Role of surface roughness and friction in the rheology of dense colloidal suspensions

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Colloids vs non-Brownian particles



Nanoparticles	Colloids	Granular materials	
< 100 nm	100 nm – 10 µm	> 10 µm	SIZE
Thermal			
motion *	Negligible inertia		

Flow properties and connections to microstructure



Confocal rheometer for visualization and rheology



Image acquisition from confocal microscopy



Post-processing

Space-time information



Characterizing structure and dynamics from images



Microstructure

Translational and

Rheology and dynamics of colloidal glasses



Effect of surface anisotropy on dense suspensions



Roughness breaks fore-aft symmetry in simple shear

Experiments with non-Brownian PMMA ($\varphi = 0.05$) in Couette cell





- Roughness brings Stokes flow irreversibility and symmetry breaking

Blanc et al. Phys Rev Lett (2011)

Smart & Leighton (1993), Gallier et al. (2014), Wilson & Davis (2002), Da Cunha & Hinch (1996), Sierou & Brady (2002)

Particle roughness and shear thickening



Synthesis of PHSA-PMMA rough colloids

Free-radical dispersion polymerization





Increasing crosslinker concentration, Increasing roughness

Colloidal particles of varying roughness

PHSA-stabilized PMMA colloids, $2a_{eff} = 1.9$ to 2.5 µm, Size polydispersity = 3-4%



Extracting RMS roughness from AFM measurements





Geometry	$2a_{\rm eff}$ (µm)	$(\mathbf{B}(\psi=0)/a_{\rm eff}^{2})^{1/2}$	Range of φ
Smooth	$2.27 \ \mu m \pm 5\%$	0.026 ± 0.003	0.30 to 0.55
	$1.60 \ \mu m \pm 4\%$		
Slightly rough	$2.55 \ \mu\text{m} \pm 2\%$	0.040 ± 0.002	0.45 to 0.55
Rough	$1.95 \ \mu m \pm 5\%$		
	$2.06 \mu m \pm 4\%$	0.075 + 0.005	0.30 to 0.55
	$2.47 \mu m \pm 5\%$	0.075 ± 0.005	
	$1.91 \mu m \pm 5\%$		
Very rough	$2.78\ \mu m\pm6\%$	0.082 ± 0.003	0.45 to 0.50

Calculation of the volume fraction

Effective size from AFM/SEM, particle counting from 3D confocal microscopy



Steady state viscosity and first normal stresses



Hysteretic flow curves for frictional particles



Hsiao et al. Phys Rev Lett (2017)

Fitting the high-shear viscosity to the Eilers model



Hsiao et al. Phys Rev Lett (2017)

Effect of roughness on excluded volume



- 1. When RMS roughness increases, lubrication becomes less effective in keeping particles apart
- 2. It takes less force to push them into contact

Comparison with DPD simulations



State diagrams for rough colloids in shear flow



Engineering approach: Assume particle is a sphere.

But

What is the microscopic reason?

+ = Newtonian flow • weak thickening • strong thickening • dilatant $(N_1 > 0)$



Measuring the 3D rotational dynamics of colloids

Inert Janus tracers to track rotational dynamics





Mean-squared angular displacement $\left\langle \Delta \vec{\varphi}^{2}(\Delta t) \right\rangle = \left\langle \left[\vec{\varphi}(t + \Delta t) - \vec{\varphi}(t) \right]^{2} \right\rangle$



Hsiao et al. Soft Matter (2017)

Accounting for repulsion in colloidal suspensions



Hsiao et al. Soft Matter (2017)

Hindered rotational dynamics from surface geometry



Hsiao et al. Soft Matter (2017)

Rheological properties of colloidal glasses



Courtesy: Alan Jacob

Viscoelastic comparison





Creep shear rate showing transient fluidization



Comparisons between smooth and rough colloids



Strain recovery after creep cessation



Testing nonlocal theories in dense suspensions

$$\mu(I,J,\phi) = \frac{\sigma_{xy}(J,\phi)}{P(J,\phi)}, I = \frac{2a\dot{\gamma}}{\sqrt{P/\rho_P}}, J = \frac{\eta_f \dot{\gamma}}{P}$$

Henann & Kamrin nonlocal theory



Bouzid et al. nonlocal theory



Measuring a correlation length scale

 $\xi (\phi, \mu, \dot{\gamma})$



Whitaker & Hsiao et al. Submitted (2018).

Are local rigid clusters responsible for rheology? Can we determine the length scale ξ as a function of φ ? Can we measure long-range velocity correlations?

Testing force tiling concepts in suspensions



J. Morris & B. Chakraborty et al. arXiv.



A state diagram for suspensions and granular flows



Summary

- Roughness introduces friction because it is difficult for particles to undergo full rotation
- Shifts maximum packing (based on viscosity divergence) to lower ϕ
- Causes glassy behavior at values of ϕ that is normally that of a fluid
- We may soon be able to test theories of µ(I, J) rheology in colloidal suspensions



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