

Research Article

The Mechanical Criterion of Activation and Instability of Normal Fault Induced by the Movement of Key Stratum and Its Disaster-Causing Mechanism of Rockburst in the Hanging Wall Mining

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Coal mine rockburst is closely related to the complex geological structure. Understanding the criterion of the fault activation instability and the disaster-causing mechanism of rockburst under the influence of mining is the theoretical premise and important guarantee of safe and efficient coal mining. In this paper, based on the theory of key stratum, the mechanical model of fault slip instability in the normal fault during the hanging wall mining was established, and the instability criterion was derived. It is concluded that the fault slip instability of the hanging wall is mainly controlled by two factors: (1) the distance between coal seams and key stratum and (2) the distance between working face and fault. Moreover, these two factors have an inverse relation to the occurrence of rockburst. Subsequently, three conceptual models of rockburst induced by the fault stress transfer, stress concentration of coal pillars, and fault structural instability were proposed. Based on the rock mechanics theory, the rockburst carrier system model of “roof-coal seam-floor” near the fault was established. The mechanical essence of fault rockburst was obtained as follows: under the action of fault, the static load of fault coal pillar was increased and superimposed with the fault activation dynamic load, leading to high-strength rockburst disaster. Based on the occurrence mechanism of fault rockburst, the monitoring and prevention concept and technical measures were proposed in three aspects, including the monitoring and control of fault activation dynamic loads, the monitoring of high static load in fault coal pillar and stress release, and the strengthening roadway support. These prevention and control measures were verified in the panel 103_{down}02 of the Baodian Coal Mine in engineering, and the effectiveness of these measures was proved.

1. Introduction

Coal is one of the important basic energies for China and global economic construction, accounting for more than 30% of the total global energy consumption [1]. In 2017, the total global coal production reached 5.481 billion tons, with a year-on-year increase of 3.4% and a sustained growth trend [2, 3]. In the same year, China's coal production reached

2.541 billion tons, accounting for 46.4% of the total global coal production, ranking first in the world [4, 5]. It can be seen that in a long period, coal resources will act as the most important basic energy in China's energy consumption structure. More than 95% of China's coal production comes from underground mines [6, 7]. Underground coal mining usually faces complex geological and mining conditions. Rockburst occurs frequently, and its intense is also high.

[8–10]. Besides, shallow coals are gradually exhausted; the deep mining geological conditions are more complex; faults, folds, and other geological structures are concentrated, and the development situation of coal resources is extremely severe [11–14]. The study has shown that the occurrence of coal mine rockburst is closely related to geological structure and other factors; it is easy for rockburst to enter the concentrated burst, especially in the vicinity of faults [15–18]. Faults are the most common geological structures in coal mining. The rockburst induced by fault activation belongs to structural instability disaster and has the following characteristics: the large burst amount of coal rock, strong destruction, rapid occurrence, and unclear precursor information [19–23]. In recent years, research on fault rockburst has been widely performed. Generally, the occurrence principle of fault rockburst is explained as follows: coal mining, blasting vibration, and other engineering activities induce the typical fault activation; when the fault activation degree is large, the hanging and foot walls of the fault move relatively, accompanied by a large energy mine earthquake; as a result, the shock instability of coal rock is directly induced or induced with the superimposition of mining stress. The principle is shown in Figure 1.

The mechanical model is an important theoretical research method to reveal the mechanism and criterion of fault rockburst. In China and other foreign countries, Pan Dai et al. [24, 25] put forward the disturbance response criterion for fault rockburst and considered that the increase of shear stress and the decrease of normal stress on the fault plane are the main reasons for the occurrence of fault rockburst, and the interaction between the medium of the fault zone and its surrounding rock mechanical properties is the secondary reason affecting the occurrence of fault rockburst. In this way, the criterion of fault disturbance response well explains the influencing factors and mechanism of rockburst induced by fault instability, and it is the combination and extension of the elastic rebound theory proposed by Carpenter and Borla in 1951 [26] and the stick-slip theory proposed by Brace and Byerlee in 1966 [27]. Li et al. [28] established the mechanical model of fault structural locking and unlocking slip and theoretically derived the judgment equations of fault upward unlocking and downward unlocking. In these functions, fault unlocking is related to fault friction strength, fault dip angle, and the ratio of horizontal stress to vertical stress. Through the monitoring of point stress and point displacement, Michalski [29] discovered that the stress near the fault rises and falls sharply, and the risk of rockburst increases when the working face is near the fault. At present, microseismic monitoring is the most effective dynamic response monitoring method of coal rock and has been widely used in the monitoring and prevention of the fault rockburst. Chen et al. [30] analyzed the influence of fault structural plane on mine pressure distribution and roof stability of mining face through microseismic monitoring. It was concluded that when the working face was advanced to the high-stress concentration area of the fault, the peak value of advanced abutment pressure of the working face decreases and the roof stability is poor.

In conclusion, the mechanical model of fault instability criterion can be used to quantitatively judge the activity of fault in theory, but most of them are based on seismic mechanism. The roof movement, especially the movement and fracture of the key stratum of the roof, is rarely considered as the active occurrence condition of fault activation instability. In view of this, the mechanics model of the key stratum movement of the roof was established, and then the mechanical criterion of the activation instability of normal faults in the key stratum was derived. On this basis, the mechanical essence of the occurrence of the fault rockburst was discussed based on rock mechanics. Then, a new concept of the prevention and control of the fault rockburst was proposed based on the abovementioned research results, and the prevention and control measures were applied to the engineering.

2. Mechanical Criterion of Activation and Instability of Normal Fault Induced by Key Stratum Movement in the Hanging Wall

The key stratum refers to a hard and thick rock layer that controls the overburden in the roof of the working face [31]. In conventional mining, the strata are hard to break; once broken, the released energy is extremely huge. Therefore, the movement state of the overburden depends on the location, properties, and periodic fracture characteristics of the key stratum. As a geological weak plane, faults cut off the mechanical connection between the key stratum and the rock mass ahead and change the mechanical occurrence state of the key stratum. When the key stratum and normal faults exist at the same time, the stress situation of “masonry beam structure” can be formed by mining-induced overburden movement, as shown in Figure 2.

The fault plane is defined as the y -axis of the rectangular coordinate system, and F_N and T are decomposed along the fault plane:

$$\begin{cases} F_x = F_N \cos \theta + T \sin \theta, \\ F_y = F_N \sin \theta - T \cos \theta, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where F_N is the self-supporting force of block A in the key stratum of the fault plane, kN; T is the horizontal extrusion force of block A on the fault plane, kN; θ is the fault dip angle, ($^\circ$); and F_x and F_y are the resultant forces in x and y directions at the fault plane, kN.

According to the previous studies [32], the stress condition that the fault does not slip at the key stratum is $F_x \tan \varphi \geq F_y$, which can be further deduced as the following equation:

$$\frac{F_N}{T} < \cot(\theta - \varphi), \quad (2)$$

where φ is the internal friction angle of rock mass near the fault, ($^\circ$).

From equation (1), it can be seen that $F_x > 0$ is constant, that is, the contact between the key stratum and the fault plane will not separate due to mining; whether the key stratum slides upward or downward at the fault plane depends on the horizontal squeezing force T .

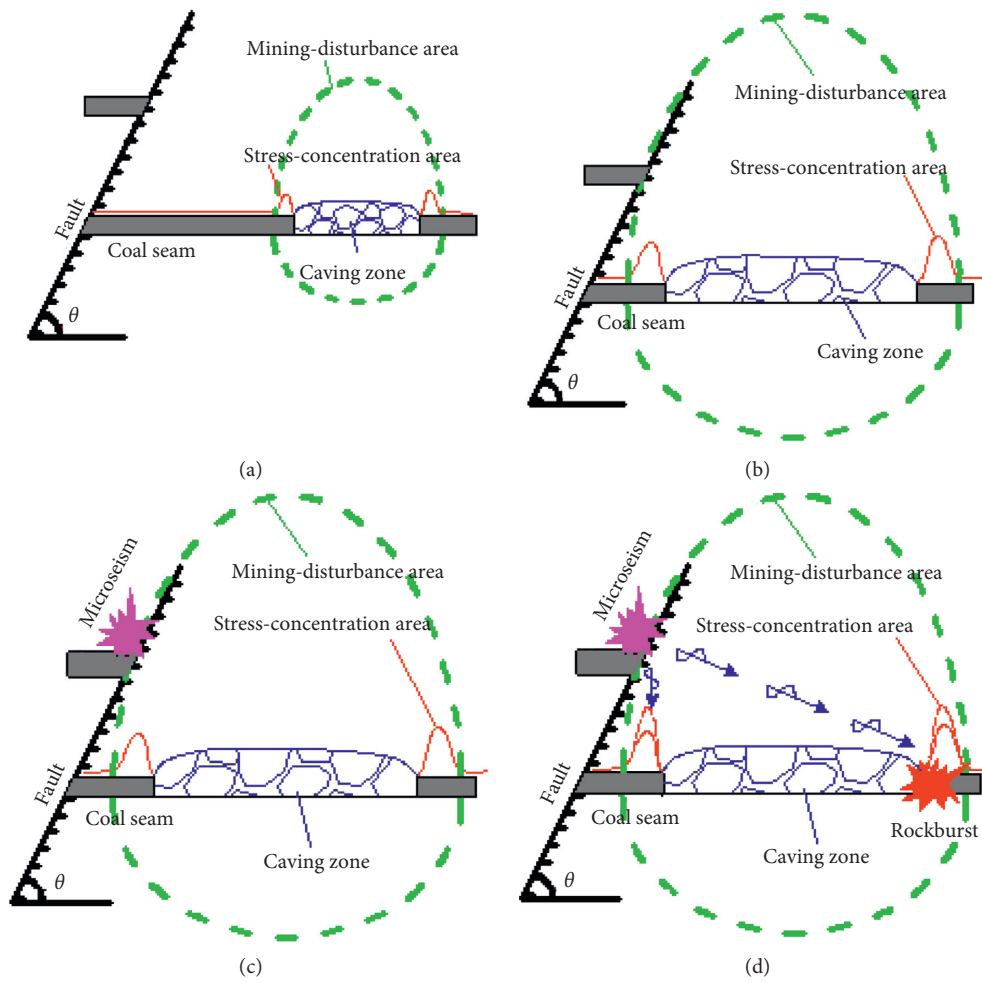


FIGURE 1: Fault mining activation and its induced mine earthquake and rockburst principle. (a) Mining does not affect the fault; (b) fault activation induced by mining; (c) mine earthquake induced by fault activation; (d) rockburst induced by mine earthquake.

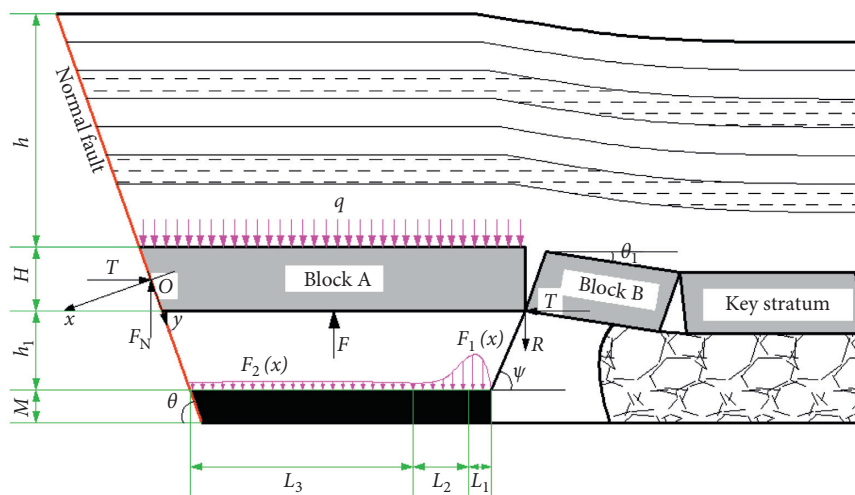


FIGURE 2: Movement mode and stress state of key stratum of normal fault in the hanging wall mining.

Taking the width of the key rock mass as 1, the stress analysis of rock block A in the key stratum can be obtained as the following equation:

$$\begin{cases} F_N = \lambda(h+H)(h_1 \cot \theta + L_1 + L_2 + h_1 \cot \psi) + R - F, \\ F = \int_0^{L_1} F_1(x)dx + \int_0^{L_2} F_2(x)dx + \int_0^{L_3} F_2(x)dx - \gamma V, \\ V = (h_1 \cot \theta + 2L_1 + 2L_2 + 2L_3 + h_1 \cot \psi) \frac{h_1}{2}, \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

where γ is the average unit weight of overburden on the working face, kN/m^3 ; h is the distance between the key stratum and the surface, m ; H is the thickness of the key stratum, m ; h_1 is the thickness of the weak rock layer under the key stratum, m ; V is the volume of the rock layer between the key stratum and the coal seam, m^3 ; L_1 is the width of the limit equilibrium zone of the fault coal pillar, m ; L_2 is the width of the elastic zone of the fault coal pillar, m ; L_3 is the distance from the original rock stress area to the fault, m ; Ψ is the falling angle of rock mass under the key stratum, ($^\circ$); R is the shear force of rock block B to rock block A, kN ; F is the supporting force of rock mass in the lower part of key stratum to key stratum, kN ; $F_1(x)$ is the advanced abutment pressure of the working face, kN ; and $F_2(x)$ is the roof pressure of coal seam in the original rock stress area, kN .

According to the previous study [33], the advanced abutment pressure $F_1(x)$ of the working face and the roof pressure $F_2(x)$ of the coal seam in the original rock stress area meet the following equation:

$$\begin{cases} F_1(x) = \tau_0 \cot \varphi \frac{1 + \sin \varphi_1}{1 - \sin \varphi_1} e^{(2f/M)(1 + \sin \varphi_1 - \sin \varphi)} L_1 \quad (0 \leq x \leq L_1), \\ F_1(x) = k\gamma(h+H+h_1)e^{(2f/M\beta)(L_1-x)} L_2 \quad (L_1 \leq x \leq L_2), \\ F_2(x) = \gamma(h+H+h_1)L_3, \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

where M is the coal seam thickness, m ; f is the friction coefficient between coal seam and roof, generally 0.015–0.035; φ_1 is the internal friction angle of coal, ($^\circ$); k is the leading stress concentration coefficient of the working face; τ_0 is the shear strength of coal, kPa ; β is the lateral pressure coefficient of coal seams, generally ranging from 0.8–1.5.

According to [34, 35], the expressions of horizontal compression force T of fault plane block A and shear force R of key layer rock block B on key layer rock block A are shown in the following equation:

$$\begin{cases} T = \frac{(\gamma h L \sin \theta_1)}{((4H/l) - \sin \theta_1)}, \\ R = \frac{((4H/l) - 3 \sin \theta_1) \gamma h L}{((4H/l) - \sin \theta_1)}, \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

where l is the average length of the key rock block formed by the fracture of the key stratum, m , and θ_1 is the angle of the key rock block A, ($^\circ$).

Then, the rotation angle θ_1 of key rock block A satisfies the following equation:

$$\sin \theta_1 = \frac{1}{l} [M - h_1(k-1)]. \quad (6)$$

According to equations (3)–(6) and the substitution of equation (2), it can be seen that the key stratum is not activated and unstable at the fault, and the conditions to be met are in the following equation:

$$\frac{F_N}{T} = \frac{[4H - 2M + 2h_1(k-1)] \times \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \gamma(h+H) \times (h_1 \cot \theta + L_1 + L_2 + L_3 + h_1 \cot \psi) + \\ 0.5\gamma h_1 (h_1 \cot \theta + 2L_1 + 2L_2 + 2L_3 + h_1 \cot \psi) - \\ \gamma(h+H+h_1)L_3 - \tau_0 \cot \varphi_1 L_1 M / 2f \left(e^{(2f/M)(1 + \sin \varphi_1 - \sin \varphi)} - 1 \right) - \\ k\gamma(h+H+h_1) \times L_2 \left[M\beta/2f e^{(2f/M\beta)L_1} - M\beta/2f e^{(2f/M\beta)(L_1-L_2)} \right] \end{array} \right\}}{\{\gamma h l [M - h_1(k-1)]\} < \cot(\theta - \varphi)}, \quad (7)$$

where θ is the fault dip angle, and $\theta = 72^\circ$; φ is the internal friction angle of the rock mass near the fault, and $\varphi = 18^\circ$; H is the thickness of the key stratum, and $H = 42.8 \text{ m}$; M is the thickness of the coal seam, and $M = 6.5 \text{ m}$; h is the distance

between the key stratum and the surface, and $h = 500 \text{ m}$; h_1 is the distance between the coal seam and the key stratum, and $h_1 = 60 \text{ m}$; k is the advanced stress concentration factor of the working face, and $k = 2$; γ is the average unit weight of

overburden on the working surface, and $\gamma = 25 \text{ kN/m}^3$; Ψ is the falling angle of rock mass at the lower part of key stratum, and $\Psi = 75^\circ$; L_1 is the width of limit equilibrium zone of working face, and $L_1 = 5 \text{ m}$; L_2 is the width of elastic zone of working face, and $L_2 = 15 \text{ m}$; τ_0 is the shear strength of coal body, and $\tau_0 = 2500 \text{ kPa}$; φ_1 is the internal friction angle of coal, and $\varphi_1 = 23^\circ$; f is the friction coefficient between coal seam and roof, and $f = 0.02$; and β is the lateral pressure coefficient of coal seams, and $\beta = 1$. Through the calculation, when the working face is 48.42 m away from the fault (i.e., $L_1 + L_2 + L_3 = 48.42 \text{ m}$), the key stratum is activated and unstable at the fault, which also shows that the 50 m fault protection coal pillar in the working face 5318 is reasonable. According to the abovementioned values, the distance h_1 between the coal seam and the key stratum and the distance L_3 from the original rock stress area to the fault in equation (7) are regarded as independent variables. At the dip angle of 72° , the influence relationship of the fault activation instability and the two factors ((1) the distance between the coal seam and the key stratum and (2) the distance between the working face and the fault) is obtained, as shown in Figure 3. The filling part in Figure 3 meets the condition of fault instability. It can be seen that the critical condition of fault activation and instability is inversely proportional to the abovementioned two factors when other conditions remain unchanged.

3. Mechanism of Rockburst Induced by Fault Activation

The fault is a common geological structure in coal mining. Its unique discontinuous structure controls the deformation, failure, and mechanical properties of the coal rock. The interaction between the fault, coal mining activities, and key stratum movement induced by the mining is the key to fault activation. After fault activation, the dynamic load is transferred and released and superimposed with the dynamic and static load of mining, which may induce the rockburst disaster. According to the distance between fault and working face in the field investigation, the mechanism of fault activation induced by coal mining activities is summarized into three conceptual models, as shown in Figure 4.

- (1) The model of rockburst is induced by fault stress transfer (Figure 4(a)). When the mining activity is far away from the fault (normal fault, usually greater than 60 m), the fault activation dynamic load, fault coal pillar static load, and mining stress almost have no influence on each other. At this time, the fault activation degree is low, but some fault stresses still transfer to the mining space and overlap with the advanced abutment pressure. When the advanced abutment pressure of the working face is high, the rockburst is easily induced. This kind of rockburst appears in the peak stress area in front of the working face.
- (2) The model of rockburst is induced by stress concentration of fault coal pillar (Figure 4(b)). As the fault cuts off the continuity of coal seam and roof and

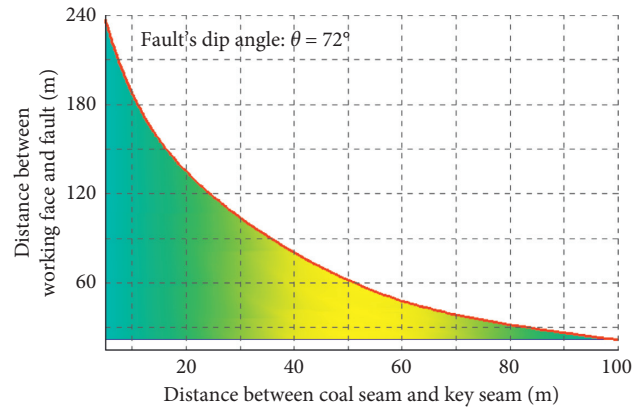


FIGURE 3: Critical conditions of fault activation and instability at the dip angle of 72° .

floor, the fault coal pillar is formed when the distance between working face and fault decreases with mining activities. At this time, the double effects of rotary subsidence of the roof rock block and advanced abutment pressure force the fault coal pillar static load to be highly concentrated. If the fault activation dynamic load and the highly concentrated coal pillar static load are superimposed again, it is very easy to induce the fault coal pillar rockburst with the large damage degree and scope. Therefore, this is the key period of the prevention and control of the fault rockburst. This kind of rockburst usually appears in the coal rock between the working face and the fault.

- (3) The model of rockburst is induced by the fault instability (Figure 4(c)). When the working face is close to the fault (normal fault, usually less than 20 m), long-term activation forces the fault layer to increase the sliding property, and the relative movement trend of the hanging wall and footwall of the fault increases under the action of roof pressure. The overall structure of the fault is easy to lose stability and induce rockburst. The intensity of this kind of impact disaster is between the above two situations, and the location of rockburst is mostly near the fault zone.

4. Monitoring and Prevention of Fault Rockburst

4.1. Concepts and Technical Measures. According to the three conceptual rockburst models of fault activation described in the previous section, the prevention and control of fault rockburst should start from three aspects: weakening the fault activation dynamic load, releasing the high static load of fault coal pillar and strengthening roadway support. Feasible monitoring and control measures are summarized as follows.

4.1.1. Fault Activation Dynamic Load Monitoring and Control. Mining engineering activities induce fault activation, and the fault stress is mostly released in the sudden

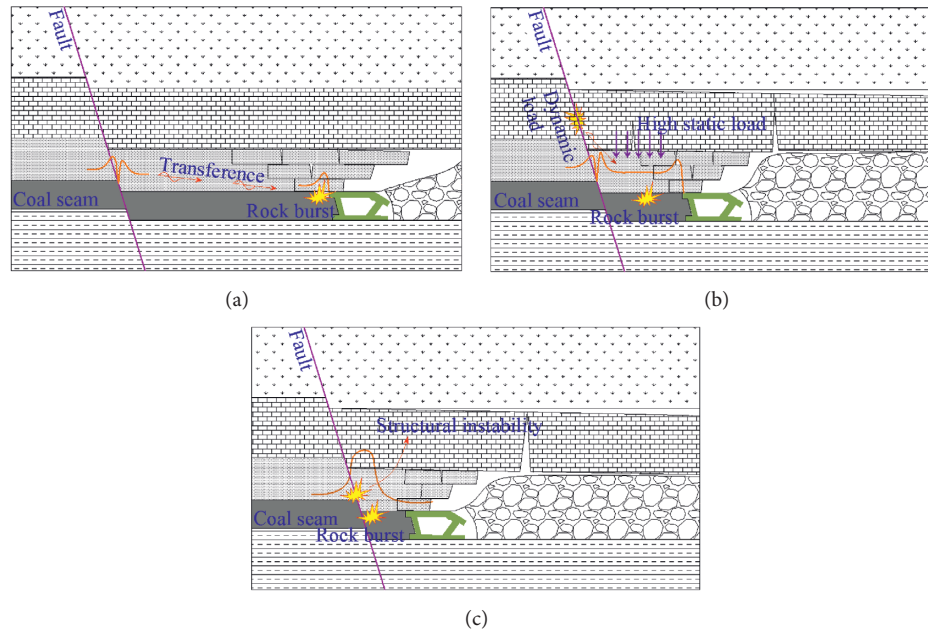


FIGURE 4: Conceptual model of rockburst induced by fault activation. (a) Fault stress transfer. (b) Stress concentration of fault coal pillar. (c) Instability of fault.

form of dynamic load. Therefore, the instantaneous information capture method such as microseismic is mainly used to monitor the fault activation dynamic load. To prevent and control the fault activation dynamic load, some measures such as large diameter borehole pressure relief and coal seam water injection can be used to directly reduce the cohesive force and friction angle of the fault plane, so as to weaken the release strength of fault activation dynamic load; the disturbance intensity of dynamic load can also be reduced by controlling the mining speed of working face and the roof cutting.

4.1.2. High Static Load Monitoring and Stress Release of Fault Coal Pillar. To monitor the static load of fault pillar, the stress and fracture information between fault and working face can be directly obtained by drilling cuttings method, borehole stress monitoring, microseismic monitoring, surface displacement monitoring, and other conventional methods; roof movement and overlying rock structure evolution information can be inferred by using support working resistance monitoring, and coal pillar static load information under coupling effect of fault and roof structure can also be obtained indirectly. Large diameter borehole pressure relief and deep hole pressure relief blasting can be used to release the high static load of fault coal pillar.

4.1.3. Strengthening Roadway Support. Strengthening the supporting strength of the roadway between fault and working face is an effective method of in-situ rockburst prevention, which can not only provide higher lateral constraints for roadway side but also improve the compressive strength and antirockburst capability of coal rock. In this way, the coal rock between the fault and the working

face is not easy to be damaged. Even if the failure occurs, most of the energy can be released in the form of damage and fracture of coal rock in the transmission process, so as to avoid the occurrence of rockburst disaster. Hu et al. [36] also put forward technical measures to prevent rockburst by improving roadway support strength.

4.2. Engineering Cases. Baodian Coal Mine in Yanzhou mining area of China has a typical tendency of rockburst. The coal seam 3_{down} was the main mined area of panel $103_{\text{down}}01$, with an average coal thickness of 5.9 m and an average dip angle of 2° . In the north, there was panel $103_{\text{down}}02$, and the southern part was the solid coal. The strike length of the working face was 978 m and the inclined length was 225 m. There was a hard layer of 21.5 m thick glutenite at 45 m above the coal seam, which was the key stratum that dominated the overburden movement of the working face. A normal fault LF21 was distributed in the south, and the working face was located in the hanging wall of the normal fault. The roadway layout of the working face and the location relationship with the normal fault LF21 are shown in Figure 5. The fault LF21 had a strike length of 2.4 km and was distributed along the east-west direction. The dip angle of the fault was about 66° and the drop was about 23 m near the $103_{\text{down}}01$ working face. As the distance between the mining face and the working face decreased, the minimum plane distance between them was 30 m, which was equivalent to the working face mining toward the fault. Therefore, a seismological observation system (SOS) was installed before the mining of the panel $103_{\text{down}}01$ to realize the real-time capture of surrounding rock movement and the activation information of fault LF21.

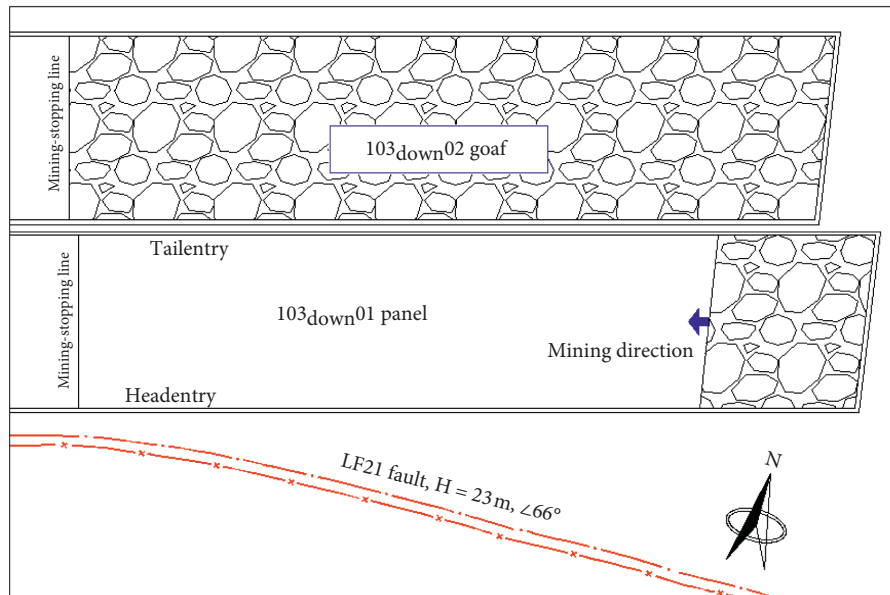


FIGURE 5: Layout of the roadway and its relationship with fault location in panel 103_{down01}.

The mining of panel 103_{down01} was started on June 17, 2014. As of September 29, 2014, the mining of panel was 440 m, and microseismic events began to appear near the fault LF21. At this time, the shortest distance between the panel and fault LF21 was 142.5 m. The focal distribution of the panel from the beginning of mining to 440 m of mining is shown in Figure 6. It can be seen that the distribution of microseismic sources basically conforms to the conventional characteristics, that is, most of them are distributed in the goaf of this panel and its adjacent panels. However, on September 27, 2014, and September 29, 2014, two consecutive seismic events with energy greater than 10^6 J occurred near the fault LF21, indicating that the fault LF21 was activated to a certain extent and had the risk of inducing rockburst. If the panel continues to advance, the width of the fault coal pillar will gradually reduce, the static load and dynamic load strength of the fault coal pillar will inevitably increase, and the possibility of inducing rockburst will be enlarged. Therefore, the mining was immediately terminated, and experts were organized to analyze the causes and formulate the hazard relief schemes. Combined with the prevention and control concept of fault rockburst, technical measures, and equipment installation conditions of the panel, the following three hazard relief measures were finally determined.

4.2.1. Coal Seam Water Injection. Coal seam water injection can soften the coal body, change the coal fracture structure, reduce the static load accumulation capacity and elastic energy reserve capacity of the coal rock, and weaken coal strength and rockburst tendency. During the stop-production of the panel 103_{down01}, six water injection drilling fields were arranged within the range of 440–978 m in the headentry, with a spacing of 90 m. In the 3 drilling fields near the panel and the 3 drilling fields near the stop-production line, 9 and 5 boreholes were arranged in a radial single row along with the seam inclination.

The depth of the boreholes was 60–130 m, the diameter of the boreholes was 100 mm, the high-pressure water injection pressure was 16 MPa, and the static pressure water injection pressure was 5 MPa. After water injection, the measured value of the water content of coal increased from 4.6% to 9.7%, and the effect of water injection was significant.

4.2.2. Large Diameter Borehole Pressure Relief. Large diameter borehole pressure relief can release the concentrated load of fault coal pillar, transfer the high-stress area on both sides of roadway to the deep coal body, and weaken the rockburst disaster. After the completion of coal seam water injection in the panel 103_{down01}, the pressure relief measures of large diameter boreholes were implemented on the two sides of the remaining transport gateway. The parameters of pressure relief boreholes are shown in Figure 7.

4.2.3. Strengthening Roadway Support. Strengthening roadway support can effectively improve the lateral restraint of the roadway in the impact zone and enhance the impact resistance of the roadway. An additional ZT45000/24/75 hydraulic support for advanced support was installed in the headentry during the mining of the remaining coal of the panel 103_{down01} to enhance the support strength in the advance stress area, as shown in Figure 8.

After the implementation of the abovementioned measures, the drilling cuttings method was used to test the prevention and control effect of rockburst on the transport gateway. After confirming that there was no impact risk, the mining was started again on February 13, 2015. The mining speed was adjusted from the original 5.8–7.6 m/d to 3.8–4.5 m/d, and the mining speed was kept at a constant speed. Figure 9 shows the distribution of microseismic sources during the mining period of the remaining panel of 103_{down01}. As shown in Figure 9(a),

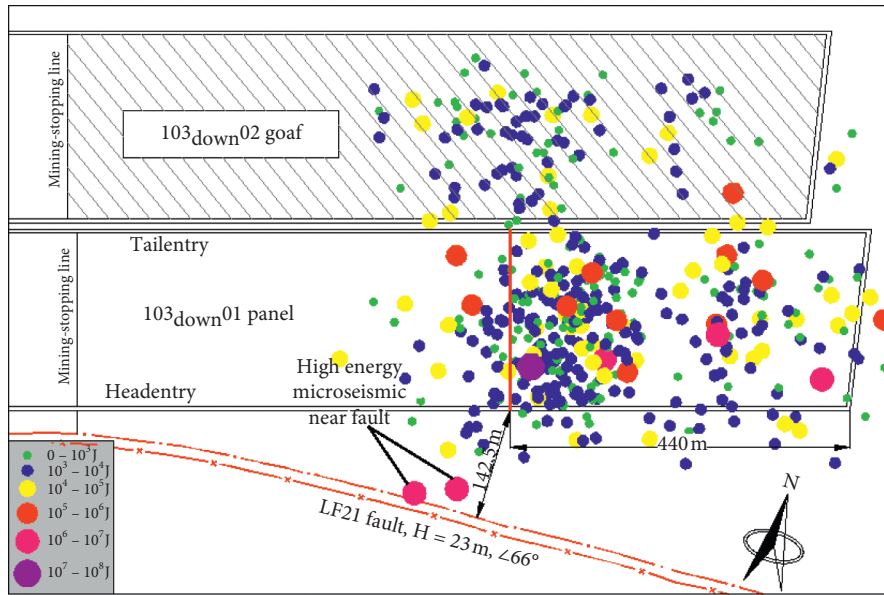


FIGURE 6: Seismic source distribution from 0–440 m mining (June 17, 2014, to September 29, 2014).

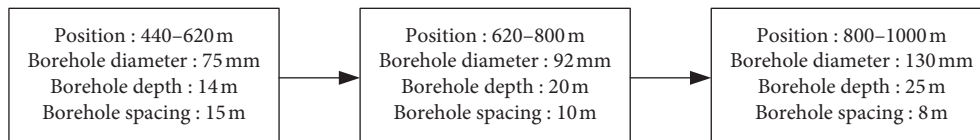


FIGURE 7: Parameters of large diameter borehole pressure relief.



FIGURE 8: ZQ4000/20.6/75 advanced support hydraulic support.

during the mining period of 440–573 m, compared with the previous mining period, the small energy microseisms in this stage are significantly increased, and there was no seismic source distribution near the fault. It indicates that the high-pressure water injection and borehole pressure relief measures effectively release the elastic energy of coal rock and promote the generation of a large number of microcracks in the coal rock. Then, small energy microseismic events were induced by the expansion of microcracks under the influence of mining disturbance. During the mining of the remaining panel, there were still large

energy microseismic events, but the source location was basically in the goaf of the panel. Therefore, it is believed that this was induced by the fracture of key stratum in roof. When the mining was advanced to the stop line of the panel (Figure 9(d)), the high-energy microseisms increased again. At this time, the distance between the panel and the fault was 30–50 m, and the fault activity was enhanced again. Therefore, the mining speed was reduced again and strictly controlled below 4 m/d until the panel was fully mined, and there was no rockburst disaster. The governance goal of earthquake and disaster-free was

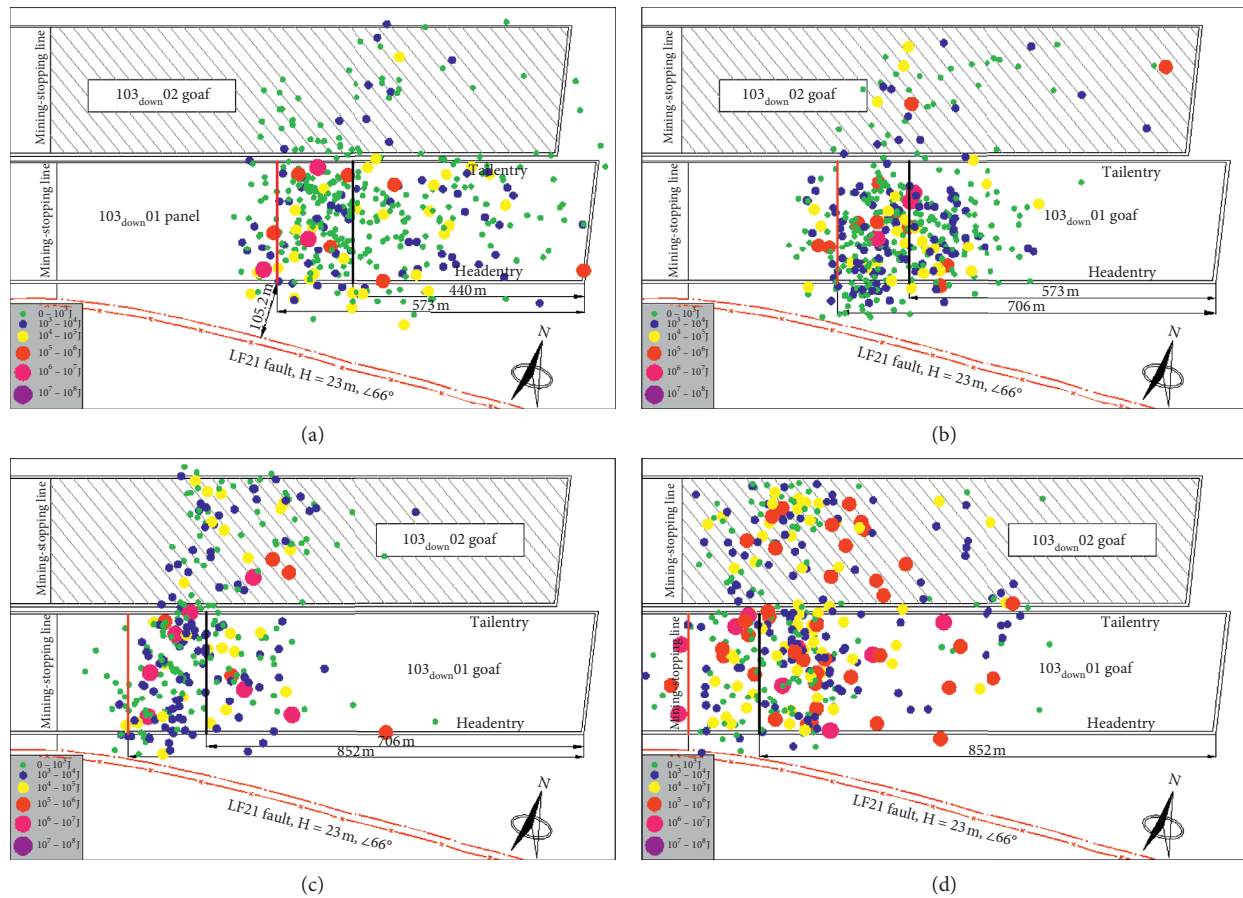


FIGURE 9: Seismic source distribution of the remaining panel during mining (February 13, 2015, to August 4, 2015). (a) Mining 440–573 m; (b) mining 573–706 m; (c) Mining 706–852 m; (d) mining 852–978 m.

realized. It also shows that the proposed prevention and control concept and measures of fault rockburst above are effective.

5. Conclusion

To control the frequent occurrence of rockburst disasters in mining coal seams in fault and other geological structure areas, the mechanism of fault activation and the mining-induced rockburst in the hanging wall mining of normal fault is studied based on theoretical analysis, mechanical model, and engineering cases. This study provides a reference for the prevention and control of fault rockburst. The main conclusions are as follows [36]:

- (1) During the hanging wall mining, the mechanical model of fault activation in normal fault under the control of key roof strata is established, and the mechanical criterion of fault slip instability is derived. It is concluded that the critical condition of fault slip instability is mainly controlled by two factors: (1) the distance between coal seams and key stratum and (2) the distance between working face and fault; and the influence of these two factors is inversely proportional to the critical condition of fault slip instability.
- (2) According to the distance between working face and fault, three conceptual models of rockburst induced by fault stress transfer, rockburst induced by stress concentration of fault coal pillar, and rockburst induced by the fault instability are proposed. Based on rock mechanics theory, the rockburst carrier system model of “roof-coal seam-floor” near the fault was established. The mechanical essence of fault rockburst was obtained as follows: under the action of fault, the static load of fault coal pillar was increased and superimposed with the fault activation dynamic load, leading to high-strength rockburst disaster. On this basis, based on the rock mechanics theory, the paper studies the rockburst carrier system model of “roof-coal floor” near the fault and reveals that the mechanical essence of fault rockburst is that the static load of fault coal pillar is increased under the action of fault, and the superposition of fault activation dynamic load leads to high-strength impact disaster.
- (3) Based on the occurrence mechanism of fault rockburst, the monitoring and prevention concept and technical measures of this rockburst are proposed, including three aspects: fault activation dynamic load monitoring and control, fault coal pillar high

static load monitoring and stress release, and strengthening roadway support. In panel 03_{down}02 of the Baodian Coal Mine, the proposed measures were verified in the engineering. The results show that after the implementation of the abovementioned measures, microseismic frequency and energy amplitude of the panel 03_{down}02 are significantly reduced. Therefore, the proposed prevention and control measures are proved to be effective.

Data Availability

The data used to support the findings of this study are included within the article.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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