ÚGG

AUSTRIAN SOCIETY FOR GEOMECHANICS



ÖSTERREICHISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR <u>GEO</u>MECHANIK

Expert Comments to EN 12715

Grouting

2017



Expert Comments to EN 12715

Grouting

Expert Group

(alphabetically)

Eichiner Hans Oliver	Pöyry Infra GmbH
Furtmüller Gert	Pöyry Infra GmbH
Hornich Wolfgang	Züblin Spezialtiefbau Ges.m.b.H
Kainrath Adrian	Vienna University of Technology –
	Institute of Geotechnics
Leitner Stefan	hbpm Engineers Ltd.
Palla Reinhold	hbpm Engineers Ltd.
Reichl Ignaz	Turner & Townsend
Scheikl Manfred	alpinfra consulting + engineering gmbh
Stadler Gert	em. Univ. Prof. at Graz University of Technology –
	Department for Construction Management
	and Economics
Vigl Alois	Viglconsult ZT

Translation

Lehner Oliver

Layout

Kluckner Alexander

Graz University of Technology

Review

This document has been reviewed by all members of the Austrian Society for Geomechanics. Additional review of the English translation by Trevor Carter and Cliff Kettle for consistency and clarity.

Inha	alt	Seite
0.	Preface	1
1.	Scope	2
2.	Normative references	4
3.	Definitions and symbols	5
4.	Information needed	13
5. 5.1. 5.1 5.1 5.2. 5.2. 5.2 5.3. 5.4. 5.4. 5.4 5.5.	 2. Extent of site investigations 3. Exploration methods 4. Investigation report requirements Geo-hydraulic fundamentals .1. Geo-hydraulics In soil .2. Geo-hydraulics in solid rock Geomechanical fundamentals Deduction of grouting-specific parameters .1. Information gained from exploratory drilling 	 15 15 16 19 19 21 22 25 26 26 27 27
6.	Construction materials and products	28
6.2 6.2 6.2 6.2 6.2	 Water Additives Clays Additives and admixtures Suspensions in grouting Sampling and testing Testing grouts in the laboratory Control testing on site 	28 28 29 29 30 30 31 31 31 31 32 32
7.	Design considerations	35
7.1.	Preface	35
7.2.	Design fundamentals and targets	35

	 Design fundamentals Design goals 	35 36
	2.3. Groutability criteria for soil	37
	2.4. Criteria for the groutability of rock	39
7.3.	Grouting principles and methods	41
	3.1. Grouting techniques	41
7.3	3.2. Grout take and reach	43
	3.3. Stop criteria soil	45
	3.4. Stop criteria in rock	46
7.3	3.5. Monitoring and control criteria	54
7.4.	Grout	55
7.5.	Grout placement	55
8.	Execution	56
8.1.	Drilling	56
8.2.	Grout preparation	56
8.3.	Pumping and delivery	56
8.4.	Annotations regarding grouting procedures	57
9.	Monitoring, tests and controls	59
9. 9.1.	Monitoring, tests and controls Monitoring and controls	59 59
9.1.	Monitoring and controls	
9.1. 10.	Monitoring and controls	59
9.1. 10. 11.	Monitoring and controls Works documentation	59 61
9.1. 10. 11.	Monitoring and controls Works documentation Special aspects Compensation models	59 61 62
9.1. 10. 11. 12.	Monitoring and controls Works documentation Special aspects Compensation models	59 61 62 63
 9.1. 10. 11. 12. 13. 	Monitoring and controls Works documentation Special aspects Compensation models Appendix	59 61 62 63 65
 9.1. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 	Monitoring and controls Works documentation Special aspects Compensation models Appendix Bibliography	59 61 62 63 65 71

0. PREFACE

Grouting in mining and Civil Engineering-construction as a means to fight percolation of gas or water and deformations of ground has been practiced for more than 200 years. But only since the 1930s has grouting become an engineering discipline of its own; studied, researched and publicized as such. Early applications were recorded as grouting procedures at locks in Holland, coal mines in the Ruhr area and grout curtains underneath dams, all of which provided invaluable knowledge and findings. Kutzner (1991) among others, provided German literature, together with Ewert and Lombardi, while Bruce and Weaver explored the subject matter in the US. Two European standards have since been published; EN 12715 "Grouting" (2001) and the ISRM "Report on Grouting" (1996). This document, however, aims to provide expert comments and complementary explanations to the former.

Injections are – from design stage to verification – an interactive and iterative process, requiring cooperation from experts across a variety of disciplines. Both experience as well as expertise are absolutely essential.



Figure 1. Grouting work in pioneering days: Exploratory drilling at Kaprun HPP, CRAELIUS CX 42 *drill, INSOND* (1950)

1. SCOPE

This document will primarily discuss grouting using particulate suspensions (including hydraulic binders in water) applied in soil and rock.

Precompression grouting (in high-pressure galleries), roof gap injections, structural grouting, displacement grouting and compensation grouting will, however, not be discussed.

In order to keep this document short, all relevant standards and documents are, whenever appropriate, being referenced instead of quoted in full. Partial reading of chapters, or reading out of order, is not recommended.

Chapter titles and numbers correspond to those of EN 12715 (2001). Chapters 0 and 12 have been added for this document, with chapters 13 to 17 containing appendices and indexes.

The aim of all geotechnical injections (grouting procedures) is the improvement of ground characteristics with respect to permeability and/or mechanical parameters of the soil or rock, in order to satisfy construction requirements.

Injections take full effect by the permeation of voids in the ground (e.g. joints, fissures, pores) by liquids (e.g. solutions, suspensions), where the latter set and harden. This increases stiffness and strength of the ground (soil or rock), permeability will be reduced and rigidity increased.

Soil in general is considered suitable for permeation grouting using particulate grouts of hydraulic binders, if

- the content of fines (particle size < 0.063 mm) does not exceed 5-7%,
- the ratio D_{15} ground/d₈₅ grain size of the grout equals ~ 20-24,
- target permeability is > 5*10⁻⁷ m/s, and
- the targeted modulus of deformation is not to exceed 250 MPa.

Empirically, effective acceptance rates for particulate grouts of hydraulic binders are between 15% and 20% of total ground volume.

Grouting in rock is generally possible for geometric joint apertures of > 50 μ m. The intrusion of small amounts of pressurized liquid into joints can already cause deformation processes (widening, especially in the case of joint sets in rock) helping to overcome hydraulic resistances and filtration processes. These, usually small-scale elastic and/or plastic, dilations make it possible that even apertures of $2_{ai} < 50 \ \mu$ m become injectable. In such cases suspensions at ratios of $2_{ai} / d_{85}$ grain size in the suspension ≤ 3 (see also figure 12) may become applicable. Even with these dilation effects, the usual joint volume injectable (and thus also the grout volume) remains less than 3% - without considering the volume of the open borehole – of total rock volume. Fault zones and karst should be considered a special case of their own.

Grouting targets of hydraulic conductivities of $5*10^{-8}$ m/s are only achievable under specific conditions. Improvements of the stiffness in fault zones by grouting are to be expected to remain under a factor of 3.

The use of thermoplastic grouts under high hydraulic groundwater gradients has already been proven successful. By using special epoxy resins it has been possible to grout discontinuities in concrete and rock for the purpose of transmitting tensile forces.

Any decision to proceed with an injection is always subject to technical and economic considerations, and should also always be compared to alternative methods of soil improvement.

2. NORMATIVE REFERENCES

ÖNORM EN 197-1: 2014-07-15 - Zement - Teil 1: Zusammensetzung, Anforderungen und Konformitätskriterien von Normalzement.

ÖNORM EN 934 - Zusatzmittel für Beton, Mörtel und Einpressmörtel.

ÖNORM EN 1008:2002-10-01 - Zugabewasser von Beton - Festlegungen für die Probenahme, Prüfung und Beurteilung der Eignung von Wasser, einschließlich bei der Betonherstellung anfallendem Wasser, als Zugabewasser für Beton.

ÖNORM EN 1997-2:2010-08-15 - Eurocode 7 - Entwurf, Berechnung und Bemessung in der Geotechnik - Teil 2: Erkundung und Untersuchung des Baugrunds.

ÖNORM B 2203-1:2001-12-01 - Untertagebauarbeiten - Werkvertragsnorm - Teil 1: Zyklischer Vortrieb.

ÖNORM B 4400-1:2010-03-15 - Geotechnik - Teil 1: Benennung, Beschreibung und Klassifizierung von Böden - Regeln zur Umsetzung der ÖNORMEN EN ISO 14688-1 und -2 sowie grundlegende Symbole und Einheiten.

ÖNORM B 4400-2:2010-03-15 - Geotechnik - Teil 2: Benennungen und Definitionen, Beschreibung und Klassifizierung von Fels - Regeln zur Umsetzung der ÖNORM EN ISO 14689-1.

ÖNORM B 4415:2009-07-31 - Geotechnik - Untersuchung von Bodenproben - Bestimmung der einaxialen Druckfestigkeit unter Einbeziehung der VORNORM ÖNORM CEN ISO/TS 17892-7.

ÖNORM EN 12715:2001-02-01 - Ausführung von besonderen geotechnischen Arbeiten (Spezialtiefbau) Injektionen.

ÖNORM EN ISO 14688-1:2013-11-15 - Geotechnische Erkundung und Untersuchung - Benennung, Beschreibung und Klassifizierung von Boden - Teil 1: Benennung und Beschreibung.

ÖNORM EN ISO 14688-2:2013-11-15 - Geotechnische Erkundung und Untersuchung - Benennung, Beschreibung und Klassifizierung von Boden - Teil 2: Grundlagen für Bodenklassifizierungen.

ÖNORM EN ISO 14689-1: 2004 05 01- Geotechnische Erkundung und Untersuchung - Benennung, Beschreibung und Klassifizierung von Fels - Teil 1: Benennung und Beschreibung (ISO 14689-1:2003).

ÖNORM EN 197-1: 2014-07-15 - Zement - Teil 1: Zusammensetzung, Anforderungen und Konformitätskriterien von Normalzement.

ÖNORM EN 934 - Zusatzmittel für Beton, Mörtel und Einpressmörtel.

3. **DEFINITIONS AND SYMBOLS**

In order to explain specific phenomena or dynamics certain terms, phrases or examples may be used which do not necessarily concur with their common usage. It is important to consider this when consulting the figures, tables and formulas used in this document.

The following definitions shall be considered in addition to those mentioned in EN 12715.

Adhesion testing (Feder)

This adhesion test aims to measure the yield stress value for a given suspension. 100-grit sanding paper is submerged into the suspension. The weight of the suspension sticking to the paper determines the yield stress.

Agglomeration

Agglomeration of particles (flocculation) can be, among others, a result of electrostatic charges between particles and liquids. The addition of polymers or thoroughly homogenizing the suspension (e.g. use of high shear force mixers) are possible solutions to the problem.

Amenability theory

The apparent-Lugeon method is known in the US as amenability theory. It describes the accessibility of a given joint (or fracture) for a given suspension. Using the apparent-Lugeon method leads to using a suspension suitable for 75% of given joints.

Borehole mouth (Mouth of the borehole, borehole collar)

Top of the borehole.

Cement grouting

On the following pages the term cement grouting will be used synonymously for all varieties of grout containing binders of any kind.

Constrained boundaries

Constrained boundaries describe joint geometries getting narrower with increasing distance from the borehole. Open boundaries describe the opposite case: widening joint geometries with increasing distance from the borehole.

Cubic Law

This law of fluid flow may be derived using just the Navier-Stokes equations by assuming the simplified case of laminar flow in a joint between two smooth, parallel plates. In such a case we arrive at the permeability (k) of a single joint

$$k = \frac{h^2}{12} \tag{1}$$

and the transmissivity (T)

$$T \equiv kA = \frac{wh^3}{12} \tag{2}$$

h:	(hydraulic) joint aperture	[m]
w:	width of parallel flow	[m]
k:	permeability	[m ²]
A:	area	[m ²]
T:	transmissivity	[m ⁴]

Transmissivity in this case equals the (hydraulic) joint aperture to the third power, thus leading to the term Cubic Law being used (Witherspoon et al., 1980).

D₁₅/d₈₅ ratio (N-criterion)

The D_{15}/d_{85} ratio (N-criterion) helps determine the groutability of soil and is based on empirical experience with various filter criteria.

Determining Yield Point

Determining the yield point can be achieved via several procedures. Table 1 below lists some of the procedures used, as well as some of their advantages and disadvantages.

Annotations for table 1:

- x: yes or small
- xx: medium
- xxx: large
- xxxx: very large

				maaauramant
Table 1.	Determin	ing yield points using different proced	ures (unpublished K	ainrath, 2016)

		procedure			suitable for		measurement	
Method	basic			absolute measurements	relative measurements	measurement uncertainty	robustness	
ball harp	х		х	ball harp		х	ххх	ххх
flow curve (Bingham)		х	ххх	viscosimeter, cup & cylinder	х		х	х
vane	х		хх	viscosimeter, vane	x		х	х
Kasumeter	х		хх	Kasumeter		х	xxx	xx
plate cohesion tests	х		ХХ	after Lombardi		х	ххх	XX
adhesion test on sandpaper	х		х	100-grit sandpaper		х	-	xxxx

Discontinuity

Usually a distinct and discrete planar interruption of continuity in rock mass. Causes are related to the formation history of the rock mass and can be sedimentary, tectonic or mechanical (e.g. shrinkage) in nature.

The terms discontinuity, joint, or fracture are often used interchangeably. The latter usually describes a void surrounded by joint planes.

Dispersion test

Drops of grout (suspension) are squeezed between two glass plates (similar to hematological tests) and viewed under a microscope or scaled magnifying glass of at least 8 x magnification (linen tester with 0.1 mm scaling) against light. Mineral distribution and possible agglomeration of solids in the mix can be detected. This test serves as a practical means of investigating the homogeneity of the suspension, as well as effective grain surface wetting.

Effective grouting pressure

Effective grouting pressure describes the average pressure acting inside the void (e.g. joint). The pressure drop curve (see also pressure at rest) can be used to approximate this effective pressure. Local joint- or pore water pressures must be considered when establishing effective differential grouting pressure.

<u>Fillers</u>

Fillers are inert additives mixed into the grout.

Filter press

The filter press serves to measure the loss of free water in a given suspension under pressure, in order to determine the stability of the suspension.

The filter press is standardized by the American Petroleum Institute (API) and is being used in the field of drilling fluids engineering. It consists of a mud (fluid) reservoir with an outlet at the bottom protected by filter paper and grating. The fluid is pressurized at 7 bars (101.5 psi) by means of CO₂-gas from a cartridge mounted on top of the reservoir. The resulting gradient causes (after a predefined time) redundant mixing water to bleed out of the suspension. The amount of filtrate can be used to measure the stability of the mixture under actual injection conditions. This test should be seen as an addition to the standard sedimentation test in standardized cylinders under gravity.

Geometric Aperture

The (mean) geometric aperture (Kohl, 1992) describes the (mean) physical distance between joint walls. The geometric aperture is, therefore, most important for the application of filter criteria.

Annotations for figure 2:

- a_h: hydraulic joint aperture
- a_m: (mean) geometric width



Figure 2. Schematic representation of hydraulic and geometric joint aperture (Kohl, 1992)

<u>GIN</u>

The Grouting Intensity Number (GIN) is a concept to limit the energy of the injection process per meter borehole/stage and is based on the approach suggested by Lombardi (Lombardi et al., 1993). This "grouting intensity" is the product of the volume of grout injected (at a given point of time) and the pressure applied (measured at the pump) per meter of stage, and expressed in [bar*I/m] (see also chapter 7.3.4.4).

Grouting pressure

The term "grouting pressure" is frequently used to address different kinds of pressure:

- Injection pressure at the pump
- Pressure at the borehole mouth
- Effective grouting pressure
- Pressure at rest

Grouting pressure can - due to hydraulic losses - decrease drastically (up to 80% and more) between injection pump and grouted voids. It is of primary importance to differentiate between these pressures and to make clear which of the above pressures is being described and where it exerts its forces. Grouting pressure is one of the most important parameters for grouting and for judging the progress of an injection. Simply using "grouting pressure", therefore, without any further differentiation (i.e. measured where and under which conditions) is insufficient information for the evaluation of a grouting procedure.

Hardening test (of suspension films)

A test conducted in addition to sampling for common stiffness trials. This hardening test observes the influence of the reduced reaction heat – in a thin film compared to a larger sample volume – to the (relatively longer) setting time.

Hydraulic binder injection

Injections using hydraulic binders (see also cement injections).

Hydraulic (joint) aperture

The hydraulic (joint) aperture describes the distance - determined by hydraulic trials - between two parallel walls defining the joint itself. The hydraulic (joint) aperture, therefore, defines the cross-sectional flow area for given fluid in accordance with testing parameters and conditions (pressure, gradient, flow rate, viscosity, roughness, etc.). The hydraulic aperture is always significantly smaller than the geometric joint aperture, due to it being defined by narrow passages within the joint itself (figure 2). The hydraulic aperture is also pressure-dependent, inasmuch as it takes into account any deformation of the joint under test pressure.

Hydrofracking (Fracking)

Hydrofracking is the hydraulic fracturing of rock. Resulting fractures are predominantly permanent (plastic deformation).

Hydrojacking (Jacking)

Hydrojacking is a hydraulic widening, dilating, forced opening or spreading of joints or joint systems. Commonly (in the case of rock grouting) it is used to describe fracture dilation under injection pressure. Rock deformation in connection with jacking is predominantly temporary (elastic deformation).

Injection pressure at the pump = working (operating) pressure

During grouting this pressure is being measured directly at the injection pump. (see also Grouting Pressure).

<u>Joint</u> See discontinuity.

Marsh cone, Marsh cone time

The Marsh cone is a cone (funnel) made out of impact-resistant plastic and a calibrated orifice at the bottom. A mesh at the top of the funnel retains particles potentially clogging the tube at the bottom. Marsh cone time is the time (measured in seconds) 1 liter of sample liquid (cone size: 1.5 liters) needs to flow through the tube.

Marsh viscosity

"Tests are carried out with the Marsh cone. The duration of flow, of a given volume of liquid, expressed in seconds, is called the "Marsh viscosity." (EN 12715, p 40)

Modulus of deformation See also stiffness.

<u>Open boundaries</u> See constrained boundaries.

Permeation

Permeation (grouting) is the filling of voids in pores or joints without noticeable deformation occurring. Permeation achieves a partial saturation of the ground suitable for the respective grouting target, resulting in reduced permeability and generally increased stiffness.

<u>Pinhole test</u>

The pinhole test is an elution and erodibility test. Water – at a predefined gradient – is made to flow through a small hole drilled through a (hardened) sample. The loss of material indicates grout persistence. The test was originally invented to test durability of thin wall diaphragm mixtures.

Pore throat

Interstitial constrictions in soil. Also referred to as pore space or pore width.



Figure 3. Pore throat distribution in soil. Example of a pore throat (marked red), (unpublished Reichl, 2017)

Pore throat size distribution

Pores in the soil are connected with each other via pore throats (interstitial constrictions). The diameter of the pore throats depends on the grain size distribution from which - by applying a statistical model - a throat size distribution may be derived. This can be used to estimate groutability of the ground and maximum grain size of potential grouts.

Pressure at rest

Pressure at rest describes the existing pressure in voids at a suspension flow velocity of 0 - either after the complete dissipation of the grout after a borehole "shut in" or at termination of grouting. In order to determine the pressure at rest it's necessary to stop the pump, cutting off any reflux, and measure the loss in pressure between shut-off valve and the ground (see also reservoir pressure).







Usually it takes 3 - 5 minutes after having stopped the pump until reaching pressure at rest. Depending on grout viscosity this timeframe might be longer.

Pressure at the borehole mouth

Grouting pressure measured at the borehole mouth.

Reservoir Pressure

The in situ pressure of fluids within the pores or joints in the ground; usually hydrostatic in nature, but may also be influenced/augmented by gas under pressure or artesian pressure. The term is being used in the oil industries, where it describes the pressure within a reservoir.

<u>Shut in</u>

The process of stopping flow (production or injection) - of commonly gas or fluids - into or out of a borehole by closing the shut-off valve. By this, the grout (or production from a well) is being locked into the borehole and into the underground.

Sleeve grout

A low strength grout (< 1.5 MPa uniaxial compressive strength) used to fill the annular space between borehole wall and sleeve pipe. Sleeve grouts prevent grout travelling along the annular space.

Soil porosity n

The porosity of a soil is its ratio of open space volume to soil volume.

Split spacing grouting

Split spacing describes a sequence in which secondary, tertiary, etc. grout holes are placed midway between preceding ones, respectively.

<u>Stiffness</u>

Stiffness describes the relation between stresses and strains. Distinction has to be made between stiffness of the ground/rock in general and specific moduli determined via specific tests, such as modulus of elasticity, oedometer modulus and dilatometer modulus. Stiffness must therefore, always be described in relation to the type/nature of loading. Laboratory experiments can reflect deformation in situ only to a limited degree. Therefore, often a more realistic assessment of soil/rock stiffness can be obtained by back calculation of measured field data or by performing in situ tests.

Stop criteria (refusal criteria, closure criteria)

Commonly referred to as refusal or closure criteria and indeed used interchangeably, subtle differences do exist. Refusal describes stop criteria used when referring to pressures or flow rates at specific boreholes or pumps. Closure usually refers to stop criteria describing overall grouting targets and their achievability.

<u>Top down</u>

Top down describes the sequential drilling, injecting, setting and re-drilling through the already injected stage – from borehole mouth to bottom in a series of discrete steps or stages.

Viscosimeter (= Viscometer)

An instrument used to measure the flow resistance of a fluid. Usually rotational viscosimeters with speed control (in rare cases shear stress controlled) are being used. To measure viscosity a cylinder is being submerged into a cup filled with the fluid and rotated at different speeds (Searle system). The torque maintaining the set speed is proportional to the viscosity. All information on the viscosity, shear stress and the shear rate is calculated from the torque required at different speeds (shear rate) and the geometric factors of cup and cylinder. To perform absolute measurements, only standardized cylinders must be used (figure 5).



Figure 5. Schematic illustrating viscosimeter testing (Kainrath, 2012)

<u>Void</u>

See also discontinuity. Karst voids are the result of dissolution processes.

<u>Void ratio e</u>

The void ratio is a measurement determining the ratio of voids to solid volume.

V-shape fracture

The limit of grout dissipation (see also "constrained boundaries") at which the hydraulically widened joint tapers off.

<u>w/b ratio</u>

The w/b ratio describes the ratio by weight of water and binder in a mixture.

w/c ratio (WCR)

The water/cement ratio is the ratio by weight of water to dry cement content of the mixture.

Yield point

Liquids possessing a yield point only begin to flow once a minimum shear stress (τ_0) has been surpassed. This minimum shear stress point is commonly referred to as yield point, older publications also use the term cohesion.

4. **INFORMATION NEEDED**

The following flow chart illustrates all design and execution phases of a grouting procedure. The chart identifies different phases which are concurrent with common Austrian (administrative) proceedings. Depending on the extent and impact of the grouting procedures it may be necessary to also account for implications on groundwater and environment before filing all necessary paperwork. Specifications (SPEC) relate to space constraints (grout reach, uplift of existing buildings), legal constraints, environmental limits and grouts' perennial consistency. For all parties involved a schedule of duties and responsibilities should be defined well in advance, which should be adapted in the course of the project as required. Grouting experts in the client's sphere of responsibility are indispensable as well.



Figure 6. Flow chart; phases of a grouting procedure

5. SITE INVESTIGATION

Specifications mentioned in chapter 5 of the EN 12715 regarding geotechnical investigations should be considered geological & geotechnical investigations instead of just geotechnical in nature and treated as such. This requires an expanded scope of investigations and trials specific to grouting - in situ as well as in laboratory tests. Reports should cover all relevant information of engineering-geological description of the ground, geotechnical tests - and their protocols - as well as interpretations of data - in a clear and explicit manner, accompanied by graphs, illustrations and additional test reports. These interpretations may be used to consolidate empirical data (in situ and laboratory) with geological genesis and anthropogenic factors. Using the previous chapter's flow chart and this chapter's investigative methods should allow an early focus on grouting requirements.

5.1. General

5.1.1. Requirements regarding ground investigation and goals of the investigation

For general requirements concerning ground investigations reference is made to ÖNORM B 1997-2, ÖN EN ISO 14688 - parts 1 & 2, EN ISO 14689 - parts 1 & 2, ON B 4400 – parts 1 & 2, as well as relevant national and international guidelines and standards. Methods of exploration particularly suitable for design and execution of grouting procedures find special mention in this document (tables 2 & 3).

While planning any grouting procedure definite statements regarding ground (soil or solid rock) are necessary. Hydraulic parameters and information on void structure and connectivity should be considered to be paramount.

The extent and nature of geological-geotechnical investigations depends on project phase, type of structure and possible construction methods. Different types and parts of structures pose different requirements for grouting. A conceptual ground model plays a very important role in planning and satisfying injection targets. Site investigations and their results are generally needed in an early phase of the project in order to better identify grouting requirements and optimal concepts (see also figure 6).

5.1.2. Extent of site investigations

Investigations (method and extent) and their placement must be in accordance with regional and local, geological and tectonic parameters. Structural geological conditions (bulk density, joint sets, etc.) need to be considered when planning investigations, so that areas of particular importance for later injections can be localized and evaluated. It is recommended to begin by using comparatively cheap investigation methods and proceed step by step afterwards. Engineering geological mapping and the generation of a conceptual ground model of an appropriate scale should be among the first stages of the design. It may also be of benefit to further investigate geological conditions in the region by consulting any of the following during preliminary surveys:

- existing geological maps, profiles and reports;
- existing site investigation reports in the vicinity;
- geologically and geotechnically relevant information from site investigations of similar or nearby projects and documentation thereof.

5.1.3. Exploration methods

Exploration methods have to serve the goal of ground characterization and assessment for the sake of determining grouting targets and the resulting grouting requirements.

This means that methods providing primarily geohydraulic data should be employed in addition to standardized procedures during site investigation, providing more appropriate data for the verification of grouting impact (see table 2 and table 3).

	Soi	I				Rock			
	indispensable	required	recommended	helpful		indispensable	required	recommended	helpfu
Shear strength				х	Uniaxial strength			x	
Modulus of deformation				х	Modulus of deformation		x		
Grain size distribution	x				Porperties of discontinuities	x			
Saturation				х	Opening parameters	x			
Relative densitiy			x		Transmissivity profile	x			
Stratification	x				Anisotropy of transmissivity			x	
Filtration characteristics			x		Mineralogical Composition				х
Permeability k _f , hor/vert.	x				(Lithological) stratification	x			
Groundwater flow			x		Porosity		x		
Virgin in situ stress				х	DRI Index				х
Porosity		х			RQD Index				х
					Weathering				х

Table 2.	Recommendations for various exploration parameters (unpublished Stadler,
	adapted)

When it comes to geological and geotechnical exploration methods we differentiate between field methods and laboratory tests.

Field methods should be employed at natural outcrops and artificial cuts. Mapping of existing natural outcrops form the base of every thorough geological and geotechnical ground excavation. Aerial as well as geomorphic imagery should also be considered. Samples for laboratory tests of course need to be taken following all applicable standards.

Artificial exploration such as drilling or digging/excavation as a form of "direct procedures", are mainly used to collect samples and conduct in situ tests.

Indirect procedures include geophysical methods such as seismics, resistivity measurements etc.

Laboratory tests cover disciplines such as (water) chemistry, mineralogy, geomechanics and geohydraulics.

Table 3 lists parameters and their suitable exploration methods.

Table 3.	Field trials and laborator	, tasts to datarmina in	iaction naramaters
TUDIE 5.	FIEId thuis and laborator	y lesis lo delermine m	jection parameters

		F	Field tests	
soil/hard rock	method	parameters	technique	comments, limits
soil/hard rock	geologic mapping/discontinuities/ fractures/joints	lithology, discontinuity characteristics, geological boundaries etc.	field survey supported by airborne/satellite surveying, (Stereo Photogrammetry, LiDAR, etc.)	evaluate 3D orientation with dip/dip direction of geological structures and thorough understanding and communication
soil/hard rock	resisitivity measurements	geological layer boundaries		snow, ground water flow influenced by water content
		geological layer boundaries	_	
soil/hard rock	refraction seismic measurement	groundwater level		low priced; not applicable for complex geology, limited survey depth
soil/hard rock	reflexion seismic measurement	geological layer boundaries	-	sophisticated, expensive, near surface area poorly measured
soil/hard rock	hybrid seismic measurements	geological layer boundaries		advantage of both refraction and reflection seismics combined
		geological layer boundaries, orientation	_	Particular de la contra
soil/hard rock	trial pits and shafts	groundwater level	4	limited depth
IOCK		sampling	-	
		in situ tests rock mass properties		
hard rock	survey gallerios	rock mass properties in situ tests	-	sonhisticated expensive
hard rock	survey galleries	in situ tests sampling	-	sophisticated, expensive
		samping	coro logging	
soil/hard rock		geology/geological layer boundaries	core logging televiewer, optical/acoustic borehole imaging	clean borehole
soil			slug/pulse test in the borehole	
soil/hard rock		hydraulic properties	water pressure tests	Karst, hydraulic conductivity too high
hard rock		water level, hydrographs		
hard rock	drillings		flow direction und velocity	
soil/hard rock soil	-	geomechanical properties	in situ stress tests standard penetration tests	short time stable boreholes
soil/hard		с	· · ·	
rock			drilling energy	
soil hard rock		drill core	soil mechanical survey rock mechanical survey	depends on sample quality
soil/hard rock	soundings	geological layer boundaries	dynamic probing, CPT, drill stem test, drilling parameters	
soil	Ű	compactness	dynamic probing, CPT, drilling parameters	
		Lab	ooratory Test	
l	relevance	parameters	r	nethod
	•	grain size distribution	sieve analysis	
	• 0	grain size distribution grain density	sieve analysis pycnometer	
		-	,	
	0	grain density	pycnometer	
	0	grain density grain shape	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope	
	0 0 •	grain density grain shape bulk density	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor	
soil	0 0 •	grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor	
soil		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer	
soil		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content fiction angle, cohesion	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test	d
soil		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content friction angle, cohesion plasticity	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test compression testing, triaxial test	d
soil		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content friction angle, cohesion plasticity permeability	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test compression testing, triaxial test tests with constant/changing hydraulic hea	d
soil		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content friction angle, cohesion plasticity permeability pore volume	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test compression testing, triaxial test tests with constant/changing hydraulic hea porosity test	d
soil		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content friction angle, cohesion plasticity permeability pore volume mineralogy	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test compression testing, triaxial test tests with constant/changing hydraulic hea porosity test thin section, XRPD, clay mineral analysis	
soil		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content friction angle, cohesion plasticity permeability pore volume mineralogy determination of loss on ignition	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test compression testing, triaxial test tests with constant/changing hydraulic hea porosity test thin section, XRPD, clay mineral analysis determination of organic content	
soil		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content friction angle, cohesion plasticity permeability pore volume mineralogy determination of loss on ignition abrasivity	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test compression testing, triaxial test tests with constant/changing hydraulic hea porosity test thin section, XRPD, clay mineral analysis determination of organic content LCPC test,abrasivity test, Los Angeles tes	
		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content friction angle, cohesion plasticity permeability pore volume mineralogy determination of loss on ignition abrasivity density	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test compression testing, triaxial test tests with constant/changing hydraulic hea porosity test thin section, XRPD, clay mineral analysis determination of organic content LCPC test, abrasivity test, Los Angeles tes density test	
		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content friction angle, cohesion plasticity permeability pore volume mineralogy determination of loss on ignition abrasivity density porosity	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test compression testing, triaxial test tests with constant/changing hydraulic hea porosity test thin section, XRPD, clay mineral analysis determination of organic content LCPC test, abrasivity test, Los Angeles tes density test pycnometer	t
		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content friction angle, cohesion plasticity permeability pore volume mineralogy determination of loss on ignition abrasivity density porosity compressive strength	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test compression testing, triaxial test tests with constant/changing hydraulic hea porosity test thin section, XRPD, clay mineral analysis determination of organic content LCPC test, abrasivity test, Los Angeles tes density test pycnometer single axial compression test, triaxial test	t
		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content friction angle, cohesion plasticity permeability pore volume mineralogy determination of loss on ignition abrasivity density porosity compressive strength deformability	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test compression testing, triaxial test tests with constant/changing hydraulic heat porosity test thin section, XRPD, clay mineral analysis determination of organic content LCPC test,abrasivity test, Los Angeles test density test pycnometer single axial compression test, triaxial test, triaxial test	t
hard rock soil		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content friction angle, cohesion plasticity permeability pore volume mineralogy determination of loss on ignition abrasivity density porosity compressive strength	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test compression testing, triaxial test tests with constant/changing hydraulic hea porosity test thin section, XRPD, clay mineral analysis determination of organic content LCPC test, abrasivity test, Los Angeles tes density test pycnometer single axial compression test, triaxial test, triaxial test	t Quellversuche
		grain density grain shape bulk density loose/dense packing water content friction angle, cohesion plasticity permeability pore volume mineralogy determination of loss on ignition abrasity density porosity compressive strength deformability shear strength tensile strength	pycnometer visual inspection / microscope vibrating table method, Proctor vibrating table method, Proctor oven dry samples, air pycnometer shear test, triaxial test compression testing, triaxial test tests with constant/changing hydraulic hea porosity test thin section, XRPD, clay mineral analysis determination of organic content LCPC test, abrasivity test, Los Angeles tes density test single axial compression test, triaxial test, triaxial test single axial compression test, triaxial test, triaxial test splitting tensile test	t Quellversuche

property of significant importance $m{*}$ for layered/schisted/laminated rocks •

property of lesser importance 0

5.1.4. Investigation report requirements

The investigation report has to provide sufficient basis for the planning of the grouting procedure. Subsoil reports listing primarily geo-hydraulic data as well as methods and procedures used are absolutely essential.

Results must be interpreted and consolidated into a conceptual ground model. Additional geological – geotechnical cross-sections complementing the model and facilitating communication are always advised, with detailed individual results to be published in the appendix of the documents. Data from field trials, in situ and laboratory tests should always be clearly separated from their interpretations.

Clarity and comprehensibility must be emphasized throughout, in order to enable the efficient communication of the ground model between the various disciplines in a project team. The inclusion of schematics illustrating the anticipated distribution of the grout according to chapter 5.3 is definitely recommended.

The investigation report (in the sense of a geotechnical baseline report) also serves as reference if deviations from the ground model are being determined later.

5.2. Geo-hydraulic fundamentals

In the course of geotechnical grouting, water-binder mixtures of liquid or paste-like consistency are being injected under pressure into the ground. Illustrating geohydraulic conditions should, therefore, be considered crucial when establishing a ground model. This document will shed light on select topics, with fundamental principles easily accessible via specific technical literature.

The essential (and interrelated) geo-hydraulic parameters can be found in the ISRM "Report on Grouting" (1996):

	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			•	
parameter	value	Т	К	k	measured in
Transmissivity	т	т	$K \cdot d$	$k \cdot \frac{d \cdot \gamma}{\eta}$	[m²/s]
Conductivity	К	$\frac{T}{d}$	К	$k \cdot \frac{\gamma}{\eta}$	[m/s]
Permeability	k	$\frac{T \cdot \eta}{\gamma \cdot d}$	$K \cdot \frac{\eta}{\gamma}$	k	[m²]

 Table 4.
 Correlation of geo-hydraulic parameters (ISRM, 1996)

η: dynamic viscosity [mPA s]

d: thickness of the aquifers [m]

γ: specific weight of the fluid [kN/m³]

In order to understand the hydraulic processes in the ground it is necessary to consider the rheological differences of fluids (water and cement suspensions), especially the difference between Bingham fluids and Newtonian fluids. Water (Medium for water pressure tests as well as Lugeon tests) is being classified as a Newtonian fluid, mostly due to its stress-independent viscosity and its directly proportional correlation of shear stress and shear rate (no yield point).

Bingham fluids (applicable for most particulate grouts and suspensions) differ from Newtonian fluids as they exhibit cohesion (yield point τ_0) which needs to be overcome in order to initiate flow. Shear stress commonly increases in Bingham fluids directly proportional to shear rate τ_0 once the yield point has been surpassed (see figure 7).

Liquids diverting from this linearity usually show pseudoplastic behavior (structural viscosity). Some rheopectic fluids (for example bentonite-silicate gels, suspensions with large amounts of solids) exhibit shear thinning with increasing shearing time and shear rate – other fluids dilate; they exhibit shear thickening behavior. Both phenomena are – to a certain extent – reversible once fluids return to their original state.



Figure 7. Flow behavior of different liquids (Kainrath, 2014)

Thixotropy

This term describes the changing, thinning behavior of a fluid under mechanical stress (shear thinning), while exhibiting an increase in viscosity or yield point in its idle state. The process is repeatable and reversible. Figure 8 illustrates the influence of thixotropy using a typical flow curve. Thixotropy occurs predominantly while using grouts with high clay contents (especially bentonite) or other additives and becomes a crucial factor should interruptions during the grouting itself occur - or if, for example, the suspension is being held in the Marsh cone for too long before measuring efflux time.



Figure 8. Flow curve of thixotropic liquids (unpublished Stadler, 2016)

5.2.1. Geo-hydraulics In soil

The hydraulic characteristics in soil are defined by its structure (grain shape, grain size, density). To describe the flow of water through ground Darcy's Law is commonly used. In it filter velocity (v_f) is the quotient of total discharge (Q) and the total cross-sectional area to flow (A). According to Darcy this velocity (v_f) is directly proportional to the hydraulic gradient (I). This gradient (I) itself is a result of the difference in water level (Δ h) and the total length (L) over which the pressure drop is taking place. (k_f) is the coefficient of permeability of the ground. Figure 9 illustrates these correlations below:



Figure 9. Abstraction of the soil-hydraulic model (Sommer, 2012)

$$v_f = \frac{Q}{A} = k_f \cdot l \tag{3}$$

5.2.2. Geo-hydraulics in solid rock

Hydraulic characteristics of solid rock in the sense of ducting water predominantly in fissures are determined by the geometry and configuration of joint planes and their hydraulic connectivity. For fault zones with characteristics of soil refer to chapter 5.2.1. Solid rock of significant porosity should be considered a mixed medium for both pore water and fissure water flow.

5.2.2.1. Discontinuities in solid rock

Discontinuities in a rock mass include joints (or fractures), foliation (or cleavage), bedding planes, faults or others, defined by parameters such as aperture, surface attributes (i.e. roughness), fillings, spacing, persistence and frequency. Depending on the genesis of rock there are different types of joints to be distinguished - and their orientation relative to the structure are of particular importance (figure 10).



Figure 10. Discontinuity system illustrating spacing, aperture, roughness and intersection with a borehole. (Hudson, 1989)

5.2.2.2. Discontinuity hydraulics

According to Darcy any flow in a homogenous rock mass can be described with the filter velocity (v_f) . It is the quotient of discharge (Q) and cross-sectional area to flow (A) (including both "impermeable" matrix and voids). Following this model, flow itself only takes place in spaces between discontinuity (= joints). Permeability of a given joint can be described as follows:







Figure 11. Abstraction of the hydraulic model in solid rock (Sommer, 2012)

$$\nu_f = \frac{Q}{A} = \frac{g(a_i)^2}{12\nu} \cdot \frac{2a_i}{d} \cdot l = k_t \cdot \frac{2a_i}{d} \cdot l = k_T \cdot l$$
(4)

g:	earth gravity	[m/s²]
v:	kinematic viscosity	[m²/s]
2 _{ai} :	joint aperture	[m]
L:	distance	[m]
Q:	discharge	[m³/s]
k _t :	coefficient of permeability	[m/s]

d: mean joint aperture [m]



Figure 12. Illustration of a common joint (Louis, 1967)

In this simplified way the total discharge can be calculated by adding up the joint planes oriented parallel to the direction of flow –adding up all joint planes orthogonally intersecting the relevant cross-sectional area. For approximating flow of formation water in solid rock the Cubic Law should be used, which means that transmissivity is proportional to the third power of the hydraulic joint aperture, and flux directly proportional to the pressure gradient. Limitations due to turbulence may apply.

Due to their important influence on connectivity, anisotropic conditions in solid rock are particularly relevant in the context of injection.

Actual transmissivity (table 4) of a rock mass is usually being determined in situ by using the Lugeon test. The Lugeon value equals the amount of water (in L) per meter of test hole per minute at an injection pressure of 10 bars. In real life situations, however, different lengths of boreholes are being used, as well as different sets of pressures and different scenarios (single packer at the end of the borehole, or double packers over the span of an interval of a hole). In such cases the Lugeon value at 10 bars can be extrapolated linearly by using the test's last pressure stage.

Since such water pressure tests rarely proceed linearly, it might be prudent to analyze the values (flow/pressure, usually in diagram form) in regards to possible changes in geo-hydraulic conditions during the tests themselves – and interpret the data accordingly.

Important phenomena in the context of grouting are:

- Washout
- Clogging
- Turbulence
- Elastic joint widening (dilation)
- Hydrojacking & Hydrofracking

Extrapolation of low test pressures to the reference pressure of 10 bars should always be evaluated critically, especially in the case of non-linear appearance of testing stages. The Lugeon value only acquires its relevance to injection procedures once a plausible distribution of joint apertures has been established. The difference in rheology of water and suspensions needs to be considered when evaluating Lugeon-test results as well. The Lugeon value is oftentimes not sufficiently precise to arrive at a definite aperture distribution, it can, however, be used as a useful indicator of transmissivity before and after the grouting procedure.

5.3. Geomechanical fundamentals

During the project planning stage, the systemic interaction of the ground, planned structure and planned grouting procedures has to be explored fully. The possible change in mechanical and hydraulic characteristics in the ground caused by grouting or construction procedures is of major technical and economic significance.

In order to assess system behavior, the following items should be considered:

- Geomechanical attributes of the ground (e.g. soil parameters, rock parameters, rockmass parameters, pore- or joint-interface water regime)
- Impact of construction (loading) and its effect on geomechanical behavior of the ground (elastic, plastic or time-dependent)
- Impact of grouting on the ground (e.g. changes in cohesion, deformation and permeability)

Applicable geomechanical fundamentals depend on the target of the grouting procedure and ground characteristics. In the context of guidelines for underground works, information published by the Austrian Society for Geomechanics ("Guideline for the Geotechnical Design of Underground Structures with Conventional Excavation" available at www.oegg.at; ÖGG, 2010) contains parameters for the characterization of certain rock mass types, which should be of sufficient assistance in that regard.

The following schematics facilitate the illustration of possible grout travel. Schematics like these have to be part of the investigation report.



Figure 13. Different distributions of grout emanating from entry (E), depending on joint plane characteristics and tension in rock mass (Ewert, 1985).

5.4. Deduction of grouting-specific parameters

5.4.1. Information gained from exploratory drilling

Exploratory drilling already leads to additional data essential for the understanding of the ground model. Important data such as drilling parameters (specific energy, torque, thrust pressure or rotational speed) and the evaluation of drilling protocols (flushing loss, observations of the drill operator, etc.) have to be included into the analysis of ground characteristics. An energy profile along the borehole can assist in evaluating grain size distribution, density, intensity of jointing, fault zones or voids and complements all other geotechnical investigations in relation to geological profiles.

$$e = \frac{F}{A} + \frac{2\pi NT}{AR}$$
(5)

e:	Specific drill energy	[kJ/m³]
F:	Contact pressure (feed force)	[kN]
A:	Cross-sectional area of the hole	[m²]
N:	Revolutions	[RPM]
T:	Torque	[kNm]
R:	Drill rate	[m/s]

5.4.2. Hydraulic and mechanical parameters

Relevant information which can be gained from drilling includes:

- Joint aperture
- Characteristics of discontinuities (shape, roughness, filling, degree of separation)
- Number of joint planes per meter/borehole (intensity of jointing), categorized in relation to hydraulic relevance
- Position and orientation of joint planes

These criteria should be presented in their relation to the planned position of the structure, as well as their orientation relative to it.

Investigations into hydraulic parameters will only provide references to pore or joint constrictions, since only those tend to influence results of hydraulic in situ trials (hydraulic pressure and pump tests).

The geometric aperture of discontinuities and its intersections with the borehole differ from the significant hydraulic constriction insofar, as it determines filtration phenomena and grout entry losses.

Effective injection pressure usually causes elastic or plastic opening of joints (hydrojacking) in rock masses (or *claquages* in soil), which in turn promotes the permeation and distribution of the grout. In this context significant deviations from grout estimations can occur.

5.5. Injection trials on site and in the laboratory

Injection trials conducted in preparation for construction should be considered of exploratory nature and are highly recommended.
6. CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS

6.1. General

There exists a plethora of construction materials and products for geotechnical injections, whose attributes are generally defined by their composition. Selection of grout, therefore, depends on grouting targets, parameters (soil or rock characteristics, hydrogeological conditions etc.) and injection-specific requirements. Selection and modification of the grout should be considered an iterative process, based on experience, trials and suspension test results.

6.2. Grouting materials

6.2.1. Hydraulic binders and cements

Hydraulic binders include cements and similar products usable in liquid suspensions for grouting. In general, the different grout classifications are:

6.2.1.1. Standard cements according to EN 197-1

According to EN 197-1 standard cements are being classified as follows:

strongth		compressiv	ve strength		
strength class	initial s	initial strength		trength	
CIdSS	2 days	7 days	28 c	lays	
32.5 N	-	≥ 16.0	≥ 32.5	≤ 52.5	
32.5 R	≥ 10.0	-	2 52.5	≥ 52.5	
42.5 N	≥ 10.0	-	≥42.5	≤62.5	
42.5 R	≥ 20.0	-	242.5	≥ 02.5	
52.5 N	≥ 20.0	-	≥ 52.5		
52.5 R	≥ 30.0	-	2 52.5	-	

Table 5.Classification according to compressive strength (Compressive strength of
cements: EN 197-1)

N: normal

R: rapid

CEMI – Portland cement
CEMII – Portland-composite cement
CEM III – Blastfurnace cement
CEMIV – Puzzolanic cement
CEMV – Composite cement

Physical parameters as found in EN 197-1 are valid for low water/binder ratios (~ 0.5 w/b). For injection procedures common ratios of w/b > 0.8 cause significant changes in those parameters.

CEM I contains as a main constituent pure cement clinker, whereas CEM II to CEM V contain higher percentages of other, different constituents. For grouting classes CEM I to CEM III should usually be used, with the stability of the suspension generally improving with higher clinker ratio and strength classes (higher fineness/blaine value).

6.2.1.2. Mixed binders (manufacturer-specific mixes)

Mixed binders constitute manufacturer-specific grouting mixes containing standard cements plus additives (fillers) are usually cheaper than standard cements. The physical and rheological attributes of suspensions containing mixed binders depend heavily on the composition of the binders themselves and need to be tested for suitability.

6.2.1.3. Microfine binders

Microfine binders are hydraulic binders of a maximum grain size of 95% passing at $d_{95} \le 20 \ \mu m$. Instructions for use and testing can be found in "Merkblatt für Einpressarbeiten mit Feinstbindemittel in Lockergestein" (Schulze, 1993).

6.2.2. Water

Drinking water should be used for mixing whenever possible. Water found on site from natural sources should be tested (especially for chloride and sulfide contents and organic compounds) before use. Surface water, groundwater, residual water require testing as well, especially on suspicion of containing damaging substances. Benchmarks for testing and evaluation of water for mixing purposes can be found in ÖNORM EN 1008. Where site water is to be used, mix trials with the actual components should be carried out in advance of the works to verify that target mix properties can be achieved.

6.2.3. Additives

Additives are materials added with the aim of modifying the suspension according to project requirements. These additives may be inert (fillers) or may exhibit pozzolanic characteristics (i.e. improve grout strength). Generally, additives are being added in order to improve rheological characteristics, or to improve the solid particle ratio of the suspension. The amount of additives is commonly significant enough to be a factor in volume calculations. A higher ratio of solids in the suspension, and therefore a higher density, increases durability and reduces permeability, an important factor when dealing with long-term hydraulic barriers. Optimal ratios need to be identified via suitability tests.

See also EN 12715 chapter 6.2.6.1:

"Calcareous or siliceous fillers, pulverised fuel ash (pfa), pozzolans and fly ash from thermal power plants or any inert or reactive components may be used in grouts, provided that they are chemically compatible with each other and satisfy immediate and long term environmental requirements." See also EN 12715 chapter 6.2.3.1:

"Sand and fillers are commonly used in cement grouts or clay suspensions as bulking agents or as a means of varying the consistency of the grout, its resistance to wash-out, or its mechanical strength and deformability."

Possible applications of fillers in grouts are grouting of large voids or compaction grouting. Additives must not contain harmful particles, and the granulometry of sands and fillers used in the grout must be known.

6.2.4. Clays

In order to improve stability of cement suspensions, the addition of ground clay particles capable of swelling (bentonites) is common. They reduce sedimentation under gravity and bleeding under pressure. Depending on quality of bentonites added, hydration before introduction may be required to achieve maximum effect. This must be done in clean water free of cement since the ability of sodium bentonite to hydrate can be negatively influenced by calcium ions in the mixing water.

"The mineralogy, particle size, water content, and Atterberg liquid limit of the clay should be known." (EN 12715 chapter 6.2.2.)

6.2.5. Additives and admixtures

Additives may be introduced to the suspension in order to optimize its physical properties in accordance with project requirements. They can be added in liquid or powdery form to a limit of 5% of total cement mass (see also EN 934) and do not need to be accounted for in volume calculations. Additives can, among others, influence:

- Consistency (yield point, viscosity, thixotropy)
- Plasticity (maintaining fluid characteristics over duration of injection)
- Setting Time (decelerating or accelerating effect)
- Voids content
- Strength

Targeting one characteristic for improvement (e.g. fluidity) generally impacts other characteristics as well (e.g. compressive strength, aeration). In each case tests should be conducted to assess the suitability and amount of additives required. Relevant additives for grouting are classified into:

- Fluidifiers improve flow characteristics by reducing yield point and viscosity; they often act as a water reducing agent.
- Stabilizers (dispersing agents) reduce bleed, improve workability and prevent dilution in the case of contact with ground water.
- Accelerators reduce set time. They are usually being added to the grout whenever extensive spreading needs to be avoided (e.g. groundwater flow, set time increasing factors like sulfate, low temperature) or when rapid set is required.
- Inhibitors/retarders increase setting time.

6.3. Suspensions in grouting

Table 7 lists essential parameters for the classification of suspensions:

	- yield point		
Flow properties / Rheology	- viscosity		
	- thixotropy		
Density	- suspension density		
	- bleeding under pressure (pressure filtration)		
Stability	- sedimentation rate (bleed)		
Stability	- resistance to washout		
	- dilution		
	- initial set		
Rigidity/ Development	- rapid set		
	- final set		
	- resistance to chemical reactions		
Durability	- resistance to erosion		
	- persistence		

Table 7.Parameters for the classification of suspensions

6.4. Sampling and testing

There are tests available for suitability (or aptitude) and quality control. The former are used to optimize attributes of suspensions in order to achieve grouting targets, with the latter providing quality control on site. The scope of suitability and aptitude tests should be determined by the designer after consultation with relevant experts. All rheological and physical parameters and the expected spread of test results needs to be considered. The extent of control tests, also specified by the designer, is limited to the control of previously stated benchmarks. Table 7 lists the most important criteria for both control and suitability tests.

6.4.1. Testing grouts in the laboratory

Grout characteristics are to be tested at an ambient temperature of 20 °C. Testing conditions (mixing sequence, temperature, time, speed/energy applied, mixing duration) should be kept constant; procedures as well as deviations need to be documented. Constituents of a mixture are to be weighed at a precision of 0.1 g and mixed in relevant sequence. High-speed mixers should be employed, and the temperature and chemistry of the water used should be identical to that present on site. Is no data available, then using 12 °C for mixing water is recommended. It is possible that interference by the chemistry of the water on site cannot be avoided, in which case all tests have to be conducted using water from the construction site.

"If the conditions on site differ substantially from the laboratory conditions (especially the temperature) tests shall be conducted under the in situ conditions. The temperature development during testing shall be monitored." (EN 12715 chapter 6.4.4)

6.4.2. Control testing on site

"The constituent materials of a grout mix as well as the mix itself shall regularly be sampled and tested to verify compliance with the design requirements." (EN 12715 chapter 6.4.1)

Sampling of already mixed suspensions should be done from the holding tank (or in case of longer pipe ranges at the borehole mouth) and not from the mixing tank. Time and place of sampling, age and composition of mixture need to be recorded. Rheological tests have to be conducted immediately after sampling. For retention samples (uniaxial compression strength) the use of a cylindrical sample container (or tube) with dimensions of 2:1 length/diameter is recommended. Storage of samples should use conditions similar to those of the ground in situ (temperature, humidity and water chemistry), but need to be documented in any case. Samples should be stored in water at room (ambient) temperature, with deviations from those conditions to be recorded as well. Agitation through transport should be avoided if possible, especially in the first few days. Samples should be trimmed to a ratio of 2:1 (height/diameter) -still in their tubular container - before tests are about to be carried out.

6.4.3. Testing

6.4.3.1. Manufacturer instructions and testing for product spec sheets

"Standardized testing methods (equipment, boundary conditions, analysis) shall be employed to allow comparison of the characteristics of the products provided by different suppliers." (EN 12715 chapter 6.4.2)

Manufacturer information for grouts should be, in the case of suspensions based on hydraulic binders, related to a w/b value of 1.0.

In addition to information (technical specifications and characteristics, and the complete data on granulometry and grain density) regarding the type of cement and additives to be used, a number of additional parameters must be indicated:

- In pure suspensions: density, Marsh time, sedimentation rate
- In stabilized suspensions (sedimentation rate < 5%): Percentage of admixture and product name of stabilizing agent, density, bleed und pressure, free water filtrate, yield point, viscosity (viscosity curve), Marsh time, initial set, compressive strength of the pure suspension after 28 days in cylinder

Table 8 lists empirical values for Portland cement suspensions:

Table 8.Empirical values for Portland cement suspensions

	method	unit	lower limit	upper limit	notes
filtrate	API-filter press	[ml]	40	110	DIN 4126; after 7.5 mins
Marsh-cone time	Marsh-cone	[s]	31	40	DIN 4126; at 1000ml
sedimentation rate	1000ml cup	[%]	1	5	DIN 4126; after 2h
initial set*		[min]	80	240	

*values may vary depending on method employed

6.4.3.2. Testing procedures and applications

Table 9 lists the most important parameters and possible suitability (aptitude) and control tests for suspensions. The types and amount of testings should be determined specifically for each project. Suitability tests in the laboratory aim to optimize and customize suspensions for the injection task at hand, while control tests on site serve to control chosen mixtures and quality assurance. The extent of the latter type of tests, therefore, should be expected to be significantly less and focused on simple testing procedures.

Paran	neters	Recommended Method	Eignungsprüfung	Kontrollprüfung	
Composition	w	measuring cylinder, mud balance	yes	yes	
		measuring cylinder			
Stability	sedimentation rate	d = 6 cm, V = 1000 ml	yes (2/4/6h)	yes (2h)	
Stability		sedimentation rate = $\Delta h/h$			
	filtrate	filter press ¹²	yes	yes	
		viscosimeter (w. vane) ¹⁰			
		or			
	yield point	determination using Bingham flow	yes	no ¹	
	yield point	curve		yes	
Rheological		[EN 12715: fig. B1]			
Benchmark		ball harp ²	yes ²		
		flow curve ³	2400	no ¹	
		[EN 12715: fig. B1]	yes		
	viscosity	Marsh cone ⁴	5	5	
		1000ml, d _{ischarge} = 4.75 mm	yes ⁵	yes ⁵	
	initial set ¹³	viscosimeter (w. vane) ¹¹	yes ^{8, 9}	no	
Set	early set	uniaxial compressive strength ⁶	yes ^{7, 8}	no	
	final set (28d)	uniaxial compressive strength ^{6, 7}	yes	yes	

Table 9. Methods, suitability (aptitude) and control tests for suspensions

¹ Possible exception: Whenever deviations from the original grout or changes in additives need to be meas-ured.

² Only for comparisons and control tests; large variation and lack of precision, especially if additives are being used. Adhesion tests (100-grit sandpaper) have proven especially apt for control tests under on site conditions. For aptitude tests and the determination of actual yield points, other tests should be used (vane, flow curve).

³ Viscosity test using a (rotary) cylindrical viscosimeter (coaxial layout). Using relative measurement systems is not recommended.

- ⁴ For a rough estimate of viscosity, and for control tests
- ⁵ Used only for relative measurements and comparative measurements during control tests
- ⁶ According to "Qualitätssicherung für Bodenvermörtelung" or ÖNORM B 4415 for cylinders (h/d = 2:1) of the hardened grout (sedimentation rate in container/tube must be considered; fill level > sample level), storage of sample until test under water. Cut and alignment of sample faces, pathing controlled, feed at 1% of initial level, at ε<4% -> 0.2% of initial level; deviations from testing instructions are to be mentioned separately
- ⁷ Using retained samples stored in water

⁸ If required

- ⁹ If mixtures or additives are being used which can influence hydration significantly
- ¹⁰ Maximum shear stress is being used as yield point. See Kainrath (2014)
- ¹¹ Intermittend test implementation. Measuring increase in shear stress over time. Initial set is assumed at τ = 100 Pa. See Kainrath (2014)
- 12 According to DIN 4127; filtration pressure of (7 ± 0.35) bar, filtrate volume after 7.5 minutes is being measured
- ¹³ In order to adhere to in situ conditions, the hardening test may follow temperature, humidity and properties of groundwater found on site

7. DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

7.1. Preface

The design of grouting works is a multidisciplinary engineering challenge requiring extensive experience of all parties involved. The design of injections requires a great measure of adaptability, something that already needs to be considered during the design stages. This flexibility should be reflected and regulated explicitly in contracts so that it may be applied during execution. Following methods have proven successful:

- Planning of the grouting procedures with the use of simple models.
- Start parameters should be left variable in order to react to changing conditions.
- Risk analysis to better estimate possible scenarios, their extent and impact on design and bids.

7.2. Design fundamentals and targets

7.2.1. Design fundamentals

The design fundamentals for any grouting project are defined by grouting targets to be achieved and project conditions.

Main considerations revolve around the extent in which ground characteristics in the vicinity of the planned structures need to be altered – and whether this is possible via grouting at all. Targets usually consist of a change in ground characteristics beneficial for the project, be it hydrogeological or geomechanical changes, or a reduction in (or even compensation of) ground settlement. It might be of relevance for design targets, whether its effects are aimed at temporary or permanent changes.

The parameters defining the design are primarily determined by the ground (geology, hydrology), environmental limitations (allowed settlements, tolerable water ingress values, ecological factors) and site limitations (space, abutments counteracting grout forces).

"Preventive" grouting measures are meant to be executed before the actual main construction works are to start. In the case of tunneling, for example, this could mean a treatment of the ground from both above ground and underground before excavation begins. In such a case grouting trials are usually conducted during this phase as well. The aim of such "preventive" procedures is to reduce risks later, during execution of the main construction works.

"Intervention" grout injections are procedures which might have already been accounted for during risk analysis (albeit at low-risk), but still may have to be employed in the form of additional or special works (measures). In such cases the design cannot rely on standard explored conditions as would be the case for preventive measures. Pre-grouting trials might not be possible, neither.

In order to determine reach & distribution of grout, the geo-hydraulic fundamentals described in chapter 5, the rheological attributes of the grout itself, grouting parameters and grouting and intervention rules in context of drilling (cluster-pattern or row geometry of holes, depth, inclination and positioning of holes relative to each other) all have to be factored in. Checklist fundamentals (complete list in appendix A.3.2):

- Grouting targets:
 - o Sealing/reduction of water ingress
 - o Altering geomechanical characteristics
 - Ground settlement compensation
 - o Protection against erosion
- Groutability of the ground
- Suspension and technology used (see also chapters 6.2 and 7.3)
- Geology/geotechnical engineering (see chapters 5 and 7.3.2)
- Hydrogeology (see chapter 5.2)
- Injection parameters and environmental limitations
- Constraints of construction procedures
- Constraints of the construction site

7.2.2. Design goals

Differentiation of design goals for any grouting project mainly follows the respective design phases (figure 6).

The preliminary design study commonly entails the decision if, by which means and to what extent grouting procedures should be part of the overall design. Consequently, construction cost estimates, expected time to completion and risk analysis enter into subsequent design decisions. This requires a viable grouting concept based on the ground model, which needs to be able to provide answers pertaining to questions arising from the aspects named above.

Permit planning (environmental compliance planning) commonly lists all methods and measures as well as expected impacts based on exploratory results as available at the respective points in time. Grouting targets should also be formulated at this stage, but no later than finalization of the tender design.

Planning at this stage should be supplemented by a risk analysis in order to identify and elaborate on possible scenarios.

Tender design has to cover all planned grouting measures in all necessary detail to enable tenderers to submit their own designs, cost calculations and cost estimations. Later it must provide the contractor with all information needed for the actual construction, supervision and invoicing. In this phase of the project, the following must be designed for the most likely case (project scenario), and published accordingly;

- the grouting concept (grouts, grouting pattern, drill method, drill depth, diameter, injection phases, grouting trials, stop criteria, proof of success, etc.),
- a concept concerning plant and equipment, conditions of the construction site, construction phases (sequencing of construction steps) and material estimations (including invoicing concepts)

These need to be designed for the most likely case (project scenario), and published accordingly. To allow for alternate proposals of the contractor or adapting to changes caused by a change in

conditions, this design phase should provide a rough framework, rather than a strict tender design. The iterative and interactive character of grouting procedures must never be ignored.

Implementation planning (execution) aims at adapting earlier conceptual design phases and intended monitoring to suit on site conditions.

Additional planning and design for grouting trials is necessary whenever preventive injections are envisaged, in order to verify or optimize designed grouting measures.

These interventional grouting measures need to be adjusted to actual site conditions and adapted to latest findings.

7.2.3. Groutability criteria for soil

For the estimation of the groutability of soil the following 3 criteria have proven to be most useful:

7.2.3.1. Analysis of grain size distribution

The limits of groutability for different grouts in relation to different grain size distributions is classically being determined by a discussion of the results of the so called "sieve analysis". Figure 14 illustrates three areas of possible applications. Results of the analysis of the soil in question should be within the marked areas of Figure 14. This criterion ignores, however, genesis of sed-imentation, grain shape, bulk density and specific shapes of particle-size distribution curves.



Figure 14. Applications of different grouts according to sieve analysis of the soil (unpublished Leitner, 2016)

7.2.3.2. D15/d85 ratio (N-criterion)

This value reflects the ratio of characteristic particle sizes in the soil and that of a given suspension. This "N-value" derives from the relation of D_{15} of soil to d_{85} of the suspension, and is a filter criterion used to describe empirical penetration limits of specific suspensions in soil.

N:	D ₁₅ /d ₈₅
D ₁₅ :	Grain size of the soil at 15% filter pass
d ₈₅ :	particle size in the suspension at 85% filter pass

Ranges of values published for estimating groutability on the basis of this N-value, by various authors, provide a rough assessment only, and are generally of conservative character. It should be noted that with the N-criterion only one value (D_{15}) of the particle-size distribution is being used for evaluation, which leads to limited observational value in the case of wide and intermittently-graded particle-size distributions.

Following N-criteria may be used to assume groutability of the soil:

Author —	Groutability				
Autiloi	possible	uncertain	not possible		
Kutzner (1991)	N > 40	-	-		
Mitchell (1970)	N > 24	24 < N < 11	N < 11		
Sherard & Dunningan (1984)	N > 24	24 < N < 9	N < 9		
Kravetz (1958)	N > 20	20 < N < 5	N < 5		

Table 10. Benchmarks for groutability by author

For standard cements the following d_{85} values may be representative:

 Table 11.
 Different cements and their particle size at 85% filter pass

CEM I 32.5	d ₈₅ ~ 0.043 mm
CEM I 42.5	$d_{85} \sim 0.025 \text{ mm}$
CEM I 52.5	d ₈₅ ~ 0.020 mm
Ultrafine binders	$d_{85} < 0.016 \text{ mm}$ available up to 0.006 mm

For a more precise estimation of groutability, more complex procedures – like pore throat distribution – may be considered.

7.2.3.3. Pore throat distribution

This approach was formulated by Schulze (Schulze, 1993) and refined by Schuler and Brauns (Schuler and Brauns, 2000). Using a pore space model allows us to draw conclusions in regards to the effective pore diameters (pore throat diameters) of the soil, and thus of the groutability. This model uses, in contrast to the above N-criterion, the complete particle-size distribution and bulk density of the ground, providing a more precise and realistic approach.



Figure 15. Pore throat distribution (Schuler and Brauns, 2000)

7.2.4. Criteria for the groutability of rock

Figure 16 helps estimate hydraulic joint apertures. Note that hydraulic apertures do not match the geometric (determined during geological investigations) joint apertures. Estimating joint apertures based on hydraulic in situ tests is also done with the intent of finding – in accordance with filter criteria stipulated previously - the largest usable particle size for grouts. Deformation of joints (widening) caused by effective injection pressure must once again be taken into consideration.

Figure 16 is to be read by entering the Lugeon value on the axis of abscissae of the left quadrant. Continuing up vertically until intersecting with one of the reference lines (isotropic/anisotropic), and then projected horizontally until intersecting with the chosen amount of joints per meter, either smooth or rough. This final intersection point, projected down to the axis of abscissae, provides the corresponding hydraulic joint aperture.

Calculations behind the graph - enhanced by discontinuity roughness – are based on the Cubic Law and assume the ideal case of parallel joint planes. Results, therefore, may only serve as approximations for (hydraulic) joint apertures.



Figure 16. Transmissivity, conductivity and hydraulic joint - aperture (ISRM, 1996)

- (a): isotropic conditions
- (b): anisotropic conditions
- (c): smooth joint planes
- (d): rough joint planes

Grouting target and method are also to be defined according to prevailing permeabilities, which significantly influence actually achievable targets (see also table 12). At low initial values (e.g. $k_f = 1E-08 \text{ m/s}$) grouting can actually increase permeability in some types of rock, due to new pathways caused by deformations.

Table 12. Empirical target values for permeability in rock (unpublished Stadler, 2016)

Incompetent rock	Competent rock
kf [m/s] achievable	kf [m/s] achievable
8E-09	5E-09
5E-08	1E-08
1E-07	6E-08
3E-07	1E-07
5E-07	3E-08
	kf [m/s] achievable 8E-09 5E-08 1E-07 3E-07

7.3. Grouting principles and methods

7.3.1. Grouting techniques

Table 13 lists the correlation between geotechnical parameters and possible grouting procedures.

For injections in soil, specific details of the particle-size distribution and virgin permeability are decisive when choosing grouts (ranging from chemical products like acrylate resins to mortars) and injection methods (lances, sleeve pipes, etc.). Transitions from effective pore penetration to *claquages* (see also hydrojacking) – and thus soil compaction due to displacement (especially in the case of fines) usually happen smoothly, with stop criteria being discussed in chapter 7.3.3.

Injections in rock also depend heavily on virgin transmissivity values (determined by Lugeon tests) for selecting the appropriate method. In rock however, a distinction must be made between a large number of joints with diffuse water flow characteristics and few, large, discrete joints of equal water flow. Stability of the ground and the borehole need to be factored in as well, since it's possible to either drill to the desired depth and begin grouting, or - as it might become necessary - to drill, inject and re-drill step by step in descending stages in order to complete the procedure. The use of multiple packer sleeve pipes (MPSP) for grouting in stages may also be recommended. Stop criteria consist of a number of different pressure and quantity limits (see also chapter 7.3.4).

7.3.1.1. Soil

Injection holes – supported by drill mud or casing – are usually being drilled at diameters between 76 mm and 140 mm. Project-specific borehole spacing depends on depth of holes, drilling accuracy and the reach of the suspension. Accuracy of drill set-up can be assumed at less than 10 cm. The annular space between borehole wall and sleeve pipe should be filled with low strength sleeve grout - filling the entire length of the annular space, starting bottom up – to avoid grout escaping/travelling in the annulus. Subsequent fracking of this seal mix surrounding the individual sleeves allows targeted grouting of separate stages and multiple re-injections. The use of double packers allows grouting of separate sleeves individually. Sleeve port grout pipes made out of steel or plastic usually come in diameters of $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch to 2 inches, and with holes drilled through their walls are regular intervals of 33 cm to 100 cm. Injection lances can be used for special applications. Contrary to the procedures in solid rock discussed below, sleeve pipes can be used for multiple re-injections in several phases, and with different grouts. Borehole spacing ranges between 1 m and 3 m, depending on the k_f-value and results of trial injections.

Table 13.	Overview	over	procedures	and	methods	(Grundbautaschenbuch	6th	edition,
	adapted)							

Туре		Soil						
Creature	_				fine			
Grout ways		pc	ore - penetration					
System		permanent	tempo	brary	permanent			
		permanent	pastes					
				suspen	sions			
Grout mixes		chemical	binders					
		synthetics						
Grouting parameter	s	limitation of quantity and pressure	grout limited q resurgance or in do oc	nterconnections energy and displacement criteria		lisplacement criteria		
Procedure		SP-Method	injection using lances	SEMA- Procedure	compaction	frac-grouting		
Goal (Sealing or Compacting	;)	max. pore space filling	partial pores	space filling	consolidation, cohesion, friction, uplift			
Туре				Ro	ck			
		stable	collap			le; tect. crushed		
Procedure		void fillin	g (karst/fractured	I rock)		tion; penetration nally temporary		
System				perma				
						pastes		
Grout mixes		suspensions						
		Microfine binder and chemical grout products (e.g. acrylates/epoxy/plastics)						
Grouting parameter	s	split-spacing/ from inside outwards/ from outside inwards						
		pressure limitation/ GIN			GIN and saturation critera			
System		upstage	downstage	MPSP	SP-procedure	frac-grouting		
Goal (Sealing or Compacting	;)	max. pore space filling		consoli	dation , sealing			
Annotations:								
temporary		only used for < 2 years p						
GIN			lating the product of	effective pressure ai	nd volume (see EN 12715, G	irouting Intensity Number"GIN")		
SP-Method Injection using lances		pipe method are being drilled or ran	med into the ground,	forming the injection	on path. This way entry poir	nts are spread along the area to be		
	treated	l, injection is also possi	ble through holes nea	ar the lance tip or th	rough the bottom part of th	e pipe after withdrawal of the lance		
SEMA-procedure	injecti	on during the drilling pr	ocedure					
Compaction	-	on of pastes and mortar ates pores marginally	s via pipes of 3" to 6"	diameter. The mixtu	ure is being discharged fror	n the open end of the pipe and only		
frac-grouting	fractur	ing by overcoming cohe	sion, potential tensil	e strength of the roc	k mass and load in the grou	und at the entry point		
tect. crushed					/ to very fine, sometimes co			
split-spacing	spacin	g bore holes (distance b	etween bore holes) of	f subsequent stages	halfway between existing h	oles of previous stages		
outward	borehole clusters (tunnels, embankments, etc.) are filled beginning with the holes in the center							
inward	boreho	les are filled beginning	with the holes furthe	rst from the center (o	care not to seal in groundw	ater by accident)		
upstage	sequer	itial filling of a borehole	using packers					
downstage	sequer	ice of: drilling, placing p	acker, injecting, hard	lening, re-drilling, pl	lacing next packer deeper			
MPSP	multip	le-packer-sleeve-pipe						
Saturation	-	of void filling achieved; ent Pressure Anaylsis "T		ble by observing cha	nge in pressures after stop	ping the pump (see EN 12715/[3],		

7.3.1.2. Rock

Grout holes are usually being drilled without pipes using external hammer percussive drilling, or core drilling with diameters of 46 mm to HQ 96 mm or PQ 122 mm (in the case of double tube core barrels; 101 mm, 114 mm and 131 mm). Sections of unstable boreholes can be stabilized by top-down cementing and re-drilling. Commonly single packers are being used, and where the borehole wall is stable, injections are being executed ascending from toe of the hole to its mouth.

The distinct hydraulic differences compared to soil and the resulting flow paths of the suspension directly impact injection sequences. Design should consider the fact that suspension distribution will usually be limited to discrete joints of greater extent (5 m and more). Due to the possibility of grout bypassing packers, delayed grout set, overlapping of injection reach, grout travel into neighboring holes etc., drilling and injection procedures are alternating processes calling for continuous attention and design considerations. Distances between bore holes commonly decrease phase by phase (split spacing, see table 14), with primary, secondary and even tertiary holes and injection operations.

Table 14. Guideline for borehole spacing (unpublished Stadler, 2016)

Rock grouting

borehole spacing [a], borehole length [L], reach = a/2 [R]

		tu Bet R	5 X 10 III	5
- Starting from Virgin Lug		100 Lug	30 Lug	1 Lug
- resp. from Virgin K _f	10 ⁻⁴ m/s	10 ⁻⁵ m/s	10 ⁻⁶ m/s	10 ⁻⁷ m/s
- Primary	20.0 m	18.0 m	15.0 m	12.0 m
- Secondary	10.0 m	9.0 m	7.5 m	6.0 m
- Tertiary	5.0 m	4.5 m	3.8 m	3.0 m
- Quaternary	2.5 m	2.25 m	1.9 m	1.5 m

Example application: linear curtain/blanket, target K_f > 5 x 10⁻⁸ m/s

- Sedimentary rocks: increase [a]

- Karst: might have to reduce [a] (irresp. of Virgin-K_f)

- Crystalline rocks: [a] as indicated

- For consolidation blankets [a]/[L] varying between 0.8 and 1.5

7.3.2. Grout take and reach

Permeation is directly related to joint apertures, pore throat measurements and connectivity.

Reach and degree of penetration also depends on position of voids relative to bore hole, rheology of the grout, injection pressure, injection rate and duration of the injection procedure. Based on Lombardi's theoretical considerations (Lombardi and Deere, 1993) the following correlations can be derived:

$$R_{max} = \frac{p_{max} \cdot t}{\tau_0} \tag{6}$$

$$V_{max} = \frac{2 \cdot \pi \cdot p_{max}^2 \cdot t^3}{\tau_0^2} \tag{7}$$

$$F_{max} = \frac{\pi \cdot p_{max}^3 \cdot t^2}{3 \cdot \tau_0^2} \tag{8}$$

τ ₀ :	yield point
p _{max} :	maximum pressure at entry point (void)
t:	joint aperture
R _{max} :	reach in an ideal, horizontally open joint
V _{max} :	maximum amount of grout in an ideal, horizontally open joint
F _{max} :	lifting force orthogonal to joint plane



Figure 17. Interactive correlation between injection pressure, yield point, range and rate (Stadler, 2016)

In this schematic example (figure 17) the correlation of reach (R) (stagnation or injection radius), mixture and yield point (τ_0) or viscosity (η) and pump rate (q) can be seen for two different

mixtures. Dependencies show the importance of injection pressure (p_i) . A high injection pressure leads to higher reach; a low yield point at equal injection pressure leads to higher reach as well.

There is also a sixth parameter; pressure-related widening of a joint or fracture. This means that a chosen injection pressure can change reach, necessary pump time and grout volume.

Grouting design, therefore, requires either data concerning above parameters, acquired from test results during explorations, or suitable assumptions concerning the following items:

- Number, orientation and connectivity of discontinuities (joints, joint sets)
- Hydraulic and physical joint aperture and aperture distribution
- Deformation of rock mass under injection pressure

7.3.3. Stop criteria soil

For determining grout volumes and stop criteria in soil, the following four criteria have been proven very beneficial. They should be considered baseline and need to be specified for any project design accordingly. Illustrating these criteria using flow charts is recommended.

- 1. Injection stops after reaching planned volumes. Necessary volumes are being calculated with the help of effective porosity (17% to 25%) and tolerance factors for eventual losses, netting a design value of 23% to 30% of total ground volume. Actual grouting volumes for each stage must consider inhomogeneous ground conditions.
- Injection stops once the maximum injection pressure at the borehole mouth has been reached. This pressure is usually 80% of the frac pressure previously determined by in situ frac tests. Usually these pressures range between 6 and 20 bars at injection rates of 5 to 15 l/min.
- 3. Injection stops if substantial uplift occurs, which can be measured using surface or downhole control points. The respective reference points need to be outside the possible area of influence, and measurements must be frequent enough to enable a quick response. Deformation of the ground indicates the degree of saturation, or surpassing of deformation-safe pressure levels. Existing structures demand the utmost degree of care.
- 4. Seepage onto the surface, into sewers, channels or basements, etc. constitutes cause for an immediate termination of the injection process.

Rarely will dualistic criteria (e.g. GIN, limiting effective energy as used in rock) be used (chapter 7.3.4.4).

7.3.4. Stop criteria in rock





Figure 18. Possible gradients of the apparent-Lugeon value (Gabriel, 2016)

Rock grouting in the US uses the amenability theory under consideration of the apparent-Lugeon value. Rate, pressure and viscosity are being put into correlation with the Lugeon value (I/min/m borehole) using water and a test pressure of 10 bars as reference. The injection itself is being seen as a kind of continuous Lugeon test, replacing a Newtonian fluid (water) with a Bingham fluid (suspension). Flow rate, injection pump pressure during the injection and viscosity of the suspension are being used to calculate the apparent-Lugeon value, and this value is being put into correlation with the value of the initial Lugeon tests. This ratio is then being used to evaluate the suspension's aptitude for the given joint set, which means that the mixture is constantly being optimized. Suspensions are being chosen to be suitable for 75% of all joints, and grouting will be stopped once the apparent-Lugeon value has reached a particular limit. A disadvantage of this method is the fact that instead of dynamic viscosity (mPa*s) the ratio of Marsh times is being used, which reflects only a fraction (~ 1/50th) of the true ratio. This definitely needs to be taken into account when attempting to interpret target values. Furthermore, this method ignores the effects of widening joint-apertures, and that information gained only reflects conditions in the first few decimeters around the borehole (limited by the permeability response in the immediate vicinity).

$$LU_{app} = LU_{gr} = \frac{q(l/min)}{1(l/min)} \times \frac{1(m)}{L_{stage}(m)} \times \frac{10(bar)}{P_{eff}(bar)} \times \frac{V_{Marsh}(sec)}{28(sec)}$$
(9)

LU _{app} :	apparent-Lugeon value	
V _{Marsh} :	Marsh time of the suspension	(sec)
L _{stage} :	Length of stage	(m)
P _{eff} :	effective pressure	(bar)
	(pressure at the injection pump	minus hydrostatic counter-pressure)
q:	flow	(l/min)

7.3.4.2. q/p - ratio

The apparent-Lugeon method is very similar to the significant-indicator-function of the q/p-specific rate development. In the latter, the rate [l/min] is being divided by the injection pressure at the pump [bar] and plotted along the Q-axis (grout volume), the result is the dotted line in this case. A ratio (rate/injection pressure) between 3 and 5 can be considered for the beginning of a stage with high permeability/acceptance, while a value of less than 0.2 indicates a - relative to viscosity and yield point of the mixture used – saturation of a given stage at the current injection pressure.



Figure 19. q/p - ratio (Gabriel, 2016; adapted after unpublished note, Stadler and Kutzner, 1991)

7.3.4.3. Real Time Grouting Control (RTGC)

Stille (2015) developed a method in Sweden, which used the results of an analysis of joint aperture distribution based on Lugeon tests, to calculate the reach of a grout for the largest and smallest joint. The application of the differential flow equations for Bingham fluids in a joint lead to the calculation of the theoretical pump time until completion. Injection is stopped as soon as the calculated reach in the smallest joint reaches a target value (minimal spread), or a limiting value in the largest joint (maximum spread). Necessary grout volumes can be calculated using the analysis of the joint aperture distribution. Grouting using the RTGC-Method usually happens pressure-controlled (no constant rate).

Critics of this method argue that the actual joint apertures are not being explored or estimated precisely enough, and that elastic aperture widening caused by the injection pressure (Swedish standard is 50 bars) is not being considered. This method is very much suited for homogeneous, competent solid rock (Scandinavia) but might be less suitable in inhomogeneous masses and in the case of anisotropies.



Figure 20. Example documentation for real time grouting control (RTGC) (Stille et al., 2015; – adapted by Gabriel, 2016)

7.3.4.4. Grouting Intensity Number (GIN)

The concept of limiting the energy of an injection per meter of borehole goes back to Lombardi (Lombardi et al., 1993) and is expressed by the Grouting Intensity Number (GIN). This "intensity" can be determined by multiplication of grout quantity (at a given point in time) by grouting pressure measured at the pump, per meter of borehole section and expressed as [bar*I/m]). GIN-values between 500 (competent rock) and 2,500 (incompetent rock) are recommended. Despite this method owing much of its genius to its simplicity, a number of questions are being critically discussed among experts (in engineering geology): Why limit the energy to meters of borehole

and not to the corresponding rock mass of the section in question? How exactly would one identify the difference between the energy necessary for a good grouting effect and a detrimental amount of energy for the relevant type of rock? Why do we use pump pressure for calculations, and not the effective pressure in the joint itself? Since effective injection pressure is representative of conditions inside the joint, it should be used (to better represent actually applied energy values) as input values for any calculation of the GIN-value.

Since the GIN-value limits the energy applied to the rock, any amount of grout used for gravity filling as a (pre-) grouting needs to be excluded from GIN calculations.



Figure 21. Example of an injection procedure using the GIN method (Gabriel, 2016)

7.3.4.5. Aperture Controlled Grouting (ACG)

Recommended by Carter (Carter et al., 2014) and used for more than 40 years, this method uses joint (fracture) analysis – similar to the RTGC method – and Lugeon tests to determine suitable suspensions in order to achieve a specific target q/p-value (see figure 22). During the injection procedure, pressure and amount of grout are constantly being monitored in order to interpret the ratio of injection rate to injection pressure. Using this method provides the possibility to optimize both suspension and injection rate during the procedure, to reach the target as rapidly as feasible, as well as preventing unwanted hydrojacking or hydrofracking from occurring (figure 23).



Figure 22. Assigning suspension mixes to permeabilities in different stages (Carter et al., 2014)

This method is a hybrid of some of the stop criteria approaches mentioned in chapter 7.3.4, which might be the reason for the lack of criticism brought forward by experts in the field – as long as on site monitoring can service the complex demands this method entails.



Figure 23. q/p - ratio over time (Gabriel, 2016; after Carter et al., 2014)



Figure 24. Illustration of an injection. The green line represents the border between safe grouting and damaging rock mass. (Bonin et al., 2012)

7.3.4.6. Transient Pressure Analysis (TPA)

Using pressure drop curves after pump stop (shut-in) not only allows estimating effective in situ pressures, but the shape of the curves (and their relative change over several iterations, see also figure 25) can also provide information about achieved saturation. When the same shut-in times are being applied (about 20s), the relative changes in pressures at [t+t20s] may - even plotting

linear charts - denote a possible grout leak or clogging. Additionally, saturation, washout, erosions, fracking or tapering of joints may be indicated. Quantitative indications (using a log-log plot to illustrate the pressure drop curve) on relative permeability or the existence of open or closed boundaries can be detected more clearly using TPA than using other methods (Stadler, 1992; Pollard, 2009; EN 12715).



Figure 25. Schematic illustration of injection pump pressure and pressure drop curves (Stadler, 1992; adapted by Gabriel, 2016)

Viability of this method in the field has been proven during the course of projects like Kölnbrein Sperre, AT and Dounreay, UK. Due to the Bingham rheology of the grout it is not possible to derive absolute values for permeability, aperture widening and distance from borehole of a detected phenomenon. Interpretations of sufficient precision for the execution of grouting procedures, however, are definitely possible.

7.3.4.7. Pressure Sensitive Grouting (PSG)

Further development of TPA lead to trials proving that the gradient of a pressure drop curve, after stopping the pump, and the pressure at rest at the end of a pressure drop curve could be used to determine pressures and saturations in connected voids. Figure 26 shows the pressure gradient at the borehole mouth to the left with 4 distinct drops ($m_1 < m_4$) in pressure. The second chart shows pressures measured inside a joint during a test. The pressure gradient inside the joint approaches zero, indicating increasing saturation inside the join (M1 = borehole mouth, M8 = end of joint) from first pressure drop (DA 1) to the fourth drop (DA 4).



Figure 26. Pressure drops and corresponding pressure distribution in the joint (Reichl, 2000)

It is absolutely essential to stop any and all energy delivery from the pump after initiating a pressure drop. Changes of the gradients (c in figure 27) and pressure at rest (k in figure 27) – pressure drop to pressure drop – don't just indicate increased penetration of voids, but also a possible overload (jacking or even fracking) of the rock. Large voids can also be detected and treated efficiently (e.g. increase in injection rate). PSG can be used to inject every individual stage using the necessary grout volume and injection rate for an efficient and yet safe filling of voids while maintaining target distribution/reach. All four mentioned parameters (pressure drop gradient, pressure at rest [after defined interval, usually 20s], change in gradient between distinct pressure drops and the change in pressure at rest from drop to drop as seen in figure 27) allow the use of a fuzzy modeling for the pre-planning of grouting procedures.



Figure 27. Parameters used to control injections using the PSG method (Reichl, 2000; adapted by Gabriel, 2016)

Injection of a stage is automatically terminated once design targets (adaptable at any time by the designer) have been reached (similar to the GIN-method) and does not require any additional, possibly ambiguous discussion on comparable stop criteria. This method has already been successfully used in several trial applications at the Semmering pilot tunnel.

7.3.4.8. Combining systems and methods

Evaluation methods described in chapters 7.3.4.1 to 7.3.4.7 are based on similar data sets (volume, rate, pressure, pressure at rest, etc.), which are nowadays recorded (mandatory) online on site and thus can be used for all of the abovementioned evaluations.

Combining the above criteria (RTGC, app. Lugeon, q/p ratio, GIN value, ACG, TPA/PSG) provides multiple levels of redundancy and safety/robustness in interpreting data in regards to achieved saturation. Target saturation, detrimental widening (jacking) and washout, grout run-off into open boundaries, achieving (reduced) target transmissivity and many other parameters can be estimated and interpreted just as easily. This combinatorial approach is highly recommended.

7.3.5. Monitoring and control criteria

The design must contain the following provision: during execution (grouting trials and actual injection) grouting data (findings from drilling, Lugeon tests in boreholes, pressure, volume, rate, pressure drop, actual suspension characteristics etc.) must constantly and consistently be evaluated by a grouting expert based on knowledge gained from exploration. Grouting parameters (pressure, rate, volume/stage, suspension characteristics and stop criteria) need to be adapted accordingly. This responsibility and function is comparable to that of the on-site geotechnical engineer in projects following the New Austrian tunneling method (NATM) (see ÖGG 2010 and ÖNORM B2203-1:2001).

7.4. Grout

See chapter 6: Materials and products

7.5. Grout placement

Chapter 7.5.4.1 of the EN 12715 mentions injection pressure, operating pressure and effective pressure. Since all three of these pressures can vary greatly, even effective pressure in relation to the pressure at the borehole mouth greatly varying from stage to stage, a clear distinction must be made both during design and execution. Pressure directly at the pump, pressure at the borehole mouth and the actually effective pressure in the voids need to be properly differentiated. Pressure at the pump and the borehole mouth both can be measured using a manometer. Effective pressure can be interpreted using the pressure drop (chapter 7.3.4.6) by installing a manometer between the pump's pressure valve (or any valve suitable as a shut-off device) and the void. The pump is then stopped and the valve shut off, ceasing any energy transfer by the pump with the effect that the interstitial pressure inside the void may be registered by the pressure gauge after a short time (usually between 20 s and 5 min). Shut- in times exceeding five minutes are only viable in the course of test injections. Note that waiting for more than 5 minutes can cause sedimentation and clogging if cement suspensions are being used. On site injections generally require only a few seconds to pass before receiving viable results.

Effective pressure is being determined by the rheology of the grout, the size and shape of entry points (geometry of borehole intersections with joints), and size and shape of accessed voids.

The boreholes (EN 12715, 7.5.2.7) must be checked for deviations. Grouting parameters (pressure, volume, rate) should be adapted to actual circumstances.

8. EXECUTION

8.1. Drilling

Drilling procedures mentioned in the EN 12715 are of varying precision. This can become rather important past borehole lengths of 30 m, or, for example, when drilling in horizontal clusters - as can be the case in compensation grouting. Vertical drilling, large diameters, low contact pressure and drill string optimization are all factors which can positively impact drilling precision.

Drilling parallel to joints or layers in the ground is not recommended due to poor grout distribution in voids.

Drilling diameters for sleeve pipes are usually between 100 mm and 150 mm. Drilling in rock should generally be done with smaller diameters (36 mm to 76 mm), leading to a beneficial change in grout volume required, since borehole volume in rock oftentimes exceeds void space volume significantly. Better flow rates and a reduced risk of sedimentation inside the borehole are additional benefits, leading to a reduced risk of premature setting in "dead zones".

Water as flushing media is generally recommended, since it cleans joints and increases grout acceptance. Using pressurized air risks clogging of otherwise open joint geometry.

8.2. Grout preparation

Preparation of suspensions with a water/solids ratio larger than 0.4 can be done with commonly used pumps and mixers. Most important is the proper dispersion of solids in the mixing water by applying necessary shear forces. Intermittent, automatic introduction of constituents into the mixture commonly leads to highest precision rate (< 3%) regarding grout volume during metering.

Suitable mixers should manage one batch of cement suspension in less than 3 minutes (net mixing time of 60 s or more) to avoid a rise in temperature and aging of the suspension. Necessary energy for the preparation of cement suspensions commonly average around 550 KJ/m³.

Fine and ultrafine binders require a separate discussion.

8.3. Pumping and delivery

The rule of one vent per pump should be maintained for the sake of quality.

Pressure- and rate-controlled pumps for volumes between 3 and 15 l/min and injection pressures between 3 and 35 bars are considered suitable for standard applications. Forcing open sleeve grouts and grouting of very fine joints may require higher pressure of up to 100 bars.

Measuring of pressures (including PTA curve after shut-in) along the injection path can be achieved using digital instruments at a precision of less than 5% of the regular measurements during normal operation. Parameters must be recorded consistently and continuously, independently of pump operations, and records must be accessible digitally (e.g. .csv file) and in paper form.

8.4. Annotations regarding grouting procedures

During planning of grouting procedures an assortment of correlations and interactions must be taken into consideration. It is not possible to account for all possible combinations of events during planning, this means that proper execution on site needs to be emphasized. Certain provisions, however, have proven useful in preparing for commonly occurring phenomena:

- Drilling with ongoing injections in the vicinity can lead to washout of grout by drill mud.
- Groundwater can be closed in by injections and threaten the success of the grouting procedure if a hole cluster is not being injected from the center outwards.
- Flushing of weathering material can depending on clay contents be of only limited success. Necessary speeds of turbulent flow are only rarely achieved, even when using pressurized air.
- Due to unpredictable joint aperture distribution in rock, it is often recommended to begin with homogenizing procedures before attempting the grouting procedure.
- Tectonic faults or similar phenomena require special attention when planning the sequence of grouting steps. Depending on the decomposition of the material in the inclusion (ranging from partially coherent fault rock to incoherent, loose material) penetration grouting or consolidation grouting might be advisable.
- Suspensions prepared for injection tend to form thin flow- threads and films when exposed to in situ temperatures (low hydration heat) and to also set rather slowly (in rare cases more than 24 hours, see also hardening test). Controls in situ need to be scheduled accordingly.
- Interactive adjusting of all necessary details, even with detailed instructions at hand, might be necessary at all times.
- Authorities for these interactive changes need to be clearly established (EN 12715 stipulates the involvement of the designer in this regard).

Table 15 might be helpful when planning quantities for rock grouting.

Based on assumptions regarding

- number of hydraulically active joints;
- run-off of grout into adjacent voids;
- the effect on grouting quantities with respect to joint dilation;

Table 15 lists typical values for transmissivity related to total grout volume.

The table also provides information regarding different injection phases (primary, secondary, etc.), their typical sequence – increasing saturation and decreasing acceptance – and progressively finer grouting materials.

Combined with common stop criteria (chapter 7.3.3 and chapter 7.3.4) a preliminary overview for required types and amounts of grout and the resulting construction times can be gained.

[2]	Virgin Lugeons							>100 Lug	20	30	15	<5 Lug	reach radius [m]	run-off	wedge effect	Nos	Nos Frac/m³	
[2]	Starting Mix W/C 1.5:1 OPC; Starting Pressure Pi [bar] at 51it/min rate:							0-3	4-8	9-15	16-21	22-30	3.00	20%	2.0	ŋ	q	U
[3]	Fissure width [µm]							300	250	180	120	60						
[4]	Virgin Porosity							0.27%	0.23%	0.16%	0.11%	0.05%				4	e	2
[5]	Porosity grout-volume							0.58%	0.48%	0.35%	0.23%	0.12%						
[9]	Theor. grout-volume m [lit]							183	153	110	73	37						
[2]	Grouting target: < 1.0 Lug	Break off criteria &/or change of Mix & Pressure	criteria &,	'or chanε	te of Mix {	2 Pressu	er											
[8]	pi max < 80% "Jack-Pressure"	RTGC app	appLug T	TPA	GIN	9	Σeff Vol	371	309	223	149	74	% of line [6]	runf-off				
[6]	P-Holes [lit/m]				;Sło%)	:timi1-	146	122	88	59	29	80%			OPC		
[10]	S-Holes [lit/m]		bressure		SZ=s∋lod-T	nim\til 0.8	əmuloV Br	92	76	55	37	18	50%	25%		Microfine Cement	ne Cen	t
[11]	T-Holes [lit/m]	لرق/To#2; t	bns xim	14. July	c=P20%ofP; es=80%ofP; c=P20%ofP;	either < 5	ridosen ne	67	56	40	27	13	55%	33%		Ultrafine Cement	le Ceme	ţ
[12]	Q-Holes [lit/m]		64		Ioh-S		or who	66	55	40	27	13	66%	50%		Chemical Grout	al Grou	

Table 15. Estimating material costs for rock grouting

9. MONITORING, TESTS AND CONTROLS

9.1. Monitoring and controls

Type, extent and accuracy of monitoring should already be laid out during early planning phases and should be detailed and explained in the proposal. They heavily depend on general grouting targets and procedures used.

The presence of an expert consultant during the planning phase, proposal compiling and construction is recommended.

Authority of individual parties fall under the client's coordinational obligations. Suitable tools (i.e. flow charts) should be used to clear up individual competences, hierarchies and flow of information and documents.

Monitoring on site - independent of the party involved (client or contractor), the contract type or the chosen injection process – will always revolve around the execution of a specific project in accordance with project specifications.

On site monitoring mainly entails:

- Control of materials used
- Control of (measuring) tools used, i.e. calibrations and approval certificates of manometer and flow meter
- Control of suspensions used, including their attributes (viscosity, density, yield point, tipping time)
- Control of hole geometry
- Control of injection parameters and stop criteria (pressures, volume etc.)
- Control of the reliability of digital record keeping (comparison of handwritten notes on site to injection protocols)
- General observations; surface deformation, seepage, environmental impacts
- Compliance control
- Control of working hours and crew size

Should on site conditions deviate from those described in plan and proposal documents, then suitable changes in the procedure must be introduced.

The designer and expert need to be consulted. If needed the client must be contacted and make all necessary decisions.

The flow of information and responsibilities between client and contractor, as well as hierarchies, should be stipulated in the work orders.

Monitoring also means controlling the correct implementation of work orders.

All relevant drill and injection parameters must be saved electronically in an editable format. It's part of the duties of construction monitoring to control evaluation and illustration of recorded parameters. The same goes for injection protocols, which need to be compared with plan values – or adapted values. Compliance with stop criteria must also be monitored.

Reliability of data recording must be controlled using hand written notes (covering for example pressures, volume, etc.).

Proof of injection success, defined during planning and stipulated in agreements, will be verified by monitoring as well.

Success of treatment can usually only be proven indirectly, using methods such as the Lugeontest, dynamic probing, pressure sounding, core drilling, widening of borehole sections, evaluation of grout volume used and the degree of stop criteria reached. Core drilling is usually not an option at this point. Determining cement ratios in samples of injected ground can be used to draw conclusions regarding ground mechanical and geophysical values. Observation of groundwater levels in a larger area can be used to determine the success of sealing treatments.

Feasibility and validity are the most important aspects when choosing a method to proof success of treatment.



Figure 28. Illustration explaining the responsibilities of site supervision

10. WORKS DOCUMENTATION

In addition to points already mentioned in EN 12715, procedure instructions must contain guidelines for predictable occurrences during the course of trial injections and grouting procedures/programs. Deviations from planned behaviors and how to handle them must clearly be described as such and understood by all parties involved. Procedure instructions must also contain all information relevant to the various parties (from project lead to pump operator) and may contain flow charts. Responsibilities (expertise and authority would ideally be found in the same person) and communication channels must be considered as well.

Records must be evaluated and interpreted by experts (ideally on both client's and contractor's sides). Interpretations are the basis for agreement with or adaption of the procedure instructions. During initial and exploratory phases this evaluation and interpretation must be done daily, with the involvement of designer and geotechnical engineer or geologist.

The following injection parameters must be recorded digitally, and independently of pump operations:

- Pump (number)
- Type of suspension
- Borehole (name)
- Stage
- Pressure (Working pressure, even better pressure at borehole mouth)
- Rate [l/min] and
- Grout volume [l]

Together with a timestamp [date; hour:minute:second] this data should be sent to the client in an editable file format (e.g. .csv). Such records are indispensable for later evaluation of injection targets.

Surface leakage of ground water in boreholes needs to be documented; volume (I/s or min), pressure, temperature and if applicable pH-value and conductivity are to be recorded.

All data, especially grouting pressure (injection pressure at borehole mouth, even better: pressure at rest), grout volume and stop criteria (leakage, degree of stop criteria reached) have to be recorded and illustrated succinctly (three-dimensionally where applicable) and relative to the position of planned construction.

11. SPECIAL ASPECTS

No additions at this point.

12. COMPENSATION MODELS

Some aspects relevant to both productivity and costs cannot be described with sufficient precision during design phase, or comprehensively described without ambiguity when compiling specifications and schedules of rates. Among those aspects are the number and degree of utilization of pumps (and simultaneous use if applicable), also specific weight of suspensions, pumping rate and stop criteria during design. The type of compensation for grouting works should, therefore, always take a degree of uncertainty into account. All-inclusive (lump sum) pricing should, consequently, be considered an exception and an undue risk-transfer onto the contractor.

Existing guidelines recommend the following forms of compensation for construction works depending on type, extent, quality and circumstances of execution:



Figure 29. Selection of contract type depending on the quality of information available (Ganster, 2001)

When drafting contracts for grouting works the need for explicitly introducing time-related items becomes evident quite quickly, not the least since predictions concerning type, quality, extent and circumstances are commonly difficult to predict. Client decisions affecting execution must be considered also.

Depending on (increasing) depth and precision of exploratory measures employed or, (increasing) exertion of influence by the client on matters concerning execution, alternative compensation models may become viable. These models may range from all-inclusive pricing to daywork - compensation (including company markups).
Table 16.Contract type vs. information available (Regie = Daywork) (Stadler and Semprich,
2009)

	Influence o	n design						
Source/Titel		LS		DIN 18301&09	ON 2270	"STILFOS"	Regie	DCRC
Payable - Item s	functional	/m³ Ground /Im Tunnel	/Im Drilling /m³ Ground /Test	/Im Drilling Pump-Hour /Test Materials	GSE; /Mo /Im Drilling Pump-Hour Materials /Test	GSE; /Mo Rental; /Mo. FieldPersonnel; /h Production; /Item Materials Energy, etc.	GSE; /Mo Rental; /Mo. FieldPersonnel; /h OperativeTimes Materials Energy, etc.	Directly- Attributable- Costs- Reimbursement Contract; plus Fee for General Expenses
	4						Intensity of	exploration

The more a client influences construction and procedures and the less the depth and precision of investigation results, the larger the degree of uncertainty when it comes to estimating all relevant costs.

Compensation models thus range from

- problematic functional tendering or all-inclusive prices,
- standard unit-price definitions as found in DIN 18301 (and the former ON 2270), to
- production- and time-related compensation (working title "StilfOs") or
- classic daywork
- to a direct cost reimbursement contract.

Kirsch and Bell (2011) propose a standardized service schedule (Schedule of Rates) consisting of a mixed approach (day work, standard unit-prices and all-inclusive prices = lump sum). Their suggestions are a solid reference point for both structure and amount of detail necessary (see also appendix A.3.1).

13. APPENDIX

APPENDIX A.2 (INFORMATIVE) Measurement of grout parameters

Appendix A.2.1: GIN value

Appendix A.2.2: Pressure/volume ratio

APPENDIX A.3 (INFORMATIVE) Proposed service schedule

Appendix A.3.1: Proposed standard service schedule for grouting procedures

Appendix A.3.2: Design checklist



APPENDIX A.2.1: GIN VALUE BY LOMBARDI

	L					Г		8						-	12:21 2102:01:62		
	L	~												-	02:21 2102.01.62		
	L	1													61:21 2102.01.62		
		12	5	1				£						2	81:21 2102.01.02		
	End	엄	Duration	0:42:17				[Ż	71:21 2102.01.02		
	Г	2	2	ö				į —							91:21 2102:01:02		
	L	29.10.2012 12:21:1						[- 54	31:21 2102.01.62		
	L	Ň						č						3	41:21 2102.01.62		
	L							F						1	29.10.2012 12:13		
	H	⊢		Н				6						¢.	21:21 2102.01.02		
	L	L												2	11:51 2102.01.62		
	L							§						4	01:21 2102.01.62		
	L	8						\$						1	90:21 2102.01.62		
	L	ŝ	ş					<u>ا</u>						•	80:11 2102.01.99		
	Start	-	ner	ð				§						য	70:21 2102.01.62		
	ŝ	01	Comments	Р	S S		9	2						- 5	29.10.2012 12:06		
	L	29.10.2012 11:39:00	ŏ												30:21 2102.01.65		
	L	29.			0			Į						3	40:21 2102.01.62		
9	L	L			Injection Processing Curve	"		7						3	29.10.2012 12:03		
Hpi6					S			<u> </u>						- 3	20:11.2012 12:02		
		t	2	Н	ă		1	{						1	10:21 2102.01.		
		0	ssu		ĕ			8 9 -0-							00:21 2102.01		
	Š	Figure Volume 574,00 Burst Pressure 2,3	Pre	2,3	2,3	2,3	<u> </u>				- E					1	62:11 ST0S.01.65
<u>ë</u> R	det		st				5				t						82:11 2102.01.65
Device:	Tar			i ii				ŝ						73:11 2102.01.62			
	5		П	П	ec				- 7						29.11.2102.01.65		
sity Device: Hpi6	e	574 Ire		2				- 2						93:11 2102.01.65			
sity	Actual	Q	nu.						÷.						43:11 2102.01.62		
York University	F	1	Average Pressure						1						59:11:5012:01:63		
Ē	0	-	Ē	<u>6</u> ,0	n D				- ?						29.11.2012.01.52		
ž	Step	-	age						Ł						29.10.2012 11:51		
ľž			Vel						3						59.10.2012 11:50		
Grouting	Sleeve	-				F									84:11 2102.01.02		
10	S					E			÷						74:11 2102.01.02		
			ure	Π					2						94:11 2102.01.92		
Compensation	Į			œ					3						34:11 2102.01.02		
nsa	Boreho	207B	P	÷											44:11 2105.01.02		
Ibel	M		P	pu	End Press						1						£4:11 S10S.01.65
E O		\vdash	ш	Н					5						24:11 2102.01.02		
ľ	Sub-S.								k						14:11 2102.01.62		
	Su		nre						1						04:11 2102.01.62		
	5		Mixture			- E			0				,		95:11 2102.01.62		
	Section	Sh2	2			18,0	16,0	14,0	12,0	10,0	8,0	6,0	4,0	2,0	0'0		
Site Name:	Š			Ц		-	-	-	-								
Nai	Zone		Depth	15,66						[] Laim	d) 91u Uotel	low F	V.				
	10	S	5	Linî I													

APPENDIX A.2.2: PRESSURE/VOLUME RATIO

APPENDIX A.3.1: Proposed	l service schedule	for grouting proce	dure
,			

Item No	Group	Main	Sub	Unit	Quantity	Price	Item Price
1.01	Mobilization, site installlation, demobilization	General site installation	Offices, store, personnel W/Shop, vehicles, etc	LS	Quantity		
1.02	demobilization	Rigs & equipment	Mixing/batching plant	LS			
1.03		····8• •· • • • • • • •	Drill rig (Type)	LS			
1.04			Grout pump (single,	LS			
			containerised)				
1.05			Testing unit	LS			
1.06		Additional units	Type as above or other specified	LS			
1.091	Relocating rigs & equipment (Type)	Within project area	Per item 1.02-1.06	LS			
1.092		From site to site	Per item 1.02-1.06	LS			
2.01	Rental of equipment	General site installation		Cal. week	1		
2.02	•••	Rigs & equipment	Per item (as above)	Cal. week			
3.0	Idle-/downtime (as specified)	Personnel (Category)	on site	Man hour			
4.00	Setup & rigging drill over hole						
4.01		incl displacing rig >2.5m		no.			
4.02		without displacement of rig		no.			
5.00	Drilling for coring or grouting, in all ty		inclinations, collaring <2,0m abo	ove working area			
5.01		Coring 75-115mm					
5.011		ž – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – –	0-15m	m			
5.012			15-30m	m			
5.013			30-60m	m			
5.014			Extra over for casing	m			
5.02		Roto-Percussion drilling 56 bis 7					
5.021			0-6m	m			
5.022			6-12m	m			
5.023			12-20m	m			
5.03		Over burden drilling 115 to 133n					
5.031			0-15m	m			
5.032			15-30m	m			
6.01	Supply, install and sheath	MS 2" dia, port distance 66cm		m			
	grout sleeve pipes (tubes a						
	manchettes)						
6.02	ditto in HDPE			m			
6.03	Supply, maintain, position and remove	Packers: all dia, all depths					
6.031		Single packer		no.			
6.032		Double packer		no.			
6.033		MPSP-inflatable packer		no.			
6.034		Circulation-packer incl return line		no.			
6.035		Inflatable double-packer for tub	les a manschettes				
7.0	Operating grout pump, incl weighing,	Documentation of pressure,					
	batching, storing, ducting of grout mixes of all kind, operating grout pump under pressure, electronic data acquisiton	rate and quantity as per EN 12715 requirement					
7.01		Hour operation of one only		h			
7.02		(first) pump Hour operation of a second		h			
		pump at same site location,		I			
		simultaneously with operating		1			1
		the first pump		1			1
7.03		Hour operatione of a third		h			
		pump at same site location,					
		simultaneously with operating					
		the first and second pump					
8.0	Material for grout mix						İ
8.01		OPC (Blaine >3.900cm²/g)		to			İ
8.02		UFC (D ₈₀ < 12μm)		to			İ
8.03		Sodium-Bentonite		to			
8.03		Calcium-Betonite		to			
8.04 8.05		Sodiumsilicate (liquid, 38° Bé)		to kg			
8.06		PU (single shot)					
8.06		PU (single shot) PU (two-component mix)		kg kg			
3.07 3.09		Acrylate-(asper tenderers		kg			
9.0	Borehole test	proposal) Water pressure test in rock (Lugeon), permeability test in		no.			
		loose ground (Lefranc), incl all pumps, ducts, packers and data recording/documentation, all depth					
Total, net				Currency			

APPENDIX A.3.2: DESIGN CHECKLIST

The checklist contains absolutely essential items.

In order to plan grouting procedures, either quantifiable exploration data covering all important aspects needs to be provided, or reproducible deductions need to have been made.

Success of treatment can usually only be proven indirectly, using methods such as the Lugeontest, dynamic probing, pressure sounding, core drilling and widening of borehole sections, evaluation of grout volume used and the degree of stop criteria reached. Gaining usable samples from injected bodies is only rarely possible.

Feasibility and validity are the most important aspects when choosing a method to prove success of treatment.

Checklist Design:

- Grouting targets:
 - o temporary or permanent
 - sealing / reduction of water ingress
 - change of geomechanical characteristics
 - o subsidence compensation
- Proof of treatment
 - methods and procedures
- Topography:
 - o depth of host medium
 - o primary stress ratios
- Geology/geotechnical aspects (see chapters 5.1, 5.3 and 5.4):
 - rock classification according to the guideline for the geotechnical design of underground structures with conventional excavation (ÖGG, 2010)
 - o deformation of the ground, joint/fracture characteristics under pressure
 - o schematics illustrating anticipated grout distribution (chapter 5.3)
- Hydrogeology (chapter 5.2):
 - ground model including: water and/or suspension permeability in rock; number, orientation and connection of discontinuities, hydraulic and geometric apertures, deformation of rock mass under pressure
 - o ground model including permeability profile in soil
 - o water flow
 - o groundwater pressure
 - o permeability, transmissivity, Lugeon value
 - $\circ \quad \text{groundwater flow velocity during injection} \\$
 - o water chemistry
 - o environmental factors
 - o groutability/penetrability of the ground (Newton liquids vs. Bingham liquids)

- Drillability of the ground:
 - o possible drill systems and speeds
 - o recording of parameters during drilling
 - o borehole stability
- Injection parameters:
 - o working injection pressure, effective injection pressure
 - o injection rate, maximum volume/stage
 - o stop criteria
 - o rule set
 - o grout (e.g. binders, resins, foams)
 - o determination of rheological suspension mixes
 - o drilling scheme, injection sequence
- Boundaries and limitations:
 - statutes and limitations concerning grouting and environment; allowable products and impacts (temporary/permanent)
 - construction method; above ground, underground, during which stage, e.g. excavation
 - o Infrastructure, space constraints, temperature, waste disposal

14. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bérigny, C.: Mémoire sur un Procédé d'Injection propre à prévenir ou arrêter les Filtration sous les Foundations des Ou-vrages Hydrauliques, Paris, 1832.

Bonin, G.R.; Rombough, V.T.; Carter, T.G.; Jefferies, M.G.: Towards Better Injection Control and Verification of Rock Grouting. Proceedings 4th International Conference on Grouting and Deep Mixing, New Orleans, 2012.

Bremen, R.: Injektionen als Bauhilfsmaßnahme. Fachtagung für Untertagbau - Swiss Tunnel Congress, Luzern, 2008.

Cambefort, H.: Bodeninjektionstechnik. Bauverlag, 1969.

Carter, T.G., Rombough, V., Jefferies, M., Dershowitz, W.: Aperture Controlled Grouting – Benefits of the Discrete Fracture Network Approach, DFNE 2014 – 136, 2014.

Carter, T.G., Dershowitz, W., Shuttle, D.A. and Jefferies, M.J.: Improved Methods of Design for Grouting Fractured Rock, 4th International Conference on Grouting and Deep Mixing, 2012.

Deere, D.U., Lombardi, G.: Grout Slurries thick or thin? - Issues in Dam Grouting. in Proceedings of the ASCE Convention, Denver, 1985.

Kutzner, C.: Injektionen im Baugrund, Spektrum Akademischer Verlag, 1991.

Ewert, F-K.: Rock Grouting with Emphasis on Dam Sites, 1985.

Ganster, M.: Vertrags- und Vergütungsmodelle für unvollkommen beschriebene Leistungen. Diplomarbeit, Technische Universität Graz, 2001.

Gabriel, P.: Abbruchkriterien bei Felsinjektionen - Eine vergleichende Analyse. Diplomarbeit, Technische Universität Wien - Institut für Geotechnik, 2016.

Hudson, J.A.: Rock Mechanics Principles in engineering Practice. CIRIA/Butterworths, London, 1989.

ISRM - Commission on Rock Grouting: Report on Grouting, 1996.

Kainrath, A., Krenn, H., Adam, D.: Die Injektionstechnik auf dem Prüfstand. Symposium Baugrundverbesserung, Wien, 2012.

Kainrath, A., Adam, D., Krenn, H.: Verfahren zur Ermittlung der rheologischen Eigenschaften zementbasierter Injektionssuspensionen. Proceedings of XV Danube-European Conference on Geotechnical Engineering, Wien, 2014.

Kirsch K., Bell A., Ground Improvement, 3rd Edition, CRC Press (Taylor & Francis), 2013.

Kohl, T.: Modellsimulation gekoppelter Vorgänge bei Wärmeentzug aus heißem Gebirge. Dissertation ETH Zürich, 1992.

Kravetz, G.A.: Cement and clay grouting of foundations: the use of clay in pressure grouting. Proceedings ASCE - Soil mechanics and foundation division, 84, SM1, 1958.

Kutzner, C.: Injektionen im Baugrund, Spektrum Akademischer Verlag, 1991.

Lombardi, G., Deere, D.: Grouting design and control using the GIN principle. International Water Power & Dam Construction, 1993.

Louis, C.: Strömungsvorgänge in kluftigen Medien und ihre Wirkung auf die Standsicherheit von Bauwerken und Böschungen im Fels. Veröffentlichungen des Institutes für Boden- und Felsmechanik, Universität Karlsruhe, Heft 30, 1967.

Mitchell, J.K.: Stabilization of Soils for Foundations of Structures, 1970.

ÖGG: Guideline for the Geotechnical Design of Underground Structures with Conventional Excavation, Austrian Society for Geomechanics, 2010. *available at www.oegg.at*

Pollard, R., Jones, W., Whitfield, J.: The use of transient pressure analysis at the Dounreay Shaft Isolation Project. Geomechanics and Tunnelling, Vol. 2, Issue 5, 2009.

Prinz, H., Strauss, R.: Ingenieurgeologie. Springer Spektrum, 2011.

Reichl, I.: Fuzzy Logic Steuerung von Injektionen auf der Basis von Modellversuchen. Diplomarbeit, Institut für Ingenieurgeologie, Technische Universität Wien, 2000.

Sherard, J.L., Dunningan, L.P.: Basic properties of sand and gravel filters. Journal of Geotechnical Engineering 110, No. 6, 1984.

Schuler, U., Brauns, J.: Die effektive Porenöffnung körniger Erdstoffe - ein Kriterium für die Injizierbarkeit von Suspensionen. Geotechnik 23, No.4, 2000.

Schulze, B.: Neuere Untersuchungen über die Injizierbarkeit von Feinstbindemittel-Suspensionen. International Conference on Grouting in Rock and Concrete, Salzburg, 1993.

Schulze, B.: Merkblatt für Einpressarbeiten mit Feinstbindemitteln in Lockergestein, Bautechnik 79, Heft 8 2002: 499-598.

Sommer, R.: Standsicherheit von Felsböschungen beim Lastfall schnelle Absenkung, 20. Symposium Felsmechanik und Tunnelbau, Stuttgart, 2012.

Stadler, G.: Transient pressure analysis of RODUR epoxy grouting in concrete and rock at Kölnbrein dam, Austria. Dissertation, Montanuniversität Leoben, 1992.

Stadler, G., Semprich, S.: Grundbautaschenbuch, ed. Weinheim: Ernst & Sohn, Wiley, Vol. 2, 7. Auflage, 2009.

Stadler, G., Krenn, H.: Permeation Grouting, Ground Improvement, Third Edition, CRC Press, 2013.

Stadler, G., Reichl, I., Carter, T.: A how to guide to a successful grouting process! Eurock 2015 & 64th Geomechanics Colloquium, Salzburg, 2015.

Stadler [unveröffentlichte Mitteilung] 1991 (Abbildung 18)

Stille, H.: Rock Grouting - Theories and Applications. 2015.

Witherspoon, P.A., Wanf, J.S.Y., Iway, K., Gale, J.E.: Validity of cubic law for fluid flow in a deformable rock fracture, Water Resource Res. 16, 1980.

Zettler, A.: A Hybrid Grouting Control Algorithm Based On Fuzzy Logic Tuned By A Neural Network. Dissertation, Technische Universität Wien - Institut für Geologie, 1998.

15. INDEX OF TABLES

Table 1.	Determining yield points using different procedures (unpublished Kainrath, 2016)6
Table 2.	Recommendations for various exploration parameters (unpublished Stadler,
	adapted)16
Table 3.	Field trials and laboratory tests to determine injection parameters
Table 4.	Correlation of geo-hydraulic parameters (ISRM, 1996)19
Table 5.	Classification according to compressive strength (Compressive strength of cements:
	EN 197-1)
Table 6.	Classification of standard cements according to composition
Table 7.	Parameters for the classification of suspensions
Table 8.	Empirical values for Portland cement suspensions32
Table 9.	Methods, suitability (aptitude) and control tests for suspensions
Table 10.	Benchmarks for groutability by author38
Table 11.	Different cements and their particle size at 85% filter pass
Table 12.	Empirical target values for permeability in rock (unpublished Stadler, 2016)40
Table 13.	Overview over procedures and methods (Grundbautaschenbuch 6th edition,
	adapted)42
Table 14.	Guideline for borehole spacing (unpublished Stadler, 2016)43
Table 15.	Estimating material costs for rock grouting58
Table 16.	Contract type vs. information available (Regie = Daywork) (Stadler and Semprich,
	2009)64

16. INDEX OF FIGURES

Figure 1.	Grouting work in pioneering days: Exploratory drilling at Kaprun HPP, CRAELIUS CX 42 drill, INSOND (1950)
Figure 2.	Schematic representation of hydraulic and geometric joint aperture (Kohl, 1992) 7
Figure 3.	Pore throat distribution in soil. Example of a pore throat (marked red),
rigule 5.	
	(unpublished Reichl, 2017)
Figure 4.	Schematic of a pressure drop curve (Reichl, 2000)
Figure 5.	Schematic illustrating viscosimeter testing (Kainrath, 2012)
Figure 6.	Flow chart; phases of a grouting procedure
Figure 7.	Flow behavior of different liquids (Kainrath, 2014)
Figure 8.	Flow curve of thixotropic liquids (unpublished Stadler, 2016)
Figure 9.	Abstraction of the soil-hydraulic model (Sommer, 2012)
Figure 10.	Discontinuity system illustrating spacing, aperture, roughness and intersection
Figure 11	with a borehole. (Hudson, 1989)
Figure 11.	Abstraction of the hydraulic model in solid rock (Sommer, 2012)
Figure 12.	Illustration of a common joint (Louis, 1967)
Figure 13.	Different distributions of grout emanating from entry (E), depending on joint
F '	plane characteristics and tension in rock mass (Ewert, 1985)
Figure 14.	Applications of different grouts according to sieve analysis of the soil
	(unpublished Leitner, 2016)
Figure 15.	Pore throat distribution (Schuler and Brauns, 2000)
Figure 16.	Transmissivity, conductivity and hydraulic joint - aperture (ISRM, 1996)
Figure 17.	Interactive correlation between injection pressure, yield point, range and rate
	(Stadler, 2016)
Figure 18.	Possible gradients of the apparent-Lugeon value (Gabriel, 2016)
Figure 19.	q/p - ratio (Gabriel, 2016; adapted after unpublished note, Stadler and Kutzner,
	1991) 47
Figure 20.	Example documentation for real time grouting control (RTGC) (Stille et al., 2015;
	– adapted by Gabriel, 2016)
Figure 21.	Example of an injection procedure using the GIN method (Gabriel, 2016)
Figure 22.	Assigning suspension mixes to permeabilities in different stages (Carter et al.,
	2014)
Figure 23.	q/p - ratio over time (Gabriel, 2016; after Carter et al., 2014)
Figure 24.	Illustration of an injection. The green line represents the border between safe
	grouting and damaging rock mass. (Bonin et al., 2012)
Figure 25.	Schematic illustration of injection pump pressure and pressure drop curves
	(Stadler, 1992; adapted by Gabriel, 2016) 52
Figure 26.	Pressure drops and corresponding pressure distribution in the joint (Reichl,
	2000)
Figure 27.	Parameters used to control injections using the PSG method (Reichl, 2000;
-	adapted by Gabriel, 2016)
Figure 28.	Illustration explaining the responsibilities of site supervision
Figure 29.	Selection of contract type depending on the quality of information available
-	(Ganster, 2001)

17. INDEX OF FORMULAS

(1)	Cubic law	5
(2)	Transmissivity	5
(3)	Specific energy for drilling	.22
(4)	Darcy's Law	.24
(5)	Darcy's Law	.27
(6)	Reach in an ideal, horizontally open joint	.44
(7)	Maximum amount of grout in an ideal, horizontally open joint	.44
(8)	Lifting force orthogonal to joint plane	.44
(9)	Apparent-Lugeon value	.47

AUSTRIAN SOCIETY FOR GEOMECHANICS

ÖSTERREICHISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR GEOMECHANIK

Innsbrucker Bundesstraße 67 5020 Salzburg, Austria

Tel.: +43 662 875519 Fax: +43 662 886748 H.: www.OEGG.at E.: Salzburg@OEGG.at