

# The Kinematics of Unilaterality

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# A finite freedom system

The evolution

$$t \mapsto q := (q^1, \dots, q^n)$$

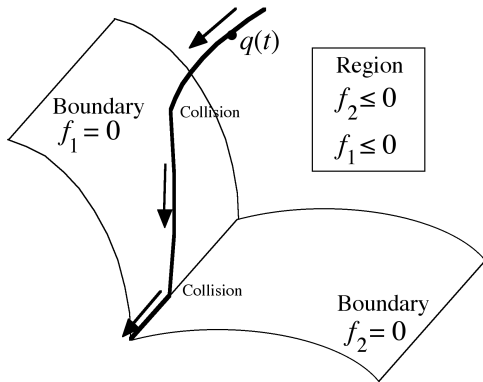
is required to comply,  
for every  $t$  in some interval  $I$ , with

$$f(t, q) \leq 0$$

(a single inequality to begin with).

In other words, the *moving point*  $q(t)$  is required to belong at every time  $t$  to the *moving set*

$$\Phi(t) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(t, x) \leq 0\}.$$



It is assumed that, for  $t \in I$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  
the *gradient*  $\nabla f(t, x) := (\partial f / \partial x^1, \dots, \partial f / \partial x^n)$   
is a nonzero  $n$ -vector.

Let  $t$  be such that the *right-side derivative*  $q'^+(t)$ ,  
(the *right-side velocity*) exists.

Through the chain rule, the function  $\tau \mapsto f(\tau, q(\tau))$   
possesses at  $\tau = t$  a right-side derivative equal to  
 $f'_t(t, q(t)) + q'^+(t) \cdot \nabla f(t, q(t))$ .

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 $f'_t(t, q(t)) + q'^+(t) \cdot \nabla f(t, q(t))$ .

This should be  $\leq 0$  if the inequality  
is satisfied at  $t$  as *equality*.

If inequality holds strictly at  $t$ , no sign condition  
comes to restrain right-side derivatives.

For  $t \in I$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , put

$$\Gamma(t, x) := \begin{cases} \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid f'_t(t, x) + v \cdot \nabla f(t, x) \leq 0\} & \text{if } f(t, x) \geq 0 \\ \mathbb{R}^n & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

so that the precedings means  $q'^+(t) \in \Gamma(t, q(t))$ .

*Here is a converse*

Assume that  $I$ , nonnecessarily compact, contains its origin  $t_0$  and that  $q : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is *locally absolutely continuous*.

Equivalently the (two-side) derivative  $dq/dt$  exists a.e. in  $I$  and equals some  $u \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{loc}}^1(I; \mathbf{R}^n)$  with

$$\forall t \in I : \quad q(t) = q(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t u(s) ds.$$

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$$\forall t \in I : \quad q(t) = q(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t u(s) ds.$$

**Viability Lemma.** *Assume in addition that*

$$\frac{dq}{dt} \in \Gamma(t, q(t)) \quad \text{a.e. in } I.$$

*If  $f(t, q(t)) \leq 0$  is verified at  $t_0$ , then it is verified for every subsequent  $t$ .*

A condition of the above form is called  
a *differential inclusion*.

By a *selector* of the multifunction  $(t, x) \mapsto \Gamma(t, x)$ ,  
one means a single-valued function  
say  $(t, x) \mapsto \gamma(t, x)$ ,  
such that  $\gamma(t, x) \in \Gamma(t, x)$  for every  $t$  and  $x$ .

Then

$$\frac{dq}{dt} = \gamma(t, q(t))$$

is a *differential equation*

whose (locally absolutely continuous) solutions,  
if any,

consequent to some *initial condition*

verifying  $q(t_0) \in \Phi(t_0)$ ,

meet the assumptions of the *Viability Lemma*,

making  $q(t)$  *belong to*  $\Phi(t)$   
*for every subsequent*  $t$ .

*Basic example: the “lazy selector”.*

Define  $\gamma(t, x)$  as the element of minimal Euclidean norm in  $\Gamma(t, x)$ .

Then a solution to  $dq/dt = \gamma(t, q(t))$  consequent to some initial position  $q(t_0)$  in  $\Phi(t_0)$  may be described as follows.

The point  $q(t)$  belongs for every  $t$   
to the moving region  $\Phi(t)$ .

So long as it lies in the interior of  $\Phi(t)$ ,  
 *$q$  stays at rest.*

It is only if the boundary of  $\Phi(t)$ ,  
i.e. the hypersurface  $f(t, \cdot) = 0$ ,  
*moves inward* and reaches  $q$   
that this point takes on a velocity  
in inward normal direction,

*so as to go on belonging to  $\Phi(t)$ .*

We have proposed to call *Sweeping Process* this way of associating some point motions to the given motion of a set (in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  or in a real Hilbert space).

If, at time  $t$ , some point  $x$  lies on the hypersurface

$$f(t, \cdot) = 0,$$

the vector  $\nabla f(t, x)$  is normal to this hypersurface and directed outward of  $\Phi(t)$ .

The half-line emanating from the origin of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , generated by  $\nabla f(t, x)$ , constitutes the (outward) *normal cone* to  $\Phi(t)$  at point  $x$ .

Notation:  $N_{\Phi(t)}(x)$ .

For  $x$  in the interior of  $\Phi(t)$ ,

it proves consistent to view  $N_{\Phi(t)}(x)$

as reduced to the *zero* of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,

while the cone shall be defined as *empty* if  $x \notin \Phi(t)$ .

By discussing the various cases occurring in the calculation of  $\gamma(t, x)$ , one sees that every solution  $q$  to

$$\frac{dq}{dt} = \gamma(t, q(t))$$

verifies, for almost every  $t$ , the differential inclusion

$$-\frac{dq}{dt} \in N_{\Phi(t)}(q(t)).$$

Unexpectedly *the converse is true*, i.e. the above in spite of its right-hand side being multivalued is *equivalent* to the differential equation, as far as locally absolutely continuous solutions are concerned.

*Proof:* Let  $q$  be a solution to  $-dq/dt \in N_{\Phi(t)}(q)$ .

For almost every  $t$ , the *two-side* derivative  $q' = dq/dt$  exists.

Therefore  $N_{\Phi(t)}(q) \neq \emptyset$  hence  $q(t) \in \Phi(t)$  and the same for every  $t$ , by continuity.

- For  $t$  such that  $q(t) \in \text{interior } \Phi(t)$ , inclusion implies  $q' = 0$ , so trivially  $dq/dt = \gamma(t, q(t))$ .
- Otherwise, suppose  $q(t) \in \text{boundary } \Phi(t)$ , i.e. function  $\tau \mapsto f(\tau, q(\tau))$  vanishes at  $\tau = t$ .

Then the right-derivative

$f'_t(t, q(t)) + q'^+(t) \cdot \nabla f(t, q(t))$ , if it exists, is  $\leq 0$   
while, symmetrically, the left-derivative is  $\geq 0$ .

Therefore  $q'(t)$ , when it exists, satisfies

$$f'_t(t, q(t)) + q'(t) \cdot \nabla f(t, q(t)) = 0,$$

i.e. it belongs to the boundary of the half-space  $\Gamma(t, q(t))$ .

Furthermore, the inclusion entails that  $q'(t)$  is directed along the inward normal to the half-space.

All this elementarily characterizes  $q'(t)$   
as the *proximal point* to 0 in  $\Gamma(t, q(t))$   
namely  $\gamma(t, q(t))$ .

It was under the formulation  $-dq/dt \in N_{\Phi(t)}(q)$  that the *Sweeping Process* was primitively introduced, with  $\Phi(t)$  denoting a nonempty *closed convex*, nonnecessarily smooth, subset of a real Hilbert space  $\mathbf{H}$ .

The motivation then was in the *quasi-static evolution of elastoplastic systems*.

The convexity assumption allows one to establish the *existence* of solutions under rather mild conditions concerning the evolution of  $\Phi(t)$ , even *discontinuous*.

Another consequence of the convexity of  $\Phi$  is that the multifunction  $x \mapsto N_{\Phi(t)}(x)$  is *monotone* in the following sense:

Whichever are  $x_1, x_2$  in  $\mathbf{H}$ ,  
 $y_1$  in  $N_{\Phi(t)}(x_1)$ ,  $y_2$  in  $N_{\Phi(t)}(x_2)$ ,  
one has  $(x_1 - x_2) \cdot (y_1 - y_2) \geq 0$ ,  
the dot denoting the scalar product of  $\mathbf{H}$ .

By elementary calculation, this property entails that, if  $t \mapsto q_1(t)$  and  $t \mapsto q_2(t)$  are two solutions, the distance  $\|q_1 - q_2\|$  is a *non-increasing* function of  $t$ .

It follows that *at most one solution*  
can agree with some initial position  $q(t_0)$ .

Another source of interest of the formulation

$$-\frac{dq}{dt} \in N_{\Phi(t)}(q)$$

is to render evident that

the successive positions of the point  $q$   
are connected with those of the moving set  $\Phi$   
in a *rate-independent* way.

In fact, because the right-hand member is a *cone*,  
the differential inclusion is found invariant under any  
*non-decreasing differentiable change of variable*.

## *Implicit* versus *explicit* time-stepping

Let  $[t_i, t_f]$ , with length  $h$ , be a time-step.

From an estimate  $q_i$  of  $q(t_i)$ ,

resulting from the antecedent time-step,

computation has to deliver an estimate  $q_f$  of  $q(t_f)$ .

The first formulation

$$\frac{dq}{dt} = \gamma(t, q(t))$$

induces one to take  $u_i = \gamma(t_i, q_i)$  as an estimate of the velocity, so generating the prediction

$$q_f = q_i + hu_i$$

a computation scheme of the *explicit* type.

If the second formulation

$$-\frac{dq}{dt} \in N_{\Phi(t)}(q(t))$$

is discretized by viewing  $(q_f - q_i)/h$  as a representative of the velocity, a strategy of the explicit type would not allow one to express  $q_f$ , since the right-hand member is multivalued.

In contrast, the *implicit* strategy consists in invoking the value that this right-hand member would take at the *unknown* point  $q_f$

so one has to solve

$$q_i - q_f \in N_{\Phi(t_f)}(q_f)$$

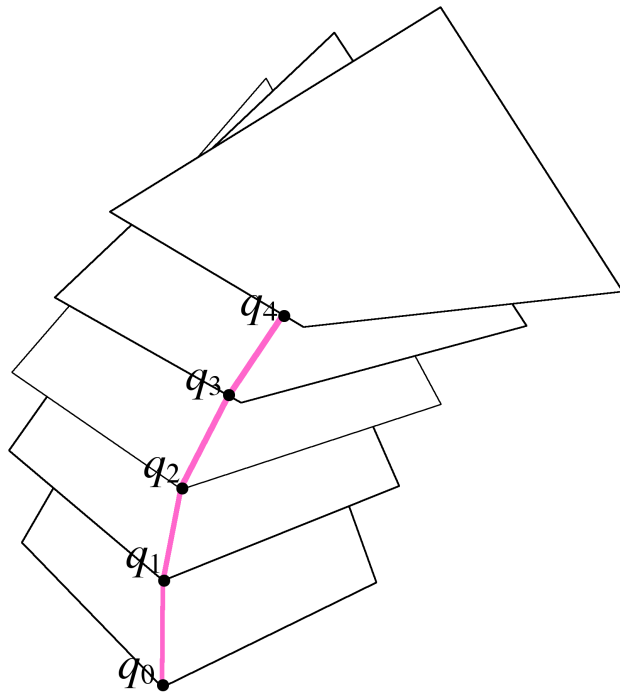
(the positive factor  $h$  has been dropped since  $N_{\Phi(t_f)}$  is a cone).

This inclusion qualifies  $q_f$  as  
an *orthogonal projection* of  $q_i$   
onto the closed set  $\Phi(t_f)$ .

In case  $\Phi(t_f)$  is *convex*, the projection is unique  
and  $q_f$  equals the *nearest point* to  $q_i$  in  $\Phi(t_f)$ .

One calls this the *catching-up algorithm*.

*Catching up*



# Complementarity

Let  $q$ , associated with  $u$  by  $q(t) = q(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t u(s) ds$ , verify

$$-dq/dt \in N_{\Phi}(q) \quad \text{a.e. in } I. \quad (1)$$

Let  $t_1 \in I$  such that  $u$  possesses a limit on the right of  $t_1$ , say  $u_1^+ (= \dot{q}^+(t_1))$ .

If  $f_1 := f(t_1, q(t_1)) = 0$ , it was seen that

$$\dot{f}_1^+ = f'_t(t_1, q(t_1)) + u_1^+ \cdot \nabla f(t_1, q(t_1)) \leq 0.$$

(1) means the existence of  $t \mapsto \lambda(t) \leq 0$  such that  $u(t) = \lambda(t) \nabla f(t, q(t))$ .

Since  $\nabla f$  is continuous and nonzero, the assumed existence of  $u_1^+$  secures that of the right-limit  $\lambda_1^+$  and

$$u_1^+ = \lambda_1^+ \nabla f(t_1, q(t_1)).$$

If  $\dot{f}_1^+ < 0$ , instant  $t_1$  is followed by an interval throughout which  $f < 0$ . This implies  $u = 0$ , so that  $\lambda$  vanishes on this interval and consequently  $\lambda_1^+ = 0$ .

Summing up, one has

$$\dot{f}_1^+ \leq 0, \quad \lambda_1^+ \leq 0, \quad \dot{f}_1^+ \lambda_1^+ = 0,$$

a system of *complementarity conditions*.

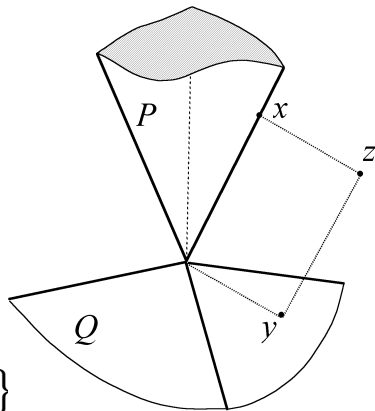
## An example of complementarity

$P$ : a closed convex cone in  $H$  (a Hilbert space).

By definition, its *polar cone* is

$$P^* = \{u \in H \mid \forall v \in P : u.v \leq 0\}$$

Symmetrically,  $P$  equals the polar cone of  $Q$



## The Dual Cone Lemma:

The two following statements are *equivalent*

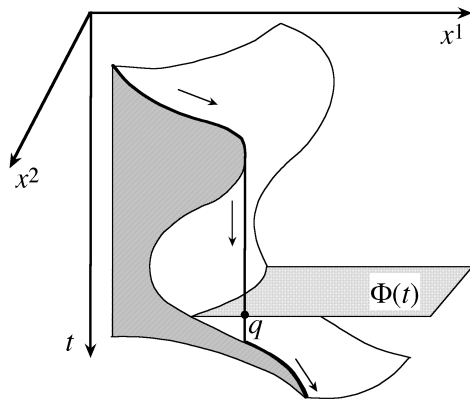
$$z = x + y, \quad x \in P, \quad y \in Q, \quad x.y = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$x = \text{prox}(P, z), \quad y = \text{prox}(Q, z) \quad (2)$$

# A hydromechanical image

Let  $(t, x_1, x_2)$  be orthogonal axes in physical space, with  $t$  directed downward.

$\Phi(t)$  is the section at level  $t$  of a ground cavity.



The graph of a solution  $t \mapsto q(t) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  to

$$-\frac{dq}{dt} \in N_{\Phi(t)}(q(t))$$

may be visualized as a falling *stream of water*.

When flowing on a part of the wall *oriented upward*, water follows a *line of steepest descent*.

When crossing the rim of a possible overhang, water *gets loose* from the wall and *falls freely* into the cavity.

Here, under the complication added by *unilaterality*, the comparison of the two formulations of the sweeping process merely reflects the equivalence of the two standard properties of the lines of steepest descent in a surface: at each point on such a line

- the slope is maximal,
- the direction is orthogonal to the level curve of the surface.

All what precedes adapts to the case where  $\Phi(t)$  is defined by a set of inequalities

$$f_{\alpha}(t, q) \leq 0, \quad \alpha = 1, 2, \dots, \kappa$$

Normal cones are then polyhedral,  
with variable number of edges.

# Coming to Dynamics

The *position function*

$$t \mapsto q := (q^1, \dots, q^n)$$

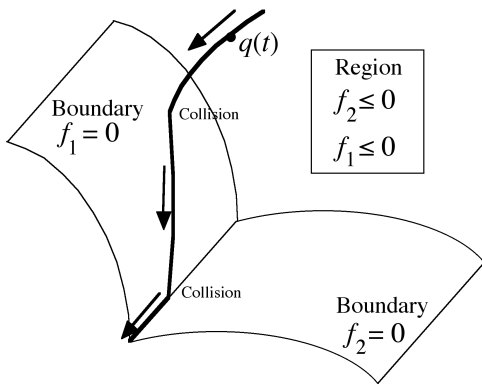
and the *velocity function*

$$t \mapsto u := (u^1, \dots, u^n)$$

are related through

$$q(t) = q(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t u(\tau) d\tau$$

(or through more elaborate kinematical relationships like this: If a member of the system is a *rigid body*  $\mathcal{B}$ , one considers the components of its *spin vector* relative to an orthonormal frame made of *principal axes of inertia* at the mass center).



# *The basic example of a single particle in Euclidean space*

## Equation of Dynamics

$$m \frac{du}{dt} = e(t, q, u) + r$$

$e$ : given force,

$r$ : the total *constraint force*

The description of a constraint *in Mechanics* requires fundamentally *more* than giving the *geometric* restriction it imposes to the system position.

Some information about the constraint *realization* should be provided, in terms of constraint forces.

## *Non-adhesive frictionless confinement*

of a particle by a material boundary.

The permitted region:

$$\Phi(t) = \{x \in \mathbb{E} : f(t, x) \leq 0\}$$

Stipulations about the constraint force  $r$  :

- if  $f(t, q) < 0$ , then  $r = 0$  (contact process)
- if  $f(t, q) = 0$ , then (no friction, no adhesion)  
 $\exists \lambda \geq 0$  such that  $r = -\lambda \nabla f(t, q)$

This summarizes into

$$-r \in N_{\Phi(t)}(q)$$

which also involves  $q \in \Phi(t)$  (otherwise  $N_{\Phi(t)}(q) = \emptyset$ )

*The decisive move in the  
“Contact Dynamics” approach*

As before, put

$$\Gamma(t, x) := \begin{cases} \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid f'_t(t, x) + v \cdot \nabla f(t, x) \leq 0\} \\ \quad \text{if } f(t, x) \geq 0 \\ \mathbb{R}^n \quad \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The writing

$$-r \in N_{\Gamma(t,q)}(u)$$

is found to imply  $-r \in N_{\Phi(t)}(q)$  and in addition

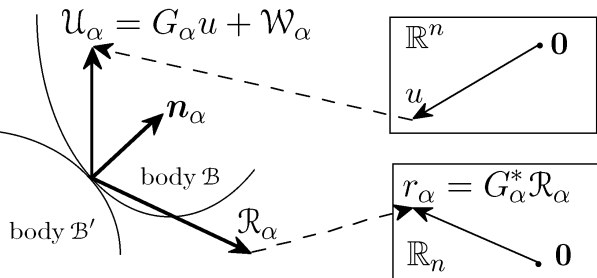
$$u \in \Gamma(t, q)$$

which allows one to invoke the *Viability Lemma*.

## Local and global variables

From  $t, q, u$ , one expresses the *relative velocity* at the contact labelled  $\alpha$

$$U_\alpha = G_\alpha u + W_\alpha \in \mathbb{E}^3$$



The corresponding *contact force*  $\mathcal{R}_\alpha \in \mathbb{E}^3$  has generalized components

$$r_\alpha = G_\alpha^* \mathcal{R}_\alpha \in \mathbb{R}_n$$

The linear mappings (depending on  $q$  and  $t$ )

$$G_\alpha : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{E}^3 \text{ and } G_\alpha^* : \mathbb{E}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_n$$

are *transpose* to each other.

In numerical computation, as well as in mathematical studies, one agrees to extend, locally, the definitions of  $\mathbf{n}_\alpha$ ,  $G_\alpha$ ,  $\mathcal{W}_\alpha$  etc. to situations where  $f_\alpha(t, q) \neq 0$ .

Let  $g_\alpha(t, q)$  denote the *gap* at the possible contact labelled  $\alpha$  (counted negative in case of overlap).

Classically

$$\frac{dg_\alpha}{dt} = \mathbf{n}_\alpha \cdot \mathcal{U}_\alpha$$

Define

$$\mathcal{K}_\alpha(t, q) := \begin{cases} \{\mathcal{V} \in \mathbf{E}^3 \mid \mathcal{V} \cdot \mathbf{n}_\alpha \geq 0\} & \text{if } g_\alpha(t, q) \leq 0 \\ \mathbf{E}^3 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

This is the set of the values of the local *right-velocity* of  $\mathcal{B}$  relatively to  $\mathcal{B}'$  (the latter may be a member of the system or an external obstacle with prescribed motion) which are *compatible with non-interpenetration*.

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$$\mathcal{K}_\alpha(t, q) := \begin{cases} \{\mathcal{V} \in \mathbf{E}^3 \mid \mathcal{V} \cdot \mathbf{n}_\alpha \geq 0\} & \text{if } g_\alpha(t, q) \leq 0 \\ \mathbf{E}^3 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

This is the set of the values of the local *right-velocity* of  $\mathcal{B}$  relatively to  $\mathcal{B}'$  (the latter may be a member of the system or an external obstacle with prescribed motion) which are *compatible with non-interpenetration*.

By applying the *Viability Lemma* to inequality  $g_\alpha(t, q) \geq 0$ , one obtains:

If  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha \in \mathcal{K}_\alpha$  a.e. in the time interval and if  $g_\alpha \geq 0$  holds at initial instant, then it holds on the whole interval.

A package of information concerning the contact force  $\mathcal{R}_\alpha \in \mathbb{E}_3$  is called *a contact law*

Assume laws of the form

$$\text{law}_\alpha(t, q, \mathcal{U}_\alpha, \mathcal{R}_\alpha) = \text{true}$$

with *contact velocity*  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha = G_\alpha u + \mathcal{W}_\alpha$  as before.

A contact law is said *prospective* if, among other phenomenological stipulations, it involves

- in all cases  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha \in \mathcal{K}_\alpha$ ,
- if  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha \in \text{interior } \mathcal{K}_\alpha$ , then  $\mathcal{R}^\alpha = 0$ .

In other words, it involves the implications

$$g_\alpha(t, q) \leq 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{n}_\alpha \cdot \mathcal{U}_\alpha \geq 0$$

$$\mathbf{n}_\alpha \cdot \mathcal{U}_\alpha > 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{R}_\alpha = 0.$$

Such a contact law secures  $g_\alpha \geq 0$  provided the latter holds at initial instant.

Giving *Coulomb's friction* the form of a prospective contact law is only the matter of writing code adequately.

But what follows introduces some  
theoretical consistency

Let  $\mathbf{T}$  be the orthogonal space to  $\mathbf{n}$  in  $\mathbf{E}^3$  and

$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}_T + \mathcal{R}_N \mathbf{n}, \quad \mathcal{R}_T \in \mathbf{T}, \quad \mathcal{R}_N \in \mathbf{R},$$

$$\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_T + \mathcal{U}_N \mathbf{n}, \quad \mathcal{U}_T \in \mathbf{T}, \quad \mathcal{U}_N \in \mathbf{R}.$$

Let  $D_1 := \{\mathcal{R}_T \in \mathbf{T} \mid \mathcal{R}_T + \mathbf{n} \in \mathcal{C}\}$ , the ‘unit section’ of the *Coulomb cone*  $\mathcal{C}$ . Define in  $\mathbf{T}$  the real function

$$\mathcal{J} \in \mathbf{T} \mapsto \varphi_1(\mathcal{J}) := \sup\{\mathcal{S} \cdot \mathcal{J} \mid \mathcal{S} \in -D_1\}.$$

(the ‘dissipation function’). In the traditional case of *isotropic friction*, one simply has  $\varphi_1(\mathcal{J}) = \gamma \|\mathcal{J}\|$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ .

The Coulomb cone depends on  $t$  and  $q$ .

Put  $\mathcal{C} = \{\mathbf{0}\}$  in case of no-contact.

Using arguments from Convex Analysis, G. De Saxcé established that the system of conditions

$$\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{K}, \mathcal{R} \in \mathcal{C}, -\mathcal{U}.\mathcal{R} = \varphi_1(\mathcal{U}_T)\mathcal{R}_N \quad (1)$$

makes a *prospective contact law* which, in the standard situation, reduces to the law of Coulomb.

Furthermore

$$\forall \mathcal{V} \in \mathcal{K}, \quad \forall \mathcal{S} \in \mathcal{C}: \quad \mathcal{V}.\mathcal{S} + \varphi_1(\mathcal{V}_T)\mathcal{S}_N \geq 0$$

i.e. (1) expresses that the real function  $(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{S}) \mapsto \mathcal{V}.\mathcal{S} + \varphi_1(\mathcal{V}_T)\mathcal{S}_N$ , separately convex in  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $\mathcal{S}$ , attains at point  $(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{R})$  its *minimal value* relative to the product set  $\mathcal{K} \times \mathcal{C}$  and that *this minimal value is zero*.

# A success of Coulomb's law

## WALL SUPPORTED BY DEFORMING GROUND

105 blocks

Block height : 0.049 m

Block widths : 0.124 m and 0.062 m

### Experiment:

M. Jean,

Laboratoire de Mécanique et d'Acoustique  
(UPR CNRS 7051), Marseille.

Right foundation is fixed.

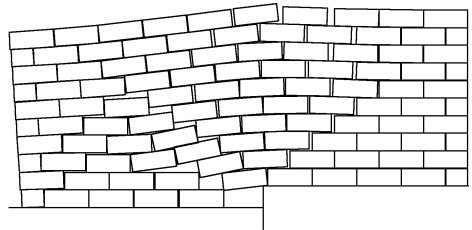
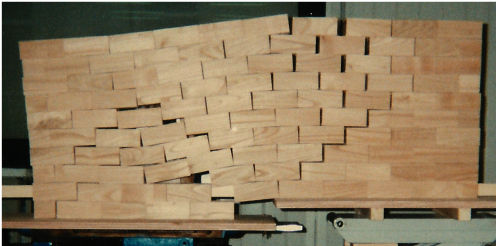
Left foundation moves down.

Final displacement 0.06 m

### Numerical simulation by the Contact Dynamics method:

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(UMR CNRS 5508), Université Montpellier II.



# Rigid body Collisions

don't possess fully satisfactory models.

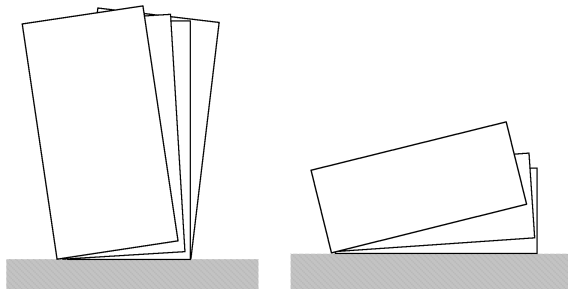
Denote by “-” and “+” the limits on the left and on the right of a collision instant.

Newton's *restitution law* for a *single collision*

$$u_N^+ = -e u_N^-, \quad 0 \leq e \leq 1$$

doesn't yield plausible results for *multicontact* systems.

To rock or  
not to rock...



## *An efficient trick*

Use a *prospective contact law* (e.g. Coulomb in prospective form) to connect every contact *percussion*  $\mathcal{P}_\alpha$  to a *weighted mean*  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha^a$  of  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha^-$  and  $\mathcal{U}_\alpha^+$

$$\mathcal{U}_{\alpha N}^a = \frac{\rho_\alpha}{1 + \rho_\alpha} \mathcal{U}_{\alpha N}^- + \frac{1}{1 + \rho_\alpha} \mathcal{U}_{\alpha N}^+ \quad (1)$$

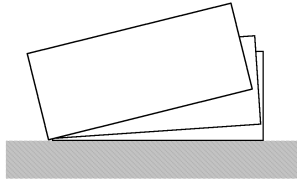
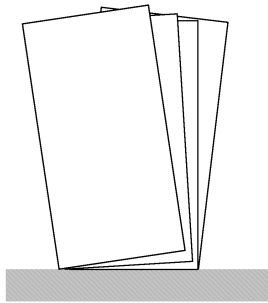
$$\mathcal{U}_{\alpha T}^a = \frac{\tau_\alpha}{1 + \tau_\alpha} \mathcal{U}_{\alpha T}^- + \frac{1}{1 + \tau_\alpha} \mathcal{U}_{\alpha T}^+. \quad (2)$$

The empirical parameters  $\rho_\alpha$  and  $\tau_\alpha$  will be called *the normal coefficient of restitution* and *the tangential coefficient of restitution* at the contact labelled  $\alpha$ , denominations justified by what follows.

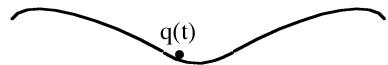
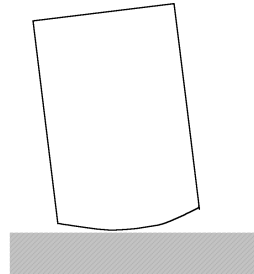
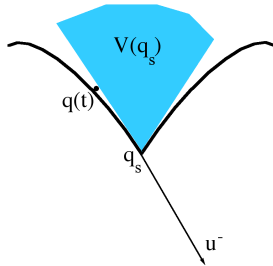
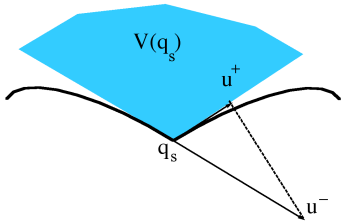
That the law is *prospective* implies that  $\mathcal{P}^\alpha$  can be nonzero only if  $\mathcal{U}_{\alpha N}^a = 0$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{U}_{\alpha N}^+ = -\rho_\alpha \mathcal{U}_{\alpha N}^-$ , which formally is Newton's restitution ( $0 \leq \rho_\alpha \leq 1$ ). But the above formulation also allows  $\mathcal{P}^\alpha = 0$ , in which case only inequality  $\mathcal{U}_{\alpha N}^a \geq 0$  is asserted.

It is the global calculation, involving all contacts together through the equation of dynamics, which decides between these two alternatives.

Similarly, the global calculation, if friction is large enough, may end in the *zero sliding* case of Coulomb's law at contact  $\alpha$ . Then  $\mathcal{U}_{\alpha T}^+ = -\tau_\alpha \mathcal{U}_{\alpha T}^-$ , which is *tangential restitution*.



To rock or not to rock...  
*... that is the question.*



THE ROCKING BLOCK

While, in case of rounded edge...  
*... no velocity jump is expected*

## EFFECT OF TANGENTIAL RESTITUTION

Normal restitution coefficient : 0.8 for both balls.

Tangential restitution coefficient : 0.8 for ball on the left, 0 for ball on the right

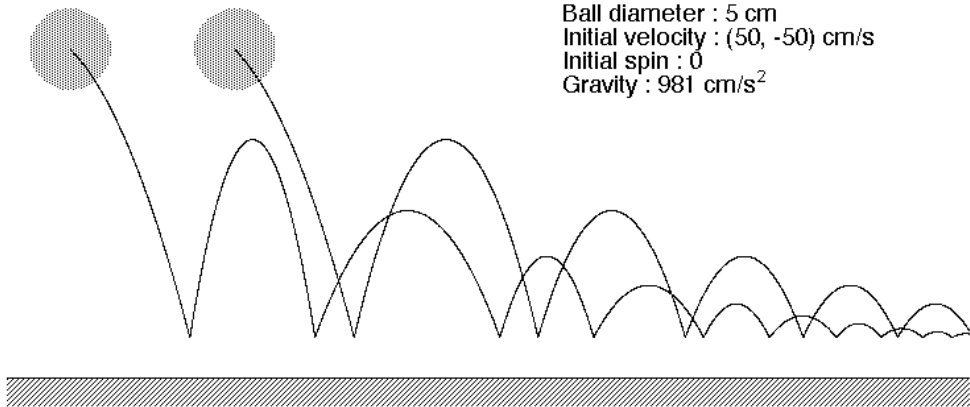
Friction coefficient : 0.5

Ball diameter : 5 cm

Initial velocity : (50, -50) cm/s

Initial spin : 0

Gravity : 981 cm/s<sup>2</sup>



## References

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