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The Department of Energy has the responsibility for selecting and constructing Federal repositories for radioactive waste. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission must license such repositories prior to construction. The basic requirement in the geologic disposal of radioactive waste is stated as:

Placement in a geologic host whereby the radioactive waste is not in mechanical, thermal or chemical equilibrium with the object of preventing physical or chemical migration of radionuclides into the biosphere or hydrosphere in hazardous concentration (USGS, 1977).

The object of this report is to document the known geologic parameters of large granite and basalt occurrences in the coterminous United States, for future evaluation in the selection and licensing of radioactive waste repositories.

The report is prepared by Willard Owens Associates, Inc., under subcontract to Lawrence Livermore Laboratories for incorporation in the Geoscience Parameter Data Base Handbook being prepared by Lawrence Livermore and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The description of the characteristics of certain potential igneous hosts has been limited to existing data pertaining to the general geologic character, geomechanics, and hydrology of identified occurrences. A description of the geochemistry is the subject of a separate report.

GRANITES

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION TO THE GEOLOGIC CHARACTER OF GRANITIC ROCKS

"Granitic Rock" is defined as a term generally used to signify any coarse-grained, light-colored igneous rock containing essential quartz. In its broadest usage, it may even be loosely applied to certain metamorphic rocks and to quartz-free, light-colored igneous rocks.

Although its broad, undefined use can be confused with the very specific rock name granite, the term has attained a wide casual acceptance. Perhaps the reason for this acceptance of "granitic rock" is that it groups three important igneous rock types that have similar petrographic, tectonic, and genetic characteristics. These types are the granites, monzonites, and granodiorites. They are commonly found occurring as batholiths or huge rock bodies covering hundreds of square kilometers.

Together, granite, monzonite, and granodiorite comprise a major portion of the earth's igneous terrane. Although less common rocks are included in the definition of "granitic rock," this report and general usage will employ the term for the three major common rock types.

## 1.2 CLASSIFICATION

Granitic rocks and igneous rocks in general are classified according to texture and mineralogy. Texture is the most obvious and the least complicated. There are two divisions, phaneritic and aphanitic, with one major modifier, porphyritic. Granitic rocks are phaneritic, or coarse-grained. They also may be porphyritic which simply means that there are two distinct grain sizes present. However, with phaneritic rocks, the relative differences in these sizes are not great, and the physical properties of the rock are not greatly affected.

Granitic rocks make up the acidic or high silica ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ), portion of the classification schemes. These schemes are based on a changing ratio of potassium feldspar ( $\text{K}_2\text{AlSi}_3\text{O}_8$ ) to plagioclase feldspar ( $[\text{Ca},\text{Na}]\text{Al}[\text{Al},\text{Si}]\text{Si}_2\text{O}_8$ ) (Figure 1-1). As rock types become more silicious, potassium feldspars become dominant. Also, the amount of quartz increases and the calcium to sodium ratio of the plagioclases decreases.

### 1.3 COMPOSITION

By definition, the mineral composition of the granitic rock series is constrained to certain ranges. These are outlined in Figure 1-1. Total mineral compositions for example granites, monzonites, and granodiorites are given in Table 1-1. From these it can be seen that even though variations occur in the types and percentages of minor minerals present, the real differences in the rocks occur with the changing quantities of the potassium and plagioclase feldspars. In fact, all three rock types could have the same minor minerals and still maintain their identity.

These major mineral differences have a distinct effect on the physical properties of the different rock types. Since all granitic rocks consist of about 80 percent feldspar with quartz and the various feldspars have similar physical properties, all granitic rocks also have similar physical properties.

The mineral changes that classify the granitic rocks have a much greater effect on their chemistry. This effect is apparent from the major oxide compositions shown in Figure 1-1 and the analyses for example granites, monzonites, and granodiorites given in Table 1-1.

ESSENTIAL MINERALS		POTASSIUM FELDSPAR 2/3 TOTAL FELDSPAR			POTASSIUM FELDSPAR 1/3-2/3 TOTAL FELDSPAR			PLAGIOCLASE FELDSPAR 2/3 TOTAL FELDSPAR		
		QUARTZ >10 %	QUARTZ <10 % FELDSPATHOID <10 %	FELDSPATHOID >10 %	QUARTZ >10 %	QUARTZ <10 % FELDSPATHOID <10 %	FELDSPATHOID >10 %	POTASSIUM FELDSPAR 10% TOTAL FELDSPAR QUARTZ 10%	POTASSIUM FELDSPAR 10% TOTAL FELDSPAR SODIC PLAGIOCLASE QUARTZ 10%	
CHARACTERIZING ACCESSORY MINERALS		CHIEFLY: HORNBLEND, BIOTITE, PYROXENE, MUSCOVITE ALSO: SODIC AMPHIBOLES, AEGIRENE, CANCRINITE SODALITE, TOURMALINE			CHIEFLY: HORNBLEND, BIOTITE, PYROXENE ALSO: SODIC AMPHIBOLES, AEGIRENE			CHIEFLY: HORNBLEND, BIOTITE, PYROXENE (IN ANDESITE) ALSO: PYROXENE FELDSPATHOID SODIC AMPHIBOLES		
AVERAGE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION %		SiO <sub>2</sub> 71.3 Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 14.0 Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 1.5 FeO 1.4 MgO 0.6 CaO 1.8 Na <sub>2</sub> O 3.4 K <sub>2</sub> O 0.3	SiO <sub>2</sub> 60.4 Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 17.0 Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 2.7 FeO 2.9 MgO 1.8 CaO 3.7 Na <sub>2</sub> O 4.2 K <sub>2</sub> O 3.1	SiO <sub>2</sub> 58.0 Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 19.2 Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 2.9 FeO 1.6 MgO 0.6 CaO 2.0 Na <sub>2</sub> O 8.5 K <sub>2</sub> O 3.3	SiO <sub>2</sub> 65.0 Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 15.6 Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 2.3 FeO 1.3 MgO 1.0 CaO 2.8 Na <sub>2</sub> O 3.7 K <sub>2</sub> O 4.2	SiO <sub>2</sub> 57.0 Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 17.1 Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 3.4 FeO 3.6 MgO 2.3 CaO 5.4 Na <sub>2</sub> O 4.7 K <sub>2</sub> O 3.7	SiO <sub>2</sub> 54.1 Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 21.0 Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 1.8 FeO 3.9 MgO 1.1 CaO 3.2 Na <sub>2</sub> O 6.2 K <sub>2</sub> O 3.8	SiO <sub>2</sub> 65.3 Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 16.1 Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 2.1 FeO 2.3 MgO 1.7 CaO 3.2 Na <sub>2</sub> O 3.8 K <sub>2</sub> O 2.7	SiO <sub>2</sub> 61.8 Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 16.2 Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 2.5 FeO 3.8 MgO 2.8 CaO 5.4 Na <sub>2</sub> O 3.4 K <sub>2</sub> O 2.1	
PHANITIC		EQUIGRANULAR	GRANITE	SYENITE	NEPHELINE SYENITE	QUARTZ MONZONITE	MONZONITE	NEPHELINE MONZONITE	GRANODIORITE	QUARTZ DIORITE

FIGURE 1-1 Mineral Composition of Granitic Rocks  
Source: Travis, 1965

	Quartz		
	<u>Granite</u>	<u>Monzonite</u>	<u>Granodiorite</u>
SiO <sub>2</sub>	72.08	69.15	66.88
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.37	0.56	0.57
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	13.86	14.63	15.66
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.86	1.22	1.33
FeO	1.67	2.27	2.59
MnO	0.06	0.06	0.07
MgO	0.52	0.99	1.57
CaO	1.33	2.45	3.56
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.08	3.35	3.84
K <sub>2</sub> O	5.46	4.58	3.07
H <sub>2</sub> O	0.53	0.54	0.65
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.18	0.20	0.21
Quartz SiO <sub>2</sub>	29.2	24.8	21.9
Orthoclase KAlSi <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	32.2	27.2	18.3
Albite NaAlSi <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	26.2	28.3	32.5
Anorthite CaAl <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	5.6	11.1	16.4
C	0.8	-	-
CaSiO <sub>3</sub>	-	-	-
MgSiO <sub>3</sub>	1.3	2.5	3.9
FeSiO <sub>3</sub>	1.7	2.2	2.9
Magnetite Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	1.4	1.9	1.9
Imenite FeTiO <sub>3</sub>	0.8	1.1	1.1
Apatite			
Ca <sub>5</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> (F,OH,Cl)	0.4	0.5	0.5
No. of analyses	72	121	137

Table 1-1. Chemical analyses and mineral norms for average compositions for granite, quartz monzonite, and granodiorite (from Huang, 1962)



As the rocks become more silicious progressing from the diorites to the monzonites to granite,  $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ , and  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$  increase and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{CaO}$ ,  $\text{MgO}$ , and the iron oxides decrease. The change in  $\text{SiO}_3$  content is due to increasing quartz ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) and the higher  $\text{SiO}_2$  content of the potassium and sodium feldspars.  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CaO}$ , and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  changes occur with increasing potassium and sodium feldspars.  $\text{MgO}$  and iron oxide decrease due to varying types and percentages of minor minerals.

#### Primary Structure of Granitic Rock Bodies

Granitic rocks have one other chemical characteristic that sets them apart from all other groups of rocks. This is the occurrence of a tremendously varied suite of trace elements. The number and variety will be different with each rock body but almost all bodies will contain at least some trace concentration of rare elements. Much of the world's mineral wealth is associated with granitic rock bodies that concentrated rare metals during formation. The concentration occurs because metals, other rare elements and a few compounds, such as water, do not have the molecular properties necessary to fit the structures of common minerals that form during rock crystallization. This saves these elements and compounds for the low temperature end of the igneous process. This temperature range is also the range for crystallization of the granitic rocks.

#### 1.4 STRUCTURE OF GRANITIC ROCK BODIES

Granitic rock bodies can occur in any of the many forms assumed by plutonic igneous rocks. Their coarse grain size requires the slow cooling of a plutonic subsurface environment and precludes formation by any surface volcanic mechanism. Although dikes, sills, stocks and other smaller bodies are exceedingly common, by far the greatest volumes of granitic rock now exposed at the earth's surface occur as continental shield complex and orogenic belt batholiths. These great rock bodies tend to be composed of granite, monzonite and/or granodiorite. The less common granitic rock types are only rarely found in large bodies.

Batholiths are igneous rock bodies with an exposed surface area in excess of 100 square kilometers. They are roughly equidimensional or they may have one long dimension. Their vertical dimensions are so great that no lower boundaries have been located. Technically, batholiths must be implaced by the discordant (cutting other structures) intrusion of magma. However, this assumes a purely magmatic origin for granitic rocks. Such an assumption may be misleading.

Granitic rock batholiths occur in the centers of orogenic belts and over large areas of the earth's Precambrian continental shields. Overall they are not restricted to any particular geologic time.

## 1.5 GENESIS

Generalizations concerning the genesis of the granitic rocks run the risk of oversimplification. Carmichael (Carmichael et al, 1974) states:

"so wide is their (granitic rocks) extent, so varied their relations to crustal depth, thermal environments, metamorphism, tectonism, volcanism, and the flow of time, that generalization inevitably obscures with fictitious clarity one of the most complex of igneous phenomena."

However, a few statements can be made concerning present thoughts on genesis of granitic rock batholiths.

Diapiric intrusion of melted, or at least partially melted, crustal silicious material is thought to be the source of most granitic rock bodies. This, along with local variations in source material, can explain the similarities and differences between the specific rock types. The mechanism for the melting is still argumentative. The orogenic, or mountain-building, environment provides the necessary heat and pressure, but how and why is still open to question.

Various methods for in-place granitization must also be able to produce granitic rock batholiths. Melting without injection or granitic alteration by introduced or self-generated fluids can explain many rock bodies with gradational boundaries.

## 1.6 WEATHERING OF GRANITIC ROCKS

Granitic rock minerals are relatively resistant to mechanical abrasion. They have a moderate resistance to chemical weathering.

Quartz is very resistant but the potassium feldspars, though more stable than the plagioclases, alter quickly to clay minerals. What ultimate effect weathering will have on a given rock body is determined by the degree of structural fracturing it has sustained. Highly fractured rocks allow greater access for altering fluids.

## 1.7 DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCES

### Introduction

Large, granitic rock occurrences are found in nine major areas of the United States. The nine following areas shown on Figure 1-2 were selected for analysis of their parameters for the Data Base Handbook:

Front Range Uplift

Big Horn Uplift

Beartooth Uplift

Wolf River Batholith

Sierra Nevada Batholith

Southern California Batholith

Northern Washington Batholiths

Idaho Batholith

Boulder Batholith

It should be stated that certain specific geologic information for areas of the size under consideration is lacking, because consideration of the geology of an area the size of a batholith requires generalization of a great many variables. These generalizations are unimportant when 100 plus square kilometers are involved. But when 1 to 5 square kilometers are under study, these generalizations may not be at all applicable.



FIGURE 1.2 Granitic occurrences chosen for inclusion in study

An example of this problem is the intensity and depth of fracturing in a site area.

First, references on an entire batholith will generalize with a statement such as: there are three "well defined" joint trends. If the reference has been written during the last 20 years, it may not mention minor fracturing at all. Once a specific site is chosen within an occurrence, it may be shown that locally this joint pattern is non-existent or oriented differently; or a local structure may have caused extremely fine granulation of the rock.

Depth of fracturing is even more difficult to determine. It almost always requires drill hole data. Again, this data may not apply over a large area.

The solution to this problem is simply to work with the generalizations and the more consistent properties of the rock. Once local areas are chosen for study, specific data can be gathered or, if necessary, generated.

### Front Range Uplift

#### Location and Geology

The Front Range Uplift extends from southern Colorado to southern Wyoming along the eastern slope of the Rocky

Mountains. Elevations range from 1,500 to over 4,000 meters. The rugged terrain is typical of youthful erosion surfaces superimposed on recently uplifted igneous and metamorphic complexes.

An outline of the geologic history of the area begins with the 1.7 billion year-old metamorphic complex. Sediments deposited prior to this time were metamorphosed into the Idaho Springs series and intruded by the Boulder Creek granodiorite batholiths. Major intrusions and diastrophism occurred again at 1.4 billion years (the Silver Plume granitic suite) and at 1.1 billion years (the Pikes Peak granite). During the Phanerozoic, uplift occurred during the Carboniferous, the Cretaceous, and the Tertiary. Uplift is still in progress and the present elevations are due to this recent period. Terrestrial and marine sedimentary rocks deposited throughout the Phanerozoic are still found. The last period of igneous intrusion, responsible for volcanism and many small granitic rock bodies, began in the Cretaceous and continued through the late Tertiary.

The various Precambrian intrusives are the major granitic rocks of the Front Range Uplift. These occur in an almost continuous series of batholiths along the length of the Uplift. Their total area is many million square kilometers.



The southern Tarryall region, which lies about 100 kilometers west of Colorado Springs, Colorado, is typical of the geology and petrology of the Front Range Uplift (Hawley and Wobus, 1977). This region is underlain by a large and varied suite of Precambrian intrusive igneous rocks locally covered by a recently-deposited veneer of sediments of the Tertiary and Quaternary periods. Most of the intrusive rocks are related to one of the three main granitic series of the Front Range: the Boulder Creek Granodiorite, the Silver Plume Quartz Monzonite, and the Pikes Peak Granite.

#### Petrology

The composition of the Boulder Creek Granodiorite varies widely from biotite-quartz diorite to granite. Three main lithology types can be distinguished: quartz diorite, granodiorite, and quartz monzonite.

The dominant unit of the Boulder Creek rocks is a quartz monzonite. Texturally, the rock can usually be classed as a gneiss because of the foliation that separates the light and dark minerals. The potassium feldspar present is microcline; the major plagioclases are oligoclase and andesine; and quartz makes up roughly 30 percent of the rock. Biotite is the main ferromagnesian mineral and accessory zircon, apatite, magnetite, and sphene occur with it.

The Silver Plume Quartz Monzonite is a massive to flow-foliated, plutonic igneous rock correlated with the Silver Plume Granite of the central Front Range. It occurs in igneous intrusions as large as 13 square kilometers and in many dikes. Three varieties of the Silver Plume Quartz Monzonite are recognized according to differences in grain size and structure: (1) fine to medium-grained, (2) fine-grained, and (3) medium to coarse-grained. All three are found in the Front Range Plutons. The medium to coarse-grained type forms separate plutons; the two finer grained varieties commonly occur together in the same pluton. The rock is generally red and porphyritic and contains microclines, oligoclase, quartz biotite, muscovite with accessory apatite, zircon, monazite and opaque oxides.

The Pikes Peak Granite forms massive, sharp-walled plutons. The major Pikes Peak batholith covers at least 3,100 square kilometers. A smaller batholith of Pikes Peak Granite, the Tarryall Mountains mass, underlies a 245 square kilometer area. Pikes Peak Granite consists of a coarse sub-equigranular granite, coarse porphyritic granite and a heterogeneous medium to coarse-grained granite. The batholiths also contain small dikes of pegmatite or aplite and irregular masses of fine-grained granite. The granite averages approximately 50 percent microcline, 30 percent quartz, 15 percent sodic plagioclase, and 5 percent biotite.

Only thin soils have developed since the last uplift. In areas where closely-spaced joints occur, there has been significant mechanical and chemical weathering. The granitic rocks were exposed to intense weathering during the late Paleozoic and mid-Tertiary. Paleosoils over 25 meters thick can be found where the old surface has been preserved.

### Structure

The Front Range area has undergone at least three major Precambrian deformations and three Phanerozoic uplifts. The granite rocks and, to a great extent, the entire area is affected most by the Precambrian tectonics. Three major regional trends occur; northwest, northeast and east. Intense folding and fracturing follow all three, but the northwest is the major trend. The northeast is noted for its mineralization during the Tertiary. All trends have continued to be active into recent times.

### Bighorn Uplift

#### Location and Geology

The exposure of granitic rocks in the Bighorn Uplift, located just west of Buffalo and Sheridan, Wyoming, occupies an area of about 3,100 square kilometers. Its shape is roughly elliptical, about 100 kilometers long and 48 kilo-

meters wide at its greatest width. The Precambrian granitic rocks are in contact with the Cambrian Deadwood Formation on all sides. In a few localities, its boundary is defined by faults, along which it is brought into contact with various formations.

The central portion of the uplift is comprised mainly of older, Precambrian true gneiss (metamorphic). At the northern and southern ends of the uplift the major rocks are red to grey younger Precambrian, igneous granitics. These range from granite to quartz diorite in composition and, even though there has been some mobilization, they have mostly been found in place through granitization of the older rocks (Osterwald, 1955).

### Petrology

Using color as a field criterion, the granitics consist largely of two varieties, a moderately coarse-grained red granitic rock and a medium to fine-grained gray granitic rock. The boundary between the two rock types is gradational, and both are believed to have originated from the same magma. The feldspar in the red granite is mainly orthoclase and microcline with some oligoclase. Quartz is also a major constituent. The red color is caused by the dissemination of small particles of iron minerals in the orthoclase. In some areas, the gray rock contains a higher

proportion of more calcic plagioclase and grades into a quartz monzonite or quartz diorite. Common accessory minerals in the gray granite are apatite, magnetite, titanite, rutile, and zircon. Much of the gray granite shows evidence of shearing. In weathered portions of the rock, biotite is commonly altered to chlorite and some of the feldspar is altered to kaolinite and sericite (Osterwald, 1955; Darton, 1906).

Texture of both rock types is typified by migmatization and twin microshearing, gneissic foliation and various sizes of inclusions. These are all common in granitic rocks that have been granitized in place or formed from replacement by metasomatic fluids.

### Structure

A wide-spread joint system is prevalent throughout the granitic outcrop area. This causes the granitics to weather into rounded blocky boulders.

Dikes are common. These are either granitic, granite aplites and pegmatites, or diabasic. No preferred pattern has been recorded.

Major faulting and folding is generally confined to the margins of the granitic rocks. Thrust, normal and reverse faults occur with mainly dip movement. These and the simple folds of the overlying sediments reflect the movement of the uplift that produced the Bighorn Mountains.

### Beartooth Uplift

#### Location and Geology

The Precambrian Beartooth Uplift is located in south central Montana, north and east of Yellowstone National Park. The felsic batholithic mass trends northwest and is approximately 97 kilometers long and 48 kilometers wide.

The granitic core of the Beartooth Uplift was formed by granitization of early Precambrian sediments about 2.7 billion years ago. The uplift that formed the present Beartooth Mountains started in the Cretaceous and continued into the Tertiary. The volcanism that is still evident in Yellowstone Park began with the later stages of the Uplift.

#### Petrology

The rocks of the granitic core consist mainly of granitic gneiss and granodioritic gneiss. The granitic gneiss consists of about equal amounts of quartz, microcline and sodic

plagioclase. Minor minerals are biotite, muscovite, magnetite, ilmenite, chlorite, apatite, zircon, and epidote. The granodioritic gneiss is nearly half plagioclase with 43 percent quartz. Microcline is almost totally absent. Minor minerals are similar to the granitic gneiss. Both rocks are foliated.

### Structure

The major structural trend in the Beartooth Mountains is northwest. The present mountains parallel it; there are Precambrian dikes that follow it; and the prominent Cooke City and Stillwater structures follow it. The only major variation for this trend are the Cretaceous-Tertiary bounding faults and folds at the ends of the elongated uplift.

### Wolf River Batholith

#### Location and Geology

The Precambrian (1.5 billion years old) Wolf River Batholith underlies an area of about 9,300 Km<sup>2</sup> in northeastern Wisconsin. It is surrounded on three sides by older Precambrian plutonic and volcanic rocks of the central and northeastern Wisconsin complexes. The batholith is not apparently related to an orogeny and it is epizonal, or formed near the surface.

Evidence for this includes widespread development of porphyritic texture, local occurrences of chilled margins, and sharp, discordant intrusive contacts with country rocks. Adjacent metavolcanic and metasedimentary rocks have been contact metamorphosed to hornblende-hornfels, pyroxene-hornfels facies (Van Schmus et al, 1975).

### Petrology

The Wolf River Batholith contains mappable units of granite, quartz monzonite, syenite, monzonite, quartz and feldspar porphyry, and monzonite porphyry. Quartz monzonite is the most common and the most extensively exposed rock type.

Although a porphyritic texture is the most extensively developed in certain rock types of the batholith, Rapakivi texture is more spectacular. The Wolf River Batholith is lithologically similar to the Rapakivi massifs of Finland and the classic texture (ellipsoidal potassium feldspar mantled by plagioclase) is well developed in the Wisconsin quartz monzonites.

Perthitic alkali feldspar and quartz are the most abundant minerals in the batholith, with smaller amounts of sodic plagioclase, iron-rich biotite and amphibole, and locally, olivine and pyroxene (Van Schmus et al, 1975). Typical accessory minerals are fluorite, zircon, apatite, allanite, ilmenite, and magnetite.



### Joint and Fracturing

Although numerous and well-developed near the surface, fractures diminish in size and number with depth. Major fracture patterns in the batholith are oriented N.75°W., N.30°E. and N.30°W., N.85°E (Bell and Sherrill, 1974).

### Sierra Nevada Batholith

#### Location and Geology

The Sierra Nevada Batholith is a group of many granitic plutons which, collectively, form the northwest trending Sierra Nevada mountain range in east central California. The batholith is approximately 644 kilometers long and 80 kilometers wide, and covers approximately 77,700 square kilometers. The Sierra Nevada Batholith was probably formed during the Mesozoic era when the upper layers of the earth's crust were depressed into deeper, more mafic regions. The more silicious rocks melted, migrated upward, and crystalized to form the batholith. For this reason, the base of the granitic batholith is gradational into ultramafic rocks at an approximate depth of 35 kilometers. The batholith has been block-faulted on the east and tilted westward so that sedimentary rocks lap onto the west side, forming gentle slopes while the east side is steep.

### Petrology

At least two parent magmas formed the batholith. The eastern side of the batholith is  $200 \pm 20$  million years old (Triassic Period). Individual plutons consist mainly of quartz monzonites and diorites (Bateman et al, 1963). Plutons on the western side are from the Jurassic period. They generally consist of quartz diorites and granodiorites. The mineralogy of this massive batholith is difficult to typify because the composition of the rocks will commonly vary from alaskite to quartz diorite within the same subsidiary pluton. However, the rocks commonly have equigranular, porphyritic or seriate texture, and contain plagioclase, quartz, potassium feldspar, hornblende, biotite, and muscovite (in order of descending abundance).

### Structural

The Sierra Nevada Batholith is thought to occupy the trough of a large synclinorium. The dominant trend within this structure is N.40W° or parallel with the Range itself. All the major strike, normal, and reverse faults follow this trend and all faults have a main strike-slip component.

## Southern California Batholith

### Location and Geology

The Southern California Batholith has been described as a huge, composite injection dike (Larsen et al, 1958). Formed during the Middle Cretaceous period, the batholith is located in the southern part of California and northern Mexico. The granitic mass is elongated in a northwesterly direction and covers approximately 207,200 square kilometers.

### Petrology

Both the Sierra Nevada Batholith and the Southern California Batholith are composed of several individual plutons. The batholith consists of what is thought to be a single magma series with rocks ranging from gabbro to granite. The most common rock composition of the batholith is quartz diorite. The mineral percentages of a typical quartz diorite are quartz - 18 percent; microcline - 7 percent; oligoclase - 58 percent; biotite - 7 percent; amphibole - 8 percent; and magnetite - 1 percent. Grain size is irregular with oligoclase forming the larger grains and microcline and quartz occurring as the small grain and interstitial material.

## Structure

The main trend of the Southern California batholith is northwest. Excluding the Transverse Ranges in the same area, this is similar to the rest of Southern California. All the sediments and metamorphics that host the batholith, and most of the linear features within the batholith, strike parallel to this trend. Individual intrusives are elongate to the northwest as are inclusions, gneissic foliation and mineral zones within the intrusions.

References show that the few faults mapped within and adjacent to the granitics also trend northwest. No reference was found for jointing or minor fracture patterns. However, these certainly exist and no doubt also follow the regional trend (Larsen, 1948).

## Northern Washington Batholiths

### Location and Geology

The Colville, Chelan, Loon Lake, and Cathedral Batholiths cover about 181 square kilometers in a nearly circular area in northeastern Washington. The four comparably sized batholiths merge toward the south and are considered to be contemporaneous (Hutting et al, 1961). Age dating of the batholiths is difficult because few cross-cutting relationships

between the batholiths and surrounding strata are evident. It is commonly believed that the four Mesozoic Batholiths are from the Cretaceous period. Granitization produced the igneous as well as the gneiss rocks (Campbell, 1940; Krauskopf, 1941; Crowder, 1959; Hutting et al, 1961).

### Petrology

In these four batholiths, rock composition ranges from alaskite to granodiorite (Pardee, 1918; Waters and Krauskopf, 1941).

The centers of the batholiths commonly consist of light to pinkish-grey, medium-grained, porphyritic granite. This granite is composed of orthoclase phenocrysts, quartz, plagioclase, and a smaller amount of biotite. Toward the edges of each batholith, granodiorite and quartz diorite become the most common rock types with hornblende increasing to 30 percent of the total rock composition. Lamprophyre and pegmatite dikes commonly intersect the edges of the batholiths.

Quartz diorite gneisses display an unusual, but widespread, swirled foliation in the Chelan and Colville Batholiths (Waters, 1938; Waters and Krauskopf, 1941). The texture of the rocks near the contacts of the batholiths varies. The

Cathedral Batholith border lacks the foliated and cataclastic structure of the Chelan Batholith. It is the only pluton with extensive contact metamorphism and a very unusual contact breccia (up to four miles thick) with hornblende schist as the xenoliths (Waters, 1938).

### Jointing and Fracturing

Northwest trending faults which have had many episodic displacements are common. Joint patterns are less consistent than the fault patterns. Three sets of widely spaced joints (two vertical and one horizontal) are common throughout (Pardee, 1918).

### Idaho Batholith

#### Location and Geology

The Idaho Batholith extends from central Idaho into western Montana. It underlies a roughly rectangular-shaped area of about 41,440 square kilometers (Larsen and Schmidt, 1958). The Idaho Batholith is relatively flat-topped and is about 836 kilometers long and 137 kilometers in maximum width. The middle Cretaceous age batholith is bounded on the north, east, and west by older rocks while the southern contact is with younger rocks, chiefly lavas of Tertiary age. The

Idaho Batholith is in an area of high, rugged mountains, yet over large areas weathering is so deep that the geologic character of the rock cannot be determined.

### Petrology

The Idaho Batholith is made up of several individual rock units. The extreme range in petrology of the rock units is from quartz gabbro to granite, but many of these occur in very small amounts. The range in petrography of the main rock mass is from quartz diorite to quartz monzonite (Larsen and Schmidt, 1958). The average composition is a granodiorite with major quartz, potassium feldspar and plagioclase and minor biotite. Muscovite hornblende or pyroxene, are rare and sphene and apatite are accessories (Ross, 1963). Generally, the rocks are coarse-grained. Some, especially the quartz monzonites and some of the granodiorites, contain phenocrysts of microcline and microperthite as much as 8 centimeters long. The large phenocrysts are unevenly distributed and are abundant in parts of some rock bodies and absent in others. The principal dark minerals of the gabbro are pyroxene and secondary hornblende, those of the tonalite are hornblende with some biotite, and that of the quartz monzonites is almost entirely biotite (Larsen and Schmidt, 1958).

The greater part of the Idaho Batholith was probably intruded as a unit or as a number of large, intimately related units. Changes in fabric and composition are common, but in many places the different varieties merge into each other without mappable boundaries. The changes record movement in the magma, differentiation and late-stage modifications during the long period required for so large a mass to move into position and consolidate.

### Structure

Because of the size of the Idaho Batholith, the structure and interrelations of the various plutons are complex. Anderson (1952) divides it into two distinct age groups. The old rocks are related to the Sierra Nevada Orogeny granitics of Washington and Oregon. These cover the entire range of compositions from diorite to granite but granodiorite and quartz monzonite are most common. The younger plutons are also quartz monzonite and granodiorite, however, they are Cretaceous to Eocene.

Once in place, the Idaho Batholith played an important role in the crustal deformation that occurred in the western United States during the early Tertiary. Along the edges of the batholith, the compressional forces were transmitted to the surrounding rocks and produced great thrust faults and tight folds.



Within the batholith northwest trending thrusts were complemented by northeast shear zones. These tend to have strike-slip movement and are accompanied by normal faulting. Where these shears are aligned with regional transverse zones, major strike-slip shears developed. The Cour d'Alene's Osburn fault is an example (Anderson, 1948).

Local fracturing intensities are related to the major structures. Where a major thrust or shear occurs, the rocks are much more fractured and jointed.

## Boulder Batholith

### Location and Geology

The Boulder Batholith of southwestern Montana is an elongated mass 100 kilometers long and 50 kilometers wide, trending north-northeastward around Butte, Montana. This batholith is of late Cretaceous Age and consists of plutons of quartz monzonite, granodiorite, and other granitic rocks. It is believed to be a relatively thin mesozonal batholith that was injected into a shallow floor of premagmatic rocks and then covered mainly by its own volcanic ejecta. Geologic field relations and gravity data suggest that the average thickness of the batholith is perhaps 5 kilometers (Hamilton and Myers, 1974).

### Petrology

The composition of igneous rocks in the Boulder Batholith varies from syenogabbro to alaskite, but approximately 75 percent of the batholith is Butte quartz monzonite.

The Butte quartz monzonite contains the following mineral percent ranges:

quartz	15-40%
plagioclase	20-48%
feldspar	15-45%
biotite	1-12%
accessories	1- 3%

Accessories include magnetite, sphene, zircon, apatite, allanite, and rutile. Texture is generally equigranular; however, porphyries with potassium feldspar phenocrysts up to three centimeter long do occur (Becraft, 1963).

### Structure

The thin disk-like structure of the Boulder Batholith presented by Hamilton and Myers (1974) does not fit the classic thick, no-bottom batholith shape. However, their theory is based on inward dipping structures and floor-like features that

appear to lie beneath the batholith at its north and south edges. This shape makes at least this batholith the equivalent, on a much larger scale, of a lopolith.

The area of Montana underlain by the Boulder Batholith was caught up in the extensive eastward thrusting that took place in the Cretaceous and Tertiary.

In addition, smaller scale thrusting has occurred along the top of the batholith chamber in conjunction with intrusion. Hence, thrust faulting with accompanying strike-slip, shear zones and other union faulting is common.

On a smaller scale, individual areas will have well-developed joint and fracture patterns. A great number of dikes, veins, shear zones, and faults trend east, northeast and north. Yet, in the same area, no pattern for the well-developed joints could be identified.

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## GEOMECHANICS OF GRANITES

## 1.9 INTRODUCTION TO GEOMECHANICS OF GRANITE

This section presents a review of the major rock mechanics considerations which affect the evaluation of granite as a potential nuclear waste disposal site. It is not the intent to be exhaustive, rather to present the major effects and trends of the principal parameters. Definitions of the major terms used in this discussion may be found in Appendix A.

The most important considerations in designing the excavations for an underground repository for radioactive waste are safety, stability, and longtime security of the excavations. Ideally, one would like to take the results of laboratory experiments performed on small samples of rocks and insert these values into theoretical analyses, and on this basis predict the stability of the openings created. Such an approach, however, has not proven to be realistic for a major underground structure. It is limited by the effects of size and geologic structure on the strength of the rock.

Unfortunately, as will be discussed later, there is a great lack of information regarding the effect of sample size on the property measured. Because of the great expense associated with large-scale insitu testing, the primary source of information regarding the properties of rock are obtained from laboratory measurements.



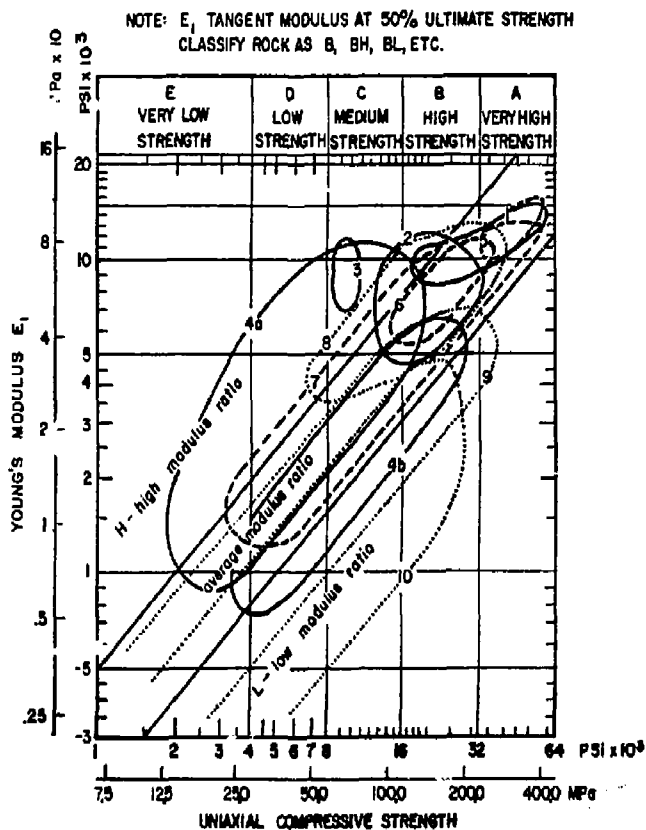
As will be shown in this report, there is a number of properties which can be adequately described by such laboratory testing procedures. Unfortunately, there are many which cannot. One of the major areas which will require further work is on the procedures by which the input parameters for predictor models can be generated. It is clear from a review of available data that all of the thermal, thermoelastic and mechanical properties of rock are functions of temperature.

Until just recently, most testing for determining rock properties was done at room temperature. The consequences of temperature on various properties are summarized in Table 1-2, with particular reference to the stability of an underground opening (Tsui, 1979). Notice that both conductivity and diffusivity decrease with increasing temperature. Specific heat, on the other hand, increases with increasing temperature. These have the effect of increasing the thermal gradient and hence, increasing thermal stress. The coefficient of linear thermal expansion increases with increasing temperature. This also has the effect of increasing thermal stress and decreasing the stability of an opening. Young's modulus and compressive strength decrease with increasing temperature which combine to produce a reduced structural stability for any opening placed in these fields.

TABLE 1-2. Consequence of temperature dependence of  
rock properties on cavern stability (Tsui, 1979)

	PROPERTIES	TEMPERATURE DEPENDENCE	CONSEQUENCE ON CAVERN STABILITY
Thermal Properties	Conductivity (k) & Diffusivity (K)	Decrease with increasing temperature	1. Increases temperature gradient, hence increases thermal stress, therefore decreases stability. 2. Reduces the magnitude of temp- erature hence thermal stress, therefore, increases stability.
	Specific Heat (c)	Increases with increasing temperature	Same effect as decrease in diffusivity
	Density ( $\rho$ )	Negligible in non-porous rock	-
Thermoelastic Properties	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion ( $\alpha$ )	Increases with increasing temperature	Increases thermal stress and hence decreases stability
	Young's Modulus (E) & Poisson's Ratio ( $\nu$ )	Decrease with increasing temperature	1. Decrease thermal stress, hence increase stability 2. Increase radial deformation
Mechanical Properties	Strength Parameters	Decrease with increasing	Decrease stability
	Stress-strain Behavior	Ductility and flow tendency increase with increasing temperature	Increase radial deformation

There has been an attempt to classify rocks generically and discuss physical properties in the same way. One type of strength classification is shown in Figure 1-3 for quite a large number of rock types (Deere, 1966). As can be seen, granite is indicated by group 6 (medium to high strength). The variation, even for small laboratory samples, is of the order of a factor of 3. The variation in going from intact rock properties to rock mass properties is even greater. The reader should keep these variability and scaling considerations in mind when reviewing this report. This section has been divided into the following six topics. They are: Insitu Stresses, Mechanical Properties, Thermal Properties, Thermoelastic Properties, Other Considerations, and Scaling of Laboratory Results.



METAMORPHIC: —1— QUARTZITE, —2— GNEISS, —3— MARBLE, —4a— SCHIST, STEEP FOLIATION, —4b— SCHIST, FLAT FOLIATION.  
 IGNEOUS: ---5--- DIABASE, ---6--- GRANITE, ---7--- BASALT AND OTHER FLOW ROCKS  
 SEDIMENTARY: ---8--- LIMESTONE AND DOLOMITE, ---9--- SANDSTONE, —10— SHALE.

FIGURE 1-3 Engineering classification of intact rock based on uniaxial compressive strength and modulus ratio  
 Source: Deere and Miller, 1966.

## 1.10 INSITU STRESSES

The stability of any underground opening is determined by the strength of rock materials and by the stresses which are applied. These stresses are those existing in the ground prior to excavation, those induced during the excavation process, and those induced by activities after completion of the excavation. The latter category includes the effects of placement of radioactive waste.

In this section, the determination of the state of stress in the vicinity of a potential repository prior to excavation will be emphasized. In general, the vertical component of the insitu stress has a value close to that given by the weight of the overburden. It is, of course, influenced by variations in topography and the time which has passed since the rock was deposited.

A number of attempts to measure the stress field in place has revealed that the horizontal stresses can range from approximately  $1/3$  of the vertical up to several times the vertical stress. Compilation of these measurements has been done by Hoek and Brown, as shown in Figure 1-4. Note that the envelope at a 1,000 meter-depth, which might be typical for a repository, shows horizontal stress variation from about 0.5 up to 1.75 times the vertical stress. The exact

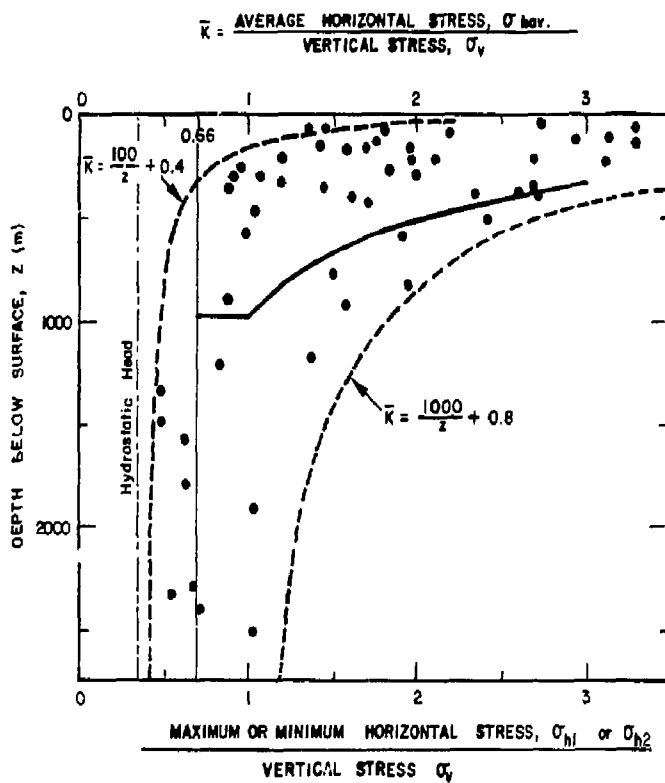


FIGURE 1-4 Compilation of measurements of the virgin state of stress in the rock  
Source: Hoek and Brown, 1977.

stress state is very site-dependent, and therefore, careful attention has to be placed upon the determination of the stress field at the location of interest.

It is obvious that the stability of an opening will vary considerably if the major principal stress is vertical or horizontal. The best design shape of the opening created will also change depending upon the stress field orientation. Table 1-3 (Lee, 1978; Tsui, 1979) shows the relationship of the stresses for various ages of rock in Ontario. Note that for Devonian age rocks, the horizontal stress is expected to be less than or equal to the vertical. For the older Silurian, Ordovician and Pre-Cambrian rocks, the horizontal stress is expected to be greater than the vertical stress.

A plot of stress variation with depth for Pre-Cambrian rocks is shown in Figure 1-5 (Lee, 1978; Tsui, 1979) for a number of different rock types and locations. There is quite a wide variation, but most of the sites and tests reveal a horizontal stress greater than the vertical. Figures 1-6 and 1-7 show the results of some stress measurement work which was done at the Stripa Mine in Sweden (Carlsson, 1978). The variation in principal stress magnitude is shown in Figure 1-6. The principal stress magnitude appears to vary by a factor of 3 over a hole length of about 5 meters.

TABLE 1-3. Stresses in Ontario rocks.

<u>Geological Period</u>	<u>Probable Stress Conditions</u>
Devonian   Uplift (20 m.y.)	$\sigma_v \geq \sigma_h$ (?)
Silurian	$\sigma_h \gg \sigma_v$
Ordovician   Uplift (500 m.y.)	OR $\sigma_h \gg \sigma_v$ $\sigma_h \approx \sigma_v$
Precambrian	$\sigma_h > \sigma_v$

(m.y. = million year)

SOURCES: Tsui, 1979 and Lee, 1978.



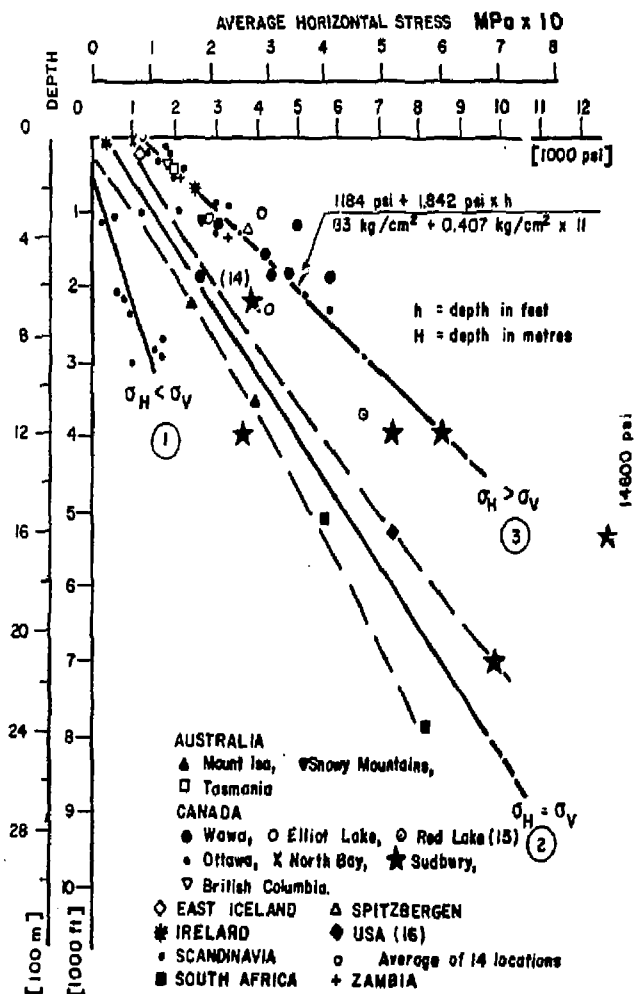


FIGURE 1-5 Increase of average horizontal stress with depth in precambrian rocks Source: Herget et al, 1975.

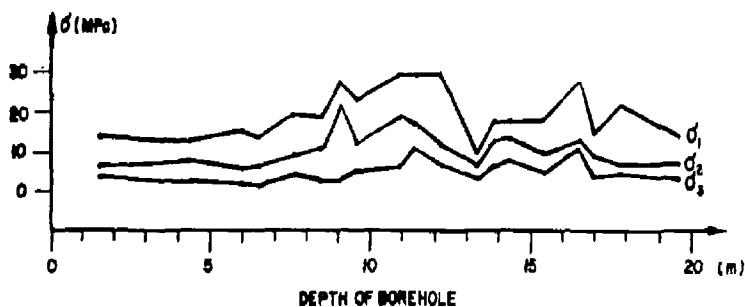


FIGURE 1-6 Variation of principal stresses in the borehole  
Source: Carlsson, 1978.

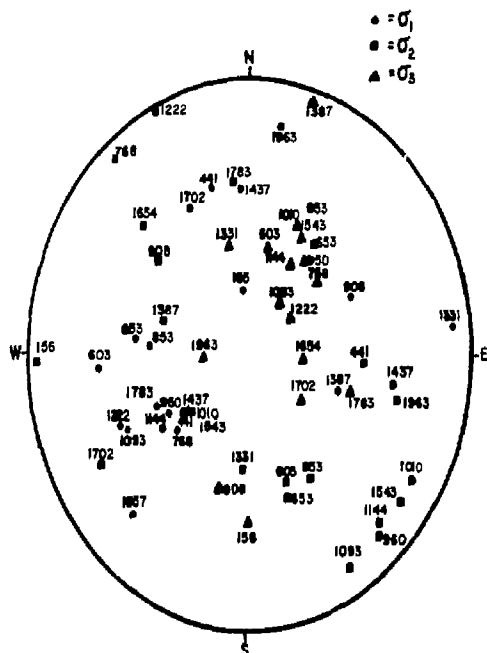


FIGURE 1-7 Direction of the principal stresses at each  
measure point plotted Source: Carlsson, 1978.

Note: Depth of measurement in the borehole is  
indicated on Wulff's net lower hemisphere.

Variability in principal stress direction is shown in Figure 1-5. Again, the variation is considerable. In general, stress fields are found to be very site specific and may vary significantly even within a specific rock mass.

## 1.11 MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

Mechanical properties which are normally considered in any description of a rock material are index properties (such as unit weight or density), moisture content, porosity, stress-strain relationships, which yield Young's modulus and Poisson's ratio, and rock strength as measured by the compressive and tensile strength.

A summary of properties for intact granite are given in Table 1.4. These values have been collected during a literature review (ONWI, 1978) of a large number of published reports. Note that even properties such as unit weight, which is normally considered relatively constant for granite, varies from 2310 to 3040 kg/m<sup>3</sup>. The porosity varies from about 0.05% to 11%. Young's modulus varies by a factor of 5 and Poisson's ratio by a factor of 9 or 10. The compressive strength varies from 34 to 350 MPa. Although tensile strength is shown to vary from about 3.5 to 55 MPa, those samples which are already broken, of course, are not tested, so the variation should actually be from 0 to 55 MPa.

A summary of properties for various types of granite are shown in Tables 1.5 to 1.9. All of the granites chosen are from quarries. Therefore, they have some properties which

TABLE 1-4 Properties of Intact Granite

Type of Property	Parameter	Symbol	Mean*	Range	MKS Unit
Index	Unit Weight		2646.5	2306.9-3043.8	kg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Natural moisture content (intact)		---	0.0-32	%
	Porosity (rock mass)		1.6	0.05-11.2	%
Stress-strain	Young's Modulus		50.3	15.9-83.4	GPa
	Poisson's Ratio		0.18	0.045-0.39	---
Strength	Uniaxial Compressive Strength		175.1	35.2-353.1	MPa
	Tensile Strength		6.3	3.4-55.9	MPa
Thermal	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion		$2.5 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.67 \times 10^{-6}$ - $3.34 \times 10^{-6}$	°C <sup>-1</sup>
	Heat Capacity		0.92	0.67-1.38	J/g-°C
	Thermal Conductivity		<div>TEMPERATURE</div> <div>0°C</div> <div>50°C</div> <div>100°C</div> <div>150°C</div> <div>200°C</div> <div>300°C</div> <div>400°C</div>		<div>CONDUCTIVITY</div> <div>2.86 w/m K</div> <div>2.70</div> <div>2.56</div> <div>2.44</div> <div>2.34</div> <div>2.15</div> <div>1.99</div>

\*Number of tests used to derive mean.

SOURCE: Office of Waste Isolation, 1978.

TABLE 1-5 Intact properties of Barre Granite.

BASIC PARAMETERS

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>MKS Units</u>
Index	Unit Weight	2659.3 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Natural moisture content (intact)	0.32%
	Porosity (rock mass)	0.4%
Stress-strain	Young's Modulus	72.4GPa
	Poisson's Ratio	0.22--
	Bulk Modulus	43.1GPa
	Shear Modulus	29.7Gpa
Strength	Cohesion. 10.3-24.1	7.2MPa
	Friction Angle MPa range	45 degrees
	Uniaxial Compressive Strength	234.5MPa
	Tensile Strength	7.6MPa
Thermal	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion	$2.22 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$
	Heat Capacity	0.9 J/g- <sup>o</sup> c
	Thermal Conductivity	2.37 w/m <sup>o</sup> K
Hydrological	Horizontal Permeability	less than $1 \times 10^{-4}$ cm/sec

SOURCE: Office of Waste Isolation, 1978

TABLE 1-6. Intact properties of Colville Granite (unaltered).

BASIC PARAMETERS

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>MKS Units</u>
Index	Unit Weight	2627.3 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Natural moisture content (intact)	0.6%
	Porosity (rock mass)	1.59%
Stress-strain	Young's Modulus	35.9GPa
	Poisson's Ratio	0.15--
	Bulk Modulus	17.2GPa
	Shear Modulus	15.9GPa
Strength	Cohesion 10.3-24.1	22.4MPa
	Friction Angle MPa range	58 degrees
	Uniaxial Compressive Strength	144.8MPa
	Tensile Strength	7.4 (est.) MPa
Thermal	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion	
	Heat Capacity	
	Thermal Conductivity	

Hydrological

\*Linear stress-strain curve assumed.

SOURCE: Office of Waste Isolation, 1978

TABLE 1-7. Intact properties of Colville Granite (slightly altered)

BASIC PARAMETERS

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>MKS Units</u>
Index	Unit Weight	2609.7 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Natural moisture content (intact)	1.0% (est.)
	Porosity (rock mass)	2.36%
Stress-strain	Young's Modulus	11.0GPa
	Poisson's Ratio	0.20--
	Bulk Modulus	6.2GPa
	Shear Modulus	4.8GPa
Strength	Cohesion 10.3-24.1	9.8MPa
	Friction Angle MPa range	58 degrees
	Uniaxial Compressive Strength	64.8MPa
	Tensile Strength	3.2 (est.) MPa
Thermal	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion	
	Heat Capacity	
	Thermal Conductivity	
Hydrological		

\*Linear stress-strain curve assumed.

SOURCE: Office of Waste Isolation, 1978



TABLE 1-8 . Intact properties of Pikes Peak Granite.

BASIC PARAMETERS

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>MKS Units</u>
Index	Unit Weight	2636.9 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Natural moisture content (intact)	.10%
	Porosity (rock mass)	
Stress-strain	Young's Modulus	70.6GPa
	Poisson's Ratio	.31--
	Bulk Modulus	62.0GPa
	Shear Modulus	26.96GPa
Strength	Cohesion 10.3~24.1	
	Friction Angle MPa range	
	Uniaxial Compressive Strength	226.2MPa
	Tensile Strength	11.9MPa
Thermal	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion	
	Heat Capacity	
	Thermal Conductivity	
Hydrological		

SOURCE: Office of Waste Isolation, 1978

TABLE 1-9. Intact properties of St. Cloud Gray Granodiorite.  
(Precambrian Granite)

BASIC PARAMETERS

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>MKS Units</u>
Index	Unit Weight	2718.6 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Natural moisture content (intact)	0.8%
	Porosity (rock mass)	1.5%
Stress-strain	Young's Modulus	71.0GPa
	Poisson's Ratio	0.25
	Bulk Modulus	46.5GPa
	Shear Modulus	28.6GPa
Strength	Cohesion 10.3-24.1	
	Friction Angle MPa range	
	Uniaxial Compressive Strength	282.1MPa
	Tensile Strength	6.97MPa
Thermal	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion	
	Heat Capacity	
	Thermal Conductivity	
Hydrological	Permeability	Less than $1 \times 10^{-8}$ cm/sec

SOURCE: Office of Waste Isolation, 1978

would be the same as typical granites. On the other hand, they have been specially selected because of their lack of jointing, lack of weathering, homogeneous nature, uniform coloring and texture and their proximity to the surface. Some of these quarries exhibit very high insitu stress fields. Table 1-10 (Ramspott, 1979) presents the comparison of rock properties from Climax stock at the Nevada test site and the Stripa Mine in Sweden. Notice that for any particular site, the variation in properties is much smaller than the range established for a generic rock granite.

The most common test performed in rock mechanics work is the uniaxial compression test from which one can obtain Young's modulus (the ratio of stress to resultant strain) and Poisson's ratio (the ratio of lateral to longitudinal strain, Appendix A). At the edge of an underground opening the confining pressure is zero. As one progresses away from the opening, the stress state becomes triaxial. The two minor principal stresses may or may not be equal. Figure 1-8 shows the effect of confining pressure on the stress-strain curve (Swan, 1978). Figure 1-9 depicts the variation of Young's modulus and fracture stress with confining pressure for Stripa granite (Swan, 1978). Notice that as the confining pressure is changed from 0 to about 30 MPa, the modulus changes from approximately 70 to 80 GPa. Thus the variation over this range is of the order of 15%.

TABLE 1-10. Comparison of rock properties.

Property	Climax stock quartz monzonite <sup>a</sup>	Stripa mine <sup>b</sup> Swedish granite
Dry density, g/cm <sup>3</sup> (lb/ft <sup>3</sup> )	2.6-2.66 (163-166)	2.6 (163)
Porosity (%)	0.7-1.1	1.7
Compressive strength, MPa(psi)	210 (30,500)	217 (31,500)
Young's modulus, GPa(psi)	61.4-69.7 (8.9-10.1 x 10 <sup>6</sup> )	51.3 (7.4 x 10 <sup>6</sup> )
Poisson's ratio	0.21-0.22	0.23
Thermal conductivity, W/mK	3.0	3.5

<sup>a</sup>Data summarized from F. Maldonado, *Summary of the Geology and Physical Properties of the Climax Stock, Nevada Test Site*, U.S. Geological Survey, Open-file Rept. 77-356 (1977); L. Obert, *Shot Band Hat, Static Stress Determinations*, U.S. Department of Defense (1963); F.H. Wright, *Shot Hole Index, In-Situ Rock Stress*, U.S. Department of Energy (1967).

<sup>b</sup>Data from H. Pratt et al. *Thermal and Mechanical Properties - Stripa Studier*, Terra Tek, Salt Lake City, Utah (1978).

<sup>c</sup>Data summarized from D.P. Kryniene and W.R. Judd, *Principles of Engineering Geology & Geotechnics* (McGraw-Hill Book Co., New York, 1957); K. Szeclny, *The Art of Tunneling*, Akademiai Kiado, Budapest (1966).

SOURCE: Ramspott, 1979.

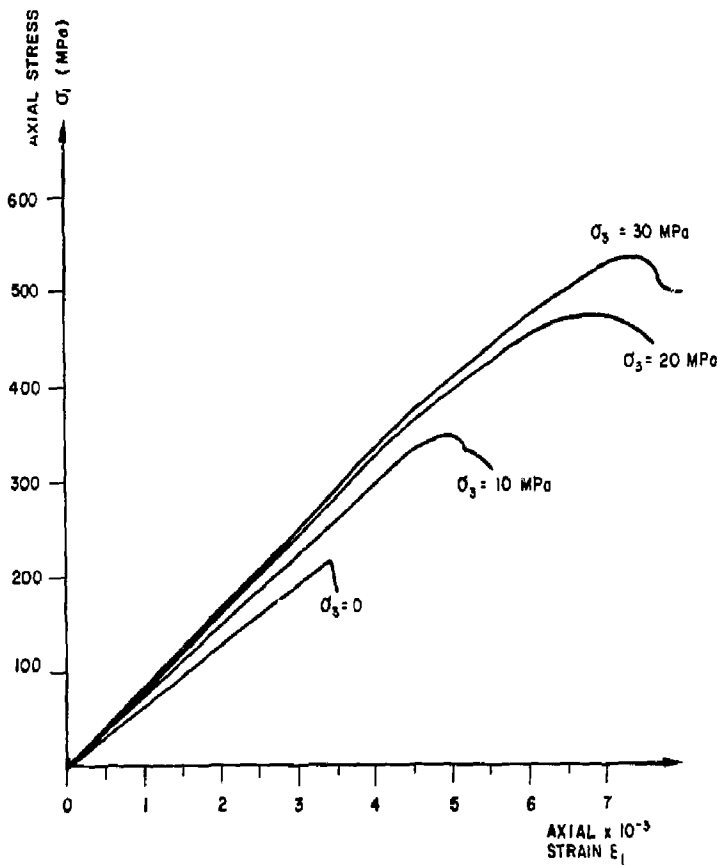


FIGURE 1-8 Axial stress versus strain plots for confining pressures of 0, 10, 20 and 30 MPa

Source: Swan, 1978.

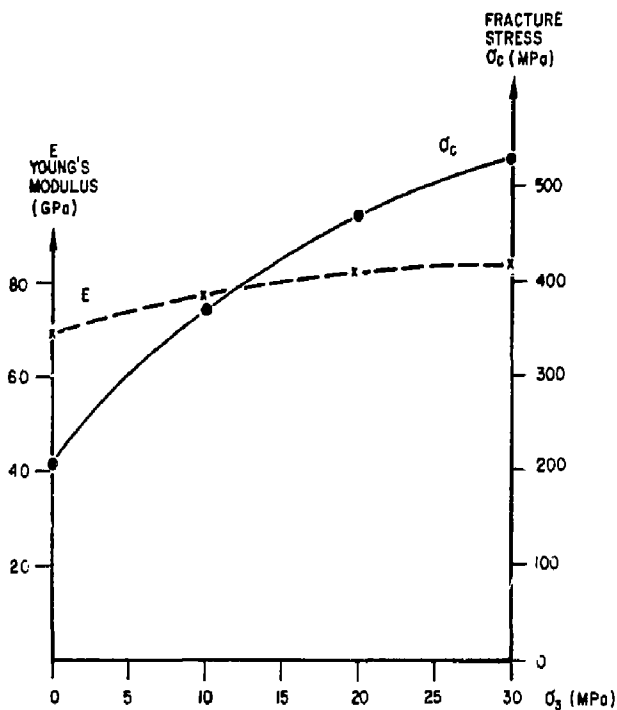


FIGURE 1-9 Graph showing variation of Young's modulus and fracture stress  $\sigma_c$  with confining pressure  
Source: Swan, 1978.

The compressive strength, on the other hand, varies from about 200 MPa at 0 confining pressure up to about 550 MPa at 30 MPa confining pressure. Therefore, although the modulus is relatively insensitive, the compressive strength is very dependent upon the confining pressure.

Tensile strength, as determined in the laboratory, is very dependent upon the sample selection, the sample size, and the method used. It is obvious that samples with pre-existing fractures, which would produce a tensile strength of 0, are discarded prior to testing. An indirect way of determining tensile strength is the Brazilian test. It is also the easiest technique and the one most often employed. The results one obtains are of the order of 2 times higher than one would obtain using a straight pull type of tension test. Yet both tests are supposedly measuring the same property.

## 1.12 THERMAL PROPERTIES

When the surface of an underground opening is exposed to a heat source, transfer of heat will take place from the source to the rock mass by conduction, and possibly by radiation. Thermal transients, or a time-dependent temperature distribution, will be generated across a heated zone in the rock around the opening. The temperature distribution is dependent upon a combination of three thermal properties--conductivity, density and specific heat. These properties can be characterized by a single thermal parameter known as diffusivity.

If an analytic solution to the temperature distribution is sought, one must assume that the rock mass is a continuum and that the thermal properties of the rock are independent of temperature and spacial location. If the temperature dependence is considered, the problem becomes nonlinear, so numerical methods must be used. Such numerical techniques are presently available, but the appropriate values of the thermal properties are lacking. The thermal variation for intact rock samples is generally rather high. In describing rock mass properties, the problem can become even more severe. If a piece of rock is free from constraint and heated uniformly, the stresses generated are 0, even though



the rock changes size due to thermal expansion. However, in a rock mass which is subjected to a temperature gradient, the state of thermally induced stress is not 0. The change in stress is due both to geometric constraint and also to differences in the thermal expansion coefficients of the various constituents within the rock. These intergranular thermal stresses can develop independently of the existence of a thermal gradient or the geometric constraints described earlier. They can cause cracking along grain boundaries and also within the grains themselves. Such cracking can significantly affect both the mechanical and thermal properties of the rock. As noted earlier, rock strength decreases with temperature whereas, in this particular case the stresses would be increasing. When the thermally-induced stress field is imposed upon the existing stress field (that due to the insitu stresses, and the excavation-induced stresses), the total may exceed the strength of the rock.

Another type of thermally-induced failure is spalling. This is a progressive failure induced by thermal shock or a sudden application of heat. Thermal loading of rock using the jet piercing system has been used for many years as a technique for rock removal. Hence, for waste repository considerations, one must consider several types of thermal failure modes and have a very clear understanding of the thermal properties of the rock, on both a small and a large

scale. These properties can vary widely between crystalline rock types, and even within the same rock type.

Thermal conductivity has been measured for many years. It is dependent upon both rock temperature and pressure. At present, there is very little data regarding the pressure dependency. The variation of thermal conductivity with temperature, however, is shown for various rocks in Figures 1-10 to 1-13 (Parsons et al, 1976; Thirumalai, 1970; Hasan, 1978; Mirkovich, 1968). Generally, a very rapid decrease in thermal conductivity occurs between  $0^{\circ}$  and  $250^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Thereafter, the rate of decrease is considerably slower. This lower temperature range is precisely that of most repositories, however. Note that there can be a rather large range at any one particular temperature for a group of samples. This is shown in Table 1-11. For any one rock the variation is generally of the order of about 30%, but can be as high as a factor of 2.

As mentioned earlier, one of the factors that must be considered is the spallability of the rock, since this affects the conditions directly surrounding the bore hole. The piercing rating or spallability index of a number of different rocks is presented in Table 1-12. The spallability or piercing index is based on a scale from 1-10, with 1 indicating the greatest degree of spallability. Granites generally fall into the highest spallability category.

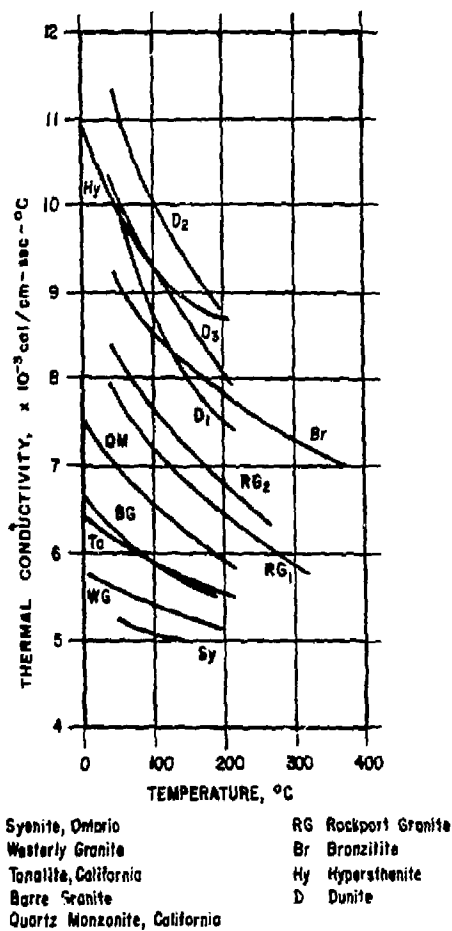


FIGURE 1-10 Variation of thermal conductivity with temperature Source: PBQ&D, 1976.

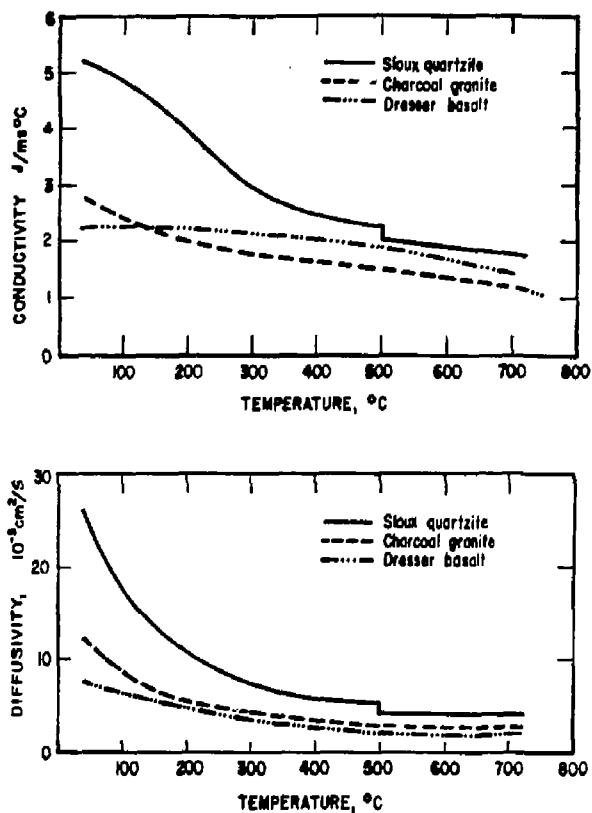


FIGURE 1-11 Variation of thermal conductivity and diffusivity with temperature  
Source: Thirumalai, 1970.

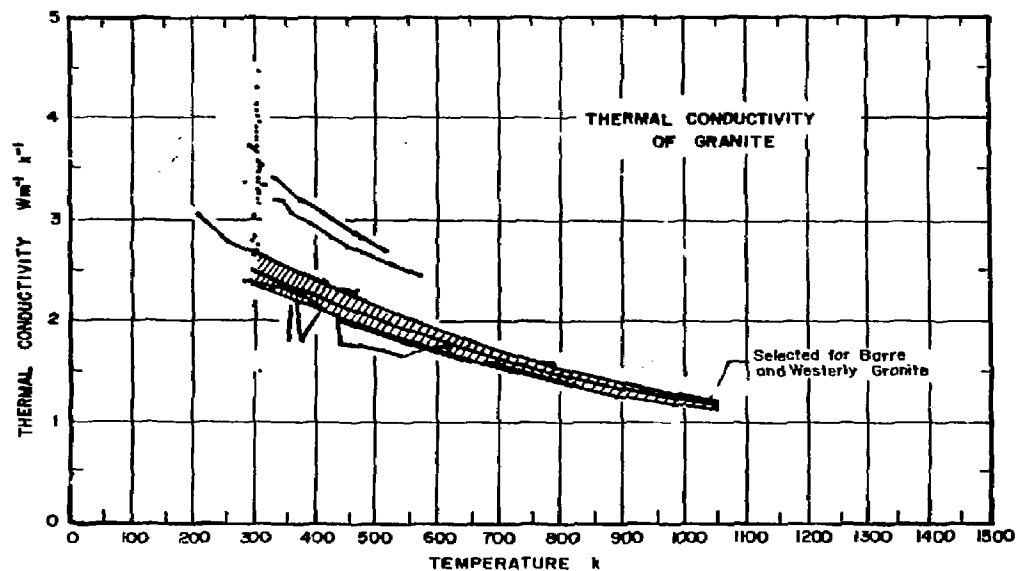
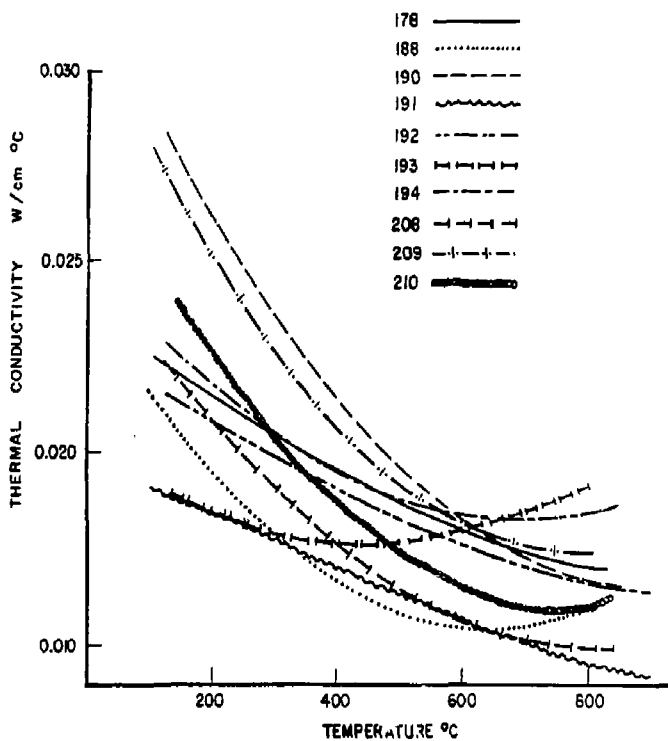


FIGURE I-12 Variation of thermal conductivity with temperature  
Source: Hasan, 1978.



Sample No.	Rock Type	Sample No.	Rock Type
M-178	Gabbro (Diabase)	M-193	Anorthosite
-188	Nepheline Syenite	-194	Granite
-190	Rhyolite	-208	Granodiorite
-191	Hbde Syenite	-209	Granite
-193	Nodmarkite	-210	Qtz Monzonite

Figure 1-13 Thermal conductivity of selected igneous rocks

Source: Mirkovich, 1968

TABLE 1-11. Conductivity of rocks (Source: Lee, 1978).

The measurements were made at a temperature of about 20° C unless otherwise noted. The values are the means of groups of measurements. Only cases in which there are five or more measurements from a single lithologic unit are included. ( $\sigma$  = standard deviation.)

Rock Type and Locality	Number of determinations	Conductivity ( $10^{-3}$ cal/cm sec° C)	
		Mean	Range
Granite and Quartz Monzonite Adams Tunnel, Colorado	59	7.89	6.7- 8.6
Granite, Loetschberg Tunnel Switzerland	12	7.77	6.2- 9.0
Granodiorite, Steamboat Springs, Nevada	5	6.64	6.2- 6.9
Granodiorite, Grass Valley, California	14	7.61	7.0- 8.3
Quartz-Feldspar Porphyry, Jacoba Bore, Orange Free State, S. Africa (25° C)	5	8.0	7.6- 8.6
Syenite and Syenite Porphyry, Kirkland Lake, Ontario	37	7.66	6.3- 9.5
Altered Rhyolite, Timmins, Ontario	6	8.23	7.4- 8.8
Norite, Sudbury, Ontario	5	6.42	5.5- 7.3
Serpentinized Periodotite, Thetford Mines, Quebec	5	6.34	5.7- 7.0
Agglomerate, Roodepoort Bore, Transvaal, S. Africa	5	7.4	7.1- 8.0
Karoo Dolerite, Kestell Bore, Orange Free State (35° C)	9	4.3	4.0- 5.5
Ventersdorp Lava, Jacoba Bore, Orange Free State (25° C)	9	7.4	6.3- 8.6
Ventersdorp Lava, Roodepoort Bore, Transvaal	15	7.2	6.4- 8.0
Portage Lake Lava, Calumet, Mich., Dense Flows	27	5.01	4.1- 6.6
Amygdaloidal Tops	10	6.4	5.5- 9.0
Porphyrite and Diabase, Grass Valley, CA	21	7.14	6.2- 8.2
Quartz Diorite Gneiss, Adams Tunnel, CO	17	7.75	6.6- 8.5
Injection Gneiss and Schist, Adams Tunnel, Colorado	41	7.74	4.9-11.0
Gneiss, Gotthard Tunnel, Switzerland	15	5.33	5.1- 8.0
Gneiss, Simplon Tunnel, Switzerland, Perpendicular	22	6.34	4.6- 7.7
Parallel	8	8.90	6.0-11.4
Simplon Tunnel, Switzerland, Perpendicular	8	5.74	4.1- 6.8
Parallel	7	7.50	6.8- 8.9
Gneiss, Chester, Vermont, Perpendicular	9	6.24	4.9- 8.7
Parallel	9	8.33	6.1-10.4
Amphibolite, Homestake Mine, Lead, S.D., Calcareous Mica Phyllite, Homestake Mine, Perpendicular	6	6.92	6.1- 9.1
Parallel	7	7.89	6.5- 9.0
Parallel	9	11.83	9.5-14.0
Quartzite, Homestake Mine	6	16.05	14.2-17.6
Witwatersrand Quartzite, Gerhardminnebron Bore, Transvaal (25° C)	17	14.3	8.7-19.2
	21	14.5	10.4-18.9
Witwatersrand Quartzite, Roodepoort Bore, Transvaal	7	10.1	7.4-12.7

**Table 1-12. Classification, composition, texture, structure, piercing ratios, linear thermal expansion, specific heat and density of 19 Canadian rocks and minerals.**

Sample No.	Rock class	Quartz	K-Felds	Na-Felds	Mineral compositions (2) Ca-Felds	Pyroxenes and olivines	Texture	Piercing No.	Thermal expansion 10 <sup>-6</sup> /°C	Sp. Heat (cal/gm °C)	Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )
1. Igneous Rocks											
M-178	Gabbro (Diabase)	--	12 (Graphic)	--	64 (An <sub>60</sub> )	24 Biot; 11 Hddc; Biot; 7 Hddc	Midbasic- hyalitic	2	0.45	0.965	2.86
M-188	Nepheline Syenite	--	23	52	--	2 Biot; 23 Nepheline	Hyalitic- morphy	0	0.52	0.951	2.93
M-189	Pyroxite	73	52	51	--	3 Hddc	Trachitic- morphy	10	0.76	0.991	2.87
M-191	Hddc Syenite	--	73	17	--	9 Hddc; 2 Biot; 3 Hddc	Trachitic- morphy	4	0.63	0.958	2.82
M-192	Sced-arfite	0	(Perthite)	69	--	2 Hddc; 2 Aug; 1 Hddc + Barroite	Canidite- morphy	5	0.68	0.984	2.86
M-193	Anorthosite	--	(Perthite)	1	67 (An <sub>60</sub> )	7 Biot; 1 Hddc	Canidite- morphy	2	0.45	0.979	2.93
M-194	Granite	34	31	31	--	3 Biot	Trachitic- morphy	9	0.82	0.996	2.85
M-206	Granodiorite	21	4	--	51 (An <sub>50</sub> )	12 Hddc; 9 Biot; 2 Epidote + Barroite	Hyalitic- morphy	6	0.52	0.991	2.77
M-209	Granite	33	29	25	--	10 Biot	Trachitic- morphy	8	0.82	0.991	2.86
M-210	Qtz Monzonite	27	20	--	42	10 Biot, 1 Muscovite	Canidite- morphy	7	0.84	0.004	2.89

NOTE: All homogenous structure except 209 granite, coarsely granitic.

Source: Clark, 1969



Specific heats of rocks are determined by heating specimens of known weights to a given temperature and then measuring the heat content of the rock by calorimetric methods.

Figure 1-14 shows the variation of specific heat with temperature for a number of different rock types. The rather strange behavior of quartz in the vicinity of  $573^{\circ}\text{C}$  is due to the transformation of quartz from the alpha to beta form. Note that over the temperature range shown in Figure 1-14, the variation in specific heat is approximately 25%. Some additional values for mean specific heat values for the range of  $25^{\circ}$  up to  $625^{\circ}\text{C}$  are given in Table 1-13.

The effect of temperature on density for relatively non-porous rocks such as granites, is negligible. For other rocks, however, the density may decrease with increasing temperature as a result of moisture changes.

Thermal diffusivity is considered a derived quantity which includes thermal conductivity, specific heat, and density. The results presented in Figures 1-15, 1-16 and 1-17 reveal that the thermal diffusivity decreases with increasing temperature to at least  $600^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Above this temperature, as shown in Figure 1-17, the diffusivity may increase slightly.

The fusion temperatures of the rock, which may or may not be appropriate for consideration in nuclear waste disposal, are

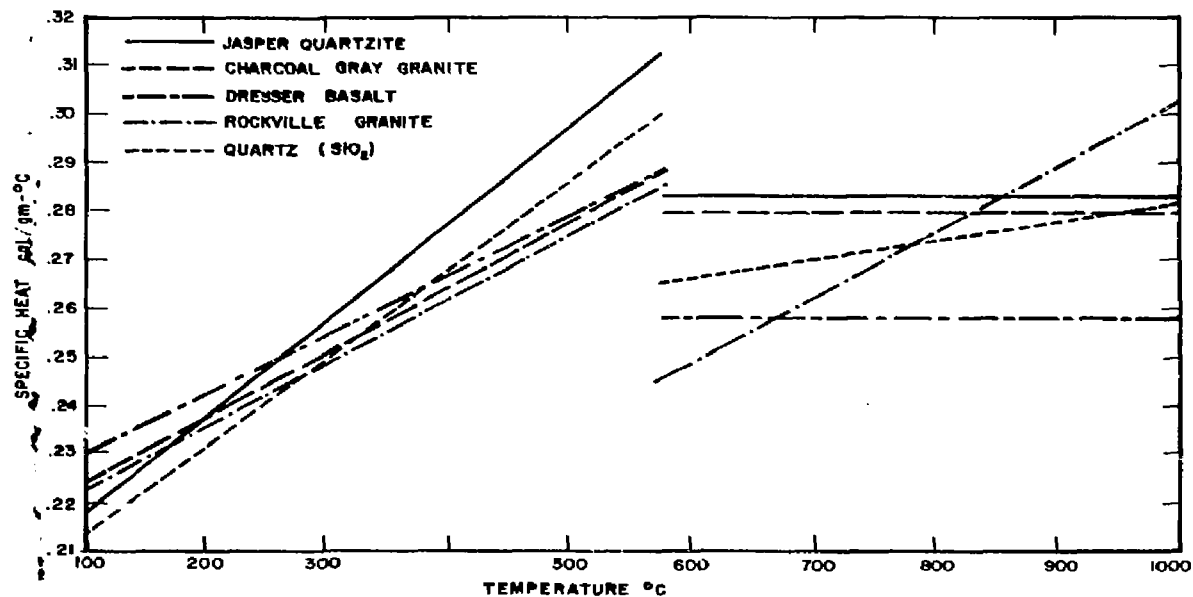


FIGURE 1-14 Variation of specific heat with temperature  
Source: PBQ&D, 1976 and Lindroth and Krawza, 1971.

TABLE 1-13. Specific heat determinations of various samples

Common Designation	Lab. No.	No. of Runs	Sample weight g	Sample temperature °C	Water temperature in calorimeter °C		Total rise in temperature of water in calorimeter, °C	Mean specific heat between 25°C and 625°C cal/g/°C	
Granite	M-195	1	428.30	625	25.007	26.774	1.767	0.241	
		2	464.60	625	25.586	27.453	1.867	0.240	0.241
Anorthosite (Péribonka Black)	M-193	1	474.54	625	25.595	27.457	1.862	0.235	
		2	421.06	625	25.546	27.189	1.643	0.233	0.234
"Nepean sandstone"	M-176	1	344.47	625	25.411	26.826	1.415	0.245	
		2	345.40	625	25.411	26.831	1.420	0.246	0.246
"Diabase"	M-178	1	445.49	625	25.407	27.078	1.671	0.224	
		2	439.89	625	25.387	27.064	1.677	0.228	0.226
Nepheline syenite	M-188	1	367.90	625	25.397	26.859	1.462	0.237	
		2	376.50	625	25.453	26.948	1.495	0.237	0.237
"Basalt"	M-189	1	475.91	625	25.445	27.304	1.859	0.234	
		2	501.72	625	25.532	27.517	1.985	0.237	0.236
"Rhyolite"	M-190	1	367.50	625	25.418	26.878	1.460	0.237	
		2	321.31	625	25.340	26.617	1.277	0.237	0.237
Syenite (Sienna Red)	M-191	1	432.46	625	25.452	27.116	1.664	0.230	
		2	447.31	625	25.526	27.237	1.711	0.228	0.229
Nordmarkite (Scots Green)	M-192	1	419.50	625	25.351	26.968	1.617	0.230	
		2	413.10	625	25.500	27.123	1.623	0.232	0.231

Source: Clark, 1969

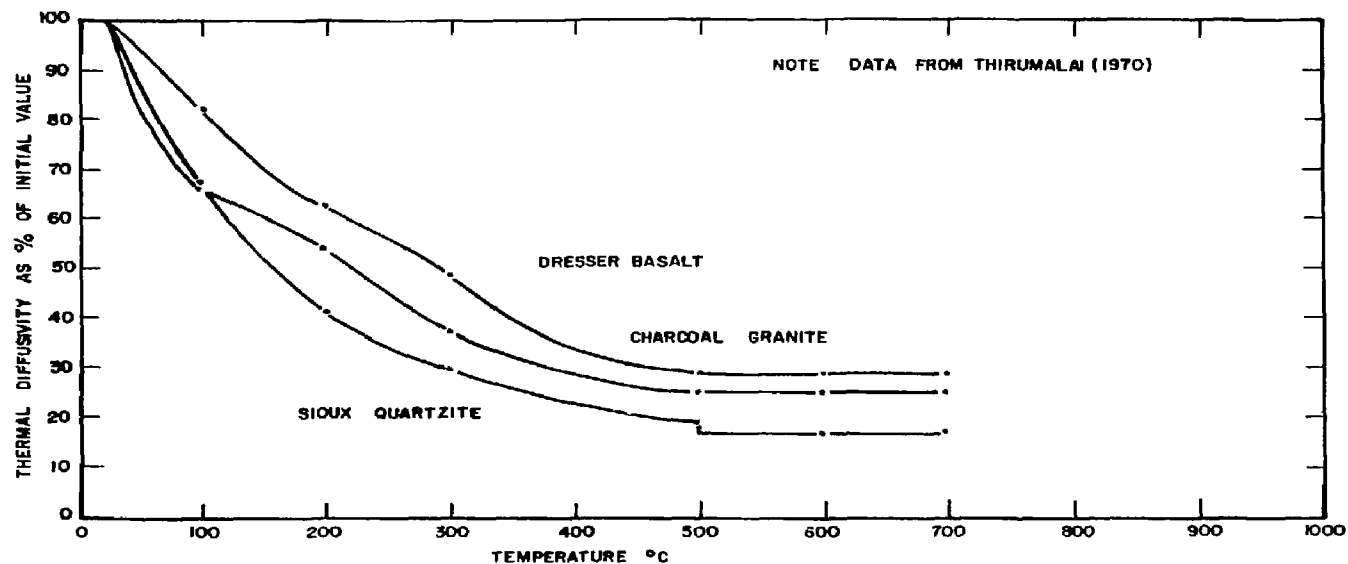


FIGURE 1-15 Variation of normalized thermal diffusivity with temperature  
Source: Thirumalai, 1970.

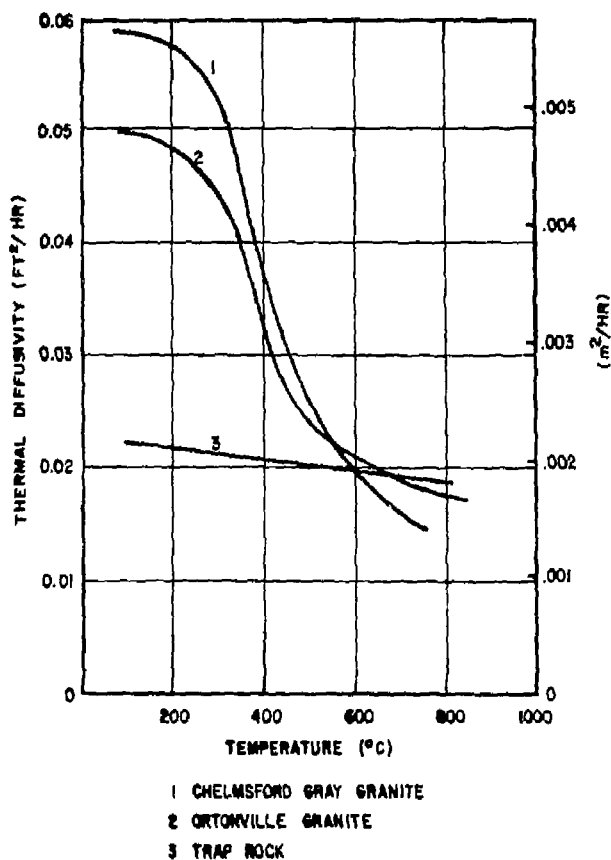


FIGURE 1-16 Variation of thermal diffusivity with temperature  
Source: Freeman et al, 1963.

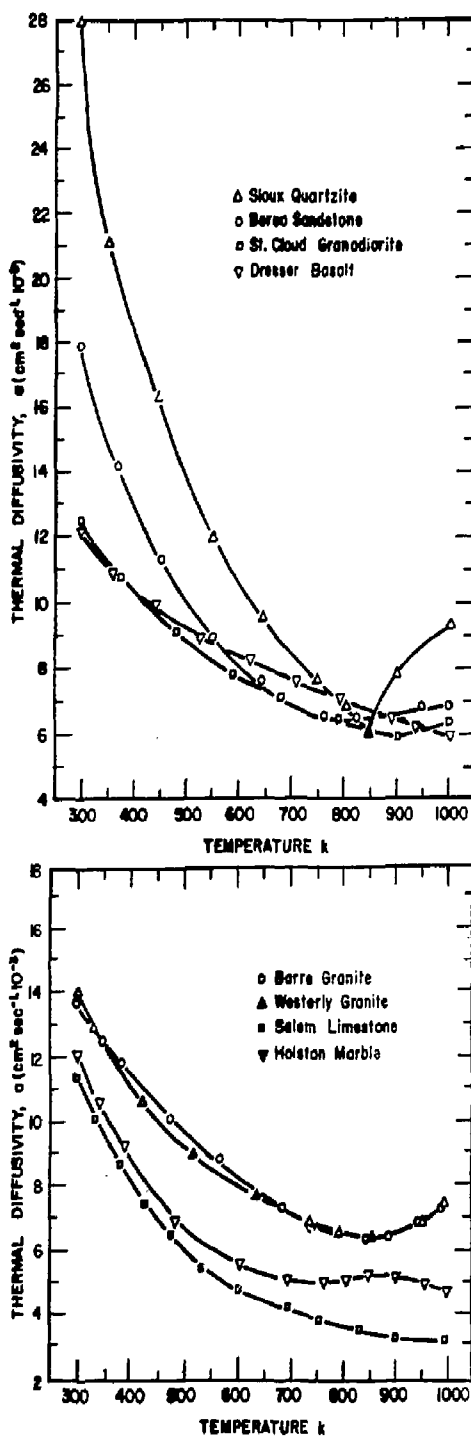


FIGURE 1-17 Thermal diffusivity of eight air-dried rocks as a function of temperature  
Source: Hanley,

shown in Tables 1-14 and 1-15. Notice that they are in the range of about 1,100° to 1,300° C, or well above the proposed operating temperatures for repositories.

TABLE 1-14. Fusion temperatures of series "A" rocks

Lab. No.	Common Designation	Rock	Origin	Fusion Temp., °C	Pyrometric Cone Equivalent (P.C.E.) No.
<b>a. <u>Crystalline Igneous Rocks</u></b>					
M-143	Basalt (traprock)		New Jersey	1152-1168	C-3
M-137	Diabase traprock ("Black Granite")		French Creek Granite Co.	1168-1186	C-4
M-135	Medium red granite		Leeds County, Ontario	1168-1186	C-4
M-149	White granite (high mica content)		Chelmsford, Massachusetts	1168-1186	C-4
M-155	Opalescent granite		Cold Springs, Minnesota	1201-1222	C-6
M-136	Grey granite		Norway	1215-1240	C-7
M-138	Grey granite		Salisbury, N.C.	1236-1263	C-8
M-140	Collins pink granite		Salisbury, N.C.	1236-1263	C-8
M-151	"Syenite"		Lake Asbestos, Quebec	1236-1263	C-8
M-152	Red granite		Wausau, Wisconsin	1236-1263	C-8
M-154	Melrose pink granite		Guenette, Quebec	1236-1263	C-8
M-157	Granite gneiss		Mount Wright, Quebec	1236-1263	C-8
M-153	Grey granite		Chelmsford, Massachusetts	1285-1305	C-10

Source: Clark, 1969



TABLE 1-15. Fusion temperatures of series "B" rocks

Lab. No.	Common Designation	Rock Origin	Fusion Temp., °C	Pyrometric Cone Equivalent (P.C.E.) No.
<b>a. Crystalline Igneous Rocks</b>				
<b>1. Quartz rich (more than 10% quartz)</b>				
M-195	Granite	Stanstead, Quebec	1198-1221	C-5 1/3
M-208	"Granite" (blue)	Riviere-a-Pierre, Quebec	No results. All of the test cones broke off.	
M-210	"Granite" (Stanstead Grey)	Stanstead, Quebec	1201-1222	C-6
M-209	Granite (Saguenay Red)	Lake St. John, Quebec	1177-1196	C-5
M-194	Granite (Vermilion Pink)	Vermilion Bay, Ontario	1207-1232	C-6 1/2
M-190	"Rhyolite"	Havelock, Ontario	1215-1240	C-7
<b>a. Crystalline Igneous Rocks</b>				
<b>2. Quartz poor (less than 10% quartz)</b>				
M-189	"Basalt"	Havelock, Ontario	1149-1165	C-2 2/3
M-178	"Diabase"	Bell's Corners, Ontario	1164-1179	C-3 2/3
M-193	Anorthosite (Peribonca Black)	Peribonca River, Quebec	1297-1319	C-11 1/3
M-191	Syenite (Sienna Red)	Rawcliffe, Quebec	1168-1186	C-4
M-192	Nordmarkite (Scots Green)	Mount Megantic, Quebec	1167-1184	C-3 4/5
M-188	Nepheline syenite	Methen Township, Ontario	1168-1186	C-4

Source: Clark, 1969

### 1.13 THERMOELASTIC PROPERTIES

The thermoelastic properties which will be discussed include the effect of temperature on strength, Young's modulus and Poisson's ratio, and on the linear coefficient of thermal expansion. Figure 1-18 shows a typical stress-strain plot for an uniaxial compression test conducted at 150° C on Stripa granite (Swan, 1978). Even at this elevated temperature, the relationship between stress and strain is still fairly linear. Figure 1-19 shows the change in ultimate compressive strength with temperatures for a number of different rock types including four granites. The very severe decrease which occurs at about 1,100° C is due to reaching fusion temperature for these rocks. Otherwise, over the temperature range of principal interest (from 20° to 400° C) the decrease in strength varies depending on the rock, from 0% to approximately 50%.

Figures 1-20 and 1-21 show the change in compressive strength with temperature and confining pressure. These tests have all been done with a confine pressure of 5 kilobars. Note that for the granite shown in Figure 1-20, the decrease over the temperature range of 0° to 400° C is relatively small. In Figure 1-21, the deviatoric stress ( $\sigma_1 - \sigma_3$ ) is plotted as a function of strain. With increasing temperatures at this pressure of 5 kilobars, the rocks

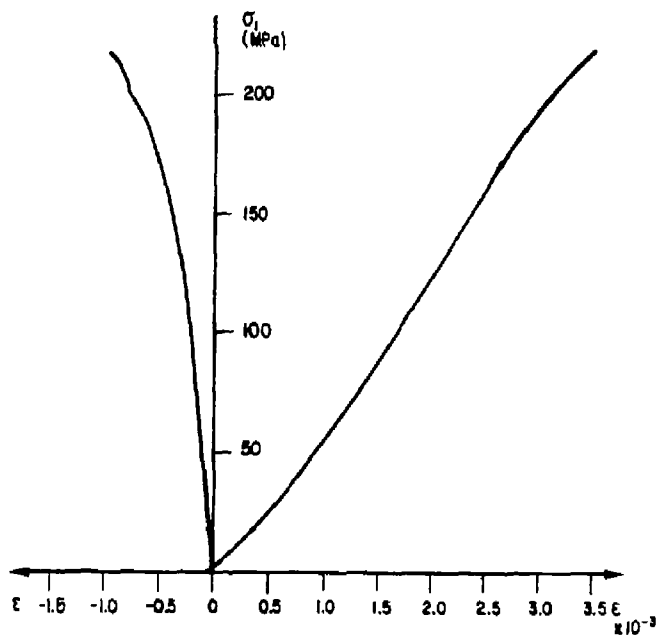


FIGURE 1-18 Typical stress vs strain plot from uniaxial test at  $150^{\circ}$  C. Source: Swan and Graham, 1978.

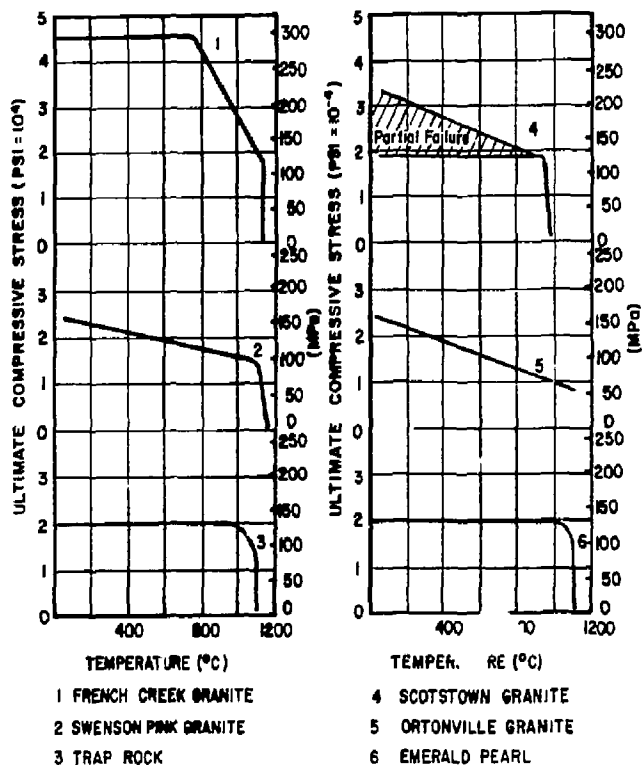


FIGURE 1-19 Variation of ultimate compressive stress with temperature  
Source: Freeman et al, 1963.

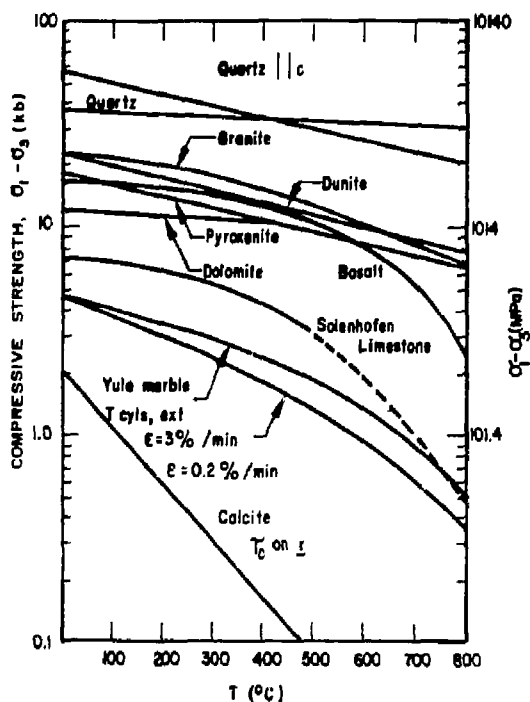


FIGURE 1-20 Strength of rocks and minerals at 5kb  
Source: Griggs et al, 1960.

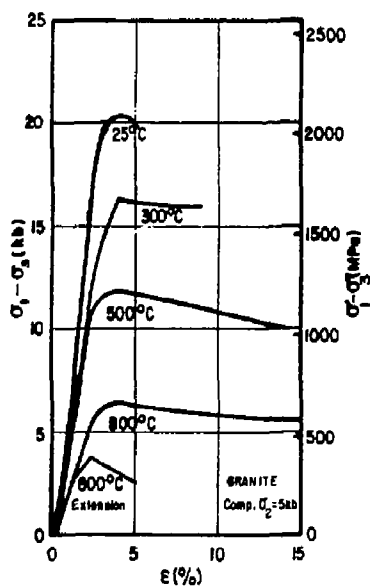


FIGURE 1-21 Effect of temperature on stress-strain curves for rocks  
Source: Griggs et al, 1960.

become much more plastic and the deviatoric stress required to cause extension is much smaller.

Figures 1-22 and 1-23 show Young's modulus and Poisson's ratio as a function of temperature for Stripa granite. The error bars indicate 90% confidence limits for these laboratory tests. Notice that over the temperature range of 0° to 200° C, Young's modulus has decreased by approximately 30%. For the same temperature range, Poisson's ratio has decreased to about half. The variation of Young's modulus, Shear modulus, and Poisson's ratio with temperature is shown for four rock types in Figure 1-24. Note that Young's modulus for charcoal granite is reduced by about a factor of 2, when going from room temperature to 400° C. Poisson's ratio would appear to change from positive to negative, which is rather unusual. It is clear that on-going work will help to clarify some of these relationships. In general, both the uniaxial and triaxial compressive strengths of granite decrease markedly with increased temperature. Both the elastic modulus and Poisson's ratio are reduced.

The coefficient of linear thermal expansion is very important for the calculation of both the displacements and the stresses that will result from the thermal field. The

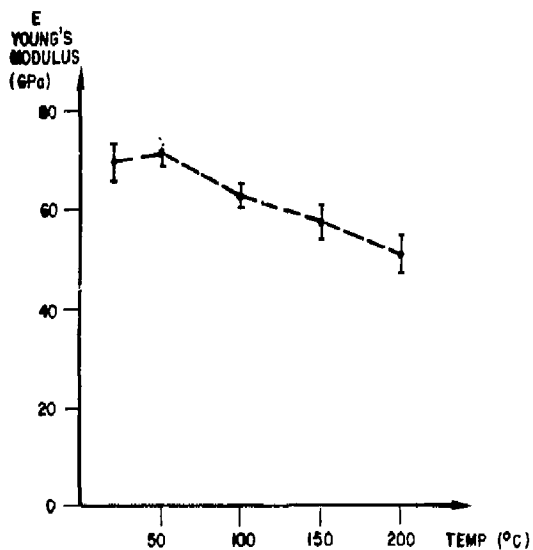


FIGURE 1-22 Young's modulus versus temperature showing 90% confidence limits Source: Swan, 1978.

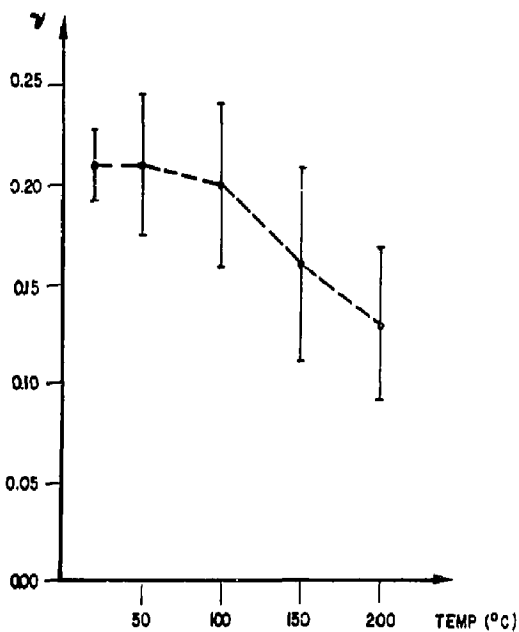


FIGURE 1-23 Poisson's ratio versus temperature showing 90% confidence limits Source: Swan, 1978.



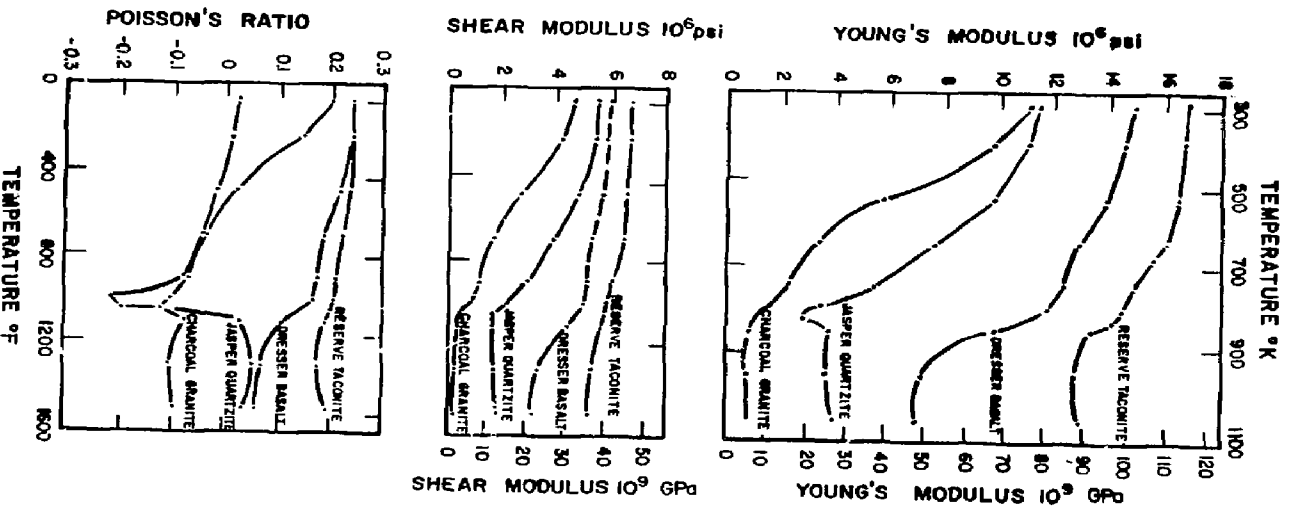


FIGURE 1-24 Variation of Young's modulus, shear modulus, and Poisson's ratio with temperature.  
Source: Wingquist, 1970.

degree of temperature dependence of thermal expansion varies widely among different rocks as shown in Figures 1-25, 1-26 and in Table 1-16. For example, the coefficient of linear expansion for charcoal granite is about 8 times that at 200° C as it is at 424° C. This parameter is also affected by the alpha-beta inversion temperature (573° C) of quartz, illustrated in Figure 1-26.

It is interesting to note from Table 1-16 that the values for most granites or granite-type rocks are relatively similar over a wide temperature range.

The variation in percent volume expansion for some common igneous minerals shown in Figure 1-27 illustrates why quartz is so effective in causing thermal stresses in high quartz content rocks, such as igneous rocks. This difference in volume expansion is exploited in thermal types of rock removal processes. The average linear expansion of rocks (Table 1-17) having excellent and very good spallability is shown in Figures 1-28 and 1-29, as a function of temperature. Most granitic rocks have a very good spallability and, therefore, would be expected to spall under high thermal gradients.

Table 1-18 shows the effect of the combination of heat and moisture on the strength of granite. Note that when granite

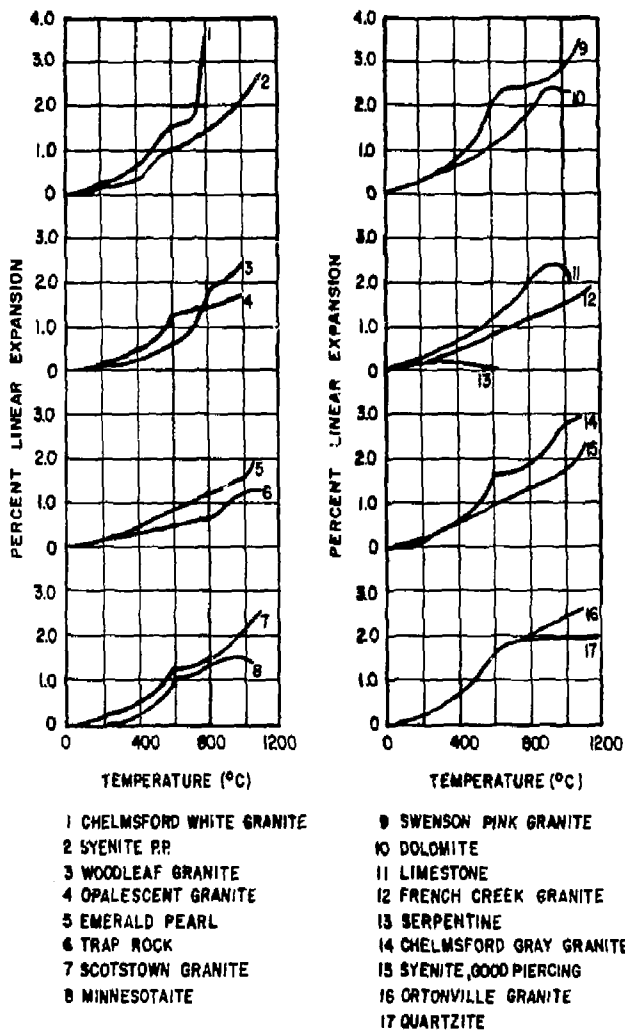


FIGURE 1-25 Variation of linear thermal expansion with temperature Source: Freeman et al, 1963.

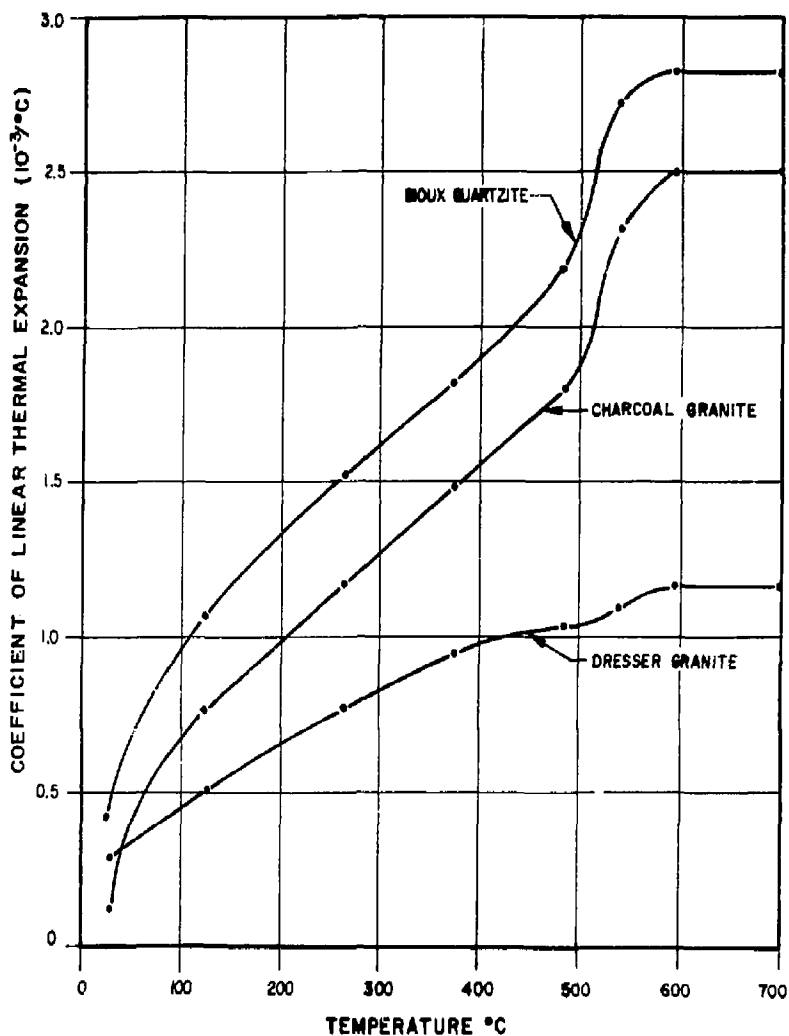


FIGURE 1-26 Variation of coefficient of linear thermal expansion with temperature. Source: Lehnhoff and Scheller, 1975.

TABLE 1-16. Measured coefficients of thermal expansion.

Rock type	Specimen No	$\alpha_v(25^\circ\text{C}) \times 10^{-6}$	$\alpha_v(400^\circ\text{C}) \times 10^{-6}$
		Experiment Ref. [1]	Experiment Ref. [1]
Chelmsford granite	A757	21.5	73.3
Westerly granite	1134	24.8	67.0
Wausau granite	1343	19.9	71.5
Graniteville granite	1410	25.1	76.3
Red River Quartzmon	1370	21.1	75.0

SOURCE: Swan, 1978.

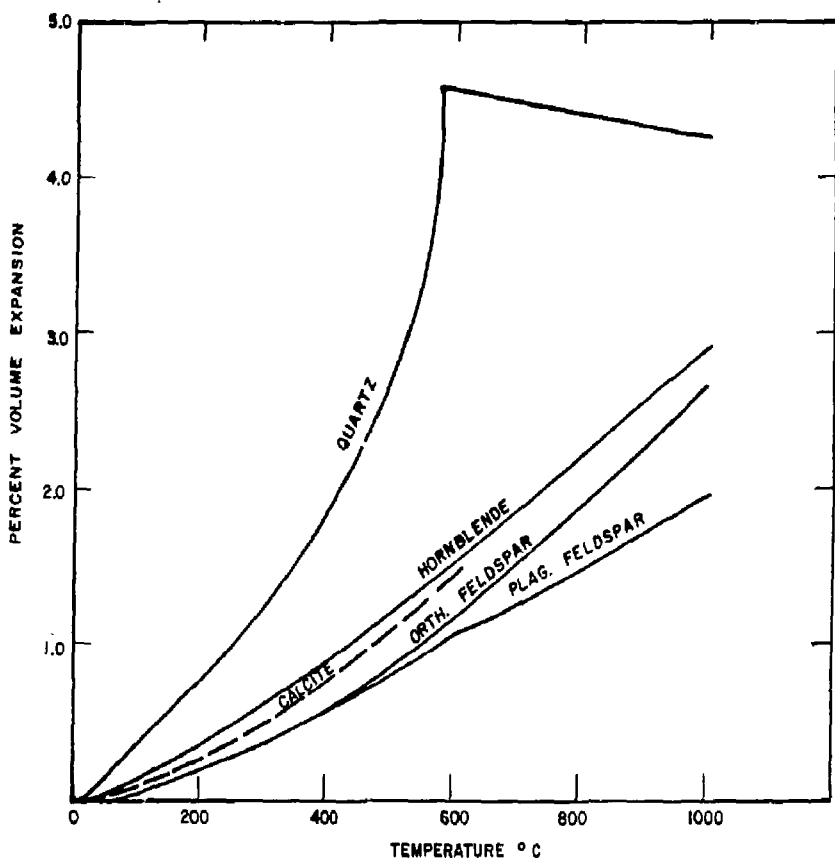


FIGURE 1-27 Volume thermal expansion of some common minerals  
Source: Skinner, 1966.

TABLE 1-17. Mineralogical composition of rocks vs. rock-removal rate and percent elongation at 600° C

A. CRYSTALLINE IGNEOUS ROCKS

1. Quartz-rich Rocks- ( 10% Quartz)

Rock Class. Rock Sample	Granite M-195	Granodiorite M-208	Quartz Monzonite M-210	Granite M-209	Granite M-194	Graphic Granite M-190
1 K-Feldspar	21.2	3.8	19.5	28.6	31.1	51.5
2 Plagioclase	44.8	50.5	41.4	23.0	31.3	20.5
Perthite	-	-	-	2.4	0.9	(70%)
Quartz	29.3	20.6	27.4	33.5	32.8	23.2
Amphibole	0.1	12.0	-	-	-	0.1
Other Mafics	-	2.0	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.6
Biotite	2.9	9.4	9.9	9.8	2.9	1.0
Muscovite	1.7	-	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.6
Magnetite	-	-	0.3	-	0.3	2.5
Carbonate	-	-	0.1	0.3	-	-
Others	-	1.7	-	1.5	0.2	-
Rock-removal Rate (cu in./ cu ft O <sub>2</sub> )	1.0	1.5	2.4	3.1	3.1	3.4
% Elongation at 600°C	1.4	2.0	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.5

2. Quartz-poor Rocks ( 10% Quartz)

Rock Class. Rock Sample	Basalt (Saussu- rite) M-189	Gabbro (Diabase) M-178	Anorth- osite M-193	Syenite M-191	Nord- markite M-192	Neph. Syenite M-183
1 K-Feldspar	-	6.0	0.5	-	-	23.0
2 Plagioclase	17.8	46.2	98.0	17.4	7.6	52.3
Perthite	-	-	-	69.2	73.3	-
Nepheline	-	-	-	-	-	23.0
Quartz	5(?)	6.2	-	-	-	-
Pyroxene	19.7	23.8	1.0	-	9.4	-
Amphibole	-	5.0	0.3	-	1.8	-
Other Mafics	52.1	4.9	-	8.8	6.7	-
Biotite	-	1.0	0.2	-	-	-
Muscovite	-	-	-	2.3	0.1	-
Magnetite, Hem.	5.2	6.9	0.2	-	-	0.2
Carbonate	0.2	-	-	2.3	1.1	1.5
Rock-removal Rate (cu in./ cu ft O <sub>2</sub> )	0.4	0.6	1.0	1.5	2.0	3.9
% Elongation at 600°C	0.5	0.75	0.55	0.82	1.0	1.15

NOTES: <sup>1</sup>Includes both orthoclase and microcline.  
<sup>2</sup>Intergrown plagioclase and potassic feldspar.

SOURCES: Clark, et al, 1970. Geller, et al, 1962.

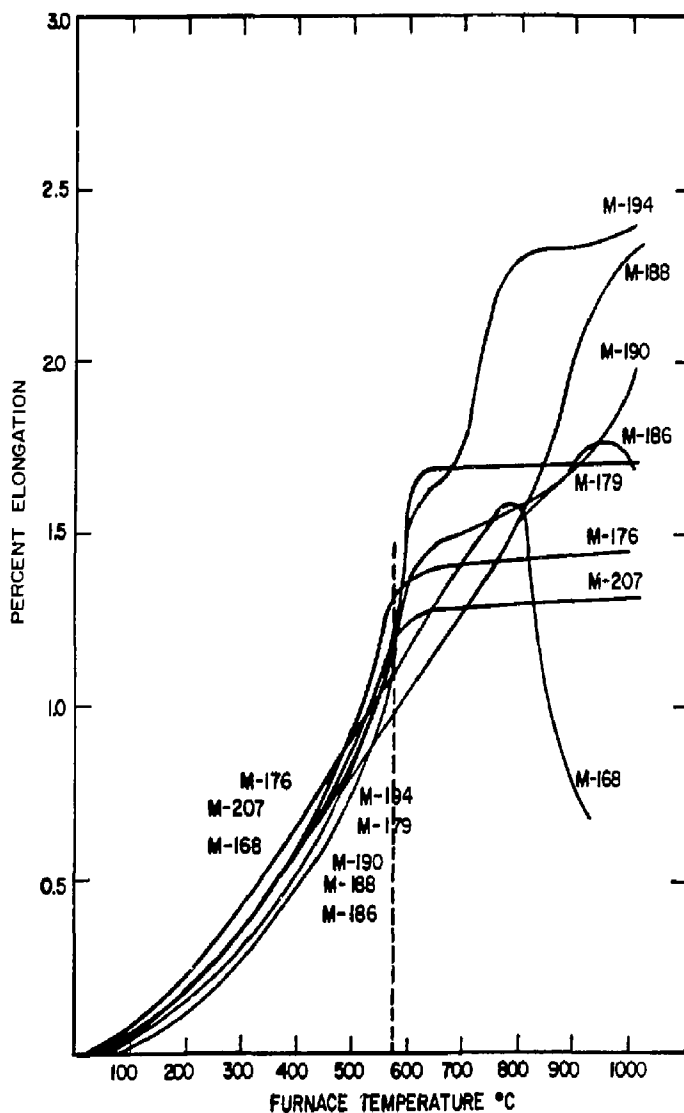


FIGURE 1-28 Average linear expansion of rocks of excellent and very good pierceability  
Source: Clark et al, 1969 and Geller et al, 1962.



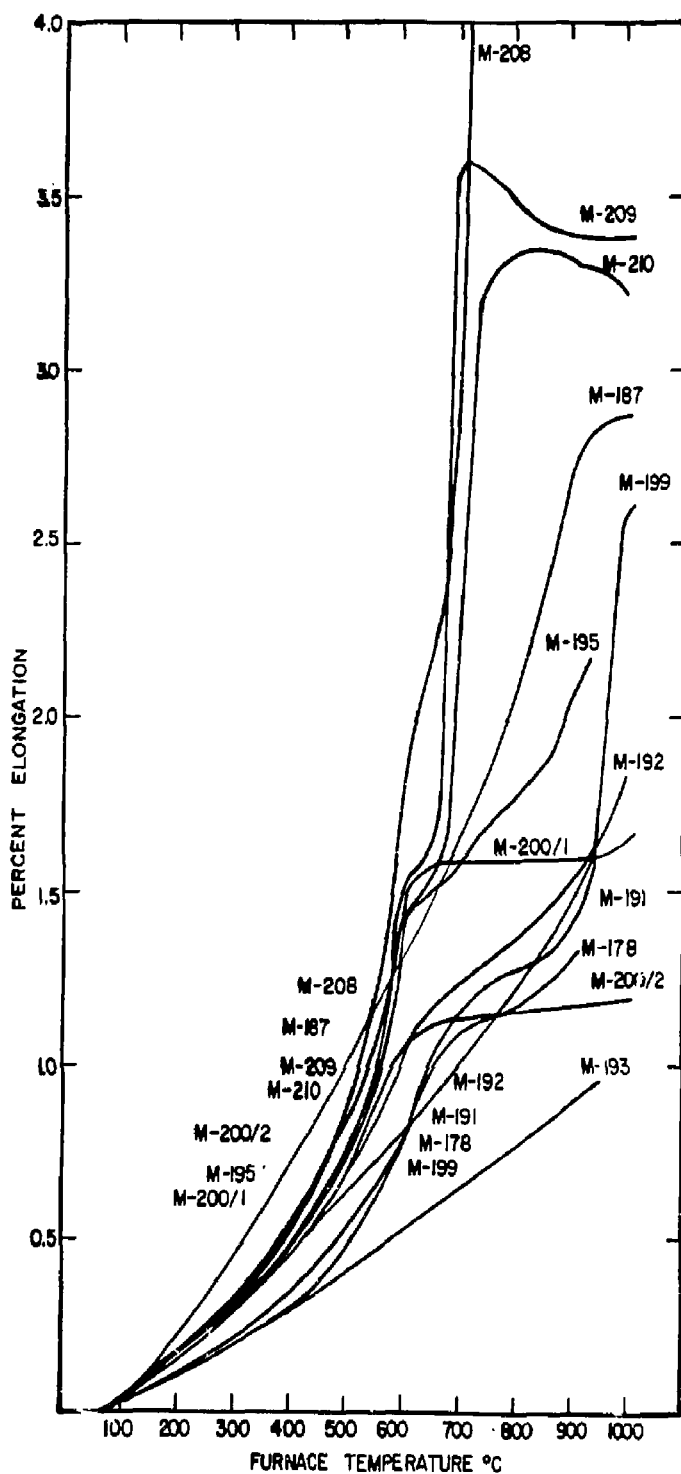


FIGURE 1-29 Average linear expansion of rocks of good and fair pierceability  
Source: Clark et al, 1969 and Geller et al, 1962.

was tested at 240° C in a dry nitrogen atmosphere, the compressive strength was about 20,000 psi. If the atmosphere is now changed to a saturated water vapor and the tests redone, the strength drops to about 6,000 psi. Unfortunately, at present there is relatively little test data available on the effect of environmental conditions on the strength of various rocks. This, however, can be an extremely important consideration in evaluating the long-term competence of a repository.

TABLE i-18. Compression tests on granite.

(Machine loading rate - 5 mils/min)

Prior Treatment	Test Temperature	Test Atmosphere	Average Failure Stress, MPa
60 hours in saturated steam (240°C, 345MPa)	25°C	saturated water vapor	151.7
None	240°C	dry nitrogen	135.9
None	240°C	saturated water vapor	41.4
None	25°C	saturated water vapor	162.1
None	-195°C	liquid nitrogen	257.9

SOURCE: Charles, 1959.

#### 1.14 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

To date, most of the studies have been performed using rock types which are considered to be "homogeneous and isotropic." The assumption is made that average properties do not vary markedly from point-to-point within the rock mass, and that they do not vary substantially with respect to orientation. This is borne out by a number of experimental investigations carried out in the laboratory. Table 1-19 shows the results of tests made on a number of samples taken at various orientations from a block of Stripa granite. It is noted that Young's modulus, wave velocity, compressive strength, and density are relatively insensitive to orientation. Table 1-20, however, presents the results of another set of experiments that were done on a gneissose granite. Therefore, there are some rock masses for which directional properties must be considered.

Because of the very long time frame that one must be concerned about repository behavior, it is important to consider the effect of creep on rock strength and rock behavior. Although there has been a considerable amount of information collected on the behavior of salt and salt-like materials, relatively little work has been done on the creep relationship

TABLE 1-19. Small-scale anisotropy test results.

Specimen number	Density  (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	C <sub>I</sub> Wave velocity		Youngs modulus		$\sigma_c$  (MPa)
		(m/s)	mean s.d.	(GPa)	mean s.d.	
B1.1	2616.9	5164.2	5180.3	66.8	64.9	227.4
B1.2	2616.9	5196.3	±16.1	63.0	±2.0	81.2
B2.1	2614.4	5268.8	5240.9	65.8	65.8	237.2
B2.2	2609.8	5213.0	±27.9	64.6	±0.6	227.4
B3.1	2613.8	5310.1	5311.1	64.4	65.5	207.6
B3.2	2616.3	5312.1	±1.0	66.6	±1.2	233.9
B4.1	2617.8	5353.5	5831.6	64.4	65.7	131.2
B4.2	2619.7	5409.7	±28.1	67.0	±1.4	234.5

SOURCE: Swan, 1978

Table 1-20 Summary of Anisotropic Properties of Granite

Site	Gallery	Fig. No.	Moduli of elasticity, GPa				Ultimate strength, MPa				Ratio $r = \frac{e}{e_1}$	Value of determinant $10^{-9}$ $ D $
			Semi-axes		maximum anisotropy	Semi-axes		maximum anisotropy				
			A	B	C	e	A <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>1</sub>	e <sub>1</sub>		
Alvarenga	G 4L	2	76.9	42.9	30.3	2.54	126.8	132.6	99.8	1.33	1.91	16.4
	G 6L	3	37.8	17.5	24.3	2.16	46.4	84.2	56.7	1.82	1.19	15.6
Alto Lindoso	G 1R	4	37.4	48.3	30.4	1.59	112.5	108.8	123.4	1.14	1.39	27.1
	G 2L	5	49.9	36.2	28.5	1.75	125	117.7	125.6	1.07	1.64	35.2
	G 4R	6	26.5	34.2	41.3	1.56	74.6	110.2	99.0	1.48	1.05	21.5
Vilarinho	G12R	7	48.1	42.3	38.3	1.25	132.7	123.8	109.8	1.21	1.03	23.5
	G14L	8	48.6	34.6	36.3	1.41	134.6	101.5	96.8	1.39	1.01	21.9
			average maximum anisotropy		1.75		average maximum anisotropy		1.35		1.31	

Source: Rodrigues (1970)

for hard rocks, such as granite. Stress-time and strain-time relationships for westerly granite are presented in Figures 1-30 and 1-31. In Figure 1-30, it is observed that over a period of from 25 to 250 hours the strength of westerly granite decreased from about 31,000 psi to 27,000 psi. From the data, it is not clear whether the strength will continue to decrease, or if it will reach some plateau. This is extremely important when evaluating long-term behavior. For westerly granite samples under a constant load of 26,630 psi, (Figure 1-31) the strain increased rather rapidly, then increased at a constant rate which changed into tertiary creep, and the sample finally failed. Table 1-21 is a summary of creep data collected at room temperature for two granites and one granite diorite. Note that the strain is related to the stress raised to an exponent varying between 1 and 1.3. Although important, the collection of good creep data is extremely difficult, due to the very long time frames involved and the sophistication of equipment necessary to provide the control of loading. Present data are insufficient to incorporate creep into predictive models for hard rock repositories.

There are some other factors which should be considered in evaluating geomechanical aspects of repositories in granite. One factor is the behavior of rock under cyclic loading conditions. The rock mass itself will undergo a heating and

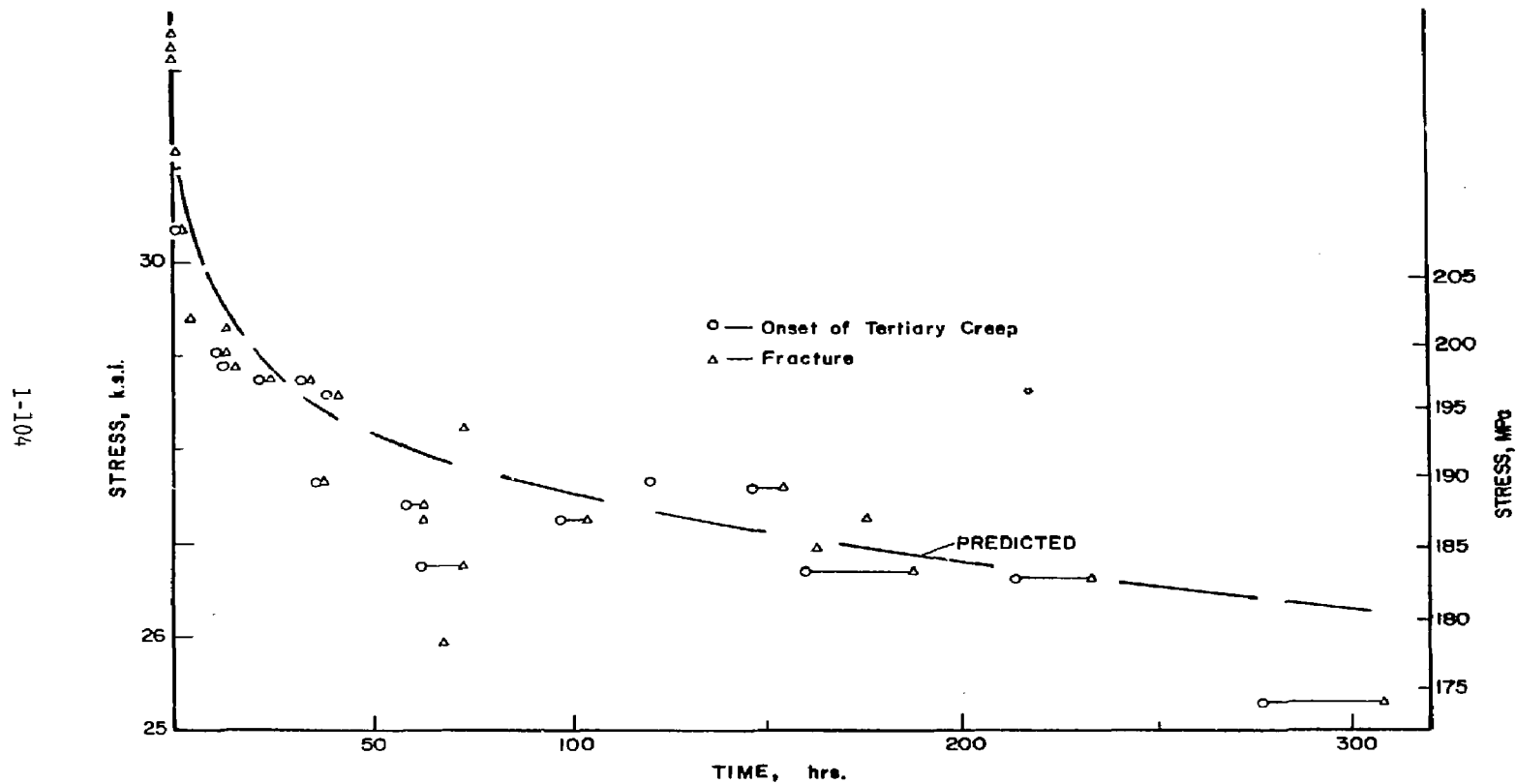


FIGURE 1-30 Strength-time relationship for Westerly granite  
Source: Wawersik, 1974.



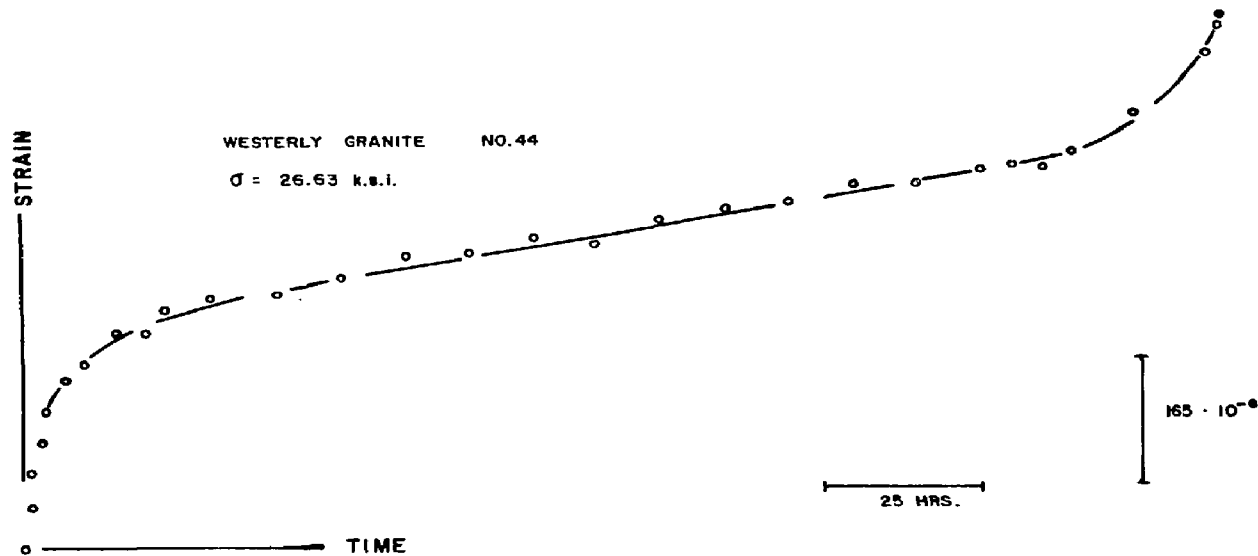


FIGURE 1-31 Typical creep curve of water-saturated Westerly granite  
 Source: Wawersik, 1974.

TABLE 1-21. Values of the exponent  $n$  in the equation  $\epsilon = A\sigma^n$  in the creep of granites and a granodiorite at room temperature (Robertson, 1964)

Rock Type	Maximum Strain ( $10^{-3}$ cm/cm)	Maximum Stress MPa	Hydrostatic Pressure MPa	Exponent $n$	Reference
Granite	1	355	0	3.3	
Granite	0.08	101	0	2.1	Matsushima (Ref. 29)
Granodiorite	0.2	10.1	0	1.0	

SOURCE: Office of Waste Isolation, 1978

then a cooling phenomenon and the effects of this cycling are not necessarily reversible. Very little information exists at present regarding this phenomenon. Rock materials may also weaken due to radiological or chemical effects.

## L.15 SCALING OF LABORATORY RESULTS

The discussion to this point has focused primarily on intact rock samples. It is well known, however, that in underground excavations it is not the intact rock that causes problems, but rather the discontinuities, such as jointing, faulting, dikes, etc. There are many ways of trying to incorporate such discontinuities into a design. One method is to model individual features and to describe them in terms of joint stiffnesses, both normal and shear. Another approach is to treat the entire rock mass as a continuum, but to reduce the modulus, strength and other properties obtained in the laboratory for intact rock. The most common approach is to take laboratory properties and apply some sort of scale factor to them to obtain a first estimate of the field properties.

Table 1-22 (ONWI, 1978) is a comparison of rock properties for generic granite. One column is for intact rock, and the adjacent one is for the rock mass. In comparing these two columns, one will notice differences between the intact rock and the rock mass in only three properties. They are the Young's modulus, uniaxial compressive strength, and tensile strength. All the other values are assumed to be the same between the intact rock and the rock mass. Note that Young's modulus has been reduced by a factor of 3, the

TABLE 1-22 Rock properties for a generic granite

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Intact Rock</u>	<u>Rock Mass</u>	<u>MKS Units</u>
Index	Unit Weight	2643.3	2643.3	kg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Natural moisture content	---	---	%
	Porosity	0.4	0.4	%
Stress-strain	Young's Modulus	50.3	17.2	GPa
	Poisson's Ratio	0.18	0.18	---
Strength	Strength Parameters			
	A	4.5	4.5	
	k	0.75	0.75	
	Uniaxial Compressive Strength	182.8	131	MPa
	Tensile Strength	6.90	0	MPa
Thermal	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion	31.0	31.0	GPa
	Heat Capacity			
	<u>TEMPERATURE</u>		<u>HEAT CAPACITY</u>	
	0°C		0.88 J/g-°C	
	100°C		0.92	
	200°C		0.96	
	300°C		1.05	
	400°C		1.09	
	Thermal Conductivity			
	<u>TEMPERATURE</u>		<u>HEAT CAPACITY</u>	
	0°C		2.86 W/m-K	
	50°C		2.70	
	150°C		2.56	
	100°C		2.44	
	200°C		2.34	
	300°C		2.15	
	400°C		1.99	
Hydrological	Horizontal permeability		3.05x10 <sup>-8</sup>	m/min.
	Vertical permeability		3.05x10 <sup>-8</sup>	m/min.

SOURCE: Office of Waste Isolation, 1978

compressive strength by about 30%, and the tensile strength reduced from 6.9 MPa to 0. These figures are considered to be extremely misleading and should not be used for modeling purposes.

The apparent modulus of a rock mass can be very low under small loads since it is determined primarily by the closing of joints, etc. (Very large deformations are possible under rather low stresses.) With internal boundaries, discontinuities tend to absorb the displacement, and Poisson's ratio may actually be close to 0. The uniaxial compressive strength of cubes, for example, for some materials has been shown to vary as the inverse of the square root of the length of the side. For samples of other shapes, the strength is dependent upon the width-height ratio. Assuming that the values for intact rock given in the table are for samples of the order of 5 cm in diameter and 10 cm long, on this basis, the rock mass values correspond to relatively small sample sizes. The tensile strength of intact rock, as has been noted earlier, varies from 0 to some fraction, generally 1/10 to 1/20 of the compressive strength of the rock. If the tensile strength of the rock mass were really 0, it would be extremely difficult to support openings such as are created underground every day in granitic rocks.

An example of variation in strength with size has been provided by (Pratt et al, 1979), as shown in Figure 1-32. Note that it would appear that there is a characteristic length of 1/2 to 1 meter, at which strength becomes relatively constant. The variation in strength with sample size, as shown in the figure, suggests that for large samples the strength would be, perhaps, an order of magnitude lower than for smaller samples. The 0.5 meter characteristic length may not be at all appropriate, when large openings are considered, since some other characteristic discontinuity would then be the determining factor for rock mass strength.

The modulus would be expected to follow a similar trend, as it is closely related to compressive strength. Figure 1-33 shows the relationship between the insitu modulus and the number of fractures which were observed in the core. As can be seen, there is a rather strong correlation between the number of fractures and the modulus, with the modulus decreasing as the fracture number increases. Figure 1-34 shows insitu modulus results for Stripa. These tests were conducted in 3.8 cm diameter holes drilled into the rock mass. The volume of rock influenced by the test was relatively small, although much greater than what would be experienced in testing the core taken from the same hole. Note that the average insitu modulus for the relatively small volume was on the order of 1/2 of the laboratory value.

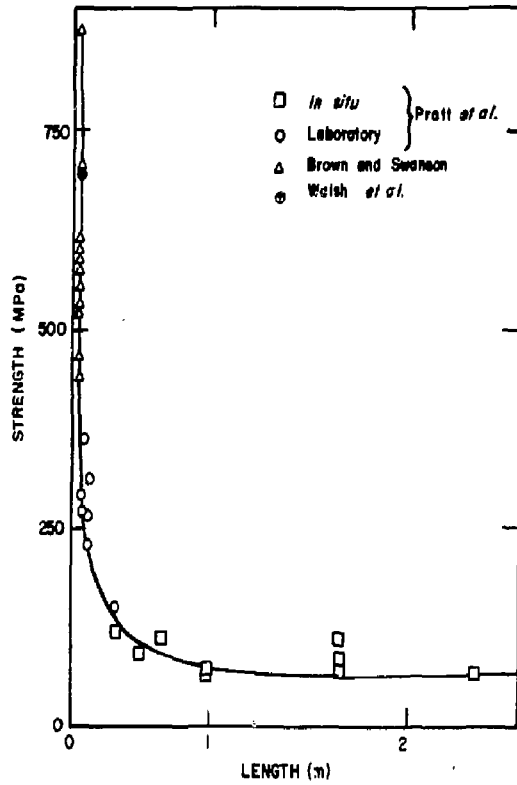


FIGURE 1-32 A diagram illustrating the effect of size on the uniaxial compressive strength of quartz diorite  
Source: Pratt *et al.*, 1972.



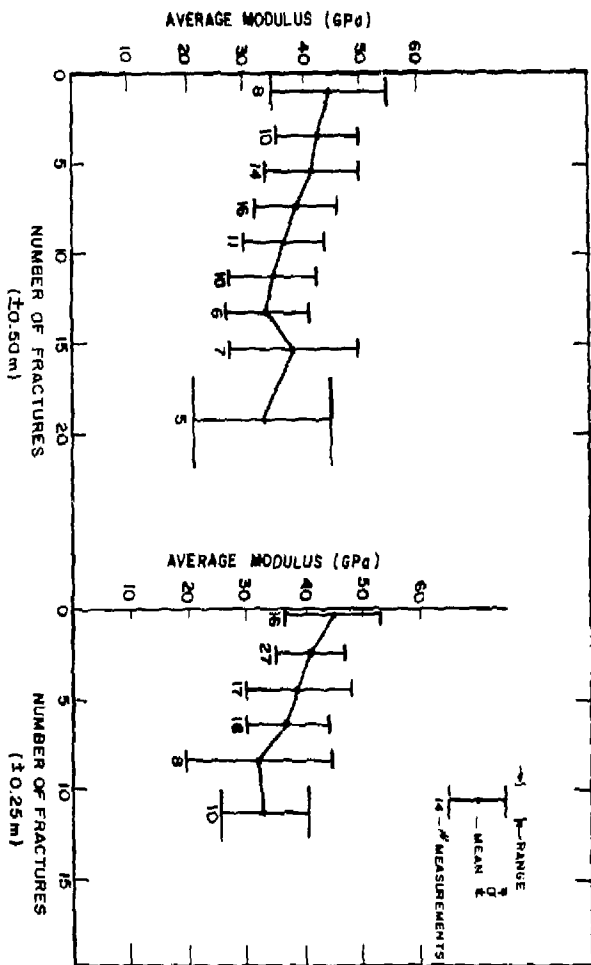


FIGURE 1-33 Insitu Young's modulus determinations versus fracture density from visual inspection of core  
 Source: Nelson et al, 1979.

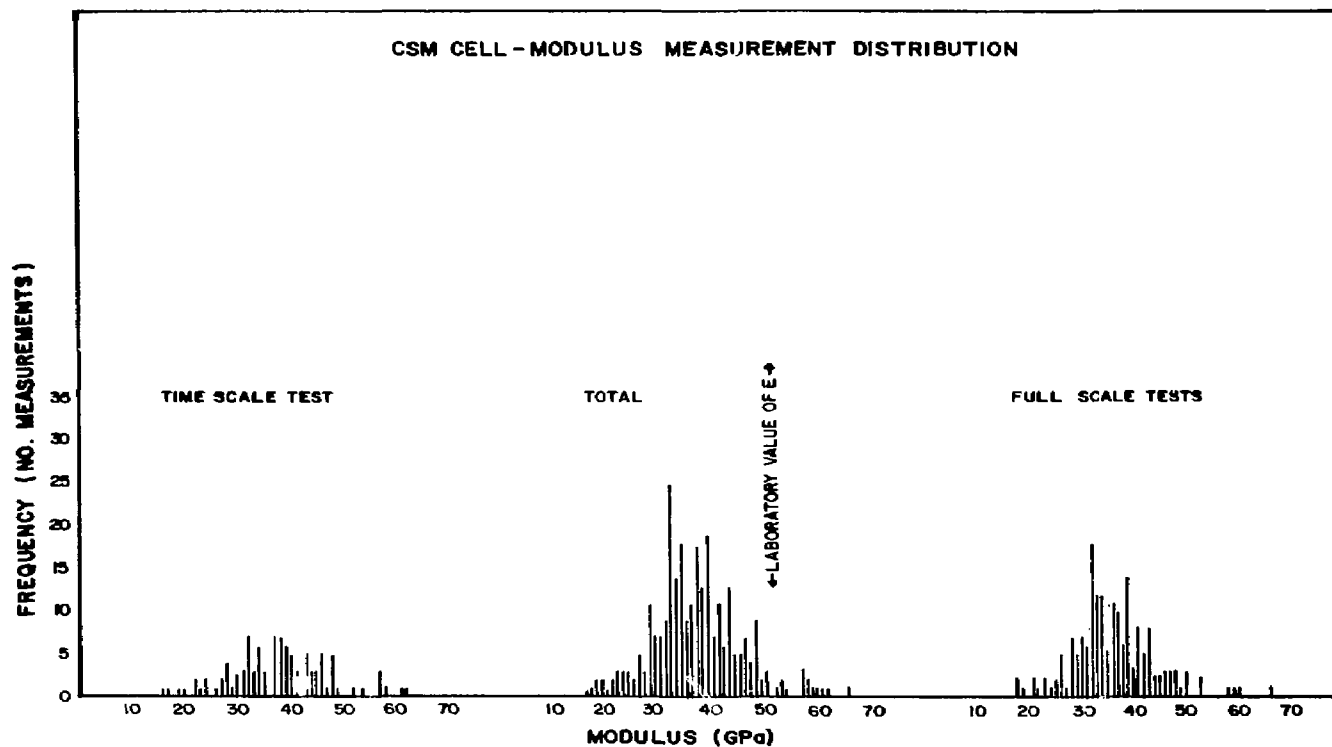


FIGURE 1-34 Histograms of CSM-cell determinations of Young's modulus  
Source: Nelson et al, 1979.

Due to this problem of not being able, at the present time, to assess insitu properties from tests performed on small samples of rock, a number of insitu test experiments are either underway or planned at Stripa. The purpose of such experiments is to gather thermal and mechanical data appropriate for loading conditions similar to those which would be expected in an actual repository. Models are being prepared for predicting the field behavior. Of crucial importance is how well the input parameters describe the actual field situation.

The initial predictions will be made using laboratory values for thermal conductivities, specific heat, density, thermal diffusivity, coefficient of linear expansion, Poisson's ratio, and Young's modulus such as those given in Table 1-23. which were applied at Stripa, or some modified scaled laboratory values might be appropriate. The problem in the latter case is justifying the scaling values which are used for the initial approximation. The procedure is to compare predicted values with those actually measured and then to (a) revise the estimate of the input parameters so that agreement is reached between predicted and experimental and/or (b) reevaluate the form of the model which is used. If the initially predicted and actual field results do not agree, the input parameters are then scaled to those required to achieve agreement. Model verification and validation can then only be evaluated by

TABLE 1- 23 Laboratory values for stripa granite  
used in the simulations

Thermal conductivity	=	3.2 (W/m°C);
Specific heat	=	837 (J/kg°C);
Density	=	2600 kg/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Thermal diffusivity	=	1.47 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> (m <sup>2</sup> /s);
Coefficient of linear thermal expansion	=	11,1 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> (/°C);
Poisson's ratio	=	0,23;
Youngs modulus	=	51,3 (GPa)

applying the revised model "input data" to a new loading situation. A comparison of the theoretical predictions made using properties collected from small intact samples and the actual field measurements from preliminary measurements of the Stripa Mine are shown in Figures 1-35 through 1-41. It is observed that predicted temperatures and actual temperatures based upon laboratory values for thermal conductivity, density, diffusivity, and specific heat are very good, suggesting that size effects on such thermal parameters may be relatively small. As seen in Figures 1-39, 1-40 and 1-41, however, the predicted and actual displacements are quite different, with the actual values being considerably less than those projected.

These predictions are based upon single "average" laboratory values for Young's modulus and the linear thermal expansion coefficient. The initial portions of the displacement curves differ the most with the actual curves showing essentially no displacement for a considerable period of time. Eventually, they follow a slope, not too unlike that predicted from theory. This can be easily explained by the presence of joints or other discontinuities between the measurement points which absorb internally any displacement. They could also be explained by non-linear Modulus-temperature and/or expansion coefficient-temperature curves. There could, of course, be a number of other reasons for this disparity.

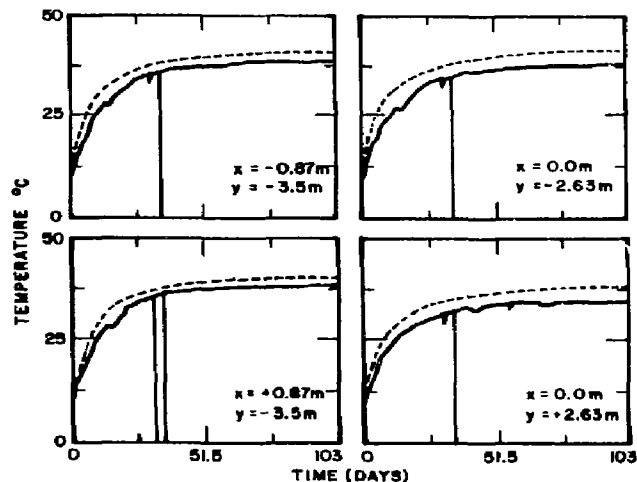


FIGURE 1-35 Curves showing the predicted and measured temperatures as a function of time at a radius of 0.87m from the mid-points of the two inner-most heaters on the y-axis  
Source: Cook and Hood, 1978.

Note: The near vertical excursions of the measured values reflect malfunctions in the data collection system.

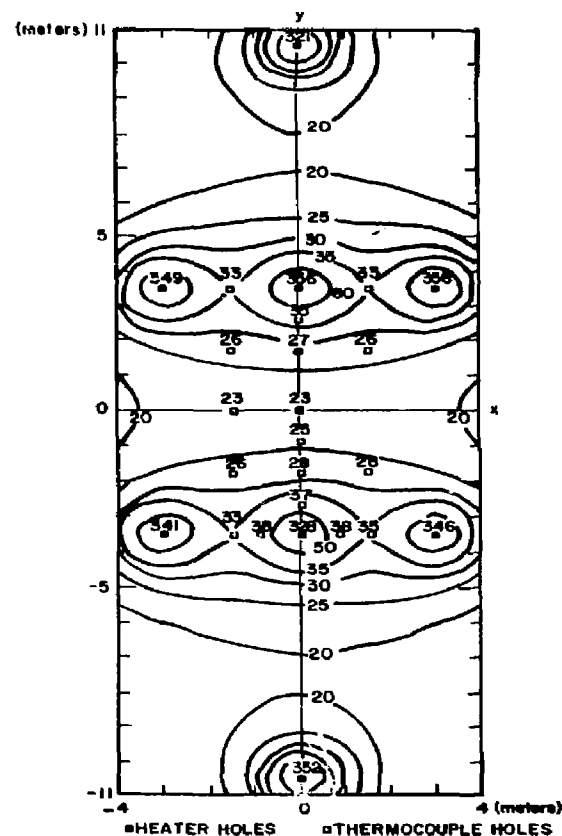


FIGURE 1-36 Predicted isotherms and measured temperatures in a horizontal plane through the middle of the time-scale experiment 90 days after heating had started Source: Cook and Hood, 1978.

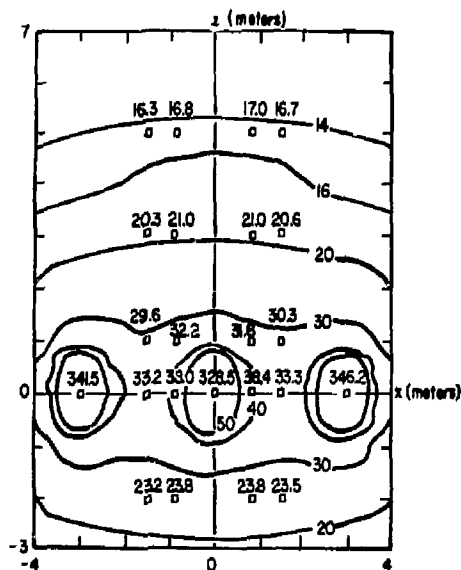


FIGURE 1-37 Predicted isotherms and measured temperatures in a vertical plane ( $y = -3.5\text{m}$ ) containing three of the time-scale heaters, 90 days after heating had started  
Source: Cook and Hood, 1978.

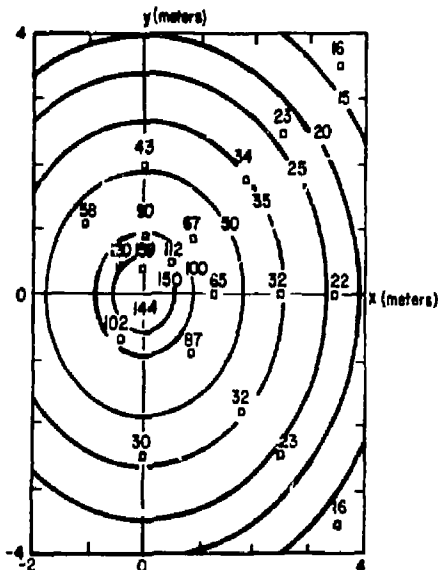


FIGURE 1-38 Predicted isotherms and measured temperatures in a horizontal plane through the middle of the 5 kw full-scale heater, 65 days after heating had started  
Source: Cook and Hook, 1978.

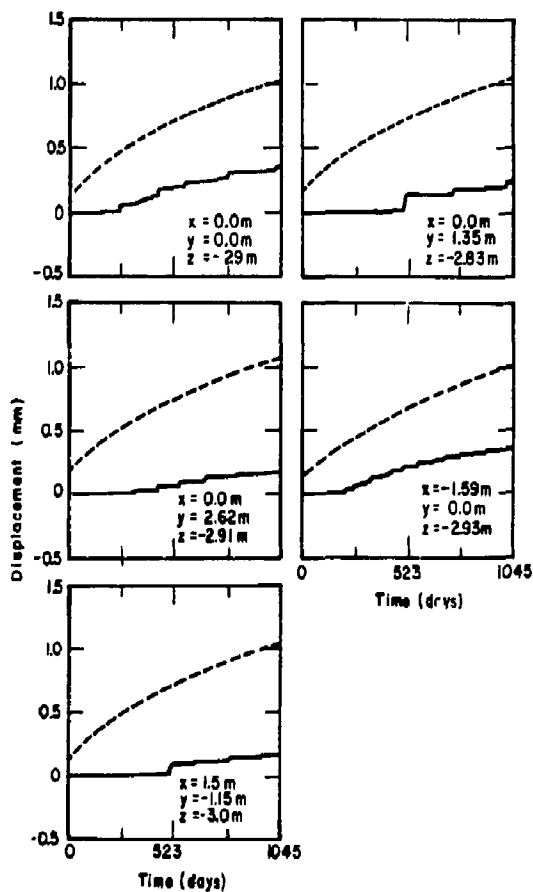


FIGURE 1-39 Predicted (dashed) and measured (solid) relative displacements between anchor points 3m below the heater mid-plane and the hole collars in the floor of the time-scale drift, plotted as a function of time Source: Cook and Hood, 1978.



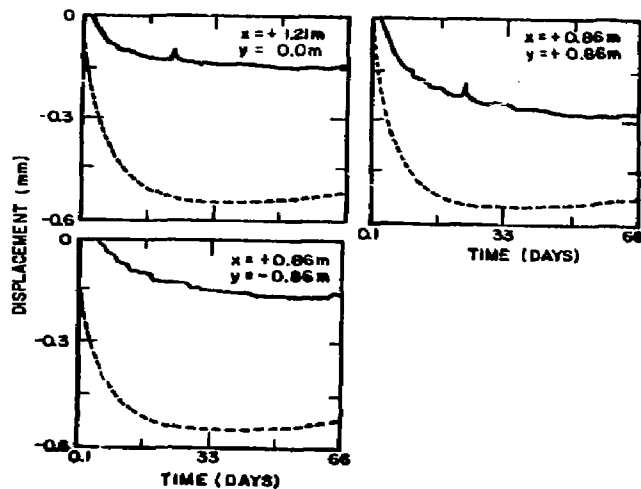


FIGURE 1-40 Predicted and measured horizontal displacements of the rock in the mid-plane of the 5 kW full-scale heater taken along different directions. Source: Cook and Hood, 1978.

Note: These curves show relative displacements between anchor points at a radial distance of 1.2 m from the heater and the collar of the hole on the wall of the extensometer drift.

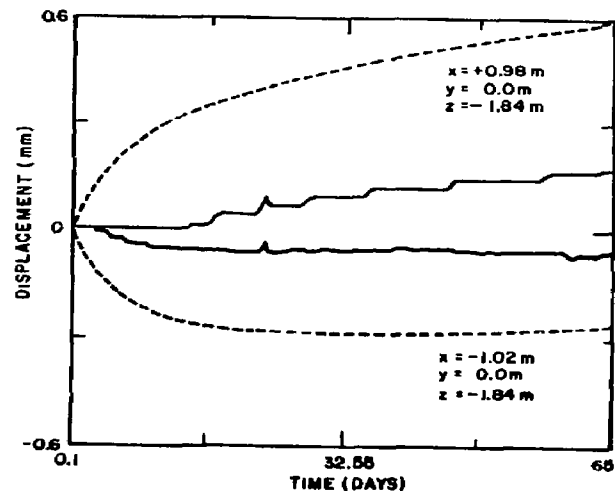


FIGURE 1-41 Predicted and measured horizontal displacements below the 5 kW full-scale heater at anchor points symmetrically positioned on each side of the heater. Source: Cook and Hood, 1978.

Note: Both of these displacements are measured relative to the collar of the hole on the wall of the extensometer drift.

The important point is that this should not be concluded as a failure of the theory to adequately predict the results. It is, rather, the inability of researchers to insert into models the appropriate rock mass parameters, whether they be mechanical parameters such as strength, density, etc.; thermal parameters, or thermoelastic parameters.

The major emphasis in the near future will be on the gathering and evaluating insitu rock mass characteristics which can be used in presently-existing models for adequately defining and explaining full-scale experiments and projected repository behavior.

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## HYDROLOGY OF GRANITES



## 1.17 INTRODUCTION TO HYDROLOGY OF GRANITES

Contact of radioactive waste with ground waters and subsequent transport by ground waters is thought to be one of the few ways radioactive materials in a repository may communicate with the biosphere. Consequently, accurate identification of those parameters controlling ground water flux and velocity coupled with representative modeling and field testing of the ground water environment is critical to the identification of appropriate repository sites. A summary of measured values for various hydrologic parameters may be found in Appendix A.

This section begins with a discussion of the fundamentals of ground-water flow through porous media. Presented is a discussion of ground-water flow through single fractures, fracture networks, and regional flow systems. The section is concluded with a summary of the effects of temperature on the hydraulic characteristics of a rock mass and a discussion on hydraulic dispersivity.

## 1.18 FUNDAMENTALS OF GROUND WATER FLOW

Ground water flow through both intergranular and fractured media is based upon the same fundamental concepts. To understand flow in either medium, it is necessary to be familiar with Darcy's law, the various methods of presenting permeability and porosity and the equations leading up to the general equation of flow in isotropic homogeneous materials.

### Darcy's Law and Permeability

The fundamental relationship describing flow through a porous media is Darcy's law. This law is an empirical relationship which describes laminar flow through an isotropic and homogeneous medium. In its simplest form, Darcy's law describes ground-water flow as follows:

$$Q = KA \frac{dh}{dl}$$

where:

- Q is rate of flow ( $m^3/sec$ )
- A is the cross sectional area of the medium ( $m^2$ )
- K is hydraulic conductivity ( $m/sec$ )
- $\frac{dh}{dl}$  is hydraulic gradient (non-dimensional)

Hydraulic conductivity is a measure of the ability of a fluid at a specific temperature to pass through a medium. It is a function of properties of the medium as well as of the viscosity and specific weight of the fluid. Many ground water texts utilize hydraulic conductivity with the assumption that the fluid is water at a

temperature of 20°C. In applications where fluid parameters are not constant, some authors prefer to utilize intrinsic permeability (k), expressed in units of  $\text{m}^2$ . Intrinsic permeability is a function of medium properties and is independent of properties of the fluid. Intrinsic permeability is related to hydraulic conductivity by the following relationship:

$$K = \frac{kg}{\nu}$$

where:

- g is acceleration of gravity ( $\text{m/s}^2$ )
- $\nu$  is kinematic viscosity ( $\mu/\rho$  in  $\text{cm}^2/\text{sec}$ )
- $\rho$  is fluid density (g/cc at specific temp)
- $\mu$  is absolute viscosity (g/cm. sec.)

Another related parameter, transmissivity, is often utilized in discussions of ground water movement. Transmissivity, expressed in units of area per unit time ( $\text{l}^2/\text{t}$ ) is defined as the rate at which water of a prevailing kinematic viscosity is transmitted through a unit width of the entire aquifer under unit hydraulic gradient. Transmissivity (T) is related to hydraulic conductivity as follows:

$$T = Kl \quad (1-3)$$

where:

- l is aquifer thickness

### Porosity and Storativity

Total porosity is defined as the ratio of the aggregate volume of interstices in a rock to its total volume. Included in the determination of true porosity are isolated vugs, microfractures and discontinuous voids which do not contribute to ground water flow.

Effective porosity is defined as the ratio of the volume of water which can be put in motion under the effect of gravity forces to the total volume of rock (Battelle, 1979). Effective porosity is that portion of the void which actively contributes to ground water flow, and consequently it is of more significance in hydrologic evaluations than is total porosity.

Closely related to porosity is aquifer storativity, which is the ability of an aquifer to retain and release waters. Specific yield ( $S_y$ ) is a dimensionless measure of storativity expressed as the ratio of the volume of water which an aquifer, after being saturated, will yield by gravity to its own volume. Storage coefficient ( $S$ ) is defined as "the volume of water an aquifer releases from or takes into storage per unit surface area of the aquifer per unit change in the component head normal to the surface" (Todd, 1967).

For an unconfined aquifer, the storage coefficient is equivalent to its specific yield. In a confined aquifer, water is not released by gravity drainage, but rather, storage releases are derived from the small expansion of water as the head declines and from compaction of the aquifer itself. Storage coefficients for unconfined aquifers are related to porosity and will have decimal values slightly less than porosity. Storage coefficients of confined aquifers are not directly related to porosity and may range from  $10^{-3}$  to  $10^{-6}$ .

### Ground Water Velocity

Although hydraulic conductivity bears units of velocity (l/t), this does not represent the true rate of particle movement. Many authors utilize "Darcian velocity" in their discussions. This represents the product of the hydraulic conductivity and ground water gradient. For a material of less than unit porosity, this again is not representative of particle velocity. Darcy velocity may be obtained by dividing both sides of the Darcy relationship,  $Q = KA \frac{dh}{dl}$  by area, . However, flow comes only from that portion of the area which is pore space, or  $A\theta$  where  $\theta$  is effective porosity. The average particle velocity is consequently the Darcy velocity divided by effective porosity:

$$V = (K \frac{dh}{dl}) / \theta \quad (1-4)$$

where:

$V$  is average particle velocity

$\theta$  is effective porosity

The "seepage" velocity derived from this equation is a vector average velocity. It does not represent the range of particle velocities in the rock mass. Consequently, "seepage" velocity should be used only with appropriate assumptions when describing particle migration.

### General Flow Equation

In order to model three dimensional flow in a homogeneous, isotropic system, a general equation describing ground water movement was developed. This equation can be derived directly from Darcy's equation

$$Q = KA \frac{dh}{dl} \quad (1-1)$$

the equation defining storage coefficient

$$S = \frac{1}{A} \frac{dv}{dh} \quad (1-5)$$

where  $v$  is volume and the equation of continuity (conservation of mass)

$$\text{inflow} - \text{outflow} = \text{storage} \quad (1-6)$$

The general equation for unsteady state flow in a confined aquifer is:

$$\frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial z^2} = \frac{S}{T} \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} \quad (1-7)$$

or

$$\nabla^2 h = \frac{S}{T} \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} \quad (1-8)$$

For steady state flow or for unconfined unsteady state flow, the term  $\frac{S}{T} \frac{\partial h}{\partial t}$  may be neglected (Davis and DeWiest, 1970) and the general equation becomes:

$$\nabla^2 h = 0 \quad (1-9)$$

or Laplace's equation.

This equation, or modifications of it, serve as the basis for many of the finite element models of ground water systems currently being utilized.

## 1.19 GROUND WATER FLOW THROUGH SINGLE FRACTURES

A granite chosen as a host rock for a nuclear waste storage facility will have a groundmass with negligible permeability. The only significant method of ground water transport through such a rock mass will be by means of flow through unfilled fractures. Although Darcy's law was developed from observations made on materials with intergranular porosity, the relationship may be extended to describe flow in a fracture in an effectively nonpermeable rock mass. This extension of Darcy's law was first proposed in a thesis by Snow (1965). Snow concluded that laminar flow through fractures is analogous to flow between smooth parallel plates. Based upon this parallel plate model, he determined that hydraulic conductivity may be expressed by:

$$K = \frac{\rho g (2b)^2}{12 \mu} \quad (1-10)$$

where:

$2b$  is fracture aperture.

Intrinsic permeability can consequently be expressed:

$$k = \frac{g (2b)^2}{12 \nu} \quad (1-11)$$

Now relating this back to Darcy's law, an equation describing the flow rate per unit width in a single fracture  $q$ , can be written:

$$q = \frac{g (2b)^3}{12 \nu} \frac{dh}{dl} \quad (1-12)$$

(Apps et al, 1979)

This relationship, demonstrating discharge to be proportioned to the cube of fracture aperture, is known as the cube law. This law confirms that only slight changes in aperture can cause large changes in flow and is a key to modeling flow in a fractured aquifer.

Correspondingly, average velocity may be expressed:

$$v = \frac{g (2b)^2}{12 \mu} \frac{dh}{dl} = k \frac{dh}{dl} \quad (1-13)$$

The area considered in determining velocity of flow is the cross sectional area of the fracture, and the porosity of the open fracture is unity. Table 1-24 illustrates the hydraulic conductivities and the average velocities that result from equations 1-10 and 1-13 for a range of apertures and assuming water at ambient conditions under a hydraulic gradient of .001.

As flow velocities increase, roughness of the fractures will cause turbulence and non-uniform flow within the fracture plane. Louis and Maini (1970), Sharp and Maini (1972) and Gale (1975) have investigated nonlinear, non-Darcian flow through an "equivalent" aperture. The equivalent aperture will be that of a parallel plate model having the same hydraulic behavior as the natural fracture.

Gale ran double set packer tests on single fractures in a borehole. Utilizing a constant head, he was able to measure the rate at which a single fracture would take water. With this information, he utilized a form of the cube law to calculate equivalent aperture. A summary of Gale's work, Table 1-25, shows the calculated, equivalent apertures to differ with the true (measured) apertures by at least an order of magnitude, the true aperture being larger. Because roughness of fracture walls and non-uniform flow within the fracture plane are very difficult to evaluate directly, the concept of equivalent apertures is very significant in current approaches to modeling.



Table 1-24. Hydraulic conductivity and velocity for water flowing through a single fracture

Aperture b microns	Hydraulic Conductivity, K m.sec <sup>-1</sup>	Effective velocity, v	
		m.sec <sup>-1</sup>	km.year <sup>-1</sup>
0.1	$8.2 \times 10^{-9}$	$8.2 \times 10^{-12}$	$2.6 \times 10^{-7}$
1.0	$8.2 \times 10^{-7}$	$8.2 \times 10^{-10}$	$2.6 \times 10^{-5}$
10.0	$8.2 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.2 \times 10^{-8}$	$2.6 \times 10^{-3}$

Source: Apps et al, 1968

TABLE 1-25. Fracture data and equivalent fracture apertures  
for selected fractures at Sambro, Nova Scotia.

Fracture Depth		Aperture estimated from Borehole periscope log (m)	Excess Hydraulic Head (m)	Flow Rate (cfs) $\times 10^3$	Calculated Equivalent Apertures (m)
Model (m)	Borehole (m)				
3.05	2.85	.030 - .024	.14	4.46	.0011
3.96	4.020	.0030 - .0061	3.8 5.28	.98 1.12	.00021 .000207
5.03	5.063	.0015	15.7 22.9	.027 .45	.00004 .00009
6.10	6.117	.0015 - .0030	1.77 4.02 7.59	.67 1.29 1.56	.00026 .00024 .00021
8.53	8.806	.0015 - .0030	6.05 12.7	1.29 1.87	.000207 .00019
10.2	7.315	.0015	3.097 7.251	.003 .005	.000034 .000030
12.2	12.50		7.102	0.001	.000046

SOURCE: Gale, 1975

## 1.20 FRACTURE NETWORKS

Many parameters have a bearing on the rate of ground water flow through a fracture network. Fracture spacing, aperture sizes, orientation, and continuity are among the most significant factors. Also of importance is the roughness of fracture walls, wall coatings, fracture fillings and the degree of uniformity of apertures.

### Joint & Fracture Systems

Early research in granitic tectonics conducted by Hans Cloos (Kendorski and Mahtab, 1976) identified an orthogonal system of joints which is characteristic of nearly all granitic plutons. Cloos identified this orthogonal joint system as consisting of Q, S, and L fracture systems.

Q-fractures or cross-joints were determined to result from extensive fracturing parallel to the principal direction of stress in the rock mass.

S-joints or longitudinal fractures formed parallel to the flow lines or crystal orientation and result from failure along the anisotropy resulting from the flow.

L-joints are flat-lying joints resulting from variations in vertical loading or rebound.

Although later tectonic activity may superimpose additional fracture systems on a granitic mass, nearly all possess the primary set of orthogonal joints identified by Cloos. Subsequent authors (Price, 1966), confirm the basic concepts of Cloos; however, Price proceeds to conclude that joints have little hydraulic significance. Price proposes that brittle fractures resulting from unloading and uplift are of the most significance to ground water flow.

#### Variation In Aperture and Fracture Spacing

Snow (1965, 1968, 1977), Lewis and Burgy (1964), Uhl and Sharma (1978) and others concur that the permeability and fracture porosity of crystalline rocks decrease with depth and that the rock type is of less importance in describing these parameters than is fracture geometry. Fracture spacings are found to generally increase with depth, while fracture openings generally decrease. Snow (1968), in studies of crystalline rock at four dam sites in Colorado, found fracture spacings at the weathered surface to range from .15 to 1.2 meters and found spacings to increase to 1.5 to 4.6 meters immediately beneath this surface. Fracture spacings were found to further increase to 5 to 11 meters at depths of 61 meters. Effective apertures inferred from packer tests were observed to range from 75 to 400 microns in the upper 7 meters of the rock mass and to decline to 50 to 100 microns at depths of 15 to 61 meters as shown on Figure 1-42.

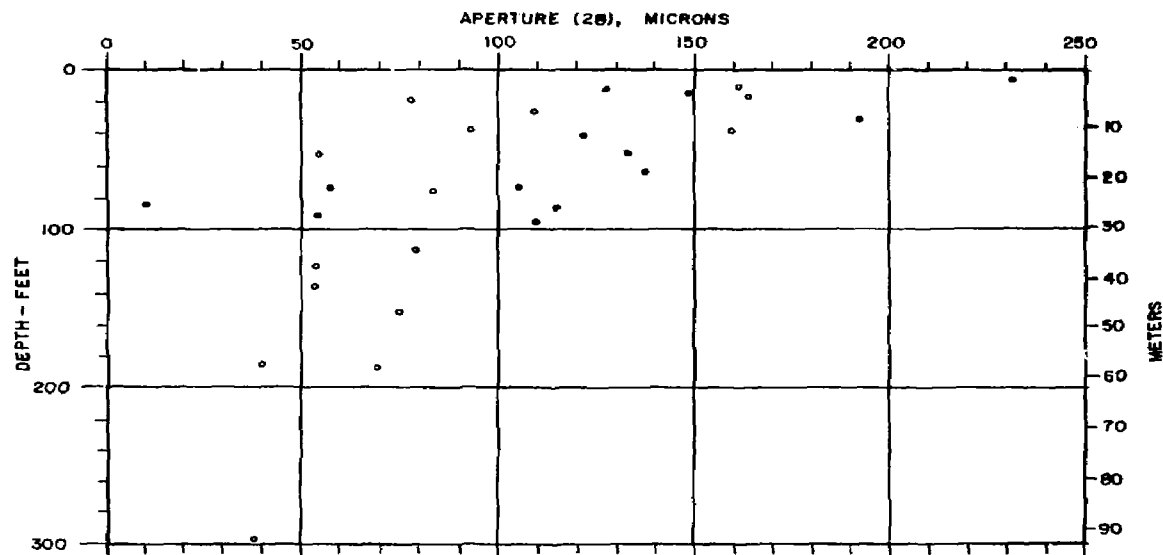


FIGURE 1-42 Fracture openings in the gneisses of the Front Range, Colorado, computed from injection tests  
Source: Snow, 1968b.

Corresponding to the observed changes of fracture spacing and aperture sizes with depth in Dr. Snow's studies is a decline in both fracture porosity and permeability. Fracture porosity is found to decline from .05% near the surface to approximately .0005% at 122 meters, and it is generalized that fracture porosity decreases at a rate of approximately an order of magnitude per 61 meters of depth (Snow, 1968a). Permeability measured at equivalent depths at the four dam sites varied; however, all followed a logarithmically declining trend with depth.

Utilizing data from the four dam sites, Snow (1971) suggests a technique for estimating the permeability of a fractured crystalline rock mass. By plotting the mean permeability of each depth zone against mean depth, Figure 1-43, and constructing a line through these points by means of a least-square fit, Snow concludes that permeability varies with depth relative to the following equation:

$$\log k = -8.9 - 1.67 \log d$$

where:

k is intrinsic permeability ( $\text{Ft}^2$ )

d is depth below the surface of the rock mass measured in feet

Research conducted in Sweden concludes that permeability declines somewhat more rapidly with depth along an exponential curve (ONWI, 1978b). Laboratory work with fractured granite in artificial stress fields (Pratt et al, 1971) correlates somewhat more closely with the conclusions of Snow; however, this research considers only declining

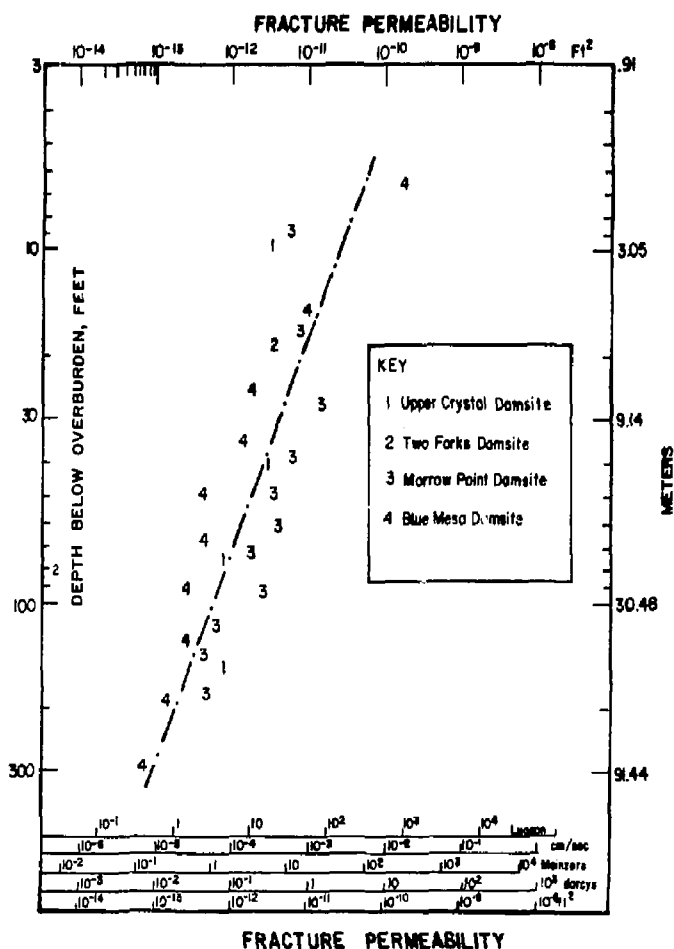


FIGURE 1-43 The mean permeability in each depth zone at 4 damsites vs the mean depth of mid-points of test sections. Source: Snow, 1968b.

fracture density with depth. At depths exceeding 450 meters, the validity of either relationship is uncertain. Pratt suggests that fracture permeability asymptotically approaches a value approximately one order of magnitude greater than the permeability of the rock matrix as normal stress increases.

The fracture porosity of a rock mass with a specific permeability is dependent upon the fracture geometry and fracture aperture. Snow concludes from his work on the four Colorado dam sites that an orthogonally fractured rock mass at a specific depth with uniform fracture openings will have a porosity which is related to fracture spacing by the following relation:

$$\theta = 3(3k/2)^{1/3} (2/\Delta)^{2/3} = 5.45 (k/\Delta^2)^{1/3} \quad (1-15)$$

where:

- $\theta$  = effective porosity
- $k$  = permeability ( $\text{ft}^2$ )
- $\Delta$  = fracture spacing (ft)

The apparent spacings of individual fractures within each of three assumed orthogonal sets of water bearing fractures as observed at the Colorado dam sites is summarized on Figure 1-44. In the work by Snow, it is assumed that fracture spacings are normally distributed. More recent work by Priest and Hudson (1976) suggests spacing is exponentially distributed. The effect these differences in distribution will have on resultant permeability and porosity has not been specifically evaluated.



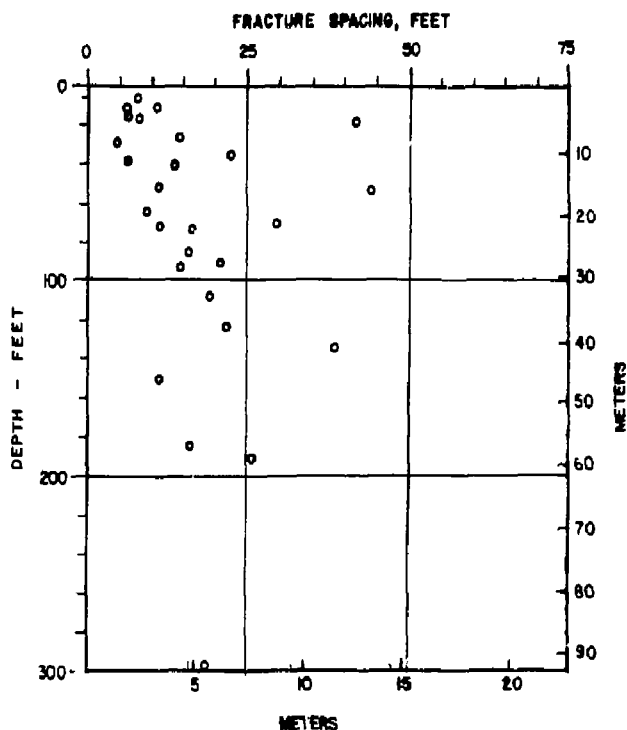


FIGURE 1-44 Apparent spacing of individuals of each of three assumed orthogonal sets of water-bearing fractures at four dam sites in gneisses of the Front Range, Colorado, computed from injection tests  
Source: Snow, 1968.

### Effects Of Stress On Fracture Permeability

It is generally accepted that stress can have a large effect on the permeability of rock. A decrease in permeability with depth as demonstrated by Davis and Turk (1964) and Show (1968) is often considered to be stress related. There has, however, in recent years, developed some disagreement among authors as to whether decreasing permeability with depth is due in greater degree to decreasing aperture size or increasing fracture spacing. Raven and Gale (1976) and Kendorski and Mahtol (1976) indicate aperture decreases with depth while fracture geometry remains constant. Conversely, Swedish investigators on the Stripa project conclude that fractures with significant apertures persist to depth but that spacing increases (Battelle, 1978).

Work by Iwai (1976) on man-made fractures in basalt, granite and marble generally supports the concept of decreasing aperture. Under normal stresses ranging from 0 to 20 MPa, Iwai found both aperture and hydraulic conductivity to decrease with increased stress. However, a minimum hydraulic conductivity was found to be approached asymptotically as stress was increased. Imperfect matching of opposing surfaces caused apertures to approach 15 microns as normal pressures approached 20 MPa.

Recent work by Brace (1979) to some degree contradicts the accepted concepts of declining permeability with depth. Brace assembled laboratory and in situ permeability measurements from a number of

locations and presented this data in the form of a histogram, see Figure 1-45. Utilizing this data, Brace makes the following observations:

- a) The average  $k$  of the more permeable crystalline rocks is about  $10^3$  greater than corresponding laboratory measurements. This variance is due in part to the dependence of permeability measurements on sample size in laboratory determinations.
- b) There is a hint of decrease of permeability with depth but hardly enough to justify the exponential relationships suggested in the literature.
- c) At nearly every site some portion of the rock sampled by the drill holes has a permeability of 1 to 100 md. This relatively permeable zone may be as deep as 3.3 km.

Given the square relationship between flow velocity and aperture size, it is particularly critical to define, at least on a site specific basis, the relationship between aperture size and depth.

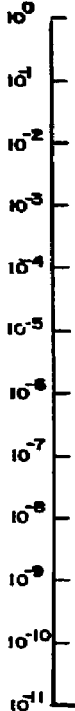
#### Orientation And Continuity Of Fractures

In many fractured crystalline bodies, a variation in average aperture with fracture orientation is observed. Given the cube relationship between aperture and flow, it can be seen that the orientation of large fractures with respect to the potential gradient makes a major

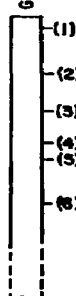
# LABORATORY MEASUREMENTS

# IN SITU TESTS

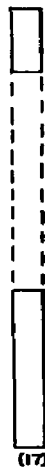
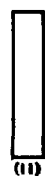
PERMEABILITY  
IN  
DARCIES



GRANITES



METAMORPHICS



HYDRAULIC  
CONDUCTIVITY  
(FOR WATER AT  
STD. CONDITIONS)  
m/sec



FIGURE 1-45 Summary of laboratory and insitu measurements of permeability in crystalline rocks.  
Source: Brace, 1979.

Determination No.	Rock Type
1	Laramie Granite
2	Quincy Garnite
3.	Westerly Granite
4.	Samples from Los Alamos, New Mexico
5.	Barre Granite
6.	Ontario Granites
7.	Front Range Gneiss
8.	Front Range Schist
9.	Quartzite
10.	White Lake Gneiss
11.	Metamorphics - Colorado Front Range (well tests)
12.	Crystalline rock at 38 western damsites
13.	Laramie Granite - well test
14.	Crystalline basement rock - pump test from Aiken, S.C.
15.	Stripa Granite - pumping tests
16.	Granites and Gneiss - 500 pumping tests - Sweden
17.	Lac du Bonnet batholith - pumping tests, Pinawa, Manitoba
18.	Granodiorite - pumping tests - Los Alamos, New Mexico
19.	Crystalline basement - injection tests - Rocky Mt. Arsenal, Denver
20.	Climax granitic stock - pressure decay tests
21.	Quartzite

FIGURE 45 (Cont.) Key to Rock Types

difference in ground water flow velocity and direction. The definition of orientations of fractures is critical to the determination of anisotropic permeability.

The results of fracture mapping in many geologic environments have shown that fractures cannot be assumed to be continuous within their own planes (Apps et al, 1979). Continuity is the most difficult of the fracture parameters to measure in situ. However, defining the continuity of fractures is of prime importance in describing ground water movement. Long duration well tests that affect large volumes of rock and single fracture cross-hole tests are currently most widely utilized for determinations of fracture continuity.

#### Fracture Network Flow

Equations describing flow through a fracture network can be developed from the flow equation for a single fracture:

$$V = k \frac{dh}{dl} \quad (1-13)$$

For anisotropic conditions in a rock mass, the equation can be modified:

$$\{V\} = [kp]\{i\} \quad (1-16)$$

where:

- $\{V\}$  is the velocity vector
- $\{i\}$  is the potential gradient vector
- $[kp]$  is a second order tensor formed from the permeability terms of each fracture set.

The derivation is continued by Apps et al (1979) by defining area permeability ( $k_p$ ) in terms of gradient and flow rate per unit area ( $q_A$ ):

$$q_A = k_p i \quad (1-17)$$

For a set of fractures with a frequency  $\lambda$ , the single fracture permeability,  $k$ , can then be related to area permeability,  $k_p$ , by:

$$[K_p] = 2b\lambda [k] \quad (1-18)$$

Assuming a uniform set of fractures oriented in the x-y plane with aperture  $2b$ ,

$$[K_p] = 2b\lambda \begin{bmatrix} \frac{g(2b)^2}{12v} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{g(2b)^2}{12v} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{g(2b)^2}{12v} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\lambda g(2b)^3}{2v} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\lambda g(2b)^3}{2v} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\lambda g(2b)^3}{2v} \end{bmatrix}$$

The principal permeabilities and their orientations are the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the permeability tensor formed from the combination of the tensors of the individual fractures (Apps et al 1979). A detailed summary of the derivation of permeability tensors from single fracture data may be found in Bianchi and Snow (1969). Although  $k$  almost certainly varies with direction in rocks, principal values of the permeability tensor are rarely given (Brace, 1979). Network flow studies utilizing the permeability tensor are, to date, principally theoretical and have little field conformation.

## 1.21 REGIONAL GROUND WATER FLOW

While fluid flow through individual fractures is well understood and flow through fracture networks has been theoretically proposed, ground water flow on a regional scale is only beginning to be investigated.

### Fundamental Regional Flow Characteristics

In a granite drainage basin, ground water movements will vary laterally and vertically in the various fracture networks that interface to allow ground water flow through the region. In general, water will be recharged into the country rock in topographically lower areas. In the recharge area, the direction of water movement is principally downward, the depth of penetration depending upon fracture geometry, continuity and numerous other geologic parameters. Ground water flow eventually becomes roughly horizontal until a zone of discharge is reached where the flow lines turn upward. The distance between recharge and discharge points in a granite drainage basin may range from only a few tens of meters to many kilometers.

In many granite drainages, the water table roughly parallels surface topography. Water table configuration, and hence topography, often controls the locations of recharge and discharge zones. As demonstrated on the flow nets of Figure 1-46, the size of recharge and discharge zones will vary depending on their position and the degree of topographic relief in the basin (Apps et al, 1978).



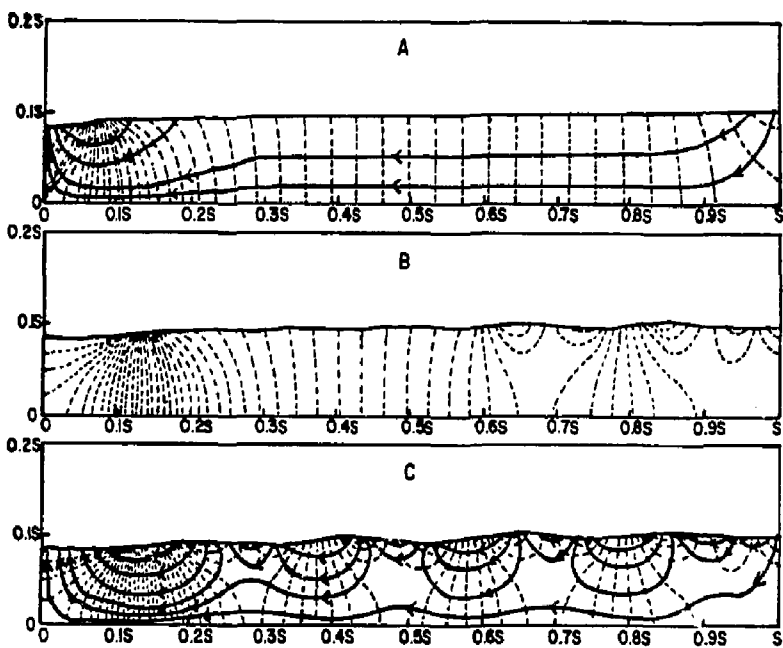


FIGURE 1-46 Effect of water-table configuration on regional groundwater flow through homogeneous isotropic media. Source: Freeze and Witherspoon, 1967.

Regional ground water flow may also be interrupted by geologic anomalies such as faults or shear zones. These features occur on scales from a few meters in length to tens of kilometers. If the fractures associated with these features are open, they may channelize ground waters and control the movements of both surface and ground waters within a basin. Such features have been observed carrying significant ground water flows at depths in excess of 3.5 km. (Brace, 1979) (Robinson, 1978). Often, however, faults and shear zones are filled with rubble which has undergone extensive chemical or mechanical alteration producing a clay rich material of very low permeability known as fault gouge. In areas where fractures and voids associated with faults or shear zones are filled with gouge, or other fines or precipitates, the feature may act as a barrier to ground water flow.

It is anticipated that a repository would not be sited in a granite body at a location significantly dissected by faults or shears. Rather, a repository would probably be sited in a recharge zone of a deep geologic structure with a low fracture permeability. The site should be chosen to maximize ground water flow paths to the surface and thus maximize the underground residence time of waters leaving the repository.

#### Layer Models Of Regional Systems

Various authors have attempted to identify different horizons in the crystalline aquifer to simplify descriptions of ground water flow. Hurr and Richards (1974) broke the aquifer down into an active zone

and a passive zone. The active zone is defined as that near-surface, weathered zone in which the water table is subject to seasonal fluctuation, and significant flows may be observed. The passive zone is defined as an underlying zone of lower permeability in which water may be stored for tens to thousands of years. In research at the Straight Creek Tunnel in Colorado, the contact between the active and passive zones was found to fluctuate in depth; however, it was identified as the point at which the seismic velocity increased from 3780 m/sec. to approximately 5400 m/sec.

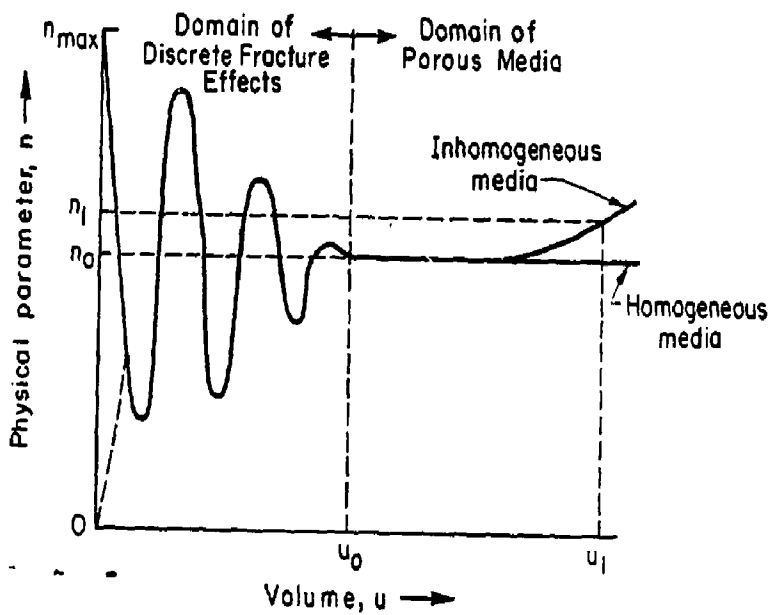
In modeling studies for the Office of Nuclear Waste Isolation (1978b), three zones of saturation were considered. The upper zone was identified as that of the highest permeability, holding young waters containing both Carbon 14 and tritium. The intermediate zone was identified as that bearing water of intermediate age containing Carbon 14, but lacking tritium. The deepest and least permeable zone was identified as containing the oldest water which bears no measurable tritium or Carbon 14.

Either technique for identifying specific horizons in the crystalline aquifer can be a simplification of some assistance in modeling. However, the boundaries between these horizons are often quite gradational and difficult to specifically define in the field.

### Representative Elementary Volume

Regional evaluation of ground water systems is currently often approached by continuum modeling. This technique requires that representative values be assigned to parameters for a finite volume element. Consequently, some technique must be developed for establishing representative values from field data. Bear (1972) has proposed the concept of representative elementary volume (REV). As illustrated on Figure 1-47, the representative elementary volume ( $u_0$ ) is that volume at which small additional increased in volume will have no significant effect on the value of the parameter measured.

For volumes smaller than the REV, discrete fracture effects will influence the value of the parameter as the test volume is increased by small increments. However, for a volume equivalent to or larger than the REV, we move into the domain of porous media effects (Battelle, 1979). A list and summary of some of the models currently being utilized for regional flow analysis are presented in Battelle (1979).



XBL 7811-6115

FIGURE 1-47

Definition of a representative elementary volume  
Source: Bear, 1972

## 1.22 EFFECTS OF TEMPERATURE ON FRACTURE FLOW SYSTEMS

During the initial stages of repository construction and loading, ground water movement can adequately be defined by the approach outlined in previous sections. However, as the repository becomes heated in later stages of its life, the rate and direction of ground water flow may be altered. Large scale permeability tests at the Stripa Mine Project (Lundstrom and Stille, 1978) confirmed that permeability of the rock mass was reduced 50% as temperature was increased from 10°C to 35°C. This decline in permeability can probably be attributed principally to a decrease in aperture along fractures resulting from thermal expansion of the rock mass.

Thermal convection may also alter ground water movements in a crystalline rock mass. In model studies conducted for the Office of Nuclear Waste Isolation (1978), large convection cells were predicted to develop in the country rock surrounding a repository. However, Apps et al (1978) suggest that in fractured rocks of very small aperture, the Rayleigh number is so large that a local heat source is unlikely to cause natural circulatory convection. To establish throughflow due to a buoyancy unbalance requires recharge from a surrounding rock mass that is filled with cold ground water. If the repository is sited in nearly impermeable rock, then the low velocities of the regional system will restrict cold water inflow and control overall fluid movement.

It should be noted that few, if any, large scale field studies have been undertaken to evaluate the effects of thermal convection in a granite rock mass. Most information now available is purely theoretical or is drawn from modeling studies which incorporate assumed hydraulic and thermal parameters.

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## GEOLOGIC CHARACTER OF BASALT

## 2.1 INTRODUCTION TO GEOLOGIC CHARACTER OF BASALT

Basalt is a dark-colored, mafic igneous rock composed of calcium plagioclase and clinopyroxene. It is generally extrusive or volcanic in origin causing a glassy or fine-grained texture. Basalt is one of the major rock types exposed at the earth's surface. The ocean basins are composed of it and extensive basaltic terranes occur on all continents.

In recent years, as more sophisticated physical-chemical data have been gathered, the basalts, their tectonic frameworks, and their compositions, have become a major source of support and argument for plate tectonic and other planetary development theory. As such, basalt has commanded an interest far beyond its already major importance as a common terrane at the earth's surface.



## 2.2 CLASSIFICATION

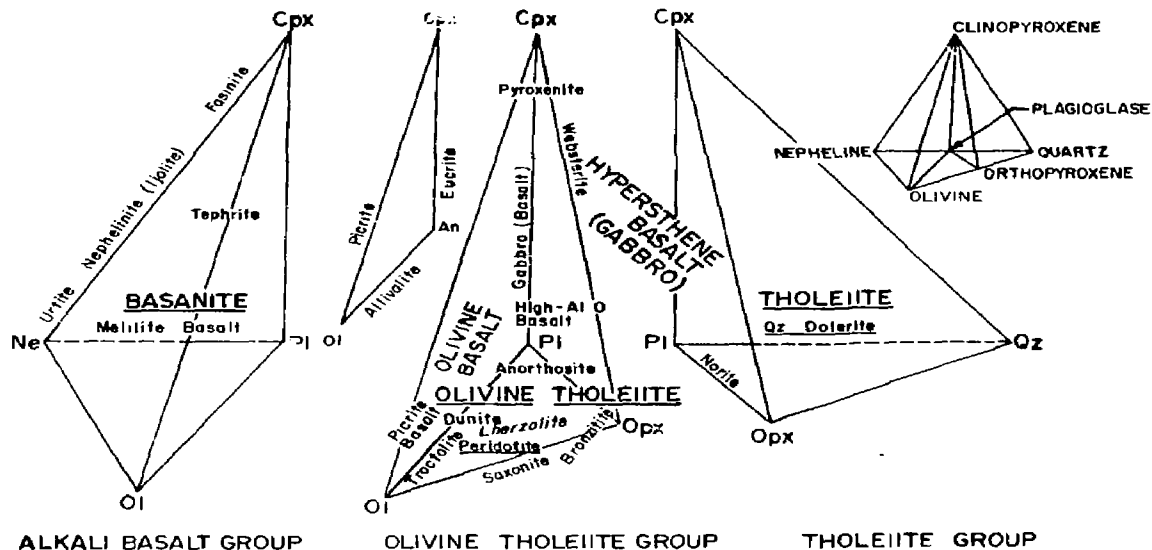
All igneous rocks, including basalts, are classified on the basis of texture and mineralogy. By definition basalts are all fine-grained, calcium plagioclase-clinopyroxene rocks. Within this framework there are numbers of textures and mineral subclasses that specify different genetic types of basalt.

There are two main mineralogical subgroups of basalts (Figure 2-1). Each of these is derived from a distinct type of parent magma. The tholeiitic magma is saturated with  $\text{SiO}_2$  and produces basalts consisting of calcium-poor augite,  $(\text{Ca},\text{Na})(\text{Mg},\text{Fe},\text{Al},\text{Ti})(\text{Si},\text{Al})_2\text{O}_6$ , labradorite plagioclase,  $(\text{Ca},\text{Na})\text{Al}(\text{Si},\text{Al})\text{Si}_2\text{O}_8$ , and iron oxides. Olivine,  $(\text{Mg},\text{Fe})_2\text{SiO}_4$ , may be absent or, as in olivine tholeiite, present in accessory amounts.

The alkali basaltic magma is undersaturated with respect to  $\text{SiO}_2$  and produces nepheline,  $(\text{NaK})\text{AlSiO}_4$ , bearing calcium-rich augite. In the resulting rocks, alkali feldspars often occur with the calcium plagioclases and, in general, alkali basalts contain much more complex assemblages of feldspars. As with the tholeiites, olivine may be absent or occur as an accessory; however, it is more common in the alkalis. Also, alkali-basaltic olivine occurs in the groundmass and it tends to be zoned from magnesium-rich to iron-rich. This is unusual for tholeiite olivine.

FIGURE 2-1

Mineralogical Subgroups of Basalts  
Exploded view of generalized simple basalt system illustrated in upper right inset. Entered are names of rocks whose major normative phases are contained in the tetrahedra. Names underlined are within the tetrahedra. Names in faces are written parallel to base. Lherzolite is in Ol-Cpx-Opx face. An additional inset, Ol-Cpx-An, gives alternative nomenclature when plagioclase is rich in An. After Yoder and Tilley (1962).



Two lesser suites of basalts are the calc-alkali series and the high alumina series. The genesis of both are controversial. The calc-alkalis are thought to be high alkali differentiates of the tholeiitic magmas. The high alumina basalts contain in excess of 17 percent  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  and are also thought to be derivatives of the tholeiites.

Basaltic textures and their causes are almost as prolific as the various basalt rock names. For practical purposes, particularly if the physical properties of the rock are of concern, only a few are important. Basalts tend to be porphyritic (larger crystals set in a fine-grained groundmass). The large crystals or phenocrysts are often aligned, creating anisotropy. The ground-mass may be vitreous or glassy. Although basalt glasses, or obsidians, are rare, matrices can contain high proportions of glass. Basalt flows commonly contain frothy or vesicular layers where gasses were trapped during extrusion. Also, flows usually have some type of jointing that occurred during cooling. This weakens the rock body and allows more rapid weathering.

### 2.3 COMPOSITION

The major mineral groups that make basalts (plagioclases, pyroxenes and olivine) produce a dark-colored heavy rock that is relatively low in silica and high in iron, magnesium and calcium. The mineral and chemical analyses for examples of a tholeiite, an alkali and a high alumina basalt are given in Table 2-1. The rather exacting compositional requirements discussed under Classification are evident. The tholeiite is high in  $\text{SiO}_2$  and the alkali basalt is undersaturated in  $\text{SiO}_2$  and high in sodium and potassium. The high alumina basalt is high in  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ .

	Olivine <u>Tholeiite</u>	High <u>Alumina</u>	Olivine Alkali <u>Basalt</u>
SiO <sub>2</sub>	49.18	48.27	41.60
TiO <sub>2</sub>	2.29	0.89	2.64
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	13.33	18.28	10.38
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.31	1.04	3.58
FeO	9.71	8.31	9.07
MnO	0.16	0.17	0.20
MgO	10.41	8.96	14.38
CaO	10.93	11.32	10.90
Na <sub>2</sub> O	2.15	2.80	4.32
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.51	0.14	1.02
H <sub>2</sub> O	0.09	0.22	1.46
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.16	0.07	0.38
Quartz (SiO <sub>2</sub> )	-	-	-
Orthoclase KAlSi <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	2.78	0.56	0.56
Albite NaAlSi <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	17.82	23.58	-
Anorthite CaAl <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	25.30	39.97	5.84
Diopside (CaMgSi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> )	22.93	15.23	36.54
Hypersthene (Mg,Fe) <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	15.35	-	-
Olivine (Mg,Fe)SiO <sub>4</sub>	9.14	20.55	20.37
Magnetite Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	2.09	1.39	5.10
Ilmenite FeTiO <sub>3</sub>	4.41	1.67	5.02
Apatite			
Ca <sub>5</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> (F,OH,Cl)	0.34	0.17	1.01
Nepheline (Na,K)AlSiO <sub>4</sub>	-	-	19.88
Leucite (KAlSi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> )	-	-	4.36

Table 2-1 Chemical Composition and Mineralogy in percent of some basaltic rocks (1. Kilauea Caldera, Hawaii; 2. Medicine Lake Highlands, California; 3. Ponape Island) Source: Hess and Poldervaart, 1967

## 2.4 PRIMARY STRUCTURE OF BASALTIC BODIES

Most basalts occur in flows. Small near-surface intrusions have produced basalt but the volume is very minor. The majority of the great flow sequences underlie the oceans. These have spread from centers along the earth's surface plate boundaries and represent the formation of the new crust required to fill in as the plates shift.

There are also major periods of basalt flow deposition on the continents. These flow sequences, known as flood or plateau basalts, spread to great thicknesses over various areas of all the continents during the Permian, Triassic and mid-Tertiary periods. Because of their accessibility these continental flood basalts have, until recently, received more attention than the oceanic basalts. For the purposes of this report, they certainly are the most important type of occurrence.

## 2.5 GENESIS

Genetic theory for the basaltic rocks is extremely detailed and complicated. Basaltic magmas are now conceded to develop directly from the earth's mantle material (Carmichael et al, 1974; Hess and Poldervaart, 1967). Controversies are still heated, however, over where in the mantle this occurs, what materials are involved, and how many primary basaltic magmas are developed.

The major type of basalt in both oceanic and continental occurrences is tholeiitic. The magma producing this basalt is thought to be a primary magma generated from a garnet-peridotite, or eclogite, in the upper mantle. Continental and oceanic tholeiites are slightly different in some respects, particularly in their trace element suites. However, these differences are believed to be due to contamination as the magmas pass up through either the continental or oceanic crusts (Carmichael et al, 1974; Hess and Poldervaart, 1967).

Alkali, calc-alkali, and high alumina basaltic magmas hypothetically all develop from tholeiite magma. For calc-alkali and high alumina magmas, the hypothesis is subjective simply because the data are insufficient and inconclusive. For alkali basaltic magma, the problem is more substantial.

Alkali magma can be differentiated from tholeiitic but an enormous volume of tholeiitic magma is required. Proponents of the relationship have devised a partial melting of tholeiites with subsequent filter pressing of alkali magma to solve this problem. Opponents believe this is fortuitous. They prefer a separate primary alkalic magma (Hess and Poldervaart, 1967). This would mean that the concept of a relatively homogenous mantle is suspect. Hence, the problem of the alkali basaltic magma source still awaits solution.



## 2.6 WEATHERING OF BASALT

Basalts are composed of high temperature, igneous rock minerals. These are as much out-of-equilibrium with the surface environment as any group of rock-forming minerals can be. Hence, basalt will rapidly deteriorate once it is exposed. Physically, it is compact and resistant. However, most bodies are severely fractured during post-depositional cooling. This accelerates chemical and physical deterioration.

## 2.7 DESCRIPTION OF OCCURRENCES

Extensive areas of flood basalts occur in the northwestern United States. This region, known as the Columbia Plateau, is the largest area of basalt in the United States. All of the flows of this region are of the continental tholeiitic type.

The Columbia Plateau flood basalt region consists of three distinct, smaller areas of basalt flows (Figure 2-2). The Columbia River Basalt covers a large area in central and southern Washington. The Modoc Plateau is a smaller area mainly in northern California. The Snake River Plain extends across most of southern Idaho. Each area has basalts of slightly different stratigraphic and water-bearing properties.

The following discussions of these three areas will concentrate on general features that are consistent with the entire area. When dealing with such large areas, it is not possible to provide certain types of geologic data that may only be important for given locales. Small-scale fracturing or jointing is an example. Trends, intensities, and depths of occurrence for such features can only be measured, and their importance to rock properties judged, for a specific site.

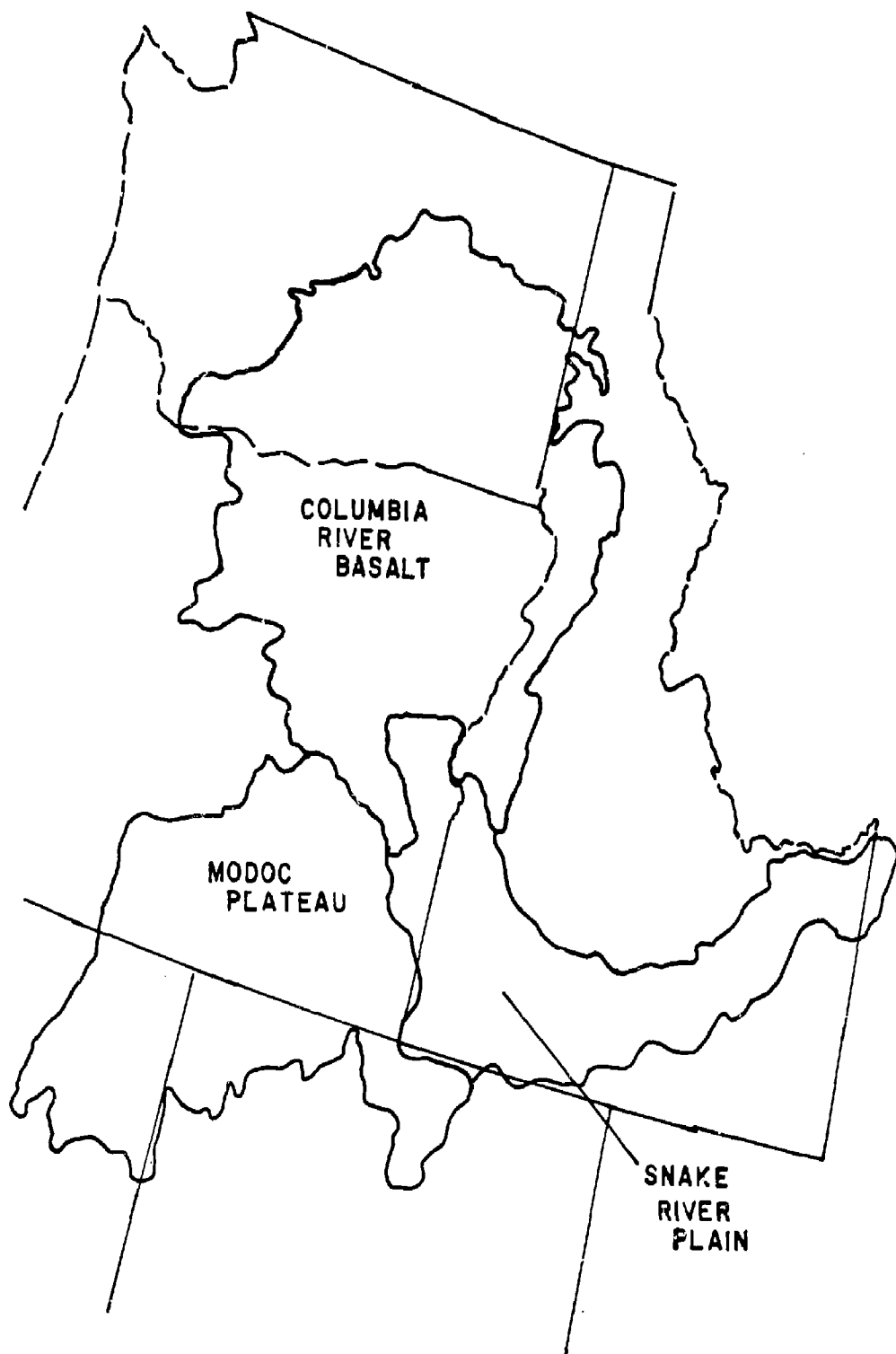


FIGURE 2-2 Flood basalt occurrences chosen for study  
2-13

### Columbia River Basalt

The Columbia River flows cover an area in excess of 150,000 square kilometers in southeast Washington, northeast Oregon, and adjacent Idaho with a volume of more than 300,000 cubic kilometers. The thickness of individual basalt flows generally ranges from 1.5 meters to about 61 meters, averaging 24 meters (Newcomb, 1969).

The average thickness of the basalt sequence underlying the Columbia Plateau is greater than 500 meters, and the greatest known thickness is 3,200 meters (Deju, 1977). It consists of a thick sequence of accordantly-layered lava flows and interbedded sediments (Newcomb, 1969). The flows are Miocene to Pliocene in age, and are tholeiitic. Repeated eruptions of enormous volumes of basaltic lava filled a slowly subsiding planoconvex basin. Between each eruption, the surfaces of many flows were exposed to erosion.

The Columbia River Basalt is a black to dark-gray, dense, fine-grained rock composed mostly of microscopic crystals with some intercrystalline glassy groundmass. The average composition of this basalt is labradorite - 55 percent; augite - 15 percent; magnetite - 15 percent; and brown glass and microlites - 25 percent. Most of the basalt has an even, microgranular texture, but in a few places the crystals are

so small that the texture is flinty or nearly glassy. The textural fabric of the rock indicates that most of the crystallization occurred after the highly fluid lava had come to rest (Newcomb, 1969).

The two most distinctive petrologic structures in the Columbia River Basalt are layers and joints. The layering resulted from the accumulation of successive flows of highly fluid lava of the same general chemical and mineral type. The individual flows are generally separated by: 1) a difference in jointing, texture, or color; 2) a difference in susceptibility to alteration; 3) interbedded sedimentary material, and/or 4) a vesiculated top and a flinty basal section.

Joints, actual and potential fractures or partings, traverse the basalt. The main sets of fractures were caused by shrinkage of the solidified rock during cooling. The cooling of the lava induced joints that are arranged in: 1) vertical columnar joints, 2) flat or sheeting joints, and 3) unsystematic miscellaneous partings. These joints separate some parts of flows into angular, irregular blocks of all sizes and shapes (Newcomb, 1969). Columnar jointing systems are present in almost every flow.

In addition to the shrinkage joints, the basalt is traversed by regional joints. These long, straight sets of parallel vertical cracks trend in various patterns across most of the basalt. They are believed to be extension fractures (Newcomb, 1969).

The basalt has a thin, oxidation skin on all but newly-exposed surfaces. Where basalt has been exposed, it may be weathered to depths of up to 50 and 60 meters (Newcomb, 1969).

#### SNAKE RIVER PLAIN BASALT

The Snake River Group extends over an area of more than 20,720 square kilometers in central and southern Idaho (Walker, 1964). It consists mainly of an accumulation of basalt flows with intercalated lacustrine and alluvial sediments. The basalt fills a huge graben and is known to be more than 1,500 feet thick (Walker, 1964; Nace et al, 1972).

The eruptions that emplaced the basalt were intermittent. The sheet of lava that spread out during each event usually solidified before the next overlying sheet was laid down. Each sheet has an upper and lower chilled zone. Commonly, the surface of a flow was exposed to erosion or deposition of sediments between the lava flows (Walker, 1964). The molten basalt was fluid enough to spread many miles on relatively low gradients.

The structure, chemistry and mineralogy of the Snake River Basalt is similar to the Columbia River Basalt. The major, regional fractures in the basalt are vertical and trend north-south, east-west.

#### The Modoc Plateau

The Modoc Plateau is the area east of the Cascade Mountains in southern Oregon and northern California and west of the Basin and Range Provinces. The area contains extensive volcanic flows and is a "transition zone" between the Cascade Mountains and the Basin and Range Provinces. The rocks of the plateau are mainly from lava flows that range in composition from rhyolite to basalt (MacDonald, 1966). Tuff, ignimbrite, agglomerate, diatomite, shale, siltstone, sandstone, and gravel are interstratified within the lava flows in varying degrees while many recent cinder cones rest on their surfaces. Lassen Crater, the sight of the last eruption in the contiguous United States (1914), is located on the Modoc Plateau.

The oldest flows are Miocene or Oligocene in age while the youngest are recent (MacDonald, 1966). The major basalt flows are the Warner Basalt (Miocene), Steens Basalt (Miocene), Picture Rock Basalt (Pliocene), and Hayes Butte Basalt (Pliocene). Every flow does not underlie the entire

area. Individual flows commonly fill grabens and their surfaces are distinguished by pahoehoe or ropy lava structures.

These Tertiary basalts are usually composed of dark-gray olivine basalts. Commonly, the texture of the basalt is porphyritic with phenocrysts of olivine or labradorite (Hampton, 1961).

Faults trending north to northwest are common and usually delineate horsts and grabens. These normal high-angle faults show considerable displacement, up to 305 meters, and some strike-slip displacement (MacDonald, 1966). The fault surfaces can be undulating or angular. Minor faulting can be seen perpendicular to these faults.

Vertical shrinkage joints are very common, especially in the tops or bottoms of each individual flow. Individual flows range from 3 to 15 meters thick. The thickness of the major basalt flows vary from a few tens of meters to over 300 meters, and generally thin toward the south and east (Piper, 1939; MacDonald, 1966; Brown et al, 1962).



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## GEOMECHANICS OF BASALTS

## 2.9 INTRODUCTION TO GEOMECHANICS OF BASALT

Basalt is described as a fine-grained, sometimes glassy, basic igneous rock with essential minerals of calcic plagioclase in pyroxene with a silica content generally less than 50%. Sometimes gabbro, norite, diabase, dolerite and basaltic glass are included in a general discussion of basalt. These rock types are all of similar chemical and mineralogical composition with the grain size being the main distinguishing feature (Agapito and Hardy, 1977).

The engineering behavior of basaltic flows is expected to vary widely due to their unique depositional and cooling characteristics. Variations within a flow are largely a function of the flow thickness which determines the rate of cooling throughout the mass. Normally, thick flows have dense basalt in their lower portions and are jointed. The jointing forms 5- or 6-sided columns with individual columns averaging 0.6 to 0.9 meters across. Cross joints either inclined or normal to the column may also be present (Office of Nuclear Waste Isolation, 1978).

In the Columbia River basalt, columnar joints are the most common internal structures within individual flows. Although the pattern of columnar jointing exhibits variability, both within and between flows, a typical flow usually has a lower zone, which is generally  $1/3$  to  $1/2$  of the entire thickness

of the flow and consists of nearly symmetrical columnar joints, and an upper zone, which is generally 1/2 to 2/3 of the entire thickness of the flow, consisting of an irregular jointing pattern. The jointing pattern variations include fan-like columnar joints, plating joints, swirling joints, brick-bat joints, cross joints, and others. Abrupt lateral changes in joint patterns can occur. At depth, most joints and fractures are filled with secondary minerals such as zeolite, amorphous iron-rich silicates, and ferro-magnesium clays. The top of the flow may be a slaggy, ropy, or clinker-type basalt (Office of Nuclear Waste Isolation, 1978).

Hence, the geomechanical behavior of the basalt flows depends upon the zone being studied. Potential repository sites would logically be located in the most massive part of the flow, where the joints are the most widely spaced, and the strength is the greatest. The behavior of the joints will certainly be a major consideration. The types of geomechanical factors which will be included in any study of basalt as a potential repository rock are indicated in Table 2-2. Note that it includes defining the major structural properties of the rock-mass as well as characteristics of the rock on a much smaller scale.

The geotechnical factors that influence design have been summarized very well in the report prepared by Parsons,

TABLE 2-2 Geomechanical factors to be considered

1.	<u>TECTONICS AND SEISMOLOGY</u>	Source: R.A. Deju et al, 1977
1.	Assess the tectonic stability of the region.	Regional geology; field studies; evaluation of seismic records; seismic monitoring; literature survey; geophysical surveys.
2.	Define major faults, fractures, and fissures.	Field studies in outcrops, trenches, and boreholes; remote sensing; literature survey; geophysical surveys.
3.	Document the seismic record.	Examination and documentation of the seismic record, including microearthquake studies.
4.	Assess the structural integrity of the basalt mass.	Field analyses; laboratory and insitu tests; geophysical surveys.
5.	Define the frequency, orientation, and character of major lineaments	Remote sensing.
6.	Define the frequency and orientation of fractures in basalt.	Core analysis, supplemented by borehole geophysics.
7.	Define the extent of folding and the forces that led to its present state.	Integration of geologic and geophysical data.
II.	<u>ROCK PROPERTIES AND STRATIGRAPHY</u>	
1.	Define the petrographic, mineralogic, and chemical characteristics of the basalts.	Petrographic, mineralogic, and chemical analyses of selected basalt flows; literature survey.
2.	Assess the stratigraphy and define variations.	Stratigraphic correlation using petrographic, mineralogic, chemical, paleomagnetic, and geophysical techniques.
3.	Define erosional stability over geologic time.	Regional geology, interpretation of observations; geologic history; geomorphological studies.
4.	Define the thermal properties of basalt (expansion, conductivity, and fracture potential).	Laboratory tests on cores under simulated conditions.
5.	Assess the effect of thermal stress gradients on fractures and basalt properties.	Same as for II-4.
6.	Assess the effect of fractures on the heat transfer properties of the basalt mass.	Same as II-4.
7.	Examine the effect of radiation on structural integrity of the basalts.	Same as for II-4.

Blinckerhof et al, 1978 (PBQ&D). Their discussion is included in its entirety below as it sets the basis for the more detailed discussions of the individual factors that follow:

#### "Geotechnical Factors That Influence Design"

Because of the geological characteristics and general stratigraphic setting of insitu basalt, the choice of basalt for a repository will influence many of the design and layout features of the surface and subsurface facilities as well as the amount of waste that can be stored.

The basis for design decisions in basalt are underlain by the objective to keep the total of all stress components significantly below the threshold value required for the occurrence of an initial failure mechanism. The characteristics that would significantly impact the design of the waste storage facility include:

- . Effects of heat on rock strength
- . Rock movement and faulting
- . Room and pillar stability
- . Ground-water movement
- . Rock hardness

#### Effects of Heat on Rock Strength

At high temperatures, the strength of rock is diminished as the rock crystalline structures begin to break down. In basalt, major losses of strength are expected to occur at around 400°C to 500°C. To prevent weakening of the rock adjacent to the waste packages and the concomitant problems it would pose to retrievability, the thermal loading should be adjusted so that temperatures do not exceed critical values in large volumes of rock in the immediate vicinity of the canisters.

To maintain room safety and to reduce the possibility of progressive spalling failures, the temperature of the rock surfaces in the room walls and roof should also be held below the values that cause excessive strength loss.

### Rock Movement

The rock surrounding and overlying the repository would react or move in response to the stresses imposed by the mined excavation and by thermal loading from the implanted waste materials. Mining activities would cause the surrounding rock to subside or move into and towards the mined opening. In contrast, the thermal loading would expand the rock and cause heaving to occur.

The repository layout and geometry and the allowable thermal loading should be designed to minimize rock movements so that the safety or integrity of the shafts is not adversely affected. Movements at the ground surface should be less than that which would cause distress in any structure. In addition, rock movement should not cause disruption or shearing of any aquifers in the vicinity of the repository.

### Room and Pillar Stability

When basalt is overstressed, it will fail quickly with comparatively little warning. Accordingly, the main philosophy used in establishing design guidelines for waste facilities was to limit stresses to a value well below the level required for initial failure.

### Room Stability

The repository layout and geometry and thermal loading limits are chosen such that the ratio of rock strength to rock stress within any rock cube with one face exposed in the wall of the room and with dimensions equal to 20% of the mean tunnel diameter was two or greater. Rock strength is defined as the mean compressive strength of the rock mass, considering the confining pressures, the offsets of fractures and joints, and temperatures. Rock stress is the mean compressive stress including a combination of the virgin stresses, stresses developed by the opening, and thermal stresses.

Analytical studies indicate that the room stability guidelines were met for the generic repository in basalt at the proposed 2,200 ft. (660m) depth. Therefore, additional support (rock bolting) would be necessary only in localized areas where loose rock is observed.



### Pillar Stability

The repository layout is designed such that the ratio of pillar strength to pillar stress remains greater than two. This ratio is defined as the mean compressive strength of the pillar at mid-height. To protect against blast damage, the pillars were designed with a minimum width of 20 ft. In all cases, the pillar width was designed to be at least equal to the height of the room." (PBQ&D, 1978)

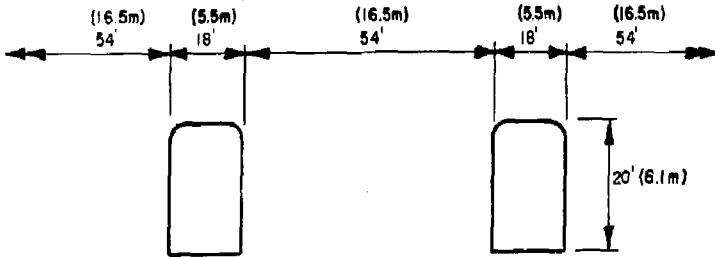
Please note that within the section on "Room Stability", definitions of rock strength and stress are given in the first paragraph. It must be stated that, at the present time, there is no universally accepted way of estimating rock-mass strength nor is there agreement as to how the stress around an opening should be calculated. Furthermore, the 20% criteria which has been used is not one found widely in the literature. Little field data is available to provide the required substantiation. This will be discussed in more detail later.

Based on analytic studies done by Hardy and Hocking, 1977, PBQ&D arrived at three hypothetical designs shown in Figure 2-3, which are to meet the canister criteria recommendations indicated in Table 2-3. The local areal thermal loading, which would apply from the theoretical calculations, are shown on Table 2-4. These are compared with "allowable areal thermal loading." The designs were based on thermal modeling of the type that will be discussed later in this report. The basis for selecting "allowable level guidelines" is not given in the report. Factual data on the thermal-mechanical properties of various basalt flows and formations

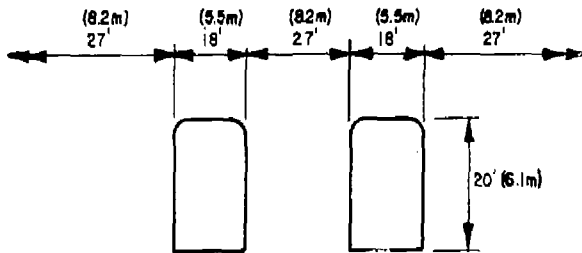
# BASALT

## CYCLE I

HLW: Extraction Ratio = 25%

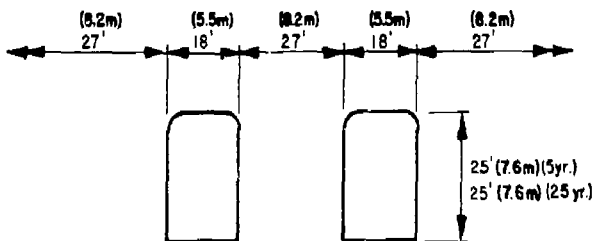


ILW & CW: Extraction Ratio = 40%



## CYCLE II

PWP/BWR: Extraction Ratio = 40%



CYCLE III: Same as CYCLE I

FIGURE 2-3 Extraction Ratio Chart  
Source: PBQ&D, 1978.

TABLE 2-3 Canister receipt criteria recommendations.

Containers	Canister		Overpack		Age (Years)	Maximum Radiation Level (rem/hr)			
	Outside Diameter	Overall Length	Outside Diameter	Overall Length		At Surface		3.05m from Ctr. Line	
	m	m	m	m		gamma dose rate	neutron dose rate	gamma dose rate	neutron dose rate
HLW in Glass	.324	3.048	.356	3.35	10	$2.0 \times 10^5$	$1.0 \times 10^2$	$1.0 \times 10^4$	$1.0 \times 10^1$
HLW in Calcine	.219	3.048	.273	3.35	10	$5.0 \times 10^5$	$1.0 \times 10^2$	$5.0 \times 10^4$	$1.0 \times 10^1$
IL-TRU	.324	3.048	.356	3.35	5	$1.0 \times 10^2$	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$	$1.0 \times 10^1$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$
Cladding	.324	3.048	.356	3.35	5	$1.0 \times 10^3$	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$	$1.0 \times 10^1$	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$
PWR	.356	4.877	.406	5.03	10	$7.0 \times 10^4$	$1.0 \times 10^1$	$3.5 \times 10^3$	$5.8 \times 10^{-1}$
BWR	.273	4.877	.324	5.03	10	$5.0 \times 10^4$	$1.0 \times 10^1$	$2.5 \times 10^3$	$5.8 \times 10^{-1}$

ADDITIONAL RECEIPT CRITERIA  
(For All Canisters)

Max. Weight (incl. overpack) = 6,613.8 kg.

Max. outer surface contamination

with transferable radioisotopes:

beta-gamma radiation emitting nuclides:  $10,000 \text{ dis/min/dm}^2$  (disintegration/minute/100 centimeters<sup>2</sup>)

alpha emitting nuclides:  $300 \text{ dis/min/dm}^2$

Source: PBQ&D, 1978

TABLE 2-4 Local areal thermal loading basalt.

<u>Cycle</u>	<u>Waste Type</u>	<u>Average KW/can</u>	<u>Allow. Areal Thermal Loading</u>	<u>Design Areal Thermal Loading</u>
I	HLW	1.2	190 w/m <sup>2</sup>	189 w/m <sup>3</sup>
II	PWR	0.55	190	627*
	BWR	0.18	190	142*
II (25-Yr.)	PWR	0.55	80	79
	BWR	0.18	80	78
III	HLW + Pu (glass)	1.2	190	189

\*Design areal thermal loading could not be brought up to allowable due to physical restrictions on spacing.

Source: PBQ&D, 1978, v. 14

is scarce. Developing such data and guidelines is the purpose of the present heater experiments being conducted in the Hanford Basalt.

This report discusses the geomechanical characteristics of basalts in general, providing information about the specific rock types as appropriate. It has been divided into six major sections. These are insitu stress, mechanical properties, thermal properties, thermoelastic properties, other characteristics, and scaling of laboratory results. A great deal of research is underway (with particular reference to the Hanford Operation) for evaluating the properties of basalt. These include both laboratory and field studies as well as a large amount of modeling using analytic, finite element, finite difference and other types of models. Because of these activities, progress in evaluating and measuring important geomechanical characteristics should be rapid.

## 2.10 STRESS STATE

In analyzing the stability of an underground excavation, one must consider the stresses that are applied and the strength of the materials involved. The stresses can be divided into three categories. The first is insitu stresses, those that exist prior to excavation. The second is stresses induced by the excavation process itself and the third category includes the stresses that are induced by the materials which are placed within the excavation. Prior to discussing each of these categories in some detail, it is perhaps worthwhile to consider the methods by which stresses are evaluated.

Stresses are generally\* not measured directly but rather are calculated by introducing strain (or displacement) measurements and suitable elastic constants, into equations developed from elastic theory. The most common and widely accepted means of obtaining insitu stress fields in the U.S. is through the use of the U.S.B.M. borehole deformation gauge. Here a 38 mm diameter hole is drilled, a gauge which measures changes in borehole diameter in three directions is inserted, and the hole overcored with a 150 mm diameter bit. By measuring the borehole deformations, knowing the elastic

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\*The possible exceptions are hydraulic fracturing and flatjack type determinations.

modulus and Poisson's ratio of the rock, and using the equations for a thick walled cylinder, one can calculate stress magnitudes and directions. Three holes are required to determine the complete stress tension at any point. Due to the overcoring requirement, this technique is generally limited to use in relatively short holes (<30 m). Hence, measurements at depth would be obtained from underground openings. Of the other techniques available, many suffer from both operational and calculational difficulties. Results obtained using several techniques at the same location have generally shown wide variations. This may be due to real variations; however, it is more likely due to the instruments/procedures/evaluation techniques employed. Most techniques assume that the rock is linearly elastic and isotropic. This is a good approximation for some rocks, but not good for others. The determination of absolute stress or stress changes is compounded by moisture and temperature. For nuclear waste applications, a great deal of development will be required in this area.

### In Situ Stress

As was stated by Hardy and Hocking, "no stress measurements have been recorded in the basalt flows to our knowledge, but in other parts of the U.S. stress measurements have shown a trend toward lithostatic case at depths of around a thousand meters." (Hardy and Hocking, 1977) The stress measurements referred to by Hardy and Hocking were those compiled by Lindner shown in Figures 2-4 and 2-5. Note that no definite "trend" towards a lithostatic stress field at depth is observed. Rather, there are few data points, and those exhibit a wide degree of scatter. A wide scatter is also noted in Figures 2-6 and 2-7. Lindner and Halpern have fit equations to the data for North America. They found that:

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_v &= (9.42 \pm 13.1) \text{kg/cm}^2 + (0.339 \pm 0.67) \text{Kg/cm}^2 \text{ per m-depth} \\ &= (135 \pm 185) \text{psi} + (1.469 \pm 0.289) \text{psi per foot-depth}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_H &= (620 \pm 116) \text{psi} + (1.690 \pm 0.311) \text{psi per foot-depth} \\ &= (43.6 \pm 8.15) \text{kg/cm}^2 + (0.390 \pm 0.072) \text{kg/cm}^2 \text{ per m-depth}\end{aligned}$$

where

$\sigma_v$  = vertical stress

$\sigma_H$  = horizontal stress

For the horizontal stress, Lindner comments, "This curve fit is a poor one. The horizontal stress data indicate considerable scatter. Data vary from three to four times the least-square average, to less than lithostatic. Hence,



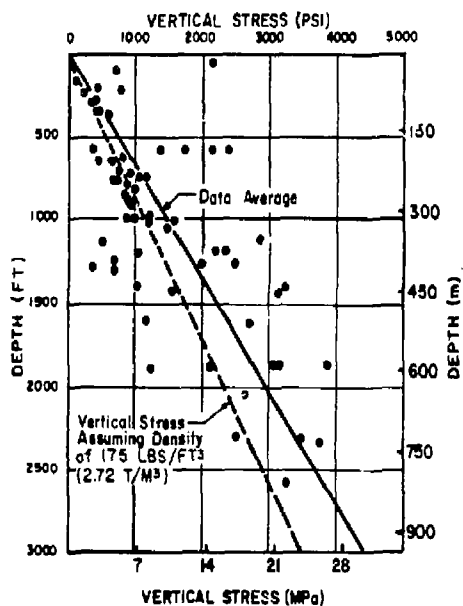


FIGURE 2-4 Vertical stress with depth  
Source: Lindner and Halpern, 1977.

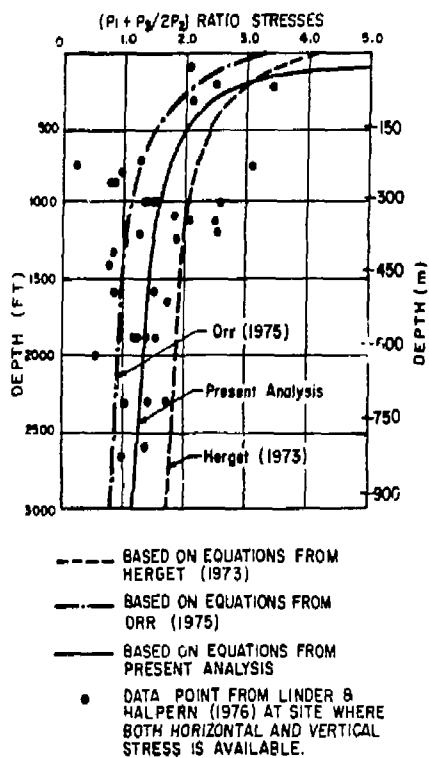


FIGURE 2-5 Ratio of the average horizontal stress to vertical stress  
Source: Lindner and Halpern, 1976.

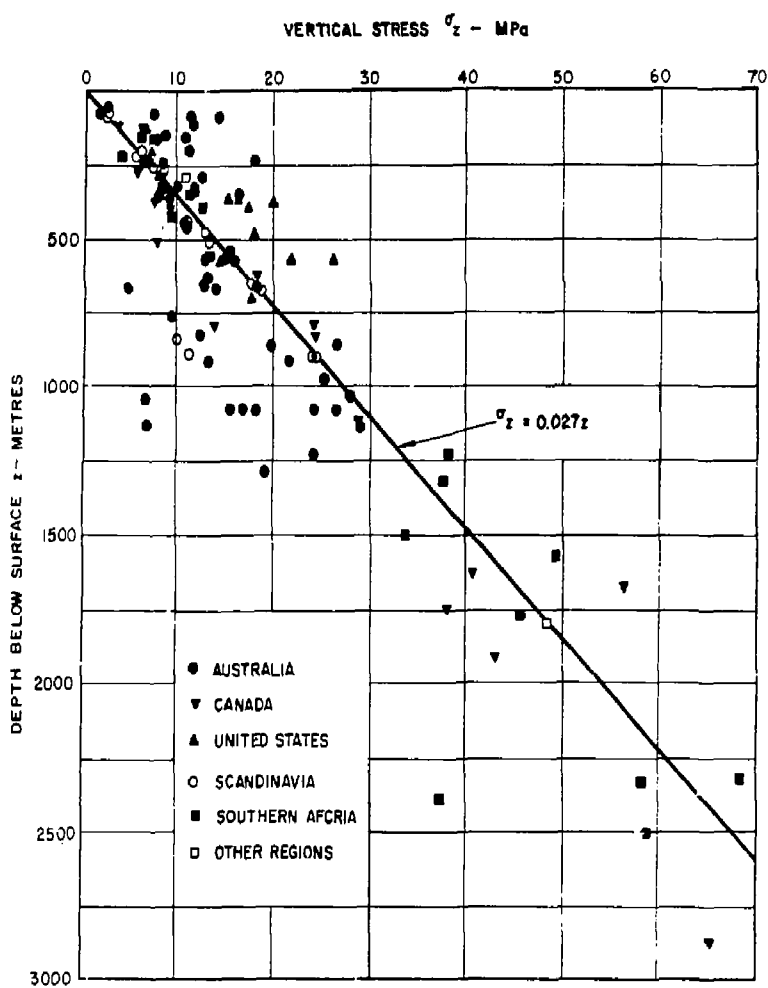


FIGURE 2-6 Plot of vertical stresses against depth below surface  
Source: Hoek and Brown, in press.

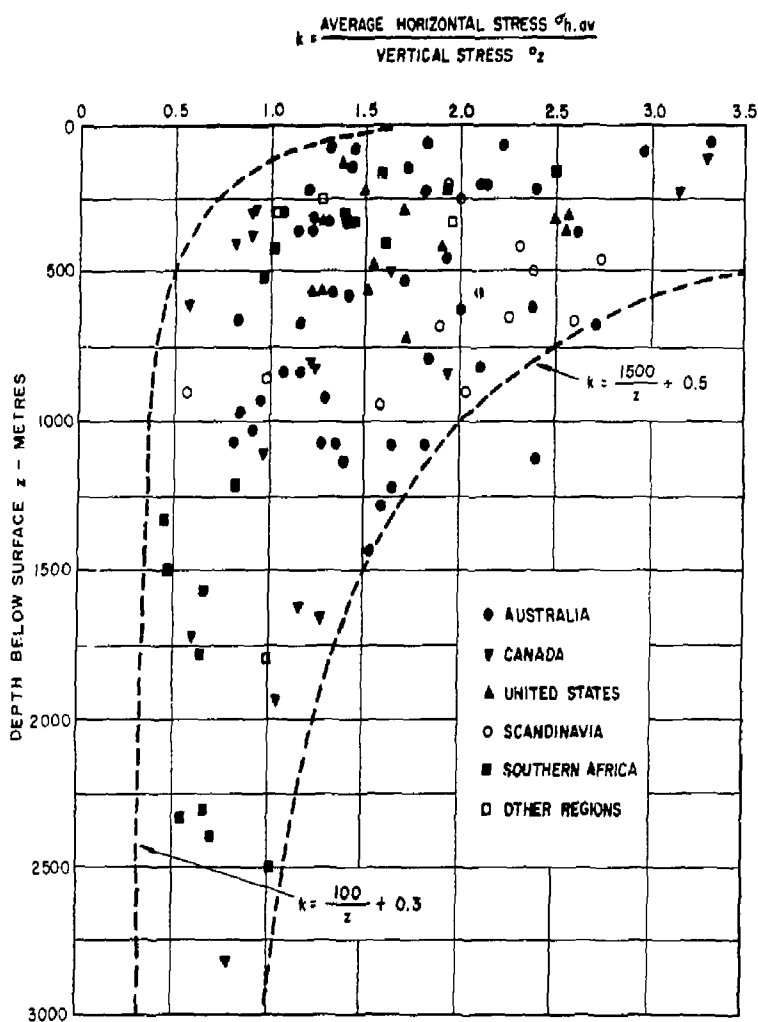


FIGURE 2-7 Variation of ratio of average horizontal stress to vertical stress with depth below surface  
 Source: Hoek and Brown, 1976.

the curve fit is at best a trend rather than an average that could be utilized in design."

The presence of the basalts themselves is evidence of previous tectonic activity in the area in which they are found. Therefore, one might expect to find significant deviations from a stress state calculated based on the weight of overburden. However, in the case of lithostatic conditions, the three stresses would be equal to each other and equal to the weight of the overburden. The presence of faults, dikes or other major structures would also affect the insitu stress field in the vicinity of such a feature.

### Stresses Induced By Excavation

Hardy and Hocking made a two-dimensional analysis of the effect of various in situ stress fields on the stresses around a typical waste repository room, shown in Figures 2-8 and 2-9 using the values given in Table 2-5. For the base case, it has been assumed that the initial in situ field stresses were 25 megapascals at a depth of 1,000 meters (the horizontal stress field was assumed to be equal to the vertical). In Figure 2-9, the effect of areal thermal loading on the tangential boundary stresses for the base case is shown for three points around the periphery of the room. The boundary stresses and temperatures for the central room with other in situ stress fields are shown in Figure 2-10. When the horizontal insitu stress is equal to one-half the vertical, the most significant difference between this case and the base case is that the boundary stresses in the roof and floor are very much reduced. Tensile stresses are actually present in the roof. When the in situ horizontal stress is one and one-half times the vertical, the boundary stresses are shown to be much higher in the roof and floor of the rooms when compared to the base case. The boundary stresses in the side walls are lower than the base case.

In summary, the boundary stresses in both the roof and floor of the room decrease with decreasing horizontal to

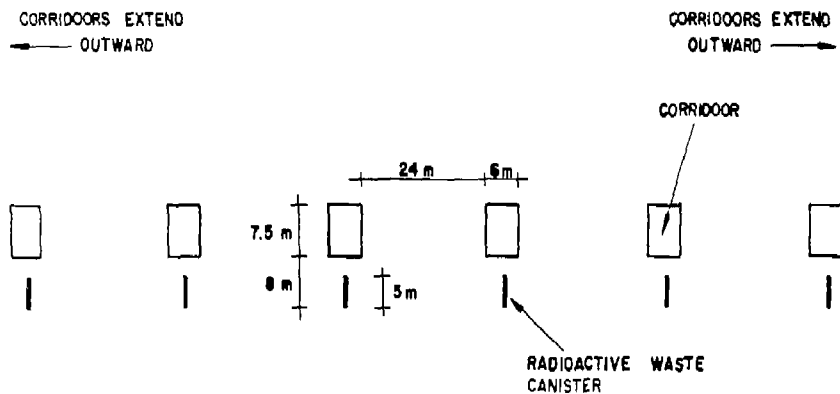


FIGURE 2-3 Base case for excavation and canister location geometry  
Source: Hardy and Hocking, 1977.

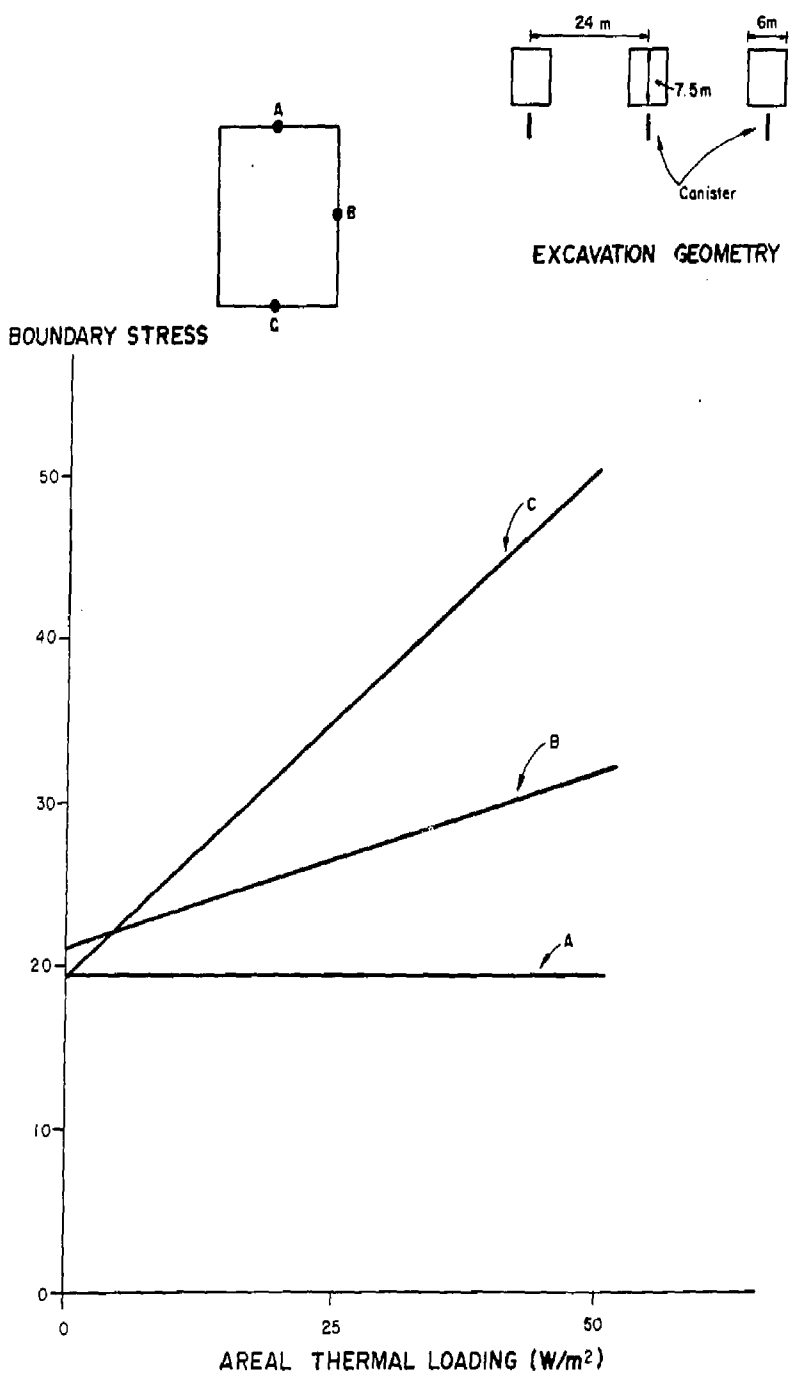


FIGURE 2-9 Effect of areal thermal loading on boundary stresses for the base case  
Source: Hardy and Hocking, 1977.



TABLE 2-5 Basalt properties.

Property	Basalt
Thermal Conductivity W/m° C	1.86
Specific Heat J/kg° C	1030
Density kg/m <sup>3</sup>	2900
Diffusivity (m <sup>2</sup> /sec)	$6.5 \times 10^{-7}$
Heat capacity (J/m <sup>3</sup> ° C)	$3.0 \times 10^6$
Elastic modulus (Pa)	$0.48 \times 10^{11}$
Poisson's ratio	0.2

Source: Hardy and Hoeking, 1977

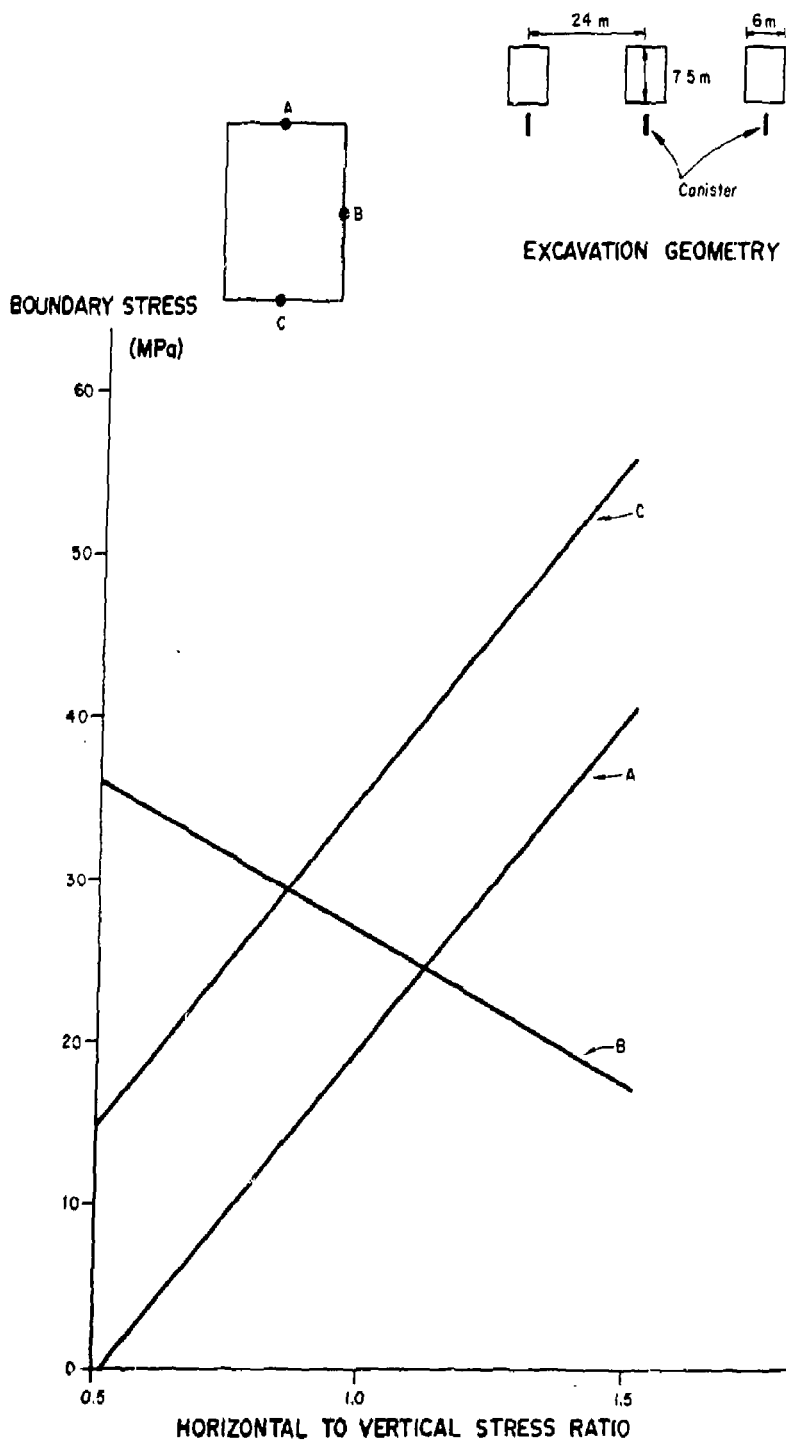


FIGURE 2-10 Effect of insitu field stress ratio on boundary stresses for base case

Source: Hardy and Hocking, 1977.

vertical in situ stress field ratio, whereas, the boundary stress in the sidewall increases with a decreasing stress ratio. Hence, it is very important to know at least the ratios of the major principal stresses, and their direction. At the present time, this information is not available.

## Thermally Induced Stresses

It is possible, using a thermal-mechanical analysis, to perform a series of parametric studies in order to determine optimum size, shape, support of the rooms, canister location, and placement sequence. At this point, such studies are useful primarily from a scoping viewpoint; that is, to reveal the relative effect of changing one parameter while keeping all others constant. Such a study was done by Hardy and Hocking (1977), and it is felt worthwhile to discuss some of the results. These parametric studies have all been conducted on the base case, shown in Figure 2-8. Note that this is the same geometry, essentially, as was assumed in the PBQ&D Study. The temperature distribution around the room for an elapsed time of five years is illustrated as contours in Figure 2-11. Note that the contours should be perpendicular to the opening. The fact that they are not is due to the modeling procedure used. The areal thermal loading in this case was 25 watts per square meter, and the air in the room was analyzed as if it was stagnant and no convection or radiation heat-transfer mechanisms were modeled. The thermal stresses at various points in the basalt around the room are illustrated in magnitude and direction in Figure 2-12. The magnitude of the stresses are measured between the ends of the crosses; tensile stresses being denoted by arrowheads. Only thermal stresses are presented with no account being taken of in situ stress fields.

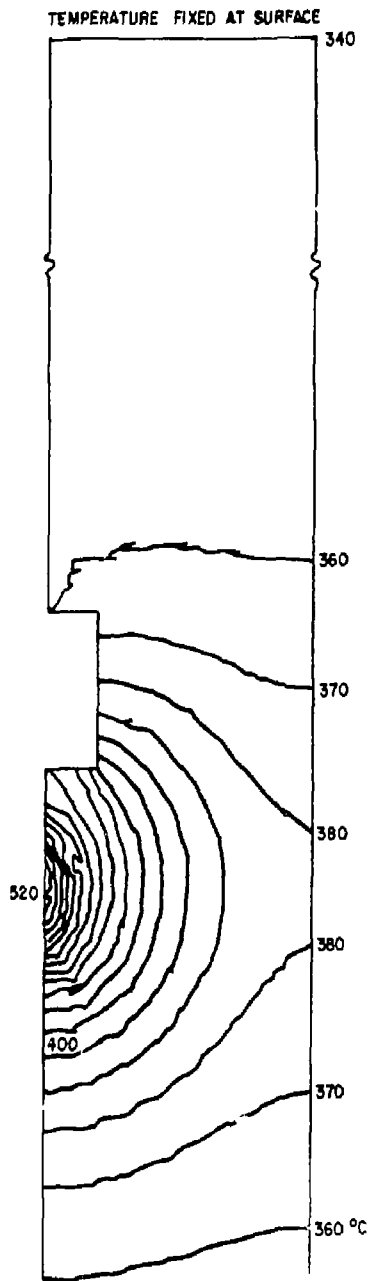
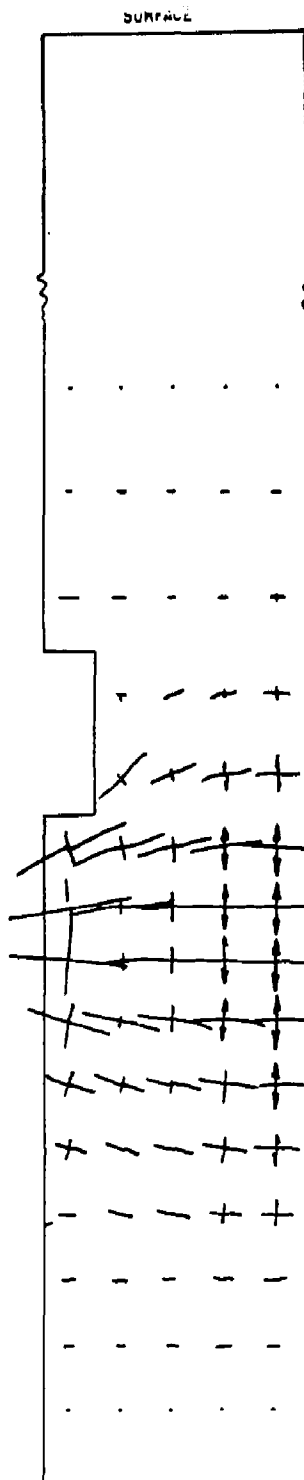


FIGURE 2-11 Temperature contours for elapsed time of 5 years  
areal thermal loading of 25W/M<sup>2</sup>  
Source: Hardy and Hocking, 1977.



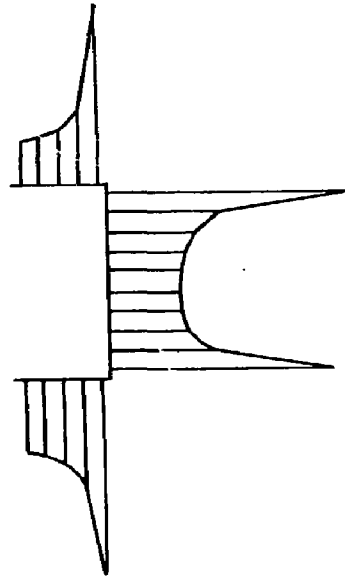
SCALE  
0 1 2 cm  
1 cm REPS 10 MPa

FIGURE 2-12 Stresses for elapsed time of 5 years-areal  
thermal loading of  $25W/M^2$   
Source: Hardy and Hocking, 1977.

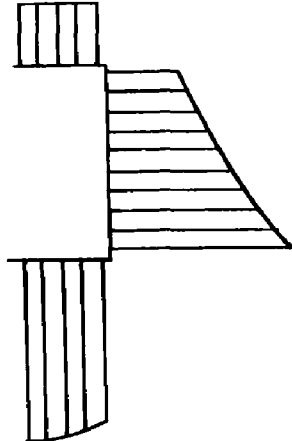
As can be seen in Figure 2-13, rather high stresses occur in the corners of the room. It must be kept in mind, however, that no reduction in modulus or change of thermal properties has been introduced to take into account the blasting damage around the room.

The variation in boundary stresses for the three points a, b, and c, described earlier, are shown in Figure 2-14 as a function of basalt properties (Poisson's ratio, Young's modulus, and coefficient of linear thermal expansion). A reduction of Poisson's ratio from 0.3 to 0.1 results in a maximum reduction (point c) of thermal stress by about 11%. The thermal stresses vary linearly, with both Young's modulus and the coefficient of linear thermal expansion. This suggests that a good knowledge of Poisson's ratio is not necessary, whereas it is of great importance to know the appropriate coefficient of linear expansion and Young's modulus.

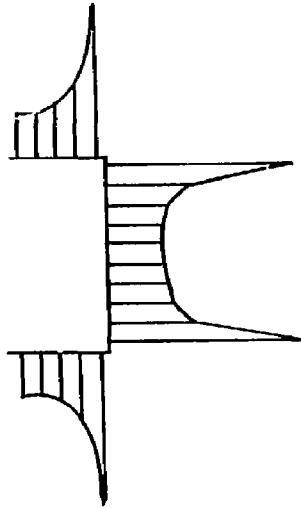
Using this approach, one can also examine the influence of room shape and the influence of room spacing. Various shapes can significantly affect the boundary stresses in the roof and floor of the room. The effect is somewhat less on the side. A summary showing a comparison of boundary stresses at selected points for various configurations and loading is shown in Table 1-6. These numbers should all be compared with the base case shown in the first row.



BOUNDARY STRESSES TOTAL



BOUNDARY TEMPERATURES

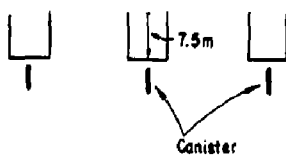
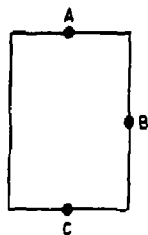


BOUNDARY STRESSES INITIAL

Scale: 1Cm Represents 2.0 Meters, 1 Cm Represents 25. MPA, 1Cm Represents 50 Dags. Celsius

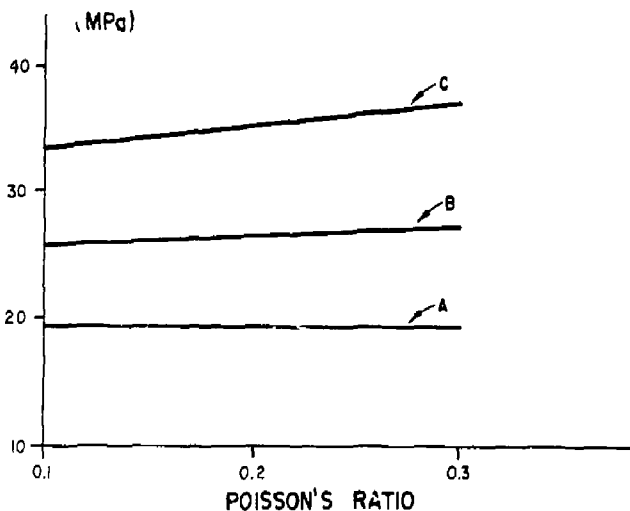
FIGURE 2-13 Boundary stresses and temperatures for central excavation at an elapsed time of 5 years-25 W/M2 at 1000m depth  
Source: Hardy and Hocking, 1977.





EXCAVATION GEOMETRY

BOUNDARY STRESS



BOUNDARY STRESS

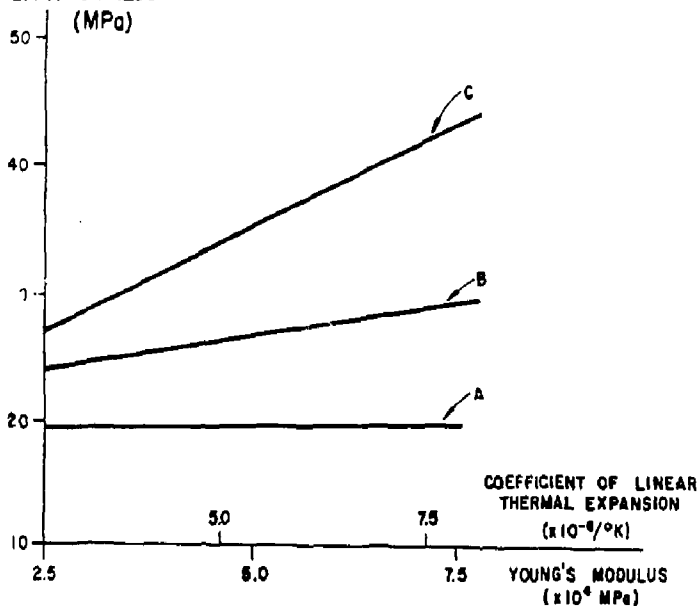


FIGURE 2-14 Effect of basalt thermomechanical properties on stresses for the base case.  
Source: Hardy and Hocking, 1977.

TABLE 2-6 Comparison of Boundary Stresses at Selected Points  
for Various Configurations and Loadings

Condition	Location Tangential room stress (MPa)**		
	A*	B	C
Base case	19.5	26.6	34.9
Thermal loading 50 W/m <sup>2</sup>	19.5	32.0	50.3
Depth 1400 M	27.3	35.1	42.6
E = Twice base case	19.8	32.0	51.4
Poisson's ratio 0.3	19.7	27.0	36.8
Poisson's ratio 0.1	19.5	25.9	33.2
Insitu horizontal 0.5 vertical	- 0.7	36.0	14.7
Insitu horizontal 1.5 vertical	39.7	17.3	55.1
Canister relocation	24.8	19.9	31.0
Room shape	64.2	30.0	34.1
Canister placement sequence	23.8	26.3	41.2
At end of retrieval period (25 years)	45.9	20.4	66.4

\*From Figure 2-13

\*\*1 MPa = 145 lbs/in<sup>2</sup>

SOURCE: Hardy and Hocking, 1977

In conclusion, one can presently perform scoping studies such as have been described by Hardy and Hocking to provide an indication of the importance of various variables on the stress distribution around an underground excavation. One can investigate in situ stress, the induced stress due to the excavation, and thermal stress. They should be considered at this point as strictly qualitative results and not appropriate for detailed design due to lack of appropriate input data. However, they suggest which parameters need to be measured accurately.

## 2.11 MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF INTACT ROCK

This section describes the mechanical properties (rock strength, Young's modulus, and Poisson's ratio) of basalt. Rather little information is available for these properties whether for intact rock or the rock mass.

The available data, however, is for intact rock samples. As shown in Figure 2-15, the rocks which are classified as basalts have a very wide range of compressive strengths and moduli and, therefore, it is not possible to generalize or use a generic basis for any analysis.

Tables 2-7, 2-8, 2-9 and 2-10 are summary sheets compiled by the Office of Nuclear Waste Isolation, 1978. It was noted that the information base is rather small and that there was a wide variation in properties within the generic term "basalt." The modulus varies between  $5$  and  $16 \times 10^6$  psi (34.5-110GPa), for example. More detailed values for Dresser basalt are given in Tables 2-11 and 2-12 for tests conducted under atmospheric temperature and pressure conditions. As might be expected, the strength increases with the confining pressure. Engineering data for basalts tested from Amchitka Island are given in Tables 2-13 and 2-14. It is noted that these data are for dry rocks. Figure 2-16 shows the significant effect of moisture on the compressive and tensile

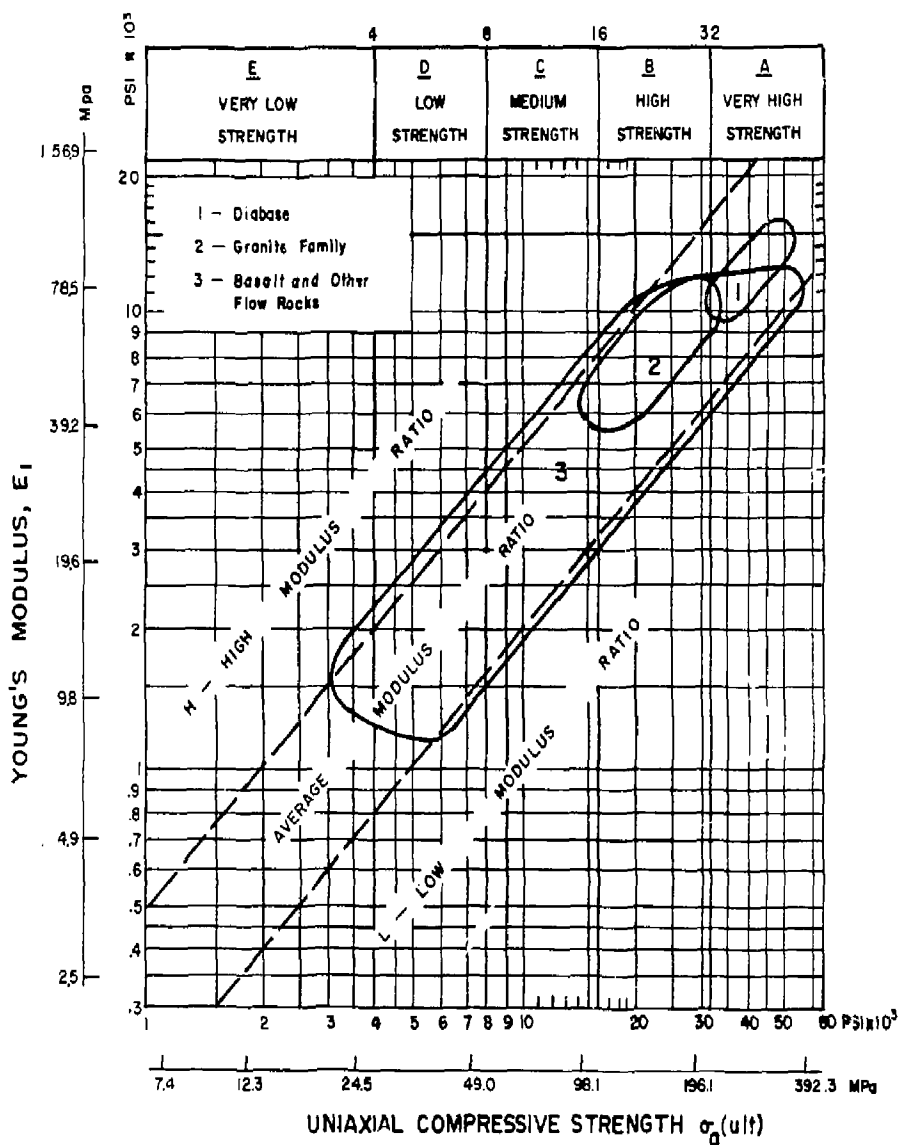


FIGURE 2-15 Engineering classification for intact rock—summary plot igneous rocks, 176 specimens  
Source: Deere et al, 1966.

TABLE 2-7 Intact properties of Dresser basalt.

BASIC PARAMETERS

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>MKS Units</u>
Index	Unit Weight	3010.2 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Natural moisture content (intact)	--%
	Porosity (rock mass)	0.19%
Stress-strain	Young's Modulus	93.16GPa
	Poisson's Ratio	0.264
	Bulk Modulus	
	Shear Modulus	4.15GPa
Strength	Cohesion 10.34-24.14	
	Friction Angle MPa range	
	Uniaxial Compressive Strength	440.7MPa
	Tensile Strength	22.1MPa
Thermal	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion	$8.9 \times 10^{-7} / ^\circ\text{C}$
	Heat Capacity	.96 J/g/ <sup>o</sup> C
	Thermal Conductivity	1.30 w/m <sup>o</sup> K
Hydrological	Horizontal Permeability	
	Vertical Permeability	

SOURCE: Office of Nuclear Waste Isolation, 1978

Table 2-8 Intact properties of Amchitka Island dense basalt.

BASIC PARAMETERS

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>MKS Units</u>
Index	Unit Weight	2729.8 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Natural moisture content (intact)	--%
	Porosity (rock mass)	2.8%
Stress-strain	Young's Modulus	61.1GPa
	Poisson's Ratio	0.19
	Bulk Modulus	32.8GPa
	Shear Modulus	25.7GPa
Strength	Cohesion 10.34-24.14	
	Friction Angle MPa range	60 degrees
	Uniaxial Compressive Strength	250MPa
	Tensile Strength	15.5MPa
Thermal	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion	$8.90 \times 10^{-7} / ^\circ\text{C}$
	Heat Capacity	.96 J/g/ <sup>o</sup> C
	Thermal Conductivity	1.30 w/m <sup>o</sup> K
Hydrological	Permeability	.0205 m/day

SOURCE: Office of Nuclear Waste Isolation, 1978

TABLE 2-9 Intact properties of Nevada test site basalt.

BASIC PARAMETERS

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>MKS Units</u>
Index	Unit Weight	2689.8 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Natural moisture content (intact)	
	Porosity (rock mass)	4.6%
Stress-strain	Young's Modulus	34.9GPa
	Poisson's Ratio	0.32 --
	Bulk Modulus	
	Shear Modulus	
Strength	Cohesion 10.34-24.14	
	Friction Angle MPa range	
	Uniaxial Compressive Strength	148MPa
	Tensile Strength	13.1MPa
Thermal	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion	
	Heat Capacity	
	Thermal Conductivity	
Hydrological	Horizontal Permeability	
	Vertical Permeability	

SOURCE: Office of Nuclear Waste Isolation, 1978



TABLE 2-10 Intact properties of Columbia River group basalt.

BASIC PARAMETERS

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>MKS Units</u>
Index	Unit Weight	2403-3085 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Natural moisture content (intact)	
	Porosity (rock mass)	
Stress-strain	Young's Modulus	55.2-110GPa
	Poisson's Ratio	0.22-0.30
	Bulk Modulus	
	Shear Modulus	
Strength	Cohesion 10.34-24.14	14.5-38.6MPa
	Friction Angle MPa range	45°-60°
	Uniaxial Compressive Strength	193.1-400.0MPa
	Tensile Strength	12.41-24.14MPa
Thermal	Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion	$1.67 \times 10^{-6} \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$
	Heat Capacity	.72-.96 J/g/°C
	Thermal Conductivity	1.00-1.35 w/m°K
Hydrological	Permeability	$9.67 \times 10^{-6}$ - $3.87 \times 10^{-5}$ μ m/sec

SOURCE: Office of Nuclear Waste Isolation, 1978

TABLE 2-11. Dresser Basalt test results  
(Kreck et al, 1964)

Property <sup>1</sup>	Block No. 17		Block No. 28		Block No. 68		Composite	
	Mean	CV <sup>2</sup>	Mean	CV <sup>2</sup>	Mean	CV <sup>2</sup>	Mean	CV <sup>2</sup>
Porosity. . . . . pct . .	0.16	9.0	0.15	0.05	0.25	12.7	0.19	57.3
Permeability. . . . . um/sec . .	( <sup>3</sup> )	-	( <sup>3</sup> )	-	( <sup>3</sup> )	-	( <sup>3</sup> )	-
Density . . . . . g/cm <sup>3</sup> . .	3.02	0.1	3.01	0.7	3.01	0.1	3.01	0.5
Shore hardness. . . . .	95.0	3.1	93.2	2.5	94.2	1.9	94.1	2.6
Compressive strength. . . . . MN/m <sup>2</sup> . .	479	7.91	413	10.7	429	9.16	440	11.0
Do . . . . . 10 <sup>3</sup> psi . .	69.5	7.91	59.9	10.7	62.2	9.16	63.9	11.0
Compressive Young's Modulus . . GN/m <sup>2</sup> . .	88.5	2.43	82.1	2.18	87.5	2.42	86.1	4.1
Do . . . . . 10 <sup>6</sup> psi . .	12.8	2.43	11.9	2.18	12.7	2.42	12.5	4.1
Tensile strength. . . . . MN/m <sup>2</sup> . .	22.9	24	24.0	38.0	17.6	57.0	22.1	39.7
Do . . . . . 10 <sup>3</sup> psi . .	3.33	24	3.48	38.0	2.56	57.0	3.20	39.7
Tensile Young's modulus . . . GN/m <sup>2</sup> . .	133	9	121	21	105	23	119	20.2
Do . . . . . 10 <sup>6</sup> psi . .	19.2	9	17.6	21	15.3	23	17.3	20.2
Pulse velocity. . . . . km/sec . .	6.77	0.3	6.67	0.3	6.72	0.3	6.72	0.7
Bar velocity. . . . . km/sec . .	6.12	0.2	5.99	0.4	6.04	0.5	6.05	1.0
Torsional velocity. . . . . km/sec . .	3.86	0.2	3.76	0.4	3.80	0.6	3.80	1.2
Dynamic Young's modulus <sup>4</sup> . . . GN/m <sup>2</sup> . .	113	0.5	108	1.5	109	1.1	110	2.5
Dynamic shear modulus <sup>1</sup> . . . GN/m <sup>2</sup> . .	44.9	0.4	42.5	1.5	43.4	1.3	43.6	2.6
Poisson's ratio <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	0.261	1.4	0.266	1.1	0.266	1.5	0.264	1.6

<sup>1</sup>Specimen prepared with the long axis perpendicular to the top face (along Z-axis)

<sup>2</sup>Coefficient of variation, percent.

<sup>3</sup>Less than  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  um/sec.

<sup>4</sup>Calculation is based on the assumption of isotropy.

TABLE 2-12 Properties of Dresser basalt  
(Morrell and Larson, 1974) and (Avco, 1972)

Commercial Name. . . . .	DRESSER BASALT
Rock Type. . . . .	Basalt
Locality . . . . .	Dresser, Wisconsin
Compressive Strength, MPa. . . . .	439
Tensile Strength, MPa. . . . .	14
Shore Hardness, Scleroscope units. . . . .	85.8
Apparent Density, g/cm <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	3.029
Static Young's Modulus, GPa. . . . .	98.3
Longitudinal Velocity, mps . . . . .	6,669
Bar Velocity, mps. . . . .	5,949
Shear Velocity, mps. . . . .	3,739
Dynamic Young's Modulus, GPa . . . . .	107.2
Poisson's Ratio. . . . .	0.2725
Shear Modulus, GPa . . . . .	42.3
Tensile Fracture Stress, n/m <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	$1.45 \times 10^7$
Thermal Conductivity Coefficient A . . . . .	$1.45 \times 10^{-5}$
Thermal Conductivity Coefficient B . . . . .	-.15
Coefficient of Thermal Expansion, °C <sup>-1</sup> . . . . .	$3 \times 10^{-6}$

TABLE 2-13 Average engineering properties of water saturated  
Amchitka Island rocks by major rock types in the recognized formations  
(Sharp, 1972)

(2) LEGEND (See Notes)	(3) INCREASED MOISTURE (vol. pct.)	(4) COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH (MPa)	(5) TENSILE STRENGTH (MPa)	(6) YOUNG'S MODULUS GPa	(7) VIOLENCE OF RUPTURE
CHITKA POINT FORMATION: HORNBLende PYROXENE ANDESITE - Tcp1-1					
AVG:	3.5	108.69	10.61	22.90	3.1
MAX:	15.6	198.25	17.57	56.21	8
MIN:	1.2	9.34	.66	2.00	1
N:	26	.14	.06	137.93	23
S:	4.0	62.05	5.03	14.76	2.0
V:	115.9	.40	.33	445.51	58.3
CHITKA POINT FORMATION: DENSE FLOW BRECCIA - Tcp1-11					
AVG:	6.4	73.95	11.86	17.79	2.8
MAX:	10.4	104.72	18.37	31.72	4
MIN:	2.4	47.23	5.35	10.21	2
N:	10	.03	.01	34.48	5
S:	2.9	22.86	9.20	8.34	0.8
V:	46.3	.21	.54	324.14	29.9
CHITKA POINT FORMATION: HORNBLende ANDESITE BRECCIA - Tcp - 1					
AVG:	7.7	48.42	3.01	14.62	2.0
MAX:	17.9	117.92	6.01	25.24	3
MIN:	3.2	13.32	1.47	4.00	1
N:	9	.06	.02	55.17	7
S:	4.5	32.57	2.59	8.21	1.0
V:	57.9	.46	.59	388.27	50.2
CHITKA POINT FORMATION: TUFF BRECCIA - Tcp-11					
AVG:	14.6	49.83	3.06	9.03	2.8
MAX:	31.4	116.05	2.12	20.97	7
MIN:	6.7	4.49	.70	1.45	1
N:	26	.15	.06	151.72	23
S:	7.3	32.42	1.74	5.59	1.6
V:	50.1	.45	.39	424.13	57.2
BANJO POINT FORMATION: BRECCIA - Tcp					
AVG:	16.6	34.44	6.49	6.76	1.6
MAX:	29.2	157.96	17.11	19.03	4
MIN:	3.7	9.33	.92	1.79	1
N:	18	.08	.05	68.97	11
S:	7.2	42.58	7.38	5.66	1.1
V:	43.2	.85	.78	580.00	68.5
DENSE BASALTS - Tb					
AVG:	2.8	123.21	15.17	30.14	5.1
MAX:	7.7	196.72	17.54	77.31	9
MIN:	1.1	75.48	12.79	14.34	3
N:	10	.07	.01	68.97	10
S:	2.2	38.22	3.36	18.76	.0

TABLE 2-13 (Continued)

(2) LEGEND (See Notes)	(3) INCREASED MOISTURE (vol. pct.)	(4) COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH (MPa)	(5) TENSILE STRENGTH (MPa)	(6) YOUNG'S MODULUS (GPa)	(7) VIOLENCE OF RUPTURE
AMCHITKA FORMATION: KIRILOF POINT GLASSY BRECCIAS - Takb-1					
AVG:	8.1	19.99	2.72	6.90	1.1
MAX:	10.7	33.24	14.03	16.00	2
MIN:	2.7	12.95	1.86	2.28	1
N:	14	.05	.04	48.28	7
S:	2.8	8.06	.69	6.07	0.4
V:	34.4	.28	.18	606.90	33.2
AMCHITKA FORMATION: KIRILOF POINT PILLOW LAVAS - Takb-11					
AVG:	9.2	111.90	--	16.28	3.7
MAX:	10.5	130.34	--	26.97	4
MIN:	7.6	93.67	--	16.97	3
N:	5	.02	--	20.69	3
S:	1.1	18.34	--	2.28	0.6
V:	11.9	.11	--	192.41	15.6
AMCHITKA FORMATION: DENSE OLDER BRECCIAS - Tab					
AVG:	3.3	196.56	18.15	44.90	6.7
MAX:	6.9	304.87	23.65	98.48	6
MIN:	0.4	37.90	13.32	11.79	3
N:	17	.08	.03	75.86	11
S:	1.8	84.08	4.66	24.90	1.6
V:	56.0	.30	.18	382.07	29.5
EAST CAPE QUARTZ DIORITE: Tcc					
AVG:	1.7	168.62	12.34	36.28	5.7
MAX:	3.0	264.36	15.86	99.17	9
MIN:	0.8	41.34	8.07	11.17	3
N:	37	.21	.04	213.79	31
S:	0.5	62.43	3.13	17.52	1.3
V:	23.0	.26	.17	345.51	24.7

NOTES: The average (AVG), maximum (MAX), and minimum (MIN) values determined from the number (N) of specimens in each group, with the standard deviation (S) and percentage variation (V), are given in ascending order for each group property across the table. Values in Column 5 represent the increased moisture in the saturated state (after 7 days submersion) over that air dried (14 days) in volume percent.

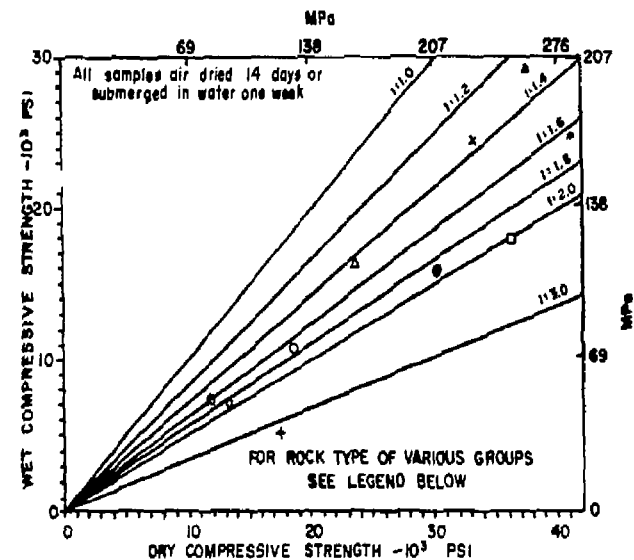
TABLE 2-14 Average engineering properties of air dried Anchita Island rock types within the various recognized Formations

(1) NO.	(2) LEGEND (See Notes)	(3) SOIL'S HARD- NESS	(4) APPARENT SPECIFIC GRAVITY	(5) AIR DRIED PORE SPACE (vol. pct.)	(6) COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH (MPa)	(7) TENSILE STRENGTH (MPa)	(8) YOUNG'S MODULUS (GPa)	(9) POISSON'S RATIO	(10) RIGIDITY MODULUS (GPa)	(11) BULK MODULUS (GPa)	(12) LONGITUDINAL VELOCITY (m/s)	(13) SHEAR VELOCITY (m/s)	(14) VIOLENCE OF RUPTURE	(15) STRAIN ENERGY (MPa)	(16) INTERNAL FRICTION (deg)	(17) MAGNETIC SUSCEPTIBILITY (cm <sup>3</sup> /cc)
1	Avg:	6.0	2.67	3.5	208.66	14.86	47.72	0.33	19.38	29.45	4974.95	2683.46	6.3	.48	58	2.662
	MAX:	7.0	2.91	13.6	300.22	23.17	91.79	0.36	36.90	109.31	6908.60	3257.09	9	.93	85	3.385
	MIN:	3.5	2.34	1.2	61.05	4.91	11.03	0.17	4.14	10.83	2468.88	1767.23	1	.15	20	1.298
	N:	36	105	26	.17	.37	172.41	18	124.14	124.14	7.92	3.05	85	.17	25	12
	S:	1.2	0.13	4.0	74.97	5.12	19.31	0.06	8.97	21.93	1152.14	579.73	2.3	.22	15.0	595.0
	V:	20.4	4.9	113.9	.25	.24	279.31	27.40	295.86	477.24	7.07	6.58	16.1	.31	25.6	22.4
CHITKA POINT FORMATION: MORBLEND ANDESITE - Tep-1																
2	Avg:	5.2	2.57	6.4	126.67	15.03	30.83	0.18	13.03	16.07	4479.95	2298.50	5.5	.30	62	1.904
	MAX:	7.5	2.74	10.4	185.16	21.61	54.00	0.22	23.10	27.24	5446.78	2910.54	9	.56	70	3.274
	MIN:	2.5	2.38	2.4	81.57	6.12	21.24	0.14	9.03	11.03	3712.16	1948.90	1	.15	54	547
	N:	18	38	10	.06	.17	55.17	7	48.28	48.28	3.05	1.52	33	.05	8	6
	S:	1.2	0.11	2.9	36.37	4.32	10.69	0.03	4.76	5.86	693.72	384.05	2.6	.14	6.5	1,102.8
	V:	23.0	4.2	46.3	.20	.20	239.58	15.50	231.65	245.65	4.72	5.09	47.3	.32	10.5	57.8
CHITKA POINT FORMATION: DENSE FLOW BRECCIA - Tep-1-11																
3	Avg:	4.8	2.47	7.7	91.37	10.35	34.28	0.17	14.62	17.31	3798.11	2754.78	3.7	.15	61	1,953
	MAX:	6.5	2.59	17.9	138.80	13.77	56.90	0.19	23.93	30.62	4180.03	3335.73	8	.26	82	2,820
	MIN:	3.5	2.07	3.2	21.41	4.35	8.14	0.13	12.14	13.11	3410.71	2457.90	1	.004	40	534
	N:	10	37	9	.05	.15	48.28	6	41.38	41.38	1.22	.91	29	.05	6	4
	S:	0.8	0.13	4.5	45.22	2.49	14.76	0.02	4.21	5.86	387.10	502.92	2.4	.09	14.1	326.3
	V:	17.2	5.1	57.9	.34	.17	297.52	11.16	174.96	208.27	3.11	5.58	64.1	.41	23.2	16.7
CHITKA POINT FORMATION: TUFF BRECCIA - Tep-11																
4	Avg:	4.2	2.24	14.6	82.30	6.02	23.17	0.22	9.52	13.79	3181.50	1937.31	3.1	.18	58	2.353
	MAX:	7.5	2.55	31.4	134.00	14.28	60.28	0.43	16.48	61.72	4351.32	2444.19	8	.46	80	2,930
	MIN:	3.5	1.73	6.7	17.05	1.06	4.07	0.11	3.10	3.24	1828.80	1380.13	1	.003	30	1,487
	N:	128	178	26	.17	.48	172.61	21	144.03	144.03	6.40	2.44	99	.17	25	11
	S:	1.7	.19	7.3	48.17	3.64	11.52	0.10	3.93	12.90	701.95	388.62	2.4	.16	12.9	404.1
	V:	40.6	8.7	50.1	.40	.42	343.17	44.05	338.20	553.44	6.71	6.04	77.5	.59	22.2	17.2
BANDJ POINT FORMATION: BRECCIA - Tbp																
5	Avg:	4.0	2.27	16.6	118.83	6.81	29.38	0.22	12.07	17.59	3218.69	2155.85	2.5	.28	60	2,554
	MAX:	7.5	3.09	29.2	339.49	29.54	81.03	0.37	34.48	66.00	5651.60	3141.88	8	.92	70	3,565
	MIN:	1.5	1.93	3.7	9.18	1.43	3.31	0.11	3.03	3.24	1177.14	1254.56	1	.003	40	787
	N:	35	82	18	.10	.34	96.55	8	55.17	55.17	6.40	1.22	68	.09	15	10
	S:	1.4	0.29	7.2	125.96	7.00	28.76	0.10	13.03	31.86	1255.47	818.39	2.4	.33	16.3	907.4
	V:	35.4	12.8	43.2	.73	.71	396.07	43.90	566.20	2548.19	11.89	11.58	96.6	.79	23.7	35.5

TABLE 2-14 (Continued)

(1) NO.	(2) LEGEND (See Notes)	(3) SOIL'S HARD- NESS	(4) APPARENT SPLINT GRAVITY	(5) WATER IN SPACE (% vol.)	(6) COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH (MPa)	(7) TENSILE STRENGTH (MPa)	(8) YOUNG'S MODULUS (MPa)	(9) POISSON'S RATIO	(10) RIGIDITY MODULUS (GPa)	(11) BULK MODULUS (GPa)	(12) LONGITUDINAL VELOCITY (m/sec)	(13) SHEAR VELOCITY (m/sec)	(14) VIOLENCE OF RUPTURE	(15) STRAIN ENERGY (MPa)	(16) INTERNAL FRICTION (deg)	(17) MAGNETIC SUSCEPTIBILITY (cc/cm <sup>3</sup> )
DENSE BASALT - Tab																
6	AVG:	5.4	2.73	2.8	269.91	15.31	61.10	7.19	25.53	32.83	4415.33	3234.86	5.9	.56	60	2.750
	MAX:	7.5	2.93	7.7	356.35	25.43	91.93	0.21	27.63	51.93	5860.39	3630.17	9	.99	80	6.020
	MIN:	2	2.17	1.1	124.43	6.56	32.21	0.17	21.52	27.38	3229.05	2920.60	1	.12	30	1.080
	W:	28	63	10	.06	.30	62.07	7	48.28	48.28	4.27	1.22	33	.06	10	.5
	S:	2.1	0.21	2.2	73.20	5.18	16.90	0.01	5.66	8.14	886.22	293.83	2.8	.28	15.3	1.987.2
	V:	36.7	7.9	80.3	.20	.23	190.34	5.26	167.03	170.00	6.10	2.77	47.7	.34	25.6	72.3
ANCHITKA FORMATION: KIRILOV POINT GLASSY BRECCIA - Tab-1																
7	AVG:	4.7	2.26	8.1	38.03	3.43	12.76	0.27	5.03	9.24	3317.14	1726.39	1.4	.11	63	907
	MAX:	7.5	2.35	10.7	55.65	5.12	30.00	0.40	11.93	20.76	4621.12	2315.87	1	.50	70	2.539
	MIN:	3.5	2.15	2.7	18.79	2.15	4.41	0.20	4.21	6.28	2396.64	1406.04	1	.02	48	401
	W:	25	61	14	.07	.34	68.97	6	41.38	41.38	4.57	1.22	60	.07	10	4
	S:	0.9	0.02	2.8	10.79	.70	6.76	0.07	2.83	5.38	699.82	404.77	0.8	.14	8.7	8.232
	V:	20.1	1.8	34.4	.20	.14	363.86	26.60	304.89	367.72	6.41	7.16	31.0	.88	13.77	90.3
ANCHITKA FORMATION: KIRILOV POINT YELLOW LAVAS - Tab-11																
8	AVG:	5.8	2.42	9.2	161.76	13.89	30.76	0.18	13.03	16.00	3930.70	2433.22	6.8	.46	60	2.976
	MAX:	7.0	2.54	10.3	236.90	23.90	39.03	0.18	16.69	19.72	4521.07	---	9	.77	70	3.076
	MIN:	4.5	2.32	7.6	148.90	6.63	24.55	0.17	12.16	14.90	3331.77	---	3	.29	40	2.875
	W:	10	25	5	.02	.13	20.69	1	13.79	13.79	1.22	---	3048	.02	5	2
	S:	1.3	0.07	1.1	21.44	4.66	7.45	0.01	3.24	3.43	461.12	0	1.6	.22	17.3	---
	V:	22.9	3.0	11.9	.09	.22	167.45	5.56	134.00	136.00	5.12	0	23.6	.33	28.9	---
ANCHITKA FORMATION: DENSE OLDER BRECCIA - Tab																
9	AVG:	6.7	2.77	3.3	258.85	20.01	40.84	0.25	18.69	31.10	4960.01	2700.22	4.9	.76	67	3.163
	MAX:	7.5	2.93	8.9	373.38	36.00	49.72	0.38	29.31	42.97	8096.90	3088.54	9	1.39	75	7.747
	MIN:	2.5	2.36	0.4	65.71	8.01	18.00	0.19	12.69	29.03	3219.60	2200.05	1	.12	42	727
	W:	29	72	17	.11	.28	110.34	10	68.97	68.97	5.49	2.13	58	.11	17	8
	S:	0.9	0.08	1.8	93.67	7.22	15.72	0.06	5.59	5.93	833.32	316.99	2.2	.37	7.3	2.481.9
	V:	13.8	5.0	56.0	.23	.23	232.07	23.76	176.83	108.83	5.12	3.57	31.8	.34	10.9	78.4
EAST CAMP QUARTZ DIORITE - Tab																
10	AVG:	7.0	2.71	1.7	189.52	16.40	49.31	0.28	19.24	37.38	5040.59	2897.73	6.2	.59	64	2.646
	MAX:	7.0	2.86	3.0	332.89	27.69	76.76	0.40	43.80	151.03	6226.74	3450.03	9	1.04	70	3.607
	MIN:	6.5	2.38	0.8	49.42	7.87	39.66	0.11	13.38	13.24	3484.05	2441.45	1	.03	40	2.787
	W:	53	174	37	.23	.62	227.58	12	151.72	151.72	6.23	3.66	134	.23	34	16
	S:	0.2	0.03	0.5	88.49	4.29	12.48	0.07	6.48	78.07	534.31	252.07	2.3	.24	18.1	466.7
	V:	1.1	3.7	29.0	.21	.18	177.45	26.63	193.31	424.13	3.08	2.65	36.7	.20	23.2	18.3

NOTES: The average (AVG), maximum (MAX), and minimum (MIN) values determined from the number (N) of specimens in each group, with the standard deviation (s) and percentage variation (V), are given in descending order for each group property across the table. Values in Column 5 represent increased moisture in the saturated state (after 7 days submergence) over that air dried (14 days), in volume percent.



### WET VS. DRY COMPRESSIVE STRENGTHS OF LOCAL ROCK

AVERAGE VALUES OF MAJOR FORMATIONAL AND LITHOLOGIC GROUPS

#### LEGEND

- |                             |                            |                             |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ● - Top: M-P ANDERITE       | + - Top: BANJO PT. BRECCIA | △ - Tab: DENSE OLD BRECCIAS |
| ○ - Top: DENSE FLOW BRECCIA | △ - Tab: DENSE BASALTS     | x - Tab: QUARTZ DIDRITE     |
| □ - Top: M ANDERITE BRECCIA | △ - Tab: GLASSY BRECCIAS   | N - Tab: HORNPELS           |
| ■ - Top: TUFF BRECCIA       | △ - Tab: PILLOW LAVAS      |                             |

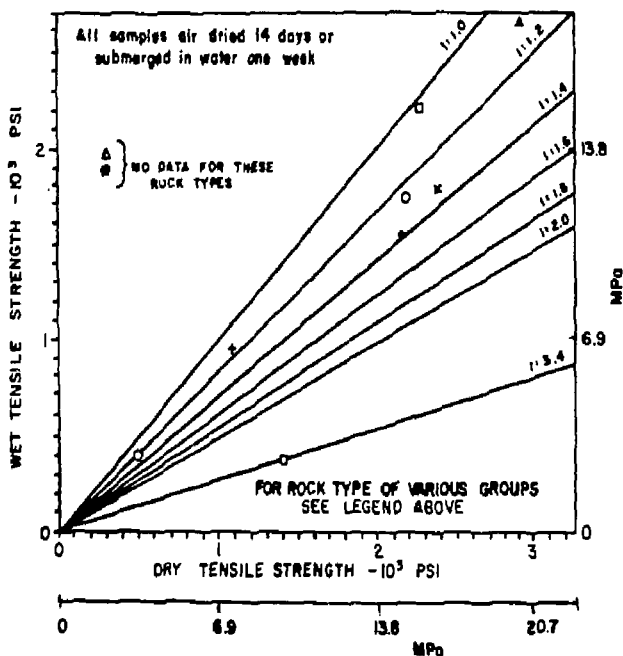
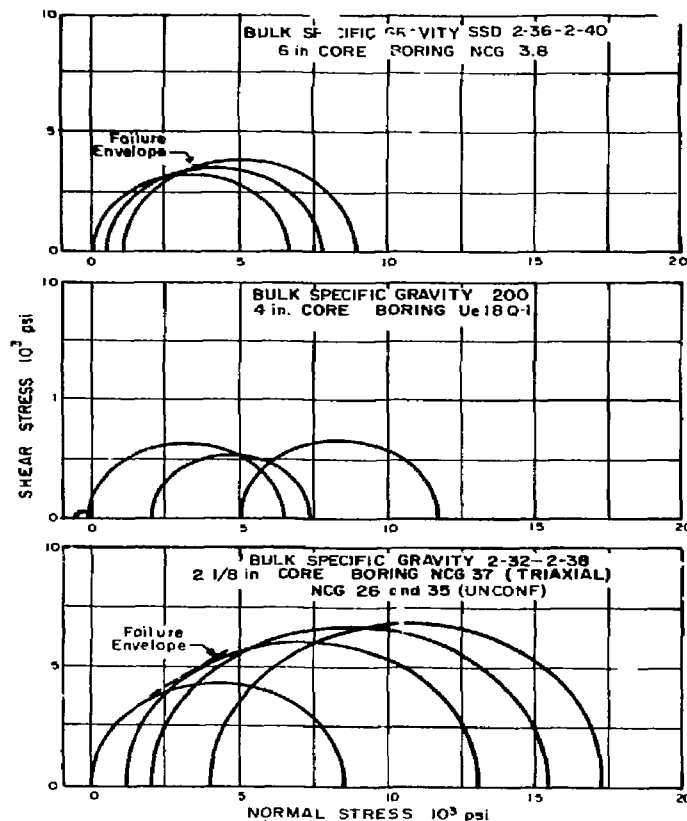


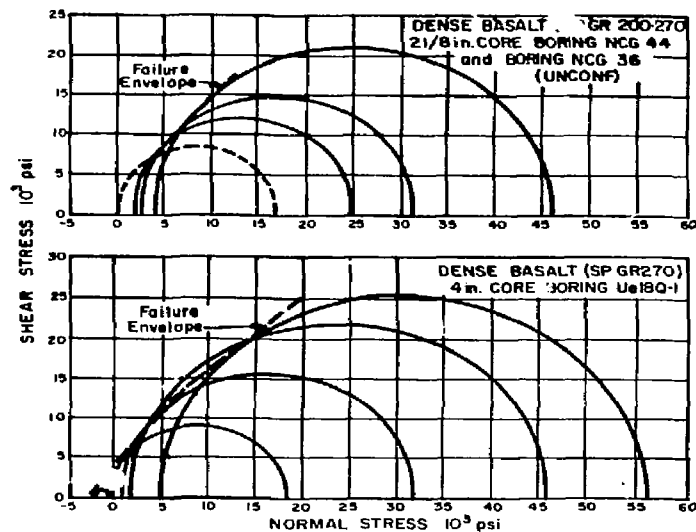
FIGURE 2-16 Wet vs. dry tensile strengths of local rock average values of major formational and lithologic groups. Source: Sharp, 1972.



strengths of Amchitka basalt. Data for basalt tested from the Nevada test site are shown in Figures 2-17 to 2-19. Figure 2-18 shows the relationship between strength and confining pressure for basaltic rocks of different porosities. A very high dependence of strength on the porosity is observed. Figure 2-19 shows variation of Poisson's ratio with confining pressure for NTS basalt. Notice that for a relatively large change in confining pressure, Poisson's ratio varies rather little. As suggested earlier from the scoping studies, this variation is probably not significant. Values for the strength for samples from the Hanford reservation are shown in Table 2-15. Of particular interest are the results from rock zone RM4 which illustrate the large effect of jointing on strength. Tables 2-16 and 2-17 and Figures 2-20 and 2-21 are for physical properties of Columbia Plateau basalts. As seen in Figures 2-20 and 2-21 there are very large variations in strength with porosity and density. Both of these values would depend very much on the position within the flow. The same type of behavior for test site basalt is shown in Figure 2-22. Because of this great variation, one must be very careful when attempting to determine and assign property values. Tables 2-18 and 2-19 summarize some values for elastic and strength properties of basaltic rock samples (Agapito et al, 1977, Rodriquez, 1970).



MOHR CIRCLES and FAILURE ENVELOPES  
FOR HIGHLY VESICULAR BASALT



MOHR CIRCLES and FAILURE ENVELOPES  
FOR DENSE BASALT

FIGURE 2-17 Mohr circles for dense and vesicular basalt  
Source: Lutton, 1968.

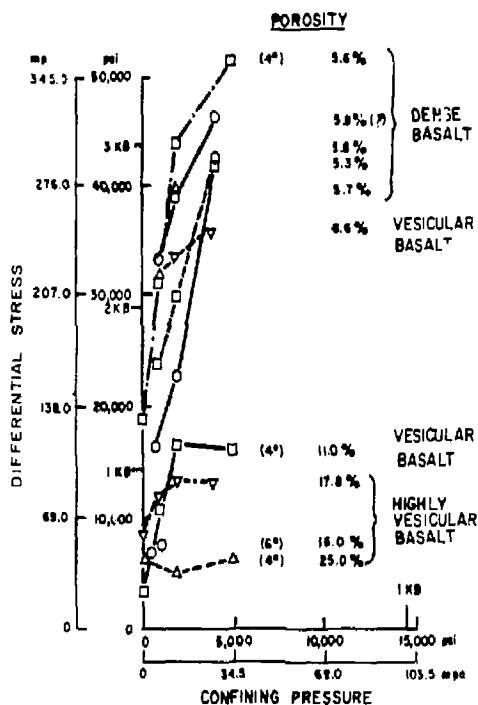


FIGURE 2-18 Relationship between strength and confined pressure for basaltic rocks of different porosity. Source: Lutton, 1968.

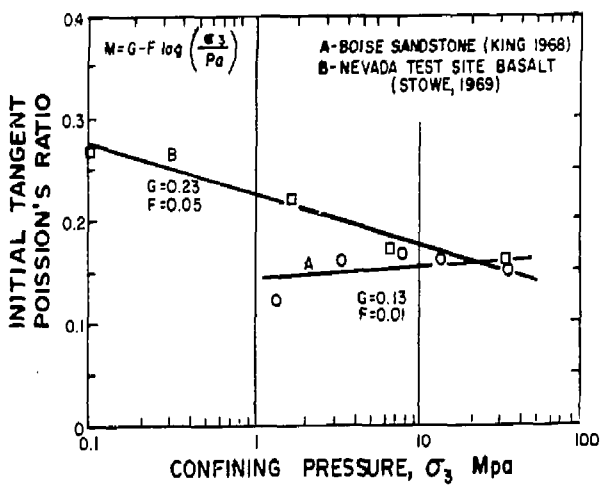


FIGURE 2-19 Variation of initial tangent Poisson's ratio with confining pressure  
Source: Stowe, 1969.

TABLE 2-15 Summary of triaxial compression strength tests  
on core from the Hanford Reservation, DDH-1 tests  
by Teledyne Terrametrics  
(Agapito, Hardy and St. Laurent, 1977)

Rock Zone	Number of Tests	Confining Pressure MPa	Average Strength MPa
RM 1	3	0	212
	3	3.5	287
	3	7.0	305
	3	14.0	350
	3	21.0	400
RM 2 (Solid)	2	0	266
	2	7.0	361
	2	14.0	481
	1	21.0	562
	1	28.0	638
RM 1 (With Slip Planes)	1	0	143
	1	7.0	179
	1	14.0	252
	2	21.0	331
	2	28.0	390
RM 3 (All Specimens Contained Many Open Vugs and Pores)	3	0	69
	2	7.0	93
	3	14.0	145
	3	21.0	172
	3	28.0	152
RM 4 (Solid)	2	0	216
	2	7.0	307
	1	14.0	434
RM 4 (With Joints)	1	0	16
	1	7.0	168
	2	14.0	281
	3	21.0	310
	2	28.0	333

TABLE 2-16 Summary of rock properties  
Bacon Siphon and Tunnel - second unit  
DH-100 series samples  
Columbia Basin Project  
Source: Agapito et al, 1977

Specimen No. DH	Depth	Rock Type	Secant <u>1/</u> Elasticity GPa	Compressive Strength MPa	Fracture <u>2/</u> Mode	Absorption, Percent by Weight	Specific Gravity	Petrographic Laboratory No.
100	88.3	Basalt	43	81	Across matrix and structure	3.9	2.57	P-8527
100	101.9	Basalt	53	98	Across matrix and structure	3.7	2.61	P-8528
101	120.9	Basalt	23	216	Across matrix and structure	2.1	2.74	P-8529
100	148.7	Basalt	22	83	Across matrix and structure	3.9	2.58	P-8530
100	152.8	Basalt	22	137	Across matrix and structure	3.7	2.62	P-8531
100	181.6	Basalt	30	194	Across matrix and structure	2.5	2.65	P-8532

Notes:

1/E is given at first cycle of loading, 7MPa stress.

2/Pertains to samples failed in compression tests.

TABLE 2-17 Summary of rock properties  
Bacon Siphon and Tunnel - second unit -  
DH-200 series samples  
Columbia Basin Project  
Source: Agapito et al, 1977

Specimen No. D.H.	Depth <u>1/</u>	Rock Type	E <u>2/</u> GPa	Poisson's Ratio <u>2/</u>	Compressive Strength, MPa	Absorption by Weight	Specific Gravity	Porosity
200	133.21	basalt	45	0.09	176	1.6	2.76	4.4
200	135.58	basalt	74	0.16	204	0.8	2.78	2.2
200	148.75	basalt	59	0.05	109	4.1	2.56	10.4
200	149.55	basalt	49	0.31	39	5.3	2.46	12.9
200	166.06	basalt	54	0.10	125	1.5	2.73	4.2
200	166.42	basalt	55	0.14	104	1.5	2.73	4.0
205	232.69	basalt	58	0.14	180	1.5	2.68	4.2
205	233.50	basalt	66	0.22	192	1.1	2.70	3.1
205	235.54	basalt	36	0.10	179	2.3	2.65	6.0
205	239.53	basalt	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	139	3.1	2.58	8.0
205	239.31	basalt	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>	125	3.7	2.54	9.4
207*	120.33	basalt	77	0.18	293	0.2	2.86	0.6
207*	133.60	basalt	72	0.26	229	0.3	2.88	0.9
207*	147.98	basalt	80	0.23	241	0.2	2.90	0.6

Notes:

1/Depth, in feet, is measured to the center of the test specimen.

2/Elasticity and Poisson's Ratio are given for first cycle loading at 7MPa.

3/No elasticity run on these test specimens due to large vesicles.

\*No Petrographic analysis requested for Drill Hole 207.

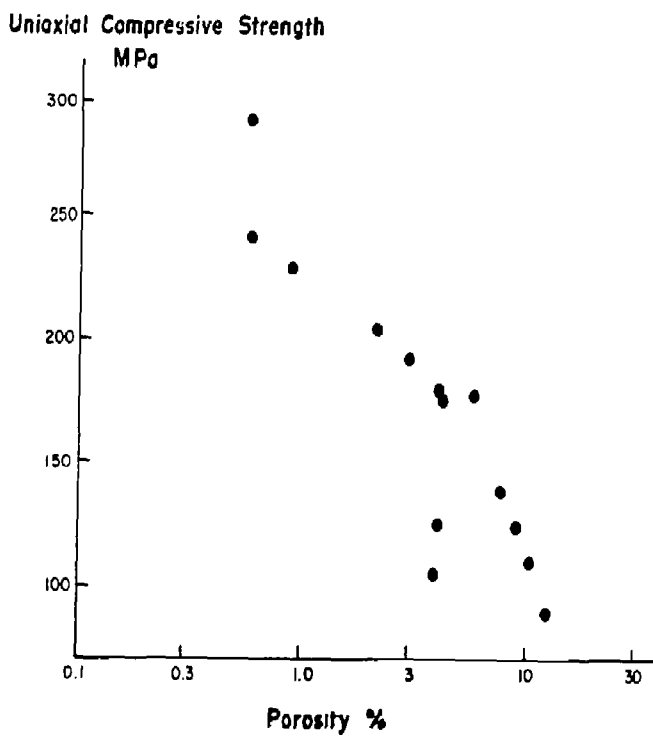


FIGURE 2-20 Compressive strength versus porosity Columbia Plateau basalt Source: Agapito et al, 1977.



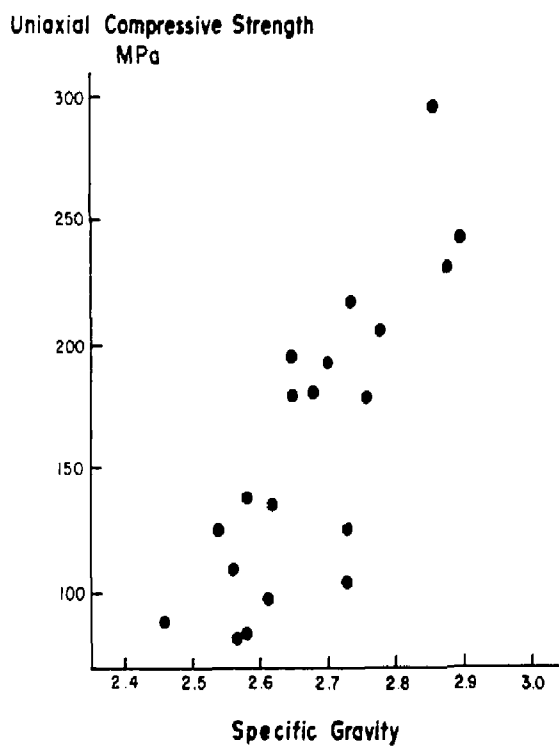


FIGURE 2-21 Compressive strength versus specific gravity Columbia Plateau basalt  
Source: Agapito et al, 1977.

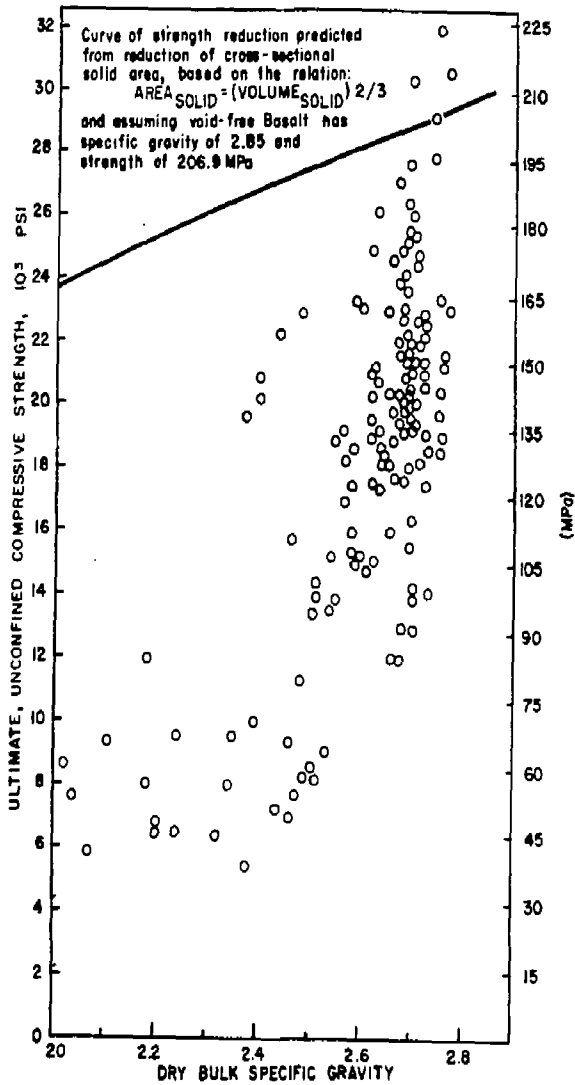


FIGURE 2-22 Relation of compressive strengths and specific gravity.  
 Source: Sandia, 1962.

TABLE 2-18 Strength data on basalts

Rock Type	Crushing Strength MPa	Cohesive Strength MPa	Tan $\phi$	Reference
Basalt, Miocene, Oregon	169	32	1.2	8
Basalt, Miocene, Oregon	219	44	1.1	8
Hyperstene, Andesite	133	29	1.0	8
Hyperstene, Andesite	129	28	1.0	8
Basalt, Dresser	440	NA	NA	11
Basalt, Dresser	363	NA	NA	19
Basalt, Knippa	262	NA	NA	17

Source: Agapito et al, 1977

TABLE 2-19 Elastic Properties of Basaltic Rock

Rock Type	Young's Modulus GPa	Poisson's Ratio
Basalt, Ostritz, Germany	111.5	NA
Basalt, Champion Mine, Michigan	61	NA
Basalt, Champion Mine, Michigan	85	NA
Basalt, Dresser, Wisconsin	88.5	0.26
Diabase, Frederick	99	NA
Dolerite, Karroo	84	NA
Gabbro, Norites, Diabases	78 - 99	0.11 - 0.31

Source: Agapito et al, 1977

In summary, the amount of data presently available regarding the mechanical properties of basalt is sparse. Available data from tests would suggest a high variability of compressive strength and modulus, with a lesser variation of Poisson's ratio. All vary with porosity and density.

## 2.12 THERMAL PROPERTIES

Data concerning thermal properties of the rock are required for the calculation of thermal distributions around the excavation due to the introduction of the waste. There are a number of numerical techniques which can be used to calculate such thermal distributions. In general, they require as input the density, specific heat, thermal conductivity, and/or the thermal diffusivity of the basalt surrounding the caverns. These induced thermal fields are superimposed upon the geothermal gradient at the point of interest. Such a geothermal gradient from a hole at the Hanford facility is shown in Figure 2-23.

A knowledge of the density is required, since it controls the initial stress gradient and is needed to estimate thermal diffusivity. Table 2-20 summarizes the values obtained for the density of some basalts. There is a considerable variation in density, as one might expect from the characteristics of basalt, and the tabulated values should not be used without extreme caution.

A number of tests have been performed to determine thermal constants for basalt as a function of temperature. Thermal properties for Hanford basalt are shown as a function of temperature in Tables 2-21 and 2-22. Values for thermal

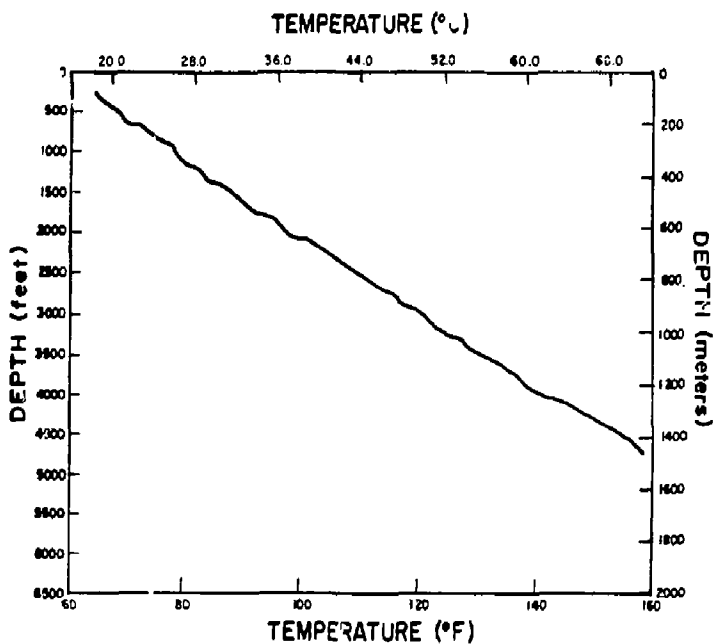


FIGURE 2-23 Subsurface temperature as a function of depth in DC-1 drill hole (geothermal gradient)  
Source: Atlantic Richfield Hanford, 1976, v 1.

TABLE 2-20 Density of some basalts.

ROCK TYPE	DENSITY (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )
Basalt	2.4-3.1
Basalt	2.9
Average of General Basalt	2.8-2.9
Basalt	2.8
Gabbros, Norites, Diabase	3.0
Basalt, Dresser	3.02

SOURCE: Agapito et al, 1977



TABLE 2-21 Thermal properties of basalt  
as a function of temperature  
(Atlantic Richfield Hanford Co., 1977)

Sample 1005 Depth = 306 m (1005 ft)

Temperature, T		Density,	Heat Capacity, Cp
<u>°F</u>	<u>°C</u>	<u>Kg/m<sup>3</sup></u>	<u>J/g/°C</u>
100	37.8	2941.3	0.728
200	93.3	2944.5	0.779
300	149	2947.7	0.829
400	204	2949.3	0.879
500	260	2952.5	0.929
600	316	2955.7	0.980

Temperature, T		Thermal Diffusivity,	Thermal Conductivity, k
<u>°F</u>	<u>°C</u>	<u>m<sup>2</sup>/hr</u>	<u>w/m°k</u>
100	37.8	.00191	1.12
200	93.3	.00187	1.19
300	149	.00182	1.24
400	204	.00177	1.28
500	260	.00173	1.32
600	316	.00168	1.30

Sample 1084 Depth = 330 m (1084 ft)

Temperature, T		Density,	Heat Capacity, Cp
<u>°F</u>	<u>°C</u>	<u>Kg/m<sup>3</sup></u>	<u>J/g/°C</u>
100	37.8	2660.9	.737
200	93.3	2662.5	.783
300	149	2665.7	.825
400	204	2667.3	.867
500	260	2670.5	.908
600	316	2672.1	.950

Temperature, T		Thermal Diffusivity,	Thermal Conductivity, k
<u>°F</u>	<u>°C</u>	<u>m<sup>2</sup>/hr</u>	<u>w/m°k</u>
100	37.8	.00186	1.02
200	93.3	.00181	1.04
300	149	.00176	1.07
400	204	.00170	1.09
500	260	.00164	1.11
600	316	.00150	1.12

TABLE 2-22 Heat capacity.

<u>CONDUCTIVITY</u> <u>w/m°K</u>	<u>TEST</u> <u>CONDITIONS</u>	<u>REFERENCE</u>
0.623	---	Ratigan, 1976
0.346	20 - 100°C	LANGE'S Handbook of Chemistry, 1956
0.398	100° C	Parsons 1976
0.415	200° C	"
0.433	300° C	"
0.301	37.8° C	ARRH-ST-137, 1976
0.322	93.3° C	"
0.343	148.8° C	"
0.363	204.4°C	"
0.384	260° C	"
0.405	315.6° C	"
0.305	37.8° C	"
0.324	93.3° C	"
0.341	148.8° C	"
0.358	204.4° C	"
0.376	260° C	"
0.393	315.6° C	"

SOURCE: Office of Nuclear Waste Isolation, 1978

conductivity of basaltic rocks, as collected by Agapito et al, are shown in Table 2-23. Similarly, thermal diffusivity is shown in Table 2-24.

An equation for the inverse thermal conductivity as a function of temperature for Dresser basalt is given in Figure 2-24. Note that the curve fits the data for three of the five blocks tested quite well. Values for specific heat for several rock types as a function of temperature are given in Figure 2-25. Both thermal conductivity and specific heat are strongly dependent on the chemical composition of the rock.

It is possible, using such models, to show the effect of uncertainty in one of the properties on the thermal distribution. The effect of thermal conductivity of the basalt layer on the cavern temperature is shown in Figure 2-26. Note that increasing the thermal conductivity causes a large reduction in the maximum cavern temperature.

In summary, relatively little information regarding the thermal properties of basalt is presently available. At least one study of Hanford basalt is underway (Colorado School of Mines) and the results should be available soon.

Table 2-26 lists a summary of average physical properties for basalt from Deere et al (1966).

TABLE 2-23 Thermal conductivity of basaltic rocks

	Temperature °K	Thermal Conductivity w/m°K
Basalt	NA*	1.8 - 2.2
Basalt (Japan)	NA	1.4
Gabbro, Norites, Diabase	273 - 373	1.7 - 2.6
Basalt, Columbia Plateau	373	1.53
Basalt, Dresser	373	3.0
Basalt, Diabasic	303	1.69
Basalt, Diabasic	348	1.73
Average		2.2

NOTE:

\*Not Available

Source:  
Agapito et al, 1977

TABLE 2-24 Thermal diffusivity

Rock Type	Thermal Diffusivity $\text{m}^2/\text{s} \times 10^{-7}$
Gabbro	5.2
Fine-Grained Diabase	5.8
Silicified Diabase	8.1
Basalt (Japan)	7.0
Gabbro (Japan)	8.0
Basalt, Dresser	10.0
Basalt, Columbia Plateau	6.5
Average	7.0

Source: Agapito et al, 1977

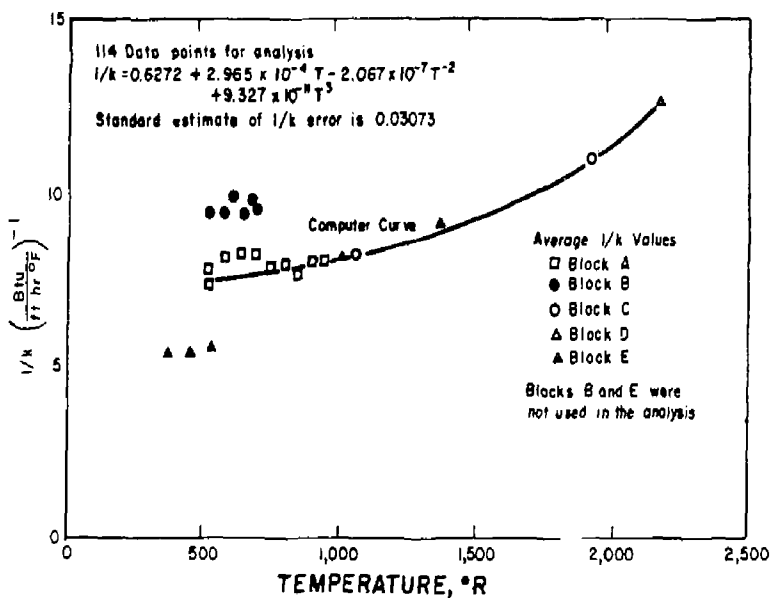


FIGURE 2-24 Inverse thermal conductivity versus temperature, Dresser basalt  
 Source: Marovelli and Veith, 1965.

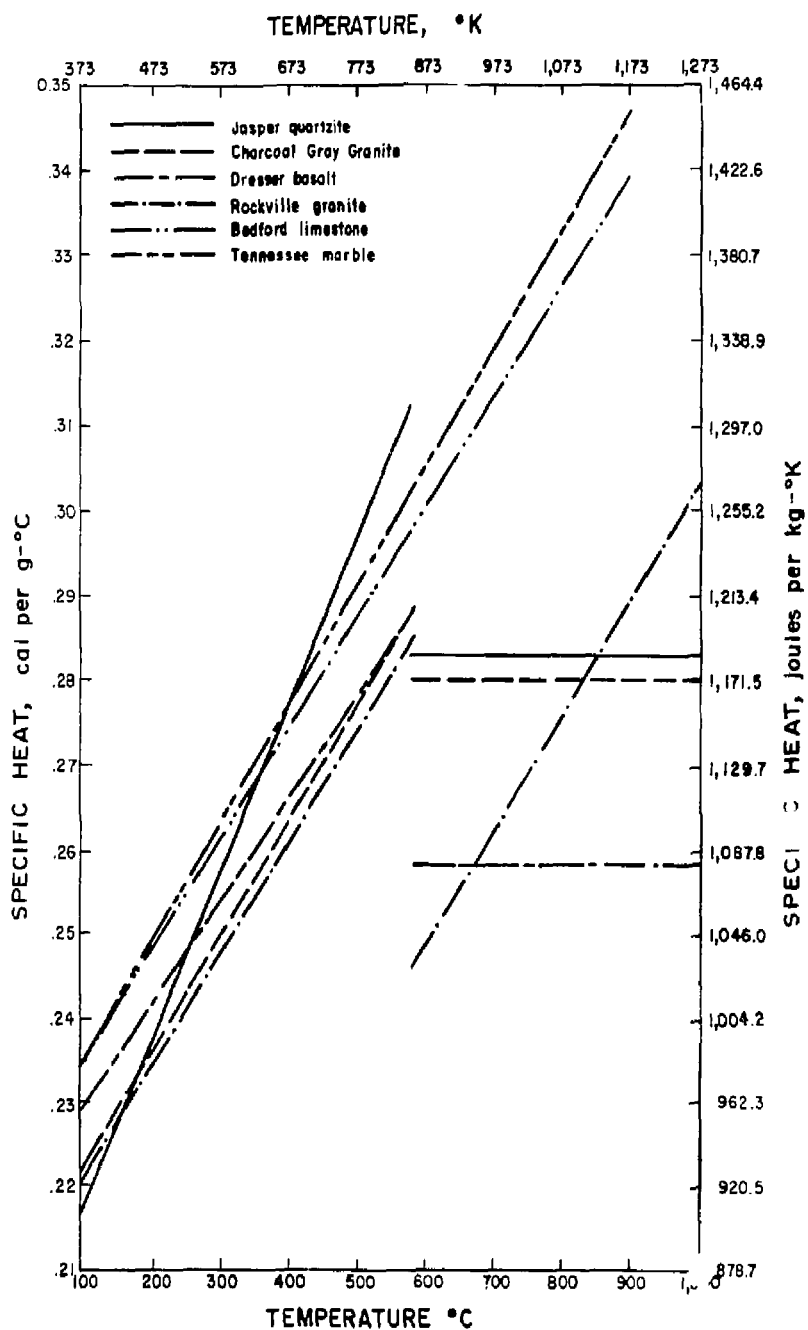


FIGURE 2-25 Comparison of the specific heats for the six rock types  
Source: Lindroth and Krawza, 1971.

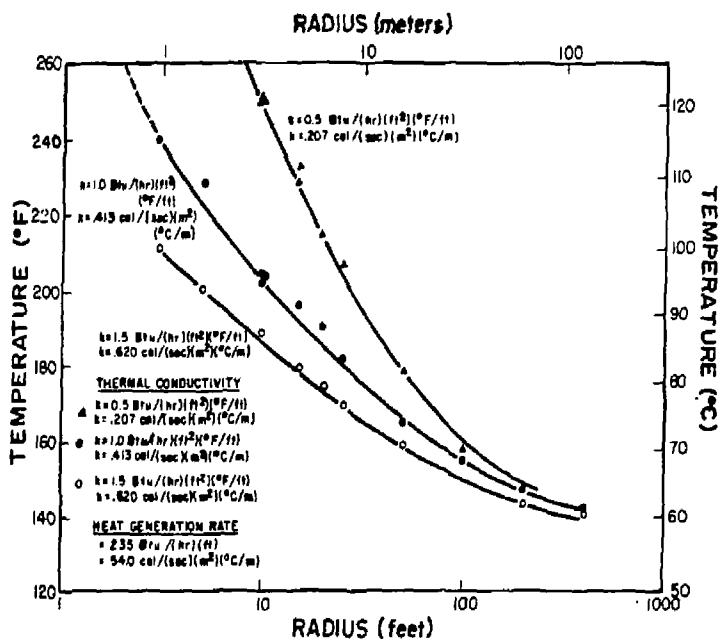


FIGURE 2-26 Cavern temperature versus cavern radius for various thermal conductivity values  
 Source: Atlantic Richfield Hanford, 1976, v.1



Table 2-25 Summary of average physical properties for basalt

Group No.	Rock Type and Location	No.	Unit Weight, $\gamma$		L/D	Compressive Strength		Shore Hardness, $S_h$		Schmidt Hardness, $R$		Abrasion Hardness		Absorption % of dry weight	Tensile Strength: Point Load MPa
			$\text{gm/cc}^3$	( $\text{lb/ft}^3$ )		$\sigma_c$ (ult) MPa	Rate MPa/sec	Sides	Ends	All Edges	High $A_h$	502 $A_h$	Area ( $\text{m}^2$ )		
1.1	Basalt (Lower Granite) Pullman, Washington	No.	2.73	(170.2)	2.08	230	.25	79	86	53	57	.078		1.92	2.9
		Tests	12	12	12	55	.06	960	480	144	72	.0026		1	13.8
		VZ		1.0		76.6		7.6	6.9	9.3	5.1	.0035			2.1
1.2	Basalt (Little Goose) Walla Walla, Washington	No.	2.82	(175.8)	2.12	297	.41	70	67	54	58	.114		1.44	10.4
		Tests	6	6	6	21	.01	480	240	72	36	.0026		1	6.9
		VZ		.4		40		6.5	4.8	9.0	5.3	.0048			
1.3	Basalt (John Day) Arlington, Oregon	No.	2.87	(179.1)	2.08	355	.46	82	91	55	58	.145		.75	14.5
		Tests	6	6	6	21	.01	480	240	72	36	.0032		1	6.9
		VZ		.5		34		6.3	4.6	7.3	6.1	.0057			

NOTE: VZ = Coefficient of variation

SOURCE: Deere et al, 1966

### 2.13 THERMOELASTIC PROPERTIES

The influence of temperature and pressure on the elastic properties of basaltic rocks will be discussed in this section. These elastic properties include Poisson's ratio, Young's modulus, and the coefficient of linear thermal expansion. Tables 2-26 - 2-29 and Figure 2-27 show the effect of temperature on the elastic modulus and Poisson's ratio of various basalts and basalt like rocks. It is noted that for Dresser basalt, an increase in temperature from 297 K to 866°K results in a reduction in modulus from 100 down to 66 GPa. For the same temperature range, Poisson's ratio is reduced by about half.

There is very little data presently available regarding the relationship between compressive strength and temperature. Figure 2-28 reveals that under static loading, the strength of Dresser basalt decreases rather dramatically over the temperature range of 0 to 400°K but then levels off. The factor of 2 decrease from room temperature to 400° is of great importance since the rock in the near vicinity of the canister would undergo such a change.

Average values of the coefficient of linear thermal expansion for a number of rocks are given in Table 2-30. This coefficient, however, has been found for most rocks to

TABLE 2-26 Example of influence of temperature and pressure  
on the elastic properties of some basaltic rocks

	Temp. °K	Pressure MPa	Young's Modulus GPa	Poisson's Ratio
Basalt, Hornblende, Chaffee County, Colorado Density = 2,586 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	298	50	67.5	.246
		500	70.8	.269
	573	50	63.7	.240
		500	69.7	.276
Gabbro, "San Marcos," Escondido, California Density = 2,993 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	298	50	96.0	.363
		500	99.8	.375
	573	50	88.3	.334
		500	98.3	.370
Gabbro, Bytownite, Duluth, Minnesota Density = 2,883 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	298	50	90.1	.343
		500	95.3	.362
	573	50	78.1	.303
		500	90.1	.344
Gabbro, Hornblende Location Unknown Density = 2,933 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	298	50	98.1	.378
		500	105.4	.407
	573	50	87.8	.345
		500	103.7	.403

TABLE 2-27 Experimental values of Young's Modulus and Poisson's ratio at elevated temperatures in Dresser basalt

Source: (Wingquist, 1969)

Temperature °K	Elastic Modulus GPa	Poisson's Ratio
297	100.7	0.24
395	98.6	0.24
533	95.1	0.22
644	87.6	0.1
755	83.4	0.18
811	79.9	0.16
866	66.5	0.11

TABLE 2-28 Elastic moduli data for Dresser basalt.  
Source: (Wingquist, 1969)

	24	121	260	371	Temperature, °C			593	704	815.5
					482	538	565.5			
YOUNG'S MODULUS, GPa										
Sample 1.....	103.4	101.4	97.9	89.0	84.8	-	-	67.0	49.0	48.5
Sample 2.....	99.3	97.2	93.1	86.2	82.1	80.0	-	65.0	44.6	44.9
Sample 3.....	99.3	97.9	94.5	86.9	82.8	80.0	-	67.7	48.3	48.1
Mean.....	100.7	98.6	95.2	87.6	83.4	80.0	-	66.6	47.3	47.2
Standard deviation...	2.41	2.21	2.48	1.45	1.45	0	-	1.38	2.41	1.93
SHEAR MODULUS, GPa										
Sample 1.....	41.7	40.7	40.1	37.2	36.0	-	-	30.4	23.1	22.8
Sample 2.....	40.0	39.1	38.1	36.0	34.8	34.1	-	29.5	20.6	21.6
Sample 3.....	40.5	39.9	38.8	36.6	35.4	34.3	-	30.3	22.9	22.6
Mean.....	40.7	39.9	39.0	36.6	35.4	34.2	-	30.1	22.2	22.3
Standard deviation...	.828	.828	1.03	.621	.621	1.38	-	.483	1.38	.690
POISSON'S RATIO										
Sample 1.....	.24	.25	.22	.19	.18	-	-	.10	.06	.06
Sample 2.....	.24	.24	.22	.20	.18	.17	-	.10	.08	.04
Sample 3.....	.23	.23	.22	.19	.17	.16	-	.12	.06	.06
Mean.....	.24	.24	.22	.19	.18	.16	-	.11	.07	.05
Standard deviation...	.01	.01	.00	.01	.01	.01	-	.01	.01	.01

TABLE 2-29 Properties of Dresser basalt.  
(Lehnhoff and Scheller, 1975)

Dresser Basalt			
Temperature °C	Young's Modulus $E, 10^5$ MPa	Poisson's Ratio $\nu$	Coeff. of Thermal Expansion $\alpha, 10^5 / ^\circ \text{C}$
24	1.007	0.24	0.290
122	.9860	0.24	0.500
260	.9510	0.22	0.770
371	.8760	0.19	0.940
482	.8340	0.18	1.020
538	.7990	0.16	1.080
593	.6650	0.11	1.160
700	.0010	0.10	1.160

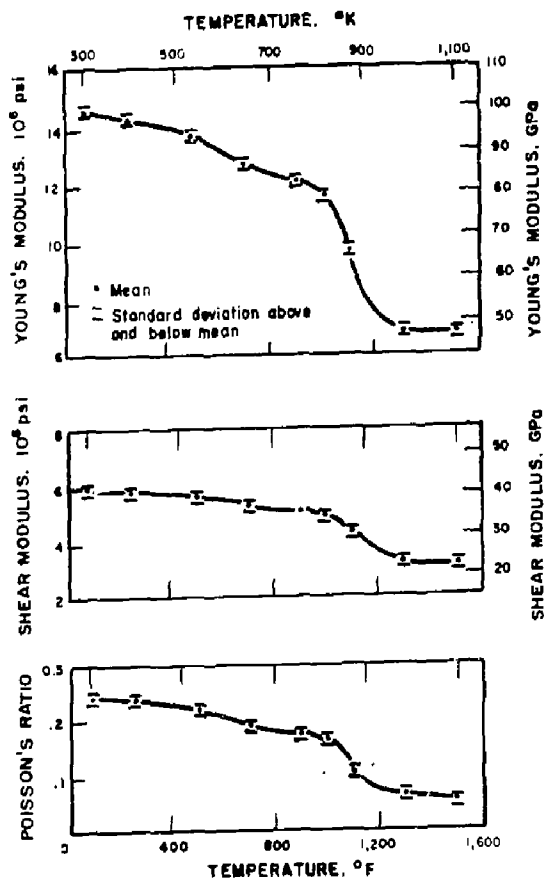


FIGURE 2-27 Elastic moduli and Poisson's Ratio as a function of temperature for Dresser basalt.  
Source: Wingquist, 1969.

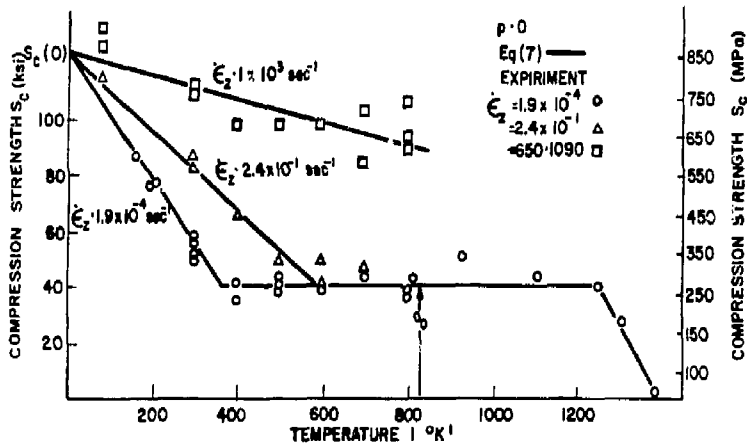


FIGURE 2-28 Influence of temperature and strain rate  
 on strength of Dresser basalt  
 Source: Krumer, 1968.



TABLE 2-30 Coefficient of linear thermal expansion.

Rock Type	Expansion Coefficient $\times 10^{-6}/^{\circ}\text{K}$	Reference
Basalts, Gabbros, Diabase	5.4	9
Basalt (300°K)	4.3 - 6.5	6
Fairfax Diabase	5.9	12
Cape Neddick Gabbro	8.5	12
Dresser Basalt	2.9 - 11.6	13

Agapito et al, 1977

depend on temperature and some typical results for Dresser basalts are given in Table 2-29. Note that for temperature of 24° C, the coefficient of the thermal expansion is  $.29 \times 10^{-5}$ . At 700° C, the same coefficient is  $1.16 \times 10^{-5}$ .

If there is any gap between the canister and the rock (as will most certainly be the case in any practical situation), these thermally induced stresses and displacements can cause the material directly around the canister to degrade or spall during the heating process. The effects of this thermal degradation can be evaluated by numerical models. Such a modeling study was done by Hardy & Hocking. They examined the influence of changes in basalt thermal conductivity which result from the failure of the basalt.

The coupling between thermal and mechanical response, which was used for modeling the effects of borehole decrepitation was a volumetric strain-dependent thermal conductivity. They suggest that this type of coupling is supported by observation since during rock failure, micro-cracks and void spaces develop and, hence, the volumetric strain increases

The development of such voids in the rock will lead to a reduced thermal conductivity and thereby restrict the flow of heat from the canister into the rock. In their analysis,

they assumed the thermal conductivity volumetric strain relationship shown in Figure 2-29. The form shows a reduction in thermal conductivity to one quarter of initial values for large volumetric strains. The expected temperatures for the case with thermomechanical coupling (Figure 2-30) is compared with the case for constant thermal conductivity in Figure 2-31. This shows that for a 1 KW heat source, the reduced thermal conductivity of the rock adjacent to the canister results in an increase of 20% in the canister temperature. This cannot be considered significant. For higher thermal outputs, increased rock failure could produce a more extensive zone of reduced conductivity and, hence, lead to thermal runaway. It is noted that there are no laboratory data available at this point to support such thermal conductivity-volumetric strain curve as shown in Figure 2-29, but the consequences are severe, (breakdown of waste forms, glass for example, greatly reduced canister life, etc.) and, therefore, input data must become available.

A summary of thermomechanical properties for basalt as prepared by Agapito et al is given in Table 2-31.

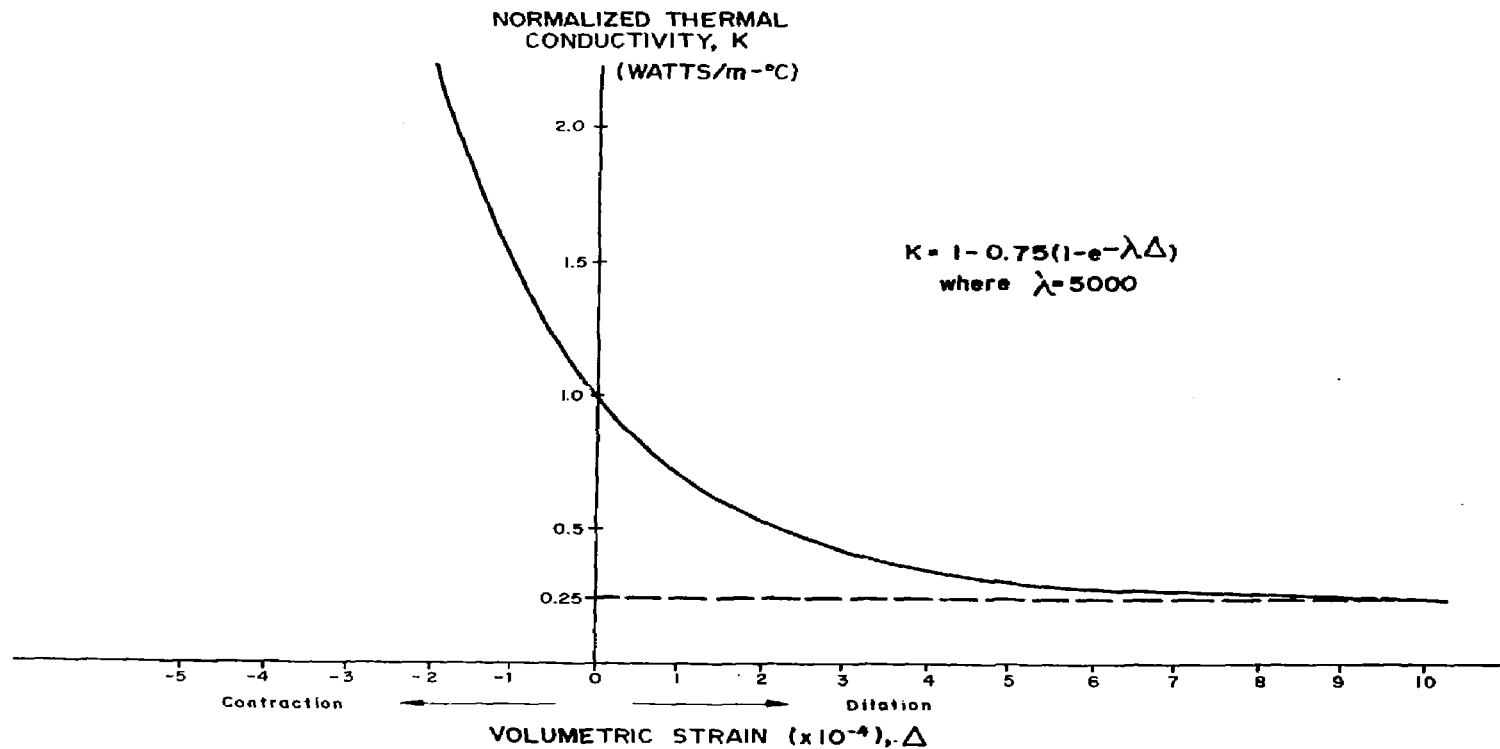


FIGURE 2-29 Form of thermal conductivity - volumetric strain relationship  
Source: Hardy and Hocking, 1977.

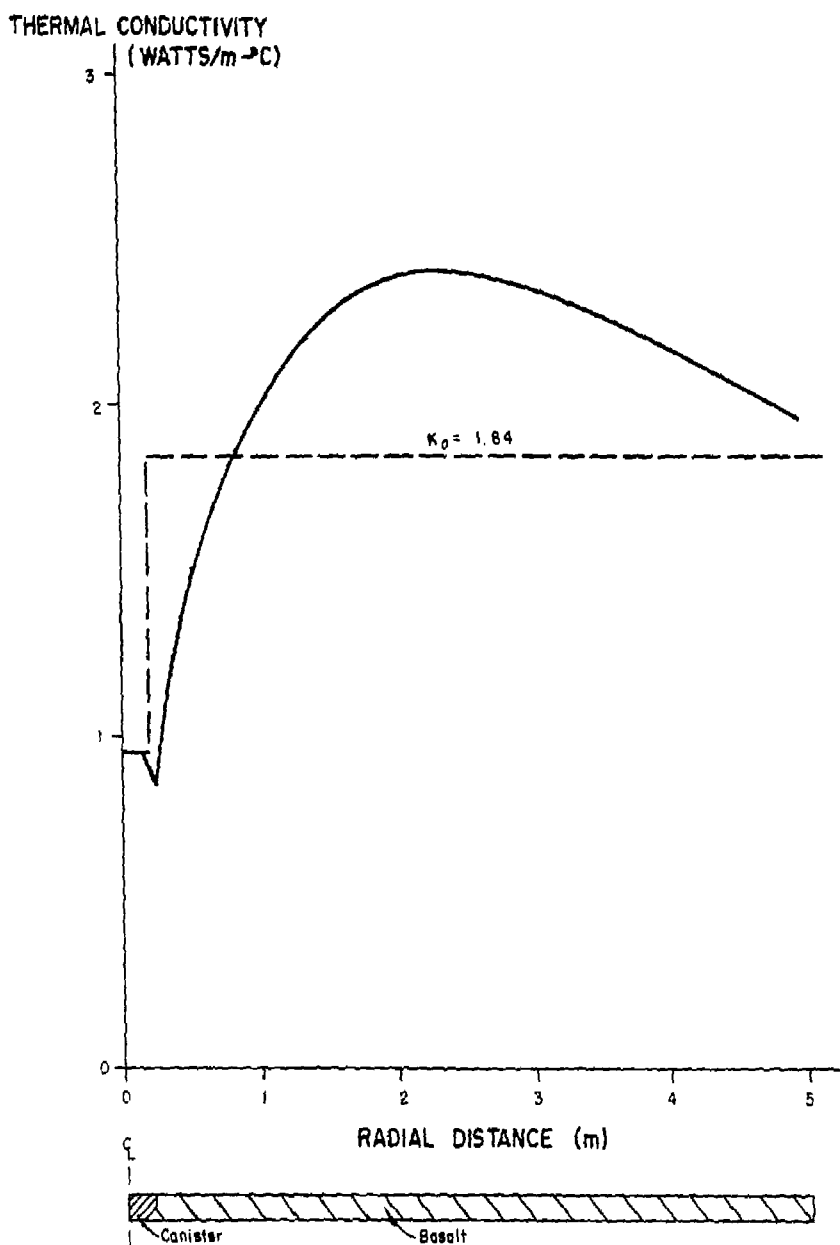


FIGURE 2-30 Conductivity versus radial distance after 28 days  
Source: Hardy and Hocking, 1977.

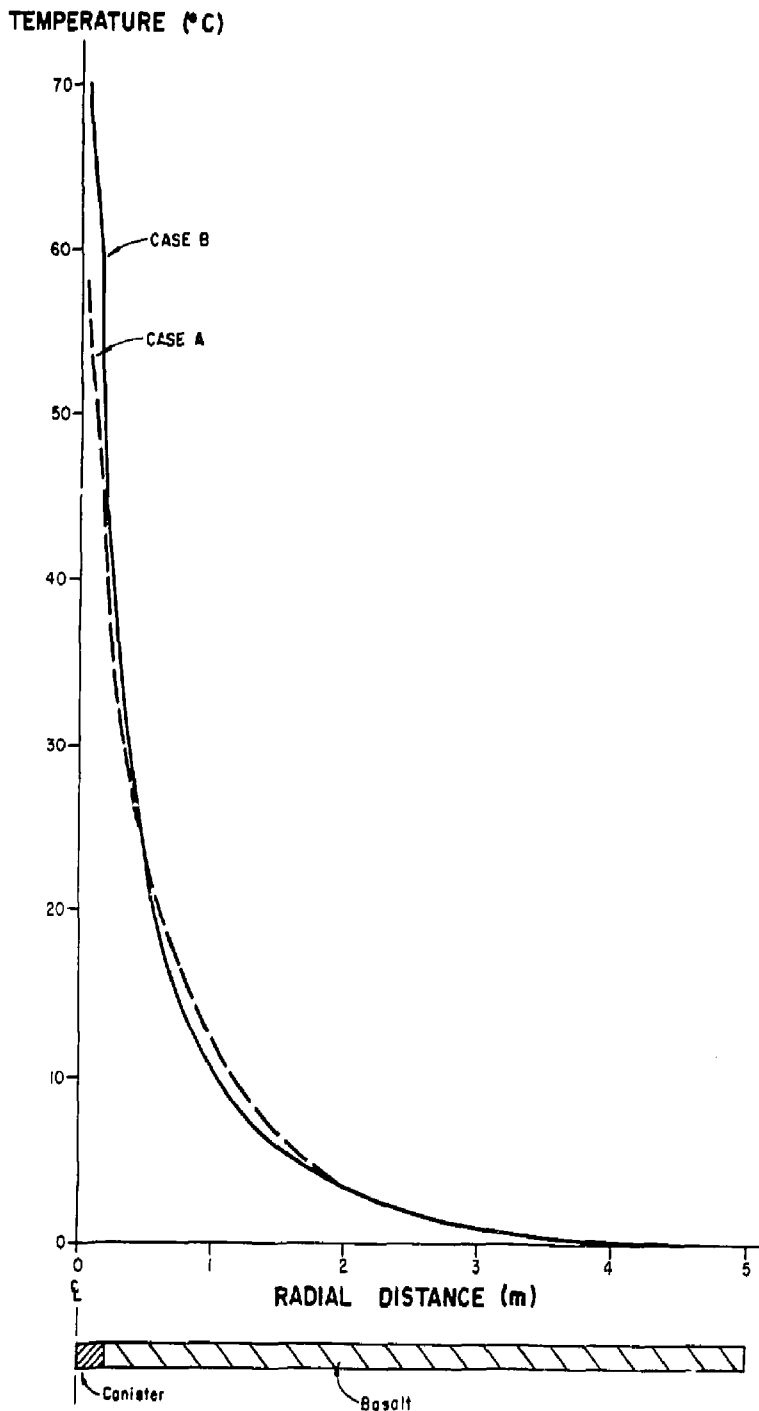


FIGURE 2-31 Comparison of temperatures for uniform conductivity (case A) and basalt decrepitation (case B)  
Source: Hardy and Hocking, 1977.

TABLE 2-31 Summary of thermomechanical basalt properties.

Property	Estimated Value	Range	Units	Major Influence
Density	2.9	2.4-3.1	$\text{g/m}^3$	Porosity
Diffusivity	$6.5 \times 10^{-7}$	5.2, $8.0 \times 10^{-7}$	$\text{m}^2/\text{s}$	Porosity
Thermal Conductivity	1.5	1.4, 4.28	$\text{W/m}^\circ\text{K}$	
Specific Heat	1.0	0.95, 1.05	$\text{kJ/kg}^\circ\text{K}$	
Thermal Expansion Coefficient	$5.4 \times 10^{-6}$	2.9, $11.6 \times 10^{-6}$	$/^\circ\text{K}$	Temperature
Young's Modulus	70	61, 112	GPa	
Poisson's Ratio	0.26	0.22, 0.28	-	
Uniaxial Compressive Strength	200	0, 400	MPa	Porosity, Jointing
Angle of Internal Friction	$55^\circ$	45, 60	$^\circ$	Jointing
Tensile Strength	14	0, 23.0	MPa	Jointing

SOURCE: Agapito et al, 1977

## 2.14 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

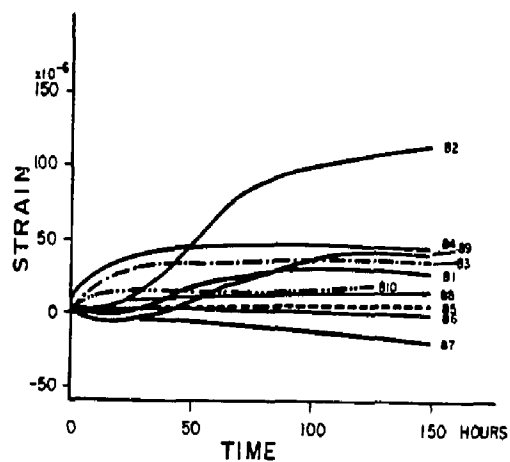
Due to the elevated temperatures and the long life of the repository, the possibility of long-term deformation through creep must be considered. Unfortunately, the time-dependent behavior of basalt over the temperature and stress range of interest for radioactive waste disposal is not well documented. The compressive strength as a function of creep rate for Amchitka basalt is shown in Table 2-32. Dense basalts appear to have a low uniaxial creep rate and exhibit a minimum average amount of irrecoverable strain. Some creep curves for basalt as presented by Iida (1960) are shown in Figure 2-32. All of these tests were performed at approximately room temperature.



TABLE 2-32 Creep and failure characteristics of Amchita Island rocks under uniaxial compressive stress (Sharp, 1972)

GROUP NO.	LEGEND See Notes	CREEP RATE Microstrains/hr, extrapolated to a time of 200 minutes	IRRECOVERABLE STRAIN Percent, after loading to one-half ultimate strength
CHITKA POINT FORMATION: HORNBLende PYROXENE ANDESITE - Tcp1 - 1			
1	AVG:	1.3	4.7
	MAX:	4.0	10.9
	MIN:	0.1	0.2
	N/S/V:	5/1.4/106	5/4.4/92
CHITKA POINT FORMATION: DENSE FLOW BRECCIA - Tcp1 - 11			
2	AVG:	1.3	21.2
	MAX:	---	---
	MIN:	---	---
	N/S/V:	1/---/---	1/---/---
CHITKA POINT FORMATION: HORNBLende-ANDESITE BRECCIA - Tcp - 1			
3	N/A	No Date	No Date
CHITKA POINT FORMATION: TUFF BRECCIAS - Tcp - 1			
4	AVG:	2.8	5.4
	MAX:	3.0	8.9
	MIN:	0.8	1.6
	N/S/V:	3/1.2/56	3/8.6/68
BANJO POINT FORMATION: BRECCIA - Tcp			
5	AVG:	1.0	4.7
	MAX:	1.8	10.0
	MIN:	0.5	0.4
	N/S/V:	6/0.5/47	6/3.1/67
DENSE BASALT - Tb			
6	AVG:	1.0	2.7
	MAX:	1.1	4.5
	MIN:	0.5	0.8
	N/S/V:	2/---/---	2/---/---
AMCHITKA FORMATION: KIRILOF POINT GLASSY BRECCIA - TAKb - 1			
7	AVG:	2.8	9.0
	MAX:	3.0	10.6
	MIN:	2.6	7.3
	N/S/V:	2/---/---	2/---/---
AMCHITKA FORMATION: KIRILOF POINT PILLOW LAVAS - TAKb - 11			
8	AVG:	0.9	1.7
	MAX:	1.4	2.1
	MIN:	0.4	1.3
	N/S/V:	2/---/---	2/---/---
AMCHITKA FORMATION: DENSE OLDER BRECCIA - TAB			
9	AVG:	1.7	5.4
	MAX:	2.5	8.2
	MIN:	0.7	2.6
	N/S/V:	4/1.0/58	4/2.5/46
EAST CAPE QUARTZ DIORITE - Tcp			
10	AVG:	1.5	11.6
	MAX:	3.0	17.1
	MIN:	0.4	4.6
	N/S/V:	5/1.1/71	5/5.7/51

NOTES: Under LEGEND, N = Number of specimens; S = Standard deviation; V = Coefficient of variation in percent, respectively.



B1: 20.2 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. 27.5°C. B2: 32.6 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. 27.5°C. B3: 45.6 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. 28°C.  
 B4: 58.3 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. 28°C. B5: 73.5 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. 18°C. B6: 83.4 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. 28°C.  
 B7: 92.3 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. 28°C. B8: 138.9 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. 11°C. B9: 161.7 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. 27.5°C.  
 B10: 216.0 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. 16°C.

FIGURE 2-32 Creep curves for basalt  
 Source: Iida et al, 1960

## 2.15 SCALING OF LABORATORY RESULTS

As was indicated in the introduction to this report, basalt can vary considerably in the flows, both horizontally and vertically. One significant structural characteristic of many basalts is their jointing pattern. As previously discussed, these jointing patterns can take many forms. One common form is columnar jointing. It is expected that rock mass properties of the basalt will be considerably different from the intact properties due to the complex interaction of the intact rock, joint system, joint filling, and water effects.

In their report, the Office of Nuclear Waste Isolation, (1978) have presented a discussion of how one might go from intact values to rock mass values. Their discussion is extremely worthwhile to include, as it presents the state of the art regarding this important characterization:

"The rock-mass properties of a basalt will be considerably different from the intact properties, due to the complex interaction of the rock substance, joint system, joint filling and water effects.

For two important design parameters, namely, Young's Modulus and Unconfined Compressive Strength, the rock-mass values are typically much smaller than the intact values. In each case the rock-mass value is usually obtained from the intact value by multiplying by an appropriate reduction factor; i.e.

$$\text{Reduction Factor, } R = \frac{\text{Rock-Mass Value (Strength)}}{\text{Intact Value (Strength)}}$$

Considerable judgment is required in selecting a suitable reduction factor. This is because the reduction factor depends very much on geological considerations, such as the joint pattern, joint spacing and joint filling. Although the rock-mass properties (and hence, reduction factors) may be determined directly from large-scale field tests, these are time-consuming, and expensive; this largely explains why no large-scale field tests have been reported in the literature.

Since geological structure plays a very important role in rock-mass behavior, a description of structures found in a typical basalt is presented in Table 2-33. These structures have been taken into account in deriving the rock-mass properties.

The rock-mass properties of a typical dense basalt representative of the lower portion of a thick flow are given in Table 2-34. The moduli and strength characteristics were determined by the use of reduction factors applied to the representative intact data.

It was necessary to use a considerable amount of judgment in arriving at a reduction factor of 0.18 for Young's modulus. A certain amount of weight was given to considerations by Panek (1970) in which the reduction factor is related to the fracture spacing and the width of the excavation. Due largely to the relatively close jointing in basalt, which we have assumed to have an average spacing of about two feet, a reduction factor of 0.18 was chosen. This then gave a Young's modulus of 12.4 GPa for the rock mass.

Although jointing also has a considerable effect on rock-mass strength it is not considered to be as significant as with Young's modulus. Hence, a reduction factor of 0.45 was used which gives a uniaxial confined compressive strength of 124 MPa for the rock mass.

The strength of the rock mass is considerably reduced at elevated temperatures. This reduction in strength has been taken into account in the calculations of tunnel and pillar stability; it is discussed further in the report on thermal stress analysis.

TABLE 2-3.3 Partial description of typical structures in basalt

	<u>SET A</u>	<u>SET B</u>	<u>SET C</u>	<u>SET D</u>
Type of Joint	Joint	Joint	Joint	Joint
Filling	Hematite	Nontronite	Calcite	Clean
Orientation	350/85	100/90	230/80	160/10
Opening Width	Tight	Tight	Tight	Tight
Spacing	> 2 m	0.3-2 m	0.1-2 m	0.1-1 m
Waviness	Planar/Rough	Planar/Rough	Planar/Rough	Planar/Rough
Extents of Joints (Lengths)	~ 6 m	~4.5 m	~ 9 m	~3 m

Typical RQD: > 95%

Typical Fracture Frequency: Horizontal: 6 to 0.5 per meter  
Vertical: 3 to 0.3 per meter

The non-linear failure curve that is recommended for a typical basalt at room temperature is shown in Figure 2-33. It may be described by the following three parameters:

Unconfined compressive strength  $\sigma_c = 124 \text{ MPa}$

Curve fitting parameter,  $A = 4.5$

Curve fitting parameter,  $k = 0.75$

A value of  $2,880 \text{ kg/m}^3$  was assumed to be the unit weight of the basalt rock mass. Thermal properties at depth were assumed to be similar to the intact properties.

Although isotropic behavior has been assumed in this general study, anisotropic behavior should be investigated at the design stage for a specific repository; for instance, detailed geological mapping and in situ testing will be required at the actual site of the underground repository". (Office of Nuclear Waste Isolation, 1978)

In their approach, rock-mass value is related to the intact value through a reduction factor "R". As is noted, "it was necessary to use a considerable amount of judgment in arriving at a reduction factor of 0.18 for Young's modulus". The same type of judgment entered into considering a reduction factor of 0.45 for the uniaxial compressive strength. There is no justification other than intuitive feeling for the choice of such reduction factors. Assume for the moment that a strength reduction function such as

$$\frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_c} = A \left( \frac{\sigma_3}{\sigma_c} \right)^k + 1$$

does exist for basalt ( $A = 4.5$ ,  $k = 0.75$ ,  $\sigma_c = 124 \text{ MPa}$ ).

If one wanted to calculate the rock-mass strength ( $\sigma_1$ ) under a confining stress ( $\sigma_3 = 10 \text{ MPa}$ ), then

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_c \left\{ A \left( \frac{\sigma_3}{\sigma_c} \right)^k + 1 \right\} = 1.68 \sigma_c = 208 \text{ MPa}$$

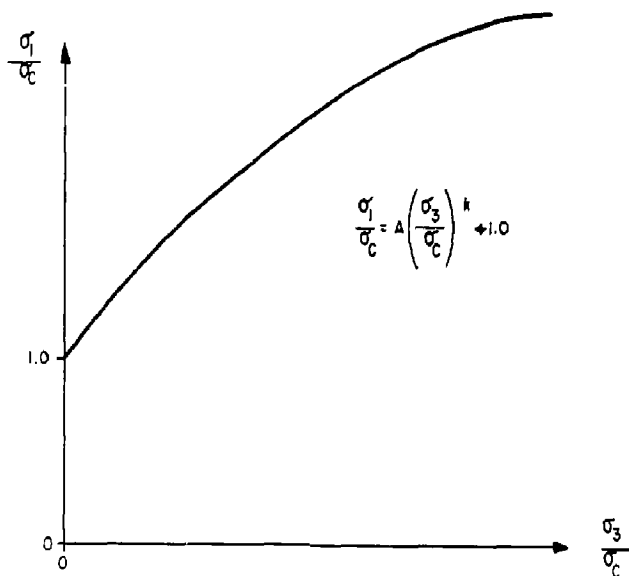


FIGURE 2-33 Non-linear curve of strength for rock mass  
Source: Hardy and Hocking, 1977.

The values of A and k are presumably determined from a suite of tests performed on small samples. Only the value of  $\sigma_c$  requires scaling from small to large samples and this is done through the reduction factor R. A great amount of laboratory and field testing is required before any such simplified way of inferring from small to large scale properties for hard rock can be done.

In Table 2-34, in which intact properties are compared to rock-mass properties for a typical dense basalt, no justification has been given for the reduction factors other than for modulus and compressive strength. Thermal expansion, for example, is indicated to be the same for the intact and the rock mass. It is believed that this is probably far from true. The presence of joints in a rock mass influences its elastic properties, strength, thermal conductivity (Figure 2-34) and thermal expansion coefficient. The stress across the joint influences all these properties and as the stress history of the joints will change during the mining of the repository, the response of the joints during and after this stress change is of primary concern.

The behavior can be very non-linear as shown as idealized curves in Figures 2-34 - 2-36.



TABLE 2-34 Intact properties for a typical dense basalt

TYPE OF PROPERTY	PARAMETER	INTACT VALUE	ROCK MASS VALUE	MKS UNITS
Index	. Density	3.01	2.88	gm/cm <sup>3</sup>
	. Natural Moisture Content		--	%
	. Porosity	2.0	0.6	%
Stress-strain	. Young's Modulus	69	12.4	GPa
	. Poisson's Ratio	0.26	0.25	--
Strength	. Strength Parameters			
	A		4.5	
	k		0.75	
	. Uniaxial Compressive Strength	276	124	MPa
	. Tensile Strength	16	0	MPa
Thermal	. Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion	1.7x10 <sup>-6</sup>	1.7x10 <sup>-6</sup>	°C <sup>-1</sup>
	. Heat Capacity			
	<u>TEMPERATURE</u>	<u>HEAT CAPACITY</u>	<u>HEAT CAPACITY</u>	
	0°C	0.71 J/g-°C	0.71 J/g-°C	
	100°C	0.80	0.80	
	200°C	0.92	0.92	
	300°C	0.96	0.96	
	. Thermal Conductivity			
	<u>TEMPERATURE</u>	<u>HEAT CAPACITY</u>	<u>THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY</u>	
	0°C	1.12 w/m°k	1.12 w/m°k	
	50°C	1.19	1.19	
	100°C	1.26	1.26	
	150°C	1.32	1.32	
	200°C	1.38	1.38	
	300°C	1.47	1.47	
	400°C	1.56	1.56	

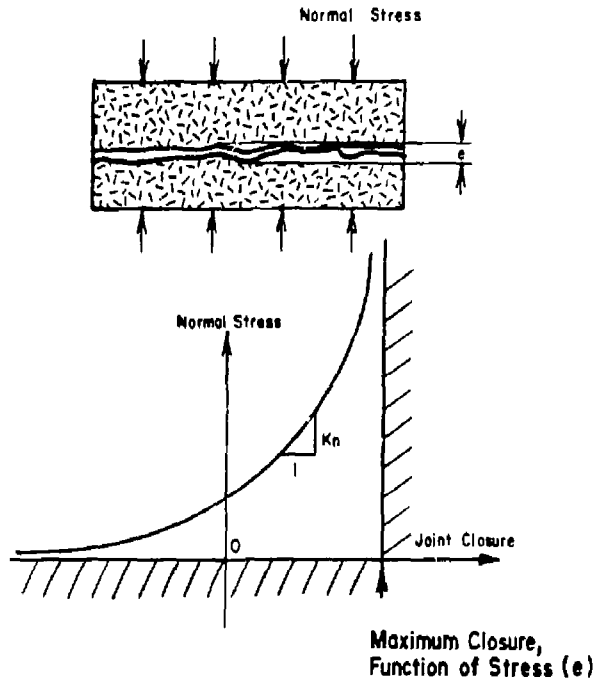
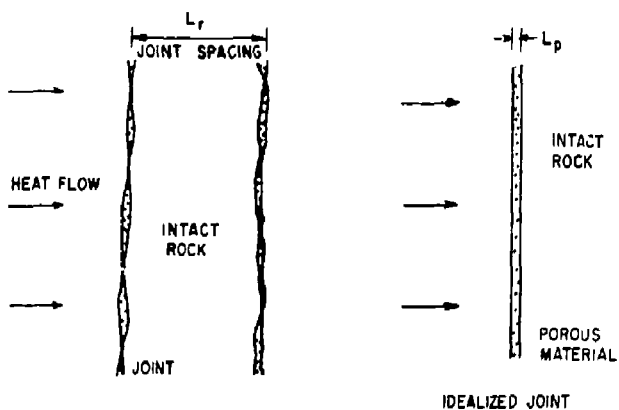


FIGURE 2-34 Influence of normal stress on normal stiffness ( $K_N$ ) of a joint Source: Agapito et al, 1977.



SCHEMATIC IDEALIZATION OF A JOINT FOR ESTIMATION OF THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY

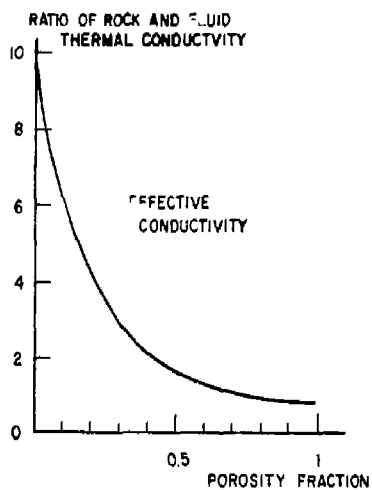
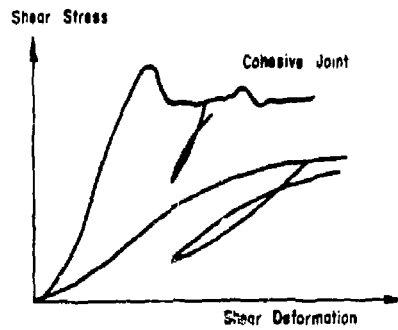
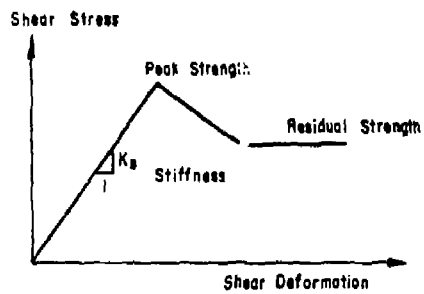


FIGURE 2-35 Thermal conductivity of porous material  
Source: Agapito et al, 1977.



ACTUAL EXPERIMENTAL RESPONSE  
OF TWO JOINTS



IDEALIZED REPRESENTATION OF  
JOINT RESPONSE

FIGURE 2-36 Typical shear stress, shear deformation response  
of joints Source: Agapito et al, 1977.

No quantitative information was found on joint stiffness, either shear stiffness (Figure 2-35) or normal stiffness (Figure 2-36). Coulson (1970) has performed shear strength testing on artificial surfaces which were cut and sand-blasted and lapped with various grades of material. The data shown in Figures 2-37 and 2-38 constitute the data base for basalt at the present time regarding behavior of the joints.

The mechanical, thermal, and thermal-mechanical properties of basalt must be determined both in situ and in the laboratory under carefully controlled conditions so that the input data required for scoping studies and for detailed quantitative evaluations can be made. At the present time, it is felt that the input data required for any significant modeling does not exist. The modelers, however, should be working in close cooperation with the experimentalists in helping to construct the experiments required to provide the input data (See CHAPTER I - GRANITES for a more comprehensive discussion of the modelers role.)

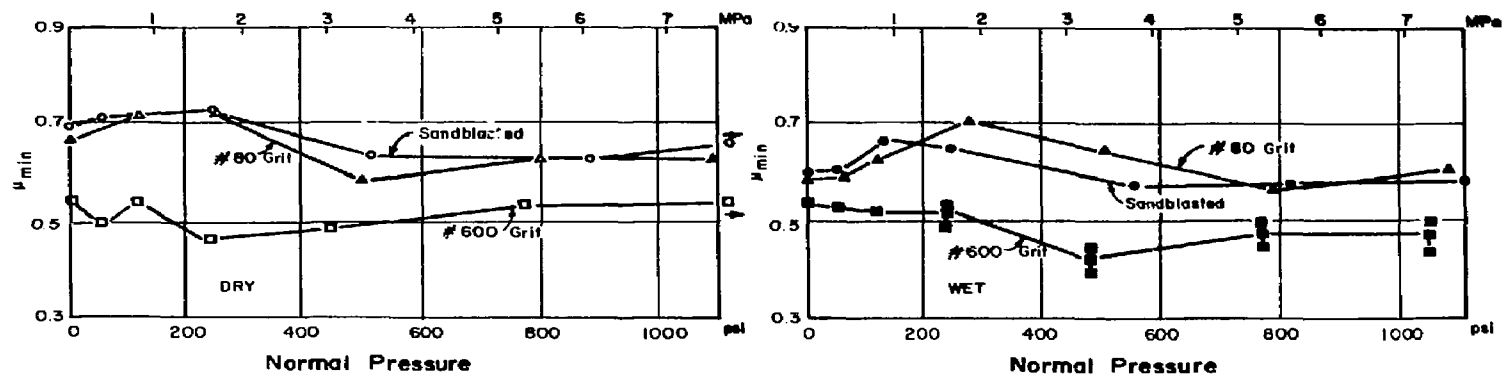


FIGURE 2-37

Minimum coefficients of friction versus normal pressure for lower granite basalt  
Source: Coulson, 1970

No quantitative information was found on joint stiffness, either shear stiffness (Figure 2-35) or normal stiffness (Figure 2-36). Coulson (1970) has performed shear strength testing on artificial surfaces which were cut and sand-blasted and lapped with various grades of material. The data shown in Figures 2-37 and 2-38 constitute the data base for basalt at the present time regarding behavior of the joints.

The mechanical, thermal, and thermal-mechanical properties of basalt must be determined both in situ and in the laboratory under carefully controlled conditions so that the input data required for scoping studies and for detailed quantitative evaluations can be made. At the present time, it is felt that the input data required for any significant modeling does not exist. The modelers, however, should be working in close cooperation with the experimentalists in helping to construct the experiments required to provide the input data (See CHAPTER I - GRANITES for a more comprehensive discussion of the modelers role.)

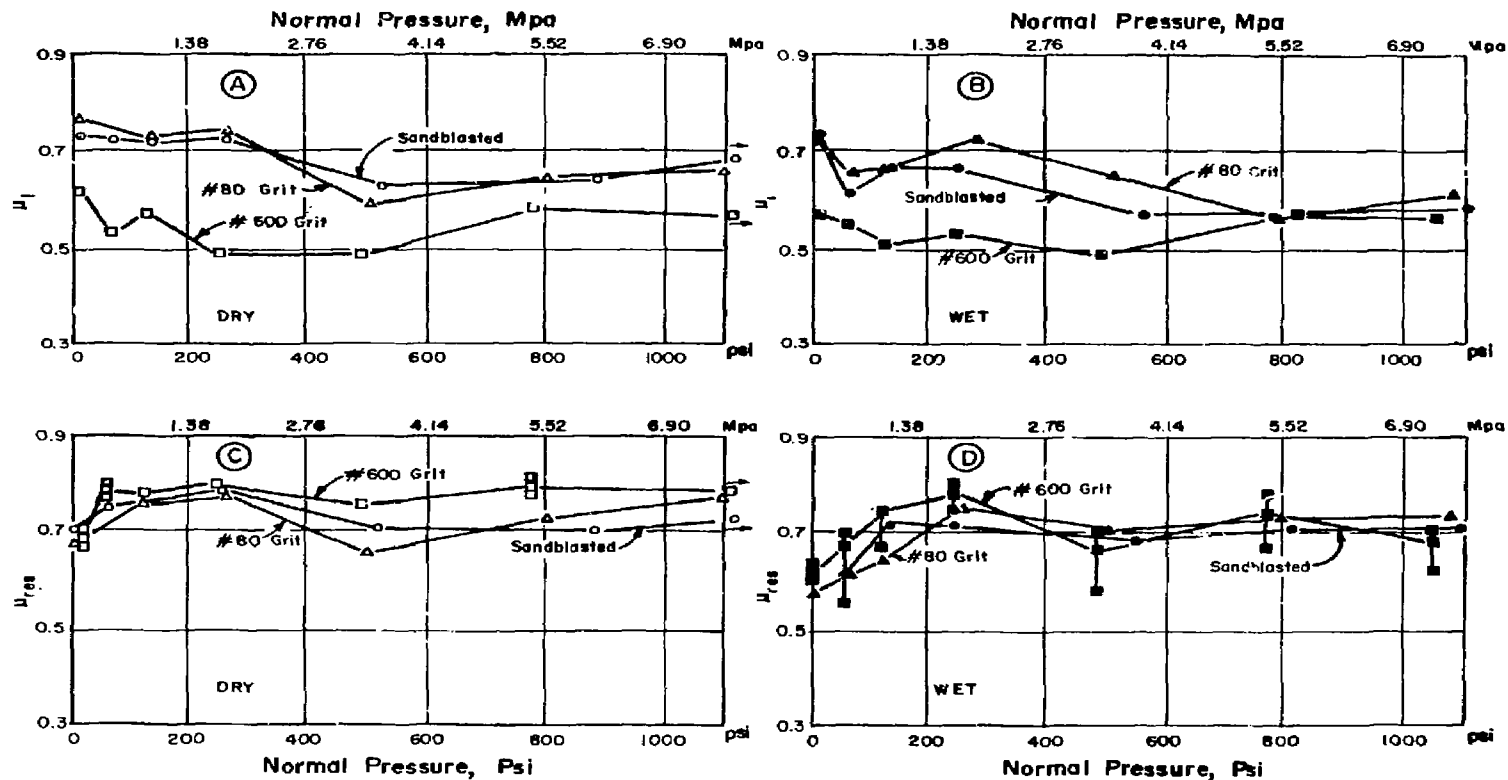


FIGURE 2-38

Initial residual coefficients of friction versus normal pressure for lower granite basalt  
Source: Coulson, 1970.



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## HYDROLOGY OF BASALT

## 2.17 INTRODUCTION TO HYDROLOGY OF BASALT

Ground water migration through a basalt sequence occurs as it flows through both porous intergranular and non-porous fractured media. The mechanics of flow through both of these media was presented in sections 1.18 through 1.22.

Drawing upon this background, this section presents a summary of the physical characteristics of basalt flows and discusses porosity, permeability and ground water flow regimes through basalt sequences. Special hydrologic features of basalts found on the Columbia Plateau, Snake River Plain and Modoc Plateau are then discussed.

## 2.18 PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF BASALT FLOWS

### Lava Forms

The subareal lava flows issuing from fissure eruptions in the American northwest are predominantly of two types, pahoehoe and aa. These two forms of lava are distinguished by various flow features controlled by the viscosity and degree of agitation in the extruded lava mass. Most flows issue as pahoehoe, and as viscosity declines downslope change into aa.

Pahoehoe flows are characterized by a rolling, billowy or "ropy" surface. This feature results from the deformation and folding of the thin, cooled lava surface by deeper flowing lavas. Vesicles, resulting from the release of gas by the lava, are abundant in pahoehoe flows. Spherical or nearly spherical vesicles may fully permeate thin flows, while in thicker flows vesicles concentrate near the top of the flow. In some cases, vesicles may also be found in a chilled layer near the base of the flow.

In contrast to the relatively smooth, undulating surface of a pahoehoe flow, aa flows are rough, spiny, fragmented, and blocky. The surface is scoriaceous, the top and margins of the flow being covered with clinker. Occasionally, a layer of clinker may also be found on the lower surface of the flow; however, in the Columbia River and Cascade region, flows generally lack this feature. Aa flows are generally much less vesicular than pahoehoe flows. Vesicularity

may reach 50% in some flows, however, normally is less than 30% (MacDonald, 1967). Those vesicles present are generally less than 2 cm. in diameter and nonspherical.

A third type of subareal flow, block lavas, are rarely found in the northwest. Block flows are generally characteristic of siliceous lavas rather than lavas of basaltic composition such as those of the Columbia Plateau region.

Since lavas were extruded in some areas of the northwest into shallow seas or fresh water lakes, subaqueous flows are also of some interest. The predominant subaqueous form is pillow lavas. These flows consist of stacked elipsoidal bodies of lava generally ranging 10 cm. to 7 m. in diameter. "Pillows" may be compactly molded together or separated partly or wholly by detrital materials. Most have glassy skins and are radially fractured.

#### Joints And Cooling Features

As a basalt flow cools, shrinkage of the lava causes the development of vertical tension fractures or joints. In a massive flow these joints form in regular patterns. Thin flows are normally characterized by rectangular or irregular polygonal joint configurations in the horizontal plane. Thicker flows exhibit more uniform hexagonal systems of joints in the x-y plane, resulting in the formation of vertically standing columnar structures. Holmes (1965) explains the formation of "columnar" joints:



"When a hot homogeneous rock cools uniformly against a plane surface, the contraction is equally developed in all directions throughout the surface. This is mechanically the same as if the contraction acted towards each of a series of equally spaced centres. Such centres (C. 1, 2, 3, etc. in Figure 2-39a) form the corners of equilateral triangles, and theoretically, this is the only possible arrangement. At the moment of rupture the distance between any given centre C and those nearest to it is such that the contraction along lines such as C-1 is just sufficient to overcome the tensile strength of the rock. A tension crack then forms halfway between C and 1 and at right angles to the line C-1. As each centre is surrounded by six others (1-6 in Figure 2-39a), the resultant system of cracks is hexagonal. Once a crack occurs somewhere in the cooling layer the centres are definitely localized, and a repeated pattern of hexagonal cracks spreads almost simultaneously throughout the layer (Figure 2-39b). As cooling proceeds into the sheet of rock the cracks grow inward at right angles to the cooling surface and so divide the body into a system of hexagonal columns."

The description of jointing presented by Holms, although generally accepted in principle, is somewhat oversimplified.

A diagrammatic cross section of the Pomona flow of the Columbia River Basalt, Figure 2-40, shows jointing to be somewhat more complex. Ryan (1974) suggests the Pomona flow consists of 7 relatively distinct vertically distributed zones. The uppermost zone, Zone I, which he identifies as the flow top, consists of a 20 to 30 cm. layer of weathered scoriaceous lava and rubble underlain by a 2-3 m. thick zone of high vesicularity. Vesicles in this zone range from 5 to 25 mm. in diameter.

Zone II is termed the upper colonnade. This region contains vertically standing hexagonal columns of 2-3 m. in diameter with face widths of 1-2 m. and heights of 4-8 m. These columns, the largest in the flow unit, often bear faces

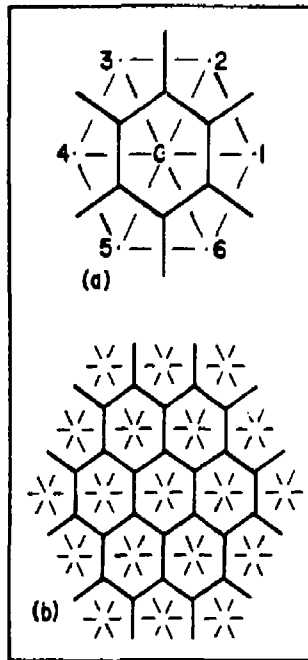


Figure 2-39 Formation of "ideal" hexagonal fracture pattern due to uniform contraction toward evenly-spaced centers.  
Source: Ryan (1974)

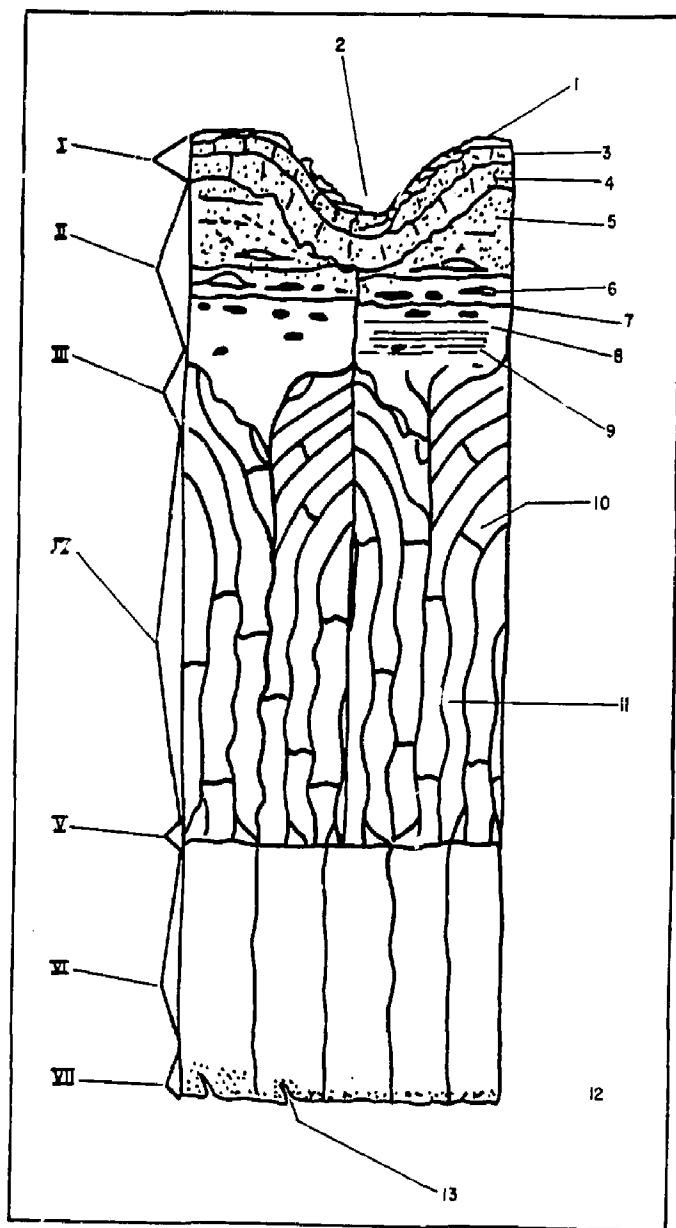


Figure 2-40 Simplified cross section of the Pomona flow unit:  
 (1) Flow top; (II) Upper colonnade; (III) Upper transition zone; (IV) Entablature; (V) Lower transition zone; (VI) Lower colonnade; (VII) Flow base. Smaller structures are: (1) Pahoehoe or Ropy lava; (2) Localized sags in the flow top (not to scale); (3) Blocky Scoria; (4) Small sub-vertical jointing confined to flow top; (5) Transition from spherical vesicles to elongate ones; (6) Large elliptical vesicles; (7) Cross fractures; (8) Upper colonnade column; (9) Horizontal ridges; (10) Cross fractures; (11) Undulating fracture surfaces; (12) Vesicular zone; (13) Spiracles. 2-132  
 Source: Ryan, 1974

which are non-planar and appear warped or twisted. Some cross fracturing is evident in this zone and is often found to coincide with elliptical vesicles having horizontal major axis.

Underlying the upper colonnade is an upper transition zone, Zone III, wherein the size of both column faces and diameters are rapidly reduced. Within this 3-5 m. thick zone, the large columns of the upper colonnade are subdivided into smaller and smaller polygons. The large columns of the upper colonnade are transformed into bundles of smaller columns which blend to form the next lower zone known as the entablature.

The entablature, Zone IV, is characterized by slender, subparallel columns 15 to 20 m. in height. The joints bounding the columns of Zone II often extend into the entablature grouping columns in this unit into "megacolumns". Individual columns within the megacolumn are often cross fractured, although fractures among columns are not generally coincident.

Below the entablature is a lower transition zone, Zone V, about 1 m. in thickness. This zone marks the abrupt boundary between the entablature and the lower colonnade. The lower colonnade, Zone VI, consists of columns 6 to 7 m. in length and 1 to 1.5 m. in diameter. Symmetry among hexagonal columns is generally most evident in the lower colonnade.

The lowermost zone in the Pamona flow, Zone VII, is identified by Ryan as the flow base. This region consists of small vesicles and spiracles which result from gases formed along the lower contact migrating upward into the lava. The flow base, where present, is 20 to 30 cm. thick.

Not all lava flows exhibit all classical features associated with columnar jointing as described by Ryan in the Pamona flow. However, most are quite similar in general configuration.

#### Flow Geometrics

Individual flows are topographically controlled. In regions of low relief, viscous lavas generally fill valleys or flow onto plains and solidify, leaving a basalt mass with a roughly convex cross section perpendicular to the direction of flow. Lavas of lower viscosity or those flowing in areas with greater topographic relief often result in basaltic masses with a concave cross section. This feature, results as cooling, is initiated along the margins of a flow while the core remains mobile. In many of the larger flows of the Columbia Plateau, the convex or concave shape is apparent only in terminating tongues of the flow. Because of the large quantity of lava extruded and great areas covered, the central portions of the flow may appear nearly horizontal.

### Interbeds

In the deeper parts of the Columbia Plateau there are in excess of fifty individually identifiable Miocene lava flows, many in excess of 10 m. in thickness. Between flow event the surfaces of the exposed flows were exposed to weathering and erosion. Fluvial silts, sands and gravels, as well as lacustrine silts and clays were deposited in some regions forming interbeds between the flows. Strata consisting of tuff and volcanic ash can also be found interdispersed with the flows.

### Tectonic Features

As volcanism proceeded, tectonic activity caused faulting and folding of previously deposited sequences. Faults and structural axis often are found to control ground water flow through the basaltic aquifer. Also of some importance are regional joint systems. These regional joint and fracture systems may be mapped throughout most of the area of deposition of the northwest basalts; however, their relation to lava emplacement and later tectonic activity is not well understood.

## 2.19 POROSITY, PERMEABILITY AND GROUND WATER FLOW REGIMES

Variations in permeability and porosity among flows and even within flows is so great that the assignment of average values of  $k$  and  $\theta$  for a generic basalt would be both arbitrary and misleading. However, some generalizations concerning ground water flow through a basalt may be developed without assigning definitive or "representative" values for hydrologic parameters.

Permeability of basaltic sequences is highly anisotropic. Horizontal components of permeability generally greatly exceed vertical components. In any given flow, permeabilities are generally much greater near the upper and lower margins of the flow than in its center. While jointing in the entablature and lower colonnade does contribute to ground water flow, permeabilities of Zones I, II, and VII of the flow unit are generally much higher. Principal flow regimes within a basalt sequence may be categorized:

1. Interflow regions - interfaces between flows, or the interfaces between flows and interbeds, provide one of the most permeable regimes for flow within the basaltic sequence. Rubble zones, scoria, weathered surfaces, fracture-connected vesicles and interflow voids in Zones I and II on the upper surface of a flow and in Zone VII of an overlying flow often provide a highly pervious medium in which ground water migration may occur.

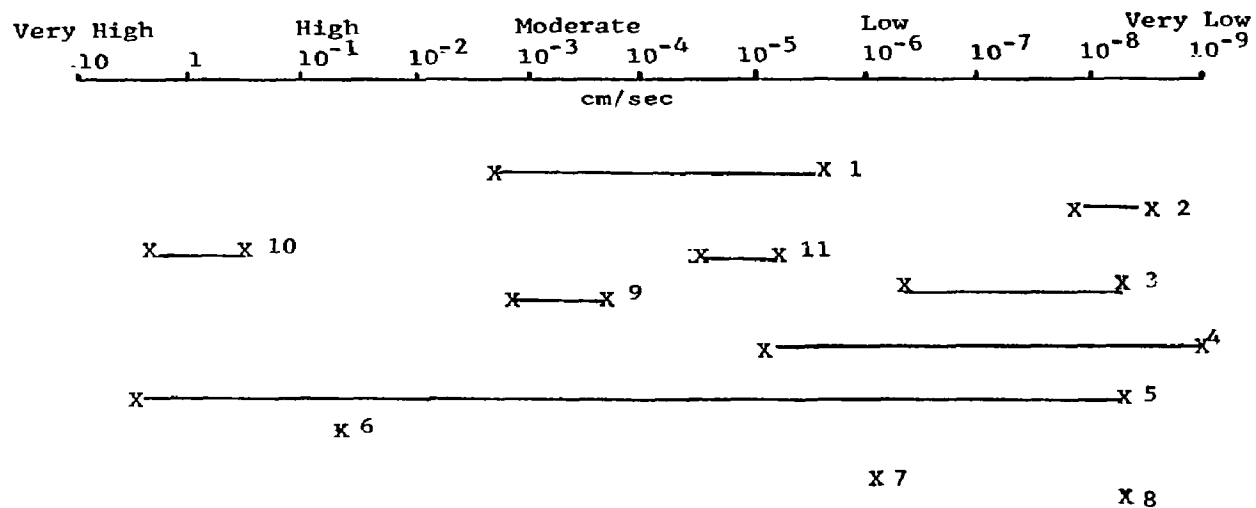
2. Interbeds - Interbeds, or sediments deposited between volcanic events, are highly varied in character. Fluvial sands and gravels as well as some sandy lacustrine deposits compose highly permeable zones between lava flows. However, interbeds composed of lacustrine silts and clays bear a much lower permeability and often act as aquitards or aquicludes in the sequence.
3. Joints - Joints observed in flows on the Columbia Plateau range from less than a centimeter to several meters in width. These joints are the principal means of vertical movement of ground water through a basalt sequence and are also often an important means of horizontal flow.
4. Other features - Lava tubes, breccia pipes and fault zones all form localized features which can dominate ground water flow. However, the frequency of occurrence of these features is sufficiently low in the northwest basalts as to minimize their importance when discussing regional flow. A waste repository will probably not be sited in the vicinity of highly permeable ground water conduits such as these.

Ranges of values of hydraulic conductivity measured in various basalts of the northwest United States are summarized on Figure 2-41. Specific permeability data are presented in Sections 2.20 through 2.22 and are summarized in Appendix A.



FIGURE 2-41

HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY DATA FROM BASALTS IN THE NORTHWEST UNITED STATES



# SOURCES OF DATA

<u>AREA</u>	<u>TYPE &amp; SOURCE</u>
1. Columbia River Basalt	Field, La Sala & Others, 1970
2. Columbia River Basalt	La Sala & Others, 1972 (lab data)
3. Columbia River Basalt	ONWI, 1978 (v7)
4. Hypothetical Case	ONWI, 1978 (v21)
5. Snake River Plain	Idealized, Skibitzke and Costa, 1962
6. Dalles, Oregon	Foxworthy and Bryant, 1967
7. Columbia River Basalt	Fractured, Hanford, Co., 1976
8. Columbia River Basalt	Dense, Hanford, Co., 1976
9. Columbia River Basalt	Eddy, 1969
10. Columbia River Basalt	Summers & Deju, 1976 (highest values)
11. Columbia River Basalt	Summers & Deju, 1976 (lowest values)

Figure 2-41 (Con't) Sources

## 2.20 HYDROLOGIC FEATURES OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER BASALT

### Origin

The Columbia River basalt, as located and discussed in Section 2.7, encompasses an area in excess of 150,000 sq. kilometers in south-east Washington, northeast Oregon and western Idaho. During a period extending from the middle to late Miocene, this region was subsiding while fissure eruptions repeatedly poured lava into the developing basin.

By the late Miocene, the basin encompassed an area bounded by Mesozoic granites of the Okanogan highlands on the north, the pre-Cambrian to Mesozoic sequences of the Rocky Mountains to the east and the folded tertiary sediments of the Cascades and Blue Mountains to the west and south (Deju et al, 1977). As volcanism declined in the late tertiary, a series of west to northwest trending anticlinal ridges formed across the subsiding basin. Broad synclines formed between these ridges creating the Umatilla, Pasco, Quincy, and several smaller structural basins.

### Stratigraphy of the Pasco Basin

The Pasco basin, located on Figure 2-42, is situated near the depocenter of the regional subsidence. The minimum thickness of the Miocene basalt sequence in the basin is estimated to be 1500 m. (Meyers, 1973)(Meyers and Brown, 1973)(Brown and Ledgewood, 1973).

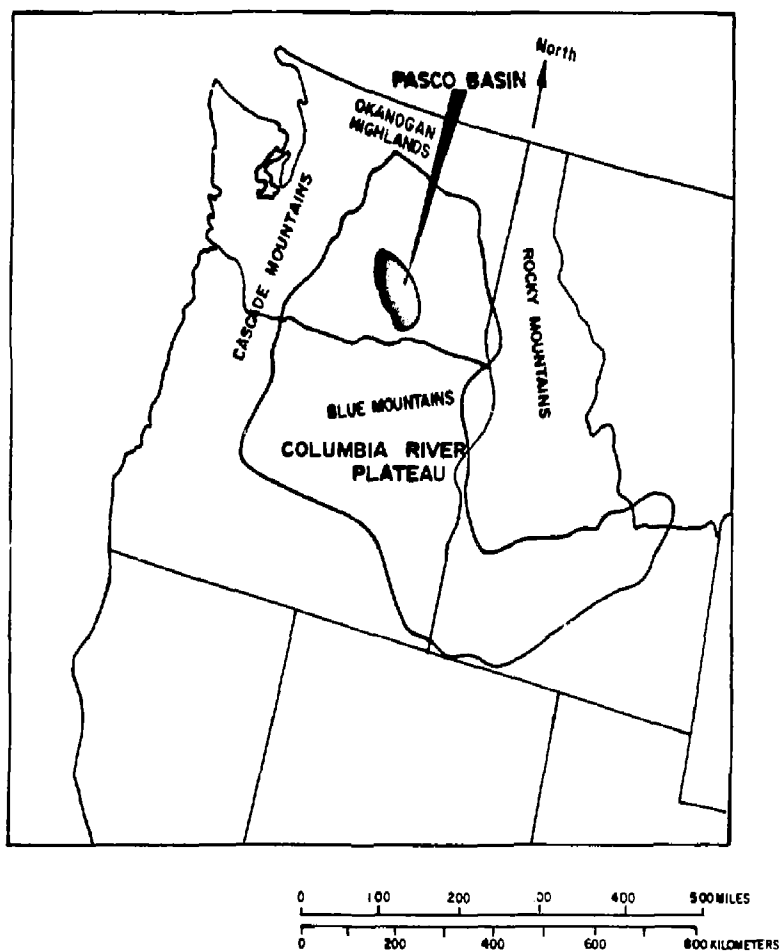


Figure 2-42 The Columbia River Plateau. Source: NWSP (1976)

The maximum thickness of this sequence is not precisely known; however, where these flows have been penetrated, they are found to overlie older basalts of Oligocene and Eocene age.

There are 5 principal accumulations of flows in the Columbia River Group of the Pasco Basin. The lower two units are the Picture Gorge Basalt and Imnaha Basalt. The upper 3 formations, identified on the stratigraphic column, Figure 2-43, are the Grande Ronde (Lower Yakima), Wanapum (Middle Yakima) and Saddle Mountains (Upper Yakima). Each of these formations contains numerous individual flows, many interbedded with sandstones, siltstones, tuff or diatomite. The geographic relationships of these flows are identified on Figures 2-44 through 2-46. Detailed physical and chemical descriptions of individual flows may be found in a report prepared for the National Waste Terminal Storage Program (1976).

Overlying the upper basalts in the basin is the Ringold formation, a series of early Pleistocene fluvial silts, sands and gravels with interbedded clays in the lower portions of the formation. The youngest rocks in the basin are late Pleistocene glaciofluvial sediments, ash beds and eolian deposits which overlie the Ringold Formation.

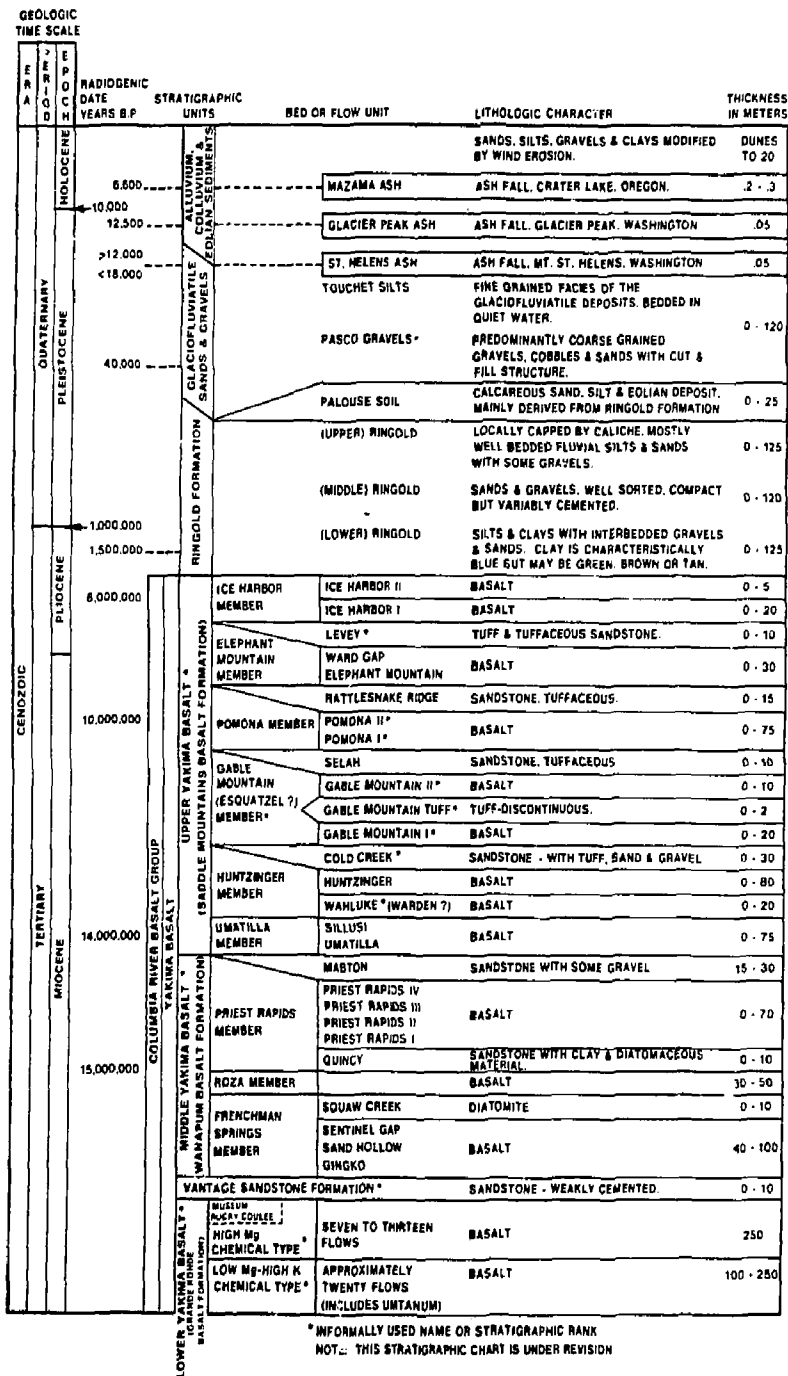


Figure 2-43 Stratigraphy of the Pasco Basin. Source: NWTSP (1976)

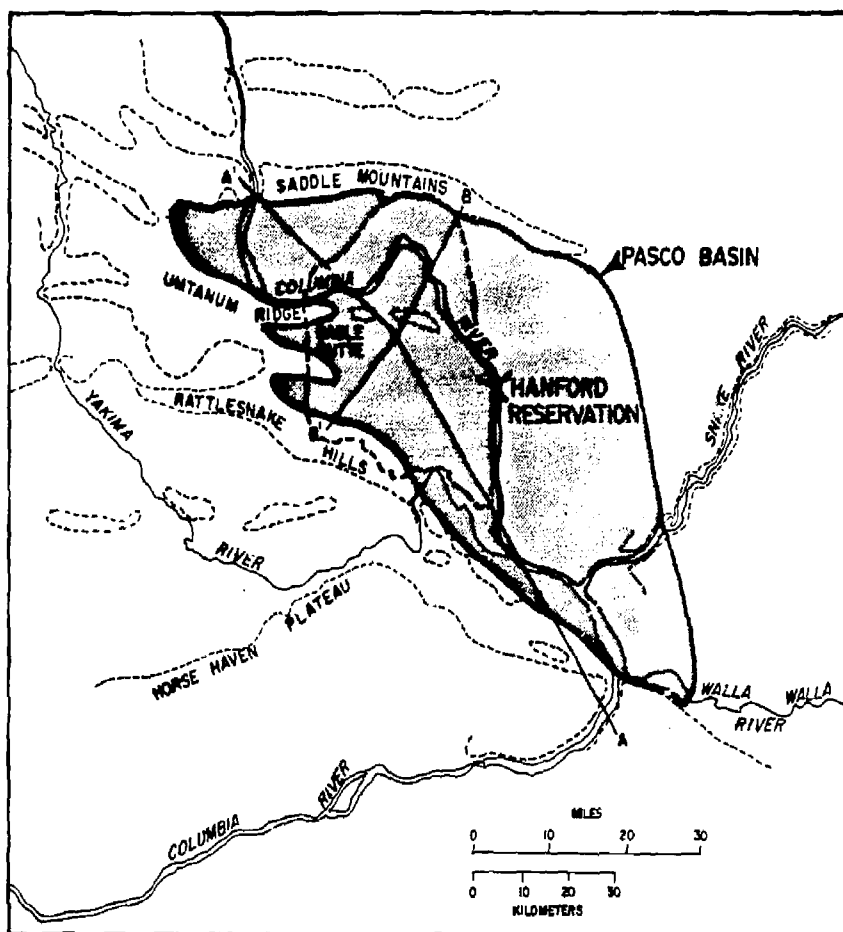
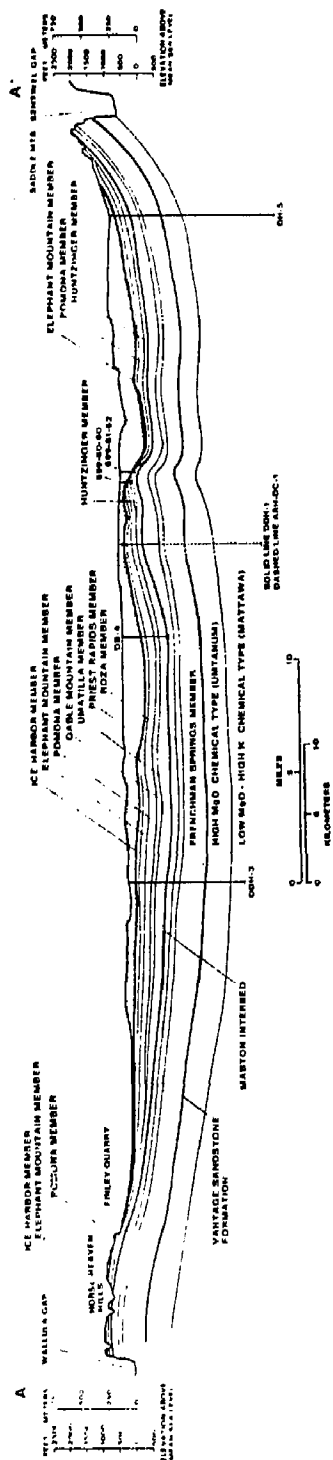


Figure 2-44 Geography of Pasco Basin. Source: NWTSP (1976)





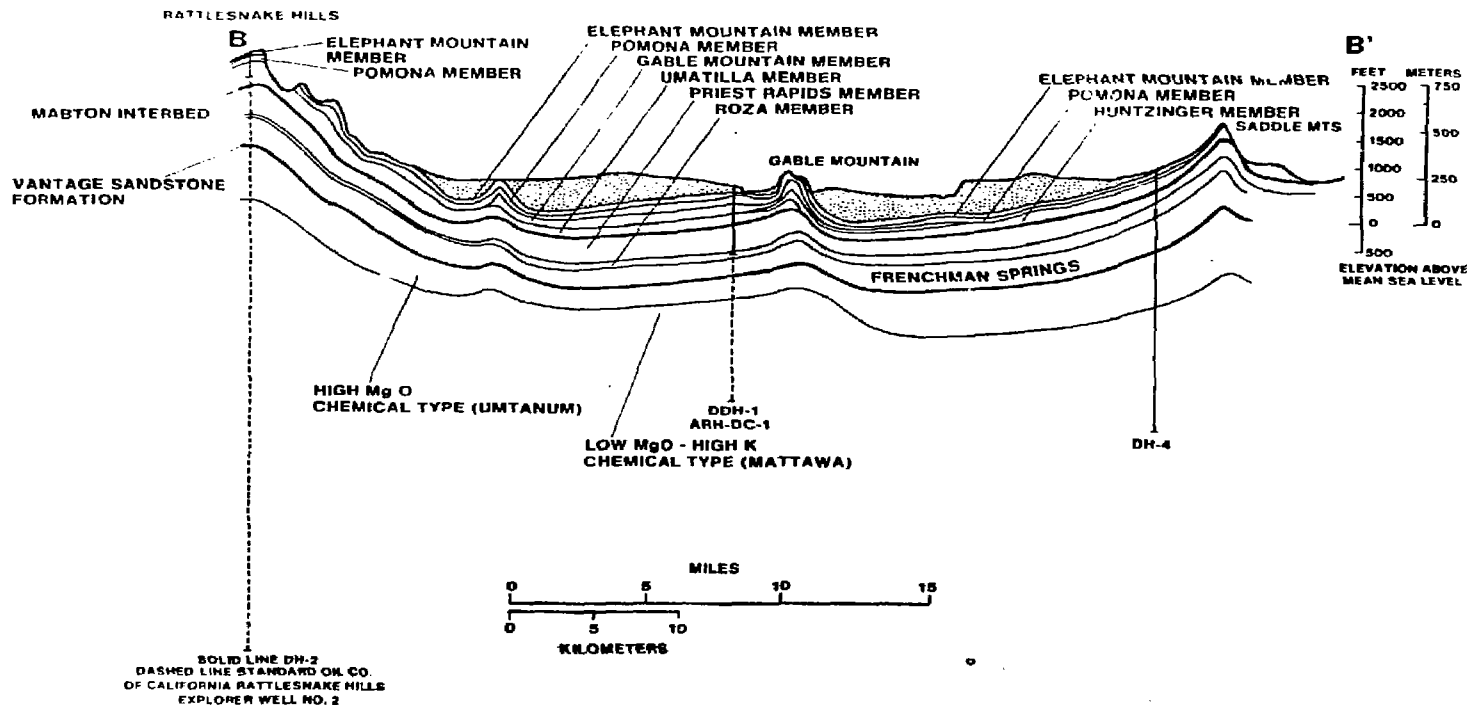


Figure 2-46 Generalized cross section B-B' normal to axis of Pasco Basin. Source: MRSF (1976)

### Hydrology of the Pasco Basin Sequence

The Pasco basin has often been suggested as a potential site for a deep repository because it appears to possess the smallest quantity of usable ground water per unit surface area of any of the structural basins (Deju et al, 1977). The basin has numerous thin beds of clay-rich sediment and saprolite which were deposited between the outpourage of Columbia River Basalt. This material has since plugged pore and fracture spaces, reducing the rate of ground water movement and hydraulically separating individual interflow zones. Pumping data from the Columbia River Basalt within the Pasco Basin show that no large amounts of water have been obtained. The basalts themselves offer zones as thick as 200 m. that are fully dry (Deju, 1977).

Since the siting of the Hanford facility in the Pasco basin, more hydrologic data on deep rock units have been developed on this area than on most of the remainder of the plateau. Testing of the deep basalts at Hanford was begun in 1969 with the construction of well ARH-DC-1. Since then, several more wells have been constructed and additional wells proposed (Apps et al, 1978, 1979). The results of the tests conducted on DC-series wells at Hanford comprise a large portion of the geologic and hydrologic data available on the basin and the deep basalts of the Plateau in general.

At Hanford an unconfined aquifer overlies the basalts. This aquifer consists of the basal portions of the glaciofluvial sediments and extends downward to the clay layers at the base of the Ringold formation. These layers act as an effective aquitard, confining waters in lower formations. A large body of data is available on the shallow sedimentary aquifer. Summaries of these data are found in the reports of the National Waste Terminal Storage Program (1976) and the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (1978).

Of principal significance to the deep burial of nuclear waste are the confined aquifers at Hanford. These are composed of the lowermost portion of the Ringold formation and the underlying Columbia River Basalt Group. The general hydrologic characteristics of the stratigraphic sequence at Hanford are summarized in Figure 2-47.

#### General Characteristics of Ground Water Flow

Within the sequence of Miocene basalt flows the zones of highest permeability, as determined from packer test of the Hanford test wells, are the interflow zones separating basalt flows. These interflow zones consist of rubble and porous sediments deposited between flow events. The central volume of most basalt flows is quite dense, having very low permeabilities. Fractures, originating from the cooling of the initial molten rock or subsequent structural deformation, control the hydraulic interconnection between basalt units.

GEOLOGIC TIME SCALE			GEOLOGIC CHARACTERISTICS					HYDROGEOLOGY		
ERA	PERIOD	EPOCH	RADIOGENIC DATE YEARS B.P.	STRATIGRAPHIC	BED OR FLOW UNIT	LITHOLOGIC CHARACTER	THICKNESS IN METERS	HYDROLOGIC CHARACTER	JIFER	
CENOZOIC	QUATERNARY	HOLOCENE	6 000 10 000 12 500	ALLUVIUM COLLUVIUM & EOLIAN SEDIMENTS		SANDS, SILTS, GRAVELS & CLAYS MODIFIED BY WIND EROSION	DUMES TO 20	OCCUR EVERYWHERE ABOVE THE WATER TABLE	DRY	
					MAZAMA ASH	ASH FALL, CRATER LAKE, OREGON	7-3			
					GLACIER PEAK ASH	ASH FALL, GLACIER PEAK, WASHINGTON	05			
		PLEISTOCENE	> 12 000 < 18 000	GLACIOFLUVIAL SANDS & GRAVELS	ST. HELENS ASH	ASH FALL, MT. ST. HELENS, WASHINGTON	03	OCCUR ABOVE THE WATER TABLE EXCEPT BETWEEN THE HIGH TERRACE PLATFORMS & THE COLUMBIA RIVER HAS VERY HIGH TRANSMISSIVITY & STORAGE	OCCASIONALLY AN UNCONFINED AQUIFER ON DRY	
					TOUCHET SILTS	FINE GRAINED FACIES OF THE GLACIOFLUVIAL DEPOSITS WEDGED IN QUART WATER				
					PAISED GRAVELS	PREDOMINANTLY COARSE GRAINED GRAVELS COBBLES & SANDS WITH CUT & FILL STRUCTURE	0-120			
		TERTIARY	PLOCENE	40 000 1 000 000 1 500 000	RINGOLD FORMATION	PALOUSE SOIL	CALCAREOUS SAND & SILT EOLIAN DEPOSIT, MAINLY DERIVED FROM RINGOLD FM.	0-25	OCCUR EVERYWHERE ABOVE THE WATER TABLE	DRY
						UPPER RINGOLD	LOCALLY CAPPED BY CALICHE, MOSTLY WELL-BEDDED FLUVIAL SILTS & SANDS WITH SOME GRAVELS	0-125		
						MIDDLE RINGOLD	SANDS & GRAVELS, WELL SORTED, COMPACT BUT VARIABLY CEMENTED	0-121		
						LOWER RINGOLD	SILTS & CLAYS WITH INTERBEDDED GRAVELS & SANDS, CLAY IS CHARACTERISTICALLY BLUE BUT MAY BE GREEN, BROWN OR TAN	0-125		
	UPPER AND MIDDLE YAKIMA					BASALT FLOWS AND INTERBEDDED TUFF & TUFFACEOUS SANDSTONE	0-700			
	VANTAGE SANDSTONE					WEARLY CEMENTED SANDSTONE	0-10			
	LOWER YAKIMA					BASALT FLOWS & INTERBEDDED	0-500			
	TERTIARY	MIOCENE	11 000 000 15 000 000	COLUMBIA RIVER BASALT GROUP						

CONFIRMED SYSTEMS	AQUIFER
	AQUITARD
	AQUIFER
	AQUITARD
	AQUIFER

Figure 2-47 Hydrostratigraphic characteristics of the Pasco Basin.  
Source: NWTSP (1976)

In many instances, secondary mineralization has effectively sealed these fractures from further ground water movement. Fractures also become tighter the greater their depth of burial. The hydraulic separation of individual water-bearing strata is apparent when the water levels at the top and bottom of some basalt flows are compared (Deju et al, 1977). Figure 2-48 illustrates this confinement of individual zones of higher permeability in the Hanford well ARH-DC-1.

### Porosity

The porosity of rocks in the flood-basalt sequence is not well defined. Porosity within flows is primarily attributable to fracturing and voids in rubble zones at flow margins. If the fractured rock is vesicular, effective porosity is increased by the volume of vesicles that are parted by fractures. For basalt penetrated by bore hole ARH-DC-1, values of mean porosity were calculated by a commercial logging firm as follows: (a) dense, 1 percent; (b) vesicular, 5 percent; and (c) zone of close fractures, 10 percent (Fenix and Scisson, 1969). These estimates were developed using log interpretation principles designed for use in sediments with intergranular porosity. They are not determinations of effective porosity and should only be considered order of magnitude estimates.

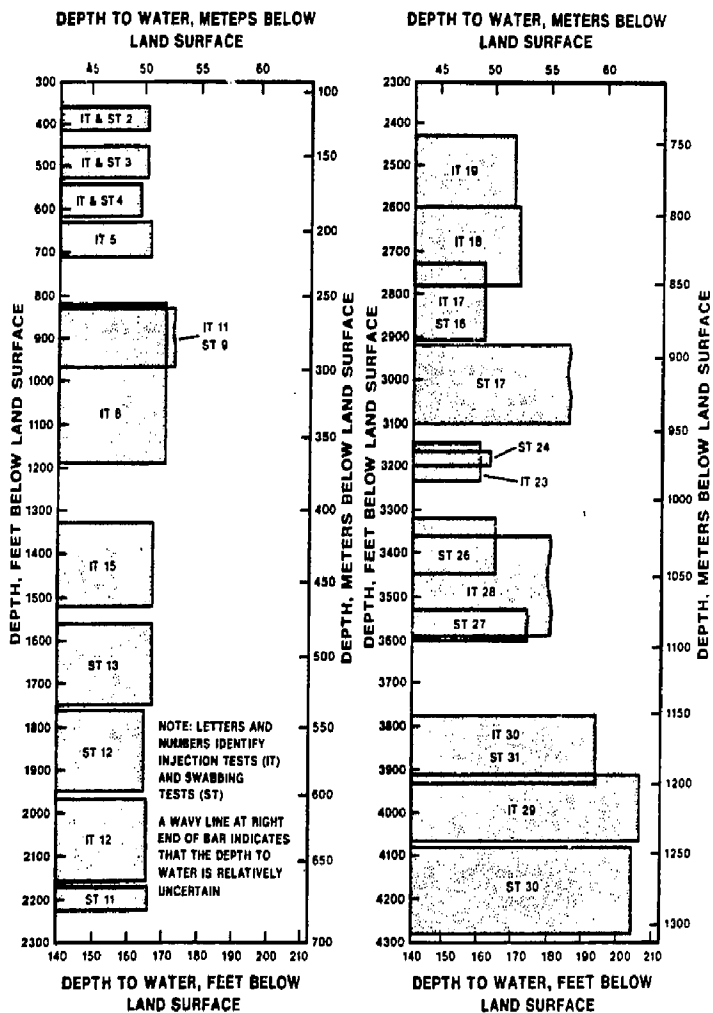


Figure 2-48 Approximate undisturbed ground water head for isolated water-bearing zones in well ARH-DC-1 (1969).  
Source: NWTSP (1976)

### Hydraulic Conductivity

Although there is currently additional well testing work being carried on (Apps et al, 1978, 1979), the greatest bulk of published data on the hydraulic conductivity of the basalt sequences in the Pasco basin is derived from tests of well ARH-DC-1. This well penetrated the basalts to a depth of 17<sup>5</sup> m., and in-hole permeability tests were conducted down to 1305 m. In addition, laboratory permeability tests were conducted on core samples from specific zones of interest.

Those zones identified in packer tests of well ARH-DC-1 as having the highest hydraulic conductivities are identified on Table 2-35. These most permeable zones in the well have hydraulic conductivities ranging from 0.4 to 2.7 m/day.

In the intervening zones, hydraulic conductivities were found to be much lower. The Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (1978), has classified the intervening materials and assigned representative hydraulic conductivities as follows:

- a) basalt, dense or with healed joints, about 67 percent of aggregate thickness, mean hydraulic conductivity about  $6 \times 10^{-4}$  m/day.
- b) basalt, vesicular, about 7 percent of aggregate thickness, mean hydraulic conductivity about  $9 \times 10^{-4}$  m/day.

- c) basalt, weathered or jointed, about 17 percent of aggregate thickness, hydraulic conductivity about  $3 \times 10^{-3}$  m/day; and
- d) tuff or sand, about 9 percent of aggregate thickness, mean hydraulic conductivity about  $6 \times 10^{-2}$  m/day.

To generalize, all the cited values of conductivity for water-yielding segments are of magnitude  $10^0$ ; those for the remainder of the confined-water zone grade between magnitudes  $10^{-1}$  and  $10^{-4}$  m/day. Evidently, all the basalt in the confined-water zone of the Hanford Reservation must be considered potentially transmissive, in some degree, for dissolved radioactive waste constituents.

In a report prepared for the National Waste Terminal Storage Program (NWTSP, 1976), ranges are presented for the hydraulic properties of both the uppermost confined aquifer, Table 2-36, and various forms of basalt for the Lower Yakima flows, Table 2-37. In the Lower Yakima basalts, in situ measurements of hydraulic conductivity were found to be as low as  $10^{-6}$  m/day for dense basalt.

Laboratory tests of core taken from well ARH-DC-1 show the hydraulic conductivities to be about 2 orders of magnitude smaller than the average values determined from injection



DEPTH (m)	K m/day	ZONE THICKNESS	DESCRIPTION OF BEDS
147	0.4 to 1.0	4.6 - 33 m	Sands/Sands & Clay
181			Sands/Sands & Clay
226			Sands/Sands & Clay
254			Sands/Sands & Clay
344			Flow Breccia
626	2.7	2m	
803	0.6	3.7m	Sands & Tuff
983	2	3m	Scoria or Breccia
1210	.5	15m	Fractured Basalt

TABLE 2-35 Principal zones of high hydraulic conductivity  
Well ARH-DC-1  
Source: CRWM (1978)

Well Number	Transmissivity		Hydraulic Conductivity		Other Properties
	ft <sup>2</sup> /day	m <sup>2</sup> /day	ft/day	m/day	
LOWER RINGOLD					
699-84-35P	4	0.4	0.11	0.03	The porosity for the uppermost confined aquifers ranges between 0.3 and 0.4 (30 to 40%). The vertical hydraulic conductivity in the interbeds ranges between $5 \times 10^{-4}$ m/day and $20 \times 10^{-4}$ m/day. The storage coefficient approaches the compressibility of water.
699-24-1P	90	8.3	5	1.5	
699-S11-E12	40	3.7	0.5	0.15	
699-20-E12P	350	32	7	2.1	
Mean	120	11	3	0.91	
Range	4-350	0.4-32	0.11-7	0.03-2.1	
RATTLESNAKE RIDGE					
199-B3-2P	3.5	0.3	0.25	0.08	The storage coefficient approaches the compressibility of water.
199-H4-2	3	0.3	0.3	0.09	
699-14-E6Q	600	55	30	9.1	
Mean	200	18	10	3.0	
Range	3-600	0.3-55	0.25-30	0.08-9.1	
MABTON					
DH-8 Range	600-2000	55-180	20-60	5.0-20.0	

Table 2-36 Hydraulic characteristics of the uppermost confined aquifers. Source: NWTSP (1976)

	Hydraulic Conductivity		Transmissivity		Effective Porosity <sup>a</sup>	Storage Coefficient
	ft/day	m/day	ft <sup>2</sup> /day	m <sup>2</sup> /day	Dimensionless	Dimensionless
Dense basalt	$1 \times 10^{-5}$ - $3 \times 10^{-3}$	$3 \times 10^{-6}$ - $9 \times 10^{-4}$	$1 \times 10^{-4}$ - $3 \times 10^{-1}$	$9 \times 10^{-6}$ - $3 \times 10^{-2}$	0.1-1	$1 \times 10^{-5}$ - $1 \times 10^{-6}$
Vesicular basalt	$1 \times 10^{-3}$ - $1 \times 10^{-2}$	$3 \times 10^{-4}$ - $3 \times 10^{-3}$	$1 \times 10^{-2}$ -1	$9 \times 10^{-4}$ - $9 \times 10^{-2}$	5	$< 1 \times 10^{-4}$
Fractured, weathered or brecciated basalt	$3 \times 10^{-3}$ -5	$3 \times 10^{-4}$ -1.5	$1 \times 10^{-2}$ -500	$9 \times 10^{-4}$ -46	10	$< 1 \times 10^{-3}$
Interbed	$3 \times 10^{-3}$ -10	$9 \times 10^{-4}$ -3	$3 \times 10^{-2}$ -100	$3 \times 10^{-3}$ -9	20	$< 1 \times 10^{-2}$

<sup>a</sup>Volume percent.

Table 2-37 Range of Hydrologic properties of lower Yakima Basalt flows and interbeds. Source: NWTSP (1976)

tests (Table 2-38). The difference in these measurements is explained by La Sala and Doty (1971):

"These differences in values of hydraulic conductivity result, because these two types of tests measure different characteristics of the rocks. The field values of hydraulic conductivity were determined on a large volume of in-place rocks. The basalt, as can be seen in outcrops, is cut by shrinkage cracks and other fractures which are capable of transmitting water. The field hydraulic conductivities, therefore, apply not only to the ability of the basalt flows to transmit water through intergranular pore spaces, but also through fractures. The laboratory tests were made on small cylinders of rock that were selected to be free of open fractures and, therefore, indicate the hydraulic conductivity dependent on movement through intergranular pore spaces. The results of the tests indicate that the hydraulic conductivity of basalt flows results mainly from fractures."

Although the bulk of the permeability data currently available on basalts of the Pasco Basin is derived from well ARH-DC-1, some additional data is available. Tests conducted at Hanford on well RSH-1 in 1976 yielded hydraulic conductivity values ranging from  $1.5 \times 10^{-2}$  to  $2.5 \times 10^{-5}$  m/day (Raymond and Tillson, 1968). In tests run in 1978 on well DC-6 at Hanford, hydraulic conductivities ranging from 0.3 to  $9.5 \times 10^{-5}$  m/day were observed (Apps et al, 1979).

#### Vertical Permeability

Little work has currently been done regarding a determination of the vertical component of permeability in the Columbia basalts. Vertical permeability is difficult to evaluate in situ since deep wells utilized for testing run parallel to vertical joint

TABLE 2-38 SUMMARY OF LABORATORY ANALYSES OF ROCK CORES FROM TEST WELL ARH-DC-1

Core number	Depth (Meters)		Hydraulic conductivity	Porosity (percent)
	From	To		
6-----	725.7	726.8	$1.12 \times 10^{-5}$ m/day	9.8
7-----	847.0	847.3	$1.18 \times 10^{-5}$ m/day	10.5
8-----	898.1	899.2	$9.5 \times 10^{-6}$ m/day	25.4
13-----	953.1	953.4	$5.79 \times 10^{-6}$ m/day	2.1
28-----	1306.0	1306.2	$1.12 \times 10^{-5}$ m/day	10.9

Source: NWTSP (1976)

systems. Ledgerwood and Deju (1976), utilizing data developed by La Sala et al (1973), suggest the vertical components of permeability to be approximately an order of magnitude lower than horizontal permeability. Tanaka et al (1974), in a modeling study of an area north of Hanford, attempted to match hydraulic conductivity to head response in an effort to develop a suitable value for vertical conductivity. Tanaka concluded the vertical component of K should be between  $3 \times 10^{-7}$  and  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  m/day. Deju et al (1977), conclude hydraulic conductivities in the central volume of a dense, thick basalt are usually 2 or 3 orders of magnitude less than  $10^{-9}$  m/day. An understanding of permeability anisotropies is critical to effective modeling of a deep repository. Further work on directional components of permeability needs to be completed.

#### Vertical Hydraulic Gradients

In 1972, 5 piezometers were installed in well ARH-DC-1 as depicted in Figure 2-49. These piezometers have been monitored on a more or less continuous basis since. Data from these piezometers indicate there is a potential inter-connection of basalt beds above the 888m level. This is confirmed by the uniformity of the piezometric surfaces measured in the injection tests summarized on Figure 2-48. Data collected from 1972 to 1976 also indicate an inter-connection of beds in the 970 to 1480 m. interval. Separating these two apparent flow regimes is the Umtanum flow unit.

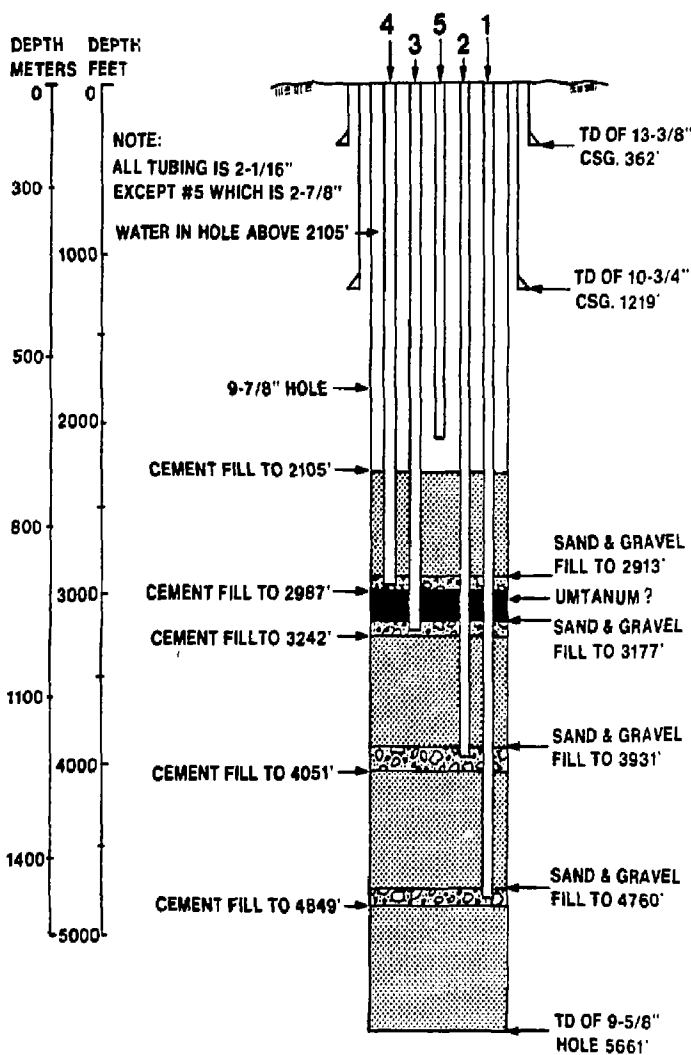


Figure 2-49 Piezometers installed in ARH-DC-1. Source: NWTSP (1976)

During 1978, additional wells in the DC sequence were constructed as depicted in Figure 2-50. Although work with this series of wells continues and full data are not yet published, Apps et al (1979) suggest there are errors in piezometer readings from well DC-1 created by leakage through cement seals between piezometers 1, 2, and 3. Readings from well DC-1 indicated that units below the Umtanum flow were hydraulically connected and that there was an upward gradient across this flow unit. Piezometric readings made in well DC-2, 40 feet from DC-1, confirm the hydraulic connection of beds above the Umtanum, but show a sharp downward gradient immediately below this flow followed by a sharp upward gradient encountered at a point approximately 1000 ft. below the Umtanum. As illustrated in Figure 2-51, this pattern of gradient reversals was also confirmed in well DC-6. While some dense basalts within the Columbia River group are sufficiently impermeable to allow different heads to be maintained on various portions of the aquifer, this does not signify there exists an absolute hydraulic discontinuity between these aquifers. The head differential between beds continues to drive waters across the "confining layer" at a rate porportioned to the hydraulic conductivity of the strata and at a velocity inversely porportional to its effective porosity.



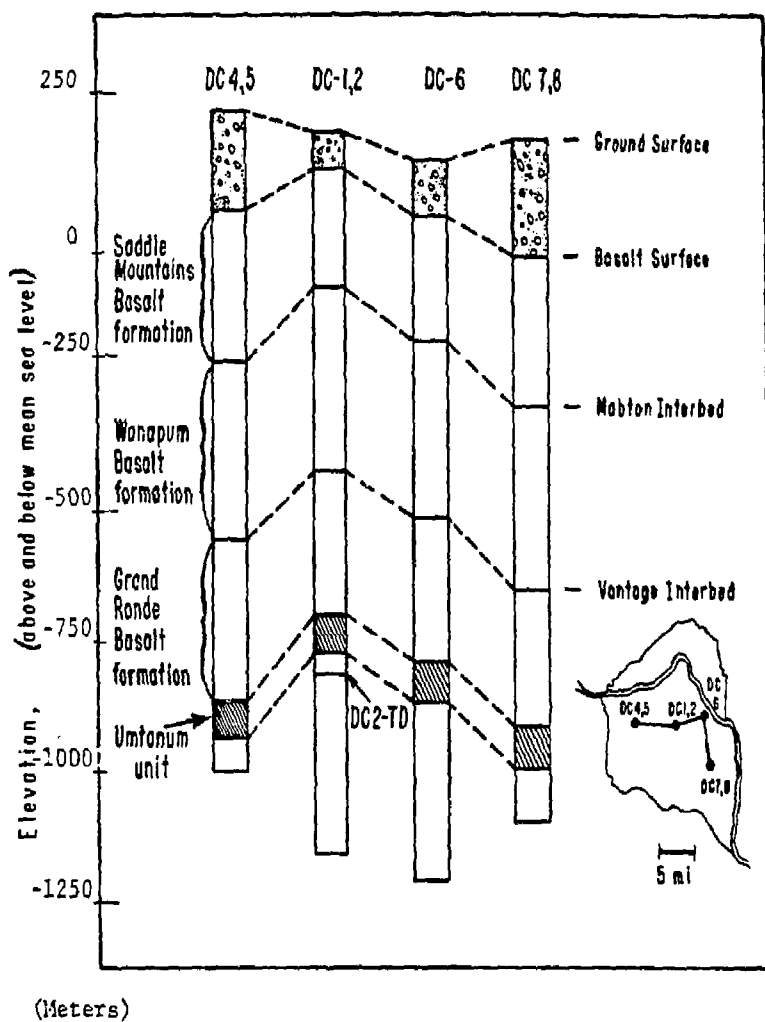


Figure 2-50 Generalized basalt stratigraphy within the Pasco Basin.  
Source: Apps et al (1979)

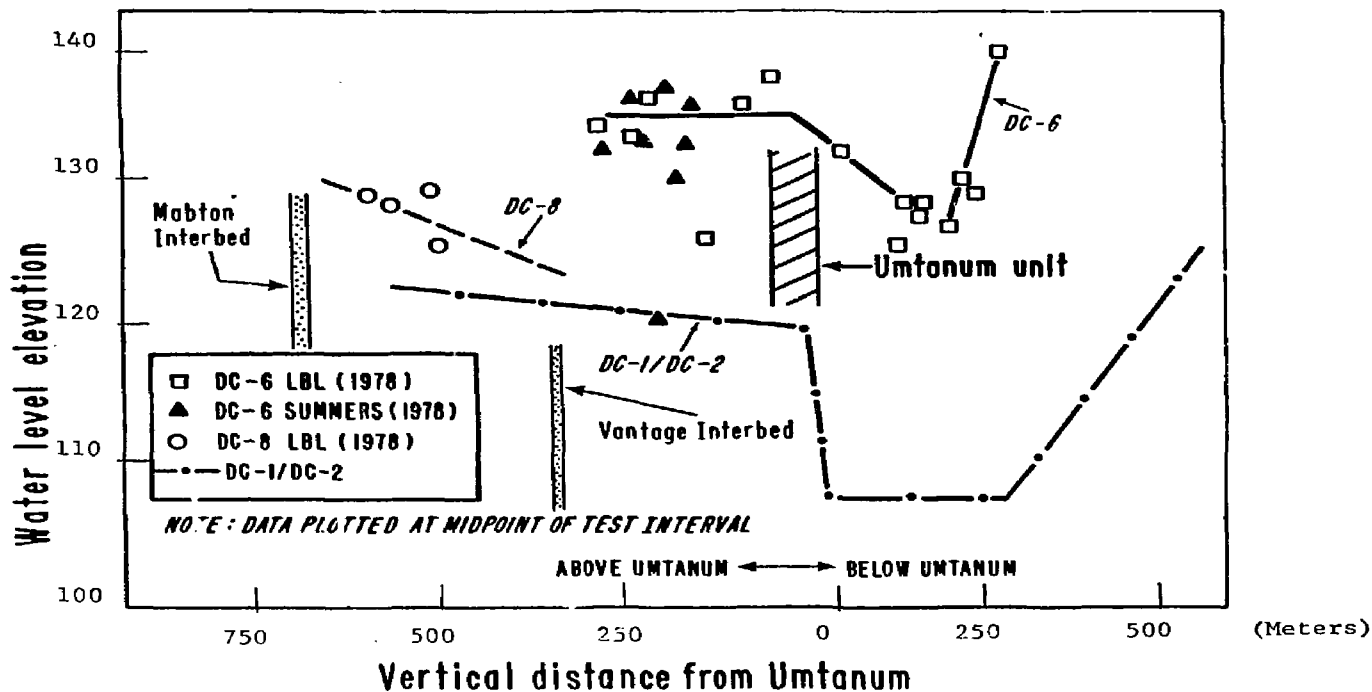


Figure 2-51 Summary of pressure data vs. stratigraphy.  
Source: Apps et al (1979)

### Storage Coefficients

Available data on storage coefficients of basalts are minimal. Utilizing well ARH-DC-1, estimates of storage coefficient for the confined basaltic flows were developed. These estimates are summarized on Table 2-39. A range of values of S was observed from  $1.8 \times 10^{-3}$  to  $1.4 \times 10^{-6}$ . However, these results were drawn from analysis of single well tests and are, at best, only order of magnitude estimates.

La Sala and Doty (1971) observe, "the storage coefficients of basaltic rocks should generally be smaller (than those observed in well ARH-DC-1) and, for the most dense, most competent rocks, should approach the value for the compressibility of water."

### Average Velocity of Ground Water

Average velocities for ground water in various zones of basalt are suggested by La Sala and Doty (1971) on Table 2-41. They conclude that average velocity ranges from  $5 \times 10^{-2} \frac{dh}{dl}$  to  $5.0 \frac{dh}{dl}$  m/day, where  $\frac{dh}{dl}$  is gradient. Assuming a mean gradient in the confined aquifer at Hanford of .0006 meters per meter (CRWM, 1978), average velocities of ground water would range from  $3 \times 10^{-5}$  to  $3 \times 10^{-3}$  m/day.

The estimates of La Sala and Doty are based upon very minimal porosity data and limited information on hydraulic conductivity. Current programs should help better define average ground water velocities.

TABLE 2-39 STORAGE COEFFICIENTS COMPUTED FROM HYDRAULIC  
TEST DATA, WELL ARH-DC-1

---

Depth Interval (Meters)	Storage Coefficient, S
110.3 - 126.8	0.000066
405.4 - 463.3	<u>1/</u> .0018
536.4 - 594.4	.00063
958.9 - 986.3	.0000014

---

1/ This comparatively high-storage coefficient may reflect largely the characteristics of two sections of sand inter-layered with the basaltic rocks in this zone.

Source: La Sala and Doty (1971)

### Regional Ground Water Systems

Detailed piezometric surface maps indicating direction of ground-water flow have been developed for the unconfined and the shallow confined aquifer in the Pasco basin (Committee on Waste Management, 1978). However, little is known of the direction of migration through deep basalts and interbeds. La Sala and Doty (1971) discuss the effects of ground-water flow through the deep basalts and interbeds and their potential recharge and discharge areas. Their investigations, however, are based upon meager data and the results remain unsubstantiated (NWTSP, 1976).

## 2.21 HYDROLOGY OF THE SNAKE RIVER PLAIN

### Origin

The Snake River Plain is a structural basin covering an area of about 31,000 km<sup>2</sup> in southern Idaho. As depicted on Figure 2-52, the basin is approximately 320 km in length and 50-70 km. in width. Geologic data on the basin are limited due to the lack of economic mineralization in the basalt sequence. However, since the siting of the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL) on the Snake River Plain in the early 1950's, sufficient work has been sponsored by the Department of Energy and the U.S. Geological Survey to develop a quantitative knowledge of the basin as a whole and a more specific knowledge of the INEL site in particular.

It is thought that a north-south trending geosyncline lay across southern Idaho in late Precambrian time. Deposition of sandstones and shales occurred in this broad depression through the early Ordovician (Crittenden et al, 1971). As the Cordilleran geosyncline developed, deposition shifted to principally carbonate rocks during the later Paleozoic.

Beginning in the Permian and continuing on into the Mesozoic, tectonic activity increased in the region. The Idaho Batholith

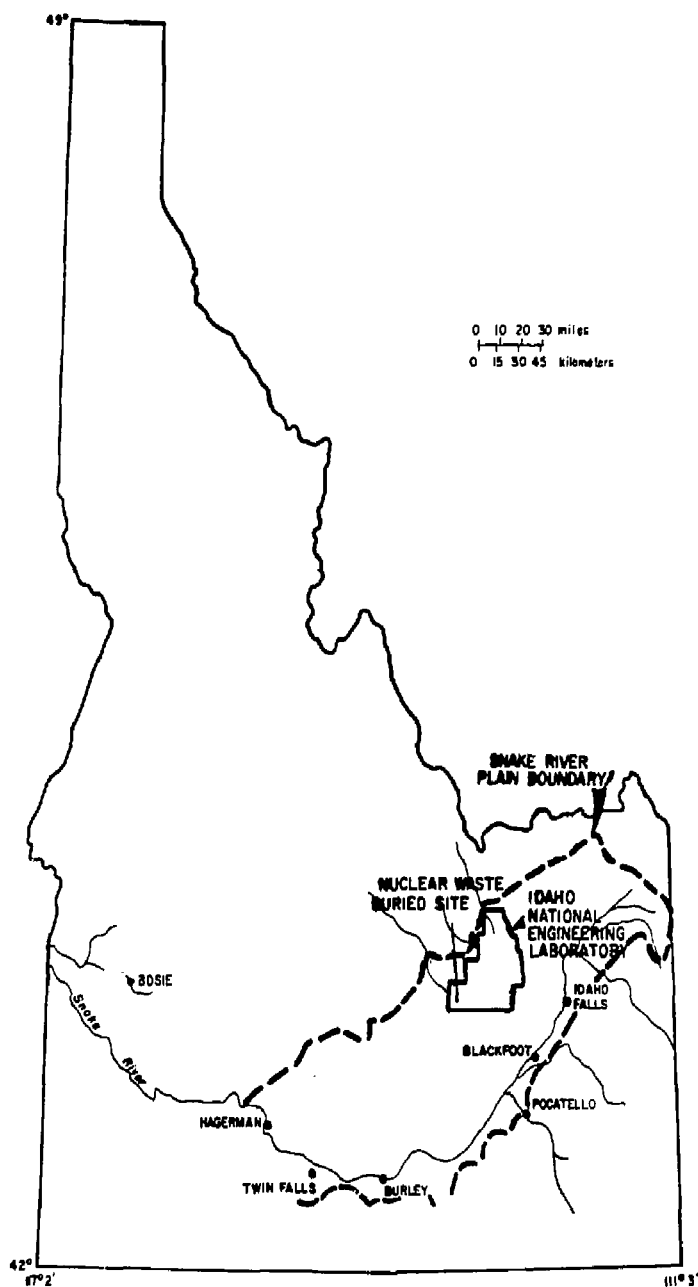


FIGURE 2-52

Location map of Snake River Plain  
Source: Robertson et al (1974)

was emplaced to the north and west, and the resulting uplift provided a source of detritus for Mesozoic sedimentation on its flanks. By the middle of the Mesozoic, approximately 15,250 m. of Paleozoic and 10,700 m. of Mesozoic rocks had filled the basin. Uplift and tectonism continued, culminating in the Laramide Orogeny during the late Cretaceous.

By early Cenozoic time, deposition had terminated and erosion of the uplifted sediments had begun. Basin and range faulting during the Miocene created a rugged mountain range in southern Idaho, bounded on the north and west by the Idaho batholith and on the east by large basin and range horsts and grabens. This topography was maintained until the early Pliocene when tectonic events began to create the basin which developed into the Snake River Plain.

A number of theories have been presented for the development of the basin in which the basalts of the Snake River Plain were deposited (Lindgren (1898), Russel (1902), Kirkham (1931), Hamilton (1963)). Currently, the most accepted theory includes the development of a large downfaulted graben inundated by flood basalts. The development of this graben is summarized by Robertson et al, (1974):

"This hypothesis proposes that in late Miocene the granitic terrain of the Idaho batholith extended southward to the south edge of the present plain where it



either thinned considerably or was displaced westward. Tension during the early Pliocene, probably due to subcrustal forces similar to those envisaged by Hamilton and Myers (1966), produced the present Snake River graben into which the southern tip of the batholith subsided.

Along with subcrustal tension directly responsible for the grabening, magma developed in the subcrust, perhaps fractionated from a tholeiite into immiscible rhyolite and olivine basalt (Hamilton, 1965), and erupted along tensional openings in the overlying rocks. Sialic volcanism occurred first and covered the floor of the graben as well as much of the surrounding region with tuff and flows (Idavada Volcanics). Effusive removal of subcrustal material from beneath the graben allowed downfaulting to continue and the Snake River Plain crustal block settled into the mantle. By middle Pliocene time all the rhyolite was gone from the magma chamber and eruption of olivine basalt began. Basalt flows were restricted to filling the graben though some flowed short distances up valleys in the adjoining blocks (Crosthwaite and others, 1970). It is the addition of this subcrustal material to the top of the Snake River graben that accounts for the maintenance of isostasy. Figure 2-53 depicts these stages in the hypothetical grabening of the Snake River Plain."

### Stratigraphy

The sequence of volcanic rock which fills the graben is thought to range from 300 to over 3000 m. in thickness (Robertson, 1974). Early wells constructed at INEL showed the upper 450 meters of the section to consist of a series of thin basalt flows 3 to 25 m. in thickness, interbedded with fluvial, lacustrine, eolian and pyroclastic sediments. A cross section of the nuclear waste burial ground at INEL, Figure 2-54, identifies the interbedded sediments in the upper portion of the sequence.

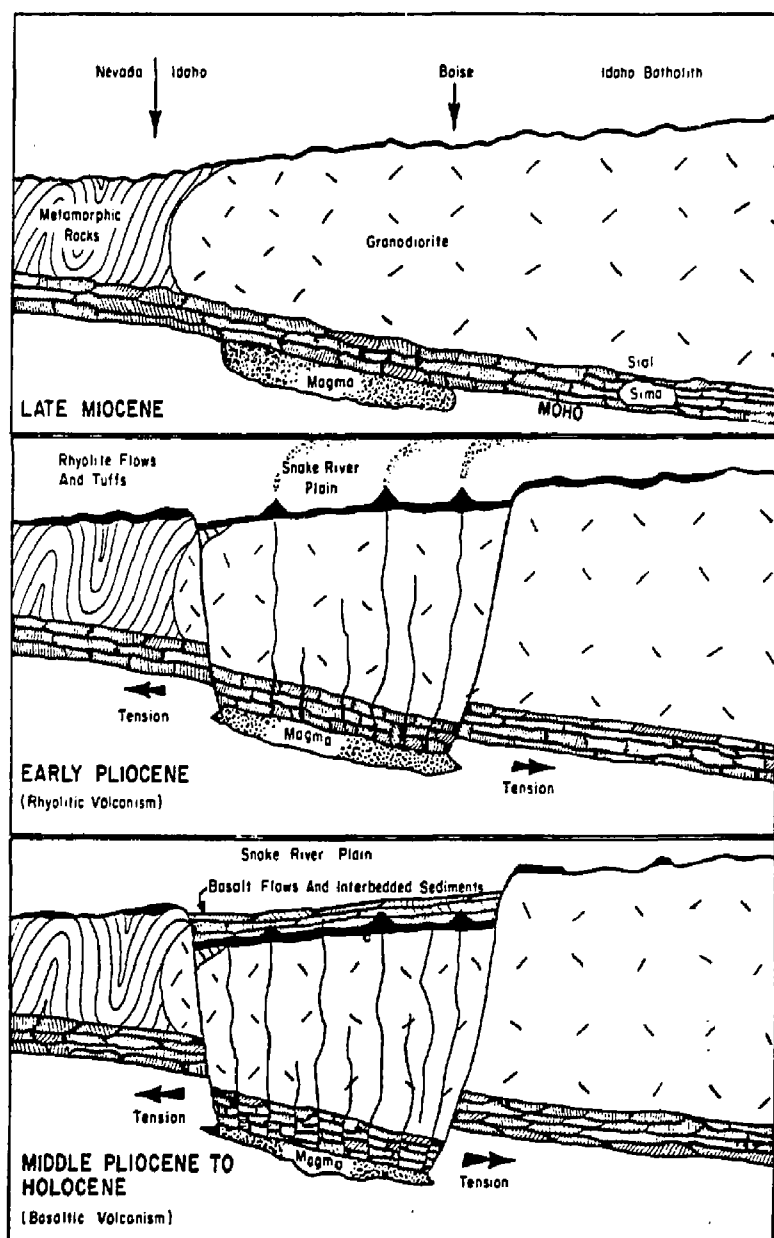


FIGURE 2-53

Cross sections showing hypothetical stages of grabenning during formation of the Snake River Plain

Source: Robertson et al (1974)

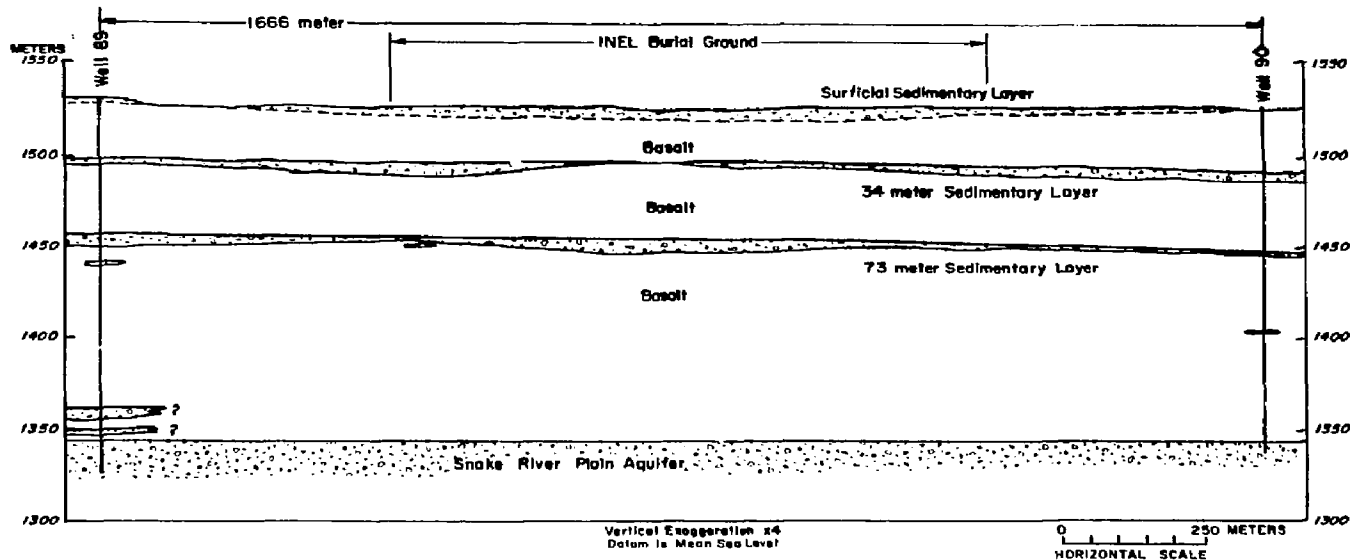


FIGURE 2-54

Cross section of INEL burial ground  
Source: Barraclough (1976)

In May 1979, the Department of Energy completed a 3159 m. geothermal test well at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratories approximately 30 km. north of the burial site. The upper 745 m. of this well penetrated basalt flows and sedimentary interbeds. Below 745 m. a sequence was encountered which consists of rhyolitic welded ash-flow tuffs, air fall ash deposits, nonwelded ash-flow tuffs and volcanoclastic sediments. Doherty et al, (1979) suggests these rocks are part of an intracaldera fill and that a collapsed caldera approximately 25 km. in diameter may exist in the region of well INEL-1.

#### Characteristics of Ground Water Flow

Ground water flow in the Snake River Plain aquifer occurs principally along the upper and lower contacts of successive basaltic flows which have large and irregular fractures, fissures and other voids (Robertson, 1974). Barraclough et al, (1976) observed the tops of many flows core-drilled at INEL to be highly vesicular with numerous intersecting fractures resulting in high porosity and permeability. The center of the flows was observed to be relatively dense and of a significantly lower porosity and permeability. The lowermost portion of the flow was vesicular and fractured, though to a lesser degree than the flow top. Consistent with basalts in other regions, columnar jointing is apparent in the flows of the Snake River Plain.

Ground water flow paths are not well defined in the rhyolitic ash flow sequence below 745 m. Doherty et al (1979) notes that most of the rhyolitic rocks are devitrified and dense. Nearly all fractures in recovered core are sealed by propylitic alteration products including calcite, quartz, hematite, pyrite, a septechlorite mineral, and a variety of clays. Although most of the fractures, joints and vesicles in the rhyolite rocks have been filled by products of hydrothermal alteration, there may be large scale fracture features conducive to the flow of ground water at these depths. Doherty et al (1979) in their study of geothermal potential state, "Porous and fractured rocks in ring fracture zones (around the collapsed caldera) provide channel ways for circulation and storage of water and, therefore, rocks in these zones may be likely targets for further geothermal explorations."

#### Hydraulic Conductivity

Little reliable hydraulic conductivity data exist for the Snake River Plain aquifer. Such data as is available is derived from water well tests and tests at INEL on wells generally less than 500 m. in depth. Available data suggests the greatest permeabilities may be found in the upper 200 m. of the aquifer and permeabilities may significantly decline from this point downward (Robertson, 1974). However, insufficient deep well data are available to fully confirm this conclusion.

Pumping tests conducted by Norvitch et al (1969), on irrigation wells penetrating the basalt aquifer showed transmissivities to range from  $1.25 \times 10^4$  to  $1.25 \times 10^5$  m<sup>2</sup>/d. and to average  $6 \times 10^4$  m<sup>2</sup>/d. In similar tests at INEL, transmissivities were observed to range from  $3.7 \times 10^2$  to  $2.2 \times 10^5$  m<sup>2</sup>/d. and to average  $2.5 \times 10^4$  m<sup>2</sup>/d. (Robertson, 1974). Barraclough (1976), in well tests at INEL, found hydraulic conductivity to vary quite substantially within very short distances. He observed values of hydraulic conductivity to range from 30 to 3000 m/day. Barraclough further observed that vertical components of permeability are significantly less than horizontal components. In tests of a 30 m. thick section of basalt, King (1968) found horizontal conductivities to average 17 m/day while vertical components averaged 4.5 m/day. At this test site and depth, the horizontal component of hydraulic conductivity was found to be 3.7 times that of the vertical component; however, the data is insufficient to make generalizations about the rock mass as a whole.

The sedimentary interbeds within the Snake River Plain aquifer are generally more homogeneous in hydraulic properties and have a greater porosity, greater capillary pressure and lower permeability than the basalt. (Barraclough, 1976). Unlike the Columbia River region, sedimentary interbeds in the Snake River Plain aquifer are generally barriers to the

downward movement of ground water (Doe, written communication, 1979). Vertical hydraulic conductivities measured from core of the 34-m. and 73-m. interbeds at the INEL burial ground are summarized on Table 2-40. The vertical conductivities of these strata were found to range from  $1.67 \times 10^{-7}$  to 3.0 m/d. These values are a factor of about 20 less than the above described permeabilities for in-place basalt.

The basalt-sediment interface is suspected of having vertical permeabilities even lower than that of the interbeds.

Barracough (1976) suggests:

"An additional and even greater constraint occurs at the base of each sedimentary layer, at the sediment-basalt interface. This is caused by the discontinuity of pore spaces from the sediment to the basalt due both to the lower porosity of the basalt and to the relatively great distances between its fractures. In other words, at the interface, perhaps only 10% of the basalt surface is composed of permeable openings, and these are partially filled by sediment. The other 90% is virtually impermeable. This, in effect, provides a thin skin that is estimated to have one-tenth or less of the permeability of the sediments alone."

In many areas of the Snake River Plain, the vertical permeabilities of sediments lying above the zone of water saturation are sufficiently low as to allow perched water tables to exist locally. Perched waters have been identified on the burial ground site at INEL. However, leakage of the TRA disposal ponds at INEL and the subsequent contamination of the Snake River Plain aquifer indicates that some vertical leakage does occur through the sediments.

Table 2-46 Vertical Hydraulic Conductivities of  
Sedimentary Interbeds - INEL Wells 87-96

Well No.	Depth Zone	Vertical Hydraulic Conductivity M/day
87	C	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$
87	C	$3.2 \times 10^{-1}$
88	C	$1.3 \times 10^{-1}$
88	C	$3.5 \times 10^{-5}$
88	C	$8 \times 10^{-7}$
88	C	$3.1 \times 10^{-6}$
89	C	$1.6 \times 10^{-7}$
89	C	$6.1 \times 10^{-5}$
89	C	$5.9 \times 10^{-6}$
90	C	$2.9 \times 10^{-2}$
91	A	$1.3 \times 10^{-2}$
91	B	3.0
91	C	$7.1 \times 10^{-1}$
91	C	$2.6 \times 10^{-1}$
92	A	$5.5 \times 10^{-4}$
92	C	2.7
92	C	$2.7 \times 10^{-2}$
92	C	$2.1 \times 10^{-6}$
93	A	$2.6 \times 10^{-4}$
93	C	$5.5 \times 10^{-2}$
94	A	$2.7 \times 10^{-4}$
94	A	$9.6 \times 10^{-6}$
94	B	$7.6 \times 10^{-1}$



Table 2-40 (Cont'd)

Well No.	Depth Zone	Vertical Hydraulic Conductivity M/day)
94	C	$1.6 \times 10^{-2}$
94	C	$2.3 \times 10^{-1}$
94	C	$7.3 \times 10^{-5}$
94	C	$5.5 \times 10^{-5}$
95	A	$7.9 \times 10^{-3}$
95	A	$5.3 \times 10^{-1}$
95	B	$1.5 \times 10^{-1}$
95	B	$3.1 \times 10^{-6}$
95	C	$2.8 \times 10^{-1}$
95	C	$9.3 \times 10^{-1}$
96	A	$5.9 \times 10^{-1}$
96	B	$6.7 \times 10^{-6}$
96	C	$1.9 \times 10^{-3}$

<u>Depth Zone</u>	<u>Depth</u>
A	0 - 8 meters
B	23-38
C	69-84

Source: Barraclough (1976)

### Storage Coefficients

Estimates of storage coefficient for the Snake River Plain aquifer are minimal in the literature. Norvitch et al (1969) determined the average storage coefficient for that portion of the aquifer penetrated by water wells on the plain to range from .001 to 0.2. In later work at INEL, pumping test data on wells less than 500 m. in depth showed the storage coefficient of the penetrated section to range from .01 to .06.

### Average Velocity of Ground Water

With the minimal data available, average flow rates are difficult to assess. Tracer tests at INEL identified zones with flow rates of 1 to 7 m/d, however, these rates are not necessarily representative of velocities throughout the aquifer. Barraclough et al (1967) suggest the average effective porosity of the upper 610 meters of the aquifer is 5 to 10%. Utilizing Barraclough's conclusions and gradients estimated by Mundorff et al (1964), Robertson et al (1974) estimated the average flow through a one kilometer section of the aquifer on the southern edge of INEL, to be  $2 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ . This is equivalent to a flow of  $.18 \text{ m}^3$  per  $\text{m}^2$  normal to the direction of flow, or utilizing an 8% effective porosity, an average flow velocity of 2.4 m/d.

### Regional Ground Water System

Data from irrigation wells across the Snake River Plain indicate that water in the upper 500 m. of the aquifer migrates in a generally southwesterly direction as suggested by Mundorff et al (1964),

Figure 2-55 . Little, if any, work has been done to delineate the rate and direction of movement of deeper waters. Although regionally deeper waters probably also migrate southwesterly, locally the directions of ground water flow may vary substantially.

At INEL, Barraclough, Robertson, and others have studied in detailed the ground water flow patterns at the burial site and disposal ponds. These studies, summarized in Barraclough et al (1976), describe flow in the upper 3 basalt series and the sedimentary interbeds. It was found in this investigation that while regional water movement through the area was to the southwest, movement locally at the burial ground was northeasterly. This was attributed to recharge from the Big Lost River and its flood diversion areas to the west.

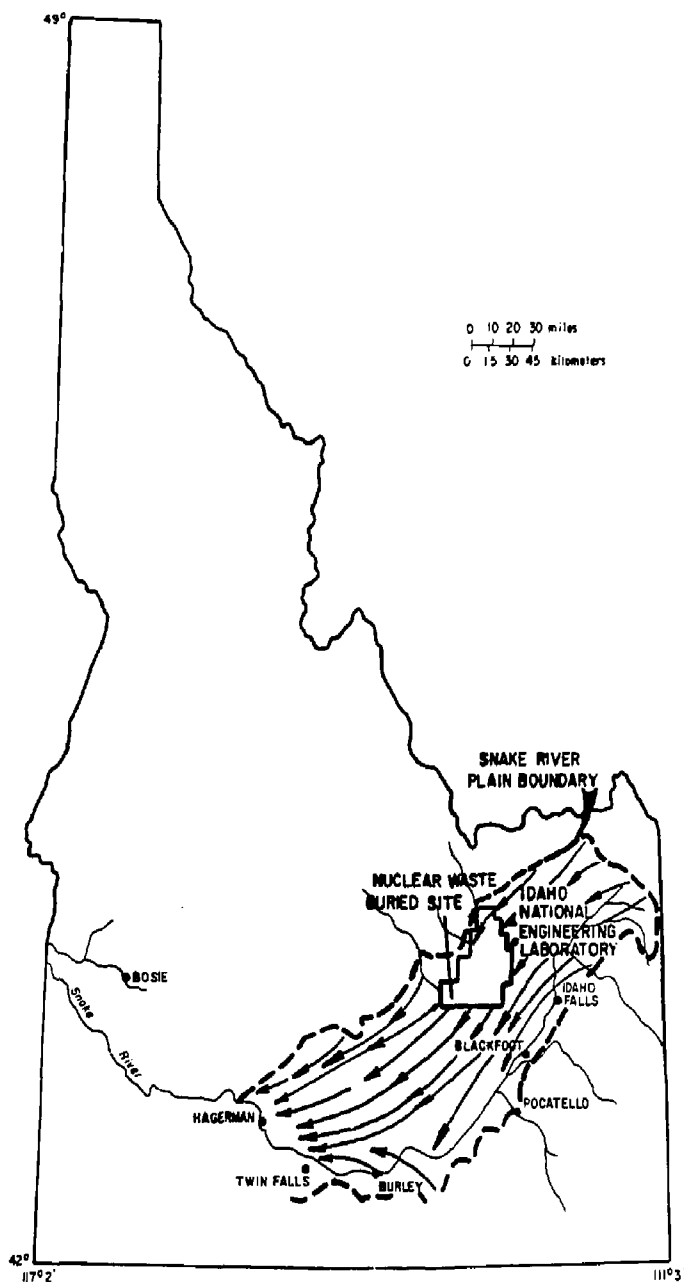


FIGURE 2-55 Regional ground water flow -  
Snake River Plain  
Source: Robertson et al (1974)

## 2.22 HYDROLOGY OF THE MODOC PLATEAU

### Origin

The Modoc plateau lies south of the Columbia River and Snake River Plain basalts, north of the Sierras and west of the Cascades and Coastal ranges. The region consists predominately of a series of north to northwest trending block-faulted mountain ranges. Tectonism culminated in the Miocene or Pliocene on the plateau; however, faulting has continued into Recent time. Intervening basins between block-fault ranges have been filled with a series of basalt flows ranging from Miocene to Recent in age. These basalts are often interbedded with lacustrine and fluvial mudstones, siltstones and sandstones, and volcaniclastic materials. Because tectonism has been continuous, many of the older flows are now faulted and tilted.

### Hydrology of Basalt Flows

The intact basalt has a low porosity and permeability. Most ground-water flow occurs in breccia layers between flow units, clinker zones, vesicular zones, joints or lava tunnels (Mack, 1960; Wood, 1960; Brown and Newcomb, 1961; Foxworthy, 1961; Newcomb, 1961). Faults in the basalt flows usually form vertical conduits that enhance permeability rather than form barriers to horizontal flow. Interbeds are discontinuous and generally are only of local significance.

Specific hydrologic data on the aquifer is sparse. Although sustained well yields of 50 to 100 gpm are common, well production is highly variable. Brown and Newcomb (1962) observed transmissivities to range from 1050 to 3720 m<sup>2</sup>/day and storage coefficients to range from  $1.4 \times 10^{-3}$  to  $2.4 \times 10^{-3}$ .

Regionally, ground water occurrences in the Modoc Plateau are restricted to many structural basins or grabens between block-fault sequences. These basins are surrounded by crystalline rock of low permeability which provide very little recharge. Most recharge occurs through precipitation or seepage from irrigation facilities or streams.

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## APPENDICES

### APENDIX A

TABLE 2-A.1 Summary of geomechanical properties of granitic rocks

Rock Type & Location	Stress-strain Properties					Strength Properties		Reference or Source
	Young's Modulus (GPa)	Density g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Bulk Modulus (GPa)	Shear Modulus (GPa)	Poisson's Ratio	Uniaxial Compressive Strength (MPa)	Tensile Strength (MPa)	
Granite (coarse-grained)	26.6					72.1	2.63(0.03,9)	1
Folschill Power Plant, Loveland, Colorado	25.4	2.63(0.03,9)				52.6	.02(.0002,9)	
Pegmatite granite		2.62(0.09,27)						
Folschill Power Plant, Loveland, Colorado								
Group A	19.0				0.10	42.7(29.2,3)		1
Group B						58.1(.69,2)		
Slightly altered granite	7.59				0.13(NR,3)	56.9		
Grand Coulee pumping project, Grant County, Washington						26.3		1
Slightly altered granite	8.97	2.61 (0.04,18)			0.226(NR,3)	64.8		
Grand Coulee pumping project, Grant County, Washington	8.28					33.2		1
Granite	32.6	2.63(0.07,32)			0.14(NR,3)	148.8		
Grand Coulee pumping plant, Grant County, Washington	12.4							1
Granite Nevada test site of AEC-LRL-Livermore						64.8		2
Granite, no location	31.3-58.6				0.15-0.24		2.9-4.8	10

TABLE 2-A I Summary of geomechanical properties of granitic rocks

Rock Type or Location	Stress-strain Properties					Strength Properties		Reference or Source
	Young's Modulus (GPa)	Density g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Bulk Modulus (GPa)	Shear Modulus (GPa)	Poisson's Ratio	Uniaxial Compressive Strength (MPa)	Tensile Strength (MPa)	
Granite Valencia County, NM	77.9(NR,2)	3.0				154.6		1
Granite, NM	77.9	2.90		32.3	.27			11
Granite (Gneisses), GA	19.2	2.66		10.3		200.0	2.8	11
Granite Brid Canyon dam site Mohave County, AZ	53.8(NR,5)	2.66(0.06,13)			.08	144.8 (66.2,4)	5.6(1.9,4)	4
Granite Valencia County, NM	7.24(NR,2)	2.59(0.06,2)			.07	(25.5) (9.7,2)		4
Granite, no location given (weathered)		2.74(NR,8)						5
Granite Unswamp granite site Grand Junction, CO	21.9	2.69			.08	164.8	5.17	12
Granite, Vermont	28.9	2.66		15.9				7
Granite, Maryland	54.6	2.65		25.4		251.0		7
Granite, Nevada	51.3	2.63		22.5		273.4		7
Granite, N. Carolina	24.2	2.60		12.3		209.7		7
Granite, no location	48.1(71.65,93)				0.20(.15,.25)		6.62(16.6,22)	6
Granite, no location	52.1	2.67			0.16	202.7		9
Quartzite Granite <sup>Q</sup>	24.4					52.8		9

TABLE 2-A I Summary of geomechanical properties of granitic rocks

Rock Type or Location	Stress-strain Properties					Strength Properties		Reference or Source
	Young's Modulus (GPa)	Density g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Bulk Modulus (GPa)	Shear Modulus (GPa)	Poisson's Ratio	Uniaxial Compressive Strength (MPa)	Tensile Strength (MPa)	
Fremont Canyon Granite (coarse-grained)	64.1	2.62			0.14		9.0	9
Solida Granite	70.7	2.64			0.18	324.1		9
Mirdler Quarry porphyritic granite	69.06	2.74			0.24	92.7		9
Vallinos Quarry granite	65.6	2.72			0.18	107.2		9
Comstaeira Quarry granite	64.1	2.81			0.25	111.3		9
Piccolocco Quarry tourmaline granite	75.5	2.65			0.16	127.1		9
Pikes Peak Granite (coarse-grained, weathered)	73.4	2.67			0.37	88.9	3.93	9
Pikes Peak Granite (dense, medium-fine-grained)	70.6	2.67	62.0	27.0	0.31	226.1	11.9	9
Barre Granite (dense, medium-grained)	72.4	2.64	43.1	29.7	0.22	234.5	7.59	9
Silver Plume Granite	60.4(44.1,40)				0.205(.31,38)	264.9		9
Straight Creek tunnel site						386.2		
Pilot bore, Colorado								
Quartz Monzonite	52.4	2.67(MR,30)	52.4	19.3	.33			
Straight Creek pilot bore, Colorado								

TABLE 2-A Summary of geomechanical properties of granitic rocks

Rock Type or Location	Stress-strain Properties					Strength Properties		Reference or Source
	Young's Modulus (GPa)	Density g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Bulk Modulus (GPa)	Shear Modulus (GPa)	Poisson's Ratio	Uniaxial Compressive Strength (MPa)	Tensile Strength (MPa)	
Quartz Monzonite Climax stock, Nevada test site	61.4-69.7	2.6-2.66	53.8	20.0	.21-0.22	210.3		14
Monzonite porphyry Grand Coulee pumping plant, Grant County, Washington	41.4(3.4,3)	2.57(0.05,16)			.18(NR,3)	124.8(.08,140)		
Colville Granite (slightly colored)	11.0		6.20	4.82	0.20	64.8	1.24	
Colville Granite unaltered)	35.9		17.2	15.9	0.15	144.8	7.45	
Monzonite porphyry Grand Coulee pumping plant Grant County, Washington	42.8				0.6	170.6		1
Quartz Monzonite, MT		2.75				112.4		12
Quartz Diorite Bridge Canyon dam site Mohave County, AZ	47.2(NR,2)	2.71(0.15,5)			0.07(NR,2)	118.6 (19.3,2)	8.21	4
Quartz Diorite Garden Valley dam site Boise, ID	25.5 (11.45,3)	1.00(2.5)			0.104(NR,3)	87.4 (9.7,3)		1
Quartz Diorite Gneiss Bridge Canyon dam site Mohave County, Arizona	61.7(NR,4)	2.83(0.09,9)			0.11(NR,4)	81.4 (13.1,1)	13.5 (2.69,3)	4



TABLE 2-A 1 Summary of geomechanical properties of granitic rocks

Rock Type or Location	Stress-strain Properties				Strength Properties		Reference or Source	
	Young's Modulus (GPa)	Density g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Bulk Modulus (GPa)	Shear Modulus (GPa)	Poisson's Ratio	Uniaxial Compressive Strength (MPa)		Tensile Strength (MPa)
Diorite Gneiss Sec s, T6S R7W	68.4 (13.4, 2)	2.86(0.27, 10) 2.87(0.09, 3)			.98(NR, 2)	64.2(NR, 1) 104.4(NR, 1)		1
Diorite, no location	69.7(12.4, 12)	2.82(0.48, 5)						6
Mineralized Diorite Utah	71.7(24.1, 5)	2.71(0.08, 5)		25.8 (9.17, 5)	0.26(08, 5)	246.9 (40.0, 5)		8
Diorite Michigan	98.0(23.7, 5)	2.91(0.20, 2)		35.9 (12.6, 2)	.29(06, 5)	227.6 (.09, 2)		12
Diorite (Gneissic- diorite-gabbro) "T"	71.1(31.4, 2)	3.02(0.01, 2)		22.5 (9.45, 2)		230.0 (87.6, 2)		7
Granodiorite Mount Ford dam site Snowy Mtns. project, Australia	63.1(NR, 6)	2.71(0.05, 14)			0.16(NR, 6)	126.9 (50.1, 3)	1.45(.97, 3)	4
Pyroxenite Morrison Point Dam McIntosh, Colorado	18.5-20.6	2.64(NR, 4)			0.05-0.07	56.9	6.00	13
St. Cloud Gray Granodiorite (Proterozoic)					.25			

TABLE 2-All Summary of geomechanical properties of basalts.

Rock Type & Location	Stress-Strain Properties					Strength Properties		Reference or Source
	Young's Modulus (GPa)	Density g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Bulk Modulus (GPa)	Shear Modulus (GPa)	Poisson's Ratio	Uniaxial Compressive Strength (MPa)	Tensile Strength (MPa)	
Venicular basalt South Coolidge dam site, Columbia Basin Project, Washington	38.6(NR,5)	2.58(0.4,6)			.14(NR,5)	82.1(37.9,2)		4
Basalt, no location		3.07(2.95-3.15)						5
Basalt, no location	40.4(79.2,9)	2.66(0.65,16)						6
Basalt, Michigan	61.5	2.85		26.8		230.3		7
Basalt, Michigan		2.97		33.9		268.3		7
Basalt, Michigan	70.3	2.91		29.6		358.6		7
Basalt, Michigan						257.9		7
Basalt (altered) Michigan						81.4		7
Heavily altered amygdular zeolitic basalt, Michigan		2.04			0.04	171.7		8
Heavily altered amygdular epidotized basalt, Michigan	40.7	2.70		18.5	0.04	119.3		8

TABLE 2-AII Summary of geomechanical properties of basalts.

Rock Type & Location	Stress-Strain Properties					Strength Properties		Reference or Source
	Young's Modulus (GPa)	Density g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Bulk Modulus (GPa)	Shear Modulus (GPa)	Poisson's Ratio	Uniaxial Compressive Strength (MPa)	Tensile Strength (MPa)	
Basalt Sec 32, T38S R4E, Medford, Oregon	62.3(32.4,6)	2.72(0.11,14) 2.74(0.09,13)			0.234 31.850(16.780,3)	168.6(68.1,3)		1
Basalt Nevada test site AEC-LRL-Livermore	34.9	2.676			0.32	148.0	13.1	1
Basalt Columbia Plateau	70.3(60.7-111.7)	2.9(2.4-3.1)			0.26(0.27-0.28)	200(0- 4,000)	14(6-23)	3
Vesicular basalt Kayna dam site, Bombay, India	36.2(NR,3)	2.54(0.5,4)			.13(NR,3)	68(60,33)	2.2(2.8,6)	4
Glassy basalt Black Canyon dam site, Sofia, Idaho	32.2(NR,6)	2.62(0.16,10)			.10(NR,6)	60(39.3,3)	1.1(.49,2)	4
Basalt South Coulee dam site, Columbia Basin Project, Washington	50.7(NR,3)	2.8(0.13,5)			.18(NR,3)	171.7(NR,1)		4
Vesicular basalt South Coulee dam site, Columbia Basin Project, Washington	54.3(NR,6)	2.62(0.04,10)			.21(NR,6)	95.9(44.1,3)		4
Vesicular basalt South Coulee dam site, Columbia Basin Project, Washington	42.1(NR,5)	2.47(0.24,12)			.19(NR,6)	61.4(7.03,3)		4

TABLE 1-All Summary of geomechanical properties of basalts.

Rock Type & Location	Stress-Strain Properties					Strength Properties		Reference or Source
	Young's Modulus (GPa)	Density $\text{g/cm}^3$	Bulk Modulus (GPa)	Shear Modulus (GPa)	Poisson's Ratio	Uniaxial Compressive Strength (MPa)	Tensile Strength (MPa)	
Heavily altered amygdular Calcitized basalt, Michigan	60.0	2.80			0.15	342.1		8
Jupia Dam basalt (dense)	73.1	3.00			0.21	104.8		9
Barru Bonita Dam basalt (dense)	61.0	2.97			0.19	137.4		9
Juremirin Dam basalt (dense)	42.8	2.71			0.16	133.0		9
Mussa Quarry basalt (dense)	44.0	2.68			0.19	126.8		9
EC Nevada test site basalt (dense, fine- grained, unweathered)	34.9	2.83			0.32	148.0	13.9	9
Howard Prairie Dam basalt (very dense, fine-grained)	61.8	2.73			0.23	194.1		9
Lower Granite basalt (massive, compact)	50.2	2.73			0.24	228.1	26.3	9
Little Goose basalt (massive, compact)	77.2				0.27	196.1	11.1	9

TABLE 2-All Summary of geomechanical properties of basalts.

Rock Type & Location	Stress-Strain Properties				Strength Properties		Reference or Source
	Young's Modulus (GPa)	Density $\frac{1}{\text{g/cm}^3}$	Bulk Modulus (GPa)	Shear Modulus (GPa)	Poisson's Ratio	Uniaxial Compressive Strength (MPa)	Tensile Strength (MPa)
John Day basalt (compact to vesicular)	83.4				0.29	355.1	14.5
Basalt	18.2	2.04			0.16	146.1	
Dresser basalt	93.1			41.5		440.7	22.1
Amchitka Island basalt (dense)	61.1		32.8	25.7		149.9	15.5

TABLE 2- A III Summary table of hydraulic and thermal properties

Rock Type & Location	Hydraulic Properties		Thermal Properties		Reference or Source
	Porosity %	Hydraulic Conductivity m/day	Thermal Conductivity w/m <sup>2</sup> K	Heat Capacity J/g <sup>2</sup> C	
Stripa Granite (F)		$2.7 \times 10^{-6}$ to $36 \times 10^{-6}$			16
Metasediments - Straight Creek Tunnel (F)		$2.1 \times 10^{-3}$			13
Granites (L)		$7.4 \times 10^{-8}$ to $3.3 \times 10^{-4}$			15
Metamorphics (L)		$4.4 \times 10^{-7}$ to $8.1 \times 10^{-5}$			18
White Lake Gneiss (L)		$7.5 \times 10^{-10}$ to $7.5 \times 10^{-9}$			18
Fractured Metamorphics (F) Colorado Front Range		$4.1$ to $8.3 \times 10^{-3}$			18
Crystalline Rocks - Damsites (F) in Western U.S.		$0.4$ to $4.9$			18
Laramie Granite (F)		$8.3 \times 10^{-4}$ to $4.2 \times 10^{-3}$			18
Crystalline basement rocks (F) Aiken, S.C.		$8.3 \times 10^{-7}$ to $8.3 \times 10^{-2}$			18
Stripa Granite (F)		$8.1 \times 10^{-7}$ to $1.7 \times 10^{-5}$			18
Granites & Gneisses (F) Sweden		$8.1 \times 10^{-7}$ to $0.4$			18

0

TABLE 2-A III Summary table of hydraulic and thermal properties

Rock Type & Location	Hydraulic Properties		Thermal Properties		Reference or Source
	Porosity %	Hydraulic Conductivity m/day	Thermal Conductivity w/m °K	Heat Capacity J/g °C	
Barre Granite (dense, medium-grained)	0.4	$1.7.8 \times 10^{-2}$	2.37	.92	9
Silver Plume Granite Straight Creek Tunnel site, Pilot bore, Colo.	1.19(2.5,25)				13
Quartz Monzonite Climax stock, Nevada test site	0.7-1.1	*	3.		14
Monzonite porphyry Grand Coulee pumping plant, Grant County, Washington	2.32(2.44,16)				1
Quartz Diorite Garden Valley dam site, Boise, Idaho	2.7(0.1)				1
Diorite Coconino Sec. 1, T6S, R77W Montezuma Quad, Colo.	0.49(1.07,10) 0.22(0.10,3)				1
Diorite, no given location	1.7(0.1,12)				6
Mineralized Diorite, Utah	0.94(1.65,5)				8
Diorite (Quartzite-diorite- gabbro) New York	0.8(.4,2)				7
Fegmatite Horrer Point Dam Montrose, Colorado	0.93(37,4)				15

TABLE 2- A111 Summary table of hydraulic and thermal properties

Rock Type & Location	Hydraulic Properties		Thermal Properties		Reference or Source
	Porosity %	Hydraulic Conductivity m/day	Thermal Conductivity w/m <sup>2</sup> °K	Heat Capacity J/g°C	
Granite, Maryland	0.08				7
Granite, Nevada	0.09				7
Granite, North Carolina	0.07				7
Granite, no location	1.6(11.1, 146)	1(1,41)			6
Granite, no location	1.6				9
Quadrax Granite					9
Premont Canyon Granite (coarse-grained)	0.8				9
Salida Granite					9
Mitridieri Quarry porphyritic Granite	3.6				9
Valinhos Quarry Granite	3.2				9
Cantareira Quarry Granite	2.1				9
Piccinaccio Quarry Tourmaline Granite	1.9				9



TABLE 2-4 III Summary table of hydraulic and thermal properties

Granite Rock Type & Location	Hydraulic Properties		Thermal Properties		Reference or Source
	Porosity %	Hydraulic Conductivity m/day	Thermal Conductivity w/m <sup>2</sup> K	Heat Capacity J/g <sup>o</sup> C	
Granite (coarse-grained) Polehill Power Plant, Loveland, Colorado	1.0(1.4,27)				1
Pegmatite granite Polehill Power Plant, Loveland, Colorado	1.0				
Slightly altered granite Grand Coulee pumping project, Grant County, Washington	2.61(1.01,18)				1
Granite Grand Coulee pumping plant, Grant County, Washington	1.59(1.48,32)				1
Granite Houawep granite site Grand Junction, Colorado	0.6				12
Granite, Vermont	0.9				7

TABLE 2-A IV Summary table of hydraulic and thermal properties

Basalts Rock Type & Location	Hydraulic Properties		Thermal Properties		Reference or Source
	Porosity %	Hydraulic Conductivity m/day	Thermal Conductivity w/m <sup>2</sup> K	Heat Capacity J/g <sup>o</sup> C	
Los Du Bonnet Batholith (P) Manitoba		$4.2 \times 10^{-6}$ to 4			18
Granodiorite - Los Alamos New Mexico (P)		$5.8 \times 10^{-6}$ to $6.6 \times 10^{-2}$			18
Crystalline basement (P) Rocky Mountain Arsenal		$4.9 \times 10^{-1}$ to $6.6 \times 10^{-1}$			18
Climax Stock - Colorado (P)		$2.6 \times 10^{-1}$ to $7.5 \times 10^{-1}$			18
Bower's Prairie Dam basalt (very dense, fine-grained)	3.1				9
Basalt	10.2				9
Dresser basalt	.264		1.3	.962	9
Anchikta Island basalt (dense)	2.8				

TABLE 2-A IV Summary table of hydraulic and thermal properties

Basaltic Rock Type & Location	Hydraulic Properties		Thermal Properties		Reference or Source
	Porosity %	Hydraulic Conductivity m/day	Thermal Conductivity w/m <sup>2</sup> K	Heat Capacity J/g <sup>o</sup> C	
Yakima Basalt (upper)					23
a. Interbeds		.08-20			
Yakima Basalt (lower)					23
a. Dense	(0.1-1)	(3x10 <sup>-6</sup> -9x10 <sup>-4</sup> )			23
b. Vesicular	5	(2x10 <sup>-6</sup> -3x10 <sup>-3</sup> )			23
c. Fractured,	10	(3x10 <sup>-6</sup> -1.5)			23
weathered or brecciated					23
d. Interbed	20	(9x10 <sup>-4</sup> -3)			24
Generic Basalt	(5x10 <sup>-4</sup> -0.33)	(4x10 <sup>-5</sup> -4)			25
Snake River Basalt		(10 <sup>-3</sup> -10 <sup>-6</sup> )			26
Snake River Basalt	8 (5-10)				27
Yakima Basalt		(10 <sup>-4</sup> -1)			28
Yakima Basalt		(5x10 <sup>-6</sup> -10 <sup>-5</sup> )			28
a. Laboratory		(10 <sup>-6</sup> )			30
b. In Situ					31
Yakima River		(4x10 <sup>-1</sup> -1.7)			
Snake River		(2.6x10 <sup>-6</sup> -2)			

TABLE 2-A 19 Summary table of hydraulic and thermal properties

Basalts Rock Type & Location	Hydraulic Properties		Thermal Properties		Reference or Source
	Porosity %	Hydraulic Conductivity m/day	Thermal Conductivity w/m <sup>2</sup> K	Heat Capacity J/g°C	
Cavernous and fractured Basalt		$10^3$ ( $10$ - $10^5$ ) $(10^{-5}$ - $10$ )			19 19
Snake River Plain	10				20
Columbia River					
a. Sedimentary Interbeds	0.1(0.01-0.25)	$10^{-1}$ ( $10^{-2}$ - $10$ )			21
b. Upper Interflow Zones	0.1(0.01-0.25)	$10^{-3}$ ( $10^{-6}$ - $1$ )			21
c. Deep Interflow Zones	0.1(0.01-0.25)	$10^{-4}$ ( $10^{-5}$ - $10^{-2}$ )			21
d. Central basalt Portion	0.001(0.0001-0.1)	$10^{-5}$ ( $10^{-6}$ - $10^{-4}$ )			21
Flood Basalt					
a. Dense, Depth 1,000 ft.		$10^{-2}$			22
b. Dense or with healed joints, depth 71,000 ft.		$(4.8 \times 10^{-4}$ - $8.6 \times 10^{-4})$			22
c. Vesicular		$(4.8 \times 10^{-4}$ - $3.6 \times 10^{-3})$			22
d. Fractured, weathered or brecciated		$(4.8 \times 10^{-4}$ - $2.0$ )			22
e. Interbeds; sand, clay and turf		$(10^{-1}$ - $1$ )			22
f. Zone of close fractures	10				22
g. Vesicular	5				22
h. Dense	1				22
i. Interbed, sandy	20				22

## EXPLANATION OF NOTATION - APPENDIX A

All values given are presented in the Form

A (P,C)

where:

A is the average value of a set of determinations

B is the range of values observed

C is the number of samples tested

A may be specified as a range  $A_1$ - $A_2$  if values of B and C are unknown. A may also represent the value of a single determination.

B may be specified as a single value, B, or a true range  $B_1$ - $B_2$ . If given as a single number, range represents the difference between the maximum and minimum values observed. The expression of range as a single value is common practice in many publications of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

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## APPENDIX B

## APPENDIX B

### GLOSSARY

Bulk Modulus, Modulus of  
Compression

The ratio of the change in average stress to the change in unit volume.

Hydraulic Conductivity

If a porous medium is isotropic and the fluid is homogeneous, the hydraulic conductivity of the medium is the volume of water at the existing kinematic viscosity that will move in unit time under a unit hydraulic gradient through a unit area measured at right angles to the direction of flow.

Hydraulic Gradient  
(Dimensionless)

Is the change in static head per unit of distance in a given direction. If not specified, the direction generally is understood to be that of the maximum rate of decrease in head. The gradient of the head is a mathematical term which refers to the vector denoted by  $\Delta h$  or  $\text{grad } h$ , whose magnitude  $dh/dl$  is equal to the maximum rate of change in head and whose direction is that in which the maximum rate of increase occurs. The hydraulic gradient and the gradient of the head are equal but of opposite sign.

Modulus of Elasticity  
(Modulus of Deformation)

The ratio of normal stress to normal strain for a material under given loading conditions; numerically equal to the slope of the tangent (hence 'tangent modulus') or the secant (hence 'secant modulus') of a stress-strain curve. The use of the term Modulus of Elasticity is recommended for materials that deform in accordance with Hooke's Law, the term Modulus of Deformation for materials that deform otherwise.

Permeability (Intrinsic)

A measure of the relative ease with which a porous medium can transmit a liquid under a potential gradient. It is a property of the medium alone and is independent of the nature of the liquid and of the force field causing movement. It is a property of the medium that is dependent upon the shape and size of the pores.

Poisson's Ratio

The ratio of the transverse normal strain to the longitudinal normal strain of a body under uniaxial stress.

Porosity (Effective)

The amount of interconnected pore space available for fluid transmission. It is expressed as a percentage of the total volume occupied by the interconnecting interstices. Although effective porosity has been used to mean about the same thing as specific yield, such use is discouraged.

Shear Failure

Failure resulting from shear stresses.

### Specific Heat

Specific heat of a substance at temperature  $v$  is defined as:

$$v = \frac{dQ}{dv}$$

Where  $dQ$  is the quantity of heat necessary to raise the temperature of a unit mass of the substance through the small temperature range from  $v$  to  $v+dv$ . It depends on both the temperature and the assumed mode of heating. It is expressed in:

calories

gm -  $^{\circ}\text{C}$

The specific heat of water at  $15^{\circ}\text{C}$  is 1 cal/gm- $^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Some authors regard the above definition as that of heat capacity or heat capacity per unit mass of the substance, and define the specific heat of a substance as the ratio of its heat capacity per unit mass to that of water.

### Storage Coefficient

The storage coefficient is the volume of water an aquifer releases from or takes into storage per unit surface area of the aquifer per unit change in head. In a confined water body the water derived from storage with decline in head comes from expansion of the water and compression of the aquifer; similarly, water added to storage with a rise in head is accommodated partly by compression of the water and partly by expansion of the aquifer. In an unconfined water body, the amount of water derived from or added to the aquifer by these processes generally is negligible compared to that involved in gravity drainage or filling of pores; hence, in an unconfined water body the storage coefficient is virtually equal to the specific yield.

### Strain

Deformation per unit of length. Normal Strain is the deformation per unit of length in the direction of the deformation. Shear Strain is the deformation per unit of length at right angles to the deformation or more commonly the relative change in the angle defining the sides of an infinitesimal element.

### Strength

The maximum stress that a body can withstand without failing by rupture or continuous deformation. Rupture strength or breaking strength refers to the stress at the time of rupture. If a body deforms, after a certain stress has been reached, continuously without any increase in stress, this is also called strength. By common usage, it can be described as the greatest stress that a substance can withstand under normal short-time experiments, or the highest point on a stress-strain curve.

## Stress

The force per unit area, when the area approaches zero, acting within a body. Biaxial

Stress: The state of stress where either the intermediate or the minor principal stress equals zero. Effective Stress (Effective Pressure) (Intergranular Pressure) :

The average normal force per unit area transmitted from grain to grain in a granular mass. It is the stress that is effective in mobilizing internal friction. Field

Stress: The stress existing in a rock mass independent of any man-made works. Residual

Stress: Stress that exists in a formation owing to previously applied forces or deformations. Triaxial Stress:

A state of stress where the three principal stresses have finite magnitudes, or simply a three-dimensional state of stress. Neutral Stress (Pore Pressure) (Pore Water Pressure)

: Stress transmitted through the pore water (water filling the voids of the mass). Normal Stress :

The stress component normal to a given plane. Principal Stress,

: Stresses acting normal to three mutually perpendicular planes intersecting at a point in a body, on which the shear stresses are zero. Major Principal Stress :

The largest (with regard to sign) principal stress.

### Thermal Conductivity

Thermal Conductivity is a material defined as:

$$K = \frac{Qd}{(V_0 - V_1) St}$$

Where Q is the quantity of heat which flows through a plate of the substance having a thickness d, cross-sectional area S, temperatures at the upper and lower surfaces of  $V_0$  and  $V_1$ , over the time t.

The conductivity is generally not constant for the same substance but depends upon the temperature. For non-homogeneous solids, the conductivity varies from point-to-point as well as in direction at each point.  
are:

### Thermal Diffusivity

Thermal diffusivity measures the change of temperature which would be produced in a unit volume of the substance by the quantity of heat which flows in unit time through a unit area of a layer of the substance of unit thickness with unit difference of temperature between its faces. It is defined in terms of the thermal conductivity (K), density ( $\rho$ ), and specific heat (c) as:

$$k = \frac{K}{\rho c}$$

Conduction of Heat in Solids,  
H.S. Carslaw and J.C. Jaeger  
Oxford Univ. Press, 1959, 2nd  
Edition.

### Transmissivity

The rate at which water of the prevailing kinematic viscosity is transmitted through a unit width of the aquifer under a unit hydraulic gradient. Though spoken of as a property of the aquifer, it embodies also the saturated thickness of the aquifer (b) and the properties of the contained liquid. It is equal to an integration of the hydraulic conductivities across the saturated part of the aquifer perpendicular to the flow paths.

### Uniaxial Stress

A state of stress where the minor and intermediate principal stresses are zero.