



#### Richness and complexity of slip events at a frictional interface

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### EPFL Earthquake physics: Heterogeneities across scales; complexity



Okubo et al., J. of Geophys. Res. Solid Earth (2019)

Diversity of mechanisms:

- On fault and off fault damage
- Gouge
- Fluids, poro-elasticity
- Flash heating
- Thermal pressurization

• ...

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#### **EPFL** Complexity in tribology



Review paper: Vakis et al., Tribology International, 2018

*Meng and Ludema, 1995: 300 equations on friction and wear (1957-1992)* some with up to 25 material parameters and fit constants

#### **EPFL** Complexity in tribology

VAMAS report. Vamas.org

"...the friction between identical steel and the aluminum oxide samples was tested in various labs in the world (VAMAS) ...surfaces of samples had the same roughness parameters, the ambient of every test was similar (special air conditioned rooms); the load applied on samples (pressures) and sliding speed were the same".



Jan van de Snepscheut:

"In theory, there is no difference between theory and practice. But, in practice, there is."

# **EPFL** Overview of talk; very simple model for sliding dynamics



Ingredients:

- 2D finite or semi-infinite elastic bodies
- Rate and state friction at the interface
- Stress or velocity controlled loading
- PBCs on the sides
- Homogeneous properties
- Elastodynamics
- Yet, richness and complexity will emerge:
- Elasticity, Interaction, Disorder

#### **EPFL** Numerical simulations: software at LSMS

 Track record of development of numerical methods and open-source software (all on GitLab; HPC)



- Akantu: general purpose FE software (statics and dynamics, contact detection, cohesive elements, non-local continuum damage, phase-field fracture); costly (mesh everywhere; reduced time step compared to Cracklet); but finite boundaries (good control of BCs)
- Cracklet: spectral boundary element code for elastodynamics of cracks and sliding friction (Geubelle and Rice 1995; Breitefeld and Geubelle 1998); very fast (discretization of interface only; semi-infinite elastic bodies in contact)

# **EPFL** Past and current LSMS PhD theses on frictional rupture



Prof. David Kammer, ETHZ, Switzerland PhD 2014

Dr. Fabian Barras, Univ. Oslo, Norway PhD 2018

Thibault Roch, EPFL PhD June 2023

Roxane Ferry, EPFL Sept 2022 -



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#### EPFL Outline

- Dynamic stress drops:
  - When friction can be explained with tools of fracture mechanics
  - And when friction is friction
- Boundary conditions matter: velocity versus stress controlled loading
  - Pulse-like versus crack-like frictional rupture
- Emergence of statistical complexity in simple systems with no heterogeneities



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#### **EPFL** Lab earthquakes



Svetlizky, Fineberg , Nature, 2014

Ben-David, Cohen, Fineberg, *Science*, 2010 Kammer, ..., Fineberg, *Science Advances*, 2018 Kammer, Radiguet, Ampuero, Molinari, *TL*, 2015 Xia, Rosakis, Kanamori, *Science*, 2004 Rubino, Lapusta, Rosakis, *Nature*, 2022 Paglialunga, ..., Violay, *EPSL*, 2022 Cebry, ..., McLaskey, *Nat. Comm.*, 2022 Yamashita, Fukuyama, ..., *Nature*, 2015 And others...



Paglialunga, Passelegue, Violay, in preparation

Evidence from lab earthquakes (and seismology data) : frictional cracks explained by LEFM

But why crack-like properties emerge is not clear

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#### **EPFL** Analogy to fracture mechanics?



Stress drop on crack faces (zero stress)

⇒ stress singularity (1/r<sup>1/2</sup>) at crack tip Stress intensity factor:  $K_I \propto \sigma_0 \sqrt{a}$ Energy balance:  $G = G_c$   $G = \frac{K_I^2}{E}$  Mode II (or III) frictional rupture



Creation of new surfaces ?

Stress drop on sliding interface?

Friction: interface carries stress

Stress singularity? Energy balance? Fracture energy versus breakdown work?

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#### **EPFL** Frictional rupture modes



Lu, Lapusta, Rosakis, PNAS, 2007

Int., 1990

#### **EPFL** Ingredients for elastodynamics

Linear elastic finite or infinite continuum, velocity or stress controlled loading

2D mode III (plane strain) or mode II (plane stress)

Perturbation to initiate rupture front (Brener, Aldam, Barras, Molinari, Bouchbinder, *PRL*, 2018) Rate and State friction at the interface

Interplay between bulk and interface properties



#### **EPFL** Rate and state friction

T. Baumberger, C. Caroli, 2006 (review paper)



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Interaction, Disorder, Elasticity

#### EPFL **Rate and state friction**

Micro contacts, state and rate parameter



Phenomenological R&S friction: Dieterich (1979), Rice and Ruina (1983), ...

$$c_f(\boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\phi}) = c_f^0 + A \ln\left(1 + \frac{\boldsymbol{\nu}}{\boldsymbol{\nu}^*}\right) + B \ln\left(1 + \frac{\boldsymbol{\phi}}{\boldsymbol{\phi}^*}\right) \qquad \dot{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = 1 - \frac{\boldsymbol{\nu}\boldsymbol{\phi}}{D}$$

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### EPFL Rate and state friction Load-controlled system

Interaction, Disorder, Elasticity









#### **EPFL Dynamic stress drop** (for fast rupture)

Barras et al., PRX, 2019

At finite times, before reflections from boundaries,  $o(H/c_s)$ , temporary steady state:

$$\tau_{ss}(v_{res}) + \underbrace{\frac{\mu}{2 cs}(v_{res} - v_0)}_{\Delta \tau \text{ (radiation damping)}} = \tau_d$$

Effective steady state friction curves (dashed curves)

Give rise to a temporary stable sliding

In presence of dynamic stress drop: «Friction is fracture»



#### **EPFL** Theory matches exp and simulation data

Rubino, Rosakis, Lapusta, Nat. Comm, 2017



#### **EPFL** Finite size effects

Rezakhani et al., JMPS, 2020

At longer time scales: no stress drop, no crack-like behavior **Friction is friction** 

Convergence to equilibrium after several wave reflections



 $\tau_d$ 

 $\tau_{ss}$ 

Η

## EPFL With stress drop: Energy balance of frictional crack Barras et al., EPSL, 2020





#### EPFL **Energy balance of frictional crack** Part 2: G<sub>c</sub>

 $\phi$ : average lifetime of the micro-contacts

Evolution law:  
$$\dot{\phi} = 1 - \frac{v\phi}{D}$$

 $\frac{v\phi}{D} = 1$ : steady-state contact area > 1: decreasing average contact area vφ < 1: increasing average contact area



 $10^{-5}$ 

1 5

Slip [m]

10

 $\times 10^{-4}$ 

$$G_c(t) = \frac{1}{v_c(t)} \int_{\frac{v\phi}{D} > 1} [\tau_z(x,t) - \tau_r(t)] v(x,t) dx$$



#### **EPFL** Short conclusion on frictional cracks

- Finite and well-defined dynamic stress drop is a necessary condition for crack-like behavior
- It is a finite time effect directly related to wave radiation from the interface
- Dynamic stress drop function of interface AND bulk properties
- In presence of stress drop, frictional rupture can be quantitatively described by fracture mechanics energy balance equation
- When no stress drop: friction is friction

#### **EPFL** Stress driven frictional rupture



#### **EPFL** Velocity driven frictional rupture Roch et al., JMPS 2022



#### **EPFL** An example with $H \to \infty$





- SBIM is formulated with stress BC
- Average velocity condition at the interface  $\frac{1}{W} \int_{0}^{W} v(x) dx = v_{0}$
- $\tau_0(t)$  is unkown

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#### **EPFL** An example with $H \to \infty$



- Coarsening dynamics
- Single pulse in the periodic domain
- Steady train of pulses of periodicity  $W_p = W$



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#### **PULSE EQUATION OF MOTION: SINGULAR FIELDS AND LOCAL ENERGY BALANCE**



 $c_p = f(v_0, W, G_c, w_p, v_p, \mu)$ 

$$\tilde{v}(x) \propto \frac{c_p K}{\sqrt{x - x_p}}$$

Assume local energy balance

$$G_c = G = \frac{K^2}{2\alpha_s(c_p)\mu}$$

*G<sub>c</sub>* for R&S friction?

- Fit of singular field
- Analytical estimate

#### **EPFL** Short conclusion on steady train of pulses

- Velocity-driven frictional give rise to the emergence of steady pulse train
- The coarsening dynamics is saturated at the system width W
- The near rupture fields of slip pulse are singular, implying energy balance and allowing to derive an equation of motion for pulses
- The characteristics of the pulse train are determined by the system size and driving velocity

#### What if the frictional system does not reach this «long term » steady state?

## **EPFL** Can complexity emerge in a system without bulk and frictional heterogeneities ?

Usually, complexity emerges because of disorder in the bulk or frictional properties

What criticality in cellular automata models of earthquakes?

Silvia Castellaro and Francesco Mulargia

Spinodals, scaling, and ergodicity in a threshold model with long-range stress transfer

C. D. Ferguson,<sup>1,\*</sup> W. Klein,<sup>1</sup> and John B. Rundle<sup>2</sup>

Stochastic properties of static friction Gabriele Albertini <sup>a,b</sup>, Simon Karrer <sup>a</sup>, Mircea D. Grigoriu <sup>b</sup>, David S. Kammer <sup>a,\*</sup>

Scaling theory for the statistics of slip at frictional interfaces

T.W.J. de Geus<sup>1</sup>, Matthieu Wyart<sup>1</sup>

## **EPFL** Can complexity emerge in a system without bulk and frictional heterogeneities ?

 $\Delta t$ 

 $10^{-6}$ 

0.10

x/L

0.15

0.20

 $10^{-8}$ 

0.05

- Symetric homogeneous elastic bulk
- Homogeneous frictional properties (R&S)
- Finite height *H*
- FE simulations





 $v_0/L$ 

 $\downarrow \sigma_0$ 

 $\int \sigma_0$ 

 $L/\pi$ 

 $v_0/L$ 

#### **EPFL** Statistical complexity



- Broad distribution (several orders of magnitude)
- Two types of events (separation at  $\overline{u} = D$ )
- Power-law scaling for small / non propagating events
- Log-normal for large / rupture-like events

### **EPFL** Dynamical complexity



- Heterogeneous state  $\phi(x, t)$  and interfacial stress  $\tau(x, t)$
- Related to the history of slip

### **EPFL** Dynamical complexity



- Rupture area: decrease of  $\phi$  and  $\tau$ . Stress concentration at arrest location. Increase of  $\phi$  otherwise (aging)
- Displacement is similar to one of a crack  $\delta(x_t) \sim \sqrt{L_r^2 x_t^2}$
- Rupture stops when propagating into unfavorable stress region

#### **EPFL** Dynamical complexity



- Small non propagating events  $\overline{u} < D$
- Displacement is similar to one of a crack  $\delta(x_t) \sim \sqrt{L_r^2 x_t^2}$
- Occurs at the arrest location of the previous rupture

#### **EPFL** The effect of the finite height H on dynamics

#### Single perturbation analysis (a) $H = 0.10 \, [m]$ 0.70.6 $tc_s/L$ $2H/c_{\rm s}$ 0.50.40.3 0.20.40.00.60.81.0 x/L

Reflection timescale  $2H/c_s$ 

- Duration of fast slip at x/L = 0.5 corresponds to the reflection timescale
- Reflection stops the rupture
- If one doubles *H*, duration of slip at x/L = 0.5 should double as well

#### **EPFL** The effect of the finite height *H* on dynamics



- Duration of fast slip at x/L = 0.5 has been doubled (still  $2H/c_s$ )
- Reflection changes a crack like rupture in two slip pulses

#### **EPFL** The effect of the finite height *H* on statistics



- The change in scaling in the PDF of the duration coincides with the reflection timescale  $T_c = 2H/c_s$
- Change in behavior in PDF of slip coincides with a characteristic slip value related to the reflection timescale  $u_c = \alpha v_0 2H/c_s$

#### **EPFL** Relation to statistical complexity in earthquakes?

Broad distribution of slip events characteristics, emergence of power-law scaling

M 6.5

100

A (km<sup>2</sup>)

1000

- Gutenberg Richter  $n(M) \propto M^{1-\beta}$
- Omori's Law  $\frac{\Delta N}{\Delta t} = t_0 (t + t_1)^{-p}$





(a)





#### EPFL Conclusion

- Variety and richness of slip modes at a frictional interface
- Stating the obvious: BCs matter (stress-driven and velocity-driven sliding)
- Crack-like behavior when there is a stress drop (short lived behavior)
- Emergence of train of pulses when displacement controlled sliding
- Emergence of complexity from dynamic elastic interactions with boundaries (Interaction, Disorder, Elasticity)

#### **EPFL** Selection of the pulse width

$$w_p = f\left(\frac{W}{L_c}, \frac{v_0}{v_{min}}\right)$$

$$v_0 \to v_{min}$$
 :  $w_p \to W$ 

$$W \to L_c \qquad : \qquad w_p \to W$$

 $w_p$  increases monotonically with both arguments



### **EPFL** Analogy to phase separation / Maxwell construction

0.50Stick phase Slip phase 0.45 $\stackrel{\mathrm{ss}}{\smile} 0.40$ .10 0.35 $v_0/v_{\min}$ 0.30 $10^{-3}$  $10^{-2}$  $10^2$  $10^{3}$  $10^{-4}$  $10^{0}$  $10^{1}$  $10^{\circ}$  $v_{\rm ss}/v_{\rm min}$  $v_{\rm m-}$  $c_{\rm p} \leftarrow$  $v_0$  $\overline{w}_{\mathrm{p}}$  $W_{\rm D}$  $W_{\rm p}$ Two phases (stick and slip)

Velocity weakening (unstable)

P increases with Volume (unstable)



Two phases (liquid and gas)

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#### **EPFL** How the properties of the pulse train are selected?



Four quantities to fully describe the train  $W_p \quad w_p \quad c_p \quad v_p$ 



Two equations directly available

$$W_p = W$$

$$w_p(v_p-v_0)-(W-w_p)v_0=0$$