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ANALYSIS OF FACTORS INFLUENCING THE INCREASED CONSUMPTION OF DIESEL FUEL BY BELAZ DUMP TRUCKS IN A QUARRY

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Abstract: The purpose of this article is to analyse the problems affecting the increase in fuel consumption of mine dump trucks, as well as the efficiency of BelAZ dump trucks. Various methods of determining fuel consumption rates for dump trucks have also been analysed. As a result of the study, data on the operation of dump trucks from the road transport department of the Central Mining Department of Navoi Mining Division of Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combine were collected, and the factors affecting the consumption of diesel fuel were analysed. As a result of researches the estimation of operational indicators of dump trucks is given, and also the indicators influencing fuel consumption during transportation of rock mass are revealed. In addition, several methods of calculation of fuel consumption are proposed and additional parameters affecting this indicator are determined. As a result of the research, recommendations were developed to improve efficiency by reducing fuel consumption during the operation of dump trucks.

Keywords: dump truck, fuel, internal combustion engine, diesel fuel, consumption rates, road surface, load capacity, turning radius, performance indicators, tire pressure.

Introduction. The pace of development of the mining industry is sharply increasing. This encourages improvements to mining equipment as well as vehicles used in it to improve the efficiency of mining enterprises. As a result of this, special attention is paid to the auto industry, which is considered the largest share of the transport of minerals in the world.

Today, the Department of Road Transport is a multifaceted and multidisciplinary unit of the Central Mining Department of the NKMC, which performs the following functions:

In the careers "Muruntog", "Tashkura" and "Amantaytog" are engaged in the transportation of mass of rocks and ores in technological car transport;

The transfer of gold ore into a heap solution provides loading into the grinding and sorting complex at the workshop.

The technological park of the traffic structure of the Department of Road Transport consists of modern motor vehicles with a carrying capacity of Caterpillar and BelAZ, from 55 to 220 tons, road-building cars Caterpillar, Komatsu, Dressta, Kirovets, as well as an auxiliary park of motor vehicles with mainly different BelAZ models.

One of the main indicators for analyzing the performance of dump trucks is fuel consumption, which represents the amount of fuel required to cover a certain distance or perform a certain amount of work (Sadudin Hodzic et. al., 2008; V. Kecojevic et. al., 2010).

One of the operational problems of dump trucks in quarries is excessive consumption of diesel fuel, which leads to material losses for mining enterprises. This indicator has a significant impact on planning the operation of dump trucks and assessing their efficiency (S. Masic et. al., 2005; Kurganov V.M. et. al., 2020; Kuznetsov I.S. et. al., 2021).

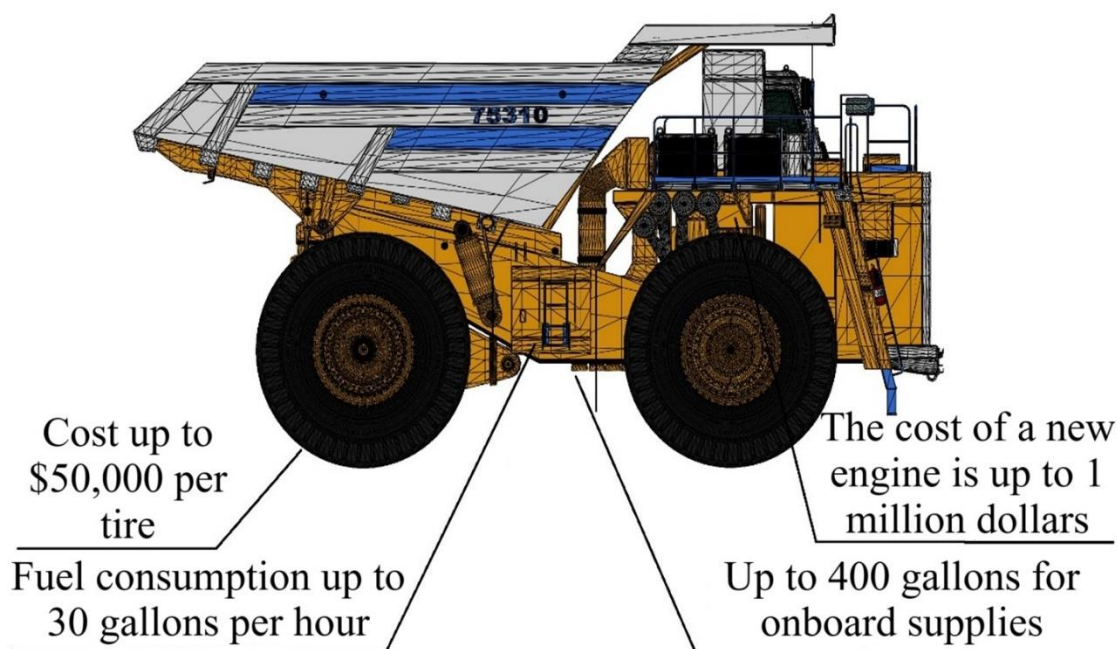


Figure 1. Dump trucks used in mining industries are characterized by high initial purchase and running costs

Fuel consumption is usually expressed in tons and grams per ton kilometer. To solve this problem, we will use the following scheme to evaluate the factors affecting diesel fuel consumption.

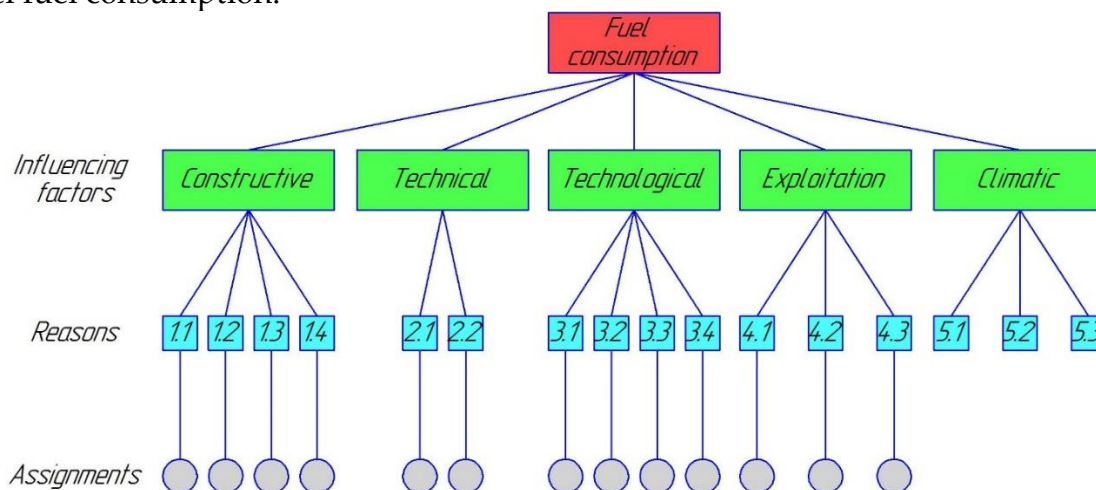


Figure 2. Factors affecting diesel fuel consumption

Materials and methods. The issues of increasing the efficiency of dump trucks were considered in their scientific research works by V.I. Novikov, N.S. Zakharov, V.A. Korchagin, M.A. Kuzminov, R.S. Grigoryev, A.I. Petrov, N.N. Maslov, G.M. Yakovlev, L.G. Reznik, V.S. Volkov and others.

Methods for determining and normalizing fuel consumption have been developed by many institutes, scientific organizations and enterprises, namely the St. Petersburg Mining Institute (technical university), the Mining Institute of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, BelAZ and Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combines (BelAZ-holding, 2017;).

Despite a number of fundamental studies conducted by scientific researchers and scientific organizations on issues of increasing the reliability of aggregates and organizing repair work, changes in the design, technical and technological factors that significantly affect the efficiency of quarry dump trucks have not been taken into account, and in addition, the methods and hypotheses proposed in a number of scientific studies have not been practically applied as a basis for solving the above problems (Ali Soofastaei, 2016).

The study of various methods for determining fuel consumption for dump trucks allows us to identify a number of indicators, each of which has its own characteristics and can be effectively used in different approaches.

The above factors serve as the basis for a detailed analysis of the technical parameters of dump trucks. In order to solve these factors, we mainly take into account the following indicators, namely, load capacity, engine power, rolling resistance coefficients and duty cycle. The calculation of these indicators serves as the basis for reducing the fuel consumption of dump trucks used in quarries.

Table - 1 presents the reasons underlying the factors affecting fuel consumption.

Table 1. Indicators underlying factors affecting fuel consumption

Factors	Reasons	Indicators
Constructive	1.1	Improving the design of dump trucks.
	1.2	Load capacity
	1.3	Wheel performance
	1.4	Road surface design
Technical	2.1	Depth of quarry
	2.2	For transportation
	3.1	Turning radius and number
Technological	3.2	Slope index, ‰
	3.3	Length of sloping sections and their number
	3.4	Load capacity utilization rate
Operation	4.1	Internal combustion engine wear rate
	4.2	Large tire pressure
	4.3	Rational driver control techniques
Climatic	5.1	Ambient air temperature
	5.2	Seasonal cycle
	5.3	Precipitation

As a result of the analysis of the factors affecting fuel consumption presented above, we exclude structural and technical factors from the assessment. The reason is that we cannot directly influence these factors, since we cannot change the design of dump trucks, the design of road surfaces, or the depth of the quarry.

When assessing the factors affecting fuel consumption, we can take into account the influence of technological, operational, and climatic factors and directly influence them.

Research results. A detailed analysis and calculation of fuel consumption is carried out for each dump truck, taking into account its individual technical indicators and performance characteristics. Therefore, we can calculate the standard fuel consumption using the following formula.

$$Q_n = 0.01 \cdot H_n \cdot S \cdot (1 + 0.01 \cdot D) + H_{q.n} \cdot Z$$

This is Q_n – a complex indicator of the soft standard fuel consumption in liters;

H_n – an indicator expressing the fuel consumption of a dump truck for cargo operations;

S – a dynamic indicator of the total distance traveled by dump trucks, measured in kilometers.

$H_{(q.n)}$ – an indicator expressing the additional energy consumption of dump trucks, taking into account the number of trips with a load, measured in liters;

Z – a figure expressing the number of trips with a load in one shift;

D – a coefficient reflecting the total increase or decrease in energy consumption relative to this standard, expressed in percent.

Based on the above formula, we can determine the fuel consumption of a dump truck H_n for transportation operations as follows.

$$H_n = H_t + H_{q.m} \cdot (G_{a.m} + 0.5 \cdot q) \quad l/100 \text{ km}$$

Here H_t – is the standard fuel consumption indicator for transportation of dump trucks with a load coefficient of 0.5;

$H_{(q.m)}$ – is the fuel consumption indicator for transportation of dump trucks taking into account the additional mass of the dump truck;

$G_{a.m}$ – is the weight of the dump truck;

q – is the load-carrying capacity of the dump truck.

Based on the above formulas, we used data from january 2024 to february 2025 to analyze the fuel consumption of dump trucks with a full load. As a result of the calculations, a comparison diagram of the fuel consumption of dump trucks with a full and average load was drawn up in Figure 3.

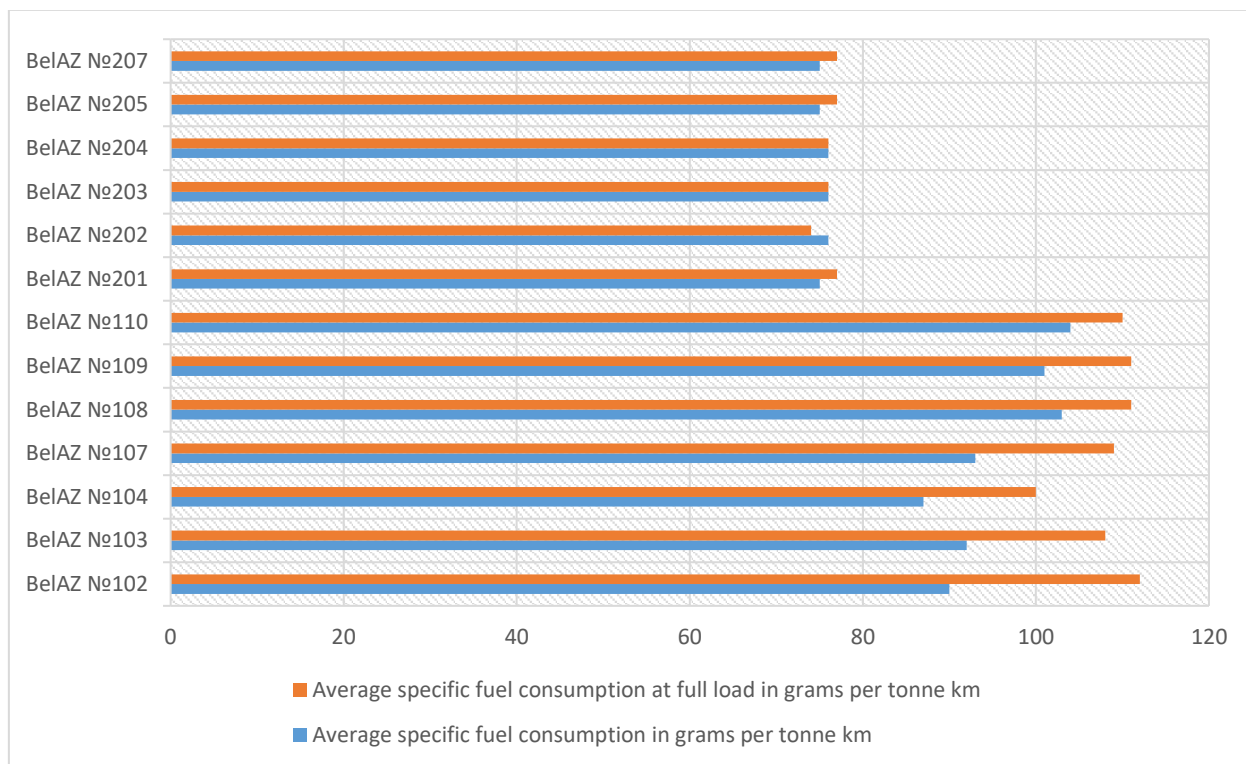


Figure 3. Comparison diagram of fuel consumption of dump trucks with full and average load capacity

Analyzing the above diagram, we can conclude that the average diesel fuel consumption for BelAZ 7513 dump trucks exceeded the standard by 13.5%, the maximum value by 23.9%, and the minimum value by 6.3%. The best indicators of compliance with the standard for diesel fuel consumption for BelAZ 75310 dump trucks were shown by BelAZ No. 202, BelAZ No. 203, BelAZ No. 204, but we can see that the diesel fuel consumption for BelAZ No. 201, BelAZ No. 205, BelAZ No. 207 exceeded the standard by 1%, 0.9%, and 1.03%, respectively.

Analysis of the research results. It is clear that optimizing fuel consumption in dump trucks helps to minimize operating costs and increase overall efficiency. This article discusses several practical recommendations that can help significantly reduce fuel consumption:

Regular maintenance and tuning of dump trucks. This mainly consists of servicing internal combustion engines, which can optimize fuel consumption by properly tuning the engine, fuel supply system, and ignition system.

Controlling the pressure of dump truck tires. Maintaining effective pressure in the tires reduces rolling resistance and, accordingly, fuel consumption.

Efficient loading and distribution of loads. Evenly distributing the load within the permissible carrying capacity of the dump truck body reduces the load on the internal combustion engine and fuel consumption.

Turn off the dump truck engine during stops. When waiting in one place for a long time, it is recommended to turn off the engine to avoid excessive fuel consumption.

Use of high-quality fuel. Using high-quality fuel with additives that improve combustion and reduce consumption reduces fuel consumption.

Driver training. Regular training of drivers on effective driving techniques, including smooth acceleration and braking, and maintaining an efficient speed at all times, can help reduce fuel consumption and improve the overall performance of the dump truck.

Conclusions. In conclusion, following the above recommendations can significantly reduce fuel consumption in dump trucks, which in turn will lead to reduced costs and increased efficiency. Regular maintenance, tire pressure monitoring, efficient loading and distribution of loads, use of quality fuel, and driver training are some of the main factors in reducing fuel consumption.

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