

6th DualSPHysics Workshop

UPC – Barcelona, Spain

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Support in Project Chrono for simulating automation, robots, and autonomous vehicles

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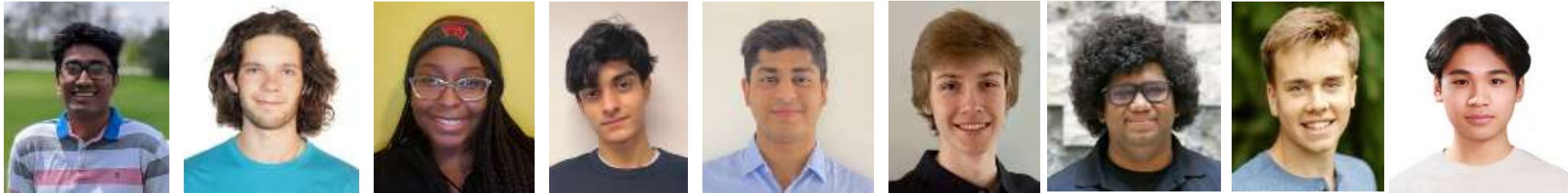
University of Wisconsin-Madison



Simulation-Based Engineering Lab members & collaborators

(left to right, based on how long in the lab)

Undergrad
Students



Grad
Students



Non-students



Collaborators,
from outside lab



(Italy, for Chrono)



(CSULA, Robotics)



(MIT, Terradynamics)



(UW-Madison,
Controls & Data Science)



(Germany, for Chrono)



Funding sources, ongoing

- US Army Research Office
 - Basic research in terradynamics
- US Army DURIP
 - Instrumentation, for HPC & GPU computing
- National Science Foundation
 - Simulation Engine development
- National Science Foundation
 - AV simulation + Human-in-the-loop simulation
- DoD HPC Modernization Program
 - Vehicle Dynamics simulation
- NASA
 - 2023 VIPER lunar mission
 - Lunar human habitat
 - Perception in harsh lunar environments
- Hexagon/MSC.Software
- Disney Research
- Blue River/John Deere



engineering innovation & scientific discovery → fueled by good quality data

- Data: by and large, comes from measurement/sensing
- Our lab's research goal: increase the % of data that has **simulation** as its provenance

- Simulation → our focus is on automation, robotics , AVs, human-robot interaction

- We are not developing **next gen robots or AVs**
- We seek to produce **models & numerical methods & software** for computer simulation to be instrumental in designing **the next gen robots or AVs**



- Robotics: Better engineering through better simulation

Similar outfits...

- Gazebo
- IsaacSim (NVIDIA)
- [CARLA]



What are we interested in simulating?

- Simulate the process of sensing
- Simulate the robot/rover/autonomous vehicle
- Simulate the world in which the robot/rover/autonomous vehicle operates



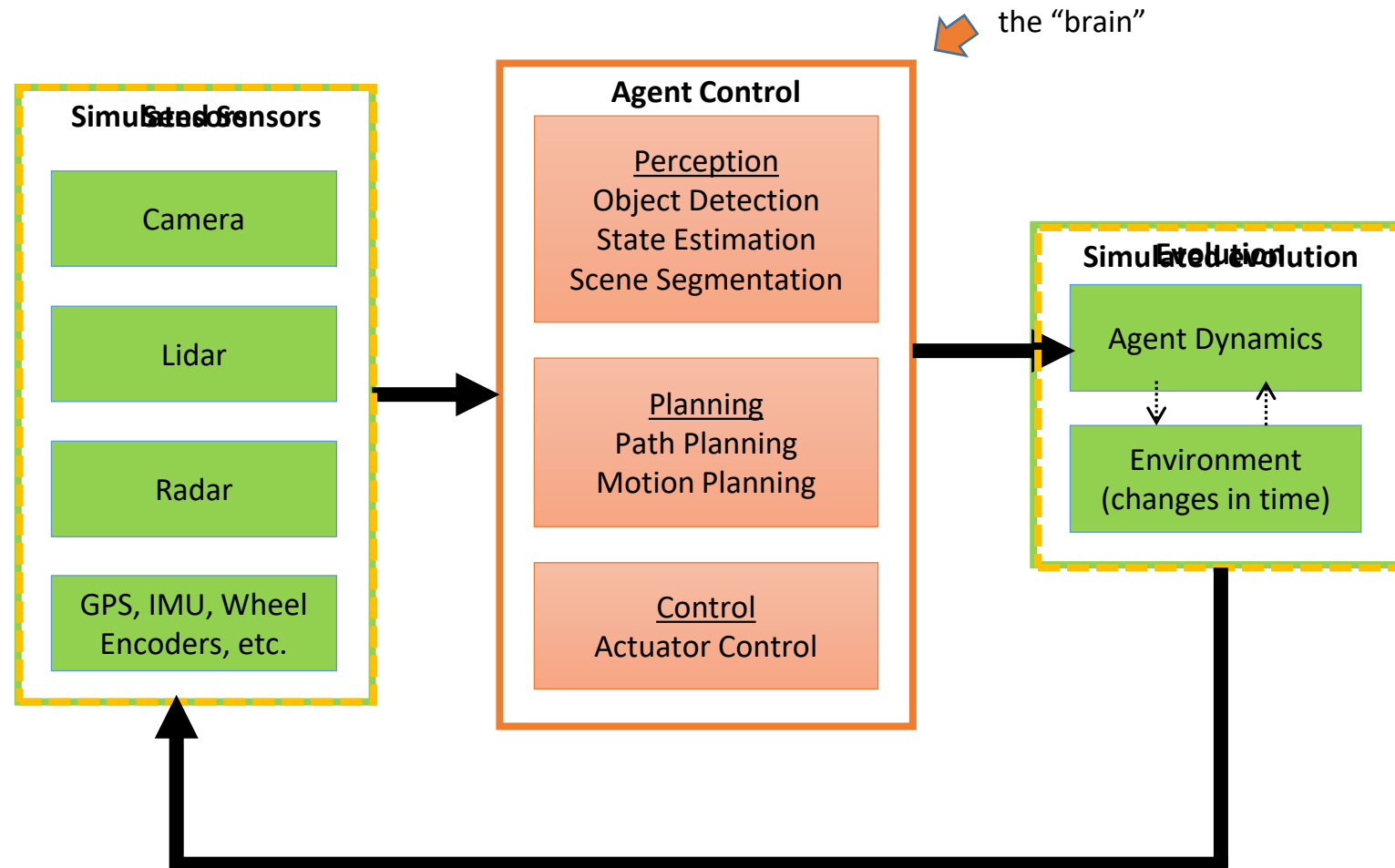
Why are we interested in these things?

Questions that can be answered quickly in simulation

- Is this control policy better than the other one?
- Is this state estimation better than the other one?
- Is SLAM algorithm better than the other one?
- How long does it take a chip (Intel Nuc, Jetson, R-Pie) to handle the ROS2 autonomy stack?
- How good is this visual odometry algorithm?
- Etc.



Simulation of robots/AV: 30,000 feet picture





The ART/ATK Autonomy Stack

Legend

ROS Node

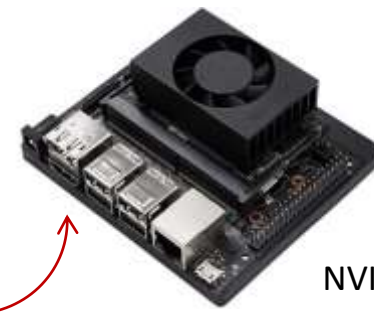
ROS Topic



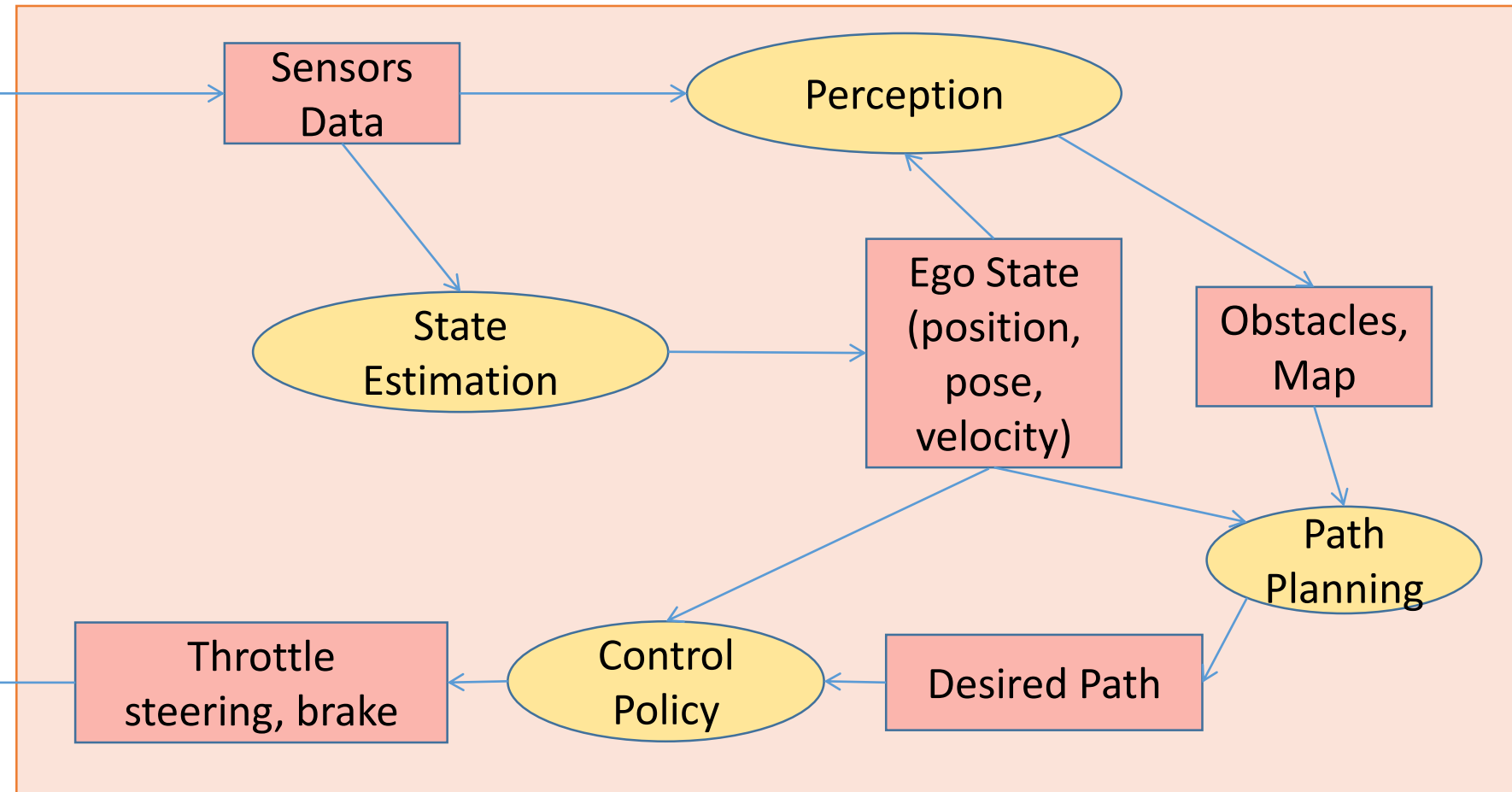
Real Vehicle
-- or --
Digital twin



This autonomy stack runs on this hardware



NVIDIA Jetson



This autonomy stack is the same, regardless of whether actual or virtual vehicle used



Going on a tangent: The chip on *Perseverance* → RAD750

- Radiation-hardened single-board computer manufactured by BAE Systems (approx. \$300,000 apiece)
- Launched in 2001
- 110-200 MHz
- ISA: PowerPC 1.1
- Technology: 200 nm or so
- Number of transistors: about 10.5 millions
- Caches: L1 only (I\$ - 32KB; D\$ - 32KB)



Credit: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RAD750>

Autonomy Research Testbed





So again, what are we interested in simulating?

- Simulate the process of sensing
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The world that we simulate doesn't exist. We have to create it.

Another place where folks create fictitious worlds: computer graphics



One slide side trip: Computer Graphics vs. Computer Vision

- Computer Graphics:
 - Input: a bunch of virtual assets (mesh of table, mesh of chairs, etc.) that make up virtual world
 - Output: an image

- Computer Vision:
 - Input: an image
 - Output: a bunch of objects & features picked up by looking at the image

- Computer Graphics & Computer Vision: are complementary



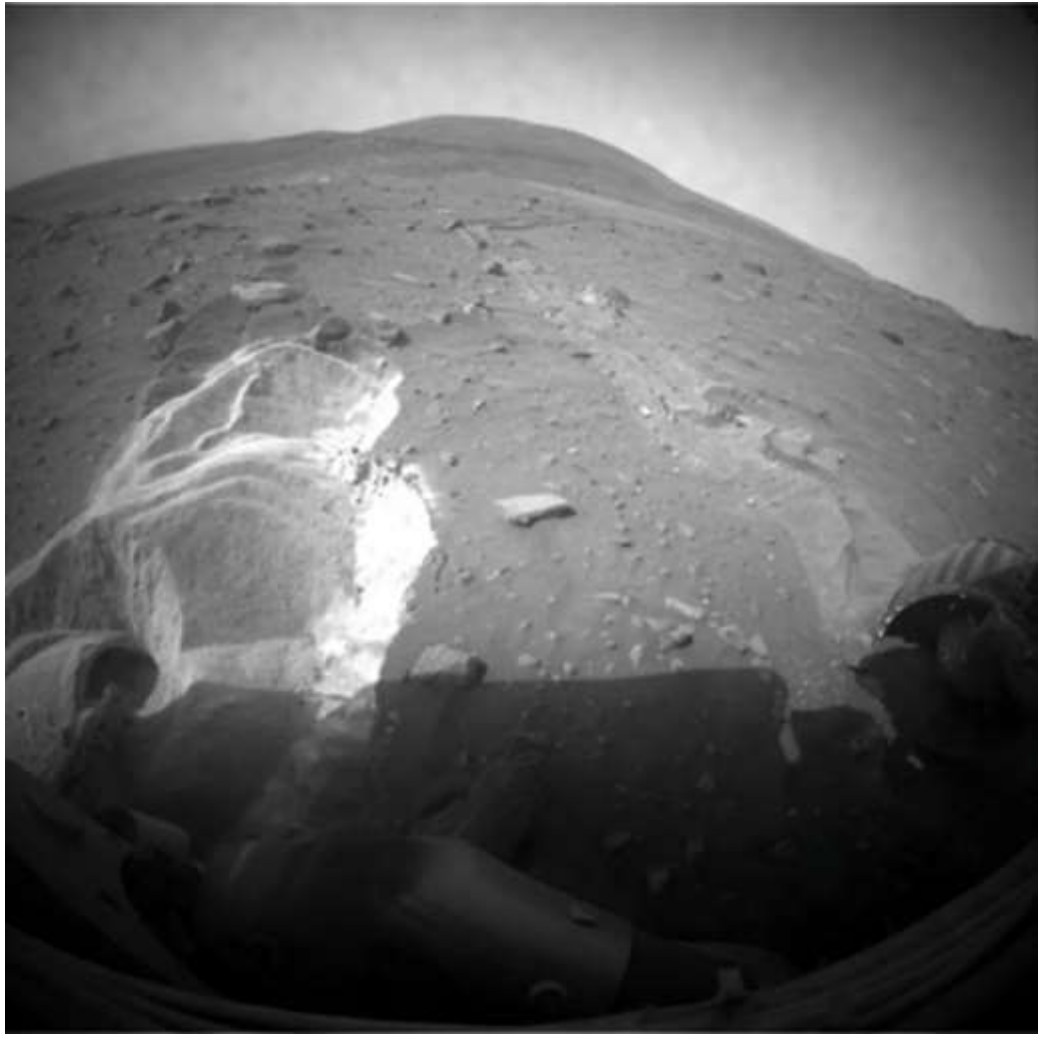
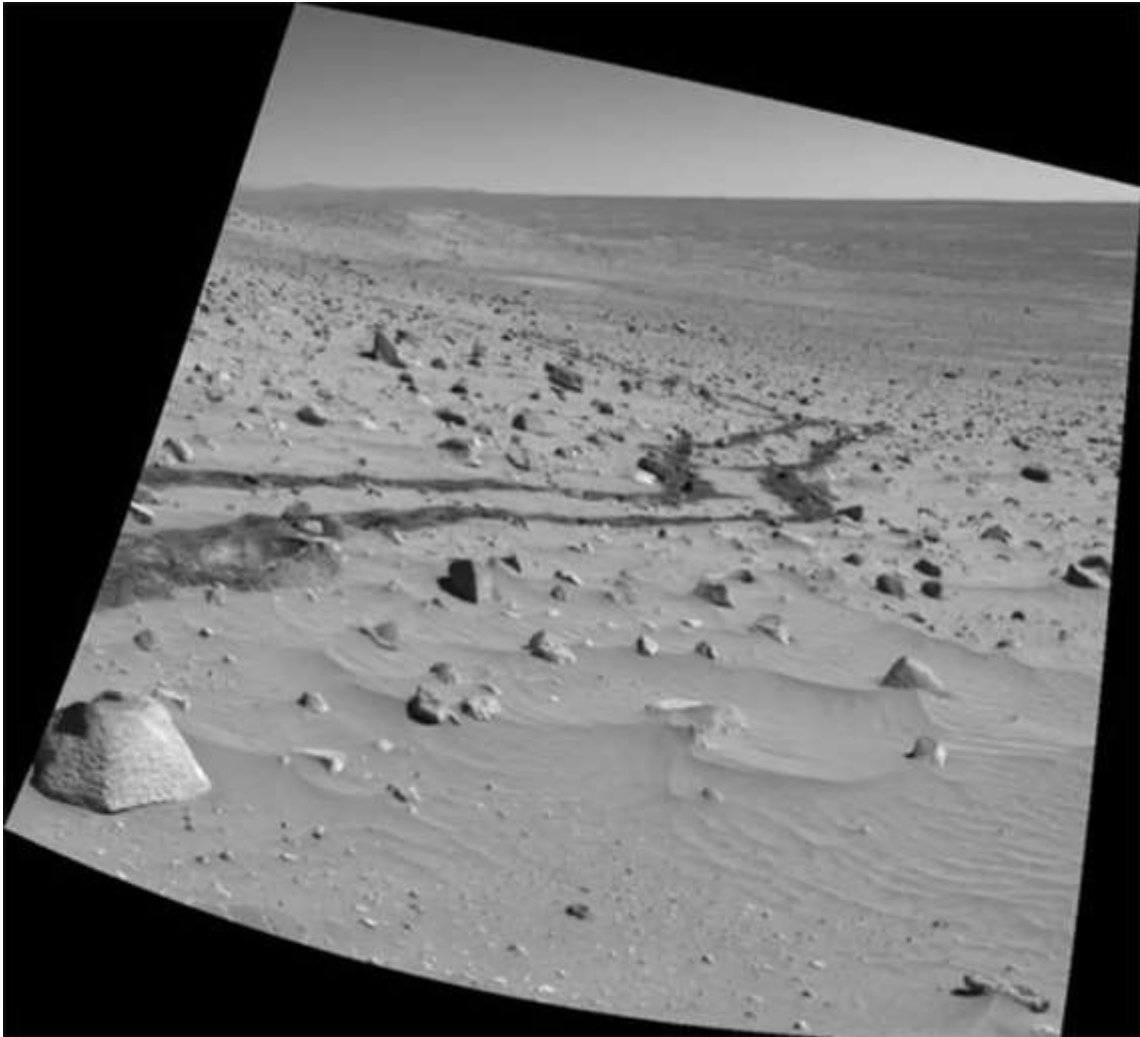


Simulate what a camera sees under water...



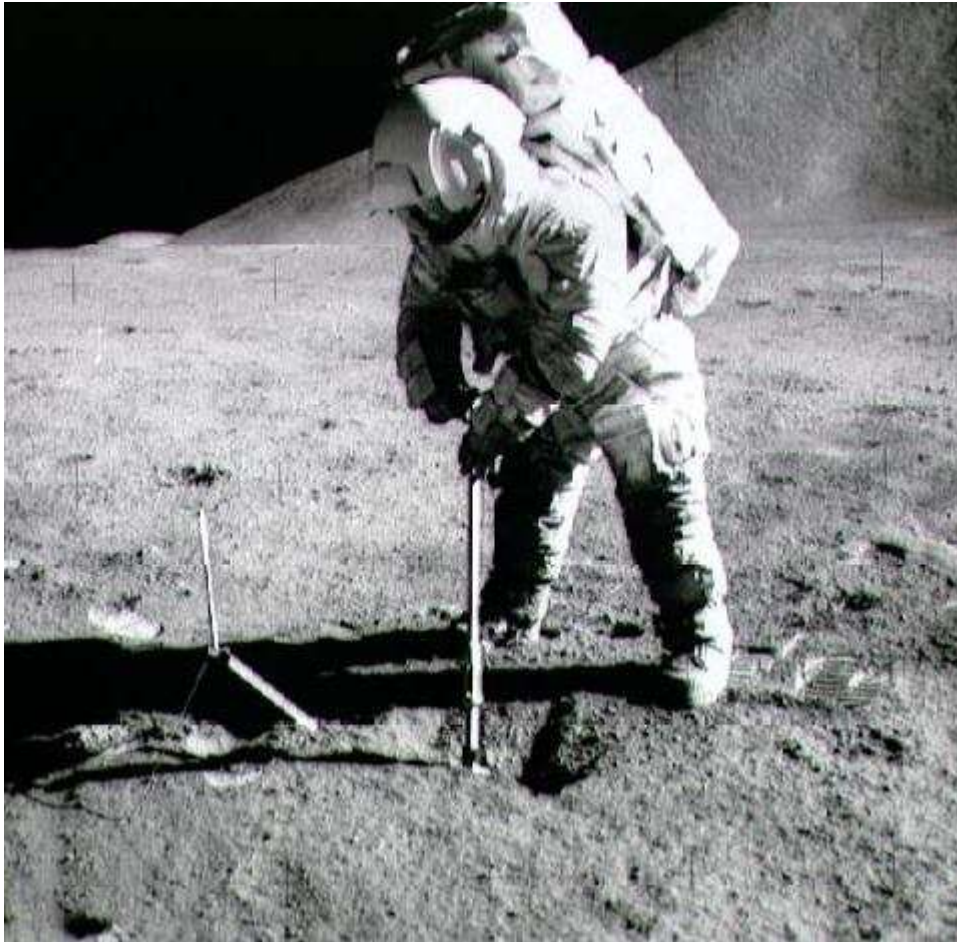
robot plants heat-resistant corals to save endangered reefs
[<https://www.popsci.com/heat-resistant-corals-robot>]→

Movie, Spirit trapped

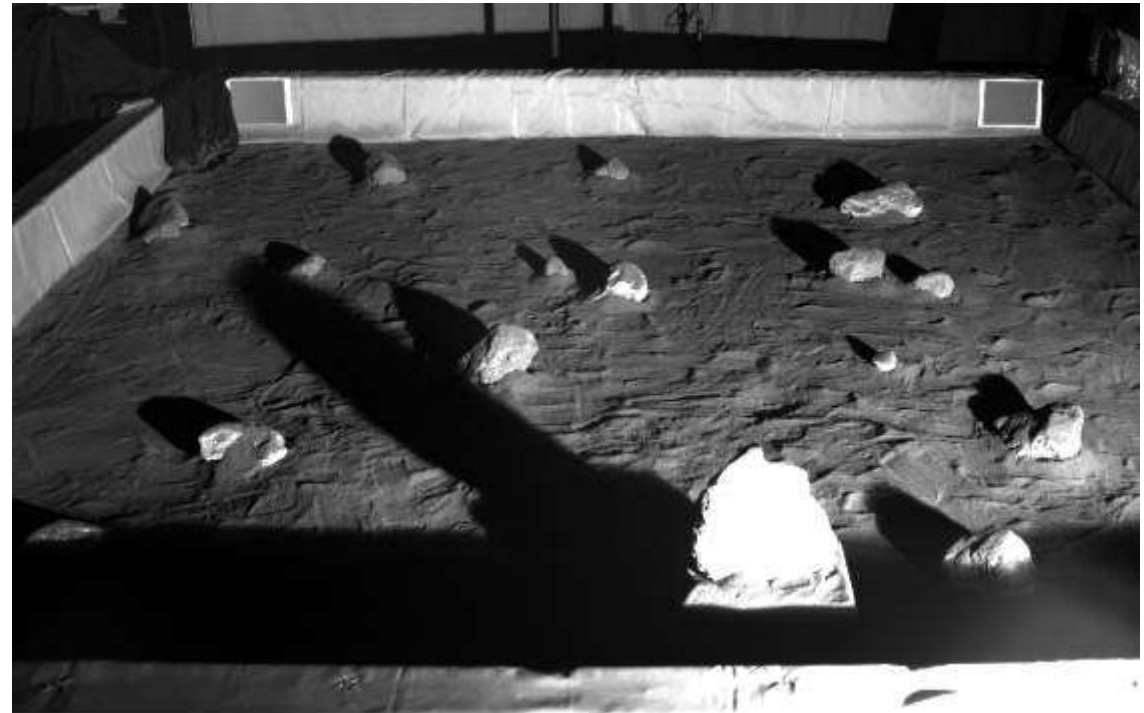




No clear idea what a camera should see on the moon...



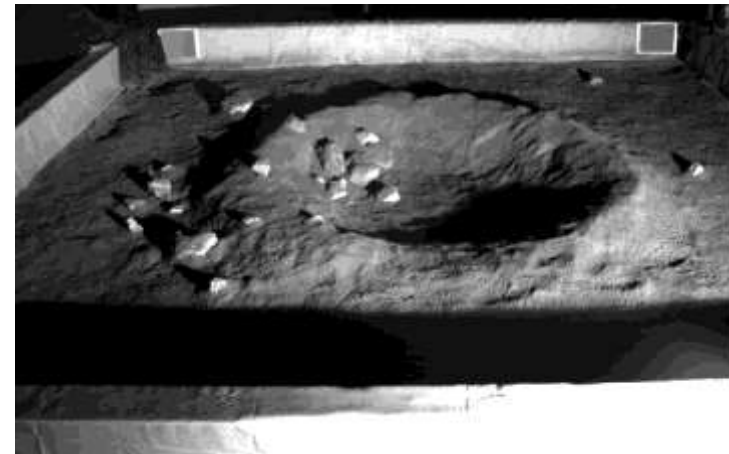
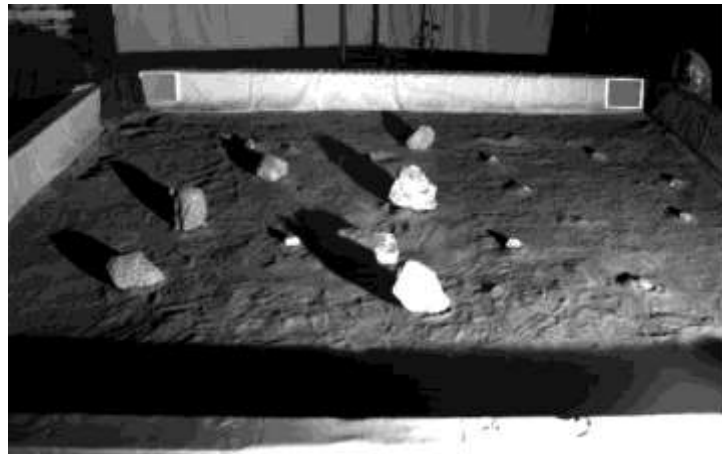
https://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/image/spacecraft/alsep_soil_mech.jpg



NASA's [Polar Stereo Dataset](#)



NASA's Polar Stereo Dataset





A frame of what the camera “sees”





Another frame of what the camera “sees”



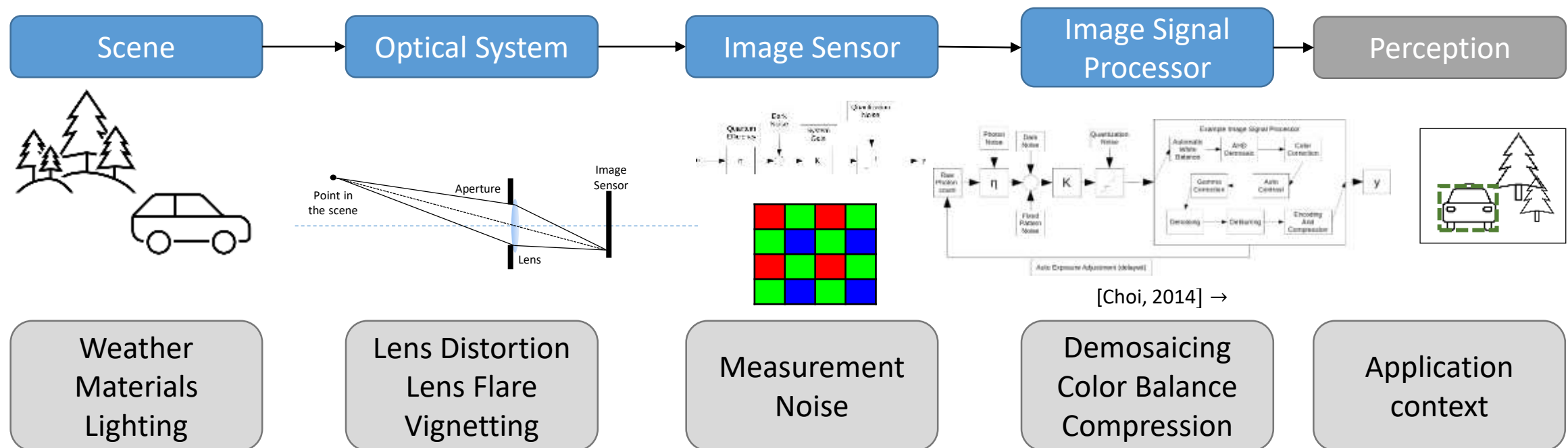


Quick comments, on camera simulation

- Use computer graphics to generate in simulation what **the camera sees** in reality
- We care about what a camera sees, **not** what a human expects to see
- Camera simulator good if Computer Vision **can't discern** between real of simulated data

Camera modeling and simulation

- Understanding how light forms an image
- Many steps have unknown features and parameters

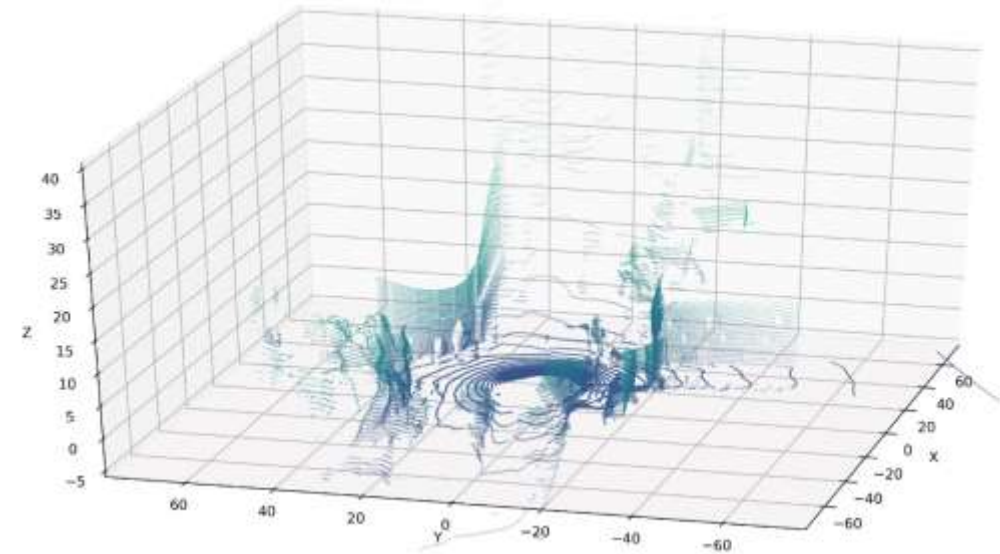




Chrono::Sensor – supported sensors

- Dynamics-based sensors
 - IMU (gyroscope, accelerometer, magnetometer)
 - GPS
- Light-based sensors leveraging ray tracing
 - Camera
 - Lidar
 - Radar (early prototype)

Simulated LiDAR point cloud using Chrono::Sensor





So again, what are we interested in simulating?

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Multibody Dynamics w/ Friction and Contact: The Math

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{q})\mathbf{v}$$

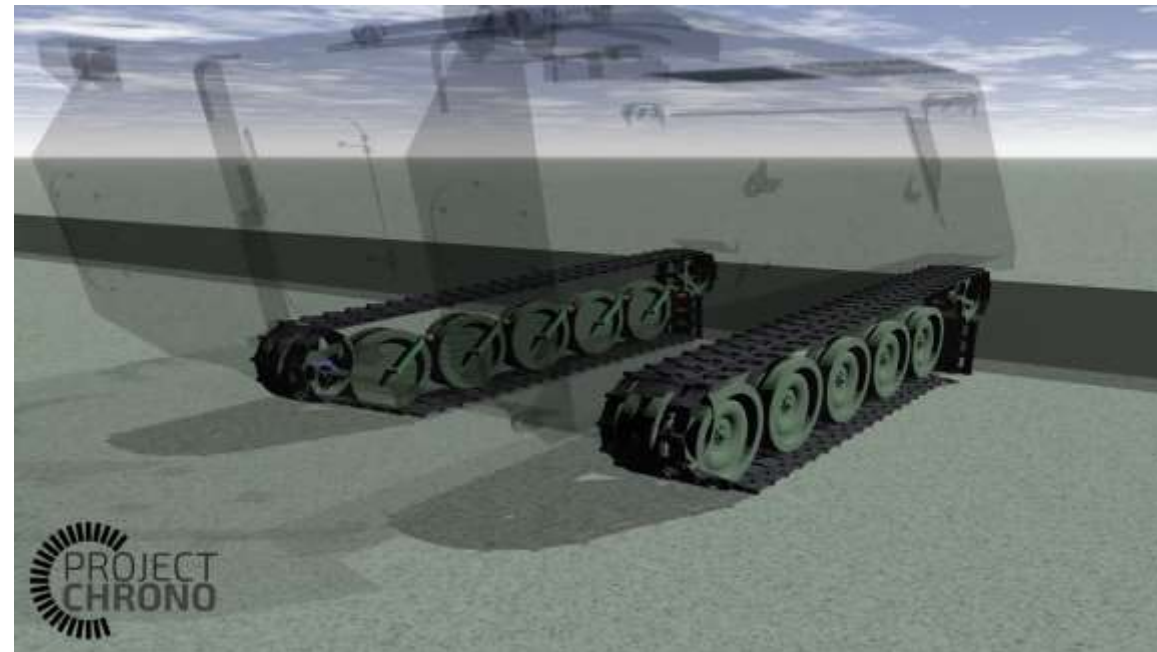
$$\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{q})\dot{\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}) - \mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{q}}^{\mathbf{T}}(\mathbf{q}, t)\lambda$$

$$\mathbf{0} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{q}, t)$$

Chrono::Vehicle



Chrono::Vehicle – Tracked system example



DEM example applications





So again, what are we interested in simulating?

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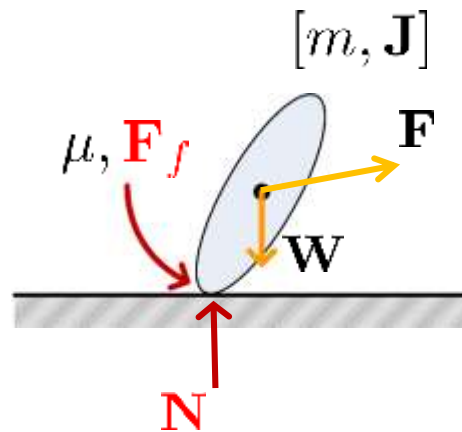


Mass \times Acceleration = Force



Mass \times Acceleration = Force

- Coulomb friction, w/ friction coefficient μ



$$m\dot{\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{W} + \mathbf{F} + \mathbf{N} + \mathbf{F}_f$$

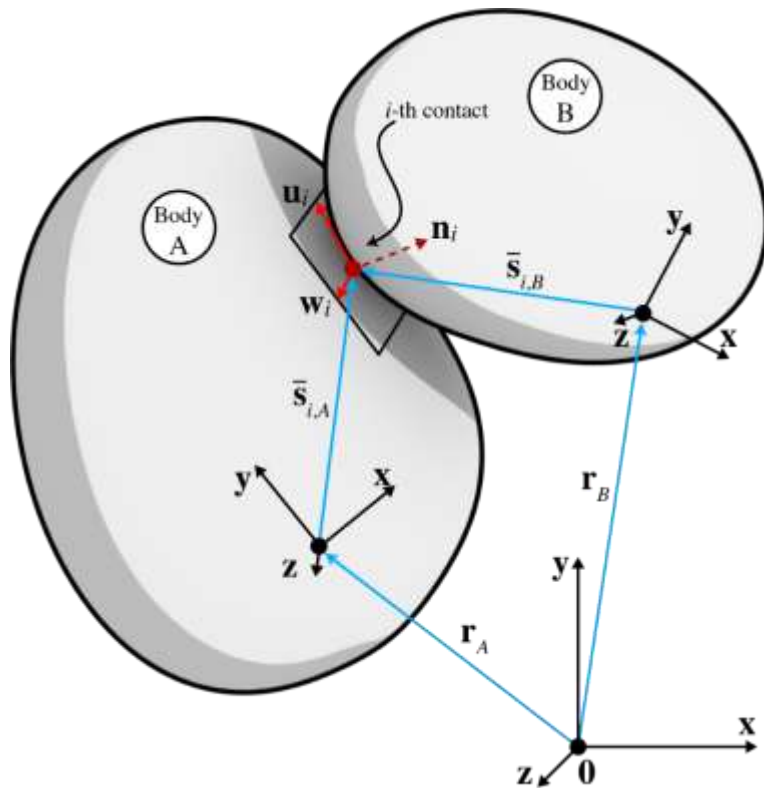
$$\|\mathbf{F}_f\| \leq \mu\|\mathbf{N}\|$$



Terradynamics: 1,000 million bodies



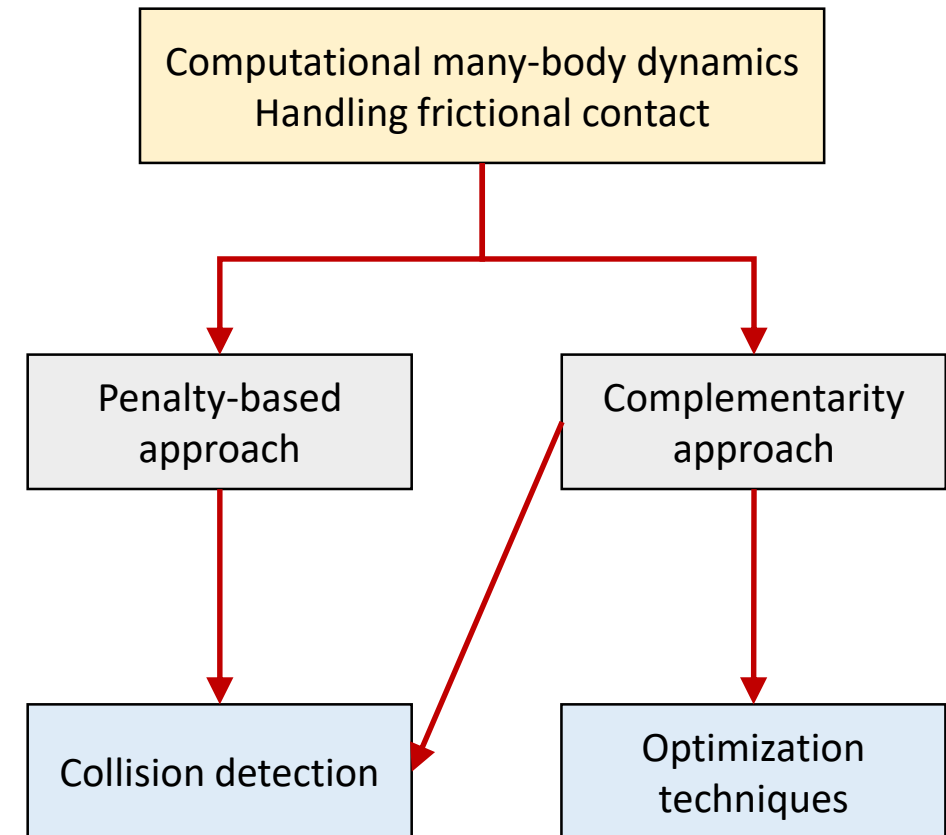
Two main approaches: penalty & complementarity



Problem

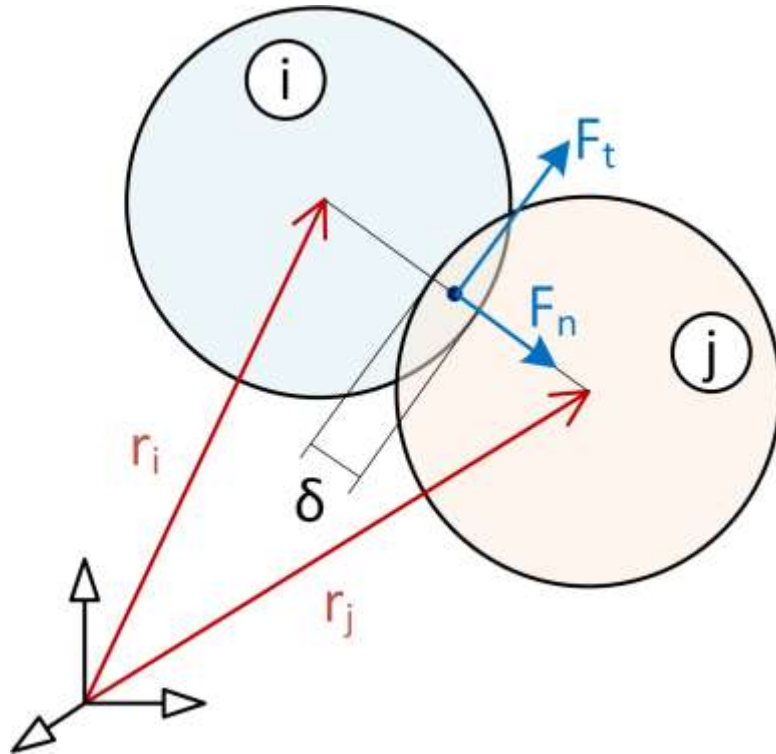
Modelling approach

Numerical techniques



Most common frictional contact model: The **PENALTY** model

Kinematic/Geometry Aspects



- Cundall & Strack: *A discrete numerical model for granular assemblies*, Geotechnique 29.1 (1979): 47-65.
- Almost 18,000+ citations
- “This overlapping behavior takes the place of the deformation of the individual particles.”

PENALTY model: The contact (normal) component

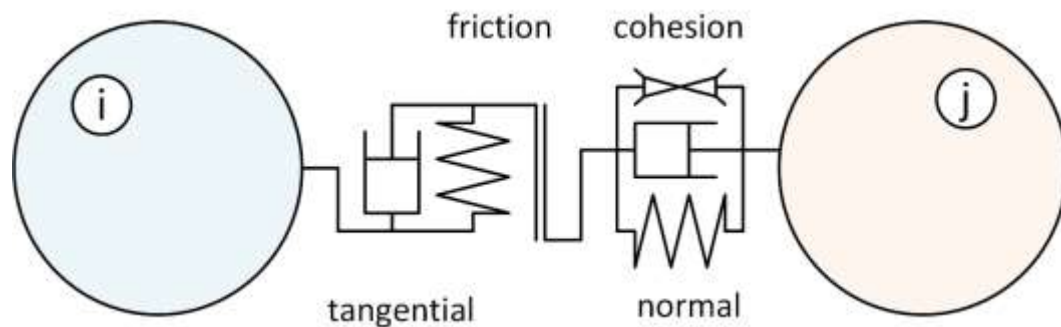
- Kelvin-Voigt: $F_N = K\delta_n + D\dot{\delta}_n$
 - linear spring, linear damper
 - contact force at zero deformation is not continuous
- Hunt-Crossley: $F_N = K\delta_n^\alpha + \chi\delta_n^\alpha\dot{\delta}_n$ with $\chi = \frac{3K(1-c_r)}{2\dot{\delta}_n^-}$
 - express damping as function of deformation (dissipation as heat)
 - typically, $\alpha = 3/2$
 - force is zero at start and end of contact
- Lankarani-Nikravesh: $\chi = \frac{3K(1-c_r^2)}{4\dot{\delta}_n^-}$
 - valid only for c_r close to unity (dissipated energy small compared to maximum absorbed elastic energy)
- Machado-Flores: $\chi = \frac{8K(1-c_r)}{5c_r\dot{\delta}_n^-}$
 - derived from energy balance and conservation of linear momentum
 - correctly captures $\chi \rightarrow \infty$ as $c_r \rightarrow 0$

1. W. Goldsmith, Impact, The Theory and Physical Behaviour of Colliding Solids, Edward Arnold Ltd, London, 1960
2. K.H. Hunt and F.R.E. Crossley, Coefficient of Restitution Interpreted as Damping in Vibroimpact, J. Appl. Mech., 42, 1975
3. H.M. Lankarani and P.E. Nikravesh, A Contact force model with hysteresis damping for impact analysis of multibody systems, J. Mech. Design, 112 (1990)
4. M. Machado, P. Moreira, P. Flores, H.M. Lankarani, Compliant contact force models in multibody dynamics: evolution of the Hertz contact theory, Mech. Mach. Theory, 53 (2012)



PENALTY model: the frictional component

- The model:
 - “The resultant forces on any disc are determined exclusively by its interaction with the discs with which it is in contact.”
 - One normal/contact force
 - “The force-displacement law is used to find contact forces from displacement”
 - One tangential/friction force



PENALTY model: the frictional component (Cnt'd)

Common accepted model: Cundall and Strack (1979) - virtual tangential spring

- Include Coulomb law of attrition: $|F_T| \leq \mu|F_N|$
- Refinements: viscosity, non-linearity, hysteresis

Viscoelastic model (general form): $F_T = -K_T(\delta_n)\delta_t - D_T(\delta_n)v_t$

- linear (K_T, D_T constant) or nonlinear ($K_T, D_T \propto \delta_n^{1/2}$)
- tangential displacement: $\delta_t = \int_{t_c} v_t(\tau)d\tau$
approximation: $\delta_t \approx hv_t$

1. P.A. Cundall and O.D.L. Strack, A discrete numerical model for granular assemblies, *Geotechnique*, 29(1), 1979
2. H. Kruggel-Emden, S. Wirtz, V. Scherer, A study on tangential force laws applicable to the discrete element method for materials with viscoelastic or plastic behavior, *Chem. Eng. Sci.*, 63, 2008
3. A. Di Renzo and F.P. Di Maio, An improved integral non-linear model for the contact of particles in distinct element simulations, *Chem. Eng. Sci.*, 60, 2005



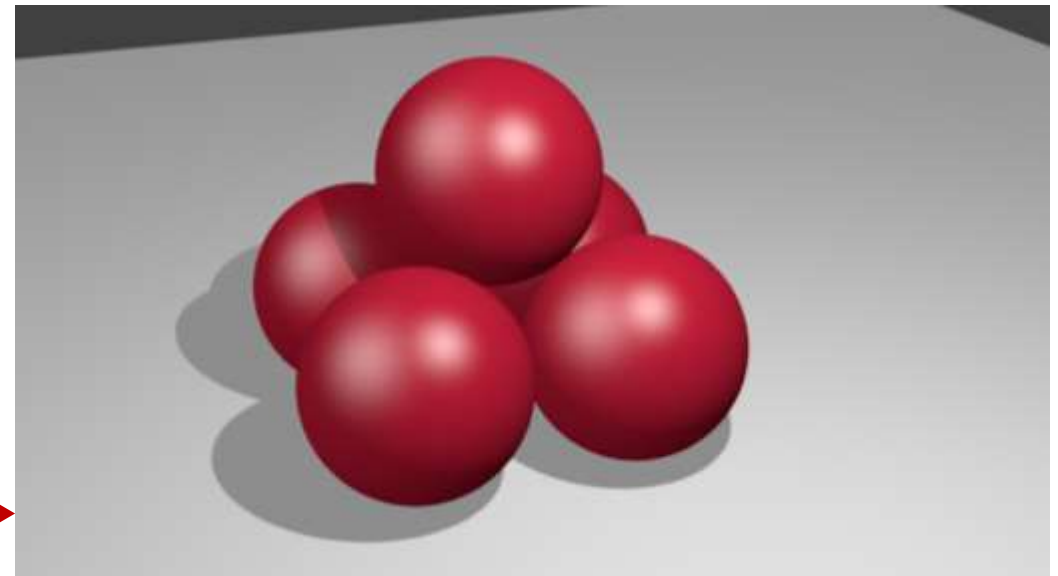
Terradynamics: a multi-scale problem

Vehicle \leftrightarrow 1 [m]



versus

Sand grain \leftrightarrow 1E-3 – 1E-4 [m]



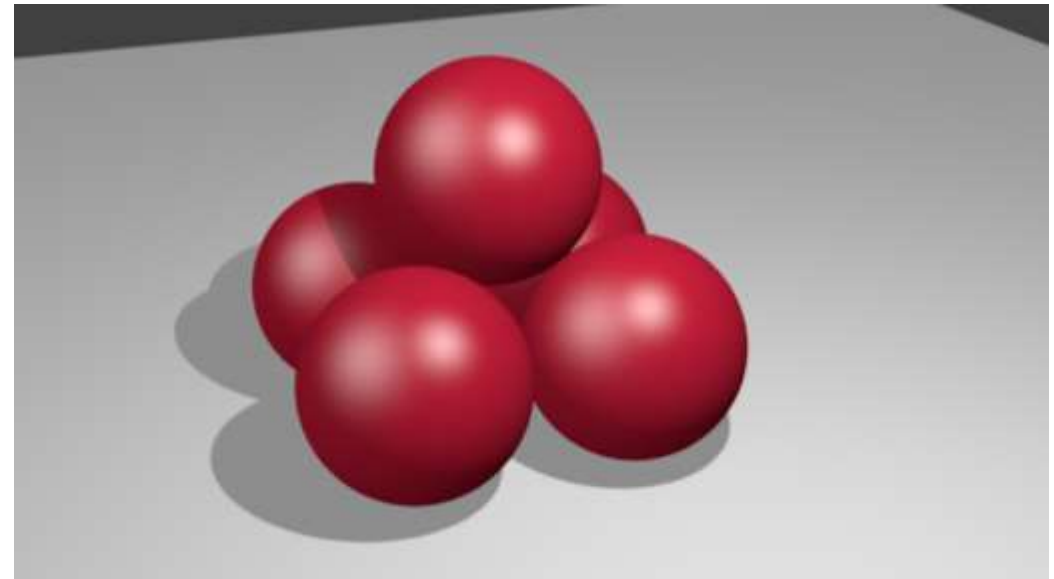
Macroscale emergent behavior dictated by **microscale** dynamics



What's "microscale"? It gets even more interesting...

- Sphere sitting on top of another sphere
 - Penalty method, all units SI
 - $K = 10^{10}$
 - $\rho = 2600$
 - Gravitational acceleration (Europa): 1.3
 - Radius: 10^{-4}
 - Deformation order $\approx 10^{-18}$
- Phobos and Deimos gravity: 1700X lower than Earth

Sand grains $\leftrightarrow 1E-3 - 1E-4$ [m]





A look around, problem size and element morphology

Year	# Bodies	Geometry	?D	# References	Link
1998	3,960	Polydisperse spheres	3D	618	Source
2001	8,000	Monodisperse spheres	3D	773	Source
2003	1,000	Monodisperse disks	2D	534	Source
2005	5,000	Range of radii disks	2D	711	Source
2006	440,000	Spheres, of 3 radii	3D	281	Source
2007	~100s	Monodisperse Spheres	3D	58	Source
2014	260,000	Monodisperse spheres	3D	11	Source
2014	18,000	Polydisperse spheres	3D	23	Source
2015	~1,000s	Polydisperse spheres	3D	59	Source
2015	?	Polydisperse ellipsoids	3D	1	Source
2015	21,812	Polydisperse spheres	3D	34	Source
2016	20,000	Crushable unions of spheres of different radii	3D	27	Source
2016	90,905	Polydisperse spheres	3D	?	Source
2016	5761 particles	Unions of spheres (24771 spheres)	3D	66	Source
2017	16,000	Polydisperse spheres, cubes	3D	?	Source
2017	33,600	Polydisperse spheres	3D	15	Source
2017	300,000	Monodisperse spheres	3D	2	Source
2018	46,280	Spheres	2D	1	Source



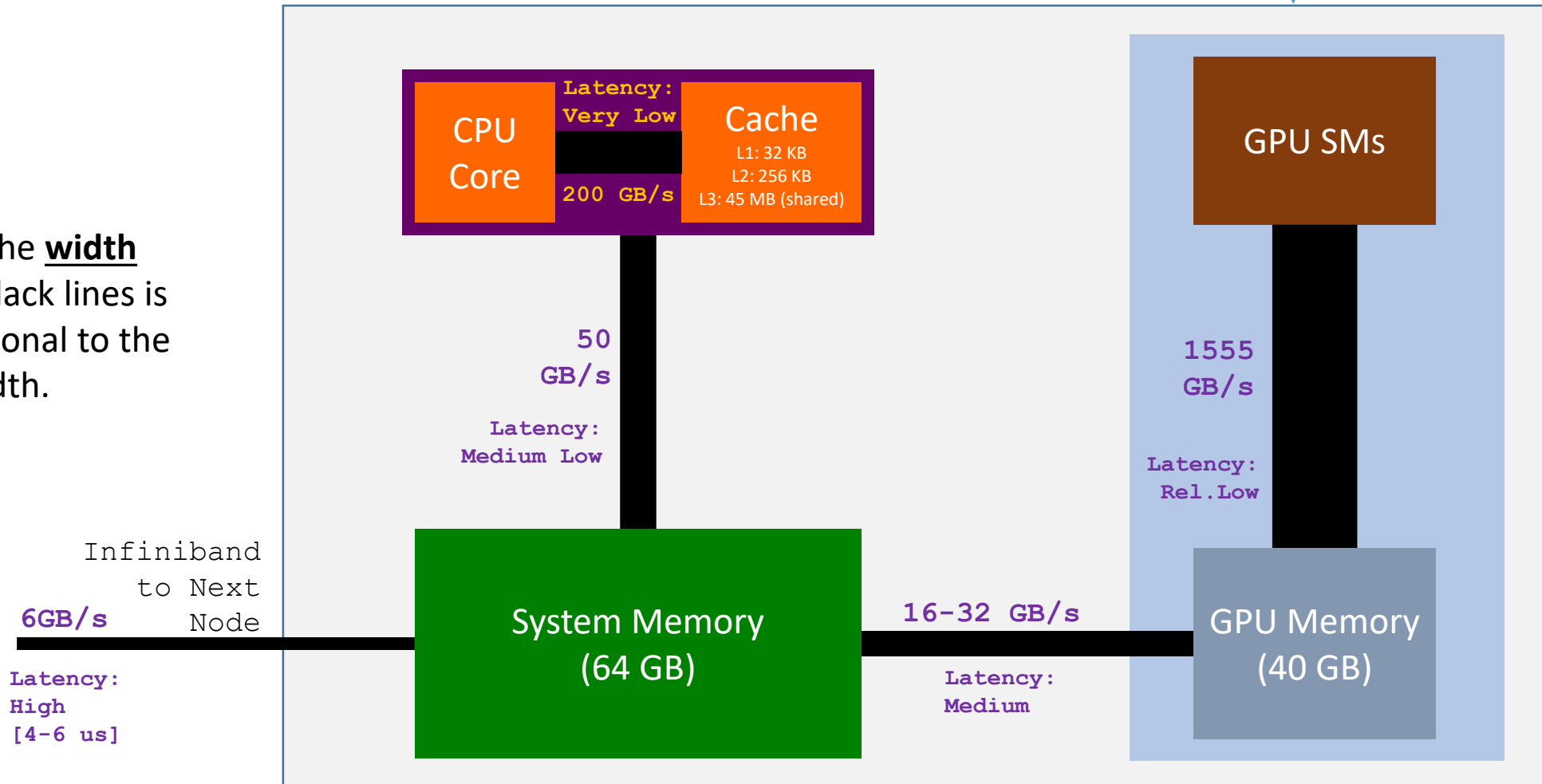
State of the Art, 3D Friction and Contact

- Japan's K-Supercomputer (World's fastest in 2012)
- Frictional contact problem: 2.4 billion elements (about 18 billion DOFs)
- 131,072 cores (MPI processes)
- Run in 2017-2018



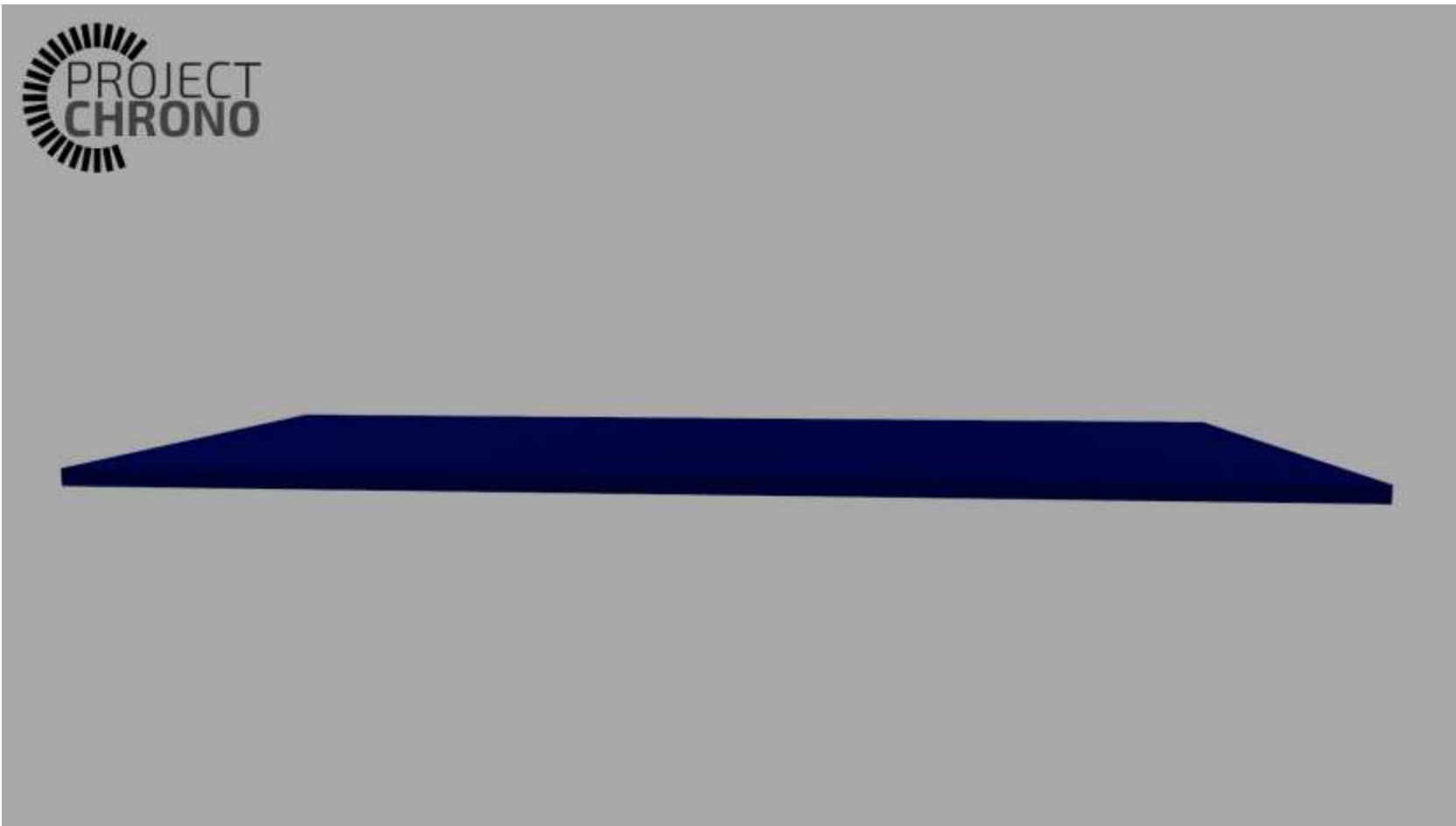
Our take: use GPU computing, on one node/workstation

NOTE: The **width** of the black lines is proportional to the bandwidth.

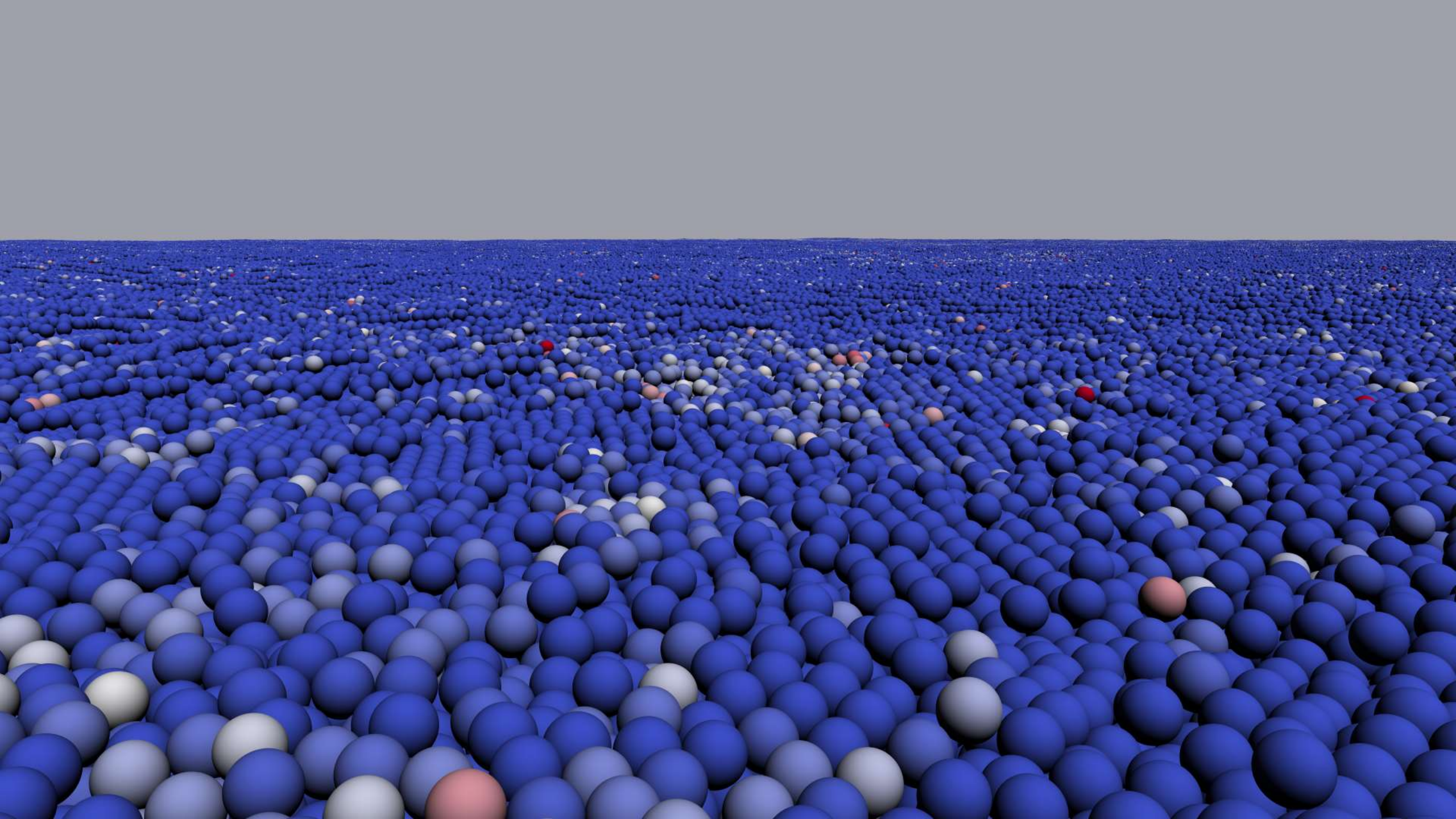


201,898,800 Body Problem

[2.8 seconds of settling: 24 hours of compute time]



- Patch of granular material
 - 35 m long
 - 15 m wide
 - 0.5 m deep
 - Element radius: 0.5 cm
 - Cohesion force but no friction force





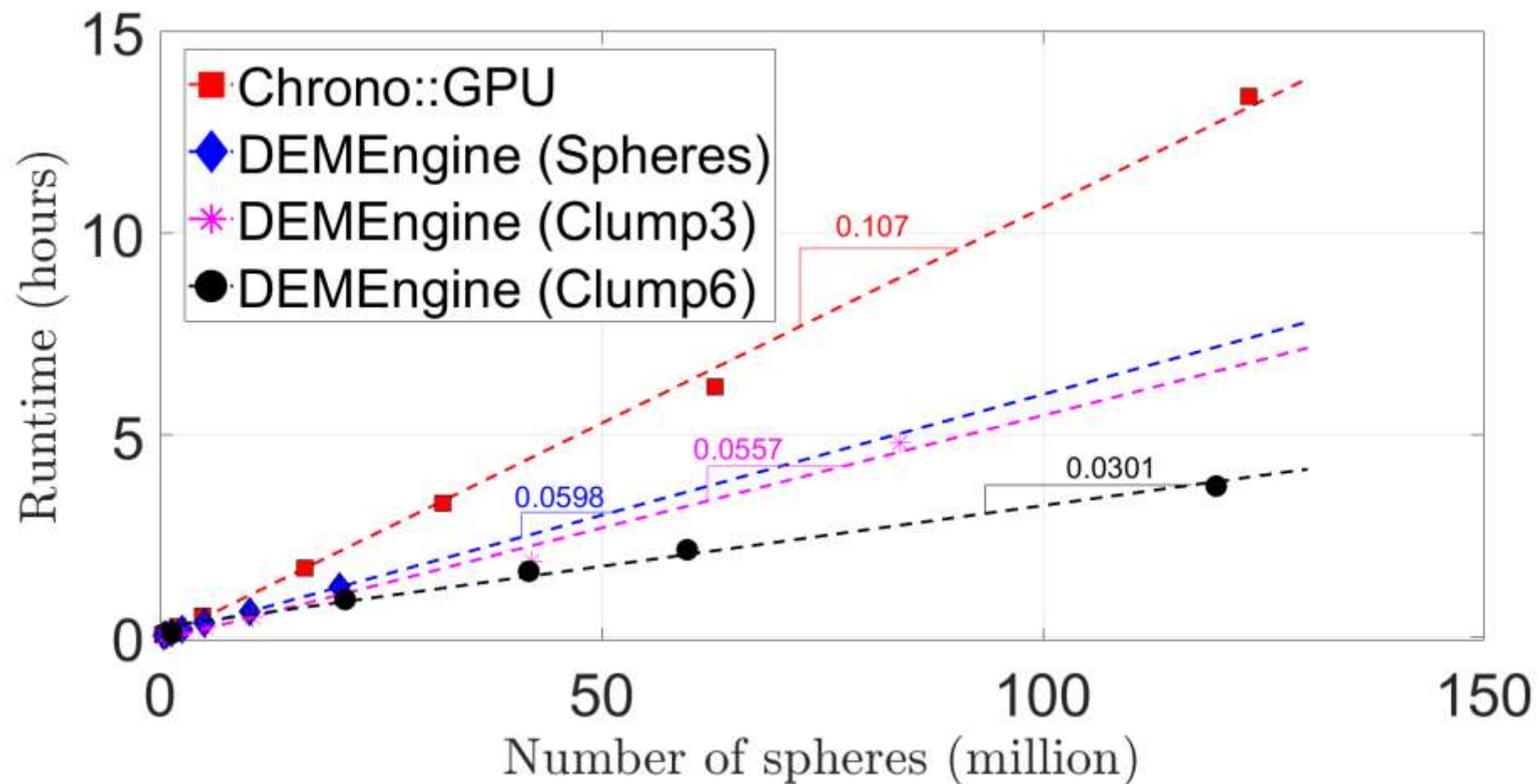
Scaling Analysis

Test problem: Granular material mixing...





Scaling analysis: 1 second of mixer simulation on A100s



Clump3



Clump6



Being mindful of storing data on the GPU (done parsimoniously)

Data Type	Variable	Memory Type
uint64_t	Voxel index	Global
uint16_t	Sub-voxel index	Global
int32_t or float	Kinematic quantities, friction history etc.	Global
double	Penetration	Register
double	Integration (time marching)	Register
float	Particle shape information	Shared

- Defining our data representation makes more effective use of memory bandwidth usage
- We do not compromise the physics (such as penetration calculation)



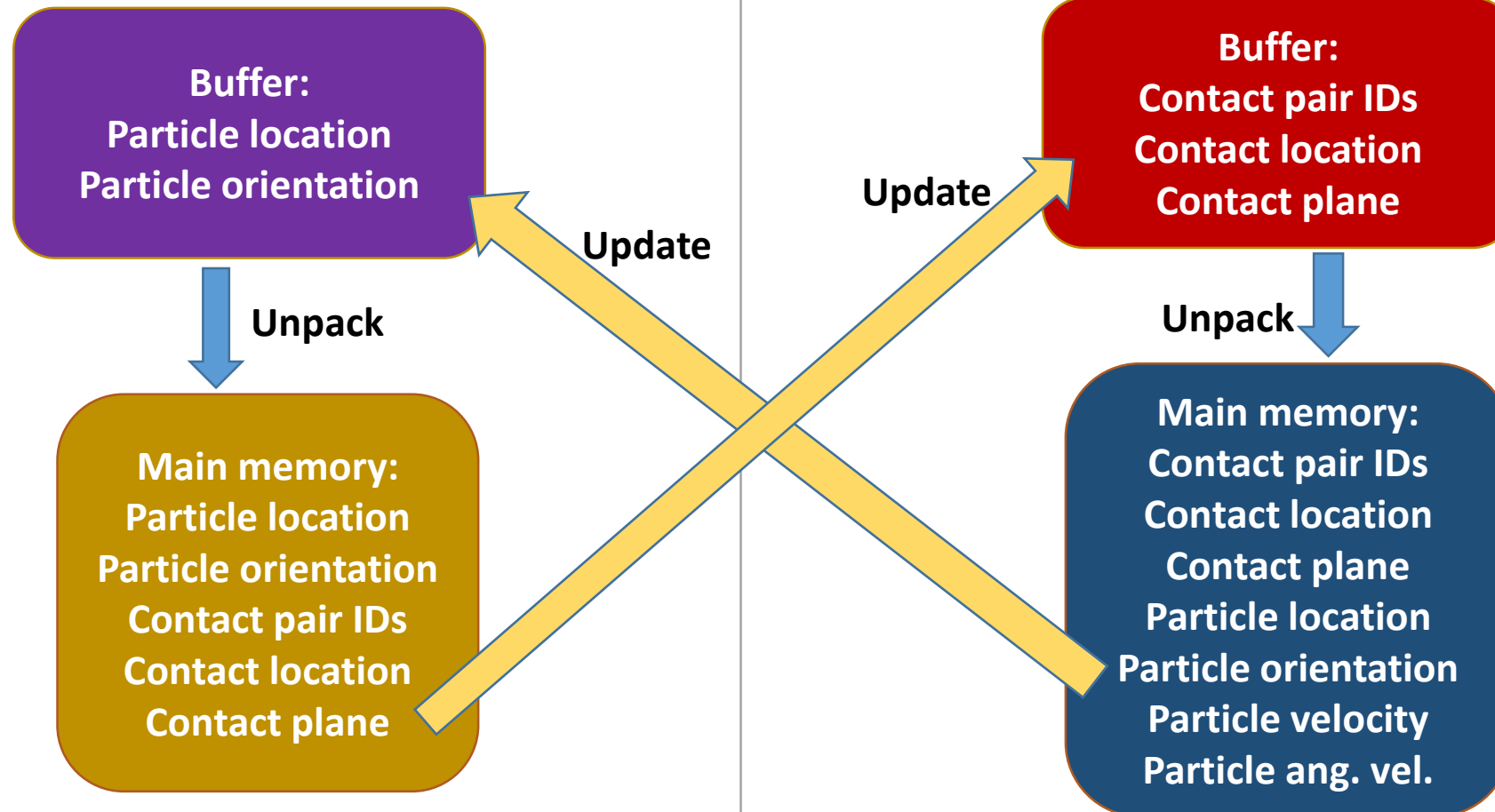
Dual-GPU solution

Kinematic Thread (GPU1)

- Tasked with contact detection
- And misc. issues that need not to be in sync with physics

Dynamic Thread (GPU2)

- Tasked with advancing the physics
 - Contact force calculation
 - Integration



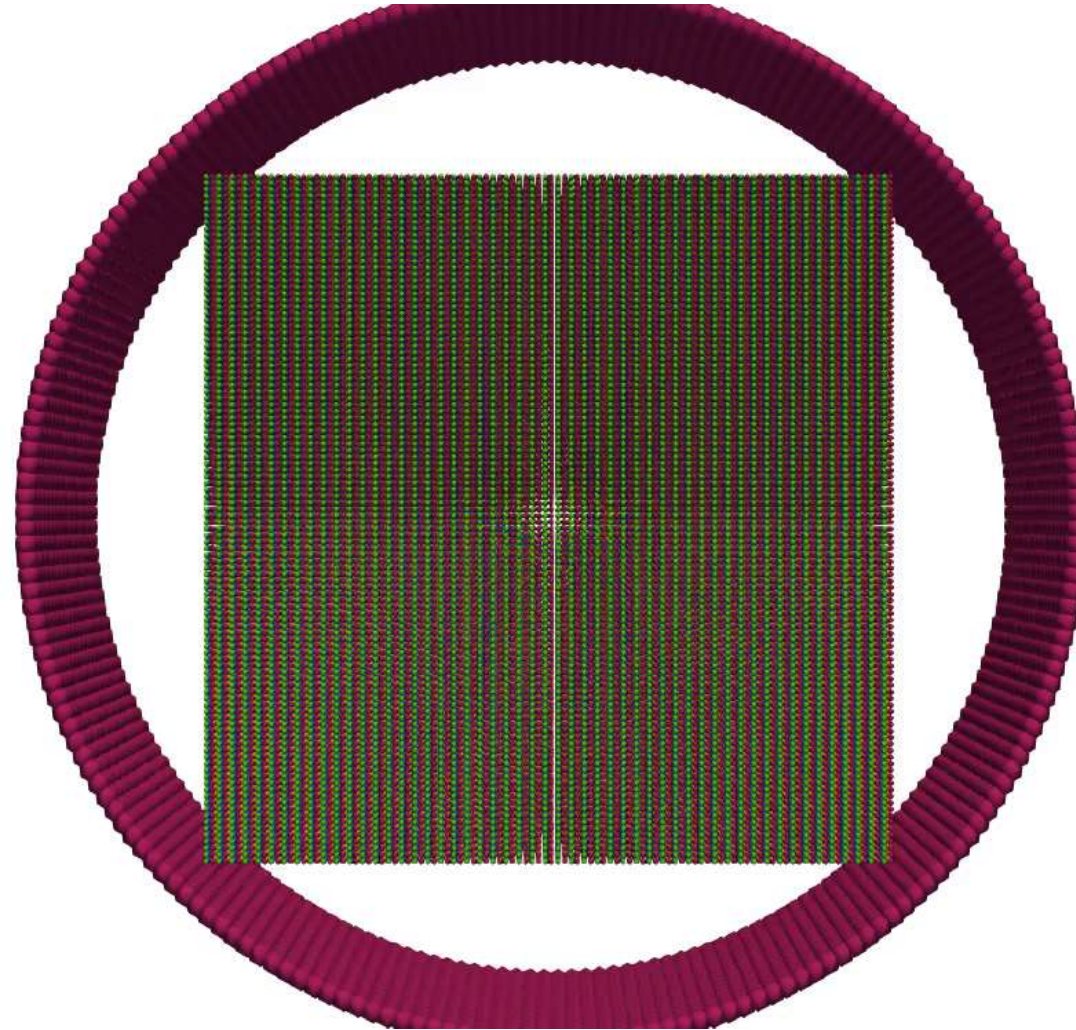


Larger problem size examples [Updated]

Year + Link	Problem size [millions]	2D/3D + geometry	Simulated time	Simulation time	Hardware used	Citations	Comments
2002	0.2	2D, mono	1 [s]	200 [s]	Swiss-T1, 64-node supercomputer	578	\$1 million, in 2001 dollars
2005	1	3D spheres, 8 mm radius	1.5 [s]	1 week	32 processors	234	
2012	0.4	3D, spheres, 1 mm radius			36 processors, MPI	586	
2013	0.15	3D, bidsiperse spheres, 2/4 mm	10 [s]	375 hours	16 processors	18	
2013	0.256	3D, compositete macrospheres			GPU	37	
2014	0.08	3D, spheres, 4 different radii	120 [s]	35 days	32 cores, MPI	66	
2014	0.13	3D, mono, 2.5 mm	?	?	?	89	
2015	0.392	3D, 3-macrospheres (4 mm/sphere)	?	?	?	35	
2016	1	3D, mono, 2.5 mm	?	?	1 GPU	42	
2017	0.9	3D, mono, 12 mm	7.64 [s]	5.5 days	1 CPU, multi-core	78	Chrono
2017	0.09	3D, poly	5 [s]	2 days	Intel Core i3-2100 1.58 GHz	13	
2018	1	3D, spheres, three radii	?	?	up to 20 GPUs	8	
2018	2.8	3D, spheres, polydisperse	?	(32 days; stopped early)	GPU (GTX1080)	5	up to 4 million elems
2018	0.25	3D, quad-disperse, spheres	?	?	4-core on one CPU	10	commercial code
2018	2400	3D, poly, spheres	?	?	131,072 cores	2	Japan's K-supercomputer
2022	120 [20]	Six-sphere clumps	1 [s]	4 hours	2 GPUs	WIP	scales linearly



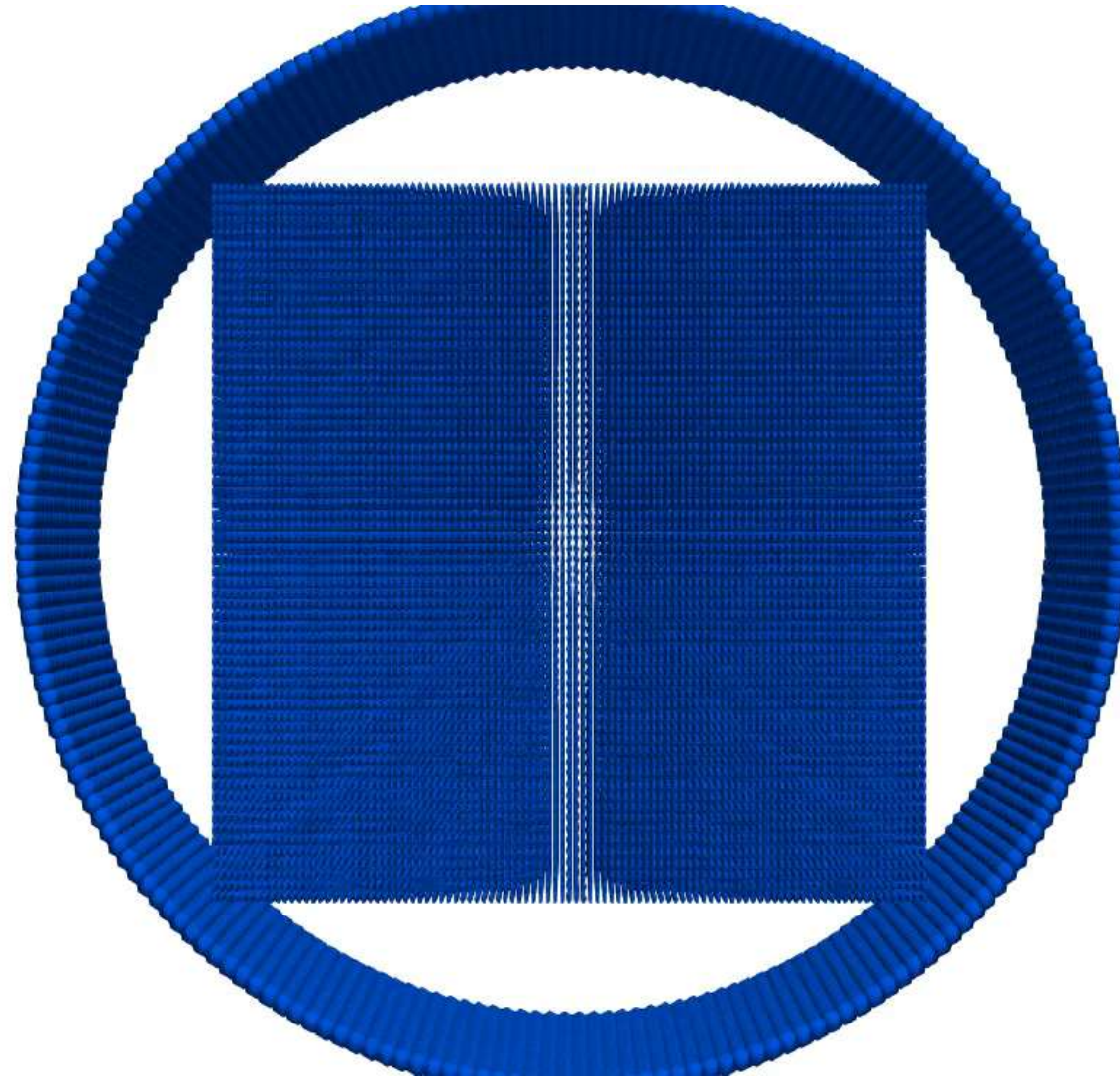
Example — Centrifuging 1



All particles are spherical, same radius. Cold color means lighter particles and warm color means heavier ones. The drum rotates at around 2π rad/s. Gravity parallel to axis of rotation.



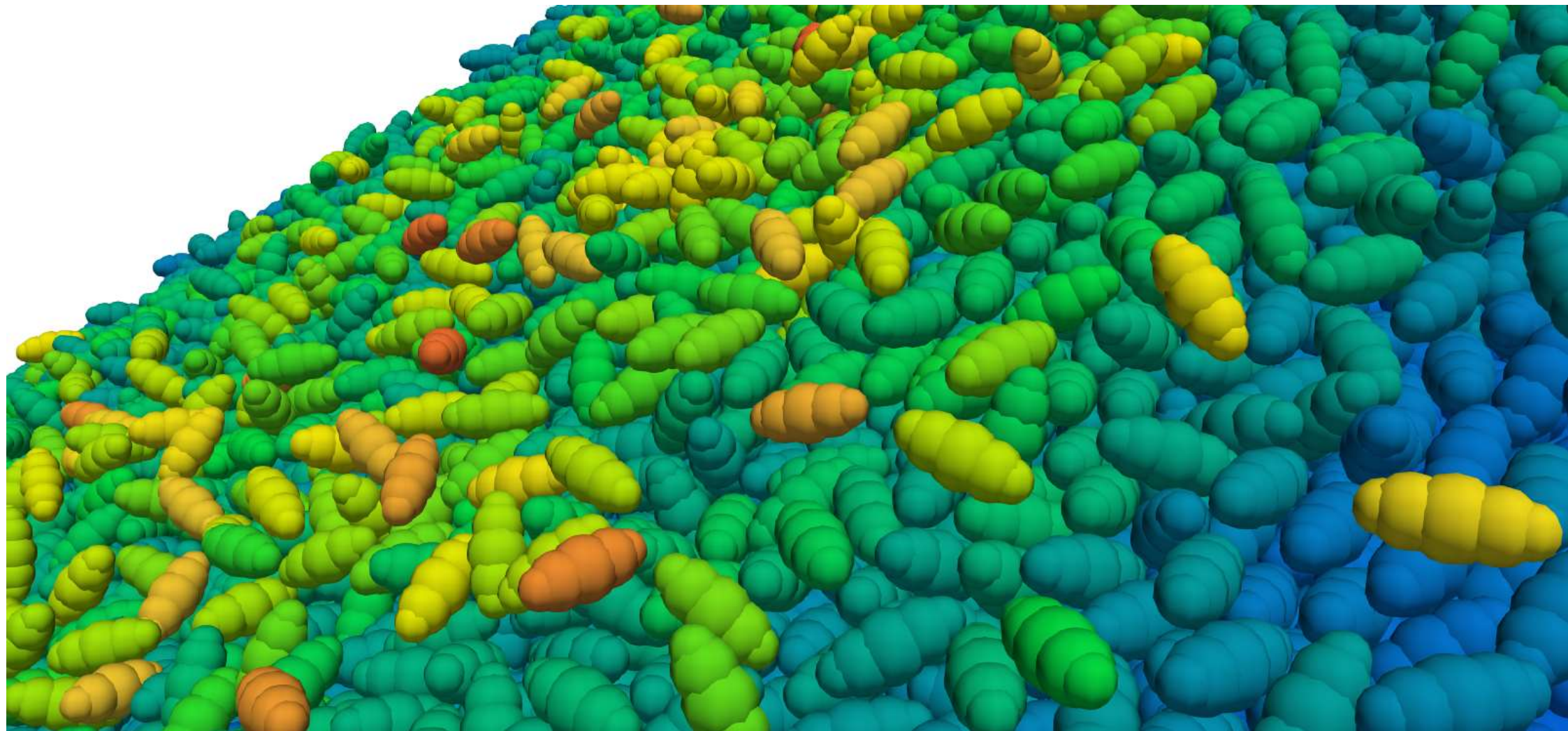
Example — Drum (ellipsoidal particles)



Simulation scale is about 200k clumps (1M spheres). The drum rotates at 0.1 rad/s. The final incline is about 33° .



Drum (ellipsoidal particles)

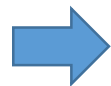
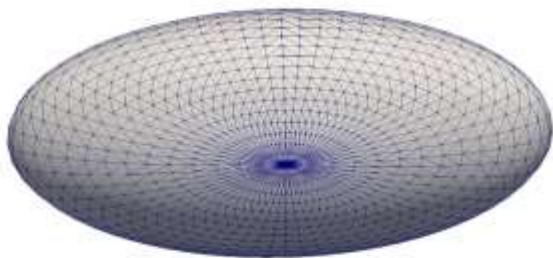


Close-up of the ellipsoidal particles



Clump Shape Generator

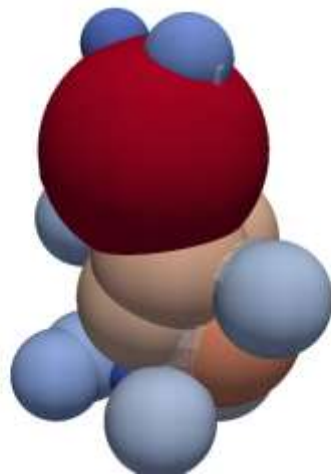
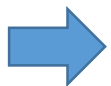
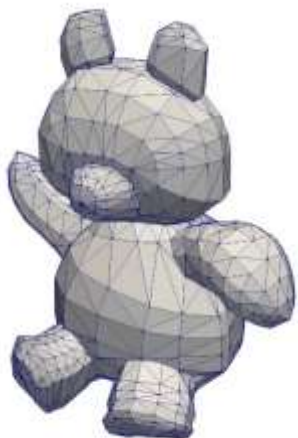
Original meshed object



Convex-decomp. then fit spheres

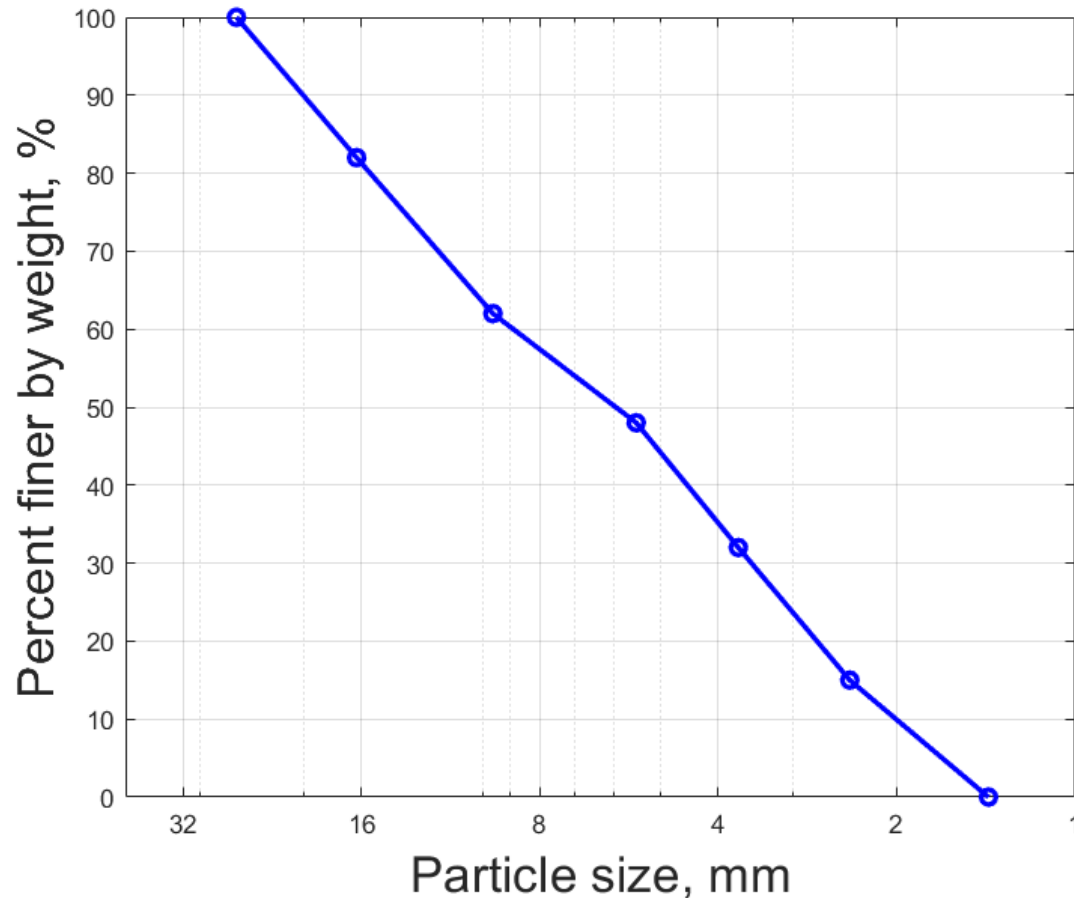


Optimize spheres to fit mesh





GRC-1 terrain, particle shape & size (scaled up by $\approx 10\times$)



Particle size distribution used in this simulation

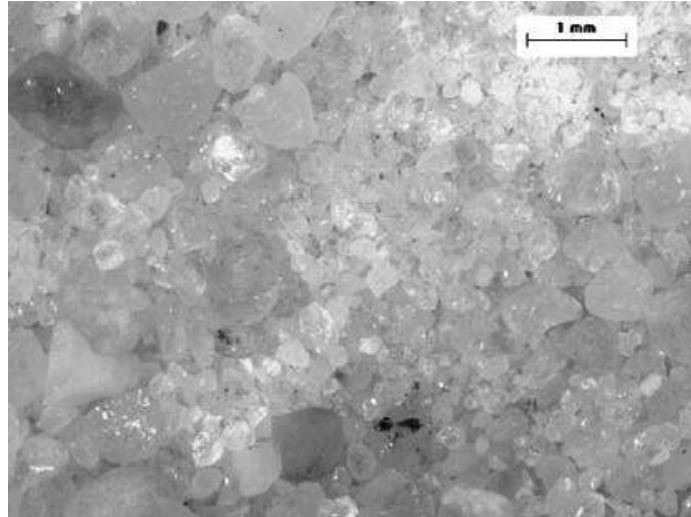
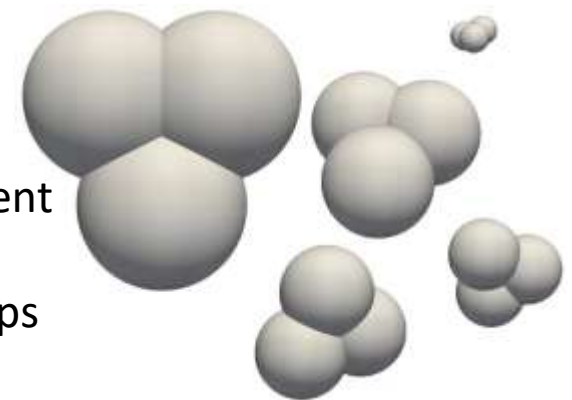


Photo depicting GRC-1 grain geometry and particle size [1]

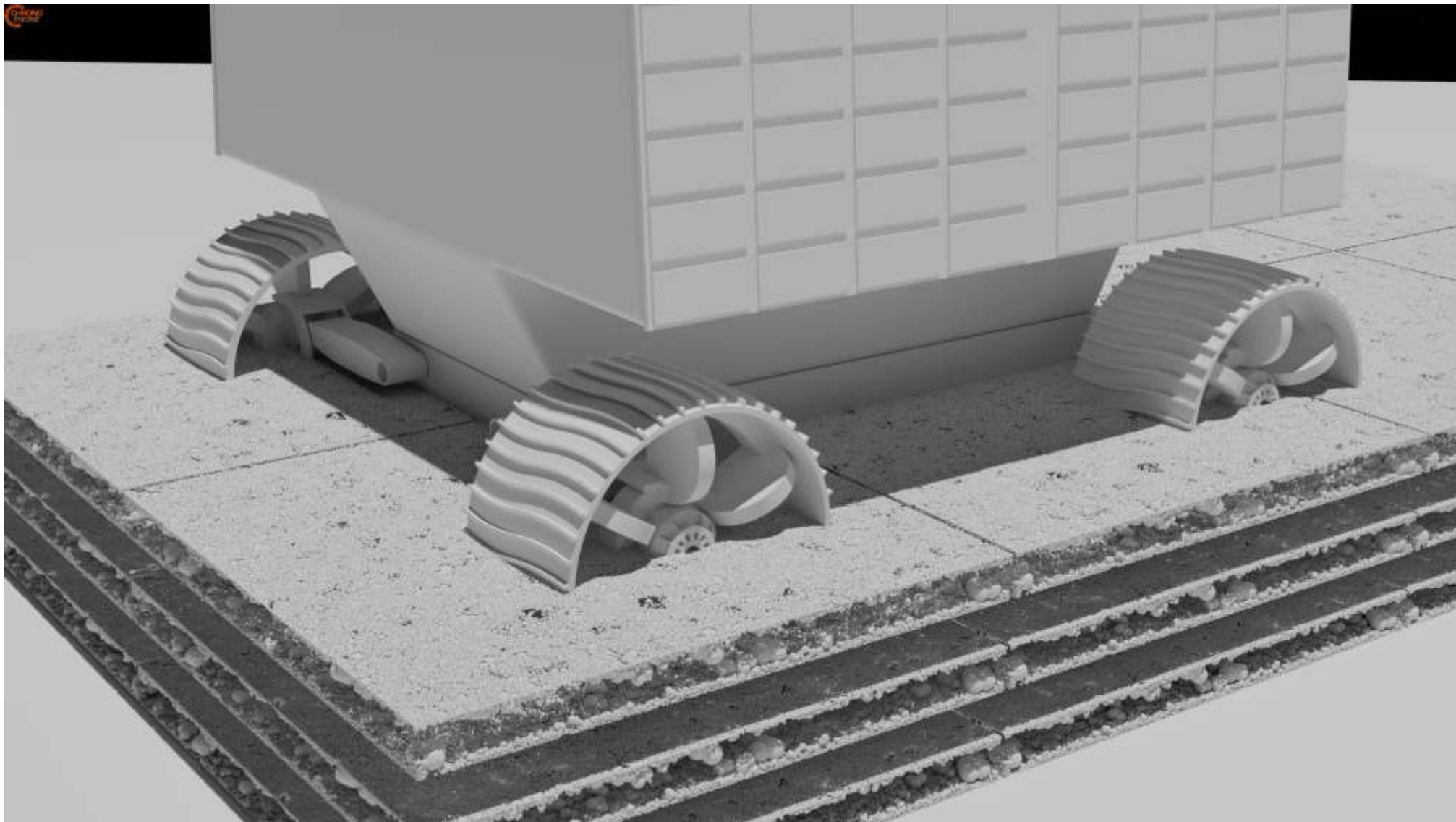
[1] H.A. Oravec, X. Zeng, V.M. Asnani, 2010. "Design and characterization of GRC-1: A soil for lunar terramechanics testing in Earth-ambient conditions". *Journal of Terramechanics*, 47(6), pp. 361–377.

The particle shapes present in the DEM simulations, which are 3-sphere clumps of different sizes





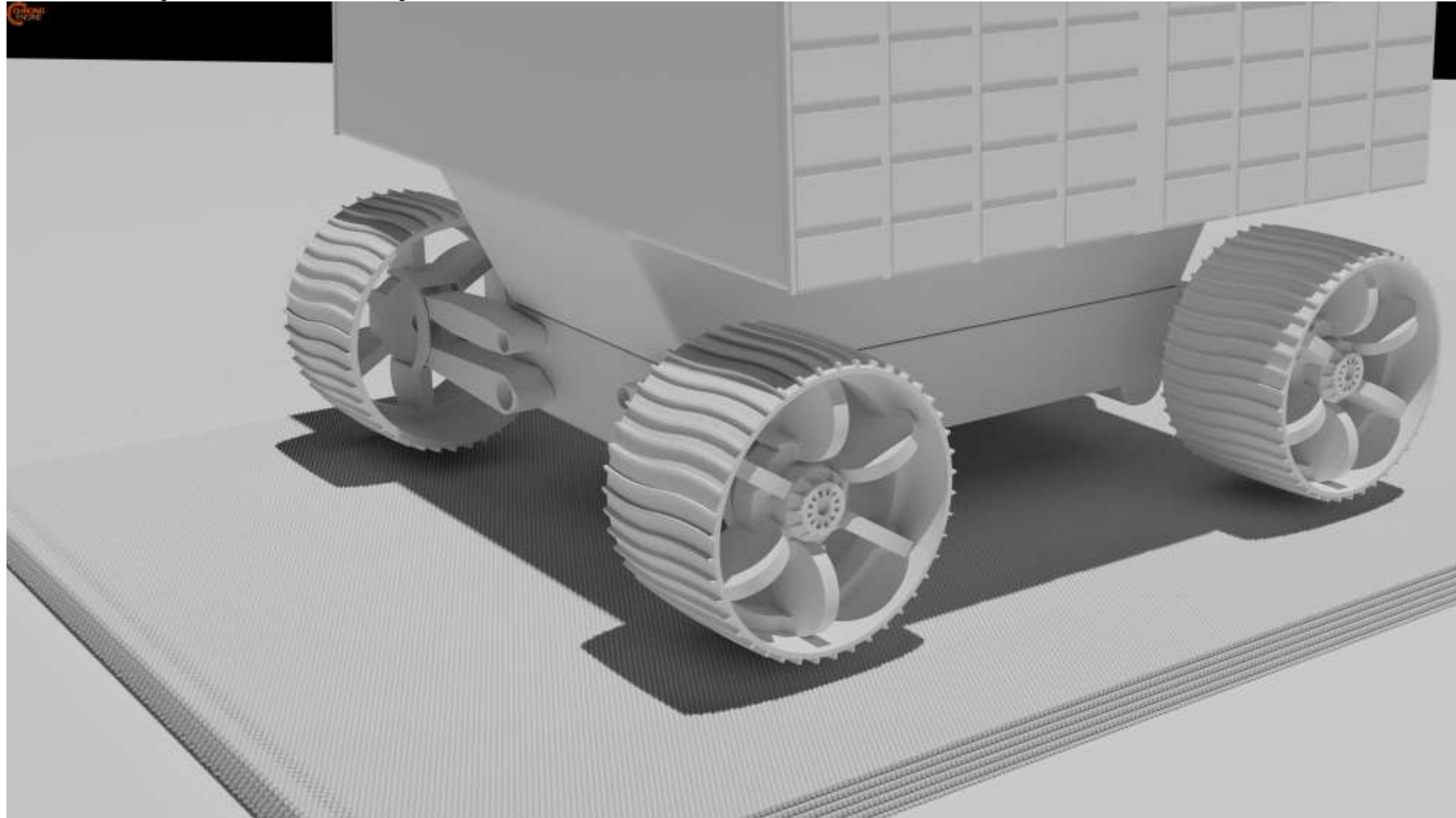
VIPER on GRC-1 terrain (10X enlarged)



Earth gravity. Particles have a GRC-1-like distributions of sizes.



VIPER on sphere-represented terrain



Same rover. The sinkage, mobility different when using monodisperse spheres



Continuum Representation Model (CRM) for Terramechanics

- Fully resolved terramechanics using DEM is often times too computationally demanding
- We started using embraced a continuum representation of the terrain
- The PDEs associated with the continuum representation of the terrain solved via SPH



Continuum Representation Model for Terramechanics

- Equations: mass conservation & momentum balance & stress rate of change
- Spatially discretized with Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics (SPH)
- Using constitutive model proposed in 2015 ([Dunatunga & Kamrin](#))



Continuum modeling of granular material: governing equations

- Mass and Momentum balance equations

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d\rho}{dt} = -\rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \\ \frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} = \frac{\nabla \boldsymbol{\sigma}}{\rho} + \mathbf{f}_b \end{cases}$$

Cauchy stress tensor



$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = -p\mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\tau}$$



deviatoric component
of stress tensor



isotropic pressure

$$p = -\frac{1}{3} \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) = -\frac{1}{3} (\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy} + \sigma_{zz})$$



The constitutive model; draws on Zaremba-Jaumann equation

$$\frac{d\boldsymbol{\sigma}}{dt} = \dot{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} - \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\phi}} + \Delta \boldsymbol{\sigma},$$

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = \frac{1}{2}(\nabla \mathbf{u} - \nabla \mathbf{u}^T)$$

rotation rate tensor

$$\Delta \boldsymbol{\sigma} = 2G(\dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}} - \frac{1}{3}\text{tr}(\dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}})\mathbf{I}) + \frac{1}{3}K\text{tr}(\dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}})\mathbf{I},$$

Zaremba-Jaumann rate
of the Cauchy stress

$$\text{bulk modulus } K = \frac{2(1+\nu)}{3(1-2\nu)}G$$

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}} = \frac{1}{2}(\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^T)$$

(strain rate, **elastic** regime)

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}} = \frac{1}{2}(\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^T) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\dot{\lambda} \frac{\boldsymbol{\tau}}{\bar{\tau}}$$

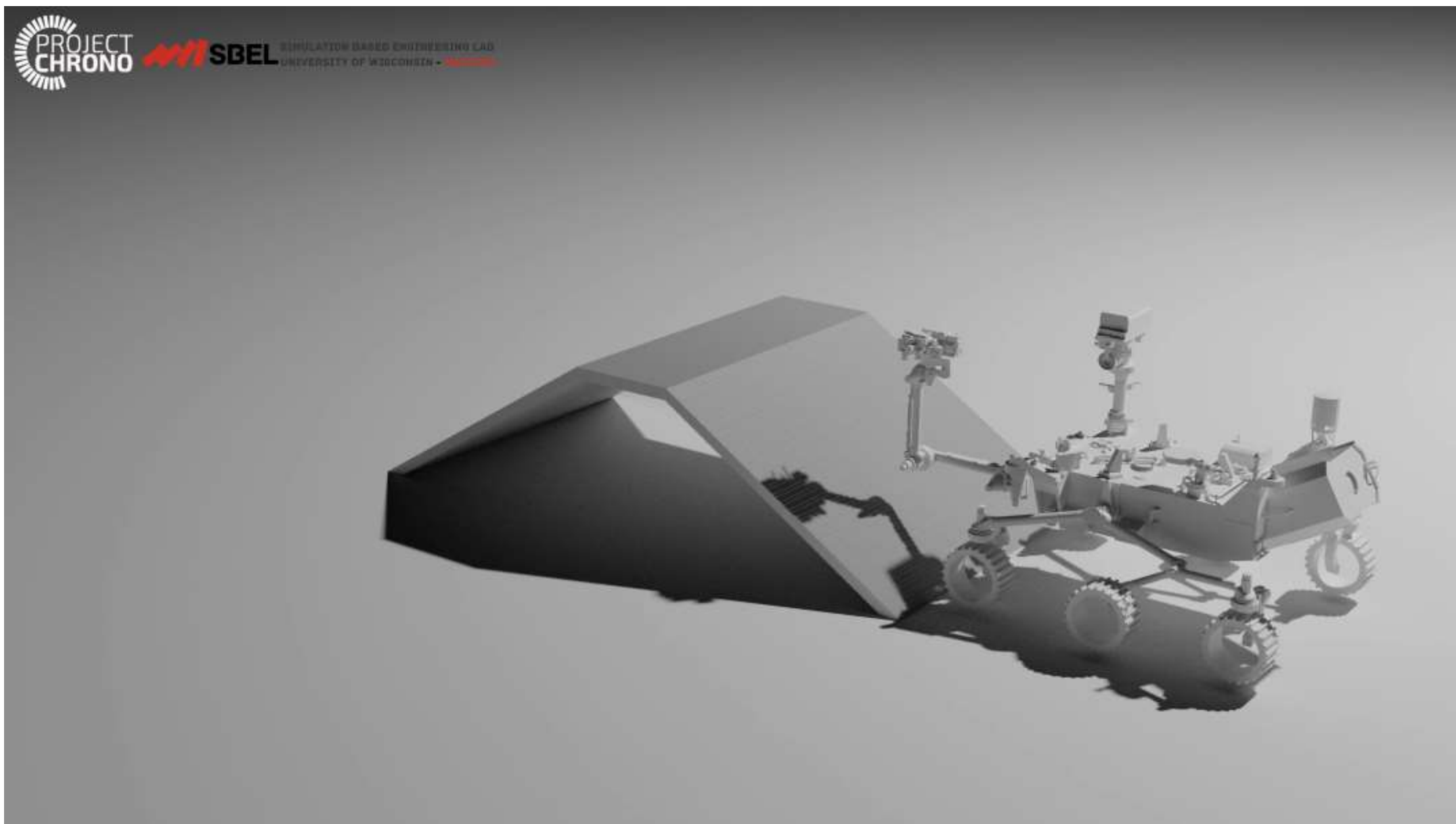
(strain rate, **plastic** regime)

plastic strain rate

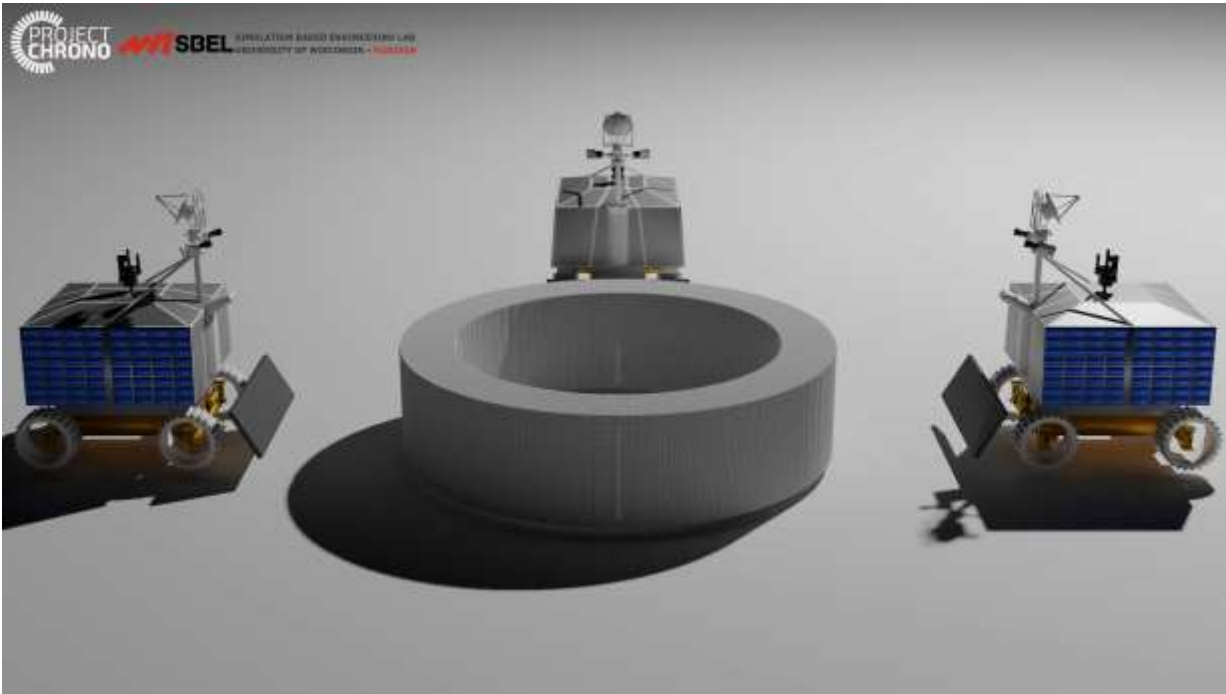
equivalent shear stress



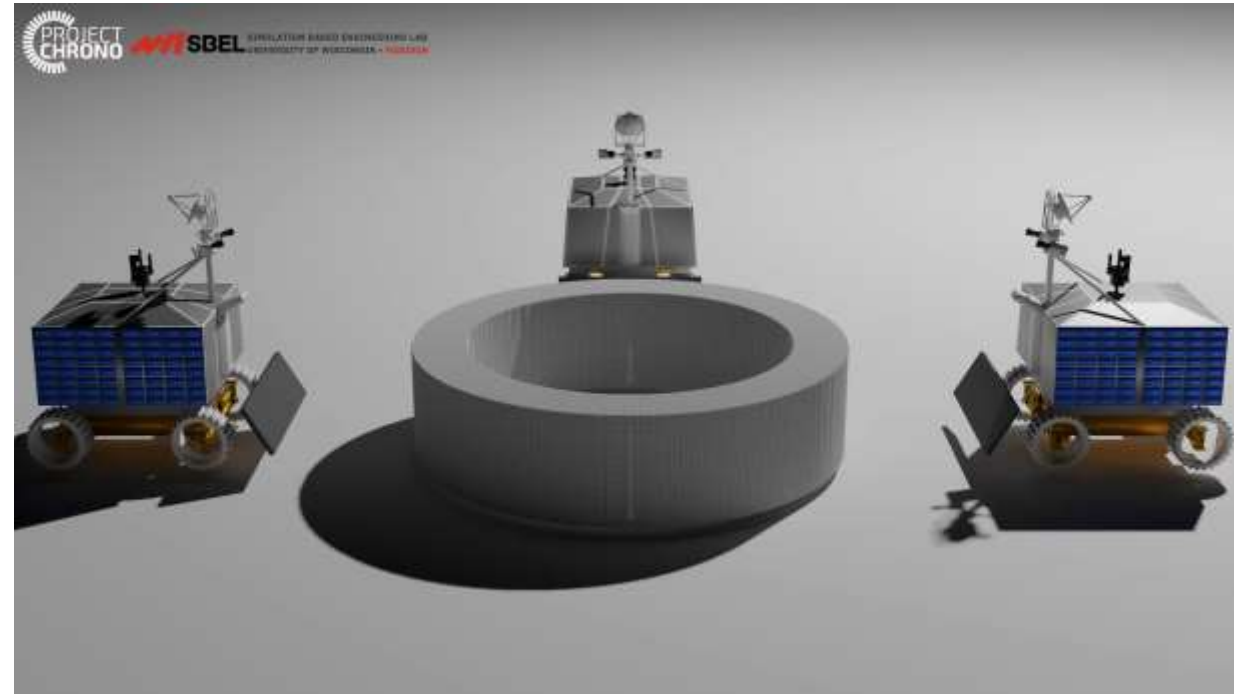
Terramechanics w/ CRM [courtesy of [SPH](#)]



Bulldozing, under Earth gravity & Moon Gravity



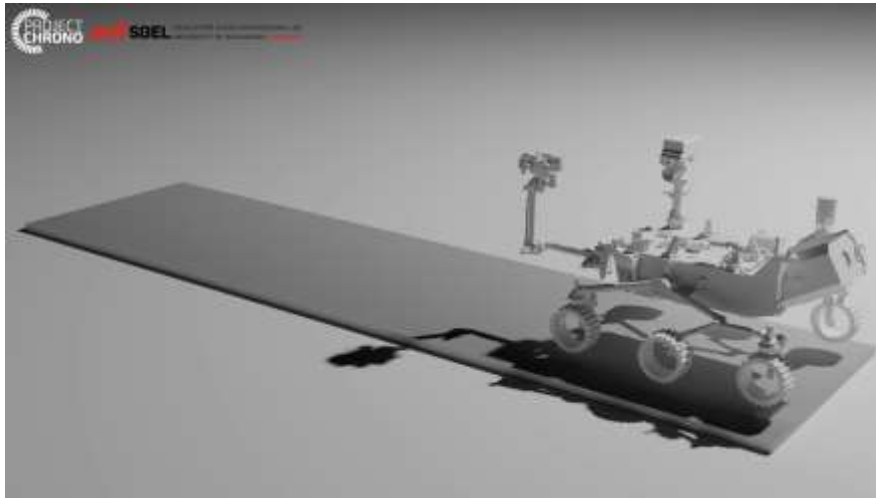
Earth gravity



Moon gravity

CRM: RTF of 30-300

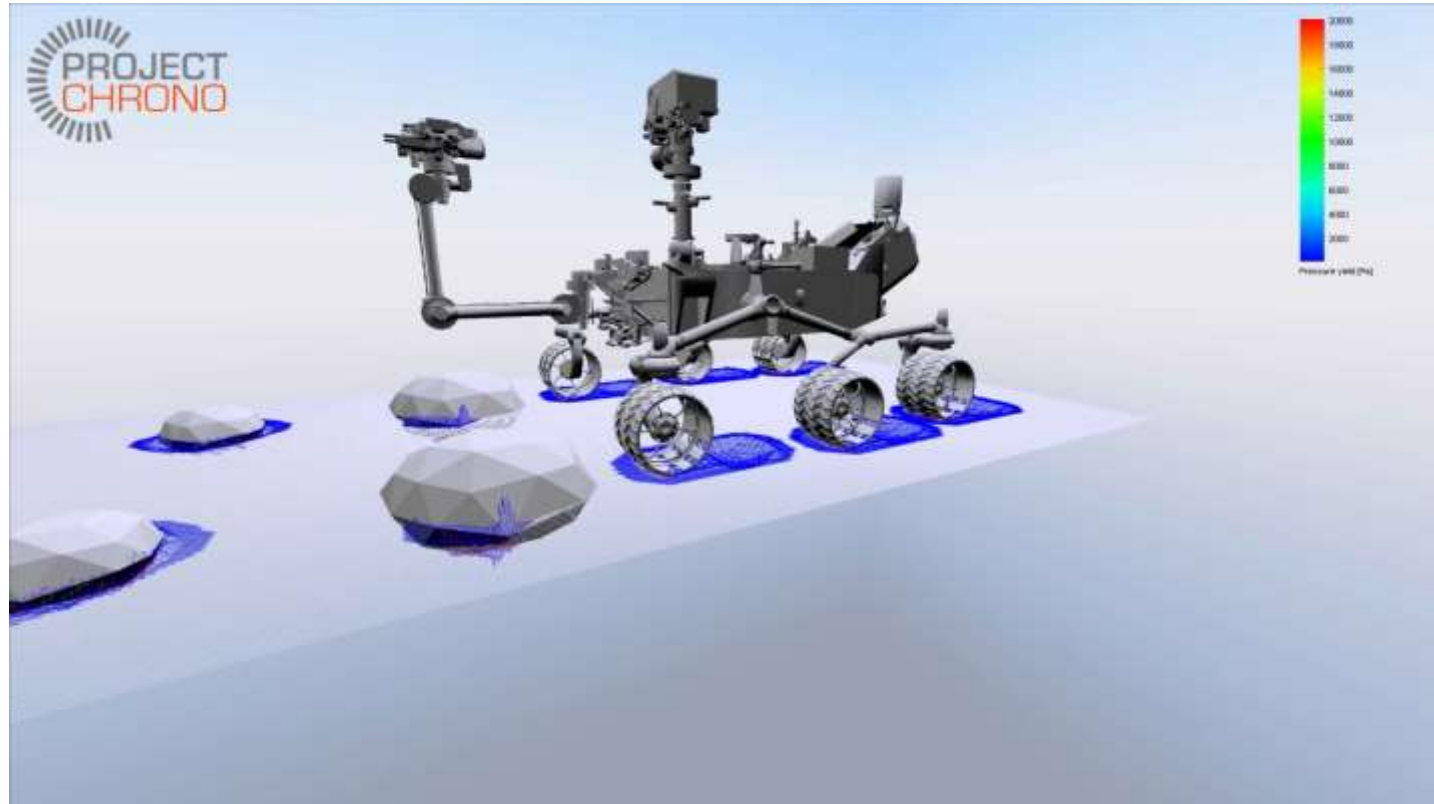
RTF = 45



- Number of SPH markers: **2.5 M**
- Step size: **$2.5e-4$ s**
- Element size: **0.01 m**
- Simulation time: **20 s**
- Runtime: **15 mins**
- Device: **A100 GPU**



Soil Contact Model (SCM) is faster...



Soil Contact Model (SCM)

(RTF \approx 1)

The train of thought, from CRM to SCM

- SCM is **fast**
- SCM is often **accurate enough**
- When SCM is both fast and accurate, no point in using CRM (let alone DEM)
- Can I get SCM to be a good proxy for SCM?
- How do I go about this?



SCM formulation of deformable terrain

- SCM draws on the semi-empirical Bekker-Wong theory
- Pressure p related to sinkage z :

$$p = \left(\frac{K_c}{b} + K_\varphi \right) z^n$$

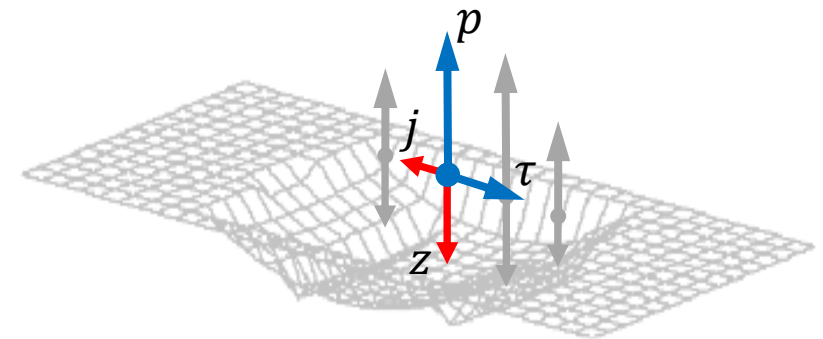
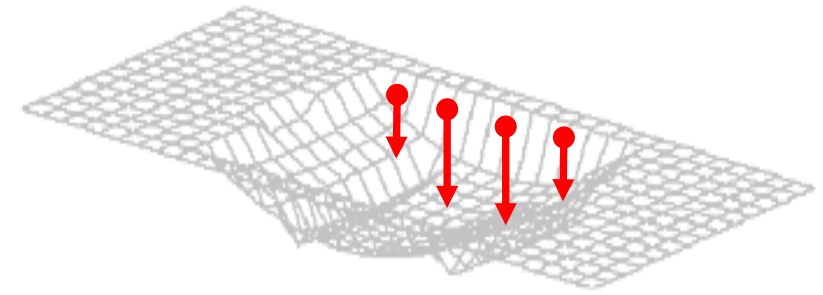
- Parameters: K_φ , K_c , n , as in Bekker-Wong

- Tangential stress τ given by Janosi-Hanamoto:

$$\tau = \tau_{max} (1 - e^{-j/k})$$

$$\tau_{max} = c + p \tan \varphi$$

- Parameters: c cohesion, φ internal friction angle



Bevometer to the rescue...

[credit: Keweenaw Research Center, Michigan Tech University]





The idea anchoring the proposed approach to calibrate SCM

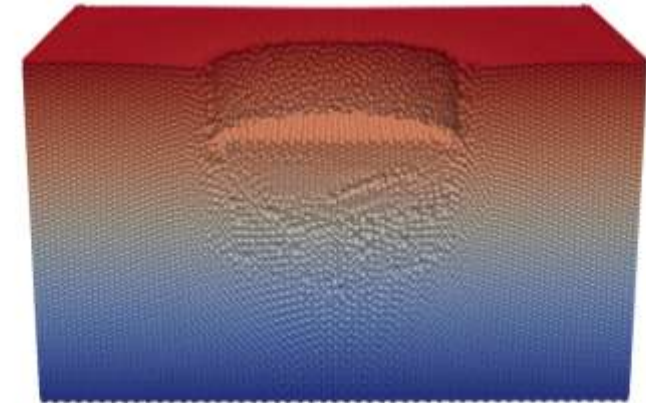
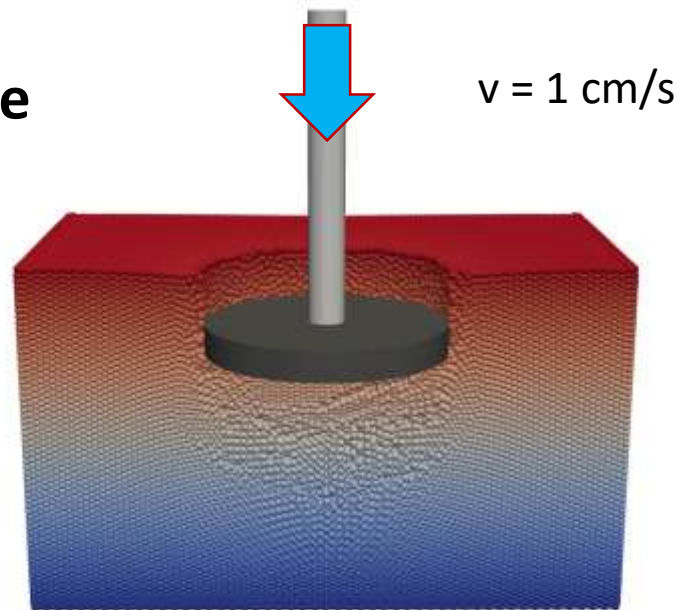


Rely on a virtual Bevameter test that is run using CRM

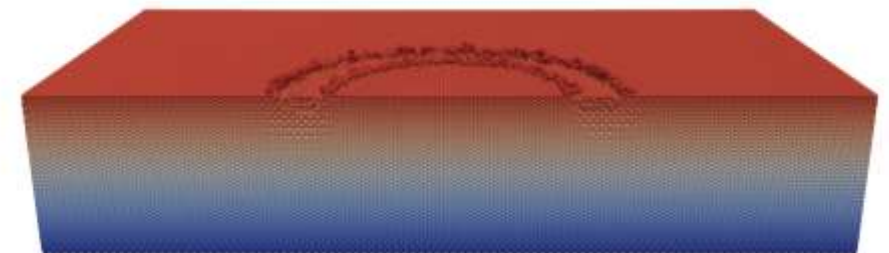
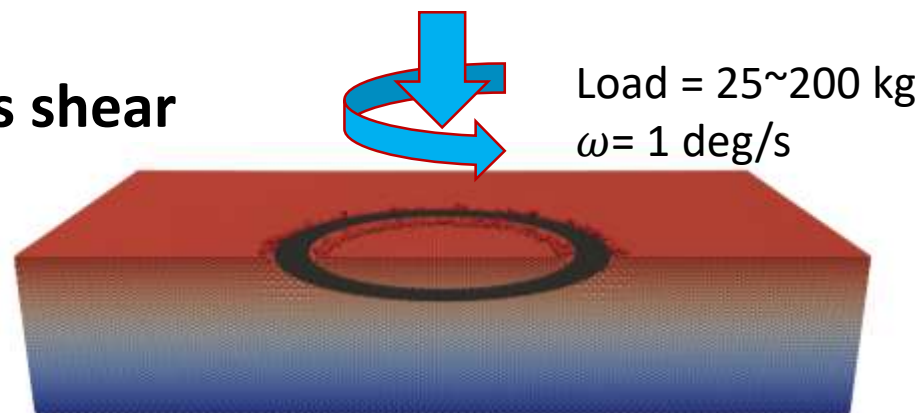


Virtual Bevameter in Chrono via CRM in Two Stages

- **Stage 1: Plate sinkage**



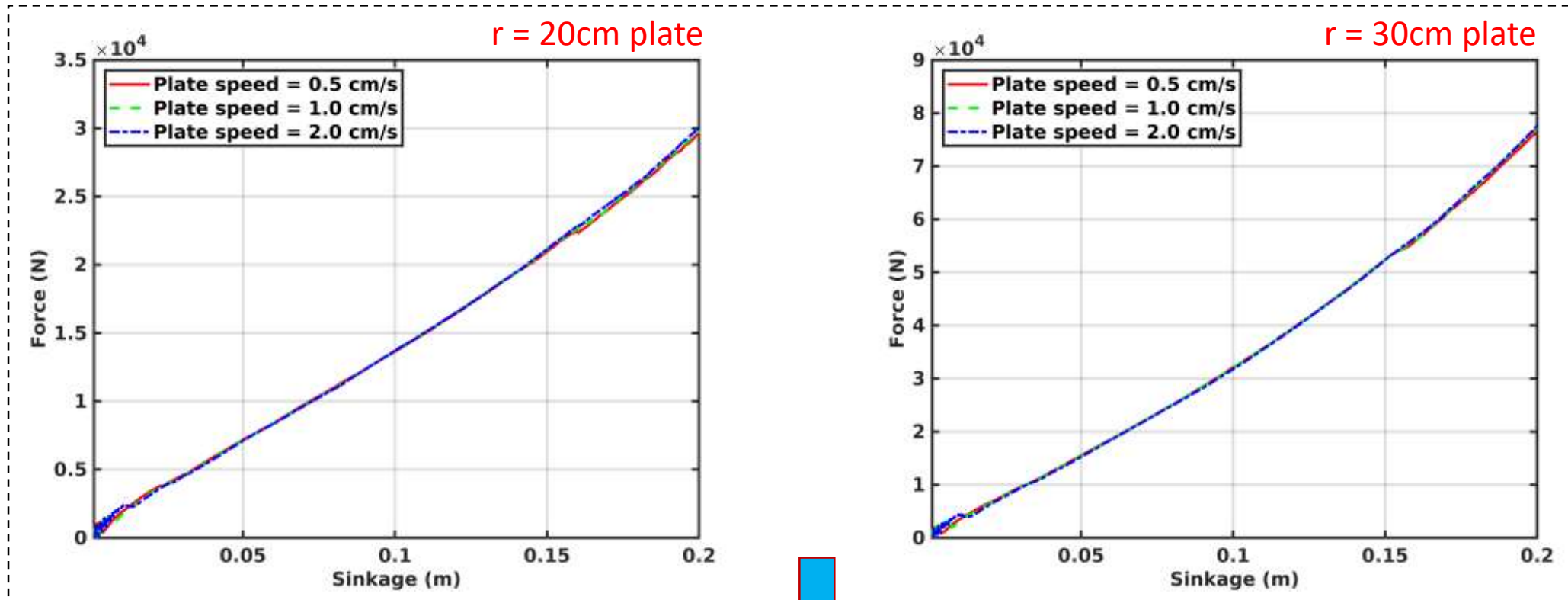
- **Stage 2: Annulus shear**





Virtual Bevameter in Chrono via CRM

- Plate sinkage test



Collected Data

Sinkage (m)	0.025	0.05	0.075	0.1	0.125	0.15	0.175	0.2
Force (N) - 20 cm plate	3905	7102	10278	13693	17203	21148	25221	30012
Force (N) - 30 cm plate	7799	15232	23329	31788	41513	52356	63854	77640

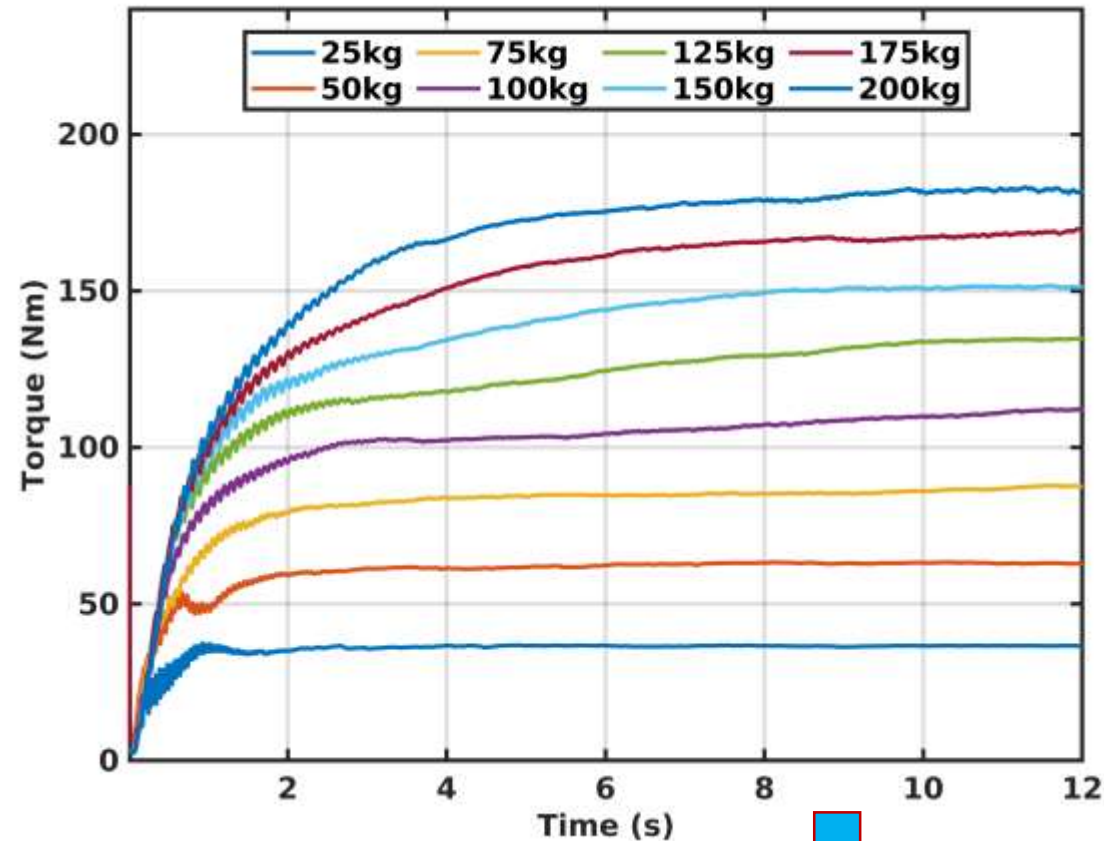


Virtual Bevameter in Chrono via CRM

- Annulus shear test

Inner radius = 15 cm

Outer radius = 20 cm



Collected Data

Load (kg)	25	50	75	100	125	150	175	200
Torque (N-m)	36	62	84	105	124	141	157	170



Virtual Bevameter in Chrono via CRM

"Experimental" data

Sinkage (m)	0.025	0.05	0.075	0.1	0.125	0.15	0.175	0.2
Force (N) - 20 cm plate	3905	7102	10278	13693	17203	21148	25221	30012
Force (N) - 30 cm plate	7799	15232	23329	31788	41513	52356	63854	77640

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Torque (N-m)	36	62	84	105	124	141	157	170

Bayesian Framework – used to calibrate low fidelity model using “ground truth” generated by the high-fidelity model

- At each time step t_i , $1 \leq i \leq N$, assume the difference between the data produced by the model $F(i; q)$ (working with a set of model parameters q), and the actual observation $F^{obs}(i)$ is some zero-mean, normally distributed random variable:

$$F^{obs}(i) = F(i; q) + \epsilon_i, \text{ with } \epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$

- This implies a Gaussian likelihood function of the form

$$\mathcal{L}(F^{obs}|q) = \exp\left(\frac{-SS_q}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

$$SS_q \equiv \sum_{i=1}^N [F^{obs}(i) - F(i; q)]^2$$

- Use Bayes' formula to obtain the posterior distribution

$$\pi(q|F^{obs}) = \frac{\mathcal{L}(F^{obs}|q) \cdot \pi(q)}{\int \mathcal{L}(F^{obs}|q) \cdot \pi(q) dq}$$

- I'm interested in that value of q that explains the best the observed data F_{obs}



Calibration of SCM model using CRM “ground truth”

Most likely SCM parameters



SCM parameter	K_c (N/m ⁿ⁺¹)	K_ϕ (N/m ⁿ⁺²)	n	c (Pa)	φ (deg)
Calibrated value	-1.1e5	2.22e6	1.2	2496	24

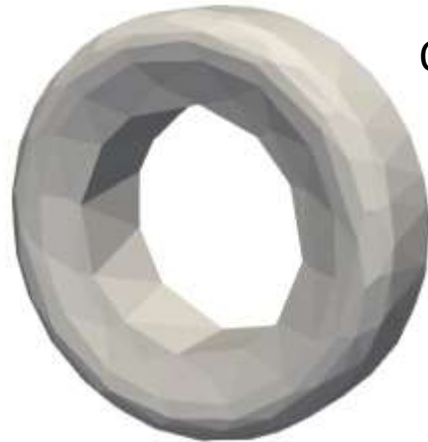
Validation the SCM model parameters obtained w/ CRM

Single wheel validation

Rig information

- Slip ratio: **0 - 0.8**
- Fixed angular velocity: **1 rad/s**
- Translational velocity: $v = \omega r_w (1 - slip)$

Wheel information



Offroad rigid wheel

- Mass: 108 kg
- Radius: 0.47 m
- Width: 0.25 m



VIPER wheel

- Mass: 108 kg
- Radius: 0.25m
- Width: 0.29m



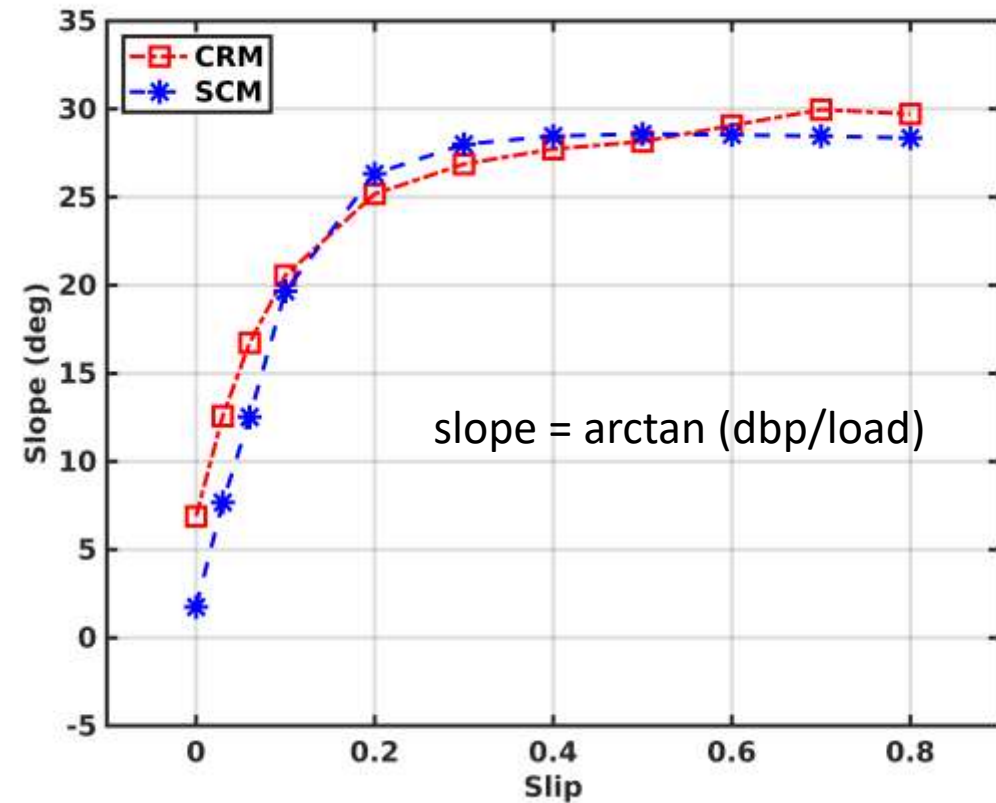
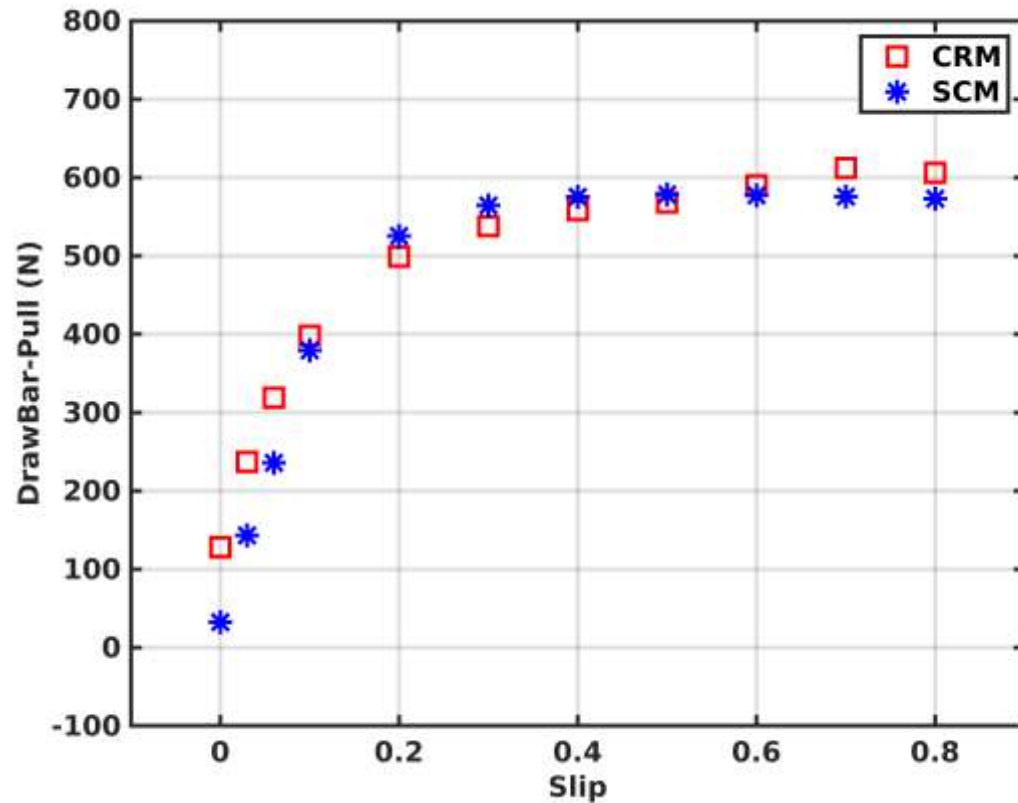
Validation of SCM model parameters obtained w/ CRM

Single wheel validation - wheel **without** grouser



Offroad rigid wheel

$$v = \omega r_w (1 - slip)$$



CRM vs. SCM simulation



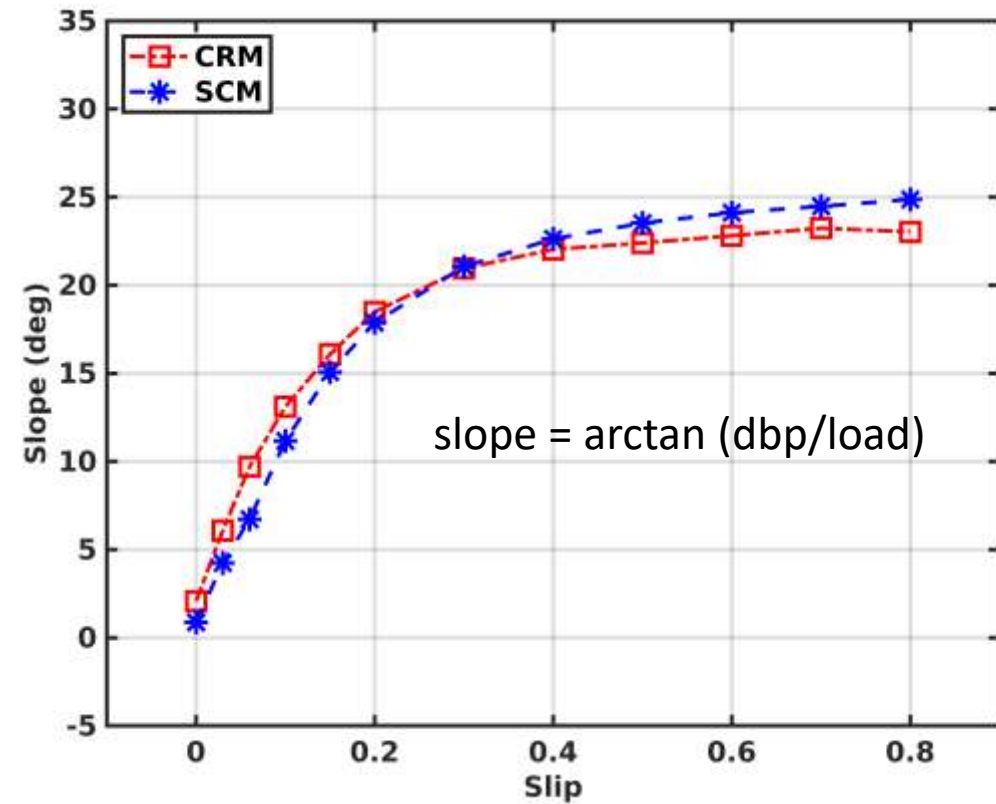
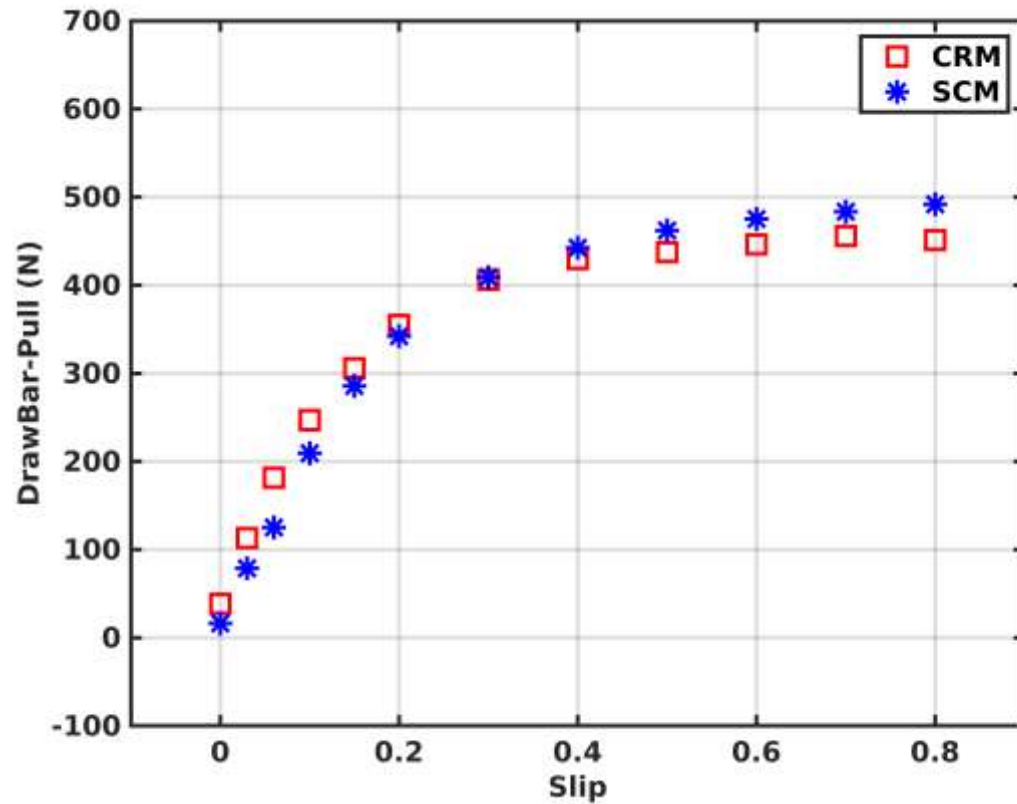
Validation of SCM model parameters obtained w/ CRM

Single wheel validation - wheel **with** grouser



VIPER wheel

$$v = \omega r_w (1 - slip)$$



CRM vs. SCM simulation



Validation of the parameters of the SCM model

Full rover validation - Moon VIPER rover

Rover information

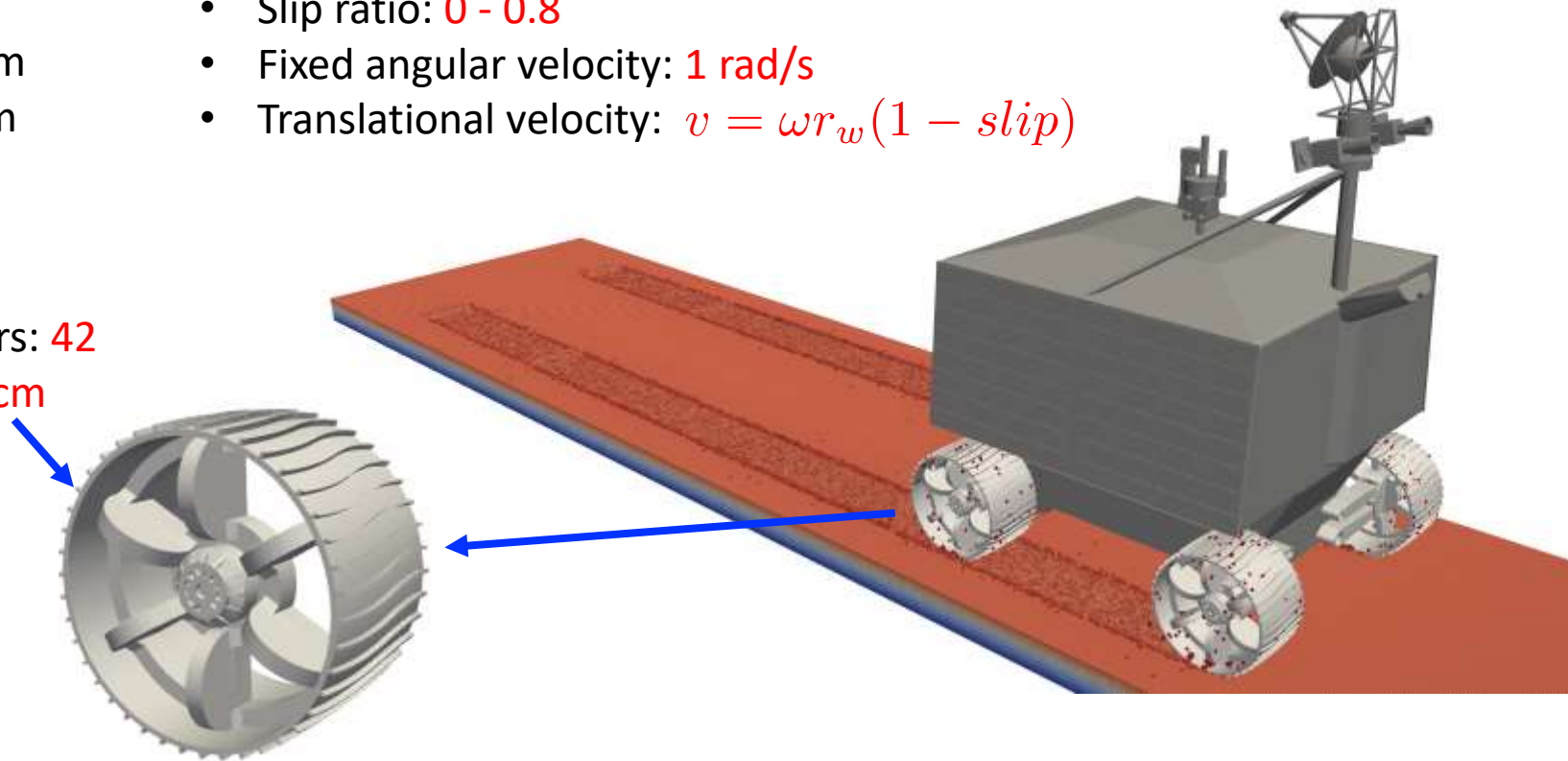
- Mass: 430 kg
- Radius: 0.24 m
- Width: 0.29 m

Rig information

- Slip ratio: **0 - 0.8**
- Fixed angular velocity: **1 rad/s**
- Translational velocity: $v = \omega r_w (1 - slip)$

Number of grousers: **42**

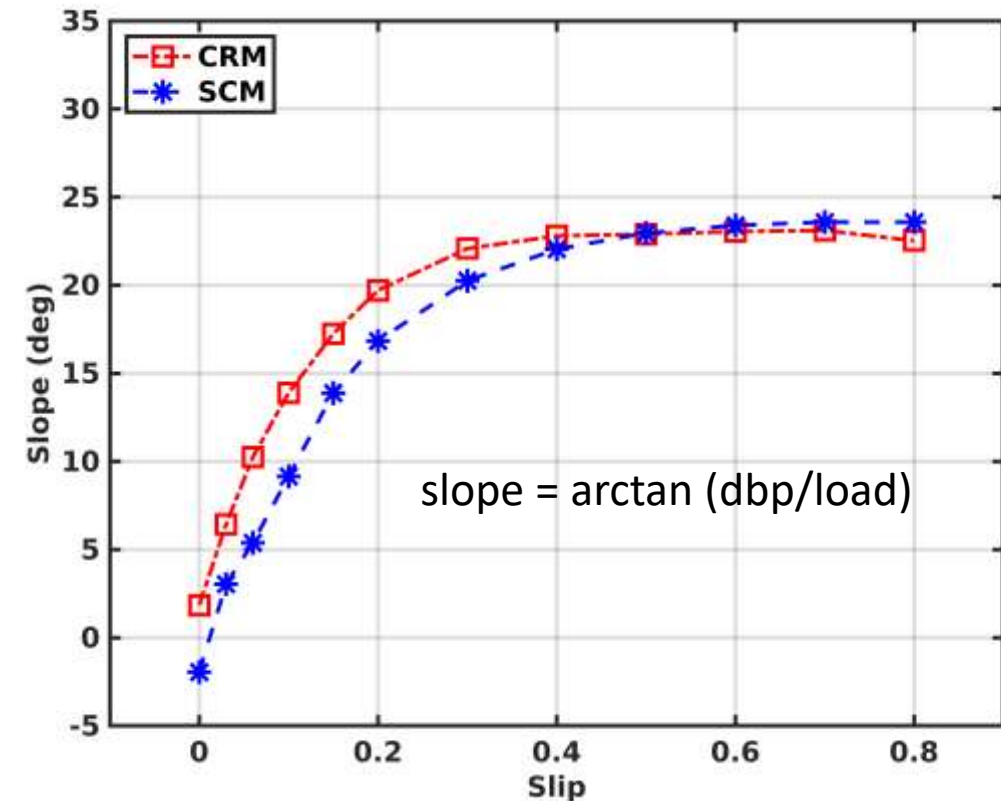
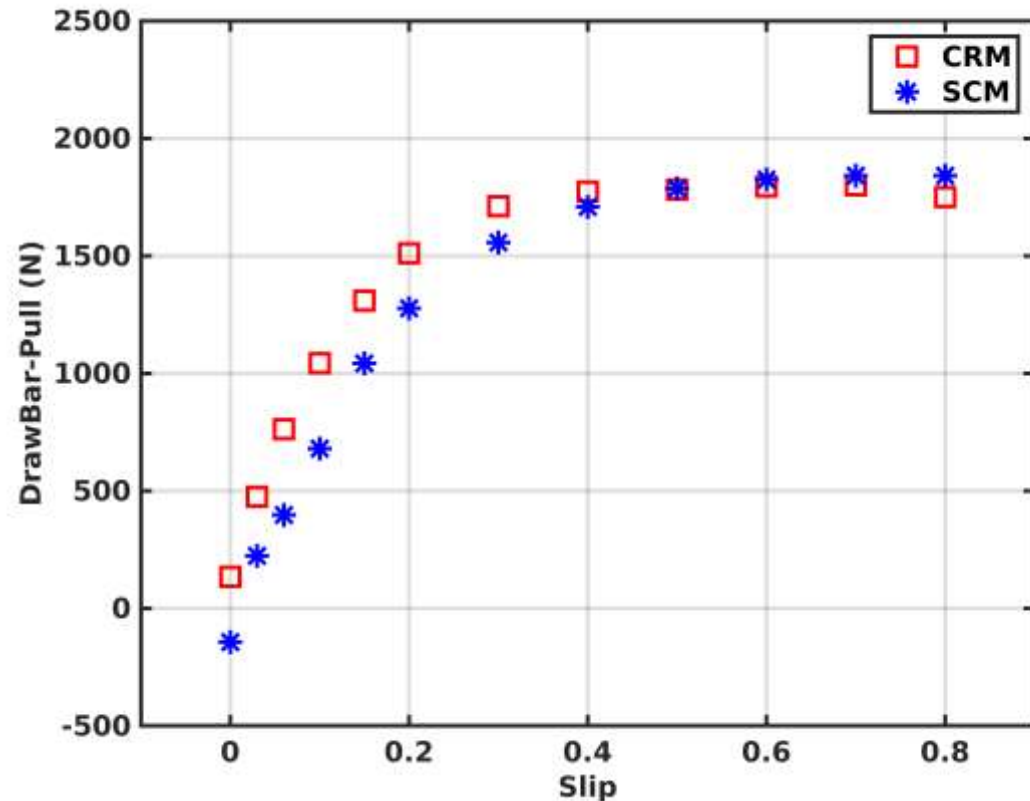
Grouser height: **1 cm**





Validation of the parameters of the SCM model

Full rover validation - Moon VIPER rover



CRM vs. SCM simulation



Simulation in robotics, what it calls for

- Simulate the process of sensing
- Simulate the robot/rover/autonomous vehicle
- Simulate the world in which the robot/rover/autonomous vehicle operates

Closing thoughts

- Simulation can play a role in:
 - Designing better automation
 - Testing chips, in the loop
 - Testing human-robot interaction

- This “simulation-in-robotics” field is nascent
 - Lots and lots of open problems



ART/ATK & Chrono

ART repo <https://github.com/uwsbel/autonomy-research-testbed>

ATK repo <https://github.com/uwsbel/autonomy-toolkit>

Chrono Websites projectchrono.org
projectchrono.org/pychrono

Software github.com/projectchrono/chrono
anaconda.org/projectchrono/pychrono

Latest developments github.com/projectchrono/chrono/blob/develop/CHANGELOG.md

Documentation api.projectchrono.org (develop version)
api.projectchrono.org/7.0.0 (release 7.0.2)

User forum groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/projectchrono





Thank you.

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Lab website: <http://sbel.wisc.edu>

Chrono website: <http://www.projectchrono.org>

Source code: <https://github.com/projectchrono>

Movies: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCplnhh9HvfNzBtBcNRecUKw/featured>