

Observation of the rock slope thermal regime, coupled with crackmeter stability monitoring: ~~first~~ initial results from three different sites in Czechia (Central Europe)

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10 This paper describes a newly designed, experimental, and affordable rock slope monitoring system. ~~By~~ This system is being used to monitor ~~three~~ three rock slopes in Czechia ~~are being monitored~~ for a period of up to two years. The instrumented rock slopes have different lithology (sandstone, limestone, and granite), ~~different~~ different aspect, and structural and mechanical properties. Induction crackmeters monitor the dynamic of joints, which separate unstable rock blocks from the rock face. This setup works with a repeatability of measurements of 0.05 mm. External destabilizing factors (air temperature, precipitation, incoming and

15 outgoing radiation, etc.) are measured by a weather station placed directly within the rock slope. Thermal behaviour in the rock slope surface zone is monitored using a compound temperature probe, placed inside a 3 m deep sub-horizontal borehole, which is insulated from external air temperature. Additionally, one thermocouple is placed directly on the rock slope surface. From ~~the so far measured~~ measured to-date (the longest ~~one~~ since autumn 2018), we are able to ~~can~~ distinguish differences between the ~~monitored sites~~ annual and diurnal temperature cycles of the monitored sites. From the first data, a

20 greater annual joint dynamic is measured in the case of larger blocks; however, smaller blocks are more responsive to short-term diurnal temperature cycles. Differences in the thermal regime between the sites are also recognisable, and are caused mainly ~~by~~ by different slope aspect, rock mass thermal conductivity, and colour. These differences will be explained by the statistical analyses of longer time series in the future.

25 **Keywords:** monitoring, rock slope, stability, temperature, crackmeter, horizontal borehole temperature

1 Introduction

~~The~~ Rock slope stability is crucially influenced by both rock properties and exogenous factors (D'Amato et al. 2016, Selby 1980). The ~~rock~~ physical properties of rock are well known, and numerous laboratory experiments and theoretical works exist in this field. However, there are very few in-situ experiments that ~~would~~ deal with real-world ~~scales~~ (Fantini et al. 2016;

30 Bakun-Mazor et al. 2013, 2020; Janeras et al. 2017; Marmoni et al. 2020; Isaka et al., 2018). Moreover, all these studies are focused on monitoring of a single, well-known unstable rock slope.

Thermal expansion and frost action together with severe rainfall events are the main exogenous physical processes of the mechanical weathering of ~~a the~~ rock surface (Krautblatter and Moser, 2009). Together with chemical weathering, these ultimately result in the ~~-weakening of the~~ rocks slopes and reduction of their stability (Gunzburger et al. 2005, Vespremeanu-
35 Stroe and Vasile, 2010; do Amaral Vargas et al. 2013; Draebing 2020). The loss of stability, caused by repeated changes in the stress field inside the rock, eventually leads to a rock fall, one of the fastest and most dangerous forms of slope processes (Weber et al. 2017, 2018; Gunzburger et al. 2005). In the alpine environment, rock falls are increasingly caused by permafrost degradation and frost cracking (Gruber et al. 2004; Ravelin et al. 2017), or temperature-related glacial retreat (Hoelzle et al. 2017). To address the influence of permafrost melting on the rock slope stability, several monitoring systems/campaigns were
40 proposed. Magnin et al. (2015a) constructed a monitoring system consisting of rock temperature monitoring both on the rock face and in-depth sensors. In-depth rock mass temperature monitoring was placed in up to 10 m deep boreholes. The monitoring was coupled with ERT campaigns to determine sensitive permafrost areas (Magnin et al. 2015b). Girard et al. (2012), introduced a custom acoustic emission monitoring system for quantifying freeze-induced damage in rock. An extensive monitoring system for permafrost activity in Switzerland is presented by Vonder Mühll et al., (2008) and Noetzli and Pellet,
45 (2020). Additionally, a significant percentage of small rock falls is directly triggered by rainfall (Krautblatter and Moser, 2009; Ansari et al, 2015). ~~However, The link~~ age between rock fall occurrence and rainfall intensity is; ~~however,~~ not linear, and ~~the majority of most~~ events are triggered when rainfall intensity exceeds a specific threshold.

Among the destabilizing processes caused by changes in rock temperature and contributing to the decrease of stability are:

- 50 - ~~R~~ock wedging-ratcheting (Bakun Mazor et al., 2020; Pasten et al., 2015)
- ~~R~~epeated freeze-thaw cycles
- ~~T~~hermal expansion-induced strain (Gunzburger et al., 2005; Matsuoka 2008)
- and in specific conditions, exfoliation sheets ~~can~~ may be destabilized by cyclic thermal stress (Collins and Stock, 2016; Collins et al., 2017).

55 These processes are often repeated many times, ~~thus~~ effectively widening the joints, and fracturing the rock. Rock slope monitoring is ~~a one of the~~ common tasks in engineering geology; and is often used at construction sites (Ma et al. 2020, Li et al. 2018; Scaoni et al. 2018), along roads or railways, or to protect settlements. Various approaches are used, with a background in geodesy (Gunzburger et al. 2005; Reiterer et al. 2010; Yavasoglu et al. 2020), geotechnics (Greif et al. 2017; Lazar et al. 2018), geophysics (Burjanek et al. 2010; 2018; Weber et al. 2017, 2018; Coccia et al. 2016; Yan et al. 2010;
60 Weigand et al. 2020; Warren et al. 2013), or remote sensing methods (Sarro et al. 2018; Matano et al. 2015). Most commonly, sensors such as thermometers, accelerometers, inclinometers, visible light or IR cameras, total stations, TLS (terrestrial laser scanner), GbSAR (ground-based syntetic aperture radar), and seismographs are used to detect potential rock fall events (Burjanek et al. 2010, 2018; Tripolitsiotis et al. 2015; Matsuoka, 2019). These methods are more suitable for monitoring large

65 rock slopes. Tiltmeters, extensometers and other geotechnical devices are usually used to monitor a single unstable block/part
of the rock slope (Barton et al. 2000; Lazar et al. 2018). Usually, monitoring methods using various sensors are combined.
Large rockslides ~~were are~~ monitored by Crosta et al., (2017), Zangerl et al., (2010) and Loew et al., (2012) using ~~a the~~
70 combination of remote sensing, geodetical network, and borehole inclinometers. Experimental monitoring systems aim to
develop or test new sensors or approaches (Loew et al., 2017; Jaboyedoff et al., 2004, 2011; Chen et al., 2017; Hellmy et al.,
2019) or to describe long-term processes of rock slope destabilization (Fantini et al., 2016; Kromer et al., 2019; Du et al.,
2017). However, these systems are site-specific and installation of a similar system within multiple sites is complicated and
often financially demanding.

To quantify the influence of meteorological variables, weather stations should be included within monitoring systems
(Macciotta et al., 2015). Rarely, environmental monitoring is supplemented by solar radiation monitoring (Gunzburger and
Merrien-Soukatchoff, 2011). Thermal observations are often limited to air temperature and/or rock face temperature
75 monitoring only (Jaboyedoff et al. 2011, Blikra and Christiansen, 2014; Marmoni et al. 2020; Collins and Stock, 2016; Collins
et al. 2017; Eppes et al. 2016). Less commonly, ~~the~~ temperature changes are measured within the rock mass depth (Magnin,
et al. 2015a, Fiorucci et al. 2018). Site-specific designed systems are difficult to modify and ~~are~~ usually expensive. This brings
difficulties into data processing because they are locally biased and cannot be directly compared.

Therefore, an easy-to-modify, modular, and affordable monitoring system composed of crackmeters, ~~a~~ weather
80 station, solar radiation and compound borehole temperature probes has been designed and tested. With just minor
modifications, various rock slope sites ~~can may~~ be easily instrumented, allowing ~~data to compare data~~ about the temporal
behaviour of rock slopes ~~temporal behaviour~~ in different settings to be compared, potentially bringing new, ~~and~~ much needed
information ~~data~~ about rock slope stability spatiotemporal development (Viles, 2013).

2 Monitoring methods

85 ~~The R~~ock slope monitoring methods have recently ~~undergone gone through a~~ massive development in terms of their
concerning precision, accuracy, reliability, sampling rate, and applicability (Tables 1, 2). Even completely new methods have
been were established, for example, unmanned aerial vehicles applications, high precision or UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle)
held laser scanner, etc. This expansion ~~has was mostly been possible allowed mainly due to by~~ the rapid development of
corresponding fields of informatics, computation technologies, communication channels, and satellite technology applications.

90 Unlike the above-mentioned systems, the monitoring system presented here (Fig. 1,2; Table 1); ~~may can~~ be placed at
various sites without major modifications. Using common safety rules and methods for working ~~at in~~ heights, the system ~~may
can~~ be placed directly within vertical or even overhanging rock faces. Anchoring must be ~~made placed~~ within a stable part of
the rock slope, which ensures worker's safety under any circumstances. This monitoring provides the design brings an
opportunity to compare results from different locations and observe generally applicable regularities in ~~rock face the~~ thermo-
95 mechanical behaviour of the rock face thanks to the use of the same instrumentation on various rock slope sites. All sensors

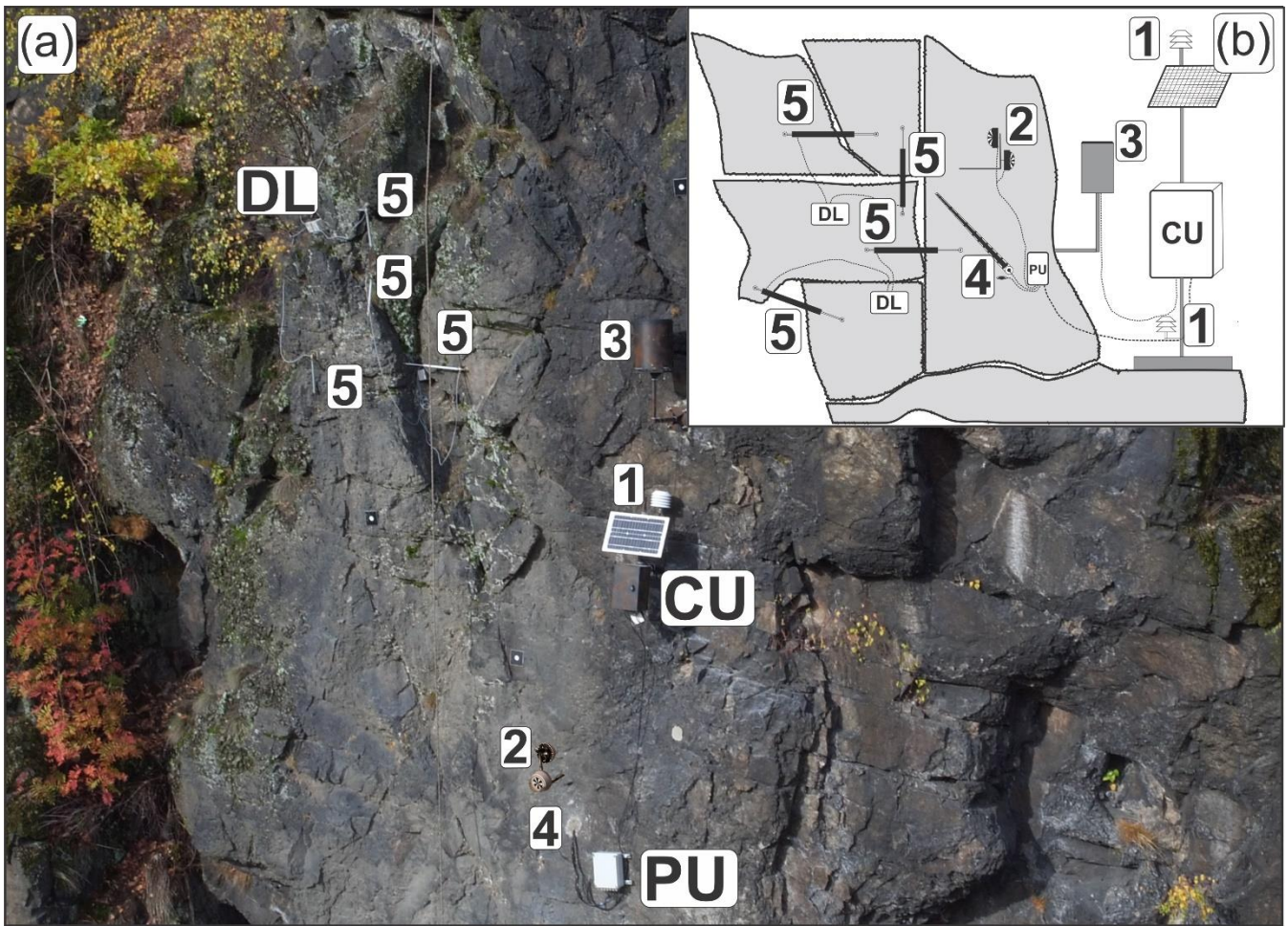
were calibrated by the manufacturer before they were installed on the rock slope to provide precise data. The monitoring system (Table 1, Fig. 1) is composed of the following components:

- ~~a~~ set of automatic induction crackmeters, coupled with dataloggers (Fig. 1) measuring relative block displacement
- ~~a~~ weather station with a set of sensors measuring various meteorological data (Fig. 1), such as air temperature, humidity, and air pressure (Table 1), and ~~rock slope~~ surface solar radiation balance (incoming/reflected radiation) of the rock face (Fig. 5) using a pair of pyranometers
- ~~a~~ set of 12 thermocouples placed along a 3 m deep borehole (Fig 2.), carefully insulated between each neighbouring sensor, measuring in-depth profiles of the rock slope temperature ~~in depth profiles~~

Component	Manufacturer	Accuracy	Resolution	Repeatability	Measuring range	Max sampling rate	Protection	Operational temperature	Service life	Price
Crackmeter Gefran PZ 67-20	GEFRAN (It)	<0.1 %	0.05 mm	0.01 mm	0-200 mm	N/A	IP67	-30 - 100 °C	>25*10 ⁸ m stroki	300 €
Datalogger Tertium Beacon	Tertium tech. (It)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<1 sec	IP65	-30 - 60 °C	>5 years	190 €
Datalogger Temp. Sensor	Tertium tech. (It)	0.02 °C	0.01 °C	N/A	-30 - 60 °C	<1 sec	IP67	-30 - 60 °C	>5 years	
Control unit, battery, solar p	FIEDLER (Cz)	N/A	0.00X; 16bit	N/A	N/A	1 min	IP66	-30 - 60 °C	>5 years	
Temperature sensor	FIEDLER (Cz)	0.1 °C	0.1 °C	0.01 °C	-50 - 100 °C	1 min	IP66	-50 - 100 °C	>5 years	
Rain gauge SR03 500cm2	FIEDLER (Cz)	0.05 mm	0.1 mm/year	0.1 mm	N/A	50 m. sec	IP66	0 - 60 °C	>5 years	1 650 €
Humidity sensor	FIEDLER (Cz)	0.008 %	<0.1%/year	0.02 %	0 - 100 %	1 min	IP66	-50 - 100 °C	>5 years	
Atmospheric pressure sensc	FIEDLER (Cz)	2 mbar	0.025 mbar	0.1 mbar	300 - 1100 mbar	1 min	IP66	-40 - 70 °C	>5 years	
Pyranometer SG002	Tlusták (Cz)	10%/day	20 µV/Wm ²	<5%	300 - 2800 nm (0 - 1200 W/m ²)	1 min	IP66	-30 - 60 °C	>5 years	450 €
Borehole temperature sensc	FIEDLER (Cz)	0.1 °C	0.1 °C	0.01 °C	-50 - 100 °C	1 min	sealed inside	-30 - 60 °C	>5 years	1 150 €
Datastorage/procesing	FIEDLER/SigFox	/	/	/	/	1 hour	/	/	infinite	200 €

Table 1: List of the presented monitoring system components, with performance metrics and prices.

All the elements of the system (Table 1) are commercially available at affordable cost expenses (~~one site instrumentation for a single site~~ costs ~~approx~~approximately ~~5000 EUR~~ and are easily ~~y to~~ replaced by moderately experienced users. Additional costs are the drilling works (1000-2 000 EUR), which ~~The cost of borehole drilling depends~~ on the site accessibility and rock mass hardness. The price of the specific monitoring system is also affected by the number of ~~used~~ crackmeters and data-loggers used. System maintenance costs are no ~~t~~ higher than 300 EUR per year, including data transmission, processing, and storage. This makes the system ideal for use to be used at on multiple sites, without great financial demands. When using the same instrumentation, data from different rock slope sites may ~~can~~ be compared and analysed to better understand the general ~~rock slope~~ spatiotemporal behaviour of the rock slope.



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Figure 1: Photo of the monitoring system at the Tašovice site (a); Generalized scheme of the monitoring system (b); CU: control unit, PU: processing unit, DL: data-logger, 1: Temperature sensor, 2: Pyranometers, 3: Rain gauge, 4: Borehole compound temperature probe, 5: Crack-meters (only four of a total of six crackmeters are visible on this photo)

2.1 Dilatation monitoring

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At each site, suitable joints separating unstable rock blocks were selected. The joints and subsequent crackmeter placements were selected to best represent the general directions of the expected rock blocks destabilization. Where it was possible, joints that directly separate unstable blocks from stable rock were chosen. These joints were subsequently afterwards instrumented with calibrated Gefran PZ-67-200 induction crackmeters. These crackmeters are able to can record movements smaller than 0.1 mm (Tables 1,2). In comparison with other methods measuring spatial change, their precision is high, with lower costs (Table 2). The temporal resolution of the measurement is nearly continuous with the when the crackmeter position being can be read every second (Table 2). Moreover, we have tested these devices in a controlled temperature environment using a climate chamber to determine find-out any temperature-dependent errors. In this controlled test, we were able to measure the expansion of a concrete block. The resulting block expansion measurements matched the

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130 theoretically calculated concrete block expansion. ~~This was performed to This way we made ensure~~; that measurement of the crackmeters is not biased by dilatation of the device itself. Crackmeters are suitable for harsh conditions (Table 1). The devices ~~may can~~ withstand temperature changes, snow cover, ice accumulation, or rainfall with IP 67 protection. ~~The €~~crackmeters are coupled with Tertium Beacon dataloggers (Tertium technology, 2019), which contain accurate in-situ temperature sensors (Table 1). When a datalogger is placed within the discontinuity, it records ~~the~~ local temperature. The joint dilatation and temperature data are stored in the datalogger and ~~may can~~ be wirelessly transmitted at a distance of up to ~~one a~~ hundred meters using Wi-Fi, which simplifies data collection as it ~~may can~~ be ~~usually~~ performed from below the rock face. Tertium Beacon data ~~may can~~ be sent to a server via IoT SigFox network. The crackmeters and dataloggers are powered with two AA batteries, which ~~typically~~ last ~~typically~~ 6-12 months according to ~~the~~ local climate. The displacement and temperature are set to be measured every hour. ~~However, This may can however~~ be changed if necessary, e.g., during special experiments such as thermal camera monitoring campaigns (Racek et al. 2021).

Method	Results	Range	Precision	Sampling rate	Online data	Price
Induction crack meter	1D distance	<1 m	0.01 mm	seconds-days	yes	300 €
Precision tape	1D distance	<30 m	0.5 mm/30 m	hours-days	no	800 €
Fixed wire extensometer	1D distance	10 - 80 m	0.3 mm/30 m	hours-days	yes	4 000 €
Rod for crack opening	1D distance	<5 m	0.5 mm	hours-days	no	300 €
LVDT	1D distance	<0.5 m	0.25 mm	seconds-days	yes	170 €
Laser dist. meters	1D distance	<1000 m	0.3 mm	seconds-days	yes	1 500 €
Portable rod dilatometer	1D distance	<1 m	0.1 mm	hours-days	no	350 €
Total station triangulation	3D distance	<1000 m	5 - 10 mm	hours-days	yes	3 000 €
Precise levelling	1D distance	<50 m	<1 mm	days	no	350 €
EDM	1D distance	1 - 15 km	1 - 5 mm	minutes - days	no	10 000 €
Terrestrial photog.	3D distance	<100 m	<20 mm	hours-days	yes	1 000 €
Aerial photog.	3D distance	<100 m	10 - 100 mm	days	no	1 500 €
Tiltmeter	inclination change	±10°	0.01°	seconds-days	yes	300 €
GPS	3D distance	Variable	<5 mm	seconds-days	yes	2 000 €
TLS	3D distance	Variable	5 - 100 mm	hours-days	yes	100 000 €
GB InSAR	3D distance	Variable	<0.5 mm	hours-days	yes	100 000 €

140 **Table 2: A comparison of rock slope spatial change monitoring techniques (updated after Klimeš et al., 2012)**

2.2 Environmental monitoring

For the monitoring of the weather and climatic parameters at the sites of interest, we use automatic weather stations manufactured by Fiedler environmental systems. These are composed of a registration, communication and control unit, an external tipping-bucket rain gauge, two temperature sensors, an atmospheric pressure sensor, a humidity sensor, and a pair of pyranometers, measuring the incoming and reflected solar radiation. All these sensors and the control unit are powered by a 12 V battery, which is charged by a small solar panel (Fig. 1). Except for precipitation, which is measured using a pulse signal,

all other meteorological variables and solar radiation are measured every 10 minutes. The control unit is equipped with a GSM modem, which sends the data automatically to the server of the provider every day. For detailed information about the accuracy, durability and price of the environmental monitoring see Table 1.

To compute the radiation balance (incoming minus reflected solar radiation) of a rock face, it is necessary to measure with two opposite facing pyranometers. For this purpose, a set of pyranometers ~~is used~~ (Gunzburger and Merrien-Soukatchoff, 2011; Janeras et al. 2017; Vasile and Vespremeanu-Stroe, 2017). ~~pyranometers~~ are placed perpendicular to the rock face, one facing the rock surface, while the other faces the sky hemisphere. This setup enables ~~the measurement of~~ both incoming and reflected solar radiation to be measured. The sensors are not placed directly on the rock face, but on an L-shaped holder, which allows ~~placing~~ both sensors to be placed almost at the same point (Fig. 1). The rock-facing pyranometer is placed at a distance of approximately ~~10~~ centimetres from the rock surface. The pyranometers have an output of 0–2 V, which corresponds to a global radiation of 0–1200 W/m². ~~The Monitored wave-lengths~~ spans from 300 to 2800 nm. Outputs from the pyranometers are processed by a converter and then sent with the other monitored meteorological variables to the data hosting server.

2.3 Borehole temperature monitoring

For the monitoring of the thermal behaviour of a rock slope, it is necessary to know temperatures at different depths of the rock mass. ~~The newly designed in-~~depth compound temperature probe (Fig. 2) is a crucial part of our monitoring system. The sensors are placed in a 3 m deep sub-horizontal borehole. To ensure safety during drilling and the long lifespan of the borehole and sensors, the borehole itself is drilled into a ~~the~~ stable part of the rock slope. The borehole is then equipped with a custom-designed probe with a set of thermocouples. ~~The Technical parameters of~~ the temperature sensors are the same as for the air temperature sensors (Table 1). The thermocouple sensors that are connected to copper rings ~~were are~~ originally designed for soil temperature measurements. By connecting these to copper rings, they are suitable ~~for to-measuring e-~~ the temperature of borehole walls. Copper rings with 5 cm diameter are placed at a given distance on the tubular spine (5 cm below the surface, 10 cm, 20 cm, 30 cm, 50 cm, 75 cm, 100 cm, 150 cm, 200 cm, 250 cm, and 300 cm). The probe is placed in the sub-horizontal borehole, so the copper rings containing the temperature sensors lay directly on the borehole walls (Fig. 2). This ensures that the probe is ~~measuring~~ directly measuring the rock mass temperature. Additionally, one thermocouple is placed directly on the rock surface (Fig. 2). The head of the borehole is insulated to prevent air and water inflow into the rock and the sensors inside the borehole are separated by thorough thermal insulation to ensure that the temperatures are not affected by the air circulation inside the borehole. Therefore, temperature readings from the borehole compound probe corresponds to ~~the with~~ in-situ rock mass temperature. The thermal data, collected every 10 minutes, are passed through a converter, and ~~send~~ to the main control unit of the environmental station.

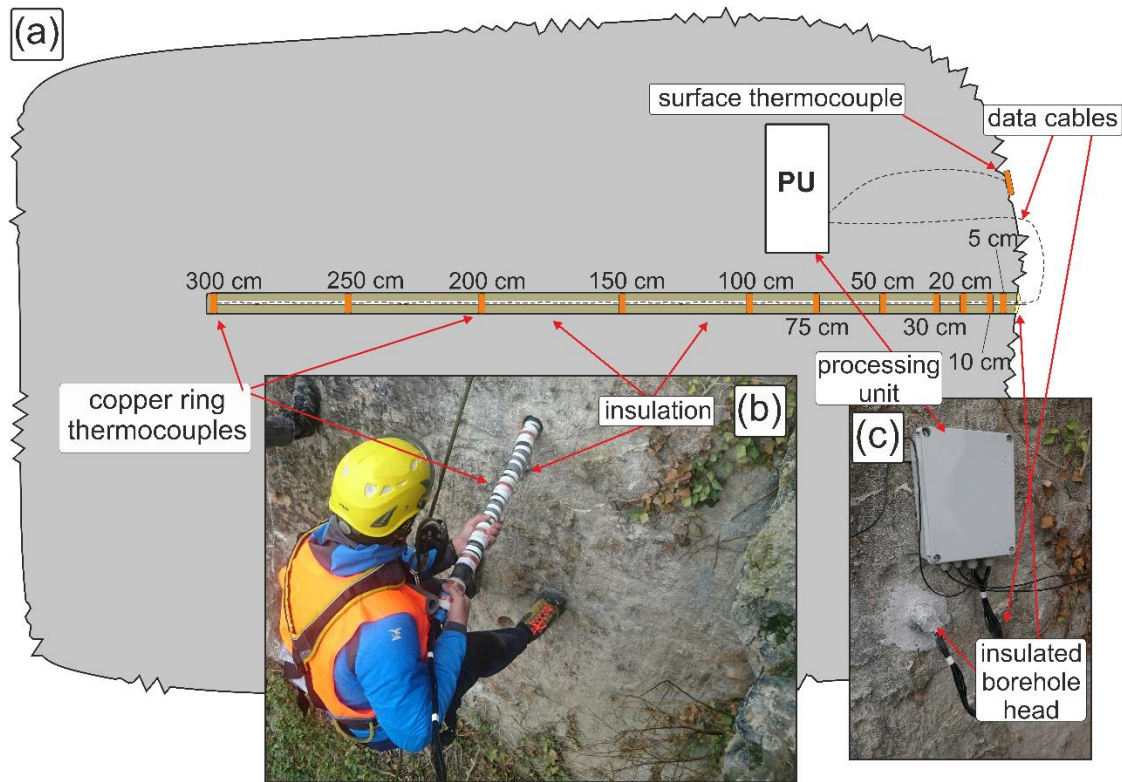
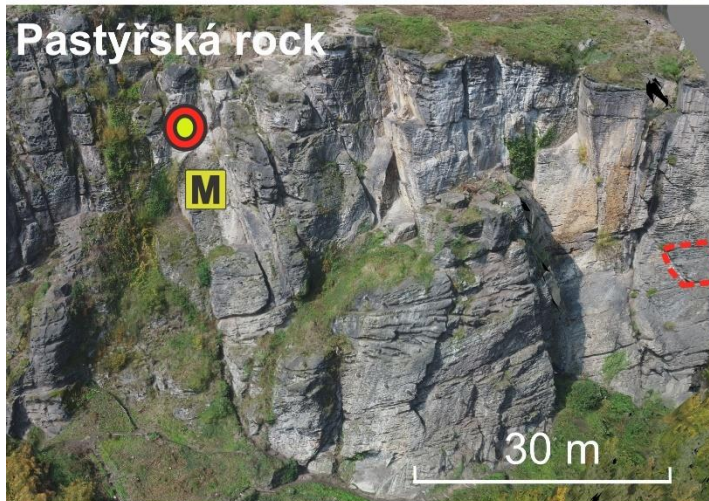
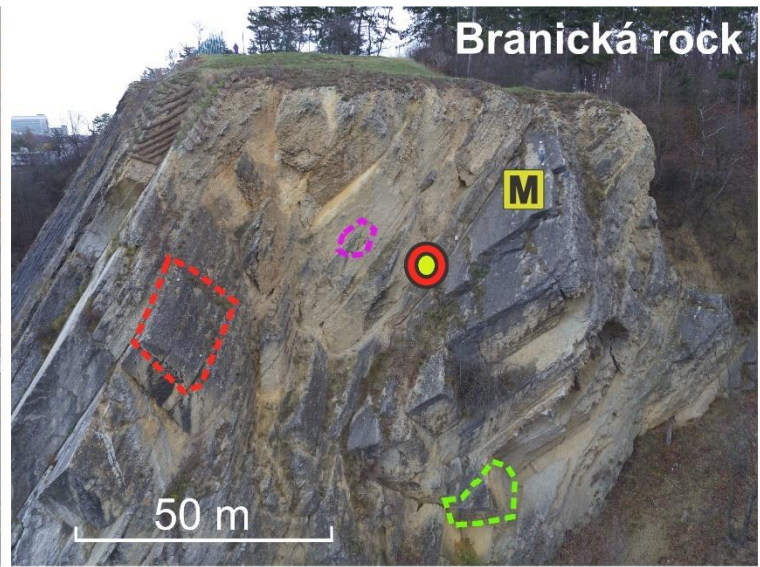
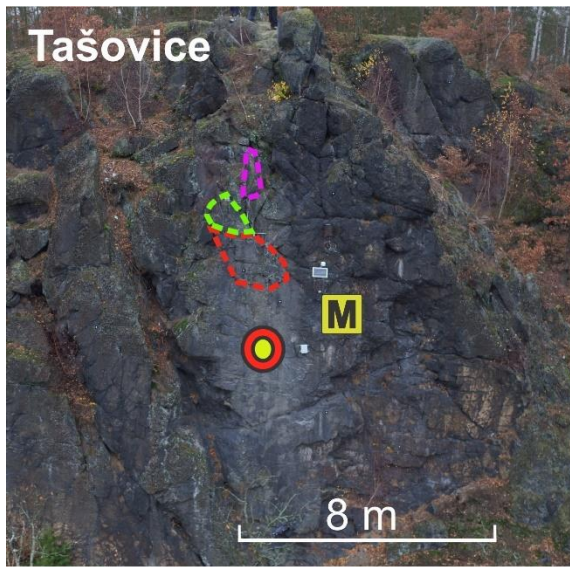


Figure 2: Compound borehole thermocouple probe. (a): generalised scheme, (b): photo of compound thermocouple probe installation, (c): insulated head of a sub-horizontal borehole with a processing unit.

180 3 Instrumented sites

To-date, the monitoring system has been so far established at three different sites (Fig. 3), using the same instrumentation setup. The sites were chosen deliberately on in steep rock slopes built of various rock types, with various slope aspects and a diverse geological history. To integrate a practical application aspect, sites were chosen where the potential rockfall endangers buildings, infrastructure, or other social assets.



M	Weather station/control unit
	Compound temperature probe
	Monitored rock blocks
General aspect	
Tašovice: SSE (152°)	
Branická rock: WSW (243°)	
Pastýřská rock: SE (130°)	

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Figure 3: Three instrumented rock slope sites. On each photograph the monitored rock blocks are indicated (with dashed lines of a different colour. The placement of the compound borehole temperature probe and weather station is also indicated.

3.1 Pastýřská rock (PS)

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The first instrumented rock slope called “Pastýřská rock” is located on the Labe (Elbe) riverbank in the town of Dečín town, NW Czechia. Monitoring of meteorological variables began started in late 2018 (Appendix A). Shortly afterwards, that the crackmeters and an in-depth borehole temperature probe were installed. Pastýřská rock is formed by Cretaceous sandstone with various mechanical properties (Table 3) and has a general SE orientation. The rock slab with the pyranometers and borehole is dipping 87° towards the east (085°). Three main discontinuity sets (80/040, 86/310, 80/275) were identified using

195 geological compass measurements. The locality is known for extensive rock fall activity in the past, which ~~led lead~~ to rock slope stabilisation works being performed in the late 1980s. However, the block monitored by the crackmeters remained in its natural state. One block is monitored using two pairs of crackmeters. The block has ~~a~~ dimensions of 6.7 x 10.7 x 2.5 m and is located in the overhanging part of the rock slope. All four of the visible cracks are monitored. The colour of the rock slope surface varies from dark, to light grey. The rock slab, where the pyranometers are placed is ~~coloured in a~~ light grey colour.

200 3.2 Branická rock (BS)

This rock slope in Prague (Central Czechia) was instrumented in the summer of 2019. ~~The R~~ rock slope is formed by several Silurian and Devonian limestone layers with varying mechanical and physical properties (Table 3). The rock slope was artificially created by mining (including blasting), and ~~it~~ was used until ~~the~~ the 1950s as a limestone quarry. The rock slope is located on a bank of the River Vltava, ~~riverbank~~ and it is generally facing WSW. The pyranometers and the borehole
205 temperature sensors are placed on a rock slab dipping 80° to the SW (235°). Three main discontinuity sets 50/325, 90/197, and 62/085 were identified directly in field. The site is known for extensive rock fall activity in the past, even after the quarry ~~closed~~ ing, which resulted in partial stabilisation of the known unstable blocks in the 1980s. Three unanchored blocks (Fig. 3) are monitored with seven crackmeters. In the upper part of the rock slope lies the largest monitored block at this site, with dimensions of 0.9 x 4.5 x 3.7 m. This block is monitored with three crackmeters. The second block is located at the bottom
210 ~~part~~ of the rock slope, partly shaded by vegetation. ~~The D~~ dimensions of the second block ~~are is~~ 2.5 x 1.6 x 3.6 m. This block slowly slides on the bottom surface and is instrumented with two crackmeters. The third monitored block is smaller (0.8 x 1.4 x 0.4 m) and is ~~It is~~ located in a highly weathered part of the rock slope where it is ~~and~~ monitored with two crackmeters. The colour of the limestone varies from grey to yellow, and the colour of the limestone facing the pyranometer is light grey.

3.3 Tašovice (T)

215 The third instrumented site is a rock slope above a local road and the River Ohře ~~river~~ near Karlovy Vary in W Czechia. The rock slope is formed by partly weathered granite (Table 3). Generally, it is facing an SSE direction. The instrumented slab is dipping 88° to the S (170°). Three relatively poorly developed discontinuity systems (50/090, 50/220 and 88/345) were identified. At this site, small rock falls are frequent as ~~it can may~~ be seen from the fresh rock and debris accumulations under the rock face. The locality was fully instrumented in the spring of 2020. Three relatively small blocks are
220 monitored at this site. Block 1 (1.7 x 1 x 2.1 m), Block 2 (0.9 x 0.8 x 0.4 m) and Block 3 (0.5 x 1.2 x 0.4 m). Each block movement is monitored with a pair of crackmeters. The colour of the rock slope varies from black to dark grey. The granite surface at the ~~pyranometers~~ site of the pyranometers has a dark grey colour.

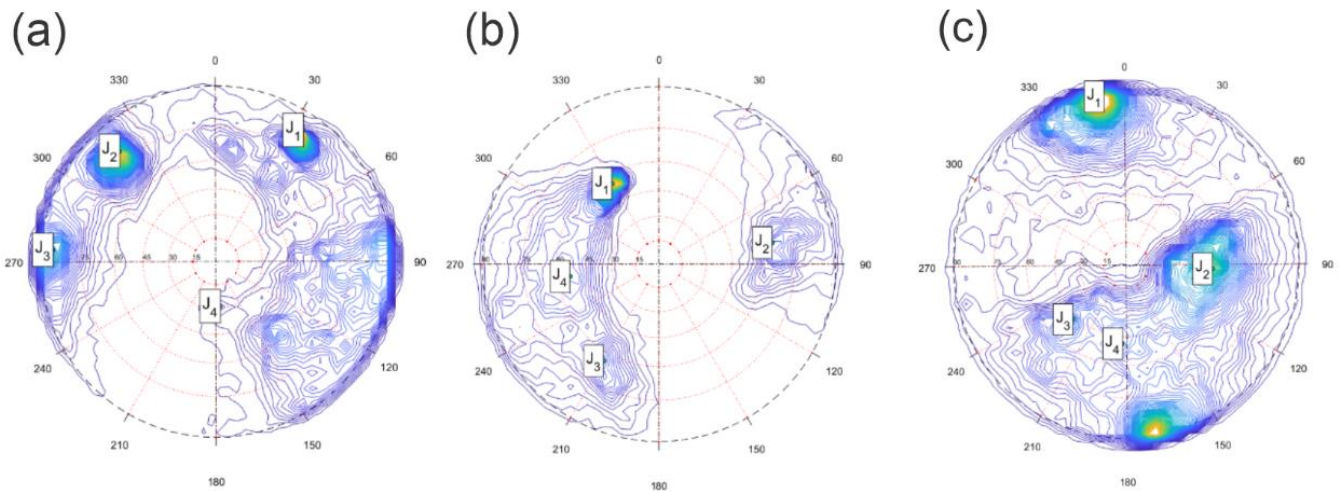
4 Fieldwork campaigns

Each instrumented rock slope was characterized using traditional geological, geomorphological, and geotechnical methods, such as measuring the geometrical properties of joints and fault planes, relative surface strength measurement using a Schmidt hammer, discontinuity density measurement, and stability estimates using geotechnical classifications (Racek, 2020). The Mechanical and physical properties of the rock samples (Table 3) will serve as input data for the state-numerical models of thermally induced strain, which are constructed using Multiphysics ELMER (Raback and Malinen, 2016) and FEATool (FEATool, 2017) software.

site	samples	ultrasound testing (wet)					pressuremeter (dry)					Brazilian test (dry)	
		ρ [g/cm ³]	E [GPa]	μ [GPa]	ν	K [GPa]	hardness [MPa]	E [GPa]	μ [GPa]	ν	K [GPa]	F max [kN]	σ_{rt} [MPa]
Pastýřská rock (sandstone)	unweathered	1.87 - 1.92	13.8 - 17.4	5.8 - 7.7	0.12 - 0.26	6.6 - 10.4	22.3 - 28.5	14.8 - 17.2	6.2 - 6.9	0.17 - 0.24	7.6 - 11.2	3.0 - 5.5	1.3 - 2.4
	weathered	1.81 - 1.99	8.5 - 15.8	3.7 - 6.3	0.14 - 0.28	4.1 - 11.9	3.9 - 11.0	2.2 - 6.0	1.0 - 2.4	0.24 - 0.39	3.9 - 4.0	0.7 - 3.6	0.3 - 1.6
Branická rock (limestone)	unweathered	2.68 - 2.69	75.1 - 79.6	29.2 - 30.8	0.28 - 0.29	58 - 61.9	77.1 - 244.6	65.8 - 75.0	24.9 - 29.0	0.28 - 0.41	50.7 - 129.7	14.1 - 36.1	5.9 - 15.6
	weathered	2.67 - 2.69	73.4 - 78.1	27.9 - 30.2	0.29 - 0.34	62.2 - 64.3	88.2 - 170.5	63.6 - 73.1	24.4 - 28.2	0.27 - 0.31	49.3 - 61.0	18.1 - 33.4	7.8 - 14.0
	with cracks	2.67 - 2.69	64.5 - 78.4	24.4 - 30.3	0.29 - 0.32	60.4 - 63.4	52.1 - 192.3	25.4 - 74.0	9.6 - 27.9	0.27 - 0.33	24.7 - 61.2	11.4 - 26.9	4.7 - 10.9
Tašovice (granite)	weathered	2.39 - 2.52	5 - 11.9	1.8 - 4.2	0.39 - 0.42	7.6 - 22.7	36.1 - 63.1	4.3 - 15.0	1.6 - 5.6	0.27 - 0.41	4.4 - 20.4	6.5 - 11.2	2.4 - 5.0

Table 3: Mechanical and physical properties of laboratory tested rock samples from the three monitored sites. ρ : Density, E: Young's modulus, ν : Poisson's ratio, μ : Shear modulus, K: Bulk modulus, Fmax: Maximum axial force, σ_{rt} : Maximum tensile strength. At sites were collected all unweathered and weathered samples were collected from the sites. At the Tašovice site, only weathered granite was available, and at Branická rock site some samples contained cracks.

Traditional methods were supplemented with state-of-the-art methods of rock slope analysis, including analyses of 3D point clouds and derived mesh surfaces, based on SfM (structure-from-motion, a photogrammetric technique to calculate the 3D point cloud from overlapping photos with varying focal axis orientation) (Westoby et al. 2012) processing using the data collected with a UAV or based on TLS. The detailed rock surface models were then analysed using CloudCompare and its plugins (Facets and Compass) (Girardeau-Monaut, 2016; Thiele et al. 2018; Dewez et al. 2016) and the Discontinuity Sets Extractor (DSE)- software (Riquelme et al. 2014) to derive the joint and fault planes and to measure their spatio-structural properties (Fig. 4). These methods automatically (DSE, Facets) or semi-automatically (Compass) derive structural planes from 3D point clouds. From these, the structural setting and discontinuity systems of the rock slopes may be determined. Discontinuity sets define partial blocks that which form the rock slope surfaces.



245

Figure 4: Stereonets -with the four main discontinuity sets (J1 – J4) classified using DSE software (Riquelme et al. 2014). The density of the principal poles corresponds to the main discontinuity sets identified from the point clouds. (a) Pastýřská rock, (b) Branická rock, (c) Tašovice.

5 First Initial results

250

The monitoring systems will be are-operated ional for one to two years. To-date During most of the period, the gauges and sensors have operated without any problems or interruptions. However, some accidents or breakdowns have occurred, the most serious being the destruction of one pyranometer by debris, washed down by a rainstorm at the Branická rock site. As the experimental sites are easy to reach and spare parts easy to obtain, any broken or damaged elements may ean be replaced within a few days.

255

From the discontinuity analysis es it is visible (Fig. 4), it is possible to see that in the case of the Pastýřská and Branická rock sites s the discontinuity systems are clearly defined. The D discontinuity sets are at in the case of these sites are defined mainly by sedimentary layers and cracks perpendicular to them. In the case of the Tašovice site, the discontinuity systems are less pronounced. At this site, On this rock discontinuities are linked mainly to with tectonically predisposed tectonically predisposed weak zones and weathered parts of the granite rock. The M mechanical properties of the rock mass samples (Table 3) differ significantly according to the degree of weathering-. The B best results in terms ease of the hardness were obtained from measured for the unweathered limestone from the at the Branická rock site. The lowest hardness was determined for the shows weathered sandstone from at the Pastýřská rock site. At the Tašovice site, due to the high degree of weathering of the whole rock slope, we were not able to collect it was not possible to called an unweathered samples due to the high degree of weathering of the whole rock slope.

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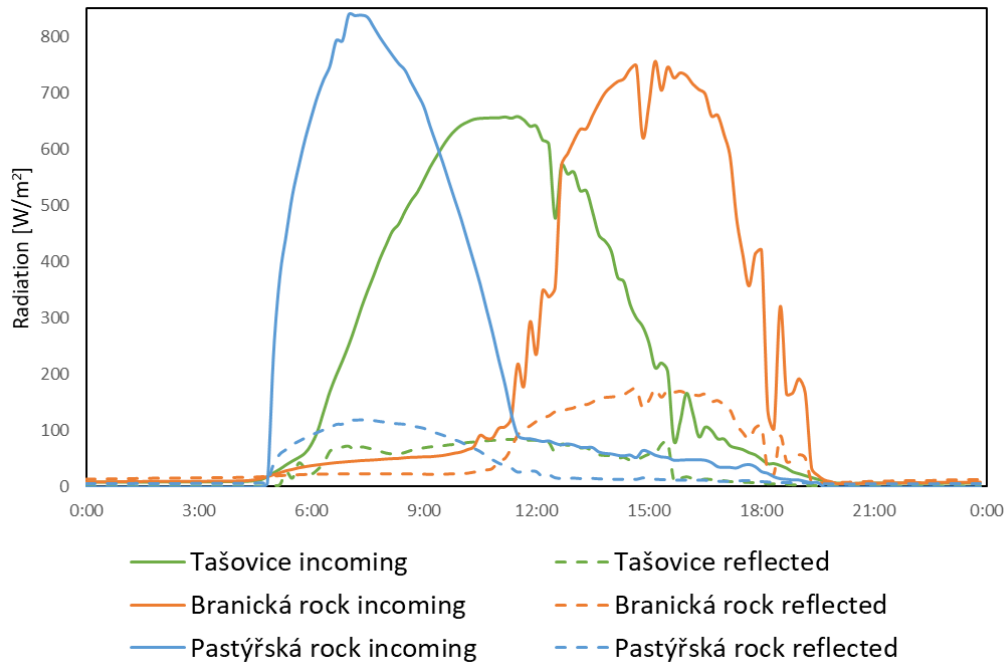
265 5.1 Environmental monitoring

The ~~W~~weather station monitoring ~~at on~~ all ~~of the~~ instrumented sites ~~works takes place~~ without ~~any issues~~ problems. From ~~the~~ measured time-series of ~~the~~ meteorological variables, the rock slope microclimate ~~may can~~ be defined and the influence on the monitored discontinuity positions ~~may can~~ be determined using statistical analyses. The comparison of crack openings with measured rainfall events does not indicate any visible influence of precipitation on the crack opening/closing. 270 However, the measuring period is still short, with prevailing dry, relatively warm weather. Conversely, there is a visible influence of air and rock mass temperature ~~to on~~ block dilatation (Racek et al., 2021), where both diurnal and annual cycles ~~may can~~ be identified.

275

5.2 Rock surface radiation balance

~~Monitoring of~~ The rock surface solar radiation balance ~~was monitored was installed at the monitored sites rock slopes~~ ~~in during~~ 2020 (Branická rock ~~in~~ January, Pastýřská rock ~~in~~ February, ~~and~~ Tašovice ~~in~~ December). Even from these incomplete data ~~it is possible to we can~~ observe the differences between ~~the~~ individual sites (Fig. 5). Local conditions influence 280 ~~the~~ incoming radiation pattern ~~based on the by~~ general aspect of the rock slope (temporal shift of incoming radiation peak), rock slope albedo or ~~by the~~ shading effects of the ~~pyranometer's~~ surroundings ~~of the pyranometers~~. Differences in the absolute reflected radiation are mainly caused by the different colours of ~~the~~ rock faces, and by the different angle of incoming solar radiation due to the aspect of the instrumented slab.



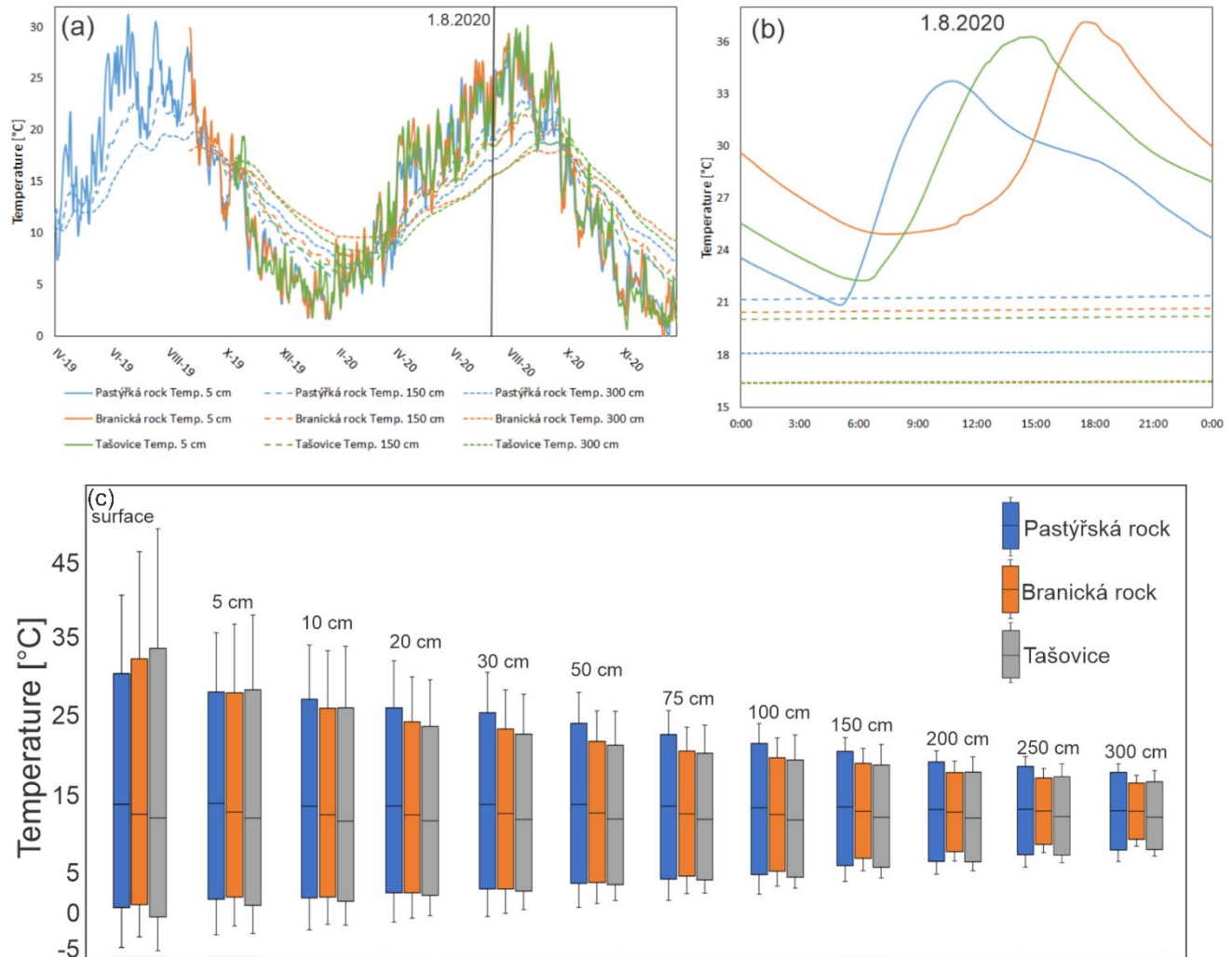
285 **Figure 5:** Example of the incoming and reflected radiation measured by the pyranometers at the Branická rock, Tašovice and Pastýřská rock sites. A 24-hour-time series of incoming and reflected radiation is displayed. Data were recorded on 1 August 8, 2020 with no clouds. The influence of the slope aspect is obvious from the incoming radiation peak shift.

5.3 Borehole temperature

290 By continuously measuring the temperature measuring at in different depths inside the a-sub-horizontal boreholes, it is possible to we can observe both diurnal and annual temperature amplitudes at in various depths (Fig. 6). In-depth temperature measurements of temperature show differences in the temporal thermal behaviour between the monitored rock slopes (Fig. 6). From the boxplots that represents data from all of the monitored sites, it is possible to see visible that the largest surface temperature variation was has been measured at the Tašovice site. This is probably caused by the dark colour of the Tašovice rock surface, with lower albedo. However, at in greater depths, this variation decreases. This is probably caused by the lower thermal diffusivity of the granite. Moreover, in the depth of the rock mass, the influence of direct sunlight is attenuated. Greater in-depth temperature variation is present at the Pastýřská rock site. However, these data may can be biased by different time-series lengths (1 vs 2 full years). The effect of different aspects may be seen is visible in the peak of the diurnal temperature, when the temperature peaks earlier on the E facing rock slope (Pastýřská rock) than then on the SSE facing Tašovice, and WSW facing Branická rock sites (Fig. 6). Differences in lithology (different thermal diffusivity) cause a temporal shift between surface and subsurface temperature peaks. This temporal shift differs between the different rock slopes. A higher median of the in-depth temperature at the Pastýřská and Branická rocks sites (Fig. 6) is caused by longer in-depth temperature time-series spanning over two summer periods.

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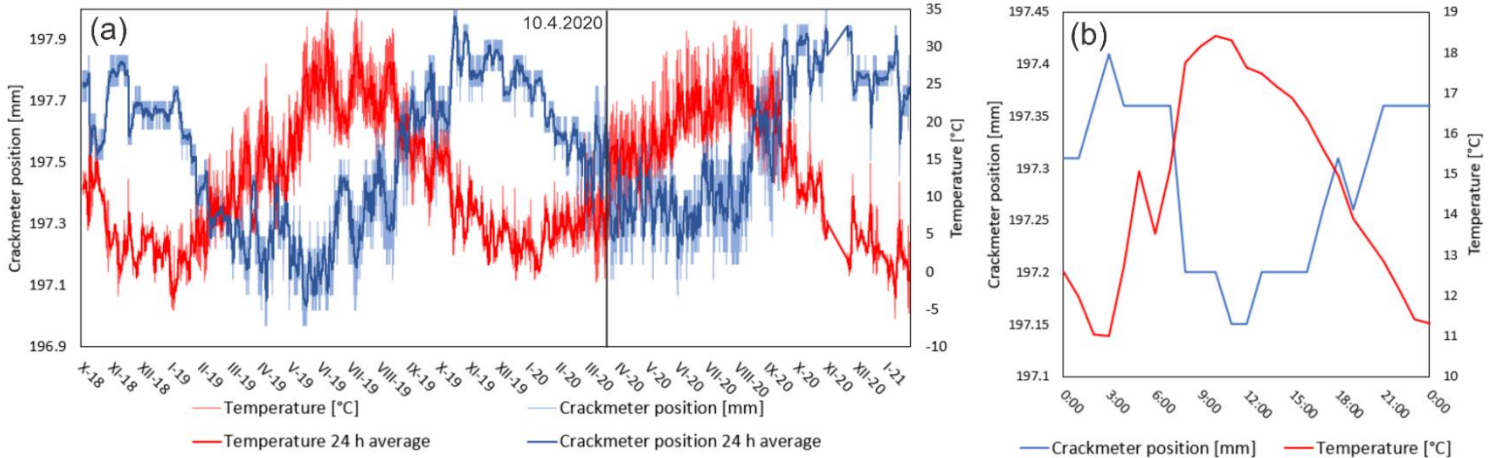


305 **Figure 6:** Comparison of temperatures ~~in~~ at different rock slope depths (5, 150, and 300 cm) at the ~~the~~ three monitored rock slopes ~~sites~~.
 (a) long-term data (daily average), (b) one day data from 1 August 8, 2020. In depth annual (a) and diurnal (b) temperature
 amplitudes ~~are is~~ displayed. ~~in~~ depth rock mass temperature data from all three monitored sites. Boxplots shows median,
 310 minimum, maximum, first, and third quartiles of temperature data. Temperature amplitudes from the compound borehole
 temperature probes ~~may can~~ be compared between sites. At all sites, ~~a decrease in the~~ temperature amplitude ~~decrease~~ with depth
 is apparent. (c)

5.4 Blocks dilatation

At all of the monitored sites, ~~a the thermally induced~~ thermally induced dilatation of the individual blocks is observed. However, due to the relatively short time-series, the measured crack movements do not yet show any irreversible trends visible on graphs. From the crackmeters data, diurnal and annual amplitudes of crack openings ~~may can~~ be identified for all of the
 315 monitored rock blocks. Figure 7 shows the measured diurnal and annual rock crack openings at the Pastýřská rock site. From

the graph, it is possible to see visible the influence of the diurnal and annual temperature changes on the crackmeter position of the crackmeter. Similar behaviour was is-observed within all of the monitored blocks.



320 **Figure 7:** Measured in-situ temperature and crack opening at the Pastýřská rock site. (a): ~~w~~Whole time-series with annual amplitudes, (b): ~~e~~Example of the diurnal amplitude measured on 10 April 2020. From plot (a) the annual temperature and crack meter position amplitude ~~may can~~ be observed. Plot (b) ~~shows displaying the~~ diurnal temperature and crackmeter position amplitude.

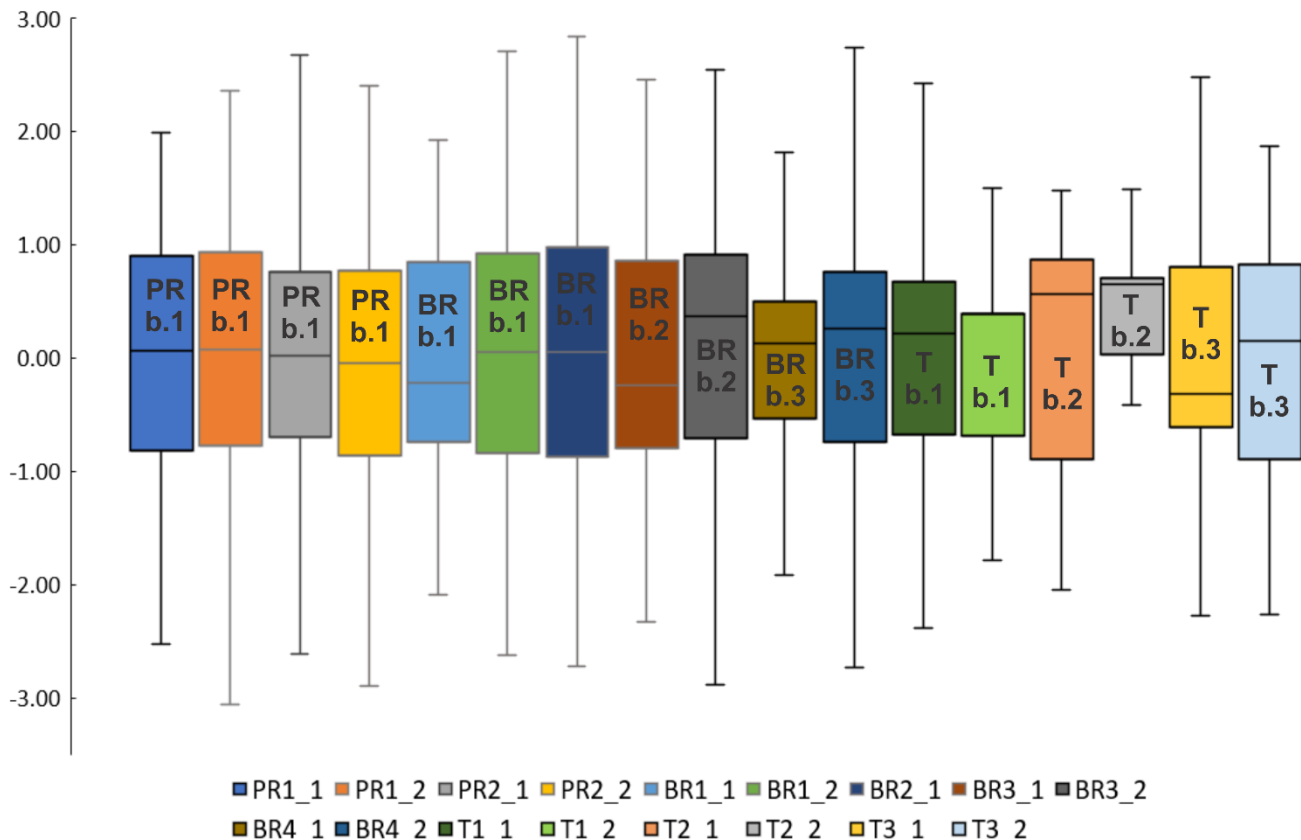
325 The amplitude of the position of the crackmeters position differs between the individual sites and blocks (Table 4, Fig. 8). These differences are caused by different blocks dimensions, time series length, crackmeters placement and the regime of destabilization.

Site	Block	Crack meter position amplitude Δl [mm]				measuring since
		CM1-P1	CM1-P2	CM2-P1	CM2-P2	
Pastýřská rock	1	1.05	0.95	0.75	0.75	23.10.18
Branická rock	1	1.45	0.35	0.25	N/A	4.6.19
	2	0.4	0.5	N/A	N/A	20.6.19
	3	0.75	0.7	N/A	N/A	10.7.20
Tašovice	1	0.65	0.25	N/A	N/A	4.12.18
	2	0.6	0.75	N/A	N/A	4.12.18
	3	0.85	0.7	N/A	N/A	18.10.19

330 **Table 4:** Amplitude of crackmeters measuring at Pastýřská rock: 1 block 4 crackmeters, Branická rock: 3 blocks 7 crackmeters, and Tašovice: 3 blocks 6 crack meters. The table shows the difference between maximum at and minimum at opening of all the placed crackmeters. CM: eCrackmeter, P: pPosition. The Amplitude is calculated as the difference between the maximum and minimum maximal and minimal position. By bBlock refers to is meant on which specific block (according to Fig. 3) at each site is instrumented by a crack-meter at each site. Last measured data: 27 January 1, 2021

To-dateSo far, crackmeters amplitudes (Fig. 8, Table 4) higher than 1 mm have been were-measured on Block 1 (approximately 170 m³) at the Pastýřská rock site (PR1_1, PR1_2), and on Block 1 (approximately 16 m³) at the Branická rock site (BR1_1, BR1_2, BR2_1). These blocks are the two largest instrumented. The Mmeasured crackmeter amplitude is

335 reversible and ~~is, therefore, thus~~ caused by ~~block~~ thermal expansion/contraction ~~of the block~~. The relatively small ~~b~~Block 3 at ~~the~~ Branická rock site (BR4_1, BR4_2) shows movements larger than 0.5 mm, although it ~~has only been is~~ instrumented ~~only~~ since ~~the~~ summer of 2020. Such a large amplitude suggests that the block is unstable, and ~~by further monitoring~~ this hypothesis should be confirmed ~~by further monitoring~~.



340 **Figure 8:** Box plots of crackmeters positions data. To compare ~~of the~~ different positions of ~~the~~ measurements, ~~the~~ data were standardised. ~~The~~ ~~B~~boxplots shows ~~the~~ max/min of ~~the~~ crackmeter position, median, first and third quartile. ~~By The~~ abbreviations inside ~~the~~ boxplots ~~is~~ define ~~d the~~ crackmeter locations. PR: Pastýřská rock, BR: Branická rock, T: Tašovice. Specific blocks ~~are is~~ defined by numbers b.1 – b.3. These corresponds ~~to the with~~ blocks displayed in ~~Figure at fig.~~ 3.

345 ~~The~~ ~~B~~blocks ~~that are~~ instrumented at the Tašovice site seems to be more stable (Table 4, Fig. 8). Only Block 3 shows 0.85 mm of reversible movement. By further analysis ~~es~~ of ~~the~~ graphs and statistical trends, ~~analyses~~ possible ~~blocks'~~ irreversible trends ~~of the blocks~~ should be revealed. Destabilization of ~~a the~~ single blocks should be visible as irregularities in the ~~crackmeter position~~ time-series ~~of the position of the crackmeter~~ not strictly related to thermal dilatation. Two crackmeters at Tašovice site show large amplitudes of movement (T2_2, T3_2); however, these movements were fully

350 reversible and short lasting (one-hour measurement). They were probably caused by external forces, such as the weight of snow cover deforming the crackmeter body, or ~~the~~ deformations of ~~the~~ anchoring point during maintenance. Larger blocks

(PR b.1, BR b.1; BR b.2) show the largest overall amplitude of movements. The ~~remaining rest of~~ smaller blocks show smaller overall amplitudes. However, these seem to be more influenced by short-term diurnal temperature changes. Sensitivity to fast heating/cooling makes these blocks more susceptible to temperature-induced irreversible movements.

355 6 Discussion

Commonly used rock stability monitoring systems are often designed to provide an early warning (Jaboyedoff et al. 2004, 2011; Crosta et al. 2017), aiming primarily at ~~the identifying ieration of~~ a hazard and not ~~at to investigat~~ing ~~e~~ the causes or thresholds of the movement acceleration. The presented monitoring system is designed to contribute to explaining various meteorological and temperature related influences on the destabilizing processes, which lead to the ~~rock fall event~~ triggering ~~of a rock fall event~~ (Viles, 2013). Fantini et al. (2017) ~~have~~ concluded that it is the temperature variations (rather than precipitation or wind) that cause changes in internal strain within the rock mass leading to its destabilization. Other factors, such as climate change, former rock fall, seismic stress, or hydrological processes are more responsible for rock fall triggering than for short-term strain field modification (Krautblatter and Moser 2009). However, to assess the strain changes within the rock mass, it is necessary to have information on the temperature distribution inside the rock slope depth. This is the crucial
360 advantage of the presented monitoring system, as the borehole compound temperature probe ~~allows identification of~~ short and long-term temperature changes up to 3 m ~~in depth to be identified~~.

To observe individual thermally-induced strain changes related to rock mass temperature and solar radiation, we ~~have~~ placed the monitoring systems on rock slopes with various slope aspects (different insolation and its diurnal and annual changes) and built of different rocks (sandstone, granite, and limestone) to include the influence of heat conductivity, capacity and colour of the rock. While there are numerous laboratory studies on ~~the~~ rock conductivity (Saez Blásquez et al. 2017),
370 modelling of heat flow based on surface observation (Hall and André, 2001, Marmoni et al. 2020), ~~and~~ large-scale experiments usually aiming at heat management in the thermal energy industry (Zhang et al. 2018), ~~there~~ ~~There~~ are only a few experiments concerning the shallow (first meters) subsurface zone of rock slopes (Greif et al. 2017, Magnin et al. 2015a), even though this is the most short-term thermally strained and weathered part of the natural rock mass (Marmoni et al. 2020). Moreover, thermal
375 conductivity or rock strength ~~may can~~ be determined from heating/cooling rates of rock slope surfaces using a thermal camera (Pappalardo et al. 2016; Pappalardo and D'Olivo, 2019; Fiorucci et al. 2018; Guerin et al. 2019; Loche et al., 2021). Our approach is aimed ~~ing at to combin~~ing ~~e~~ these methods, with the ultimate goal of creating numerical thermomechanical models of ~~the~~ monitored rock slopes/partial unstable blocks.

~~The analyses of The~~ structural properties of the rocks ~~were analysed were performed~~ using two approaches: i)
380 ~~Traditional~~ field measurements using a geological compass and ii) DSE software for automatic discontinuity extraction from the DSM (Riquelme et al., 2014). While generally the results were similar, the DSM analysis did not include discontinuities that are not forming the surface of the rock face. This effect is visible mainly in the case of the Tašovice rock slope 3D model,

where the structural setting is not so straight-forward as it is at the Branická rock and Pastýřská rock sites, formed by sedimentary rock layers.

385 The proposed monitoring system is compact, built of low-price and easily accessible off-the-shelf components (Tables 1 and 2), and is easy to modify according to the specific conditions of the given site. The performance of the monitoring system is so far without major ~~issues problems~~ related to the components or general reliability. However, one crackmeter datalogger was damaged and one pyranometer was destroyed by a rockfall triggered by a severe thunderstorm. Maintenance consists of changing datalogger batteries and cleaning rain gauge buckets. Online data transfer via Sigfox IoT network (crackmeters) and
390 GSM (weather stations) works without any issues.

A disadvantage of the used crackmeters is that they ~~it~~ only provide s one-dimensional displacement data. However, the device is quite low-priced, with good precision, and temporal resolution (Table 2). To amend the 1D displacement measurement, we place several crackmeters at ~~to~~ each instrumented site. Depending on the spatial configuration of the crackmeters, even 3D data on the spatiotemporal behaviour of the monitored blocks may ~~can~~ be obtained. Additionally, 3D
395 data about larger displacements are acquired using UAV SfM photogrammetry and TLS campaigns.

~~In terms of the As concerns the monitoring of the~~ environmental monitoring, there are clearly observable differences between the sites caused by the slope aspect and local microclimate. When temperature data from the boreholes are compared, differences between the monitored sites are apparent (Fig. 6). Both diurnal (up to ~~approx~~approximately ~~150~~ 150 cm in depth) and annual temperature cycles (up to 3 m in depth) for each site may ~~can~~ be defined. ~~These D~~ differences ~~between these~~ are caused
400 by a combination of the different rock slope aspects and ~~by~~ the physical properties of the different rock types. In further research, we plan to use time lapse thermal camera observation to extend the information to the ~~into~~ whole rock slope surface (Racek et al., 2021).

Solar radiation balance is not directly comparable, due to the different aspects and slopes of the instrumented rock slabs. However, the temporal shift in maximum radiation caused by the rock slope aspect is visible from the solar radiation
405 chart (Fig. 5). When complete annual data on the ~~about~~ solar radiance will be available (summer/autumn of 2021), a thorough investigation of the differences will be performed. ~~Consequently,~~ ~~the~~ effects of long-term solar radiation cycles ~~on~~ the rock slope dynamics will be possible.

It is necessary to mention ~~remark~~ that the destabilisation processes are rather slow and have a low magnitude in the
410 central European mid-latitude climate, because of lower temperature amplitudes, shorter periods of active freeze-thaw cycles and lower precipitation (Krautblatter and Moore, 2014; Hermans and Longva, 2012; Viles, 2013). Therefore, monitoring is necessary. To observe the processes in more extreme conditions, we have recently installed a new monitoring site in the Krkonoše Mountains (N Czechia) at an elevation of ~~the altitude of~~ 1270 meters above sea level ~~a.s.l.~~. Here, we expect to
~~observe witness~~In-in this mountainous environment, we expect to observe block ~~the~~ destabilisation processes ~~act~~ with greater
415 intensity.

-Another factor, contributing to the course of climatic conditions on the observed sites, ~~is the are~~ various climatic cycles of different length, amplitude, and depth-reach, ranging from diurnal cycles up to long-term cycles linked with solar activity or climatic oscillations (Gunzburger et al. 2005; Sass and Oberlechner., 2012; Pratt et al. 2019). ~~Among these the The~~ most prominent ~~of these~~ are ~~the~~ diurnal and annual cycles (Marmoni et al. 2020). ~~The D~~diurnal cycles have ~~a~~ shallower reach (Fig. 6), but are fast and, ~~therefore, thus~~ cause intensive strain ~~on in~~ the surficial rock layer. Annual cycles are slower, but with ~~a~~ higher amplitude and depth reach (Hall and André, 2001). In ~~depth~~ temperature data will help to clarify the role of thermally ~~induced~~ stress ~~on in~~ rock disintegration. Temperature changes causes irregular heating and cooling of ~~the~~ rock mass. These leads to irregularities in rock mass dilatation at ~~the~~ surface and ~~at in~~ depth, which causes thermally induced stress/strain, which ~~may~~ eventually ~~can~~ lead to discontinuity evolution and breakage of ~~the~~ rock mass surface layers. Thermally ~~driven~~ disintegration also acts ~~at on a grain-size~~ scale, where grains of different minerals expand differently and induce stresses ~~in to~~ ~~on the~~ rock mass (Hall and André, 2001;2003).

~~At On~~ all ~~of the~~ sites, the highest diurnal measured crackmeter movements are recorded in the spring and autumn ~~months~~, when diurnal rock slope surface temperature changes have the largest magnitude. The conditions, especially when crossing ~~the~~ freezing temperatures ~~s~~ twice a day, cause the development of freeze-thaw cycles, and consequent destabilizsation of the rock slopes. We ~~expect~~ that the irreversible displacements trends will mostly occur during these periods.

Several works using similar monitoring instrumentation and approaches ~~have been were~~ published (Matsuoka 2008; Bakun-Mazor et al. 2013,2020; Dreabing, 2020; Draebing et al. 2017; Nishi and Matsuaoka 2010). ~~NeverthelessDespite that~~, thermally induced rock slope destabilizsation monitoring is still a relatively marginally studied field. Matsuoka (2008) presented long-term data of crackmeter monitoring. His data were collected on rock slopes in a high mountainous alpine environment. Similarly, to our results, the displacement dynamics presented by Matsuoka (2008) ~~were~~ influenced by in-situ air and rock mass temperature, reaching the highest values in ~~the~~ spring and autumn. On ~~a~~ relatively long crackmeter time series (10 ~~years~~), Matsuoka (2008) observed a gradual, temperature-driven joint opening. The most significant ~~Most significant~~ changes in crackmeter position are explained by freeze-thaw conditions. Nevertheless, even in the dynamic alpine environment, ~~the a~~ joint opening is slow, ~~measuring ed approx~~ ~~approximately~~ ~~-~~0.4 mm in two years of continuous monitoring. It is expected that in ~~a~~ temperate climate these processes are even slower. Nishi and Matsuaoka (2010) described the influence of temperature on ~~the temporal displacement of a large rock slide's temporal displacement~~. They ~~have~~ noted a large displacement (over 1 m) during three years of monitoring, while the accelerations were linked to the highest precipitations periods. However, these values were observed in very different conditions from our experimental sites. Bakun-Mazor et al. (2013, 2020) proposed ~~a~~ monitoring system to distinguish thermally and seismically induced joint movements in limestone and dolomites at the Masada cultural heritage site. ~~The M~~measured amplitude of thermally ~~induced~~ irreversible joint movements reached approx~~imately~~ ~~-~~0.3 mm in one year. The authors ~~have~~ described ~~the~~ concept of ~~a~~ thermally ~~driven~~ wedging-ratcheting mechanism. ~~The E~~estimated annual irreversible joint opening at Masada was approx~~imately~~ ~~-~~0.2 mm.

We assume, that in the long-term (several years), we will be able to observe a similar wedging-ratcheting mechanism with lower amplitude at our sites. During colder periods, this mechanism ~~may can~~ be complemented ~~by with~~ frost shattering.

Draebing et al. (2017) and Draebing (2020) monitored ~~a~~ crack opening in an alpine environment. In this extreme environment, they ~~observed~~ ~~an~~ ice wedging driven crack opening ~~of~~ up to 1 mm ~~over in~~ several days during the snowmelt period. By comparing ~~the joint measurements ing~~ of temperature and dilatation, the authors ~~have~~ established ~~an the~~ irreversible gradual joint opening of approx~~imately~~ ~~-~~0.1 mm/year. Our data from the 2020/21 winter period and the newly instrumented site ~~in the at~~ Krkonoše ~~m~~Mountains should show similar results. However, with the lack of active permafrost and permanently ice-filled joints at our sites, these movements should have ~~a~~ lower magnitude.

Measuring the temperature of dry unfrozen rock mass depth is still a rarely used approach. Magnin et al. (2015a) measured rock mass temperature inside 10 m deep boreholes. This research ~~was is~~ oriented mainly to active permafrost depth estimation and its spatiotemporal behaviour. In the shallow subsurface zone, they ~~have~~ measured ~~an~~ annual temperature amplitude ~~of~~ approx~~imately~~ ~~-~~5 °C ~~at a depth of in~~ 3 m ~~depth~~. Our data from sub-horizontal boreholes show ~~a~~ rock mass temperature amplitude of approx~~imately~~ ~~-~~10 °C ~~at a in the~~ depth of 3 m. This is probably caused by the different climatic setup of our sites.

~~Fantini et al. (2018) studied short-term temperature profiles on an at~~ experimental limestone quarry rock slope. ~~The~~ ~~D~~diurnal temperature cycles in their case reached a maximum depth of approx~~imately~~ ~~-~~20-30 cm. These results correspond ~~to~~ ~~with~~ our measurements. We ~~are able to can~~ observe diurnal temperature cycles ~~of~~ up to 50 cm ~~in~~ depth during ~~the~~ summer period, when ~~the~~ rock mass surface is intensively heated by solar radiation. It is necessary to mention, that ~~a~~ comparison of these results is not straight-forward due to the diverse climatic setup.

~~Currently, the he~~ three sites ~~will be are~~ continuously measured ~~ing~~ for a period ~~of between~~ one ~~to and~~ two years. Based on this, we ~~will be able to can~~ show that the system is capable of observing the influence of thermal stress on the response of the monitored blocks (~~see Fig. 7-~~). However, to exclude seasonality, the time~~-~~series of the crackmeters positions should be longer than 2-3 years. In a longer period, we expect to observe the process of long-term rock slope destabiliz~~ation~~ represented by a gradual irreversible trend of crack opening/closure, which ~~alludes points~~ to ~~partial~~ block destabiliz~~ation~~. Longer time~~-~~series also allow ~~using of~~ seasonal statistical trend tests ~~to be used~~ to describe trends in ~~the~~ monitored joints dynamics. The influence of meteorological variables on the ~~stability of the~~ rock blocks ~~stability~~ will be statistically analysed, ~~to determine find out~~ how individual meteorological variables influence the dynamic of ~~the~~ joints. In-depth temperatures will be analysed to find differences in thermal conductivity, diffusivity, and seasonal temperature trends between the monitored sites. Differences in ~~the~~ thermo-mechanical behaviour of ~~the~~ different rock slopes will be studied using numerical modelling. Furthermore, the monitoring system will be continuously upgraded. Installation of in-situ strain gauges ~~monitoring~~ is planned to directly observe changes in ~~the~~ rock mass surface strain.

480 7. Conclusions

A newly designed rock slope stability monitoring system was ~~presented~~introduced. This ~~e-presented monitoring~~ system combines monitoring of meteorological variables with 3 m deep in-rock thermal profiles, and dilatation of the unstable rock block joints. It ~~provides~~brings a unique opportunity to observe long-term gradual changes within the rock face, leading to ~~the~~ rock slope destabilization.

485 The design of the system allows ~~for an~~ easy installation at various locations without major adjustments or ~~modification~~changes. All components of the system are available off-the-shelf, at a relatively low price and are easy to replace with low skill requirements. The environmental data are transferred via GSM to a remote server, and the dilatation data are sent via ~~the~~ IoT SigFox network or ~~may can~~ be downloaded remotely from several tens of meters. ~~Therefore~~us, ~~the~~ maintenance visits ~~to of~~ the sites ~~may can~~ be limited to ~~intervals of~~ several months' ~~intervals~~.

490 The monitored sites are easily comparable as identical monitoring set-up and equipment ~~are is~~ used. ~~Therefore~~Thus, we are monitoring the reaction of various rock types on a certain climatic event and observing the differences and similarities on particular sites. This concerns not only movements or expansion of the rock mass but also the heat advance into the rock, its velocity, and amplitudes, otherwise very difficult to measure. Significant differences in ~~the~~ shallow surface rock mass zone are observable from 3 m borehole thermocouple probe data.

495 Further development of this project should include the ~~implementation~~ ~~installation~~ of in-situ rock surface strain monitoring using in-situ ~~placed~~ strain gauges. In ~~the~~ following research, in-situ ~~gained~~ data will be used for ~~numerical modelling of~~ heat flow and heat-induced strain ~~numerical modelling~~ within the rock mass.

500 ~~Measuring of~~ Joint movement ~~measurements~~ combined with temperature and other external influencing factors will be analysed to understand ~~the~~ contribution of ~~the~~ individual processes, leading to rock slope destabilization ~~The W~~ whole system will be gradually maintained and placed at ~~more other~~ suitable sites.

Data availability

Data ~~are~~ available ~~at~~: <https://data.mendeley.com/datasets/4t38tvb4yn/draft?a=f9020d9b-fbd3-4489-a1ca-0e4ffd623212>

Authors' contribution

505 O. Racek, J. Blahůt and F. Hartvich designed ~~the~~ system and directed ~~the~~ instrumentation of ~~the~~ sites, and continuously processed ~~ing~~ data and maintained ~~the~~ monitored sites

O. Racek processed ~~the~~ crack-meters data

J. Blahůt processed in-depth temperature data and environmental data

F. Hartvich supervised all works, helped with ~~the~~ graphic parts of the manuscript, and participated in ~~setting up~~ the monitoring

Competing interests

510 ~~““The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.””~~

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