

# GEOMECHANICS OF CRUSHABLE MATERIALS WITH THE CHANGE OF GRADING

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### Change of grading





Grain size



### **Presentation contents**

### Introduction

- Importance of particle crushing
- Progress of research on crushing

### Contents

- Mechanical behaviour accompanied by particle crushing
  - Experimental and numerical results will be introduced
  - Size dependency on crushing strength, its effect on mechanical behaviour will be examined experimentally
  - Mechanical behaviour will be normalized by crushing strength numerically
- Mechanical behaviour after removal of grains
  - The grading change in internal erosion will be explained numerically
- Summary

# Why particle crushing is important in Geomechanics?





### Where particle crushing occur?

 High stress conditions the end of pile the bottoms of high embankment and dam
 Weak and crushable grains decomposed granite (feldspar and mica) volcanic ashes (pumice) carbonate sand (algae and shell fragments)













#### Progress of research on particle crushing - Introduction of advanced observation technique



Observation during 1D compression using CT scanning

Scanned by T Matsushima



#### Progress of research on particle crushing

- Introduction of numerical simulation for understanding of micromechanics



Crushing for single grain (Robertoson & Bolton, 2001, McDowell & Harireche 2002a, 2002b)



Crushing in assembly of crushable grains (Cheng et al. 2003, 2004, Bolton, 2008)

Simulation for particle crushing using DEM



Experimental and numerical results will be introduced

Size dependency on crushing strength, its effect on mechanical behaviour will be examined experimentally

Mechanical behaviour will be normalized by crushing strength numerically

## MECHANICAL BEHAVIOUR ACCOMPANIED BY PARTICLE CRUSHING



### Crushing properties of single particle - Dependency on particle size of strength for geomaterials





(Nakata et al. 1999 & 2001, Kato et al, 2001)



### Compression behaviour depending on size



(Nakata et al. 2001)

# State path of isotropic compression and triaxial compression tests (50kPa-40MPa) for geomaterials





### A Modelling of Crushable grains by 3D-DEM

Soil grain = group of balls
 Regularly packed balls of identical size (hexagonal close)

#### Introducing the randomness removing balls assuming the existence probability of 20%

# Bonded contacts with bond strength

If the magnitude of a force equals or exceeds the bond strength, the bond breaks









# Simulation results of single particle crushing for grains with different strength



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#### Laboratory test simulations for crushable grains assembly

to understand the macro response for the assembly of the crushable grains

To simulate <u>both</u> the rearrangement and particle breaking mechanism!!! (granular nature & stress-level dependent)

Cubical assembly: (6.66 mm)<sup>3</sup> 378 grains 6 Frictionless walls

Test condition: Strain control method keeping wall speeds of 0.05m/sec





# Simulation results on IC and TC for crushable grains assemblies with different strength





(Nakata et al, 2005)

Simulation results on stress dependency of shear resistance angle during TC and PSC





### Geomechanics of crushable materials depending on initial particle size (particle strength)





The grading change in internal erosion will be explained numerically

### MECHANICAL BEHAVIOUR AFTER REMOVAL OF GRAINS



### Fines removal due to internal erosion

- Particle flow out of a soil matrix at a higher permeation field
  Possible geotechnical situations
  - embankment
  - Fill dam
  - River dike
  - MH production



Internal erosion in road embankment



Removal of fines from drainage pipe

# Geotechnical problem of MH production by depressurisation





### Geotechnical problems due to internal erosion

# Elevation of effective stress due to seepage Removal of fines

Numerical technique was employed to simulate the removal of small grains (a ball) (Wood & Maeda 2006)

- 1. Calculation of K<sub>o</sub>
- 2. Removal of all smallest grains at five stress levels
- 3. Re-calculation keeping K<sub>0</sub>
- 4. PSC calculation



Before removal



After removal

### Variation of void ratio after removal of grains



### Variation of void ratio during PSC after removal





### Change of grading after removal of grains





### Possible situation during internal erosion



Chain reaction of fines removal and production



## SUMMARY



# Summary (1)

- Mechanical behaviour accompanied by particle crushing
- Size dependency on crushing strength was presented experimentally
- Mechanical behaviour were normalized by the crushing strength numerically
- Geomechanics depending on initial particle size was summarised



# Summary (2)

- Mechanical behaviour after removal of grains
- The effects of removal was dependent
  on the stress level
- At higher stress, the K<sub>0</sub>C and CS condition were closed to the original
- Chain reaction of fines removal and production would be expected



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