## **PREFACE**

Acta Research Reports No. 17, 2008 contains the results of grant projects terminated in the year 2007, which were solved in the Institute of Rock Structure and Mechanics, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, v.v.i. and were supported by the Grant Agency of AS CR and the Czech Science Foundation.

Further this issue summarizes three Ph.D. theses, which were defended in the year 2007 and includes the recent development in solved problems. The theses were worked out at the Department of Seismology and the Department of Engineering Geology and Geofactors of the Institute of Rock Structure and Mechanics, v.v.i.

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