Stability Assessment of Deep Three-Soft Outburst Coal Seam Roof Based on Fuzzy Analytic Hierarchy Process

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1. Introduction

China is a country with a huge coal resource storage. The total proven coal reserves are 5.57 trillion tons, ranking first in the world. In recent years, with the rapid development of the social economy, the demand for energy has increased in China [1]. Coal has always been one of China’s main energy sources. About 70% of China’s energy comes from coal. Coal and gas outburst has always been a major disaster plaguing China’s efficient and safe production of coal mines [2–4]. Coal and gas outburst accidents occur every year in China. The causes are diverse. Due to these characteristics, “three-soft” coal seams are prone to coal and gas outburst accidents [5]. “Three-soft” coal seams refer to soft roof and floor stratum, soft main coal seams, and soft seam floor stratum encountered in coal mining. In general, the coal seam and roof and floor with three soft features are weak strata, the coal seam fracture is developed, and the structure is complex [6, 7]. The strength of “three-soft” coal seams is very low. For this reason, the thickness of coal seams during mining operation varies greatly. The coal body is mostly scaly or powdery, resulting in unstable gas conditions. It is prone to gas outburst accidents, greatly affecting normal tunneling work [8–10].

At present, there is not much analysis of the stability of three-soft coal seam outburst roof. Coal seams are just evaluated by a single qualitative or quantitative evaluation method. The analysis results often have large errors. The fuzzy analytic hierarchy process combines qualitative and quantitative methods, making evaluation results more reasonable and scientific. Laarhoven and Pedrycz [11] first proposed a comprehensive evaluation method combining the fuzzy mathematics theory and the analytic hierarchy process. Chen and Wu [12] applied the fuzzy analytic hierarchy process to 3D printer performance evaluations and
proposed the fuzzy collaborative intelligent analytic hierarchy process. Wang et al. [13] used the fuzzy analytic hierarchy process to determine optimal stope structure parameters. In order to overcome the subjectivity and unity of traditional evaluation methods, Song et al. [14] put forward a new method of using the fuzzy analytic hierarchy process to select coal mining methods. Sridhar and Gana-puram [15] used the fuzzy analytic hierarchy process to analyze the factors affecting the maintenance function on a more sustainable manufacturing process. Peyman et al. [16] created an earthquake risk assessment (ERA) diagram for Sanandaj, Iran, through the fuzzy analysis analytic hierarchy process. Zhou et al. [17] conducted the fuzzy comprehensive evaluation on the stability of bedding slopes reinforced by prestressed anchor cables. The evaluation results obtained were consistent with the on-site monitoring results. Ince et al. [18] used the fuzzy analytic hierarchy process to determine metrics related to the sustainable performance in the construction industry. Mallick et al. [19, 20] used FAHP and MCDM technologies, together with the geographic information technology, to perform a weighted overlay analysis of the groundwater potential area of the Itwad-Khamis watershed in Saudi Arabia. Rouyendegh et al. [21] used FAHP to construct a decision-making model to improve the operating performance of healthcare companies. Wijitkosum and Sriburi [22] used FAHP to analyze and assess the desertification risk in the upper reaches of the Bicebri River. Wang et al. [23] established a targeted groundwater environmental impact assessment indicator system specifically and determined the weight of each index, as well as the impact level through the fuzzy comprehensive analytic hierarchy process. Zhang et al. [24] applied FAHP to flood control and discharge to solve flood discharge conflicts between different areas within a watershed when floods occur. Riibas et al. [25] used the fuzzy analytic hierarchy process (FAHP) to evaluate the project risk of a large hydropower project in the construction stage. Wu et al. used FAHP in the PBA construction risk analysis of subway stations [26]. Liang studied the highway cost risk assessment based on the fuzzy analytic hierarchy process [27]. Li optimized the mining method of the manganese mining area based on the fuzzy analytic hierarchy process [28].

On the basis of the above analysis, although scholars at home and abroad had applied the fuzzy analytic hierarchy process to many aspects, no one has analyzed the stability of deep three-soft coal seam roof in coal mines. Fuzzy mathematics can be used for qualitative analysis. The analytic hierarchy process can solve problems quantitatively. The fuzzy analytic hierarchy process combines the qualitative and quantitative analyses to make results more scientific and reasonable.

2. Theoretical Basis

2.1. Fuzzy Analytic Hierarchy Process. The fuzzy analytic hierarchy process is a systematic analysis method combining qualitative and quantitative analysis. It is a comprehensive application of the analytic hierarchy process and the fuzzy evaluation method [29]. The essence of the analytic hierarchy process is a way of decision-making thinking. First, a complex problem is considered as a system. The system is decomposed into multiple small aspects. Then, each small aspect is decomposed to establish a hierarchical structure model, which is generally divided into three layers from high to low: target layer, criterion layer, and scheme layer. The relative importance of each two factors in each level will be compared to calculate the weight of each factor in the evaluation system [30]. The fuzzy comprehensive evaluation method aims to transform qualitative evaluation into quantitative evaluation. Its basic idea is to apply the fuzzy transformation principle and the maximum membership principle to consider the comprehensive evaluation of all factors related to the item to be evaluated. The focus of the evaluation is all relevant factors considered. The evaluation set of each factor is determined in accordance with the evaluation results of experts. The membership degree vector can be obtained by combining the weight set. Finally, the fuzzy comprehensive evaluation result can be obtained according to the evaluation standard [31].

2.2. Operation Process of Fuzzy Analytic Hierarchy Process. For specific operations of the fuzzy analytic hierarchy process, different items have diverse operations. The risk assessment of the stability of deep three-soft coal seam outburst roof can be implemented in four stages [32], including model design, expert consultation, matrix establishment, calculation analysis, and analysis report formation, as shown in Figure 1.

2.3. Decision-Making Steps of Fuzzy Analytic Hierarchy Process

Step 1. Create a hierarchical structure diagram.

Establish an analytic hierarchy process diagram to identify the risks of the project.

Step 2. Calculate the weights of primary and secondary indicators.

Compare each factor in the criterion layer with each factor (scheme) in the scheme layer and score the importance with the number within the interval [1, 9] to form a judgment matrix. After being tested by the consistency ratio $C \times R = \lambda_{\text{max}} - n/(n - 1)R \times I < 0.1$, the weights $w_i = (w_{i1}, w_{i2}, \ldots, w_{in})$ are normalized to get $w_i$, which satisfies $0 \leq w_i \leq 1$, and $\sum_{i=1}^{k} w_i = 1$.

The values of $RI_k$ in the consistency check list can be found in Table 1.

A matrix $W$ with $k$ rows and $n$ columns can be obtained by combing several weight vectors:

$$W = \begin{bmatrix}
W_{11} & W_{12} & \cdots & W_{1n} \\
W_{21} & W_{22} & \cdots & W_{2n} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
W_{k1} & W_{k2} & \cdots & W_{kn}
\end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$
Establish an indicator system
Collate experts’ contents
Consult experts’ opinions
Calculate the weight value
Build a fuzzy judgment matrix
Rank risk factors
Form a report
Figure 1: Specific operation process.

Table 1: Values of randomness indicators.

| Matrix order | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| R - I        | 0.52| 0.89| 1.12| 1.26| 1.36| 1.41| 1.46| 1.49| 1.52| 1.54|

Step 3. Determine the fuzzy vector and comment set.
Each factor in the indicator layer was scored by 10 experts. The score vector \( R = (R_{i1}, R_{i2}, \ldots, R_{in}) \) of the \( i \)-th factor \( C_i \) can be obtained, and the comment set \( V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5\} \) [33] is also determined.

Step 4. Perform the comprehensive risk assessment.
The weight of each risk factor is \( W = \{W_1, W_2, W_3, \ldots, W_n\} \), and the evaluation matrix is \( B_{ij} \), where \( W_1 + W_2 + \cdots + W_m = 1, B_{ij} = W_i \times R_{ij} \).

Then, the comprehensive evaluation grade score of \( A \) is

\[
f = \sum_{j=1}^{n} v_j \times B_{ij}, \quad (i, j = 1, 2, \ldots, n).
\] (2)

After the grade score corresponding to each factor of the criterion layer is calculated, the corresponding risk level can be obtained in accordance with the score interval in the comment set \( V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5\} \).

3. Project Case

3.1. Basic Overview of Lugou Mine

(1) General Situation of Working Face. No. 32141 working face is located in the lower part of the west wing of No. 32 mining area, as the replacement face of the upper working face of No. 21 coal pillars. The working face is located to the west of No. 32 haulage downhill, the mined-out area of No. 32121 working face is located in the north, and the coal pillar protected by Weizhai fault and its branch fault is located in the south. The underground elevation of this surface is \(-325 \leq -261 \) m, and the ground elevation is \(+215 \leq +240 \) m. The southeast of the working surface is Wuxing Reservoir, the west is Wangjia men, the south is Magou village housing and primary school, and the north is Wuxing Reservoir and orchard. The working face is arranged along the direction of the coal seam, with an average inclined length of 120 m and an average mining strike length of 720 m. It has an area of 84279 m². The coal seam thickness ranges from 1.0 m to 22.0 m with an average of 8.0 m. The recoverable reserve is 750,000 tons. It uses the one-time full-thickness mining technology of fully mechanized caving coal.

(2) Coal Seam Situation. The average coal seam thickness in the mining area of No. 32141 working face is about 8.0 m, and the coal seam inclination angle is \( 7^\circ \sim 20^\circ \), with an average of 13°. The coal seam has a simple structure, presenting to be black powder scaly. The lump coal is hard with a metallic luster. Influenced by the oblique structure, the roof and floor of the coal seam have local undulating changes, belonging to unstable coal seams; the immediate roof is mud stone with a thickness ranging from 1 m to 2.5 m and an average thickness of 2.0 m. There are argillaceous bands, dark gray, rich in plant fossils, and a large number of mica.

(3) Coal Seam Roof Situation. The upper roof is medium-grained sandstone and fine-grained sandstone, with a thickness ranging from 18.5 m to 22.0 m and an average thickness of 20.0 m. They are gray or dark gray, thick layered with a medium-grained structure. They are mainly composed of quartz, containing mica flakes and pyrite nodules; there is no false roof on this surface; the immediate bottom is mudstone and sandy mudstone, with thickness ranging from 14.0 m to 20.0 m and an average thickness of 15.0 m. They are dark gray mudstone containing plant fossils. They are mainly composed of quartz, followed by feldspar, containing mica flakes and pyrite scattered crystals. There are friction mirrors and scratches; the lower floor is L7-8 limestone, and the thickness ranges from 12.0 m to 13.0 m with an average of 12.5 m. It is black-gray, dense, and hard, with well-developed karst fissures and good water richness. There are a large number of calcite veins and pyrite crystals.

(4) Geological Structure. According to the analysis of actual exposure data of nearby tunnels, No. 32141 working face has an axially syncline structure near the north-south direction as a whole. The coal seam is unstable. The coal thickness ranges from 1.0 m to 22.0 m. The average coal thickness is about 8 m. There is a thick coal area near the oblique axis of the working face (the thickness of the coal seam ranges from 10 m to 22 m). It is expected that the crustal stress is concentrated in the area towards the oblique axis, and the coal seam stratum is extremely broken. According to the 3D seismic and geophysical data, as well as the actual exposure data of nearby tunnels, there are six faults in the working face: (1) DF5 187°65~75° H = 0~6.0 m; (2) F32-8 176°45′ H = 0~9.0 m; (3) F32-16 204°60′ H = 0~7.0 m; (4) F32-4 192°65~78° H = 0~7.0 m; (5) F32-29 310°65~72° H = 0~4.0 m; (6) F32-14 325°72′ H = 0~1.0 m. There is the Weizhai fault and its
branch faults in the southern part of No. 32141 working face. The fault drop is relatively large. Based on the geological structure analysis above, the geological structure of this area is relatively complex. It is expected that there may be hidden structures in the working face. It is necessary to strengthen the detection of the geological structure during the excavation.

3.2. Risks and Harmful Factors

(1) **Risks of Geological Environment.** The coal seam in No. 32141 working face of Lugou Coal Mine has a simple structure, which is black scaly powder. The lump coal is hard with a metallic luster. Influenced by the oblique structure, the roof and floor of the coal seam have local undulating changes, belonging to unstable coal seams; the geological environment is complex, so there are inherent risks such as coal and rock gas content, geological structure, deep stress concentration, coal outburst characteristics, and gas emission.

(2) **Risks of Safety Management.** Since the Lugou Mine project is large and involves many people, making its management difficult, safety education, safety rules and regulations, and emergency drilling have become the main contents of management.

(3) **Risks of Safety Facilities.** Due to the existence of gas, CO, and other gases, in order to prevent personnel poisoning and gas explosion hazards during the excavation process, the ventilation requirements of the coal mine must be quite high; the ventilation issue has become the primary risk for three-soft coal seams. In addition, monitoring systems, fire-fighting systems, transportation systems, and protective rescue facilities are also risk sources.

(4) **Risks of Construction Personnel.** For construction personnel, the risks mainly come from the unreasonable arrangement of personnel, weak safety awareness, and weak ideological and political qualities.

3.3. **Establishment of a Risk Assessment Indicator System.** From the identification of main risk factors in Section 3.2, it can be found that there are 23 levels of main risks and harmful factors affecting the project, which can be divided into three layers: target layer, primary indicator layer, and secondary indicator layer. The corresponding factor set is $A = C_1, C_2, \ldots, C_{23}$, as shown in Figure 2.

3.4. **Weight Calculation of Indicators**

3.4.1. **Weight Calculation of Primary Indicators.** From the risk assessment indicator system diagram of the three-soft coal seam outburst roof stability of the Lugou Mine, it can be known that there are 4 primary indicator factors. After the weights of these 5 indicators are calculated by the analytic hierarchy process, the judgment matrix $A = (v_{ij})_{4 \times 4}$ can be constructed, as shown in Table 2.

The square root method is used to solve the approximate value $w'_i$ of the weight vector of the evaluation factor:

$$w'_i = \left( \prod_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} \right)^{1/n}, \quad (i = 1, 2, \ldots, n),$$

$$w'_1 = \left( 1 \times 1 \times \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{2} \right)^{1/5} = 0.6084,$$

$$w'_2 = \left( 1 \times 1 \times \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{3} \right)^{1/5} = 0.6444,$$

$$w'_3 = \left( 3 \times 3 \times 1 \times \frac{1}{2} \right)^{1/5} = 1.3510,$$

$$w'_4 = \left( 2 \times 3 \times 2 \times \frac{1}{2} \right)^{1/5} = 1.4310,$$

$$w'_5 = \left( 2 \times 1 \times 1 \times 2 \right)^{1/5} = 1.3195.$$

After the normalization of $w'_i$, the evaluation factor weight vector $w_i$ can be obtained. The relationship is

$$w_i = \frac{w'_i}{\sum_{k=1}^{n} (\prod_{j=1}^{n} a_{kj})^{1/5}}, \quad (1, 2, \ldots, n).$$

Get

$$w_1 = 0.1136,$$

$$w_2 = 0.1204,$$

$$w_3 = 0.2523,$$

$$w_4 = 0.2673,$$

$$w_5 = 0.2464,$$

$$A = (0.1136 \ 0.1204 \ 0.2523 \ 0.2673 \ 0.2464).$$

Python is used to obtain the value of $\lambda$ and find $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 5.3930$. From Table 1, it can be obtained that $R \cdot I = 1.12$. After being substituted into the formula, the following can be obtained:

$$C \times R = \frac{\lambda_{\text{max}} - n}{(n - 1)R \times I} = \frac{4.0206 - 4}{(4 - 1) \times 0.89} = 0.0078 < 0.1.$$  

It shows that the discriminant matrix satisfies the consistency requirement, that is, the obtained eigenvector is valid.

3.4.2. **Weight Calculation of Secondary Indicators.** The analytic hierarchy process is still used to calculate the weight of indicators.

(1) First, establish the judgment matrix for $B_1$ geological environment risk.

Similarly, the following can be obtained from the data calculation in Table 3:
From Table 1, it can be obtained that $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 5.0264$.

$W_{B_1} = (0.3243 \ 0.1495 \ 0.3243 \ 0.1271 \ 0.0748)$.

From Table 1, it can be obtained that $R \cdot I = 1.12$. After being substituted into formula (6), it can be obtained that $C \times R = 0.0059 < 0.1$. 

### Table 2: B-B judgment matrix.

| Target layer A | $B_1$ | $B_2$ | $B_3$ | $B_4$ | $B_5$ |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $B_1$          | 1     | 1     | 1/3   | 1/2   | 1/2   |
| $B_2$          | 1     | 1     | 1/3   | 1/3   | 1     |
| $B_3$          | 3     | 3     | 1     | 1/2   | 1     |
| $B_4$          | 2     | 3     | 2     | 1     | 1/2   |
| $B_5$          | 2     | 1     | 1     | 2     | 1     |
It shows that the discriminant matrix satisfies the consistency requirement, that is, the obtained eigenvector is valid.

(2) Establish a judgment matrix for $B_2$ safety management.

The following can be obtained from the data calculation in Table 4:

$$\lambda_{\text{max}} = 4.0206, \quad W_{B_1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5032 & 0.0839 & 0.1856 & 0.2273 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (8)$$

From Table 1, it can be obtained that $R \ast I = 0.89$. After being substituted into formula (6), it can be obtained that $C \times R = 0.0077 < 0.1$.

It shows that the discriminant matrix satisfies the consistency requirement, that is, the obtained eigenvector is valid.

(3) Establish a judgment matrix for $B_3$ roof factors.

The following can be obtained from the data calculation in Table 5:

$$\lambda_{\text{max}} = 5.4473, \quad W_{B_1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.3332 & 0.1723 & 0.2027 & 0.1870 & 0.1048 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (9)$$

From Table 1, it can be obtained that $R \times I = 1.12$. After being substituted into formula (6), it can be obtained that $C \times R = 0.0998 < 0.1$.

It shows that the discriminant matrix satisfies the consistency requirement, that is, the obtained eigenvector is valid.

(4) Establish a judgment matrix for $B_4$ safety facilities.

The following can be obtained from the data calculation in Table 6:

$$\lambda_{\text{max}} = 5.0133, \quad W_{B_1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.1094 & 0.3682 & 0.2065 & 0.1094 & 0.2065 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (10)$$

From Table 1, it can be obtained that $R \times I = 1.12$. After being substituted into formula (6), it can be obtained that $C \times R = 0.0030 < 0.1$.

It shows that the discriminant matrix satisfies the consistency requirement, that is, the obtained eigenvector is valid.

(5) Establish a judgment matrix for $B_5$ construction personnel.

The following can be obtained from the data calculation in Table 7:

$$\lambda_{\text{max}} = 4, \quad W_{B_1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.1250 & 0.5000 & 0.2500 & 0.1250 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (11)$$

From Table 1, it can be obtained that $R \times I = 0.89$. After being substituted into formula (6), it can be obtained that $C \times R = 0 < 0.1$.

It shows that the discriminant matrix satisfies the consistency requirement, that is, the obtained eigenvector is valid.
3.4.3. **Ranking of Risk Factors.** From the calculation above, it can be known that the weight of each factor on the safety of gas tunnel construction is

\[
A = (0.1136 \ 0.1204 \ 0.2523 \ 0.2673 \ 0.2464),
\]

\[
W_1 = 0.1136 \times (0.3243 \ 0.1495 \ 0.3243 \ 0.1271 \ 0.0748) = (0.0368 \ 0.0167 \ 0.0368 \ 0.0144 \ 0.0085),
\]

\[
W_2 = 0.1204 \times (0.5031 \ 0.0839 \ 0.1856 \ 0.2273) = (0.0606 \ 0.0101 \ 0.0223 \ 0.0274),
\]

\[
W_3 = 0.2523 \times (0.3332 \ 0.1723 \ 0.2027 \ 0.1870 \ 0.1048) = (0.0841 \ 0.04435 \ 0.0511 \ 0.0472 \ 0.0264),
\]

\[
W_4 = 0.2673 \times (0.1094 \ 0.3682 \ 0.2065 \ 0.1094 \ 0.2065) = (0.0292 \ 0.0984 \ 0.0552 \ 0.0292 \ 0.0552),
\]

\[
W_5 = 0.2464 \times (0.1250 \ 0.5000 \ 0.2500 \ 0.1250) = (0.0308 \ 0.1231 \ 0.0616 \ 0.0308).
\]

According to the total weight of the C layer calculated above, all risk factors are ranked based on the weight value, as shown in Table 8.

The ranking above shows the evaluation results of risk factors of Lugou Mine’s three-soft coal seam outburst roof stability. During the evaluation process, 10 experts were invited to score various risk factors in the Anping Gas Tunnel Construction Safety Project. Statistical methods were used to calculate the final weight value of different factors. Based on the weight value, it can be concluded that safety awareness, safety monitoring system, roof weakness, ideological and political qualities, fire-fighting system, and rock bolt quality dominate the whole project; among them, the riskiest factors are safety awareness and safety monitoring system. In other words, if gas emission cannot be effectively controlled and detected, the safety awareness of workers cannot be improved, and coal mines will have accidents such as poisoning and gas outbursts, which may eventually cause coal mines to stop production. Moreover, roof weakness is also a risk factor, which means that if the tunnel support measures are not done well, roof fall accidents may occur.

### Table 7: B5-C judgment matrix.

|   | B5 | C20 | C21 | C22 | C23 | W'_i | W |    |
|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|---|----|
| C20 | 1  | 1/4 | 1/2 | 1   | 0.5946 | 0.1250 |   |    |
| C21 | 4  | 1   | 2   | 4   | 2.3784 | 0.5000 |   |    |
| C22 | 2  | 1/2 | 1   | 2   | 1.1892 | 0.2500 |   |    |
| C23 | 1  | 1/4 | 1/2 | 1   | 0.5946 | 0.1250 |   |    |

#### 3.5. **Establishment of Safety Rating.** After on-site survey by experts, the Anping Gas Tunnel single-factor score comment set is \( V = \{ v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5 \} \), corresponding to five grades, namely, “very good,” “good,” “average,” “poor,” and “very bad.” The evaluation set is represented by \( (95, 85, 65, 45, 30) \), as shown in Table 9. Relationship between scores and safety grades is shown in Table 10.

Generally, basic methods such as expert survey method, CIM method, and Monte Carlo simulation method are used for risk assessment [34]. In order to simplify the calculation and obtain the corresponding data, this chapter used the expert survey method.

The expert evaluation method was adopted. 10 experts were invited to make judgments on possible risks and their grades, and then they scored according to indicators. The statistics based on the judgment values given by the experts are shown in Table 11.

1. (1) Establish the fuzzy evaluation matrix \( R_i \).
   Obtain the fuzzy evaluation matrix \( R_i \) after being scored by experts.

\[
R_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.4 & 0.1 \end{bmatrix},
\]

\[
R_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix},
\]

\[
R_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix},
\]

\[
R_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0 & 0.2 & 0.4 & 0.1 & 0 \end{bmatrix},
\]

\[
R_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1 & 0.3 & 0.4 & 0.3 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix}.
\]

2. (2) Solve the evaluation matrix \( B_i \) of each factor.
   According to the formula,

\[
B_i = W_{bi} \times R_i,
\]

The evaluation matrix of each factor is as follows:
Table 8: Total ranking of risk factors.

| Specific risk factor                      | Total weight |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Safety awareness                          | 0.1232       |
| Safety monitoring system                  | 0.0984       |
| Roof weakness                             | 0.0841       |
| Ideological and political qualities       | 0.0616       |
| Ventilation system                        | 0.0606       |
| Fire-fighting system                      | 0.0553       |
| Rock bolt quality                         | 0.0552       |
| Thickness of immediate roof               | 0.0511       |
| Stratum combination                       | 0.0472       |
| Rock mass strength                        | 0.0435       |
| Gas emission                              | 0.0368       |
| Coal outburst characteristics             | 0.0368       |
| Physical condition and professional competence | 0.0308   |
| Personnel arrangement                     | 0.0308       |
| Emergency drilling                        | 0.0292       |
| Tunnel support factor                     | 0.0292       |
| Roof management system                    | 0.0274       |
| Development degree of coal seam cracks    | 0.0264       |
| Safety education                          | 0.0223       |
| Deep crustal stress concentration         | 0.0167       |
| Stratum gas content                       | 0.0144       |
| Safety rules and regulations              | 0.0101       |
| Geological structure                      | 0.0085       |

Table 9: Relationship between scores and safety grades.

| Grade          | Very good | Good | Average | Poor | Very bad |
|----------------|-----------|------|---------|------|----------|
| Score          | 95        | 85   | 65      | 45   | 30       |

Table 10: Relationship between scores and safety grades.

| Grade          | Grade I | Grade II | Grade III | Grade IV | Grade V |
|----------------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Description    | Little influence | Small influence | General influence | Large influence | Significant influence |
| Score range    | >90     | 80–90    | 60–79     | 40–59    | <40     |

Table 11: Scoring statistics of weights and expert safety grades.

| Primary evaluation factors | Weight of primary evaluation factors | Secondary evaluation factors | Weight of secondary evaluation factors | Very good | Good | Average | Poor | Very bad |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------|------|---------|------|----------|
| Geological environment risks | 0.1136                               |                              |                                        |           |      |         |      |          |
|                           | C1                                   | 0.3243                       | 0                                      | 0.2       | 0.3  | 0.4     | 0.4  | 0.1      |
|                           | C2                                   | 0.1495                       | 0.1                                    | 0.4       | 0.2  | 0.2     | 0.1  | 0.2      |
|                           | C3                                   | 0.3243                       | 0.1                                    | 0.2       | 0.2  | 0.3     | 0.2  | 0.2      |
|                           | C4                                   | 0.1271                       | 0                                      | 0.3       | 0.2  | 0.2     | 0.3  | 0.2      |
|                           | C5                                   | 0.0748                       | 0.2                                    | 0.4       | 0.2  | 0.2     | 0.2  | 0       |
| Safety management risks   | 0.1204                               |                              |                                        |           |      |         |      |          |
|                           | C6                                   | 0.5032                       | 0.4                                    | 0.3       | 0.2  | 0.1     | 0.1  | 0        |
|                           | C7                                   | 0.0893                       | 0.2                                    | 0.2       | 0.2  | 0.2     | 0.2  | 0.2      |
|                           | C8                                   | 0.1856                       | 0                                      | 0.3       | 0.2  | 0.4     | 0.4  | 0.1      |
|                           | C9                                   | 0.2273                       | 0.1                                    | 0.3       | 0.4  | 0.2     | 0.2  | 0        |
| Roof own risks            | 0.2523                               |                              |                                        |           |      |         |      |          |
|                           | C10                                  | 0.3332                       | 0                                      | 0.2       | 0.3  | 0.3     | 0.3  | 0.2      |
|                           | C11                                  | 0.1723                       | 0.3                                    | 0.5       | 0.1  | 0.1     | 0.1  | 0        |
|                           | C12                                  | 0.2027                       | 0.1                                    | 0.3       | 0.4  | 0.1     | 0.1  | 0        |
|                           | C13                                  | 0.1870                       | 0.3                                    | 0.4       | 0.2  | 0.1     | 0.1  | 0        |
|                           | C14                                  | 0.1048                       | 0.2                                    | 0.4       | 0.3  | 0.1     | 0.1  | 0        |
Table 11: Continued.

| Primary evaluation factors | Weight of primary evaluation factors | Secondary evaluation factors | Weight of secondary evaluation factors | Very good | Good | Average | Poor | Very bad |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------|------|---------|------|----------|
| Safety facility risks     | 0.2673                               |                             |                                        |           |      |         |      |          |
|                          |                                      |                             | C15                                    | 0.1094    | 0.6  | 0.2     | 0    | 0        |
|                          |                                      |                             | C16                                    | 0.3682    | 0.4  | 0.2     | 0    | 0.2      |
|                          |                                      |                             | C17                                    | 0.2065    | 0.2  | 0.3     | 0.2  | 0        |
|                          |                                      |                             | C18                                    | 0.1094    | 0.2  | 0.4     | 0.2  | 0        |
|                          |                                      |                             | C19                                    | 0.2065    | 0.4  | 0.2     | 0.3  | 0.1      |
| Construction personnel risks | 0.2464                           |                             |                                        |           |      |         |      |          |
|                          |                                      |                             | C20                                    | 0.1250    | 0.2  | 0.2     | 0.2  | 0.2      |
|                          |                                      |                             | C21                                    | 0.5000    | 0    | 0.3     | 0.2  | 0.4      |
|                          |                                      |                             | C22                                    | 0.2500    | 0.1  | 0.3     | 0.3  | 0        |
|                          |                                      |                             | C23                                    | 0.1250    | 0.3  | 0.2     | 0.2  | 0.3      |

\[
B_1 = W_{B1} \times R_1 = (0.3243, 0.1495, 0.3243, 0.1271, 0.0748) \times \begin{bmatrix}
0 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.4 & 0.1 \\
0.1 & 0.4 & 0.2 & 0.1 & 0.2 \\
0.1 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.2 \\
0 & 0.3 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.2 \\
0.2 & 0.4 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\]

\[
B_2 = W_{B2} \times R_2 = (0.5032, 0.0839, 0.1856, 0.2273) \times \begin{bmatrix}
0.4 & 0.3 & 0.2 & 0.1 & 0 \\
0.2 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.2 \\
0 & 0.3 & 0.2 & 0.4 & 0.1 \\
0.1 & 0.3 & 0.4 & 0.2 & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\]

\[
B_3 = W_{B3} \times R_3 = (0.3332, 0.1723, 0.2027, 0.1970, 0.1048) \times \begin{bmatrix}
0 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.3 & 0.2 \\
0.3 & 0.5 & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0 \\
0.1 & 0.3 & 0.4 & 0.1 & 0.1 \\
0.3 & 0.4 & 0.2 & 0.1 & 0 \\
0.2 & 0.4 & 0.3 & 0.1 & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\]

\[
B_4 = W_{B4} \times R_4 = (0.1094, 0.3682, 0.2065, 0.1094, 0.2065) \times \begin{bmatrix}
0.2 & 0.3 & 0.3 & 0.2 & 0 \\
0.6 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0 & 0 \\
0.4 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0 \\
0.4 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.1 & 0 \\
0.2 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\]

\[
B_5 = W_{B5} \times R_5 = (0.1250, 0.5000, 0.2500, 0.1250) \times \begin{bmatrix}
0 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.2 \\
0.3 & 0.2 & 0.4 & 0.1 & 0 \\
0.1 & 0.3 & 0.3 & 0 & 0 \\
0.3 & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\]

(3) Obtain the total evaluation matrix R:
4. Risk Control Measures

According to the risk analysis result, in the analysis of Lugou Mine’s three-soft coal seam outburst roof stability, the following five major risks have the highest probability of occurrence, including ventilation risks, safety monitoring risks, roof own risks, safety management risks, and fire-fighting risks, which have become the key control objects for Lugou Mine’s three-soft coal seam outburst roof stability. In order to reduce coal seam risks and ensure the smooth completion of the project, attention should be focused on risk prevention from the following aspects. Corresponding control measures have been formulated.

(1) **Ventilation Risks.** The gas in the coal mine will continuously overflow. When the gas accumulates to a certain concentration, it will burn and explode in the fire source. In order to ensure the safety of the coal mine, the ventilation issue is particularly crucial.

   (i) During the extraction period, the air distribution on the working face should not be less than 1500 m³/min. The ventilation system is independent and the return air side is unblocked. The inlet and return air does not pass through the goaf or roof falling area. At the same time, the wind measurement should be strengthened and the personnel should be fixed.

   (ii) If the gas exceeds the limit, the power supply of all nonintrinsically safe electrical equipment in No. 32081 working face as well as the upper and lower suballeys can be disconnected; the power-off is sensitive and reliable. A total of 2 feed sensors are installed on the load side of the controlled switch, which is maintained by a dedicated person every day. The sensors are portable for comparison. The calibration is performed every 15 days with a full-time gas inspector.

   (iii) Set up backup power supply and ventilator: when one power supply stops working or the ventilator fails, the backup power supply or the ventilator can be quickly used to ensure the normal ventilation in tunnels.

(2) **Safety Monitoring Risks.** The most important thing of safety monitoring is to control the gas limit and prevent gas accumulation. During the construction, when the gas concentration is detected to exceed the limit, the gas monitoring system will automatically cut off the power supply in the overlimit area, and the system can still work normally. At this time, measures should be taken to deal with the situation in accordance with the data provided by the system.

   (i) It is strictly forbidden to allow people to enter the overlimit area. The variable air volume supply is used to control the air intake, and the gas in the overlimit area is discharged gradually.

   (ii) When the gas is discharged, it is necessary to ensure that the gas concentration in the working
area does not exceed the limit. Moreover, it should be ensured that the gas discharged from the coal mine does not exceed the limit. The gas inspectors must frequently inspect the gas concentration in the return air flow. When the gas concentration is less than 0.75%, the air supply should be reduced.

(iii) After the normal ventilation is restored, the electromechanical equipment in the power-off area shall be inspected first. The power supply can be manually restored for normal construction only after the equipment is confirmed to be in good condition.

(3) **Construction Personnel Risks.** The main construction personnel risks in this project refer to the personnel physical condition and professional competence, as well as the safety awareness.

(i) Conduct safety education and training regularly. Safety education training can improve people’s safety production knowledge and enhance their safety awareness, which can effectively prevent from unsafe behaviors.

(ii) Safety education training must be comprehensive with prominent focus and strong systemicity.

(iii) Conduct physical examinations on employees regularly.

(4) **Fire-Fighting Risks.**

(i) After the fire report is received, the on-site team leader and technical person in charge should first cut off the power supply and actively organize personnel to extinguish the fire. When the on-site personnel are threatened by disasters, they should be organized to evacuate in time in accordance with the gas combustion accident plan.

(ii) In the process of fire-fighting and disaster relief, the concentration, wind direction, and air volume of various toxic and harmful gases should be detected in time. Safety measures should be taken to prevent gas and coal dust explosion, as well as personnel poisoning timely when the situation is identified.

(iii) The electrical equipment should be inspected frequently to avoid electrical sparks, thus ensuring the continuous normal operation of the mechanical equipment and avoiding friction sparks.

5. Conclusions

Based on the engineering background of stability assessments of three-soft coal seam roof outburst coal seams, this paper used the fuzzy analytic hierarchy process combining the analytic hierarchy process and the fuzzy mathematics to conduct risk analysis of Lugou Mine’s No. 32141 working face. It built an analytic hierarchy model. The influencing factors of primary and secondary indicators were determined and ranked by scores. The conclusions are as follows:

(1) The analytic hierarchy process is a method combining human subjective judgment and quantitative calculation. It has the characteristics of systematization and hierarchicalization. The quantitative information needed for the analysis is relatively less; the fuzzy mathematics evaluation method combines the fuzzy transformation principle and the maximum membership principle. The comprehensive evaluation of all factors related to the thing to be evaluated focuses on all relevant factors considered.

The fuzzy analytic hierarchy process is a combination of the analytic hierarchy process and the fuzzy mathematics method. It has the advantages of qualitative analysis and quantitative evaluation, which is a new method of evaluating coal seam roof. It can obtain a high accuracy of three-soft coal seam roof stability assessments.

(2) Based on the characteristics of the coal seams of the Lugou Mine, combined with historical data and after discussions with experts, the risks in each layer are divided into five categories: geological environment risks, safety management risks, roof own risks, safety facility risks, and construction personnel risks. Each category contains several basic risk factors. The analytic hierarchy process can be used to solve the weight of each factor. It can be concluded that safety awareness, safety monitoring system, roof weakness, ventilation system, fire-fighting system, rock bolt quality, and other risk factors dominate the entire project.

(3) After the analytic hierarchy process was used to obtain the weight of each risk factor, based on the fuzzy mathematics analysis, it is concluded that the safety grade of Lugou Mine’s three-soft coal seam outburst roof stability is Grade III: “average.” The main risks and harmful factors include ventilation risks, safety monitoring risks, roof own risks, safety management risks, and fire-fighting risks.

(4) According to the conclusion drawn from the fuzzy analytic hierarchy process, corresponding measures are proposed for factors with high risks, such as ventilation problems, safety monitoring systems, and safety management, to reduce the probability of accidents and ensure the safe production of coal mines. The fuzzy analytic hierarchy process can also be used to evaluate the stability of deep roof in other similar coal mines to reduce the probability of coal mine accidents.

Data Availability

The data used to support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon request.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.
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