Granular flows down inclines: how different bases produce widely different scaling of mass flow rate with depth

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Second International Granular Flow Workshop, Guiyang, China Tuesday, August 22, 2017

ML, A. Valance, P. Lancelot, R. Delannay, O. Artières, PRE 92, 022204 (2015)

Dense inclined granular flow



Steady, fully-developed force balance

Steady
$$(\partial / \partial t \equiv 0)$$
, fully-developed $(\partial / \partial x \equiv 0)$ flow





Newtonian viscous fluid

laminar flow



Newtonian viscous fluid

turbulent flow





Ludwig Prandtl

Shallow flows, far sidewalls, bumpy base



Shallow flows, far sidewalls, bumpy base



$$20^{\circ} < \alpha < 26^{\circ}$$

 $0.595 > \nu > 0.545$





Silbert, et al. PRE 2001



Leo Silbert

Granular temperature





1





"temperature"
$$T = \frac{1}{3} \overline{u'_i u}$$

fluctuation velocity u'_i







Flat, frictional base experiments



Flat, frictional base cartoon





Inertial number

Ralph Bagnold





bumpy base





Profile concavity and viscosity

$$S = \rho_s v gy \sin \alpha = -\mu \frac{du}{dy} \qquad \frac{d^2 u}{dy^2} = -\rho$$



$$\mu \frac{du}{dy} \qquad \frac{d^2 u}{dy^2} = -\rho_s g \sin \alpha \left(\frac{vy}{\mu}\right) \left(\frac{v'}{v} + \frac{1}{y} - \frac{\mu'}{\mu}\right)$$
$$\frac{d^2 u}{dy^2} < 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{d \ln \mu}{d \ln y} < \frac{d \ln v}{d \ln y} + 1$$
$$\frac{d \ln \mu}{d \ln y} = \frac{1}{2} \qquad \frac{d \ln v}{d \ln y} = 0$$

Moderate increase in viscosity with depth for core flows over a bumpy base

Inverted concavity for a soft base



Role of side walls



$$\tan \alpha = \mu_w \left(\frac{h}{W}\right) + \tan \alpha_{\min}$$



What about an erodible base with far side walls?





What about an erodible base with far side walls?



Fiber-Bragg-grating geotextile



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Fiber-Bragg-grating geotextile



$$\Delta \varepsilon = \frac{\left(\tan \alpha - \mu\right)}{\kappa} g \cos \alpha \left(H^{\dagger} - H_{\text{stop}}^{\dagger}\right) \left(L_{m} - x\right)$$
$$\Delta H^{\dagger} \equiv H^{\dagger} - H_{\text{stop}}^{\dagger} = \int_{h_{0}}^{h} v \frac{dy}{d}$$

Erodible base



low mean volume fraction



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Erodible base



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like a flat wall







like a bumpy wall

Mass flow rate versus flowing depth

flow type	n
soft, dissipative base > α_r	3/2
Newtonian fluid, turbulent	3/2
flat, frictional base	3/2
soft, dissipative base $< \alpha_r$	5/2
core over a bumpy base	5/2
Newtonian fluid, laminar	3

$$\frac{\dot{m}}{W} \propto H^n$$

channel width W, flowing depth H







Boundaries matter.







http://grainflowresearch.mae.cornell.edu