



International Society for Rock Mechanics

THE ISRM "BLUE BOOK" CONTAINING ALL THE ISRM SUGGESTED METHODS



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*Hacettepe University, Turkey*  
*President of the ISRM*  
*Commission on Testing Methods*

**"THE COMPLETE ISRM SUGGESTED METHODS FOR ROCK CHARACTERIZATION, TESTING AND MONITORING: 1974-2006"**

**Suggested Methods prepared by ISRM Commission on Testing Methods**

**Editors:**

**R. Ulusay & J.A.Hudson**

*Compilation Arranged by the ISRM Turkish National Group*  
*Ankara, Turkey*  
*April 2007*

ISRM was founded in 1962, by **Prof. Dr. Leopold Mueller** of Karlsruhe University, West Germany.



ISRM work products have historically been generated by its internal "commissions" as appointed by the leadership directorate, which are designed to bring forth practical solutions to recognized rock engineering data and methods needs.

Prof. Mueller chose to release the Rock Testing Commission findings as separate papers.



Accordingly, since 1974, and through its Commission on Testing Methods, the ISRM has generated a succession of Suggested Methods (SMs) covering a wide range of subjects.



These have appeared in the International Journal of Rock Mechanics & Mining Sciences, published through an agreement With Pergamon Press.



These papers published as "Suggested Methods (SM)" devised to promote realistic design-related rock-engineering data through methods standardized to deliver accurate and reproducible numerical results, both from the field and in the laboratory.



In 1992, the Dutch publisher Elsevier acquired Pergamon Press and elected to continue publishing the IJRMMS as the venue in which all new SMs are presented to the profession.

**SUGGESTED METHODS:** Standards → **NO**  
 They are explanations of recommended procedures to follow in the various aspects of rock characterisation, testing and monitoring.

"However, the SMs can be used as standards on a particular project if required, but they are intended more as guidance."

The first collection of these SMs released between 1974 and 1981 was edited by Prof. Ted Brown and was published by Pergamon Press as the ISRM "Yellow Book" in 1981.



This first version of the ISRM SMs contained 3 parts and 14 SMs.

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Following Dr. Don Deere's initial work in the late 1960s and early 1970s in establishing the groundwork and priorities for the topics to be covered,

↓ **THE PROCEDURE**

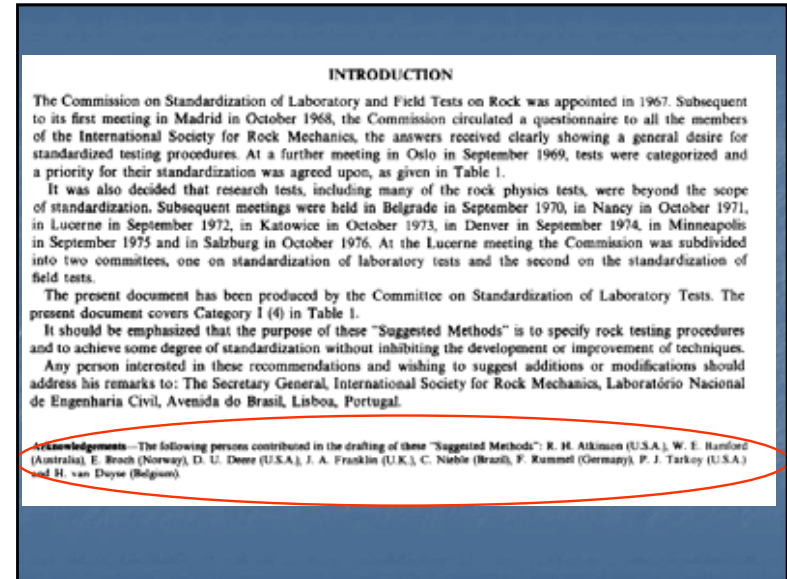
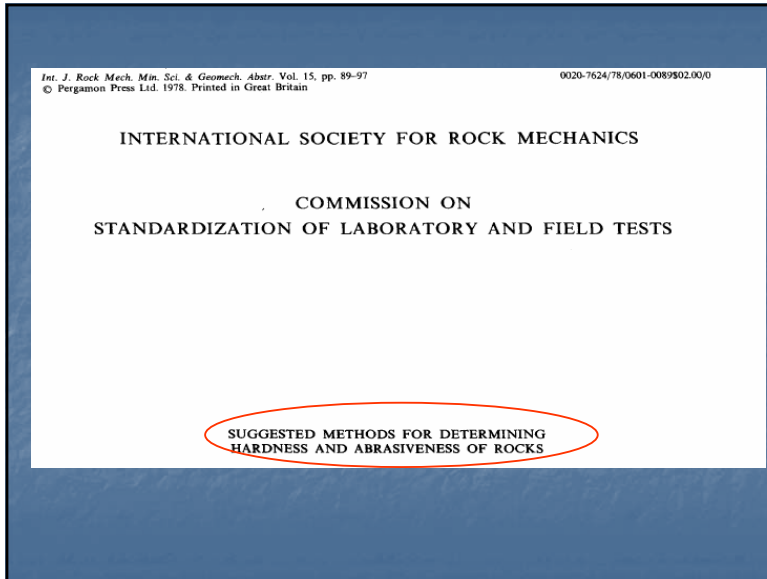
The production of the majority of the early SMs was managed by Prof. Richard Bieniawski and Dr. John Franklin who arranged Working Groups to produce successive drafts of each SM.

↓ **THEN**

The final versions of the SMs were submitted to the IJRMMS for publication



The early SMs did no authors, only the Working Group members were acknowledged



The "Yellow Book" was an instant success; however, the significant amounts of time and effort required to prepare it led to long lags in publication credits for the contributing committees of authors.

↓

Prof. John A. Hudson acted as the President of the ISRM Commission on Testing Methods between 1987 and February 2006

↓

SYSTEM

He continued with the production of the SMs and their publication in the IJRMMS and initiated a system where the documents were produced more in the form of papers – SO THAT THE AUTHORS WOULD RECEIVE FULL CITATION RECOGNITION OF THEIR EFFORTS.



The "**Yellow Book**", is out of print and many new SMs have been produced since 1981.



In 2005, **Professor John A. Hudson** was elected to the Presidency of the ISRM for the period 2007-2011



Responsibility for the Commission on Testing Methods (February 2006)



**Resat ULUSAY**



Based on the decision taken by the Commission during the first meeting in Singapore in 2006, re-publication of all the SMs in a book was one of the main targets of the Commission.

### Re-publication of the ISRM Suggested Methods



**Co-Editors: Prof. Resat ULUSAY & Prof. John A. HUDSON**

But due to continuing uncertainty with Elsevier in terms of re-publishing the ISRMs in book form, the co-editors decided to ask the **ISRM Turkish National Group (TNG)** to help in its printing. The TNG accepted to take the responsibility of its printing in Turkey on behalf of ISRM.

**Official permissions were obtained from**



Elsevier (39 SMs) and Springer Verlag (1 SM) in February 2007

Based on the agreement between ISRM and Turkish National Group and after the editorial works have been completed, the pdfs of all SMs, generated from 1974 to December 2006,

were compiled and **2000 COPIES** were printed in Ankara, Turkey, in April 2007 → sent to the ISRM

### BLUE BOOK



**THE BLUE BOOK WAS INTRODUCED TO THE GEO-ENGINEERING COMMUNITY AND SIGNED BY THE CO-EDITORS AT THE ISRM DESK DURING THE ISRM LISBON CONGRESS (July 11, 2007)**



A HARD COVER BOOK  628 pages, 40 SMs

- PREFACE
- CONTENTS
- INTRODUCTION

**Four parts:**

- Part 1:** Site Characterization
- Part 2:** Laboratory Testing
- Part 3:** Field Testing
- Part 4:** Monitoring

**Table of contents**

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**Preface by the ISRM President**

PREFACE

The main activity of the ISRM as an organization is to provide opportunities for exchange of ideas, developments and experiences of its members. The organization itself does not perform research, teaching or consultancy even though it may encourage those and provide opportunities for growth of its members.

There are only two classes of lasting products of the ISRM, namely the records produced of various conferences and the work of the various Commissions. This book is a shining example of the latter.

Commission members give up their time to produce lasting items of value to the international rock engineering community. They do not get paid or compensated in any other way for their work. Their only reward is the knowledge that they have contributed to making the world a better place for all through sharing their insight, knowledge and experience with everyone.

The Commission on Testing Methods is one of only two that have historically always been re-appointed by each new President, clear indication of the need for and value of this work. Professor John A. Hudson has been at the helm of this Commission for several years and Professor Resat Ulusay recently took over as President after having been involved for a long time.

On behalf of the ISRM, I congratulate all the authors on this great work and thank them for the initiative they took to provide the methods described in the following pages in a single volume. No rock engineering bookshelf should be without it.

Nielen van der Meer  
ISRM President 2003-2007

**Introduction by the Co-editors**

INTRODUCTION

Since the formation of the International Society for Rock Mechanics (ISRM) in the 1960s, there have been many developments and technological advances in both rock mechanics and rock engineering. Nevertheless, the subject remains essentially concerned with modifying rock behaviour, whether as a research effort or to support the design of structures to be built on or in rock masses. The methods thus developed depend essentially on the input parameters, on the basis of boundary conditions and material properties. For this reason, it is helpful, if not essential, for those active in the subject to have access to guidance on how to obtain these input parameters for a particular site, rock mass and project. Accordingly, since 1974 and through its Commission on Testing Methods, the ISRM has sponsored a succession of Suggested Methods (SMs) covering a wide range of subjects. The first collection of the Suggested Methods of the ISRM was edited by Professor Ted Brown and published by Pergamon Press in 1981. Because this book, unfortunately bound in the yellow book, is now out of print and many new SMs have been published since then, we have prepared this new collection for the use of rock mechanics teachers in universities and rock engineering practitioners. The collection of SMs in this book is the complete set of SMs from 1974 to 2008 inclusive.

Following Dr. Don Duvvuri's initial work in the late 1960s and early 1970s in establishing the groundwork and priorities for the topics to be covered, the production of the majority of the early SMs was managed by Professor Richard Brown and Dr. John Franklin who accepted Working Groups to produce successive drafts of each SM. The final versions were then published in the International Journal of Rock Mechanics and Mining Sciences (IJRMS), an Elsevier journal. These earlier SMs did not have authors as such, although the Working Group members were acknowledged. In 1987, Professor John A. Hudson took over the Presidency of the Commission of Testing Methods from Dr. Franklin. Professor Hudson continued with the production of the SMs and their publication in the IJRMS and assumed a leading role in the discussions over published papers in the form of papers – so that the authors would receive full credit recognition of their efforts. In 2001, Professor Hudson was elected as the President of the ISRM for the period 2001-2003 and, on relinquishing responsibility for the Commission on Testing Methods, asked Professor Ulucay if he would take over the Commission, which he did in 2008. Thus, this volume of SMs represents the work of all five Presidents of the Testing Methods Commission, plus the many Working Group members who have written the individual SMs. Professor Ulucay has taken the lead in producing this second general compilation.

We are extremely grateful to Elsevier for allowing us to reproduce the SMs as printed here and we are sure that their presence will be appreciated not only by the ISRM members but also by the whole rock mechanics and rock engineering communities at large.

The new 'Suggested Method' has been carefully chosen there are not standards per se, but the explanation of recommended procedures to follow in the various aspects of rock characterization, testing and monitoring. If someone has not been involved with a particular subject before and is described by a 'Suggested Method', there will find the guidance to be

most helpful. For example, rock stress orientation is not an easy task and anyone involved in increasing rock stresses should not take on the task lightly. The four SMs concerning rock stress estimation cover the understanding of rock stress, covering hydrostatic fracturing, and quality assurance. In other words, the two main stress measurement methods of over-coring and hydrostatic fracturing are backed up, firstly by ensuring that the reader is aware of the rock stress profile, and secondly by ensuring that the necessary quality checks have been highlighted. The SMs can be used as standards on a particular project if required, but they are intended more as guidance.

The SMs are collected here in five parts, namely: 1) Site Characterization, Laboratory Testing, Field Testing and Monitoring. The SMs involving the description of discontinuities and geophysical logging of boreholes are included in Part 1 (Site Characterization). Tests and measurements carried out in the laboratory and field have been categorized in two separate sub-divisions. Although some tests were, such as the Point Load Test and Isotach Hoop Stress Test, can be performed either in the laboratory or in the field using portable laboratory equipment, all under and overburden tests, along with the geophysical description of rocks, are considered in Part 2 (Laboratory Testing). Note that the 1975 version of the SMs concerning natural compressive strength testing and the measurement of these features were included in 1981 and 2008, respectively, so only the updated versions of these SMs have been included in this compilation. In Part 3 (Field Testing), the tests are divided into four sub-groups: Deformation Tests, In-situ Stress Measurement, Geophysical Testing, Other Tests, and Mining and Anchoring Tests. Part 4 (Monitoring) includes the methods for monitoring of movement, pressure and fluid circulation occurring in rock structures and rock masses.

The book contains a total of 40 SMs that have been prepared from 1974 to 2008. In 2007 and beyond, other SMs were and are being prepared and will continue to be published individually in the IJRMS as they become available. We believe that feedback and contributions from users are essential for the development of new SMs and updating of the current SMs. These users can suggest improvements to the published SMs as such or recommend new techniques or instruments for publication in an SM form as they see fit. Details of these proposals to Professor Ulucay, President of the Commission on Testing Methods of the ISRM, is [isrm@elsevier.com](mailto:isrm@elsevier.com).

Finally, we must acknowledge the contributions of all those who have participated and assisted in the preparation of the SMs from 1974 to 2008 – including many thousands of people. The names of the contributors to each SM published are listed on the title page of each issue. The valuable assistance of the Turkish National Group is gratefully acknowledged for their kind support in the preparation and printing of this compilation. The collaboration and support of Professor Hudson was the Merve (ISRM President 2003-2007) and Dr. Luis Lamas (ISRM Secretary General) are also gratefully appreciated.

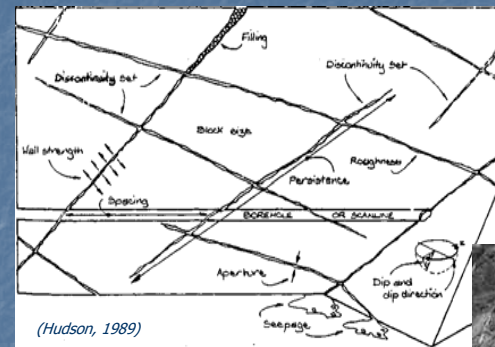
B. Ulucay  
J. A. Hudson  
April 2007

ISRM Suggested Methods are presented with standardized formats, each of which has the following contents:

- (1) Introduction and history of the suggested method,
- (2) Scope,
- (3) Apparatus,
- (4) Procedure,
- (5) Calculations,
- (6) Reporting,
- (7) Final credits,
- (8) Acknowledgments, and
- (9) References

## PART 1. SITE CHARACTERIZATION

- The Quantitative Description of Discontinuities in Rock Masses



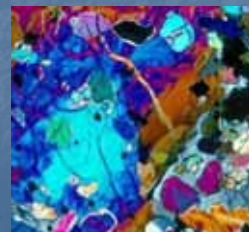
(Hudson, 1989)



- Geophysical Logging of Boreholes

## PART 2. LABORATORY TESTING

- Petrographic Description of Rocks



APPENDIX: SUGGESTED FORM OF PETROGRAPHIC REPORT		
<b>Project:</b> Location: Coordinates: Specimen ID: Collected by: Description of sampling point: Thin section no. Date:	<b>GEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION</b> Rock name: Petrographic classification: Geological formation:	<b>PHOTO-MICROGRAPHS OF TYPICAL FEATURES OF THIS SECTION</b>
<b>MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLE</b> Degree of weathering: Structure (incl bedding): Discontinuities:	<b>QUALITATIVE DESCRIPTION</b> Texture: Fracturing: Alteration: Matrix:	
<b>RESULTS OF ROCK PROPERTY TESTS</b> Point load index: Porosity: % Mohr, velocity: Density: g/cm <sup>3</sup> Unconfined compressive strength: Water absorption: Any other results:	<b>GENERAL COMMENTS with reference to test results</b>	<b>RESULTS OF RESULTS FOR THIS SECTION</b>
<b>GENERAL REMARKS</b>		

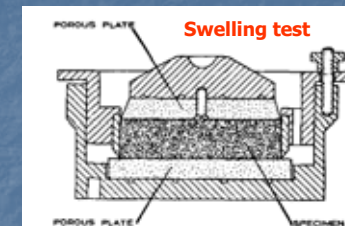
Thin section

(Nieble et al., 1978)

- Determining Water Content, Porosity, Density, and Related Properties and Swelling and Slake-Durability Index Properties



Mercury porosimeter



(Franklin et al., 1978)

Slake durability test



- Determining Hardness and Abrasiveness of Rocks



(a) Los Angeles abrasion test



(b) Schmidt hammer test



Schmidt hammer test was revised by Dr. Adnan Aydın and accepted by ISRM in 2008 → Its upgarded version was published in IJRMMS

Shore scleroscope



(c) Shore Hardness

1978 version of the SM concerning the measurement of Shore hardness were revised in 2006



Only the updated version of this SM has been included in the Blue Book (Altındağ et al., 2006)

- Determining Sound Velocity



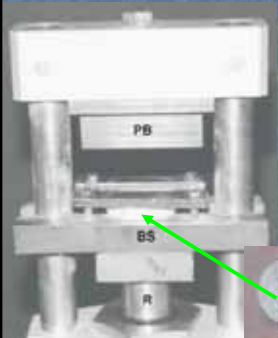
- Determining Point Load Strength



This SM replaced original document published in 1972.

- Determining the Indentation Hardness Index of Rock Materials

- Determining Block Punch Strength Index



(Ulusay et al., 2001)



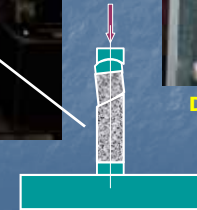
- Determining Uniaxial Compressive Strength and Deformability of Rock Materials



UCS test



Determination of deformability properties

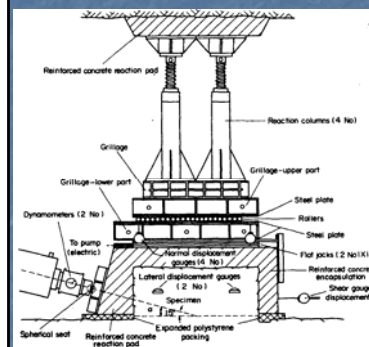


- Determining the Strength of Rock Materials in Triaxial Compression (1983: revised version of 1978)



- Determining Shear Strength

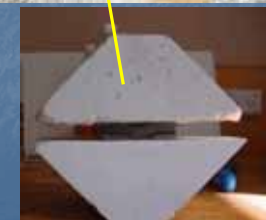
(a) In-situ shear test



(Franklin et al., 1975)

(c) Torsional shear test

(b) Laboratory direct shear test





**- Determining Tensile Strength of Rock Materials**

**(a) Direct tensile strength**

**(b) Indirect tensile strength by Brazilian test**

**- Laboratory Testing of Argillaceous Swelling Rocks**  
**- Laboratory Testing of Swelling Rocks**

Measuring of axial swelling stress

Measuring of axial swelling strain

*(Einstein et al., 1989)*

**- Complete Stress-Strain Curve for Intact Rock in Uniaxial Compression**

*(Fairhurst & Hudson, 1999)*

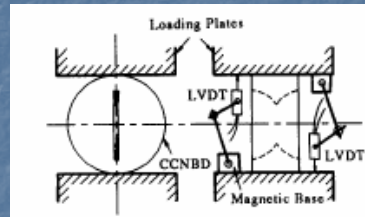
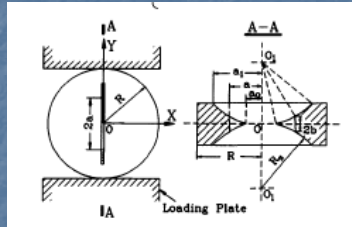
**- Determining the Fracture Toughness of Rock**

(a) Test using chevron bend specimen

(b) Test using short rod specimen

*(Ouchtrelovy et al., 1988)*

- Determining Mode I Fracture Toughness Using Cracked Chevron Notched Brazilian Disc Specimens



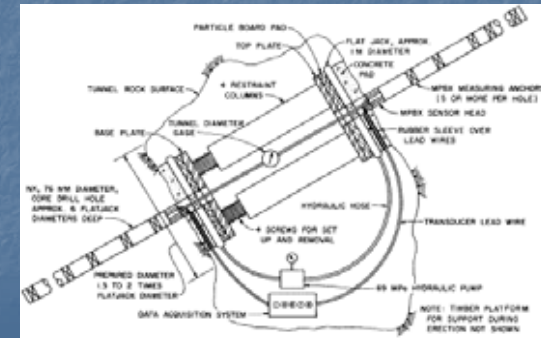
(Fowell et al., 1995)

**PART 3. FIELD TESTING**

**3.1. DEFORMABILITY TESTS**

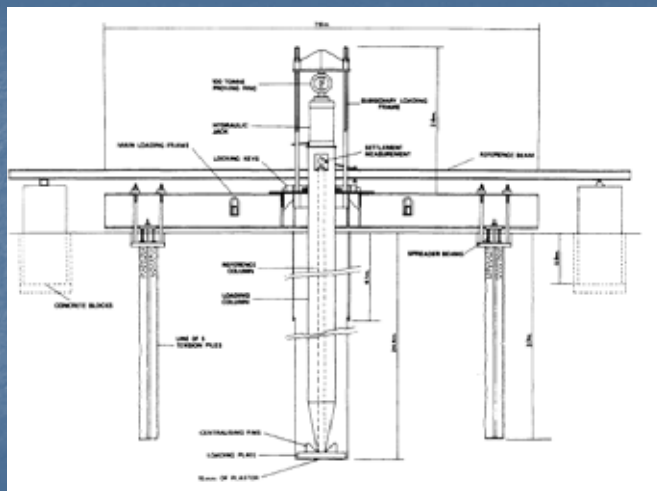
- Determining *In Situ* Deformability of Rock

(a) Plate test (Uniaxial jacking test)



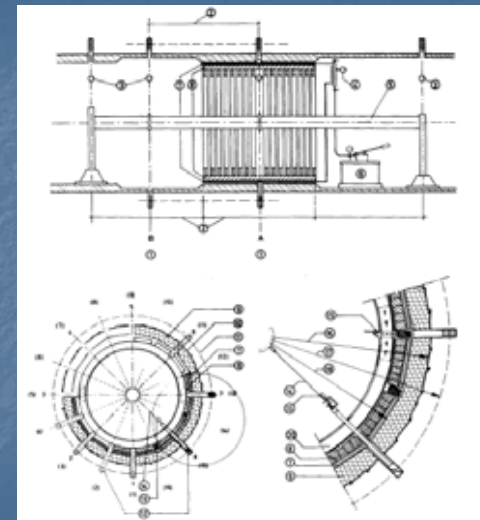
(Coulson et al., 1979)

(b) Plate test down a borehole



(Coulson et al., 1979)

(c) Radial jacking test



(Coulson et al., 1979)

- Deformability Determination Using a Large Flat Jack Technique



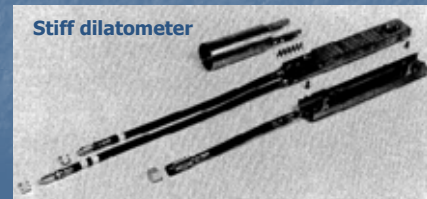
(www.masonrysociety.org)

- Deformability Determination Using Dilatometer



Flexible dilatometer

(www.roctest.com)



Stiff dilatometer

(Yow et al., 1996)

3.2. IN SITU STRESS MEASUREMENTS

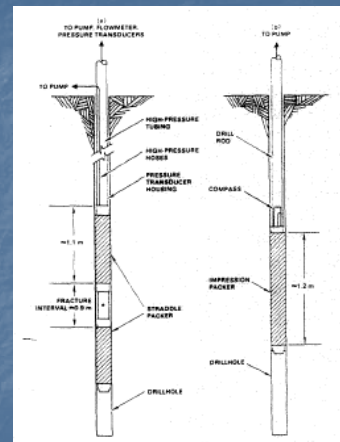
- Rock Stress Determination

(a) Flat jack technique



(www.masonrysociety.org)

(b) Hydraulic fracturing technique

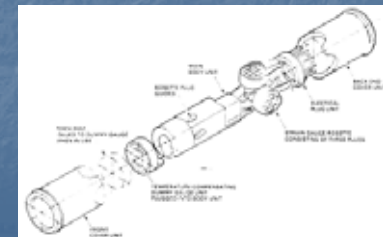


(Kim et al., 1987)

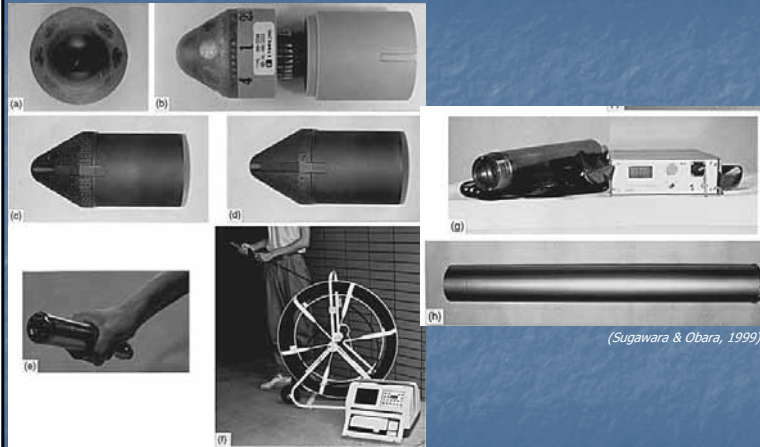
(c) USBM-type drillhole deformation gauge



(d) CSIRO-type cell with 9 or 12 strain gauges

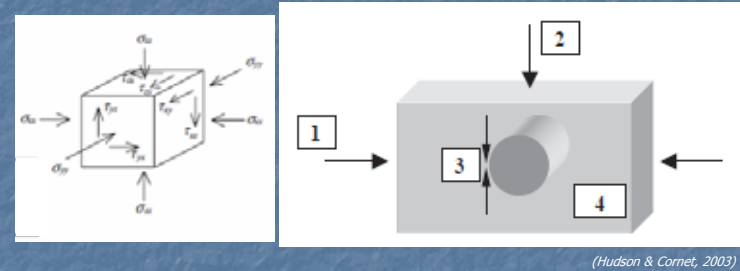


**- In situ Stress Measurement Using the Compact Conical-Ended Borehole Overcoring (CCBO) Technique**



**- Rock Stress Estimation**

**(a) Strategy for rock stress estimation**

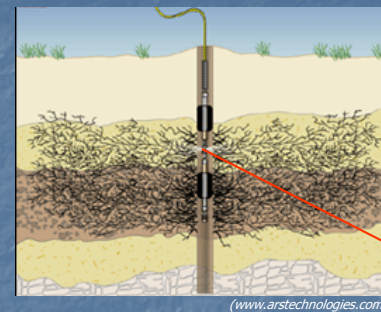


**(b) Overcoring methods**

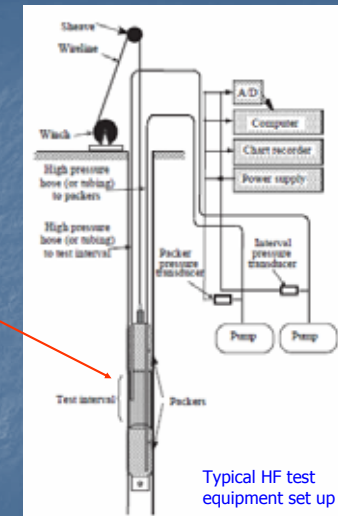


(Sjöberg et al., 2003)

**(c) Hydraulic fracturing**



**(d) Quality control of rock stress estimation**

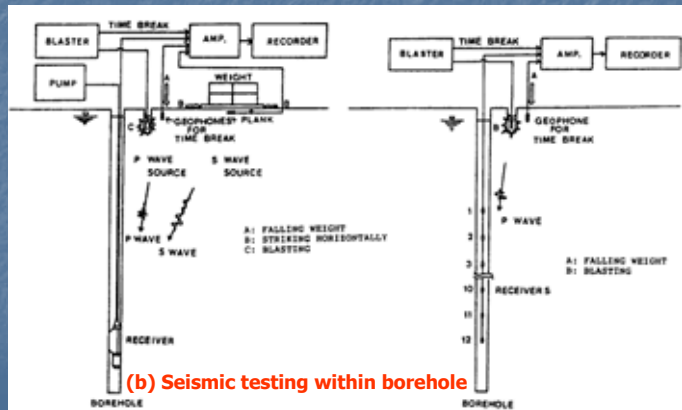


(Haimson & Cornet, 2003)

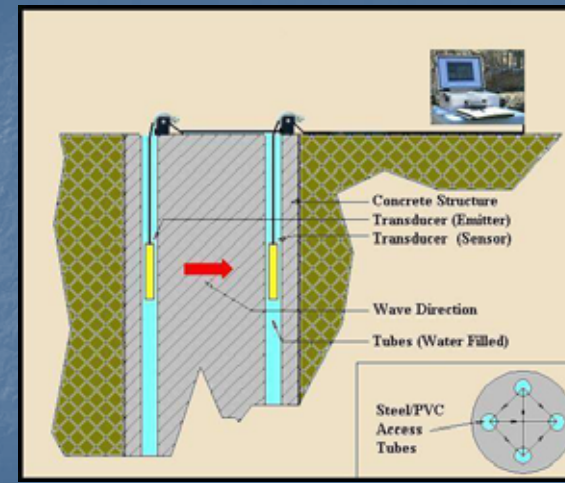
### 3.3. GEOPHYSICAL TESTING

#### - Seismic Testing Within and Between Boreholes

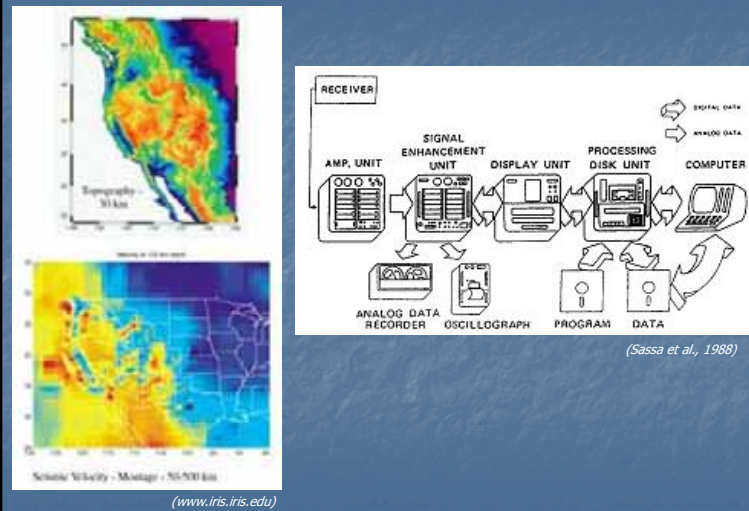
##### (a) Technical introduction



##### (c) Seismic testing between boreholes

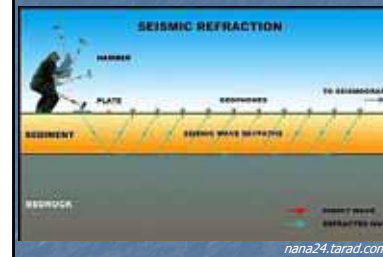


##### (d) Seismic tomography

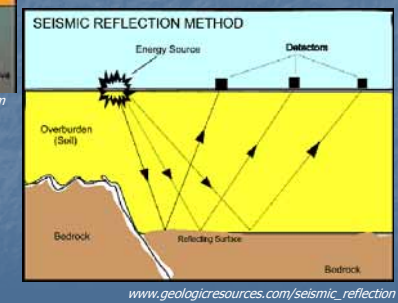


#### - Land Geophysics in Rock Engineering

##### (a)



##### (b)



**(c) Electrical (resistivity) method**

**(d) Electromagnetic method**

www.isotop.co.il

(SEG Japan, 2000)

(Takahashi et al., 2004)

**(e) Ground penetrating radar (GPR)**

www.worksmartinc.net

www.highcupwines.co.u

**(f) Gravity method**

www.lithoprobe.ca

**(g) Radiometric method**

Gamma ray intensity for Bismuth (Bi) and the ratio of Bismuth and Potassium (Bi/K)

(SEG Japan, 2000)

**- Borehole Geophysics in Rock Engineering**

**3.4. OTHER TESTS**

- Rapid Field Identification of Swelling and Slaking Rock (*Smear test, Taste test, Water reaction test, Anhydrite recognition*)
- Large Scale Sampling and Triaxial Testing of Jointed Rock

(Natau & Mutschler, 1989)

www.seikensha.com

### 3.5. BOLTING AND ANCHORING TESTS

#### - Rockbolting Testing



www.igh.hr

#### - Rock Anchorage Testing



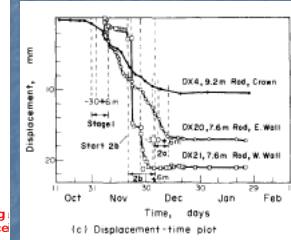
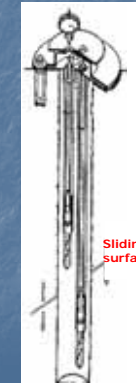
www.vsl-sg.com

### PART 4. MONITORING

#### - Monitoring Rock Movements Using Borehole Extensometers



www.geotrade.com



(Hansmire et al., 1978)

#### - Monitoring Rock Movements Using Inclinerometers and Tiltmeters

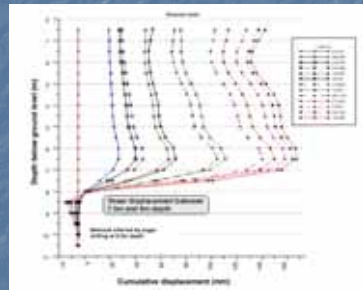
##### Inclinerometers

##### Inclinerometer and its installation



egweb.mines.edu

##### Inclinerometer profiles recorded

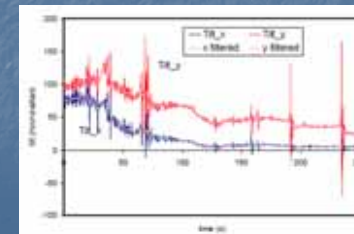


www.uow.edu.au

##### Tiltmeter




www.aracnet.com




(Frederking, 2005)

**- Pressure Monitoring Using Hydraulic Cells**



*www.geotechsystems.com.au* (Franklin et al., 1980)


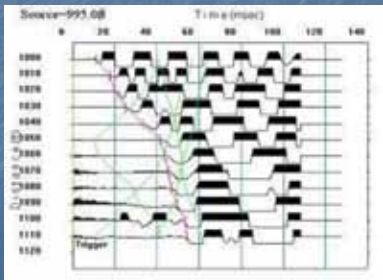
**- Surface Monitoring of Movements Across Discontinuities**



Portable displacement gauge

Jointmeter

**- Blast Vibration Monitoring**

*www.heritagegeophysics.com*


**SOME SELECTED ILLUSTRATIONS OF EXAMPLE SMs**

**(1) BLOCK PUNCH INDEX (BPI) TEST**  
(Ulusay et al., 2001)

*1. Introduction and history of the suggested method:*

- Lacharite (1960)  
Mazanti & Sowers (1965)  
Vutukuri et al. (1974)  
Stacey (1980) → To determine direct shear strength of rock specimens
- Taselaar (1982)  
Schrier (1988) → Correlations between BPI and UCS without consideration on the size effect
- Gökçeoglu (1997)  
Ulusay & Gökçeoglu (1997, 1998, 1999)  
Sulukcu & Ulusay (2001)  
Ulusay et al. (2001) → Size effect on BPI and its use in rock engineering

**ACCEPTED AS A SUGGESTED METHOD BY ISRM**



PERGAMON International Journal of Rock Mechanics & Mining Sciences 38 (2001) 1113-1119  
[www.elsevier.com/locate/ijrmms](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ijrmms)

**Draft ISRM suggested method for determining block punch strength index (BPI)**  
R. Ulusay\*, C. Gökçeoglu, S. Sulukcu  
Department of Geological Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Hacettepe University, 06102 Beyin, Ankara, Turkey  
Accepted 26 November 2001

**I. Introduction**  
From point load testing, particularly for laminated weak rocks [4-7]. It was also suggested that BPI be used as an alternative input parameter for intact rock strength in

**1.1. Rock strength, particularly the uniaxial compressive strength**



- The uniaxial compressive strength (UCS) is an important input parameter in rock mass classification systems and in various design approaches.
- A standard UCS test requires high quality core samples

↓ Limitations

Difficulty in weak, stratified and highly fractured rocks

↓ Alternative test method

POINT LOAD TEST

Presence of thin bedding or schistosity planes

↓

Rock cores divided into small discs

↓

Core length →

Too short to allow preparation of the specimens long enough even for point load testing

↓

BLOCK PUNCH INDEX TEST, BPI

## 2. Scope:

BPI → Strength index test to be used for

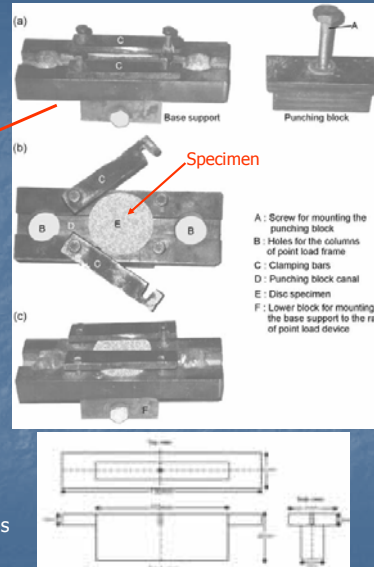
- (a) indirect determination of UCS
- (b) strength classification of intact rock

The test measures the size-corrected BPI value ( $BPI_s$ ) and strength index in the strongest direction ( $BPI_{s90}$ )

## 3. Apparatus:

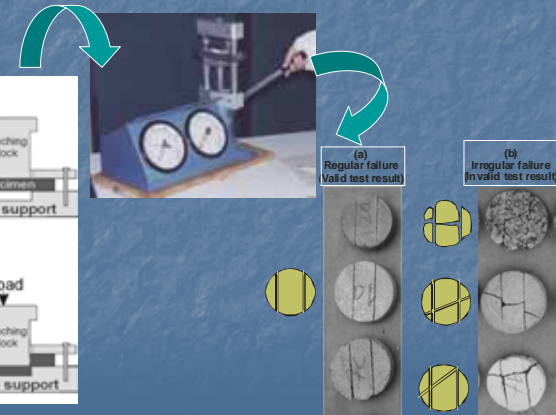
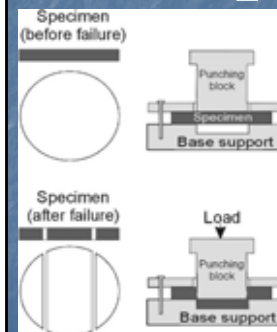


The base support is fitted to the columns of the point load test frame through the holes at its both ends and then it is attached to the ram of the frame by means of a block with a hole at its bottom



## 4. Testing procedure:

- Specimen thickness = 5 – 15 mm
- Diameter of specimen = 42 mm (BX) – 54 mm (NX)
- Loading rate = Failure occurs within 10 – 60 sec (as in point load testing)



### 5. Calculations

$t$ : 10 mm (reference or equivalent thickness)

Reference diameter ( $D$ ): 50 mm (based on previous studies and suggested methods for UCS and  $I_{s(50)}$ )

Uncorrected BPI:  $BPI = (10^{-3} F_{t,D}) / A$

Size-corrected BPI:

$$BPI_c = 3499 D^{-1.3926} t^{-1.1265} F_{t,D}$$

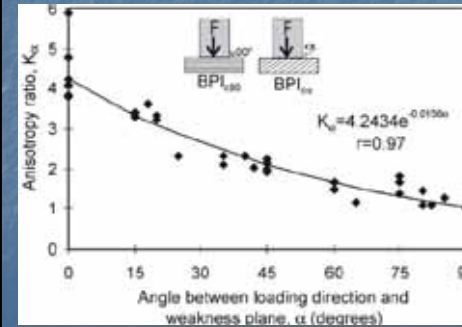
$F_{t,D}$ : failure load of a specimen of any diameter and any thickness, recorded from the gauge in kN and converted to MN by the multiplication of  $10^{-3}$

$D$  and  $t$  in mm.

### Strength index in the strongest direction:

In the case of a testing, which is carried out on specimens prepared from cores from boreholes inclined at any angle to the weakness planes, if determination of the strength index in the strongest direction (i.e. loading perpendicular to the weakness plane) is considered, an additional conversion on BPIs should be done.

$$BPI_{c90} = 4.24 e^{-0.0156\alpha} BPI_{c\alpha}$$



$BPI_{c90}$ :  $BPI_c$  obtained from boreholes perpendicular to the weakness planes (strongest direction)

$BPI_{c\alpha}$ :  $BPI_c$  of the specimen from boreholes inclined at any angle to the weakness planes.

### 6. Presentation of results

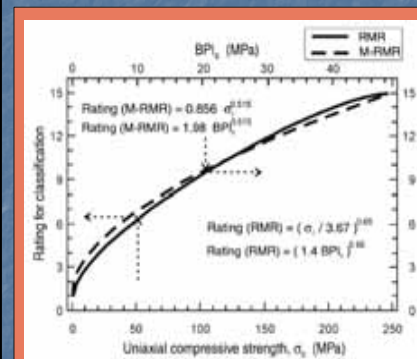
BLOCK PUNCH INDEX TEST								Date: 19/02/2001	
Source location: Core samples from an open pit mine				Lithologic description: Light grey limestone with horizontal and moderately bedding				Tested by: R.U. - CG	
Natural water content: All specimens are air-dried.									
Specimen No.	Sampling depth (m)	D (mm)	t (mm)	$\alpha$ (degrees)	$F_{t,D}$ (kN)	*Failure pattern	BPI <sub>c</sub> (MPa)	BPI <sub>90</sub> (MPa)	Remarks
1	11.50-12.00	46.3	11.8	90	7.0	RF	7.28	7.28	-
2	15.25-15.45	46.6	10.8	90	6.5	RF	7.40	7.40	-
3	16.10-16.20	46.8	9.20	90	3.5	RF	7.46	7.46	-
4	18.55-18.70	46.0	11.0	90	6.8	RF	7.72	7.72	-
5	19.20-20.20	46.4	10.6	90	6.5	RF	7.60	7.60	-

D: diameter; t: thickness;  $\alpha$ : angle between loading direction and weakness plane;  $F_{t,D}$ : failure load; BPI<sub>c</sub>: size-corrected BPI; BPI<sub>90</sub>: BPI<sub>c</sub> in the strongest direction, when  $\alpha=90^\circ$ ; \*RF: regular failure; \*IRF: irregular failure



### 7. Notes (the use of BPI):

Estimation of UCS  $\rightarrow$   $UCS = 5.1 BPI_c$



Classification of  $BPI_c$  (Sulukcu and Ulusay, 2001)

$BPI_c$ (MPa)	Strength Class
< 1	Very weak
1 - 5	Weak
5 - 10	Moderate
10 - 20	Medium
20 - 50	High
> 50	Very high

Rating chart of  $BPI_c$  and UCS for RMR and M-RMR classifications

Estimation of tensile strength:

$$\sigma_{tB} = 0.68 BPI_c$$

## (2) SM FOR THE COMPLETE STRESS-STRAIN CURVE FOR INTACT ROCK IN UNIAXIAL COMPRESSION (Fairhurst & Hudson, 1999)



### 1. Introduction:

The subject of this suggested method is obtaining the complete force-displacement curve for intact rock in a laboratory test.

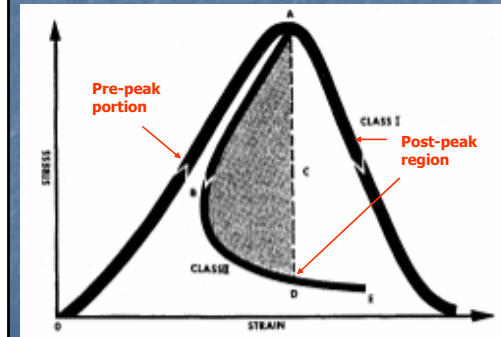
"Complete stress-strain curve" refers to the displacement of the specimen ends from initial loading, through the linear elastic pre-peak region, through the onset of significant cracking, through the compressive strength (when the stress-strain curve has zero gradient), into the post-peak failure locus, and through to the residual strength.

It is important to understand these two types of curve in order to optimize the control of rock failure.

### 2. Scope

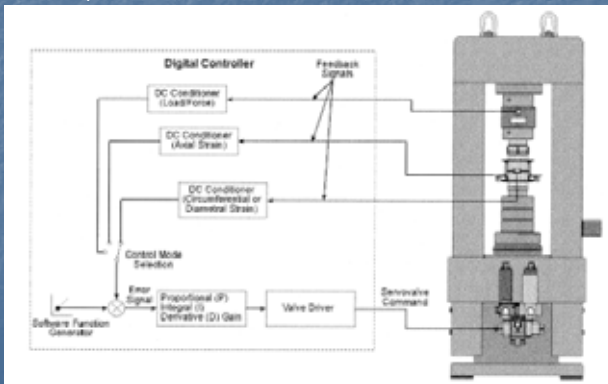
SM describes

- recommended testing and control procedures,
- loading system hardware
- specimen parameters for conducting lab. tests on intact cylindrical rock specimens for obtaining complete force-displacement data.



### 3. Apparatus

- Loading system (Servo-controlled system)
- Hydraulics
- Spherically seated platen and specimen platen
- Control system
- Strain measurement transducers
- Data acquisition



### 4. Specimen preparation (Similar to those required for UCS test)

#### 5. Procedure

Attach strain displacement transducers to the specimen and install the assembly onto the lower platen in the load frame

Apply a small preload in force control. this helps "seat" the specimen to the loading platens.



Follow the procedures recommended for specimens generally exhibiting ductile or brittle behaviors

## 6. Calculations

Compressive stress:  $\sigma = P / A_0$

Axial strain:  $\epsilon_a = \Delta l / l_0$

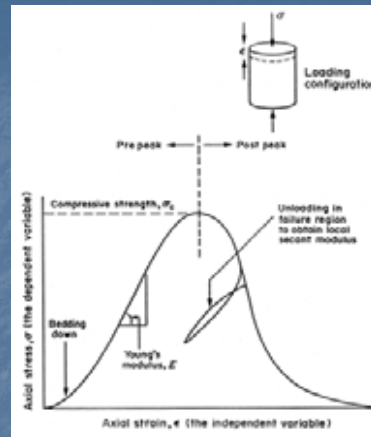
Diametric strain and circumferential strain:  $\epsilon_d = \Delta l / d_0$

Young's modulus (E) is usually associated with pre-peak portion of the complete stress-strain curve. However, it can also be determined in the post-peak region.

- Tangent modulus ( $E_t$ )
- Average Young's modulus ( $E_{av}$ )
- Secant Young's modulus ( $E_s$ )

## 7. Reporting of results

Lithologic description, rock anisotropy, source of sample, specimen information, general information.



## THE BLUE BOOK CAN BE REQUESTED FROM

### "ISRM TURKISH NATIONAL GROUP"

Assoc. Prof. Dr. AYDIN BILGIN  
(Middle East Technical Univ., Dept. of Mining Engng.,  
Ankara, Turkey)  
(abilgin@metu.edu.tr)

OR

### "ISRM"

Dr. Luis Lamas  
(Secretary General of ISRM, LNEC, Lisbon, Portugal)  
(secretariat.isrm@lnec.pt)

New email: secretariat@isrm.net



## WORKING GROUPS FOR "NEW AND UPGRADED SMs"

### (1) Mode II Fracture Toughness Test

Co-ordinator: Prof. Dr. Ove Stephansson from GFZ, Germany  
Three sub-groups were established:

- (1) Punch Toughness Shear (PTS) Testing
- (2) Shear Box Testing
- (3) Triaxial Compression

Will be submitted to the Commission in mid of 2009

### (2) Upgraded SMs for determining shear strength both in field and laboratory:

Co-ordinator: Dr. Jose Muralha from LNEC, Portugal (jmuralha@lnec.pt)

### (3) SM on creep test:

Co-ordinator: Prof. Dr. Omer Aydan from Tokai University of Japan  
(aydan@scc.u-tokai.ac.jp)

### (4) Upgraded SMs for the quantitative description of discontinuities in rock masses:

Co-ordinator: Prof. Dr. John P. Harrison, Imperial College, UK  
(j.harrison@imperial.ac.uk)

**(5) Upgraded SMs for sonic velocity tests:**

Co-ordinator: **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Adnan Aydin** from Lester Hall Univ., USA (aaydin@olemiss.edu)

**(6) SM for monitoring rock movements using GPS system:**

Co-ordinator: **Prof. Dr. Norikazu Shimizu**, Yamaguchi University of Japan (nshimizu@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp)

**(7) SMs on Representation of geo-engineering data and geotechnical data and case histories in electronic form (RISMEF)**

Coordinator: **Prof. Dr. Zuyu Chen** from China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research, China (chenzuyu@iwhr.com)

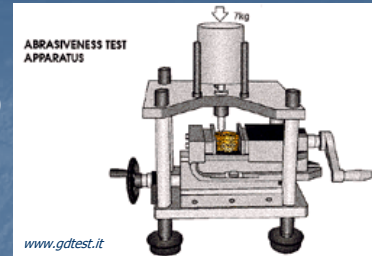


**THE DOCUMENTS WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION IN LATE 2009 AND/OR IN 2010 AND 2011**

**(8) SM on Abrasivity Test**

(It is most recently established in April 2009)

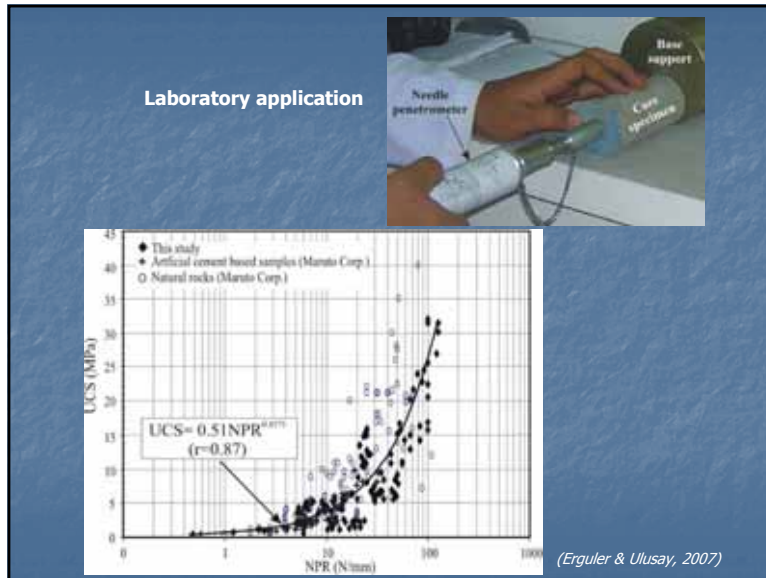
Coordinator: **Dr. Robert J. Fowell**, UK (R.J.Fowell@leeds.ac.uk)



- The Commission also intends to establish a WG on the **NEEDLE PENETRATION TEST**



Field application



**Evaluation Procedure for the New SMs or Updating of the Current SMs**

**Submission of a new SM or updated SM to the Commission**

**Appointment of a reviewing group which will consist of 3 people to assess a new SM or updated SM**

Acceptance ↓ Revision → Author(s) ↻

**Circulation of the SM document to the Commission members for comments**

Final acceptance by the Commission and ISRM

**Submission to IJRMMS for publication as ISRM SM**

ON BEHALF OF THE ISRM, THE COMMISSION ON TESTING METHODS  
KINDLY INVITE THE ROCK ENGINEERS TO JOIN TO AND/OR ESTABLISH  
WGs FOR NEW SMs AND/OR TO UPGRADE THE CURRENT METHODS



Prof. Dr. Reşat Ulusay  
President (Turkey)



Prof. Dr. O. Stephansson  
(Sweden-Germany)



Dr. Robert J. Fowell  
(UK)



Prof. Dr. Xia-Ting Feng  
(China)



Prof. Dr. Hasan Gerçek  
(Turkey)



Prof. Dr. Yuzo Obara  
(Japan)



Dr. Eda F. de Quadros  
(Brazil)



Dr. A.K. Dhawan  
(India)

**Ex-Officio Members:**



Prof. Dr. John A. Hudson  
(ISRM President, UK)



Dr. Nuno Grossmann  
(Vice President, Europe)  
(Portugal)

Dr. J.L. Yow Jr  
(USA)

Prof. Dr. Gyo-Cheol  
Jeong (Korea)

THE END