Granular materials: from physics to engineering applications

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Granular material regimes







Solid+liquid+gas



[Forterre & Pouliquen, Annu. Rev. Fluid Mech. (2008)]

Solid+liquid+gas



Three regimes:

- **solid** static particles interact via frictional contacts
- **liquid** dense, flow-like behavior both collisions and friction
- **gas** rapid dilute flow particles interact via collisions

[Jaeger et al. (1996), Forterre & Pouliquen, Annu. Rev. Fluid Mech. (2008)]

Outline

- Introduction
- Internal force transmission
- Solid state
- Quasistatic regime and flow threshold
- Dense slow flows and inertial regime
- Collisional and rapid granular flows

References



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Granular material flows - An overview

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References

Flows of Dense Granular Media

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Key Words

granular flows, rheology, friction, shallow water, instability, visco-plasticity

Abstract

We review flows of dense cohesionless granular materials, with a special focus on the question of constitutive equations. We first discuss the existence of a dense flow regime characterized by enduring contacts. We then emphasize that dimensional analysis strongly constrains the relation between stresses and shear rates, and show that results from experiments and simulations in different configurations support a description in terms of a frictional visco-plastic constitutive law. We then discuss the successes and limitations of this empirical rheology in light of recent alternative theoretical approaches. Finally, we briefly present depth-averaged methods developed for free surface granular flows.

Internal forces transmission

Contact forces

- Unique feature of granular material arises from internal force transmission
- Most fundamental microscopic property of granular materials: irreversible energy dissipation in the course of interaction collision between particles.

Micro-macro transition Stress tensor

$$Q = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{c} \left(w_{V}^{p} \right) \boldsymbol{l}^{pc} \boldsymbol{F}^{c}$$

Any quantity:

- Scalar
- Vector
- Tensor: Stress

Overview of more complex formulations in [Weinhart et al. (2010)]



Stress tensor

a. Contact stress tensor

Due to the force transmission across interparticle forces

$$\sigma_{ij}^{c} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{C=1}^{Nc} F_{i}^{C} l_{j}$$



(b)

b. Streaming stress tensor

Due to the motion of a particle relative to the bulk material (Reynolds stress tensor in turbolent flows)

$$\sigma_{ij}^{s} = \frac{\rho_{p}\phi}{V} \sum_{p=1}^{Np} u'_{i}u'_{j}$$

Stress tensor

a. Contact stress tensor

In hoppers, chutes, landslides: $\phi > 50\%$ is usually dominant in common granular flows

b. Streaming stress tensor

can usually be neglected



Hertzian contact law



Fig. 4.6. Two-dimensional photo-elastic fringe patterns (contours of principal shear stress): (a) point load (§2.2); (b) uniform pressure (§2.5(a)); (c) rigid flat punch (§2.8); (d) contact of cylinders (§4.2(c))

Hertzian contact law



Contact stiffness

$$F = \frac{2}{3} R^{1/2} \left(\frac{E_g}{1 - v_g^2} \right) \delta^{3/2} = k(\delta^{1/2}) \delta \qquad \Rightarrow \quad k \propto \delta \propto p$$

the deformation $\boldsymbol{\delta}$ increases with applied pressure p

Solid state

Small strain (elastic) stiffness

Classical solids: elastic stiffness is a material constant **Granular materials:** elastic stiffness depends on **pressure** and **volume fraction**





Granular Elasticity: how to characterize it?

[Domenico (1977), Jia& Mills (2001), Wildenberg et al (2013),...]



Р

 $v_p = v_p (\phi, p)$ $v_s = v_s (\phi, p)$

dependence on (macro): pressure, volume fraction



[Domenico (1977), Jia& Mills (2001), Wildenberg et al (2013),...]

Small strain (elastic) stiffness

$$G_{bulk} \propto \frac{k}{R}$$

[Bathurst and Rothenburg, J. Appl. Mech. (1988)]

Because of Hertzian interaction we expect:

$$K(p) \propto G(p) \propto p^{1/3}$$



[Gland et al., PRE (2005)]

Granular Elasticity



$$v_p = v_p (\phi, p)$$
 $v_s = v_s (\phi, p)$

Not enough!

Response depends on preparation

[Chen et al (1988), Agnolin et at (2005), Jia (2005) Kuwano&Jardine (2002), Ezaoui et al. (2009), ...]





microstructure matters



[Behringer (Duke)]

DEM simulations: wave propagation

We can look closer: simulation of wave propagation by DEM

Material idealization – DEM simulations

Real Material

Random aggregate Elastic Frictional particles Interact by mean of contact forces

Idealized Material

Random aggregate of IDENTICAL FRICTIONAL SPHERES

Hetz-Mindlin interaction





DEM simulations: wave propagation - lattice



[Moureille & Luding, Ultrasonics (2008), De Mol, M.Sc thesis (2013)]

DEM simulations: wave propagation - random



[Moureille & Luding, Ultrasonics (2008), De Mol, M.Sc thesis (2013)]

DEM simulations: wave propagation - dispersion relation



[Moureille & Luding, Ultrasonics (2008), De Mol, M.Sc thesis (2013)]

Elastic moduli dependence on microstructure



Let's collect packings with the same Z*...

Coordination number

Avarage number of contacts in the system

$$\overline{Z} = \frac{2Nc}{Np}$$

Elastic moduli vs Pressure



In the case of same C*: Hertzian scaling is recovered (also close to jamming)

Dependence on coordination number



Coordination number Avarage number of contacts in the system \overline{Z} =

$$\overline{Z} = \frac{2Nc}{Np}$$

Resonant Column experiments at U. Bochum





An electromagnet head, with four magnets attached to the specimen cap. Torsion is applied by running current through the four coils

[Clayton (2011)]

Resonant Column experiments at U. Bochum



(a)

Resonant Column experiments at U. Bochum

Glass beads d= 1.25mm Sample: 10cm by 20 cm

Resonant Column Tests

Resonant Column Tests

The three stress paths can never be described by the dependence on p and ϕ alone

Reproducing Resonant Column data

- DEM (same particle characteristics): Isotropic, Triaxial and K₀constant
- We calculate G_{max} along the paths
- Only calibration parameter C*₀

RC tests lie in between DEM data

Unique scaling law

Back analysis: we can infer the microstructure from G_{max} experiments

[Goudarzy, Magnanimo, Schanz (2016) submitted to Géotecnique]

Application: oil recovery

Photoelastic analysis : wave propagation

We can look closer: as an alternative/complementary study, we can use photoelastic discs to analyze the path of the wave in the bulk.

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Quasitatic behavior and flow threshold

Shearing

Granular material in a silo

Quasistatic behavior

Coulomb (1773)

Yielding of granular material as frictional process Interested in prediction of soil failures for Civil Engineering

 $\tau < c + \sigma \tan \phi$

When $\tau = c + \sigma \tan \phi$ the material yields and starts to flow

- c = cohesion
- ϕ = friction angle
- φ and c are material **constant**

Quasistatic behavior

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 $\tau < c + \sigma \tan \phi$

When $\tau = c + \sigma \tan \phi$ the material yields and starts to flow

Critical state

A shearing granular material will ALWAYS approach a **critical** concentration This is the **ONSET OF FLOW**

 φ_{c} is again a material constant

The granular material **DILATES**

Critical state

Soil mechanics: widely used

Particle Technology: flow behavior from silo

 when the material starts flowing is always yielding everywhere in the hopper (mass flow) or in a region (core flow)

 $\tau = c + \sigma \tan \phi$

• the material is **always** at the critical concentration and it is **incompressible**.

Critical state

Soil mechanics: widely used

Particle Technology: flow behavior from silo

 when the material starts flowing is always yielding everywhere in the hopper (mass flow) or in a region (core flow)

 $\tau = c + \sigma \tan \phi$

• the material is **always** at the critical concentration and it is **incompressible**.

N.B.!!

Application of Critical State theory on is based **on Janssen theory:** the pressure at bottom of the silo is independent of bed height

 \rightarrow the whole bulk material is in the critical state.

Dependence on microscopic properties

Critical state for silos - problems

 ϕ is not constant in the silo

Friction and dilatancy laws

In solid and quasistatic flow, forces are transmitted through force chains

Shear bands and dilatant zones

Frictional Behavior = Mohr-Coulomb failure

Granular materials fail along narrow but **finite** zones: **SHEAR BANDS**

Shear bands and dilatant zones

Frictional Behavior = Mohr-Coulomb failure

Granular materials fail along narrow but **finite** zones: **SHEAR BANDS**

Jamming phase diagram

[Liu and Nagel., Nature (1998)]

Universal Gripper

U. Chicago, Cornell, iRobot May 2010

[Brown et al., PNAS (2010)]

Optimization of jamming gripper

[ITO project UT (2015, 2016)]

Optimization of jamming gripper

Filler: different sizes glass beads (homogeneaous)

Optimization of jamming gripper

Filler: mixtures of glass beads and rubber beads

Granular material: continuum approach

Gas: kinetic theory

Liquid ??

Dense (slow) flows and inertial regime