Oded Ben-David and Jay Fineberg

The Racah Institute of Physics The Hebrew University of Jerusalem



O. Ben-David, G. Cohen, J.F., Science 330, 211 (2010).

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"Insignificant" details of loading *→ Highly nonuniform stress distributions*

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"Insignificant" details of loading → *Highly* **nonuniform** stress distributions **These dictate**:

- The *rupture mode* that mediates slip onset
- The value of the static "friction coefficient"

O. Ben-David, G. Cohen, J.F., Science **330**, 211 (2010).



The Classical View of Friction

Leonardo Da Vinci (1452-1519)





- 1. The areas in contact have no effect on friction.
- If the load of an object is doubled, its friction will also be doubled.
 → F_S ∝ F_N



Guillaume Amontons (1663-1705) **Charles August Coulomb** (1736-1806)



→ "Static" and "Dynamic" friction:

$$F_{S} = \mu_{S} F_{N} (\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0})$$

$$F_{S} = \mu_{D} F_{N} (\mathbf{v} > \mathbf{0})$$

 μ - Friction Coefficient

The *Classic* View of Friction: $F_S = \mu_S F_N$

F. Philip Bowden and David Tabor (1950)

The *Classic* View of Friction: $F_S = \mu_S F_N$



• Net contact area = $A \ll$ Nominal contact area

The *Classic* View of Friction: $F_S = \mu_S F_N$



• *A* grows until local pressure = yield strength

The *Classic* View of Friction: $F_S = \mu_S F_N$



- *A* grows until local pressure = yield strength
- Slip: *Instantaneous* Fracture of contacts when F_S =Shear strength ·*A*rea = $\tau_S \cdot A$

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San Andreas fault

California (USGS)

but: Earthquakes are mediated by *(rapid)* **fracture fronts**



Figure 13. (top) Stress versus distance from the edge of (bottom) ruptures growing in elastic solid. Ruptures with a critical size R_c produce dynamically stress comparable to the static friction τ_{ss} leading to runaway events.

Y. Benzion (2008)

Kostrov, Eshelby, Freund, Rice, Aki, Andrews, Burridge...

A variety of different rupture modes (arthquakes) have been observed/deduced... that *mediate the onset of friction* (e.g slow, sub-Rayleigh, Supershear earthquakes, slip pulses...)

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- Can these different rupture modes conspire to produce a

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- How can we make "sense" of these different rupture modes?
- Can these different rupture modes conspire to produce a **single** "friction coefficient"???
- Do they??

A fracture primer:

Griffith threshold for Fracture initiation

Released elastic energy > Energy to create new surfaces ("Fracture Energy")

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A crack focuses elastic energy into a stress field singularity at its tip.

- Material is preferentially ruptured at the tip of a crack
- Failure: Loads << theoretical strength



S. M. Rubinstein, G. Cohen, and J. F., Int. J. Fracture 140, 201-212 (2006)





Are introduced/controlled by:



Are introduced/controlled by:Block edges



Are introduced/controlled by:

- Block edges
- Spatially inhomogeneous loads in F_N, F_S



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Are introduced/controlled by:

- Block edges
- Spatially inhomogeneous loads in F_N, F_S
- Dynamically, by prior slip events



Stress measurements





S. M. Rubinstein, G. Cohen, and J. F., Int. J. Fracture 140, 201-212 (2006)

Monday, November 1, 2010

Stress measurements



74 miniature strain gages



All strain gages monitored continuously at ~2Hz

















The contact-area/stress distribution can also change *dynamically via arrested precursory slip (rupture) events*





 F_N

 F_{S}

S. M. Rubinstein, G. Cohen, and J. F., Phys. Rev. Lett. <u>98</u>, 226103 (2007) Monday, November 1, 2010 The contact-area/stress distribution can also change *dynamically via arrested precursory slip (rupture) events*



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• Trecursors create mgmy non-unitorm A(X)









Horizontal lines are A(x) over the entire interface separated in time by 2-20µs





Horizontal lines are A(x) over the entire interface separated in time by 2-20µs

What types of rupture events occur upon slip initiation? "Slow" rupture (v << C_s)



Horizontal lines are A(x) over the entire interface separated in time by 2-20µs



Horizontal lines are A(x) over the entire interface separated in time by 2-20µs



- Why do we see three *different* classes of "crack-like" behaviors?
- *When* do we see them?
- Can we *predict* which of the different types of ruptures will occur?



Three successive slip events driven under *ostensibly* the *same external* loading conditions:

Let's look at the *measured* stress distributions...

• Normal stress distributions are nearly identical!



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• A hint is given by looking at the *local* stress *differences*!



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Does this hold for all types of rupture process?

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Significance of τ/σ : Slip events as a *Fracture* problem





 $\tau(x) \propto \text{Imposed Shear}$ $\Leftrightarrow \textbf{Stored elastic energy} \text{ in the material}$

 $\sigma(x) \propto A(x)$ (the Real Contact Area) and provides the local **resistance** of the interface to τ



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Griffith threshold for Fracture (⇔ slip): Stored elastic energy released > interface strength or "Fracture Energy"

$\tau(x)$	∞	Stored energy
$\sigma(x)$		Interface strength



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+ <u>A key difference with *pure* fracture</u>:

Slip surface resistance \(Comparison frictional resistance) of the "free" crack faces

ASK ME ABOUT: O. Ben-David, S. M. Rubinstein and J. F., Nature 463, 76 (2010)

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Why are there different rupture modes (a hand-waving explanation)?

Mode Energy source

Dissipative source

Mode Energy source

Dissipative source

Slow remote elastic fields slip surface resistance » singular rupture tip (V determined by contact resistance along slipping surfaces)







So... what about the static "*coefficient*" of friction - μ_{s} ?

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For given loading conditions μ_S is entirely reproducible

So... what about the static "*coefficient*" of friction - μ_{s} ?



For <u>different</u> loading conditions μ_S is widely scattered

So... what about the static "*coefficient*" of friction - μ_{s} ?



 μ_{s} varies by over a *factor of 2* with the (pre-slip) stress distribution $\rightarrow \mu_{s}$ is far from a *constant* (and in fact is ill-defined)!

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$\mu_{\rm S}$ is not a <u>material constant</u>

Does this make sense?

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Does this make sense? *Yes*! When frictional strength is governed by **fracture**.



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"Frictional Fracture" is more *complex:* "free" crack faces are *not* free: Slip Onset ⇔ Frictional forces on the faces + *"singular"* shear stress at the crack tip

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"Frictional Fracture" is more *complex:* "free" crack faces are *not* free: Slip Onset ⇔ Frictional forces on the faces + *"singular" shear stress* at the crack tip

 $\rightarrow \mu_{s}$ is a characteristic scale of the overall stored/fracture energy

Inhomogeneous stresses *always exist* – even under "uniformly" applied loads Inhomogeneities result from:

> Interface geometry or material contrasts (e.g. asperities) Non-uniform loading (internal stresses or externally applied) Dynamically generated (by previous slip events)

Inhomogeneities control the amount of energy stored *prior* to slip initiation *(Locally, a system can be well beyond the global threshold,* μ_S *, for static friction!)*

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- The local ratio τ/σ predicts the *mode* of rupture:

Slow rupture "Standard" (sub-Rayleigh) cracks Supershear rupture

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Slow rupture "Standard" (sub-Rayleigh) cracks

Supershear rupture

•The static **friction coefficient** is **not a constant** but can significantly vary via the **loading** configurations

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(Some) Ramifications:

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 Laboratory earthquake "prediction" can be performed by comparing the stored/fracture energy distribution prior to earthquake nucleation.

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(Some) Ramifications:

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- A spatially *local* "Friction Coefficient" is not a useful concept

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(Some) Ramifications:

- Laboratory earthquake "prediction" can be performed by comparing the stored/fracture energy distribution prior to earthquake nucleation.
- A spatially *local* "Friction Coefficient" is not a useful concept
- *Big Question*: What is the *proper* theoretical framework for predicting the onset of frictional motion???

Relevance to earthquakes: The dynamics of fault nucleation

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Sub-Rayleigh fronts \Leftrightarrow "Standard" earthquakes $(0.2V_R < V < 0.9V_R)$ Supershear frontscan occur under *quasi-static* loading \Leftrightarrow "Supershear" earthquakes (e.g. Izmit 19991)Slow detachment fronts \Leftrightarrow ???

Relevance to earthquakes: The dynamics of fault nucleation

Sub-Rayleigh fronts \Leftrightarrow "Standard" earthquakes $(0.2V_R < V < 0.9V_R)$ Supershear frontscan occur under *quasi-static* loading \Leftrightarrow "Supershear" earthquakes (e.g. Izmit 19991)Slow detachment fronts \Leftrightarrow ???Slow earthquakes² = slow detachment fronts?

Characteristics of "slow" fronts:

- May occur frequently
- Significant slip/strain release
- "Silent" having a weak atypical acoustic (seismic) signature.

¹ Bouchon, M. et al. Geophys. Res. Lett. **28**, 2723–2726 (2001).

 ² Crescentini, L., Amoruso, A. & Scarpa, R. Science 286, 2132-2134 (1999); Linde, A. T. & Sacks, I. S. Earth and Planetary Science Letters 203, 265-275 (2002). Rogers, G. & Dragert, H. Science 300, 1942-1943 (2003).

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Earthquakes are Friction



Earthquakes are Friction Friction is mediated by rupture fronts

San Andreas fault

California (USGS)



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Y. Benzion (2008)



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Earthquakes are Friction Friction is mediated by rupture fronts San Andreas fault California (USGS) $R_3 = R_c$ Figure 13. (top) Stress versus distance from the edge of (bottom) ruptures growing in elastic solid. Ruptures with a critical size R_c produce dynamically stress comparable to the static friction τ_{∞} leading to runaway events. Y. Benzion (2008) • We can now make "sense" of these different rupture modes! Prediction: Given the local τ/σ ratio we may be able to *predict* the *rupture mode* and *size* of a future earthquake

• These measurements might provide us with the **tools**...

Thank you!