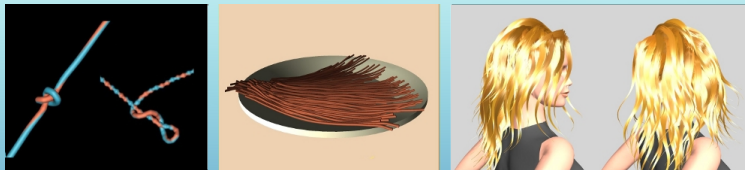


A Nonsmooth Newton Solver for Capturing Exact Coulomb Friction in Fiber Assemblies



Florence Bertails-Descoubes, Florent Cadoux,
Gilles Daviet, Vincent Acary

Inria, Grenoble, France



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- **Fibers assemblies** are common in the real world
- **But** not much studied in the past
- **Contact** and **dry friction** play a major role w.r.t. **shape** and **motion**
(volume, stable stacking, nonsmooth patterns, nonsmooth dynamics)



Fibers assemblies: Previous work

Main motivation

Hair simulation in Computer Graphics



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Fibers assemblies: Previous work

Main motivation

Hair simulation in Computer Graphics

Three families of models



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Three families of models

- ① **Continuum-based** [Hadap and Magnenat-Thalmann 2001]
→ Hair medium governed by fluid-like equations



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 - 😊 Macroscopic, intrinsic interaction model



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Three families of models

- ① **Continuum-based** [Hadap and Magnenat-Thalmann 2001]
 - Hair medium governed by fluid-like equations
 - 😊 Macroscopic, intrinsic interaction model
 - 😞 No discontinuities



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Three families of models

- ② Wisp-based (or fiber-based) [Plante et al. 2001]

→ A set of strands primitives combined with a simple interaction model



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😊 Allows for fine-grain simulations [Selle et al. 2008]



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Three families of models

② Whisp-based (or fiber-based) [Plante et al. 2001]

→ A set of strands primitives combined with a simple interaction model

😊 Allows for fine-grain simulations [Selle et al. 2008]

😞 Lack of stability if penalties used

😞 Many contacts omitted → lack of volume

😞 No dry friction (viscous model)

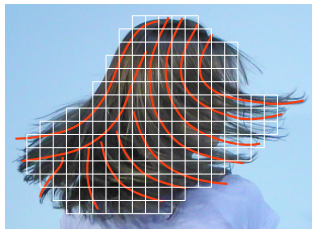


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Three families of models

- ③ Mixed of the two others [Mc Adams et al. 2009]

→ A mixed Eulerian-Lagrangian contact formulation

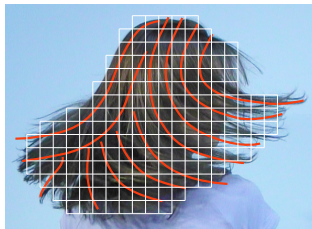


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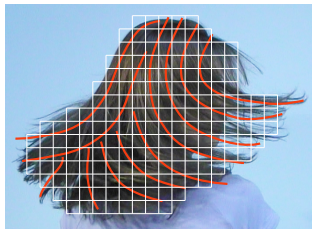


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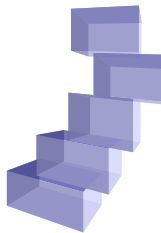
😞 Still no dry friction



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Frictional contact in Computer Graphics

In contrast, **dry friction** has been considered for a long time in Computer Graphics for the simulation of **rigid bodies**

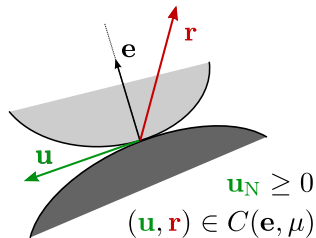


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Frictional contact: Previous work

Ideal model for frictional contact

Non-penetration + Coulomb friction



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Frictional contact: Previous work

Ideal model for frictional contact

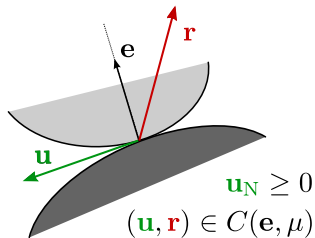
Non-penetration + Coulomb friction



Most robust approach

Implicit constrained-based [Baraff 1994, Erleben 2007, Kaufman et al. 2008, Otaduy et al. 2009]

→ Global formulation where velocities and contact forces are **unknown**



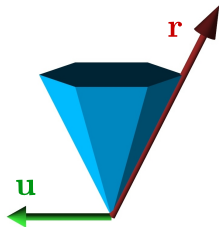
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Implicit constrained-based methods, in practice

Common approximation in Computer Graphics

Linearization of the Coulomb friction cone

→ Formulation of a Linear Complementarity Problem (LCP)



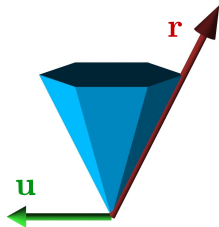
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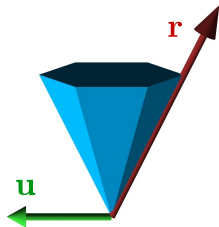
Implicit constrained-based methods, in practice

Common approximation in Computer Graphics

Linearization of the Coulomb friction cone

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- 😊 A bunch of solvers available
- 😞 Important drift when using too few facets
- 😞 Increasing the number of facets results in an explosion of variables



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Implicit constrained-based methods, in practice

In contrast...

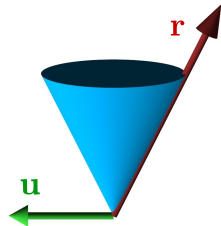


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Implicit constrained-based methods, in practice

In Computational Mechanics

Exact Coulomb law numerically tackled for decades



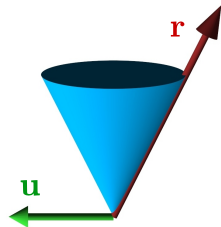
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Implicit constrained-based methods, in practice

In Computational Mechanics

Exact Coulomb law numerically tackled for decades

- Main application: simulation of granulars [Moreau 1994, Jean 1999]
- A well-known, exact approach: the [Alart and Curnier 1991] functional formulation



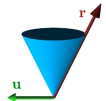
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- Design a **generic** Newton algorithm for **exact Coulomb friction** in fiber assemblies, relying on the Alart and Curnier functional formulation
- Identify a simple criterion for **convergence**: no over-constraining

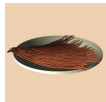




Formulating Contact in Fiber Assemblies



A Newton Algorithm for Exact Coulomb Friction



Results and Convergence Analysis

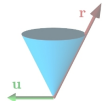


Discussion and Future Work

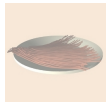




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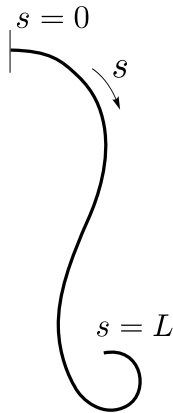


Discussion and Future Work



Kirchhoff model for thin elastic rods

- Inextensible
- Elastic bending and twist

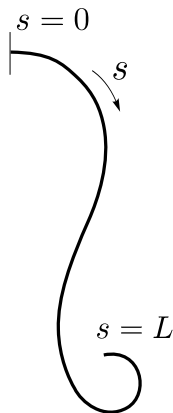


Kirchhoff model for thin elastic rods

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In practice, **three rod models** used

- Implicit mass-spring system [Baraff et al. 1998]
- CORDE model [Spillmann et al. 2007]
- Super-helices [Bertails et al. 2006]



Kirchhoff model for thin elastic rods

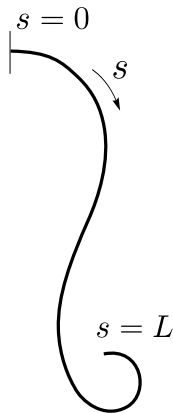
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- Super-helices [Bertails et al. 2006]

→ We define a **generic** discrete rod model:

$$M\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{f} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{u} = H\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}$$



Fiber assembly: One-step problem

- Global system (with frictional contact):

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{f} &= \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{r} \\ \mathbf{u} &= \mathbf{H} \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w} \\ (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}) &\text{satisfies the Coulomb's law} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$



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- Compact formulation in $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r})$:

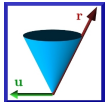
$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{q} \\ (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}) \text{ satisfies the Coulomb's law} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{M}^{-1}\mathbf{H}^\top$ is the Delassus operator

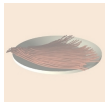




Formulating Contact in Fiber Assemblies



A Newton Algorithm for Exact Coulomb Friction



Results and Convergence Analysis



Discussion and Future Work

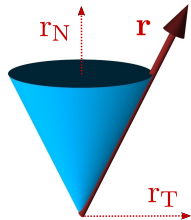


Coulomb's law: disjunctive formulation

Let $\mu \geq 0$ be the friction coefficient.

We define the second-order cone K_μ ,

$$K_\mu = \{\|r_T\| \leq \mu r_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$

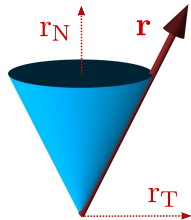


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Frictional contact with Coulomb's law (≈ 1780)

$$(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}) \in C(\mathbf{e}, \mu) \iff$$



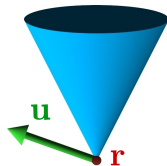
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$$(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}) \in C(\mathbf{e}, \mu) \iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{either take off } \mathbf{r} = 0 \text{ and } u_N > 0 \\ \text{or } (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}) \in K_\mu \text{ and } u_N = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

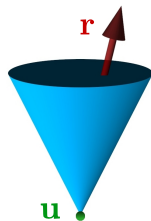


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$$(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}) \in C(\mathbf{e}, \mu) \iff \begin{cases} \text{either take off} & \mathbf{r} = 0 \text{ and } u_N > 0 \\ \text{or stick} & \mathbf{r} \in K_\mu \text{ and } u = 0 \end{cases}$$

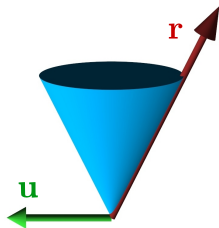


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Coulomb's law: functional formulation

Idea

Express Coulomb's law as $f(u, r) = 0$ with f a nonsmooth function



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Coulomb's law: functional formulation

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Express Coulomb's law as $f(u, r) = 0$ with f a nonsmooth function

Alart and Curnier formulation (1991)

$$\mathbf{f}^{AC}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}) = \begin{bmatrix} f_N^{AC}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}) \\ \mathbf{f}_T^{AC}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} P_{\mathbb{R}^+}(r_N - \rho_N u_N) & - & r_N \\ P_{\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{0}, \mu r_N)}(\mathbf{r}_T - \rho_T \mathbf{u}_T) & - & \mathbf{r}_T \end{bmatrix}$$

where $\rho_N, \rho_T \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$ and P_K is the projection onto the convex K .

$$(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}) \in C(\mathbf{e}, \mu) \iff \mathbf{f}^{AC}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{0}$$



Nonsmooth Newton on the Alart-Curnier function

Formulation of the one-step problem

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{u} &= \mathbf{W}\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{q} \\ \mathbf{f}^{AC}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r}) &= \mathbf{0} \end{cases}$$



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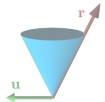
Solving method: (damped) Newton algorithm

- We minimize $\|\Phi(\mathbf{r})\|^2$
- Requires the computation of $\nabla\Phi$ (subgradients)
- Natural stopping criterion: $\frac{1}{2} \|\Phi(\mathbf{r})\|^2 < \epsilon$

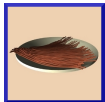




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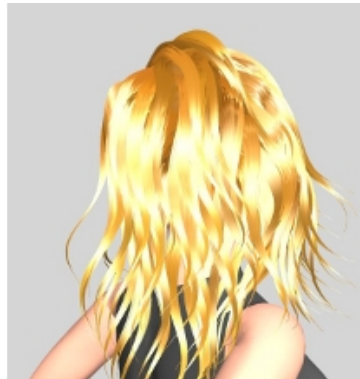
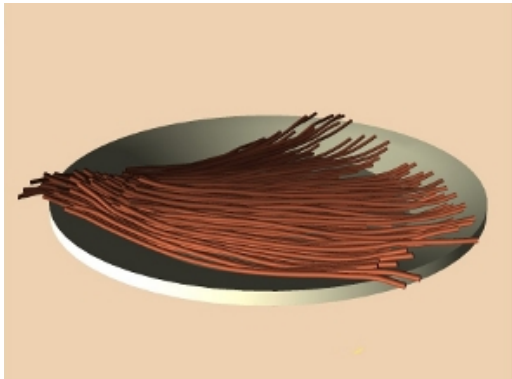


Results and Convergence Analysis



Discussion and Future Work





In theory...

- No proof of existence of a solution to the one-step problem
- No proof of convergence (**nonsmooth** function)



In theory...

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- No proof of convergence (**nonsmooth** function)

In practice

- Our fiber problems are likely to possess a solution [Cadoux 2009]
- We found an empiric criterion for convergence



Convergence analysis

- Let us define $\nu = \frac{3 n_{\text{contacts}}}{n_{\text{dofs}}}$



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Convergence analysis

- Let us define $\nu = \frac{3 n_{\text{contacts}}}{n_{\text{dofs}}}$
- Note that if $\nu > 1$ (over-constrained system), $\mathbf{W}$ is singular



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- Even quadratic convergence in favorable cases

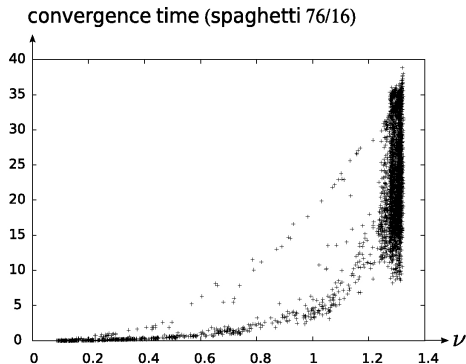
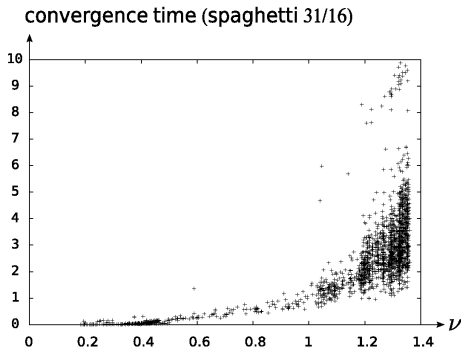


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- Slow (or no) convergence when $\nu > 1$ (over-constrained systems)



Convergence illustration



Convergence time (in seconds) function of ν



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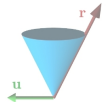
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→ ν plays the role of a conditioning number for our problem
→ better suited for assemblies of compliant models than rigid bodies
→ for over-constrained systems, a splitting strategy seems more appropriate

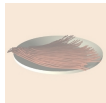




Formulating Contact in Fiber Assemblies



A Newton Algorithm for Exact Coulomb Friction



Results and Convergence Analysis



Discussion and Future Work



Contributions

- A generic Newton solver for capturing **exact Coulomb friction** in fibers
Relying on the **Alart and Curnier** functional formulation
- A simple criterion for **convergence**
Based on the degree of **constraining** of the system



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Based on the degree of **constraining** of the system

Source code

The source code for our solver is freely available on

<http://www.inrialpes.fr/bipop/people/bertails/Papiers/nonsmoothNewtonSolverTOG2011.html>



Limitations and Future work

Limitations

- Slow (or no) convergence for **over-constrained** systems
- Does not **scale up** well (tens to hundreds fibers vs. thousands fibers)



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Limitations and Future work

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Future work

- Design a **robust** solver for thousands densely packed rods
- Carefully **validate** the (hair) collective behavior against real experiments
- Build a macroscopic model for **fibrous media** (nonsmooth laws)



Follow-up

- An improved functional formulation for exact Coulomb friction
- A splitting algorithm dedicated to **large hair problems**
 - In practice, this modified solver works very well for complex scenarios



Acknowledgments

We are grateful to the anonymous reviewers for their helpful comments.



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Thank You for your attention !

