



Jamming of Ice Melange: Using Particle Rafts to Model Ice Melange Dynamics

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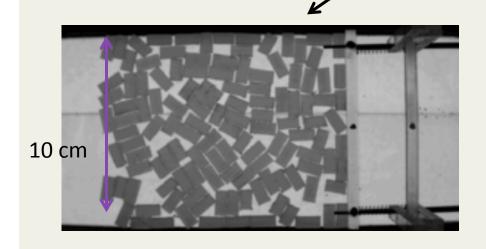


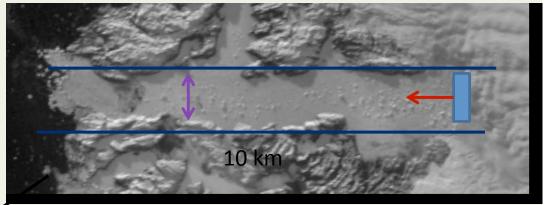
Motivation



Jakobshavn Isbrae, Greenland

Image from J. Geophys. Research Amundson, et. al 2010

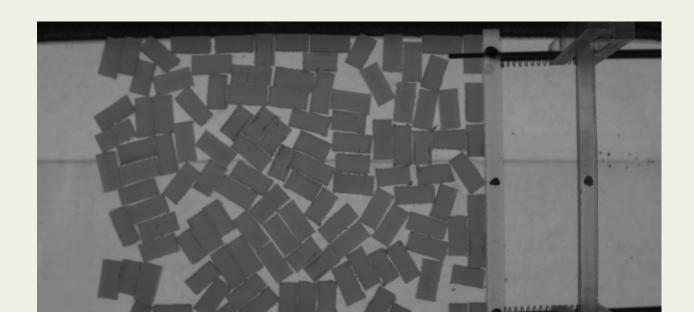




Science Question: What are the dynamics of a floating granular material driven in a channel at constant speed?

Relevance: Can we model a glacier pushing the ice mélange in a fjord with a laboratory scale experiment?







System: cm scale plastic particles floating on water in a 10 cm channel with sandpaper on the walls driven at constant speed.

Main result: bucking induced jamming





Other interesting Questions

- Can a plastic bead raft describe the kinematics of the ice mélange?
- Can we use a plastic bead raft to model forces from the ice mélange on the glacier? Impact of glacier and calving on structure of ice mélange?
- Is jamming an important physics process in glacier/ ice mélange interactions?
- Even if jamming is not important in this system, does modeling it this way reveal new physics?