

## FROM PLASTICITY TO VISCOPLASTICITY IN FLOWING GEOMATERIALS: WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM NUMERICAL MODELS?

**Bruno Chareyre<sup>1</sup>, Donia Marzougui<sup>2</sup>, and Julien Chauchat<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Univ. Grenoble Alpes, 3SR, F-38000 Grenoble, France and  
CNRS, 3SR, F-38000 Grenoble, France  
e-mail: [bruno.chareyre@3sr-grenoble.fr](mailto:bruno.chareyre@3sr-grenoble.fr)

<sup>2</sup>Univ. Grenoble Alpes, 3SR, F-38000 Grenoble, France and  
CNRS, 3SR, F-38000 Grenoble, France  
e-mail: [donia.marzougui@3sr-grenoble.fr](mailto:donia.marzougui@3sr-grenoble.fr)

<sup>3</sup>Univ. Grenoble Alpes, LEGI, F-38000 Grenoble, France and  
CNRS, LEGI, F-38000 Grenoble, France  
email: [julien.chauchat@grenoble-inp.fr](mailto:julien.chauchat@grenoble-inp.fr)

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### Summary.

The discrete element method has been extended to dense mixtures of non-colloidal particles and viscous fluids in the non-inertial regime [1]. The numerical model includes sphere-sphere contacts using a soft contact approach [2], short range hydrodynamic interactions defined by frame-invariant expressions of forces and torques in the lubrication approximation, and drag forces resulting from the poromechanical coupling computed with the DEM-PFV technique [3].

We examine the dependency of shear stress on shear rate and the interplay between rate dependent dilatancy and hydro-mechanical coupling. The bulk shear stress is decomposed into contact stress and hydrodynamic stress. Both contributions are shown to be increasing functions of a dimensionless shear rate  $I_v$ , in agreement with experimental results [4]. Statistics of microstructural variables highlight a complex interplay between solid contacts and hydrodynamic interactions. In contrast with a popular idea, the results suggest that lubrication may not necessarily reduce the contribution of contact forces to the bulk shear stress.

The simulations show that pore pressure feedback can play a key role in sheared mixtures such as debris flow, especially during the triggering phase, when run-out include transitional phases, or when the flow is stopped. It is concluded that debris flow cannot be modeled by assuming solely the rheological properties of an equivalent mixture.

## REFERENCES

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