

Wan, R., Achari, G., Schacter, R. Joshi, R. and McLellan, P.J., Effect of Drilling Fluids on Shear Strength Properties of Fernie Shales, Presented at 2nd North American Rock Mechanics Symposium - NARMS '96, Montreal, Quebec, June 1996.

Abstract

The paper examines the physico-chemical benefits of oil-based and inhibitive fluid systems on the shear strength of bedding planes in Fernie Formation shales of the Canadian Rocky Mountain Foothills region. The study is of relevance to borehole stability problems encountered while drilling oil and gas reservoirs. Twenty five shale samples were tested in a fully automated direct shear device to measure shear strength along fracture surfaces which had been soaked in different drilling fluids for varying periods of time. Test results are presented and discussed with reference to surface roughness and fluid penetration along bedding planes.

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