

1 Anisotropic Shear Behavior of Closely Jointed Rock Masses

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3 Bo LI¹⁾, Yujing JIANG¹⁾, Tateru, MIZOKAMI²⁾, Kouji IKUSADA²⁾ and Yasuhiro
4 MITANI³⁾

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6 ¹⁾ School of Engineering, Nagasaki University, Nagasaki 852-8521, Japan

7 ²⁾ Kyushu Electric Power Co., Inc., Fukuoka 815-8521, Japan

8 ³⁾ School of Engineering, Kyushu University, Fukuoka 812-8581, Japan

9

10 **Corresponding author:**

11 Yujing Jiang, School of Engineering, Nagasaki University, Nagasaki 852-8521, Japan

12 Tel: +81-95-819-2612

13 Fax: +81-95-819-2627

14 Email address: jiang@civil.nagasaki-u.ac.jp

15 **ABSTRACT:**

16 In this study, in-situ shear tests on a closely jointed rock mass containing two sets of joints,
17 one continuous and another staggered, were conducted. A series of laboratory shear tests with
18 varying combinations of loading conditions and geometrical characteristics of rock joints
19 were also carried out. A Discrete Element Method (DEM) was used to numerically simulate
20 the in-situ and laboratory shear tests. The in-situ tests, laboratory tests and numerical
21 modeling were aimed at evaluating the anisotropic shear behavior of closely jointed rock
22 masses. Comparison between the test and simulation results of this study with the results of
23 similar laboratory tests was completed. The simulation results agreed well with the laboratory
24 test results and provided slightly higher shear stresses comparing to the results of in-situ shear
25 tests. The test and simulation results showed that the jointed rock masses exhibited strong
26 anisotropic shear behavior, the significance of which depended on the orientation of
27 continuous joint set. Different failure mechanisms were confirmed in the tested and simulated
28 rock mass models with different geometrical characteristics of rock joints, which resulted in
29 the anisotropic shear behavior.

30

31 *Keywords:* Jointed rock mass; Shear behavior; Laboratory test; In-situ test; Numerical
32 simulation; Anisotropy

33 1. INTRODUCTION

34 The shear behavior of jointed rock masses is an important issue in rock engineering,
35 especially for the stability of slopes and dam foundations. However, limited cases of in-situ
36 shear tests have been conducted, mainly due to their high costs and technical challenges in
37 implementation (e.g., [1]-[5]). The shear behavior of closely jointed rock masses is governed
38 by the mechanical properties of intact rock matrix and mechanical and geometrical
39 characteristics of rock joint systems, such as the orientations of the joint sets and direction of
40 the shear loading. Different geometrical characteristics will induce different failure
41 mechanisms of rock masses during shear processes, resulting in different shear behavior [6].

42 Since in-situ tests are expensive, laboratory tests are typically conducted to give insight into
43 the deformation behavior and failure mechanisms of jointed rock masses subjected to
44 unconfined compression (e.g., [7]), biaxial compression (e.g., [8]) and triaxial compression
45 (e.g., [9]). Such laboratory test results show that the strength of a jointed rock mass increases
46 with the increase of confining stress and decrease of joint density, decreasing to the lowest
47 value at a critical joint orientation. Different failure modes, such as splitting and shearing
48 through intact rock and sliding along rock joints, can be observed on the models with different
49 geometrical characteristics of rock joints. Hayashi and Fujiwara [10] conducted a series of
50 direct shear tests on jointed rock mass models with one continuous joint set and reported that
51 higher shear strengths could be observed in most orientations of a positive joint orientation
52 system than that in a negative joint orientation system (see Fig. 1). His results showed that the
53 compaction of rock mass increased the normal stress acting on rock joints, resulting in the
54 increase of the strength of rock mass in the positive joint orientation system, while the dilation
55 of rock mass reduced the strength of negative joint orientation system. Kawamoto [11]
56 conducted shear tests on similar mass models, and found that in the positive joint orientation

57 system, cracking initiated in the position underneath the toe of the face of the loading block
58 subjected to shear loading, which propagated and connected with pre-existing joints and
59 finally formed the failure plane. In the negative joint orientation system, opening of joints
60 firstly happened in the same position, which then induced tensile cracks accompanied by the
61 rotation of the rock mass, leading to the ultimate failure (see Fig. 9 presented later).
62 Nagayama et al. [12],[13] also conducted shear tests on jointed rock mass models,
63 emphasizing on the influence of rock joint orientation on the shear strength of rock mass.
64 They reported that the strength of a jointed rock mass could be governed by the strength of
65 intact rock, rock joints, or the mix of both depending on the orientation of the continuous joint
66 set.

67 Besides the laboratory tests, numerical simulations using Discrete Element Method (DEM),
68 which more realistically models the mechanical behavior (compression, sliding, opening etc.)
69 and geometrical characteristics (orientation, gap, spacing etc.) of rock joints, have achieved
70 tremendous success in helping understand the mechanical behavior of jointed rock masses
71 [14]. Although jointed rock masses subjected to unconfined, biaxial, and triaxial normal
72 compressions have been modeled in numerical simulations, no attention has been paid to
73 modeling jointed rock masses subjected to the combined normal and shear loadings. In
74 addition, many numerical studies lacked support from measured data from laboratory tests or
75 in-situ tests, thus caused difficulties for justifications of validity and applicability of the
76 numerical models.

77 To overcome the above mentioned shortcomings, combined research of numerical
78 simulations and in-situ shear tests on a closely jointed rock mass, supported further by a series
79 of laboratory shear tests, were conducted. Laboratory test models containing a set of
80 continuous joints intersected by a set of staggered joints orthogonal to the continuous joint set
81 were reproduced at a 1/3 scale using artificial rock materials. A series of shear tests on these

82 laboratory test models were carried out, taking into account the influence of loading
83 conditions (lateral restraint stress and initial normal stress) and the geometrical characteristics
84 of the rock joints (dip angle and spacing), in order to investigate the anisotropic shear
85 behavior of closely jointed rock masses. The mechanical properties of the in-situ intact rock
86 and rock joints, and the artificial rock materials and joints for laboratory tests were measured
87 through a well-planned laboratory testing procedure, which were then adopted in the numerical
88 simulations of the shear tests using a DEM. The influence of the orientation of continuous
89 joint set on the anisotropic shear behavior of rock masses was further studied with numerical
90 models containing varying dip angles of the continuous joint set. The test and simulation
91 results were verified through comparisons with the results of similar laboratory tests reported
92 in literature.

93 2. SETUP OF IN-SITU AND LABORATORY SHEAR TESTS

94 *2.1 Characteristics of the prototype rock mass*

95 The site for the in-situ shear tests is located on Kyushu Island, Japan (a possible site for a
96 foundation of a nuclear power plant). The rock mass in this site is constituted by Mesozoic
97 clay slate, sandstone, and conglomerate, covered by a shallow layer of Cenozoic igneous rock.
98 The rock mass is slightly weathered, and closely jointed by three sets of rock joints. The
99 geometrical characteristics of rock joints and the mechanical properties of intact rocks and
100 rock joints at two locations in this site with different rock types (location A: clay slate;
101 location B: conglomerate) were investigated. The rock mass at location A was chosen as the
102 prototype rock mass for the laboratory tests, and in-situ shear tests were conducted at location
103 B. From a cross-sectional view, two sets of joints can be identified in the field, orthogonal to
104 each other with different spacing. The joints of Set 1 are continuous with good persistence,
105 serving as the major rock structure; the joints of Set 2 are less persistent and staggered, and

106 are oriented perpendicular to the joints of Set 1. Fig. 2 shows an example of the core specimen
107 sketch, the statistical orientation distribution of the rock joints and a cross-sectional view of
108 the distribution of joints in the field. The sketches show a set of sub-vertical persistent rock
109 joints (Set 1), intersecting with several parallel sub-horizontal rock joints (Set 2). The lower
110 hemisphere stereographic projection of joint poles shows that most of the rock joints of Set 1
111 in the field have moderate to steep dip angles ranging from 50° to 90° . Through the analysis of
112 34 boreholes with a maximum length of 230 m and field investigation by trench and tunnel
113 excavations (Fig. 2c), the approximate cross-sectional profiles of the geometrical distribution
114 of joints for the two locations were then obtained, as shown in Fig. 3.

115 According to the survey results, the spacing of Set 1 is 30 mm to 60 mm, and that of Set 2
116 is 90 mm to 180 mm at location A. The mean spacing of joints of Set 1 is 50 mm with a
117 standard deviation of 30 mm, and 100 mm with a standard deviation of 60 mm for Set 2, at
118 location B. Set 1 dips at mean angles of 70° and 75° at the locations A and B, with standard
119 deviations of 9.9° and 8.2° , respectively.

120 Note that there is a third set of joints on the site with orientation normal to both set 1 and
121 set 2 and in the out-of-plane direction in Fig. 2, which has a mean spacing larger than 1 m. Its
122 influence on the in-situ shear tests with a sheared area of $600\text{ mm}\times 600\text{ mm}$ is therefore
123 negligible. This information also made a 2D numerical model for the site a reasonable
124 simplification.

125 The physico-mechanical properties of the intact rocks and the mechanical properties of
126 rock joints in the two locations are shown in Tables 1 and 2, respectively. The properties of
127 intact rocks were estimated through standard laboratory unconfined compression tests and
128 triaxial compression tests, and the properties of rock joints were estimated through laboratory
129 direct shear tests. Core specimens were used for all tests. A servo-controlled direct shear
130 apparatus was used in this study to accurately estimate the shear behavior of relevant rock

131 joints, which is important since the deformation and failure of rock joints govern the total
132 performance of the jointed rock masses. The testing procedure and some results are presented
133 in detail in [15],[16].

134 *2.2 In-situ shear test*

135 The setup of the in-situ shear test conducted in location B followed the suggested method
136 for determining shear strength of rock masses [17], and therefore, only a few important
137 settings are summarized here. The area of the shear plane is 600 mm×600 mm and the height
138 of the loading concrete block is 300 mm. The direction of shear load was inclined 15° with
139 respect to the horizontal plane, and the increment of shear load at each loading step is 0.02
140 MN at a loading rate of 0.25 MPa/min. Four LVDTs were installed on the top surface of the
141 loading block (block subjected to normal and shear loads positioned above rock mass, see Fig.
142 4) and another four were installed on the back surface. The mean values of LVDTs on the top
143 surface were taken for calculating the representative normal displacement and the mean
144 values of those on the back surface were taken for calculating the representative shear
145 displacement. Two cases of in-situ tests, numbered as case I-15-1 and I-15-2, were conducted
146 with normal stresses of 0.4 MPa for case I-15-1 and 1.2 MPa for case I-15-2.

147 *2.3 Laboratory experiment*

148 (a) Testing apparatus

149 To reproduce the stress state and boundary conditions of the rock mass subjected to the
150 in-situ shear test, 1/3 down-scaled physical test models were established by using a laboratory
151 direct shear testing apparatus, as shown in Fig. 4. A series of shear tests were conducted by
152 using this apparatus and some results have been reported in [18],[19], which were also
153 included in this article. The test model has a length of 900 mm, a height of 300 mm and a
154 thickness of 100 mm, and the loading block has a length of 200 mm, a height of 100 mm and

155 a thickness of 100 mm, where the thickness stands for the dimension in the direction
156 perpendicular to the x - y plane. The capacity of jacks is 50 kN for shear loading, 20 kN for
157 normal loading, and 50 kN for lateral restraint. The shear load acting on the front face of the
158 loading block is inclined by an angle of 15° with respect to the horizontal plane, in order to
159 suppress the rotation of the loading block during the test, as commonly adopted in the in-situ
160 shear tests. The lateral restraint jacks provide stresses on the lateral boundaries for
161 reproducing the initial in-situ stresses exerted by the surrounding rock mass. The faces of the
162 test model parallel to the x - y plane are free to move. Four LVDTs were installed on the top
163 face of the loading block (two of them can be observed in Fig. 4) to measure the normal
164 displacement, while another two LVDTs were installed on the back face of the loading block
165 to measure the lateral (shear) displacement.

166 (b) Specimen of artificial rock mass

167 The artificial rock masses were constituted by a large number of small-sized blocks (see
168 Fig. 4b), manufactured by using the mixture of plaster, slaked lime, standard sand and water
169 with a weight ratio of 1:1:5:1.6, cured for 28 days. These blocks have two kinds of
170 dimensions: the first kind has a width of 20 mm, a length of 60 mm, and a thickness of 100
171 mm, and the second kind has a width of 10 mm, a length of 30 mm, and a thickness of 100
172 mm (1/3 of the rock blocks at the location A as shown in Fig. 3). Here, the width stands for
173 the spacing of joints of Set 1, the length stands for the spacing of joints of Set 2, and the
174 thickness stands for the dimension of the rock blocks in the direction perpendicular to the x - y
175 plane (see Fig. 3). By inclining the rock blocks to the required dip angle, the block collection
176 then approximately reproduced the joint distribution in the in-situ rock mass of location A
177 with a 1/3 down-scaling. The physico-mechanical properties of the rock-like test material and
178 the mechanical properties of artificial rock joints are shown in Tables 1 and 2, respectively.

179 These properties were estimated using the same methods for determining the properties of
 180 natural rocks at locations A and B (also shown in Tables 1 and 2). The shear stress-shear
 181 displacement relations of the artificial joints subjected to different normal stresses are shown
 182 in Fig. 5. Since the joints had planar and smooth surfaces, their cohesions and dilation angles
 183 (confirmed on normal displacement-shear displacement curves) were assumed to be 0, and no
 184 obvious peak shear stress could be observed in these curves. The friction angle was estimated
 185 through the linear regression of the shear stress-normal stress curves, and the shear stiffness
 186 was estimated through the linear regression of the curves shown in Fig. 5, using the inclined
 187 portions. The normal stiffness of joints, which is a function of normal stress, was estimated
 188 from the normal stress-normal displacement curves obtained from the third or fourth cycle of
 189 the loading-unloading test using the Bandis model [20], with the deformation contributed by
 190 the intact rock cancelled. The estimated initial normal stiffness k_{ni} is 7.56 GPa/m and the
 191 maximum joint closure V_m is 0.03mm. Taking the joint opening and compressive stresses as
 192 positive values, the normal stiffness k_n at arbitrary normal stress σ_n can then be determined by
 193 the following equation [20].

$$k_n = k_{ni} \left(\frac{k_{ni} \cdot V_m - \sigma_n}{k_{ni} \cdot V_m} \right)^2 \quad (1)$$

195

196 (c) Testing procedure and cases

197 Artificial rock blocks were carefully packed into the steel frame of the testing apparatus
 198 (see Fig. 4) to form a physical rock mass model. The loading block, manufactured by using
 199 high strength plaster, was then firmly bonded to the top surface of the rock mass model by
 200 using epoxy resin. By doing so, neither failure of the loading block nor slip between the
 201 loading block and the rock mass model would happen during the tests. Failure would only

202 happen within the rock mass models. The lateral confining stress was firstly applied on a rock
203 mass model, followed by the normal stress being applied on the loading block, in order to
204 consolidate the model. Then, the shear stress was incrementally applied on the loading block
205 until failure occurred, with a shear load of 0.98 kN for each step and a loading rate of 0.49
206 MPa/min.

207 In-situ geological survey indicated that the continuous joint set (Set 1) in the field dips in a
208 range of 50° to 90°. To investigate its influence on the shear behavior of the test models, rock
209 mass models of 5 different dip angles ($\theta=50^\circ$, 70°, 90°, -70° and -50°) of Set 1 were
210 constructed and tested. Here, joints rotating clockwise from the vertical axis ($\theta=90^\circ$) up to 90°
211 were assigned a positive dip angle, and vice versa. Besides the dip angles, 2 kinds of block
212 sizes (10 mm×30 mm and 20 mm×60 mm, 1/3 of those shown in Fig. 3a), which were the
213 lower and upper bounds of the block sizes discovered in the field, were used in the model
214 constructions. For loading conditions, 5 magnitudes of normal stresses (0.082 MPa, 0.2 MPa,
215 0.29 MPa, 0.49 MPa and 0.98 MPa) and 3 magnitudes of lateral restraint stresses (0.082 MPa,
216 0.16 MPa and 0.33 MPa) were selected for the tests. These conditions then led to 14 rock
217 mass models with different geometrical characteristics of joints as demonstrated in Fig. 6, and
218 36 testing cases in total as summarized in Table 3. As shown in Fig. 6, Model 1 is intact rock
219 (without joints), Models 2-7 and 12-14 have the larger blocks (20 mm×60 mm), Models 8 and
220 9 have the smaller blocks (10 mm×30 mm), and Models 10 and 11 have the mixture of both.
221 Offset of staggered joints in Models 2 and 3 were modified to create a few new models
222 (Models 4 and 6 based on Model 2, and Models 5 and 7 based on Model 3) with identical
223 density of joints but different geometrical distributions of the joints of Set 2. In the labeling of
224 the test cases, such as case E-1-1, “E” is the capital letter of experiment, the first number
225 stands for the model (from 1 to 14) used in this case, and the second number stands for the
226 case number of the model, since several cases with different boundary conditions may be

227 conducted on one model.

228 3. NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS OF LABORATORY AND IN-SITU SHEAR TESTS

229 The laboratory and in-situ shear tests were numerically modeled using the DEM code
230 UDEC [21], utilizing the original values of the dimensions, mechanical properties and
231 boundary conditions etc. of the laboratory and in-situ tests (see Fig. 6). The dimensions of the
232 numerical models for in-situ tests are full scale (i.e., 3 times the size of the laboratory test
233 models), and the properties of intact rock and rock joints of location B were adopted. Roller
234 boundaries were applied to lateral and bottom boundaries (no lateral restraint stress). In the
235 numerical models for laboratory tests, roller boundaries were applied to the right and bottom
236 boundaries, and lateral restraint stress was applied on the left boundary as shown in Fig. 6.
237 Besides these, identical numerical treatments were applied to both kinds of numerical models
238 during the modeling as follows.

239 The loading block was treated as a rigid body, and normal and shear stresses were applied
240 on its top and front faces respectively. The interface between the loading block and the rock
241 mass was treated as a joint with the magnitudes of mechanical properties 2 orders higher than
242 that of the joints in the rock mass, in order to avoid the possible sliding between them. Intact
243 rock block matrix in the model was considered as an elastic-perfectly plastic material
244 following the Mohr-Coulomb criterion. The behavior of rock joints was governed by the
245 Coulomb slip model. Since UDEC is a 2-D code, the numerical models represented only the
246 cross-sectional profiles of the test models in a plane strain condition, which were reasonable
247 given that the two joint sets in the rock mass are oriented normal to the orientation of shear
248 loading.

249 Equilibrium of stresses in numerical models subjected to gravity was firstly achieved to
250 consolidate the blocks. Then, normal and lateral constraint stresses (only for laboratory test

251 models) were applied to mimic the in-situ stresses in the models. After reaching equilibrium,
252 the shear load was then applied step by step until the ratio of incremental shear stress $\Delta\tau$ to
253 incremental shear displacement Δu , $\Delta\tau/\Delta u$, reached 200 MPa/m for the models with positive
254 dip angles, and 50 MPa/m for the models with negative dip angles, according to the
255 experimental results. For the simulation of the in-situ test, the shear load was applied until the
256 shear displacement reached 30 mm. Since the numerical models are 2-D, the normal
257 displacement was monitored at 2 points on the top surface of the loading block, and the shear
258 displacement was also monitored at 2 points on the back face of the loading block.

259 18 selected experimental cases (see Table 3), 2 in-situ test cases, and 3 other test cases
260 based on the in-situ test model by changing the dip angle of joints of Set 1 from negative to
261 positive (S-16-1 & S-16-2) and a model with randomly generated joints but keeping the other
262 conditions unchanged (S-17-1) were simulated. Cases S-16-1 & S16-2 aimed at comparing
263 the behavior of rock masses with joint sets of positive or negative dip angles in order to assess
264 anisotropic shear behavior. The numerical model of case S-17-1 was created by randomly
265 generating joints based on the mean (75°) and deviation (8.2°) of dip angles of joints of Set 1
266 at location B. This model was used to represent the irregularly distributed rock joints in the
267 field (see Fig. 2c) and to compare with the behavior of the models with regularly-spaced
268 joints (e.g., S-15, see Fig. 6). For the label of cases in the context, “E” stands for laboratory
269 experiment, “T” stands for in-situ test and “S” stands for their simulation cases.

270 4. SHEAR TEST AND NUMERICAL SIMULATION RESULTS

271 4.1 *In-situ shear test*

272 Shear stress-shear displacement and normal displacement-shear displacement curves
273 obtained from in-situ shear tests and their numerical simulations are shown in Fig. 7. Cases
274 S-16-1 & S-16-2 have the magnitude of shear stresses 2-3 times higher than that of cases

275 S-15-1 & S-15-2 or I-15-1 & I-15-2. Note that the simulated results of the in-situ shear test
276 did not reach the ultimate failure and were terminated when their shear displacement reached
277 30 mm. The shear stresses obtained from in-situ tests increase fast in the initial stage of shear
278 (i.e., shear displacement less than 10 mm), then keep almost constant values in the rest of
279 shear. Shear stresses of cases S-15-1 & S-15-2 are close to the test results during the initial
280 stage of shear, which continuously increase in a linear manner and exceed the curves of test
281 results at around 10 mm of shear displacement for the case S-15-1 and around 15 mm for the
282 case S-15-2. In the numerical simulations, no failure of intact rock was identified during the
283 shear process due to the large values of the strength parameters (i.e., cohesion and internal
284 friction angle, see Table 1) adopted, which is not the case in the in-situ test where a failure
285 plane underneath the loading block induced by cracking of intact rock was visually confirmed
286 by removing the loading block after test. These differences between test and simulation
287 showed an overestimated intact rock strength by numerical simulations that adopted the
288 measured mechanical properties using small-sized intact rock samples. As a heterogeneous
289 material in reality, there are always defects existing in the intact rock matrices, which may
290 lead to reduction of the strength and elastic modulus of rock matrices. In laboratory tests, this
291 phenomenon can, in some degrees, be avoided using artificial rock mass models. This issue
292 will be discussed further in the simulations of laboratory tests.

293 Randomly generated rock joints were introduced into model 17 (see Fig. 6) based on the
294 mean and deviation of the dip angle of the Set 1. This model provided slightly closer shear
295 stress-shear displacement curves to the test results than the model of regularly spaced joints
296 (Model 15, see Fig. 6). The randomly jointed model had an assembly of rock blocks with
297 different sizes and shapes, which provided more opportunities for the onset of sliding or
298 separation of rock joints. It may serve as an alternative in simulating natural jointed rock
299 masses, with known mean and deviation of the geometrical properties of rock joints. The

300 normal displacement-shear displacement curves of simulations agree well with the test results.
301 Model 16 has larger dilation than Models 15 & 17.

302 In summary, lacking of failure and cracking processes in the intact rock in the numerical
303 models resulted in overestimated shear strength of the in-situ rock mass, which requires more
304 flexible treatments of the geometry of rock joints, such as introducing the random models, and
305 implementation of in-situ large-scale triaxial compression tests to obtain more realistic
306 mechanical properties of the rock mass, to take into account the influence of possible defects
307 in the intact rock blocks.

308 *4.2 Laboratory shear tests*

309 (a) General behavior of jointed rock masses during shear

310 The results of normal stresses, shear stresses, normal displacements, and shear
311 displacements of all laboratory tests and numerical simulation cases at failure are tabulated in
312 Table 3. The normal stresses at failure are larger than their initial magnitudes because of the
313 inclined shear loading direction (15° with respect to the horizontal reference plane). Fig. 8
314 shows the comparisons between the relations of shear stress-shear displacement and normal
315 displacement-shear displacement from test and simulation cases 1-3, 2-1, 2-3, 2-4, 3-1, 3-3
316 and 3-4, as a supplement to Table 3 showing only the final results at failure. The comparison
317 illustrates the full stress-deformation paths from the start of loading until failure. Generally,
318 higher shear stresses at failure can be expected in the cases with either larger initial normal
319 stress (comparing between cases 2-1 to 2-5, or between cases 3-1 to 3-5), or smaller density of
320 joints (comparing between Models 2 & 8, or between Models 3 & 9), with the positive dip
321 angle of joints of Set 1 rather than the negative dip angle (comparing between Models 2 & 3,
322 or between Models 13 & 14). The correlation coefficients between test and simulation results
323 are tabulated at the last row in Table 3. The numerical simulation results of the normal and

324 shear stresses match fairly well with the test results (correlation coefficients of 0.99 and 0.98,
325 respectively), while the results of the normal and shear displacements are poorly fitted against
326 the measured data (correlation coefficients of 0.15 and 0.39, respectively). These
327 discrepancies are mainly due to the inevitable limitations of measurement sensor resolutions
328 and possible errors, heterogeneity of or defects in the artificial materials, and/or the
329 simplifications made for numerical models especially without cracking. In the tests, the
330 displacements at peak shear stresses were significantly influenced by the small blocks with
331 irregular shapes cut by the shear plane (see Fig. 6). The behavior of them was difficult to be
332 reproduced in numerical models, since blind prediction for such randomly occurring small
333 scale failure is difficult and may not affect the general trend of prediction results for the shear
334 behavior, especially the strength behavior of the model.

335 As shown in Figs. 8a & c, the test model with an intact rock mass containing no rock joints
336 (Model 1) has higher peak shear stress and shear stiffness than the jointed models (Models 2
337 & 3) under the same boundary conditions. The peak shear stress of Model 2 is around 3 times
338 that of Model 3, exhibiting a strong anisotropic shear behavior. The shear stress of Model 1
339 increases linearly with the increase of shear displacement, reaching the peak shear stress at a
340 shear displacement less than 1 mm, which is similar to the shear behavior of an intact rock
341 block or other brittle materials. By contrast, results of Models 2 & 3 show yielding points
342 where shear stiffness undergone significant drops, with their peak shear stresses occurring at
343 shear displacements of 1.3-2.3 mm. As shown in Figs. 8b & d, while Model 1 has almost 0
344 normal displacement during shear, dilations occur for Models 2 & 3 in different magnitudes.
345 Model 2 shows more contraction before turning into dilation than Model 3, while Model 3
346 shows little contraction but strong dilation during shear. Other models behave similarly with
347 Models 2 & 3, differing in the stress-displacement curves in different degrees subjected to
348 changing boundary conditions and/or with different joint geometries.

349 (b) Failure phenomena in the rock mass during shear

350 Intact rocks, as a sort of brittle solid materials, undergo cracking subjected to a loading
351 process until failure, which, combined with the movements (separation, rotation and sliding)
352 on pre-existing rock joints, serves as the principal source of macro-failure of a rock mass. The
353 sketches of the cracking process in the cases E-2-1 & E-3-1 at various shear stresses observed
354 during shear tests are demonstrated in Fig. 9, as an example providing insight into the failure
355 mechanisms of rock masses subjected to normal and shear stresses. In the case of E-2-1,
356 cracks initiated underneath the back toe of the loading block (Fig. 9b), propagating along the
357 orientation of joints of Set 2, towards the boundary at the right-hand side of the model. As the
358 shear stress increased, more cracks were generated underneath the loading block (Fig. 9c),
359 which connected with the pre-existing rock joints, forming a failure plane on which the upper
360 structure could slide after failure (Fig. 9d). In the case of E-3-1, sub-horizontal cracks initiated
361 several centimeters underneath the back toe of the loading block, accompanied by the opening
362 of the joints of Set 1 underneath the front toe of the loading block (Fig. 9f). These were
363 induced by the combined movements of the dilation and lateral compression of the rock
364 blocks on the right hand side of the opened joints. The cracks underneath the back toe of the
365 loading block gradually propagated towards the front side, connection and coalescence of
366 which with pre-existing rock joints finally formed the failure plane (Fig. 9h). Note that only
367 major cracks that could be visualized were demonstrated in these sketches, and there were
368 much more micro-cracks occurring in the test models. Obviously, cracking of intact rock
369 blocks took place in a wider range in the Model 2 than that in Model 3, and the failure plane
370 in Model 2 was located in a deeper position than that of Model 3. This gave the reason of the
371 results shown in Table 3 and Fig. 8, where Model 2 exhibited larger shear stress at failure than
372 that of Model 3, because more energy (stress) was required to generate more new cracks

373 spreading in a larger area in the model. Again, opening of joints happened in Model 3 due to
374 the rotation of rock blocks on the right hand side of the opened joints, resulting in a more
375 ductile shear behavior than that of Model 2 (Figs. 8a & c), thus producing abundant dilation
376 (Fig. 8d). The numerical code used in this study only takes into account the plastic flow of
377 intact rock after failure without cracking process, which may also contribute to the differences
378 observed between the test and simulation results.

379 (c) Shear strength

380 The relations between the peak shear stress and normal stress at failure of Models 1, 2 & 3
381 are shown in Fig. 10, by using the results of cases 1-1 to 1-3, 2-1 to 2-5 and 3-1 to 3-5 in
382 Table 3, respectively, together with the failure envelopes of the artificial intact rock and rock
383 joints. Plots of Model 1 in the figure overlap with the failure envelop of the intact rock, which
384 was obtained from the triaxial compression tests conducted on much smaller samples of the
385 intact rock. This is a valuable evidence for verifying the reliability of mechanical properties
386 used in the numerical simulations. The estimated cohesion and internal friction angles are also
387 shown in Fig. 10, where cohesions of Model 2 and Model 3 are 0.77 MPa and 0.31 MPa,
388 respectively, and their internal friction angles are 44° and 26°, respectively. These test results
389 agree well with those of the simulation results. In the initial normal stress ranging 0.5-1.0
390 MPa, the shear strength of Model 3 is about 50% of that of Model 2, which is about 80-90%
391 of that of Model 1, revealing that a jointed rock mass with large positive dip angle of
392 continuous rock joints (e.g., Model 2 in this study) may not undergo significant decrease of
393 shear strength comparing to an intact rock body, due mainly to the interlocking effect of rock
394 joints. Model 3, however, has a weak interlocking effect and exhibits shear strength just
395 slightly above that of the rock joints.

396 (d) Mechanism of anisotropic shear behavior

397 Test and simulation results of Models 2 & 3 demonstrate anisotropic shear behavior of the
398 jointed rock mass. Differences in shear strength, shear stiffness and dilation were found to be
399 due to the previously mentioned interlocking effect. This effect can be relatively weak (e.g.,
400 Model 3) or strong (e.g., Model 2), depending on the stress state in the rock mass and the
401 geometrical characteristics of rock joints. Again, take the Models 2 & 3 as examples, the
402 forces acting on the shear plane can be schematically represented as shown in Fig. 11. At here,
403 N is the normal load and S is the shear load acting on the loading block, F is the resultant
404 force, and F_n is the force normal to and F_s is the force parallel with the orientation of joints of
405 Set 1. With the increase of S during shear, the orientation of F will gradually rotate
406 counterclockwise from vertical downward to the orientation demonstrated in Fig. 11, where
407 $S=N$. At this state, in Model 2, F_n ($=1.4S$) exerts compression and F_s ($=0.8S$) exerts shear
408 stresses on the joints of Set 1 towards the downward direction. The combination of these
409 forces inhibit sliding of the joints of Set 1 as well as the dilation of the rock mass, while
410 enhancing the confinement of the jointed rock mass. F_s can turn to upward direction by
411 continuously increasing the shear force up to $S>10.8N$, which usually does not occur in a
412 shear test. By contrast, in Model 3, when S becomes larger than $0.4N$, F_n will contribute to the
413 rotation of the rock mass in the clockwise direction, inducing opening of joints of Set 1
414 underneath the front toe of loading block (see Fig. 9). It will facilitate the sliding along
415 surfaces of the joints of Set 1 since F_n is smaller than F_s , accompanied by remarkable dilation.
416 The failure of Model 2 is likely to be induced by the yielding of intact rock blocks underneath
417 the shear plane subjected to high compression and shear stresses, similar to the failure of an
418 intact rock during a triaxial test. The failure of Model 3 is likely to be induced by the tensile
419 failure in the rock mass underneath the shear plane, along with the rotation/bending of rock
420 mass.

421 In summary, the anisotropic shear behavior of jointed rock masses with large dip angles
422 (i.e., 50°-90°) of continuous joint set originates from the different stress states of the
423 continuous joint set during a shear. The shear strength can be strong in the condition that the
424 normal stresses acting on the continuous joint set help inhibit the movements (sliding,
425 opening & rotation) along them, or can be weak in the opposite conditions, depending on the
426 geometrical characteristics of rock joints.

427 (e) Influences of joint density, lateral restraint stress and configuration of the joints of Set 2

428 The shear test results of cases E-2-1 & E-3-1 with rock block dimension of 20 mm×60 mm,
429 cases E-8-1 & E-9-1 with rock block dimension of 10 mm×30 mm and cases E-10-1 & E-11-1
430 with mixed rock block dimensions of both, under the same initial normal stress, are shown in
431 Fig. 12. Comparisons of results of cases E-2-1, E-8-1 & E-10-1, having identical dip angle of
432 the joints of Set 1, show that the shear stiffness increases with the decrease of joint density.
433 However, their shear stresses at failure do not have obvious differences. By contrast, in the
434 cases of E-3-1, E-9-1 & E-11-1, both of the shear stiffness and shear stresses at failure
435 increase with the decrease of joint density. Comparing with the failure mechanism and the
436 shear strength of Model 2, it seems that the shear strength of the models with large positive
437 dip angles of the continuous joint set like Model 2 is not sensitive to the density of rock joints,
438 since they have already achieved the shear strength as high as 80-90% of that of the intact
439 rock. The shear strengths, shear stiffness and dilations of the models with large negative dip
440 angle of the continuous joint set, like Model 3, increase proportionally with the decrease of
441 joint density. However, due to the limited testing cases, more in-depth mathematical
442 descriptions about their relations have not been reached in this study.

443 As presented in Table 3, comparisons of cases E-2-1, E-2-6 & E-2-7, and cases E-3-1,
444 E-3-6 & E-3-7 show that the lateral restraint stress has limited influence on the shear strength

445 of jointed rock mass. Comparisons of cases E-2-1, E-4-1 & E-6-1, and cases E-3-1, E-5-1 &
446 E-7-1 show that the influence of the configuration of the joints of Set 2 with different offsets
447 on the shear strength of jointed rock mass is also negligible. Note that in these models, the dip
448 angle of the joints of Set 1 is either 70° or -70° , tested within a small range of lateral restraint
449 stress with slight changes on the configuration of the joints of Set 2. The shear behavior of
450 these models may change if these parameters are modified in larger ranges, which, however,
451 is beyond the focus of this study.

452 5. ANISOTROPIC SHEAR BEHAVIOR OF CLOSELY JOINTED ROCK MASSES WITH 453 VARIOUS ORIENTATIONS OF CONTINUOUS JOINT SET

454 *5.1 Simulation cases and results*

455 Last chapter was focused on the closely jointed rock mass models with large dip angles
456 (70° or 75°) of the set of continuous joints, which remain as special cases in natural rock
457 masses. Since the numerical simulation approach adopted in this study has been confirmed
458 through the comparison with the test results, it allows us to conduct parametric studies taking
459 into account more orientations of joint sets in the numerical models, in order to reach a more
460 general understanding of the shear anisotropy. In light of this motivation, 34 numerical cases
461 were conducted based on the full-scale model of in-situ shear test [22]. The numerical models
462 adopted the block dimension of 30 mm×90 mm, and properties of intact rock and rock joints
463 at the location A (see Tables 1 & 2) to allow failure in intact rocks. The dip angles of the joints
464 of Set 1 were set to $\pm 10^\circ$ to $\pm 80^\circ$ with an interval of 10° , and 90° , under the initial normal
465 stresses of 0.39 MPa and 0.98 MPa. The shear load was applied with an increment of 0.02
466 MN for each step until $\Delta\tau/\Delta u$ reached 10 MPa/m. The other parameters were identical to the
467 modeling of in-situ shear tests (e.g., S-15-1).

468 The simulation results of all cases at failure are presented in Table 4, and the shear
469 stress-shear displacement and normal displacement-shear displacement curves of the
470 modeling cases with initial normal stress of 0.39 MPa are shown in Fig. 13. The shear stress
471 increases proportionally with the increase of shear displacement for the case with $\theta=90^\circ$,
472 reaching the ultimate failure directly after the appearance of yielding point (see Fig. 13a),
473 exhibiting typical failure behavior of brittle materials. The shear stresses of the cases with
474 negative dip angles (see Fig. 13c) also increase in a linear manner with the increase of shear
475 displacement until the yielding points, followed by a short strain-softening stage to reach the
476 ultimate failure. For the cases with positive dip angles, the yielding points appear at the early
477 stage of the whole shear processes, for instance, at 0.4 mm for $\theta=30^\circ$ and at 7 mm for $\theta=70^\circ$,
478 followed by a long gradual yielding stage until the ultimate failure occurred (see Fig. 13a).
479 For most of the cases, the yielding points appear at the shear displacements where maximum
480 contractions (maximum negative normal displacements) appear, revealing that the turning
481 point of contraction to dilation of a rock mass during a shear process has inherent connection
482 with the appearance of the yielding point, which can also be observed in the laboratory shear
483 test results (see Fig. 8).

484 *5.2 Shear strength and failure mechanism*

485 Peak shear stress-normal stress relations of the cases $\theta=\pm 10^\circ, \pm 30^\circ, \pm 50^\circ, \pm 70^\circ$ & 90° ,
486 together with the strength envelopes of intact rock and rock joints are shown in Fig. 14. The
487 cases with positive dip angles have smaller shear strengths than that of the cases with negative
488 dip angles in the range $\theta=\pm 10^\circ$ - $\pm 30^\circ$. This relation is reversed in the range $\theta=\pm 40^\circ$ - $\pm 80^\circ$. Cases
489 $\theta=10^\circ, 30^\circ, -50^\circ$ & -70° have very weak shear strength as low as the shear strength of the rock
490 joints, while case $\theta=90^\circ$ has a shear strength close to that of the intact rock. The shear strength
491 of the case $\theta=70^\circ$ is 70-80% of the intact rock, and the shear strength of the case $\theta=-70^\circ$ is

492 around 10% above that of the rock joints, which have good agreements with the results of the
493 laboratory shear test (see Table 3).

494 The failure mechanisms of the models with dip angles of the joints of Set 1 of $\pm 70^\circ$ has
495 been thoroughly investigated and discussed in the last chapter by analyzing the forces acting
496 on the joints of Set 1 in the models (see Fig. 11). By using the same method, one can analyze
497 the state of forces acting on the joints of Set 1 in various models so as to investigate the
498 deformation and failure mechanisms of the rock masses. Here, only a brief description about
499 the failure mechanisms obtained from numerical simulations is presented below. Note that the
500 shear strength mentioned below refer to the shear stress at failure under various normal
501 stresses ranging from 0.5-2.5 MPa as shown in Fig. 14.

502 (a) Cases with positive dip angles of the joints of Set 1

503 For the cases of $\theta=10^\circ$ - 30° , the failure is governed by the sliding (slip failure) of the joints
504 of Set 1 underneath the loading block, leading to the shear strength of the rock mass models
505 close to that of the rock joints. For the case of $\theta=40^\circ$, the failure firstly occurs in the intact
506 rock, inducing progressive cracking gradually connecting to the joints of Set 1. Then the
507 sliding of the upper body mainly along the joints of Set 1 happens, producing a shear strength
508 between that of the intact rock and the rock joints. For the cases of $\theta=50^\circ$ - 80° , the failure is
509 mainly governed by the cracking in the intact rock underneath the loading block, as depicted
510 in Section 4.2(d), exhibiting strong shear strengths as high as 90% of that of the intact rock.

511 (b) Cases with negative dip angles of the joints of Set 1

512 For the cases of $\theta=-10^\circ$ & -20° , the failure is mainly governed by the buckling failure of the
513 rock blocks underneath the back toe of the loading block subjected to compression, since
514 sliding of joints are extremely difficult in these cases. Models of these cases produce shear
515 strength over 50% of that of the intact rock. For the cases of $\theta=-30^\circ$ to -70° , tensile failure in

516 the rock blocks underneath the loading block happens along with the rotation of the rock
517 blocks, producing much weak shear strength close to that of the rock joints. For the case of
518 $\theta=80^\circ$, the rotation of rock blocks is inhibited due to the sub-vertical orientation of the joints
519 of Set 1. It can be categorized as the same group with the cases of $\theta=80^\circ$ & 90° , where failure
520 of rock mass is governed by the shearing failure in the intact rock underneath the loading
521 block, therefore providing strong shear strength as high as 90% of that of the intact rock.

522 *5.3 Comparison with previous studies*

523 There are a series of data available in literature, regarding the laboratory shear tests on
524 closely jointed rock masses with various dimensions, among which, four sets of data carried
525 out by three different research groups have been selected, and were compared with the
526 laboratory shear test and numerical simulation results obtained in this study, as shown in Fig.
527 15. Hayashi and Fujiwara [10] and Nagayama et al. [13] conducted direct shear tests on
528 artificial jointed rock mass specimens with one set of joints dipping at different angles, where
529 the dimension of Hayashi (1965) model is 30 cm×20 cm×10 cm with a joint spacing of 3 cm,
530 and the dimension of Nagayama (1994) model is 15 cm×15 cm×15cm with a joint spacing of
531 1 cm. Kawamoto [11] and Nagayama and Katahira [12] also conducted shear tests on artificial
532 jointed rock mass specimens with one set of joints dipping at different angles, where the areas
533 of shear plane and rock mass model for Kawamoto (1970) model are 10 cm×4 cm and 30
534 cm×4 cm respectively with a joint spacing of 1 cm, and the areas of shear plane and rock
535 mass model for Nagayama (1989) model are 20 cm×20 cm and 40 cm×40 cm, respectively,
536 with a joint spacing of 1 cm. Since these tests adopted different testing methods by using
537 models of various geometrical and mechanical properties, direct comparison of results with
538 them would be difficult to comprehend and may lead to misunderstanding. As an alternative,
539 for each dataset, the ratios of the shear strengths of the models with various dip angles to the

540 model with dip angel of 90° was calculated, leading to the normalized ratio $\tau_\theta/\tau_{90^\circ}$, which was
541 used as the vertical coordinate in Fig. 15. Since these datasets have different ranges of normal
542 stresses, the mean normal stress at failure of each dataset and its corresponding shear stress
543 were calculated. In this frame of presentation, the normal stress corresponding to the shear
544 strength shown in Fig.15 of laboratory model tests is 0.2 MPa, of numerical simulations is 1.0
545 MPa, of Hayashi (1965) model is 0.15 MPa, of Kawamoto (1970) model is 0.12 MPa, of
546 Nagayama (1989) model is 0.89 MPa, and of Nagayama (1994) model is 0.44 MPa. Similar
547 tendencies can be observed on these datasets obtained from shear tests or numerical
548 simulations on different rock mass models, except that Hayashi (1965) model provided a
549 much larger shear strength at $\theta=-45^\circ$ than other models. For the cases with positive dip angles,
550 the shear strength monotonically increases with the increase of dip angle, in which the lowest
551 strength can be found when $\theta=10^\circ-20^\circ$, and the maximum strength can be found when
552 $\theta=60^\circ-90^\circ$. The cases with negative dip angles can have large shear strength either at small dip
553 angles (e.g., -20°) or at large dip angles (e.g., -80°), and have the lowest strength when $\theta=-50^\circ$
554 to -70° , exhibiting a nonlinear relation between shear strength and dip angle. The numerical
555 simulations and laboratory tests conducted in this study illustrated significant shear strength
556 anisotropy, due to the existence of 2 sets of joints comparing to 1 set in other models and
557 relatively large strength difference between intact rock and rock joints. Taking the mean value
558 of the available dip angles included in these datasets, the inclination parameter accounting for
559 the influences of orientation of the continuous joint set on the shear strength of rock masses
560 can be estimated, in the order of $-90^\circ, -80^\circ, -75^\circ, -70^\circ, -60^\circ, -50^\circ, -45^\circ, -40^\circ, -35^\circ, -30^\circ, -25^\circ,$
561 $-20^\circ, -15^\circ, -10^\circ, 0^\circ, 10^\circ, 15^\circ, 20^\circ, 30^\circ, 40^\circ, 45^\circ, 50^\circ, 60^\circ, 70^\circ, 75^\circ, 80^\circ$ & 90° , as 1.00, 0.87,
562 0.68, 0.39, 0.53, 0.28, 0.79, 0.41, 0.78, 0.82, 0.99, 0.91, 1.03, 0.64, 0.43, 0.25, 0.65, 0.49,
563 0.58, 0.52, 0.94, 0.74, 0.95, 1.00, 0.99, 0.97 & 1.00, respectively. Note that the significance of
564 anisotropy was averaged out in some degrees by doing so. Using these values, one may

565 compare the properties of an objective rock mass to these models to assess the anisotropic
566 shear behavior, especially to help realize the weakest shearing orientation when stability
567 assessment problems are encountered.

568 CONCLUSIONS

569 In this study, based on the in-situ measurement data, a closely jointed rock mass was
570 reproduced in a series of 1/3 scale laboratory test models using artificial rock materials, and a
571 number of laboratory shear tests and in-situ shear tests were conducted. Their numerical
572 simulations were implemented by means of DEM models, the results of which were in good
573 agreements with the test results in general. The influence of the orientation of the continuous
574 joint set on the anisotropic shear behavior of closely jointed rock masses was also studied by
575 means of a series of numerical models with various dip angles of the set of continuous joints,
576 the results of which were compared with the results of similar laboratory tests in literature.

577 The good agreement of the results of laboratory shear tests adopting homogeneous
578 rock-like material and their numerical simulations adopting Mohr-coulomb failure criterion
579 suggests that proper estimations of the mechanical properties of intact rock and rock joints,
580 and proper representation of the geometrical characteristics of rock joint systems are key
581 issues for reliable numerical modeling of jointed rock masses. Special emphasis has to be
582 placed on the mechanical properties of rock joints, which play a crucial role in the failure
583 behavior of jointed rock masses. It requires a well-planned laboratory test procedure, especially
584 with the employment of servo-controlled direct shear apparatus to estimate their properties.
585 The numerical simulations of in-situ shear tests, however, slightly overestimated the shear
586 strength, due mainly to the fact that comparing to the numerical models that adopted the
587 mechanical properties measured on small-sized intact rock samples, the natural rock masses
588 may contain various defects in the rock block matrices beside the rock joints, which could

589 reduce the strength of the in-situ rock mass. This issue remains still one crucial difficulty in
590 the estimation of the behavior of jointed rock masses through numerical approaches.

591 Closely jointed rock masses exhibit strong anisotropic shear behavior in terms of
592 significant differences in shear strength and shear stiffness when sheared at different
593 directions, the significance of which varies with the orientation of the sets of continuous joints.
594 The results obtained from this research show non-linear relations between the shear strength
595 and the orientation of the single set of continuous joints, due to the various failure
596 mechanisms involved. The failure mechanism of jointed rock masses subjected to shear can
597 be classified, in an order from high shear strength towards the low ones, by shearing within
598 intact rock when $\theta=80^\circ$ & $50^\circ-90^\circ$, buckling of intact rock when $\theta=10^\circ$ to -20° , mixing of
599 shearing and sliding when $\theta=40^\circ$, tensile failure in intact rock accompanied by rotation of
600 rock blocks when $\theta=30^\circ$ to -70° , and sliding of rock joints when $\theta=10^\circ-30^\circ$. Besides the
601 geometrical characteristics of rock joints, one may expect more significant anisotropy when
602 the strength difference between intact rock and rock joints is greater. Such anisotropic
603 behavior needs to be adequately assessed to reach a mathematical expression using, for
604 instance, inclination parameter and joint factor to account for the effects of joints, and to
605 include it in rock mass classification systems in the future studies.

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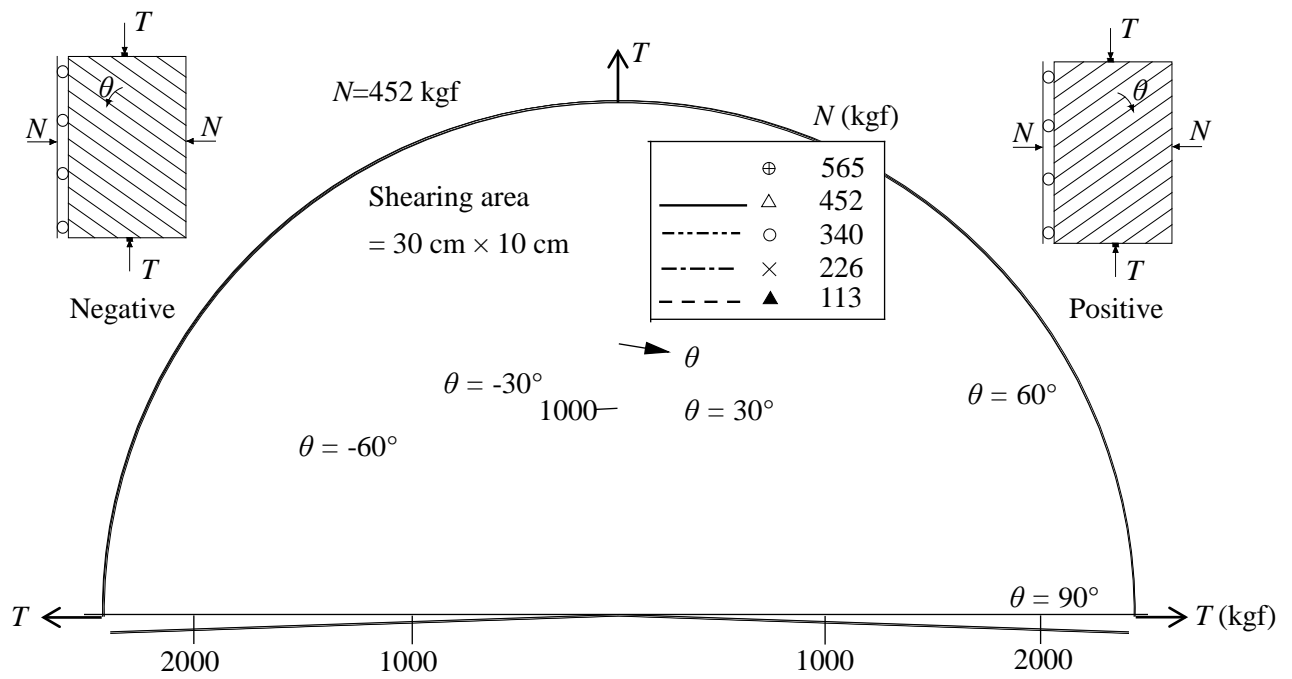


Figure 1. Results of shear tests conducted by Hayashi and Fujiwara [10] on jointed rock masses with positive and negative joint orientation systems.

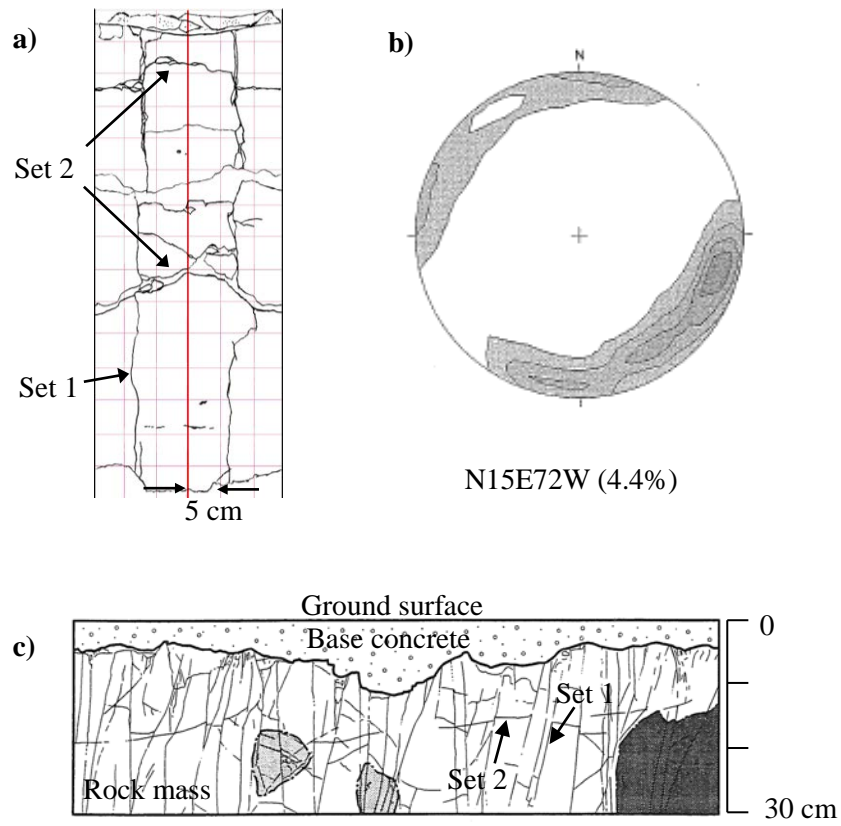


Figure 2. a) An example of borehole sketch of rock joints; b) Lower hemisphere stereographic projection of the orientation of continuous rock joints in the rock mass; c) A cross-sectional sketch of the geometrical distribution of rock joints at location A.

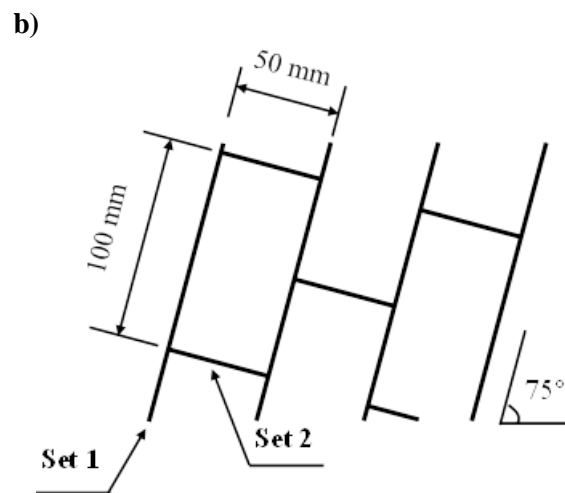
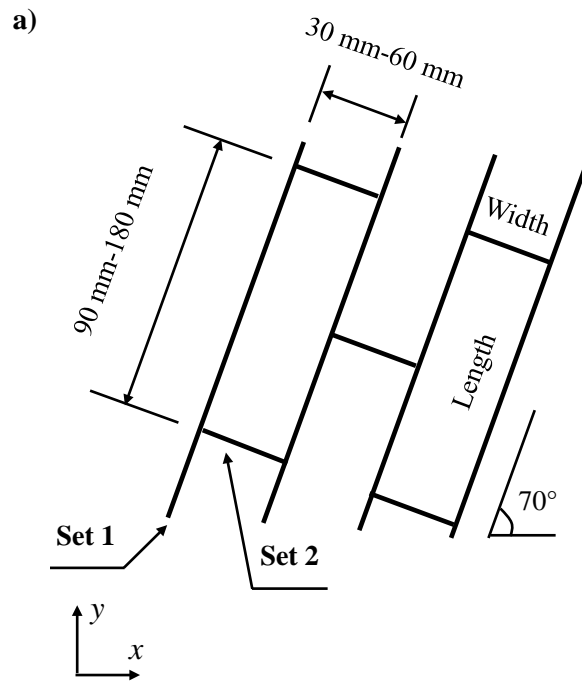
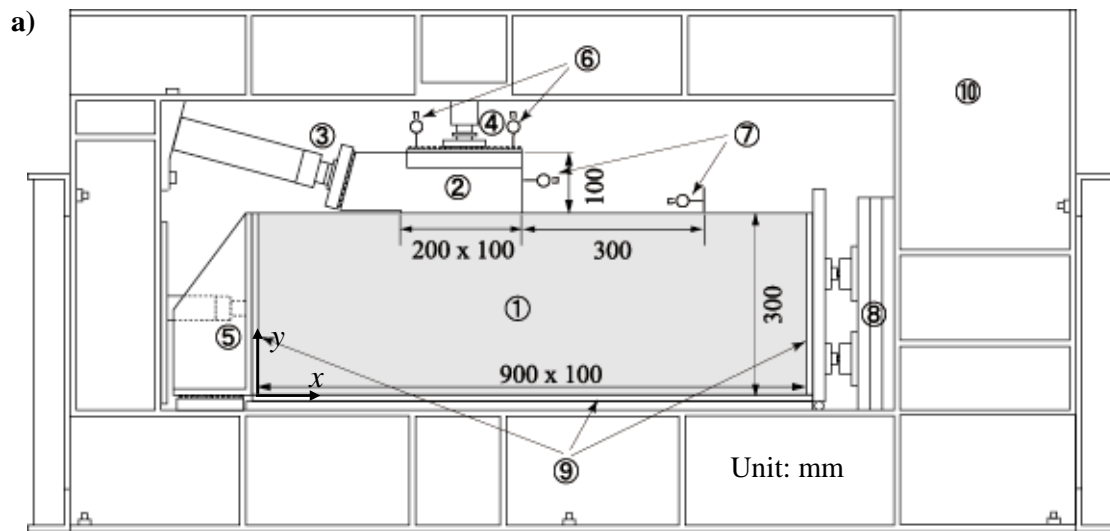


Figure 3. Schematic view of the geometrical distributions of rock joints at location A (a) and location B (b).



- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| ①: Jointed rock mass model | ⑤: Lateral restraint jack | ⑧: Lateral load cell |
| ②: Loading block | ⑥: LVDT (normal displacement) | ⑨: Teflon sheet |
| ③: Shear load jack | ⑦: LVDT (shear displacement) | ⑩: Metal frame |
| ④: Normal load jack | | |

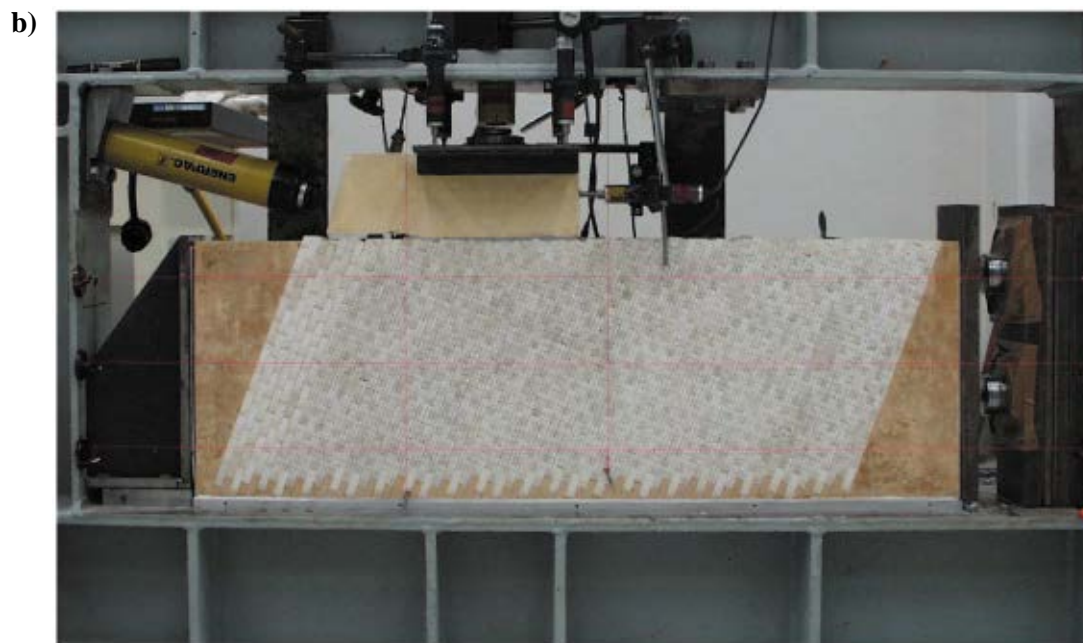


Figure 4. a) Sketch of the direct shear test apparatus designed for jointed rock mass;
 b) Photograph of jointed rock mass model in the apparatus.

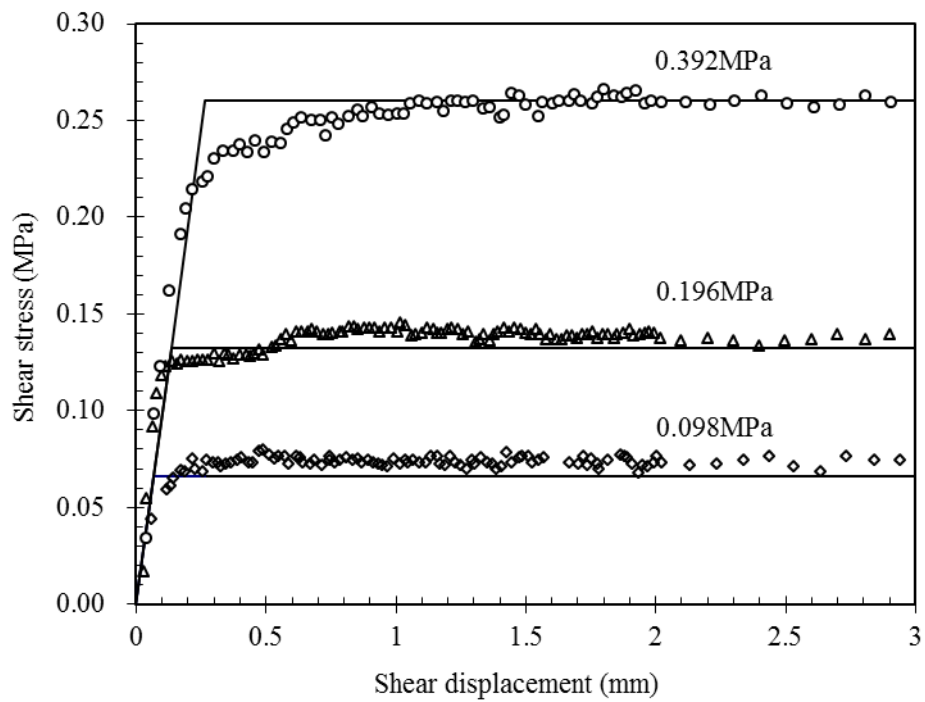


Figure 5. Relationship between shear stress and shear displacement for the artificial rock joints tested under normal stresses of 0.098 MPa, 0.196 MPa and 0.392 MPa. Straight lines represent the approximations for estimating the properties of the shear behavior of the rock joints.

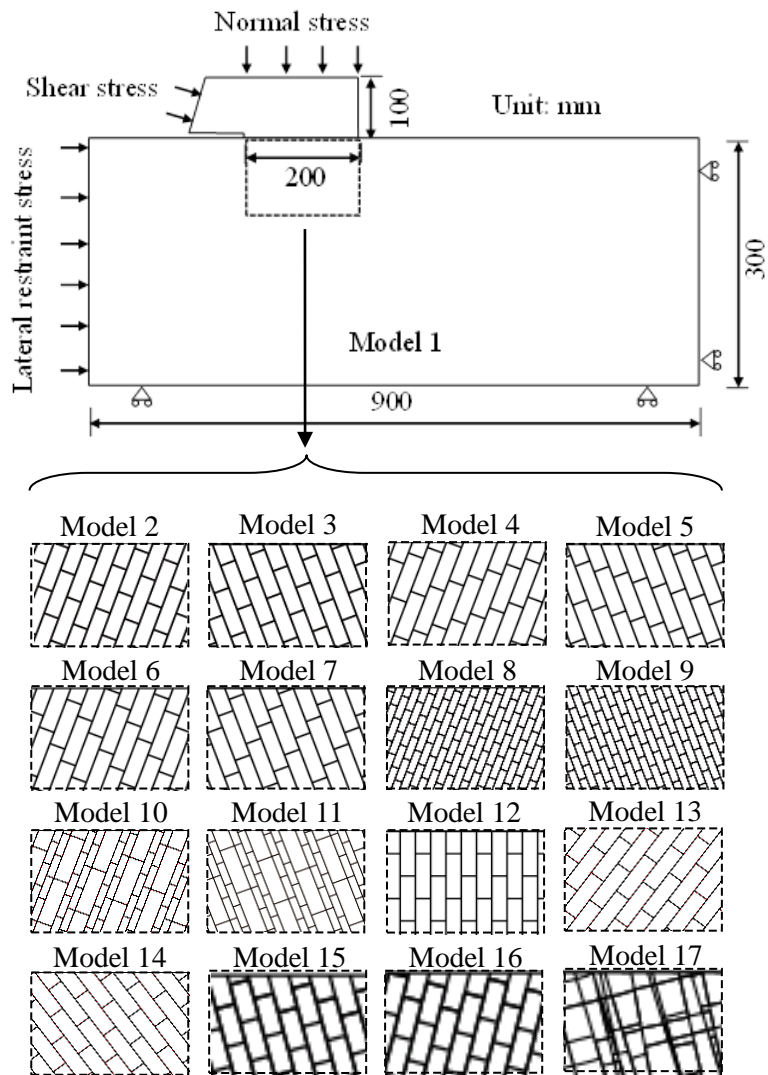


Figure 6. Numerical models for simulating laboratory (Models 1-14) and in-situ shear tests (Models 15-17). Sketches for the models 2-17 show the joint distribution patterns in the area (dash line) underneath the loading block in model 1. Note that the scale of models 15-17 has been reduced to fit the view.

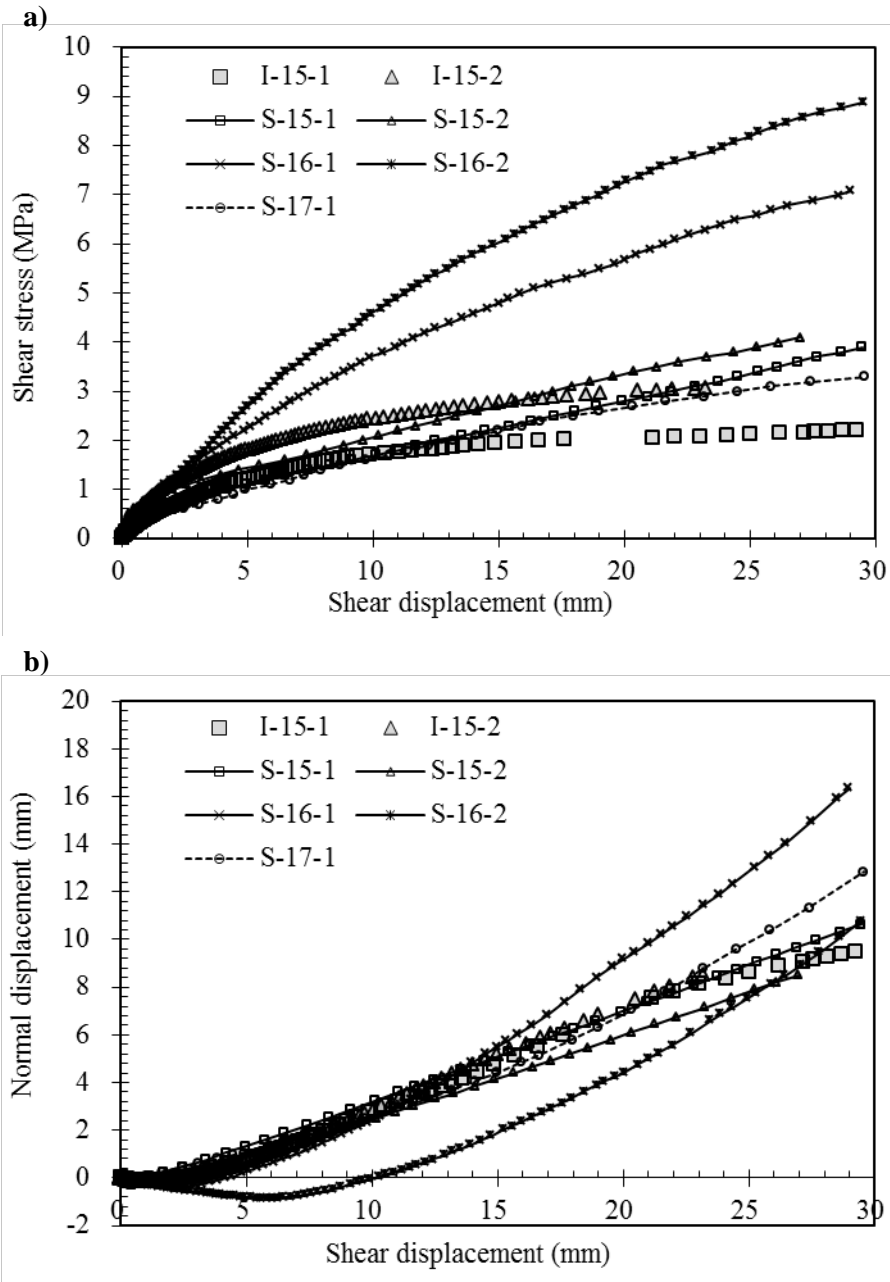


Figure 7. Curves of shear stress-shear displacement (a) and normal displacement-shear displacement (b) of in-situ shear tests and their numerical simulations.

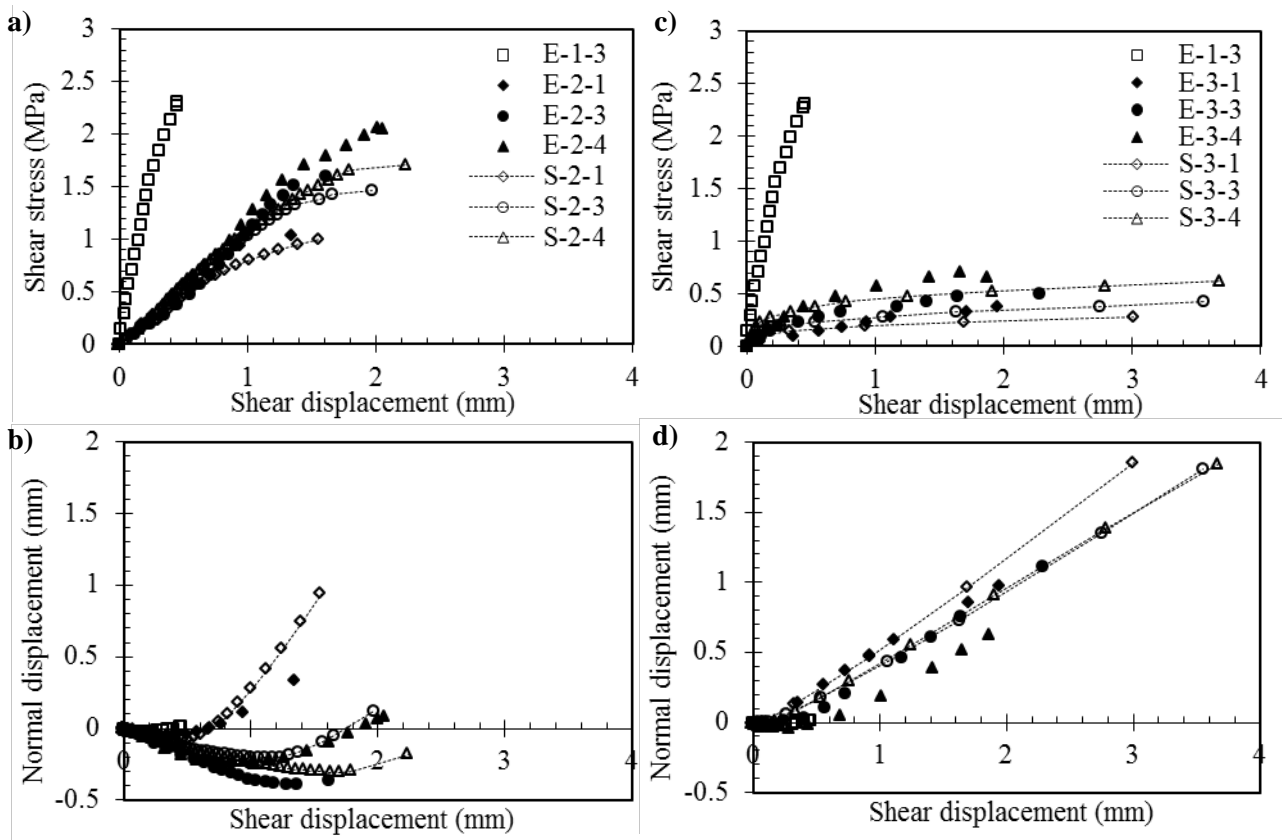


Figure 8. Curves of shear stress-shear displacement (a & c), and normal displacement-shear displacement (b & d) of Models 1, 2 & 3, with the comparisons of experimental and simulation results.

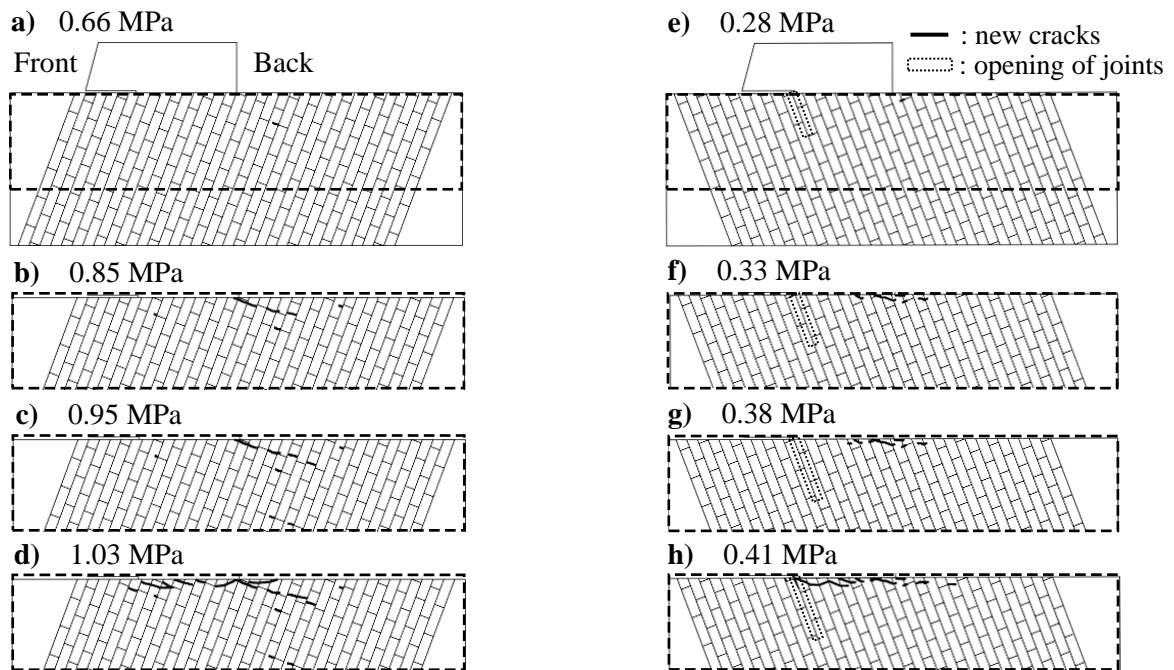


Figure 9. Cracking processes and opening of joints in the models of cases E-2-1 (left) and E-3-1 (right) with updated shear stresses during shear. For simplicity, the joints with measured apertures larger than 0.1 mm were judged as “opening”. Except a) & e), others sketches only show the rectangular part marked in dash line in a) & e) to save the space, since there are no cracks being generated in the lower part of the models.

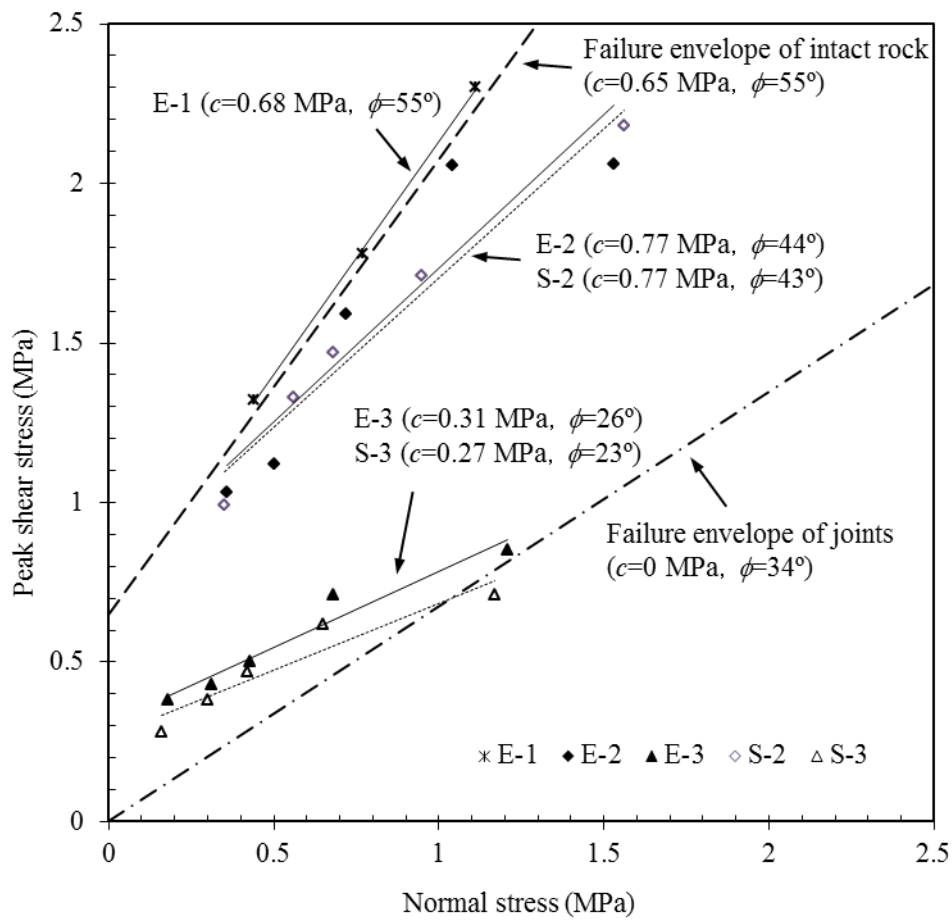


Figure 10. Comparisons of the peak shear stress-normal stress relations of Models 1, 2 & 3, their numerical simulation results and the failure envelopes of intact rock and rock joints. Straight fine lines and dash lines are linear approximations of the test and simulation results at failure, respectively.

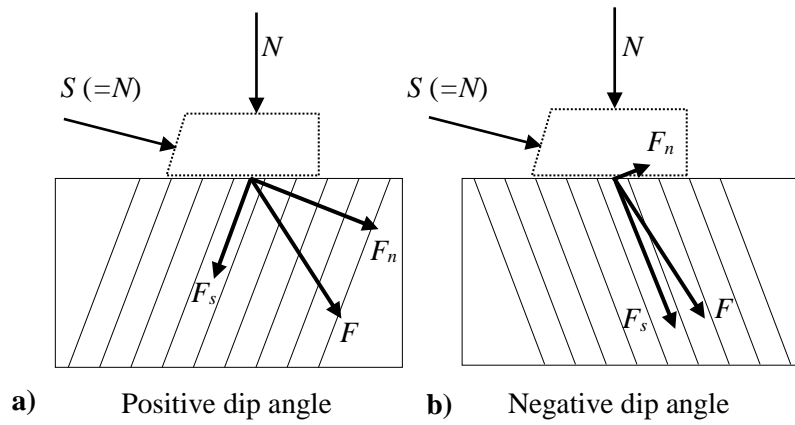


Figure 11. Schematic view of the forces acting on the continuous joint set in the models with positive (a) or negative (b) dip angles.

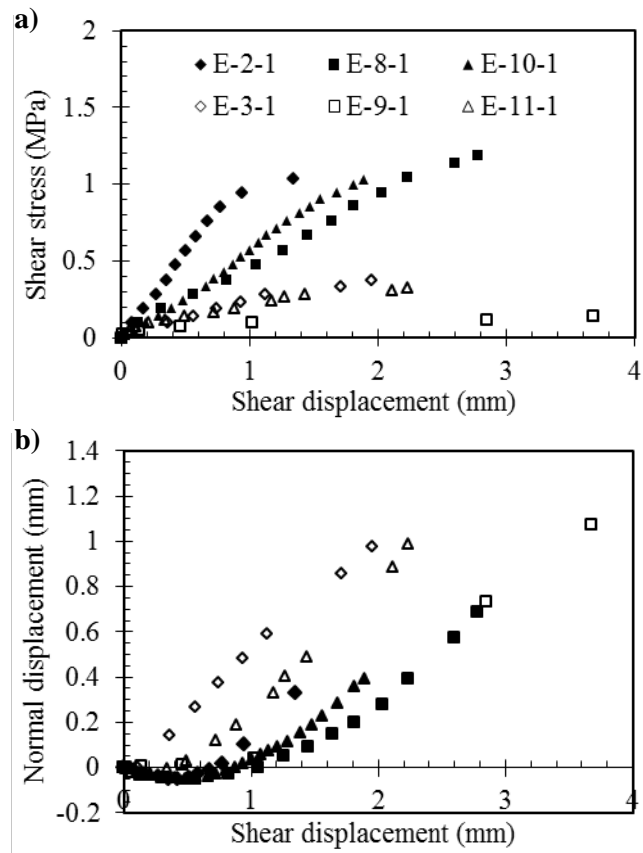


Figure 12. Curves of shear stress-shear displacement (a) and normal displacement-shear displacement (b) of cases E-2-1 & E-3-1 with rock block dimension of 20 mm×60 mm, cases E-8-1 & E-9-1 with rock block dimension of 10 mm×30 mm and cases E-10-1 & E-11-1 with mixed rock block dimensions of both.

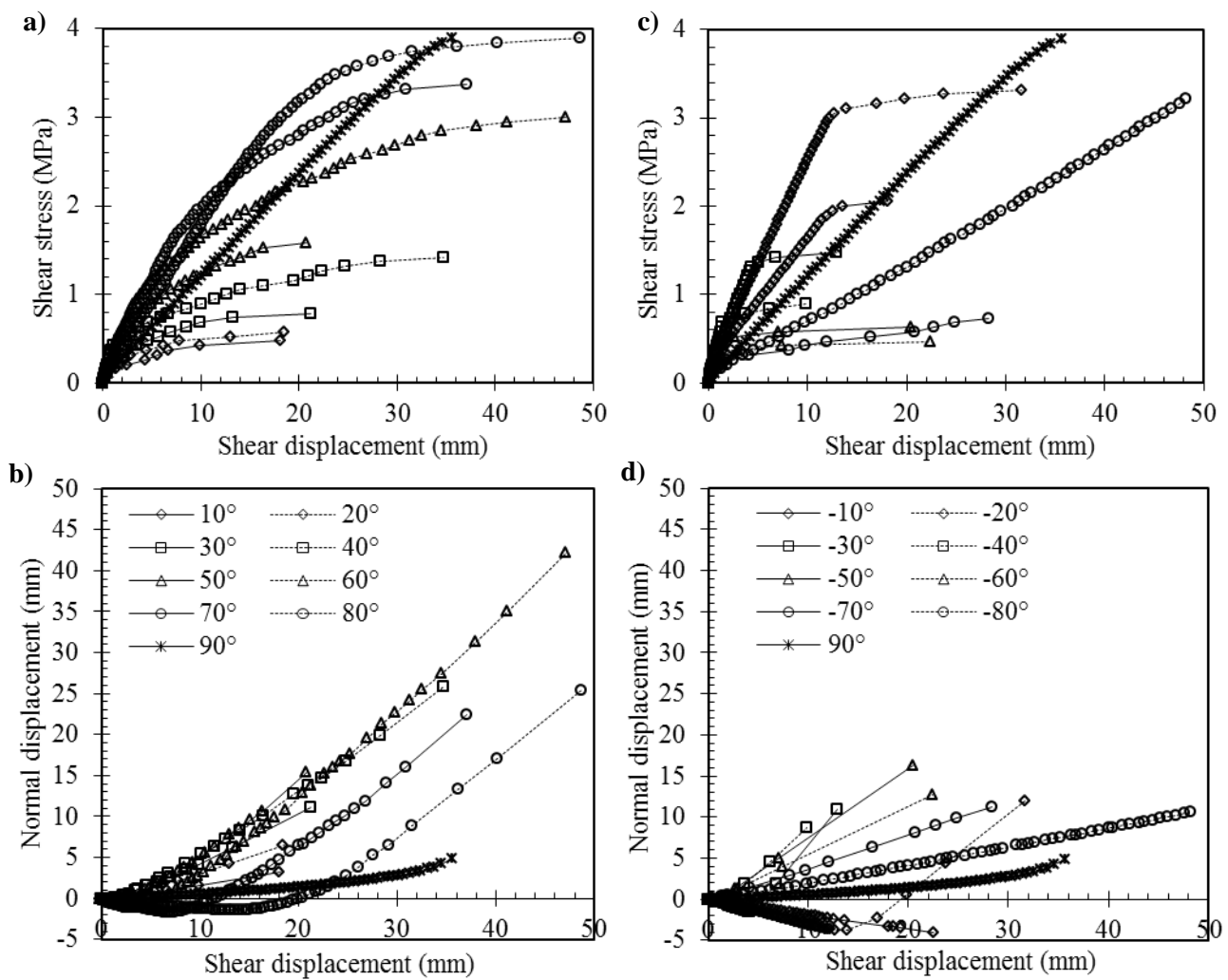


Figure 13. Curves of shear stress-shear displacement and normal displacement-shear displacement of numerical models with positive dip angles (a & b) and negative dip angles (c & d), respectively. The initial normal stress is 0.39 MPa.

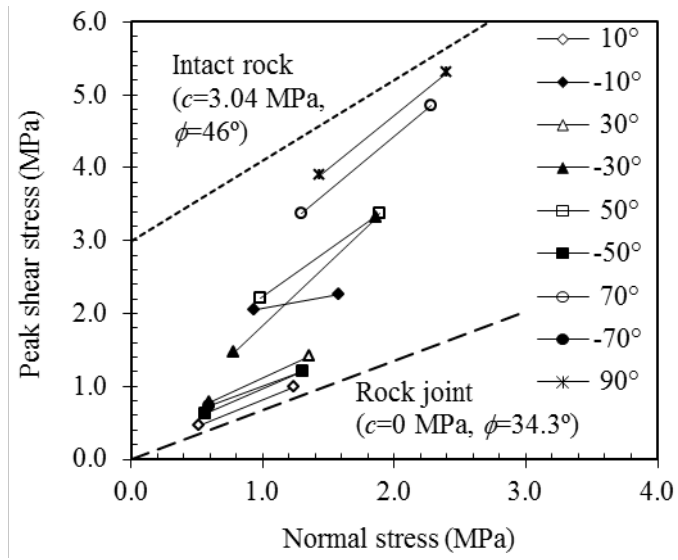


Figure 14. Peak shear stress-normal stress relations of the cases $\theta=\pm 10^\circ, \pm 30^\circ, \pm 50^\circ, \pm 70^\circ$ & 90° , and the strength envelopes of the intact rock and rock joints.

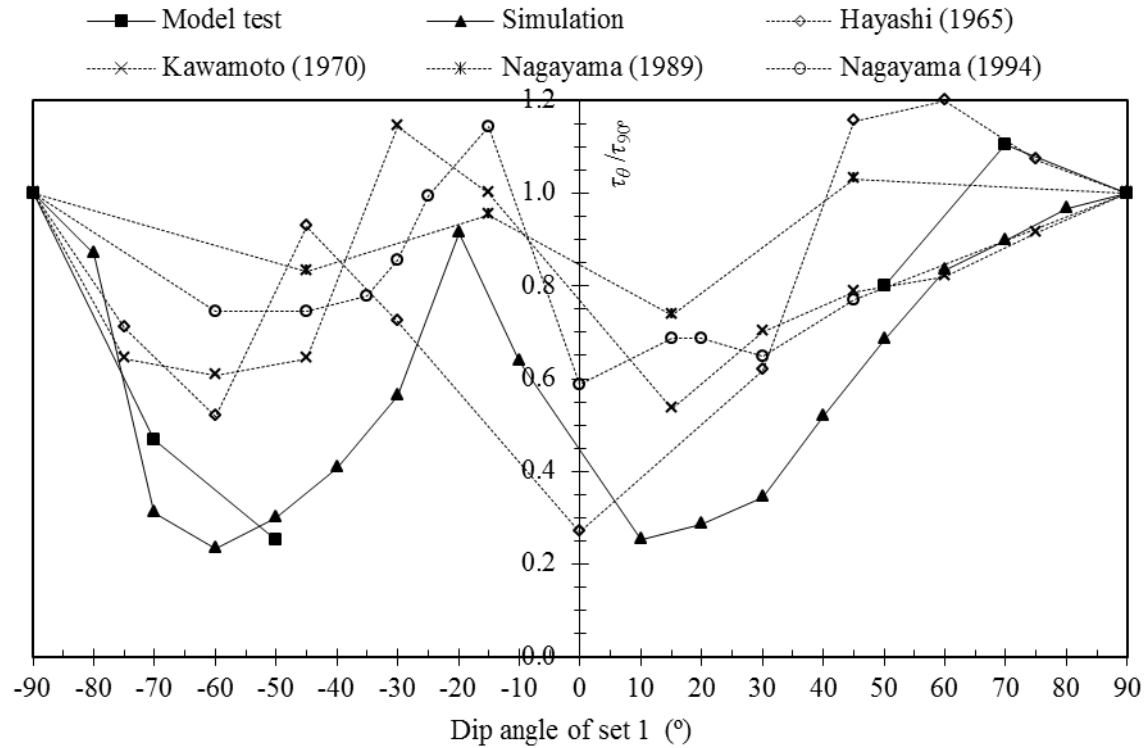


Figure 15. Comparisons of the relations of normalized shear strength $\tau_\theta / \tau_{90^\circ}$ at various dip angles of the joints of Set 1, among the model tests and numerical simulations conducted in this study and other laboratory model tests in literature.

Table 1. Properties of artificial rock specimens adopted in laboratory tests (Lab) and of intact rocks in locations A and B.

Property	Unit	Lab	A	B
Density	g/cm ³	1.68	2.66	2.66
Modulus of elasticity	GPa	5.8	14.8	71.0
Poisson's ratio	-	0.18	0.19	0.18
Tensile strength	MPa	0.5	1.4	10.2
Cohesion	MPa	0.7	3.0	22.3
Internal friction angle	°	54.6	46.0	62.0

Table 2. Mechanical properties of artificial rock joints adopted in laboratory tests (Lab) and of rock joints in locations A and B.

Property	Unit	Lab	A	B
Normal stiffness	GPa /m	Eq. (1)	18.3	31.8
Shear stiffness	GPa /m	1.0	0.9	3.2
Cohesion force	MPa	0	0	0.03
Friction angle	°	34.0	34.3	35.9
Tension strength	MPa	0	0	0

Table 3. Laboratory shear test and simulation results (at failure) for the jointed rock mass models. (E: Experiment, S: Simulation and *R*: Correlation coefficient)

Case No.	Size of blocks (mm)	Lateral restraint stress (MPa)	Dip angle (set 1)	Initial normal stress (MPa)	Normal stress (MPa)		Shear stress (MPa)		Shear displacement (mm)		Normal displacement (mm)	
					E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S
1-1				0.082	0.44	-	1.32	-	0.21	-	0.04	-
1-2	-	0.082	-	0.29	0.77	-	1.78	-	0.33	-	0	-
1-3				0.49	1.11	-	2.30	-	0.45	-	0.01	-
2-1				0.082	0.36	0.35	1.03	0.99	1.35	1.56	0.33	0.94
2-2				0.2	0.50	0.56	1.12	1.33	1.30	1.80	0	0.45
2-3			+70°	0.29	0.72	0.68	1.59	1.47	1.61	1.96	-0.22	0.12
2-4				0.49	1.04	0.95	2.06	1.71	2.01	2.24	0.06	-0.18
2-5				0.98	1.53	1.56	2.06	2.18	1.51	2.83	-0.62	-0.46
3-1	20×60	0.082		0.082	0.18	0.16	0.38	0.28	1.95	3.00	0.98	1.86
3-2				0.2	0.31	0.30	0.43	0.38	1.59	2.91	0.42	1.43
3-3			-70°	0.29	0.43	0.42	0.50	0.47	2.28	4.83	1.11	2.50
3-4				0.49	0.68	0.65	0.71	0.62	1.66	3.67	0.52	1.84
3-5				0.98	1.21	1.17	0.85	0.71	7.63	1.11	2.61	0.41
2-6		0.16	+70°	0.082	0.43	-	1.30	-	1.55	-	0.47	-
2-7	20×60	0.33		0.082	0.44	-	1.32	-	1.38	-	0.32	-
3-6		0.16	-70°	0.082	0.18	-	0.35	-	1.34	-	0.45	-
3-7		0.33		0.082	0.17	-	0.29	-	1.47	-	0.59	-
4-1			+70°	0.082	0.37	0.35	1.08	0.99	1.92	1.90	0.81	0.94
5-1	20×60	0.082	-70°	0.082	0.21	0.16	0.47	0.28	2.59	3.01	1.14	1.59
6-1			+70°	0.082	0.42	0.36	1.23	1.04	1.36	1.95	0.37	1.05
7-1			-70°	0.082	0.19	0.15	0.39	0.24	3.15	2.04	1.69	1.07
8-1			+70°	0.082	0.40	0.35	1.18	0.99	2.78	4.57	0.69	4.16
8-2	10×30	0.082		0.49	0.92	0.93	1.59	1.66	2.32	3.09	-0.56	-0.75
9-1			-70°	0.082	0.14	0.13	0.21	0.19	5.92	6.10	2.03	2.73
9-2				0.49	0.63	0.59	0.52	0.38	8.75	2.99	2.97	1.07
10-1	mixed	0.082	+70°	0.082	0.36	-	1.03	-	1.89	-	0.40	-
11-1			-70°	0.082	0.17	-	0.33	-	2.24	-	0.99	-
12-1				0.082	0.36	-	1.03	-	1.63	-	0.49	-
12-2	20×60	0.082	+90°	0.29	0.62	-	1.21	-	1.12	-	0.05	-
12-3				0.49	0.89	-	1.50	-	2.04	-	0.13	-
13-1				0.082	0.30	-	0.83	-	2.44	-	2.51	-
13-2			+50°	0.29	0.64	-	1.28	-	1.51	-	1.39	-
13-3	20×60	0.082		0.49	0.93	-	1.65	-	2.21	-	1.77	-
14-1				0.082	0.13	-	0.19	-	1.83	-	1.08	-
14-2			-50°	0.29	0.38	-	0.33	-	2.74	-	1.44	-
14-3				0.49	0.66	-	0.64	-	2.17	-	-0.05	-
<i>R</i>					0.99		0.98		0.15		0.39	

Table 4. Numerical simulation results (at failure) of in-situ shear tests based on the properties of jointed rock mass at location A with various dip angles of continuous joint set.

Initial normal stress (MPa)	Dip angle of Set 1 (°)	Normal stress (MPa)	Shear stress (MPa)	Shear disp. (mm)	Normal disp. (mm)
0.39	10	0.52	0.47	18.15	3.25
	20	0.55	0.58	18.53	6.50
	30	0.60	0.79	21.27	11.18
	40	0.77	1.42	34.70	25.85
	50	0.99	2.21	46.27	41.42
	60	1.20	3.00	47.23	42.19
	70	1.26	3.37	37.09	22.47
	80	1.44	3.90	48.61	25.45
	90	1.44	3.90	35.65	4.86
	-80	1.25	3.21	48.25	10.61
	-70	0.59	0.74	28.32	11.22
	-60	0.52	0.47	22.35	12.66
	-50	0.56	0.63	20.40	16.34
	-40	0.63	0.90	9.80	8.75
	-30	0.79	1.48	12.88	10.89
	-20	1.28	3.32	31.67	11.90
-10	0.94	2.05	18.04	-3.27	
0.98	10	1.25	1.00	33.28	6.21
	20	1.29	1.16	32.79	11.19
	30	1.36	1.42	27.49	12.88
	40	1.63	2.42	46.21	30.94
	50	1.88	3.37	57.68	44.77
	60	2.19	4.46	60.20	40.27
	70	2.28	4.85	53.36	23.98
	80	2.52	5.74	45.91	6.13
	90	2.41	5.32	52.24	6.87
	-80	2.24	4.69	67.70	13.25
	-70	1.31	1.21	43.66	16.45
	-60	1.22	0.90	23.44	12.34
	-50	1.31	1.21	10.94	6.79
	-40	1.49	1.90	11.31	7.17
	-30	1.87	3.32	38.66	31.71
	-20	2.15	4.37	39.59	-12.00
-10	1.59	2.27	18.42	-3.48	