Subduction Zone Simulations with Rate-and-State Friction

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Rate-and-state friction laws by Dieterich/Ruina (1983),

$$\mu(V, \alpha) = \mu_* + a \log \frac{V}{V_*} + b \underbrace{\log \frac{\theta V_*}{L}}_{\alpha}, \quad \dot{\theta}(\theta, V) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{\theta V}{L} & \text{ageing law} \\ -\frac{\theta V}{L} \log \frac{\theta V}{L} & \text{slip law} \end{cases}$$

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$$\approx \mu_* + a \log \left(\frac{V}{V_*} + 1 \right) + b \alpha$$

Common assumption: Constant normal stress

Prototypical one-body problem



$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{u}) &= \mathcal{B}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}) + \mathcal{A}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\dot{\mathbf{u}}) & \text{in } \Omega & (\text{linear viscoelasticity}) \\ \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{u}) + \mathbf{b} &= \rho \ddot{\mathbf{u}} & \text{in } \Omega & (\text{momentum balance}) \\ \dot{\mathbf{u}}_n &= 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_C & (\text{bilateral contact}) \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma}_t &= -\lambda \dot{\mathbf{u}}, \quad |\boldsymbol{\sigma}_t| &= \lambda |\dot{\mathbf{u}}| &= |\boldsymbol{\sigma}_n| \boldsymbol{\mu}(|\dot{\mathbf{u}}|, \alpha) + C & \text{on } \Gamma_C & \text{with } \lambda = 0 \text{ for } \dot{\mathbf{u}} = 0 \\ \dots & \text{on } \Gamma_{N,D} \\ \dot{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} &= \dot{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}(|\dot{\mathbf{u}}|, \alpha) & \text{on } \Gamma_C & (\text{family of ODEs}) \end{aligned}$$

Towards spatial discretisation: Weak formulation

We get

$$\begin{split} \int_{\Omega} \rho \ddot{\mathbf{u}} (\mathbf{v} - \dot{\mathbf{u}}) + \int_{\Omega} \mathcal{B} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} (\dot{\mathbf{u}}) \colon \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} (\mathbf{v} - \dot{\mathbf{u}}) + \int_{\Omega} \mathcal{A} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} (\mathbf{u}) \colon \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} (\mathbf{v} - \dot{\mathbf{u}}) + \int_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{C}}} \phi (\mathbf{v}, \alpha) \\ \geq \int_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{C}}} \phi (\dot{\mathbf{u}}, \alpha) + \ell (\mathbf{v} - \dot{\mathbf{u}}) \end{split}$$

for every $\boldsymbol{v} \in \mathcal{H}$ with

$$\mathcal{H} = \{ \mathbf{v} \in H^1(\Omega)^d \colon \mathbf{v} = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_D, \, \mathbf{v}_n = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_C \}$$

or briefly

$$0\in M\ddot{f u}+C\dot{f u}+Af u+\partial\Phi(\,\cdot\,,lpha)(\dot{f u})-m\ell\subset \mathcal{H}^*$$

and

$$\dot{\alpha} = \dot{\alpha}(|\dot{\mathbf{u}}|, \alpha)$$
 a.e. on Γ_C

Starting point:

$$0 \in M\ddot{\mathbf{u}} + C\dot{\mathbf{u}} + A\mathbf{u} + \partial\Phi(\cdot, \alpha)(\dot{\mathbf{u}}) - \ell$$
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After collocation (rate), approximation of $\dot{\mathbf{u}}$ on $[t_{n-1}, t_n]$ (state):

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\in M \ddot{\mathbf{u}}_n + C \dot{\mathbf{u}}_n + A \mathbf{u}_n + \partial \Phi(\cdot, \alpha_n) (\dot{\mathbf{u}}_n) - \ell_n \\ \dot{\alpha} &= \dot{\alpha}(|\dot{\mathbf{u}}_{n-\lambda}|, \alpha) \quad \text{with } \dot{\mathbf{u}}_{n-\lambda} &= \lambda \dot{\mathbf{u}}_{n-1} + (1-\lambda) \dot{\mathbf{u}}_n \quad (0 \leq \lambda < 1) \end{aligned}$$

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After time discretisation (rate), determining the flow operator (state)

$$0 \in \left(\frac{\lambda_M}{\tau}M + C + \frac{\tau}{\lambda_A}A\right)\dot{\mathbf{u}}_n + \partial\Phi(\cdot, \alpha_n)(\dot{\mathbf{u}}_n) - \ell_n - \dots$$
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Structure: (R) Positive rate effect → convex minimisation! (S) Trivial.

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Rate/state coupling



$$\mathcal{T}: \mathcal{H} o \mathcal{H} egin{cases} (S) ext{ solve ODEs} \ (R) ext{ convex minimisation} \ (\gamma) ext{ trace map } + ext{ norm} \end{cases}$$

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Analytic findings: Contraction if

- Ageing law
- Non-zero Viscosity
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We then have: Existence, uniqueness, convergence (~> algorithm!).

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More generally: Existence.

Application: a simplified subduction zone



Lower plate moves at a prescribed velocity, right end held fixed.



Figure: Vertical surface displacement (relative to a time average).

Comparison: simulation and experiment



Figure: Tukey boxplots for recurrence time, rupture width, and peak slip.

Is complete resolution of the coupling efficient?



fixed point tolerance

Figure: Computational effort over the prescribed error tolerance ε .

Snapshots from a 3D simulation



Conclusion / outlook

Status quo

- Robust, efficient solver.
 Corner stone: nonlinear multigrid "TNNMG".
- Open source implementation in C++. Foundation: DUNE framework

Outlook

- 2-body problems
- Plasticity
- Parallelisation
- Integration into multiscale fault network

Further reading

- E. Pipping, O. Sander and R. Kornhuber. "Variational formulation of rate- and state-dependent friction problems". In: *Zeitschrift für Angewandte Mathematik und Mechanik. Journal of Applied Mathematics and Mechanics* (2013). ISSN: 1521-4001. DOI: 10.1002/zamm.201300062.

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