



Crossover from collisional to frictional regime in a 3D granular flow

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Experimental Setup

- Transducer scan rate: 3.2×10^6 Hz
- Normal forces

- Spherical glass beads of diameter, $d=4$ mm
- Diameter of transducer head is comparable to the ball diameter

Average Force at the Transducer

- Opening size a , varied from 4d to 10d
- Flow velocity ranging from 1.4 cm/s to 30 cm/s

Objectives

Typical Force Trace:

Impulse transferred to the wall is both collisional and frictional

As a function of flow rate:

- Crossover between collisional and frictional mechanisms?
- Distribution of forces?
- Comparison with 2D data¹

Force traces at different flow rates

Slow flow
4d, 1.4 cm/s

Fast flow
10d, 30 cm/s

Contact time

% contact time = $\frac{\sum \Delta T_i}{T} \times 100\%$

- Frictional forces are significant, even at fast flows
- Almost 100% contact time as approach jamming

Comparison between 2D and 3D

3D

- Frictional forces are a major component controlling the flow, even far from jamming

2D

- Collisional forces dominate flow, only see frictional forces as approach jamming

Impulse transferred to the wall from collisions

$t_{\text{collisional}} < 60 \mu\text{sec}$

$$\Delta p_{\text{collision}} = \frac{\sum \Delta p_{\text{collisional}}}{\sum \Delta p_{\text{total}}} \times 100\%$$

Frictional regime | Collisional regime

- Crossover from collisional to frictional forces

Force Histogram

Increasing flow velocity

- Non-exponential distribution of large forces
- Shoulder at lowest flow rate?

Comparison to 2D Histograms

3D

- Force histogram

2D

- Impulse histogram

- Non-exponential distribution of large forces
- Exponential distribution of impulses
- Deviation from exponential at small impulses

Summary

- A crossover from collisional to almost entirely frictional regime close to jamming in 3D flow
- Frictional forces play a larger role in 3D granular flow than in 2D
- Non-exponential distribution of large forces in 3D histograms

Future Work

- Spatial Correlations from all four transducers

Reference

¹E. Longhi, N. Easwar and N. Menon, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, **89** (2002).

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