

Continuum viscoplastic simulation of a granular column collapse on large slopes : $\mu(I)$ rheology and lateral wall effects

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The description of the mechanical behaviour of granular flows and in particular of the static/flowing transition is still an open and challenging issue with strong implication for hazard assessment [Delannay *et al.*, 2016]. In particular, *detailed quantitative* comparison between numerical models and observations is necessary to go further in this direction.

We simulate here dry granular flows resulting from the collapse of granular columns on an inclined channel (from horizontal to 22°) and compare precisely the results with laboratory experiments performed by Mangeney *et al.* [2010] and Farin *et al.* [2014]. Incompressibility is assumed despite the dilatancy observed in the experiments (up to 10%). The 2-D model is based on the so-called $\mu(I)$ rheology that induces a Drucker-Prager yield stress and a variable viscosity. A nonlinear Coulomb friction term, representing the friction on the lateral walls of the channel is added to the model. We demonstrate that this term is crucial to accurately reproduce granular collapses on slopes higher than 10° whereas it remains of little effect on horizontal slope [Martin *et al.*, 2016].

We show that the use of a variable or a constant viscosity does not change significantly the results provided that these viscosities are of the same order [Ionescu *et al.*, 2015]. However, only a fine tuning of the constant viscosity ($\eta = 1$ Pa.s) makes it possible to predict the slow propagation phase observed experimentally on large slopes. This was not possible when using, without tuning, the variable viscosity calculated from the $\mu(I)$ rheology with the parameters estimated from experiments. Finally, we discuss the well-posedness of the model with variable and constant viscosity based in particular on the development of shear bands observed in the numerical simulations.

References

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