Research Article

Investigation on Rock Strata Fracture Regulation and Rock Burst Prevention in Junde Coal Mine

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Through the establishment of structural mechanics model, this paper analyzes the fracture of super thick rock stratum. Through the model, it can be seen that the fracture of low-level super thick rock stratum produces large elastic energy release and dynamic load, which is easy to produce disasters such as rock burst. The numerical calculation shows that under the influence of low hard and thick rock stratum, the leading area of coal mine roadway will produce energy concentration, and the coal pillar will also produce energy accumulation. Thick rock stratum is in bending state and has large bending elasticity. Coal pillar has large compression elasticity, which is the main reason for rock burst. The accumulation of elastic properties of overburden and rock burst caused by coal pillar energy storage can be effectively controlled by using advanced presplitting blasting, coal seam drilling pressure relief, and strengthening support.

1. Introduction

In China, the geological conditions of coal mine are complex, and the underground mining is gradually developed from shallow to deep. In recent years, in the process of coal mining, rock burst caused by many factors, such as improper mining design, coal pillar setting, unknown geological conditions, and high in situ stress, has caused huge casualties and property losses. The rock burst disaster in engineering practice has challenged the existing accident mechanism research, treatment scheme, and prediction theory. Many experts have done a lot of research, e.g., Guo et al. [1] studied the mechanical properties and fracture process characteristics of deep buried granite specimens under different initial confining pressure and unloading rate combinations. Based on the analysis of the causes of dynamic disasters, Liang et al. [2] proposed a reasonable filling height of goaf under special geological conditions in order to fully eliminate mine disasters. Jiao et al. [3] analyzed the correlation between fault structure and temporal and spatial characteristics of rock burst by collecting rock burst events occurred near fault in the process of deep mining. He et al. [4, 5] developed the key technologies such as roof directional presplitting technology, negative Poisson’s ratio high prestressed constant resistance support technology, and coal gangue plugging support technology, which are conducive to reducing the stress concentration of coal pillar and rock burst accidents. Ning et al. [6] put forward and applied the soft and strong support body as the support form of gob side entry retaining. In the early stage of roof movement, the soft strong support has good compressibility, which can not only relieve the roof pressure and strong impact load but also reduce the support resistance and prevent the support from being crushed. Zhu et al. [7] analyzed and evaluated the risk of rock burst, considering the coupling behavior of stress distribution and overlying strata movement. Based on the principle of strain...
energy balance, the height of pressure relief zone above the
goaf of an underground mining area is determined for the
first time. Kong et al. [8] studied the deformation and rock
burst risk of roadway under different dynamic and static
loads. Dou et al. [9] systematically studied the relationship
between elastic wave velocity and coal sample stress and put
forward the positive correlation between elastic wave ve-
clocity and stress under uniaxial compression. Wang et al.
[10, 11] analyzed the distribution characteristics of stress
field under gob side entry retaining with roof cutting. Wang
et al. [12] studied the failure mechanism of marble under
cyclic loading and unloading conditions and provided
theoretical basis for rock dynamic disaster prediction. With
the development of mining activities, the self-stable state of
high stress balance of coal pillar is easily broken by the
impact energy formed by the sudden collapse of key strata
[13, 14]. Therefore, the rock burst of coal pillar in overlying
coa area is the result of static load and dynamic load [15, 16].
At present, the more effective control methods of rock burst
mainly include pressure relief, support reinforcement,
presplitting roof, and eliminating coal pillar [17, 18].

Through theoretical analysis, numerical calculation, and
field engineering practice, this paper analyzes the occurrence
mechanism and control measures of rock burst from the
perspective of energy distribution. The characteristics of
advance and lateral energy distribution of roadway under
low-level and thick rock stratum are put forward. The
strategy of controlling rock burst by means of advanced
presplitting is put forward.

2. Engineering Geological Conditions

Junde minefield is located in the southern end of Hegang
coalfield. The fold of the minefield is simple. There are 128 faults in
the minefield. Most of them are tension and torsion normal
faults. Among them, 62 faults have a drop of more than 30 m,
27 faults have a drop of 15–30 m, and the rest of the faults
have a drop of less than 15 m. Most of them are in direct
contact with the quaternary system.

9103 working face adopts strike longwall comprehen-
sive mechanized mining method. The strike of the working
face is 1637 m, the average length of the working face is 168 m,
and the mining height is 3.6 m. The occurrence of coal
seam in the working face is stable, mainly massive and
small bright coal, a small amount of dark coal, and the coal
quality is good. The thickness of the coal seam is
8.21–14.15 m, with an average thickness of 11.18 m. The
coal seam is mined in layers, and the recoverable reserves
are 4.304 million tons. According to the drilling data and
roadway observation, the pseudoorof of the coal seam is
0.2–3.33 m carbon shale, the direct roof of the coal seam is
5.2–14.9 m gray siltstone, and the main roof is coarse
sandstone, and there is conglomerate locally. The roof
condition is shown in Figure 1.

The results of in situ stress measurement show that the
maximum principal stress is approximately in horizontal
direction, near east-west direction, which is unfavorable to
the north-south direction of roadway support. In this area,
the maximum principal stress ranges from 22.8 MPa to
27.3 MPa, near east-west direction; minimum principal
stress range is 10.1–12.8 MPa, near vertical direction. At
present, the conveyor roadway and return air roadway are
arranged in the north-south direction, which is approxi-
mately vertical to the maximum principal stress, and the
roadway is prone to large deformation, which is not con-
ducive to the maintenance of the roadway.

After mining, the original stress field will redistribute,
and the coal and rock will have different degrees of damage and
movement. The overlying strata affected by mining include
the strata that participate in the movement along the ad-
vancing direction and the strata that participate in the
movement along the working face direction. The stress field is
divided into abutment pressure distribution in front of
working face and lateral stress field. When the support
pressure is too large, the accumulated elastic energy of coal is
greater than its bearing capacity, which will lead to failure and
even rock burst. At the same time, because of the high
strength and thickness of the roof, the release of elastic energy
during breaking is easy to produce rock burst [19, 20].

As shown in Figure 2, it shows the movement diagram
of overlying strata in the direction of coal seam ad-
vancement. When the strata fall behind and the weight of
the overlying strata is transferred to the front of the
working face, the peak of support pressure will eventually
appear, which is easy to lead to rock burst. At the same
time, the overlying strata fracture will release the accu-
mulated bending elastic energy of the rock beam, resulting
in energy transfer and rock burst.

The calculation of the first fracture weighting step of
the thick rock beam is shown in formula (1), and the
periodic weighting step is shown in the following
formula:

$$v_i = \int_0^{t_1} \sigma_i \delta \xi = \int_0^1 t \delta \varepsilon = \frac{1}{2} \sigma \varepsilon = \frac{1}{2} \sigma_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij},$$

\[ (2) \]

where $\sigma_{ij}$ is the allowable tensile stress of lower (supporting)
strata and the upper (following) strata of the rock beam, $m$;
$\sigma_s$ is the thickness of the lower (supporting) strata
and the upper (following) strata of the rock beam, $m$;
$\sigma_s$ is the thickness of the lower (supporting) rock
stratum, MPa; $r$ is the average unit weight of rock mass, kg/
$m3 \times 103$; $C_r, C_r^{+}$ are the weighting step of the same period and
the weighting step of the last period, $m$.

There is a strong correlation between the overlying strata
movement along the working face direction and the working
face length. The longer the working face length is [21, 22], the
higher the development height of the fracture arch is. The
shorter the length of working face is, the smaller the de-
velopment height of fracture arch is. However, under the
influence of low-level thick rock, the development of frac-
ture arch height has a strong correlation with the position of
thick rock, and its development process is different from that
of common fracture arch.
According to the analysis in Figure 3, the height of the fracture arch is always below the low position thick rock beam before the low position thick rock beam is broken. In the strike long arm mining method, with coal pillar roadway protection, the weight of low position thick rock beam is shared by the embedded end of rock beam and coal pillar. When the embedded part of the thick rock beam cracked, the weight of the low thick rock beam was transferred from the fracture line of the rock beam to the coal pillar. Before the fracture, the overhanging roof of the low position thick rock beam is large, and it has high-strength bending elastic energy and gravitational potential energy.

3. Numerical Calculation Model and Results

3.1. Numerical Calculation Model and Its Parameters. According to the comprehensive histogram of 9103 working face in Junde Coal Mine, the initial three-dimensional numerical model is established with the help of 3DEC numerical simulation analysis software, as shown in Figure 4. The model is 2000 m long, 500 m wide, and 450 m high. Mohr–Coulomb model is adopted as the constitutive model of the numerical model. The selection of rock mechanics parameters in the model is determined based on the rock mechanical parameters obtained in the
According to the identification of the impact tendency of 17 layers in Junde Coal Mine, the following conclusions can be drawn: the average failure time of coal sample is 485.2 ms, the average impact energy index is 4.108, the average elastic energy index is 2.531, and the uniaxial compressive strength is 15.176 MPa, which belong to weak impact tendency; the tensile strength of the rock sample is 1.8 MPa, the thickness of the roof is 14.4 m, the elastic modulus is 95.5 GPa, the load per unit width of the overlying strata is 0.0378 MPa, and the bending energy index is 821.928, which is strongly impact-prone.

3.2. Strata Movement Law and Energy Response in Strike Mining Direction. According to the strength theory, if the local stress of coal and rock mass is too large and exceeds its own strength, rock burst will be induced. According to energy theory, rock burst will be induced when the energy of mechanical system of stopes surrounding rock exceeds the energy needed to maintain the equilibrium state [23, 24].

For linearly elastic materials, the strain energy density is shown in the following equation:

\[ v = \frac{1}{2} \sigma : \varepsilon = \mu \varepsilon + \frac{1}{2} \lambda \text{tr}^2 (\varepsilon) = \mu \varepsilon + \frac{1}{2} \lambda \text{tr}^2 (\varepsilon). \]  

The strain energy density can also be given by the three principal strains (eigenvalues) of the strain tensor.

\[ v(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_3) = \mu (\varepsilon_1^2 + \varepsilon_2^2 + \varepsilon_3^2) + \frac{1}{2} \lambda (\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3)^2. \]  

Using the principal stress expression form,

\[ v(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3) = \frac{1 + \nu}{2E} (\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + \sigma_3^2) - \frac{\nu}{2E} (\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3)^2. \]  

3.3. Distribution Characteristics of Lateral Stress. Different mining parameters (mainly referring to the length of working face) lead to different overlying strata movement and lateral stress distribution. According to the theoretical analysis and field observation, we know that the influence range of lateral abutment pressure caused by overlying huge thick strata is large, and the stress concentration factor is high, especially when the coal pillar is reserved, the elastic energy accumulated on the coal pillar is very dangerous.

As shown in Figure 7, according to the simulation, when the working face length is 145 m, the fracture arch stops when it develops to the bottom of the thick rock, but the thick rock has slight bending deformation. The influence range of front abutment pressure is 0–180 m, and the peak area of abutment stress is about 25 m. When the length of the second working face is 150 m, 25 m coal pillar is reserved, and the fracture arch stops when it develops to the bottom of the thick rock, but cracks appear in the thick rock, and there is a large bending deformation. The deformation of coal pillar is large, and the gathering elastic energy is large, so it is easy to produce rock burst.

When the length of the working face is 298 m, the huge thick strata fracture, the influence range of lateral support is 0–190 m, the peak area of support pressure is about 18 m, and the range of internal stress field is about 0–5 m.
Figure 4: Numerical calculation model.

Table 1: Rock mechanics parameters.

| Lithology          | Compressive strength (R/MPa) | Elastic modulus (E/MPa) | Poisson’s ratio | Cohesion (C/MPa) | Internal friction angle | Density   |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Coarse sandstone   | 10.934                       | 1413.5275               | 0.2618          | 1.6863           | 20.02                  | 1.8172    |
| Medium sandstone   | 7.777                        | 1030.5988               | 0.231           | 1.5554           | 20.02                  | 1.7171    |
| Fine sandstone     | 9.471                        | 1346.3219               | 0.2156          | 1.8711           | 20.79                  | 1.7402    |
| Siltstone          | 9.394                        | 1211.5411               | 0.231           | 1.9789           | 20.79                  | 1.7094    |
| Tuff               | 8.296                        | 1069.9324               | 0.204           | 1.7476           | 18.36                  | 1.5096    |

Figure 5: Continued.
Figure 5: Distribution of displacement, stress, and energy under the condition of 75 m strike advance. (a) Displacement characteristics, (b) shear stress, (c) vertical stress, and (d) energy distribution characteristics.
Figure 6: Continued.
Figure 6: Distribution of displacement, stress and energy under 175 m strike advance. (a) Displacement characteristics, (b) stress, (c) vertical stress, and (d) energy distribution characteristics.

Figure 7: Stope stress characteristics under different working face lengths. (a) Cloud chart of lateral stress when working face length is 150 m. (b) Cloud chart of lateral stress when working face length is 298 m.
According to theoretical analysis, field measurement, and numerical simulation, it should be determined that the length of working face is greater than 298 m, and after the rock strata collapse and stress redistribution of the previous working face is stable, gob side entry retaining or gob side entry driving should be carried out in the internal stress field, so as to avoid rock burst caused by elastic energy accumulation of overlying strata and energy stored in coal pillar of the previous working face.

4. Control Measures

In order to reduce the accumulation of elastic properties, three methods are mainly used: advance presplitting blasting, coal seam drilling pressure relief, and strengthening support. As shown in Figure 8, three boreholes are constructed in each group for roof presplitting blasting, with elevation angles of 6°, 23°, and 40° and hole length of 80 m and hole spacing of 20 m. By strengthening the support, the excessive expansion of the loose zone is limited to reduce the convergence deformation of the surrounding rock of the roadway and enhance the antiexpansion and anti-impact ability of the surrounding rock. The support section is supported by 4 anchor cables, 3 anchor bolts, and combined W-type steel belt.

Figure 9 shows the difference of microseismic distribution between two adjacent working faces before and after adopting control measures. The red sphere indicates that the microseismic energy is greater than 10e6 J, and the green sphere indicates that the energy is between 10e5 J and 10e6 J. After adopting comprehensive measures, the phenomenon of microseismic energy greater than 10e6 J disappears in the mining process. The overall number of microseisms also decreased. After the treatment, there is no big rock burst phenomenon in the mining face.

5. Conclusion

This paper expounds the dynamic basis of rock burst, analyzes the influence of overburden movement on rock burst,
and verifies it by theoretical calculation and numerical simulation.

(1) The causes of rock burst accidents in the process of excavation are as follows: the upper working face is short, the thick rock stratum is in bending state, the greater bending elastic property is accumulated, the greater compression elastic property is accumulated in the coal pillar, the width of the reserved coal pillar exceeds the "range of internal stress field", and the roadway is located in the peak area of abutment pressure. There are many risks of rock burst in the roadway maintained in the peak area of abutment pressure.

(2) The causes of rock burst accidents in the process of mining are as follows: the length of the working face in the upper section is short, the movement of the main roof (especially the extremely thick rock) is not sufficient, resulting in the storage of high-strength bending elastic energy, the wide isolation coal pillar, resulting in a large area of suspended roof, the accumulation of high-strength compression elastic energy and bending elastic performance of the roof, the fracture of the extremely thick rock in the roof, and the compression of the coal wall. It results in the release of large area roof bending elastic energy and coal wall compression elastic property.

(3) According to the experiment, it is known that when the working face is advanced to 235 m or so, the huge thick strata fracture occurs. With the advance of the working face, the abutment pressure transfers to the front of the coal wall, and its influence range gradually increases with the advance of the working face, and the leading influence distance is about 50 m. When the length of the working face is 298 m, the huge thick strata fracture occurs, the influence range of lateral support is 0–190 m, the peak area of support pressure is about 18 m, and the range of internal stress field is about 0–5 m.

(4) Advance presplitting blasting, coal seam drilling pressure relief, and strengthening support can effectively control the overburden aggregation performance and rock burst caused by coal pillar energy storage.

Data Availability

The data are available and explained in this article; readers can access the data supporting the conclusions of this study.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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