Avalanche phase diagram for thermally activated yielding in amorphous solids

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and the set of the set

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La Plagne et Tignes (4000 avalanches, 3 years)



Slab Size: Height * Crown Crack Length (S = hL) J. Faillettaz 2002 et al.

Why power-laws? Self-organized criticality!





- Two ingredients:
 - 1. Loading: Grains added one grain at a time
 - 2. Avalanching: grains can fall, and knock into other grains, causing them to fall
- System self-tunes to a critical point
 - Power-law fluctuations or avalanches
 - Highly sensitive to input, single skier / grain of sand can create a huge avalanche (susceptibility goes to infinity)

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35.99





Can quickly driven avalanches be critical?

Driven neuronal avalanches can be critical





Driven rice avalanches are NOT critical

• Rice pile, critical for new grains at rate $\lambda < \lambda_c(L) \sim 1/L^{(1+z-D)\approx 0.2}$



Álvaro Corral and Maya Paczuski, PRL, 1999

Kim Christensen, Nicholas R. Moloney, 2005

Objectives

- 1. Convince you self-organized criticality and avalanches are interesting
- 2. Introduce avalanches in amorphous solids with an "elastoplastic" model
- 3. Show you what happens when avalanches are also activated by temperature fluctuations





Crystalline

Amorphous









Crystalline

Amorphous







Amorphous solid graphic: opentextbc.ca

Schematic yielding transition of amorphous solid









Crystalline

Amorphous





Schematic yielding transition of amorphous solid







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Schematic yielding transition of amorphous solid



Universal scale-free avalanches



• Common feature: Local shear transformations



Universal scale-free avalanches



- Common feature: Local shear transformations
- Beautiful scaling theory in athermal quasistatic (AQS) limit, distinct from depinning
- Avalanches proceed through sheartransformations with quadrupolar interactions





Amorphous solid graphic: opentextbc.ca

Coarse grain to level of shear transformation sites

- Sites elastically coupled (finite element)
- Site *i* yields when local stress Σ_i exceeds a local threshold $\Sigma_{y,i}$, i.e. $x_i = \Sigma_{y,i} |\Sigma_i| = 0$
- Site yield time $\tau_{plastic}$



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For review of mesoscopic models, see Nicolas et al. Rev. Mod. Phys. 90, 045006

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Residual stress





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C. Ruscher and J. Rottler, Soft Matter 16, 8940 (2020).



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 10^{-4}

 10^{-2}

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Stress,

Strain, γ



- Strong finite-size effects
- Interdependence with avalanche scaling

D. Korchinski, C. Ruscher, and J. Rottler, Phys. Rev. E **104**, 034603 (2021).

10⁻³

= 512

 10^{-5}

 10^{-7}

10⁰

0.52

 10^{-1}

Coarse grain to level of shear transformation sites

- Sites elastically coupled (finite element)
- Site *i* yields when local stress Σ_i exceeds a local threshold $\Sigma_{v,i}$, i.e. $x_i = \Sigma_{v,i} - |\Sigma_i| = 0$
- Or stochastically, with Arrhenius rate $\lambda(x) = \frac{1}{\tau_{plastic}} \exp\left[-\frac{x^{\alpha}}{T}\right]$

See:

Marko Popović et al. 2021

Ezequiel Ferrero et al. 2021

For studies of this model and rheological temperature dependence



Results: Residual stress distribution

• $p(x) \sim x^{\theta}$ for T = 0 and large L



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- Thermal activation scale: $x_c \sim T^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$



What happens to avalanches with temperature?

- Partly answered in molecular dynamics (See: Karmakar et al. PRE. 2010)
 - Expect driving rate / temperature dominated regimes
 - Crossovers depend on system size
 - Herschel-Bulkley stress-rise occurs as avalanches overlap

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- Partly answered in molecular dynamics (See: Karmakar et al. PRE. 2010)
 - Expect driving rate / temperature dominated regimes
 - Crossovers depend on system size
 - Herschel-Bulkley stress-rise occurs as avalanches overlap
- Elastoplastic models expose several new aspects:
 - Residual stress distribution
 - Can probe very long timescales / low temperatures

Results: Phase diagram

- Most phase lines originate from competition of timescales
- Main timescales
 - $\tau_{plastic}$ the ST plastic time



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Thermal activation time:
$$t = \tau_{plastic}$$

 $x = 0$
 $x_c = T^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$

Mechanical activation time: $t = x_c/\dot{x}$



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Temperature effects \gg driving rate effects

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 - t_{load} between avalanches



Calculated using extreme value statistics on p(x)Temperature effects \gg driving rate effects



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Temperature effects \gg driving rate effects



• Temperature reduces avalanche size:

$$\langle S \rangle = t_{load} \dot{\gamma} \text{ (steady state)}$$

$$\langle S \rangle \sim T^{-\frac{\theta}{\alpha}} \text{ for } T > T_c \sim L^{-\frac{d\alpha}{\theta+1}}$$

$$\langle S \rangle \sim L^{-\frac{d}{1+\theta}} \text{ for } T < T_c$$

Crossing L, T phase line





• Temperature reduces avalanche size when:

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Crossing L, T phase line



• Temperature reduces avalanche size when:

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- $s_c \sim \min(L,\xi(T))^{d_f}$
- Rescaling also works for avalanche duration





• Temperature reduces avalanche size when:

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 Interpretation: correlation length & avalanches truncated by either system size or temperature effects







Material softening at low driving

• At low driving rates, system fluctuates around a lower flow stress that depends on temperature:

$$\langle \Sigma \rangle(T) = \Sigma_c - \Delta \Sigma(T)$$



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• Is the stress gap
$$\Delta \Sigma \sim x_c \sim T^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$$
? No!

$$\Delta \Sigma \sim T^{\frac{\theta \sigma}{\alpha(2-\tau)}}$$

• Avalanches drive the stress gap



What happens under strong driving?

Avalanches overlap, stress rises ⇒ Herschel-Bulkley flow:

 $\langle \Sigma \rangle (\dot{\gamma}) - \Sigma_c = \dot{\gamma}^n$

Scaling relation from avalanches: $\beta = \frac{1}{n} = \nu(d - d_f + z)$

Correlations with low driving





Joel T. Clemmer, K. Michael Salerno, and Mark O. Robbins Phys. Rev. E 2021

Correlations dimmish with high driving



• Temperature reduces flowstress

Crossing T, $\dot{\gamma}$ phase line





- Temperature reduces flowstress
- Naïve Herschel-Bulkley fits $\langle \Sigma \rangle(T) = \Sigma_c(T) + C \dot{\gamma}^n$





• Temperature reduces flowstress





• Temperature reduces flowstress



A sharp exponent transition?



Or a logarithmic transition? (à la Dr. Jeudy's depinning talk)



Conclusions

- Amorphous yielding is only SOC for (size dependent) slow driving and temperatures
- When do thermal effects appear? $\dot{\gamma} < \dot{\gamma}_c = \frac{1}{\tau} T^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$
- Correlation length truncated by L or T
- Nontrivial *T* dependent rheology

For details, see: PhysRevE.106.034103 or say hi!



Avalanche size, system size, temperature



Avalanche size, system size, temperature



Avalanche time FSS

• $\tau_t \approx 2$



Size time scaling



Size FSS



Avalanche duration and temperature



Temperature and duration collapse



