

#### Construction of numerical models of ventilation network for future exploitation in underground coal mine under methane hazard conditions

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- The paper discusses the construction of numerical models of the ventilation network for future mining in an underground coal mine under methane hazard conditions. The work included several numerical models, which took into account various regulations, in order to ensure that the level of aerological hazards is minimized and that the amount of fresh air in the area of excavated headings and exploited longwalls is as high as possible.
- Factors such as serial ventilation, the length of air supply and exhaust routes, the methane-bearing capacity of coal seams, and deficiencies in the required amount of air for planned mining operations were analyzed for their impact on the level of aerological hazards. In the final phase of the article, the effectiveness of the regulations used was evaluated and optimal regulations were proposed for the mine's future ventilation network to ensure safe and efficient operation under methane hazard conditions.





#### Agenda

- Introduction
- Stages of construction of the numerical model of the ventilation network LW Bogdanka in Ventsim software
- Stages of numerical modeling of the future ventilation network LW Bogdanka taking into account the methane hazard
- Summary



 LW Bogdanka - is the mine with the largest production of thermal coal in Poland. The total mining area is about 200 km2 and is divided into three mining fields - Bogdanka field, Stefanów field and Nadrybie field. Each field has a pair of shafts: a ventilation shaft and an exit-material shaft.



The characteristics of the natural hazards occurring in the Lubelski Węgiel "Bogdanka" S.A. mine are as follows [1]:

Introduction

methane - category I

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coal dust explosion- grade A, B

water - I, II degree

fire - IV self-flammability group

rock bumps - none

gas and rock outbursts - not present

radiation - not endangered

climatic - not threatened, I and II degree.



![](_page_4_Picture_11.jpeg)

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![](_page_5_Picture_0.jpeg)

Mapping the location of ventilation dams and their flow resistance

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![](_page_6_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_6_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_7_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_7_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Picture_0.jpeg)

Introduction of auxiliary fan characteristics

![](_page_8_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Figure_3.jpeg)

Assignment of attributes of individual sidings of the ventilation network

![](_page_9_Picture_1.jpeg)

AGH

![](_page_9_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Figure_3.jpeg)

Konserwacja wazna 2020-11-02

![](_page_10_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Finished 3D model of the ventilation network

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

The amount of air supplied to the mine is: shaft S-1.2.- approximately 14,300m<sup>3</sup>/s, shaft S-1.5.- approximately 15,200m<sup>3</sup>/sec. shaft S-2.2.- approximately 19,000m<sup>3</sup>/s, approximately 48,500m<sup>3</sup>/s. The amount of discharged used air is: shaft S-1.3. - about 20,300m<sup>3</sup>/s, S-2.1. shaft - about 18,000m<sup>3</sup>/s, S-1.4. shaft - about 12,000m<sup>3</sup>/s, approximately 50,300m<sup>3</sup>/s.

![](_page_11_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Stages of numerical modeling

- Taking into account the methane hazard, numerical models of the ventilation network of LW Bogdanka were made for future exploitation in longwall regions 3/VII/385, 2/II/382, 8/II/385, 1/IV/391.
- The models took into account methane evolution in the longwall region in the Ventsim software on the basis of the forecasted absolute methane intensity made on the basis of the prepared algorithm for the forecast of absolute methane intensity for the longwall region.

![](_page_13_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Picture_1.jpeg)

## Stages of numerical modeling

Analyzing the schedule of mining operations keeping in mind the projected total methane rate, the following characteristic mining time periods were selected, which were divided into three stages:

Stage I - Model 1 - the state of the mine's ventilation network at the end of December 2022 with longwall 2/II382.

Stage II - Model 2 - the state of the mine's ventilation network at the end of March 2023 with longwall 3/VII/385 and longwall 8/II/385.

Phase III - Model 3 - the state of the mine's ventilation network at the end of September 2023 with longwall 1/VI/391.

![](_page_14_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_1.jpeg)

## Stages of numerical modeling

In the design of numerical and 3D graphical models for the analyzed periods of the future structure of the ventilation network of the mine L.W. "Bogdanka" S.A., the following were used [1]:

the numerical model for the fourth quarter of 2022 after introducing the results from the conducted study of isentropic potentials in the mine network,

current spatial diagram of the ventilation network of the Bogdanka mine,

maps of access and exploitation of seams 382, 385/2, 389 and 391,

schedule of mining works,

data from the Desvik program,

results of air volume measurements in underground workings,

information on the level of aerological hazards,

results of recorded values by the mine's gasometric system,

operating characteristics of the main ventilation fans located at exhaust shafts 1.3 (WPK-5.0), 1.4 (WPK-5.3 spec) and 2.1 (WPK 3.9/SK).

![](_page_15_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_1.jpeg)

Numerical model 1 - state of the mine ventilation network at the end of December 2022 with longwall 2/II/382 after adjustment

![](_page_15_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_1.jpeg)

Numerical model 2 - state of the mine ventilation network at the end of March 2023 with longwall 3/VII/385 and longwall 8/II/385 after adjustment

![](_page_16_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Picture_0.jpeg)

Numerical model 3 - the state of the mine's ventilation network at the end of September 2023 with longwall 1/IV/391 after adjustment.

![](_page_19_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Figure_3.jpeg)

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![](_page_20_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Summary

- In situ air volume measurements in the ventilation regions showed high agreement with the air volume calculated numerically using the VentSim software package for the analyzed stages of future operation at LW Bogdanka.
- The safety factors B of the operation of the main ventilation fans in the Bogdanka, Nadrybie and Stefanów fields showed safe cooperation.

![](_page_23_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_1.jpeg)

The progress of the wall depends on the projected total methane concentration of the wall. Under Polish regulations, the concentration of methane in the wall cannot exceed 2%.

- A properly designed numerical model of the ventilation network has a major impact on the safety of the crew, as future prophylactic measures against the methane hazard are adopted on its basis.
- □The increase in methane hazard at LW Bogdanka occurs most often during barium declines. Therefore, the correct selection of auxiliary ventilation equipment at the intersection of a longwall and a roadway carrying away used air should be verified each time under underground conditions.

![](_page_24_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Summary

□Verification of systems for combating methane hazards involves conducting tests to verify that the systems are operating in accordance with safety requirements. Verification includes checking the amount and speed of air in selected pits, checking the effectiveness of detection and activation of alarms related to methane hazards, assessing the safety of equipment operation, analyzing air quality in various pits and the effectiveness of fire systems.

![](_page_25_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_2.jpeg)