

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

PLEASE
STAND
BY



Flow and Storage of Powders

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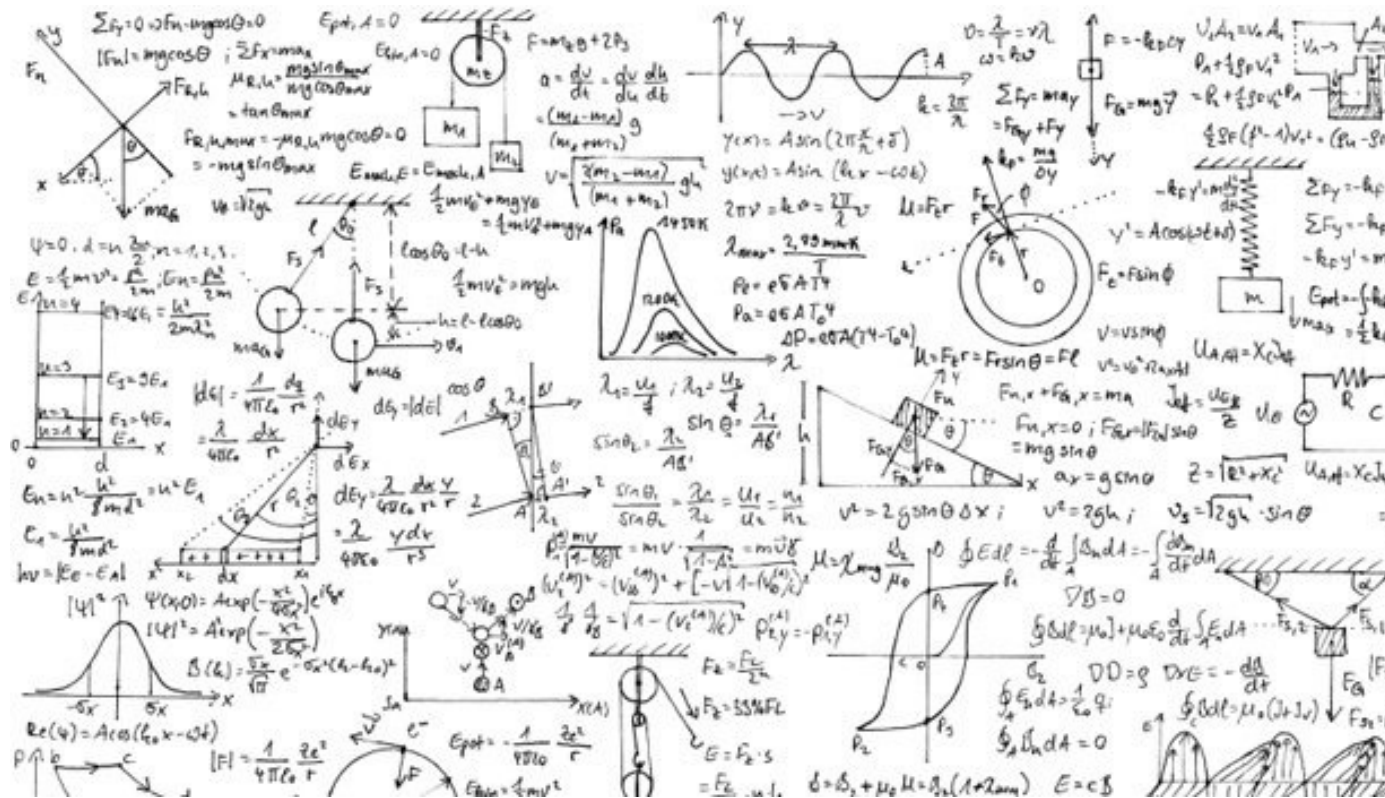
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Flow and Storage of Powders



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Agenda

- Definitions
- Powder flow behavior
- Fundamental powder flow properties



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- Stresses in solids
- Testers



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- Definitions
- Powder flow behavior
- Fundamental powder flow properties
- Stresses in solids
- Testers
- Predicting flow behavior and designing powder handling equipment
- Feeder selection
- Tricks for challenging materials
- Special topics



Goals

- Understand how to measure powder flow properties
- Predict flow behavior of powders
- Know how to design/modify equipment for reliable powder handling



Goals



Goals



Definitions

Bulk solid



"Powder"

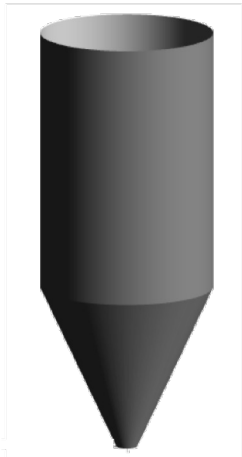
Definitions

Biomass

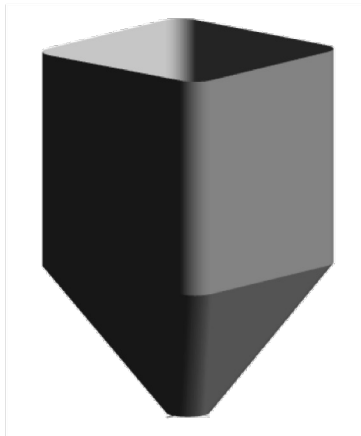


Definitions

Hopper, bin, or silo

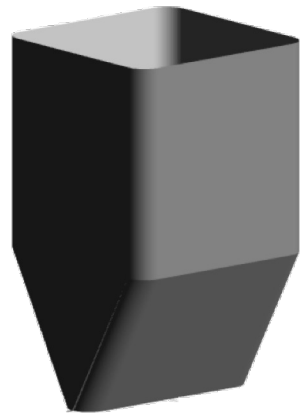


Conical



Pyramidal

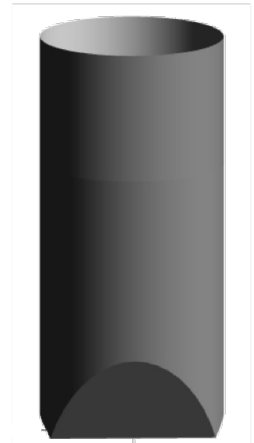
Axisymmetric



Wedge-shaped



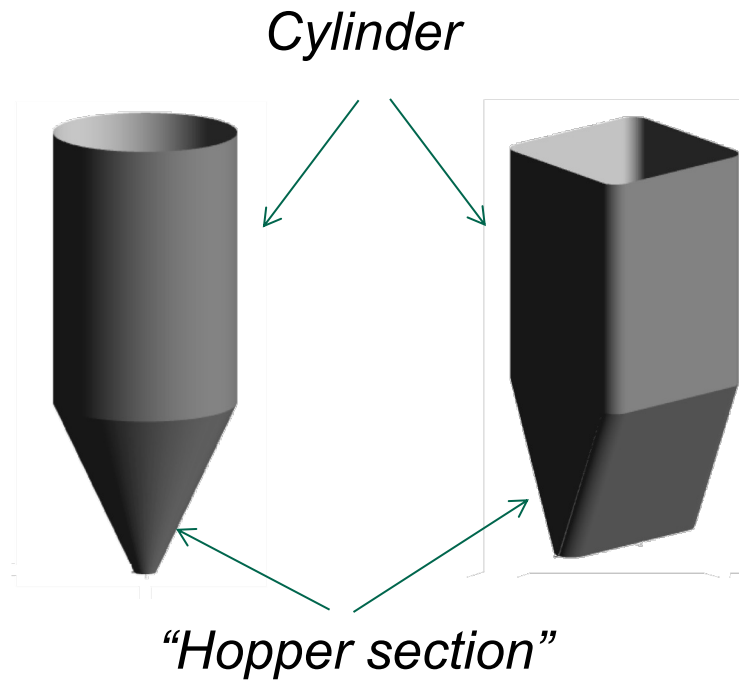
Transition



Chisel

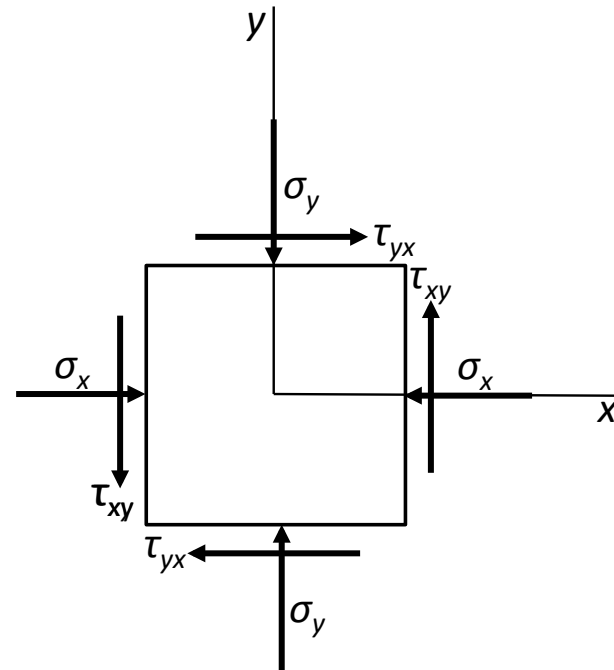
Planar

Definitions



Definitions

- Stress
 - Normal stress
 - Shear stress
- Pressure
- Major principal stress



Liquids vs. solids

	Liquids	Solids
Friction	Frictionless	Frictional
Compressibility	Nearly incompressible	Generally compressible
Isotropy	Isotropic	Anisotropic



Classification of liquids

Newtonian	Stress is proportional to strain rate
Viscoelastic	Combination of viscous and elastic behaviors
Rheopectic	Viscosity increases over time
Thixotropic	Viscosity decreases over time
Pseudoplastic	Viscosity increases with increased stress
Dilatant	Viscosity decreases with increased stress



Classification of bulk solids

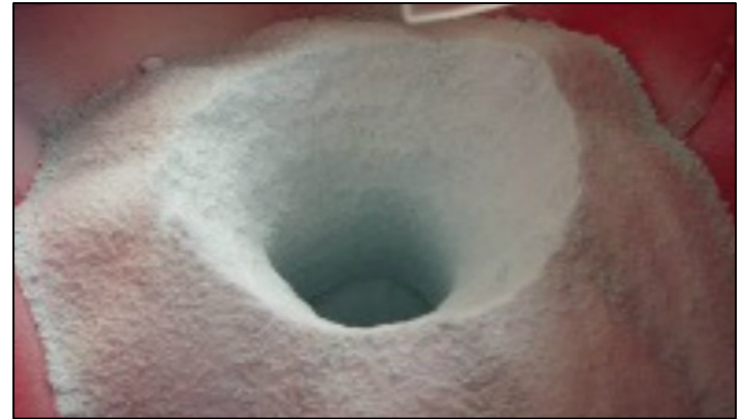
Neurotic	move awkwardly - poor flowability - sticky or tacky
Sadistic	attack their surroundings - abrasive - explosive
Masochistic	suffer from their surroundings - friable - degradable
Schizophrenic	change their behavior pattern - hygroscopic - electrostatic

Woodcock and Mason, 1987



Flow problems

- Ratholing



Flow problems

- Ratholing
- Arching/bridging



Flow problems

- Ratholing
- Arching/bridging



Flow problems

- Ratholing
- Arching/bridging
- Caking



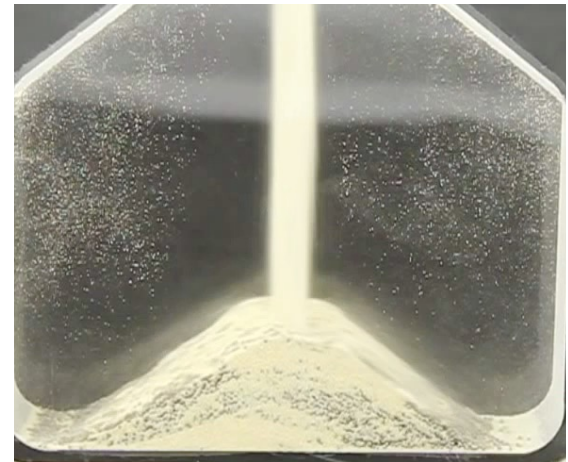
Flow problems

- Ratholing
- Arching/bridging
- Caking
- Flooding



Flow problems

- Ratholing
- Arching/bridging
- Caking
- Flooding
- Segregation



Flow problems

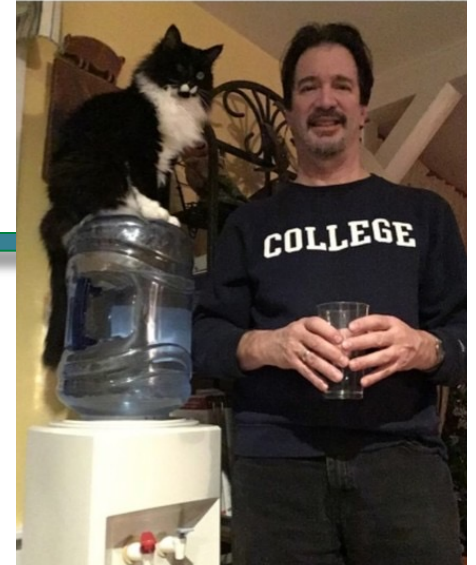
- Ratholing
- Arching/bridging
- Caking
- Flooding
- Segregation



Lyn Bates: Christmas tree segregation

Flow problems

- Ratholing
- Arching/bridging
- Caking
- Flooding
- Segregation
- Limiting discharge rate



Flow problems

- Ratholing
- Arching/bridging
- Caking
- Flooding
- Segregation
- Limiting discharge rate
- Structural

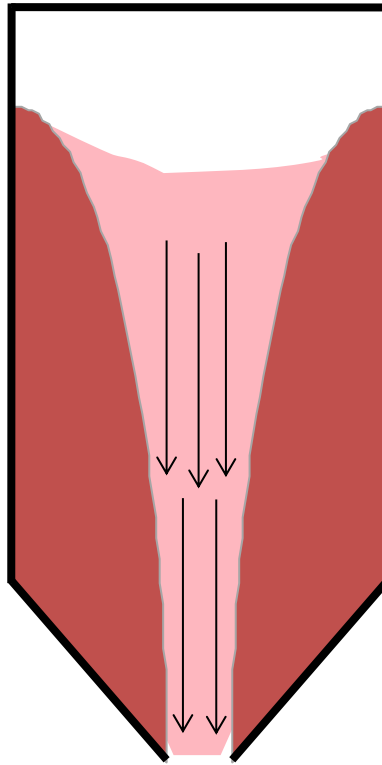


Solids flow patterns

- Funnel flow
- Mass flow



Funnel flow



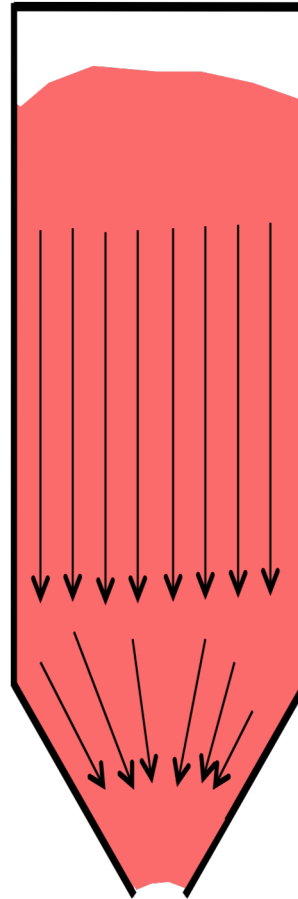
Funnel flow



Funnel flow



Mass flow



Mass flow



Flow patterns

Funnel flow

- 👎 First in, last out
- 👎 Ratholes may be stable
- 👎 Fine powders will flood
- 👎 Segregation made worse
- 👎 Caking more likely
- 👍 Low headroom

Mass flow

- 👍 First in, first out
- 👍 No ratholes
- 👍 Fine powders de-aerate
- 👍 Segregation minimized
- 👍 Steady discharge
- 👎 Steep/low friction walls
- 👎 Taller for same capacity
- 👎 Higher wall stresses



Mass flow



Funnel flow



No flow



Preventing flow problems

- Ensure properly sized outlet
- Design/modify to allow mass flow
- Need powder flow properties



Angle of repose



Angle of Repose	Flow
< 25	Excellent
25 - 30	Good
30 - 40	Passable
> 40	Very Poor

“The angle of repose... is only useful in the determination of the contour of a pile, and its popularity among engineers and investigators is due not to its usefulness but to the ease with which it is measured.”

- A.W. Jenike, *Storage and Flow of Solids*, Utah Engineering Experiment Station Bulletin 123



Hausner and Carr Ratios



$$C = 100 \frac{\rho_T - \rho_B}{\rho_T}$$

$$H = \frac{\rho_T}{\rho_B}$$



Carr Index



Hosokawa Tester



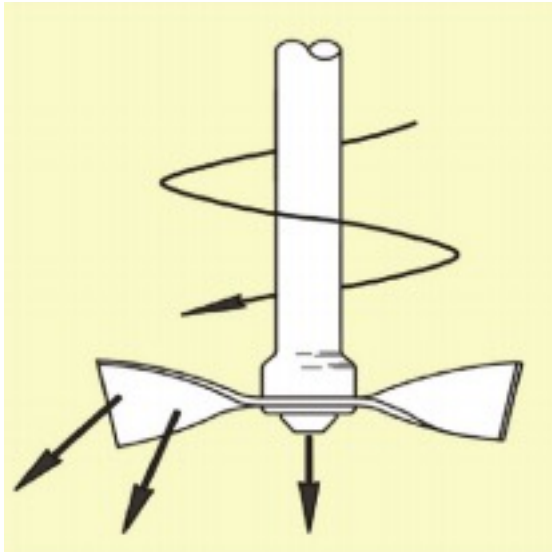
Tribocharge Tester

Score	Flowability and Performance
90-100	Excellent
80-89	Good
70-79	Fair
60-69	Passable
40-59	Poor
20-39	Very Poor
0-19	Very, Very Poor

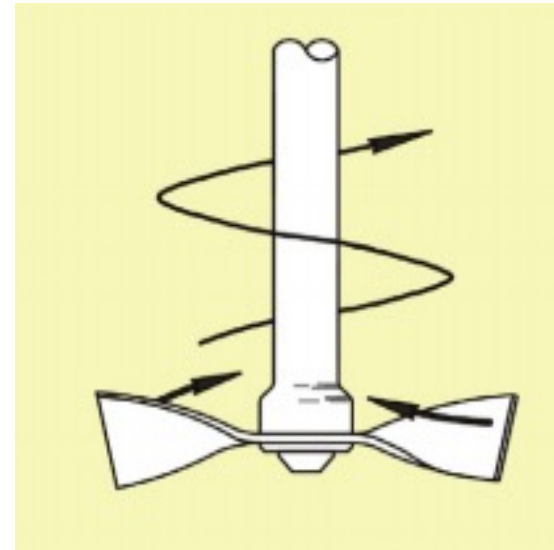
Silica	Flow Index
None	44.3
A	54.0
B	56.0
C	59.0
D	59.5



Flow energies



Basic Flow Energy



Specific Energy

Flowability

- Angle of repose
- Carr and Hausner ratios
- Carr Index
- Flow energy
- Flowdex
- FFC (often erroneously called flow function)



Flowability

- Angle of repose
- Carr and Hausner ratios
- Carr Index
- Flow energy
- Flowdex
- FFC (often erroneously called flow function)

Do not predict flow behavior!



So how should we define flowability?



So how should we define flowability?

Good flowability:



So how should we define flowability?

Poor flowability:



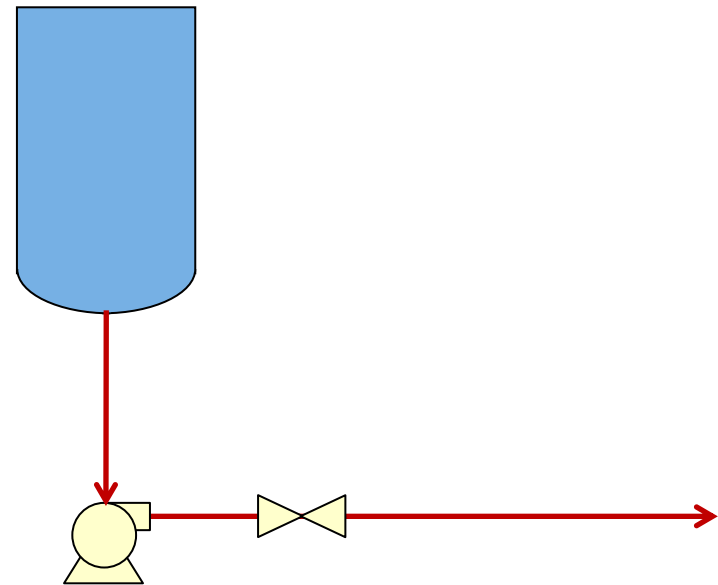
Fundamental properties

- Predict flow behavior
 - Will powder flow reliably from bin or hopper?
 - Are walls steep enough to prevent ratholes from forming?
 - Is solids discharge rate steady enough for downstream process?
- Design bins and hoppers
 - Minimum outlet dimension to prevent obstructions to flow
 - Recommended mass flow hopper angles
 - Outlet dimension that allows desired solids discharge rate



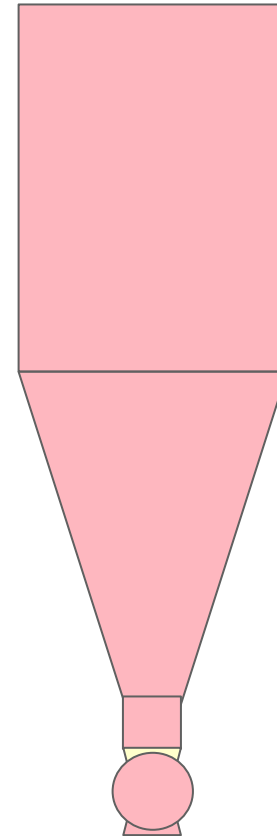
Fundamental properties

- Viscosity
- Density
- Vapor pressure



Fundamental properties

- Cohesive strength
- Internal friction
- Compressibility
- Wall friction
- Permeability



Andrew Jenike



Fundamental properties

- Cohesive strength
 - Internal friction
 - Compressibility
 - Wall friction
 - Permeability
- Allows calculation of hopper outlet dimensions required to prevent flow obstructions or predict flow stoppages



Fundamental properties

- Cohesive strength
 - Internal friction
 - Compressibility
 - Wall friction
 - Permeability
- Allows calculation of hopper outlet dimensions required to prevent flow obstructions or predict flow stoppages
- Used to calculate recommended mass flow hopper angles or predict flow pattern



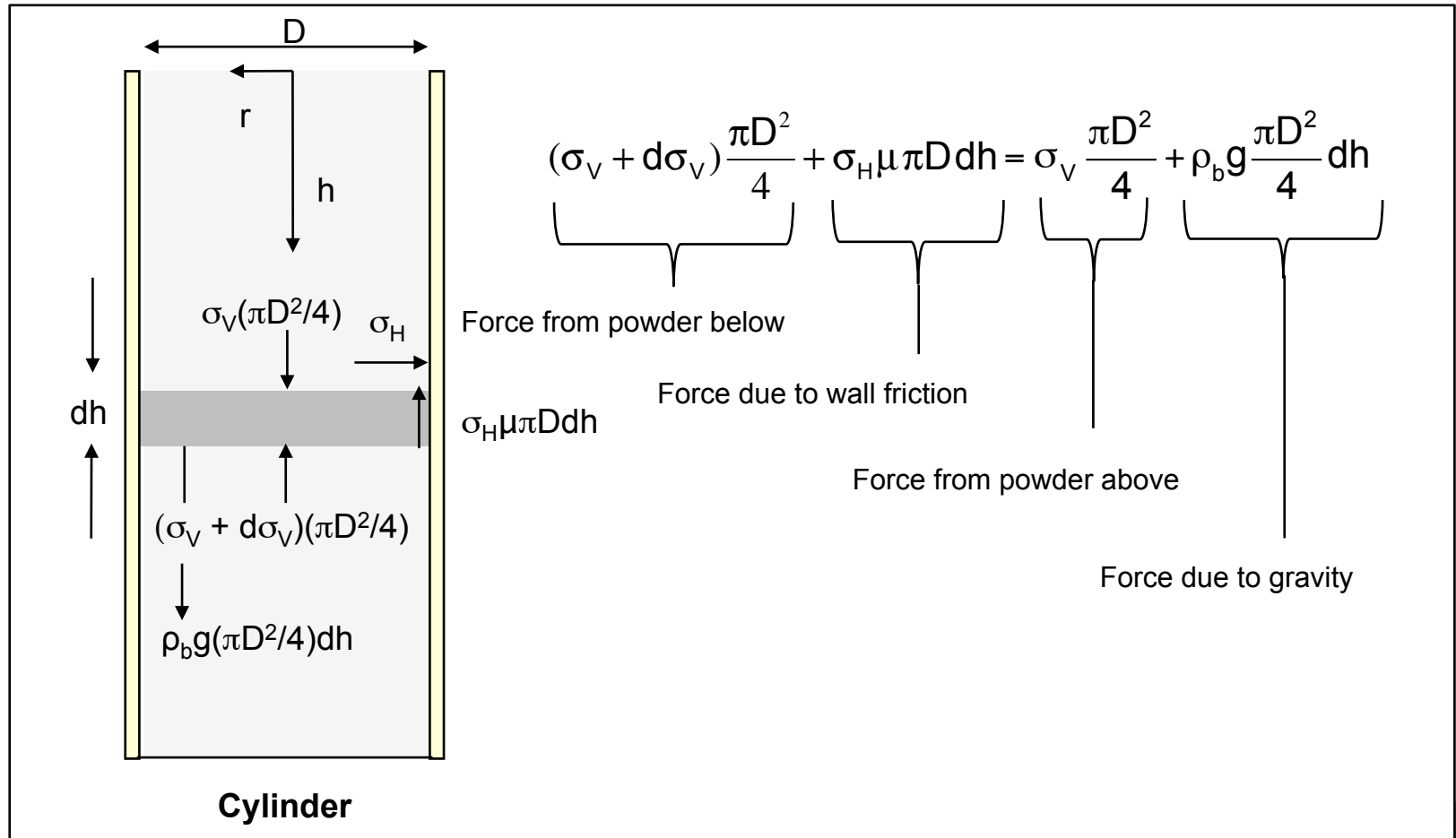
Fundamental properties

- Cohesive strength
 - Internal friction
 - Compressibility
 - Wall friction
 - Permeability
- Allows calculation of hopper outlet dimensions required to prevent flow obstructions or predict flow stoppages
- Used to calculate recommended mass flow hopper angles or predict flow pattern
- Used to calculate solids discharge rates

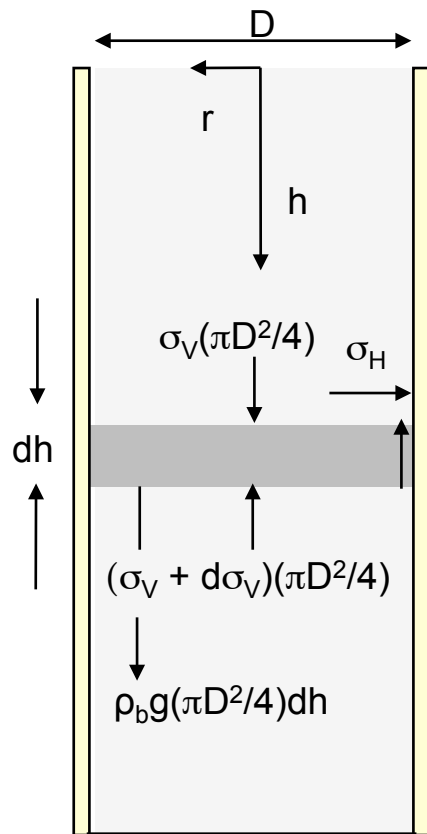




Pressure distribution



Pressure distribution



Cylinder

$$(\sigma_V + d\sigma_V) \frac{\pi D^2}{4} + \sigma_H \mu \pi D dh = \sigma_V \frac{\pi D^2}{4} + \rho_b g \frac{\pi D^2}{4} dh$$

Janssen coefficient

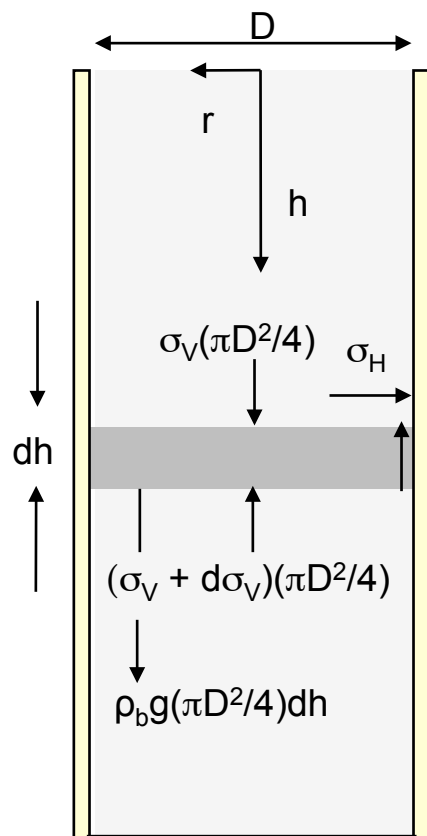
$$k = \frac{\sigma_H}{\sigma_V} \approx 0.4 - 0.6$$

$$\frac{D}{4} \frac{d\sigma_V}{dh} + k \mu \sigma_V = \frac{D}{4} \rho_b g$$

1st order linear differential equation



Pressure distribution



Cylinder

$$(\sigma_v + d\sigma_v) \frac{\pi D^2}{4} + \sigma_H \mu \pi D dh = \sigma_v \frac{\pi D^2}{4} + \rho_b g \frac{\pi D^2}{4} dh$$

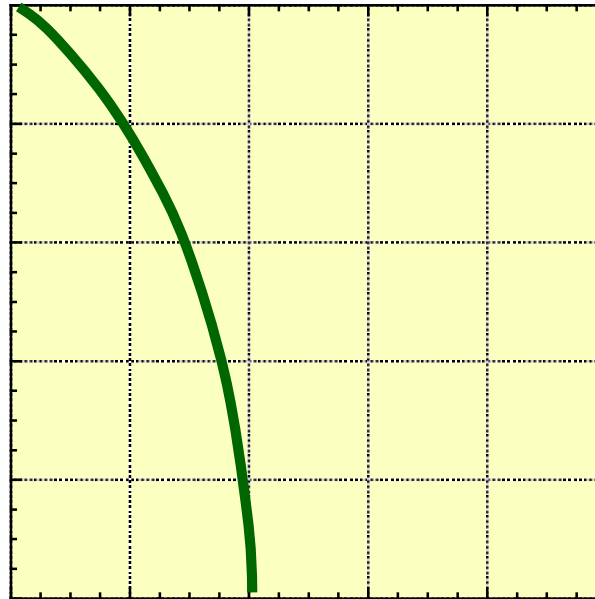
$$k = \frac{\sigma_H}{\sigma_v} \cong 0.4$$

$$\frac{D}{4} \frac{d\sigma_v}{dh} + k \mu \sigma_v \frac{D}{4} \rho_b g$$

Janssen Equation:

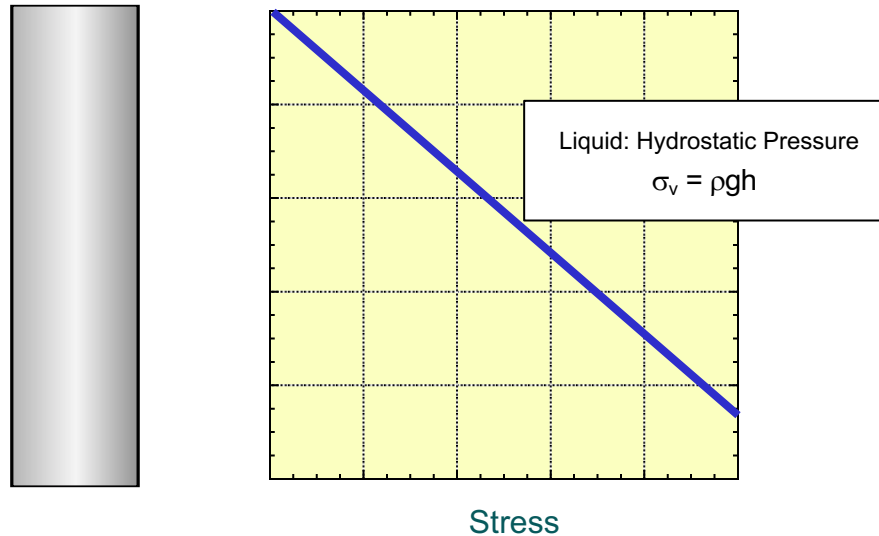
$$\sigma_v = \frac{\rho_b g D}{4 k \mu} \left[1 - \exp \left(\frac{-4 k \mu h}{D} \right) \right]$$

Pressure distribution

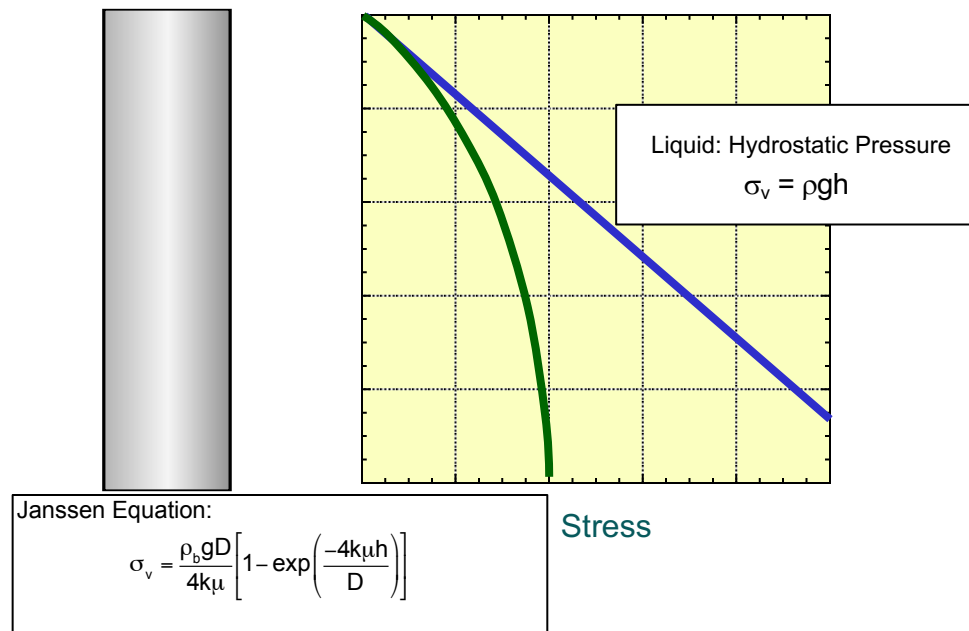


Stress

Pressure distribution

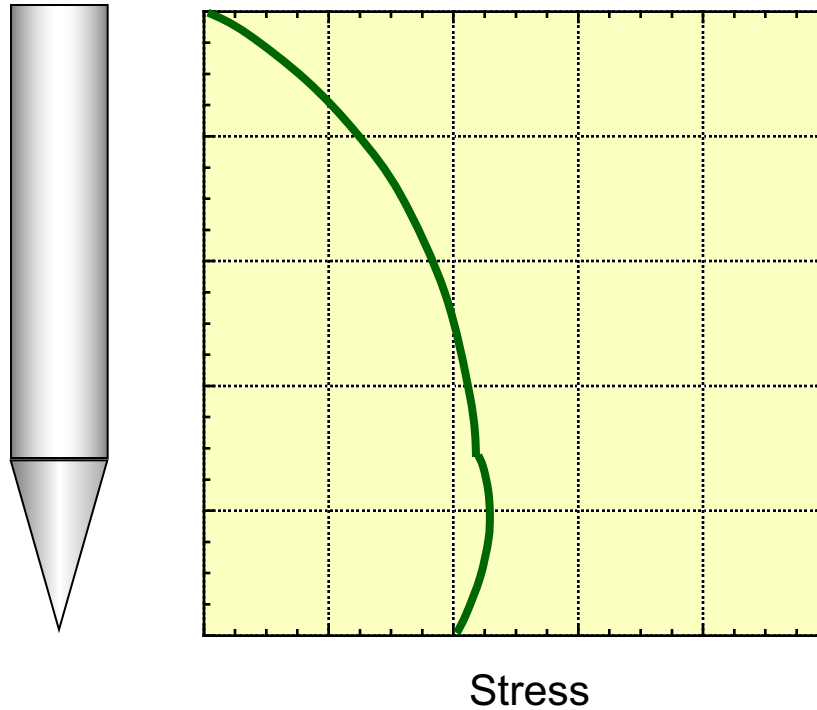


Pressure distribution



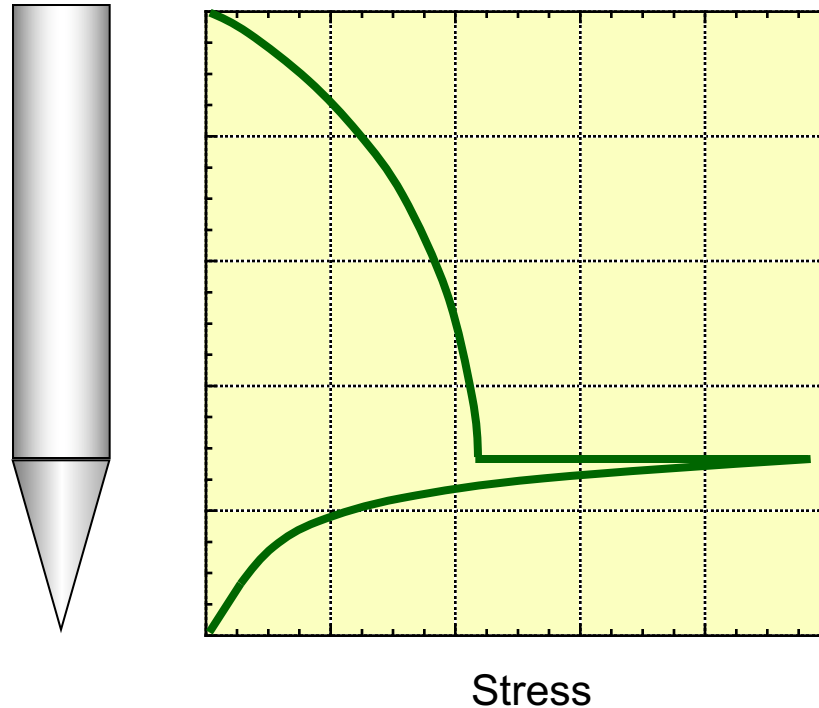
Pressure distribution

Initial fill



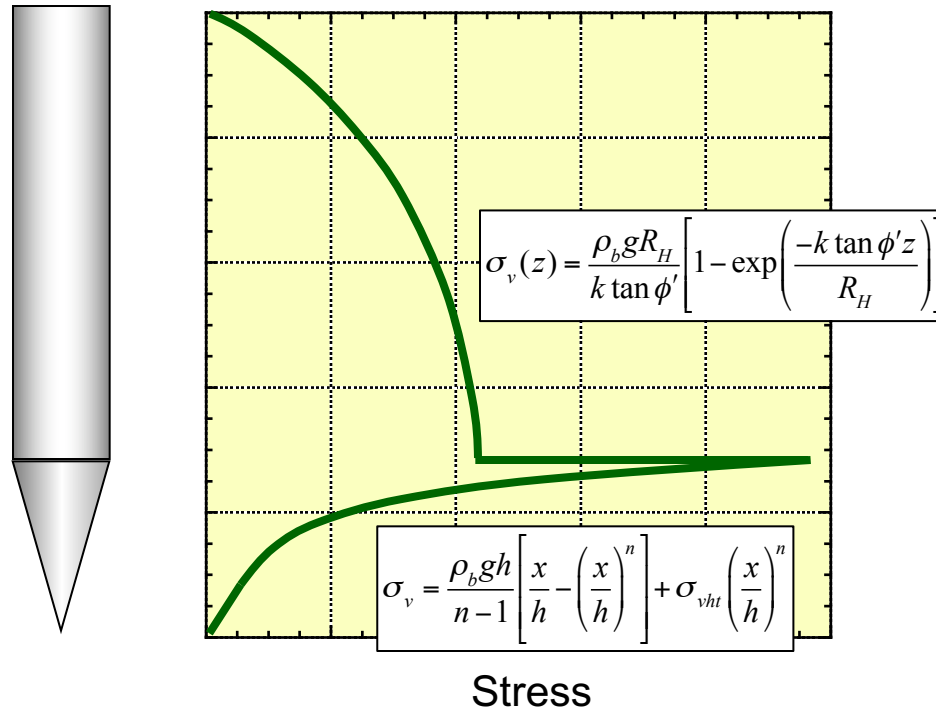
Pressure distribution

After discharge (mass flow)

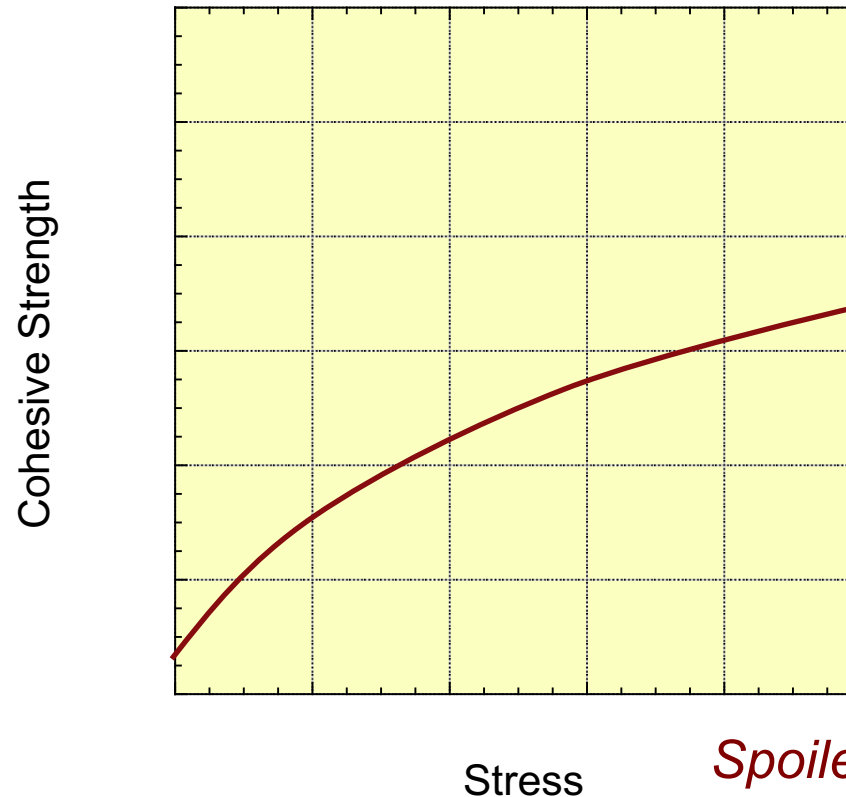


Pressure distribution

After discharge (mass flow)

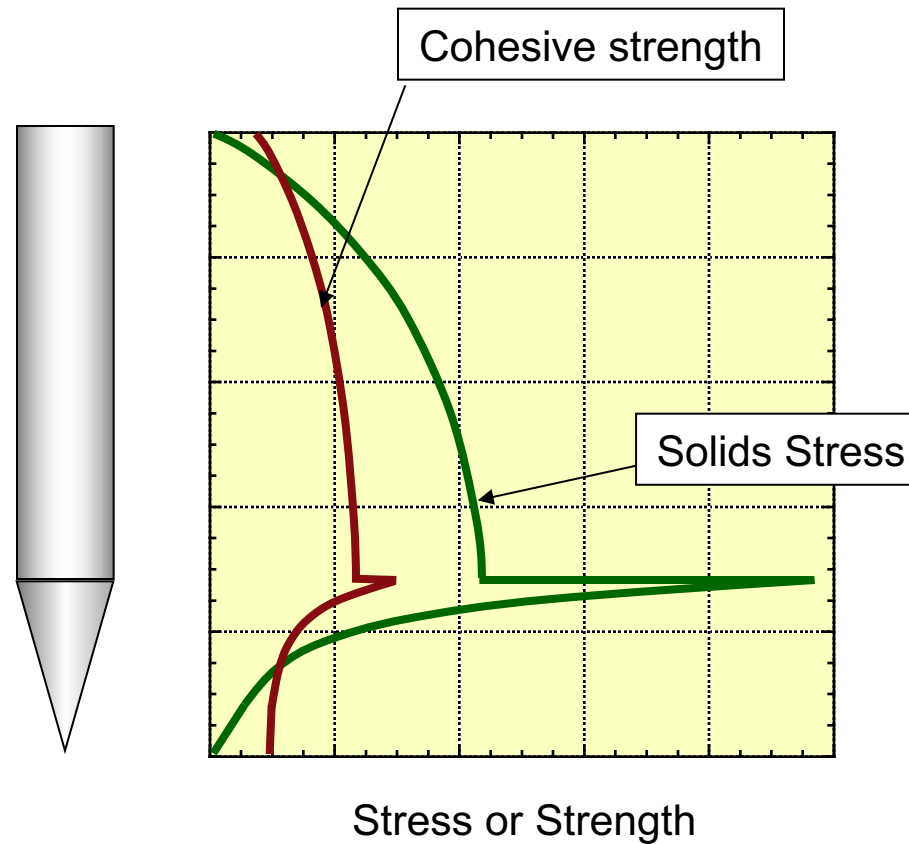


Cohesive strength

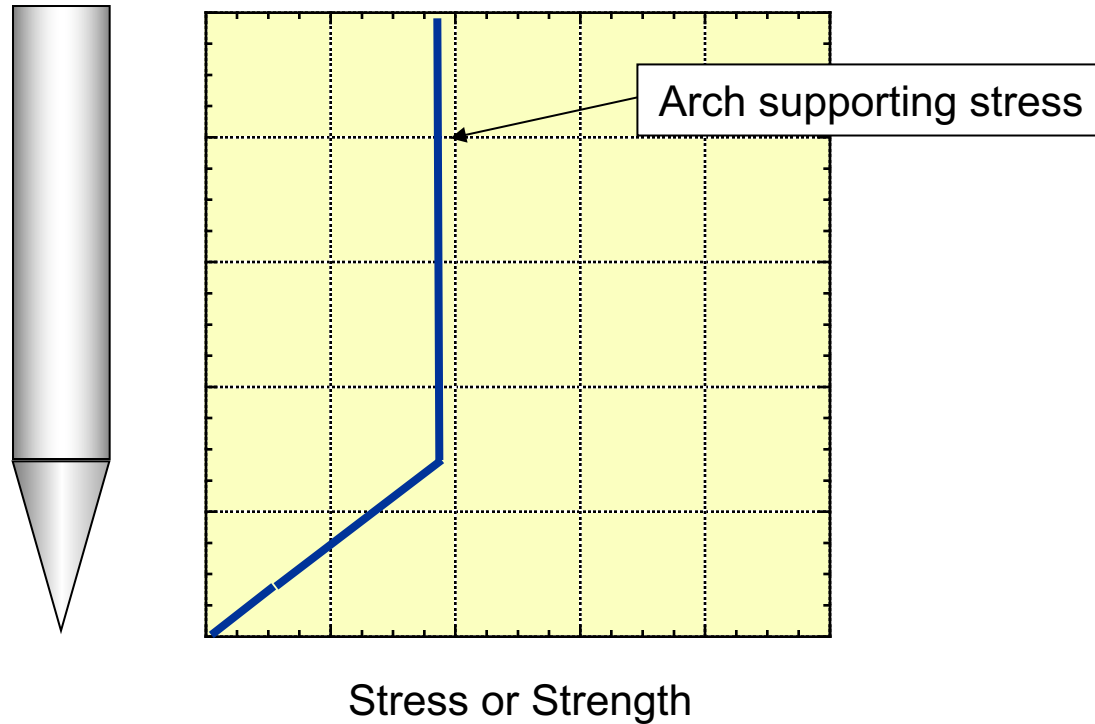


Spoiler alert: shear cell tester!

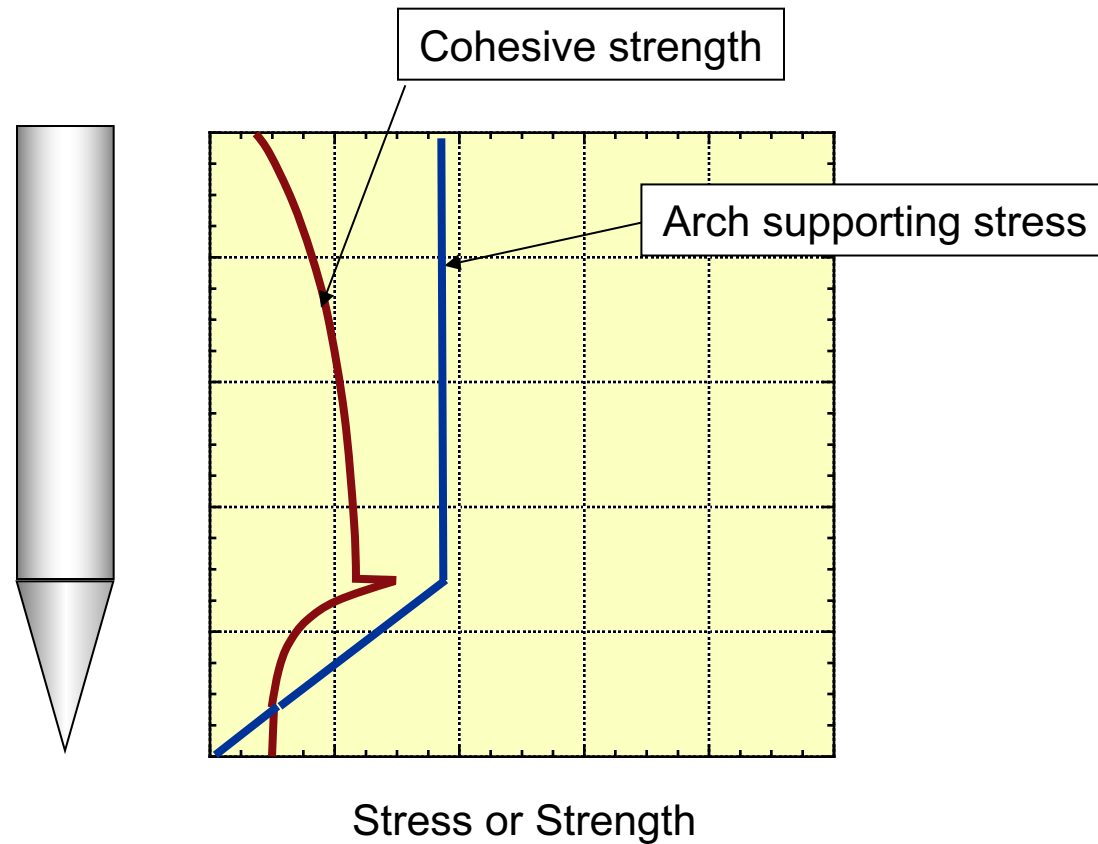
Cohesive strength



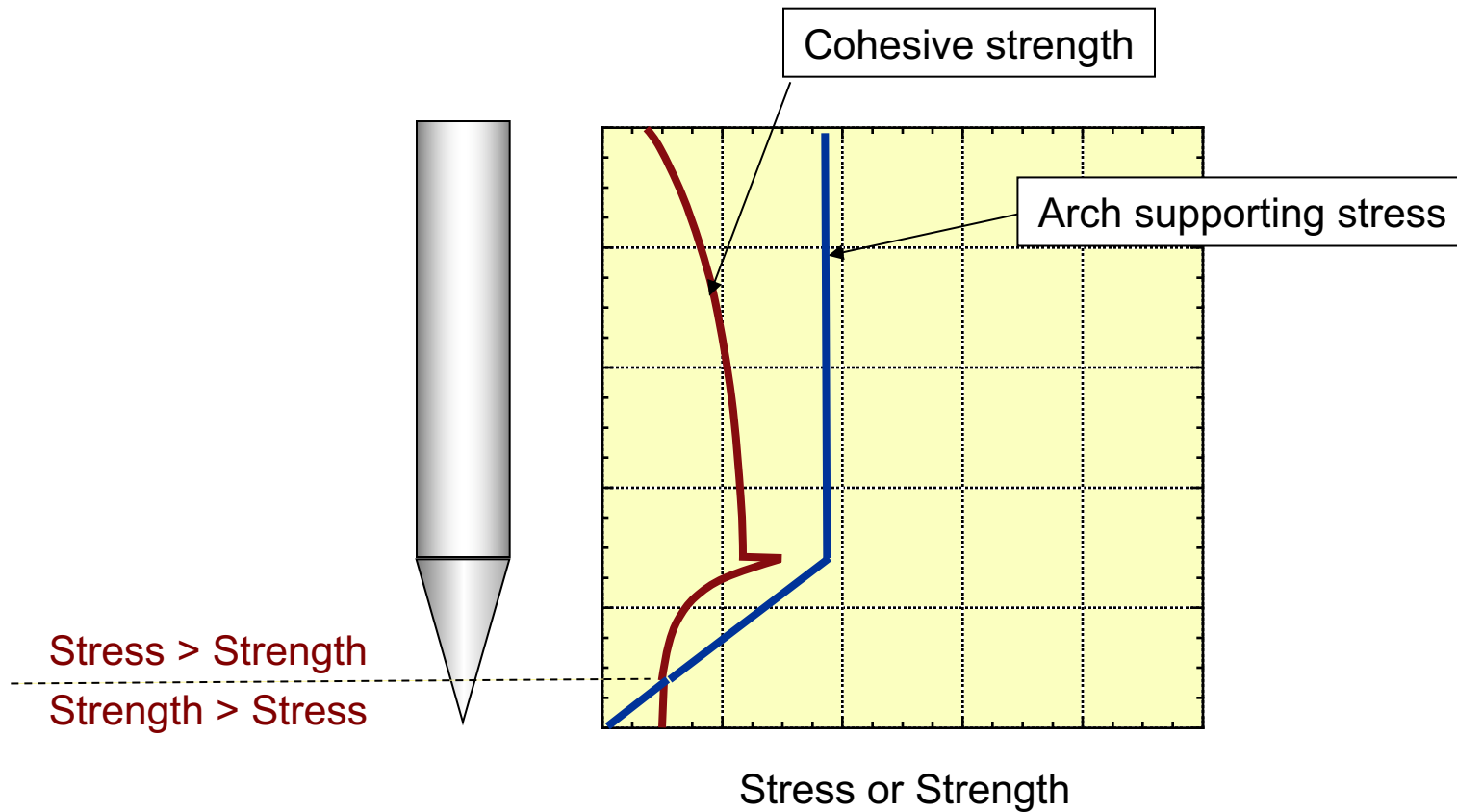
Arch stress



Arch stress



Arch stress



Keys to reliable flow

Designer

- Size hopper outlet to ensure flow of powder with known cohesive strength
- Specify hopper angle and wall material to allow mass flow
- Size outlet to allow desired discharge rate

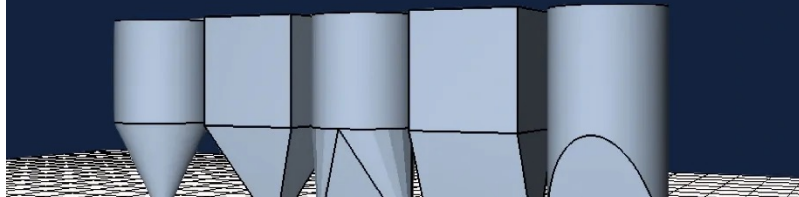
Formulator

- Reduce cohesive strength by increasing particle size, reducing moisture content, adding flow aid.
- Add lubricant or granulate to ensure low wall friction
- Formulate blend to allow desired discharge rate



STORAGE AND FLOW OF BULK SOLIDS

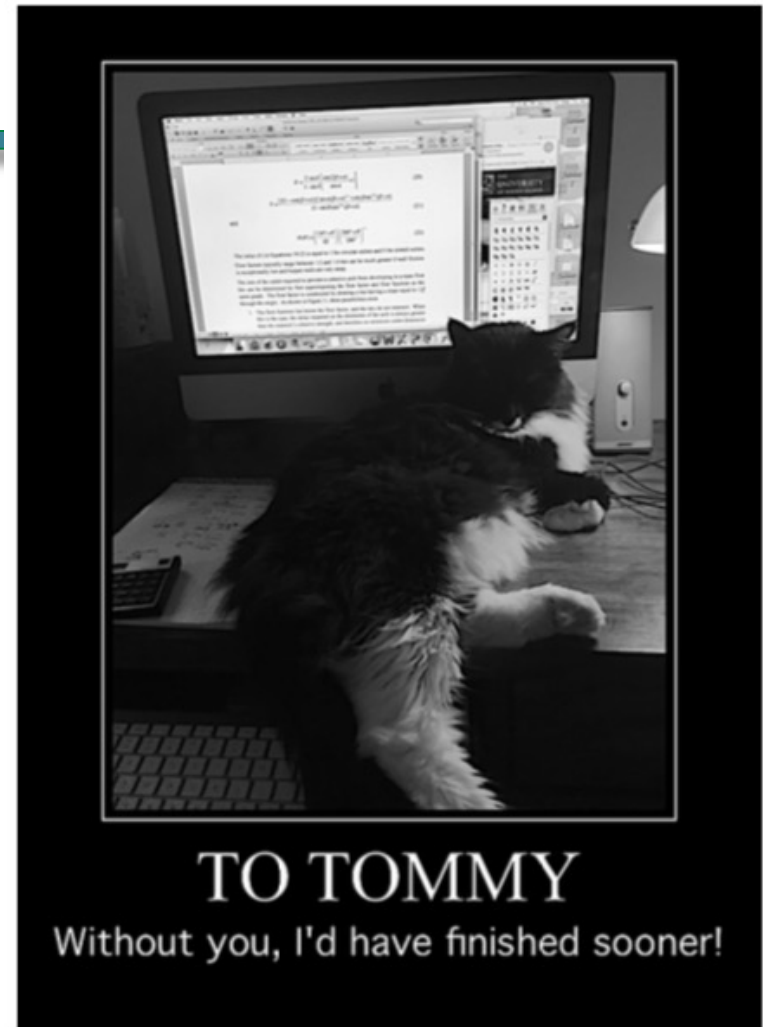
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URI Notes

Password: Tommy



9. BETTER REFERENCES THAN THIS ONE

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