

**On a possibility of acquiring  
strong motion rotation  
from rockburst induced seismic effects**

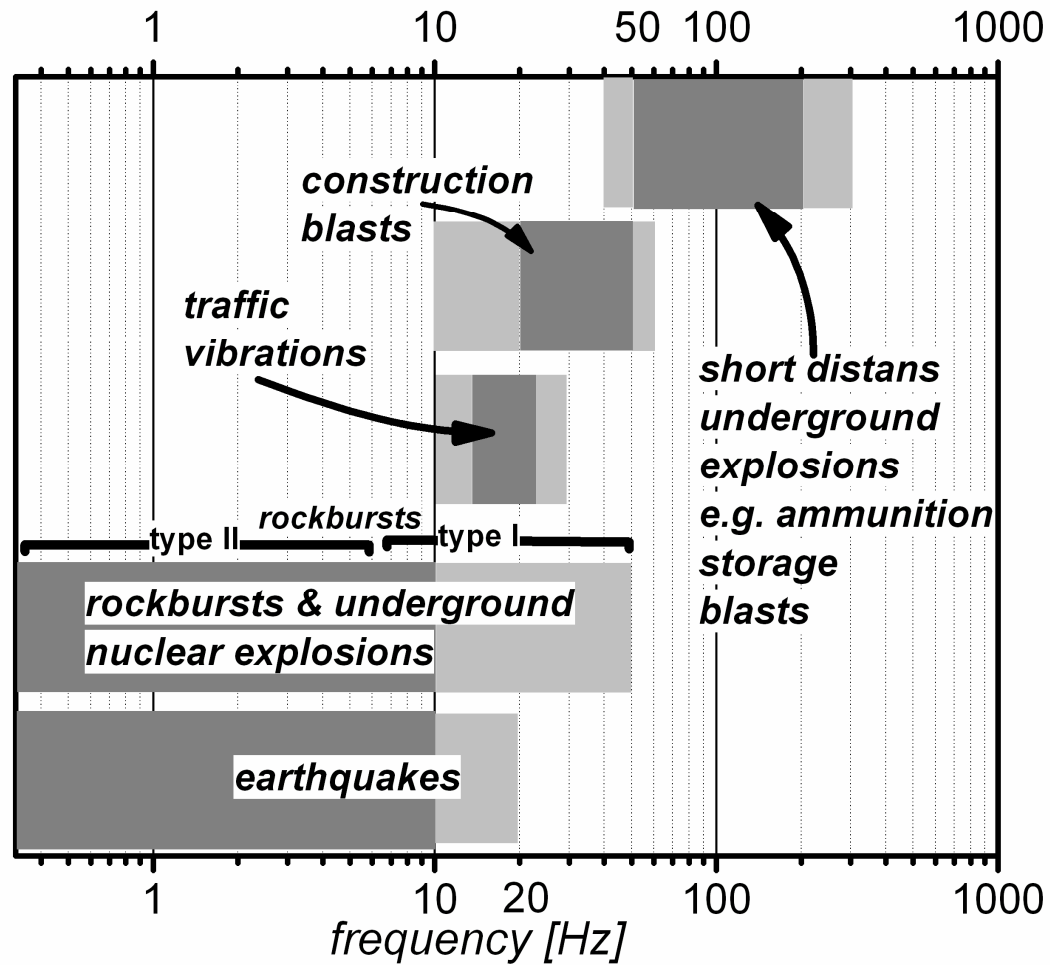
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# Semi-natural & artificial seismic excitations

- rockbursts (from deep mining or reservoir seismicity)
- nuclear underground explosions
- distant conventional explosions (e.g. from quarries)
- close (to structure) explosions of underground ammunition storages
- pile hammering
- traffic ground motion etc.

# Dominating frequency bands in various seismic effects



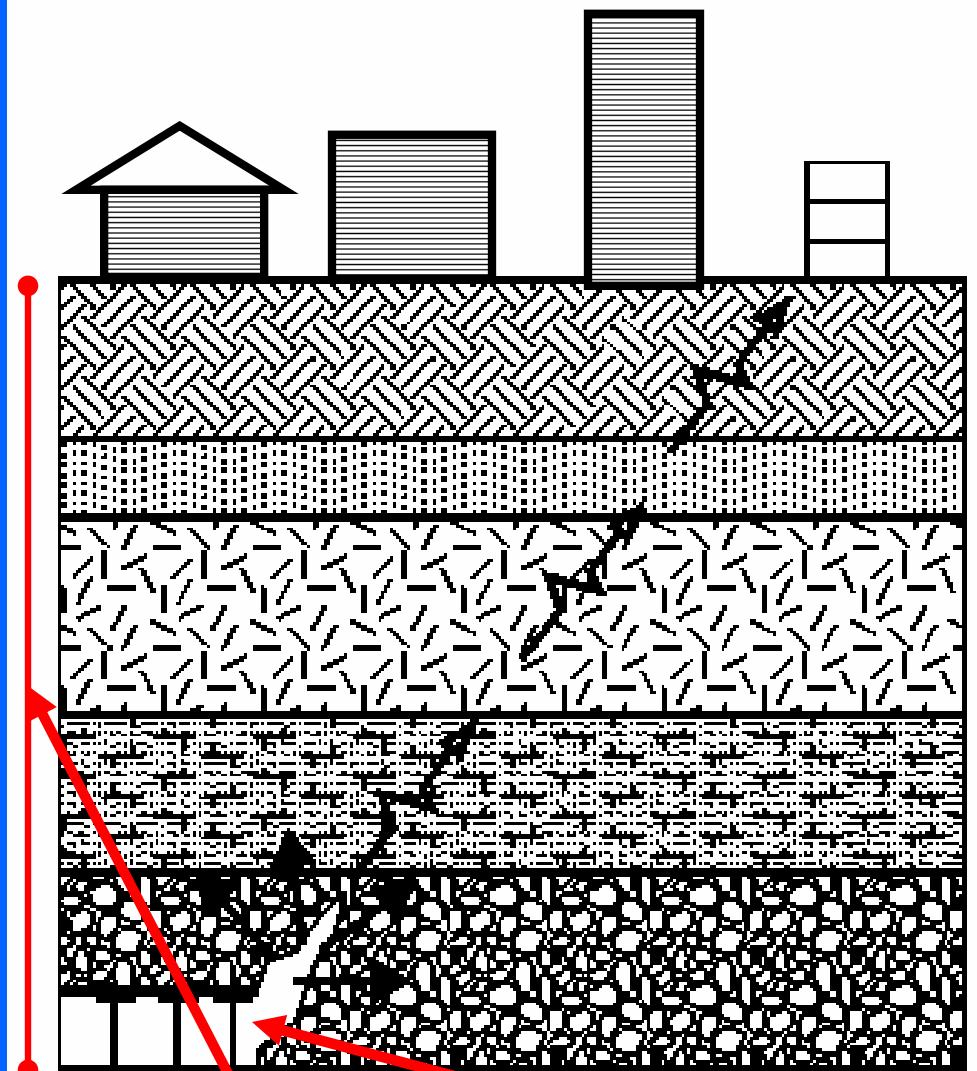
# Rockburst induced ground effects

- chain reaction of pillar bursts
- slipage on preexisting tectonic fault
- earthquake triggered on a nearby fault
- etc...

See e.g. Johnston, Rockbursts from a global perspective, in: *Induced Seismicity*, edited by Knoll, Balkema 1992

Some of them are triggered directly by underground explosions, but the strongest occur randomly

may exceed  $M_L=5$   
with hypocentral distance 1-3km  
energy released may reach  $10^{10}J$

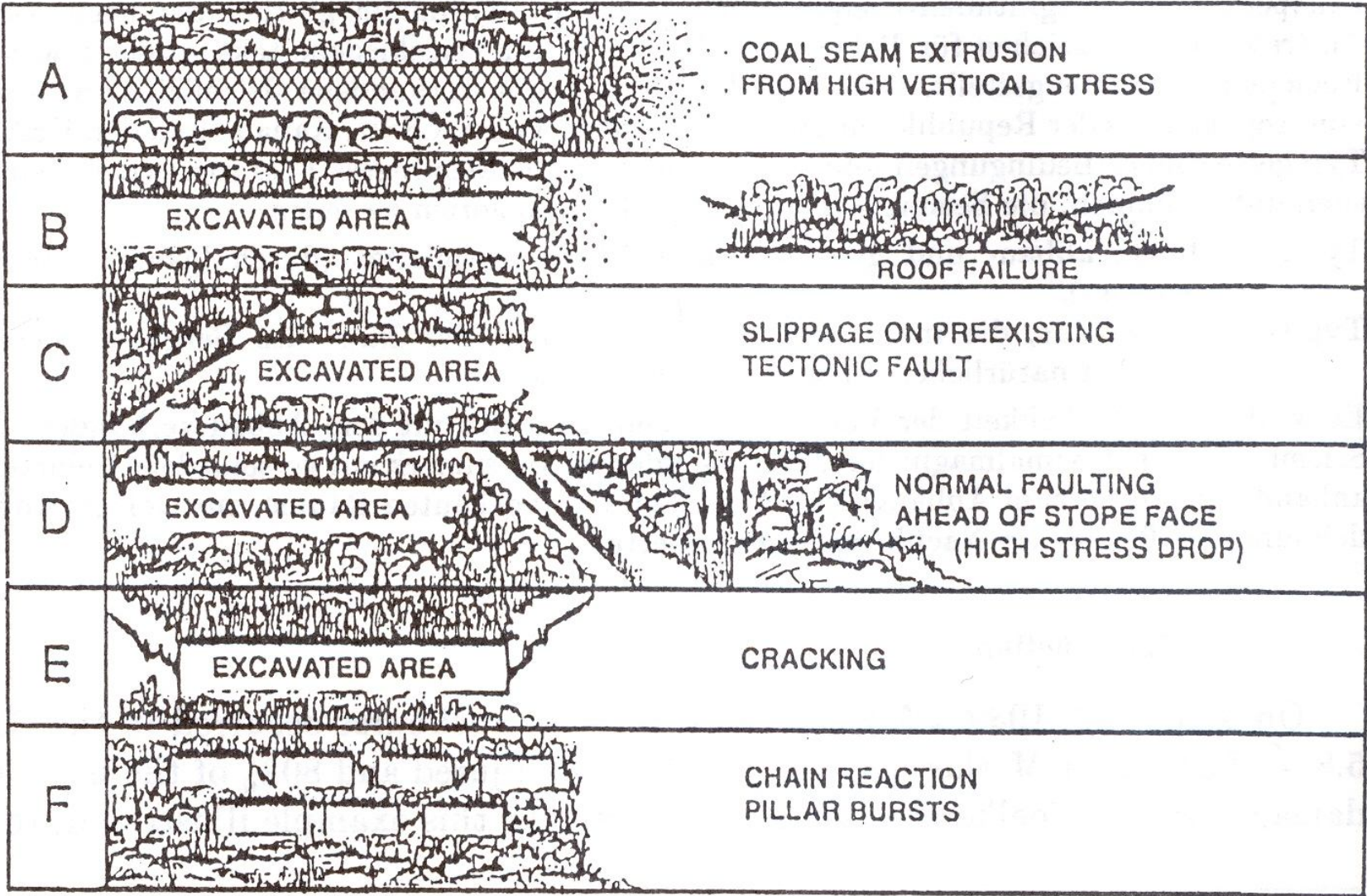


depth 1 to 3 km

deep  
mining

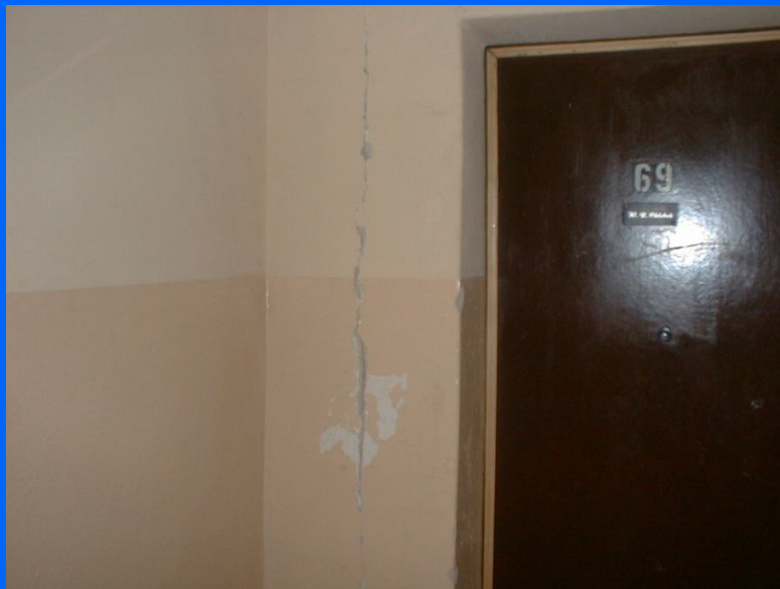
# Modes of ground failure during rockbursts

## MODES OF FAILURE



**How strong and  
how intensive  
can be a rockburst?**

**Polkowice, Poland February 20th 2002**  
**Energy  $E=1.5 \times 10^9$  J, Richtera magnitud  $M_L \approx 4.0$ , MSK64=VI+**



Polkowice May 21st 2006  
Energy  $E=1.9 \times 10^9$  J, Richtera Magnitud  $M_L \approx 4.3$  MSK64=VI+





## Kalgoorlie, Western Australia 21 IV 2010 –Richtera Magnitud $M_L = 5.0$



The Golden Eagle Hotel lies damaged after the earthquake in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, WA. Picture : Andrew Whitton  
*source: The Australian*

**Stilfontain, South Africa, March 9th 2005**  
**Richter Magnitud  $M_L = 5.3$  MSK64=VIII**



Courtesy of Dr Artur Cichowicz  
From the Council for Geoscience South Africa)



# Seismological classification of rockbursts (Johnstone 1991)

a) type I – frequent, less intensive, similar to strong blasts,

b) type II – rare, more intensive (similar to shallow earthquakes, magnitude similar to strong, underground nuclear explosions)

Table 1. Characteristics of Rockbursts

type I

Generally, rate is a function of mining activity

Location is generally within 100 m of mining face or on some preexisting zone of weakness or geological discontinuity near the mine.

Intact rock can be broken in the rupture when mining induced stresses exceed the shear strength of the material. Orientations of rupture planes can vary.

Often high stress drops observed.

Low to medium magnitudes.

type II

Not enough data to determine relationship with mining rates.

Location is on some preexisting fault surface that may be up to 3 km from the mine.

All occur in preexisting, possibly prestressed tectonic faults. Mining may simply “trigger” these events on faults of preferred orientations.

Stress drops more similar to natural earthquakes.

Potential for high magnitudes.

## Classification of of rockbursts based on surface ground motion records

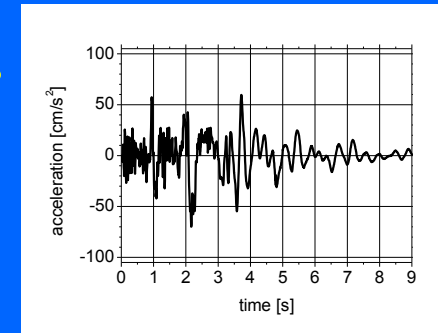
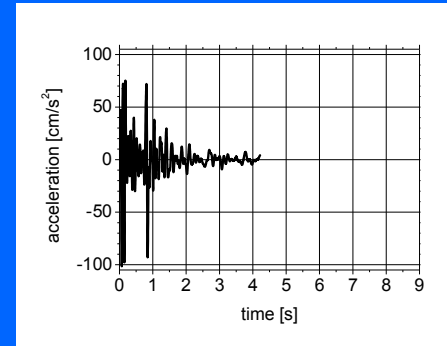
after ZEMBATY Z., Rockburst induced ground motion - a comparative study,  
*Soil Dynamics & Earthquake Engineering*, vol.24, no.1, January 2004, pp. 11-23.

### 1. Type 1 (similar to blast effects)

Quite frequent (return period 1-3 months), short duration 1-2s,  
Rather high horizontal peak accelerations  $PGA=200-300\text{cm/s}^2$  low velocities  $PGV<2\text{cm/s}$ , very low  
displacements  $PGD=1-2\text{mm}$   
almost no structural damages

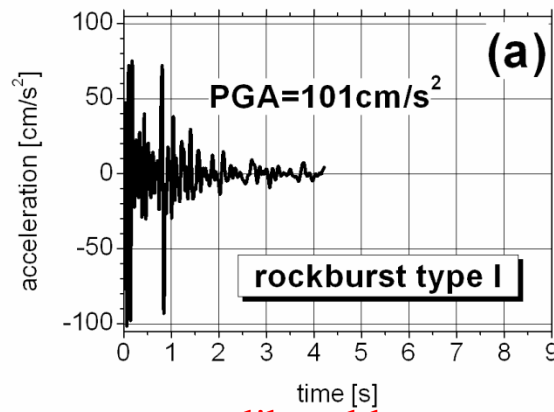
### 2. Type 2 (similar to shallow earthquakes)

Not too frequent (return period 1-2 years), longer duration 4-5s,  
Moderate  $PGA=50-150\text{cm/s}^2$   
Higher peak ground velocities  $PGV=10-20\text{cm/s}$   
Higher peak ground displacements  $PGD=1\text{cm}$

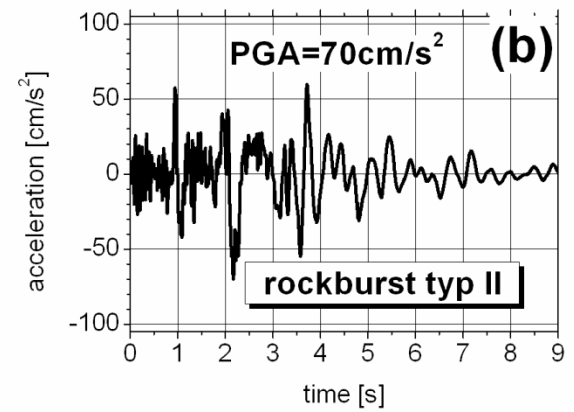


**Peak Ground Velocities** can serve as measures of  
rockburst surface intensity for both types of rockbursts while  
accelerations are often misleading

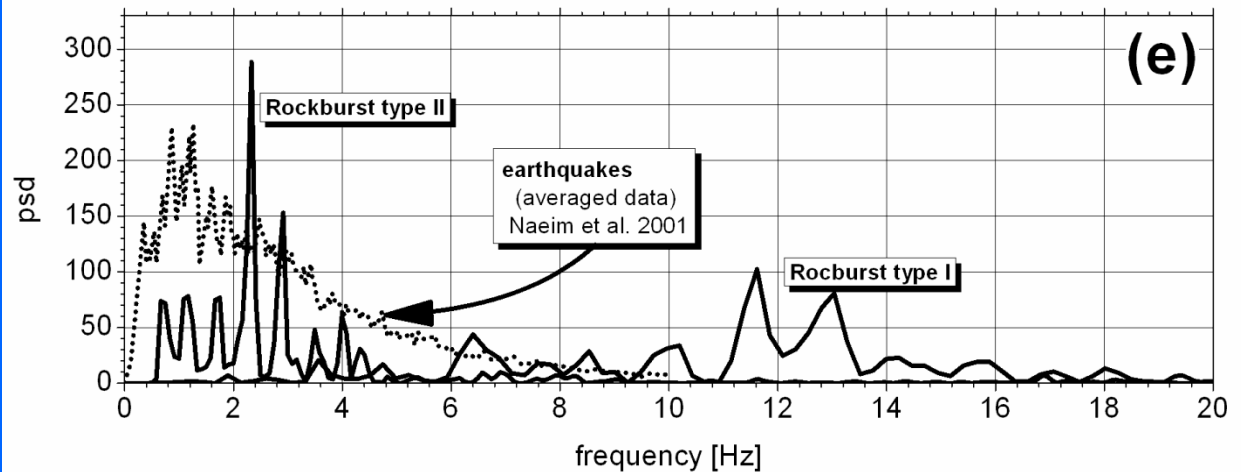
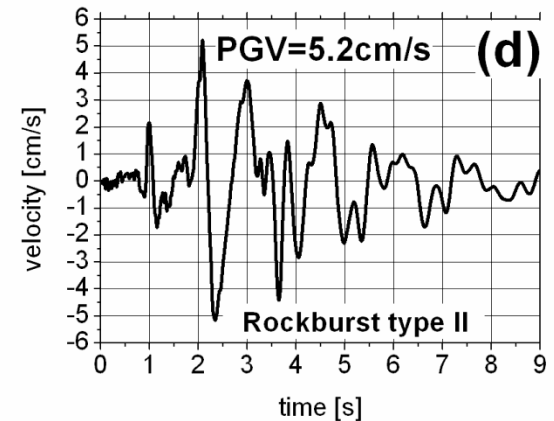
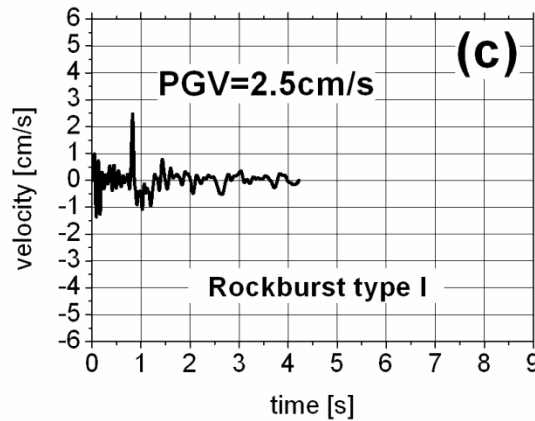
# Comparison of rockbursts type I and II



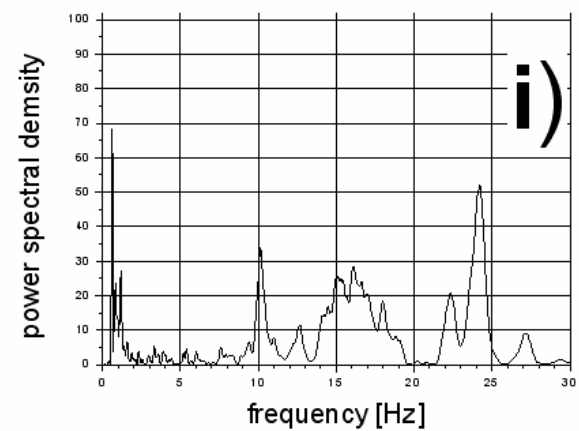
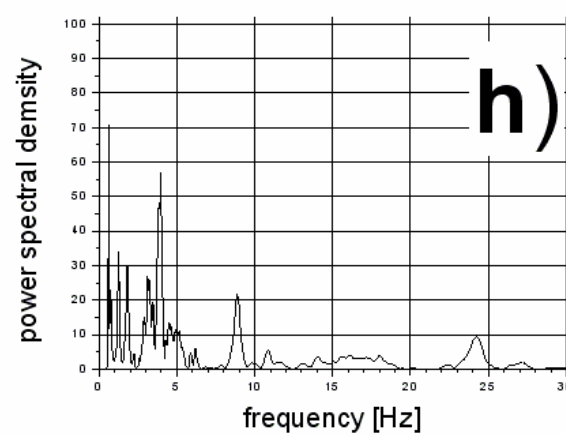
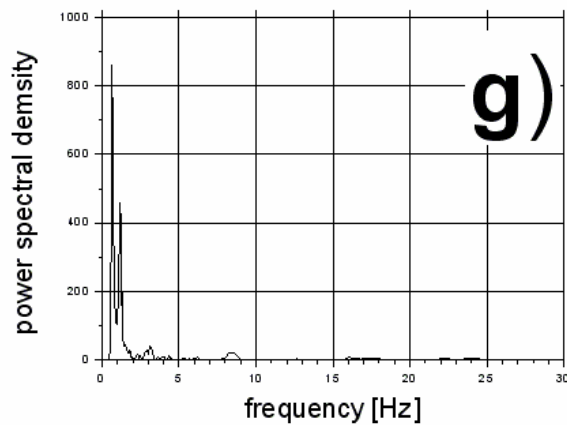
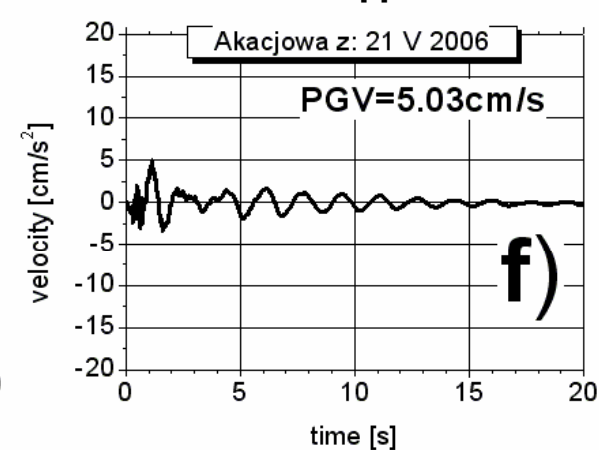
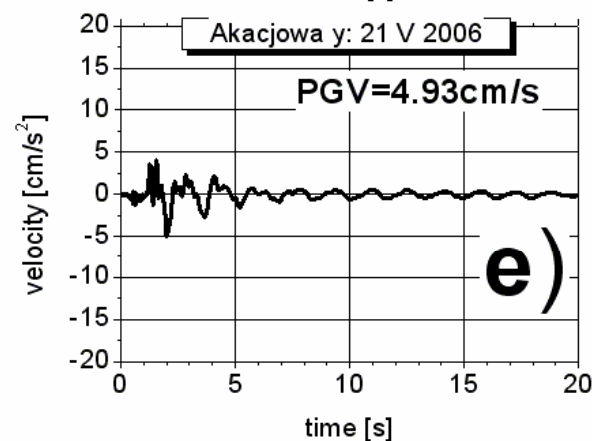
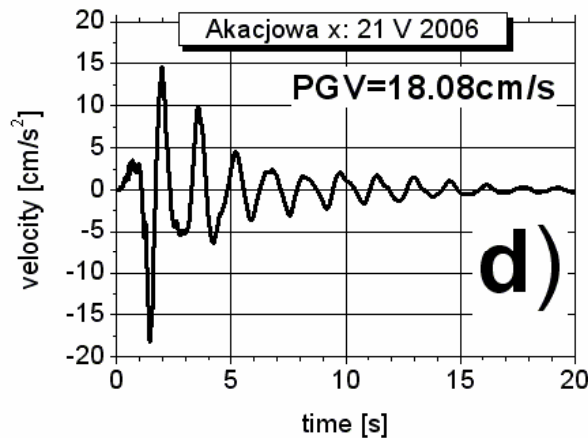
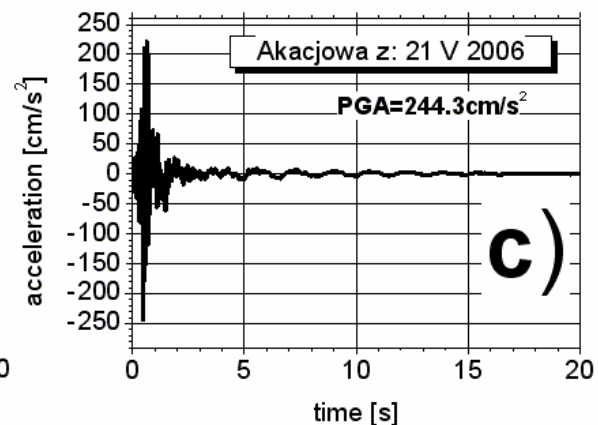
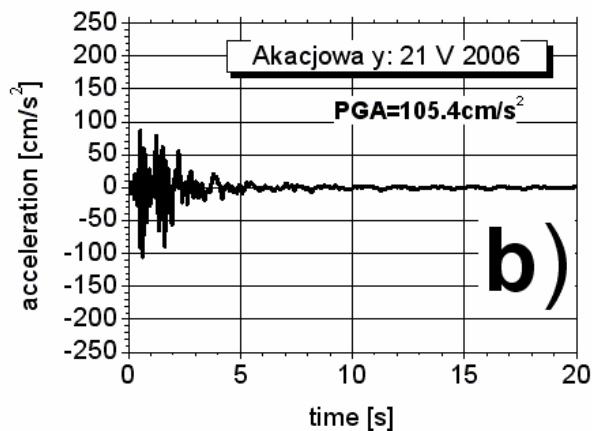
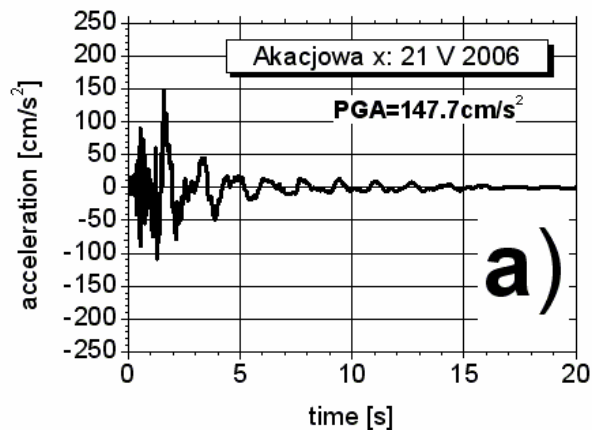
like a blast



like a shallow earthquake



# Record of the strong type II rockburst May 21st 2006, Polkowice, Poland



# Conclusion:

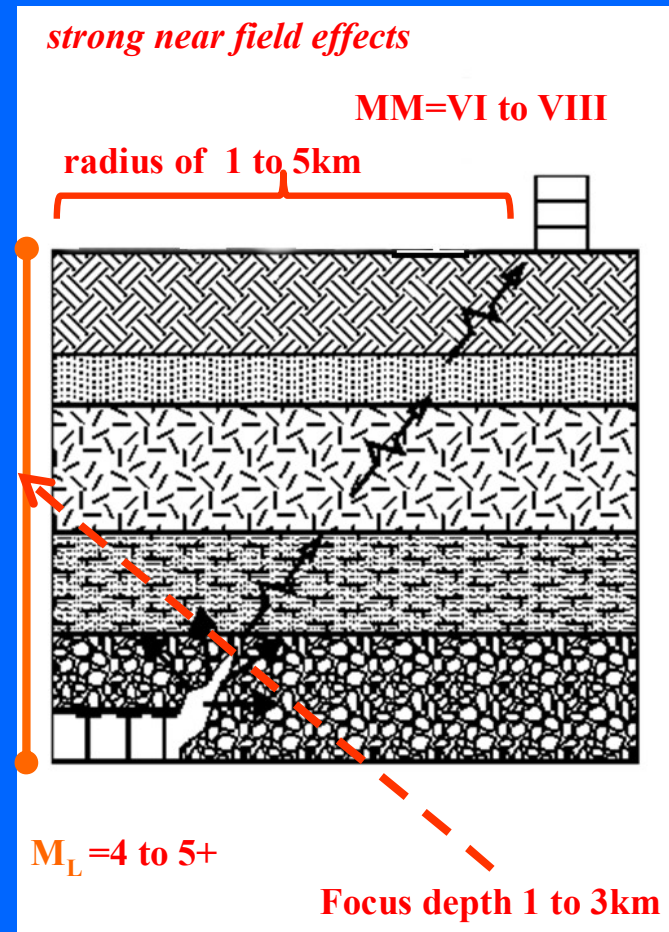
1. Surface mine effects are monitored and forecasted
2. With the return period of 1-2 years one can expect rockbursts with high intensities

MM=VI (in LGOM basin Poland)

MM=VII to VIII in South Africa

3. One can easily record **strong (!) rotations** of MM VI to VII using just well located 3-4 instruments in the areas of radii 5-10km during 2-3 years

4. **Strong rockburst areas are good test fields to acquire strong rotations**



# List of rockbursts:

Table 2. Mine or Mining District Characteristics

Mine	Country	Ore	Geology	Depth of mine	Mining operation area	Period of coverage
Esterhazy Cory	Canada Saskatchewan	potash	soft, most competent layer composed of carbonate	7100 m	continuous (no blasting)	mostly Canadian regional network since 1960
Springhill	East Canada	coal	not available	less than 1 km	R & P above 2000 ft longwall below	no information
Quirke	Elliot Lake, Canada	uranium	dipping, strong brittle quartz, high horizontal stress $\sigma_h/\sigma_v = 2.1$	500 m	1100 x 600 m room & pillar	Sep 84 to April 85
INCO Metal	Sudbury, Ontario, Canada	nickel	low grade disseminated norite		3 mines	instrumented in 1940's
Kirkland	Southern Ontario, Canada		hard rock			no information
General	China	coal	not available	200 - 700 m	32 coal mines in districts	sinc 1949
Chengzi	China	coal	not available		coal pillar recovery	no information
Horonai	Japan	coal	not available	1000 m	mostly longwall	10 years
Ruhr area	Germany	coal	not available	average 700 m	longwall	17 geophone network for 4 months
GDR	Germany	potash	not available			not available
Lubin Copper Basin	Poland	copper		600-1000 m		1975-1983

Table 2. (continued)

Magnitude frequency relationship	Rate of events	Maximum size of events	Precursory phenomena	Source	Reference
		2.3 to 3.1 magnitude MMI up to V	prior to 1970, no seismicity		Hasegawa 87, Herget & Macintosh 87, Gendzwill 84
			monitoring rise in level of 'foreshocks'		Hasegawa 87
	150 pillar burst type. Previously in 1982, a large series of events	assume pillar burst - Type I			Udd & Hedley 87
			prior to burst, frequency content of activity increased		Pakainis 84, Cummins & Given 73
					Hasegawa 87
	2000 per 50 years	2.5 to 3.8, assume Type I	using acoustic monitorins		Mei & Lu 87
		3.4 intensity VII			Hua 87
			investigate use of strain energy index to predict potential		Ishijima, Fuji & Sato 87
	10 000 events per 4 months	all Type I	rate increased with approach of longwall		Will 80
		5.4 m <sub>b</sub> (Type II)			Stiller et al.
many relationships derived (see text)	at least 361 events in 10 years	4.0 to 5.0, larger magnitudes possible, Type II ✓	changes in b-value	radii from 70 to 502 mm, found M <sub>L</sub> to be a direct measurement of seismic moment	Gibowicz 85



# List of rockbursts continued :

Table 2. (continued)

Mine	Country	Ore	Geology	Depth of mine	Mining operation area	Period of coverage
Upper Silesia Coal Basin (Karvina)	Poland, Czechoslovakia	coal	2 formations: 1. large number of coal seams, reduced thickness, fine grained sediments. 2. Coarse grained continental sediments (high strength conglomerates)	600-1000 m	very high rate of production	since 1982
Witwatersrand	South Africa	gold	hard quartzite	3 km		various arrays
Klerksdorp District	South Africa	Gold	extensional, normal faulted hard rock, argillaceous to siliceous quartzites with subordinate conglomerates & shale horizons	average 2.3 km	4 large mines average area = 200 km <sup>2</sup>	digital network installed 1986
Carletonville	South Africa	gold	unfaulted, intact rock, hard rock	2-4 km		digital network installed 1986
East Rand Proprietary Mine	South Africa	gold	high strength rock	2-3 km	300 m longwall & strike pillars	various arrays
Blyvooruitzicht	South Africa	gold	quartzites, strength 250 MPa	2-3 km	4 mines longwall	various arrays since 1978
Grangesberg	Sweden	Iron	dipping slab orebody, surrounded by lepite & granite	500 m		1984 network installed after large event, $M_L = 3.2$

Table 2. (continued)

Magnitude frequency relationship	Rate of events	Maximum size of events	Precursory phenomena	Source	Reference
since 1982, 12 rockbursts and 62 'tremors' recorded	at least one Type II event		events occurring on discontinuities	Konecny et al. 87	
Linear		4-5	arrest of tilt displacement	$m_b - M_L$ similar to nuclear explosions	Cook 76
	most smaller than 3.0 mag. More than 6000 events from mag. 0.2 to 5.4 in ten years	5.2 (Type II) (source radius 84 m. stress-drop = 23 b)		stress drops similar to earthquakes. Source dimensions larger than Carletonville & ground motion time history more extended	McGarr et al. 87, Gay et al. 84
	May to Oct. 1986, 22 mag > 3.5	4.0 upper limit (0.045 G, 376b)		high stress drops, smaller source dimensions, less extended ground motion time histories	McGarr et al. 87
$b = 0.6$	$M_L \geq 2.0$ , expected every 12 days	2.8 (Type I), 3.8 (Type II, rockbursts occur in pillars & irregular geometry)			McGarr 82
$b = 0.65$ to 0.97				source radii from 25-65 m, stress drop 0.5 to 5 MPa for mag. 1.0-2.0, FPS showed strike parallel to face, pure shear	McGarr 82, Spottiswoode 84
in between swarms & aftershocks. For $1.1 \leq M_L < 3.2$ , $\log N = 3.04 - 1.08 M_L$ . $M_L$ , b here is larger than for natural crustal earthquakes ( $b = 0.85$ )	1000 events in less than 4 years recorded after main shock	$M_L = 3.2$		focal mechanism for large event showed shear failure not cavity collapse	Bath 84

# List of rockbursts continued:

Table 2. (continued)

Mine	Country	Ore	Geology	Depth of mine	Mining operation area	Period of coverage
Sunnyside coal mining district	Eastern Utah, USA	coal	4 m thick coal seam, underlain by thick-strong, thick bedded sandstone 24-40 in. thick. Overlain by weak 45 m thick shale & sandstone	events cluster at 1 km ranged from 1 to 3 km depth	room & pillar	microearthquake study undertaken
Book Cliffs, E. Wasatch Plateau	Utah, USA	coal	numerous and complex joints and faults			regional network
Coeur-d'Alene mining district (general)	Northern Idaho, USA	metals	intensely faulted sheared structural knot. Precambrian rockranges from fine-grained argillites & sites to coarse ground quartzites			no information on seismic arrays
Star	Northern Idaho, USA	lead, zinc, silver	see 'Coeur-d'Alene', above. Hard brittle rock, high horizontal stress	7900 ft	horizontal timbered cut and fill method. Produce 1000 tons of ore per day. Complicated geometry	24 geophone network installed 1975
Central Pennsylvania	USA	coal	not available	600 ft	longwall blasting	geophone array
Sydney Basin, Bowen Basin	N.S.W., Queensland, Australia	coal	not available	500 m		some monitoring equipment for micro-tremors installed
Staffordshire	Great Britain	coal	mudstone and shale with intervening coal seams & non-continuous lenticular sandstone bodies	1 km	longwall	seismicity network since 1970's

Table 2. (continued)

Magnitude frequency relationship	Rate of events	Maximum size of events	Precursory phenomena	Source	Reference
	from 1967 through 1970: 50 000, 20 000, 27 000 and 1500 seismic events per year. 1700 > 1.5 magnitude	range from -1.0 to 2.8 mag unit. The larger magnitude occurred away from immediate mine on pre-existing faults		composite fault plane solution shows thrusting. Corner frequencies from 10 to 14 Hz. Strike of FPS agrees with tectonic stress field	Smith et al 74, Wong 85
	very high natural induced (Type I) seismicity. Densest clusters of activity where mining exceeds 50 000 tons	$M_L$ 4.0		Type II's occurring on deep faults, FPA agree with horizontal tectonic stressfield studies	Wong 85
					Wallace & Morris 86
				activity associated with quartzite band that traverses center of main vein ore body at sharp angle	Langstaff 80
	micro activity strongly proportional to daily mining schedule. Activity remains high for 5 min. after blast	Type I		depth of event within 100 ft of coal seam	Hardy & Mowry 76
		mostly outbursts are of concern	inconclusive		McKavanaugh & Enever 80, Grezi et al. 84
a & b parameters affected by position of advancing face (See text. See 4.11)	Type I only	$M_L$ 3.0-3.5, Type I.1 Largest events occur when advancing face under pillars	largest events occurred during smallest a and b values		Wong 85, Kuszniir et al. 84