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Modeling of stopes in soft ores during ore mining



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Mining production

There were carried out 16 series of laboratory studies, which differ from each other by stope form and tensile strength in uniaxial compression (rock hardness), table 1. Each study repeated 3-5 times.

Substitute material, which was loaded by external stress corresponding to the depth of development (1260m) in respect with modeling scale determined under the expression given below, set into laboratory model

$$\frac{N_m}{\gamma_m \cdot l_m} = \frac{N_p}{\gamma_p \cdot l_p} = M \quad (2)$$

where N_m, N_p – some characteristic of model or prototype material, having force dimension, modified to the unit of area (compressive strength, extension, etc, elasticity, stress modulus); γ_m, γ_p – material density, model and prototype respectively; l_p, l_m – linear dimensions,

in model and prototype respectively; M - a nondimensional number, which is characteristic criterion of similarity.

According to the calculations under the formula [2], vertical and horizontal pressure in the model makes 13,2 and 6,4 kg/sm² at 1260 m depth of the development and 0.25 Poisson's ratio. In 3 days substitute material from back side was cut out, creating the necessary form of the stope with 45 sm³ volume, and within 36 days (which corresponds to 12 months in prototype) they inspect its conduct.

During modeling in accordance with behavior of vertical stope, within 12 days (4 months), the stope keeps its initial parameters, table 1. After 15 days, there observed cleaving of substitute in the top part of the stope and giving it domed shape.

Table 1 Results of modeling of stope stiffness in unstable rock

No of experiment	Stope parameters, sm			Ore hardness	Volume of the stope since its existence, months				
	height	length	width		4	6	8	10	12
stope rectangular in shape									
1	90	50	10	4	46	55	63	71	75
2	90	50	10	6	45	51	61	66	71
3	90	50	10	8	45	47	58	62	68
4	90	50	10	10	45	45	47	55	66
5	30	150	10	4	53	64	80	-	-
6	30	150	10	6	51	60	68	79	-
7	30	150	10	8	48	55	67	73	80
8	30	150	10	10	46	54	66	72	78
hipped stope									
9	90	75/25	10	4	45	48	53	54	55
10	90	75/25	10	6	45	47	50	50	50
11	90	75/25	10	8	45	45	47	48	50
12	90	75/25	10	10	45	45	45	46	49
stope of cusp form									
13	75	50	10	4	45	45	47	48	50
14	75	50	10	6	45	45	45	46	48
15	75	50	10	8	45	45	45	45	45
16	75	50	10	10	45	45	45	45	45

With the increase of stope lifetime up to 36 days, its shape becomes of ellipsoid form; this fact confirms the results of Kulinkov's researches [8]. It should be marked that changing of mountain mass hardness from 10 to 4, the volume of stope increases 1.5-1.6 times

respectively without sacrificing its stiffness in time up to 12 sec.

During modeling of horizontal stope stiffness, experiments No5-8, table 1, it was found that if one increases stope volume more

than 1.6 times, it will be destroyed (experiment No 5,6, table 1). During modeling there was observed formation of destruction crown on the top part of the stope. After 18-20 days, depending on the tensile strength of substitute, there observed cleaving of the material not only in the top part but also from the side of its blocks. Stability analysis of the stope of hipped form while modeling showed that destruction of substitute along the outline of the stope flows less intensively as compared with stopes, rectangular in shape. It should be marked that after 30 days the stope of hipped form takes cusp

form, and its volume increases not more than 1.1 -1.2 times within 36 days (a year) of existence. The stope fractures mainly in its top part. With the help of laboratory studies it was found that destruction power, affecting the sides of stope will be the lowest.

The results of laboratory modeling (fig.2) confirm that formation of the stope of cusp form increases its stiffness without disturbance of substitute along its perimeter. The table 1 shows that within 36 days the stope of cusp form has expanded not more than 1.1 times.

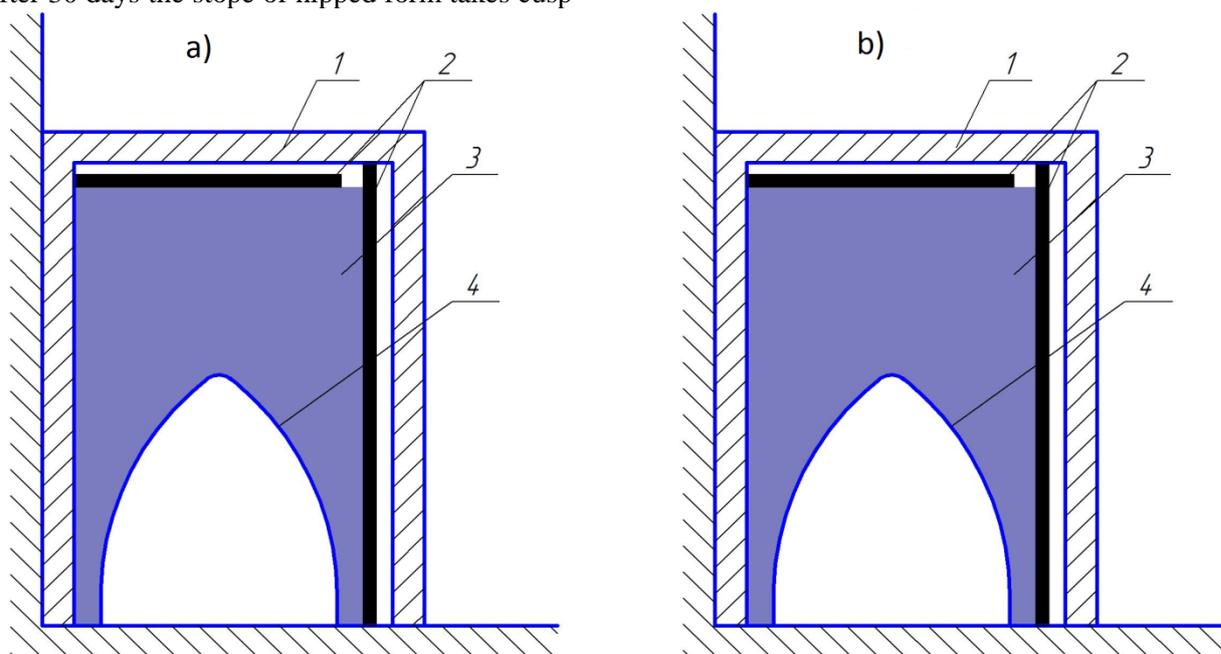


Figure 2 Modeling of stope stiffness of cusp form with substitute tensile strength corresponding specifically 100 MPa: a, b- stages of modeling, before and after modeling respectively; 1 - laboratory model; 2 - external loading; 3 – substitute (mountain mass); 4 – horizontal stope.

In such a way, the results of theoretical researches may be confirmed, and the expression (1) is true.

Figure 3 reflects combined outlines of stopes before and after modeling with substitute tensile strength, which equals specifically 100 MPa (10 on-scale of prof. Protod'yakov).

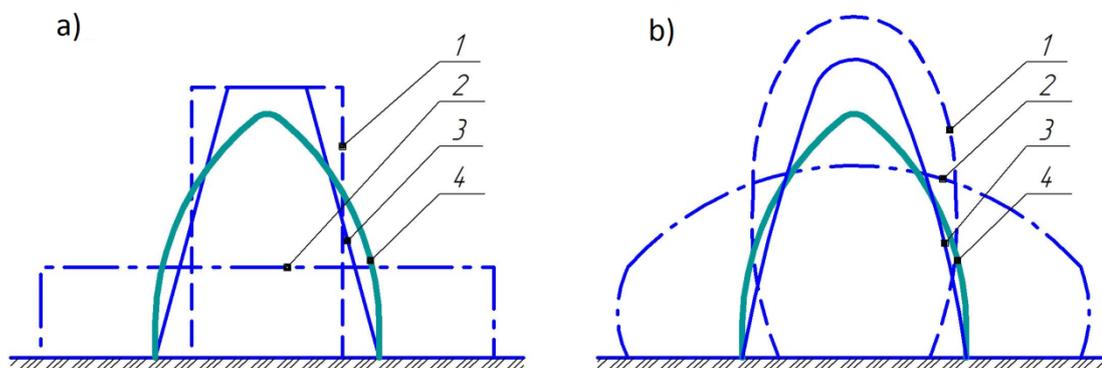


Figure 3 Combined outlines of stopes: a,b – stope configuration before and after modeling

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Analysis of the figure 3 shows that in geological conditions, when vertical stresses more than

horizontal ones, stopes of vertical and hipped form take cusp form in course of time.

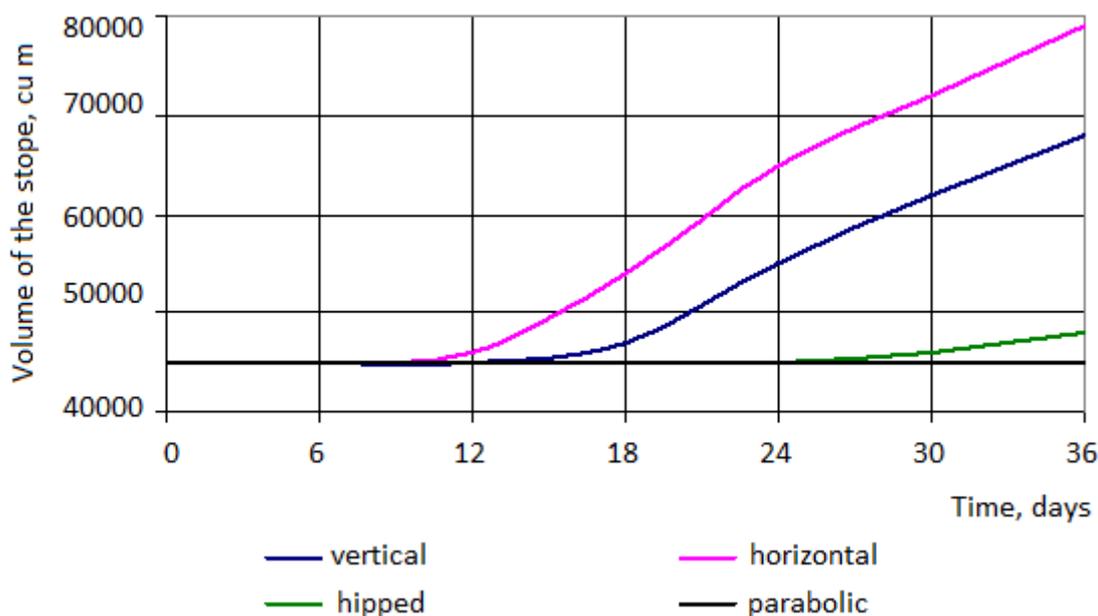


Figure 4 Dependences of change of stope volume on its lifetime and its shape at substitute tensile strength, which equals specifically 100 MPa.

Figure 4 shows that at substitute tensile strength, which equals specifically 100 MPa and lifetime of the stope of cusp form stays constant, square stopes in their turn start expanding in 6-12 days.

Conclusions

The results obtained showed that the stope of cusp form in unstable rock is more stable as compared with stopes of rectangular or hipped shape. Also while modeling it is proved that the volume of stope increases not more than 1.1 times under the characteristics determined by theoretical researches.

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