

Crystallization Mechanism and Removal of Mixed Solution in Drainage System of Dolomite Tunnel

Junying Rao

Guizhou university

Yanghao Xue (✉ xueyhoffice@163.com)

Guizhou university

Yonghu Tao

Guizhou university

Article

Keywords: Drainage system, Mixed solutions, Crystallization mechanism, Indoor model test, Breaking crystallization

Posted Date: May 31st, 2022

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-1656620/v1>

License: © ⓘ This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.

[Read Full License](#)

Crystallization Mechanism and Removal of Mixed Solution in Drainage System of Dolomite Tunnel

1 Junying Rao^{*a}; Yanghao Xue^{*b}; Yonghu Tao^{*a}

2 a.Space Structure Research Center(SSRC) of Guizhou University, Guiyang;

3 b.College of Civil Engineering, Guizhou University, Guiyang.

4 **First author:** Junying Rao , Ph.D., jyrao@gzu.edu.cn.

5 **Co-corresponding author:** Yanghao Xue, M.Eng, xueyoffice@163.com.; Yonghu Tao , M.Eng, 1562521808@qq.com.

6 **Abstract:** In the construction of tunnels located in the dolomite area, the problems caused by the
7 blockage of the drain pipe (ditch) crystallize one after another. The blockage of the drain pipe (ditch) is
8 one of the potential factors for the leakage of water in the tunnel. Therefore, it is of great engineering
9 significance to find out the factors and mechanisms of crystallization of the dolomite tunnel drainage
10 system. In this paper, the crystallization mechanism and crystal characteristics of the mixed solution of
11 dolomite tunnel drainage system are analyzed based on geological investigation, water quality testing,
12 crystal structure, etc., the causes of crystalline blockage of drainage pipes are analyzed by combining
13 indoor model tests and crystallization breaking tests, and finally, the optimization suggestions of the
14 drainage system are proposed. The results show that the water samples of the dolomite tunnel drainage
15 pipeline belong to the mixed solution of multi-ions, the cations are Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , Al^{3+} , etc., and the anions
16 are CO_3^{2-} 、 HCO_3^- 、 SO_4^{2-} , etc. Among them, the mass fraction and concentration of Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , Al^{3+} are
17 relatively high. , while the mass fraction and concentration range of Fe^{3+} 、 Cu^{2+} 、 Zn^{2+} 、 Ba^{2+} are
18 approximately 0; the crystal powder contains Cl, O, S, K, Ca, Mg, Al, Na and other elements, and the
19 content of Ca, Mg, Al In comparison, Ca is more, Al is less, and Mg is between the two; after the

20 evaluation of the degree of crystallization blockage, it is found that the degree of blockage of the
21 transverse drain pipe per linear meter is higher, the circular drainage pipe is lower, and the longitudinal
22 pipe is between the two. The crystal removal effect is more significant with the increase of the ultrasonic
23 vibration frequency. It is found that the optimal removal frequency is 50 kHz, and the optimization
24 suggestion of the drainage system is given in combination with the "V"-shaped pipeline arrangement.

25 **Keyword:** Drainage system; Mixed solutions; Crystallization mechanism; Indoor model test; Breaking
26 crystallization

27 **1 introduction**

28 In recent years, with the continuous development of my country's economy, the construction of
29 transportation infrastructure has become an important link. In Guizhou, Sichuan, and other regions in my
30 country, tunnel engineering is one of the key projects, but a series of diseases often occur in the tunnel
31 drainage system, such as blockage and water leakage. etc., which are related to tunnel design and
32 construction^[1]. How to effectively prevent tunnel diseases, improve road operation safety, and prolong
33 tunnel life have become hot research topics today.

34 However, at present, the center of gravity of tunnel design and construction is often too inclined to
35 intuitive factors such as the stability of surrounding rock and the safety of lining; on the contrary, indirect
36 factors such as the service life of the drainage system "hidden" behind the lining are often easily ignored.
37 Water seepage is a common disease in the field of tunnels^[2], because water seepage is closely related to
38 the crystallization blockage of the drainage system. The main manifestations are: when the pipeline is
39 blocked, it will lead to an increase in the accumulation of water behind the lining^[3], which will increase
40 the water pressure on the lining. When the water pressure exceeds When the ultimate bearing capacity of

41 the tunnel lining structure is exceeded, the lining structure is easy to crack, which induces water leakage;
42 After the surrounding rock is eroded or softened by flowing water, the strength is reduced and the bearing
43 capacity is weakened, which leads to an increase in the pressure of the lining structure, and even causes
44 the lining structure to crack and cause water leakage. Fig. 1 shows the crystallization of a tunnel drainage
45 system leading to blockage.



46

47

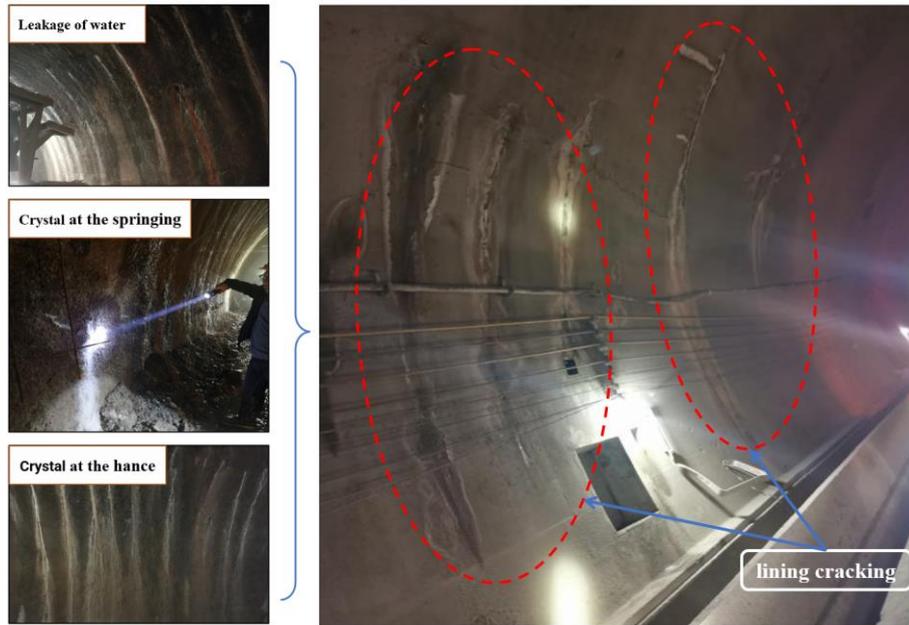
(a) Lining leaks



48

49

(b) Crystal overflow



(c) Lining cracking

Fig 1 Crystallization hazards of a tunnel

In the tunnel drainage system in the dolomite area, crystallization often occurs. The initial crystallization time of the tunnel drainage system occurs not only after the tunnel is put into operation, but also during the construction period of some tunnels. Fig. 2 shows the crystallization phenomenon of the Circular drainage pipe outlet, Longitudinal drain pipe, and Transverse Drain pipe of the drainage system of Baiyanjiao Tunnel under construction.



Fig. 2 Crystal blockage of a tunnel drainage system

60 Through research, problems such as unknown chemical composition of pipeline crystals, unclear
61 microstructure characteristics, unclear crystallization mechanism, and poor crystal breaking effect can
62 be effectively resolved; The mechanism of crystal plugging can be identified and the properties of
63 crystals can be identified, which provides a theoretical basis for solving engineering problems such as
64 crystallization of dolomite tunnel drainage pipes, assists in controlling the stubborn water leakage in
65 tunnels, improves tunnel operation safety, and reduces tunnel maintenance costs.

66 The phenomenon of karst caves often appears after water erosion in the dolomite area, which
67 belongs to special unfavorable geology. In the field of tunnel engineering, there have been many
68 literatures on the study of karst caves^[4,5,6], the construction of projects in this area is not only large in
69 investment, but also restricted by technology and geology. Therefore, it is particularly important to
70 explore the properties of dolomite projects.

71 It was found that Tao analyzed the characteristics of dolomite and found that dolomite contains
72 CaO, MgO, Al₂O₃, etc.^[7]; Xie et al. conducted experiments to study the composition of dolomite and
73 found that the main component of dolomite is CaCO₃, and contains MgO, Al₂O₃ and other substances,
74 which have a great impact on the physical and mechanical properties of dolomite^[8,9]; Guo analyzed the
75 mechanism of pipeline blockage and found that Ca(OH)₂ is easily soluble in groundwater, and it is easy
76 to generate crystals such as CaCO₃, which cause the drain pipe to block.^[10]; Eichinger et al. analyzed the
77 factors of pipeline blockage, and mainly studied the effect of CaCO₃ on pipeline blockage, the study
78 showed that a small amount of ettringite would be precipitated in a high pH value and saturated solution
79 ^[11]; Zhang analyzed the mechanism and crystal characteristics of pipeline clogging, and found that
80 pipeline clogging is not only related to the formation of precipitation due to the interaction of various
81 ions, but also to factors such as geology, climate, and design^[12,13]; Liu et al. analyzed the tunnel erosion

82 failure mechanism and property characteristics of salt-bearing strata of different rocks and found that
83 soluble salt rocks such as gypsum and Glauber's salt are the material basis for corrosion and expansion.
84 The lining undergoes corrosion, branching, expansion, and extrusion, resulting in damage to the
85 supporting structure^[14,15]; Eichinger et al. studied pipeline blockage caused by CaCO₃ precipitation and
86 found that its hydrochemistry principle mainly includes cement slurry dissolution and solution mixing,
87 and calcium carbonate will grow to various degrees^[16]; Girmscheid et al. analyzed the mechanism of
88 pipeline blockage and found that there may be lime in the pipeline interacting with atmospheric
89 conditions to form calcite, causing a blockage^[17,18].

90 Ye investigated the crystal blockage of a tunnel under construction and found that more carbonates
91 in the groundwater will make crystals more likely to be formed in the drainage pipe of the tunnel. The
92 solution ion concentration and crystal accumulation capacity in the drainage pipe is important factors
93 affecting the generation of blockages in drains^[19]; When Jung et al. studied the factors of pipeline
94 blockage, they found that the precipitates were mainly caused by the deterioration of concrete and the
95 chemical reaction between ions in the pipe^[20]; Park et al. analyzed the relationship between pipeline
96 deterioration and blockage and found that blockage could easily lead to tunnel aging and deterioration.
97 Through experiments, it was found that the slope of the drainage pipe had a great relationship with the
98 blockage^[21]; Liu et al. studied the anti-crystallization analysis of flocking at different flow rates through
99 model tests, and found that flocking can effectively inhibit the growth of crystals, but this technology is
100 difficult to operate, especially in practical tunnels, and it is not easy to achieve^[22]; Zhou believes that
101 adding carbonic anhydrase or high-efficiency scale inhibitor to the tunnel drainage pipe can inhibit the
102 precipitation of precipitated crystals in the drainage pipe, thereby delaying the blockage process, but this
103 method can only cure the symptoms but not the root cause^[23].

104 To sum up, it is found that the crystal composition in the dolomite tunnel drainage pipeline system:
105 in addition to CaCO_3 , there are oxides such as MgO and Al_2O_3 , and the precipitated crystals of the
106 solution after dissolution are complex, so the crystal composition in the drainage pipeline needs to be
107 clarified; In addition, the solution in the dolomite tunnel is a multi-ion mixed solution, and its
108 precipitation is not only one of CaCO_3 , and the mixing ratio of different ion concentrations not only
109 affects the crystallization formation mechanism, but also determines the properties of crystals, and the
110 crystallization law of the pipeline is not clear; Finally, in terms of crystal removal, the chemical method
111 may cause damage to the surrounding environment, the mechanical method and tube flocking method
112 are difficult to operate, the scale inhibitor method does not cure the root cause, and there are some
113 limitations in such methods, so crystal removal countermeasures are still necessary. In this paper, the
114 crystallization blockage of the dolomite tunnel drainage system is taken as the breakthrough point to
115 explore the composition and crystallization mechanism of the mixed solution of the dolomite drainage
116 system. Combined with laboratory tests and existing research results, the countermeasures and
117 suggestions for solving the crystallization blockage of the dolomite drainage pipeline system are finally
118 given.

119 **2 Crystal composition analysis**

120 This section investigated the crystallization of many tunnels, such as Xiaowan Tunnel, Dahe
121 Interchange Tunnel, Xindianzi Tunnel, and Baiyanjiao Tunnel (hereinafter referred to as tunnels A, B,
122 C, and D), collected water samples and crystalline powder, and numbered them. Combined with SEM,
123 XRD, and EDS analysis, the water quality and crystalline composition of tunnel drainage pipes in the
124 dolomite area were verified.

125 **2.1 Geological survey**

126 This section's geological survey relies on the project tunnel as an example, the scene as shown in
127 Fig. 3, the tunnel area is mainly dolomite, with limestone, and clastic soil.



128

129

Fig. 3 Field investigation of tunnel

130 Aiming at the problem of crystallization blockage in the dolomite tunnel, the crystallization of the
131 tunnel drainage pipe in the dolomite area is analyzed by field investigation, photograph, and water quality
132 sampling, as shown in Fig. 4. The crystallization blockage of drainage pipes in some tunnels is shown in
133 Fig. 5.



134

135

Fig. 4 Crystallized powder and water sample

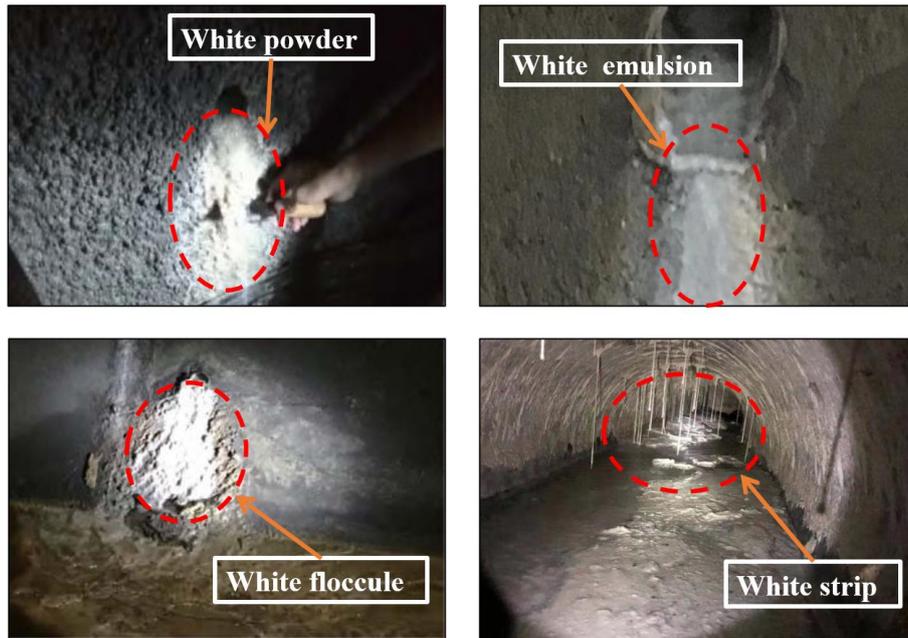
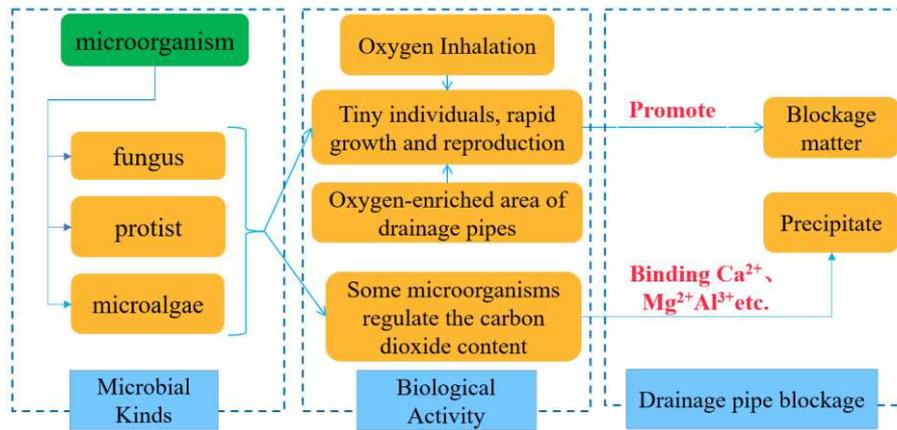


Fig. 5 Crystal blockage of tunnel drainage pipe

According to the on-site investigation, dolomite is carbonate salt, which is easy to dissolve, and its main component is calcite, which is widely distributed in Sichuan, Guizhou, and other places. Because dolomite has the characteristics of easy dissolution, the bubbles generated by the contact of dolomite with weak hydrochloric acid will easily lead to crystal blockage in the tunnel drainage pipe. In addition, the investigation also found that there are many crystals at the outlet of the Transverse drain pipe and the Longitudinal drain pipe, and there are few crystals in the Circular drainage pipe.

The preliminary analysis shows that the dolomite is easily dissolved under the action of groundwater scouring, and the groundwater has the effect of dissolution and seepage. When groundwater moves, it will carry a lot of debris, slag, particles, etc. into the pipeline and accumulate, and the accumulation will increase with time, thus causing the tunnel drainage pipe to be blocked; With the change of temperature and precipitation, due to the supplement or loss of groundwater, the concentration of ions in groundwater changes, which affects the crystallization; Microbial factors [24,25] and plant factors also affect the CO_2 content in the surrounding rock and the plasma concentrations of Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , and Al^{3+} , as shown in Fig.

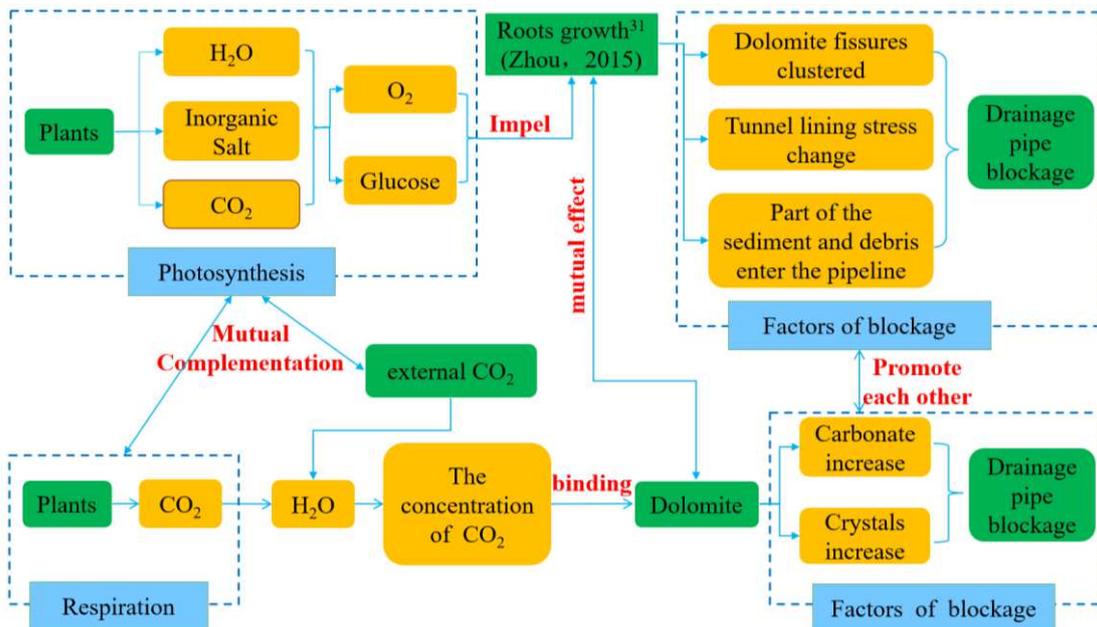
151 6 and Fig. 7.



152

153

Fig. 6 Microbial crystal plugging



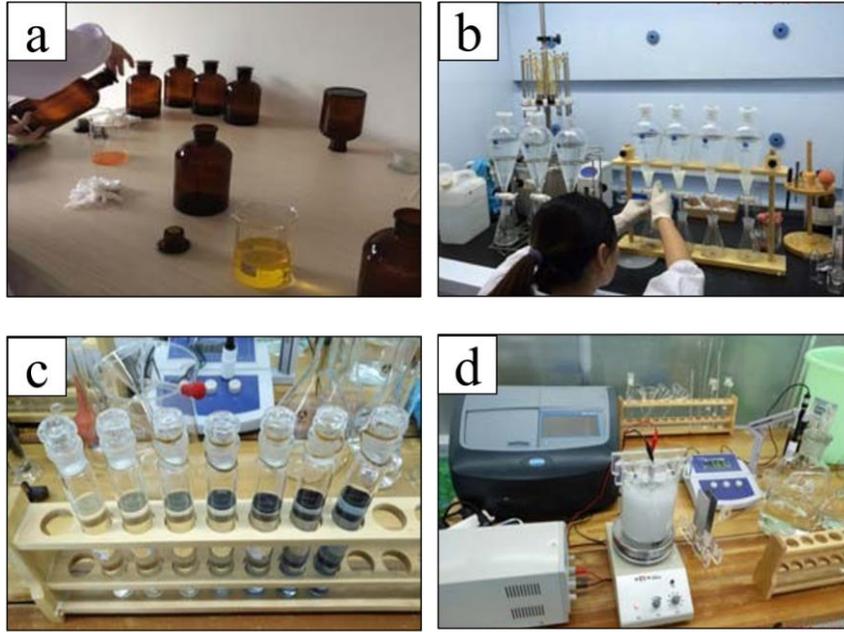
154

155

Fig. 7 Clogging caused by plant factor crystallization

156 **2.2 Analysis of water quality composition**

157 The water samples from the tunnel drainage pipes were filtered and allowed to stand for water
 158 quality analysis, as shown in Fig. 8.



159

160

161

162

163

(a) Cleaning equipment (b) Sample preprocessing
(c) Sample grading (d) Examination of water quality

Fig. 8 Example of water quality inspection process

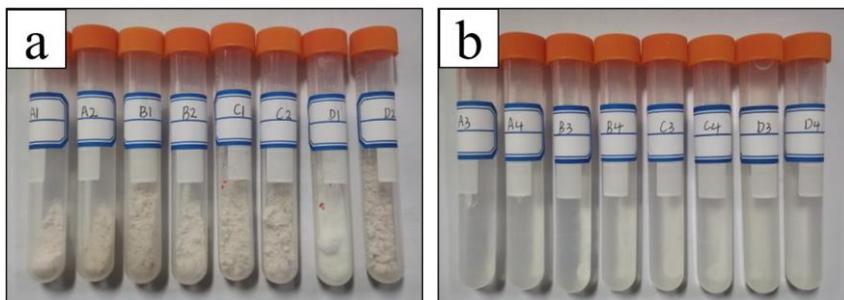
164

165

166

167

For the convenience of analysis, the crystalline powder and water samples collected on site are numbered, and the crystalline powder on the left and right of the A tunnel is marked as A1 and A2 respectively, and the left and right water samples of the A tunnel are marked as A3 and A4 respectively. Tunnels B, C, and D are marked in the same way, as shown in Fig. 9.



168

169

170

(a) Crystallized powder (b) Crystallized water samples

Fig. 9 Sampling number

171 According to the results of water quality analysis, all kinds of ions, ion concentration range, and
 172 mass percentage content were counted, and the ion statistics are shown in Table 1.

173 Table 1 Statistics of relevant ion indicators

Numbering	Ion	Density range	Concentration range /mg.L ⁻¹	Mass fraction
		/g.cm ⁻³		range/%
1	CO ₃ ²⁻	1.458~13.378	0.074~0.152	23.47%~28.82%
2	SO ₄ ²⁻	3.493~54.287	0.051~0.058	12.69%~22.55%
3	Ca ²⁺	0.741~52.266	0.028~0.189	10.79%~19.43%
4	Mg ²⁺	0.053~0.449	0.002~0.014	0.58%~0.85%
5	Na ⁺	2.552~7.974	0.059~0.335	19.82%~22.88%
6	Al ³⁺	0.035~0.765	0.002~0.028	0.58%~1.96%
7	K ⁺	0.999~18.550	0.020~0.175	7.56%~17.53%
8	Cl ⁻	0.015~0.043	0.015~0.043	3.96%~5.95%
9	Fe ³⁺	0.030~0.050	0.000~0.000	0.13%~0.19%
10	Cu ²⁺	0.0001~0.002	0.000~0.000	0.05%~0.050%
11	Zn ²⁺	0.0007~0.002	0.000~0.000	0.05%~0.051%
12	Ba ²⁺	0.00007~0.0029	0.000~0.000	0.00%~28.93%

174 Table 1 shows that the dolomite tunnel crystal sample is a complex mixture, is a multi-ion mixed
 175 solution, containing cations: Ca²⁺、Mg²⁺、Fe³⁺, anions: SO₄²⁻、CO₃²⁻ etc. A series of complex physical
 176 and chemical reactions form crystallization blocking pipes, so it is necessary to study the composition of
 177 crystals. To facilitate the later analysis, the ion classification is as follows : (1) Crystalline ions, refers
 178 to the ion itself that is easy to combine with other ions to form crystalline precipitation ions, such as Ca²⁺、

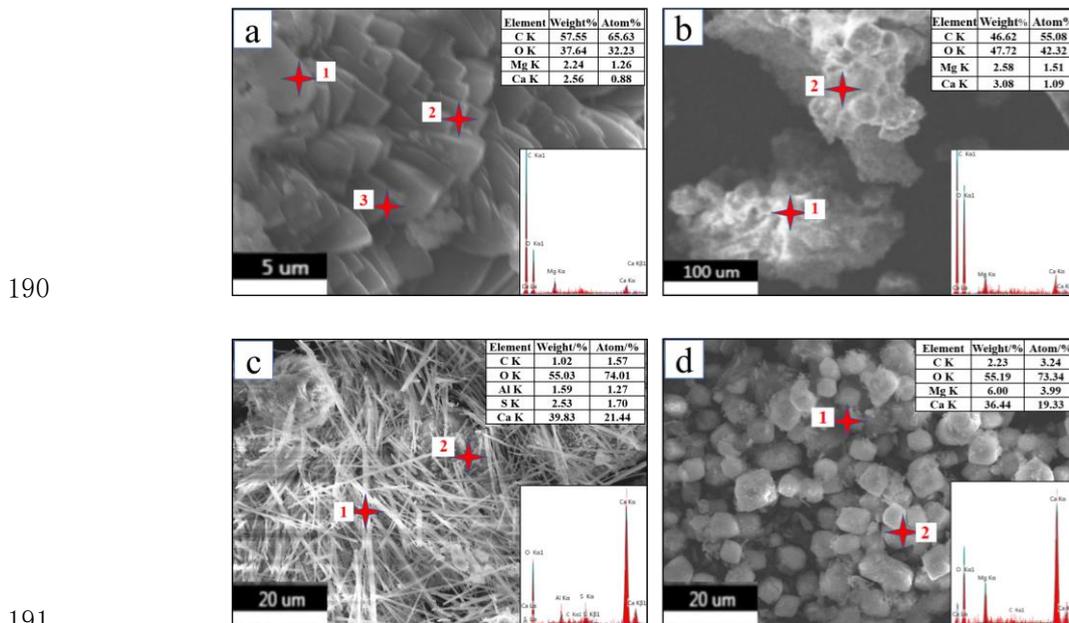
179 Mg^{2+} 、 SO_4^{2-} 、 CO_3^{2-} 、 Al^{3+} ; (2) Non-crystalline ions, refer to the ion itself is not easy to crystallize with
180 other ions to form precipitation blockage, such as Cl^- 、 K^+ 、 Na^+ .

181 3 Crystal microstructure analysis

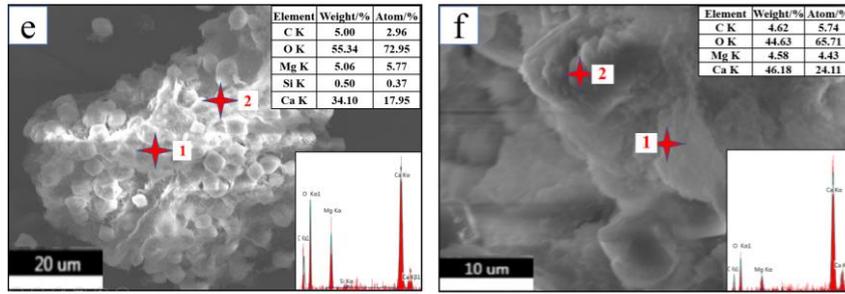
182 The literature shows that the energy peak diagram of each element can be obtained by the phase
183 analysis method, the crystal structure and shape can be understood from the microscopic point of view,
184 and the element content and shape characteristics in different regions can be obtained^[26,27]. XRD can use
185 the wavelength corresponding to the X-ray diffraction peak to reversely deduce the crystal seed of the
186 crystal and determine the material composition.

187 3.1 Phase analysis

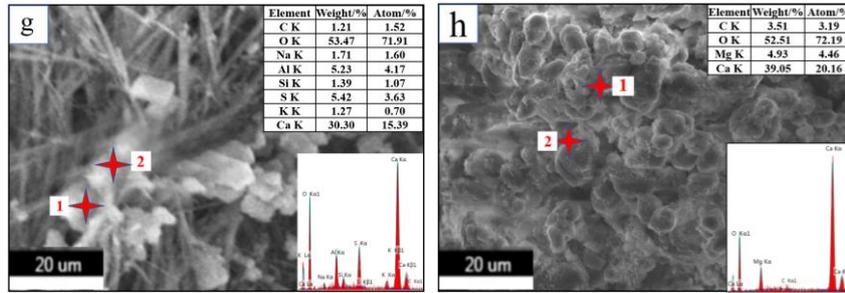
188 Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) was performed on the crystals sampled at the site, and the
189 scanning results are shown in Fig. 10.



192



193



194

(a)A1 sample; (b)A2 sample; (c) B1 sample;(d) B2 sample

195

(e)C1 sample; (f)C2 sample; (g) D1 sample; (h) D2 sample

196

Fig. 10 SEM analysis

197

Fig. 10 (a) shows that: magnesium as a whole is a white thin block, granular accumulation into

198

rows, the structure is close and complete, Ca element presents coarse wedge; Fig. 10 (b) shows that the

199

whole magnesium is bright white granular, multi-granular accumulation forming, the structure is close

200

and complete, calcium is dark white a coarse granular; Fig. 10 (c) shows that: calcium presents white

201

coarse silk, widely distributed, aluminum as a whole presents bright white fine silk, loose structure; Fig.

202

10 (d) shows that part of magnesium as a whole is bright white granular, granular accumulation, coarse

203

calcium particles, dark; Fig. 10 (e) shows that : magnesium as a whole is bright white granular, granular

204

accumulation forming, compact structure, and calcium presents bulky; Fig. 10 (f) shows that:

205

magnesium as a whole is a white fine block, calcium presents a dark coarse block; Fig. 10 (g) shows

206

that aluminum as a whole is a bright white fine block, calcium bulky accumulation. In addition, from Fig.

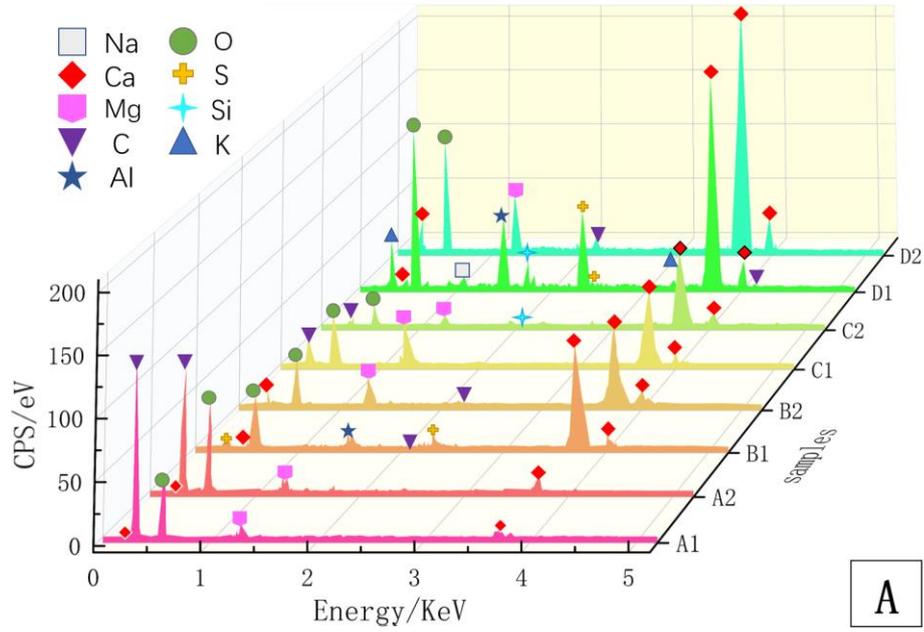
207

10 (a), which comes from the early completed lining, the overall microstructure is massive, and the

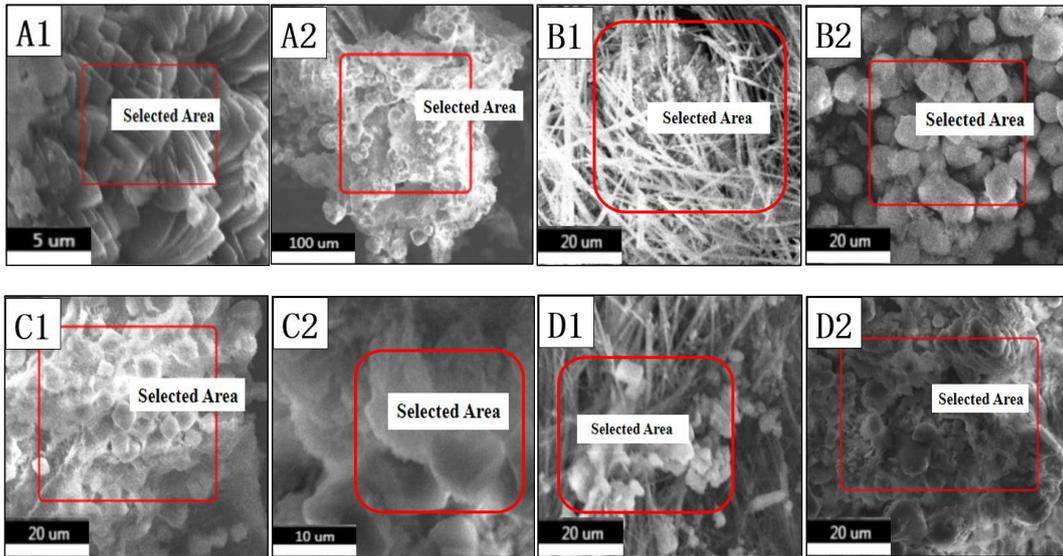
208 crystals are closely contacted. From Fig. 10 (d), which comes from the drainage pipe wall, the particle
209 boundary is clear, the overall microstructure is granular, and there are many voids between crystals. From
210 Fig. 10 (h), which comes from the recently completed shotcrete, the overall microstructure is between
211 (a) and (d), and the crystals still have granular characteristics, but the voids between particles are
212 partially connected and the boundary of particles is blurred. This can explain the crystal blockage to a
213 certain extent: the crystal is formed by the accumulation of small particles, and the contact of small
214 particles is not reliable, so it is easy to be transferred to other places by water. When the particles
215 gradually accumulate somewhere, the accumulation amount increases with time, and the Ca^{2+} in water is
216 continuously supplemented. The contact between small particles becomes closer and closer, and the
217 overall microstructure becomes massive. Finally, it is closely attached to the wall or lining and other
218 structures.

219 **3.2 Compositional analysis**

220 EDS analysis was performed on the crystalline powder samples A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2, D1, and
221 D2 sampled in the field, and the elements are shown in Fig. 11.



222



223

224

225

Regions A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2, D1, D2 for each sample in A

226

Fig. 11 EDS analysis

227

According to EDS analysis results, the main elements are: Na, Ca, Al, C, Mg, K, Si, O, and S;

228

crystalline ions contain Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , Al^{3+} etc. ; In general, the energy peak of calcium is relatively high,

229

indicating that its content is also relatively high, followed by the content of Mg and Al. Therefore, the

230

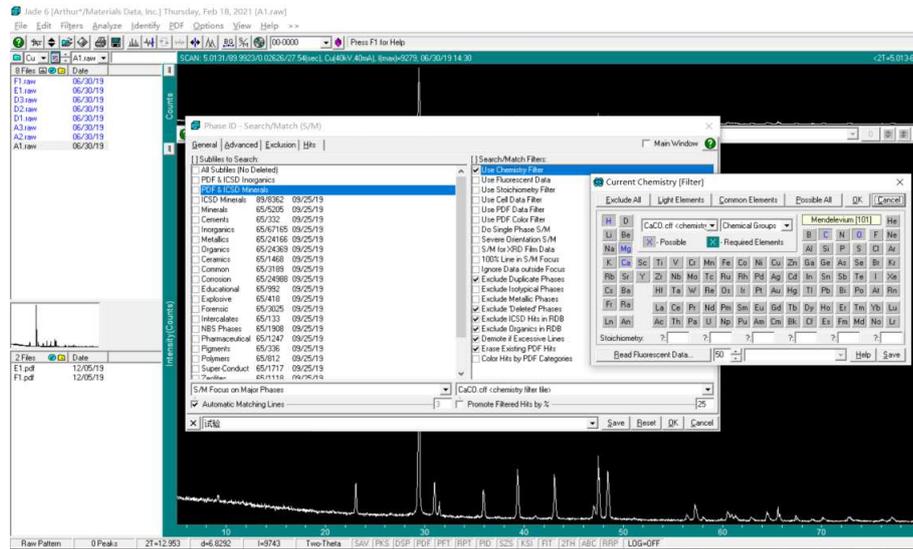
influence of Mg and Al on crystallization cannot be ignored in the study. Due to the existence of C, S, O

231

and other elements, CO_3^{2-} and OH^- are easy to occur in water, and then $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$ and $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$, and other

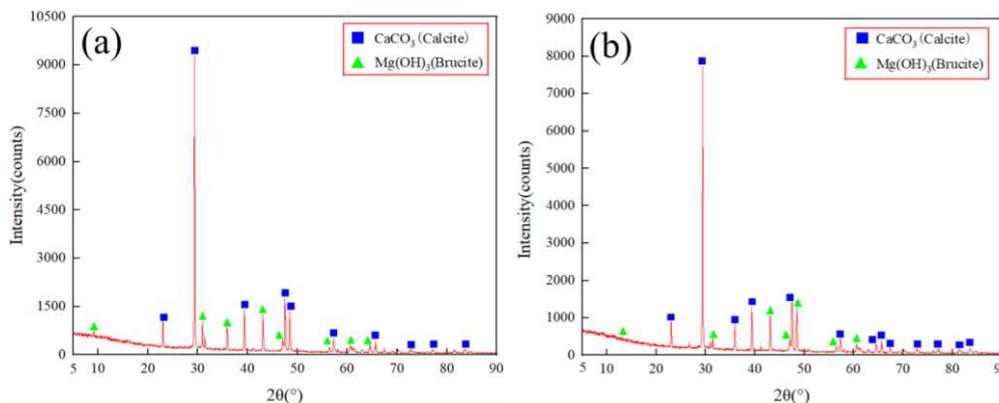
232 precipitates are easy to produce, which will affect the drainage pipeline. Fig. 11 also verifies the ion
233 species in water quality analysis.

234 Although EDS analysis can effectively determine the elements in the formulation area, H and HE
235 cannot be determined according to the position of the characteristic spectral line. Since the properties of
236 the He element are relatively stable and it is difficult to form compounds, the influence of this element
237 is not considered. In the XRD analysis, the phase analysis with and without the H element can be carried
238 out based on Jade 6.5 software to make up for the deficiency of EDS analysis, as shown in Fig. 12.

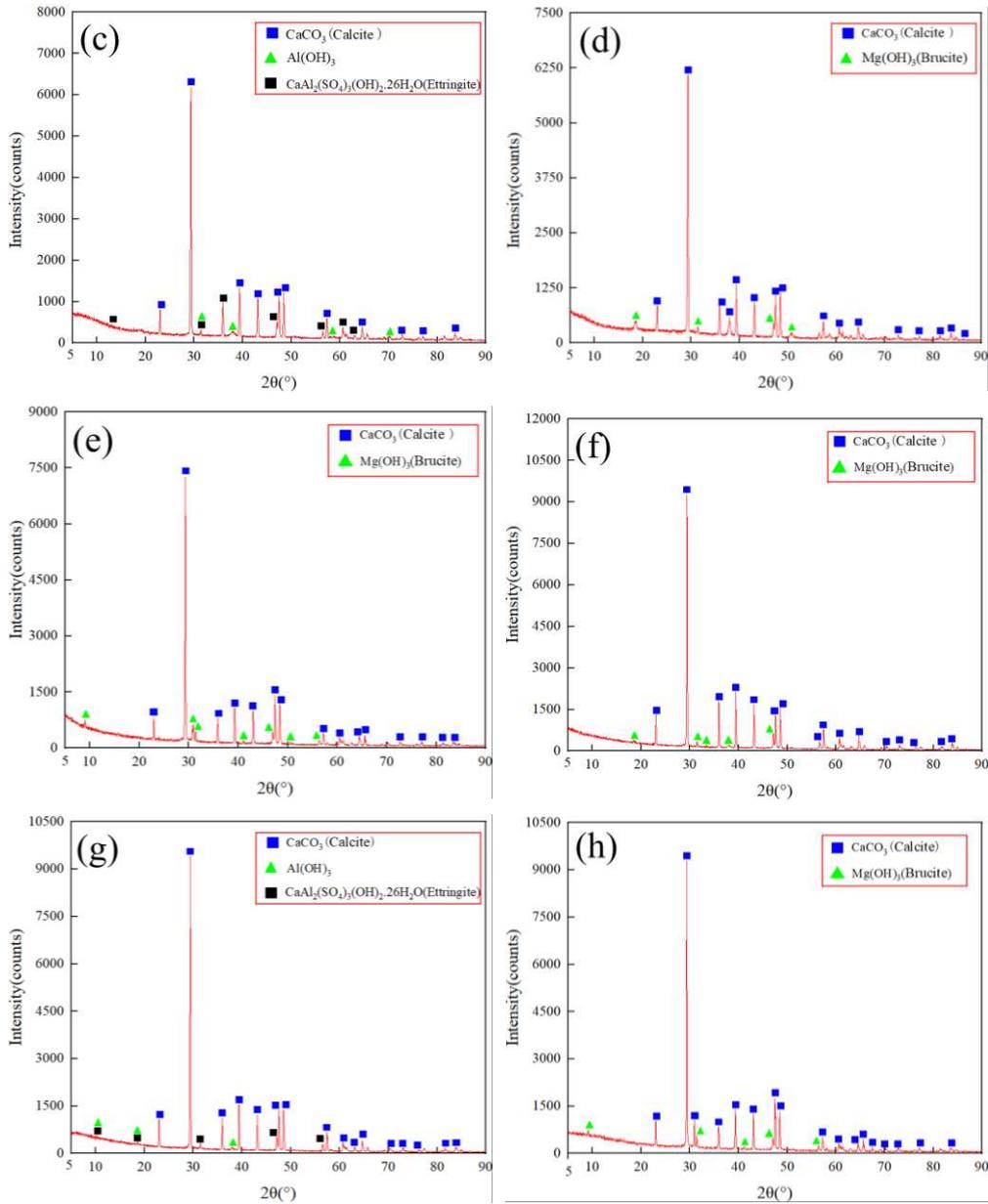


239
240 Fig. 12 H element screening

241 XRD test was used to analyze the crystalline composition of the dolomite tunnel drainage system,
242 as shown in Fig. 13.



243



244

245

246

247 (a) is XRD of Sample A1; (b) is XRD of Sample A2; (c) is XRD of Sample B1;

248 (d) is XRD of Sample B2; (e) is XRD of Sample C1; (f) is XRD of Sample C2;

249 (g) is XRD of Sample D1; (h) is XRD of Sample D2.

250

Fig. 13 XRD analysis

251 Fig. 13 shows that: Fig. 13 (a), Fig. 13 (b), Fig. 13 (d), Fig. 13 (e), Fig. 13 (f), and Fig. 13

252 (h) show that in the crystalline powder, in addition to CaCO_3 , also contains part of Mg(OH)_2 ; Fig. 13

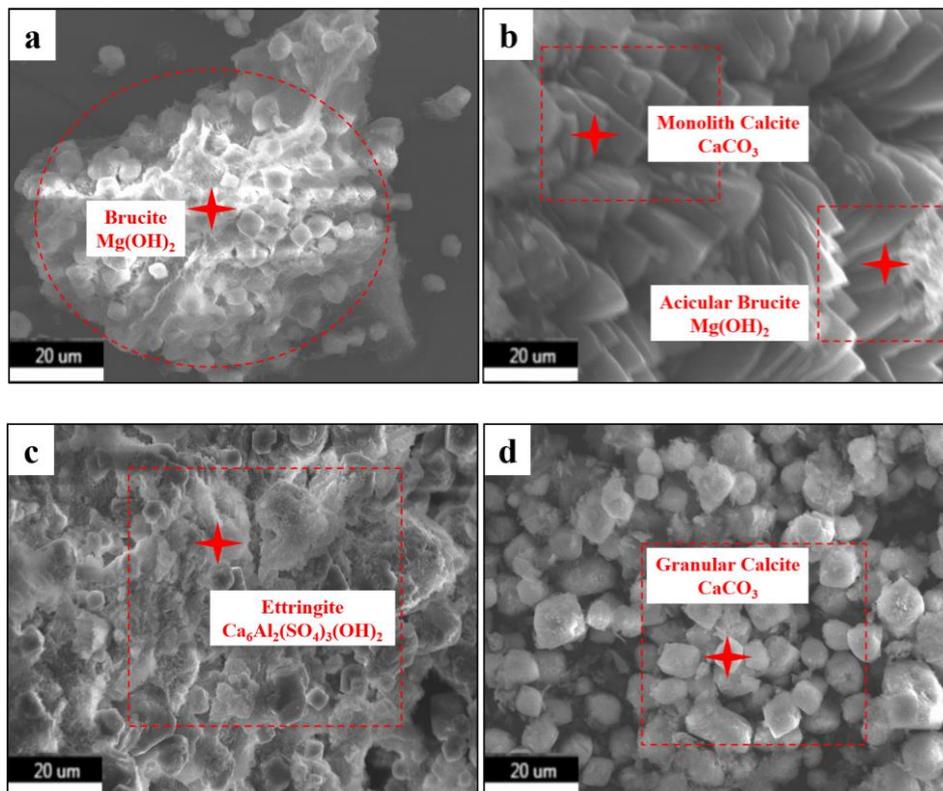
253 (c), Fig. 13 (g) shows that in addition to CaCO_3 , Mg(OH)_2 , there are some Al(OH)_3 , ettringite coexist

254 in the crystalline powder.

255 In summary, it is found that the crystalline powder contains Cl, O, S, K, Ca, Mg, Al, Na, and other
256 elements, combined with H in water and C in air. In nature, these elements generally exist in the form of
257 ions or compounds, namely: Cl^- , O^{2-} , SO_4^{2-} , K^+ , Ca^+ , Mg^{2+} , Al^{3+} , Na^+ , OH^- , H^+ , CO_3^{2-} plasmas, which
258 combine to form new substances, such as $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$, CaCO_3 , $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$, etc. Crystallization precipitation,
259 coupled with the accumulation of some physical debris plugs, and then pipeline crystallization plugs;
260 CaCO_3 has the highest content, but it also contains non-negligible blockages such as $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$, $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$.

261 Comprehensive EDS, XRD, SEM analysis, and different elements combined to form crystalline
262 precipitation, resulting in different wall adhesions, blockage degree, and crystalline blockage as shown
263 in Fig. 14.

264



265

266

Fig. 14 Crystal structures of some compounds

267

Fig. 14 shows that the microstructure of crystals is different, and the main structural difference

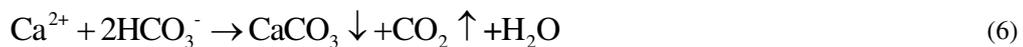
268 depends on the corresponding crystalline ions, such as the microstructure of $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$ depends on the
269 microstructure of Mg element, the microstructure of CaCO_3 depends on the microstructure of Ca element,
270 the microstructure of $\text{CaAl}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3(\text{OH})_2 \cdot 26\text{H}_2\text{O}$ depends on the microstructure of Ca element and Al
271 element.

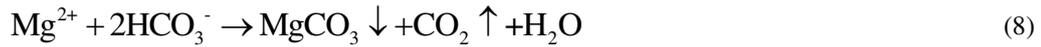
272 Combined with EDS, SEM, and XRD analysis, it is found that calcium content is more, magnesium
273 content is second, and aluminum content is less in crystalline ions. The crystal calcite CaCO_3 is white,
274 needle-like, fine-grained, and massive. The crystal $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$ is bright white, filamentous, and powder-
275 like. Aluminum and calcium form ettringite $\text{CaAl}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3(\text{OH})_2 \cdot 26\text{H}_2\text{O}$ crystal, and there are some milky-
276 white $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ crystals, and the structure is stacked.

277 **4 Mechanism of crystal blockage**

278 **4.1 Crystal formation theory**

279 According to Table 1 in Section 2, the water samples of the dolomite tunnel drainage system contain
280 cations such as Ca^{2+} 、 Mg^{2+} 、 Na^+ 、 K^+ 、 Fe^{3+} 、 Cu^{2+} 、 Zn^{2+} 、and Ba^{2+} 、and anions such as CO_3^{2-} 、 SO_4^{2-} 、
281 HCO_3^- . According to the interaction between ions, the main reactions may be:





282 In the (3) ~ (19) chemical reaction, the type of precipitation is shown in Table 2.

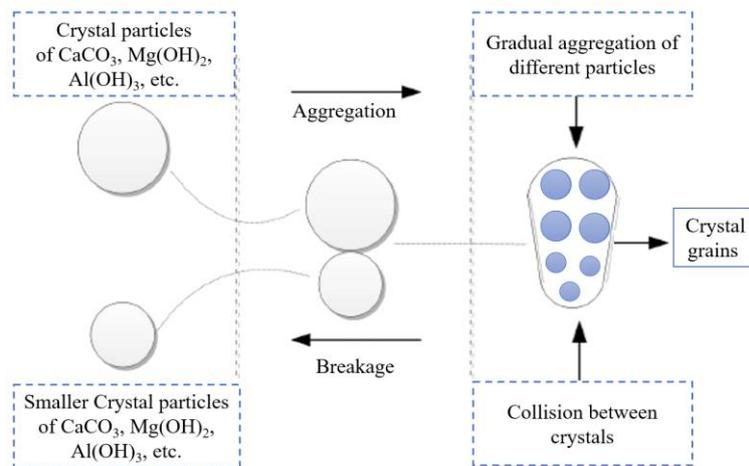
283 Table 2 Types of Precipitation

Kind of precipitation	Color	Chemical property	After hydrolysis	Crystal shape
CaCO_3	white	soluble in acid	Alkaline	fibroid
BaCO_3	white	soluble in acid	Alkaline	granular
MgCO_3	white	sparingly soluble in acid	Alkaline	amorphism
CaSO_4	white	sparingly soluble in acid	Alkaline	columnar

BaSO ₄	white	soluble in acid	Alkaline	Plate crystal type
Al(OH) ₃	white	soluble in acid and alkali	Alkaline	Single crystal hexagonal flakes
Fe(OH) ₃	fulvous	soluble in acid	Alkaline	needle-like, fish-scale-like
Mg(OH) ₂	White, gray	soluble in acid	Alkaline	Leaf - shaped, leaf - shaped
Cu(OH) ₂	Blue	soluble in acid	Alkaline	floccule
Cu ₂ (CO ₃)(OH) ₂	green	soluble in acid	Alkaline	Grape-shaped

284 4.2 Crystallization process

285 Recrystallization (Secondary nucleation) may occur during crystal formation, This process mainly
 286 includes aggregation and breakage²⁸¹. Crystal aggregation refers to the phenomenon that the crystals in
 287 nucleation or growth collide, fuse, and separate with other crystals, and some grains stick together to
 288 form new grains, and the nuclei grow again. Crystal breakage means that some grains are broken, making
 289 the grains smaller and becoming smaller again. The process is shown in Fig. 15.



290

291

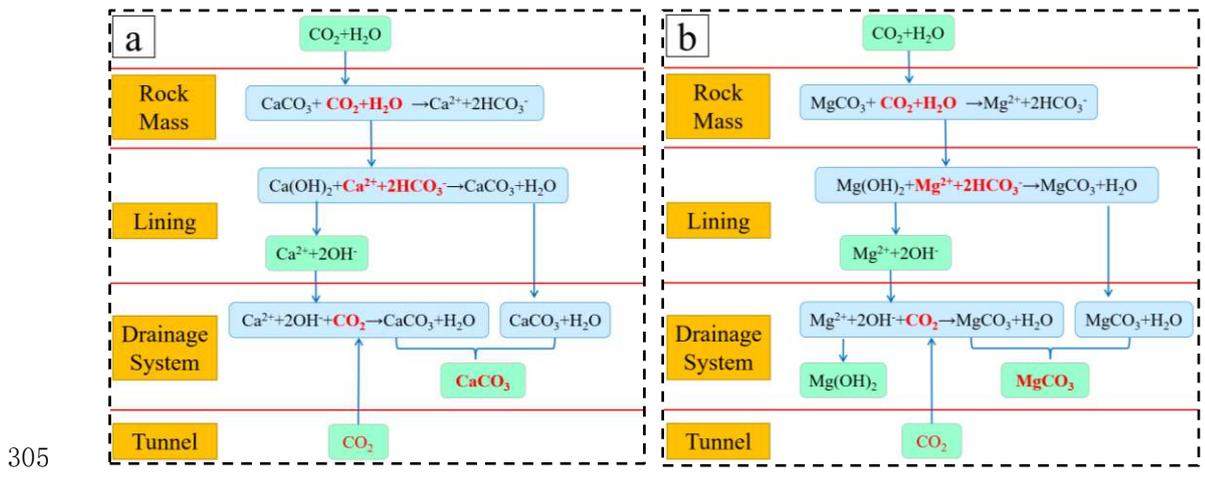
Fig. 15 Crystal aggregation and breakage

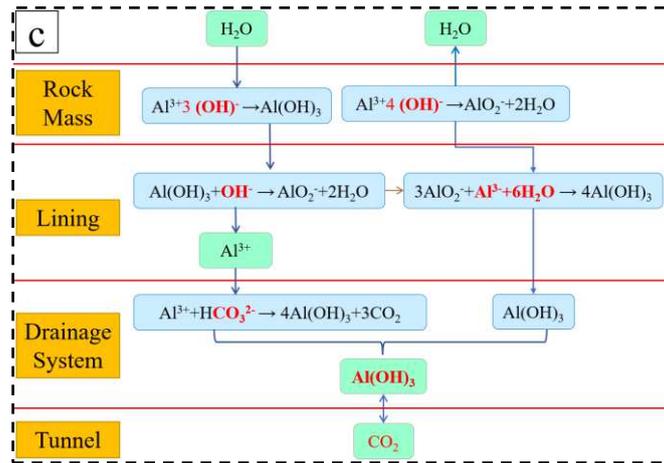
292 **4.3 Crystallization mechanism analysis**

293 It can be seen from the third section that the content of Fe^{3+} , Cu^{2+} , and Ba^{2+} is very little by SEM
 294 scanning electron microscope, XRD test, and water quality test, which is approximately 0, so it can be
 295 ignored in crystal precipitation.

296 It can be seen from Formula (4.5) that CaSO_4 precipitation will eventually transform into CaCO_3
 297 precipitation, and then CaSO_4 crystals will not precipitate when the reaction is sufficient, while Ca^{2+} and
 298 Mg^{2+} will spontaneously react with HCO_3^- , SO_4^{2-} and CO_3^{2-} ions. $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ precipitation generated by Al^{3+}
 299 is amphoteric and can be dissolved in acid and alkali, while dolomite belongs to carbonate rock. The
 300 main chemical composition of dolomite is CaCO_3 , and hydrolysis is alkaline. Some $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ precipitation
 301 is dissolved to form meta aluminate, and the other part exists in the form of $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$.

302 In summary, it is found that there may be CaCO_3 , MgCO_3 , $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$, $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$, and other precipitates
 303 in the crystallization type. The crystallization mechanism of some ions is shown in Fig. 16^[10], and the
 304 crystallization blockage of the drainage pipe is shown in Fig. 17.





(a) Ca^{2+} Mechanism of crystal blockage (b) Mg^{2+} Mechanism of crystal blockage

(c) Al^{3+} Mechanism of crystal blockage

Fig. 16 Mechanism of ion crystallization

(a) Ca^{2+} Mechanism of crystal blockage:

In the first step: H_2O and CO_2 interact with CaCO_3 in the surrounding rock, and the initial products are Ca^{2+} and HCO_3^- ; In the second step: Ca^{2+} and HCO_3^- react with $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ in the lining, and gradually produce CaCO_3 and H_2O . At the same time, part of $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ in the lining pore water will also be decomposed into Ca^{2+} and OH^- . Step 3: Ca^{2+} and OH^- in lining pore water react with CO_2 again after entering the drainage system, and CaCO_3 crystals are formed in the drainage pipeline.

(b) Mg^{2+} Mechanism of crystal blockage:

The crystallization mechanism of Mg^{2+} and Ca^{2+} is similar. In the first step: H_2O and CO_2 interact with MgCO_3 in the surrounding rock, and the initial products are Mg^{2+} and HCO_3^- ; in the second step: Mg^{2+} and HCO_3^- react with $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$ in the lining, and gradually produce MgCO_3 and H_2O . At the same time, part of $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$ in the lining pore water also decomposes into Mg^{2+} and OH^- ; step 3: Mg^{2+} in lining pore water reacts with CO_2 again after OH^- enters the drainage system and forms MgCO_3 crystal in a drainage pipe.

323 (c) Al^{3+} Mechanism of crystal blockage:

324 The crystallization mechanism of Al^{3+} is different from Mg^{2+} and Ca^{2+} . The first step: In the
325 surrounding rock, a part of Al^{3+} and OH^- in the water combine to form $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$. In addition, because
326 $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ is amphoteric hydroxide, another part of Al^{3+} and OH^- combine with AlO_2^- and H_2O . The
327 second step: $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ reacts with OH^- in the lining to produce AlO_2^- . However, because the concrete
328 can supplement Al^{3+} in the aqueous solution, the solubility of Al^{3+} increases, and then part of AlO_2^-
329 reacts with Al^{3+} to produce $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$, and the other part of Al^{3+} enters the drainage pipeline with the
330 mixed solution. Step 3: Al^{3+} reacts with HCO_3^- in the drainage pipe to generate $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ and CO_2 .

331 From the above analysis, it can be seen that the reaction principles of Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , and Al^{3+} are
332 relatively complex, but because the mixed solution is flowing, the time and space conditions of various
333 chemical reactions are uncertain. For example, Al^{3+} and AlO_2^- are not co-existent in principle, but when
334 their numbers do not match or the time of producing these two ions is inconsistent, the reaction cannot
335 be carried out. However, as the mixed solution gathers into the drainage pipe, Al^{3+} and AlO_2^- form a
336 consistent quantity, time, and space, and then a series of chemical reactions occur, resulting in drainage
337 pipe blockage.

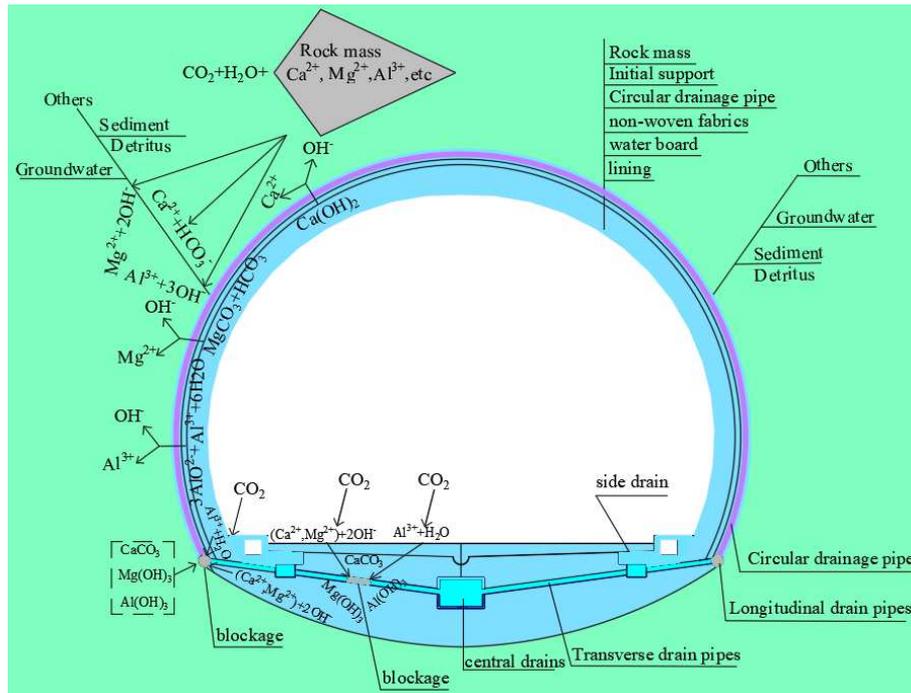


Fig 17 Reaction crystallization mechanism of mixed solution

It can be seen from Fig. 17 that the surrounding rock can provide the mixed solution of Al^{3+} , Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , HCO_3^{2-} plasma. When the mixed solution in the rock mass passes through the lining, the lining can further supplement Al^{3+} , Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , and OH^- ions and generate AlO_2^- . At this time, there are some crystals in the pore water of the lining: $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$, $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$, and $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$. Some of these crystals will adhere to the lining gap and pores, and the other part will be transferred to the drainage system by water. Due to the abundant CO_2 in the tunnel, the crystallization in the drainage pipeline is concentrated, and finally, the drainage pipeline is blocked.

5 Model test of drainage pipeline blockage

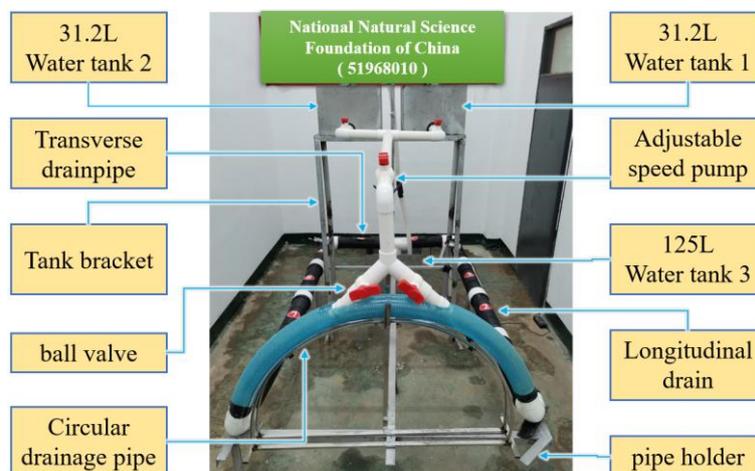
The source and mechanism of crystallization were analyzed through the above analysis. To further explore the formation law of crystallization in the drainage pipeline, the model experiment of drainage pipeline blockage was carried out. Several ions with a large concentration or influence on crystallization were selected to prepare solutions for indoor experimental research. The crystallization precipitation

352 blockage formed by ion reaction in tunnel drainage pipe was simulated, the content and change of
353 crystallization were analyzed, the crystallization blockage law of pipeline was analyzed, and the crystal
354 properties were explored, to provide a reference for preventing and controlling crystallization blockage
355 in the tunnel.

356 5.1 Test scheme

357 Based on the drainage system design of the engineering tunnel, the test model is arranged.
358 Combined with the results of water quality analysis in section 2 and component analysis in section 3,
359 CaCl_2 , NaHCO_3 , MgCl_2 , KCl , AlCl_3 , and Na_2SO_4 solutions were prepared. During the experiment, the
360 parts except for the outlet of the drainage pipe were sealed to prevent CO_2 from entering.

361 The working mechanism of the drainage system is as follows: put the pre-configured mixed solution
362 into the high water tank 1 and the water tank 2 respectively, and then use the adjustable velocity valve to
363 open the water valve according to the flow rate of 0.5 m/s . The mixed solution enters the low water tank
364 3 successively through the circular drainage pipe, longitudinal drain pipe, and transverse drain pipe, and
365 then transfers the mixed solution to the high water tank by the pump until the cumulative time reaches 8
366 days.



367

368

Fig. 18 Device Details Labeling

369 In Fig. 18, the longitudinal tube is a $\Phi 110$ PE bellows with no grooves on the inner wall and is
 370 removable, and the length is 0.5 m. It is easy to dry after the test, and there is no gap in the middle of the
 371 assembly. The interface is sealed with waterproof adhesive tape, the length of the outer opening is 10 cm
 372 \times 15 cm, and the spacing of the longitudinal tube is 1 m. The ring tube is a $\Phi 75$ spring hose with a length
 373 of 1.6 m. There are two grooves at both ends and PVC ball valves to control the water velocity at both
 374 ends of the circular drainage pipe.

375 **(1) Strength of solution**

376 Based on the above analysis results, 16 experiments were carried out according to different ion
 377 concentrations, and each experiment lasted for 8 days. The reagents were CaCl_2 , NaHCO_3 , MgCl_2 , KCl ,
 378 AlCl_3 , and Na_2SO_4 . Table 1 shows that there is a small amount of Fe^{3+} , Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , and Ba^{2+} ions in the
 379 tunnel drainage pipe, whose concentration is basically close to 0, and the influence on the crystal can be
 380 ignored. Therefore, the ion concentration higher than 0.00 mol/L is selected for the test. See Table 3,
 381 Table 4.

382 Table 3 The concentration of crystalline ions

Test	Concentration ratio of each ion/mol.L ⁻¹
	$c(\text{CO}_3^{2-}):c(\text{SO}_4^{2-}):c(\text{Ca}^{2+}):c(\text{Mg}^{2+}):c(\text{Al}^{3+})$
Test.1	0.074:0.051:0.028:0.002:0.002
Test.2	0.074:0.053:0.082:0.006:0.011
Test.3	0.074:0.056:0.135:0.010:0.019
Test.4	0.074:0.058:0.189:0.014:0.028
Test.5	0.100:0.051:0.082:0.010:0.028

Test.6	0.100:0.0533:0.028:0.014:0.019
Test.7	0.100:0.056:0.189:0.002:0.011
Test.8	0.100:0.058:0.135:0.006:0.002
Test.9	0.126:0.051:0.135:0.014:0.011
Test.10	0.126:0.053:0.189:0.010:0.002
Test.11	0.126:0.056:0.028:0.006:0.028
Test.12	0.126:0.058:0.082:0.002:0.019
Test.13	0.152:0.051:0.189:0.006:0.019
Test.14	0.152:0.053:0.135:0.002:0.028
Test.15	0.152:0.055:0.082:0.014:0.002
Test.16	0.152:0.058:0.028:0.010:0.011

383

Table 4 Proportion of non-crystalline ions added /mol.L⁻¹

ionic types	c(Cl ⁻)	c(K ⁺)	c(Na ⁺)
content ranges	0.082~0.665	0.020~0.175	0.102~0.116
Content of each test	Calculation by actual dosage		
related explanations	This range is based on the actual addition of crystalline ions ion concentration conversion		

384

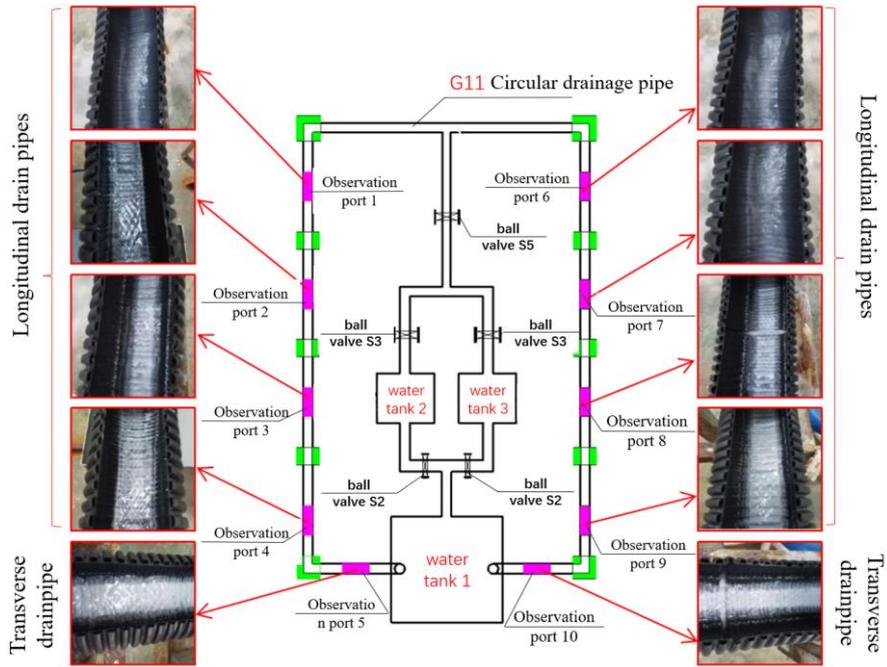
(2) Test Record and Analysis

385

To facilitate the follow-up analysis, longitudinal drain pipe, transverse drain pipe, and circular

386

drainage pipe are marked as L, T, and C according to Fig. 19.



387

388

Fig. 19 Pipeline crystal growth

389

After each test, the drainage pipe was cut and the crystallization weight was recorded. The results

390

are shown in Fig. 19. The crystallization weight of the drainage pipe in 16 tests was accumulated, and

391

finally sorted out in Table 5:

392

Table 5 Crystallization record of mixed solution (unit: g)

Test	Pipeline		
	L	T	C
T1	52.32	40.49	0.14
T2	57.35	44.93	0.2
T3	68.38	49.28	0.23
T4	72.52	51.05	0.22
T5	76.77	53.58	0.21
T6	81.67	56.05	0.22

T7	87.35	57.35	0.22
T8	89.92	60.05	0.2
T9	93.47	60.79	0.25
T10	92.34	59.81	0.21
T11	94.52	60.5	0.21
T12	96.64	61.12	0.19
T13	95.74	62.66	0.33
T14	96.3	61.38	0.26
T15	93.92	60.88	0.27
T16	96.44	64.63	0.35

393 Fig. 19 and Table 5 show that the amount of crystallization of longitudinal and transverse pipes is
394 large, but the blockage of ring pipes is light. According to the crystallization weight, it can be inferred
395 that for the actual tunnel, the blockage of longitudinal and transverse drainage pipes is more serious, and
396 the degree of crystallization blockage of the circular drainage pipes is low.

397 **5.2 Crystallization hazard analysis**

398 According to the test results, the cumulative crystallization amount of each drainage pipe from
399 Test.1 to Test.16 is used to measure the degree of crystallization blockage of the longitudinal drainage
400 pipe, the transverse drainage pipe, and the circular drainage pipe, and it is converted to the cumulative
401 crystallization amount of the pipeline per meter, and the blockage coefficient is introduced (the larger
402 the blockage coefficient is, the more crystallization of the pipeline per meter is, the more serious the
403 pipeline blockage is, and the greater the harm of pipeline clogging is). The definition is as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \alpha = \frac{\sum G_i}{G} \\ \gamma = \frac{\sum G_j}{G} \\ \beta = \frac{\sum G_k}{G} \end{cases} \quad (20)$$

404 In Formula (20), α , γ , and β are the blockage coefficients of longitudinal drainage pipe, transverse
 405 drainage pipe, and the circular drainage pipe, respectively; G_i , G_j , and G_k are the cumulative
 406 crystallization amount of the longitudinal drainage pipe, transverse drainage pipe and circular drainage
 407 pipe per meter, g / m; G is the cumulative amount of crystallization of the whole drainage system per
 408 meter, and $G = G_i + G_j + G_k$, g / m.

409 After calculation, G_i , G_j and G_k are 21.056 g / m, 56.531 g / m and 0.145 g / m, respectively, and
 410 $G = 77.702$ g / m, so as to obtain:

$$411 \quad \alpha = \frac{21.056}{77.702} = 0.271 ; \quad \gamma = \frac{56.531}{77.702} = 0.728 ; \quad \beta = \frac{0.145}{77.702} = 0.002$$

412 Table 6 Crystallization conversion per meter pipeline

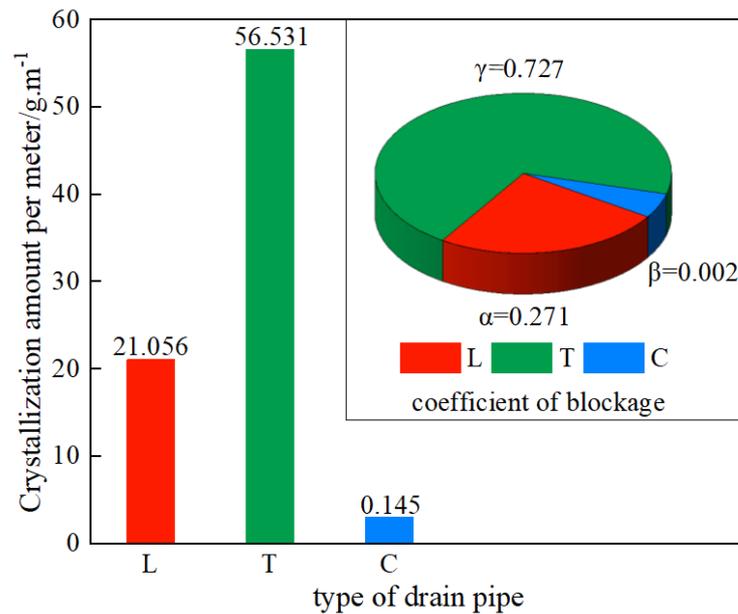
Type of pipeline	Cumulative crystallization amount /g	Length /m	Crystallization per meter pipeline /g.m ⁻¹	Gross blockage factor
L	1345.65	64	21.056	$\alpha=0.271$
T	904.5	16	56.531	$\gamma=0.727$
C	3.71	25.6	0.145	$\beta=0.002$

413 It can be seen from Table 6 that there is $\beta < \alpha < \gamma$: the transverse tube has more crystallization, the
 414 blockage coefficient γ is larger, the blockage degree is larger, and the crystallization hazard is higher,
 415 followed by the longitudinal tube. Because $\beta = 0.002$, it shows that $\beta \rightarrow 0$, the degree of crystallization
 416 plug is low, and the harm is small, that is, when the crystallization plugs, the ring tube is safer. The

417

relationship between crystallization and pipe blockage coefficient per meter is shown in Fig. 20.

418



419

Fig 20 Crystallization and blockage coefficient per meter of pipeline

420

Fig. 20 shows that the crystallization amount per meter of the longitudinal drainage pipe is less than that of the transverse drainage pipe but higher than that of the circular drainage pipe, and the crystallization amount per meter of the ring tube is 0.145 g / m, indicating that the crystallization plug has little effect on the circular drainage pipe ; Fig. 20 shows that $\gamma \approx 2.7\alpha$, indicating that under the prescribed conditions, the amount of crystallization per meter of the transverse drainage pipe is about 2.7 times that of the longitudinal drainage pipe, and the degree of blockage is also high.

426

In summary, it is found that the blockage coefficient of the transverse pipe per meter is high and the amount of crystallization is large, which can be inferred that the crystallization in the drainage system has a great influence on the transverse drainage pipe. The possible reasons for the serious blockage of the horizontal pipe are as follows. (1) The horizontal drainage pipe is connected with the drainage ditch, and the sediment, precipitation, and crystallization in the vertical drainage pipe and the circular drainage pipe finally flow to the horizontal drainage pipe. When the drainage ditch is excluded, the horizontal pipe

431

432 may be seriously blocked due to poor drainage. (2) The transverse drainage pipe is connected with the
433 drainage ditch, and contacts with the concrete lining layer at the outlet of the transverse pipe. The water
434 contains some precipitation ions, such as SO_4^{2-} , CO_3^{2-} , etc., while the concrete lining contains Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+}
435 plasma. The concrete is eroded and crystallized to block the pipeline, which is consistent with the
436 mechanism analysis of section 4.

437 **6 Crystallization breaking experiment and design optimization**

438 Through the analysis of sections 4 and 5, it is found that crystalline ions have a great influence on
439 crystallization. Crystals from scratch, from less to more, adhere to the drainage pipe wall, and further '
440 grow ' over time, resulting in pipeline blockage. Through literature review, it is found that preventing
441 crystal growth and breaking crystallization are effective measures for crystal removal. Given the effect
442 of crystal removal and environmental protection, ultrasonic is proposed to remove crystals.

443 **6.1 Crystallization breaking test**

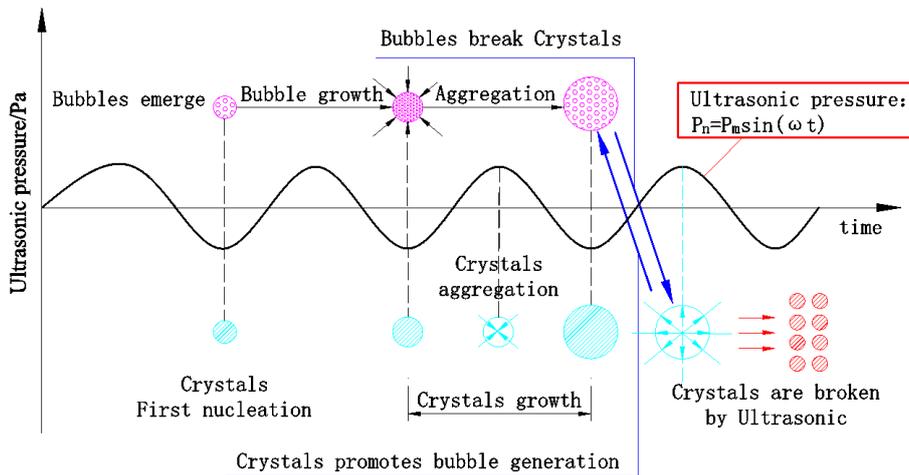
444 Through the model test, it can be seen that in Test.1, the internal crystallization of the drainage
445 pipeline increases slowly with the increase of ion concentration. Therefore, the solution concentration in
446 this chapter is studied by the solution ratio concentration in Section 5 Test.9. Ultrasonic is used to drive
447 the vibration of the crystal around the pipe wall, resulting in the crystal falling off the pipeline and
448 discharging along with the flow^[29,30], to achieve the purpose of crystal removal. Therefore, a 35 ~ 60 kHz
449 ultrasonic wave was used to crystallize the observation port 4 drainage pipeline with serious
450 crystallization in Fig. 19.

451 **6.1.1 Test principle and scheme**

452 The ultrasonic principle is approximately regarded as a sine function curve, showing a certain

453 periodic change. When the crystal is broken by an ultrasonic vibration instrument, the main principle is
 454 that the crystal around the pipe wall is vibrated by ultrasonic, resulting in the crystal falling off from the
 455 drainage pipe wall, and finally discharged along with the flow^[29,30].

456 Under the action of ultrasonic waves, the water produces bubbles of different sizes. When the
 457 bubble size reaches a certain degree, the water wave has a certain energy to collide with the crystal, which
 458 makes the crystal break down the drainage pipeline at the downstream discharge, and the crystal reacts
 459 to the bubble, resulting in the continuous generation of new bubbles, and reacts with the crystal again, to
 460 achieve the purpose of crystal removal, as shown in Fig. 21.



461

Fig. 21 The principle of breaking crystallization

462

463 Using this principle, based on section 4, group 9 experimental scheme, the crystallization breaking
 464 test is carried out. In each group of experiments, an ultrasonic vibration instrument was set at the
 465 observation port 4 drainage pipeline, and the crystal removal scheme is shown in Table 7. The
 466 crystallization process monitoring is shown in Fig. 22.

467

Table 7 The principle of breaking crystallization

Test	Ultrasonic frequency /kHz	Test cycle /24h	Monitoring of crystal breaking
------	---------------------------	-----------------	--------------------------------

		effect
Test.01	35	
Test.02	40	Photography, video recording and
Test.03	50	8 weighing
Test.05	60	

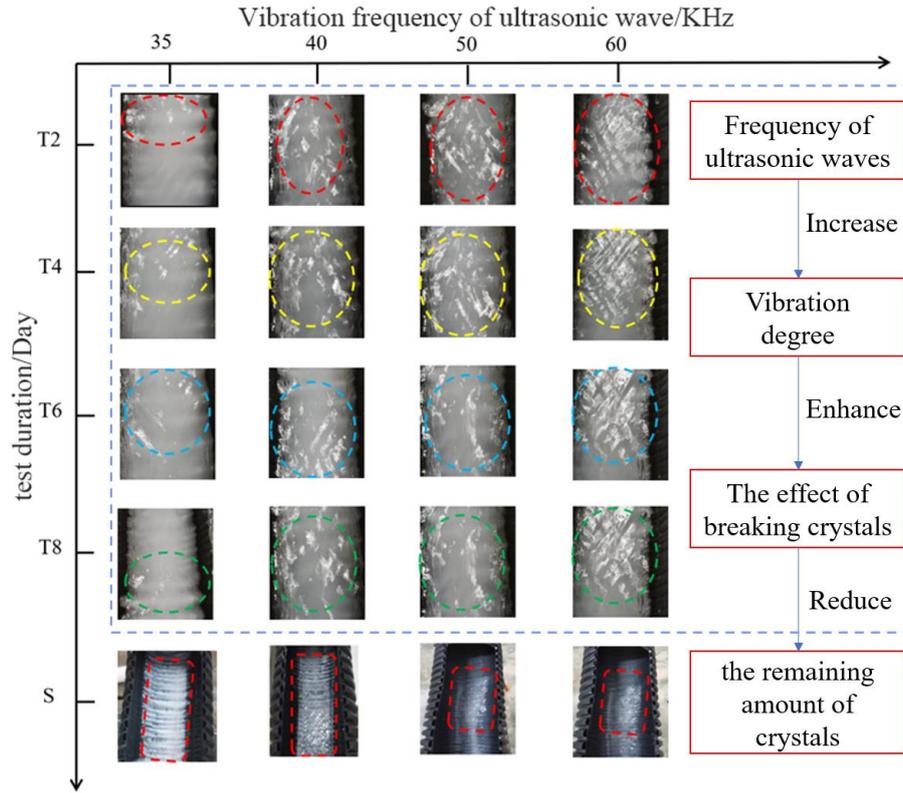


(a) Vibrator (b) Camera (c) Ultrasonic transmitter 35~60KHz

Fig. 22 Monitoring of crystal breaking process

6.1.2 Effect analysis

The crystal removal device was installed on the pipeline from day 1 to day 8 and was completely removed at noon every day for 8 consecutive days, as shown in Fig. 23.



474

475

Fig. 23 Crystal breaking effect

476

In Fig. 23: T2 represents the second day of crystallization; t4 represents the fourth day of

477

crystallization; 6 Represents the sixth day of crystallization; t8 represents the 8th day of breaking

478

crystallization; s means that after the 8th day of crystallization, the residual amount of pipeline

479

crystallization monitoring, the smaller the value, the better the effect of crystallization.

480

It can be seen that when using 35 kHz to break crystallization, with the increase of breaking time,

481

the effect of crystal removal is certain, but the effect of crystal removal is not obvious. The effect of 40

482

kHz is more obvious than that of 35 kHz, and the amount of crystallization attached to the pipeline is less

483

after 8 days. When 50 kHz is used to remove crystallization, the effect is more obvious. After 8 days, the

484

crystallization of the pipeline is very little or even no; when 60 kHz is used to remove crystallization, the

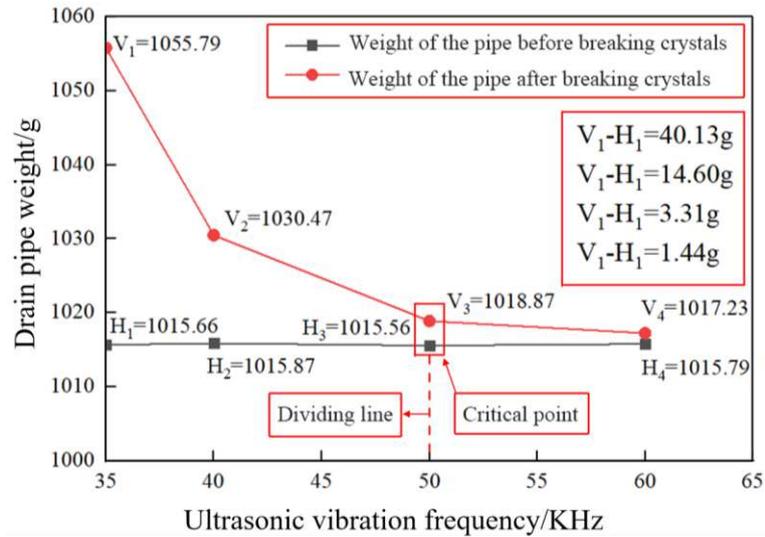
485

amount of crystallization attached to the pipeline is very small. Macroscopically, the effect is less

486

different from that of 50 kHz.

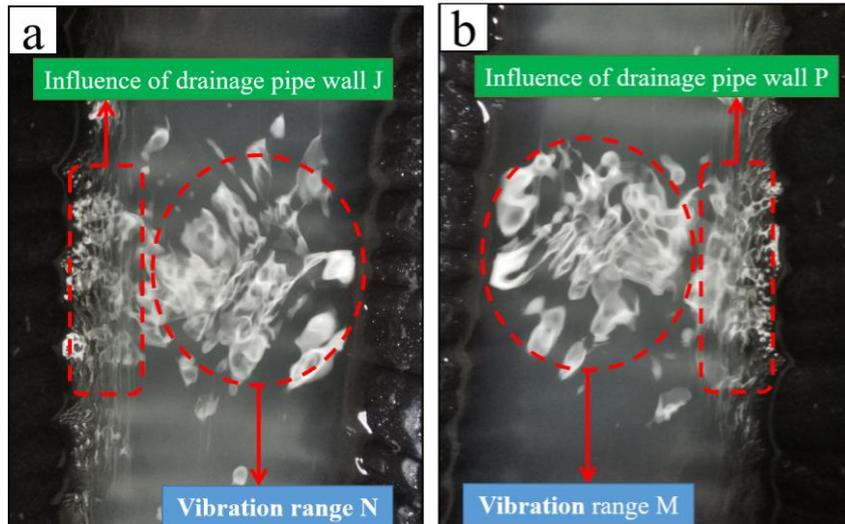
487 According to the test records, the drainage pipes for 8 days were dried, and the quality differences
 488 of drainage pipes before and after crystallization were compared, to quantitatively deduce the effect of
 489 ultrasonic breaking crystallization. The comparative analysis of net weight before and after
 490 crystallization in the drainage pipes is shown in Fig. 24.



491
492 Fig. 24 Variation of pipe net weight difference

493 The ultrasonic crystal removal effect is obvious. It is found in Fig. 23 and Fig. 24 that the crystal
 494 removal effect at 50 kHz is not significantly different from that at more than 50 kHz. The reason may be
 495 as follows:

496 (1) Both sides of the drainage pipeline hinder the ultrasonic wave, and the ultrasonic wave only
 497 plays a role in a certain range. Beyond this range, even if the frequency is increased, the crystal breaking
 498 effect is similar. As shown in Fig. 25, the range of 50 kHz and 60 kHz is similar, and the range of
 499 crystallization is similar, which may be mainly related to the role of the drainage pipe wall, that is, the
 500 ultrasonic propagation process is blocked by the pipe wall, resulting in the propagation blocked.



(a) Ultrasonic vibration frequency is 50KHz

(b) Ultrasonic vibration frequency is 60KHz

Fig. 25 Ultrasonic action

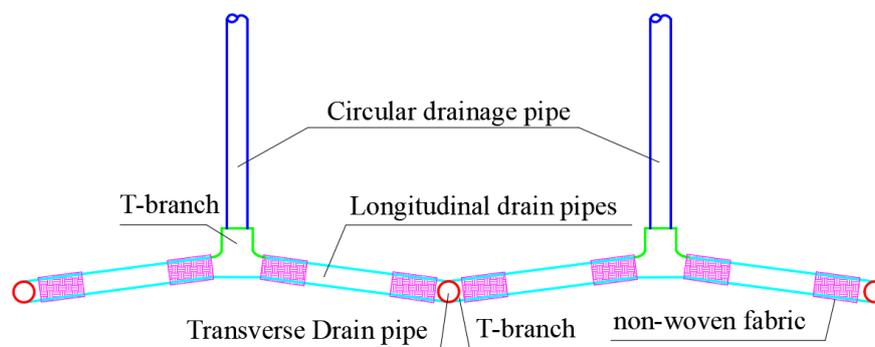
(2) Ultrasonic wave is also a kind of sound wave, and its propagation path is related to the medium, where the medium is mainly the solution formed by the mixing of various ions, the precipitation produced by the reaction between ions, the wall of the drainage pipe, the diameter of the drainage pipe, etc., which will affect the propagation of the sound wave, and then cause the ultrasonic vibration to be within a certain range. Even if the frequency is increased, the effect is not significantly different.

In summary, it is found that the greater the acoustic frequency is, the more obvious the effect of crystallization is. The less the residual crystallization of the drainage pipeline after the removal is, and the longer the time is, the more obvious the crystallization is. The self-weight statistics of the drainage pipeline before and after the crystallization are shown in Fig. 24. The crystallization of ultrasonic waves is better and more obvious, and with the increase of ultrasonic frequency, the effect of crystallization is more obvious. When the vibration frequency is about 50 kHz, the crystal adhesion of the drainage wall tends to be flat. Therefore, at normal temperature and flow rate, it is recommended that a 50 kHz

517 ultrasonic frequency should be used to break the crystal. Therefore, the ultrasonic frequency based on
518 this parameter will be used as the ultrasonic frequency for breaking the crystal.

519 6.2 Optimal design of drainage system

520 The research group has shown that the following countermeasures are proposed to solve the
521 problems of reverse drainage and insufficient drainage when the drainage pipe is blocked^[1]: connecting
522 longitudinal drainage pipe. Longitudinal drainage pipe between transverse drainage pipe and circular
523 drainage pipe uplifted upward, showing a 'V' shape, as shown in Fig. 26. According to the existing
524 drainage method, when the water flow through the longitudinal drainage pipe is large, the 'V' shaped
525 longitudinal drainage pipe scheme can effectively share the drainage, avoid the problems of reverse
526 drainage and insufficient drainage of the drainage pipe, and also improve the pipeline flow smoothness
527 and reduce the crystal blockage of the drainage pipe.



528

529

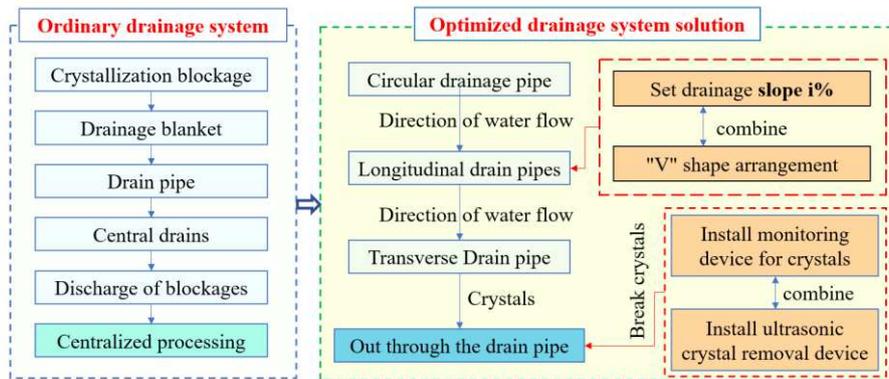
Fig. 26 'V' shape drainage arrangement

530 Through the above analysis, it can be seen that the blockage of the drainage pipe is related to the
531 type of ions, and there is a stable crystallization and growth area. According to the test in section 5, it is
532 known that the crystallization amount of the transverse drainage pipe is more. Therefore, based on Nie's
533 research results^[1], it is suggested that when optimizing the crystal removal of the drainage system, the
534 crystal removal device can be installed at the midpoint of the transverse drainage pipe, which can

535 effectively remove the crystal, and then the crystal is discharged with the water flowing to the drainage

536 ditch.

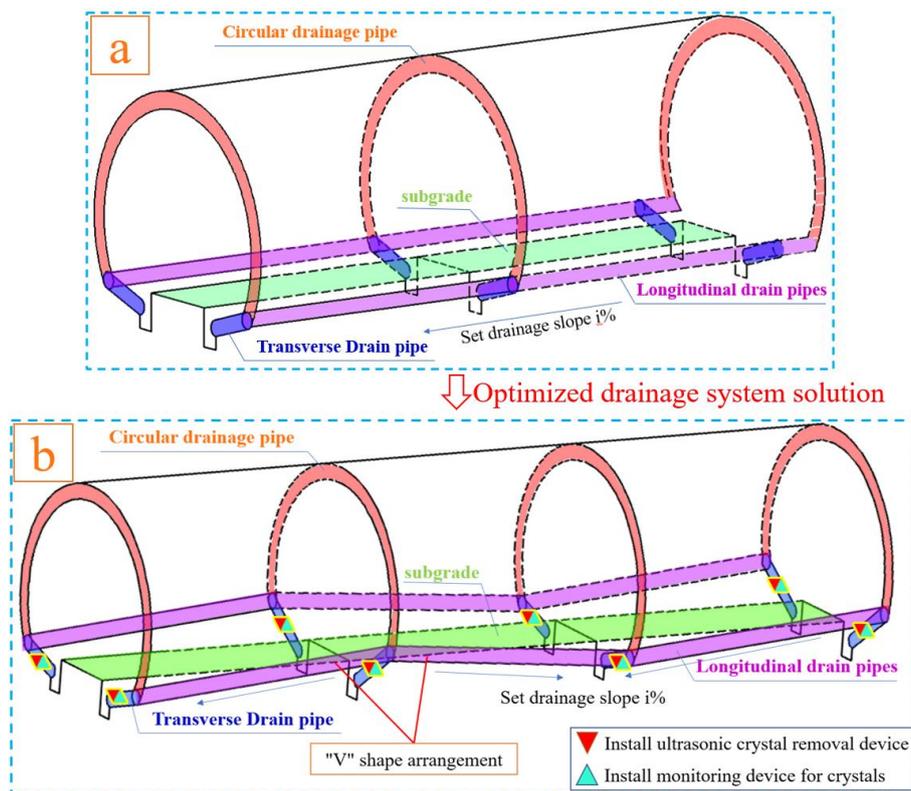
537 Optimizations are shown in Fig. 27 and Fig. 28.



538

539

Fig. 27 Optimization process



540

541

Fig. 28 Optimization design of drainage system

542 Fig. 28 shows that: In the optimized crystallization removal system, the intelligent monitoring

543 crystallization system is installed at the midpoint of each section of the transverse drainage pipe. The

544 crystallization of the drainage system can be observed in real-time by the crystallization monitoring
545 system, and then the ultrasonic crystal removal device is opened/closed to select the time of removal in
546 real-time.

547 7 Conclusion

548 (1) Through the field investigation of the dolomite tunnel, the crystals formed in the drainage
549 pipeline system are mainly CaCO_3 , $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$, $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$, and other forms, and the mass fraction and
550 concentration of Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , Al^{3+} , SO_4^{2-} , OH^- are higher, and other ions are less ;

551 (2) Through the study of pipeline crystallization blockage mechanism, it is found that the
552 formation process of crystals is complex, and there are many factors affecting the crystallization blockage.
553 This paper mainly focuses on the mechanism of Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , and Al^{3+} plasma blockage, that is, the
554 crystallization blockage mechanism of mixed solution. The main crystallization components are CaCO_3 ,
555 $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$, MgCO_3 , $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$, etc.

556 (3) The indoor model test was used to simulate the crystallization blockage of the drainage pipe,
557 and it was found that the crystallization blockage of the drainage pipe mainly occurred in the longitudinal
558 drainage pipes and transverse drainage pipes, and the crystallization amount of circular drainage pipe
559 was very small. The blockage coefficients of the longitudinal drainage pipe, the transverse drainage pipe,
560 and the circular drainage pipe are α , γ , and β , respectively, and $\alpha = 0.271$, $\gamma = 0.728$, and $\beta = 0.002$,
561 respectively. There is $\beta < \alpha < \gamma$, indicating that the crystallization blockage has a great influence on the
562 transverse drainage pipe. The transverse drainage pipe per meter has more crystallization, a higher
563 plugging degree, and stronger harmfulness.

564 (4) Ultrasonic wave has an obvious effect on crystal removal, and the adhesion of crystal drainage
565 pipe wall decreases with the increase of frequency. Through the comparison of vibration frequencies

566 from 35 kHz to 60 kHz, it is found that when the vibration frequency is about 50 kHz, the crystal removal
567 effect is obvious, and when the vibration frequency exceeds this, the crystal removal effect is not
568 significantly different. Therefore, 50 kHz is recommended as the ultrasonic crystal removal frequency.

569 **CRedit authorship contribution statement**

570 Junying Rao: conceptualization, methodology, investigation, test methods, writing-review,
571 funding; Yanghao Xue: data curation, test design, test operation, writing-first draft-review and editing;
572 Yonghu Tao: test supervision, data analysis and optimization, Writing - first draft - review and editing.

573 **Declaration of Competing Interest**

574 The authors declare no competing interests.

575 **Acknowledgments**

576 This study was sponsored by the National Science Foundation of China (Grant Nos. 51968010 and
577 51608141).

578 **Data availability**

579 The data that supports the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon
580 reasonable request.

581 **References**

- 582 [1] Chongxin Nie. Influence Of Pipe and Pipe Connection Form on Crystallization Of Drainage System
583 in Dolomite Tunnel [D]. Guizhou: Guizhou University (2021).
- 584 [2] Yifan Chen, Yujun Cui, Antoine Guimond Barrett, Francesco Chille, Sylvain Lassalle. Investigation
585 of calcite precipitation in the drainage system of railway tunnels[J]. Tunnelling and Underground

- 586 Space Technology, **84**: 45-55(2019).
- 587 [3] Chunjun GAO, Lihui Xiang, Xuefu Zhang, Yuanfu Zhou, Shiyang Liu. Lining stress caused by
588 crystal lization clogging of tunnel drainage pipe at different water levels[J]. Journal of Chongqing
589 Jiaotong University (Natural Science), **38**(05): 45(2019).
- 590 [4] Jun-Ying R, He-Lin F, Quan Y, Wen-Bo L. Fuzzy evaluation model for karst highway tunnel safety.
591 Electronic Journal of Geotechnical Engineering, **18**, 5173-5184(2013).
- 592 [5] Jiaqi Guo, Jianxun Chen, Fan CHEN, Yanbin Luo, Qin Liu. Water Inrush Criterion and Catastrophe
593 Process of a Karst Tunnel Face with Non-persistent Joints [J]. China Journal of Highway and
594 Transport, **31**(10): 118-129(2018).
- 595 [6] Junying Rao. Analytical Solutions And Application For Stress Around deeply Buried Holes In Karst
596 With Elastic Theory[J]. Chinese Journal of Rock Mechanics and Engineering, 2015, 34(6): 1296.
- 597 [7] Meng Tao. Study on characteristics of dolomite in well Xike 1 of Xisha Islands [D]. Shandong:
598 China University of Petroleum(2019).
- 599 [8] Caijin Xie, Junying Rao, Kailiang Nie, Zhongyong Liang, Ning Liu, Xia Zhao, Dengkai Liu. Study
600 on the Electron Microscope Scanning Experiment and Damage of Muddy Dolomite in Guiyang [J].
601 Construction Technology, **47**(S1): 1-7(2018).
- 602 [9] Rao Junying, Tao Yonghu, Xiong Peng, Nie Chongxin, Peng Hao, Xue Yanghao, Xi Zuowei, Lei
603 Mingfeng. Research on the Large Deformation Prediction Model and Supporting Measures of Soft
604 Rock Tunnel[J]. Advances in Civil Engineering, **2020**(2020).
- 605 [10] Xiaoxiong Guo. Crystallization Mechanism and Countermeasures of Drainage System for Railway
606 Tunnel [J]. China Railway Science, **41**(01): 71-77(2020).
- 607 [11] Stefanie Eichinger, Ronny Boch, Albrecht Leis, Günther Koraimann, Cyrill Grengg, Gunnar
608 Domberger, Manfred Nachtnebel, Christian Schwab, Martin Dietzel. Scale deposits in tunnel

609 drainage systems—A study on fabrics and formation mechanisms[J]. Science of the Total
610 Environment, **718**(C) (2020).

611 [12] Yian Zhang. Study on Crystalline Pipe Blocking Mechanism and Tunnel Structure of Emei to
612 Hanyuan High Speed Tunnel Drainage System [D]. Sichuan: Chongqing Jiaotong University(2021).

613 [13] Pezzuto A, Sarver E. A lab study of mineral scale buildup on line and traditional PE water pipes
614 for acid mine drainage[J]. Journal of Sustainable Mining(2020).

615 [14] Gaojin Liu, Guangze Zhang, Tao Feng. Exploration on the Causes of Erosion about Tunnel through
616 Different Saliferous Strata [J]. Journal of Railway Engineering Society, **35**(10): 15-19(2018).

617 [15] Yonghu Tao, Junying Rao, Peng Xiong, Chongxin Nie, Caijin Xie. Operating tunnel prototype-
618 model lining stress theory model and application [J]. Journal of Xi'an University of Technology,
619 **37**(03): 423-432(2021).

620 [16] Eichinger S, Boch R, Hippler D, Egartner I, Orieschnig A, Leis A, Dietzel M. Carbonate precipitates
621 impairing drainages in an Austrian motorway tunnel-Investigation on growth dynamics and
622 environmental dependencies[J]. In EGU General Assembly Conference Abstracts, **35**(04): 132-
623 141(2018).

624 [17] Girmscheid G, GARMISCH T, Meinlschmidt A. Versinterung von Tunnel drainagen-Empfehlungen
625 fuer die Instandhaltung von Tunneln/Scale sintering in tunnel drainages-recommendations for
626 maintenance of tunnels[J]. Bauingenieur, **78**(12) (2003).

627 [18] Xuefu Zhang, Yuanfu Zhou, Bin Zhang, Yuanjiang Zhou, Shiyang Liu. Investigation and Analysis
628 on Crystallization of Tunnel Drainage Pipes in Chongqing[J]. Civil Construction, 2018(2019).

629 [19] Fei Ye, Chongming Tian, Meng Zhao, Biao He, Jian Wang, Han Xin. The disease of scaling and
630 clogging in the drainage pipes of a tunnel under construction in Yunnan[J]. China Civil Engineering

- 631 Journal, **53**(S1): 336-341(2020).
- 632 [20] Jung HS, Han YS, Chung SR, Chun BS, Lee YJ. Evaluation of advanced drainage treatment for old
633 tunnel drainage system in Korea[J]. Tunnelling and Underground Space Technology, **38**(3): 476-
634 486(2013).
- 635 [21] Park EH, Nam JW, Han YS, Kim HG, Chun BS. An evaluation of treatment technologies for anti-
636 scale in drainage works using simulation test of road tunnel[J]. The Macmillan Company, **29**(07):
637 1229-2427(2013).
- 638 [22] Liu SY, Gao F, Zhang XF, Han FL, Zhou YF, Xiang K, Xiao DJ. Experimental study on anti-
639 crystallization law of tunnel transverse flocking drainpipe at different velocities[J]. Asia-Pacific
640 Journal of Chemical Engineering(2020).
- 641 [23] Zhou Chou. Study on The Plug of The Tunnel Drainage Pipe Mechanism caused by Groundwater
642 Seepage Crystallization in Karst Area and The Proposal of Treatment [D]. Changan: Chang'an
643 University(2015).
- 644 [24] Jianhua Cao, Daoxian Yuan, Genxing Pan. Preliminary Study on Biological Action in Karst
645 Dynamic System [J]. Earth Science Frontiers, **8**(1): 203-208(2001).
- 646 [25] Lian Bin, Daoxian Yuan, Zaihua Liu. Effect of microbes on karstification in karst ecosystems [J].
647 Chinese Science Bulletin, **56**(26): 2158-2161(2011).
- 648 [26] Jiwu Huang, Zhou Li. X - ray Diffraction - Test Principle, Method and Application of
649 Polycrystalline Materials [M]. Beijing: Metallurgical Industry Press(2012).
- 650 [27] Datong Zhang, Goldstein,J.I. Scanning Electron Microscopy and X - ray Microanalysis [M]. Beijing:
651 Science Press(1988).
- 652 [28] Zhifen Li. Modeling, Optimization and Control of Continuous Crystallization Process [D]. Liaoning:

653 Dalian University of Technology(2018).

654 [29] Alain L, Marc D. Ultrasonic Wave Propagation in Non Homogeneous Media[M]. Springer Berlin
655 Heidelberg(2008).

656 [30] Bingchen Jiang. Study On Ultrasonic Anti Scaling Technology Of Crude Oil Pipeline Cleaning [D].
657 Haerbin: Harbin Institute of Technology(2016).

658 [31] Zhou Chou. Study on The Plug of The Tunnel Drainage Pipe Mechanism caused by Groundwater
659 Seepage Crystallization in Karst Area and The Proposal of Treatment [D]. Changan: Chang'an
660 University(2015).

661