

# Granular Flows



Collisional flow

**Inertial flow**

**Plastic flow**

Solid

# Slow Granular Flows

---

Shear Bands

Classical Picture based on Friction

Experiments on Wide Shear Zones

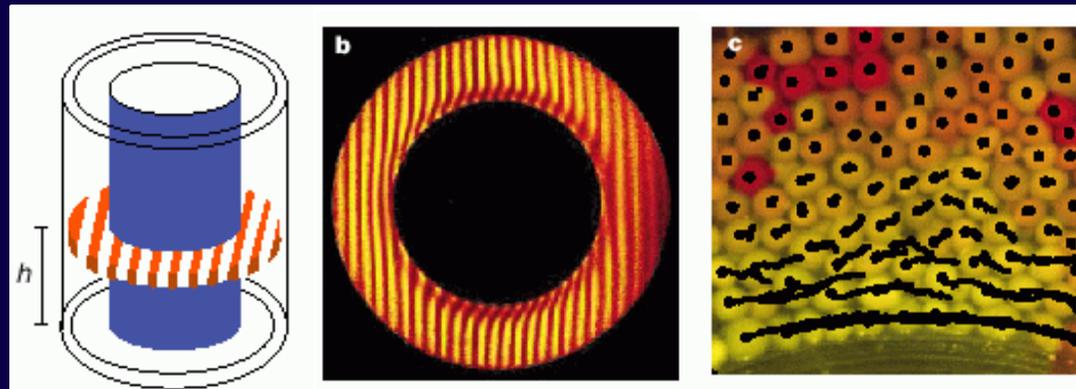
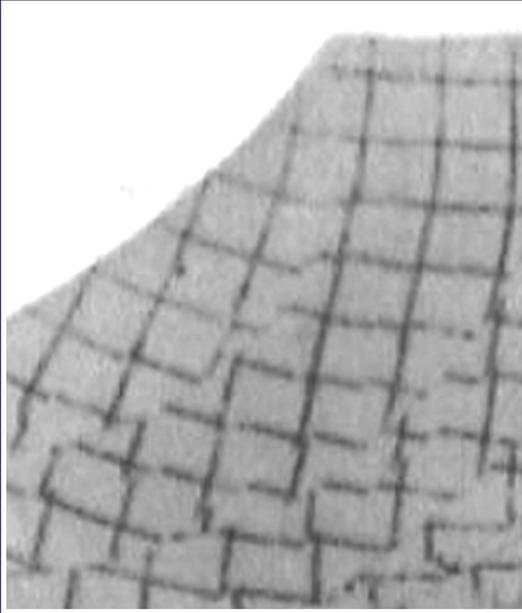
Comparison Experiments – Classical Picture

New Framework: Shear Free Sheets

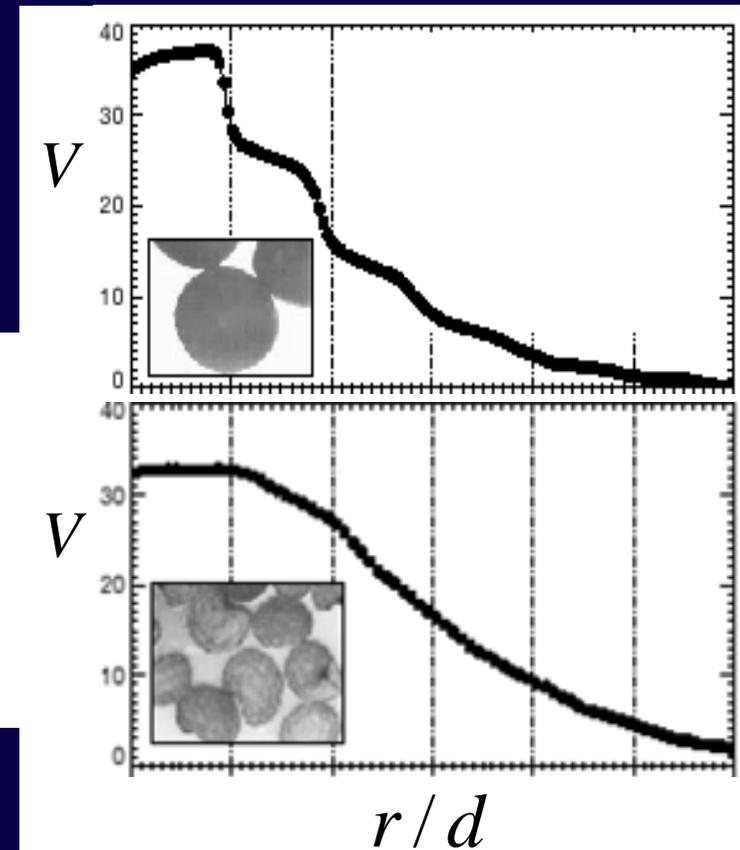
Experiments: Melting Sand by Stirring

Outlook

# Shear Bands & Grain Details



D.M. Mueth *et al.*,  
Nature **406**, 385 (2000)



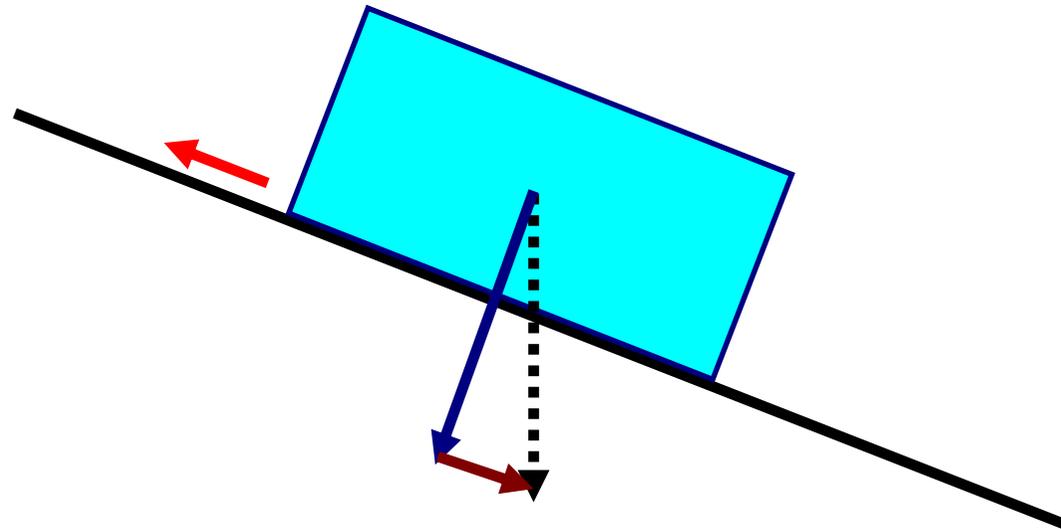
# Granular Media: Analogy with Friction



Yield Criterion



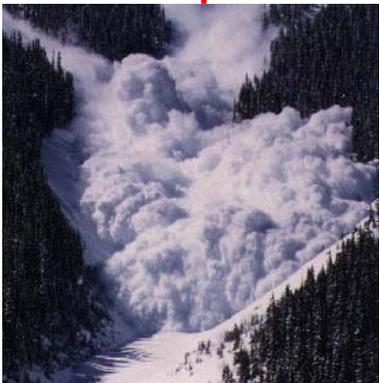
$$\frac{\text{Shear Force}}{\text{Normal Force}} \leq \mu$$



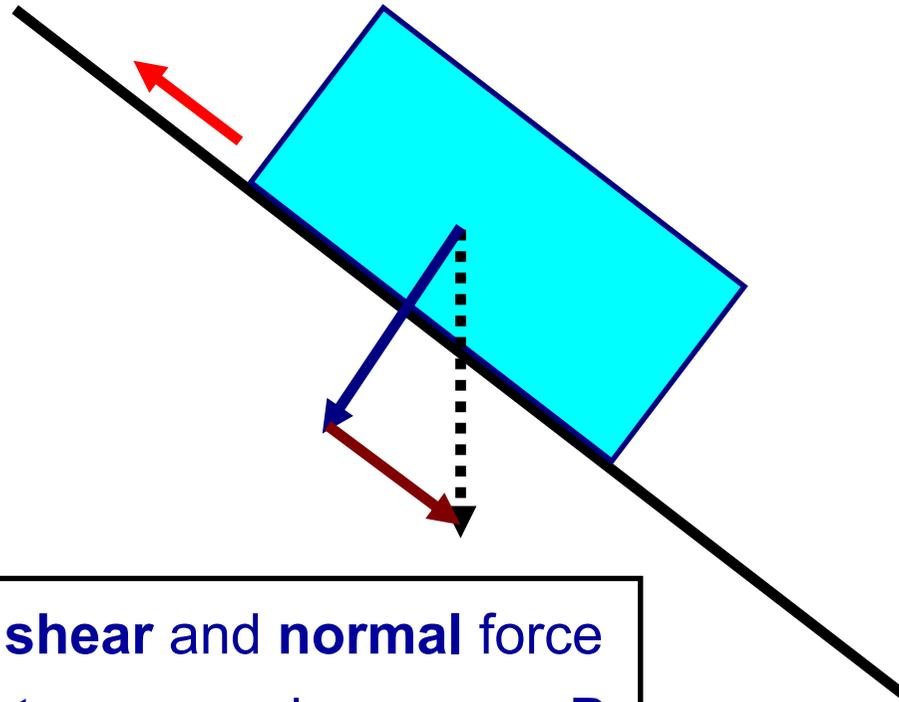
# Granular Media: Analogy with Friction



Yield Criterion

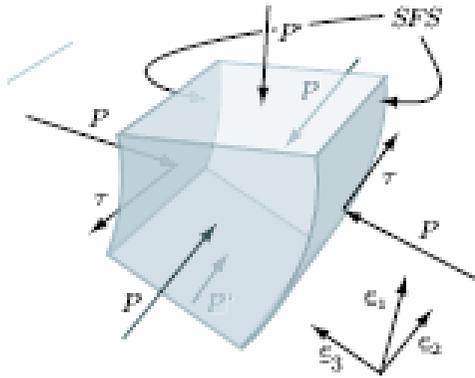


$$\frac{\text{Shear Force}}{\text{Normal Force}} > \mu$$



Translate **shear** and **normal** force  
to **shear stress**  $\tau$  and **pressure**  $P$

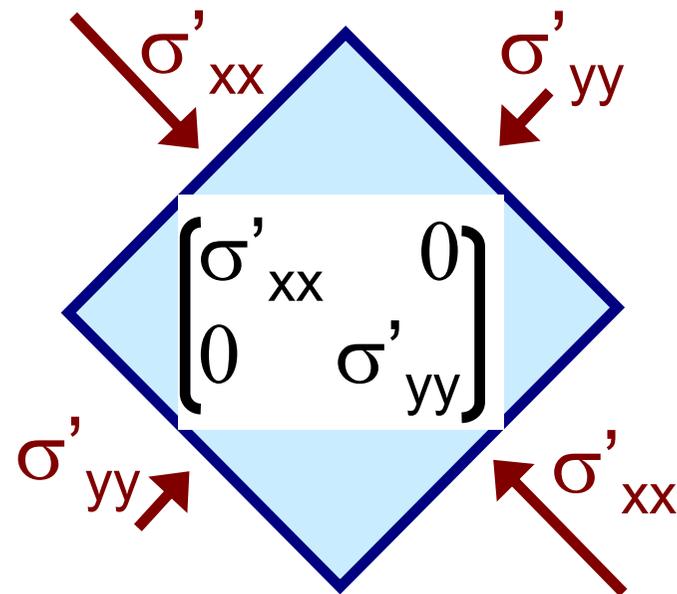
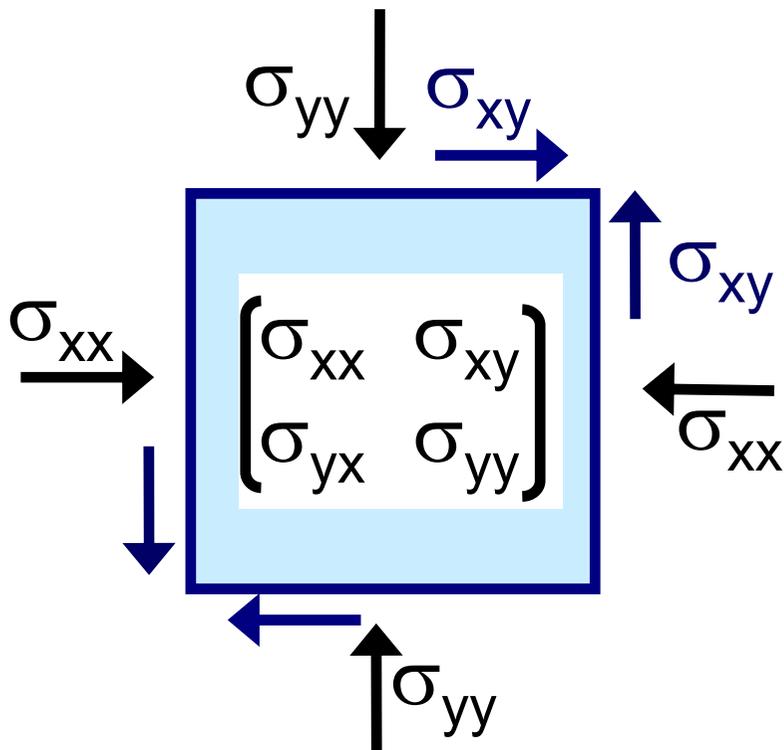
# Intermezzo: Tensors



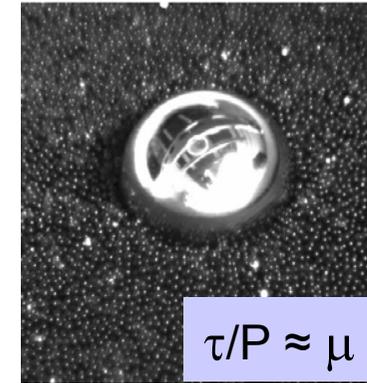
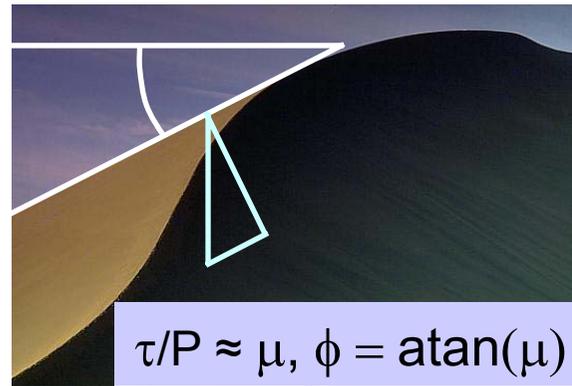
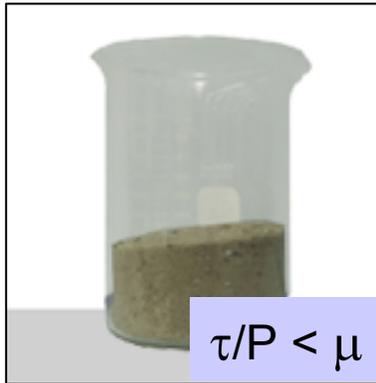
Stress = Force / Area

$$\sigma_{xy} = \sigma_{yx} = F_x / \text{Area}_y = F_y / \text{Area}_x$$

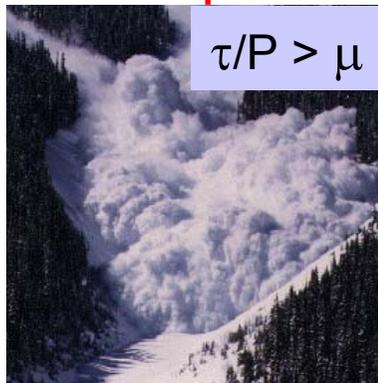
Principle Directions



# Granular Media: Yield Criterion



## Yield Criterion



Stresses  $\rightarrow$  Normal, shear components

Solid:  $\tau/P < \mu_{\text{solid}}$

Flow:  $\tau/P = \mu_{\text{sliding}} < \mu_{\text{solid}}$

Narrow shearbands follow naturally

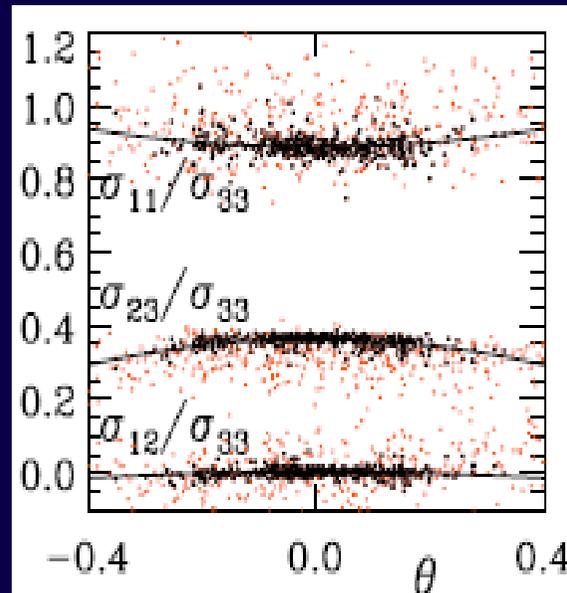
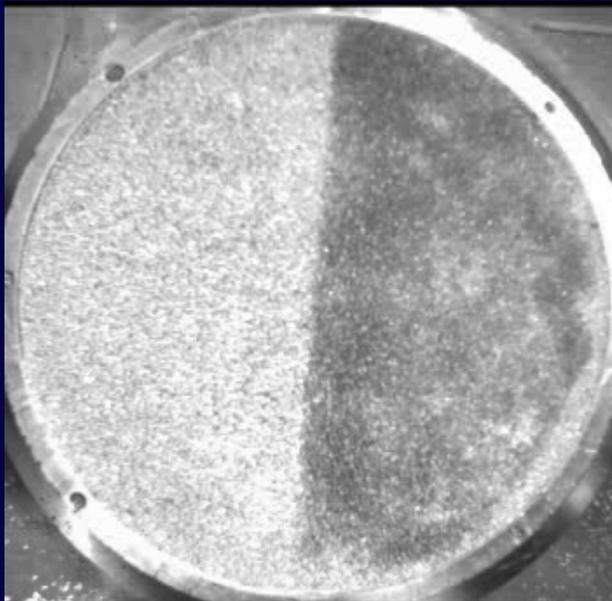
# Granular Flows – Accepted Wisdom

Narrow shear bands  
Grain details matter  
Solid-like regions  
Constant sliding friction.

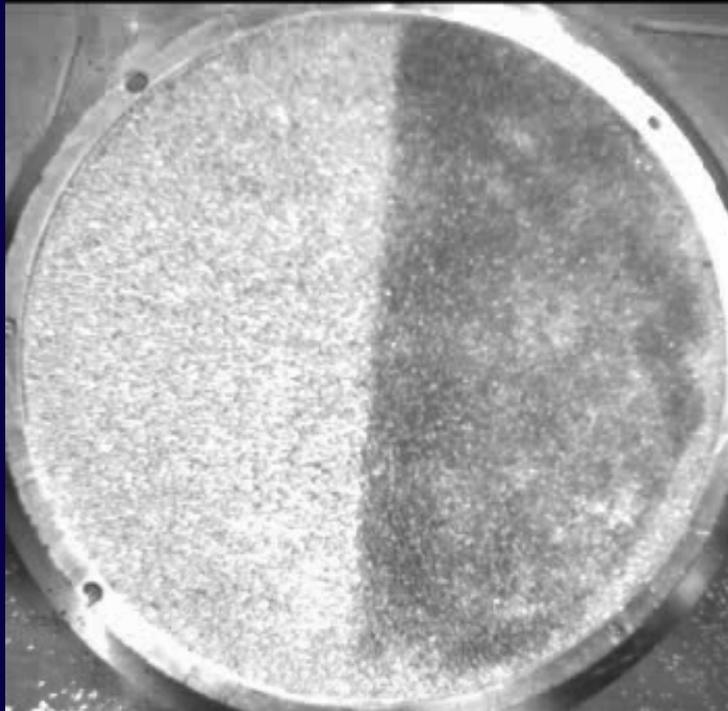


Kiri Nichol

And now ...



# Smooth Granular Flows



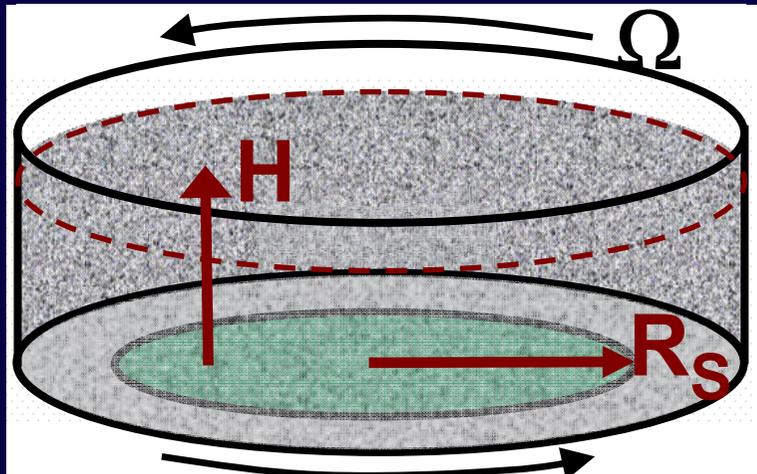
## Surface Velocity Profiles

Rate independent

Short transients

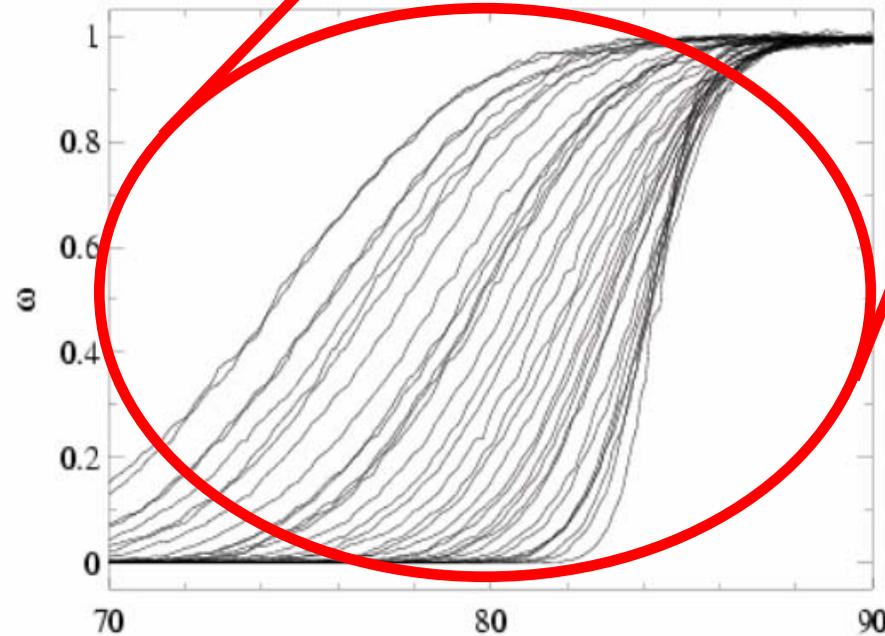
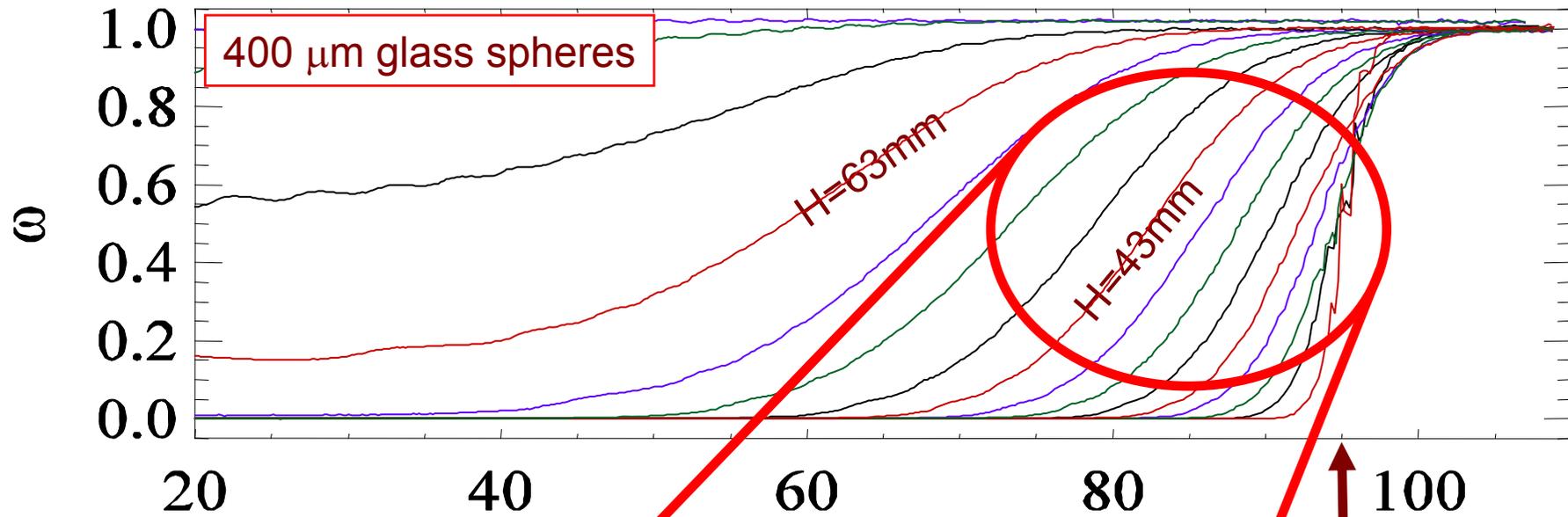
Azimuthal

$$\omega(r) := \omega_{\text{dim}}(r) / \Omega$$

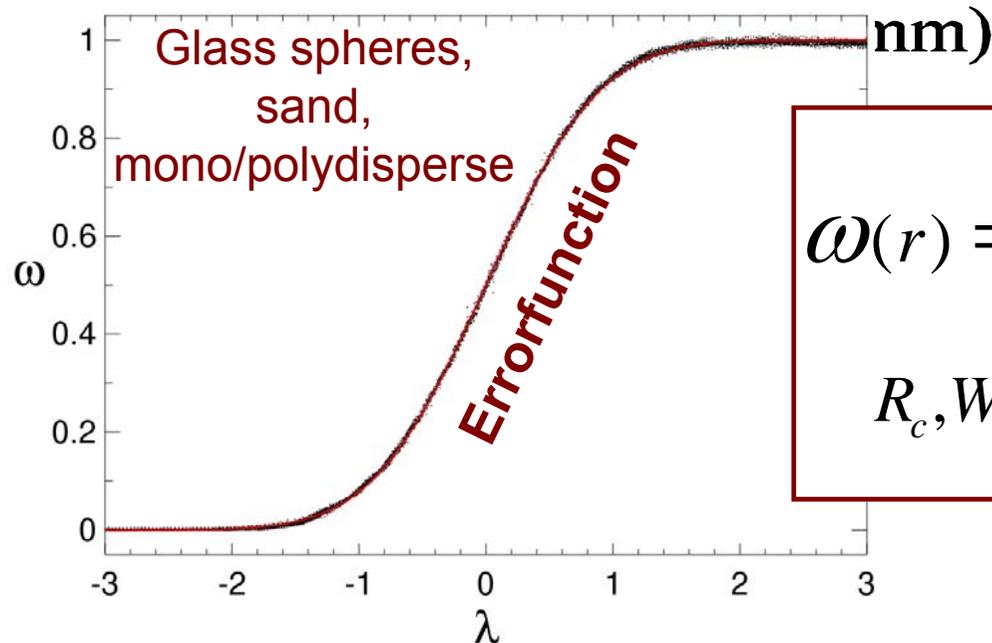
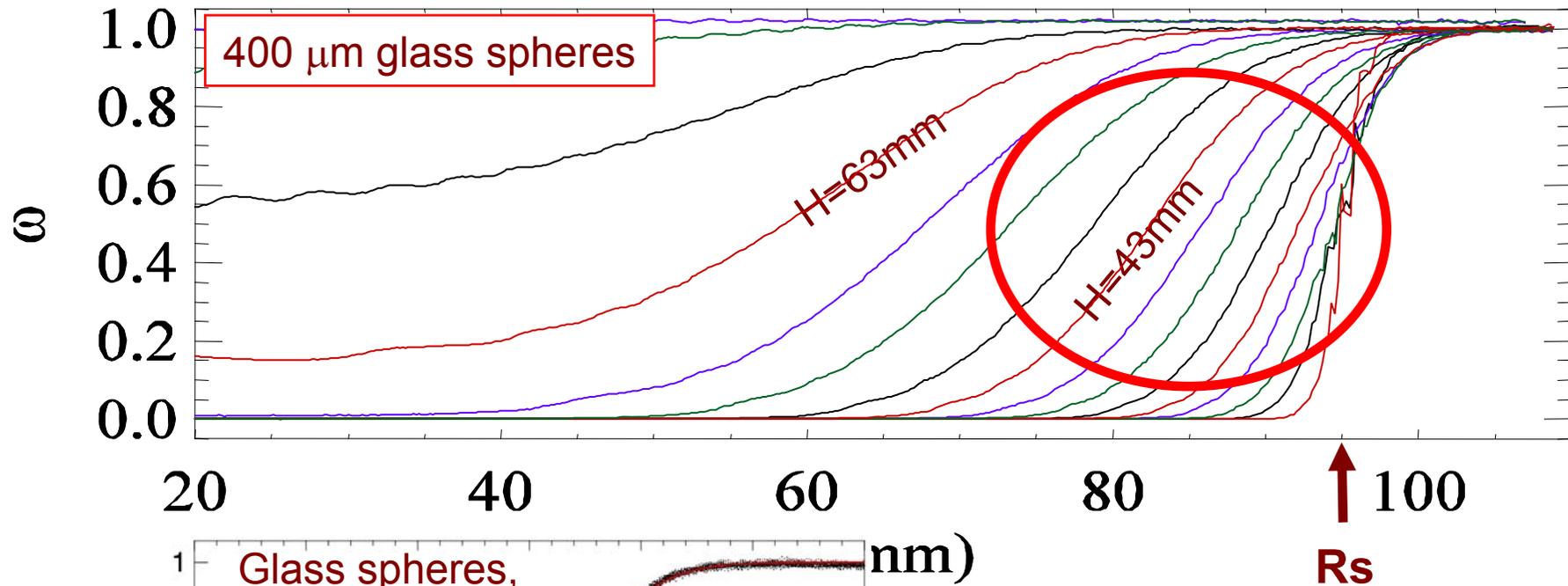


D. Fenistein, JW. van de Meent and MvH,  
*PRL.* **92**, 094301 (2004); **96**, 118001 (2006).  
D. Fenistein and MvH, *Nature* **425**, 256 (2003).

# Shallow Layers



# Shallow Layers

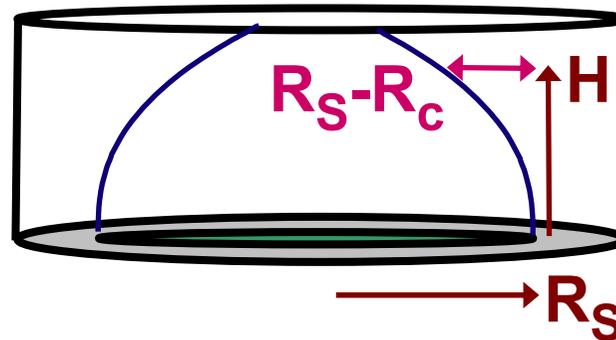
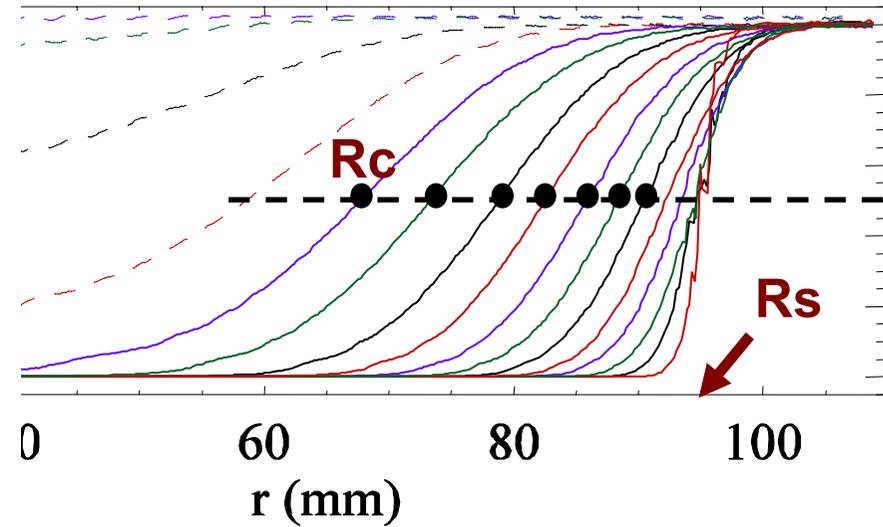
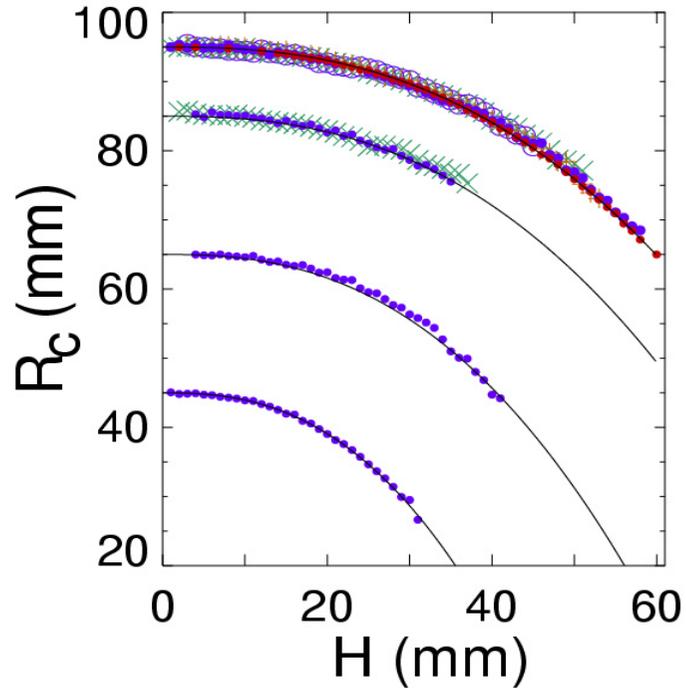


$$\omega(r) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{r - R_c}{W}\right)$$

$$R_c, W : \text{functions}(R_s, H, d, \dots)$$

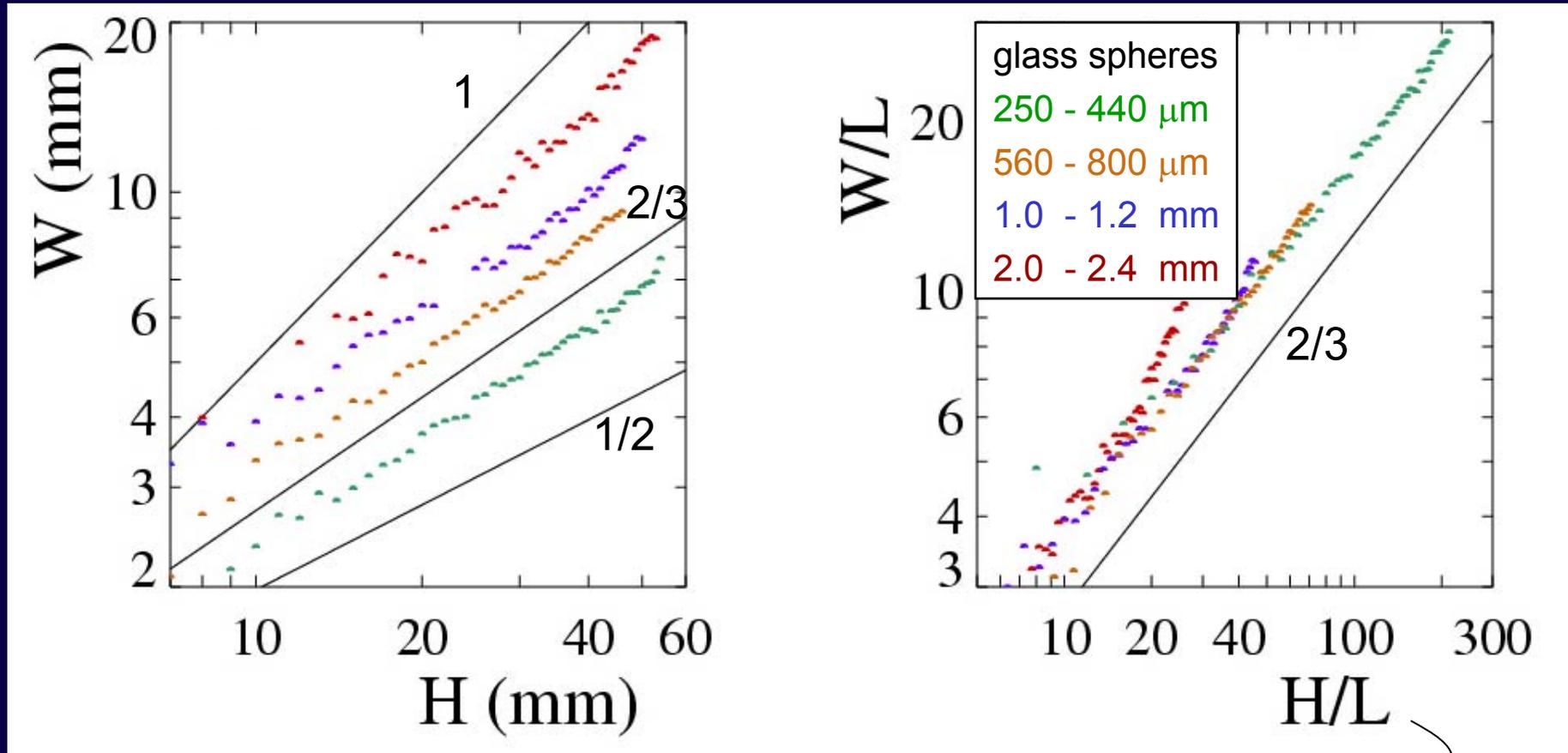
# Shallow Layers: $R_c$

independent of grain size & shape



$$(R_s - R_c) / R_s = (H / R_s)^{5/2}$$

# Shallow Layers: W



1.1 mm bronze:  $W$  30% smaller

$L$ : best fits, 0.25, 0.65, 1.1, 2.2 mm

$$W/L \sim (H/L)^{2/3}, L \approx d$$

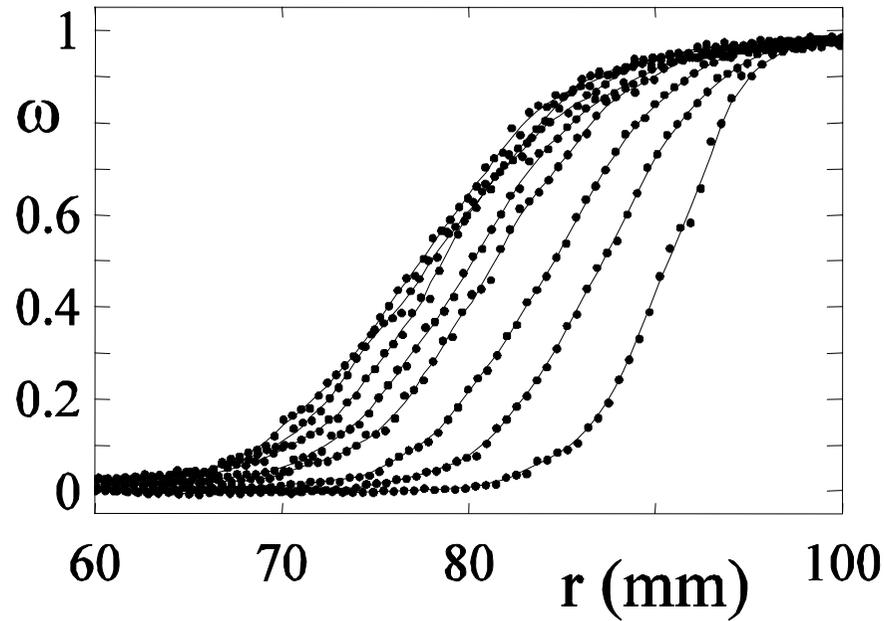
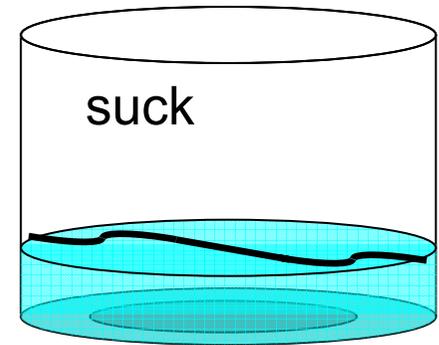
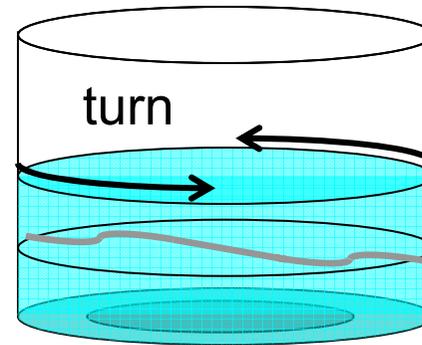
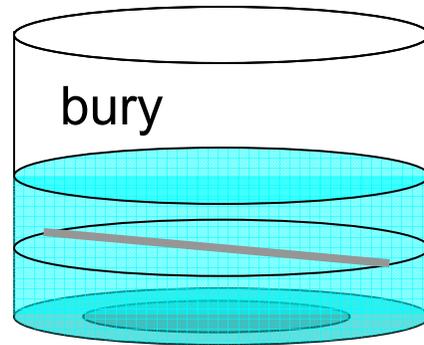
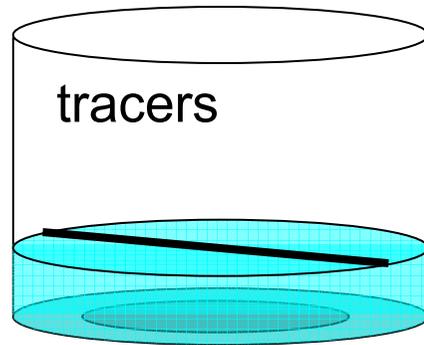
# Wide & Universal Shear Zones

$$\omega(r) = 1/2 + 1/2 \operatorname{erf}[(r - R_c)/W]$$

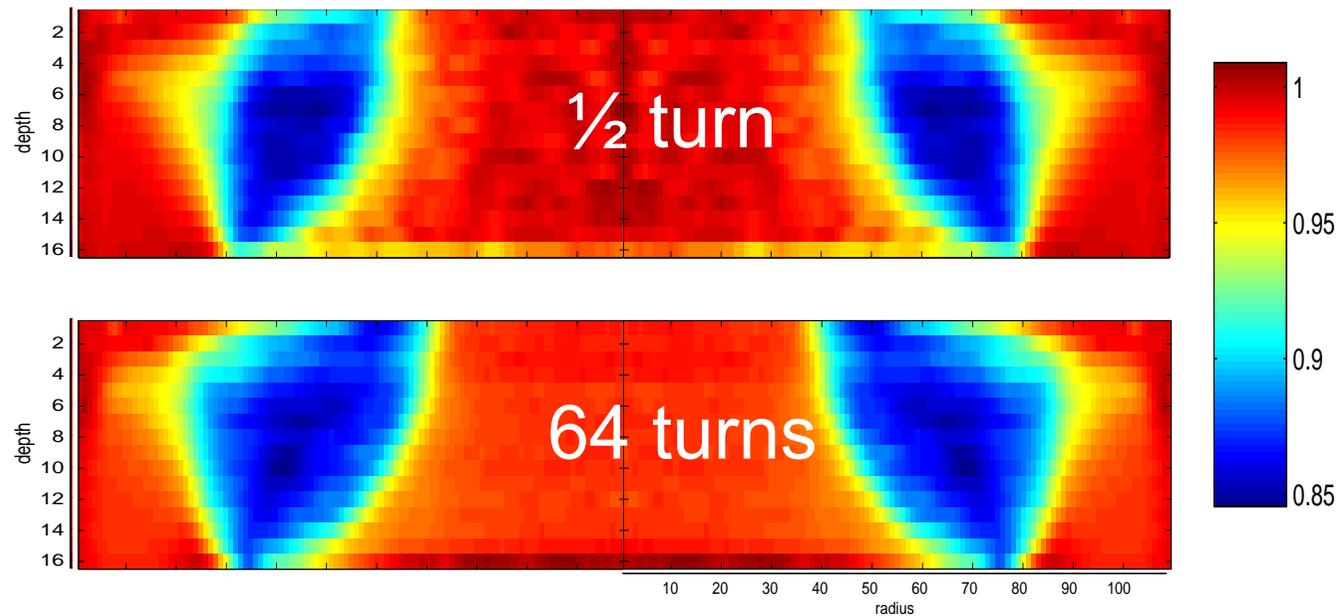
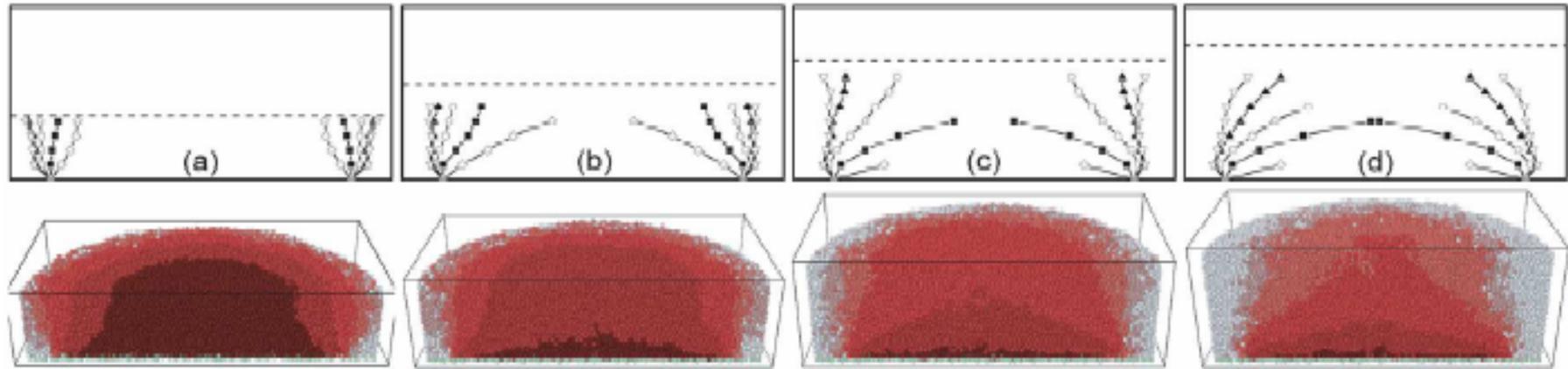
$$(R_s - R_c)/R_s = (H/R_s)^{5/2} : \text{Independent of particles}$$

$$W/d \sim (H/d)^{2/3} : \text{Independent of } R_s$$

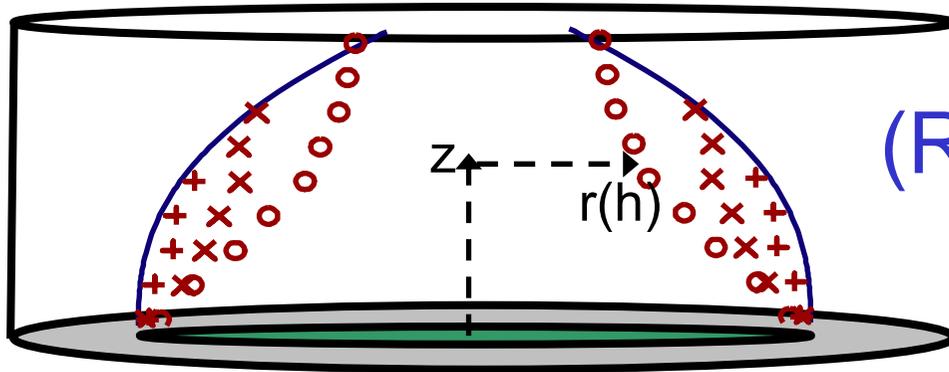
# 3D Profile: What happens inside?



# More 3D Data



# Location in Bulk



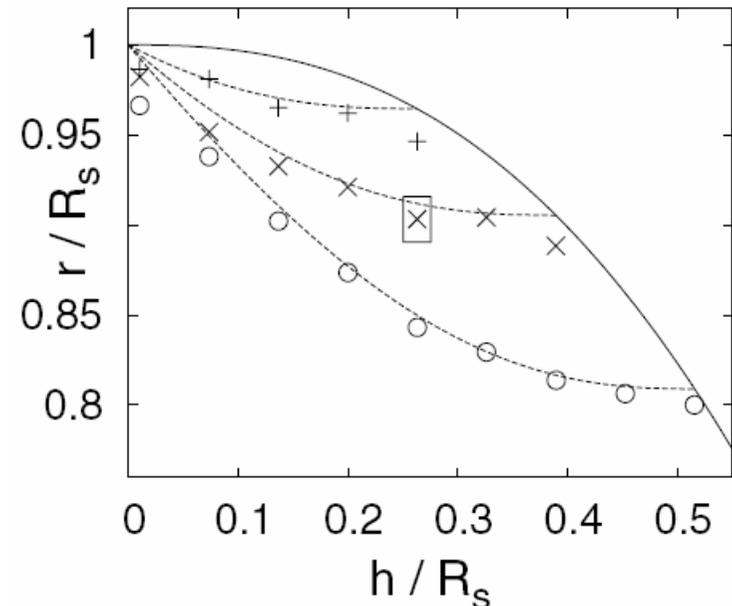
$$(R_s - R_c) / R_s = (H / R_s)^{5/2}$$

**$R_c$  in bulk: Scaling argument virtual bottom OK**

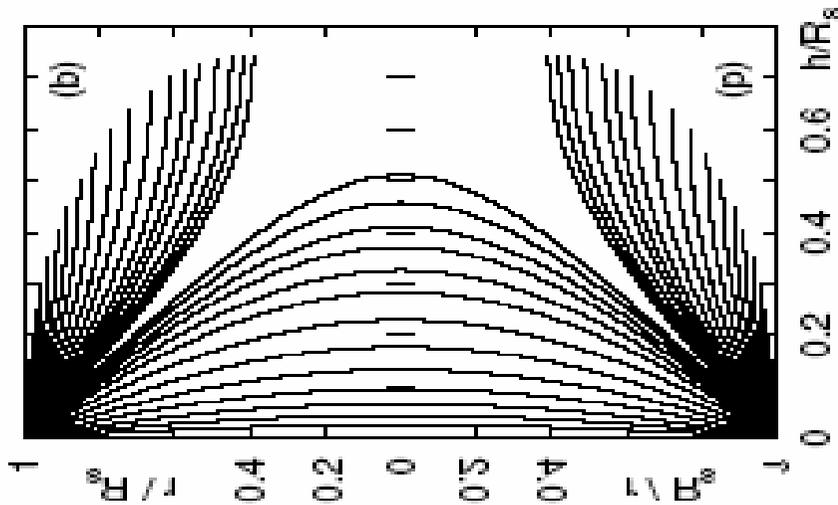
$$R_c(R_s, H) = R_c(r, H - h),$$

$$h = H - r \left[ 1 - \frac{R_s}{r} \left[ 1 - (H/R_s)^\alpha \right] \right]^{1/\alpha}$$

$\alpha = 5/2$



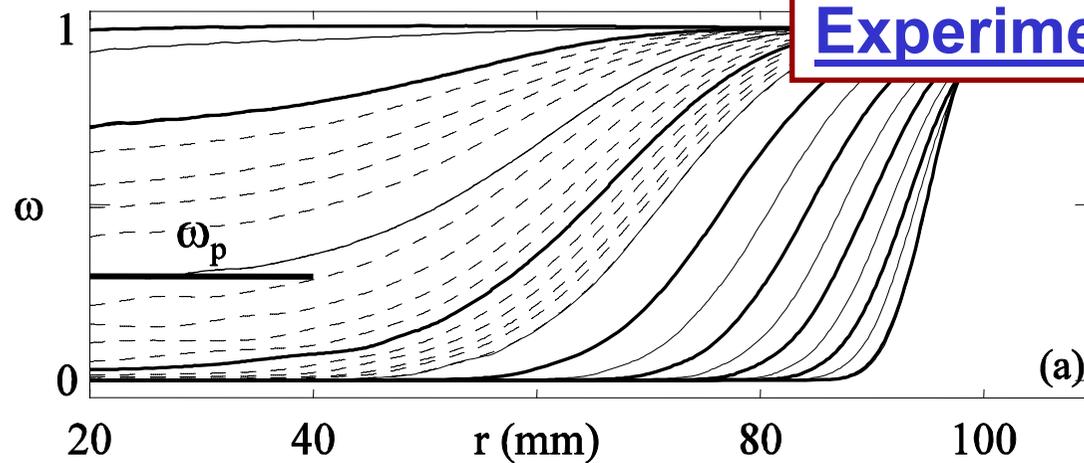
# Model: Friction in Continua



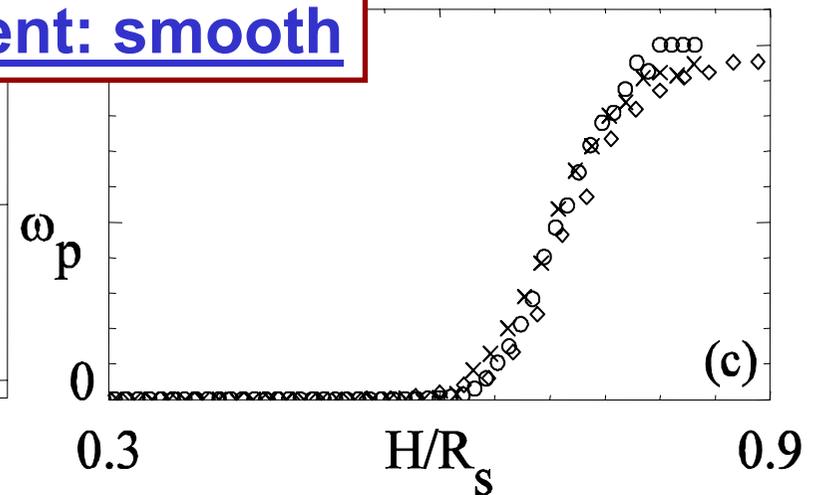
Constant Friction  
Torque minimization

$$\int dz r^2(z) \sqrt{r'^2 + 1} (H - z)$$

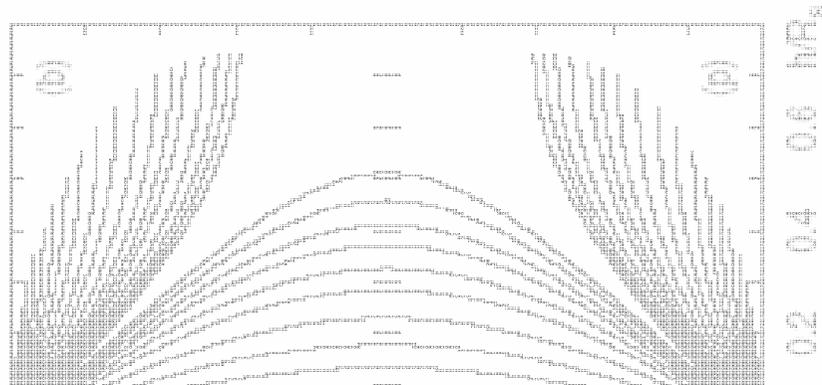
Theory: first order transition



Experiment: smooth



# Model: Friction in Continua

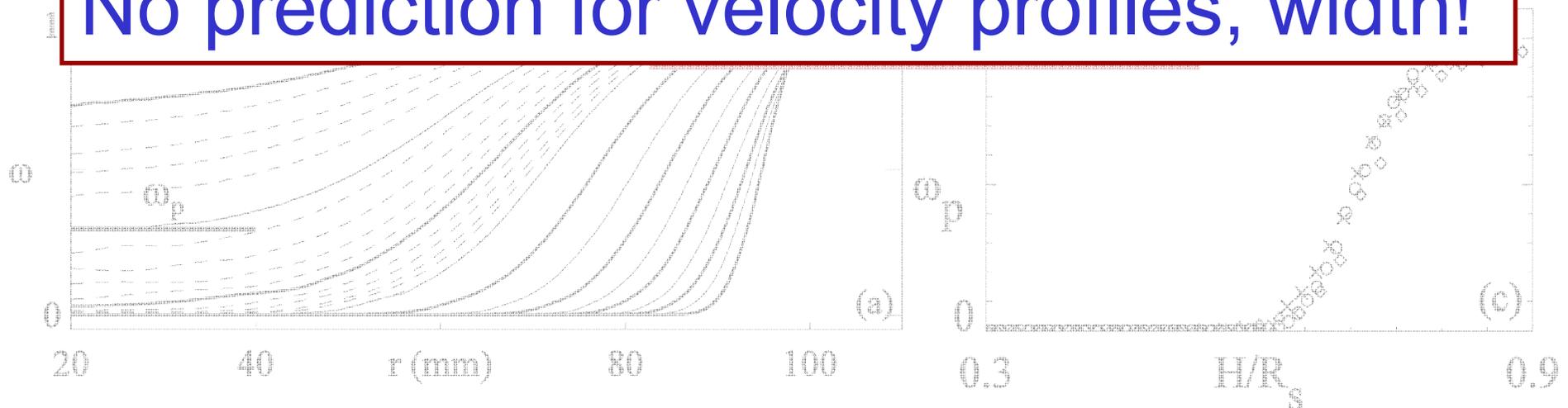


Constant Friction  
Torque minimalization

$$\int dz r^2(z) \sqrt{r'^2 + 1} (H - z)$$

Onset of precession: roughly ok, but is smooth in experiment  
3D shearband phenomenology: position ok.

**No prediction for velocity profiles, width!**



# Break

Not Always Narrow Shearbands

No Theory for Wide Shear Zones

What do these flows imply for **Stress & Rigidity**

# Stresses in Smooth, Slow, Dense Granular Flows

Rate Independence:      Stresses independent of driving rate.  
   Velocity profiles independent of driving rate

Wide Shear Zones

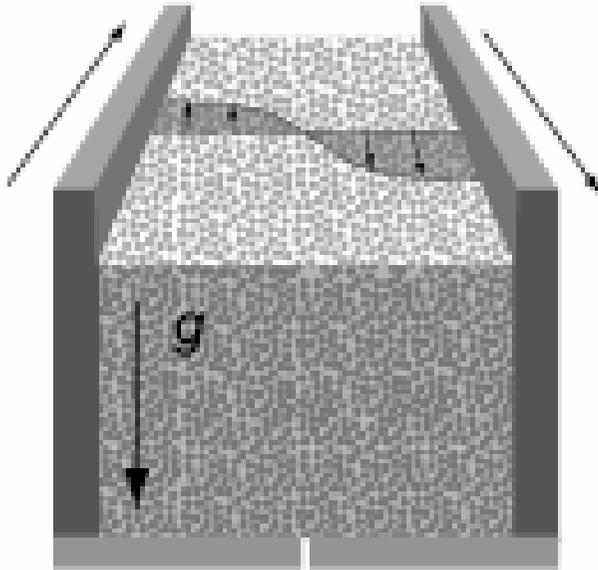
**Stress fluctuations relax fast :**

**stresses are dynamically generated**  
(no elastic stresses)

M. Depken, W. van Saarloos and MvH., Phys. Rev. E 73, 031302 (2006).

M. Depken, J. B. Lechman, MvH, W. van Saarloos and G. S. Grest, EPL 78, 58001 (2007).

# Linear Geometry: Shear Free Sheets



Rate Independence:  
Wide Shear Zones

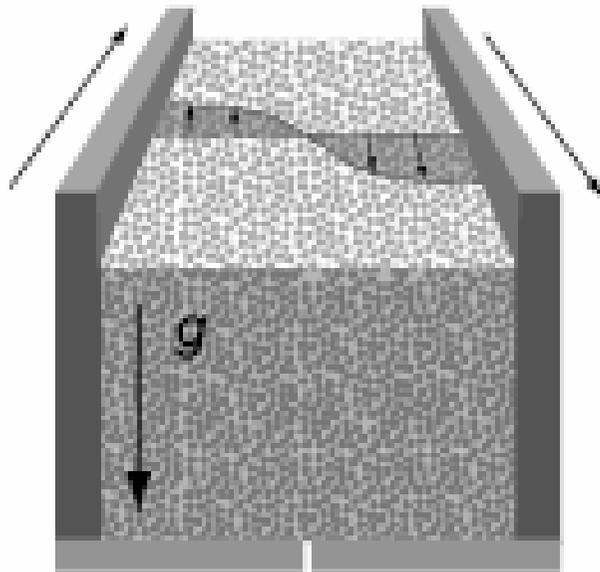
Stresses independent of driving rate.

**Stress fluctuations relax fast : No shearflow, no shear stress**

M. Depken, W. van Saarloos and MvH., Phys. Rev. E 73, 031302 (2006).

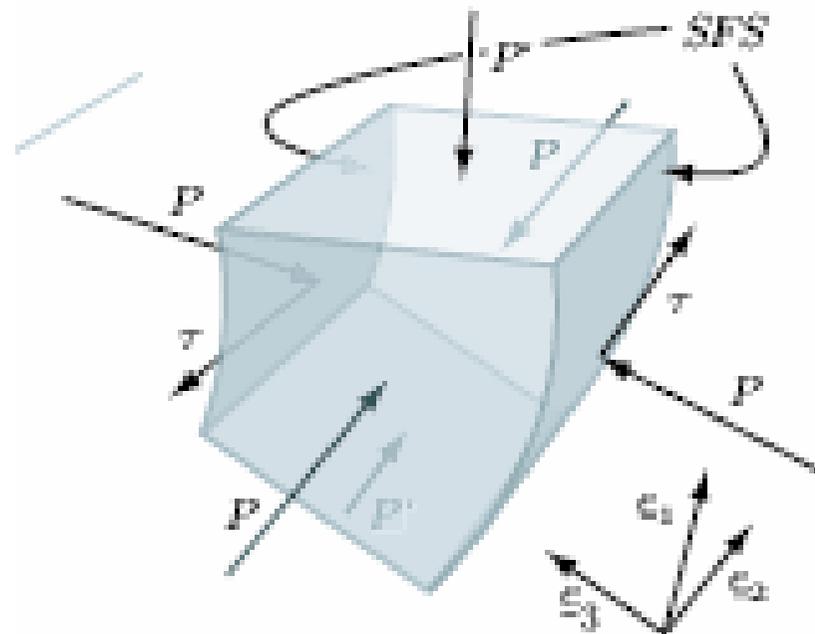
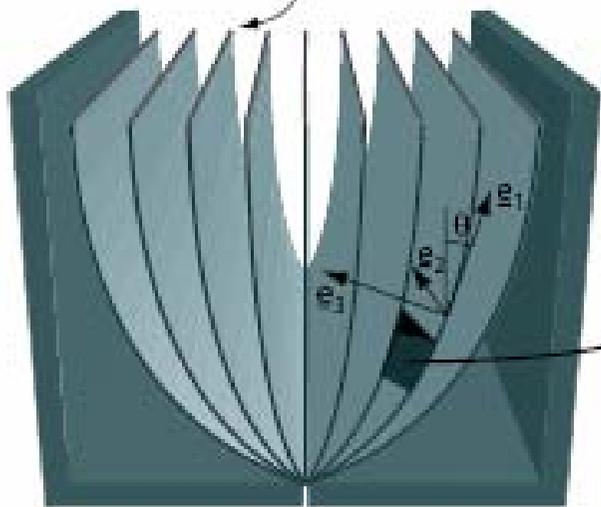
M. Depken, J. B. Lechman, MvH, W. van Saarloos and G. S. Grest, EPL 78, 58001 (2007).

# Linear Geometry: Shear Free Sheets



$$\underline{(\underline{\sigma})}_{\text{SFS}} = \begin{pmatrix} P' & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P & \tau \\ 0 & \tau & P \end{pmatrix}$$

SFS -  $v = \text{const.}$



# Test Stress Tensor

$$\begin{pmatrix} P' & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P & \tau \\ 0 & \tau & P \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_{11}/\sigma_{33} = ?$$



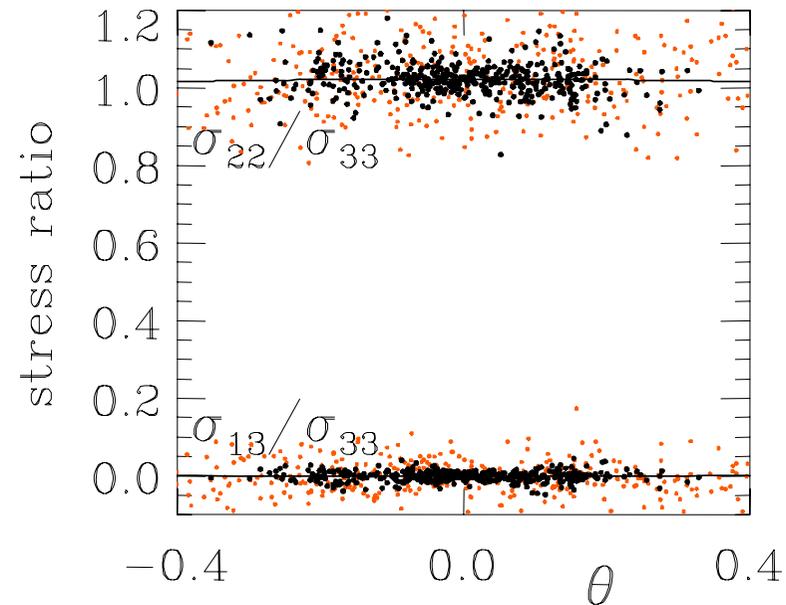
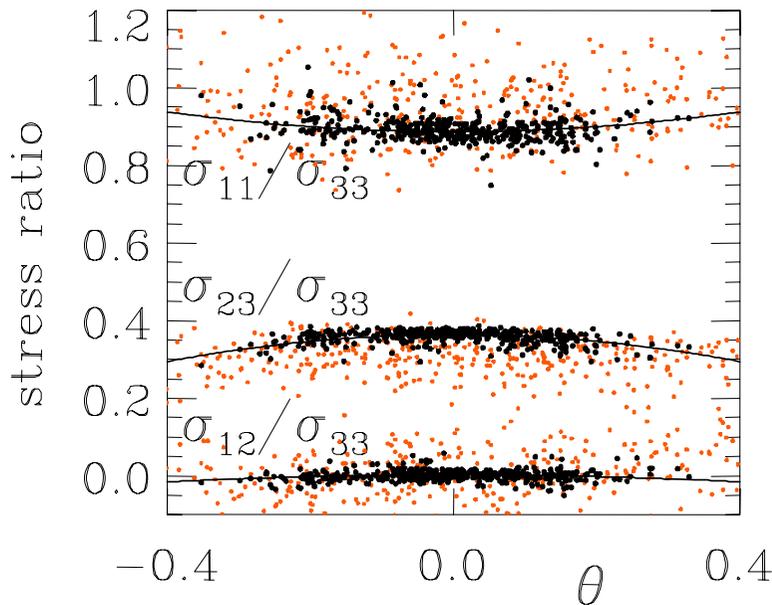
$$\sigma_{12}/\sigma_{33} = 0$$

$$\sigma_{22}/\sigma_{33} = 1$$

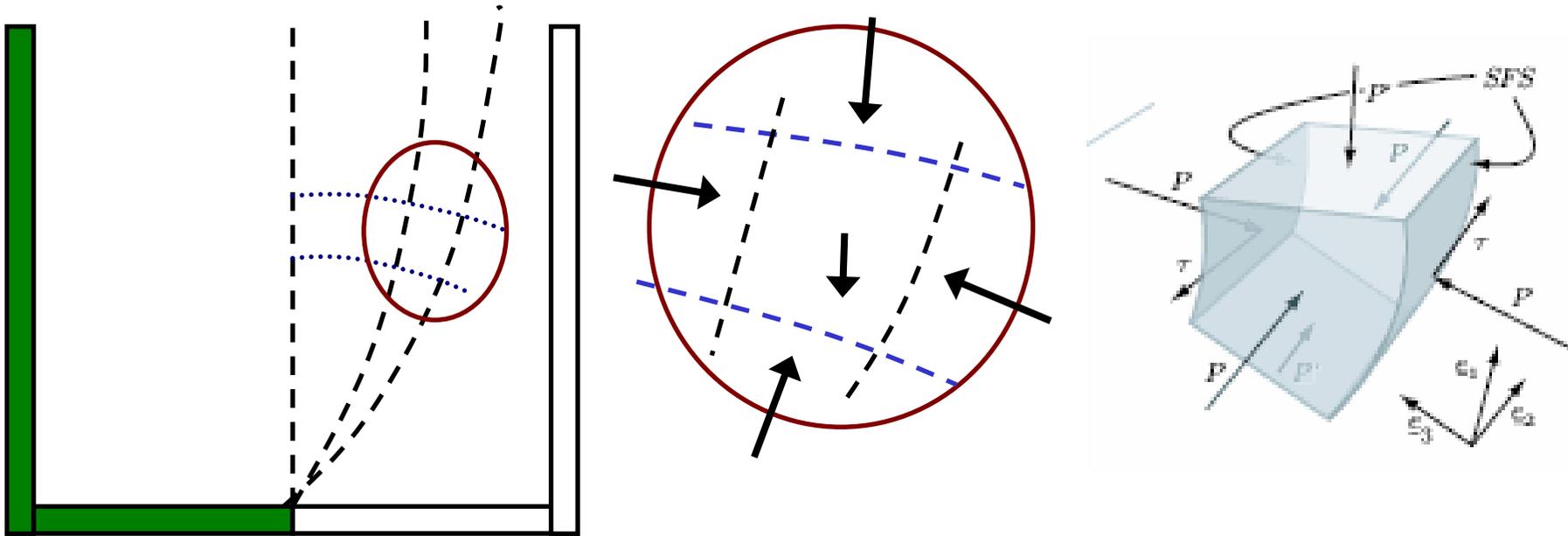


$$\sigma_{13}/\sigma_{33} = 0$$

$$\sigma_{23}/\sigma_{33} = \mu = ?$$



# Effective friction cannot be constant!

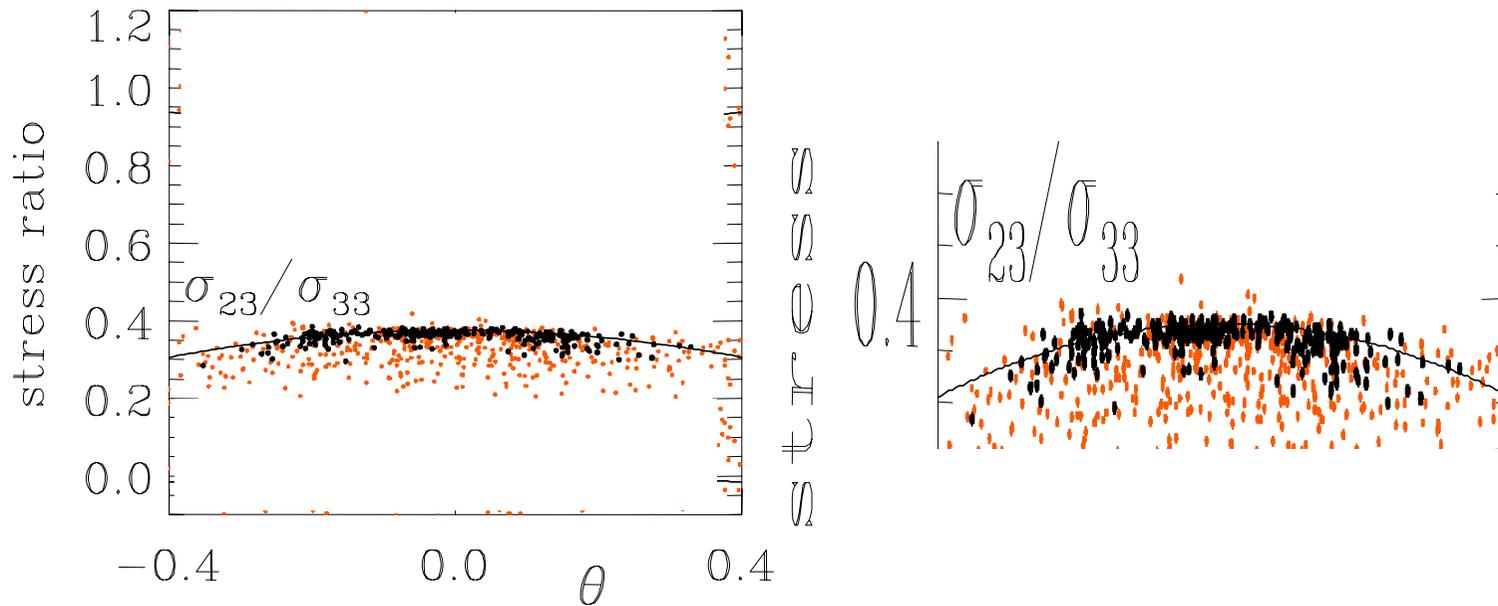


$\mu$  constant: NO Force balance



$\mu$  has to decrease away from vertical SFS

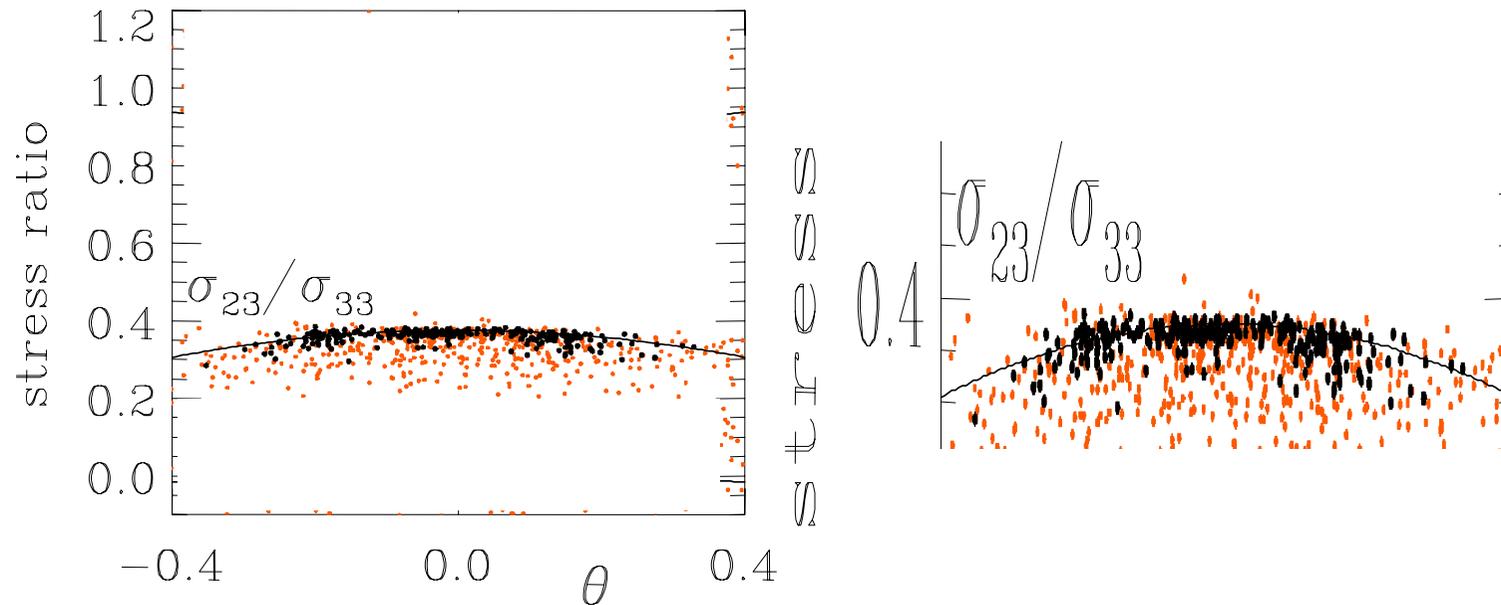
# Effective friction cannot be constant!



**$\mu$  constant: NO Force balance**

**$\mu$  has to decrease away from vertical SFS**

# Effective friction cannot be constant!



**Subtle, but necessary**

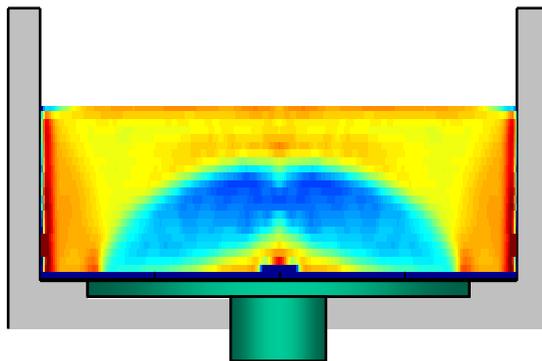
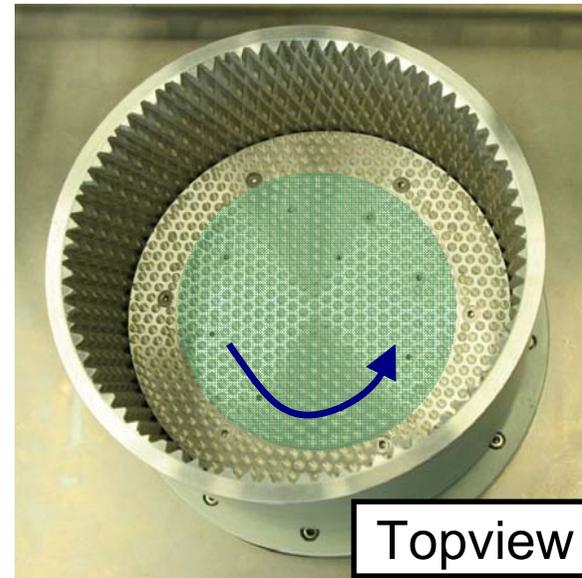
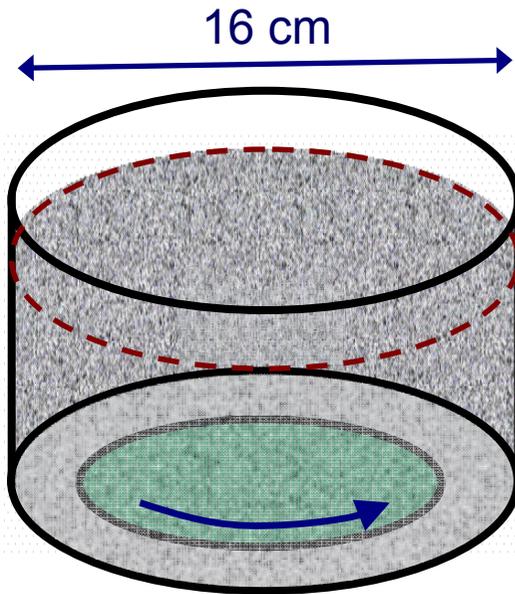
**Consistent with width shear zones**

Unger et al see similar variation in  $\mu$  in zero gravity simulations (PRE 2007)

**Classical constant friction picture fails**

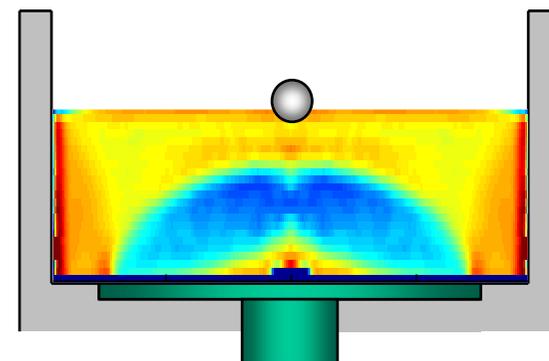
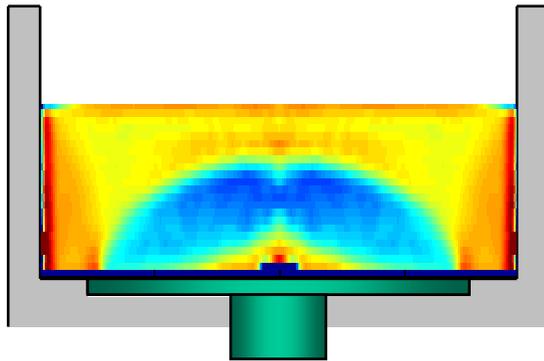
... what about this stress relaxation?

# Setup



Yield Criterion in  
presence of flow?

Yield stress is lowered!!!



# A Stationary Granular Fluid

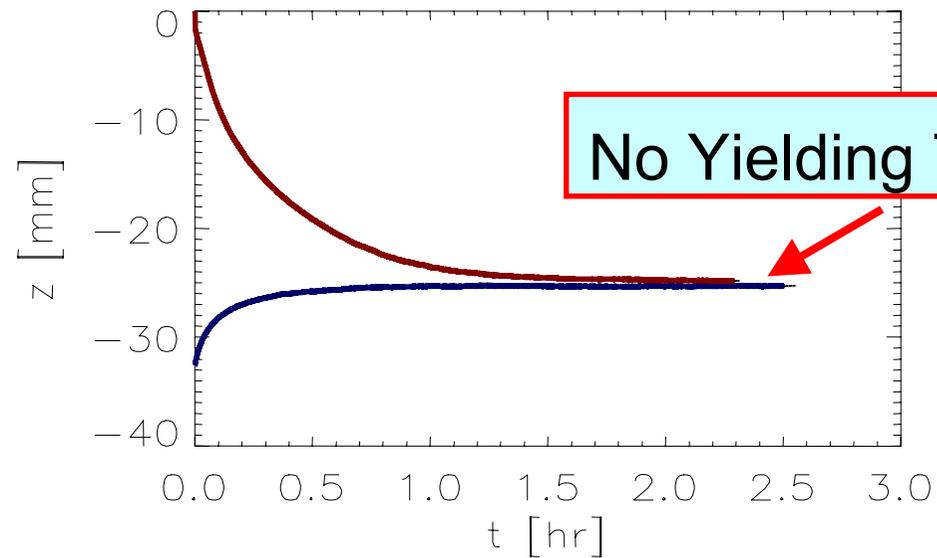
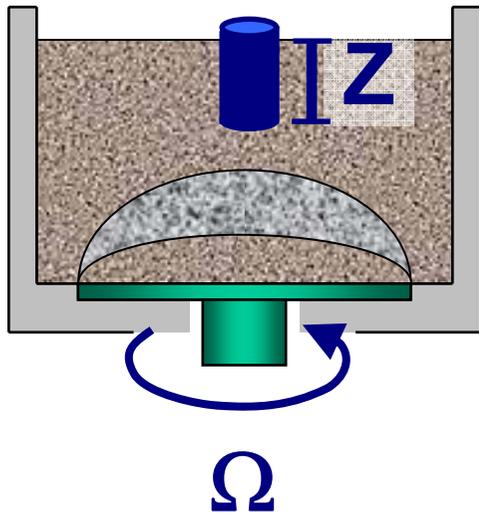
**What happened to yield stress?**

Yield stress vanishes - Archimedes Law

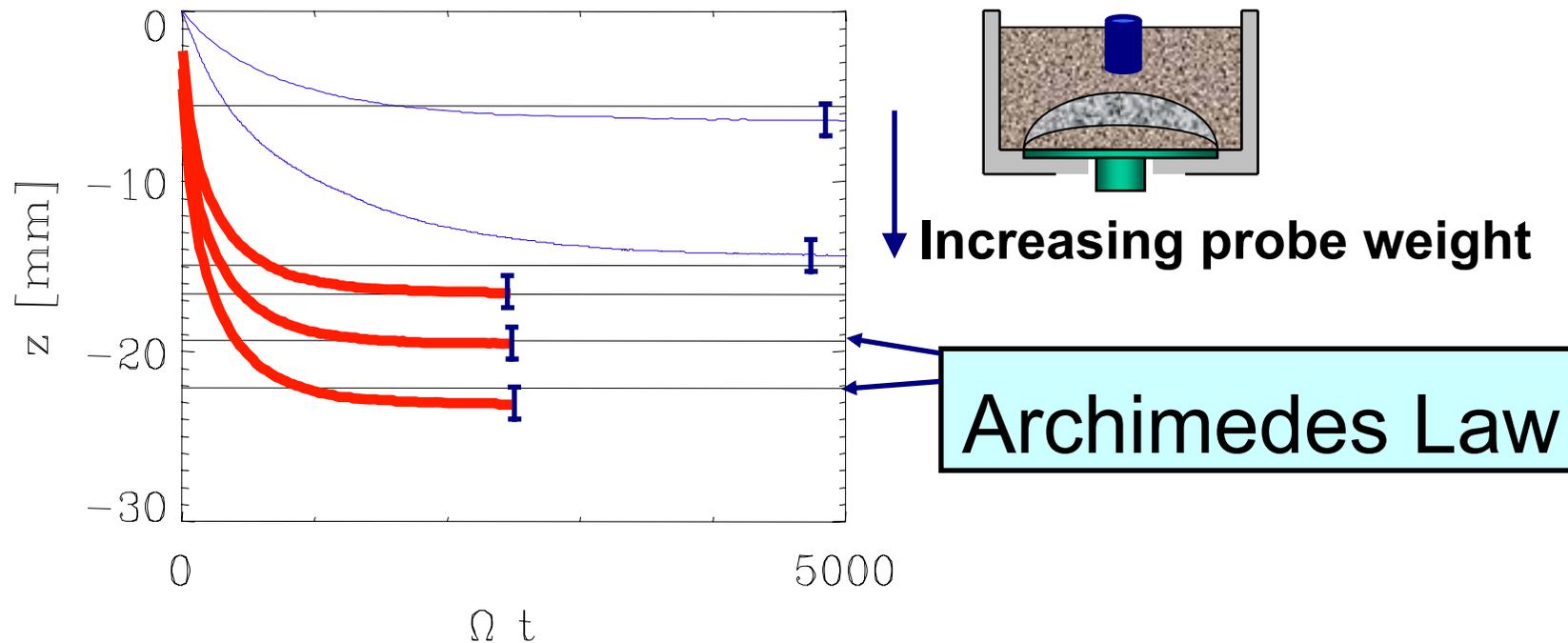
**Mechanism?**

Agitations - Nonlocal

# Floating in Sand

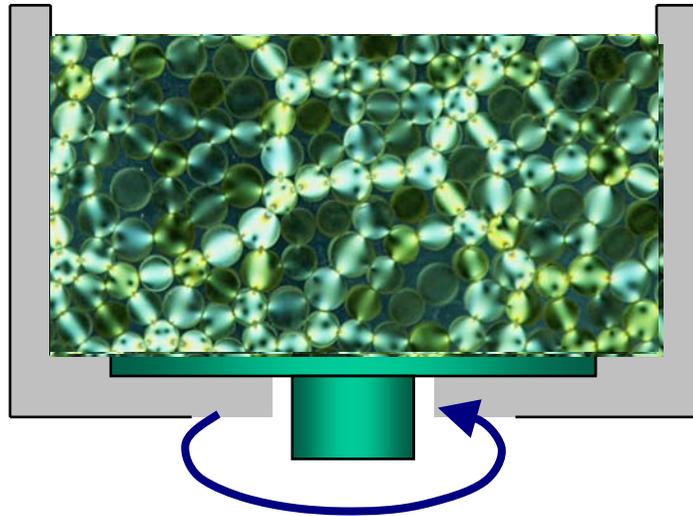


# Floating in Sand



**No yielding threshold in presence of flow**

# A Stationary Granular Fluid: Agitations



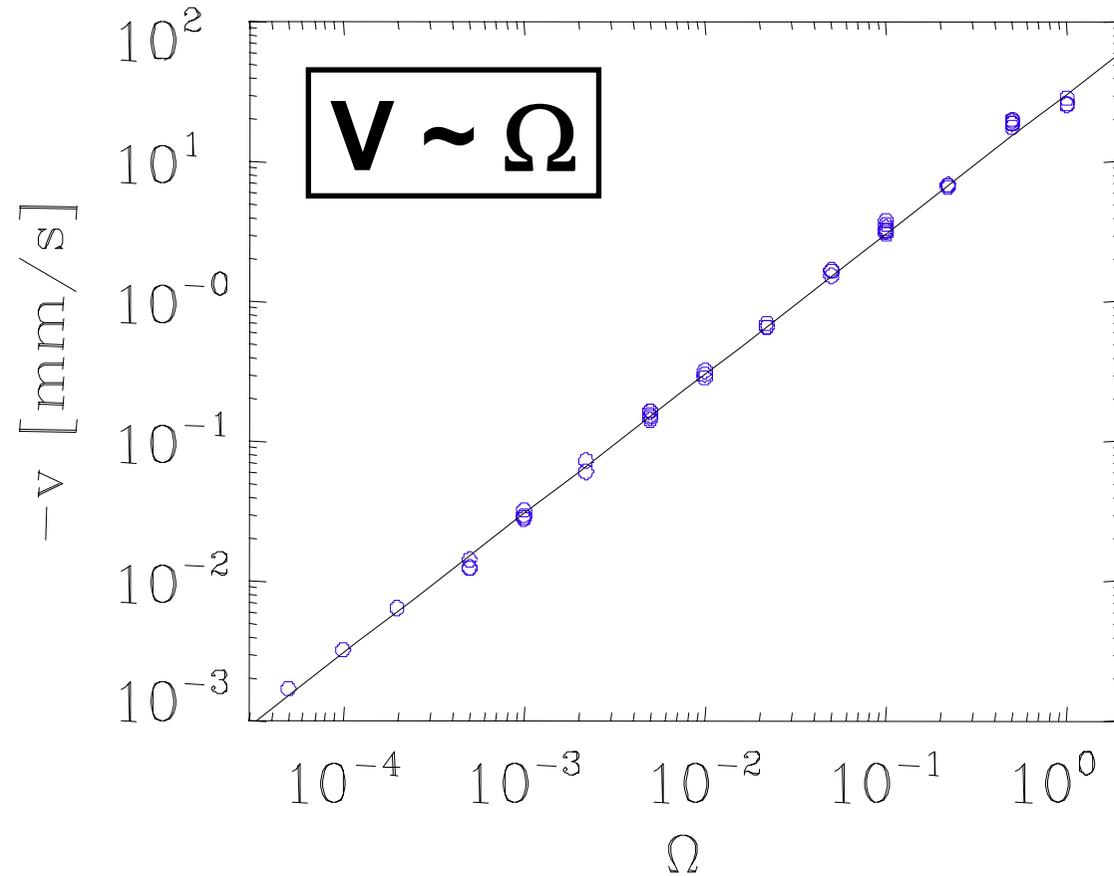
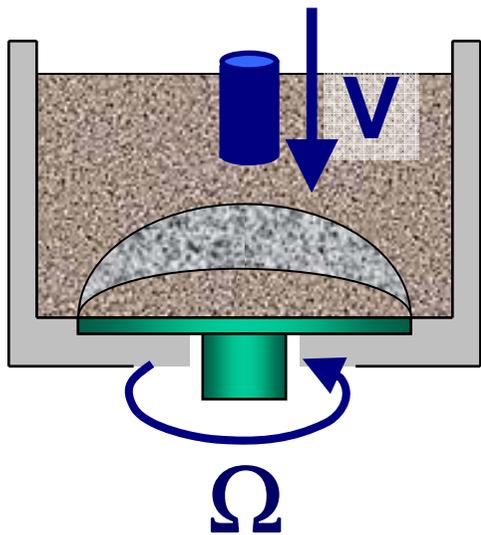
**Contact Forces + Flow**

**Fragile** (heating 1 grain by 1C....)

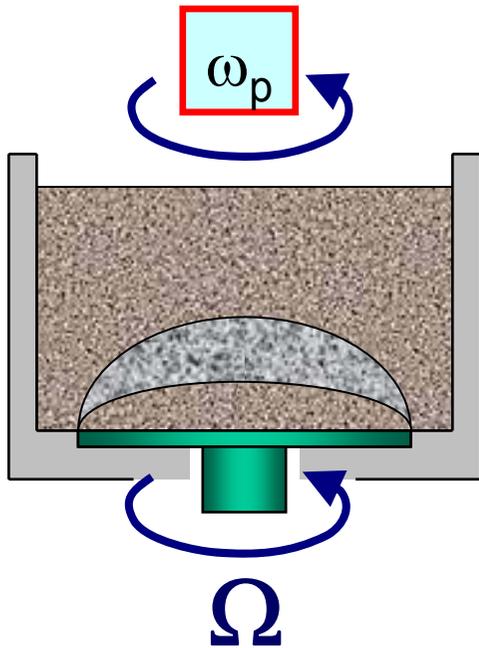
**Hard Grains** (mm/nm)

Rotation rate  $\Omega$  sets probe speed?

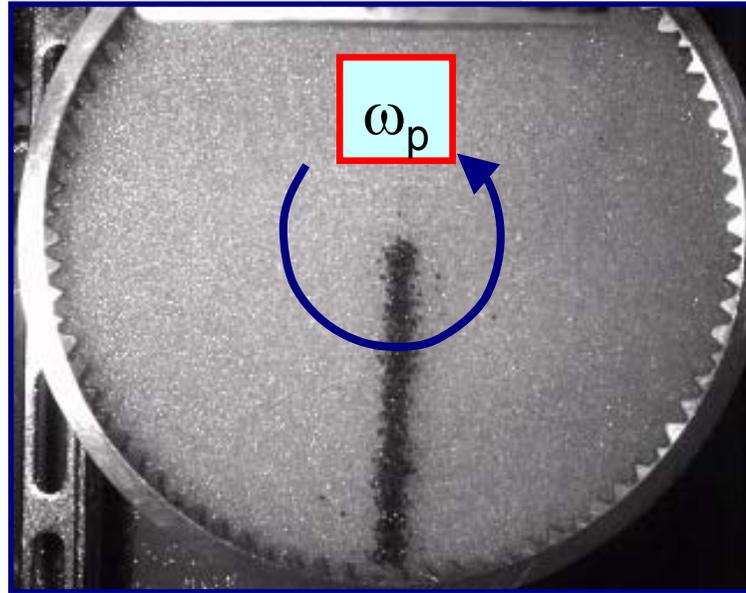
# A Stationary Granular Fluid: Mechanism



# A Stationary Granular Fluid: Mechanism



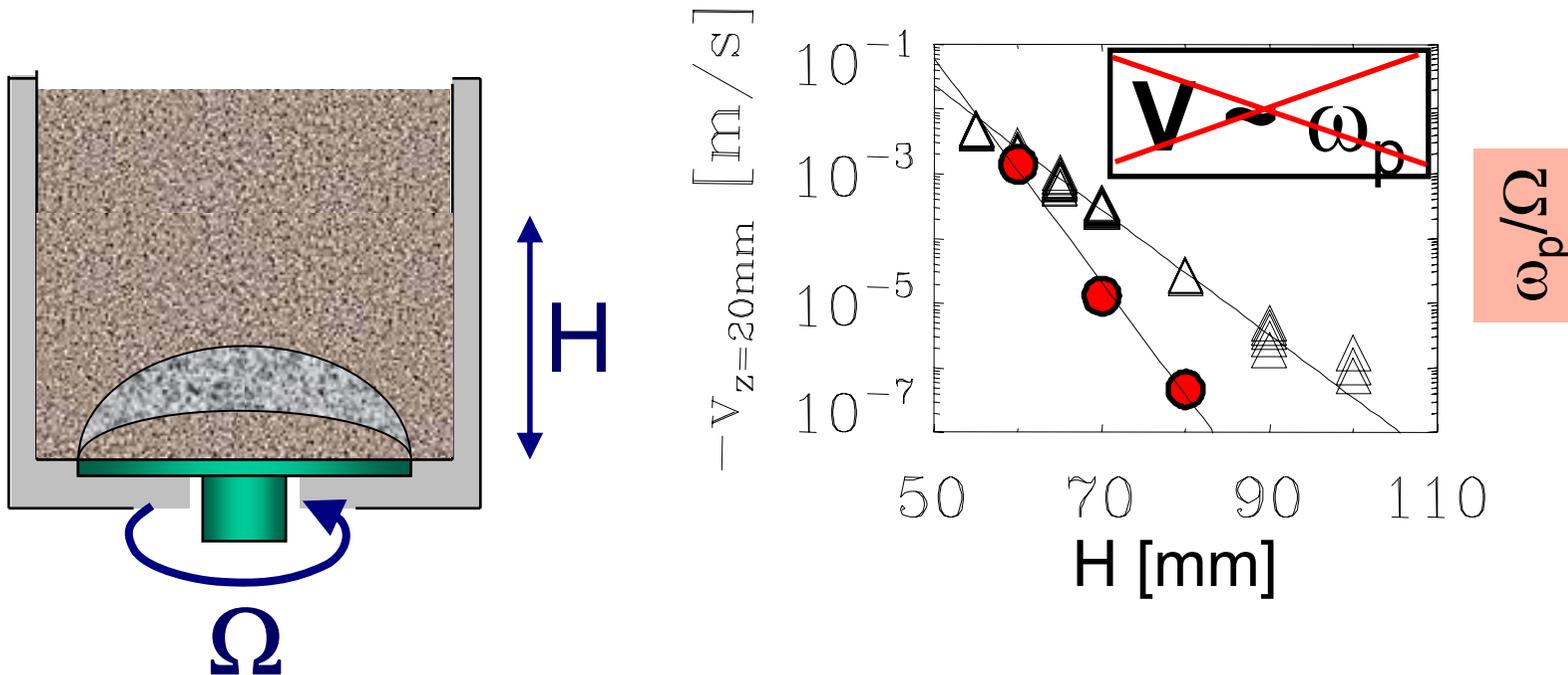
1 frame / 5 rotations



$$\omega_p \sim \Omega \text{ \& \ } V \sim \Omega$$

$$V \sim \omega_p ?$$

# A Stationary Granular Fluid: Mechanism



**NONLOCAL:**

**Flowrate in A, determines flowrate in B**

# Slow Granular Flows

**Not Always** Shear Bands

Classical Picture based on Friction **Fails**

New Framework: **Shear Free Sheets**

Experiments: **Melting** Sand by Stirring

Outlook: Agitation Field

Relations with fast and wet flows

Openings for grad students and postdocs

[www.physics.leidenuniv.nl/sections/cm/grm](http://www.physics.leidenuniv.nl/sections/cm/grm)