Paper refereeing process

We have received more than 400 papers and the refereeing process is nearly finished. Most papers have been revised and accepted. For the remaining papers, we have decided to extend the deadline to March 12 for receiving the revised versions. For those who have not yet submitted their revised version, we recommend to double-check all details, including the format, before re-submission as the papers need to be sent shortly to the production service and we have little time left for re-processing possible errors.

Talks and posters

For the choice of oral/poster presentations, we will consider referees’ suggestions, but we will have to account as well for the conference schedule, number of available places (on the basis of 15’ for normal talks and 30’ for invited talks), thematic sections and geographic origins. The final list of talks will be decided late in April. Let us also underline here that the poster presentations are valued in this conference due to the large number of participants. We will organize at least two poster sessions during the conference and the posters will be exposed during the whole conference week. There will be three best-poster awards.

Focus sessions

As you know, all talks in the Powders and Grains conference series are plenary (the reason why poster sessions are so much valued). However, among all plenary sessions on different thematic sections, we have decided to dedicate several sessions more specifically to four topics that have been of special interest to the community since the last conference in Australia. Here is the list of these FOCUS sessions and colleagues who accepted to organize and chair them. The talks will be selected among submitted abstracts.
Particle shape effects
Heinrich Jaeger  
James Franck Institut, University of Chicago, USA

Granular suspensions
Guillaume Ovarlez  
CNRS, University of Bordeaux
Jeffery F. Morris  
Levich Institute, City College of New York, USA

Material instability
François Nicot  
Geomechanics group, IRSTEA Grenoble, France
Félix Darve  
Laboratoire 3SR, University Grenoble Alpes, France

Particle breakage
Ferenc Kun  
Department of Theoretical Physics, University of Debrecen, Hungary

Video abstracts and best-video award

All participants are invited to submit video abstracts. Thorsten Pöschel from Universitaet Erlangen-Nuernberg, Germany, has accepted to lead this action. The details are available at the conference website (www.pg2017.org). Here is the invitation letter.

Dear colleagues,

All contributors to the scientific program of the upcoming conference “Powders & Grains 2017” in Montpellier, including keynote speakers, speakers, and poster presenters are invited to submit video abstracts in relation to their contributions. The aim of the video abstracts is to increase the visibility of scientific work by conveying scientific results beyond the constraints of the written articles.

Authors of video abstracts will benefit from the following features, drawing extra attention of the audience to their scientific work:

Powders & Grains 2017  
New Letter, March 5
At the conference, each video abstract can be introduced through a 3 minutes oral presentation in a dedicated session. We will ask you to deliver a PowerPoint or Keynote file (up to 2 slides) prior to the conference.

In the online and printed program of the conference, contributions coming with a video abstract are flagged with the 🎬 symbol.

Among all submissions of video abstracts, the members of the “Association pour l’Etude de la Micro Mécanique des Milieux Granulaires” (AEMMG) will select the three best contributions. Criteria for the selection are scientific contents, aesthetic aspects, and fun-factor. The winners of the Best Video Awards are announced during the closing ceremony of the conference.

All submissions will also be available also at the youtube channel of the conference Powders and Grains 2017 available at youtube.com. This channel will be permanently available, even after the conference.

Quoting Wikipedia: “Video abstracts seem to have a significant positive effect on the popularity and citation of the scientific paper they are associated with. According to [1] approximately 5% of the publications were supplied with video abstract, but in case of the most read publications, the proportion was significantly higher, between 25-30%”.


Guidelines for video abstracts:

Video abstracts are intended to emphasize the scientific contents of a contribution. Videos of mainly commercial contents or general presentations of the author’s institutes are not supported. Although there is no strict limit, we suggest to keep the video abstract not longer than about 4 minutes. Video abstracts may have a soundtrack.

The video abstracts will be hosted at a dedicated channel at youtube. Thus, the technical specifications must agree with the specifications provided by youtube. The same applies to copyright related issues: please produce your video abstract in agreement with the regulations of youtube.

The video abstract can have a trailer and/or back titles to provide information on the subject and authors. The upper right corner will appear overlaid by the logo of the Powders & Grains conference.

Further hints on how to produce appealing, and thus successful video abstracts can be found, e.g., at American Journal of Physics 85, 85 (2017)

Technical specifications:

- container format: MP4
- video codec: H.264 (progressive scan, no interlacing, high profile)
- frame rate: 25 or 30 fps
- aspect ratio: 16:9
- video resolution: 1080p or 720p (minimum 240p)
- audio codec (if applicable): AAC-LC (stereo, sample rate 48 kHz or 96 kHz)

For all other specifications, please, refer to youtube’s upload instructions.

**Instructions for submission:**

Please send an email to video@pg2017.org containing

- the download link for the video file
- the signed agreement to allow us publication of your video abstract at the Powders & Grains 2017 web site and the Powders & Grains youtube channel. The form can be found at the end of this document.
- a text description of the video abstract for the Powders & Grains web site, not longer than 1500 characters (optimal are ca. 500), including spaces. If you wish to use non-ASCII characters, please use html notation. We encourage to provide links to web sites related to your work as well as to your related publications. Compliance to copyright and other regulations and laws is the responsibility of the author.
- a text description of the video abstract for the youtube video description. This text may be the same at the text above, except for characters which are not supported by youtube.
- name(s) and affiliation(s) of the authors as they will appear on the Powders & Grains web site. Please use ASCII or html notation
- name(s) and affiliation(s) of the authors as they will appear in the youtube video description. Please use ASCII notation

Deadline for the submission is June 1, 2017. Later submissions are possible, however we cannot guarantee proper embedding in the dedicated video session and the conference program.

**Contact and support:**

In case you need support, don’t hesitate to contact us at video@pg2017.org. We are looking forward to receiving many exciting video abstracts for the upcoming Powders & Grains 2017.

With best regards
Thorsten Pöschel
(on behalf of AEMMG)
Copyright agreement

Title of the video abstract:

Authors:

Corresponding author:

Name:

Affiliation:

email address:

On behalf of the authors, the corresponding author grants permission to the “Association pour l’Etude de la Micro Mécanique des Milieux Granulaires” (AEMMG) to publish the overmentioned video abstract at the conference web site of the conference Powders and Grains 2017 and on the corresponding youtube channel of the conference. We agree that the video will be overlaid the logo of the conference.

It is affirmed that the publication of the video does not violate legal rights of other parties. We understand that the compliance of the provided video material is with the responsibility of the authors.

Date:                        Signature: