

LA-UR-11-06616

Approved for public release;  
distribution is unlimited.

*Title:* Material point method simulation of dense granular material

*Author(s):* D.Z.Zhang, B. Jayaraman, X. Ma- T-3

*Intended for:* 64th Annual Meeting of the APS Division of Fluid Dynamics  
November 20-22, 2011



Los Alamos National Laboratory, an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, is operated by the Los Alamos National Security, LLC for the National Nuclear Security Administration of the U.S. Department of Energy under contract DE-AC52-06NA25396. By acceptance of this article, the publisher recognizes that the U.S. Government retains a nonexclusive, royalty-free license to publish or reproduce the published form of this contribution, or to allow others to do so, for U.S. Government purposes. Los Alamos National Laboratory requests that the publisher identify this article as work performed under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy. Los Alamos National Laboratory strongly supports academic freedom and a researcher's right to publish; as an institution, however, the Laboratory does not endorse the viewpoint of a publication or guarantee its technical correctness.

# **Material point method simulation of dense granular material**

Duan Zhang, Xia Ma and Balaji Jayaraman

Fluid Dynamics and Solid Mechanics Group,  
Theoretical Division,  
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Accurate modeling and simulation of granular flow or deformation requires a numerical method with Lagrangian capability to account for history dependence of the material. However, large deformation or flow of the material requires an Eulerian description. Numerically, different descriptions of the material result in different codes and applications. Unsatisfactory results have been reported by many modelers using both methods. For instance, element deletion scheme is used in the finite element method to eliminate the highly distorted elements, which results in reduction of inertia from the problem. In the codes using Eulerian description, how to advect brittle damage of the material is a significant issue. To address these issues we use the material point method, which uses both Lagrangian material points and Eulerian mesh simultaneously. Improvements are made to the original material point method for our applications. It is found the improvements are critically important to granular flows results from brittle damage of the material, while it is marginally important to ductile materials.

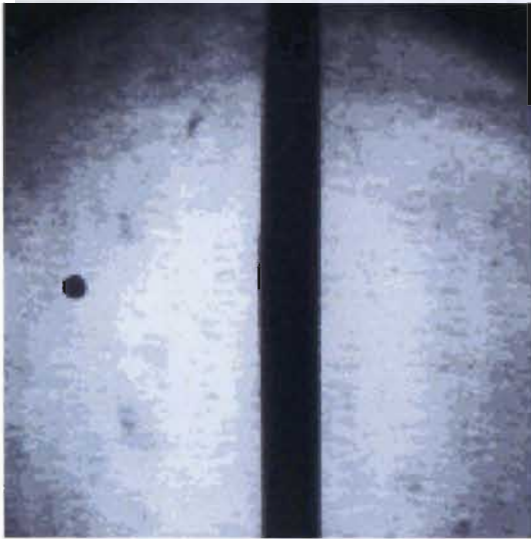
# **Material point method simulation of dense granular material**

**Duan Z. Zhang  
Xia Ma  
and  
Balaji Jayaraman**

Fluid Dynamics and Solid Mechanics Group  
Theoretical Division  
Los Alamos National Laboratory

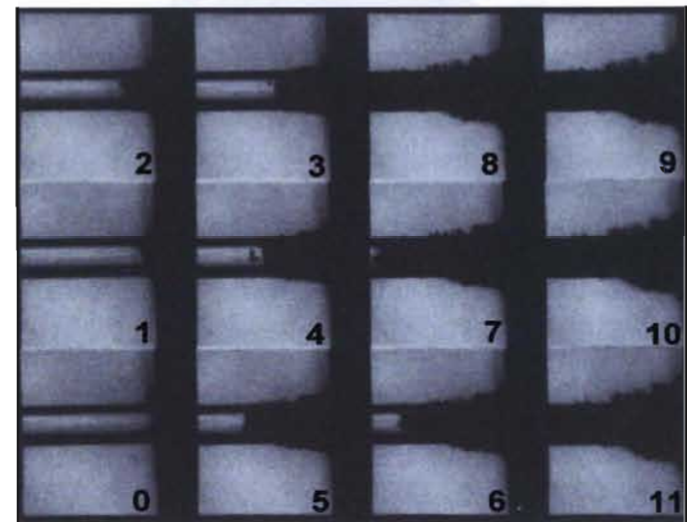
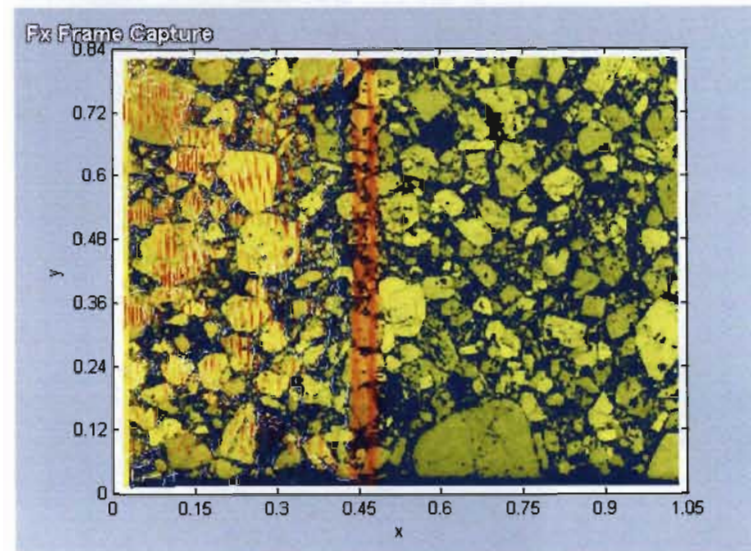
LA-UR ???? ?

# Dense granular material and debris flows



Source: NASA

- Often dense granular material is generated by impact and fragmentation of a solid material.
- Accompanied by large deformation or flow of the original material.
- The material response is often history dependent.



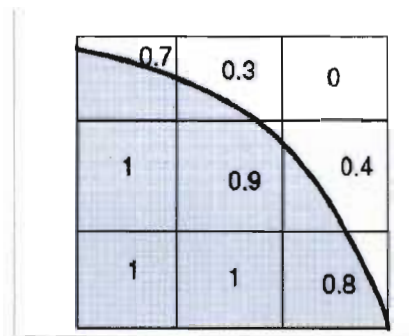
Willmott and Radford, J. Appl Phys. **97**, 2005

# Numerical issues in modeling such material

- Traditionally finite element methods are used.
- Because of fragmentation and debris flow, often mesh distortion is an issue.
- Eulerian method, such as finite difference, finite volume, cannot be efficiently used because of failure flags need to follow the motion of the material and cannot be averaged.
  - For brittle material, at a point the material is either failed ( failure = 1) or not failed (failure = 0).

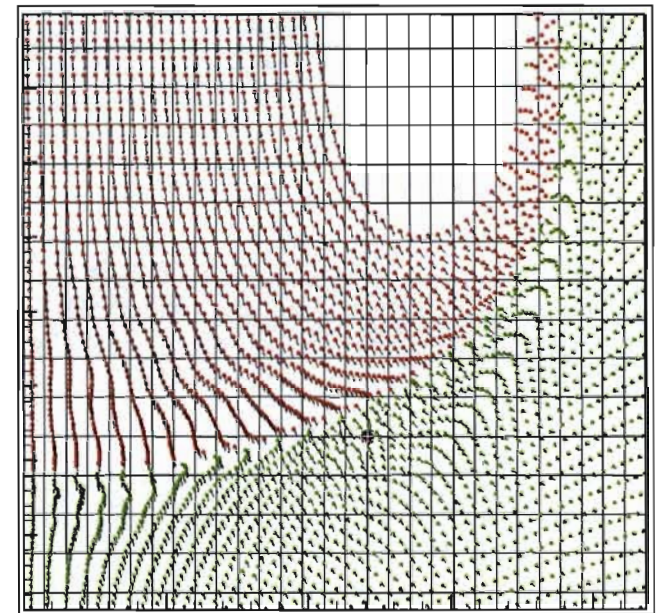


FEM, (Lagrangian Method)



failure = 0.9 ?!

Eulerian method



Material point method



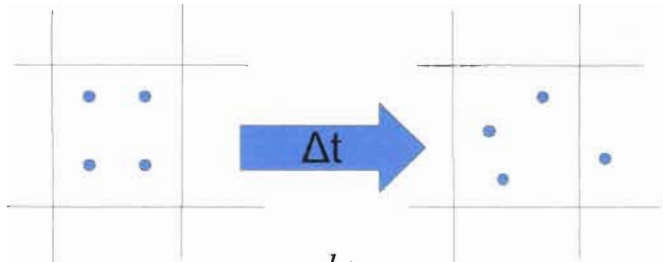
# Material point method (MPM) vs. finite element method (FEM)

$$m_{ij} \frac{d\mathbf{u}_j}{dt} = - \int \sigma \cdot \nabla S_i(\mathbf{x}) dv + \int \rho \mathbf{g} S_i(\mathbf{x}) dv + \int_{\partial v} S_i(\mathbf{x}) \mathbb{I} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS, \text{ (the virtual work principle).}$$

## MPM

$$\int \sigma \cdot \nabla S_i(\mathbf{x}) dv = \sum_p v_p \sigma_p \cdot \nabla S(\mathbf{x}_p)$$

where subscript p denotes material points that move across the Eulerian mesh.



$$\mathbf{u}_p^{n+1} = \mathbf{u}_p^n + \Delta t \sum_i \frac{d\mathbf{u}_i}{dt} S_i(\mathbf{x}_p)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_p^{n+1} = \mathbf{x}_p^n + \Delta t \sum_i \left( \mathbf{u}_i + 0.5 \frac{d\mathbf{u}_i}{dt} \Delta t \right) S_i(\mathbf{x}_p)$$

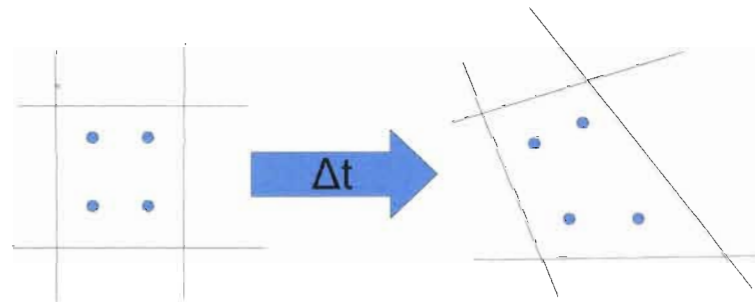
$$m_i \mathbf{u}_i^{n+1} = \sum_p m_p \mathbf{u}_p^{n+1} S_n(\mathbf{x}_p^{n+1})$$

Mesh cells or elements are Eulerian. They are fixed.

## FEM

$$\int \sigma \cdot \nabla S_i(\mathbf{x}) dv = \sum_g w_g J_g \sigma_g \cdot \nabla S(\mathbf{x}_g),$$

where subscript g denotes Gauss integration points.



Gauss points are fixed on elements.

Elements are Lagrangian. They can become distorted for large material deformation.

Both the material points and Gauss points are Lagrangian points and can be used to track deformation history of the material. However, FEM has the difficulty of mesh distortion.

# Cell Crossing Noise and its treatment in MPM

$$m_i \frac{d\mathbf{u}_i}{dt} = - \sum_p v_p \sigma_p \cdot \nabla S_i(\mathbf{x}_p) + \int \rho \mathbf{g} S_i(\mathbf{x}) dv + \int_{\partial v} S_i(\mathbf{x}) \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS,$$

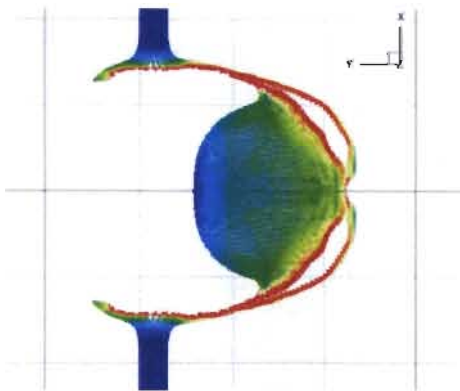
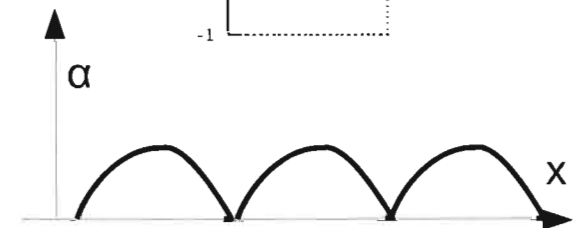
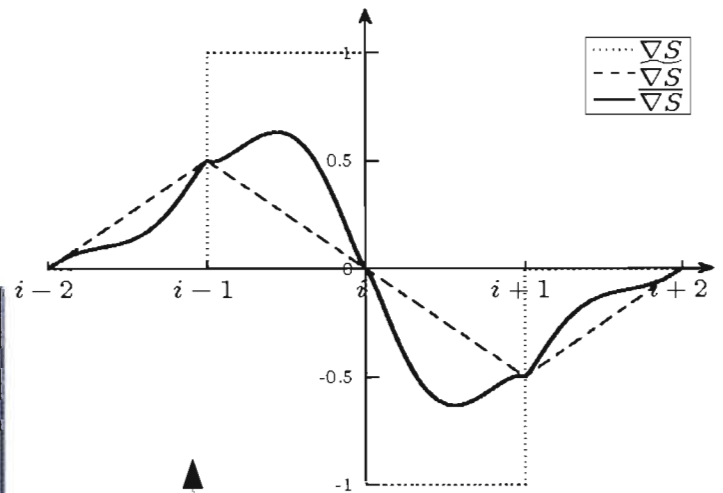
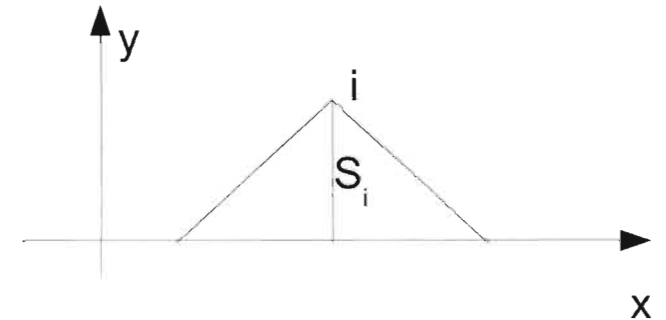
The discontinuity of shape function gradient causes an instability (Bardenhagen and Kober, 2004).

**Solution:** Replace  $\nabla S_i$  by

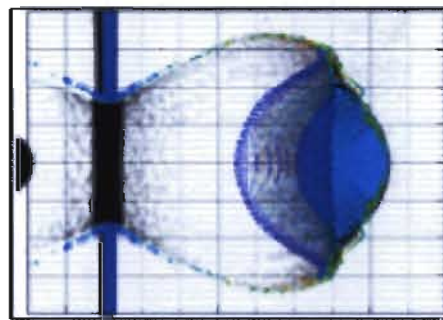
$$\overline{\nabla S_i}(\mathbf{x}) = \alpha(\mathbf{x}) \nabla S_i(\mathbf{x}) + [1 - \alpha(\mathbf{x})] \widetilde{\nabla S_i}(\mathbf{x}),$$

$$\widetilde{\nabla S_i}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{V_j} (S_j, \nabla S_i) S_j(\mathbf{x}),$$

where  $\alpha(\mathbf{x}) = 0$  on cell boundary.



Original MPM



Dual domain material point (DDMP) method

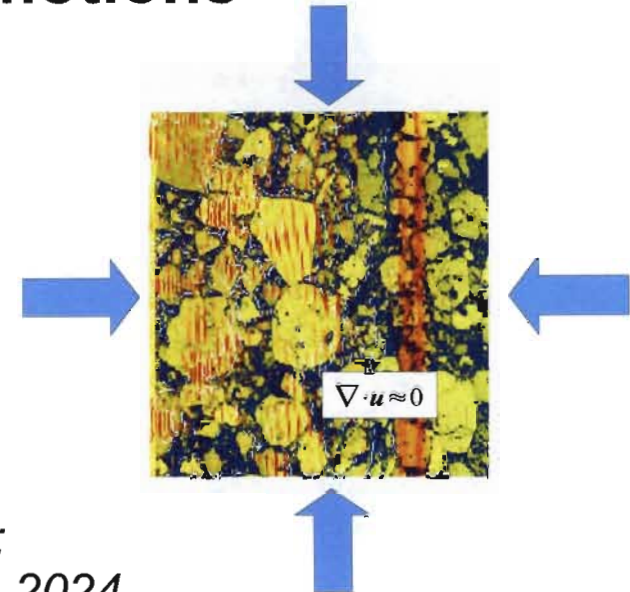
# Meso and macro scale motions

Let  $\langle \rangle$  denote averaged macroscopic quantity, then

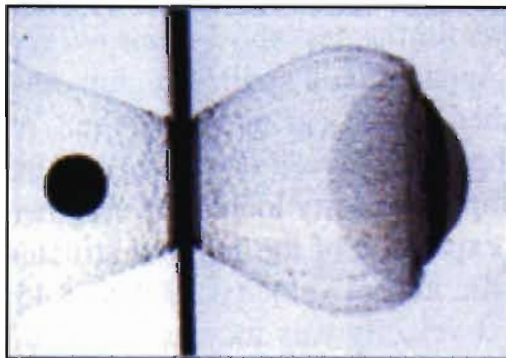
$$\langle \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \rangle \neq \nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{u} \rangle$$

$$\langle \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \rangle = \alpha \nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{u} \rangle + B$$

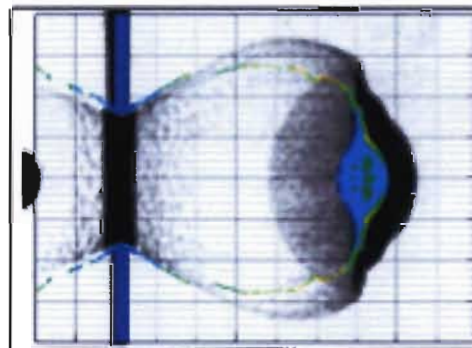
where B is related to other effects resulting in the change of the material density, such as relative compressibilities, thermal expansion, phase change, etc.



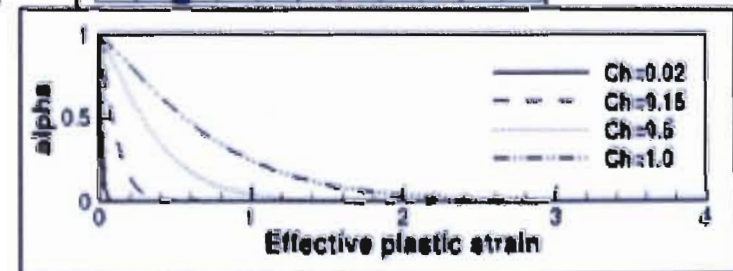
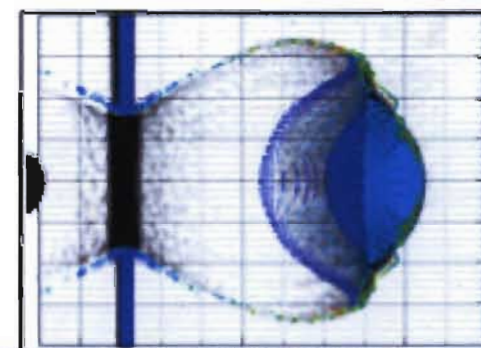
*Debris flow from an Impact:*  
Velocity: 6.71km/s. Materials: Al-2024



Experimental X-ray image  
Piekutowski, 1993

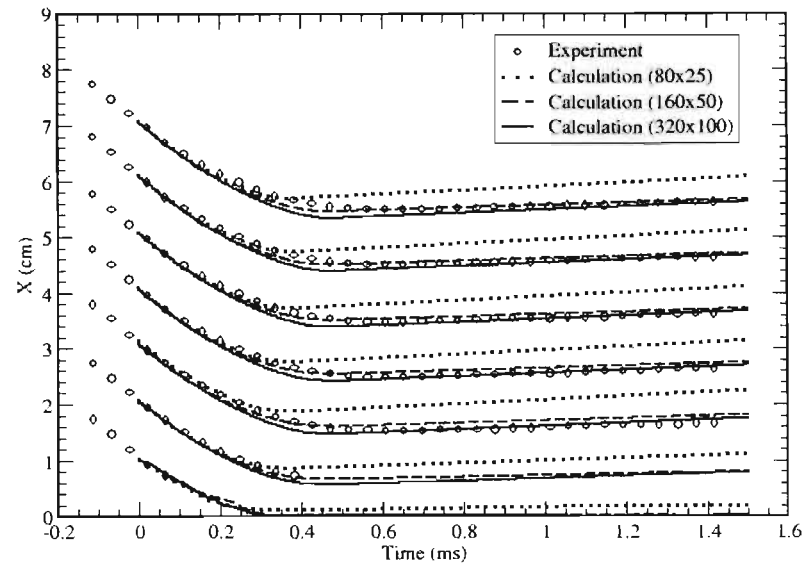
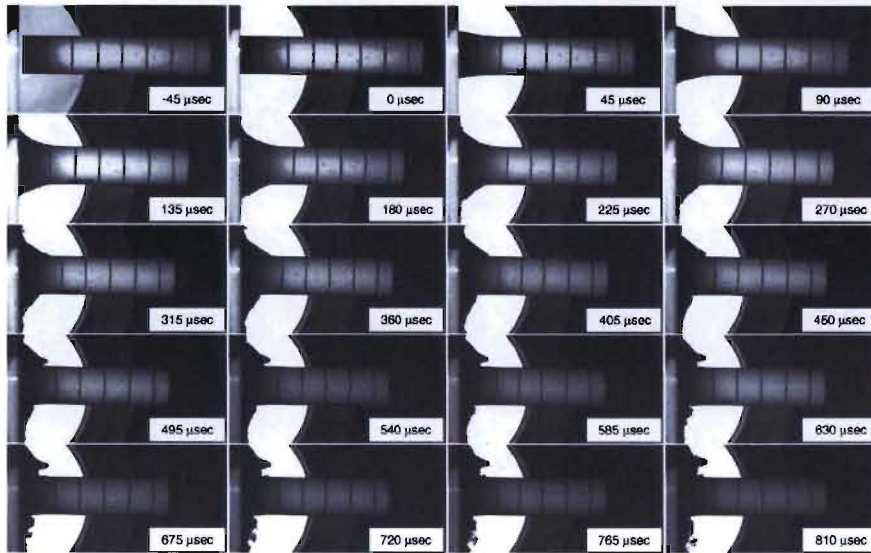


$\alpha = 1$

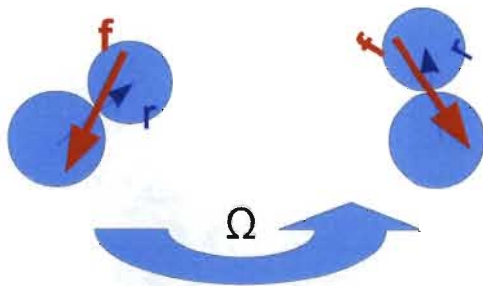




# Taylor impact of brittle material



$$\sigma = \frac{1}{V} \sum f \otimes r$$



$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt} - \Omega \cdot \sigma + \sigma \cdot \Omega = -\frac{\sigma}{\tau} + \lambda \text{tr}(\dot{\epsilon}) I + 2G \dot{\epsilon},$$

$$\lambda = \frac{E \nu}{(1 + \nu)(1 - 2\nu)},$$

$$G = \frac{E}{2(1 + \nu)}$$

# Conclusions

- In numerical calculation of large material deformation, especially granular flows, a Lagrangian capability is important.
- We have developed a statistical tool to relate the macroscopic deformation to mesoscale material deformation.
- The recently developed dual domain material point (DDMP) method, is the only method **currently** suitable for such calculations.