

# ADVANCED NUMERICAL MODELLING OF GEOMATERIALS



Grupo de Modelos Matemáticos en  
Ingeniería Civil – M2i



POLITÉCNICA

## Coupling solid and fluid phases in fast landslide propagation

Manuel Pastor, **Ángel Yagüe**, Miguel Martín Stickle, Diego Manzanal, Pablo Mira, Saeid Mousavvi, Chuan Lin, José Antonio Fernández Merodo and Caitlin Chalk



Alert Geomaterials

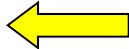
# Contents

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- Introduction
- Mathematical model
- Numerical models: SPH
- Examples and applications
- Conclusions

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# General Flow definition

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- Spatially continuous movement of rock, debris or earth down a slope.
- Triggered from the failure of the materials which make up the hill slope and are driven by the force of gravity.
- Usually extremely rapid.
- The distribution of velocities in the displacing mass seems like a viscous liquid.

# Types of flows

- Granular avalanches

*Flow of fragmented rock*

- *One phase (solid)*



- Debris flows, lahars

*Flow of partially or fully saturated debris.*

- *Two phases (solid-water)*
- *Three phases (solid-water-air)*



- Mudflows

*Flow of saturated plastic debris*

- *Two phases (solid-water)*



Different types might be classified depending on the content of solid, liquid and/or air

# Debris Flows

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Prof. Sucheng Zhang

(Chengdu's Institute for Natural Hazards  
in Mountain Areas, CAS)

# Important tasks to be model

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- Triggering or initiation of landslide.

- Propagation of the mixture down the slope.

- Landslide mitigation.

# Types of models needed in each task

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- Mathematical models capable of reproducing interaction between possible phases.
- Constitutive (initiation) or Rheological (propagation) models.
- Numerical models to obtain accurate, robust, and efficient solutions of real cases.



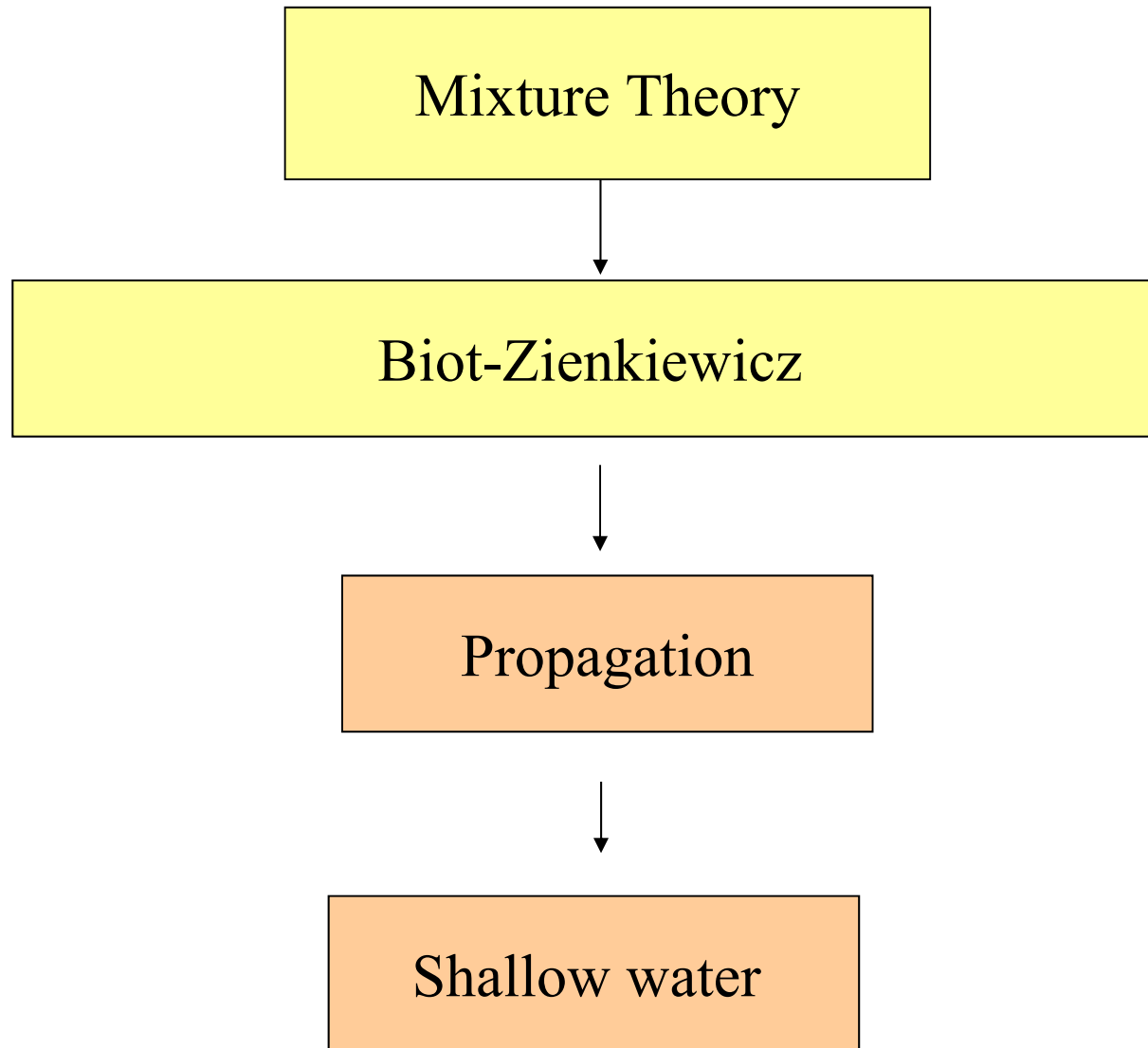
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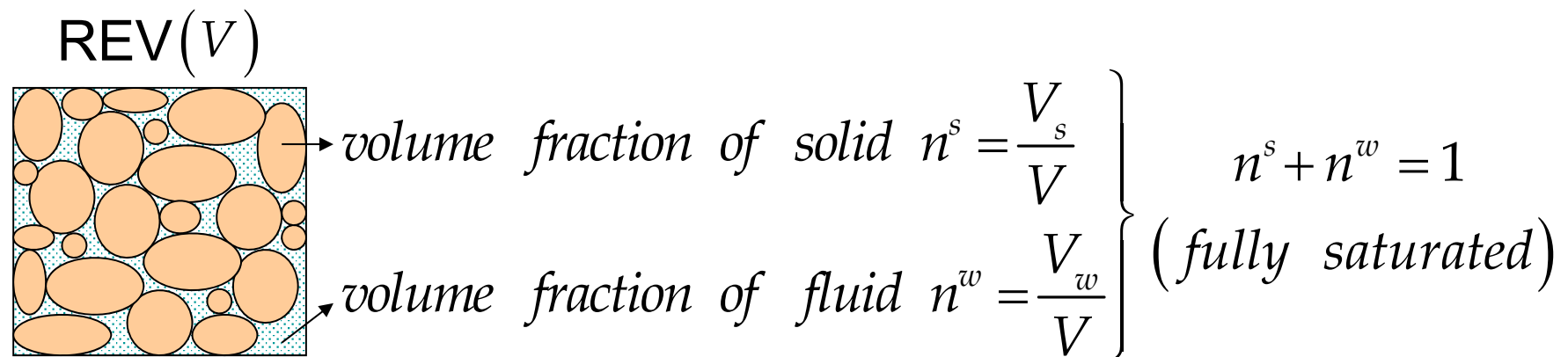
# Outline of the Mathematical model

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# From Mixture Theory to Biot-Zienkiewicz eq.

## Continuum description of the flow slide

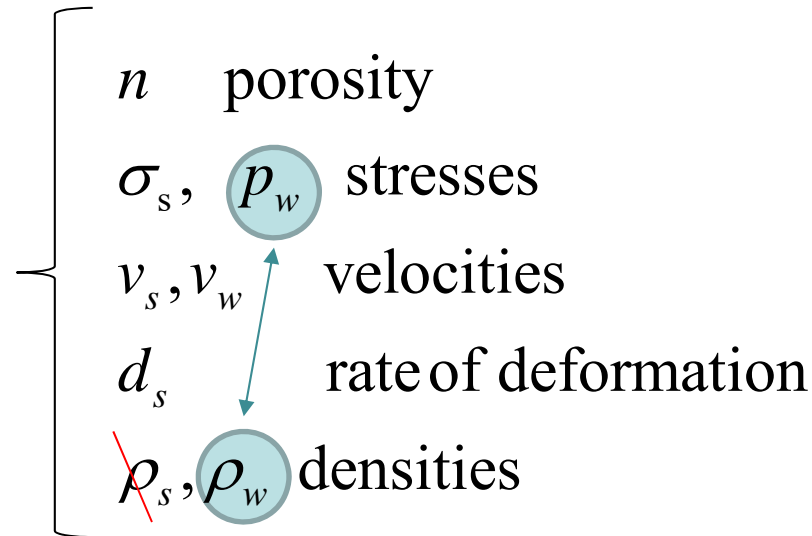


Average of real (intrinsic) quantities over REV  
via multiplication by volumen fraction

# The General Model

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## Variables

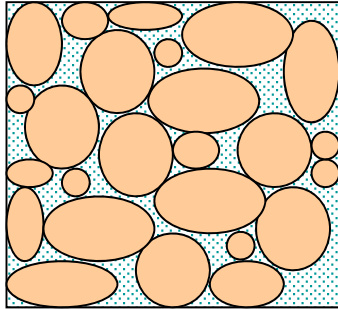


## Equations

- Balance of mass (soil, water)
- Balance of momentum (soil, water)
- Constitutive or rheological (skeleton, soil, water)
- Relations velocities – rate of deformations

# Vs-Vw-Pw: 6 equations - 6 unknowns

$$n \quad v_s \quad v_w \quad \sigma' \quad p_w \quad d_s$$



## Balance of mass

$$\frac{n}{K_w} \frac{d^{(w)} p_w}{dt} + \text{div } w + \text{div } v_s = 0$$

$$\frac{d^{(s)} n}{dt} = (1 - n) \text{div } v_s$$

## Balance of momentum

$$(1 - n) \rho_s \frac{d^{(s)} v_s}{dt} = \text{div } \sigma' - (1 - n) \text{grad } p_w + (1 - n) \rho_s b + R$$

$$n \rho_w \frac{d^{(w)} v_w}{dt} = -n \text{grad } p_w + n \rho_w b - R$$



### Constitutive

$$\frac{d^{(s)} \sigma'}{dt} = D^{ep} \cdot d_s$$


### Kinematic

$$d_s = \text{grad}_{sym} v_s$$

# Depth Integrated Model for Two phases (I)

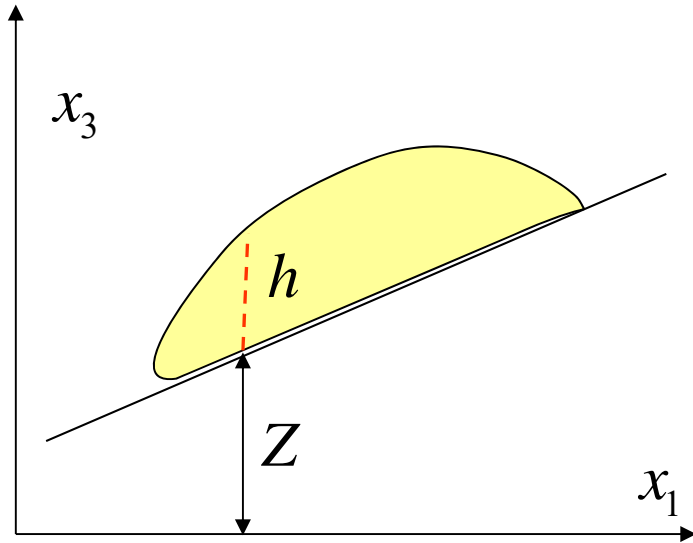
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- As we are considering shallow landslides, we do not solve directly the equations to model propagation. Instead we integrate the equations in depth.
- We directly integrate from the bottom of the slope to the free surface of the displacing mass, taking in to account the Leibnitz rule and adding the boundary conditions at free surface and the bottom

$$\int_a^b \frac{\partial}{\partial s} F(r, s) dr = \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \int_a^b F(r, s) dr - F(b, s) \frac{\partial b}{\partial s} + F(a, s) \frac{\partial a}{\partial s}$$


- This technique eliminates:
  - The vertical variable
  - The free surface condition of the displacing mass (as this condition is directly considered within the depth integrated equations)

# Depth Integrated Model for Two phases (II)



Unknowns:

$$\bar{v}_w \bar{v}_s \bar{n} h$$

$$h_s = (1 - \bar{n}) h$$

$$h_w = \bar{n} h$$

$$\frac{\bar{d}^{(s)}}{dt} ((1 - \bar{n}) h) + (1 - \bar{n}) h \operatorname{div} \bar{v}_s = (1 - \bar{n}) e_R$$

$$\frac{\bar{d}^{(w)}}{dt} (\bar{n} h) + \bar{n} h \operatorname{div} \bar{v}_w = \bar{n} e_R$$

$$\rho_s h (1 - \bar{n}) \frac{\bar{d}^{(s)} \bar{v}_s}{dt} = \operatorname{div} (h \bar{\sigma}') - (1 - \bar{n}) \operatorname{grad} (h \bar{p}_w) + \boldsymbol{\tau}_b^{(s)}$$

$$+ (1 - \bar{n}) h \bar{\mathbf{R}}_s + (1 - \bar{n}) \rho_s \mathbf{b} h - (1 - \bar{n}) \rho_s \bar{v}_s e_R$$

$$\rho_w h \bar{n} \frac{\bar{d}^{(w)} \bar{v}_w}{dt} = -\bar{n} \operatorname{grad} (h \bar{p}_w) + \boldsymbol{\tau}_b^{(w)} + \bar{n} h \bar{\mathbf{R}}_w + \bar{n} \rho_w \mathbf{b} h - \bar{n} \rho_w \bar{v}_w e_R$$

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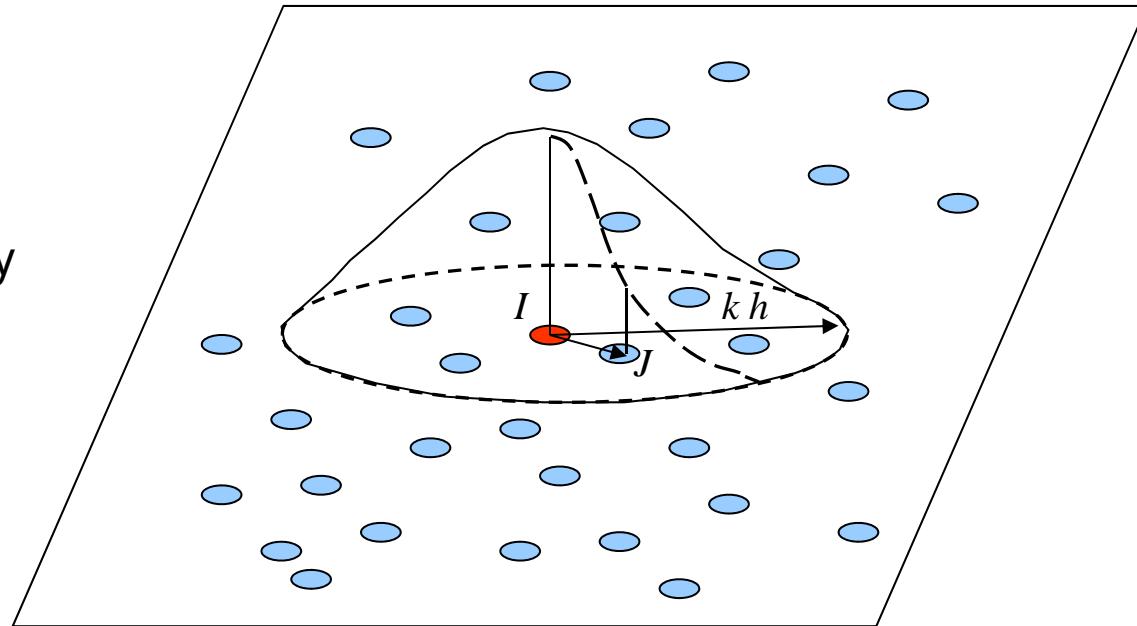


# Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics (I)

The approximation of a given function is written as:

$$\langle \phi(x) \rangle \approx \int_{\Omega} \phi(x') W(x' - x, h) dx'$$

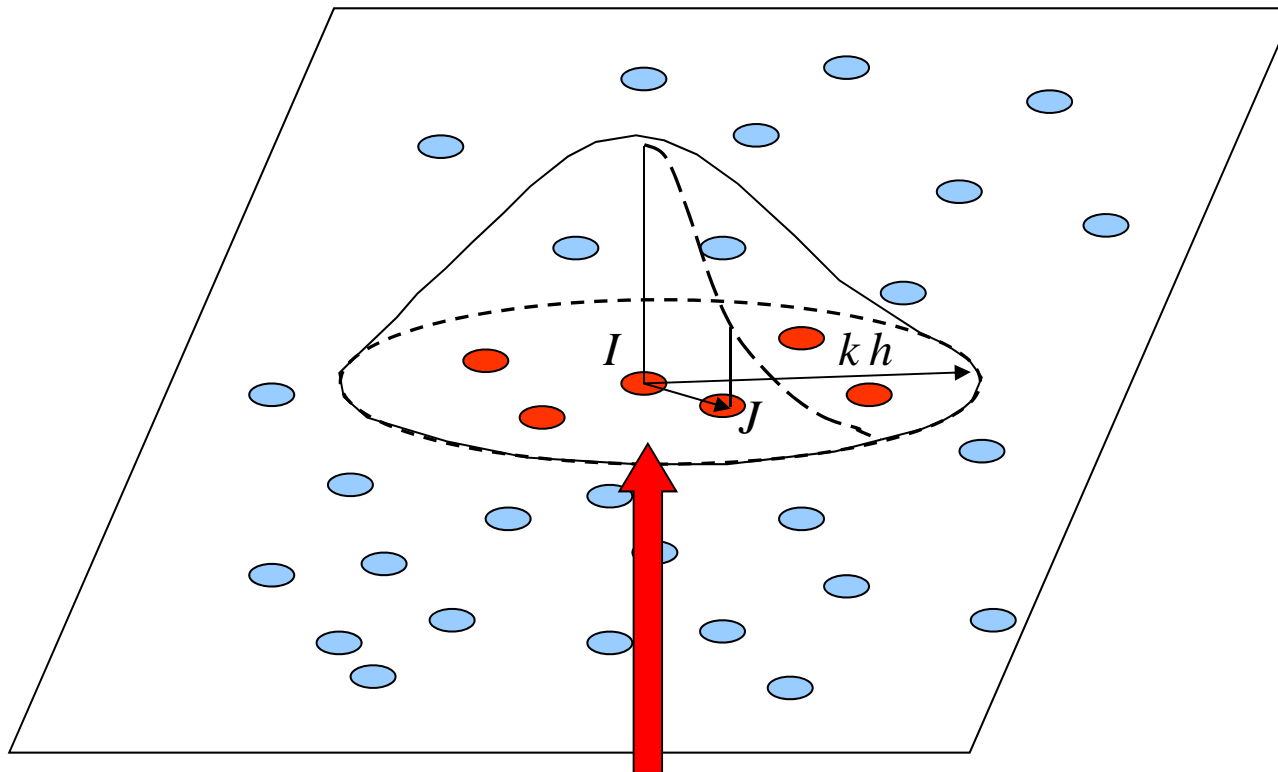
The SPH method is based on approximating functions and differential operators such as gradient or divergence by integral approximations defined in terms of a kernel



Where  $W(x' - x, h)$  is referred to as the kernel of the linear functional,  $h$  being a parameter describing its decay (smoothing length)

# Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics (II)

$$\phi_I \approx \langle \phi(x_I) \rangle_h \approx \sum_{J=1}^N \phi(x_J) W(x_J - x_I, h) \omega_J$$



Summation extended  
to nodes within  $kh$

In a second step, these integral representations are approximated numerically by a class of numerical integration based on a set of discrete point or nodes, without having to define any “element”

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# Examples and Applications

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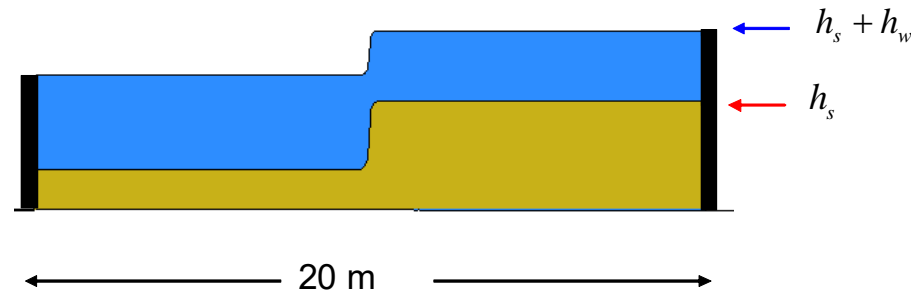
- The purpose of this section is to illustrate the performance of the proposed two-phase debris flow SPH model.
- It is important to know that no analytical solution has been proposed so far for this problem. The tests we present aiming to:

➡ Illustrate the mathematical features of the model

➡ Simple tests showing the main features of the two phase model

# Shocks and expansion waves (I)

- Consists of a domain enclosed by two walls located at  $x = -10$  m and  $x = 10$  m filled with two masses having different heights and porosities.
- Debris flows having two phases with important relative mobility present a rich structure of shocks and rarefaction waves, which has to be properly modelled.



$$\rho_s = 2000 \text{ Kg} / \text{m}^3$$

$$\rho_w = 1000 \text{ Kg} / \text{m}^3$$

$$n_L = 0.69$$

$$n_R = 0.39$$

$$\tan \phi = 0.0$$

Interaction law (Anderson)

$$R = -nR_w = (1 - n)R_s$$

$$R = C_d (v_w - v_s)$$

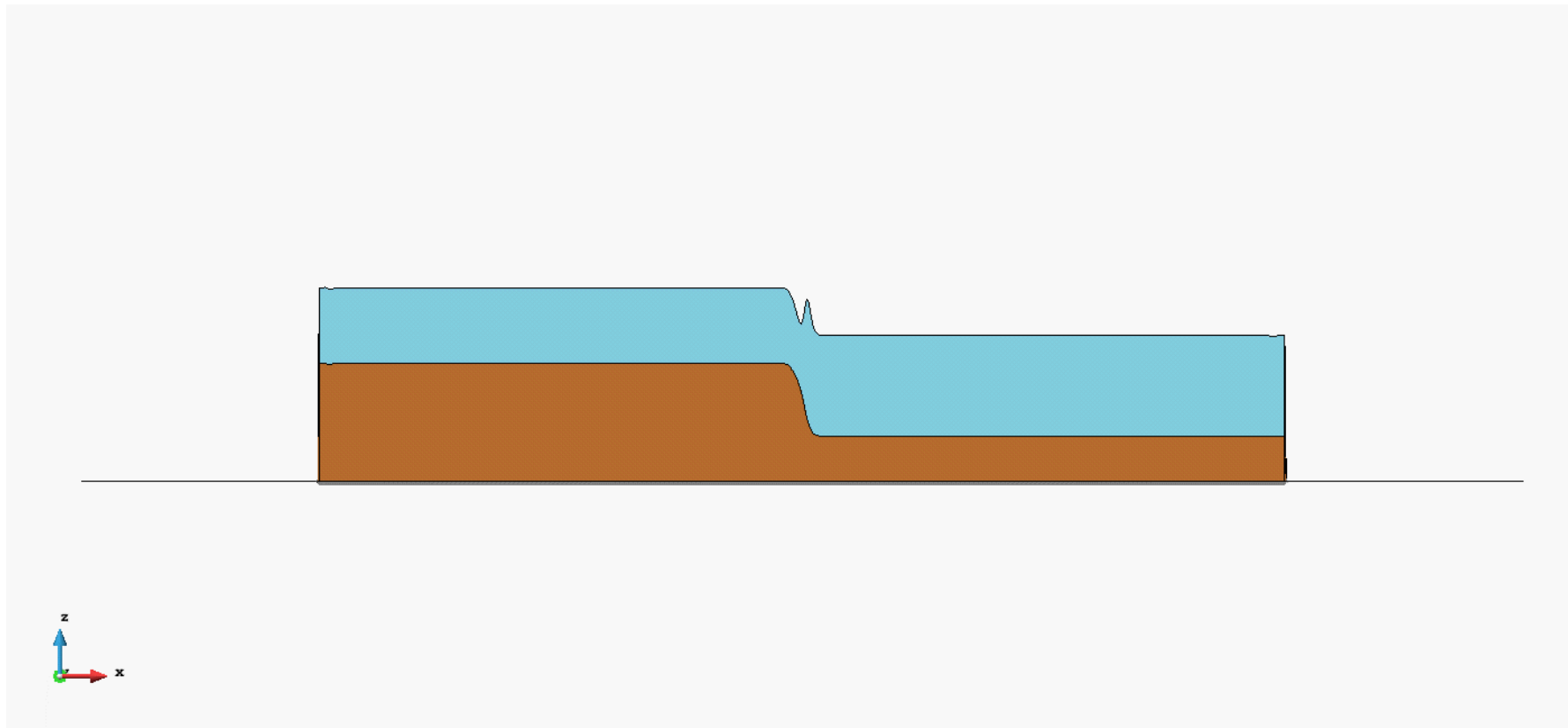
$$C_d = \frac{n(1-n)}{V_T n^m} (\rho_s - \rho_w) g$$

$$V_T = 1.0 e - 3$$

$$m = 1$$

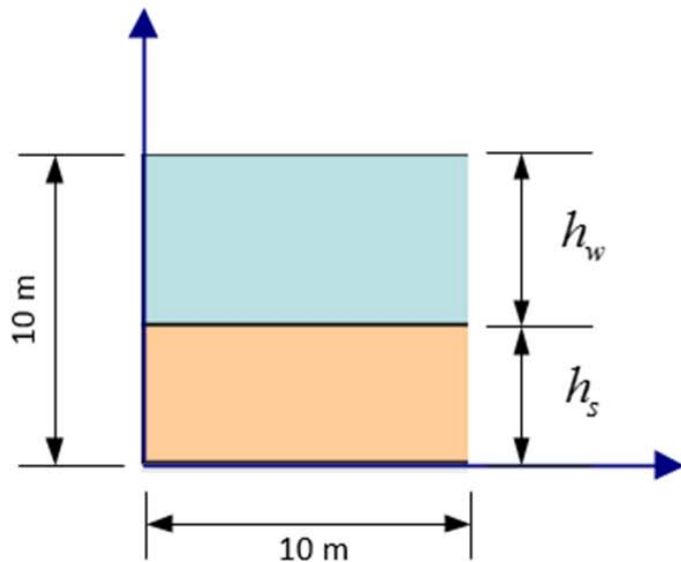
# Shocks and expansion waves (II)

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# Breaking of a dam over a dry, horizontal basal surface (I)

- The second example we have selected is much more relevant, as it can provide some insight on the propagation of two-phase debris flows
- We have assumed that the granular soil has a friction angle of  $45^\circ$ , the basal angle of friction being the same. The drag coefficients are the same used in the previous example.



$$\rho_s = 2000 \text{ Kg} / \text{m}^3$$

$$\rho_w = 1000 \text{ Kg} / \text{m}^3$$

$$n = 0.6$$

$$\tan \phi = 1.0$$

Interaction law (Anderson)

$$R = -nR_w = (1-n)R_s$$

$$R = C_d (v_w - v_s)$$

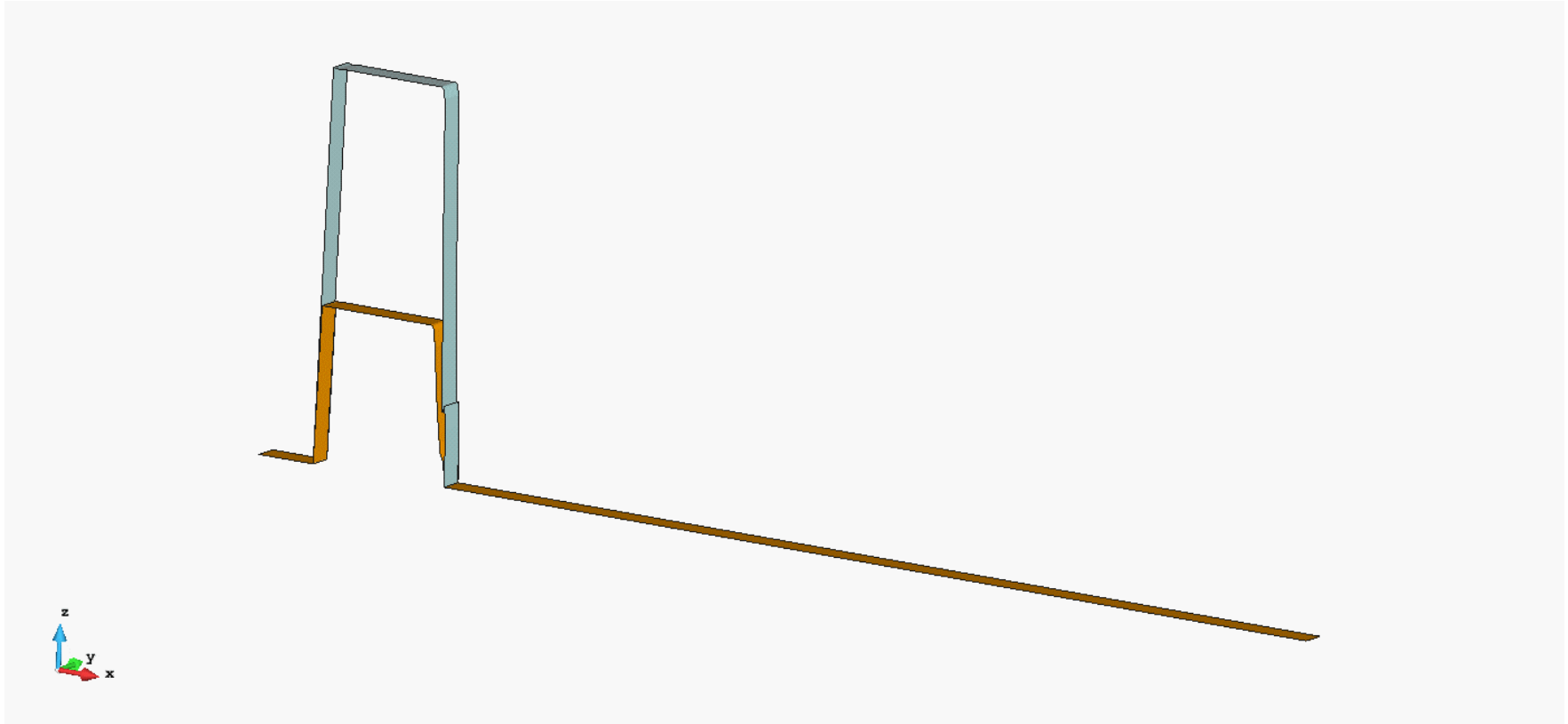
$$C_d = \frac{n(1-n)}{V_T n^m} (\rho_s - \rho_w) g$$

$$V_T = 1.0 e^{-3}$$

$$m = 1$$

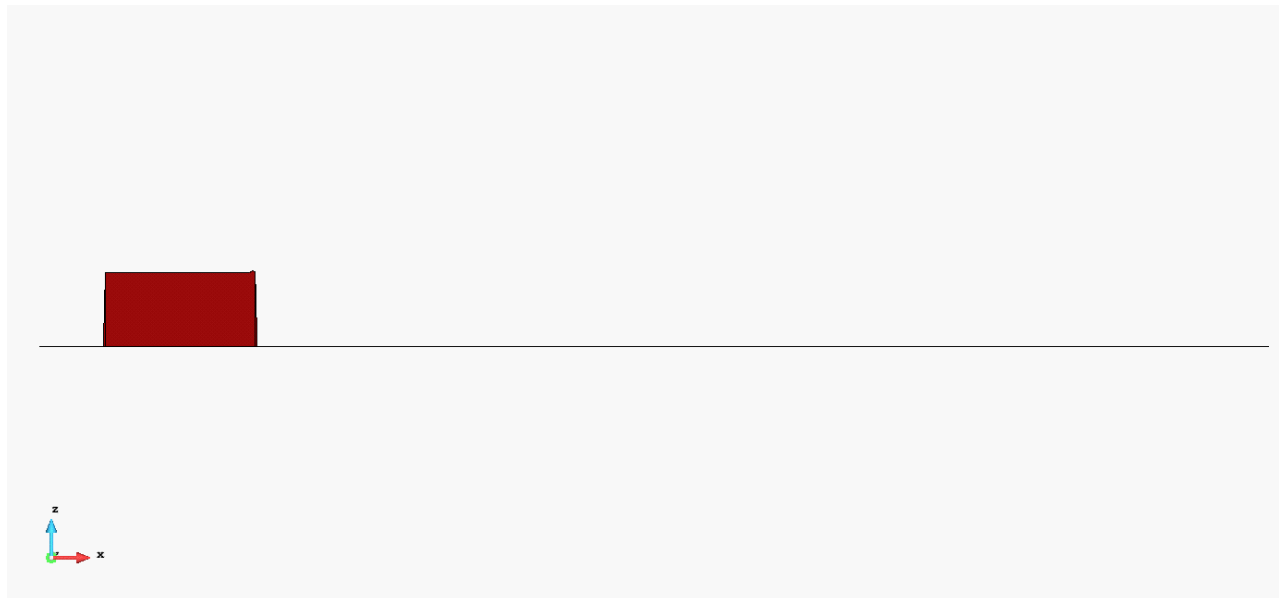
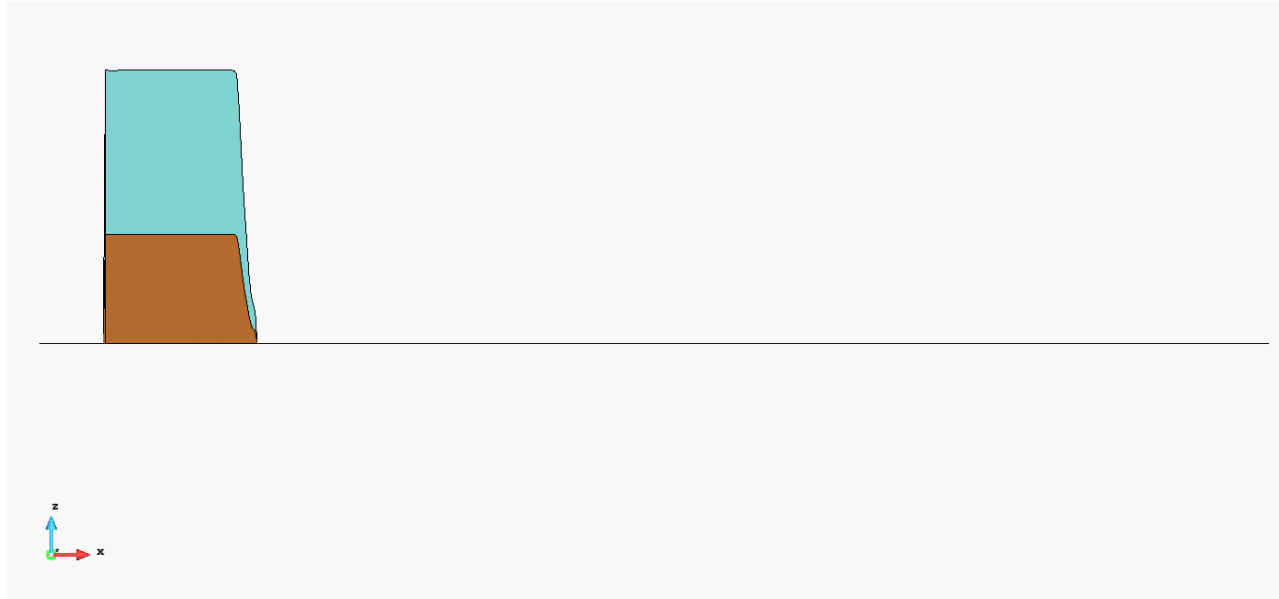
# Breaking of a dam over a dry, horizontal basal surface (II)

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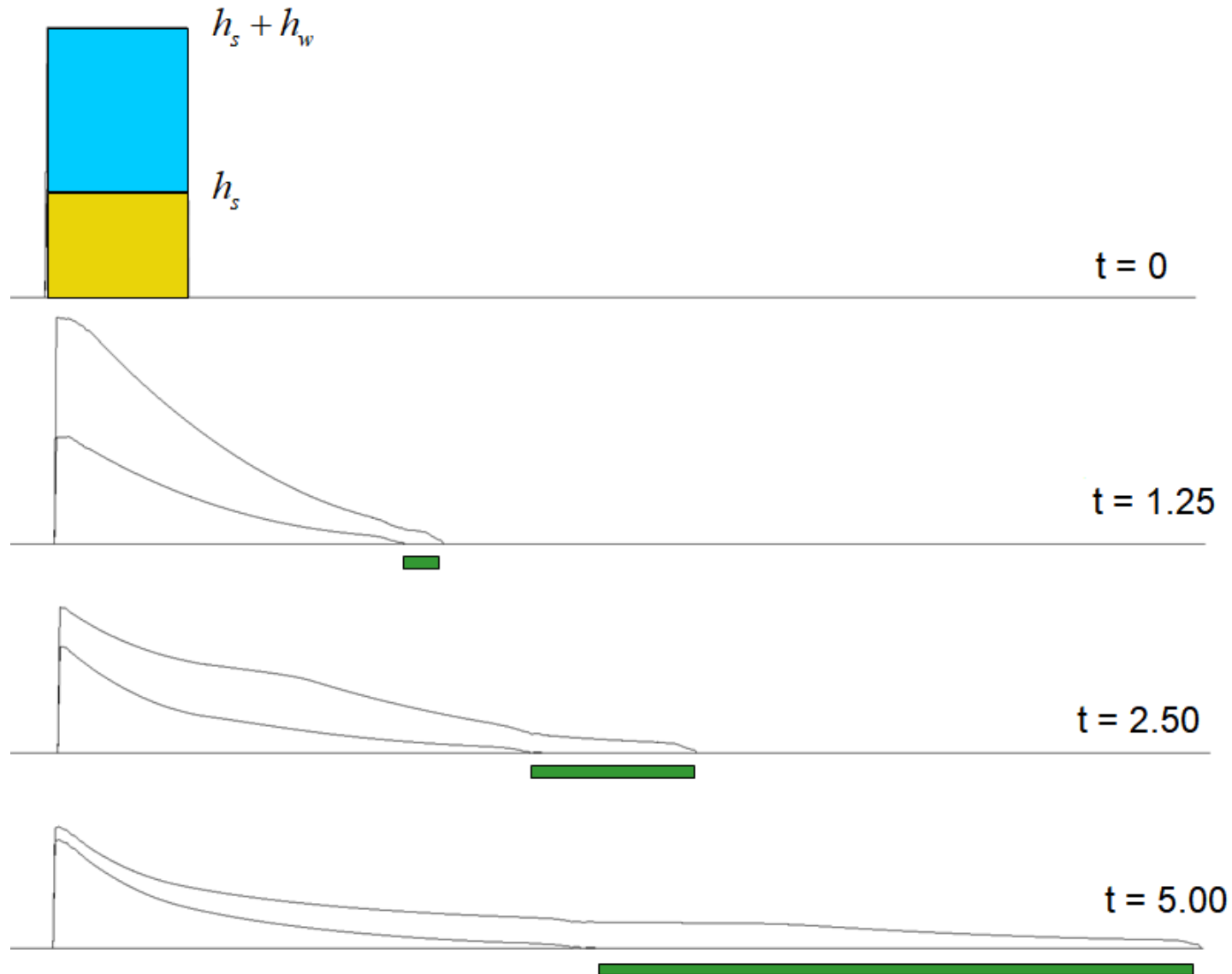




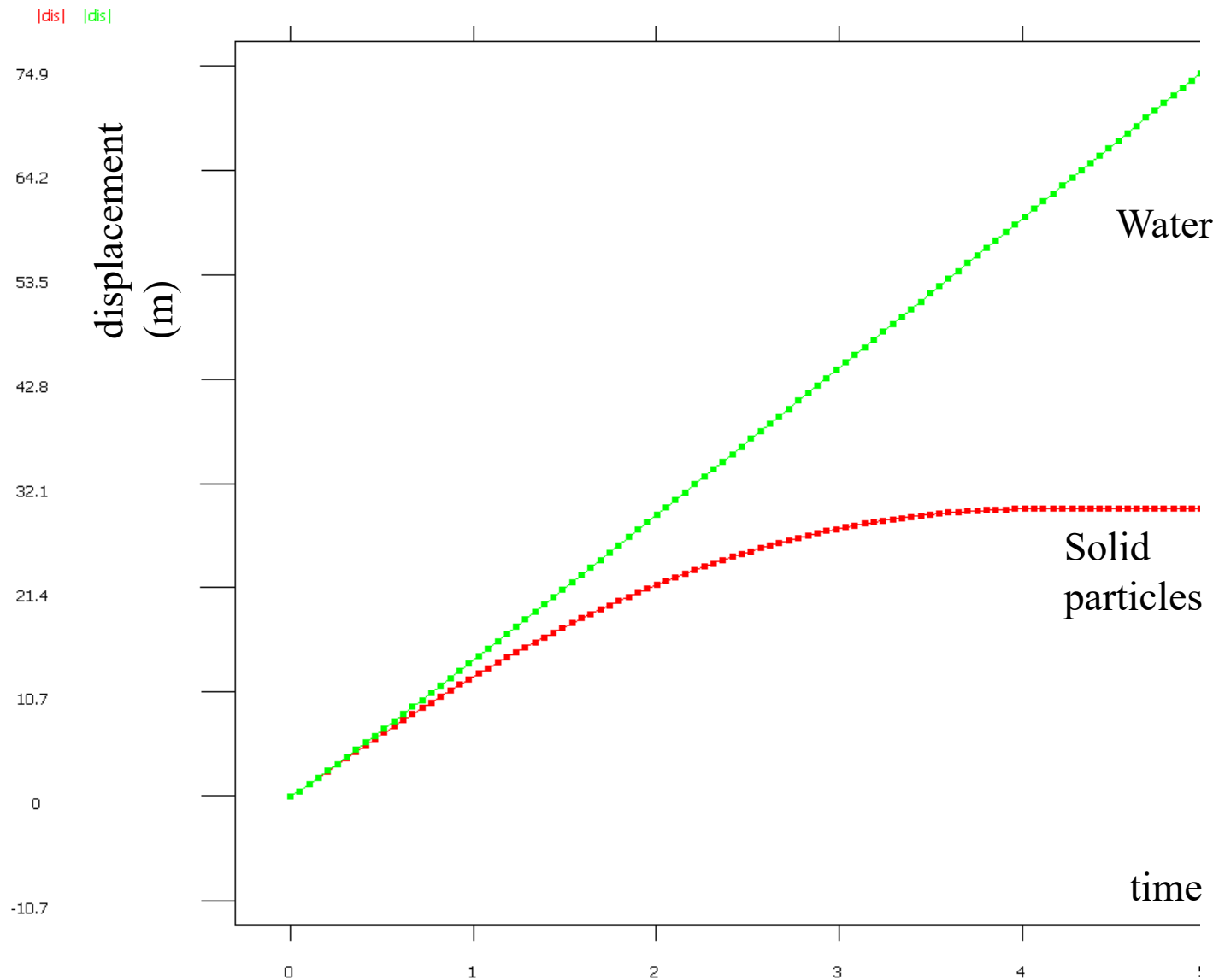
# Breaking of a dam over a dry, horizontal basal surface (no interaction between phases)



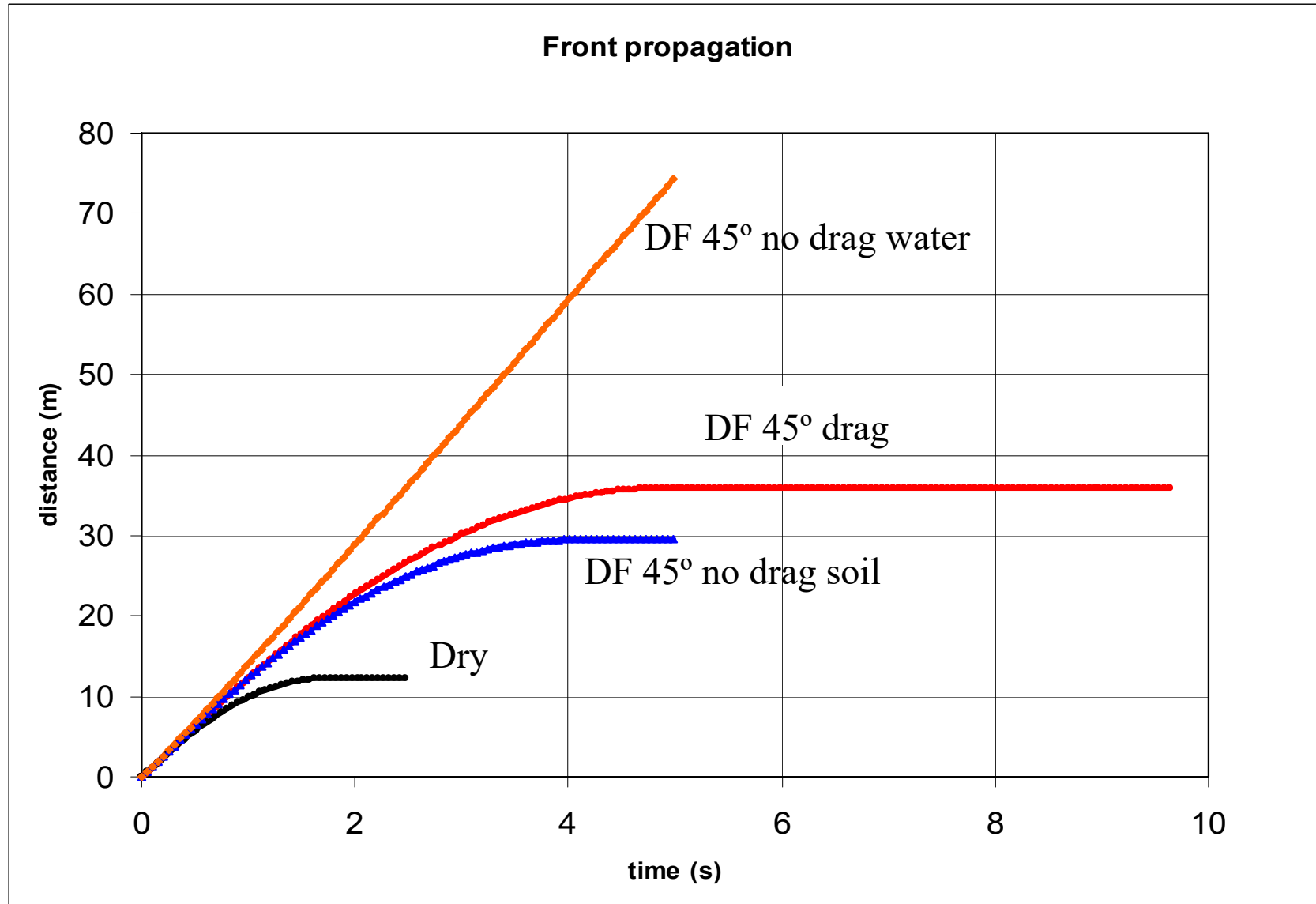
# Breaking of a dam over a dry, horizontal basal surface (no interaction between phases)



# Breaking of a dam over a dry, horizontal basal surface (no interaction between phases)



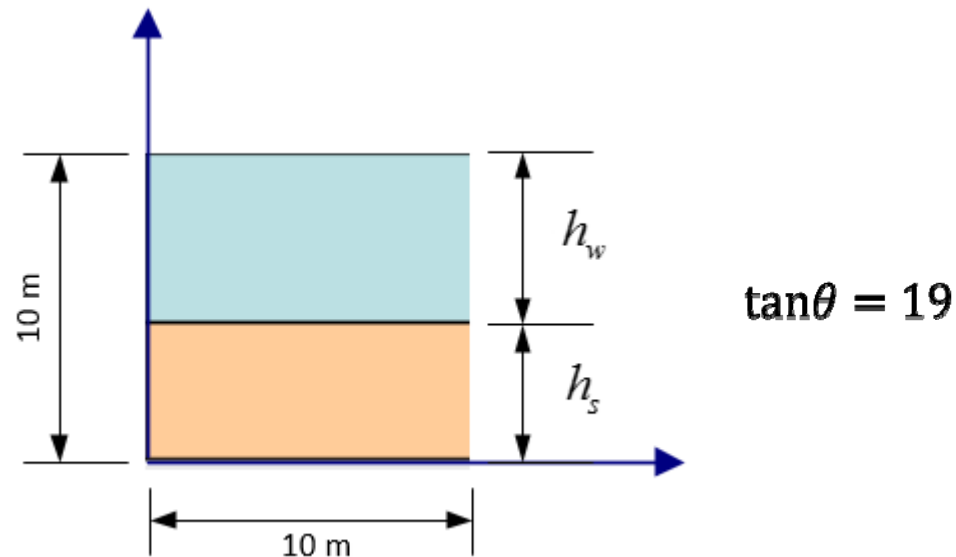
# Comparison between both cases



# Limit case (I)

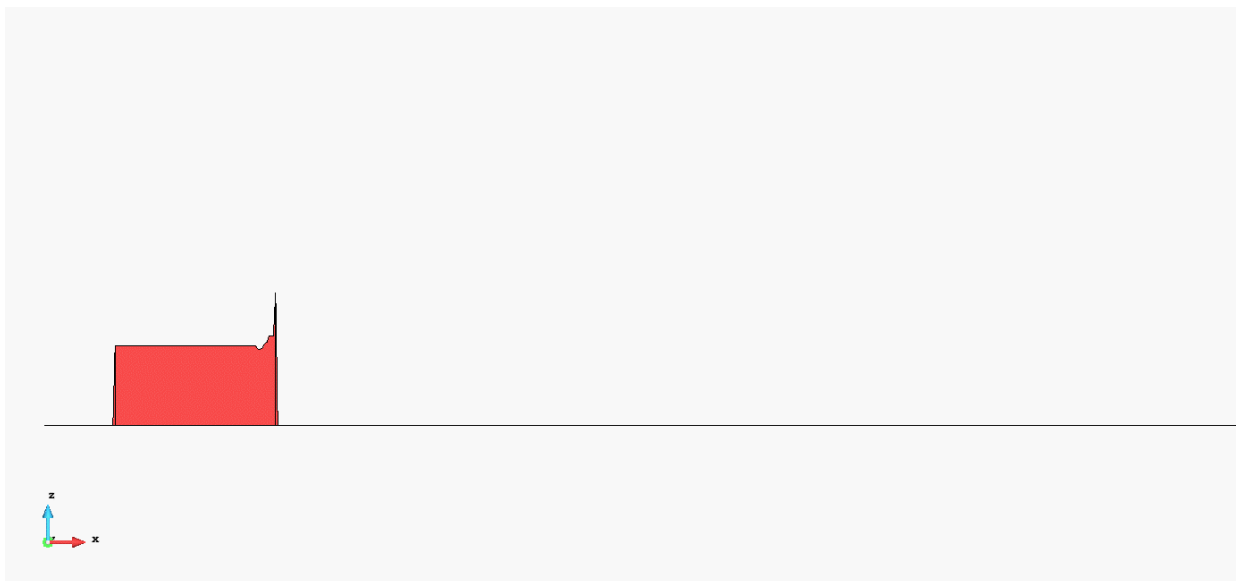
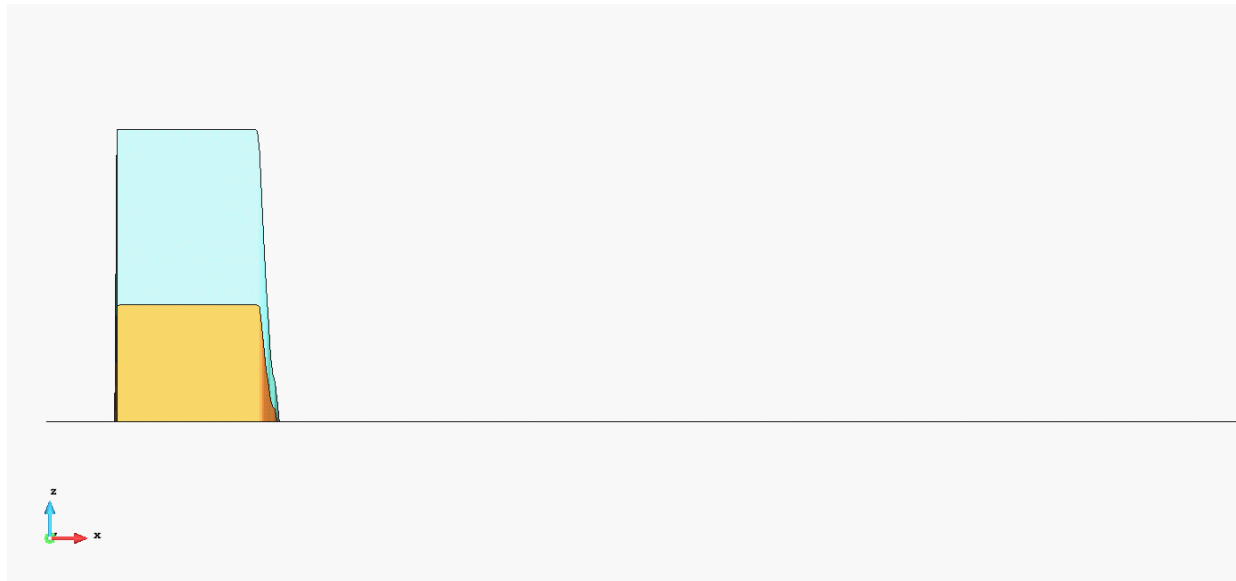
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- We will present a **limit case** where we have modelled the solid choosing a tangent of the friction angle equal to 19, which is unrealistic, and we have not considered interaction between phases.
- This limit case represents a debris flow having a very high - unrealistic- friction angle, such that the solid grains stop while water leaves the skeleton, the interaction force is not being able to mobilize the solid.



# Limit case (II)

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# Conclusions

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- These mathematical and numerical models can be applied to reproduce the propagation of debris flows, taking into account coupling between solid and fluid phases
- We propose to use a double set of nodes (solid and fluid) which can move relatively to each other. It is possible to find situations where the fluid abandons the body of the mixture using these two set of nodes.



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