Special Issue

Rock-Like Material Characterization and Engineering Properties, 2nd Edition

Message from the Guest Editors

Rocks, minerals, and other rock-like materials are the most widely distributed tool materials in nature and human history. The composition of rock materials is complex, especially after a long period of natural progress, through which a variety of structural planes and tiny defects (cracks, cracks, pores, voids, faults, etc.) form. In recent years, as human exploration activities extends deeper into the Earth and further into the Moon, Mars, and other complex environment regions, it is necessary to fully understand the characteristics of rock-like materials and determine/predict their engineering properties before project construction, especially under extreme physical conditions such as high confining pressure, high water seepage, and extremely low or high temperatures. Novel experimental research studies, theoretical analyses, numerical simulations, and intelligent algorithms are needed to explore special material properties and apply them to slopes, tunnels, underground caverns, underground mines, and other related projects to benefit engineering design and implementation.

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As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

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