Eurocodes in Hard Rock Engineering in Finland

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Keywords: Eurocodes, Hard Rock Engineering, NAD, national annex document, design method

1. Introduction

The Eurocodes are a set of European design principles, rules, and guidance intended for the design of load carrying structures. The codes have been compiled by the CEN Technical Committee 250 (CEN/TC250). The intent of the Eurocodes is to unify the design methodology. Parallel use with existing national building codes is allowed during the transition period (2007—2010) to ensure a smooth transition and enough time to make the necessary changes.

In Finland (and Sweden and Norway), there is no formal procedure on how to design rock spaces. The design is based on a designer's expertise, experience, views, and specific procedures. The problem here is that identical initial data could generate very different results depending on the way the initial data is interpreted and which design methods are used. The Eurocodes do not explicitly state how to design rock spaces, but they define the minimum requirements on how to design structures.

The Eurocodes are divided into 10 areas. Of these ten, only a part will affect how to design rock spaces. Eurocode 0 defines the main principles concerning the whole design process. Eurocode 1 defines the loads. Eurocode 2 defines the design of concrete structures (e.g. design of reinforced concrete structures, shotcrete, and grouted rebars). Eurocode 3 defines the design of steel structures (e.g. design of non-grouted bolts, steel columns, and pillars). Eurocode 7 defines the design of geostructures. Eurocode 8 would define the design against earthquakes, but it is not required in Finland, unless otherwise stated.

2. Eurocodes change the design of rock spaces

Many projects already require the use of the Eurocodes. Design working life is a concept which defines an assumed period for which a structure or a part of it is to be used for its intended purpose with anticipated maintenance but without major repair being necessary. For many rock engineering projects a normal specification is 100 years while previously the design assumption has been 50 years. For practical purposes, design working life can be interpreted to mean that 95 percent of the structure must last longer than the specified time with the specified maintenance.

In the highest geotechnical class GC3 (corresponding to the highest Finnish difficulty class AA) it is no longer possible to use empirically based design only. Eurocode 7 states that prescriptive measures may be used if calculation models are not available or not necessary. Empirical methods (such as the Q-method or the RMR-method) may still be used to give a rough estimate to assess the validity of design. However, the Eurocode does allow the use of the Observational Method when prediction is difficult or impossible, but monitoring and redesign are possible. Because prediction is often difficult and monitoring is often recommended, this should be viewed more as a part of a standard design process (Ström 2009) than a stand-alone method.

The Finnish regulation for the design requirements of civil defence shelters within rock states that rock engineering calculations should be made if the span is wide or the rock conditions are difficult. This implies that empirical design methods should not be used in geotechnical class GC3. The

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John W Cosgrove, John A Hudson

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Rock Engineering in Finland ,1986 Rock Engineering and Rock Mechanics: Structures in and on Rock Masses R. Alejano, Áurea Perucho, Claudio Olalla, Rafael Jiménez, 2014-05-12 Rock Engineering and Rock Mechanics Structures in and on Rock Masses covers the most important topics and state of the art in the area of rock mechanics with an emphasis on structures in and on rock masses The 255 contributions including 6 keynote lectures from the 2014 ISRM European Rock Mechanics Symposium EUROCK 2014 Vigo Spain 27 29 Ma Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering: From the Past to the Future Resat Ulusay, 2016-11-18 Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering From the Past to the Future contains the contributions presented at EUROCK2016 the 2016 International Symposium of the International Society for Rock Mechanics ISRM 2016 rg p Cappadocia Region Turkey 29 31 August 2016 The contributions cover almost all aspects of rock mechanics and rock engineering from theories to engineering practices emphasizing the future direction of rock engineering technologies The 204 accepted papers and eight keynote papers are grouped into several main sections Fundamental rock mechanics Rock properties and experimental rock mechanics Analytical and numerical methods in rock engineering Stability of slopes in civil and mining engineering Design methodologies and analysis Rock dynamics rock mechanics and rock engineering at historical sites and monuments Underground excavations in civil and mining engineering Coupled processes in rock mass for underground storage and waste disposal Rock mass characterization Petroleum geomechanics Carbon dioxide sequestration Instrumentation monitoring in rock engineering and back analysis Risk management and the 2016 Rocha Medal Lecture and the 2016 Franklin Lecture Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering From the Past to the Future will be of interest to researchers and professionals involved in the various branches of rock mechanics and rock engineering EUROCK 2016 organized by the Turkish National Society for Rock Mechanics is a continuation of the successful series of ISRM symposia in Europe which began in 1992 in Chester UK

Rock Mechanics and Engineering Volume 2 Xia-Ting Feng, 2017-07-12 Laboratory and Field Testing is the second volume of the five volume set Rock Mechanics and Engineering and contains nineteen chapters from key experts in the following fields Triaxial or True triaxial Tests under Condition of Loading and Unloading Joint Tests Dynamic and Creep Tests Physical Modeling Tests Field Testing and URLs The five volume set Comprehensive Rock Engineering which was published in 1993 has had an important influence on the development of rock mechanics and rock engineering Significant and extensive advances and achievements in these fields over the last 20 years now justify the publishing of a comparable new compilation Rock Mechanics and Engineering represents a highly prestigious multi volume work edited by Professor Xia Ting Feng with the editorial advice of Professor John A Hudson This new compilation offers an extremely wideranging and comprehensive overview of the state of the art in rock mechanics and rock engineering and is composed of peer reviewed dedicated contributions by all the key experts worldwide Key features of this set are that it provides a systematic global summary of new developments in rock mechanics and rock engineering

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Ehrbar,2013-05-20 Underground the way to the future was the motto of the World Tunnel Congress 2013 in Geneva Switzerland The use of underground space has gained importance during the last years due to the tremendous global urbanization the high demand on transportation capacities and energy production All this result in a wider range of use of underground spa Finnish rock engineering M. Smith,1991 Geological Survey of Finland, Special Paper,1987

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