#### LOGO

# Deflection of a dilute stream of particles

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Validity and comparison

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# Introduction

# Granular material

A granular material is a conglomeration of discrete solid, macroscopic particles characterized by a loss of energy whenever the particles interact.

# Granular flows Flows formed by Granular materials

# **Granular materials**

### Granular materials are everywhere



# Rapid Granular flows



# **Motivation and goal**

- Oblique deflectors such as deflecting dams are usually employed to divert particle avalanches.
- The design of passive protection methods often does not have a solid theoretical underpinning.
- Average force experienced by the oblique wall.



 Investigate the system at the particle scale to understand the dynamics of the deflection process. Enormous amount of work of very important work on dense granular materials.

But dilute granular materials have been studied much less.

Generally believed that dilute flows are very simple

I hope to convince you that this is completely untrue

# **Simple Model System**



- The particle stream consists of identical smooth spheres of radius and mass.
- All incoming particles move in the same direction and have the same initial velocity.

## **Geometric Parameters**



- Y-direction: distance between adjacent particles has a given distribution (eg. Non-random) V=(Mean Separation in Y)/radius
- Z-direction: input location has a given distribution (eg. Gaussian) with standard deviation S=(standard deviation Separation in Z)/radius

## **Particle Parameters**

 Collisions between particles are inelastic with a restitution coefficient

#### $0 \le e \le 1$

 Collisions between particles and the wall are also inelastic with a restitution coefficient

 $0 \le e_w \le 1$ 

# **Numerical methods**

We consider a finite domain that is much larger than μ<sub>Y</sub> and σ<sub>Z</sub>.
 Two methods for propagating particles

Exact Method
Hard spheres
Binary events
Rapid
Relative dilute system

Potential Method
Soft spheres
Potential force
Slow
Relative dense system

## Numerical results for Force on Barrier



S=transverse separation V=longitudinal separation Theta=barrier angle

increase barrier angle => increase the force on wall No surprise

### Numerical results for Force on Barrier

#### But, for more focused jets we can get very surprising phenomomena





### **Numerical results for Force on Barrier**

 $\theta = 84.5 \circ V = 16 S = 0.1$ 

 $\theta = 86 \circ V = 16 S = 0.1$ 



# **Theoretical approach**

 We Assume that any given particle may experience at most one particle-particle collision. After this collision, one or both of the two particles can hit the wall again, but we will neglect further particle-particle collisions.

 Three possible outcomes for the two particles passing through the system



# Theoretical approach

We will derive the formula for the probability of a given particle experiencing a particle-particle collision under our assumption, and hence derive an exact expression for the mean force on the wall.

◆ Let B<sub>n</sub> denote the n-th particle in the particle stream. Let C<sub>n,j</sub> and D<sub>n</sub> (∀n, j∈Z) denote the following events:  $C_{n,j} = \left\{ B_n \text{ collides with } B_j \right\}$ 

 $D_n = \{B_n \text{ collides with any of the previous particles}\}$ 

Then we obtain

 $D_n = \bigcup_{j=0}^{n-1} C_{n,j} \quad \text{and} \quad C_{n,j} \cap C_{n,k} = \emptyset \quad (\forall j \neq k, n, j, k \in \mathbb{Z}) .$ 

### Interactions with nearest neighbors

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•  $B_n$  may only collide with its nearest neighbors  $B_{n-1}$  or  $B_{n+1}$ , that is

 $C_{n,n-j} = \emptyset \ (2 \le j \le n, \forall n, j \in \mathbb{Z}).$ 

• In this case, note that  $C_{n,n-1} \Leftrightarrow \overline{D_{n-1}}$ , then we obtain

$$P(D_n) = P(\bigcup_{j=0}^{n-1} C_{n,j}) = P(C_{n,n-1}) = P(C_{n,n-1}) \cdot (1 - P(D_{n-1})).$$

Define  $p_1$  to be the probability of a single particle colliding with its previous nearest neighboring particle in a steady state. Then

$$p_1 = \lim_{n \to +\infty} P(D_n) = \frac{p_{\tau}}{1 + p_{\tau}}, \qquad p_{\tau} = P(C_{n,n-1} | \overline{D_{n-1}})$$

# Interactions with nearest neighbors



• Let  $F_{mean}^{(1)}$  denote the mean force on the surface when we only include the interactions with nearest neighbors.

$$F_{mean}^{(1)} = F_{w} \lim_{n \to +\infty} P(\overline{D_{n}}) + F_{cw} \lim_{n \to +\infty} P(\overline{D_{n-1}})$$
$$= \left(1 - \lim_{n \to +\infty} P(D_{n})\right) \cdot \left(F_{w} + F_{cw}\right)$$
$$= (1 - p_{1})\left(F_{w} + F_{cw}\right) = \frac{1}{1 + p_{\tau}}\left(F_{w} + F_{cw}\right).$$

# Interactions with next nearest neighbors

- A may collide with its two previous particles  $B_{n-1}$  and  $B_{n-2}$  or two later particles  $B_{n+1}$  and  $B_{n+2}$ . That is  $C_{n,n-j} = \emptyset$  (3 ≤ j ≤ n, ∀n, j ∈ ℤ). Then
    $P(D_n) = P(\bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} C_{n,j}) = P(C_{n,n-1} \cup C_{n,n-2}) = P(C_{n,n-1}) + P(C_{n,n-2}).$
- Let p<sub>2</sub> be the probability of a single particle colliding with its previous nearest and next nearest neighboring particles in a steady state.

$$p_2 = \lim_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{P}(D_n) = \lim_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{P}(C_{n,n-1}) + \lim_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{P}(C_{n,n-2}) = \frac{p_\tau + B}{1 + p_\tau + B} ,$$

where 
$$B = \frac{p_{2\tau} (1 - p_{\tau})^2 (1 - p_{\tau} + p_{2\tau})}{1 - p_{\tau} p_{2\tau} + (1 - p_{\tau})^2 p_{2\tau}}$$
,  $p_{2\tau} = P(C_{n,n-2} | \overline{C_{n,n-1}} \cap \overline{C_{n-1,n-2}} \cap \overline{D_{n-2}})$ .

✓ Let  $F_{mean}^{(2)}$  denote the mean force on the wall when the interactions with the nearest and the next nearest neighbors are both included. Then  $F_{mean}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{1+p_{\tau}+B} \left[ F_w + \frac{1-p_{\tau}p_{2\tau}}{1-p_{\tau}p_{2\tau}+(1-p_{\tau})^2 p_{2\tau}} F_{cw1} + \frac{(1-p_{\tau})^2 (1+p_{2\tau})}{1-p_{\tau}p_{2\tau}+(1-p_{\tau})^2 p_{2\tau}} F_{cw2} \right].$ 

# **Theoretical results**

 In our theoretical derivation, we only consider the interaction with the nearest neighboring particles. Then by analyzing pairwise particle-particle collisions, we can obtain the following formula for calculating the mean force F<sub>mean</sub>,

$$F_{mean} = \frac{1}{1 + p_{\tau}} \left( F_{w} + F_{cw} \right)$$
  
=  $F_{b} \left( \mathbf{v}_{b}(z_{1}, z_{2}) \right) + \iint_{A} F_{p} \left( \mathbf{v}_{p}(z_{1}, z_{2}) \right) \rho(z_{1}, z_{2}) dz_{1} dz_{2}$ 

where  $A = \{(z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{C}^2 | C_{2,1}\}$ .  $F_b$  Denotes the directly impact on the wall,  $F_p$  denotes the impact on the wall following a particle-particle collision and  $\rho(z_1, z_2)$  is the joint distribution density of the initial heights of the two particles.

# **Theoretical results**

 $\mathcal{C}_+$ 

 $S\sin\theta$ 

• Performing some integral and algebra , the analytical solution of dimensionless mean force  $f_{mean}$  is given by

$$f_{mean} = \frac{(1+e_w)\sin\theta}{4+2\mathrm{erf}(C_-) - 4\mathrm{erf}(C_+)} \left\{ 4 + \left((1+e) - e_w(1-e)\right) \left(\mathrm{erf}(D_-) - \mathrm{erf}(D_+)\right) + \left((1-e) - e_w(1+e)\right) \left[\mathrm{erf}(C_-) - \mathrm{erf}(C_+) + \mathrm{H}\left(e_w - \frac{1-e}{1+e}\right) \left(\mathrm{erf}(K_+) - \mathrm{erf}(K_-)\right)\right] + \left(1+e\right) \left(1+e_w\right) \left[ \left(\frac{S^2\sin^2\theta}{2} + \frac{V^2\cos^2\theta}{4}\right) \left(\mathrm{erf}(C_-) - \mathrm{erf}(C_+) + \mathrm{erf}(D_+) - \mathrm{erf}(D_-) + \mathrm{H}\left(e_w - \frac{1-e}{1+e}\right) \left(\mathrm{erf}(K_+) - \mathrm{erf}(K_-)\right)\right) + \frac{VS\sin\theta\cos\theta}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(e^{-C_+^2} - e^{-C_-^2} + e^{-D_-^2} - e^{-D_+^2} + \mathrm{H}\left(e_w - \frac{1-e}{1+e}\right) \left(e^{-K_-^2} - e^{-K_+^2}\right)\right) \right] \right\}$$

$$+ \frac{S^2\sin^2\theta}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(C_+e^{-C_+^2} - C_-e^{-C_-^2} + D_-e^{-D_-^2} - D_+e^{-D_+^2} + \mathrm{H}\left(e_w - \frac{1-e}{1+e}\right) \left(K_-e^{-K_-^2} - K_+e^{-K_+^2}\right)\right) \right] \right\}$$
where  $\mathrm{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t_-^2} dt$ ,  $\mathrm{H}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \mathrm{if } x \ge 0 \\ 0 & \mathrm{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$  and
$$\pi 1 - \frac{V\cos\theta}{2} = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{\frac{(1+e)-e_w(1-e)}{(1+e)(1+e)}}} - \frac{V\cos\theta}{2} = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{\frac{e_w(1+e)-(1-e)}{(1+e)(1+e)}}} - \frac{V\cos\theta}{2} \end{cases}$$

 $S\sin\theta$ 

 $S\sin\theta$ 

# Validity

- Our theory gives a good approximation when the fraction of particles that experience at least two particle-particle collisions is low.
- If V cos θ ≫ 1, then the probability of a particle experiencing a particle particle collision is low. Thus the probability of particles experiencing at least two particle-particle collisions must also be low, and so our theory will be valid.
- → Figures of  $f_{mean}$  vs. V for different  $\theta$  (S = 5, e =  $e_w$  = 0.8).















# **Geometric effects**

- ♦ When the particle-wall restitution coefficient is unity ( $e_w = 1$ ), then we obtain
  - $f_{mean} = f_g \cdot f_s \quad \text{where} \quad f_g = 2\sin\theta, \quad f_s = \frac{1 + \int_{\Omega} \left| e^{-(1+e)q^2} \right| \rho(\xi) d\xi}{1 + \int_{\Omega} \rho(\xi) d\xi}$

$$\Omega = \left[\frac{V\cos\theta - 2}{\sqrt{2}S\sin\theta}, \frac{V\cos\theta + 2}{\sqrt{2}S\sin\theta}\right], \quad q = \frac{V\cos\theta - \sqrt{2}\xi S\sin\theta}{2}, \quad \rho(\xi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\exp(-\frac{\xi^2}{2}).$$

 Larger deflector angle implies a larger velocity component perpendicular to the wall, and hence larger impulse. We refer to this as geometric effects.



# Shielding effects

- The impulse experienced by the wall is the net change of momentum experienced by the particles. When particles rebound from the wall they can collide with incoming ones and be scattered. This scattering may reduce the net impulse on the wall. We refer to this effect as shielding.
- The simplest example of shielding effect



Net impulse =  $2v_0$ 

# Mechanism













Mechanism



# Glancing and head-on collisions





# Before glancing collision





Before head - on collision

After head - on collision

# Glancing and head-on collisions

#### Glancing collision (rotated frame)



Before glancing collision



Glancing collisions: larger e => the 2<sup>nd</sup> particle is deflected at a larger => less impact on the barrier

# Glancing and head-on collisions

#### Head-on collision (rotated frame)







Head-on collisions: larger e => the 1st particle bounces back faster => more impact on the barrier

# Conclusion

- We have considered a system where a dilute stream of particles collides with an oblique planar wall (application: diverting particle avalanches).
- For dilute particle streams, large deflector angle may actually decrease the mean force (opposite of intuition).
- We derived an exact solution for the mean force on the wall.
   Good agreement with our numerical results if the system is dilute.
- Explicitly quantify both of the geometric and shielding effects.
   Explain the interesting features we have found.
- Understand how geometric effect and the shielding effect compete with each other.

# Inelastic particles falling through a hopper



#### Joint work with Qiang ZHANG, Yuan FANG and Ming GAO

# Physical system

Particles are randomly dropped into a hopper from the top. The particles fall under gravity. When the particle falls through the hole, it leaves the hopper.

How does the residence duration depend on various physical parameters?



# **One-particle System**

#### We consider a simple one-particle system. What could be simpler that this?



### Intuitive phenomenon

# The steeper the slope is, the shorter the particle will stay in the system



Seems obvious! What else could possibly happen?

Surprising phenomenon



# Surprising phenomenon





Because we input the particles uniformly on the top boundary of the hopper, we draw the following figures to help us analyze.

### **Duration versus injection location**

#### e=1, θ=45



e=1, θ=46



# **Samples of trajectories**



e=1



### **Duration versus injection location**

•••

••••

•

e=1, θ=59





# Samples of trajectories



# Simplest periodic orbit

#### Location and velocities of this orbit:

$$x^* = \frac{H(3 - \tan^2 \theta)(5 \tan^2 \theta + 1)}{3 \tan^5 \theta - 18 \tan^3 \theta - 5 \tan \theta}$$
$$u^* = \sqrt{2g(H + x^* \tan \theta)} \sin 2\theta$$
$$v^* = \sqrt{2g(H + x^* \tan \theta)} \cos 2\theta$$

**constrain 1:**  $x_0 \leq -\frac{d}{2}$ 

Constrains

**constrain 2:** 
$$\frac{d}{2} \le x_1$$
  
 $\frac{\pi}{6} + \frac{1}{6} \frac{d}{2H} \le \theta \le \frac{\pi}{3} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{2H}$ 

# Stability analysis

There are three variables:

(u,v)

#### Eliminate x from energy conservation, we only need to focus on

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_3 \\ v_3 \end{pmatrix} = F \begin{pmatrix} u_0 \\ v_0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} u_3^* + \Delta u_3 \\ v_3^* + \Delta v_3 \end{pmatrix} = F \begin{pmatrix} u_0^* + \Delta u_0 \\ v_0^* + \Delta v_0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \Delta u_3 \\ \Delta v_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial u_0} & \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial u_0} \\ \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial u_0} & \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial v_0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta u_0 \\ \Delta v_0 \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} J \begin{pmatrix} \Delta u_0 \\ \Delta v_0 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Eigenvalues of J





#### To insure stability, $|\lambda_1|$ and $|\lambda_2|$ must be less than or equal to 1.





 We analyze more patterns of periodic orbits and find that for every θ in the ranges marked with red, there exists at least one stable periodic orbit

### Conclusion

Single inelastic particle falling through a hopper has highly nontrivial behavior

- For small e, the residence time decreases uniformly with wall angle (intuitive)
- For larger e, there are small windows of wall angles that have anomalously long residence times

Developed a analytical theory that predicts anomalous behavior and shows the underlying mechanism is the existence of stable periodic orbits