

Contents

Preface ix

Some Abbreviations and Acronyms

Used in the Text xi

1. Metals and Minerals: Global Trends, Outlook, and Mineral Exploration

- 1.1 General 1
- 1.2 Emerging Economies of the New World 4
- 1.3 Program for Progress 6
- 1.4 Recycling and Conservation 7
- 1.5 Some Environmental Benefits of Metals Recycling 9
- 1.6 Substitution 9
- 1.7 Global Flow of Metals and Minerals 10
- 1.8 Global Demand of Mineral Resources up to 2050 13
- 1.9 Shifting Markets Create New Opportunities 15
- 1.10 The Great Fall of China and Global Volatility 17
- 1.11 Challenges of Developing Adequate Supply of Minerals 18
- 1.12 The Need for Intense Mineral Exploration 19
- References 20

2. Mineral Deposits: Types and Associations

- 2.1 Introduction 24
- 2.2 Definitions 24
- 2.3 The Rock Cycle 25
- 2.4 Rock-Forming Minerals 25
- 2.5 Ore Body 26
- 2.6 Formation of Mineral Deposit 26
- 2.7 Chemical and Physical Controls of Ore Deposition 27
- 2.8 Ore Deposit Types 28
- 2.9 Composition of the Deposit 29

- 2.10 Classification Based on Form 40
- 2.11 Classification Based on the Theory of Origin 40
- 2.12 Classification Based on Ore Formation Processes and Element Associations 43
- 2.13 Placers 44
- 2.14 Metallogenic Provinces and Epochs 48
- 2.15 Metallogenic Provinces in Relation to Plate Tectonic Setting 50
- References 52

3. Reconnaissance and Prospecting

- 3.1 Reconnaissance 54
- 3.2 Reconnaissance Map 55
- 3.3 Reconnaissance Survey 56
- 3.4 Geological Survey 56
- 3.5 Geological Mapping 58
- 3.6 Digital Elevation Models 60
- 3.7 Prospecting 60
- 3.8 Prospecting Types 63
- 3.9 Preliminary Field Trip 63
- 3.10 Prospecting Methods 64
- 3.11 Guides for Prospecting 64
- 3.12 Classification of Guides 65
- 3.13 Mineralogical Guides 67
- 3.14 Stratigraphic and Lithologic Guides 73
- 3.15 Structural Guides 74
- 3.16 Geochemical Guides 77
- 3.17 Animal Activity 78
- References 78

4. Remote Sensing Techniques

- 4.1 Introduction 81
- 4.2 Remote Sensing 82
- 4.3 Why Remote Sensing 84
- 4.4 Major Remote Sensing Satellite Systems 85
- 4.5 Radar and Thermal Infrared Sensors 86
- 4.6 Digital Image Processing 88

4.7	Application of Remote Sensing	89
4.8	Advantages of Satellite Imageries	91
4.9	Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System	91
4.10	Remote Sensing Versus Aerial Photography/Photogrammetry	92
4.11	Remote Sensing and Multispectral Imaging	92
4.12	Remote Sensing Versus SONAR	93
4.13	Remote Sensing Industry—Present Trends and Outlook	93
	References	94

5. Geophysical Exploration

5.1	Introduction	98
5.2	Geophysical Methods and Targets	99
5.3	Choice of a Technique	99
5.4	Gravity Techniques—Gravity Gradiometry, Geodesy, Microgravity Surveys	100
5.5	Magnetic Techniques	101
5.6	Electromagnetic Methods	105
5.7	Radiometric (Gamma Ray) Method—Aeroradiometric Surveys	106
5.8	Seismic Methods	107
5.9	Electrical Techniques	107
5.10	Thermal Methods	110
5.11	Remote Sensing Methods	110
5.12	Borehole Geophysics (Geophysical Logging)	110
5.13	Lithology Logs	111
5.14	Ground Penetrating Radar Surveys	111
5.15	Very Low Frequency Surveys	112
5.16	Other Methods	112
5.17	Geophysical Inversion Technique	112
5.18	Emerging Geophysical Technique	113
5.19	Airborne Geophysical Survey	117
5.20	High-Definition Airborne Gravity Gradiometry	120
5.21	Unmanned Aerial Vehicles	120
5.22	Future Trends	121
5.23	Marine Geophysical Exploration Survey	121
5.24	Satellite Geophysics	122
	References	122

6. Geochemical Exploration

6.1	Introduction	126
6.2	The Geochemical Cycle	126

6.3	General Principles	128
6.4	Geochemical Exploration Surveys	131
6.5	Various Geochemical Exploration Surveys	132
6.6	Other Advanced Techniques	148
6.7	Design of Geochemical Survey	149
6.8	Sampling for Geochemical Surveys	150
6.9	Geochemical Maps	151
6.10	Interpretation of Data	151
6.11	Geochemical Data Processing	152
6.12	Analysis of Exploration Data and Identifying Geochemical Anomalies	153
6.13	Geochemical Survey Interpretation	154
6.14	Typical Geochemical Exploration Program	155
	References	157

7. Geological Exploration

7.1	Introduction	160
7.2	Minerals Activity Project	160
7.3	Mineral Exploration	162
7.4	Evolution of Exploration Technology	163
7.5	Development of Exploration Technology	164
7.6	Challenges for Mineral Exploration	165
7.7	Designing an Exploration Approach	166
7.8	The Exploration Cycle	167
7.9	Environmental Impacts of Mineral Exploration and Development	170
7.10	Mine Closure Plan	171
7.11	Greenfields Versus Brownfields Exploration	171
7.12	Resourcing the Future	172
7.13	Project Funding	172
7.14	Ingredients of a Successful Exploration Campaign	174
7.15	Mineral Exploration and Development—Geographic Location	176
7.16	Expected Revenues, Costs, and Risks	177
7.17	Exploration Expenditure	179
7.18	Discovery Depends Upon Various Factors	183
7.19	Mineral Exploration Under Deep Cover	189
7.20	Interpretation and 3D Modeling	191
7.21	Economic Concepts for Exploration Strategy	192
7.22	Research and Training	194
7.23	Scarcity of Exploration Geoscientists	196
	References	197

8. Drilling

- 8.1 Introduction 200
- 8.2 Categories of Drilling Rig 201
- 8.3 Drilling Methods 201
- 8.4 Selection of Drill 205
- 8.5 Selection of Drilling Fluid 206
- 8.6 Selection of Pump 206
- 8.7 Exploration Drilling Methods 207
- 8.8 The Coiled Tubing Drill Rig 212
- 8.9 Samples From Drilling Campaign 214
- 8.10 Core Recovery 215
- 8.11 Core Storage 216
- 8.12 Core Splitting 216
- 8.13 Core Logging 217
- 8.14 High-Tech Core Scanning and Interpretation 218
- 8.15 Deductions From Drill Core Samples 219
- 8.16 Portable XRF Analyzer 221
- 8.17 Deviation of Drill Holes 222
- 8.18 Directional Core Drilling 223
- 8.19 Surveying Boreholes 224
- 8.20 Drill Sections 226
- 8.21 Planning a Drill Campaign 228
- 8.22 Drilling for Sampling Purposes 229
- 8.23 Angle of Intersection 230
- 8.24 Drilling for New Ore 230
- 8.25 When to Stop Drilling 231
- Appendix 232
- References 234

9. Sampling and Analysis

- 9.1 Introduction 236
- 9.2 Sampling 236
- 9.3 Geological Sampling Methods 238
- 9.4 Criteria for the Selection of a Sampling Procedure 242
- 9.5 Collection of Samples 242
- 9.6 Errors in Sampling 243
- 9.7 Preparation of Samples 243
- 9.8 Screening and Particle Size Distribution 247
- 9.9 Sample Preparation Methods for Analysis 247
- 9.10 Analysis of Geochemical Samples 249
- 9.11 High-Quality Analyses for Exploration 252
- 9.12 Sources of Error 253
- Appendix: Gy's Sampling Reduction Formula 253
- References 254

10. Geographic Information System and Common Earth Model

- 10.1 Geographic Information System 257
- 10.2 Common Earth Model 265
- 10.3 3D & 4D GIS Geomodeling 267
- 10.4 Common Earth Model at Exploration Stages 268
- References 268

11. Conventional and Statistical Resource/Reserve Estimation

- 11.1 Introduction 272
- 11.2 Conventional Resource/Reserve Estimation 272
- 11.3 Drawbacks of Conventional Resource/Reserve Estimation 275
- 11.4 Statistical Resource/Reserve Estimation 276
- 11.5 Characterization of a Distribution 278
- 11.6 Probability Models 280
- 11.7 Graphical Estimation of Logarithmic Mean and Logarithmic Variance 286
- 11.8 Numerical Estimation of Logarithmic Mean and Logarithmic Variance 287
- 11.9 Estimation of Average of a Mineral Deposit 287
- 11.10 Estimation of Central 90% Confidence Limits of Mean of a Lognormal Population 287
- 11.11 Number of Samples 287
- 11.12 Demerits of Statistical Resource/Reserve Estimation 288
- References 288

12. Geostatistical Resource/Reserve Estimation

- 12.1 Background 290
- 12.2 Geostatistics 290
- 12.3 Random Function 290
- 12.4 Regionalized Variable 291
- 12.5 Why Geostatistics 291
- 12.6 Semivariogram Function 292
- 12.7 Mathematical Models of Semivariogram 294
- 12.8 Kriging: Concepts and Applications 297

- 12.9 Integrated Geostatistical Modeling Process 299
- 12.10 Mineral Inventory 304
- 12.11 Grade—Tonnage Relations 304
- 12.12 A Step-by-Step Summary for an Integrated Geostatistical Study 304
- 12.13 Geostatistics in Mineral Industry 307
- 12.14 Limitations of Use of Geostatistics 307
- References 308

13. Mineral Resources Classification

- 13.1 Introduction 309
- 13.2 History of the Development of Reporting Standards 311
- 13.3 Exploration Results 312
- 13.4 Competent Person and Responsibility 312
- 13.5 Mineral Resource Classification 312
- 13.6 The JORC Code 314
- 13.7 Reporting Terminology 314
- 13.8 Codification of UNFC System 314
- 13.9 The Russian Federation Classification System 316

- 13.10 The Chinese Reserve and Resource Reporting System 317
- References 320

14. Valuation of Mineral Properties

- 14.1 Introduction 321
- 14.2 Periodic Change in Mineral Property Values 322
- 14.3 Exploration Assets and the Exploration Procedure 323
- 14.4 Valuation Techniques, Approaches, and Methodology 324
- 14.5 Mineral Valuation Codes 335
- 14.6 Concluding Remarks 335
- References 337

**Appendix: Case Study of
Rampura-Agucha Zinc-Lead
Deposit, India 339**

Index 391