

# Canadian Geotechnical Society

Southern Ontario Section

## Graduate Student Competition

Given on January 21<sup>st</sup> 2004



# Mining Induced Seismicity – Friend or Foe! Damage Limits for Risk Analysis

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University of Toronto

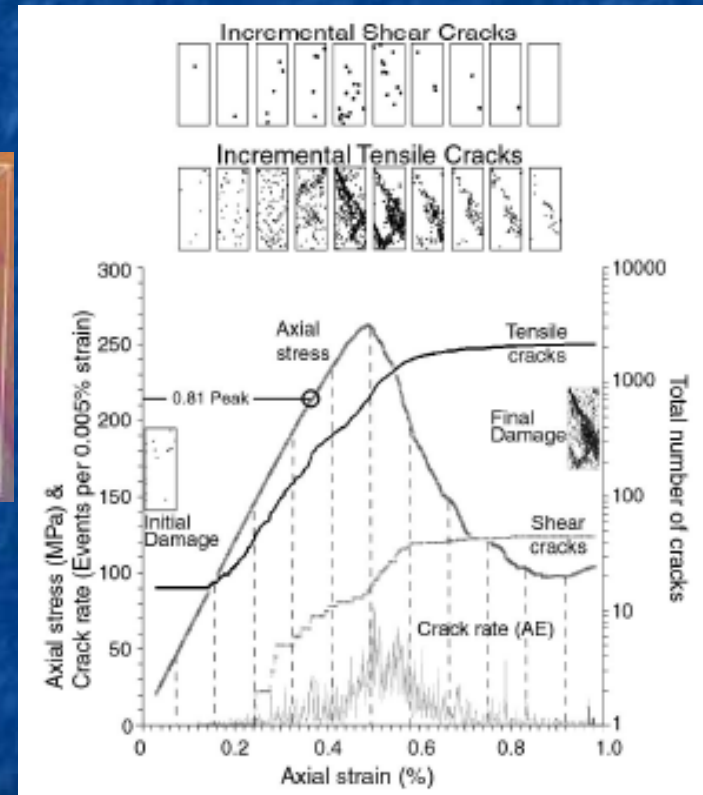
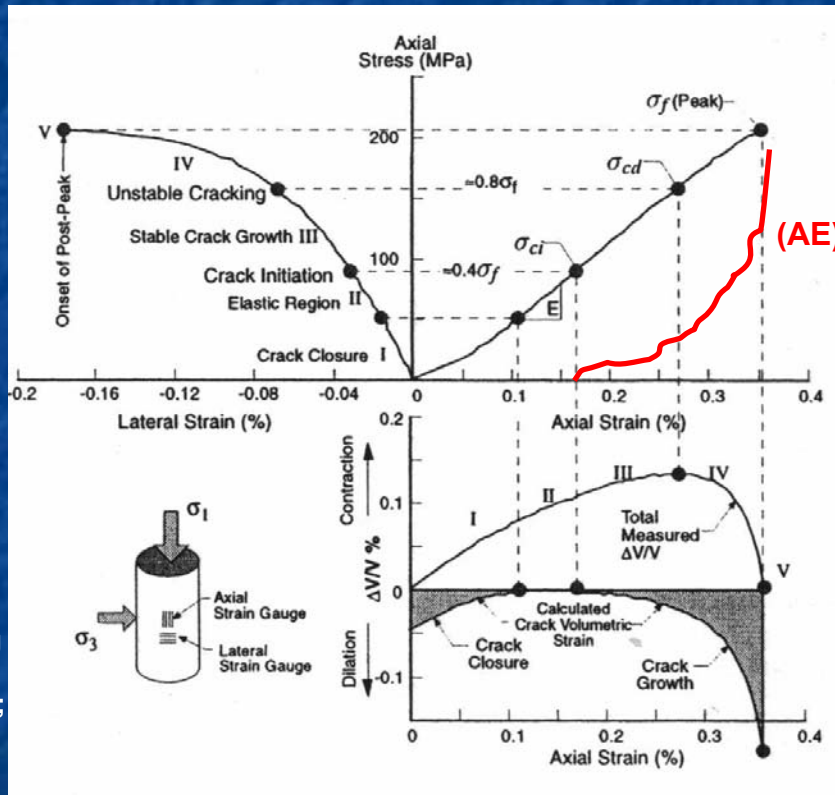
### Supervisors:

**Prof. W.F. Bawden**  
Pierre Lassonde Chair in Mineral  
Engineering

**Prof. J. H. Curran**  
Robert M. Smith Chair in Geotechnical  
Analysis and Mine Design in Civil Engineering

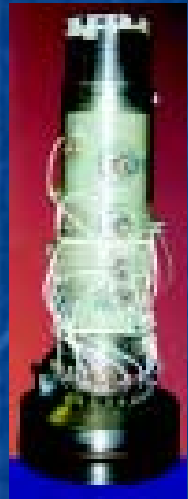


# What happens at the Laboratory Scale ? Acoustic Emissions (AE)



Laboratory (after Martin, 1997)

PFC Modelling (Deiderichs, 1999)



AE Monitoring  
(Scholz, 1968;  
Lockner, 1993;  
Young, 2002)



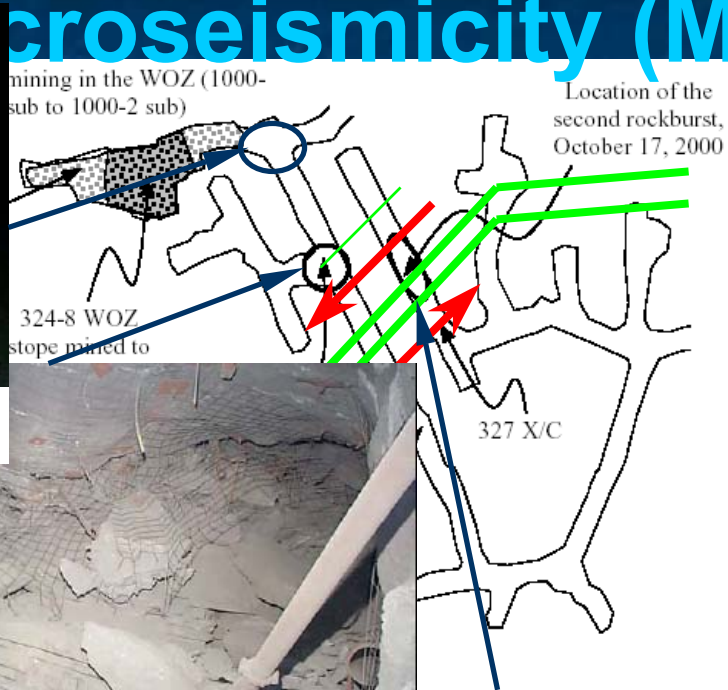


# What happens at the Rock Mass Scale ?

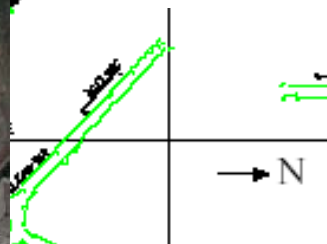
## Microseismicity (MS)



328-9 Abutment Stress Crushing/Stress Fracturing



Oct 2000, 320-7 burst



March 2000, 270-3 Burst

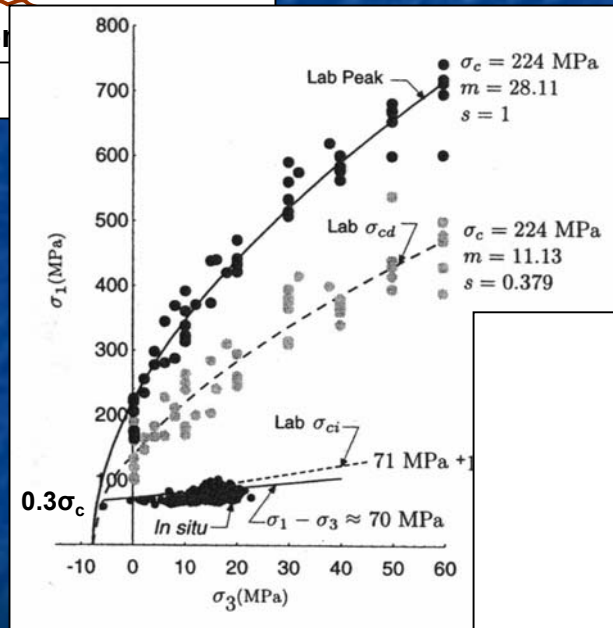
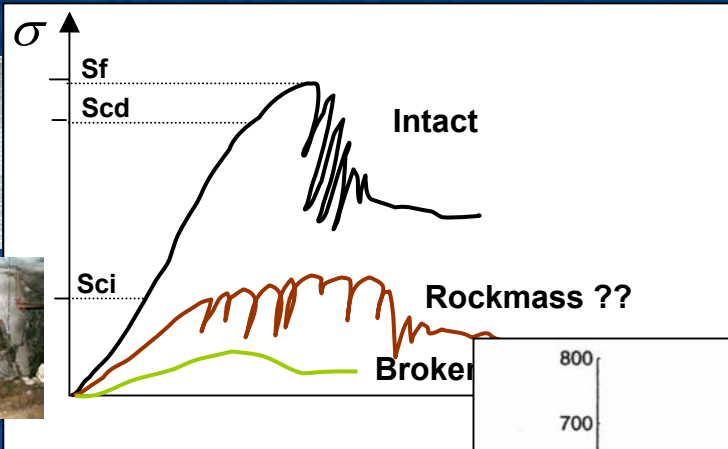
Oct 2000, 327-x/c 2.8 Mn Burst



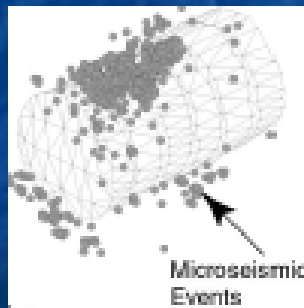
# What happens at the Rock Mass Scale ?

## Microseismicity (MS)

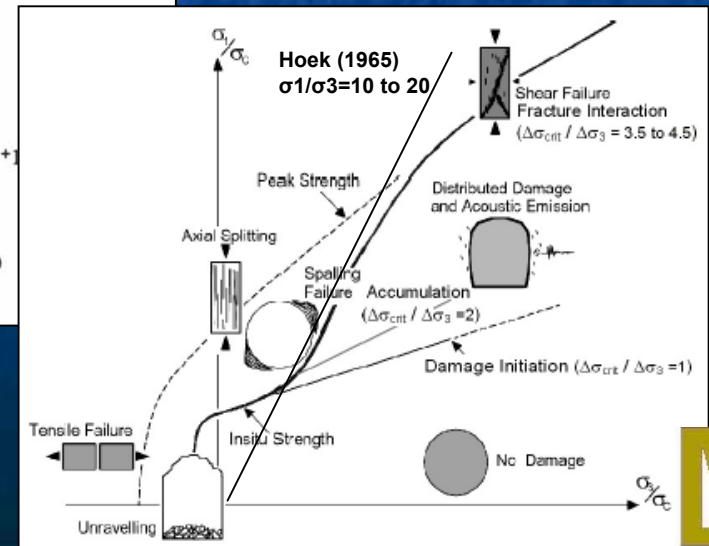
- Non Linear Stress – Strain Modelling ?



(After Deiderichs, 1999)



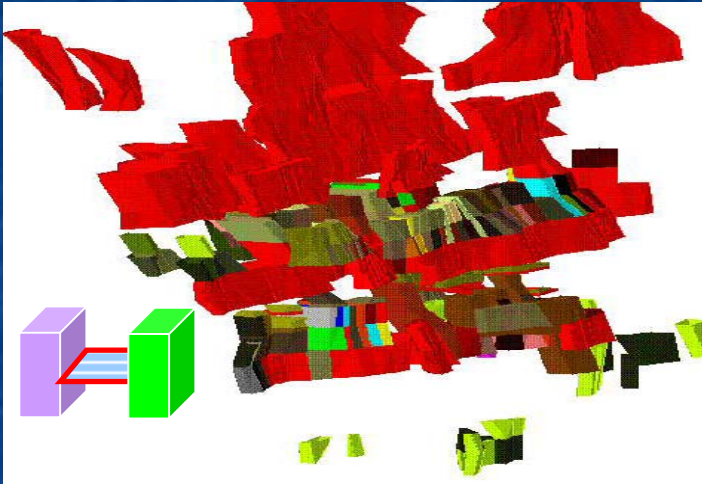
(after Martin, 1997)





# The Field Scale Laboratory!

Brunswick #12 Mine (BMS) - Strong Brittle Rock Mass

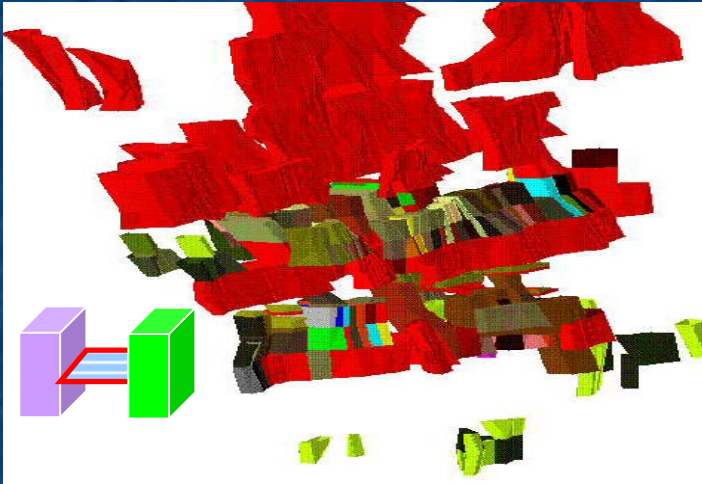


- BMS Mature Mine – Major Seismicity/ Rock bursts
- Required a calibrated tool aid Future Production decisions
- Linear Elastic Stress Modelling (Map3D – BEM)



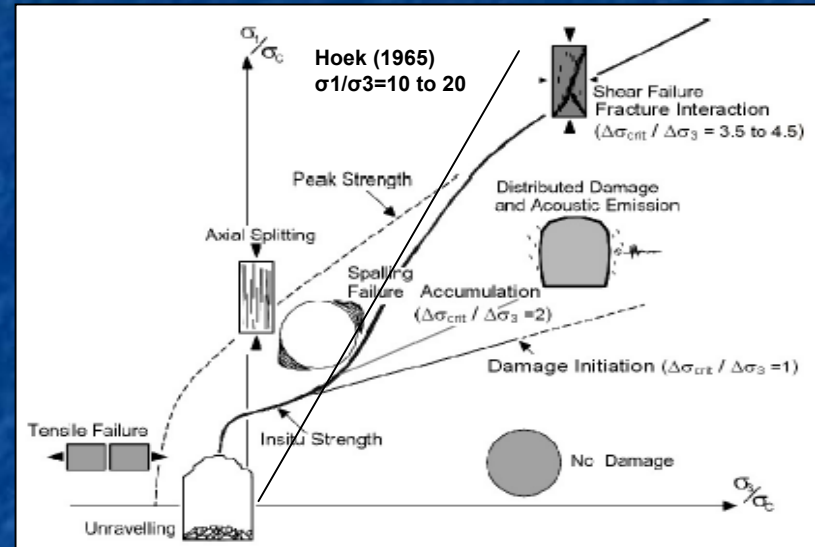
# The Field Scale Laboratory!

## Brunswick #12 Mine (BMS) - Strong Brittle Rock Mass

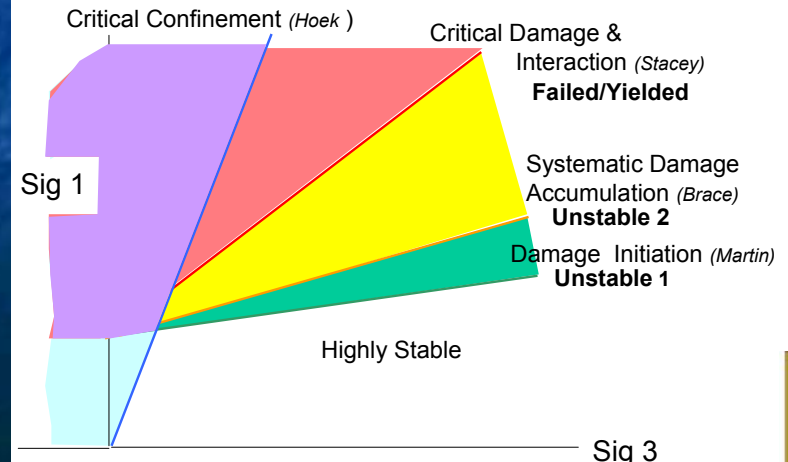


### ■ Back Analysis of 57 Secondary Stope Pillars Tracked:

- Stress Path (avg. core stress)
- Overbreak
- Seismicity
- FOG's and Operation issues
- Damage Criteria :
  - 4 level Scale (Stable – Failed)

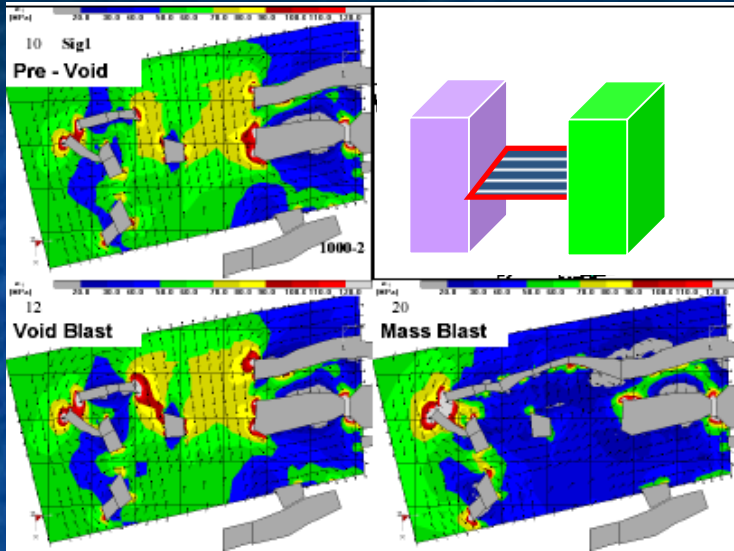


### Conceptual model

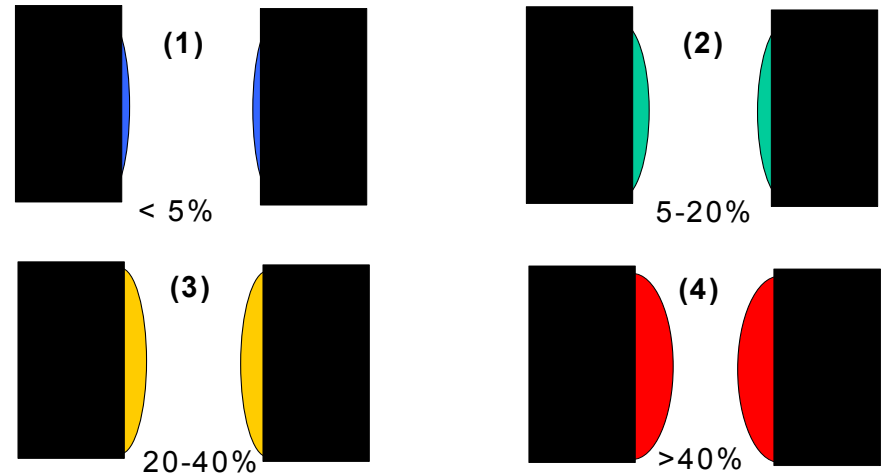




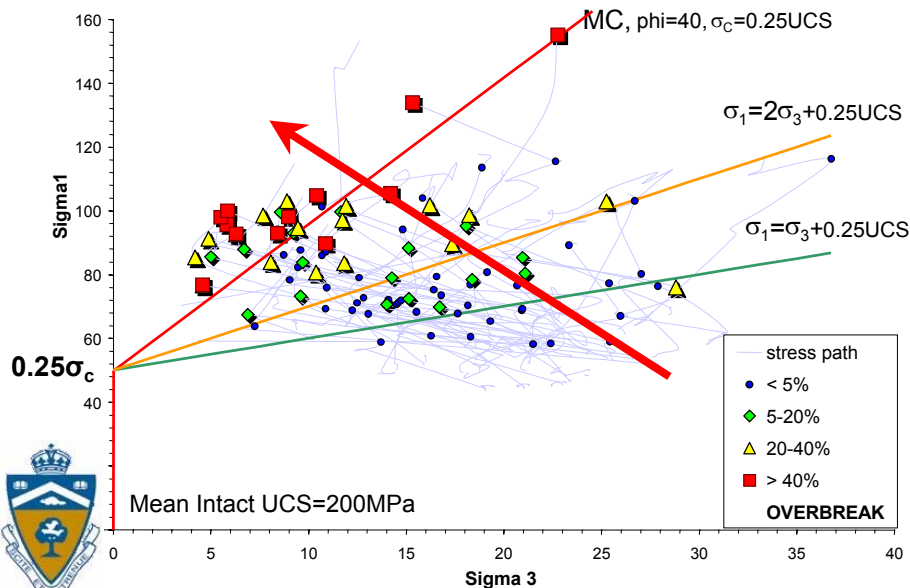
# The Field Scale Laboratory!



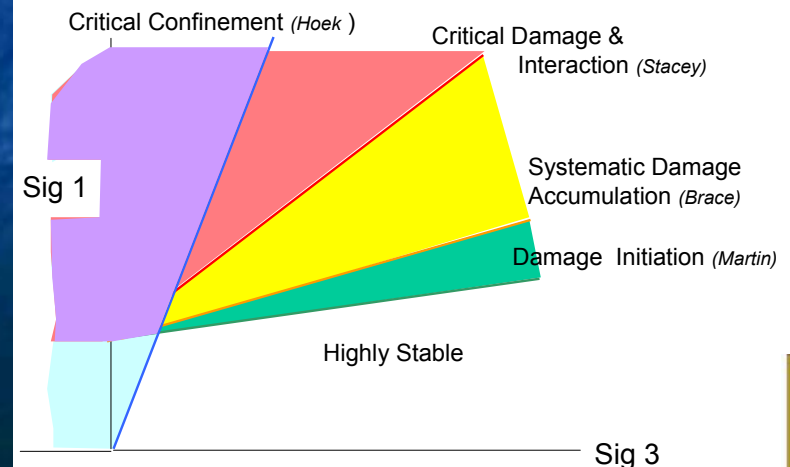
## Pillar Stability (e.g. Observed Overbreak)



## Pillars: Overbreak vs Stress Path

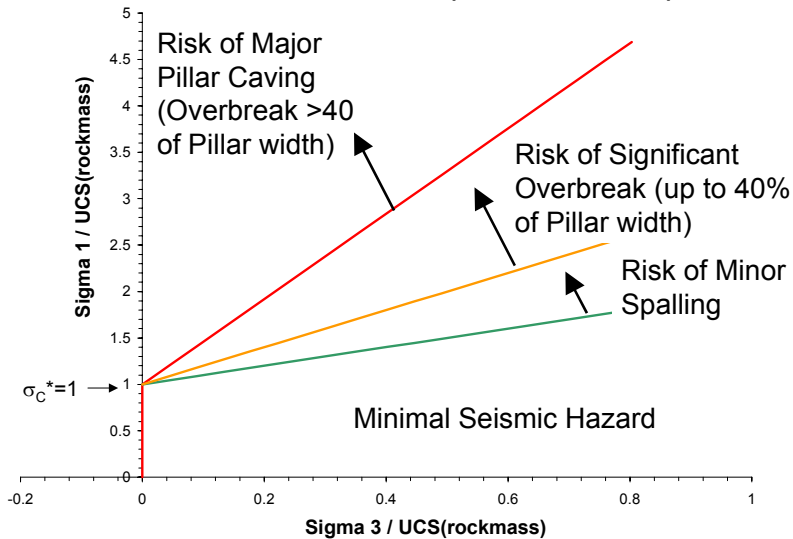


## Conceptual model



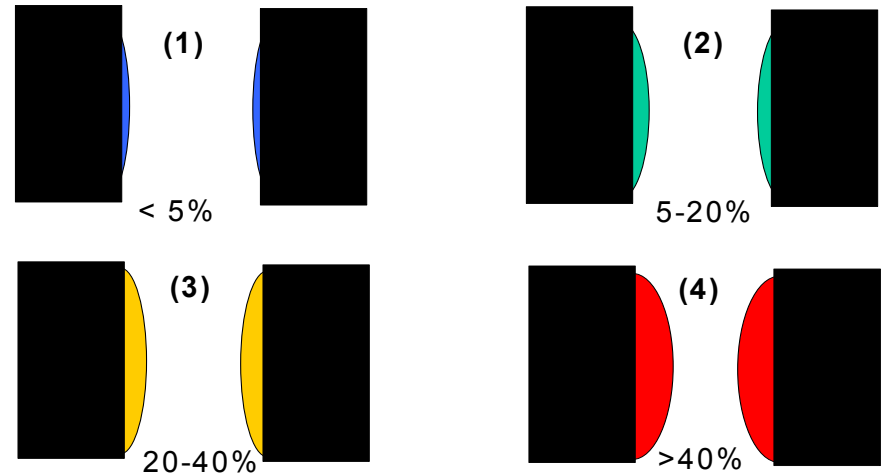
# Pillar Overbreak

## Pillar Overbreak (normalized)

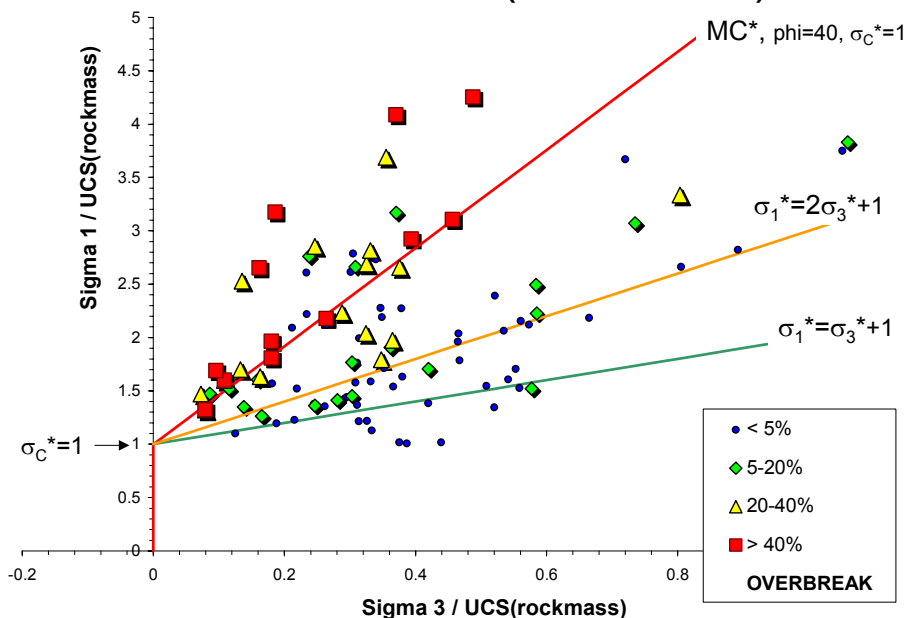


## Pillar Stability

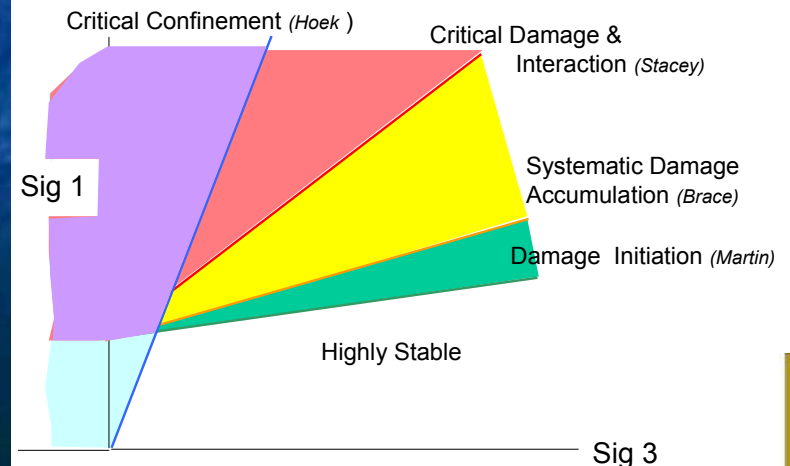
(e.g. Observed Overbreak)



## Pillar Overbreak (normalized)



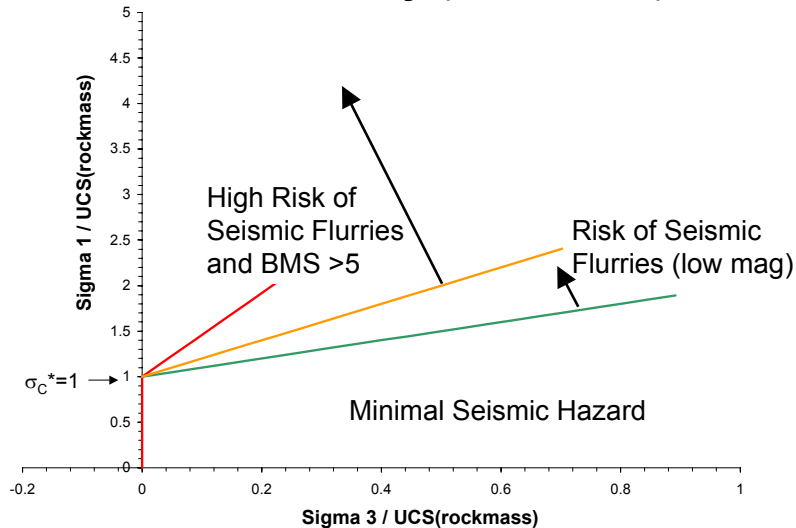
## Conceptual model





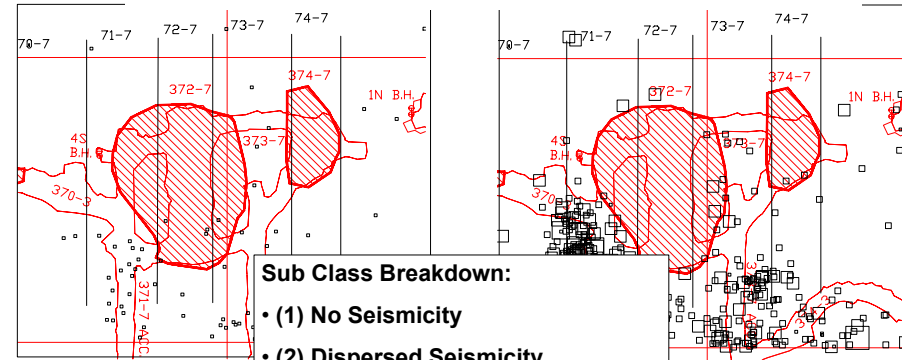
# Pillar Seismicity

## Pillar Seismicity (normalized)



## Pillar Stability

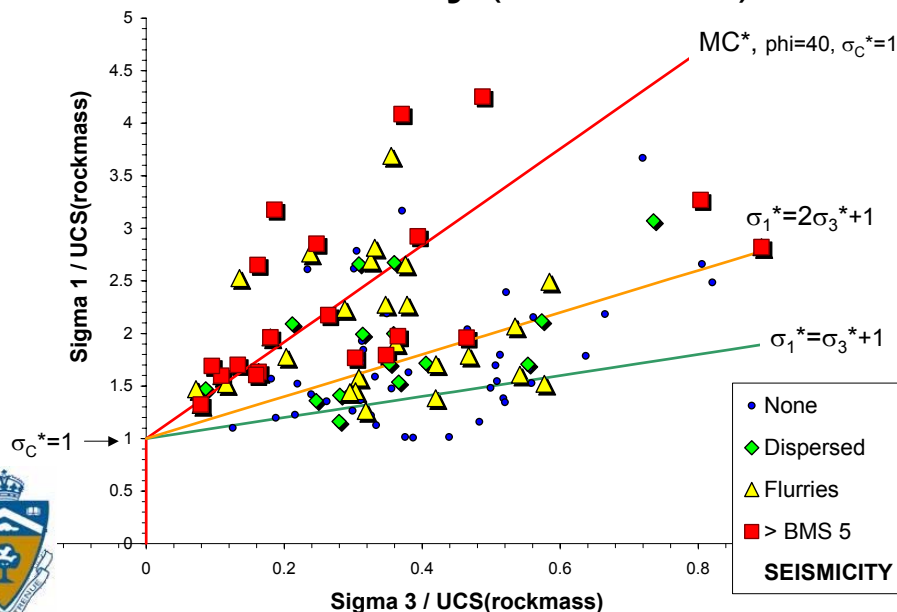
(e.g. Seismicity 71-7 & 73-7 Pillars)



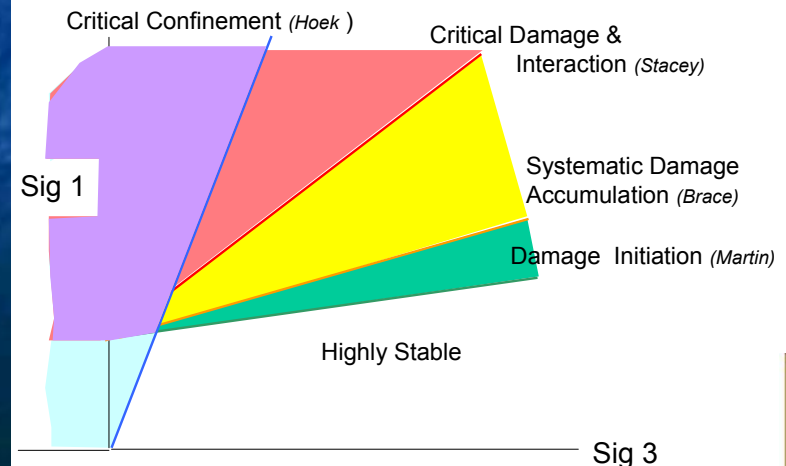
### Sub Class Breakdown:

- (1) No Seismicity
- (2) Dispersed Seismicity
- (3) Significant Seismicity Flurries
- (4) Intense seismic flurries + Events > BMS Mag 5 (Nuttli 1.0)

## Pillar Seismicity (normalized)



## Conceptual model



# Local Falls of Ground



## Factors:

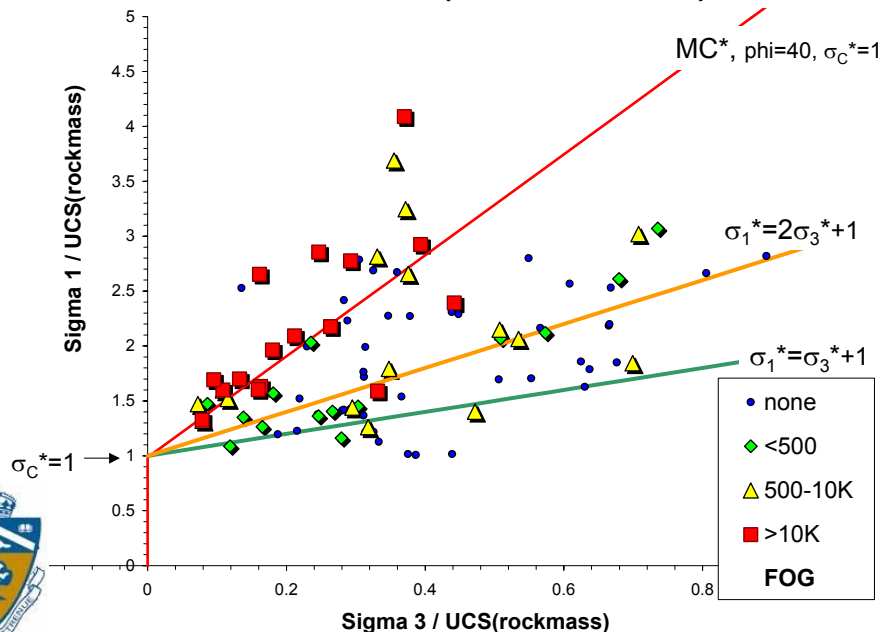
- Opening Size
- Opening Age
- Support quality
- Support quantity
- Support Age
- Installed FOS

## Pillar Stability (e.g. Local Falls of Ground (FOG's))

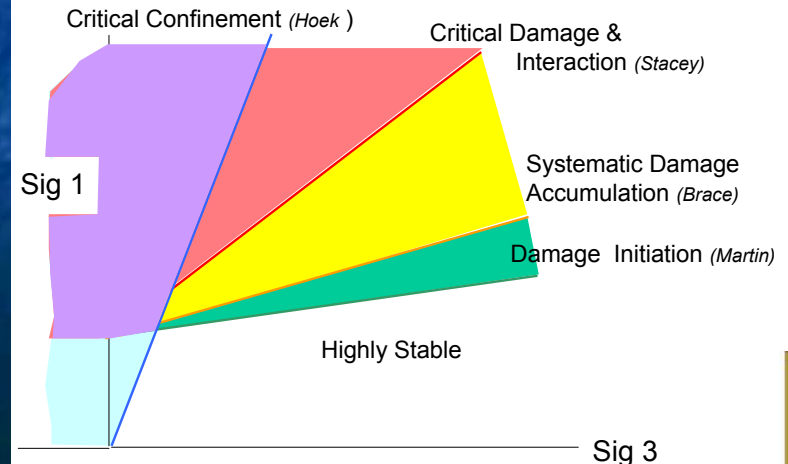
### Sub Class Breakdown:

- (1) No Fogs
- (2) Fog of <500t
- (3) Fog >500 t but < 10000t
- (4) Fog >10000t

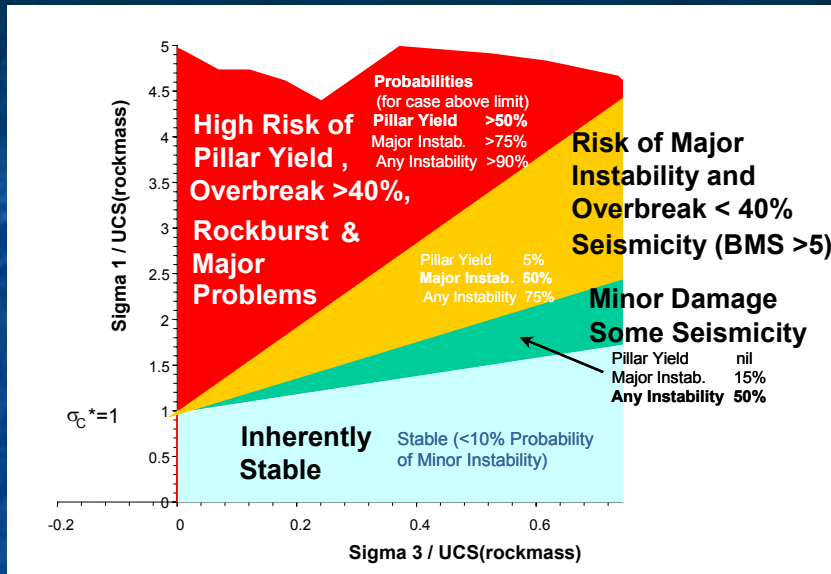
## Pillar FOG's (normalized)



## Conceptual model



# Overall Pillar Stability



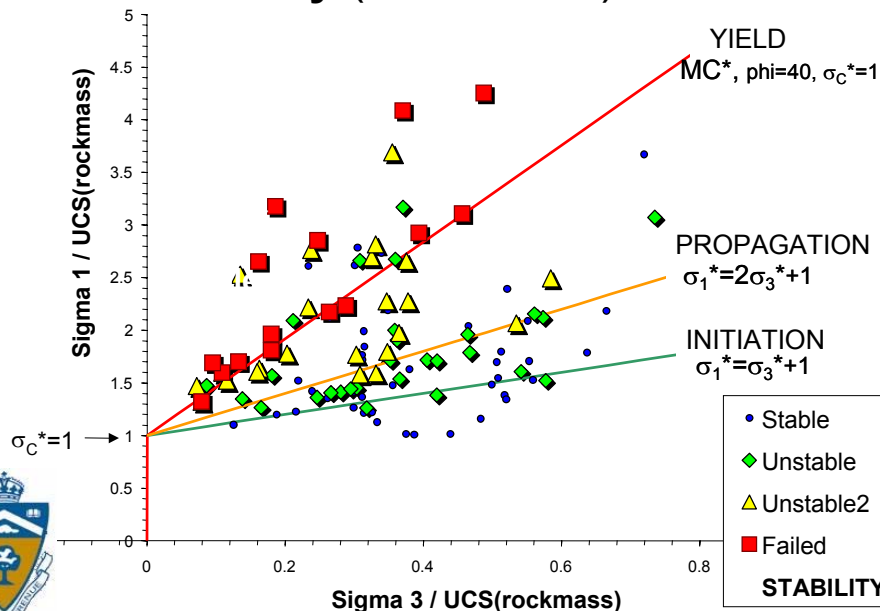
## Pillar Damage/Failure - Class 1-4

COMBINE OBSERVATIONS INTO A SINGLE PERFORMANCE CLASSIFICATION

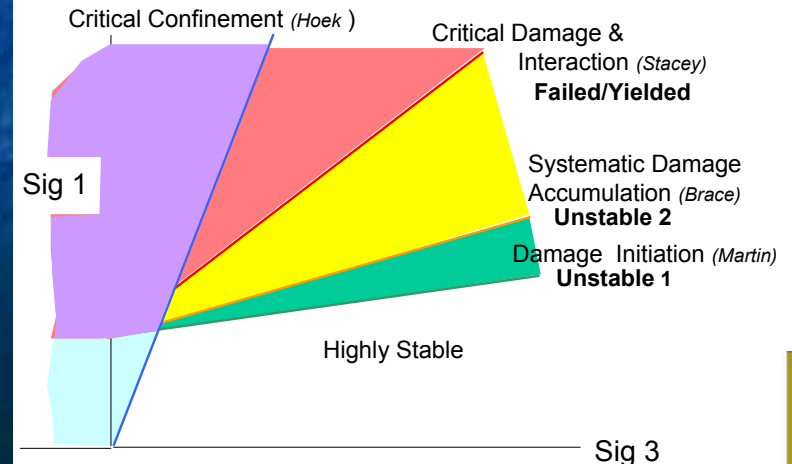
- 1) - **STABLE** - Nothing happening
- 2) - **UNSTABLE** - Onset of events
- 3) - **UNSTABLE 2** - Deterioration  
*increase in seismicity, overbreak etc.*
- 4) - **FAILED** - Post peak region  
*(i.e major operational problems)*  
A real Mullahva Headache



## Pillar Stability (normalized)

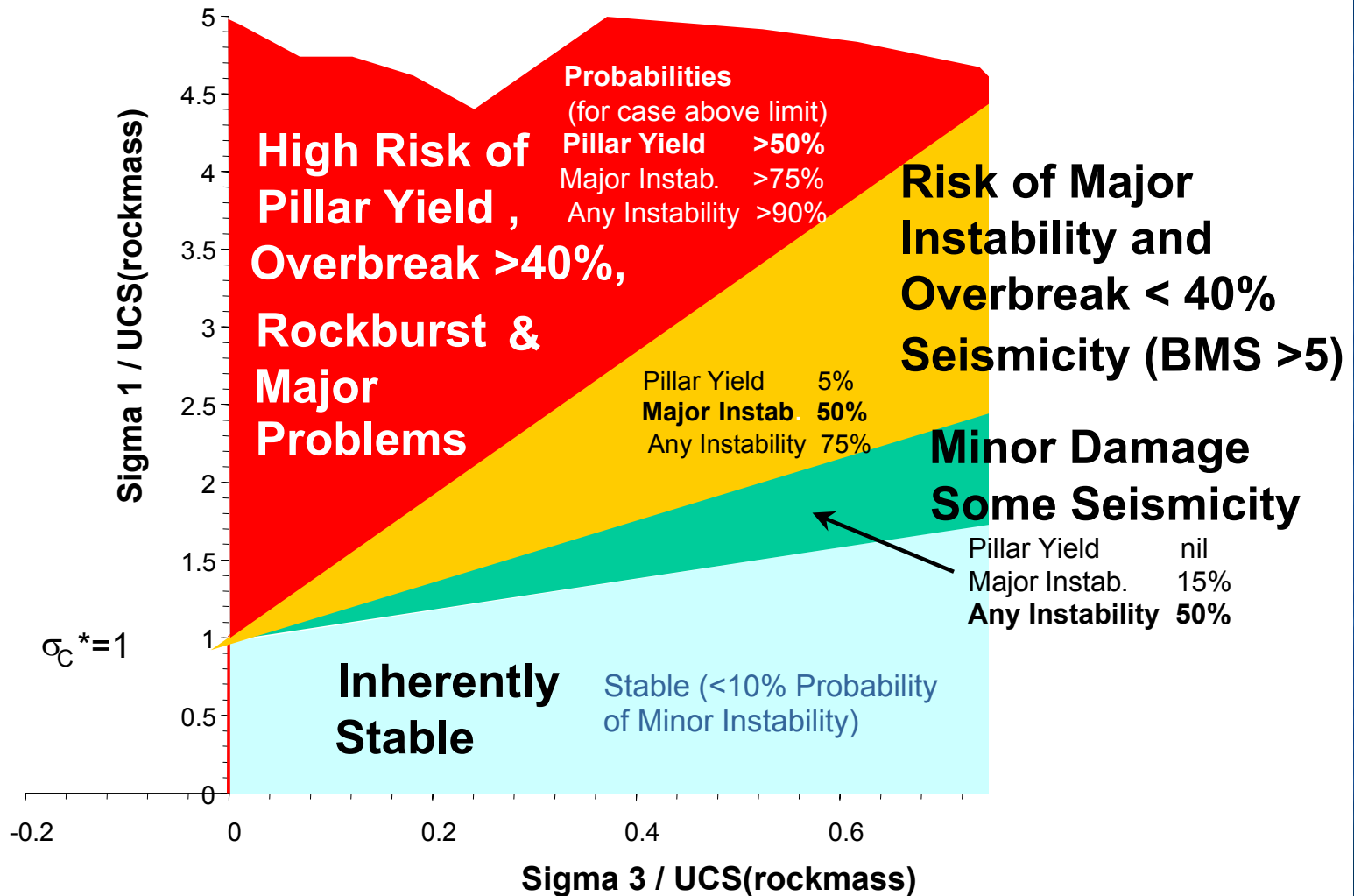


## Conceptual model





# Hazard Assessment



# Concluding Remarks

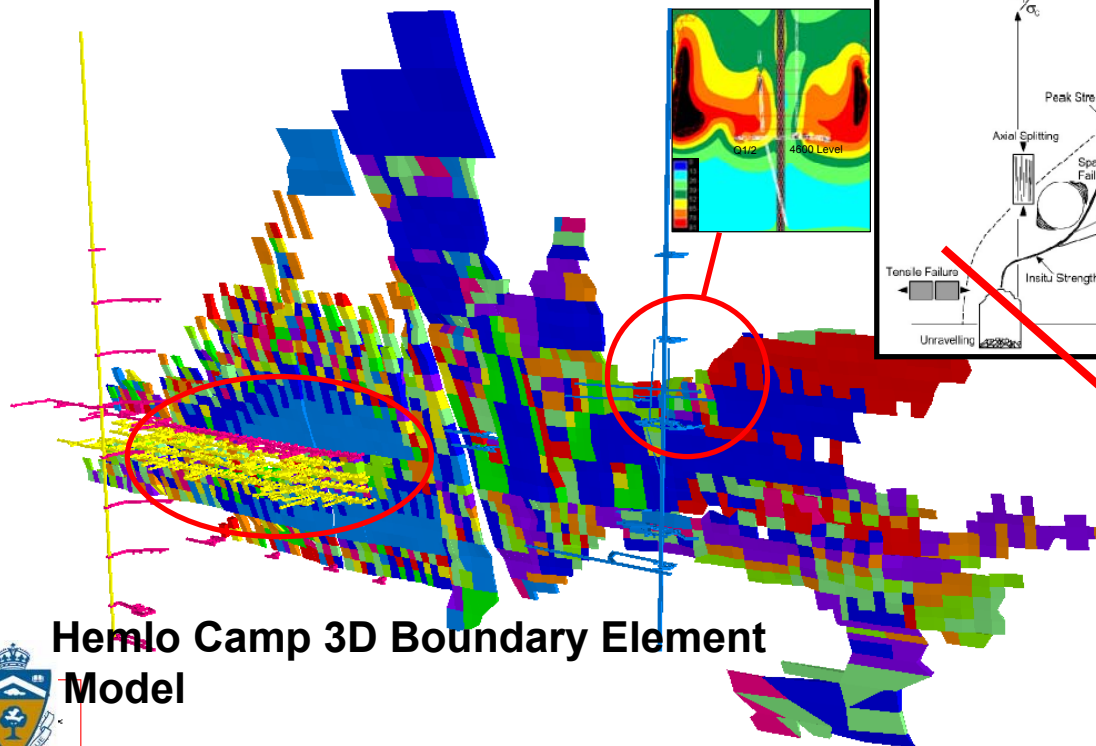
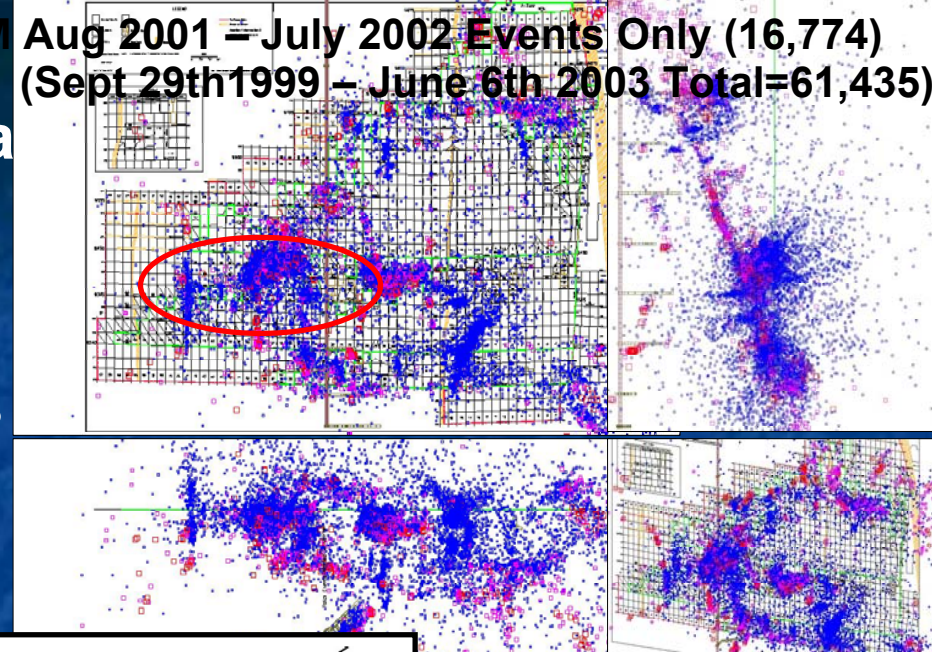
- **Benefits of Combining Theoretical Damage Mechanics with the Case Histories Calibration:**
  - Valuable tool for interpreting elastic stress modeling in complex multi-component rock systems.
  - Produces a practical stress index facilitating hazard prediction and risk analysis
  - Improves contingency planning for design in seismically active high stress mines
- **Monitoring and analysis of mine induced seismicity is essential for locating yielding in the rock mass – safety of personnel**



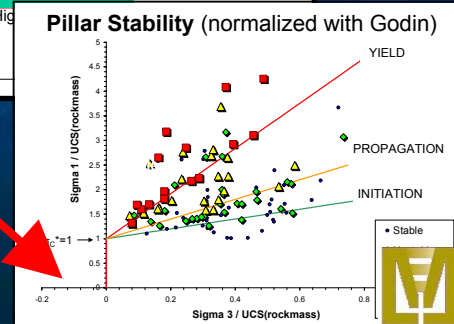
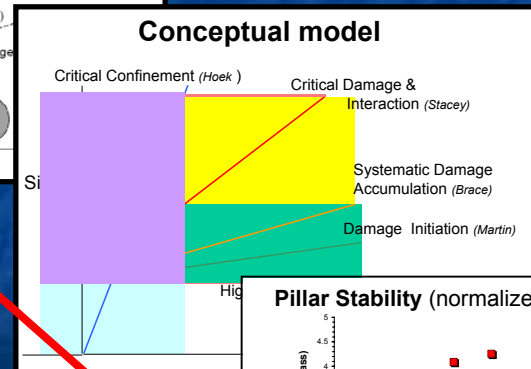
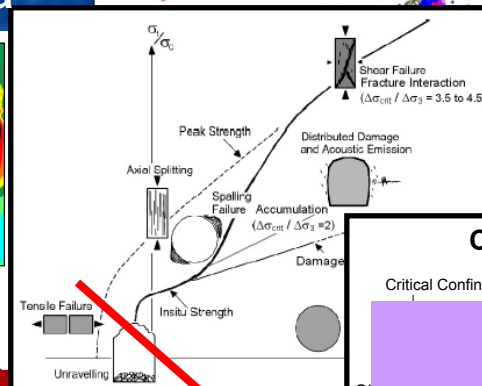
# Future Direction :

- Back Analysis of observational Data at other mines with different strength rock masses
- Spatial and Temporal analysis of seismicity – coalesc. b-values
- Source Mechanisms+  $V_a, \sigma_a$

WM Aug 2001 – July 2002 Events Only (16,774)  
(Sept 29th 1999 – June 6th 2003 Total=61,435)



Hemlo Camp 3D Boundary Element Model





# Questions !



## Acknowledgements :

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**Newmont Canada Ltd.**

