

Introduction and historical background Handbook of Precast Segmental Tunnel Lining Systems

Verya Nasri, PhD, PE
Chief Tunnel Engineer, AECOM



Warsaw University of Technology
Faculty of Civil Engineering



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Segment Workshop, Warsaw 2025, May 27

Organized by Warsaw University of Technology and Polish Tunneling Association

Endorsed by ITA and ITACET

First Session starting at 9:00 AM

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 9:00 – 9:15 | Introduction and historical background , Verya Nasri, PhD, PE, Chief Tunnel Engineer, AECOM, USA, 15 minutes |
| 9:15 – 10:00 | Design fundamentals , Verya Nasri, PhD, PE, Chief Tunnel Engineer, AECOM, USA, 45 minutes |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Concrete technology for fiber segment , Barzin Mobasher, PhD, PE, Professor at Arizona State University, USA |

Coffee Break, from 10:30 AM to 11:00 AM

Second Session starting at 11:00 AM

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 11:00 – 11:45 | Fiber segment , Benoit De Rivaz, Global Technical Manager, Bekaert, France |
| 11:45 – 12:30 | Connections and accessories , Christophe Delus, Tunnel Division Director, Optimas, France |

Lunch, from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM

Third Session starting at 1:30 PM

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 13:30 – 14:15 | Sealing gaskets , Andreas Diener, Product Manager Tunneling, Cordes, Germany |
| 14:15 – 15:00 | Formwork systems , Stefan Medel, Managing Director, Herrenknecht Formwork, Germany |

Coffee Break, from 3:00 PM to 3:30 PM

Third Session starting at 3:30 PM

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 15:30 – 16:00 | SFRC segment production for IInd metro line in Warsaw , Bartłomiej Dziuban, Gulermak Polska, Poland |
| 16:00 – 16:45 | The use of SFRC for the segmental lining of the Świnoujście tunnel , Wojciech Nowak, PORR Polska, Poland |
| 16:45 – 17:00 | Concluding remarks , Verya Nasri, PhD, PE, Chief Tunnel Engineer, AECOM, USA |

End of Short Course 17:00 PM



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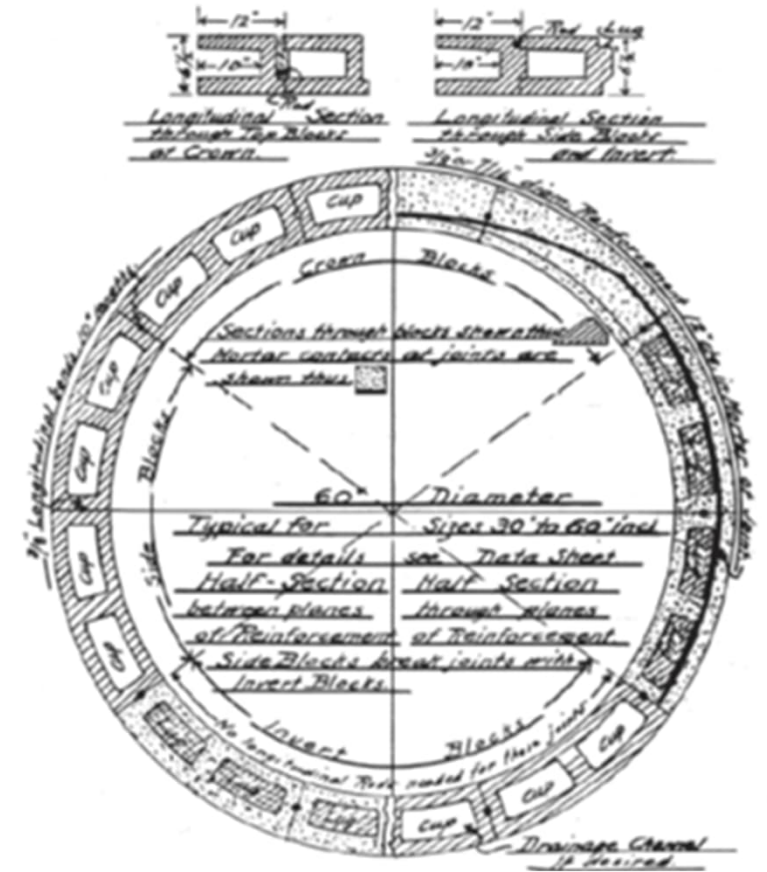
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History and Technical Developments of Segmental Linings

First 150 Years of Segmental Tunnel Linings

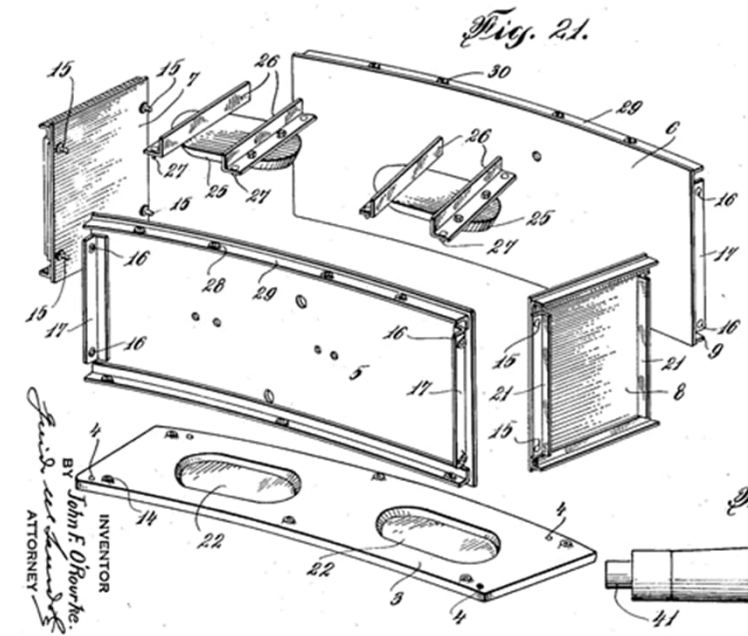
- First production in late 1800s.....then early 1900's (e.g. Parmley, O'Rourke, and others)
- Becoming more popular in last 50 years, due in part from much of the following improvements
 - Improved materials
 - Improved production facilities
 - Precision manufacturing and repeatability
 - Use of mechanized shields and TBMs
 - Systems approach to tunnel excavation and lining, often in more egregious ground conditions
 - Economies (life cycle cost) over other options



History and Technical Developments of Segmental Linings

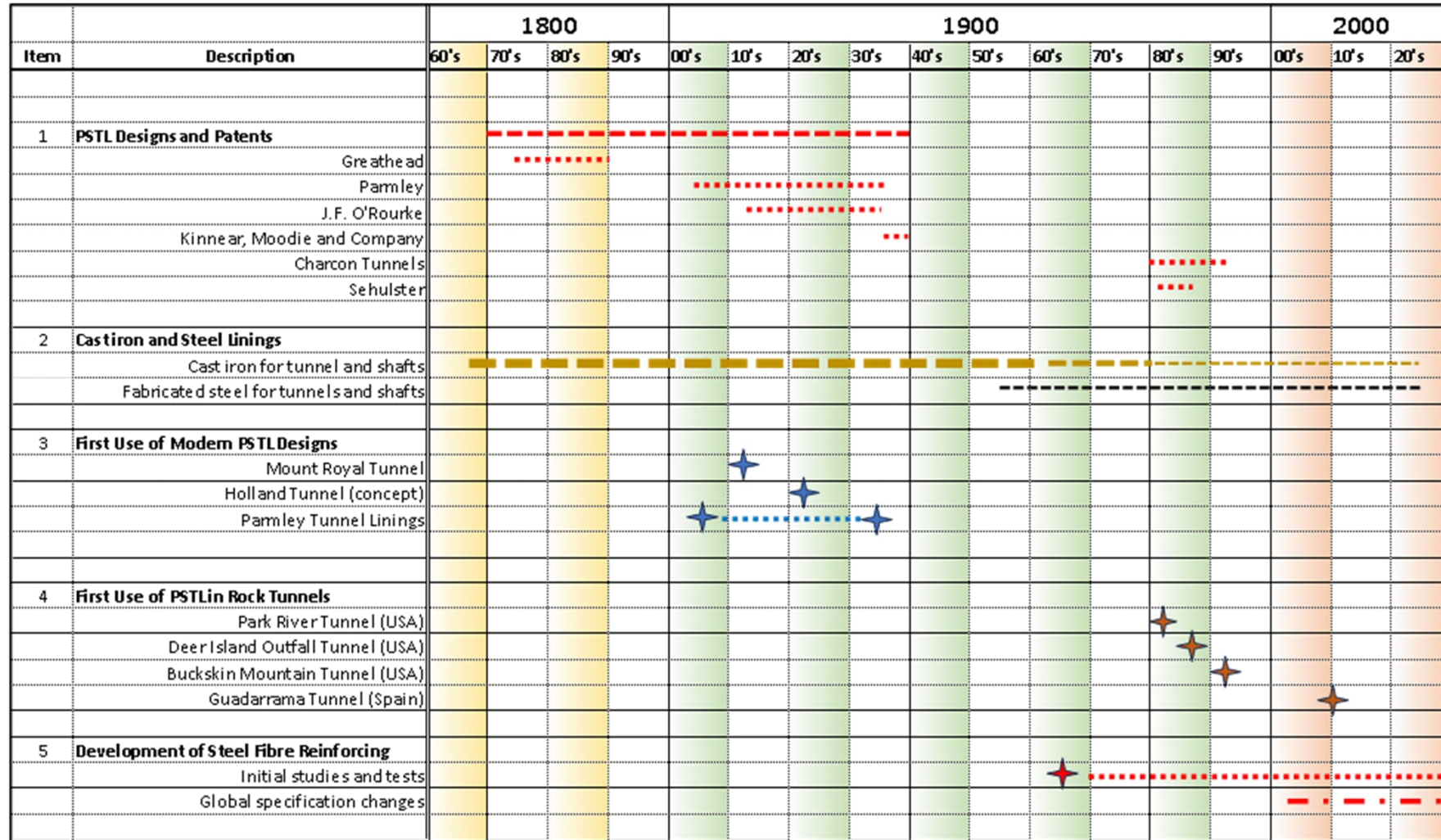
TBM Developments and Lining Installation

- Tunnel Designers and Contractors called for changes in tunnel lining approaches and materials and required a “systems approach” to tunnelling operations; i.e. TBM excavation and lining, to improve overall economy.
- Single-pass tunnel linings became the preferred approach for soft ground tunnels (and some rock tunnels) using TBMs.
- Improvements in material properties, segment forms, connections, sealing and life cycle analyses made precast concrete more attractive than alternate materials.
- Precast concrete segments were also more economically attractive in most cases (but not all).



History and Technical Developments of Segmental Linings

Timeline for Segmental Tunnel Linings

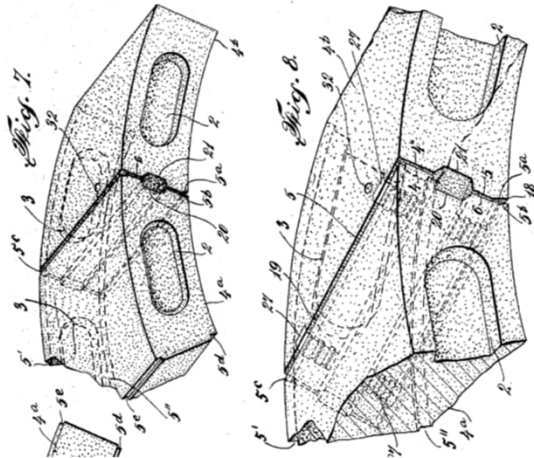


- From initial design concepts to mid-1900s
- Demise of preference for cast iron linings
- Early notable projects and innovative proposals
- Segmentally-lined rock tunnels

History and Technical Developments of Segmental Linings

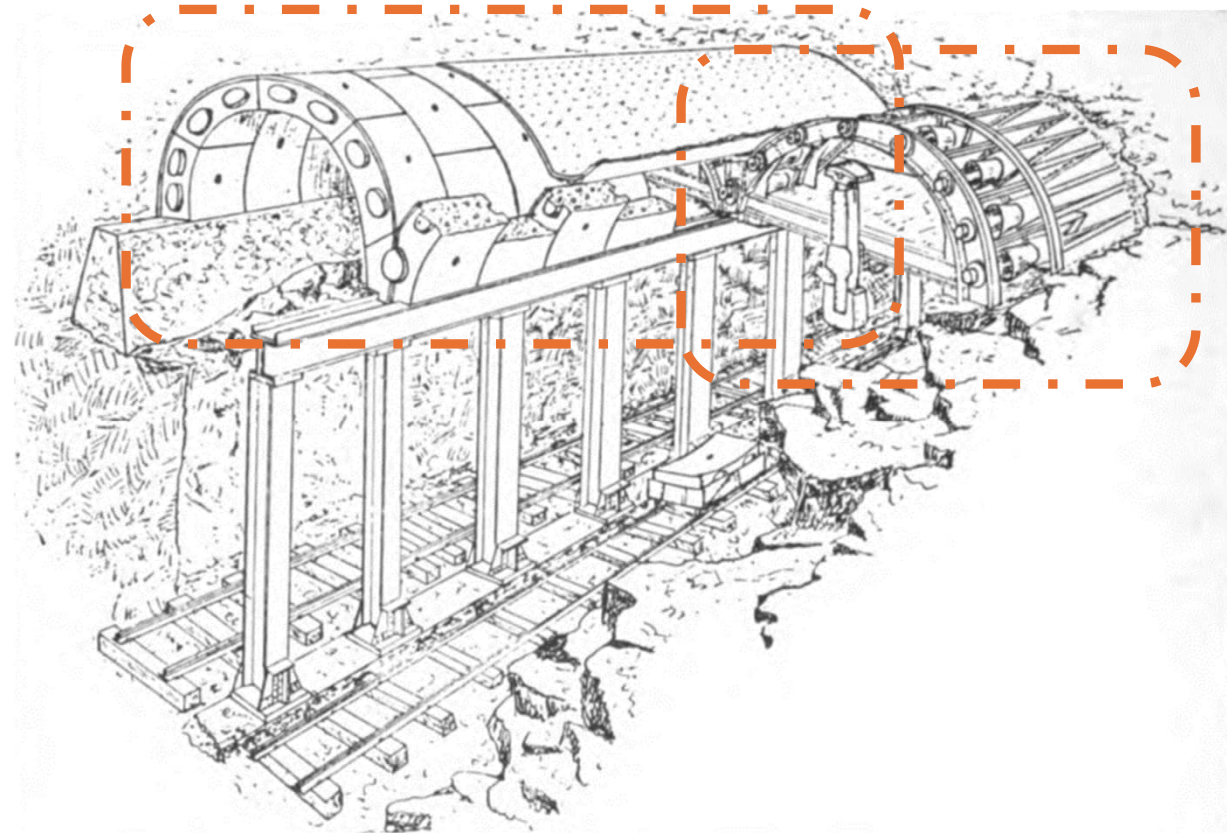
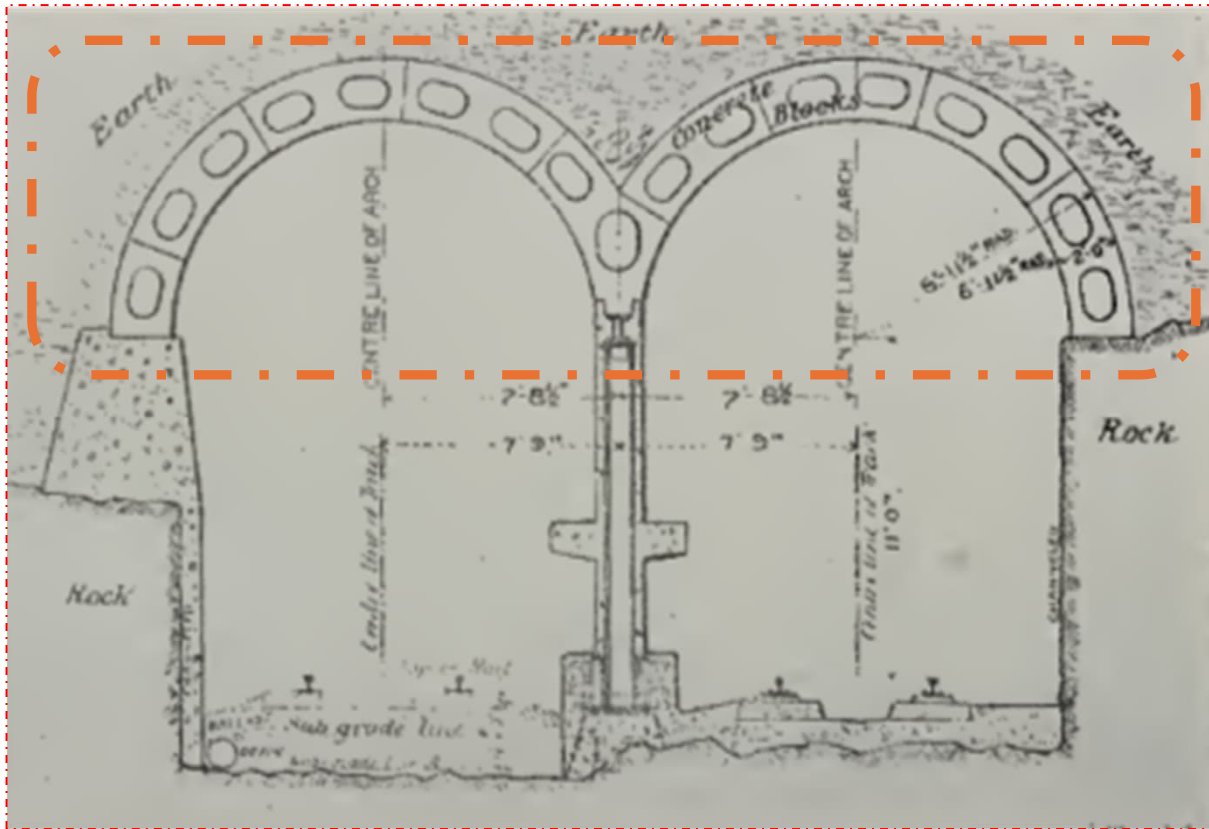
O'Rourke "Interlocking Tunnel Block" Lining

- Early Installation – Montreal, Quebec (1912)
 - Mount Royal Railway Tunnel (first major installation)
 - Twin parallel tunnels excavated concurrently
 - Mixed face tunnelling using PSTL for crown support
 - Tunnel in use for over 100 years until recently reconstructed and repurposed for metro



History and Technical Developments of Segmental Linings

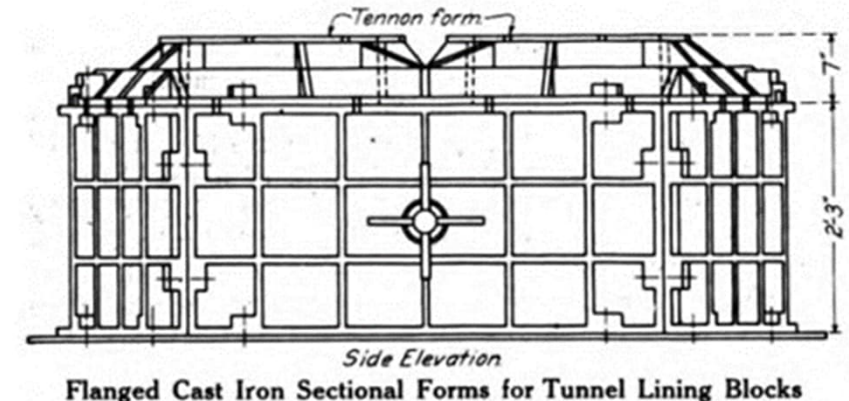
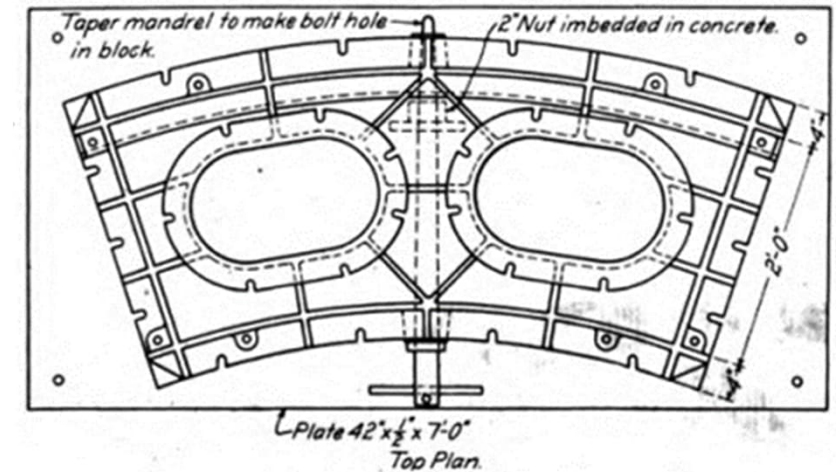
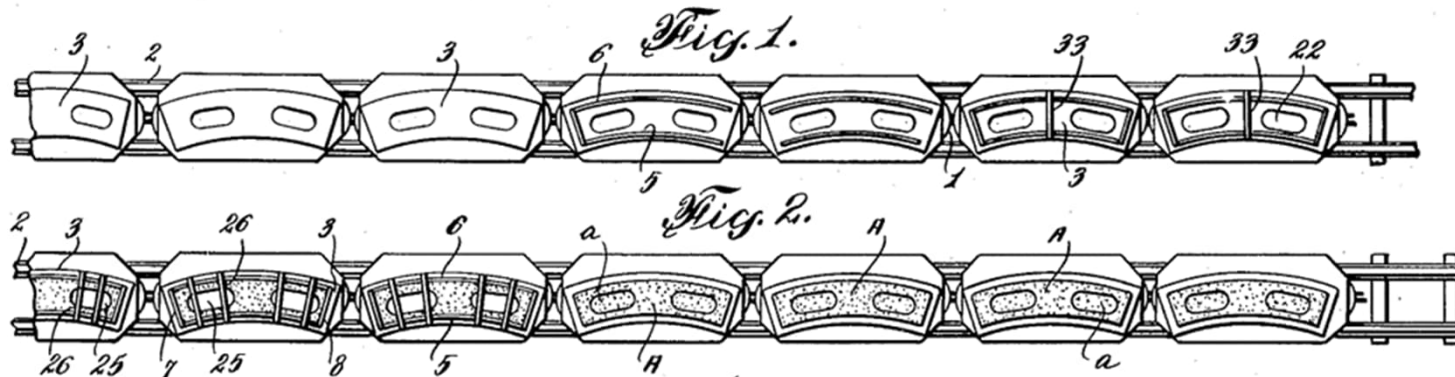
Mount Royal Railway Tunnel – Montreal



History and Technical Developments of Segmental Linings

Mount Royal Railway Tunnel – Montreal

- Segment Casting Methods and Materials
 - Machined cast iron molds were preferred
 - High tolerance on dimensions and repeatability
 - Carousel segment production facility on-site
 - Cast-in grooves and inserts



History and Technical Developments of Segmental Linings

Holland Tunnel (New York City) – Concept

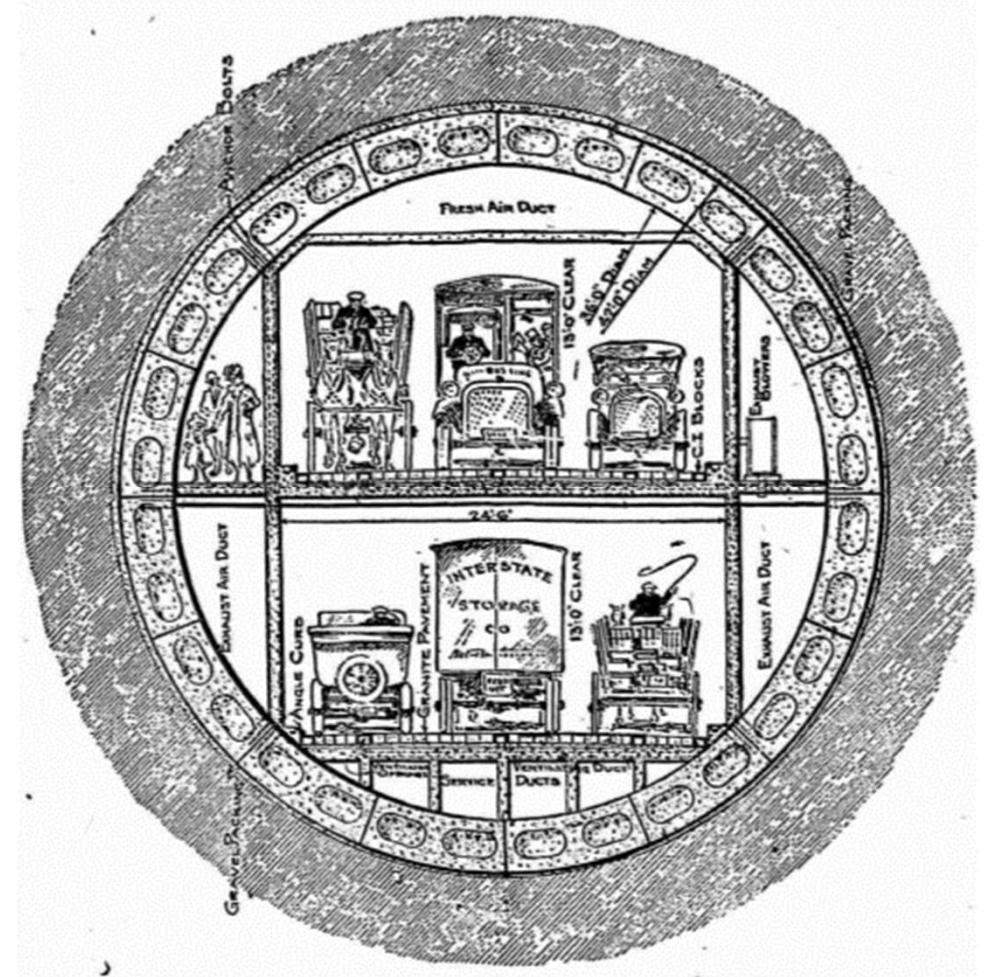
- Early Concept for a tunnel under the Hudson River by New York City (1919);
 - Initially proposed by O'Rourke and Goethals (Panama Canal fame). Not constructed since a twin-bore tunnel arrangement was preferred.
 - First vehicle tunnel proposed under the Hudson River. Existing tunnels were dedicated to railroads (only).
 - Approx 12.8m (42 ft) bore diameter and possibly requiring the largest tunnelling shield ever considered....*extending the shield technology in its time.*



History and Technical Developments of Segmental Linings

Holland Tunnel (New York City) – Concept

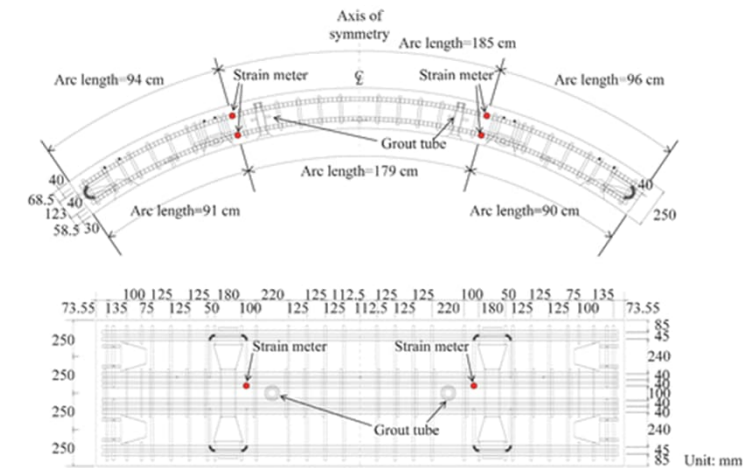
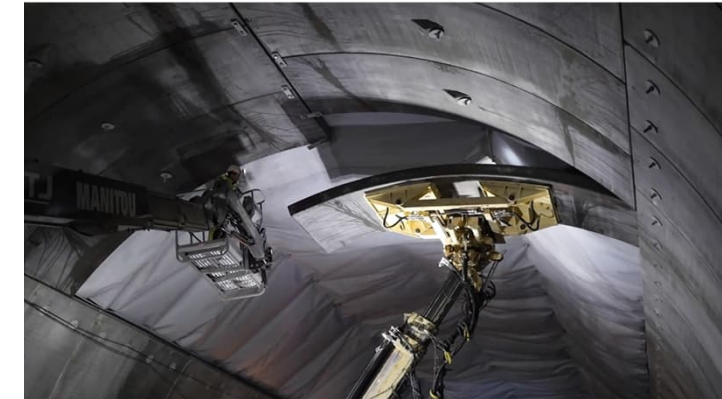
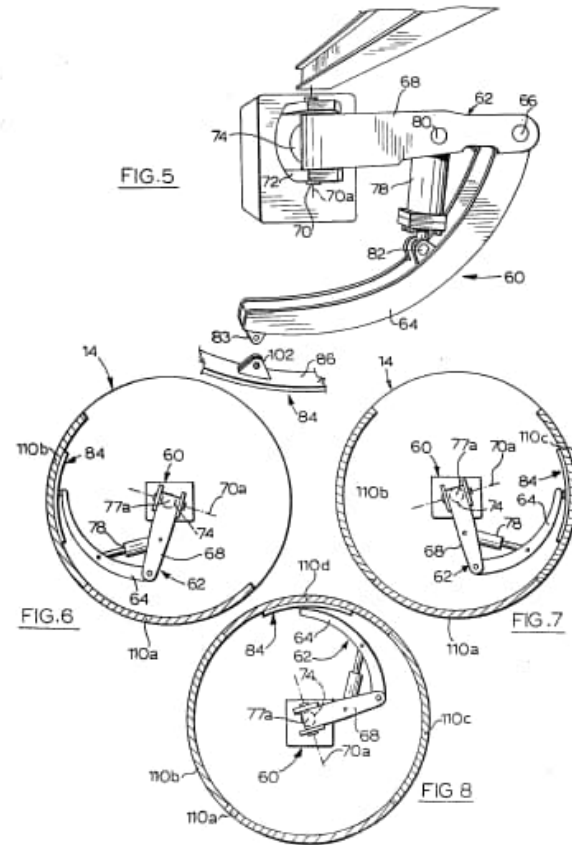
- Early Concept for a tunnel under the Hudson River at New York City (1919)
 - Three-foot thick precast “*interlocking tunnel blocks*” were proposed as the initial tunnel lining for ground support and groundwater control.
 - Over and under twin roadway decks, possibly the first of this configuration ever considered.
 - This concept was not constructed; instead, twin tunnels using cast iron segmental liners.



History and Technical Developments of Segmental Linings

Advancements in Mechanization & Monitoring

- Mechanization and Automation
 - Mechanical and vacuum handling devices; plant and tunnel
 - Manufacturing automation - plant
 - Segment selection and positioning in tunnel
- Measurement and monitoring
 - Ring orientation selection
 - Instrumentation – loads and deflections
 - Gas sealing and watertightness



History and Technical Developments of Segmental Linings

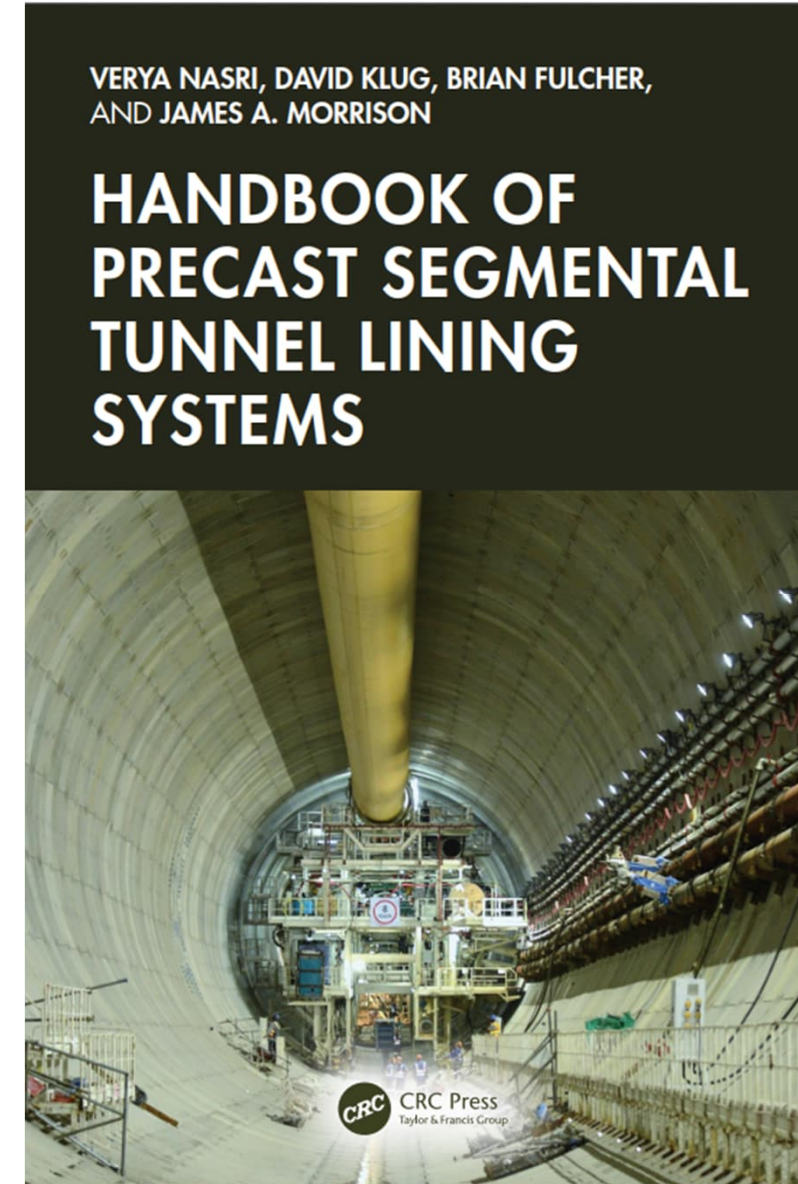
Summary

- Tunnel demand (i.e. quantities and loads)
- Tunnel location and function influenced design
- Tunnel durability (life cycle) & design innovations
- Material developments (including sustainability)
- Economic analyses and approach to constructing the work
- Mechanization, power and control for segment handling and installation
- Skilled labor force and Health and Safety considerations



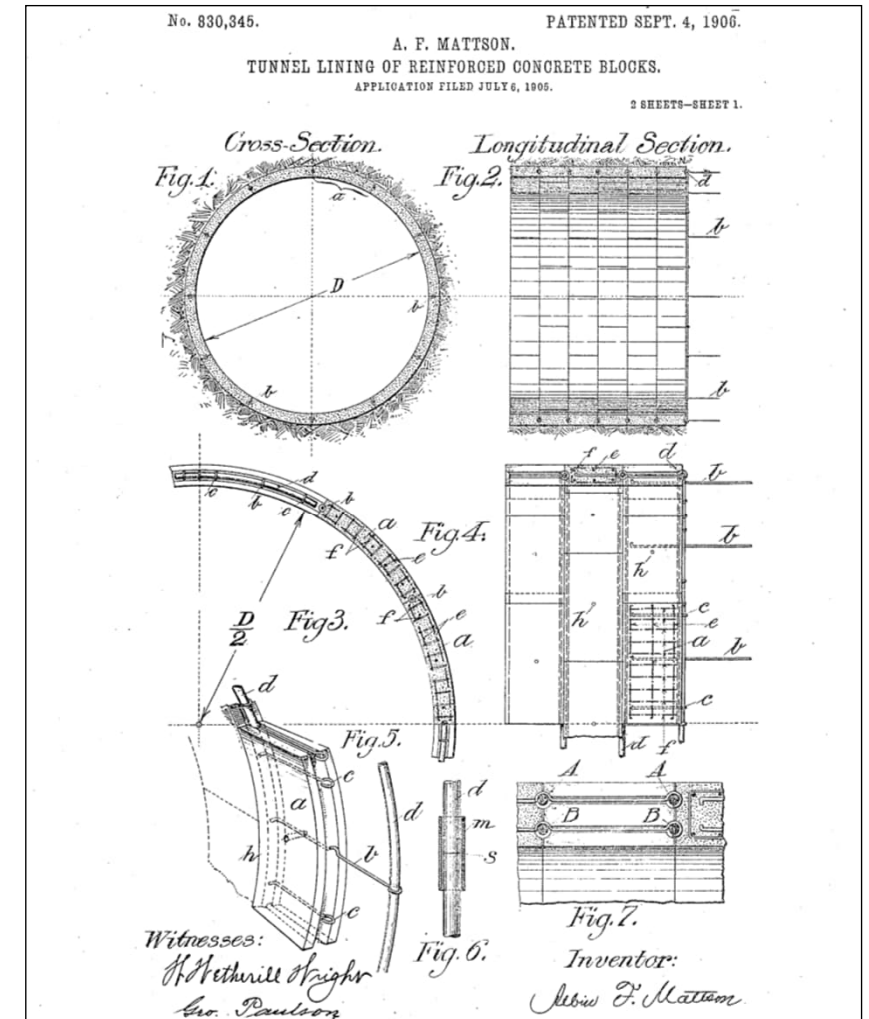
Handbook Content

- Chapter 1 Introduction and History of Technical Developments
- Chapter 2 Geotechnical Design Considerations
- Chapter 3 Analysis and Design of Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings
- Chapter 4 Concrete Technology
- Chapter 5 Fiber Reinforcement
- Chapter 6 Connections and Accessories
- Chapter 7 Gasket Sealing Systems
- Chapter 8 Formwork Systems
- Chapter 9 Production
- Chapter 10 Handling, Transportation and Installation
- Chapter 11 Backfill Grouting of the Tunnel Liner
- Chapter 12 Durability and Service Life
- Chapter 13 Innovative Products and Applications



Chapter 1 Introduction and History of Technical Developments

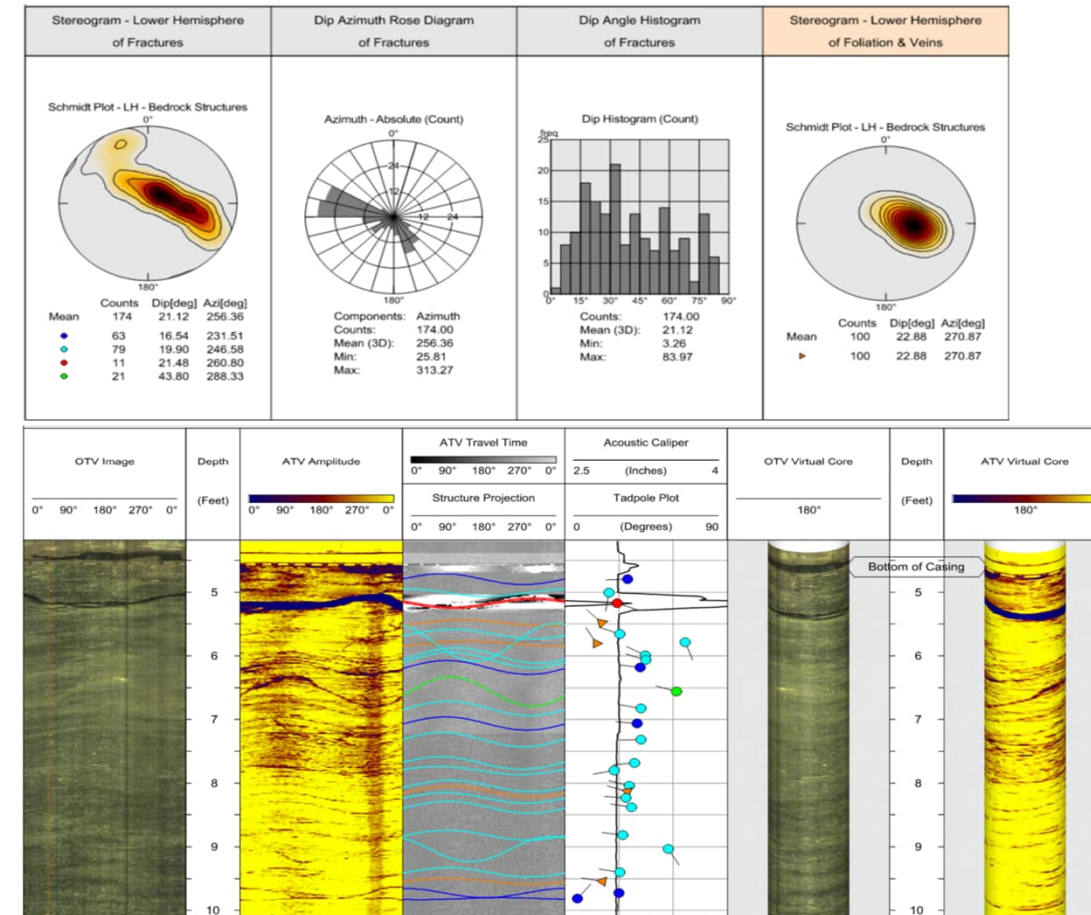
- 1.0 Introduction
- 1.1 Tunnel Segment Development Timeline
- 1.2 Tunnel Shield Developments Related to Segmental Tunnel Linings
- 1.3 Walter C. Parmley and The Parmley System for Precast Tunnel Linings
- 1.4 John Francis O'Rourke – Interlocking Tunnel Blocks
- 1.5 Early Applications of Precast Segmental Tunnel Liners
- 1.6 Mid-Century Assessments and Planning Reports
- 1.7 Fabricated Steel Tunnel Lining
- 1.8 Modern Era Precast Segmental Tunnel Liner Developments
- 1.9 Precast Segmental Tunnel Liners Used in Bored Hard Rock Tunnels
- 1.10 Transition to Precast Concrete Segmental Tunnel and Shaft Linings
- 1.11 Technical Developments in the Modern Era
- 1.12 Logistics of Supply for Precast Segmental Tunnel Lining Materials
- 1.13 Health and Safety Aspects of Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings
- 1.14 Conclusions and Recommendations
- 1.15 Reference Publications and Additional Reading Materials



*A.F. Mattson 1906, US Patent No.830,345
for Precast Tunnel Lining Segments*

Chapter 2 – Geotechnical Investigations for Segmental Tunnel Lining Design

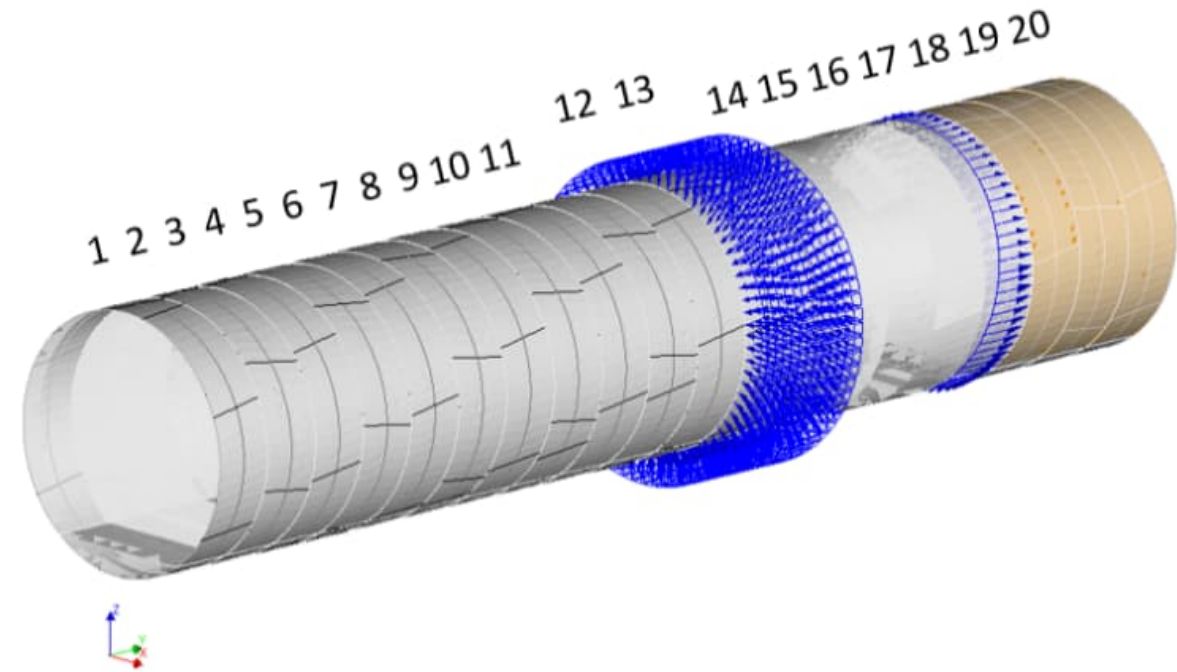
- 2.0 Introduction
- 2.1 Geology Leads the Design
- 2.2 Spectrum of Earth Materials
- 2.3 Desktop Data Study
- 2.4 Ground Investigation Process
- 2.5 Geotechnical Parameters Required for Segmental Tunnel Lining Design
- 2.6 How to Report Data-Geotechnical Reports
- 2.7 Reference Publications
- 2.8 Published Codes and Standards
- 2.9 Reference Papers



Typical OTV/ATV Borehole Logging Output

Chapter 3 Analysis and Design of Precast Segmental Linings

- 3.0. Introduction
- 3.1. Geometry of Tunnel Segmental Rings and Their Systems
- 3.2. Design for Production and Transient Stages
- 3.3. Design for Construction Stages
- 3.4. Design for Final Service Stages
- 3.5. Detailed Design Considerations
- 3.6. Tests and Performance Evaluation
- 3.7. Design for Serviceability Limit State (SLS)
- 3.8. Design for sustainability
- 3.9. References
- 3.10. Notation



Shield-Driven TBM Processes Simulated in a Finite Element Model

Chapter 4 Precast Concrete Technologies

4.1 Introduction

4.2 Design of Concrete materials for Serviceability and Sustainability Requirements

4.3 Concrete Constituents and Cement Hydration Aspects

4.4 Aggregates

4.5 Water

4.6 Chemical Admixtures

4.7 Fiber Reinforced Concrete

4.8 Characterization of Ductility in Fiber-reinforced Concrete

4.9 Material testing levels and Backcalculation Approaches

4.10 Full-Scale Tunnel Segment Testing

4.11 Application of Statistical Process Control for QC

4.12 Fresh State, Rheology Tests and Workability

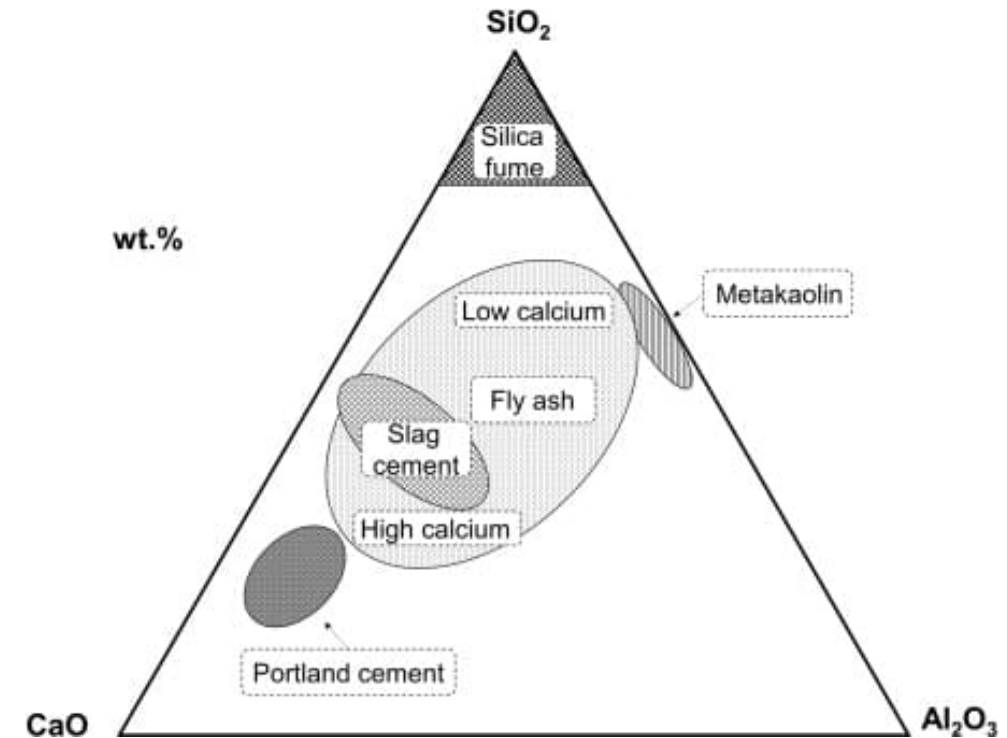
4.13 Durability Parameters and aspects of Service Life

4.14 Diffusivity Based Approaches for Control of Service Life

4.15 Fire Protection and damage Control

4.16 Pre-Construction Testing for Selecting Optimum Concrete Mixture

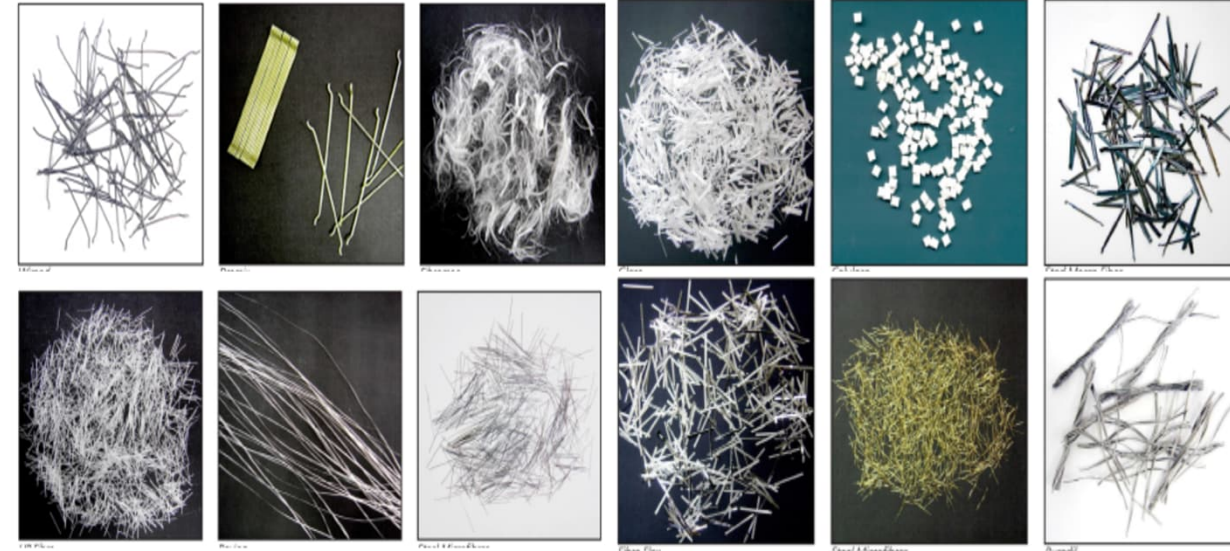
4.17 Authored Documents



Ternary Diagram of Portland Cement and Supplementary Cementing Materials

Chapter 5 Fiber Reinforcement in Precast Concrete Segments

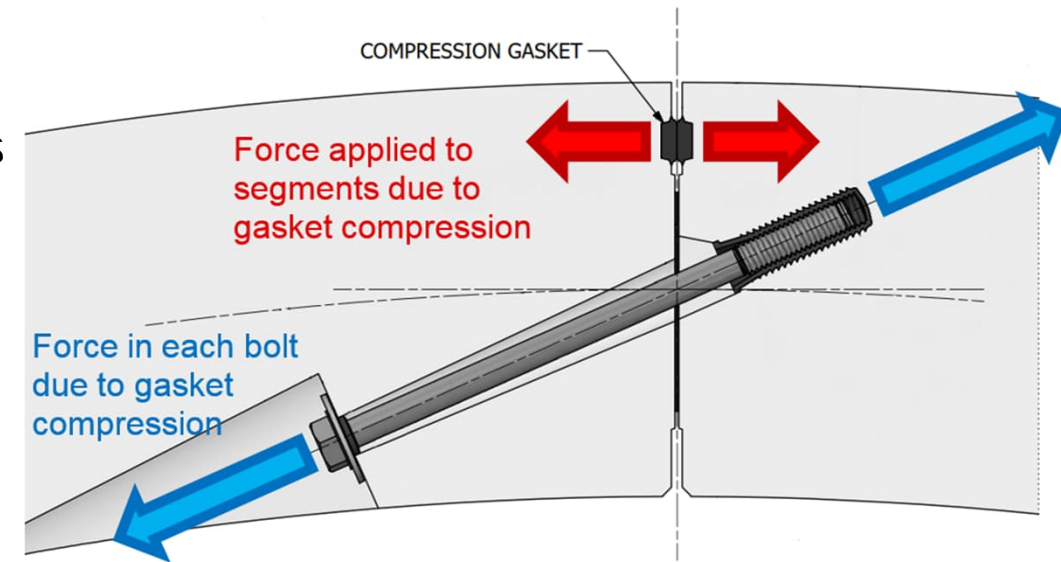
- 5.1 Introduction – Fiber Reinforcement in Precast Segments
- 5.2 Testing Procedures and Performance Criteria
- 5.3 Quality Control During Construction
- 5.4 Passive Fire Protection (PFP) with Micro-PP Fibers
- 5.5 Sustainability
- 5.6 Combined Solutions
- 5.7 New Types of Fibers – Macro Synthetic / Polymers
- 5.8 Tunnel Lining References Using FRC Precast Segments
- 5.9 References and Additional Reading Materials



Various Types of Fibers in Use Today

Chapter 6 Connections and Accessories for Segmental Tunnel Linings

- 6. Introduction
 - 6.1 Connecting Bolts
 - 6.2 Dowels and Bicones
 - 6.3 Guide Rods
 - 6.4 Grouting and Lifting Inserts
 - 6.5 Joint Packing Materials
 - 6.6 Testing of Connection Systems and Accessories
 - 6.7 Design of Connection Systems and Accessories for Specific Loads
 - 6.8 Design of Connectors at Cross-Passage Break-Out Areas
 - 6.9 Through Segment Bolting / Dowel Systems for Seismic Applications
 - 6.10 Recent Developments in Segment Joint Connection Systems
 - 6.11 Fastening Systems for Tunnel Segments
 - 6.12 Case Histories of Interesting Projects



Force Exerted by the Gasket on the Bolting System

Chapter 7 Gasket Systems for Sealing Segmental Tunnel Linings

7.0 Historical Background

7.1 Design and Construction Considerations for Segment Gaskets

7.2 Gasket Profile Design

7.3 Gasket Groove Design

7.4 Manufacturing Considerations for Gaskets

7.5 Gasket Materials

7.6 Watertightness Testing

7.7 Gasket Relaxation and Factor of Safety

7.8 Gasket Load-Deflection Behavior

7.9 Gasket Corner Design

7.10 Fire Resistance

7.11 Glued-On Gaskets

7.12 Anchored Gaskets

7.13 Installation of Gasketed Segments into the Tunnel

7.14 Gasket Repair

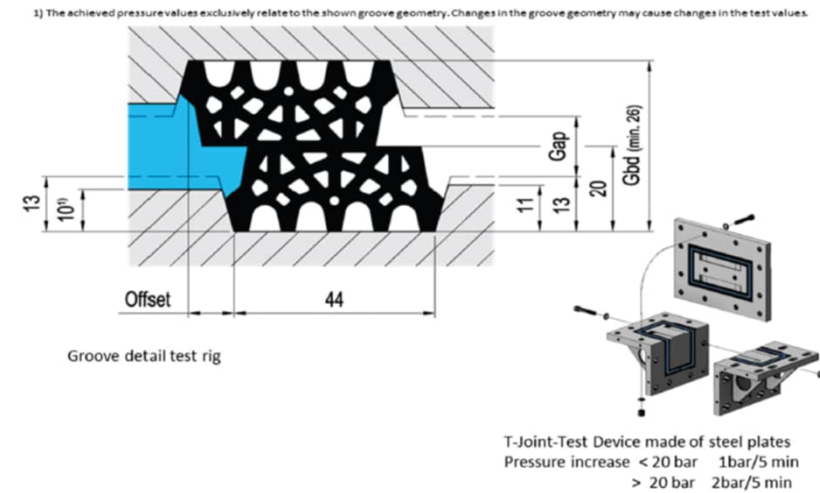
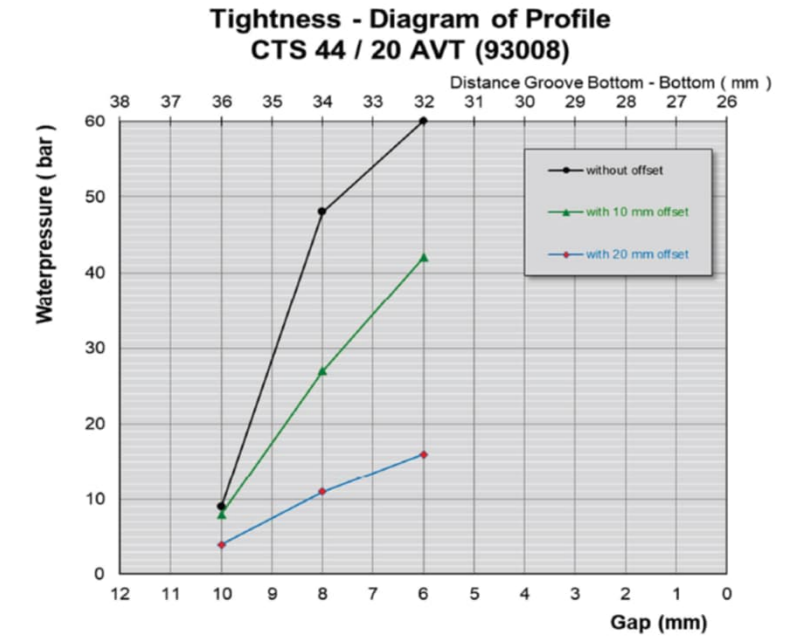
7.15 Project-Specific Gasket Performance Testing

7.16 Gasket Quality Control

7.17 New Developments in Gasket Systems

7.18 Case Histories of Major Tunnel Project with Stringent Gasket Requirements

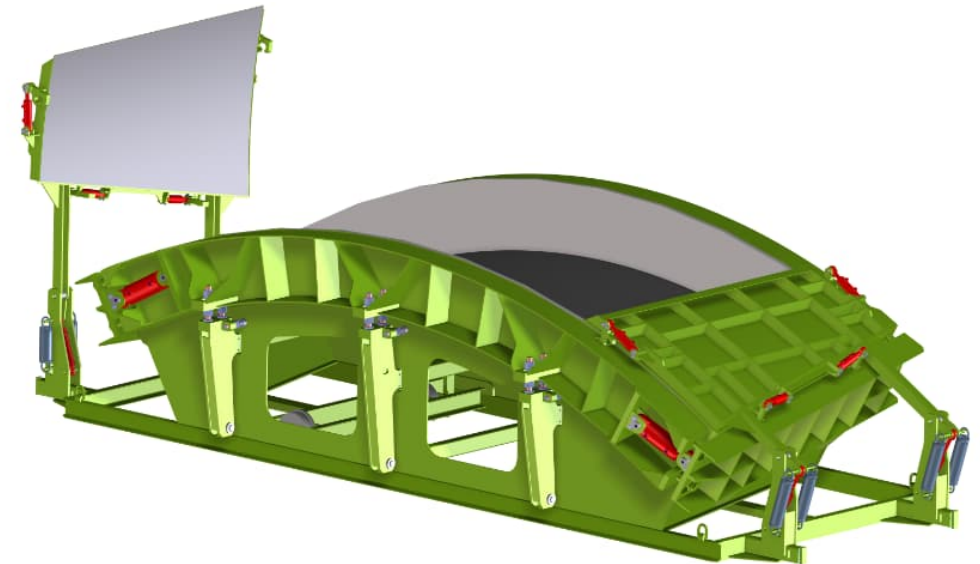
7.19 References and Reading Lists



Gasket Water Tightness Diagram

Chapter 8 Formwork Systems for Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings

- 8.1 Segment Mold Design
- 8.2 Segment Mold Manufacturing
- 8.3 Design of Segment Plant Layout and Main Components
- 8.4 Carrousel and Stationary Production
- 8.5 Segment Handling Equipment
- 8.6 Three-Dimensional Measurement of Segment Molds and Segments
- 8.7 Master Ring Erection and Virtual Ring Build
- 8.8 Tolerances of Segment Molds and Segments
- 8.9 Segment Tracking and Quality Documentation System
- 8.10 Segment Mold Quality Control
- 8.11 Innovation in Tunnel Segment Production
- 8.12 Case Histories of Segment Production
- 8.13 References and Additional Reading Lists



Hydraulically Operated Mold

Chapter 9 Fabrication of Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings

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- 9.1 General Summary
- 9.2 Segment Fabrication Plant Layout
- 9.3 Carousel and Stationary Segment Formwork Production
- 9.4 Rebar Reinforced Concrete
- 9.5 Fiber Reinforced Concrete Production – Precaster's Considerations
- 9.6 Concrete Batching, Mixing and Curing
- 9.7 Segment Connection, Accessories and Gasket Installation
- 9.8 Segment Demolding, Handling and Storage – Precaster's General Overview
- 9.9 Segment Dimensional Measurement and Documentation – Precaster's Viewpoint
- 9.10 Test and Demonstration Ring – Precaster's Considerations
- 9.11 Segment Tolerances – Precaster's Considerations
- 9.12 Segment Quality Control – Precaster's Considerations
- 9.13 Logistics of Supply – Precaster's Considerations
- 9.14 Precast Plant Labor Crews
- 9.15 References and Additional reading Materials



Fiber Dosing and Metering System

Chapter 10 Transportation, Handling, and Installation of Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings

10.0 Introduction

10.1 Segment Supply Logistics

10.2 Segment Handling on the Surface

10.3 Transporting Segments to the Tunnel Heading

10.4 Segment Handling and Transfer Within the TBM

10.5 Ring Erection within the TBM Tail Shield

10.6 Importance of Annular Grout Support Around Segmental Liner Rings

10.7 Special Challenges During TBM Launch

10.8 Safety Considerations for Segment Handling and Installation

10.9 Trends in Automation of Segment Handling and Erection

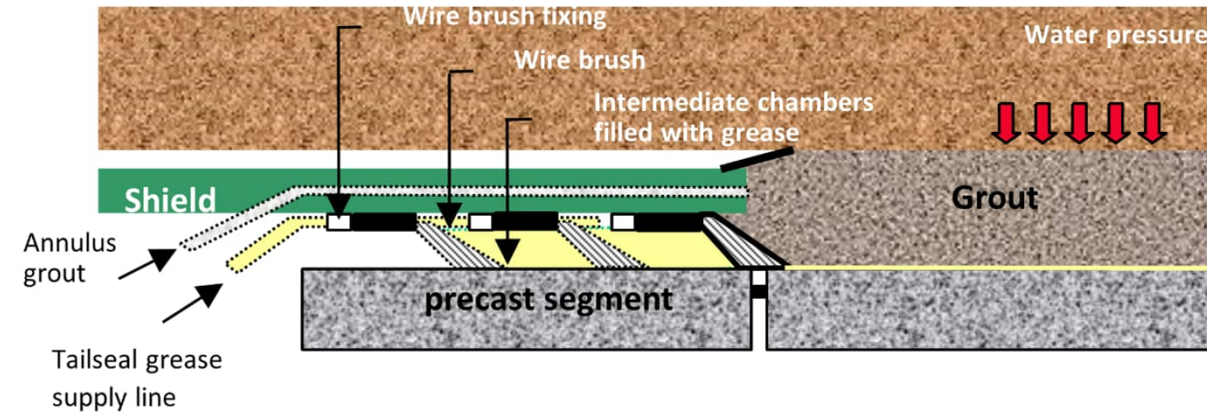
10.10 Reference Documents



Robotic Arm at Segment Unloading Station

Chapter 11 Backfill Grouting of Precast Segmental Linings

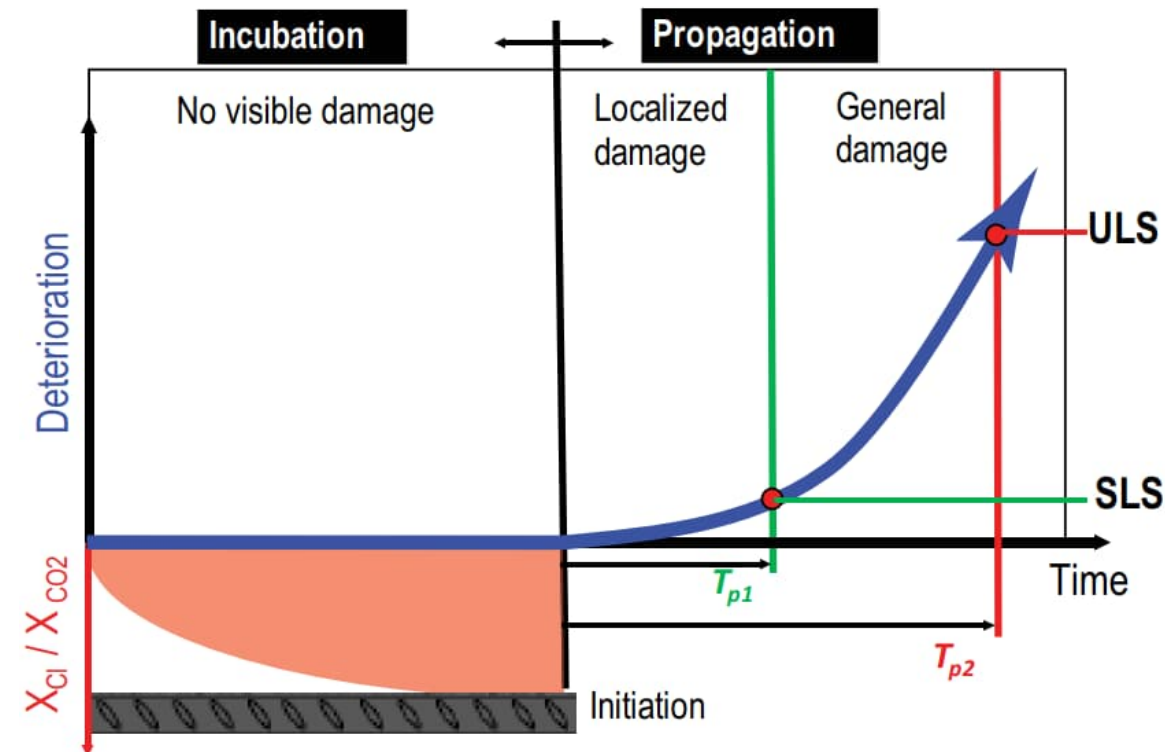
- 11.0 Introduction
- 11.1 Necessity for Annular Backfill Grout
- 11.2 Objectives of Annular Backfill Grout
- 11.3 Grout Types
- 11.4 Grout Injection Methods
- 11.5 Selection of the Grouting System
- 11.6 Mix Design Development
- 11.7 Grout Systems
- 11.8 Project Example of One-Component Grout
- 11.9 Project Example of Two-Component Grout
- 11.10 Project Example of Pea Gravel with Flood Grout
- 11.11 Testing Procedures
- 11.12 Annular Grout Quality Control
- 11.13 Safety
- 11.14 References and Further Reading Materials



Injecting Grout Through TBM Tail Shield

Chapter 12 Durability and Service Life of Precast Segmental Linings

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- 12.1 Conventional Degradation Mechanisms
- 12.3 Sulfate Attack
- 12.4 Acid Attack
- 12.5 Alkali-Aggregate Reaction
- 12.6 Frost Attack and Freeze-and-Thaw Damage
- 12.7 Stray Current Corrosion
- 12.8 Durability Under Coupling Multi Degradation Factors
- 12.9 Design for Service Life
- 12.10 Code Approaches
- 12.11 Performance-Based Approaches
- 12.12 References



Reinforced Concrete Deterioration Model

Chapter 13 Innovative Products and Applications

- 13.0 Current Position of Precast Segmental tunnel Linings in Tunnel Industry
- 13.1 Major Innovation that Impacted Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings Market Worldwide
- 13.2 Innovations in Segment Connector Componentry Systems
- 13.3 Innovations in Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings Sealing Systems
- 13.4 Innovations in Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings Reinforcement Systems
- 13.5 Innovations in Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings Corrosion Resistance
- 13.6 Innovations in Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings Design
- 13.7 Innovative Applications for Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings
- 13.8 Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings Applications in Shaft Construction
- 13.9 Utility Corridor Tunnel Construction Using Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings
- 13.10 Gas and Oil Industry Pipeline Tunnels
- 13.11 Innovations in Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings Casting Plant Technology
- 13.12 Innovative Permanent Identification Systems for Each Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings Segment
- 13.13 Innovations in Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings Materials
- 13.14 Future Needs for Innovation in Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings Project Materials and Design
- 13.15 Future Innovative Needs
- 13.16 Innovative Future Applications for Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings
- 13.17 Geothermal Energy Recovery Using Precast Segmental Tunnel Linings
- 13.18 Innovations in Mechanized Tunneling for Cross-Passage Construction



Shanghai Metro Double-O Tunnel

Thank you!



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