## Friction is Fracture: A New Paradigm for the onset of Friction



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Why is there a "friction coefficient"?

 $\begin{array}{ll} F_S < \mu_S \; F_N & \Longrightarrow & \mbox{no motion} \\ F_S = \mu_S \; F_N & \Longrightarrow & \mbox{motion starts} \end{array}$  $\mu_{S}$  independent of the area of contact

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

**Huge pressures** at the contact points **deform the contacts** 

 $\rightarrow$   $\mu_{\rm S} = F_{\rm S} / F_{\rm N} =$  shear strength / yield stress

The onset of friction  $\Leftrightarrow$  how/when/why cracks propagate....

So... how do things break?

Materials fracture via *crack propagation* 

Like in fracture - the contacts forming the interface don't all break *simultaneously* 





In materials under shear/tension:

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• Material is preferentially ruptured at the tip of a crack We'll show that:

• Failuse: Loads Kinghtoretical strength of "homoge process" media hanics

### Earthquakes are Friction



San Andreas fault California (USGS)

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

**Different modes** of natural earthquakes have been predicted/observed/deduced ... These include: Anomalously slow, crack-like "sub-Rayleigh", Supershear earthquakes

Along a natural fault collective "rupture" modes (earthquakes) exist... How are these related to known fracture processes or friction??

## **Experimental setup**

#### Real contact area measurement





S. M. Rubinstein and J. Fineberg, Nature (2004)

### 2D-strain tensor measurement at 1 MSamples/s





I. Svetlizky and J. Fineberg Nature 509, 205 (2014)

### **Brief Outline**

- 1. Friction is Fracture (earthquakes break interfaces)
- 2. Boundary lubrication: (slippery) Friction is still Fracture
- 3. Predicting (lab) earthquake *arrest* and <u>*dynamics*</u> using Fracture Mechanics

### A typical experiment



### We focus on the fast processes at the **onset** of a sliding event

## **Rupture Fronts**



Each line = snapshot of the real area of contact along the entire interface ( $1.5\mu$ sec between lines)

The onset of friction is mediated by propagating crack-like fronts

Short Primer: Fracture Mechanics Linear Elastic Fracture Mechanics (LEFM)



- Linear elasticity  $\rightarrow$  singular stress at a crack's tip
- Energy balance  $\rightarrow$  Dissipation = Energy flux into the crack tip
- Speed limit:  $C_R$ , Rayleigh wave speed (1255m/s for PMMA)

(shear cracks can also surpass  $C_R$  but not today...)

### Comparing Strain Measurements To LEFM





One free parameter K fits *all* of the data well

Fracture Mechanics:

 $K = K(C_f) \Leftrightarrow \Gamma(\frac{Fracture}{Energy})$ 

 $\Gamma$  = energy to break a unit area of contacts

 $\Gamma \sim 1 \text{ J/m}^2$ 

### Using the same fracture energy of $\Gamma = 1 \text{ J/m}^2$





*Excellent agreement* with *Fracture Mechanics* for *all* velocities with *no* adjustable parameters

Radiation of accelerating ruptures:

I.Svetlizky, D. Pino Munoz, M. Radiguet, D. S. Kammer, J. F. Molinari and J. Fineberg, PNAS 113,542-7 (2016)

### Why does the *measured* fracture energy $\Gamma = 1 \text{ J/m}^2$ ?

Real area of contact - PMMA



J.H. Dieterich, B.D. Kilgore Tectonophysics 256 (1996)



 $\Rightarrow$  A is proportional to  $\sigma_{yy}$ 



(Bowden and Tabor picture)



Let's now *use* this new paradigm for friction

Two examples:

- Lubricating the interface
- Predicting Earthquake arrest and dynamics

First example: what is the *strength* of *lubricated* interfaces ?

# **Coated lubricated interfaces** = Interfaces coated with a film of lubricant *(boundary lubrication regime)*



LUBRICANT	KINEMATIC VISCOSITY (cSt)
Silicone oil	5
Silicone oil	100
Silicone oil	104
Hydrocarbon oil (TKO-77)	200

## The lubricated interface is more slippery

 $\bullet \bullet \bullet$ 





Γ<sub>coated</sub>=20 J/m<sup>2</sup> >> Γ<sub>dry</sub> ~ 2 J/m<sup>2</sup> !!

### Fracture energy vs normal stress





- Dry interface
- Silicone oil 5 cSt
- Silicone oil 100 cSt
- Silicone oil **10000** cSt
- Hydrocarbon oil 200cSt

- $\Gamma$  is always proportional to normal stress
- Viscosity does **not** affect  $\Gamma$
- Different lubricants have different influence on  $\Gamma$

Bayart, Svetlizky and Fineberg, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 194301 (2016)

Why are (boundary) lubricated interfaces tougher than dry ones?  $\Gamma = (\sigma_{peak} - \sigma_{res}) \times slip$ 

 Peak stress, σ<sub>peak</sub>, at the contacts is not reduced, even increased for lubricated interfaces: Huge pressures at the contacts may cause Layering transition or effective elasticity
Trapped fluids acquire shear strength!



(e.g. layering -Israelachvili, Klein, Granick, elasticity of confined fluid: Charlaix...)?

Once the front has passed...measured residual strengths, σ<sub>res</sub> are significantly reduced.
→ Once motion initiates...Lubricants may start to "lubricate" (fluid behavior)

Solidification (or stiffening) followed by effective melting may be the explanation

Bayart, Svetlizky and Fineberg, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 194301 (2016)



Several **observations** of these partial ruptures: *Rubinstein* 2007, *Maegawa* 2010, *Katano* 2014 Transition from stick to slip is mediated by a rupture front

 Numerical studies of the existence of such ruptures:
Partial ruptures occur before the transition: no macroscopic sliding Braun 2009, Scheibert 2010, Tromborg 2011, Taloni 2015, Bar-Sinai 2015

D. S. Kammer, M. Radiguet, J. P. Ampuero, & J. F. Molinari, *Tribology Letters* 57, 23 (2015).

### Definition of a crack arrest criterion

We have seen that stresses are singular at the crack tip

$$\Delta \sigma_{ij} = \frac{K}{r^{1/2}} f(\theta, \mathbf{v})$$

Propagation criterion: *Energy balance* Energy flux = Fracture energy  $G \sim K^2/E = \Gamma$ *E* is the Young's modulus





Griffith (1920)

Can fracture mechanics predict the rupture length? **YES!** 



Bayart, Svetlizky and Fineberg, Nature Physics 12, 166-170 (2016)

The static Friction coefficient is *not* a characteristic material property



The onset of (dry) friction is governed by *Fracture Mechanics*:

ℓ<sub>predicted</sub> = System size
+ rupture nucleation

## → We have a *different paradigm* for understanding friction.

Svetlizky and Fineberg, Nature **509**, 205–208 (2014) Bayart, Svetlizky and Fineberg, Phys. Rev. Lett. **116**, 194301 (2016) Bayart, Svetlizky and Fineberg, Nature Physics **12**, 166-170 (2016)

### The Equation of Motion for *Frictional Fractures*

### **Equation of motion \Leftrightarrow Energy Balance :**



I. Svetlizsky, D. Kammer, E. Bayart, G. Cohen, and Jay Fineberg PRL 118, 125501 (2017)

L. B. Freund, J. Mech. Phys. Solids, (1972)

*In general* – Do *fracture mechanics* predict crack motion? Yes!



All rupture velocity profiles collapse to a single LEFM predicted curve! Fracture Mechanics wholly describe rupture dynamics!

## SUMMARY

## At the onset of motion, *true* SHEAR CRACKS propagate within frictional interfaces Fracture-paradigm for friction ... completely different from classical view

Friction coefficient = force balance Fracture mechanics = energy balance

### **FRACTURE MECHANICS** describe:

- When/if ruptures will **ARREST**
- Rupture (Earthquake) Dynamics

Along a **LUBRICATED** interface, fracture mechanics provide a *window* into the complex dynamics of the lubrication layer

## Thank you