# Mindlin's friction term and implication for shear modulus and anisotropy in granular media

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#### Objective

• Model effective elastic properties (e.g. shear rigidity) of a random packing of identical spheres with intergrain contact friction undergoing either hydrostatic or uniaxial loading



Sphere assembly

#### Assumptions – Grain contact model

- Constant porosity or pore volume (~36%)
  - Random dense packing configuration
- Isotropic homogenous spherical grains
  - No variation with either position or direction
- Small strain (grain deformation << grain radius)
- Hydrostatic loading (stress equal in all directions)
- Mean strain-field

Sphere assembly

A pair of grains in contact



# Effective moduli – existing models



 $\mathbf{S}_{T} = \mathbf{0}$ : Effective shear modulus - ~small contact friction

Tangential contact stiffness

$$\mathbf{S}_{\mathrm{T}} = \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_{\mathrm{T}}}{\partial \delta_{\mathrm{T}}}\right) = \mathbf{0}, \quad \boldsymbol{\mu} \approx \mathbf{0}$$

 $S_{T} > 0$ : Effective shear modulus - ~infinite contact friction

$$G_{dry} = \frac{3}{5} \left( 1 + \frac{3}{2} \frac{S_T}{S_N} \right) K_{dry} = \frac{3}{5} \left( \frac{5 - 4\nu}{2 - \nu} \right) K_{dry}$$

Tangential contact stiffness

 $G_{dry} =$ 

$$S_{T} = \left(\frac{\partial F_{T}}{\partial \delta_{T}}\right) = \frac{8Ga}{(2-\nu)}, \quad \mu = \infty$$
(Mindlin, 1949)



 $F_{N}$  = Normal force

- $\delta_{N}$  = Normal displacement
- a = Grain contact radius
- G= Grain shear modulus
- v= Grain Poisson's ratio
- R = grain radius
- $C_p$  = coordination number
- $\varphi$  = Porosity
- $F_{T}$  = Tangential force
- $\delta_{\scriptscriptstyle T}$  = Tangential displacement
- $\mu$  = Contact friction

Dry sphere assembly



(Digby, 1981, Walton, 1987)

#### Friction (µ) Definition

- Friction is the force resisting the relative motion of two solid surfaces in contact
  - Internal friction is the force resisting motion between elements making up a solid while it undergoes deformation



#### Contact stiffnesses - New model

A pair of identical grains with arbitrary contact friction



## Effective moduli – New model

- $S_{T} = 0$ : Effective bulk and shear modulus ~zero contact friction
- $K_{dry} = \frac{C_p (1 \varphi)}{12 \pi R} S_N$  $G_{dry} = \frac{3}{5} K_{dry}$

 $S_{\tau} > 0$ : Effective shear modulus - infinite contact friction

$$G_{dry} = \frac{3}{5} \left( 1 + \frac{3}{2} \frac{S_T}{S_N} \right) K_{dry} = \frac{3}{5} \left( \frac{5 - 4v}{2 - v} \right) K_{dry}$$
(Digby, 1981, Walton, 1987)

 $S_N$  = Normal contact stiffness  $S_T$  = Normal contact stiffness  $f(\mu)$  = Mindlin's friction term

#### $f(\mu)$ [0,1]: Effective shear modulus – arbitrary contact friction

$$G_{dry} = \frac{3}{5} \left[ 1 + \frac{3}{2} \frac{S_{T} f(\mu)}{S_{N}} \right] K_{dry} = \frac{3}{5} \left[ 1 + \frac{3(1 - \nu)}{2 - \nu} f(\mu) \right] K_{dry}$$

$$\int \frac{1}{1 + \frac{3}{2} - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}$$



#### Sphere assembly





#### Uniaxial strain loading ( $e_3 \neq 0$ , $e_1 = e_2 = 0$ ) Definition



Directional dependent velocity variation induced by stress differences

## Assumptions – Grain contact model

- Constant porosity or pore volume (~36%)
  - Random dense packing configuration
- Isotropic homogenous spherical grains
   No variation with either position or direction
- Small strain (grain deformation << grain radius)
- Uniaxial strain loading conditions
- Mean strain-field

Sphere assembly

A pair of grains in contact



#### Walton model – infinite contact friction Uniaxial strain loading – The sphere assembly is elastically anisotropic

**Effective elastic stiffness constants:** 

$$C_{11}^{dry} = 3\alpha + 6\beta$$

$$C_{13}^{dry} = 2\alpha - 4\beta$$

$$C_{33}^{dry} = 8\alpha + 8\beta$$

$$C_{44}^{dry} = C_{55}^{dry} = 2\alpha + 5\beta$$

$$C_{66}^{dry} = \alpha + 4\beta$$

where

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{3(1-\varphi)^2 C_p^2 G^2 (2-\nu)\sigma_3'}{16\pi^2 (1-\nu)^2 \nu} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$
$$\beta = \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{3(1-\varphi)^2 C_p^2 G^2 (1-\nu)\sigma_3'}{16\pi^2 (2-\nu)^2 \nu} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$



(Walton, 1987)

#### Walton model — ~ zero contact friction Uniaxial strain loading – The sphere assembly is elastically anisotropic

**Effective elastic stiffness constants:** 

$$C_{11}^{dry} = 3\alpha$$

$$C_{13}^{dry} = 2\alpha$$

$$C_{33}^{dry} = 8\alpha$$

$$C_{44}^{dry} = C_{55}^{dry} = 2\alpha$$

$$C_{66}^{dry} = \alpha$$

where

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{3(1-\varphi)^2 C_p^2 G^2 (2-\nu)\sigma_3}{16\pi^2 (1-\nu)^2 \nu} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$









#### New model

Thomsen<sup>(1986)</sup> anisotropy parameters as function of  $f(\mu)$  and  $\nu$ 

P-wave anisotropy:



 $f(\mu)$  = Mindlin's friction term

#### Model vs. dry loose sand measurements Stress- and friction-induced elastic anisotropy



## Conclusions

The shear modulus is made friction-dependent by use of Mindlin's friction 0.7 theory 0.6 moduli

0.9

0.8

0.3

0.2

0.1

0.20

0.10 0.05

f(μ)=0

10

Confining stress (MPa)

0.6

 $(F_{T}/\mu F_{N})$ 

20

0.8

ratio (f(µ))

3.5

Shear

**S/Jd/** 1.7

f(μ)=1

0.2

$$G_{dry} = \frac{3}{5} \left[ 1 + \frac{3(1-\nu)}{2-\nu} f(\mu) \right] K_{dry}$$

- As intergrain friction increases ۲
  - Larger effective moduli and velocities and lower Vp/Vs
  - Stress-sensitivity
    - increases for moduli (e.g.  $dG/d\sigma'$ ) and velocities ( $dV/d\sigma'$ )
    - decreases for the Vp/Vs

- Ultrasonic measurements on sand of angular grains show higher dynamic • shear rigidity than the perfect slip model – <u>Increasing internal friction due to</u> grain interlocking
- Grain contact conditions are controlling velocities and their stress-• sensitivity in loose sands

## Conclusions cont'

- Mindlin's friction theory revisited for uniaxial loading conditions The friction-dependent model predicts
  - 1. instant large negative stress-induced elastic anisotropy (>20%)
  - 2. 20% difference in stress-induced elastic anisotropy between small and infinite contact friction
    - Extrapolating observation to cemented sandstone -> less stress-induced elastic anisotropy
  - 3. The model is only valid for small stress ratios  $\leq \frac{1}{4}$
- Ultrasonic measurements on a set of loose sand are in accordance with model-predictions
  - The sand with angular grains has higher internal friction than that of perfectly smooth spheres

# Thank you