	1.630	81.8	65	WOD	Parallel	488	N-S	Downhole
23/01/2020	J	F310S2053	46.0	0.362	160.0	65	WOD	Parallel	465	N-S	Downhole
23/01/2020	J	F310S2053	46.4	0.333	160.0	65	WOD	Parallel	484	N-S	Downhole
23/01/2020	G	F310S2053	46.4	0.333	160.0	65	WOD	Parallel	492	N-S	Downhole
23/01/2020	J	F270S2068	46.1	4.530	77.7	65	WOD	Parallel	278	E-W	Downhole
27/01/2020	J	F270S2068	36.8	0.976	100.0	65	WOD	Parallel	543	N-S	Downhole
27/01/2020	G	F270S2068	46.1	0.582	77.7	65	WOD	Parallel	692	N-S	Downhole
02/02/2020	J	F370S2028L	46.1	0.684	150.0	65	WOD	Parallel	662	N-S	Downhole
02/02/2020	G	F370S2028L	23.0	1.530	150.0	65	WOD	Parallel	446	E-W	Up-hole
02/02/2020	G	F370S2028L	18.1	0.803	150.0	65	WOD	Parallel	491	E-W	Up-hole
08/02/2020	J	F410S2048	36.9	0.741	82.5	65	WOD	Spiral	530	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2020	J	F410S2048	15.6	1.200	82.5	65	WOD	Spiral	430	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2020	G	F410S2048	92.3	0.925	82.5	65	WOD	Spiral	501	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2020	J	F310S2053	32.8	6.180	125.0	65	WOD	Parallel	399	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2020	J	F310S2053	15.4	8.510	125.0	65	WOD	Parallel	375	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2020	G	F310S2053	23.1	3.530	125.0	65	WOD	Parallel	482	N-S	Downhole
07/02/2020	J	F410S2043A	35.6	1.940	77.5	65	WOD	Parallel	588	N-S	Downhole
07/02/2020	J	F410S2043A	35.8	2.480	77.5	65	WOD	Parallel	423	E-W	Downhole
07/02/2020	J	F410S2043A	46.1	2.080	77.5	65	WOD	Parallel	470	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2020	J	F410S2048	39.9	0.751	100.0	65	WOD	Parallel	585	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2020	J	F410S2048	40.0	0.751	100.0	65	WOD	Parallel	585	N-S	Downhole
08/02/2020	J	F410S2048	40.0	0.852	70.0	65	WOD	Parallel	596	N-S	Downhole
09/02/2020	J	F370S2028L	46.0	0.648	140.0	65	WOD	Parallel	672	N-S	Downhole
10/02/2020	J	F370S2028L	16.8	2.340	140.0	65	WOD	Parallel	433	E-W	Downhole
10/02/2020	G	F370S2028L	20.1	1.260	140.0	65	WOD	Parallel	476	E-W	Downhole
11/02/2020	H	M440S2004	15.5	0.539	61.0	65	WOD	Parallel	465	N-S	Downhole
14/02/2020	J	F310S2027	41.4	0.933	146.0	65	WOD	Parallel	757	N-S	Downhole
14/02/2020	G	F310S2027	30.8	1.810	146.0	65	WOD	Parallel	687	N-S	Downhole
14/02/2020	J	F310S2027	15.4	2.720	146.0	65	WOD	Parallel	464	E-W	Up-hole
14/02/2020	J	F410S2048	46.3	0.582	42.9	65	WOD	Parallel	527	N-S	Downhole
14/02/2020	J	F410S2048	15.5	0.730	42.9	65	WOD	Parallel	434	N-S	Downhole
15/02/2020	J	F410S2050L	37.8	1.000	117.5	65	WOD	Parallel	591	N-S	Downhole
15/02/2020	G	F410S2050L	40.1	1.020	117.5	65	WOD	Parallel	529	N-S	Downhole
16/02/2020	J	F370S2028L	40.0	0.751	128.1	65	WOD	Parallel	667	N-S	Downhole
16/02/2020	G	F370S2028L	40.0	1.400	128.1	65	WOD	Parallel	473	E-W	Downhole
16/02/2020	J	F370S2028L	6.4	1.800	128.1	65	WOD	Parallel	430	E-W	Downhole
16/02/2020	J	F370S2028L	40.0	0.648	98.0	65	WOD	Parallel	673	N-S	Downhole
17/02/2020	G	F370S2065	40.0	0.648	98.0	65	WOD	Parallel	592	N-S	Downhole
19/02/2020	G	F370S2065	29.8	0.933	98.0	65	WOD	Parallel	463	N-S	Downhole
19/02/2020	G	F410S2044	15.5	0.936	45.0	65	WOD	Parallel	429	N-S	Downhole
20/02/2020	J	F410S2044	16.1	1.820	35.0	65	WOD	Parallel	560	N-S	Downhole
20/02/2020	J	F410S2044	10.0	0.730	35.0	65	WOD	Parallel	422	N-S	Downhole
20/02/2020	J	F410S2050L	46.9	1.730	72.7	65	WOD	Parallel	497	N-S	Downhole
20/02/2020	G	F410S2050L	30.6	1.430	72.7	65	WOD	Parallel	534	N-S	Downhole
20/02/2020	J	F410S2050L	30.6	1.430	72.7	65	WOD	Parallel	454	N-S	Downhole
21/02/2020	G	F410S2044	44.3	0.648	50.0	65	WOD	Parallel	589	N-S	Downhole
21/02/2020	J	F410S2044	46.5	1.000	50.0	65	WOD	Parallel	487	N-S	Downhole
21/02/2020	J	F410S2044	16.5	1.090	50.0	65	WOD	Parallel	422	N-S	Downhole
21/02/2020	J	F410S2044	37.8	1.640	299.0	65	WOD	Parallel	512	N-S	Downhole
21/02/2020	G	F410S2065	30.8	0.976	299.0	65	WOD	Parallel	579	N-S	Downhole
21/02/2020	J	F410S2065	30.8	1.430	299.0	65	WOD	Parallel	489	N-S	Downhole
21/02/2020	J	F410S2065	41.0	0.933	22.5	65	WOD	Parallel	648	N-S	Downhole
23/02/2020	J	F370S2074R	30.6	3.730	22.5	65	WOD	Parallel	777	E-W	Downhole
23/02/2020	J	F370S2074R	30.9	1.920	122.5	65	WOD	Parallel	692	N-S	Downhole
23/02/2020	G	F370S2074R	30.9	0.925	93.2	65	WOD	Parallel	658	N-S	Downhole
24/02/2020	G	F370S2074R	20.0	1.310	93.2	65	WOD	Parallel	476	E-W	Downhole
24/02/2020	J	F370S2074R	20.0	1.210	93.2	65	WOD	Parallel	429	N-S	Downhole
24/02/2020	J	F370S2074R	46.3	4.520	130.0	65	WOD	Parallel	619	N-S	Downhole
24/02/2020	J	F370S2074R	46.0	1.200	130.0	65	WOD	Parallel	431	N-S	Downhole
24/02/2020	J	F370S2074R	20.0	1.780	141.0	65	WOD	Parallel	483	N-S	Downhole
24/02/2020	J	F370S2074R	15.4	2.360	150.0	65	WOD	Parallel	420	N-S	Downhole
27/02/2020	J	F310S2047	19.0	5.920	140.0	65	WOD	Parallel	378	N-S	Downhole
27/02/2020	J	F310S2047	15.9	2.010	140.0	65	WOD	Parallel	470	N-S	Downhole
27/02/2020	J	F310S2047	30.7	3.710	140.0	65	WOD	Parallel	471	N-S	Downhole

Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Date	Monitored structure	Step	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm s <sup>-1</sup> )	Maximum charge per delay (kg)	Delay between adjacent holes (ms)	Operational scenario	Initiation pattern geometry	Distance (m)	Orientation	Type of blast
08/05/2020	G	F370S2046	15.6	1.080	81.4	65	WD	Parallel	393	N-S	Downhole
08/05/2020	G	F370S2046	46.3	0.889	81.4	65	WD	Parallel	475	N-S	Downhole
12/05/2020	J	F370S2046	20.0	1.200	93.2	75	WD	Parallel	501	N-S	Downhole
12/05/2020	J	F370S2046	20.0	1.730	93.2	75	WD	Parallel	395	N-S	Downhole
12/05/2020	J	F370S2046	20.0	1.800	93.2	75	WD	Parallel	479	N-S	Downhole
14/05/2020	J	F310S2071AL	48.1	10.800	154.0	66	WD	Spiral	374	E-W	Up-hole
14/05/2020	J	F310S2071AL	30.8	2.170	154.0	66	WD	Spiral	546	N-S	Up-hole
14/05/2020	G	F310S2071AL	46.1	1.200	154.0	66	WD	Spiral	658	N-S	Up-hole
16/05/2020	J	F270S2038	30.8	1.110	156.0	65	WD	Spiral	582	E-W	Up-hole
16/05/2020	J	F270S2038	15.3	2.330	156.0	65	WD	Spiral	387	E-W	Up-hole
16/05/2020	G	F270S2038	48.0	0.859	156.0	65	WD	Spiral	439	E-W	Up-hole
16/05/2020	J	F370S2046	50.2	0.783	100.0	48	WD	Spiral	488	N-S	Downhole
16/05/2020	J	F370S2046	28.9	1.430	100.0	48	WD	Spiral	485	N-S	Downhole
16/05/2020	J	F370S2046	28.9	1.430	100.0	48	WD	Spiral	485	N-S	Downhole
17/05/2020	G	F410S2039AL	20.6	0.688	98.2	64	WD	Parallel	614	N-S	Downhole
17/05/2020	J	F410S2039AL	31.0	2.460	98.2	64	WD	Parallel	415	E-W	Downhole
17/05/2020	J	F410S2039AL	32.4	1.650	98.2	64	WD	Parallel	456	N-S	Downhole
18/05/2020	J	F370S2046	15.5	1.050	93.2	75	WD	Parallel	500	N-S	Downhole
18/05/2020	J	F370S2046	15.5	1.050	93.2	75	WD	Parallel	396	N-S	Downhole
18/05/2020	G	F270S2038	21.6	0.889	93.2	48	WD	Parallel	481	N-S	Downhole
18/05/2020	J	F270S2038	15.4	2.860	151.0	65	WD	Parallel	365	E-W	Downhole
18/05/2020	J	F270S2038	30.9	1.470	151.0	65	WD	Parallel	578	N-S	Up-hole
20/05/2020	J	F270S2038	48.1	1.280	151.0	65	WD	Parallel	438	N-S	Up-hole
20/05/2020	J	F270S2038	48.8	2.510	35.0	65	WD	Spiral	308	E-W	Downhole
20/05/2020	J	F270S2038	31.0	0.730	35.0	65	WD	Spiral	590	N-S	Downhole
21/05/2020	J	F270S2038	41.8	1.770	62.5	65	WD	Spiral	301	E-W	Downhole
21/05/2020	J	F270S2038	28.5	0.582	62.5	65	WD	Spiral	589	N-S	Downhole
22/05/2020	G	F270S2038	42.4	4.000	58.9	65	WD	Parallel	296	E-W	Downhole
22/05/2020	J	F270S2038	24.3	0.539	58.9	65	WD	Parallel	717	N-S	Downhole
22/05/2020	J	F270S2038	30.8	1.330	58.9	65	WD	Parallel	585	N-S	Downhole
22/05/2020	J	F410S2039AL	52.5	0.648	66.0	64	WD	Parallel	614	N-S	Downhole
22/05/2020	J	F410S2039AL	46.3	0.730	66.0	64	WD	Parallel	415	E-W	Downhole
22/05/2020	J	F410S2039AL	30.8	0.730	66.0	64	WD	Parallel	415	E-W	Downhole
23/05/2020	J	F310S2071AL	39.9	6.059	191.0	65	WD	Parallel	375	E-W	Up-hole
23/05/2020	J	F310S2071AL	20.0	1.800	131.0	65	WD	Parallel	554	N-S	Up-hole
23/05/2020	J	F310S2071AL	61.6	1.860	134.0	65	WD	Parallel	482	N-S	Up-hole
23/05/2020	J	F310S2071AL	20.0	1.800	134.0	65	WD	Parallel	482	N-S	Up-hole
25/05/2020	G	F310S2046	30.6	2.480	134.0	65	WD	Parallel	460	N-S	Up-hole
25/05/2020	J	F310S2046	15.6	5.120	134.0	65	WD	Parallel	372	N-S	Up-hole
26/05/2020	G	F370S2046	44.5	0.813	80.0	65	WD	Parallel	486	N-S	Downhole
26/05/2020	G	F370S2046	20.5	0.867	80.0	65	WD	Parallel	486	N-S	Downhole
26/05/2020	J	F270S2038	29.0	1.880	80.0	65	WD	Parallel	400	N-S	Downhole
27/05/2020	J	F270S2038	47.0	5.260	65.0	65	WD	Parallel	295	E-W	Downhole
27/05/2020	J	F270S2038	24.5	0.524	65.0	65	WD	Parallel	722	N-S	Downhole
27/05/2020	J	F270S2038	30.5	0.833	65.0	65	WD	Parallel	588	N-S	Downhole
03/06/2020	J	F270S2038	46.1	3.030	58.0	65	WD	Parallel	295	E-W	Downhole
03/06/2020	J	F270S2038	15.5	1.320	58.0	65	WD	Parallel	596	N-S	Downhole
04/06/2020	J	F310S2071AL	30.8	4.220	138.0	65	WD	Parallel	412	N-S	Up-hole
04/06/2020	J	F310S2071AL	15.4	3.860	138.0	65	WD	Parallel	419	N-S	Up-hole
04/06/2020	J	F310S2071AL	30.7	2.480	138.0	65	WD	Parallel	484	N-S	Up-hole
07/06/2020	J	F370S2046	15.4	2.500	180.2	65	WD	Parallel	482	N-S	Downhole
07/06/2020	J	F370S2046	15.4	2.500	180.2	65	WD	Parallel	482	N-S	Downhole
09/06/2020	G	F310S2046	15.8	1.140	142.0	65	WD	Parallel	486	N-S	Downhole
09/06/2020	G	F310S2046	15.8	1.140	142.0	65	WD	Parallel	378	N-S	Downhole
09/06/2020	G	F310S2046	15.8	4.540	142.0	65	WD	Parallel	471	N-S	Downhole
12/06/2020	J	F310S2071AL	45.4	9.990	137.5	65	WD	Spiral	339	E-W	Downhole
12/06/2020	J	F310S2071AL	15.8	2.080	137.5	65	WD	Spiral	533	N-S	Downhole
12/06/2020	J	F310S2071AL	31.4	1.160	137.5	65	WD	Spiral	662	N-S	Downhole
13/06/2020	J	F270S2038	15.4	2.400	165.0	65	WD	Spiral	488	N-S	Downhole
13/06/2020	G	F270S2038	30.9	5.010	165.0	65	WD	Spiral	449	N-S	Downhole
16/06/2020	J	F310S2071AL	30.8	1.110	135.0	65	WD	Spiral	670	N-S	Downhole
16/06/2020	G	F310S2071AL	15.4	2.480	135.0	65	WD	Spiral	467	E-W	Downhole
16/06/2020	G	F310S2071AL	16.6	4.420	135.0	65	WD	Spiral	416	E-W	Downhole
17/06/2020	G	F370S2046	46.1	1.730	147.0	65	WD	Spiral	630	N-S	Downhole
17/06/2020	J	F370S2046	29.5	3.220	147.0	65	WD	Spiral	525	N-S	Downhole
17/06/2020	J	F370S2046	40.5	3.620	147.0	65	WD	Spiral	453	N-S	Downhole
17/06/2020	J	F370S2046	30.8	1.330	147.0	65	WD	Spiral	484	N-S	Downhole
17/06/2020	J	F370S2046	42.8	1.440	147.0	65	WD	Spiral	424	N-S	Downhole
20/06/2020	G	F310S2071AL	42.8	11.200	114.6	65	WD	Parallel	360	E-W	Downhole
20/06/2020	J	F310S2071AL	15.4	1.980	114.6	65	WD	Parallel	659	N-S	Downhole
21/06/2020	J	F370S2061L	20.3	0.925	151.0	65	WD	Parallel	431	N-S	Downhole
21/06/2020	J	F370S2061L	30.8	0.925	151.0	65	WD	Parallel	634	N-S	Downhole
23/06/2020	G	F370S2061L	30.8	1.020	172.0	65	WD	Parallel	617	N-S	Downhole
24/06/2020	J	F270S2038	22.9	5.910	125.0	65	WD	Parallel	349	E-W	Downhole
25/06/2020	J	F310S2046	16.1	9.040	125.0	65	WD	Parallel	345	N-S	Downhole
28/06/2020	J	F310S2046	25.3	3.080	126.4	65	WD	Parallel	382	E-W	Downhole
28/06/2020	H	M440S2018	61.4	1.980	50.3	65	WD	Parallel	550	N-S	Downhole
30/06/2020	J	F370S2065	26.8	2.740	138.0	65	WD	Spiral	462	N-S	Downhole

Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Date	Monitored structure	Step	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm <sup>s</sup> )	Maximum charge per delay (kg)	Delay between adjacent holes (m)	Operational scenario	Initiation pattern geometry	Distance (m)	Orientation	Type of blast
27/09/2020	J	F310S2071	29.5	1,760	88.3	102.0	WD	Spiral	469	N-S	Downhole
28/09/2020	J	F310S2067	39.9	4,000	125.0	104.6	WD	Spiral	440	N-S	Up-hole
01/10/2020	J	F310S2067	28.6	2,010	125.0	104.6	WD	Spiral	383	N-S	Up-hole
01/10/2020	J	F410S2047	46.0	0.539	41.1	75	WD	Spiral	597	E-W	Downhole
04/10/2020	J	F310S2047	30.8	1,400	159.0	100.9	WD	Parallel	278	N-S	Downhole
04/10/2020	J	F310S2047A	28.7	2,450	159.0	100.9	WD	Parallel	592	N-S	Downhole
04/10/2020	J	F310S2042A	66.6	0.783	92.3	66	WD	Spiral	288	E-W	Downhole
05/10/2020	J	F310S2052	26.6	2,400	92.3	100.9	WD	Parallel	323	E-W	Downhole
05/10/2020	J	F310S2052	55.4	3,950	91.4	66	WD	Parallel	589	N-S	Downhole
07/10/2020	J	F310S2049	67.1	1,630	91.4	66	WD	Parallel	285	E-W	Downhole
08/10/2020	J	F310S2049	15.3	3,300	91.4	66	WD	Parallel	648	N-S	Downhole
08/10/2020	J	F310S2067	28.6	1,630	91.4	66	WD	Parallel	281	E-W	Downhole
08/10/2020	J	F410S2067	46.0	0.539	91.4	66	WD	Parallel	593	N-S	Downhole
11/10/2020	J	F410S2071	26.6	1,980	91.4	66	WD	Parallel	575	N-S	Downhole
11/10/2020	J	F410S2071A	26.6	1,980	91.4	66	WD	Parallel	409	E-W	Up-hole
12/10/2020	J	F410S2069A	26.6	4,960	167.0	75	WD	Parallel	503	N-S	Downhole
14/10/2020	J	F410S2047	26.6	0.586	91.4	66	WD	Parallel	278	N-S	Downhole
14/10/2020	J	F410S2047	19.9	1,730	91.4	66	WD	Parallel	584	N-S	Downhole
15/10/2020	J	F310S2031	47.1	0.852	100.0	75	WD	Parallel	410	E-W	Up-hole
15/10/2020	J	F310S2031	27.6	3,360	100.0	75	WD	Parallel	289	E-W	Downhole
17/10/2020	J	F310S2042A	48.1	0.813	152.0	46.1	WD	Parallel	252	E-W	Downhole
17/10/2020	J	F310S2042A	30.8	1,400	152.0	46.1	WD	Parallel	575	N-S	Downhole
20/10/2020	J	F310S2052	66.6	0.773	91.6	66	WD	Parallel	568	N-S	Downhole
20/10/2020	J	F310S2052	20.1	1,310	91.6	66	WD	Parallel	384	N-S	Downhole
21/10/2020	J	F410S2059A	40.0	1,980	160.0	75	WD	Parallel	459	N-S	Up-hole
21/10/2020	J	F410S2059A	20.0	2,750	160.0	75	WD	Parallel	411	E-W	Up-hole
22/10/2020	J	F310S2031	22.1	2,230	160.0	75	WD	Parallel	580	N-S	Downhole
23/10/2020	J	F410S2059A	40.0	1,630	160.0	75	WD	Parallel	412	E-W	Up-hole
23/10/2020	J	F410S2059A	26.6	3,180	160.0	75	WD	Parallel	457	N-S	Up-hole
28/10/2020	J	F310S2044A	58.4	1,700	160.0	75	WD	Parallel	389	N-S	Up-hole
28/10/2020	J	F310S2044A	26.6	0.813	160.0	75	WD	Parallel	281	E-W	Downhole
27/10/2020	J	F410S2047	66.6	1,620	160.0	75	WD	Parallel	568	N-S	Up-hole
27/10/2020	J	F410S2047	46.0	0.539	160.0	75	WD	Parallel	508	N-S	Up-hole
28/10/2020	H	M440S2004	26.8	0.741	101.4	75	WD	Parallel	434	N-S	Up-hole
28/10/2020	J	F310S2031	19.8	0.976	101.4	75	WD	Parallel	434	N-S	Up-hole
29/10/2020	J	F310S2031	20.5	2,430	101.4	75	WD	Parallel	388	N-S	Up-hole
30/10/2020	J	F310S2039L	40.0	1,330	180.0	75	WD	Parallel	503	N-S	Up-hole
30/10/2020	J	F310S2039L	20.0	4,210	180.0	75	WD	Parallel	438	N-S	Up-hole
31/10/2020	J	F310S2042A	40.0	0.813	133.0	46.1	WD	Parallel	252	E-W	Downhole
31/10/2020	J	F310S2042A	13.3	1,800	133.0	46.1	WD	Parallel	565	N-S	Downhole
04/11/2020	J	F410S2047	26.6	0.582	54.1	66	WD	Spiral	570	N-S	Downhole
04/11/2020	J	F410S2047	26.6	1,380	54.1	66	WD	Spiral	375	N-S	Downhole
08/11/2020	J	F50S2033A	3.0	0.596	95.0	75	WD	Parallel	266	E-W	Downhole
08/11/2020	J	F50S2033A	26.8	1,180	95.0	75	WD	Parallel	625	N-S	Downhole
08/11/2020	J	F310S2031	21.4	1,030	92.7	75	WD	Parallel	433	N-S	Downhole
08/11/2020	J	F310S2031	21.4	3,010	92.7	75	WD	Parallel	400	N-S	Up-hole
08/11/2020	J	F310S2069	26.6	3,800	150.0	75	WD	Parallel	545	N-S	Downhole
08/11/2020	J	F310S2069	26.6	0.569	150.0	75	WD	Parallel	389	N-S	Downhole
08/11/2020	J	F310S2044A	26.6	2,010	114.6	75	WD	Parallel	513	N-S	Downhole
08/11/2020	J	F310S2044A	26.6	1,000	114.6	75	WD	Parallel	300	E-W	Downhole
20/11/2020	J	F310S2044A	15.6	1,840	65.0	66	WD	Parallel	560	E-W	Downhole
21/11/2020	J	F310S2069	13.4	1,360	165.0	75	WD	Parallel	330	N-S	Up-hole
22/11/2020	J	F310S2072	20.6	2,460	104.1	75	WD	Parallel	376	N-S	Up-hole
27/11/2020	J	F310S2042A	20.0	2,520	100.9	75	WD	Parallel	377	E-W	Downhole
28/11/2020	J	F310S2065	13.3	2,480	171.0	75	WD	Parallel	323	N-S	Downhole
28/11/2020	A	F230S2065	13.5	0.524	171.0	75	WD	Parallel	383	N-S	Downhole
02/12/2020	J	F230S2072	26.6	0.833	148.0	75	WD	Parallel	588	E-W	Downhole
02/12/2020	J	F50S2033A	26.7	2,080	54.5	66	WD	Parallel	259	E-W	Downhole
04/12/2020	J	F50S2024A	70.8	1,380	30.0	66	WD	Parallel	613	N-S	Downhole
04/12/2020	J	F310S2069	40.1	3,190	100.0	75	WD	Spiral	474	N-S	Downhole
08/12/2020	J	F310S2069	26.6	2,010	100.0	75	WD	Parallel	323	N-S	Downhole
08/12/2020	J	F310S2042A	66.6	0.833	100.9	66	WD	Parallel	383	N-S	Up-hole
08/12/2020	J	F310S2072	13.5	2,230	100.9	66	WD	Parallel	774	N-S	Downhole
08/12/2020	J	F310S2072	46.0	0.539	100.9	66	WD	Parallel	659	N-S	Downhole
08/12/2020	J	F310S2072	46.0	0.539	100.9	66	WD	Parallel	281	E-W	Downhole
11/12/2020	J	F230S2072	26.8	6.370	50.0	66	WD	Parallel	681	N-S	Up-hole
11/12/2020	J	F310S2072	40.3	0.833	50.0	66	WD	Parallel	363	N-S	Downhole
11/12/2020	J	F310S2069	13.4	1,157	160.0	75	WD	Parallel	590	N-S	Downhole
15/12/2020	J	F50S2040A	21.5	1,710	62.5	75	WD	Parallel	590	N-S	Downhole
17/12/2020	J	F310S2040A	15.9	0.741	148.0	75	WD	Parallel	609	N-S	Downhole
18/12/2020	J	F310S2040A	17.8	3,270	148.0	75	WD	Parallel	283	E-W	Up-hole
18/12/2020	J	F310S2069	19.5	2,130	100.0	75	WD	Parallel	408	N-S	Downhole
18/12/2020	J	F310S2069	26.6	1,480	100.0	75	WD	Parallel	488	N-S	Downhole
20/12/2020	J	F230S2065	53.3	4,570	104.6	75	WD	Parallel	471	N-S	Downhole

Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Date	Monitored structure	Stope	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm s <sup>-1</sup> )	Maximum charge per delay (kg)	Delay between adjacent holes (ms)	Operational scenario	Initiation pattern geometry	Distance (m)	Orientation	Type of blast
18/02/2021	J	F310S2051	20.4	0.833	20.0	65	WD	Spiral	404	N-S	Downhole
18/02/2021	J	F310S2052	20.4	1.55	75.0	65	WD	Spiral	379	N-S	Downhole
18/02/2021	J	F310S2053	20.4	1.10	94.1	65	WD	Parallel	561	N-S	Downhole
18/02/2021	J	F310S2054	20.4	1.030	94.1	65	WD	Parallel	782	N-S	Downhole
20/02/2021	J	F310S2055	27.4	1.910	88.8	75	WD	Parallel	582	N-S	Downhole
20/02/2021	J	F310S2056	27.4	1.100	110.0	75	WD	Parallel	372	N-S	Downhole
20/02/2021	J	F310S2057	27.4	1.100	110.0	75	WD	Parallel	381	N-S	Downhole
23/02/2021	J	F310S2058	26.6	1.889	102.7	65	WD	Parallel	421	N-S	Downhole
23/02/2021	J	F310S2059	26.6	1.783	102.7	65	WD	Parallel	342	N-S	Downhole
26/02/2021	J	F310S2060	28.7	3.120	182.0	75	WD	Parallel	578	N-S	Downhole
26/02/2021	J	F310S2061	28.7	4.420	182.0	75	WD	Parallel	488	N-S	Downhole
26/02/2021	J	F310S2062	28.7	1.630	182.0	75	WD	Parallel	539	N-S	Downhole
26/02/2021	J	F310S2063	28.7	1.630	182.0	75	WD	Parallel	539	N-S	Downhole
01/03/2021	J	F310S2064	31.3	2.300	136.0	75	WD	Parallel	566	N-S	Downhole
01/03/2021	J	F310S2065	31.3	2.300	136.0	75	WD	Parallel	383	N-S	Downhole
01/03/2021	J	F310S2066	31.3	3.600	53.4	75	WD	Parallel	383	N-S	Downhole
03/03/2021	J	F310S2067	26.6	2.020	98.6	75	WD	Parallel	237	N-S	Downhole
03/03/2021	J	F310S2068	26.6	3.130	100.0	75	WD	Parallel	469	N-S	Downhole
03/03/2021	J	F310S2069	26.6	4.190	100.0	75	WD	Parallel	469	N-S	Downhole
04/03/2021	J	F310S2070	31.1	2.520	167.5	75	WD	Parallel	326	N-S	Downhole
04/03/2021	J	F310S2071	31.1	1.100	167.5	75	WD	Parallel	1251	N-S	Downhole
08/03/2021	J	F310S2072	13.0	3.470	88.8	75	WD	Parallel	676	N-S	Downhole
08/03/2021	J	F310S2073	12.5	1.200	88.8	75	WD	Parallel	405	N-S	Downhole
10/03/2021	J	F310S2074	16.6	1.770	98.2	75	WD	Parallel	1123	N-S	Downhole
10/03/2021	J	F310S2075	16.6	3.790	98.2	75	WD	Parallel	420	N-S	Downhole
11/03/2021	J	F310S2076	18.6	1.380	105.0	75	WD	Parallel	387	N-S	Downhole
11/03/2021	J	F310S2077	51.0	3.000	105.0	75	WD	Parallel	395	N-S	Downhole
12/03/2021	J	F310S2078	30.8	2.410	84.0	65	WD	Parallel	850	N-S	Downhole
12/03/2021	J	F310S2079	30.8	1.980	84.0	65	WD	Parallel	484	N-S	Downhole
12/03/2021	J	F310S2080	15.3	3.450	84.0	65	WD	Parallel	324	N-S	Downhole
15/03/2021	J	F310S2081	15.3	1.050	84.0	65	WD	Parallel	88	N-S	Downhole
15/03/2021	J	F310S2082	15.3	1.050	84.0	65	WD	Parallel	88	N-S	Downhole
15/03/2021	J	F310S2083	15.3	1.050	84.0	65	WD	Parallel	88	N-S	Downhole
15/03/2021	J	F310S2084	15.3	5.520	71.4	65	WD	Parallel	438	N-S	Downhole
17/03/2021	J	F310S2085	15.3	3.380	90.7	65	WD	Parallel	318	N-S	Downhole
17/03/2021	J	F310S2086	26.8	4.380	195.0	75	WD	Parallel	237	N-S	Downhole
19/03/2021	J	F310S2087	54.0	2.450	66.0	65	WD	Parallel	482	N-S	Downhole
19/03/2021	J	F310S2088	20.6	1.310	66.0	65	WD	Parallel	597	N-S	Downhole
19/03/2021	J	F310S2089	55.4	5.290	164.0	75	WD	Parallel	609	N-S	Downhole
19/03/2021	J	F310S2090	26.7	1.310	164.0	75	WD	Parallel	751	N-S	Downhole
20/03/2021	J	F310S2091	18.6	3.780	100.9	75	WD	Parallel	670	N-S	Downhole
20/03/2021	J	F310S2092	24.9	2.180	100.9	75	WD	Parallel	405	N-S	Downhole
21/03/2021	J	F310S2093	12.0	2.180	42.3	75	WD	Parallel	1127	N-S	Downhole
21/03/2021	J	F310S2094	26.8	0.730	42.3	75	WD	Parallel	421	N-S	Downhole
21/03/2021	J	F310S2095	26.8	1.280	128.7	75	WD	Parallel	883	N-S	Downhole
23/03/2021	J	F310S2096	44.4	4.450	128.7	75	WD	Parallel	883	N-S	Downhole
23/03/2021	J	F310S2097	40.0	2.920	159.0	75	WD	Parallel	324	N-S	Downhole
23/03/2021	J	F310S2098	26.6	0.622	159.0	75	WD	Parallel	471	N-S	Downhole
18/04/2021	J	F310S2099	40.0	1.400	166.0	65	WD	Parallel	1271	N-S	Downhole
18/04/2021	J	F310S2100	36.6	2.720	166.0	65	WD	Parallel	1271	N-S	Downhole
22/04/2021	J	F310S2101	26.6	2.720	166.0	65	WD	Parallel	324	N-S	Downhole
22/04/2021	J	F310S2102	26.6	1.100	154.0	65	WD	Parallel	488	N-S	Downhole
23/04/2021	J	F310S2103	46.3	1.170	154.0	65	WD	Parallel	237	N-S	Downhole
23/04/2021	J	F310S2104	46.3	2.180	55.0	65	WD	Parallel	167	N-S	Downhole
25/04/2021	J	F310S2105	30.5	0.648	55.0	65	WD	Parallel	416	N-S	Downhole
25/04/2021	J	F310S2106	48.4	1.400	110.9	65	WD	Parallel	683	N-S	Downhole
28/04/2021	J	F310S2107	26.6	1.470	110.9	65	WD	Parallel	1111	N-S	Downhole
28/04/2021	J	F310S2108	46.1	1.100	158.0	75	WD	Parallel	423	N-S	Downhole
28/04/2021	J	F310S2109	15.4	3.480	158.0	75	WD	Parallel	555	N-S	Downhole
28/04/2021	J	F310S2110	15.4	0.696	158.0	75	WD	Parallel	389	N-S	Downhole
30/04/2021	J	F310S2111	46.2	7.750	95.0	65	WD	Parallel	523	N-S	Downhole
30/04/2021	J	F310S2112	31.2	2.570	95.0	65	WD	Parallel	434	N-S	Downhole
02/05/2021	J	F310S2113	40.0	1.980	175.0	75	WD	Parallel	1275	N-S	Downhole
02/05/2021	J	F310S2114	26.6	3.310	175.0	75	WD	Parallel	467	N-S	Downhole
04/05/2021	J	F310S2115	45.1	0.978	30.0	65	WD	Parallel	323	N-S	Downhole
04/05/2021	J	F310S2116	31.0	0.648	30.0	65	WD	Parallel	590	N-S	Downhole
04/05/2021	J	F310S2117	61.8	2.350	117.5	75	WD	Parallel	613	N-S	Downhole
04/05/2021	J	F310S2118	59.4	2.280	117.5	75	WD	Parallel	419	N-S	Downhole
06/05/2021	J	F310S2119	26.6	1.950	158.0	75	WD	Parallel	576	N-S	Downhole
06/05/2021	J	F310S2120	26.6	0.688	158.0	75	WD	Parallel	404	N-S	Downhole
08/05/2021	A	F310S2121	3.0	0.938	171.0	75	WD	Parallel	437	N-S	Downhole
08/05/2021	J	F310S2122	53.3	4.930	97.7	75	WD	Parallel	588	N-S	Downhole
08/05/2021	J	F310S2123	26.6	1.370	105.0	75	WD	Parallel	614	N-S	Downhole
09/05/2021	A	M40S2007	13.3	0.524	105.0	75	WD	Parallel	385	N-S	Downhole
11/05/2021	J	F310S2124	20.0	3.650	87.5	65	WD	Parallel	541	N-S	Downhole
11/05/2021	J	F310S2125	34.4	3.440	38.4	65	WD	Parallel	395	N-S	Downhole
12/05/2021	J	F310S2126	66.8	1.120	38.4	65	WD	Parallel	1138	N-S	Downhole
12/05/2021	J	F310S2127	66.8	0.813	153.0	75	WD	Parallel	682	N-S	Downhole
12/05/2021	J	F310S2128	26.6	2.130	153.0	75	WD	Parallel	682	N-S	Downhole

Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Table with columns: Date, Monitorid structure, Step, PVS Dominant frequency (Hz), PVS (mm s⁻¹), Maximum charge per delay (kg), Delay between adjacent holes (m), Operational scenario, Initiation pattern geometry, Distance (m), Orientation, Type of blast, Date, Monitorid structure, Step, PVS Dominant frequency (Hz), PVS (mm s⁻¹), Maximum charge per delay (kg), Delay between adjacent holes (m), Operational scenario, Initiation pattern geometry, Distance (m), Orientation, Type of blast.



Legend:



Data considered as outliers

WD

Data included in models with discontinuity

WOD

Data included in models without discontinuity

Date	Monitored structure	Stage	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm s <sup>-1</sup> )	Maximum charge per daily (kg)	Delay between adjacent holes (ms)	Operational scenario	Initiation pattern geometry	Distance (m)	Orientation	Type of blast
24/03/2022	A	F410S2041	53.3	5.287	105.0	75	WOD	Parallel	473	N-S	Downhole
24/03/2022	J	F410S2041	60.3	5.589	25.0	65	WOD	Spiral	448	N-S	Downhole
24/03/2022	J	F410S2041	55.8	5.452	45.0	66	WOD	Spiral	443	N-S	Downhole
26/03/2022	J	F270S2069	40.0	3.603	99.6	75	WOD	Parallel	280	E-W	Downhole
26/03/2022	J	F270S2069	26.4	1.454	99.6	75	WOD	Parallel	548	N-S	Downhole
26/03/2022	H	F124S2064	40.0	5.24	105.5	75	WOD	Parallel	1176	E-W	Up-hole
28/03/2022	J	F410S2041	40.0	2.008	105.5	75	WOD	Parallel	473	N-S	Downhole
31/03/2022	J	F410S2041	26.8	0.648	90.0	75	WOD	Spiral	597	N-S	Downhole
31/03/2022	J	F410S2041	26.8	1.839	90.0	75	WOD	Spiral	439	N-S	Downhole
01/04/2022	D	F182S2068	2.8	0.524	90.0	75	WOD	Spiral	1077	E-W	Downhole
01/04/2022	D	F182S2068	40.0	2.800	84.1	75	WOD	Parallel	395	N-S	Downhole
01/04/2022	J	F182S2068	26.6	1.055	84.1	75	WOD	Parallel	712	N-S	Downhole
02/04/2022	J	F360S2059A	53.1	4.639	88.2	75	WOD	Parallel	369	N-S	Downhole
02/04/2022	J	F360S2059A	26.6	5.759	88.2	75	WOD	Parallel	471	N-S	Downhole
02/04/2022	J	F360S2059A	8.0	0.542	88.2	75	WOD	Parallel	1837	E-W	Downhole
02/04/2022	A	F124S2064	27.8	2.342	176.4	75	WOD	Parallel	477	N-S	Up-hole
04/04/2022	J	F270S2069	50.0	0.527	50.5	75	WOD	Parallel	588	N-S	Downhole
04/04/2022	J	F270S2069	18.3	0.568	50.5	75	WOD	Parallel	596	N-S	Downhole
05/04/2022	J	F410S2041	26.6	2.118	93.2	75	WOD	Parallel	441	N-S	Downhole
05/04/2022	D	F410S2041	21.5	0.696	93.2	75	WOD	Parallel	1010	E-W	Downhole
05/04/2022	J	F270S2069	26.6	1.675	99.6	75	WOD	Parallel	441	N-S	Downhole
05/04/2022	J	F270S2069	21.1	0.568	99.6	75	WOD	Parallel	1009	E-W	Downhole
05/04/2022	J	F270S2069	39.9	5.355	180.0	75	WOD	Spiral	381	N-S	Downhole
12/04/2022	I	F370S2061	26.6	5.342	180.0	75	WOD	Spiral	388	N-S	Downhole
12/04/2022	J	F370S2061	13.2	2.071	187.4	75	WOD	Parallel	483	N-S	Downhole
12/04/2022	J	F410S2041	26.9	1.283	187.4	75	WOD	Parallel	443	N-S	Downhole
16/04/2022	J	F370S2061	13.3	0.763	187.4	75	WOD	Parallel	1519	E-W	Up-hole
16/04/2022	J	F370S2061	14.0	0.696	187.4	75	WOD	Parallel	1134	E-W	Up-hole
16/04/2022	D	F270S2063	26.6	2.254	180.0	75	WOD	Parallel	381	N-S	Downhole
16/04/2022	A	F270S2063	13.3	4.342	180.0	75	WOD	Parallel	382	N-S	Up-hole
16/04/2022	A	F270S2063	13.3	0.562	180.0	75	WOD	Parallel	1510	E-W	Up-hole
16/04/2022	J	F270S2063	13.4	0.648	180.0	75	WOD	Parallel	1089	E-W	Up-hole
16/04/2022	J	F370S2061	13.4	1.283	174.8	75	WOD	Parallel	486	N-S	Downhole
16/04/2022	J	F370S2061	18.1	2.879	174.8	75	WOD	Parallel	442	N-S	Downhole
16/04/2022	A	F370S2061	13.3	0.539	174.8	75	WOD	Parallel	1514	E-W	Up-hole
16/04/2022	D	F370S2061	13.4	0.648	174.8	75	WOD	Parallel	1128	E-W	Up-hole
17/04/2022	I	F124S2064	26.8	2.102	125.0	75	WOD	Parallel	462	N-S	Downhole
17/04/2022	H	M420S207	50.0	0.556	55.0	75	WOD	Parallel	597	N-S	Downhole
17/04/2022	D	F124S2064	40.0	0.554	125.0	75	WOD	Parallel	1180	E-W	Downhole
19/06/2022	I	F510S207L	26.6	3.061	166.0	75	WOD	Parallel	576	E-W	Up-hole
19/06/2022	I	F124S2064	61.3	3.441	85.0	75	WOD	Spiral	381	N-S	Downhole
22/06/2022	J	F124S2064	49.4	5.951	85.0	75	WOD	Spiral	250	E-W	Downhole
22/06/2022	D	F124S2064	3.0	0.582	85.0	75	WOD	Parallel	1020	E-W	Downhole
22/06/2022	J	F270S2063	13.3	3.035	186.0	75	WOD	Parallel	377	N-S	Downhole
22/06/2022	J	F270S2063	53.3	1.858	186.0	75	WOD	Parallel	387	N-S	Downhole
26/06/2022	I	F370S2061	66.4	3.343	112.5	75	WOD	Spiral	413	N-S	Downhole
26/06/2022	I	F370S2061	13.1	4.540	92.5	75	WOD	Parallel	389	N-S	Downhole
26/06/2022	J	F370S2061	12.9	1.872	112.5	75	WOD	Parallel	1117	E-W	Downhole
26/06/2022	J	F124S2064	38.9	7.245	92.5	75	WOD	Parallel	264	E-W	Downhole
26/06/2022	A	F124S2064	12.5	0.539	92.5	75	WOD	Parallel	1448	E-W	Downhole
26/06/2022	J	F370S2061	13.5	0.582	112.5	75	WOD	Spiral	1120	E-W	Downhole
01/07/2022	J	F370S2061	13.4	1.024	114.6	75	WOD	Parallel	462	N-S	Downhole
01/07/2022	J	F370S2061	13.4	1.746	114.6	75	WOD	Parallel	415	N-S	Downhole
01/07/2022	D	F370S2061	3.0	0.582	114.6	75	WOD	Parallel	1117	E-W	Downhole
06/07/2022	J	F124S2064	40.0	5.947	80.5	75	WOD	Parallel	263	E-W	Downhole
06/07/2022	I	F124S2064	26.8	2.843	80.5	75	WOD	Parallel	318	N-S	Downhole
12/07/2022	I	F370S2061	25.4	1.513	130.0	75	WOD	Parallel	416	N-S	Downhole
12/07/2022	J	F124S2064	13.4	1.024	130.0	75	WOD	Parallel	460	N-S	Downhole
18/07/2022	J	F124S2064	46.3	4.246	30.0	75	WOD	Spiral	173	E-W	Downhole
18/07/2022	J	F270S2067	13.3	2.546	178.5	75	WOD	Parallel	537	N-S	Downhole
18/07/2022	J	F270S2067	13.3	4.072	178.5	75	WOD	Parallel	314	E-W	Up-hole
20/07/2022	J	F124S2064	31.1	4.423	32.5	75	WOD	Spiral	168	E-W	Downhole
21/07/2022	J	F124S2064	46.0	6.332	32.5	75	WOD	Spiral	162	E-W	Downhole
22/07/2022	I	F124S2064	26.6	1.947	90.0	75	WOD	Parallel	387	N-S	Downhole
30/07/2022	E	F124S2064	66.8	0.739	92.3	75	WOD	Parallel	910	E-W	Downhole
01/08/2022	E	F510S207L	50.0	0.305	178.0	75	WOD	Parallel	1132	E-W	Up-hole
03/08/2022	C	F370S2061	50.0	0.302	100.0	75	WOD	Parallel	1217	E-W	Downhole

Database compiling information relative to the discarded monitored events:

Date	Monitored structure	Stope	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm·s <sup>-1</sup> )	Note	Date	Monitored structure	Stope	Dominant frequency (Hz)	PVS (mm·s <sup>-1</sup> )	Note
08/02/2018	G	F430SZ036A	77,3	0,696	Trim blast	18/04/2019	G	F410SZ038	99,9	1,310	No Q determined
08/02/2018	I	F430SZ036A	58,3	1,180	Trim blast	28/04/2019	I	F370SZ024L	20,0	2,860	No Q determined
09/02/2018	I	F430SZ036A	29,0	0,582	Trim blast	28/04/2019	G	F370SZ024L	40,0	2,040	No Q determined
15/02/2018	I	F430SZ036A	48,0	0,635	Trim blast	09/05/2019	I	F310SZ030	20,0	2,050	No Q determined
21/03/2018	I	F410SZ038A	29,8	5,190	No Q determined	09/05/2019	I	F310SZ032	80,0	0,823	No Q determined
21/03/2018	G	F410SZ038A	31,0	4,360	No Q determined	09/05/2019	G	F310SZ030/32	20,0	1,030	No Q determined
27/04/2018	J	F310SZ054	33,8	0,696	No Q determined	15/05/2019	I	F410SZ063	21,0	1,280	Trim blast
29/04/2018	I	F310SZ044	20,0	4,730	No Q determined	15/05/2019	G	F410SZ063	21,0	0,596	Trim blast
29/04/2018	J	F310SZ044	60,0	2,080	No Q determined	22/07/2019	G	F270SZ068L	39,8	1,400	No Q determined
29/04/2018	G	F310SZ044	20,0	3,470	No Q determined	22/07/2019	I	F270SZ068L	27,3	2,540	No Q determined
30/04/2018	I	F310SZ064	20,0	2,110	No Q determined	02/10/2019	I	F270SZ050	19,8	2,190	Trim blast
30/04/2018	J	F310SZ064	40,2	7,190	No Q determined	02/10/2019	G	F270SZ050	20,3	1,220	Trim blast
30/04/2018	G	F310SZ064	20,0	1,700	No Q determined	02/10/2019	J	F270SZ050	40,0	2,090	Trim blast
04/05/2018	G	F410SZ038A	78,0	3,040	Trim blast	07/10/2019	J	F270SZ050	40,0	2,390	No Q determined
04/05/2018	I	F410SZ038A	21,5	1,980	Trim blast	07/10/2019	I	F270SZ050	24,9	4,100	No Q determined
04/05/2018	J	F410SZ038A	39,8	1,050	Trim blast	07/10/2019	G	F270SZ050	40,0	2,230	No Q determined
14/05/2018	J	F310SZ062L	40,0	6,430	No Q determined	08/11/2019	G	F270SZ030	45,0	0,539	Trim blast
14/05/2018	G	F310SZ062L	38,3	1,570	No Q determined	08/11/2019	I	F270SZ030	17,3	0,660	Trim blast
14/05/2018	I	F310SZ062L	21,3	2,230	No Q determined	08/11/2019	G	F270SZ063	22,8	1,580	No Q determined
15/05/2018	J	F310SZ062L	2,8	1,540	Trim blast	26/11/2019	I	F270SZ063	17,1	2,870	No Q determined
15/05/2018	G	F310SZ062L	42,0	0,596	Trim blast	26/11/2019	J	F270SZ063	36,8	5,870	No Q determined
15/05/2018	I	F310SZ062L	29,1	1,050	Trim blast	15/01/2020	J	F270SZ063	18,5	5,370	Trim blast
23/05/2018	J	F310SZ054	44,0	0,833	Trim blast	15/01/2020	G	F270SZ063	13,0	1,390	Trim blast
27/05/2018	J	F310SZ042	60,1	2,570	No Q determined	24/01/2020	J	F270SZ068	19,0	2,480	Trim blast
27/05/2018	I	F310SZ042	20,0	4,760	No Q determined	24/01/2020	I	F270SZ068	20,0	0,751	Trim blast
27/05/2018	G	F310SZ042	20,0	3,390	No Q determined	24/01/2020	G	F270SZ068	41,0	0,524	Trim blast
01/06/2018	G	F310SZ058L	32,8	1,450	Trim blast	06/03/2020	I	F410SZ044	76,8	0,852	Trim blast
01/06/2018	J	F310SZ058L	66,9	3,100	Trim blast	16/04/2020	I	F310SZ047	19,5	2,600	Trim blast
13/06/2018	J	F310SZ054	2,3	0,751	Trim blast	29/05/2020	J	F310SZ070AR	39,9	4,440	Trim blast
21/06/2018	I	F310SZ066	30,6	1,370	No Q determined	29/05/2020	G	F310SZ070AR	79,9	0,823	Trim blast
21/06/2018	J	F310SZ066	45,4	7,130	No Q determined	29/05/2020	I	F310SZ070AR	25,8	1,220	Trim blast
21/06/2018	G	F310SZ066	16,0	1,250	No Q determined	26/08/2020	I	F310SZ049	16,5	0,582	Trim blast
29/06/2018	G	F310SZ058L	32,3	1,490	No Q determined	27/08/2020	I	F370SZ061L	25,3	0,684	Trim blast
29/06/2018	J	F310SZ058L	40,1	2,400	No Q determined	09/09/2020	J	F310SZ071	3,0	0,648	Trim blast
29/06/2018	I	F310SZ058L	30,0	1,550	No Q determined	22/09/2020	I	F310SZ049	3,0	0,648	Trim blast
04/07/2018	G	F410SZ062	30,8	2,390	No Q determined	23/09/2020	I	F410SZ039	21,5	1,410	Trim blast
04/07/2018	J	F410SZ062	46,1	3,210	No Q determined	19/10/2020	I	F270SZ038L	22,3	0,950	Trim blast
04/07/2018	I	F410SZ062	30,5	1,930	No Q determined	30/10/2020	J	F410SZ050AR	40,0	0,741	Trim blast
17/07/2018	I	F310SZ054	31,0	2,700	No Q determined	30/10/2020	I	F410SZ050AR	26,8	0,648	Trim blast
17/07/2018	G	F310SZ054	30,6	1,580	No Q determined	02/11/2020	J	F410SZ050AR	3,0	0,568	Trim blast
23/07/2018	I	F310SZ070	27,3	0,582	Trim blast	02/11/2020	I	F410SZ050AR	3,0	0,554	Trim blast
23/07/2018	G	F310SZ070	116,0	1,450	Trim blast	03/11/2020	I	F410SZ047	20,8	1,000	Trim blast
29/08/2018	G	F310SZ072	22,6	0,684	No Q determined	16/12/2020	J	F370SZ044AL	53,3	1,570	Trim blast
29/08/2018	J	F310SZ072	123,0	8,360	No Q determined	16/12/2020	I	F370SZ044AL	26,6	2,820	Trim blast
29/08/2018	I	F310SZ072	30,8	1,100	No Q determined	21/12/2020	J	F230SZ072	59,5	1,970	Trim blast
01/09/2018	J	F310SZ072	69,8	4,820	Trim blast	30/12/2020	J	F230SZ072	47,0	1,430	Trim blast
01/09/2018	I	F310SZ072	20,0	0,751	Trim blast	19/01/2021	J	F210SZ076L	33,4	4,160	Trim blast
03/09/2018	J	F310SZ070	53,0	1,920	Trim blast	19/01/2021	I	F210SZ076L	26,6	1,120	Trim blast
03/09/2018	I	F310SZ070	27,5	0,635	Trim blast	30/01/2021	J	F370SZ044AL	140,0	0,524	Trim blast
11/09/2018	J	F310SZ042	120,0	3,590	No Q determined	30/01/2021	I	F370SZ044AL	15,8	0,773	Trim blast
12/09/2018	J	F310SZ070	44,0	3,320	Trim blast	03/02/2021	H	M440SZ007	40,0	0,696	No Q determined
19/09/2018	I	F430SZ038	18,0	1,000	Trim blast	03/02/2021	I	F370SZ044AL	16,5	1,050	Trim blast
19/09/2018	B	F430SZ038	2,5	0,762	Trim blast	22/03/2021	I	F370SZ044AL	28,8	1,390	Trim blast
19/09/2018	J	F430SZ038	98,5	0,762	Trim blast	26/03/2021	J	F310SZ051	13,3	0,959	Trim blast
19/09/2018	G	F430SZ038	18,8	0,959	Trim blast	26/03/2021	I	F310SZ051	16,5	1,280	Trim blast
02/10/2018	B	F270SZ064	60,0	4,040	No Q determined	01/05/2021	A	F310SZ026R	3,0	0,524	No Q determined
02/10/2018	I	F270SZ064	19,0	1,800	No Q determined	03/06/2021	D	F230SZ038L	167,0	0,813	Trim blast
02/10/2018	G	F270SZ064	21,3	0,898	No Q determined	03/06/2021	J	F230SZ038L	50,0	0,813	Trim blast
02/10/2018	J	F270SZ064	60,0	9,580	No Q determined	03/06/2021	I	F230SZ038L	20,0	1,300	Trim blast
14/10/2018	G	F410SZ042	46,1	2,510	No Q determined	19/09/2021	I	F230SZ073	27,5	1,024	Trim blast
14/10/2018	I	F410SZ042	30,8	3,240	No Q determined	23/09/2021	J	F230SZ068	50,0	2,132	Trim blast
14/10/2018	J	F410SZ042	92,3	1,420	No Q determined	23/09/2021	J	F230SZ073	50,0	1,161	Trim blast
16/10/2018	J	F310SZ046	100,0	2,640	No Q determined	23/09/2021	I	F230SZ068	25,0	0,539	Trim blast
16/10/2018	G	F310SZ046	20,0	3,810	No Q determined	11/10/2021	I	F370SZ058AL	26,3	3,438	Trim blast
16/10/2018	I	F310SZ046	20,0	5,810	No Q determined	11/10/2021	J	F370SZ058AL	50,0	4,734	Trim blast
06/11/2018	J	F430SZ038	52,8	0,648	Trim blast	12/10/2021	I	F370SZ039	26,6	1,555	Trim blast
06/11/2018	G	F430SZ038	20,5	0,741	Trim blast	23/12/2021	I	F370SZ058AL	20,3	1,675	Trim blast
06/11/2018	I	F430SZ038	30,0	1,110	Trim blast	23/12/2021	J	F370SZ058AL	50,0	1,303	Trim blast
11/11/2018	J	F310SZ068	46,1	4,690	No Q determined	03/01/2022	J	F210SZ056	50,0	1,513	Trim blast
11/11/2018	G	F310SZ068	16,1	0,751	No Q determined	14/01/2022	D	F510SZ037AL	23,8	0,568	No Q determined
11/11/2018	I	F310SZ068	30,9	1,210	No Q determined	29/01/2022	A	F510SZ037AL	27,0	0,696	Trim blast
12/12/2018	J	F410SZ060	32,3	2,600	No Q determined	29/01/2022	I	F510SZ037AL	26,6	4,420	Trim blast
12/12/2018	I	F410SZ060	20,0	1,570	No Q determined	16/03/2022	J	F210SZ056B	53,5	1,055	Trim blast
12/12/2018	G	F410SZ060	29,1	1,310	No Q determined	23/04/2022	J	F510SZ037AL	26,3	0,539	Trim blast
02/01/2019	I	F270SZ074	31,0	1,080	No Q determined	23/04/2022	I	F510SZ037AL	26,5	1,529	Trim blast
02/01/2019	J	F270SZ074	60,1	7,040	No Q determined	18/05/2022	J	F125SZ050L	40,0	5,839	Trim blast
02/01/2019	G	F270SZ074	60,1	0,660	No Q determined	18/05/2022	D	F125SZ050L	26,6	0,582	Trim blast
15/01/2019	I	F410SZ023L	3,0	0,539	Trim blast	18/05/2022	I	F125SZ050L	53,4	3,429	Trim blast
25/01/2019	J	F410SZ054	40,1	1,710	No Q determined	18/05/2022	D	F125SZ050L	26,6	0,582	Trim blast
25/01/2019	I	F410SZ054	19,9	1,650	No Q determined	27/05/2022	I	F510SZ027L	46,8	4,050	Trim blast
25/01/2019	G	F410SZ054	39,9	1,160	No Q determined	27/05/2022	D	F510SZ027L	33,0	0,582	Trim blast
18/02/2019	I	F270SZ054	27,0	0,684	Trim blast	30/05/2022	I	F510SZ037AL	27,0	1,492	No Q determined
18/02/2019	J	F270SZ054	108,0	1,110	Trim blast	01/06/2022	J	F510SZ037AL	19,3	0,539	Trim blast
19/02/2019	G	F310SZ043	30,5	1,700	Trim blast	01/06/2022	I	F510SZ037AL	26,6	2,565	Trim blast
19/02/2019	J	F310SZ043	44,3	1,000	Trim blast	07/06/2022	J	F370SZ061L	26,6	0,950	Trim blast
19/02/2019	I	F310SZ043	30,0	3,290	Trim blast	07/06/2022	I	F370SZ061L	17,0	0,861	Trim blast
21/02/2019	J	F310SZ032	108,0	1,030	No Q determined	17/06/2022	D	F510SZ027L	40,0	0,539	Trim blast
21/02/2019	G	F310SZ032	46,1	1,060	No Q determined	25/06/2022	J	F125SZ064L	114,3	3,021	Trim blast
21/03/2019	I	F410SZ040A	60,0	1,400	Trim blast	28/06/2022	H	M420SZ007	50,0	0,522	Trim blast
21/03/2019	G	F410SZ040A	60,0	0,783	Trim blast	30/06/2022	J	F125SZ064L	39,9	4,410	Trim blast
07/04/2019	J	F310SZ034	100,0	1,350	No Q determined	30/06/2022	I	F125SZ064L	66,5	0,741	Trim blast
07/04/2019	G	F310SZ034	40,0	1,820	No Q determined	14/07/2022	J	F125SZ064L	39,5	10,210	Trim blast
07/04/2019	I	F310SZ034	60,0	2,650	No Q determined	14/07/2022	I	F125SZ064L	40,3	1,503	Trim blast
18/04/2019	I	F410SZ038	16,0	2,040	No Q determined						



# Annex C - Example of Event and FFT reports from a monitored vibration event

The considered records were measured at structure E and generated after a blast at stope F510SZ027L on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

Event report:



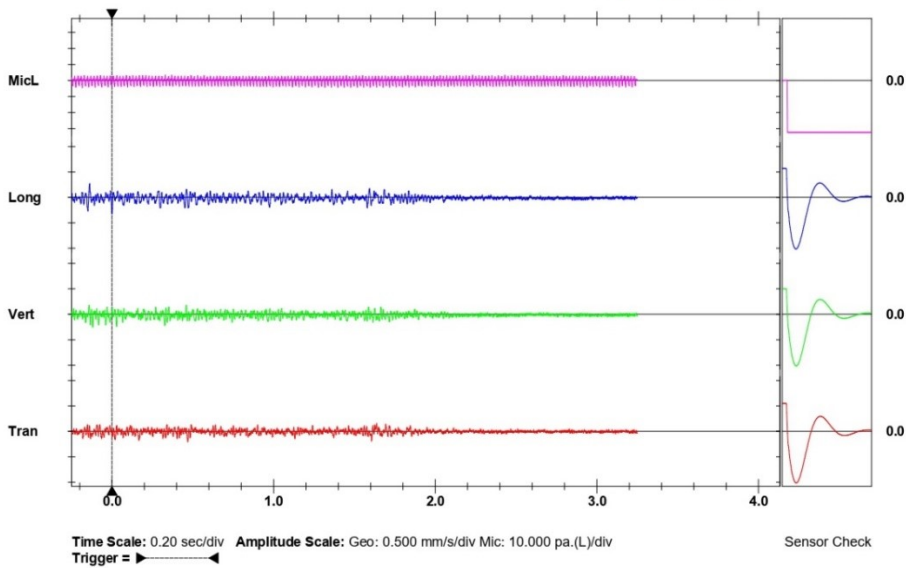
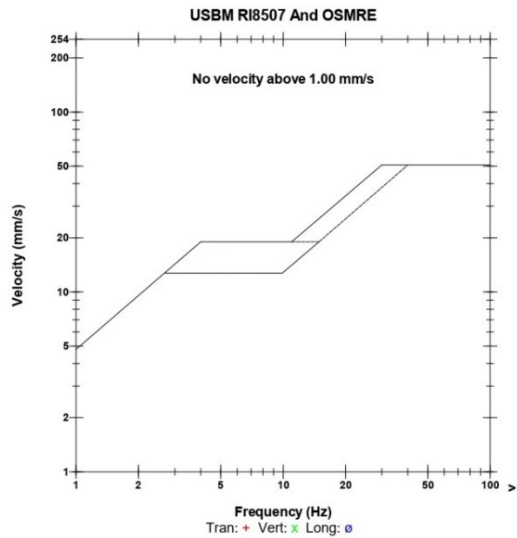
## Event Report

**Date/Time** Long at 19:04:25 August 1, 2022  
**Trigger Source** Geo: 0.300 mm/s  
**Range** Geo: 31.75 mm/s  
**Record Time** 3.25 sec (Auto=3Sec) at 1024 sps  
**Notes**

**Serial Number** BE9444 V 10.72-1.1 Minimate Blaster  
**Battery Level** 6.7 Volts  
**Unit Calibration** March 17, 2022 by CEME  
**File Name** K444JM3Z.ND0  
**Post Event Notes**  
 MALPIQUE  
 F510SZ027L - BANCADA

**Microphone** Linear Weighting  
**PSPL** 4,500 pa.(L) at -0.184 sec  
**ZC Freq** 65 Hz  
**Channel Test** Check (Freq = 0.0 Hz Amp = 0 mv)

	Tran	Vert	Long	
PPV	0.206	0.254	0.317	mm/s
ZC Freq	43	64	47	Hz
Time (Rel. to Trig)	0.469	-0.119	0.000	sec
Peak Acceleration	0.010	0.010	0.010	g
Peak Displacement	0.001	0.001	0.001	mm
Sensor Check	Passed	Passed	Passed	
Frequency	7.6	7.6	7.7	Hz
Overswing Ratio	3.5	3.5	3.7	
Peak Vector Sum	0.355 mm/s at 0.001 sec			



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FFT report:



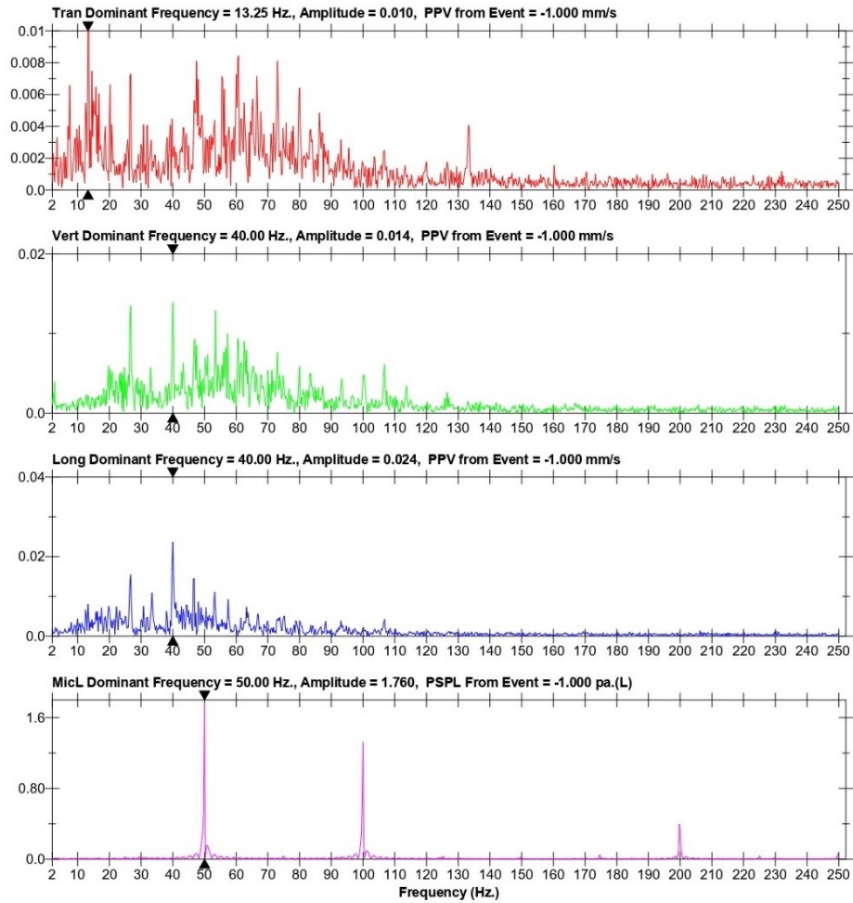
FFT Report

Date/Time Long at 19:04:25 August 1, 2022  
Trigger Source Geo: 0.300 mm/s  
Range Geo: 31.75 mm/s  
Record Time 3.25 sec (Auto=3Sec) at 1024 sps

Serial Number BE9444 V 10.72-1.1 Minimate Blaster  
Battery Level 6.7 Volts  
Unit Calibration March 17, 2022 by CEME  
File Name K444JM3Z.ND0

Notes

Post Event Notes  
MALPIQUE  
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In this event, the dominant frequency is equal to 40 Hz.

## Annex D - Structures porosity and building materials' propagation velocity results

This section compiles data measured at the four studied structures, essential to estimate the respective porosity and building materials' propagation velocity. The volume of structural elements at each building is calculated by the sum of the volumes equivalent to the existing pillars at the respective floor and to the slab corresponding to the ceiling.

Structure A:

Travel time ( $\mu\text{s}$ )	Distance (cm)	$C_p$ ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )	$\overline{C_p}$ ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )
38,8	5	1.288,7	3.152,2
34,2	10	2.924,0	
34,9	15	4.298,0	
48,8	20	4.098,4	
11,4	25	-	
27,6	30	-	

<b>Total structure volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	911,7
<b>Volume of structural elements (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	331,7
<b>Porosity</b>	0,64

Structure C:

Travel time ( $\mu\text{s}$ )	Distance (cm)	$C_p$ ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )	$\overline{C_p}$ ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )
25	5	2.000,0	2.189,7
45,7	10	2.188,2	
56,3	15	2.664,3	
82,3	20	2.430,1	
128,8	25	1.941,0	
156,7	30	1.914,5	

<b>Cellar</b>	<b>Floor volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	1.132,8
	<b>Structural elements volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	164,4
<b>First floor</b>	<b>Floor volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	990,9
	<b>Structural elements volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	92,4
<b>Second floor</b>	<b>Floor volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	452,7
	<b>Structural elements volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	41,1
<b>Total structure volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>		2.576,4
<b>Volume of structural elements (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>		297,9
<b>Porosity</b>		0,88

Structure D:

Travel time ( $\mu\text{s}$ )	Distance (cm)	$C_p$ ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )	$\overline{C_p}$ ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )
30,5	5	1.639,3	2.030,9
53,4	10	1.872,7	
70,4	15	2.130,7	
91,8	20	2.178,6	
118,2	25	2.115,1	
133,4	30	2.248,9	

<b>Cellar</b>	<b>Floor volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	1.720,9
	<b>Structural elements volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	120,3
<b>First floor</b>	<b>Floor volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	1.018,0
	<b>Structural elements volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	130,1
<b>Second floor</b>	<b>Floor volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	887,5
	<b>Structural elements volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	230,0
<b>Total structure volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>		3.626,3
<b>Volume of structural elements (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>		480,4
<b>Porosity</b>		0,87

Structure E:

Travel time ( $\mu\text{s}$ )	Distance (cm)	$C_p$ ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )	$\overline{C_p}$ ( $\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )
25,3	5	1.976,3	2.383,0
49,6	10	2.016,1	
64,7	15	2.318,4	
73,3	20	2.728,5	
92,7	25	2.696,9	
117,1	30	2.561,9	

<b>Total structure volume (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	2,3
<b>Volume of structural elements (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>	216,9
<b>Porosity</b>	0,99