IV MPM Workshop, University of Utah, Salt Lake city, March 2008

Simulation of Sand using Material Point Method (MPM)

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Acknowledgements

- AFOSR -- Drs. Craig S. Hartley, Dr. Jamie Tiley Jr., and Capt. Brett Conner, Program Managers for Metallic Materials Program. DEPSCoR grant (No. F49620-03-1-0281)
- Hongbing Lu, Demir Coker, and Ranga Komanduri
- Dr. Jin Ma and Rohit Raghav
 - For providing, the basic 2D and 3D versions of combined SAMRAI and MPM computational framework
- **SAMRAI** Richard Hornung and Andrew Wissink
- Dr. John A. Nairn -- For providing the 2D MPM code

High speed/high strain-rate mechanics of particulate media

To understand the physics of high-speed particulate flow:

- Mechanical behavior and characterization of sand under high-speed compression, shear, and penetration into sand using combined experimental and numerical approaches.
- To develop essential scaling laws using multi-scale models for modeling of particulate media.



Approach

- Measurement of mechanical properties of sand using nanoindentation at the granular scale.
- Develop MPM as a utility for simulation of granular materials. Implement contact algorithm (Bardenhagen *et al.* 2001) into MPM and use the granular structure determined from Micro-Computed Tomography (μ-CT) to perform high-strain rate compression and shear simulations on sand

Nanoindentation





Some advantages of using nanoindentation

- A technique to measure mechanical properties of small amounts of materials — a challenge with conventional testing.
- An effective measurement technique to characterize material behavior at micron/submicron scale.
- Applicable to heterogeneous materials with mechanical properties varying spatially.





Tympanic Membrane



Middle ear ossicular chain

Nanoindentation on sand grains



Embedded sand grain samples in an epoxy matrix; Size 0.5 - 1 mm

Typical results from nanoindentation test on sand grain using Berkovich tip

7 8 9

Modulus & hardness from a single sand grain



Modulus and hardness from multiple sand grains



Predicting of Stress-strain using simulation





Anisotropy & heterogeneity of sand grains



Indentation impressions from cube-corner tip, at increasing loads on a single sand grain

Inverse image of nanoindentation on a sand grain at 5 mN with no cracks formed

Simulation of sand in compression using MPM

Sulsky and Schreyer (2004), Daphalapurkar *et al.* (2007), Coker *et. al.* (2005) Sulsky (2003), Bardenhagen and Brackbill (2000), Roessig *et al.* (2002), Bardenhagen (1998), Bardenhagen *et al.* (2001), Voyiadjis *et al.* (2005)

Image from X-Ray $\mu\text{-}CT$, after thresholding and 3D reconstruction.



Representative 3D Model for high strain-rate compression, shear, and high-speed penetration into sand



Discretized model in MPM



Micro-computed tomography of sand



Grayscale value indicates density

Simulation of sand using Material Point Method (MPM)

Image from X-Ray μ -CT. Grayscale value indicates relative density.

Sulsky and Schreyer (2004), Daphalapurkar *et al.* (2007), Coker *et. al.* (2005) Sulsky (2003), Bardenhagen and Brackbill (2000), Roessig *et al.* (2002), Bardenhagen (1998), Bardenhagen *et al.* (2001), Voyiadjis *et al.* (2005)

Sand grains material constitutive model and properties



Simulations at granular scale

Image from X-Ray $\mu\text{-}CT$, after thresholding and 3D reconstruction.



Representative 3D Model for high strain-rate compression, shear, and high-speed penetration into sand

3D multiscale simulations of sand using MPM and correlating with experimental results from SHPB



Multiscale simulation using MPM



Schematic of high-speed penetration experiments using Split Hopkinson Pressure Bar (SHPB)

Conclusions from the study on mechanical properties of sand grains

- Nanoindentation is an effective technique for characterization of mechanical properties of sand grains.
- Mechanical properties of sand at granular scale, mainly Young's modulus, hardness, stress-strain relation and fracture toughness, were determined.
- Within a single sand grain, the mechanical properties were found to vary, indicating the anisotropy, heterogeneity and presence of defects. Further, X-ray μ-CT results confirmed the observations. Representative Young's modulus for the sand grains was found to be 84.7 GPa (range 44.5 to 107 GPa), hardness to be 11 GPa (range 5.2 to 15.3 GPa), and fracture toughness to be 1.82 MPa-m^{0.5} (range 0.75 to 3.4 MPa-m^{0.5}).
- µ-CT of sand was carried out to determine the granular structure. Mechanical properties determined using nanoindentation will be assigned to the sand grains. These will act as inputs for MPM simulations at granular scale.