





Notes: Waste characterisation is often viewed as a "regulatory requirement" or as an "environmental study". This perspective often drives the narrative when discussions are had about how many samples are needed for ARDML. However, if we approach the question from the perspective of understanding how waste characterisation fits into mineral reserve definition, then this allows a different narrative to drive the discussion.





Notes: By definition, to convert a mineral resource to a reserve then suitable waste characterisation, and waste management risk assessment is required as these are Modifying Factors.







Notes: Block models are based on assay data generated by sampling at set intervals in drillholes that are distributed either in a random or regular pattern. Resource estimation drilling boreholes are often deep, with spacings that allow for the resource to be defined (and therefore would be initially sufficiently-well spaced to construct also a WASTE block model if the data collected allowed this).

Grade control drilling provides better resolution in the area of operation because of closer spacing of drillholes and is used in conjunction with resource drilling data to refine the block model. It follows that, grade control drilling is needed early on in a project to determine variance and accuracy of waste zone in resource model (similarly to its role in ore definition). This is a very important consideration given the "reliance" on the mine waste schedule for mine planning, specifically in relation to the waste materials that are needed for construction during mine operation.



Notes: The block model is created based on the available results, where if the block size is finer than the drilling spacing (as is often the case for resource models), information in the spaces between boreholes is interpolated between available data points on either side to give the block a value. So to construct a sufficiently fine block-sized model, dense data points are required, and for this tool to be useful for planning of operations, it needs to include reliable and sufficiently detailed waste data as well.

The purpose of the samples				
Difference between sampling to understand the geochemical behaviour of different types of waste and that to construct a block model				
Probabilistic sampling	Details	Advantages	Application	
	Random or regular grid – for example resource or grade control drilling	Statistical analysis is possible. Can quantify error	Construct block model of waste Inform spot sampling	
Spot sampling	Targeted sampling – understand the ARD-ML behaviour of a subset of samples	Detailed (often time- consuming and costly) tests used to characterise the selected materials	Characterise waste Inform ARD-ML model – parameters that define waste classes	

Notes: Some of the ambiguity in discussions of number of samples required for waste definition stems from lack of clarity regarding the purpose of the samples. There is a difference between sampling to understand the geochemical behaviour of different types of waste and sampling required to construct a block model.

Describe probabilistic vs. spot sampling using the table. Crucially, both types of sampling are needed to create robust waste models that reflects the AMD behaviour accurately.



Notes: Samples collected on the basis that each has the same chance of being picked as any other (which is the basis of the probabilistic sampling), such as those collected during resource drilling, give an idea of the range of values that could be encountered for each parameter. On this plot are the results for two different lithologies, that clearly show that neither lithology will be diagnostic for ARD-ML risk. The ARD-ML risk will need to be based on Ca/Sulfide S content if those are proven to be reliable for this purpose. On the other hand, lithology QTZ contains no Ca in any of the encountered samples, therefore this level of testing is sufficient to suggest that it can be assumed that Ca content in the QTZ lithology is negligible and no testing for Ca is required for any QTZ lithology sample.

Since it is impractical to test all samples in the assay database for every geochemical property, there is a need to select a subset of samples onto which to perform more detailed testing. The purpose of this testing is to understand the geochemical behaviour that the different materials are likely to display under different conditions (and how to identify those materials (or waste classes). It should follow that once these aspects are known, they are then used to amend the block model to reflect the appropriate waste types based on the identified key parameters that allow delineation of the wastes.





Notes: Grade weight averaging approach has been developed for ore reserve modelling (e.g., JORC) and to inform on processing requirements and economic recovery assessment of ore minerals. It was <u>NOT</u> developed for scale dependant assessments such as AMD and as such it should not be assumed that the approach is valid (although it can be).

With respect to economic assessment of ore extraction changes in material properties, for example, fragmentation effects from mining do not largely matter as the entire block is crushed and processed (i.e., not scale dependant). As such, grade weight averaging is appropriate for ore resource modelling. With respect to AMD assessment, however, changes in the composition of material as a result of mining activities <u>DO</u> matter as AMD risk is driven by the relative concentration of reactive minerals such as sulfides and carbonates <u>AND</u> the particle size distribution of these minerals (i.e., scale dependency).

Most analytical testing is carried out on samples from drilling into solid rock as core or chips that have been homogenised and/or composited. For ore resource assessment this grade weigh approach is likely appropriate, however, for AMD assessments this may not be appropriate.



Notes: So looking to applying the sampling to the model development: Typically, the AMD block model is based on a parameter such as sulfide sulfur, if it is a reliable proxy of acid generation, for example, where carbonates are low. Or NAPP as a combined parameter where some carbonates are present. This is the case at Purnama and Barani. In this case, detailed testing of subset of samples for different lithologies showed that SxS value reflects pyrite content sufficiently accurately and Ca reflects carbonates, therefore a model based on the NAPP value is sufficiently accurate. Since both SxS and Ca are included in any resource development drilling and grade control, and spacing is the same in ore and waste zones, the AMD model for this pit is of comparable resolution and statistical certainty as the ore.



Notes: However, for Ramba Joring and Tor Ulu Ala, the sulfide sulfur value includes S within alunite, which is a non-acid-producing sulfate. This means that a model based on sulfide S or its derivatives without accounting for alunite will overestimate the amount of acid generation expected, and is therefore not reliable for modelling RJ and TUA. A different approach is therefore required for these pits.



Notes: Here is an example of a model based on over 100,000 assay results of sulfide sulfur, this can create a 'good' model in terms of resolution. However, because the sulfide S value is not representative of the actual acidity production potential, this model does not define the waste classes accurately. This means that more testing is now required to either develop a different set of parameters to use (and validate this approach), or do infill testing of the available drill core with a direct measure of acidity-generating potential (such as NAG).





Notes: We can see on the left a plot of ABA parameters for borehole from TUA. Suflide S is generally lower in the top 120 m, then variable before being generally elevated at depth. However, the NAG pH is 4.5-6 and acidity negligible in the top 120 m, suggesting that most or all of the reported SxS (to 2%) is likely alunite. In this section, the rocks are mostly orange-red in colour and contain oxides and no reduced minerals. This zone is coincident with the oxide zone when 100% oxidation percentage used as modelling parameter.

At depth, NAG acidity is high and pH below 3, confirming presence of pyrite (but not excluding possibility of alunite presence in this section as well). Rocks are grey and can contain visible sulfides. This is generally coincident with the reduced section of the model based on oxidation percentage (<30 % oxidation).

In the middle is a heterogeneous zone where NAG acidity as well as SxS varies on a very fine scale, which is modelled as transition based on oxidation percentage.

This indicates that a model based on oxidation percentage will be better suited to accurately modelling ARD-ML risk in TUA and RJ, than using the sulfide sulfur value or NAG acidity or pH value, but this is limited to the oxide and sulfide zone (and it does include a margin of error). In the transition zone, materials can range from PAF to NAF within meters. Since no combination of available parameters can be used there, this zone requires NAG testing, either during grade control when this zone is about to be mined, or infill testing of the available samples to populate this part of the model.



Notes: Grade control is an additional source of test data, which can be invaluable when used to its full potential.





