Critical softening in Cam-Clay plasticity: 'adaptive' viscous regularization and numerical integration across stress-strain jump discontinuities

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1. Motivation

experimental observations constitutive modelling

2. Cam-Clay plasticity

evolution equations well-posedness

3. Viscoplastic regularization evolution equations

slow/fast dynamics

4. Numerical integration

strategy applications (VE/BVP)

5. Conclusions & Perspectives

standard compression tests on geomaterials (rock, sand, fine-grained soils)



Wawersik & Fairhurst (1970) axial stress 7000 p s 1 40 5000 p s i 30 4000 p s i 20 3000 p s i 2000 p s i 1000 Psi 10 500 p s i 5 Opsi 10 20 30 40 axial strain

hardening/softening



motivation

experimental observations

softening may lead to both:

(i) spatial discontinuities (strain localization)

(ii) time discontinuities (critical softening)

Ludovico-Marques et al. (2012)

Colliat (1986)



critical softening (displacement controlled test):

- loss of test controllability
- perfectly brittle behaviour
- sharp drop (jump) of load-carrying ability

response of the material evolves at a different time scale (faster) with respect to the applied perturbation





classical approach in continuum mechanics:

rate-independent elastoplasticity:

- evolution laws derived from the interpretation of simple laboratory tests
- assumption: stress/strain fields homogeneous within the sample

strain localization and critical softening:

- local instabilities in the constitutive equations
- ill-posedness of the evolution problem
- non-uniqueness in the incremental response

critical softening in a strain controlled process:

- vanishing of the determinant of the elastoplastic compliance matrix
- critical value of the hardening modulus



classical approach in continuum mechanics:

possibility to guarantee well-posedness of the evolution problem even beyond the onset of critical softening: <u>'adaptive' viscoplastic regularization</u> (Dal Maso *et al.* 2009, 2010, 2011)

• Cam-clay plasticity

problems to be tackled...

- why the evolution problem becomes ill-posed
- how to handle critical softening (viscoplastic approximation)
- how to integrate the regularized equations



It exhibits both hardening and softening, depending on the loading conditions.

The variables and constraints of the model are:

 $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathrm{n}}$ displacement: $oldsymbol{arepsilon} oldsymbol{arepsilon} := rac{1}{2} (
abla \mathbf{u} +
abla^ op \mathbf{u})$ total strain: additive decomposition of deformation: $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{e}} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{p}}$ $oldsymbol{\sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathrm{n}}_{\mathrm{sym}}$ stress: internal variable: $z \in \mathbb{R}$ preconsolidation pressure: $p_c = 2z$ $\mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} := \{(\boldsymbol{\sigma}, z) | f(\boldsymbol{\sigma}, z) \le 0\}$ stress constraint: yield surface: $f: \mathbb{R}^{n}_{\text{sym}} \times \mathbb{R} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$



The yield surface is an ellipsoid in the stress space passing through the origin:

$$f(p,q,z) = \frac{q^2}{M^2} + p(p-2z)$$

where *p*, *q* are stress invariants:

$$p := \frac{1}{3} \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \qquad q := \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \|\mathbf{s}\|$$
$$\mathbf{s} := \boldsymbol{\sigma} - \frac{1}{3} \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \mathbf{I}$$

If $\dot{z} > 0$ the yield surface <u>expands</u> leading to a <u>hardening</u> response. If $\dot{z} < 0$ the yield surface <u>shrinks</u> leading to a <u>softening</u> response.





additive decomposition of deformations:

$$\dot{oldsymbol{arepsilon}}=\dot{oldsymbol{arepsilon}}^{\mathrm{e}}+\dot{oldsymbol{arepsilon}}^{\mathrm{p}}$$

constitutive equation:

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} = \mathbb{C}\dot{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}^{\mathrm{e}}$$
 where $\mathbb{C} := K\mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{I} + 2G\left(\mathbb{I} - \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{I}\right)$

flow rule:

$$\dot{m{arepsilon}}^{
m p}=\dot{\gamma}rac{\partial f}{\partialm{\sigma}}$$
 where $\dot{\gamma}\geq 0$ is the consistency parameter

hardening law:

$$\dot{z}=
ho_{c}z\,\mathrm{tr}\left(\dot{oldsymbol{arepsilon}}
ight)$$
 where

$$o_c = \frac{1}{\hat{\lambda} - \hat{k}}$$

-1

Kuhn-Tucker conditions:

$$\dot{\gamma} \ge 0, f \le 0, \dot{\gamma}f = 0$$

consistency condition:

$$\dot{\gamma}\dot{f}=0$$



Cam-Clay plasticity

well-posedness

initial condition at yield:

prescribe a total strain increment:

assume plastic loading:

Kuhn-Tucker conditions:

consistency condition:

 $\dot{\gamma} \ge 0, \quad f \le 0, \quad \dot{\gamma}f = 0$

 $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \cdot \mathbb{C} \dot{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}} > 0$

 $f(\boldsymbol{\sigma}, z) = 0$

 $\dot{\varepsilon} > 0$

$$egin{aligned} \dot{f}(oldsymbol{\sigma},z) &= rac{\partial f}{\partial oldsymbol{\sigma}} \cdot \dot{oldsymbol{\sigma}} + rac{\partial f}{\partial z} \cdot \dot{z} = \ &= rac{\partial f}{\partial oldsymbol{\sigma}} \cdot \mathbb{C} \dot{oldsymbol{\varepsilon}} - \dot{\gamma} \Big[rac{\partial f}{\partial oldsymbol{\sigma}} \cdot \mathbb{C} rac{\partial f}{\partial oldsymbol{\sigma}} - rac{\partial f}{\partial z} \cdot h \Big] = \ &= rac{\partial f}{\partial oldsymbol{\sigma}} \cdot \mathbb{C} \dot{oldsymbol{\varepsilon}} - \dot{\gamma} \Big[H - rac{H_c}{H_c} \Big] \end{aligned}$$

 $\dot{\gamma}\dot{f} = 0$

hardening modulus

$$H = -\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \cdot h$$

critical hardening modulus

$$\boldsymbol{H_{c}} = -\frac{\partial f}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \cdot \mathbb{C} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}}$$



$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}}$$

$$\mathbb{C}\dot{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}$$

$$f(\boldsymbol{\sigma}, z) = 0$$

Kuhn-Tucker conditions: consistency condition:

$$\dot{\gamma} \ge 0, \quad f \le 0, \quad \dot{\gamma}f = 0$$

 $\dot{\gamma}\dot{f} = 0$

plastic modulus (K_P) or modulus of instability

$$0 = \dot{f} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} \cdot \mathbb{C} \dot{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}} - \dot{\gamma} \big[H - \boldsymbol{H_c} \big]$$

$$\dot{\gamma} = rac{1}{H - H_c} rac{\partial f}{\partial \sigma} \cdot \mathbb{C} \dot{\varepsilon}$$

The evolution problem is well posed only as long as $H - H_c > 0$ (Maier & Hueckel, 1979).

This condition is always assumed in the literature, in order to ensure the positiveness of the consistency parameter.



- $H H_c > 0$ (Hardening/Normal Softening)
- $H H_c = 0$ (Critical Softening)
- $H H_c < 0$ (Subcritical Softening)

We use a viscoplastic regularization in the <u>Duvaut-Lions</u> format. Given a <u>viscosity parameter</u> $\tau > 0$, the evolution equations are:

Additive decomposition of deformations:

$$\dot{oldsymbol{arepsilon}}=\dot{oldsymbol{arepsilon}}^{\mathrm{e}}+\dot{oldsymbol{arepsilon}}^{\mathrm{p}}$$

Constitutive equation:

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} = \mathbb{C}\dot{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}^{\mathrm{e}}$$
 where $\mathbb{C} := K\mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{I} + 2G\left(\mathbb{I} - \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{I}\right)$

Flow rule:

$$\dot{oldsymbol{arepsilon}}^{\mathrm{p}} = rac{1}{ au} \mathbb{A}ig[oldsymbol{\sigma} - \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(oldsymbol{\sigma})ig] \qquad \qquad \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(oldsymbol{\sigma}) \,\,\, ext{projection onto} \,\,\, \mathbb{E}_{\sigma}$$

Hardening law:

$$\dot{z} =
ho_c z \operatorname{tr}\left(\dot{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}^{\mathrm{p}}\right)$$

<u>Unconstrained problem</u>: the stress state is no longer constrained to lie on the yield surface during a plastic process.



(**τ**≠**0**) standard viscoplasticity

evolution problem always well posed rate-dependency continuous solution

 $(\tau \rightarrow 0)$ limit solution

...



During a generic loading process, by solving the regularized evolution equations in the limit as $\tau \rightarrow 0$, the viscous dynamics presents <u>three possible regimes</u>:

Elastic regime

Loading process entirely inside the yield surface

Slow dynamics $(H - H_c > 0 \text{ or } K_p > 0)$

corresponding rate-independent evolution problem well-posed viscous limit solution is continuous (tends to solution of rate-independent problem) both hardening and softening can occur.

Fast dynamics $(H - H_c \le 0 \text{ or } K_p \le 0)$

corresponding rate-independent evolution problem ill-posed viscous limit solution is discontinuous (jumps) introduce a dilated time $\underline{s:=t/\tau}$ to rescale the equations study the evolution of (σ ,z) along the jump



rescaling the equations (in the limit as $\tau \rightarrow 0$):

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}(\cdot) = \tau \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}(\cdot)$$

slow dynamics:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}(\cdot) < \infty \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}(\cdot) = 0$$

fast dynamics (jumps):

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\sigma}}{\mathrm{d}t} = \infty \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}(\cdot) = 0 \cdot \infty$$



rescaling the equations (in the limit as $\tau \rightarrow 0$):

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}(\cdot) = \tau \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}(\cdot)$$

Flow rule:

$$\frac{1}{\tau} \frac{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{p}}}{\mathrm{d}s} = \frac{1}{\tau} \mathbb{A} \left[\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\right]$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{p}}}{\mathrm{d}s} = \mathbb{A}\big[\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\big]$$

Hardening law:

$$\mathbf{\chi}_{\tau}^{1} \frac{\mathrm{d}z}{\mathrm{d}s} = \mathbf{\chi}_{\tau}^{1} \rho_{c} z \operatorname{tr}\left(\frac{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{p}}}{\mathrm{d}s}\right)$$

 $\frac{\mathrm{d}z}{\mathrm{d}s} = \rho_c z \operatorname{tr} \left[\mathbb{A} \left(\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right) \right]$

Constitutive equation:



$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\sigma}}{\mathrm{d}s} = \mathbb{C}\mathbb{A}\big[\pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) - \boldsymbol{\sigma}\big]$$



rescaling the equations (in the limit as $\underline{\tau} \rightarrow 0$):

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}(\cdot) = \tau \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}(\cdot)$$

slow dynamics

Flow rule:

$$\sum_{\tau} \frac{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{p}}}{\mathrm{d}s} = \sum_{\tau} \frac{1}{\lambda} \left[\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\right]$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{p}}}{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{s}} = \mathbb{A}\big[\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\big]$$

Hardening law:

$$\mathbf{\chi}_{\tau}^{1} \frac{\mathrm{d}z}{\mathrm{d}s} = \mathbf{\chi}_{\tau}^{1} \rho_{c} z \operatorname{tr}\left(\frac{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{p}}}{\mathrm{d}s}\right)$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}z}{\mathrm{d}s} = \rho_c z \operatorname{tr} \left[\mathbb{A} \left(\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right) \right]$$

Constitutive equation:







rescaling the equations (in the limit as $\tau \rightarrow 0$):

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}s}(\cdot) = \tau \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}(\cdot)$$

 \mathbf{O}

fast dynamics

Flow rule:

$$\sum_{\tau}^{1} \frac{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{p}}}{\mathrm{d}s} = \sum_{\tau}^{1} \mathbb{A} \left[\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right]$$

$$\neq \underbrace{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{p}}}_{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{s}} = \mathbb{A}\big[\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\big]$$

Hardening law:

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{d}z}_{\tau} \underbrace{\mathbf{d}z}_{\tau} = \underbrace{\mathbf{d}z}_{\tau} \rho_c z \operatorname{tr}\left(\frac{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{p}}}{\mathrm{d}s}\right) \qquad \mathbf{0} \neq \underbrace{\frac{\mathrm{d}z}{\mathrm{d}s}}_{\tau} \neq \rho_c z \operatorname{tr}\left[\mathbb{A}\left(\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})\right)\right]$$

Constitutive equation:



$$\mathbf{D} \neq \left(\frac{\mathrm{d}z}{\mathrm{d}s} \neq \rho_c z \operatorname{tr} \left[\mathbb{A} \left(\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right) \right] \right)$$

$$\mathbf{0} \neq \mathbf{\mathbf{d}} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \neq \mathbb{C} \mathbb{A} \big[\pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) - \boldsymbol{\sigma} \big]$$



In the fast dynamics regime, the <u>rescaled equations</u> are:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}(s) = \mathbb{C}\mathbb{A}\big(\pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}(s)) - \boldsymbol{\sigma}(s)\big) \\ \dot{z}(s) = \rho_{c}z \operatorname{tr}\left[\mathbb{A}\big(\boldsymbol{\sigma}(s) - \pi_{\mathbb{A}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}(s))\big)\right] \end{cases}$$

The asymptotic values of the solution at $s=\pm\infty$ give the asymptotic values of the viscosity solution before and after the jump, *i.e.*:

$$\lim_{s \to \pm \infty} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}(s), z(s)) = (\boldsymbol{\sigma}(t_1^{\pm}), z(t_1^{\pm}))$$



during the jump:

• internal variable strictly decreasing (softening).

at the end of the jump:

- the stress state lies on the yield surface: $f(\sigma,z)=0$
- the plastic modulus is positive: $\frac{K_p > 0}{2}$
- the viscous solution evolves either in the elastic or in the slow dynamics regime





(**τ**≠**0**) standard viscoplasticity

evolution problem always well posed rate-dependency continuous solution

 $(\tau \rightarrow 0)$ limit solution

evolution problem always well posed discontinuous solution $K_p>0$ (slow dynamics) rate-independent problem $K_p\leq0$ (fast dynamics) jumps adaptive viscous regularization



We assume that the state of the material (σ_n, z_n) is given at time t_n .

Let $\Delta \varepsilon_{n+1} = \varepsilon_{n+1} - \varepsilon_n$ be the incremental strain at time t_{n+1} , the problem to be addressed is to update the state variables (σ_{n+1}, z_{n+1}) through the integration of the viscous equations, either in slow dynamics or in fast dynamics.

slow dynamics standard return mapping algorithm elastic predictor + plastic corrector system well-conditioned for all $\tau \ge 0$

- τ >0 standard viscoplasticity
- τ =0 rate-independent limit

inception of jump discontinuities ($\tau = 0$):

- $\Delta \gamma_{n+1} = \text{consistency parameter}$
- if $\Delta \gamma_{n+1} < 0$ then solution rejected (critical softening)
- integrate the equation of fast dynamics



We assume that the state of the material (σ_n, z_n) is given at time t_n .

Let $\Delta \varepsilon_{n+1} = \varepsilon_{n+1} - \varepsilon_n$ be the incremental strain at time t_{n+1} , the problem to be addressed is to update the state variables (σ_{n+1}, z_{n+1}) through the integration of the viscous equations, either in slow dynamics or in fast dynamics.

fast dynamics internal variable strictly decreasing (softening) stress state outside the yield locus

idea:

use z as independent variable shrink the elastic domain until the stress state come back to the yield surface

end of jump discontinuities:

- the stress state lies on the yield surface
- the plastic modulus is positive
- integrate the equation of slow dynamics ($\tau = 0$)

 $f(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{s+1}, z_{s+1}) = 0$ $K_{p}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{s+1}, z_{s+1}) > 0$

1. single-element tests (undrained triaxial tests)

- 1.1 accuracy and 'adaptive' ws 'standard'
- 1.2 preconsolidation pressure

2. BVP (plane strain compression tests/FEAP)

- 2.1 standard viscoplasticity
- 2.2 adaptive regularization



2. BVP (plane strain compression tests/FEAP)
 2.1 standard viscoplasticity
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simplified MMC model (elastic stiffness/hardening law) 'adaptive regularization', $\tau=0$





simplified MMC model (elastic stiffness/hardening law) 'adaptive regularization', $\tau=0$



internal variable:

z*₀ = **6.54** z*₀ = 13.48 z*₀ = 22.50 z*₀ = 33.71



simplified MMC model (elastic stiffness/hardening law) 'adaptive regularization', $\tau=0$



internal variable:

 $z_0^* = 6.54$ $z_0^* = 13.48$ $z_0^* = 22.50$ $z_0^* = 33.71$



simplified MMC model (elastic stiffness/hardening law) 'adaptive regularization', $\tau=0$



simplified MMC model (elastic stiffness/hardening law) 'adaptive regularization', $\tau=0$



 $\Delta \gamma_{n+1} < 0$

• end of jump: $f(\sigma_{s+1}, z_{s+1}) = 0$ $K_P(\sigma_{s+1}, z_{s+1}) > 0$

 $z_{0}^{*} = 6.54$ $z_{0}^{*} = 13.48$ $z_{0}^{*} = 22.50$

 $z_0^* = 33.71$



simplified MMC model 'adaptive regularization'/standard viscoplasticity





single-element tests (undrained triaxial tests) accuracy and 'adaptive' ws 'standard' preconsolidation pressure

2. BVP (plane strain compression tests/FEAP)
 2.1 standard viscoplasticity
 2.2 adaptive regularization







initial condition:

p₀ = 200kPa







0 0 0 300 400 600 0.15 100 200 500 0.00 0.05 0.10 0.20 0.25 0.00 0.05 0 *p* [kPa] $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{q}$



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0.20

0.25

0.10

ε

0.15











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0.20

0.25

2. BVP (plane strain compression tests/FEAP)

- 2.1 standard viscoplasticity
- 2.2 adaptive regularization



standard plane strain compression tests FE code FEAP

BVP #1

local: standard viscoplasticity (**τ**≠**0**) global: quasi-static (N-R algorithm)

BVP #2

local: 'adaptive' regularization ($\tau=0$) global: dynamic (Newmark explicit)



local: standard viscoplasticity (τ≠0) global: quasi-static (N-R algorithm)



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local: standard viscoplasticity ($\tau \neq 0$) global: quasi-static (N-R algorithm)



local: 'adaptive' regularization ($\tau=0$) global: dynamic (Newmark explicit: $\beta=0$, $\gamma=0.5$)





CONCLUSIONS

viscoul regularization

Cam-clay plasticity Limit solution $(\tau \rightarrow 0)$ – adaptive regularization \exists ! solution beyond critical softening

numerical implementation

exploiting properties of viscous limit solution jump discontinuities mesh sensitivity (BVP)

PERSPECTIVES

extend the proposed approach to: plasticity models more suitable for softening critical softening driven by chemo-mechanical coupling effects

combine the proposed approach with: non-local approach (localization phenomena)



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