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SUBSTANTIATING RATIONAL SCHEDULE TO LOAD TRUCKS USING DRAGLINES WHILE MINING A PIT OF MOTRONIVSKYI MPP

Purpose. To substantiate a rational schedule for the combined dragline-truck operation taking into consideration a coefficient of mining in the context of the pit.

Methodology. Mathematical and graphical modeling was involved while determining a coefficient of mining concentration in the pit as well as feasibility analysis to select a rational procedure scheme for dragline operation.

Findings. Recommendations for the selection of rational dragline operation, while truck loading in the context of Motronivsko-Annivskiyi pit, have been developed taking into consideration mining concentration degree in the pit. It has been determined that bottom dragline unloading into a truck, located in the central part of bench mining width, as well as the dragline position at 0.5 A distance from the bench crest, is the most efficient plan of action for the conditions. Technological scheme to develop Motronivsko-Annivskiyi pit has been proposed.

Originality. Dependence of the mining concentration in the pit upon the parameters of development system elements according to different technological schemes has been derived. The dependence helps estimate development cost for overburden rocks using draglines with direct unloading into trucks.

Practical value. Technological schemes for the combined dragline – dump truck operation have been developed. Their use makes it possible to cut the prime cost of overburden activities. Implementation of the proposed solutions helps cut stripping cost by UAH 79.65 million a year if annual overburden volume is $Q_{\text{rozkryvu}} - Q_{\text{stripping}} = 13.5$ million m³/year.

Keywords: dragline, dump truck, excavator productivity, coefficient of mining concentration, stripping cost

Introduction. Ukraine is rich in primary and placer titanium ore deposits. For many years, placer deposits have been developed in Ukraine, where minerals occur at a shallow depth; hence, they did not require sizable investment and complex technological solutions for extraction. However, the demand for titanium raw materials grows, and the reserves of deposits, being mined, are of deeper ore occurrence in addition to complex hydrogeological conditions. Motronivsko-Annivskiyi site of Malyshevskiyi titanium-zirconium deposit is one of them [1, 2].

The deposit has a complex hydrogeological structure; the ore is represented by fine-grained drift sand with low water yield. This property of ore sand prevented from using the known methods of dewatering and rock draining [3]. Therefore, ore layer is developed using hydromechanization with suction dredgers. However, the development method remains above ore bench in a water-saturated state with poor stability [4, 5]. Hence, it has been decided to use draglines with direct unloading into a truck for the development of overburden [6]. The solution depends upon low specific dragline pressure on the soil [7, 8].

Generally, the majority of scientific papers, that analyze the methods with a dragline, concern application area as well as substantiation of technological schemes in terms of dragline mining system.

Paper [9] considers fully parameters of dragline excavator *ESh* (ЭШ) + truck complex operation. Optimum values of a bench height and bench face width for the conditions of Yeristovskiyi itabirite deposit have been defined in terms of different positions of a truck. However, dragline efficiency did not become the key optimality criterion. Minimum capacity losses show only the availability of optimum values of the bench face width parameters. Nevertheless, it does not mean that maximum actual efficiency will be achieved in terms of the parameters. Moreover, analysis of a rotation angle in the context of a dragline with lower unloading and truck position at a dragline

position level is impartial. In addition, the dragline position was assumed near a bench crest (as it is done in terms of non-haulage development system) which increased its unloading rotation angle.

Technological schemes of dragline excavators operation in combination with trucks are not sufficiently studied; they have different optimal technological parameters of the excavator face when its maximum productivity is achieved [10]. Thus, substantiation of rational technological schemes of dragline operation in the context of Motronivskiyi MPP is an urgent scientific task to cut stripping cost.

Determining parameters of development system elements in terms of different stripping technological schemes. The use of dragline systems for direct truck loading has many disadvantages. The reduced excavator efficiency compared to non-haulage technique is the key one [11, 12].

In this regard, studies on the technological schemes of dragline operation with truck loading have been carried out [13, 14]; optimum bench face parameters have been determined.

The research makes it possible to support the idea that there are 4 schemes with the maximum dragline efficiency (Fig. 1):

- *scheme 1:* a dragline is located at a 0.5 A distance from a bench crest; unloading is performed into a truck located at a level being comparable with an excavator position which is at the level of the excavator near the protection embankment (Fig. 1, a);

- *scheme 2:* a dragline is located at a safe distance B_1 from a bench crest; unloading is performed into a truck located at an excavator level near the protection embankment (Fig. 1, b);

- *scheme 3:* a dragline is at a 0.5 A distance from a bench crest; unloading is performed into a truck located lower compared with the dragline position being in the central part of the bench width (Fig. 1, c);

- *scheme 4:* a dragline is at a safe distance B_1 from a bench crest; unloading is performed into a truck located lower compared with the dragline position being in the central part of the bench width (Fig. 1, d).

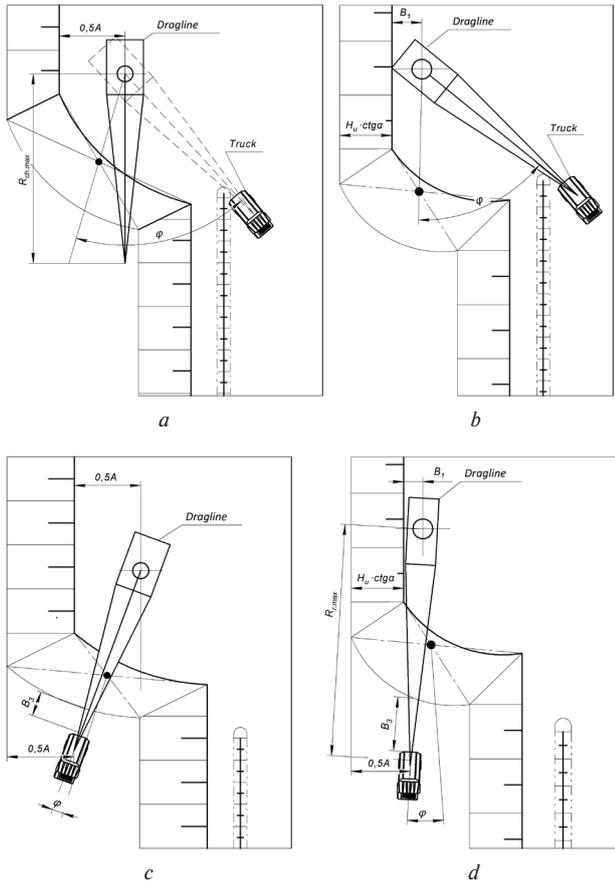


Fig. 1. Technological schemes of dragline-truck system operation: a – scheme 1; b – scheme 2; c – scheme 3; d – scheme 4

In terms of Motronivsko-Annivskyi pit, scheme 1 with $H = 10$ m bench height and $A = 30$ m bench width is used for the stripping; denote it as a scheme 5 for further calculations.

The considered schemes are cyclical; they have not any inextricable connection with the dumping operations. The above-mentioned makes it possible to develop a working bench with some independence from the formation of the internal dump board and vary parameters of the mining benches [15, 16].

Expansion of the mining benches when a highwall is extracted results in the decreased mining concentration rate in the pit [2]. In turn, this leads to the increase in stripping volume owing to the pit enlargement [17, 18]. Consequently, selection of rational technological scheme of dragline-truck system operation should involve determination of inter-ramp angle as well as a degree of mining concentration for each of the four schemes and their comparison.

$H = 10$ m is the rational bench height for the proposed schemes. Since average overburden thickness of Motronivskyi placer is $m = 40$ m, it is suggested to perform overburden operations by means of four 10 m levels.

In the context of the current scheme, $h = 10$ m ore bench is flooded; it is developed using dredgers. We assume the mining technique for the four proposed stripping operation schemes.

However, when using the mining technology, the ore bench is flooded, preventing from the dump truck position on its roof. Therefore, when using schemes 3 and 4 for stripping, the overburden ledge will be developed according to scheme 1.

To calculate the slope of the working side of the pit, we use the following formula

$$\varphi = \arctg \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_p} H_{ui} + h}{\sum_{i=1}^{n_b} h_i \operatorname{ctg} \gamma_i + \sum_{i=1}^{n_p} H_{ui} \operatorname{ctg} \alpha_i + \sum_{i=1}^{n_b} Sh_i}$$

where n is the number of development ledges; i is the serial number of the ledge; H_{ui} is height of the mining ledges, m; γ is slope angle of the production ledge, deg.; $\gamma = 44$ deg.; Sh is working area width of the ledge.

The work platforms width is determined by the formula

$$Sh_p = A + C + P + T + z,$$

where C is distance from the lower edge of the ledge to the transportation line; T is width of the transportation line, m ($T = 11$ m according to SNiP 2.05.07-91); P is width of the line for additional equipment and power supply, m; z is width of safety berm, m.

The resulting angle of the pit working side inclination for each scheme has been calculated; Table 1 demonstrates the outcomes.

Analysis of Table 1 shows that the largest angle of the working side of the pit, being $\varphi = 12.8^\circ$, is achieved by using the technological scheme with lower unloading (scheme 3), and the smallest angle of the working side of open the pit $\varphi = 11.7^\circ$ with the scheme with unloading at the installation level (scheme 2).

In terms of scheme 3, larger angle of the working side of the pit depends upon the smaller working bench width [19].

For more detailed study and selection of the technological scheme of the dragline excavator, we calculate Kg being a degree of mining operations concentration. It is determined by the ratio between minimum allowable area of the pit and the actual one [2].

The indicator of the degree of mining operations concentration in the pit is determined by the formula

$$Kg = \frac{S_{dop}}{S_f},$$

Table 1

Parameters of development system elements when using different schemes of overburden works

Development system elements	Scheme 1					Scheme 2					Scheme 3					Scheme 4				
	Overburden ledges				k. k.	Overburden ledges				k. k.	Overburden ledges				k. k.	Overburden ledges				k. k.
	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4	
Bench height, m	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	
Working bench width, m	24	24	24	24	30	28	28	28	28	30	22	22	22	24	30	24	24	24	28	30
Working slope angle, deg	40	40	40	40	27	40	40	40	40	27	40	40	40	40	27	40	40	40	40	27
Stable slope angle, deg	32	32	32	32	44	32	32	32	32	44	32	32	32	32	44	32	32	32	32	44
Width of the work site, m	42	42	42	42	70	46	46	46	46	70	40	40	40	42	70	42	42	42	46	70
Overall angle of the working side of the pit, deg	12.5					11.7					12.8					12.3				

where S_{dop} is minimum allowable area of the pit under the rock mass stability conditions, ha; S_f is actual area of the pit in terms of the applied development system, ha

$$S_f = L_{r,z} \cdot ((H_r + h) \cdot (\text{ctg } \varphi + \text{ctg } \beta_v) + b),$$

where $L_{r,z}$ is surface length of the working zone of the pit, m; β_v is resulting slope angle of an internal dump, deg. (being $\beta_v = 15^\circ$ for the existing dumping method); b is distance between the toe of mining bench and the dump, m.

The minimum allowable area of the pit is calculated by the formula

$$S_{dop} = L_{dop} \cdot ((H_r + h) \cdot (\text{ctg } \varphi + \text{ctg } \beta_E) + b),$$

where L_{dop} is minimum allowable surface length of the working area of the pit, m; β_E is stable angle of internal dump inclination, deg; φ_E is stable angle of the working side of the pit, deg.

$\beta_E = 18.4^\circ$ and $\varphi_E = 31.4^\circ$ in the context of Motronivsko-Annivskyi placer development [4].

The actual pit working area and the value of the indicator of the mining operations concentration degree were calculated for each of the four proposed schemes. Diagram in Fig. 2 demonstrates the calculation results.

While analysing the calculation results of the concentration of mining operations in the pit (Fig. 2), we can say that a scheme with lower unloading and dragline position at a distance of 0.5 A from the upper ledge (scheme 3) is the most effective technological procedure when a dragline is combined with trucks [20, 21]. That depends upon the fact that the highest mining operation concentration in the pit is $K_g = 0.64$ indicating the minimum values of the working area of the pit compared with other schemes.

Resulting from the research as well as calculations of the degree of concentration of mining operations in the pit, we select the scheme of dragline with lower unloading in a dump truck, located in the centre the bench width (scheme 3) to work in Motronivsko-Annivskyi pit.

To calculate stripping cost, it is necessary to determine the required amount of mining and transport equipment to ensure the annual production of overburden as $A_{pl.year} = 13.5$ million $m^3/year$.

Calculate the amount of mining equipment for each of the proposed schemes.

Dragline shift performance is determined by the formula

$$Q_{v.zm} = Q_{v.god} \cdot T_{zm} \cdot k_{t,v} \cdot k_{n,p} \cdot k_{roz} \cdot k_{vyk},$$

where T_{zm} is shift duration, hours, $T_{zm} = 12$ hours; $k_{t,v}$ is coefficient of extraction technology, $k_{t,v} = 0.83$; $k_{n,p}$ is coefficient that takes into account the accumulation of rock in the complex hydrogeological conditions of Motronivsko-Annivskyi pit, $k_{n,p} = 0.9$; k_{roz} is unloading factor, which takes into account the rock shedding when unloading the dragline in the dump

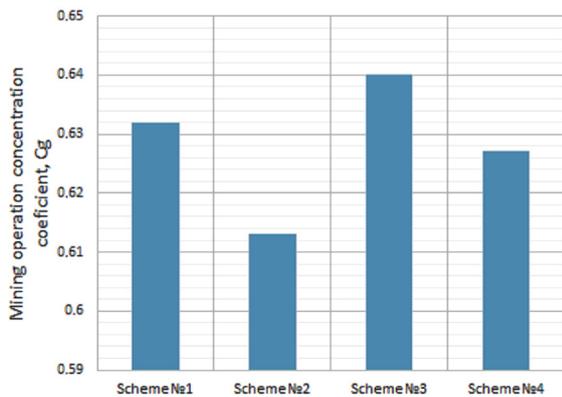


Fig. 2. Indicator of mining operations concentration in the pit for each of the proposed working schemes of a dragline excavator ESh-10/50 in combination with trucks

truck due to the design features of the bucket (reverse bucket), $k_{ros} = 0.8$; k_{vyk} is coefficient of excavator operation in time under transport conditions which takes into account the time for exchange of dump trucks. We assume it as $k_{vyk} = 0.7$.

Annual productivity of dragline excavators ESh 10/50 (EIII-10/50) is calculated according to the formula

$$Q_{e.rik} = Q_{e.zm} \cdot n_{zm} \cdot N_D,$$

where n_{zm} is the number of complete work shifts per day, $n_{zm} = 2$ shifts; N_D is the number of working days in the year, $N_D = 260$.

Determine the required number of draglines to perform the planned stripping operations if $A_{pl.year} = 13.5$ million $m^3/year$.

$$N_D = \frac{A_{pl}}{Q_{e.rik}}.$$

Determine the required number of Cat-773E trucks for the excavator.

The duration of the dump truck loading cycle with ore sand is calculated by the formula, s

$$t_{c.n.} = \frac{V}{E} \cdot \frac{t_c}{60},$$

where V is volume of the truck body, $V = 26.6 m^3$. The cycle duration is selected using timing and calculating values of turn duration for each of the schemes involving optimal parameters of the bench face.

Duration of the dump track trip is (s)

$$t_r = t_{c.n.} + \frac{2L_p \cdot 60}{v_{av}} + t_{roz},$$

where L_p is average rock mass transportation distance to the dump, km; it is $L_p = 2$ km for schemes with unloading at the level of standing, $L_p = 2.1$ km for schemes with unloading below the level of standing; v_{av} is dump truck speed $v_{av} = 25$ km/h; t_{roz} is duration of unloading of the dump truck, $t_{roz} = 1$ min.

The shift performance per shift of one truck will be

$$Q_{a.zm} = \frac{60 \cdot T_{sm} \cdot V \cdot k_{n.a} \cdot k_{sm.v}}{t_r},$$

where $k_{n.a}$ is coefficient of filling the dump truck body, $k_{n.a} = 1$; $k_{sm.v}$ is coefficient taking into consideration a truck during the shift being $k_{sm.v} = 0.85$.

The required number of trucks for one excavator is calculated by the formula

$$N_a = \frac{Q_{e.zm}}{Q_{a.zm}}.$$

The total number of dump trucks is calculated by the formula

$$N_{a.zad} = N_a \cdot N_D.$$

Table 2 demonstrates the calculation results.

To select the required technology, we calculate the cost of stripping 1 m^3 of rock mass for the proposed options.

The production programme of the sections of the mining enterprise is based on the selected technology of stripping, provision of mining equipment and mode of operation of the enterprise. The number of working days in terms of a breaking mode with a six-day working week is 305. The number of shifts per day is 2, 12 hours each.

The cost of 1 m^3 of stripping is calculated on the basis of the above production costs for wages, auxiliary materials, fuel, depreciation by summing them. Calculation of the cost of stripping is given in Table 3.

$$C_{1,2} = \frac{\sum Z}{Q_{rik}}.$$

A-A

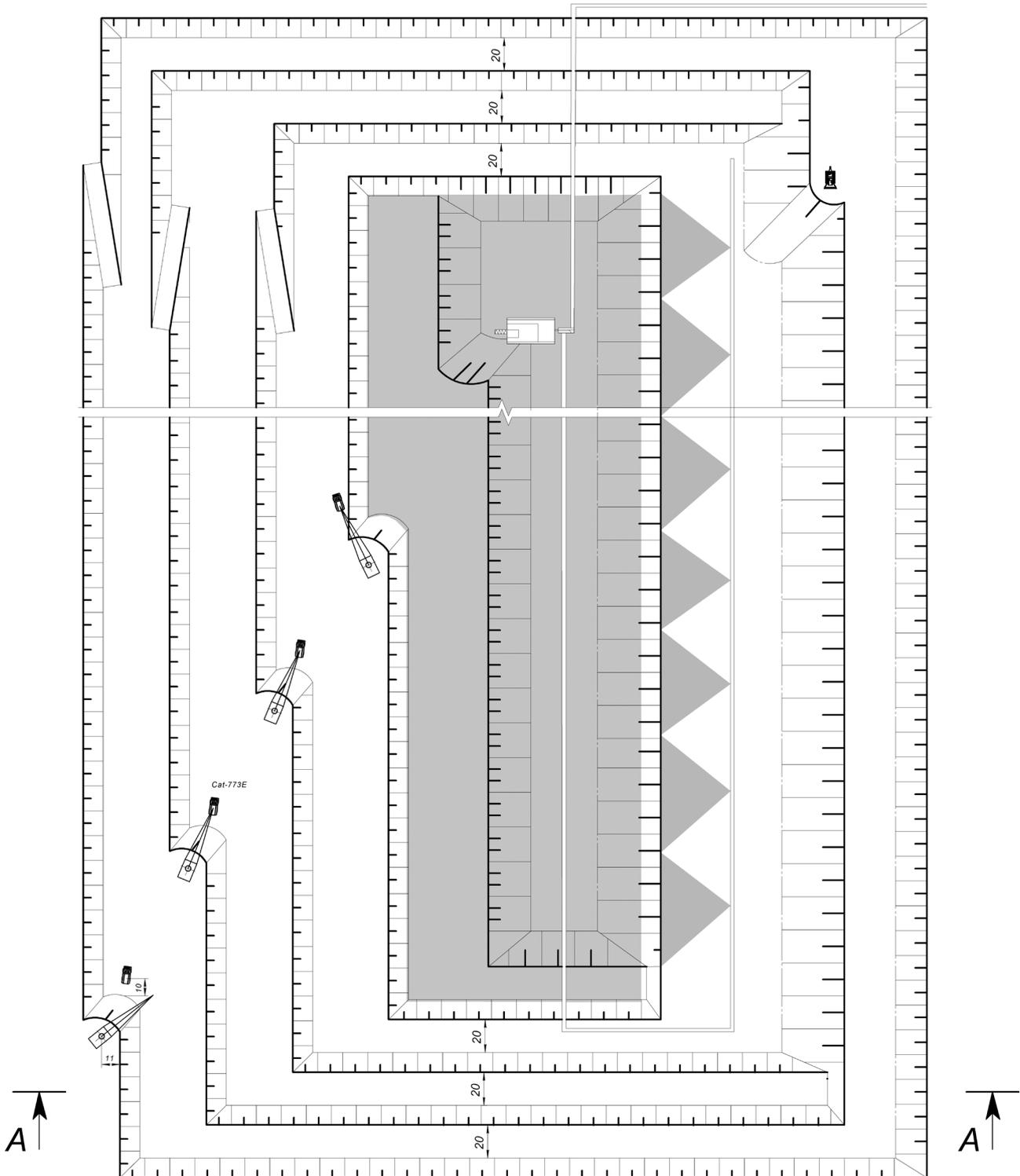
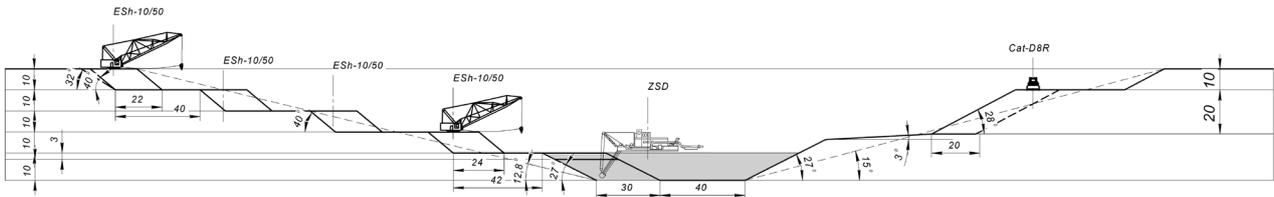


Fig. 3. Technological scheme to develop Motronivsko-Annivskiyi placer

Table 2

Parameters of the schemes of dragline operation combined with trucks in terms of Motronivsko-Annivskiy pit

Parameters	Schemes				
	1	2	3	4	5
Bench height, m	10	10	10	10	10
Working bench width, m	24	28	22	24	30
Duration of the loading cycle, min	1.8	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.8
Annual productivity of the excavator, thousand m ³ /year	1574	1585	1792	1791	1565
Number of dragline excavators ESh 10/50	9	9	8	8	9
Number of Cat-773E	27	27	24	24	27

Table 3

Calculation of the cost of stripping by 1 m³

Elements of cost	Costs for the annual volume of stripping (13.5 million m ³), UAH million using the schemes				
	1	2	3	4	5
Basic salary	10.5	12.2	10.8	10.8	12.2
Additional salary (9 % of the basic)	0.9	1.1	0.97	0.97	1.1
Wages together	11.4	13.3	11.7	11.7	13.3
Salary accruals (22 % of wages)	2.5	2.9	2.5	2.5	2.9
Basic and auxiliary materials	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.89
Fuel	277.9	277.9	247.0	247.0	277.9
Depreciation	216.1	216.1	192.1	192.1	216.1
Electricity	177.8	177.8	157.3	157.3	180.1
Total	693.8	696.1	618.8	618.8	698.4
Cost of 1 m ³ of stripping, UAH	51.40	51.57	45.84	45.84	51.74

Results. As it is understood from Table 3 data, the main share of costs for each of the schemes is covered by the costs of fuel, electricity, and depreciation. It is also seen that the minimum cost of stripping will be when using schemes with lower unloading depending upon the greater productivity of the dragline, and hence the smaller amount of mining equipment. Thus, schemes 3 and 4 are the least expensive.

The cost of production under the existing technological scheme of operation of a dragline excavator ESh-10/50 (EIII-10/50) in a complex with trucks in Motronivsko-Annivskiy pit is UAH 51.74 per m³. Use of the scheme with the lower unloading, and the optimal parameters of the face will reduce stripping cost of 1 m³ of rock mass by UAH 5.9 and reduce the total stripping cost

$$\text{UAH } P = (51.75 - 45.84) \cdot 13.5 = 79.65 \text{ million a year.}$$

Resulting from the research as well as calculations of the degree of concentration of mining operations in the pit, we select the scheme of dragline with lower unloading in a dump truck, located in the centre the bench width (scheme 3) to work in Motronivsko-Annivskiy pit.

The calculations have helped us elaborate a technological scheme to develop the pit of Motronivskiy MPP (Fig. 3).

Conclusions. The most effective technological schemes of dragline excavator operation in combination with dump truck according to technical and economic calculation have been determined. The schemes are those ones with lower unloading and position of a dump truck in the centre of the working bench width being schemes 3 and 4. The cost of 1 m³ of stripping operations with the use of these schemes amounts to $C = \text{UAH } 45.84 \text{ per m}^3$, which is by 3 % lower than the current one. Application of the technological scheme with lower unloading helps reduce the stripping costs by UAH 79.65 million a year with the annual stripping productivity of the pit being $Q_{\text{stripping}} = 13.5 \text{ million m}^3/\text{year}$.

The developed recommendations on the selection of rational schemes of dragline excavators with truck loading for Motronivsko-Annivskiy pit, involving concentration degree of mining operations in the pit, have made it possible to determine that the scheme with lower unloading in the dump truck, located in the centre of the working bench width and the position of the dragline at a distance of 0.5 A from the bench crest is the most effective for the conditions of Motronivskiy MPP.

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Обґрунтування раціональної схеми навантаження автосамоскидів драглайнми при розробці кар'єру Мотронівського ГЗК

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Мета. Обґрунтувати раціональну технологічну схему роботи екскаваторів драглайнми в комплексі з автосамоскидами, урахувавши коефіцієнт концентрації гірничих робіт у кар'єрі.

Методика. Включала математичне та графічне моделювання при встановленні коефіцієнта концентрації гірничих робіт у кар'єрі й техніко-економічний аналіз для вибору раціональної технологічної схеми роботи екскаваторів драглайнми.

Результати. Розроблені рекомендації із вибору раціональних схем роботи екскаваторів драглайнми при навантаженні автосамоскидів для Мотронівсько-Аннівського кар'єру, з урахуванням показника ступеня концентрації гірничих робіт у кар'єрі. Встановлено, що для даних умов найбільш ефективною є схема роботи драглайна з нижнім розвантаженням в автосамоскид, що розташовується посередині ширини заходки, та розташуванням драглайну на відстані 0,5А від верхньої бровки уступу. Запропонована технологічна схема розробки Мотронівсько-Аннівського кар'єру.

Наукова новизна. Встановлена залежність показника концентрації гірничих робіт у кар'єрі від параметрів елементів системи розробки за різними технологічними схемами, що дозволяє провести оцінку собівартості розробки порід розкриття при застосуванні екскаваторів драглайнми із безпосереднім розвантаженням до автосамоскидів.

Практична значимість. Розроблені технологічні схеми роботи екскаватора драглайна в комплексі з автосамоскидами, використання яких дозволяє знизити собівартість розкривних робіт. Застосування на практиці запропонованих рішень дозволяє зменшити витрати на розкриття на 79,65 млн грн/рік, при річному об'ємі розкривних порід $Q_{\text{розкриття}} = 13,5$ млн м³/рік.

Ключові слова: драглайн, автосамоскид, продуктивність екскаватора, коефіцієнт концентрації гірничих робіт, собівартість розкриття

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