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Title: A phenomenological explanation of the pressure-area relationship for the indentation of ice: Two size-effects in spherical indentation experiments

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Abstract: Indentation tests provide a simple means to study the inelastic behavior of ice and other materials when loaded under a compressive stress state. Such tests provide force-time plots which are often converted to pressure-area (PA) curves. For ice, PA curves are widely used in the design of ships and offshore structures. Despite their usage, and despite many attempts to relate empirical results to theory, the mechanics underlying PA curves is not clearly understood. In this paper, it is shown that by taking into account the strain-softening behavior of ice when rapidly deformed beyond terminal failure within the regime of brittle behavior, two effects can be explained: the decrease in pressure with increasing area, termed the indentation size effect; and, for a given area, the increase in pressure with increasing radius of indenter, termed the indenter radius effect. The analysis is supported using published data on freshwater, polycrystalline ice that have been obtained using spherically shaped indenters. The indentation size effect for ice reflects a similar effect found in ceramics and rock, but is opposite to the effect found in metals where, owing to strain hardening, indentation pressure or hardness increases with increasing area.

1     **A phenomenological explanation of the pressure-area relationship for the**  
2     **indentation of ice: Two size-effects in spherical indentation experiments**

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9

10     **Abstract**

11

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13 materials when loaded under a compressive stress state. Such tests provide force-time plots  
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25 or hardness increases with increasing area.

26

27 Keywords: freshwater ice, pressure, indentation, size effect, strain-softening

28

## 29 **1. Introduction**

30 The present study follows from Sanderson's work and is motivated by a number of  
31 observations and a number of engineering experiences at different scales on the indentation of  
32 ice. Ever since Sanderson (1988) found that the pressure to indent ice decreases with  
33 increasing area, many attempts have been made to explain the relationship. Although initially  
34 controversial, the trend of decreasing global pressure with increasing contact area now  
35 appears to have been accepted by the international engineering community (see Table 1).  
36 Upon reviewing design practices and recommendations for offshore structures and for ships,  
37 we find that it is commonly accepted that, provided ice is indented rapidly enough to impart  
38 brittle behavior, ice pressure is in accordance with Sanderson's pressure-area relationship:

39

$$40 \quad p=CA^q, \quad [1]$$

41

42 where  $C$  is a proportionally constant (to be discussed further),  $p$  is defined as the design  
43 (maximum/failure) load divided by either the apparent projected contact area or the local  
44 design area, and where  $-0.7 \leq q \leq 0.0$ . The value  $q=0.0$  implies no size effect, which is the case  
45 for ductile behavior.

46 Generally, the derivation of design pressures is based on experimental data that are  
47 obtained from a variety of sources, including structure-ice interactions, ship ramming trials,  
48 borehole-jack tests, indentation tests and flat-jack tests. Also, the data come from different ice

49 types and geometries and from different geometries of the structure. The data, therefore, are  
50 scattered, by as much as an order of magnitude or more for a given contact area. In an attempt  
51 to isolate key parameters, including confinement, contact aspect ratio, interaction rate and ice  
52 characteristics (temperature, salinity, density, grain structure, loading direction, failure mode),  
53 Timco and Sudom (2013) noted that the information is too limited to allow definitive  
54 conclusions. The challenge of understanding ice indentation and pressure-area relationships  
55 thus remains.

56

57 Several explanations of the pressure-area relationship (Eq. 1) have been offered. Some  
58 workers have attempted to explain the pressure-area relationship in terms of the flaw statistics  
59 of the specimen (Sanderson, 1988). Palmer and Sanderson (1991) used the concept of fractals  
60 combined with linear elastic fracture mechanics to explain the pressure-area effect. Palmer  
61 and Sanderson (1991) and Palmer et al. (2009) indicated that a simple dimensional argument  
62 could explain the pressure-area curve. Schulson and Duval (2009) showed that the pressure-  
63 area effect follows from Griffith's theory of brittle fracture and also from the concept of  
64 ductile-to-brittle transition. Owing to a non-uniform distribution of the force between ice and  
65 a structure (i.e., evidence of force concentration in high pressure zones (hpz's)), Palmer et al.  
66 (2009) made a distinction between the area over which a force is measured and the area that  
67 controls the force. Their explanation is based on the idea that only one hpz is present within  
68 the contact area over which the total force is measured.

### 69 *1.1 Questions and approach*

70

71 Noteworthy, by its absence in any of the PA explanations, is a reference to the stress-strain  
72 constitutive relationship of ice as a material. Absent, too, is the geometry of the indenter. To  
73 us, that seems like a shortcoming. Thus, this paper addresses two questions:

74

- 75 • Given that pressure ( $p$ ) and contact area ( $A$ ) are the measurable quantities and  
76 that  $C$  and  $q$  are the proportionality coefficient and exponent uniting these  
77 measurable quantities, such that  $p=CA^q$ , do  $C$  and  $q$  relate to the material  
78 properties of ice and to the system parameters of the indenter?  
79 • And, for a given shape of indenter, do  $C$  and  $q$  vary with indenter size?

80

81 To those ends, our approach is first to review relevant experimental observations on the  
82 indentation of ice, and then to offer a new constitutive-based, phenomenological explanation  
83 of the effects on pressure of both indentation size and indenter radius. In the interests of  
84 clarity, we limit our discussion to the rapid indentation of freshwater, polycrystalline ice at  
85 temperatures of around  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$  by spherically shaped indenters with radii from 5 mm to 2300  
86 mm. The term ‘rapid indentation’ is used here to indicate that ice exhibited characteristics of  
87 brittle compressive failure: radial cracks, saw-tooth load behavior, etc. We consider only  
88 results from tests where possible effects of sample boundaries were minimized by careful  
89 selection of the sample size, of the indenter size and of the experimental setup. In other words,  
90 we consider results only from tests that correspond to so-called full confinement indentation  
91 (as defined by Blanchet and DeFranco, 2001) or to indentation into an ice wall (Sodhi, 2001).  
92 Finally, in the interests of placing the behavior of ice within the context of materials behavior  
93 as a whole, we note that ceramics and rock also exhibit a reduction in indentation pressure  
94 with increasing area, and that metals, owing to their ability to strain harden, exhibit an inverse  
95 relationship.

96 To some extent our work is motivated by the findings of Masterson et al. (1992) who  
97 wrote: “*The curves [referring to PA curves] indicate that indenter curvature affects the*  
98 *pressures measured. In fact, Figure 16 suggests that, as plate curvature increases for a*

99 *specific contact area, the pressure is decreasing. This may be explained by noting that a flat*  
 100 *surface (i.e. curvature tending to zero) presents a greater degree of confinement when*  
 101 *compared to more rounded surfaces (i.e. increasing curvature) for the same contact area.”*  
 102 Where we differ, is to focus not on confinement as the principal factor underlying PA  
 103 relationships, although confinement is certainly present and probably a contributing factor,  
 104 but to focus on ice as a material.

105

106 *1.2 List of symbols*

107

$A$	contact area
$a$	chordal radius of indentation
$C, q$	proportionality constants
$E^*$	effective elastic modulus
$F$	indentation force
$H$	hardness
$k_a$	Auerbach constant
$p$	contact pressure
$p_G$	global contact pressure
$p_L$	local contact pressure
$R$	indenter radius
$s, f_1, f_2$	numerical factors
$u$	penetration depth
$\alpha, \beta, b, c, k, k_m, m, n$	material constants
$\varepsilon, \dot{\varepsilon}$	strain and strain rate, respectively
$\sigma$	representative failure stress

108

109 **2. Observations**

110

111 A short summary of the selected tests is given in appendix. Detailed descriptions can be  
112 found in the corresponding literature.

113 Figure 1 shows a summary PA plot on semi logarithmic scale, derived from the collection  
114 of indentation and impact tests (Appendix A). Data for 5 and for 12.7-mm indenters are from  
115 the constant velocity experiments by Kim et al. (2012), for 100-mm indenters are from a drop  
116 test in Timco and Frederking (1993), for 200–1280 mm and for 2300-mm indenters are from  
117 Masterson et al. (1992) and from Masterson and Frederking (1993), respectively. In using  
118 these experimental data, we assumed that the sampling frequency was high enough to capture  
119 pressure peaks.

120

121 Looking at the data in Figure 1b, one of the possible interpretations is the following: for  
122 the range of  $0.003\text{--}10\text{ m}^2$ , there a weak PA effect. The data is highly scattered. The pressure  
123 values vary nearly by an order of magnitude for any given area. Similar thinking can be  
124 applied to the data in Figure 1a. In this case, there is really no PA effect for the contact areas  
125 between  $10^{-5}$  and  $10^{-3}\text{ m}^2$ . However, if one looks at individual data sets (Figures 1a and 1b),  
126 two points are noteworthy: firstly, the variation of pressure with contact area exhibits self-  
127 similarity; that is, for different radii of indenter, pressure decreases with increasing (projected)  
128 contact area. And secondly, as first suggested by Masterson et al. (1992), for a given contact  
129 area the pressure is higher for larger radius indenters. Masterson's observation was made  
130 under conditions where temperature, ductile/brittle behavior and ice type were roughly the  
131 same.

132 As an illustration of the latter point, Figure 1b shows that if one follows up any line of  
133 constant area (e.g.,  $A=1.0\text{ m}^2$ ), the higher pressure values are generally seen with larger radius  
134 indenters. This point is reminiscent of an observation by Timco and Sudom (2013) who

135 examined pressure-area data, Figure 2, for both narrow and wide structures subjected to ice  
136 action in the field. For global ice action, they observed similar pressure-area dependency, i.e.,  
137 in the relationship  $p=CA^q$ , they found (for  $p$  in MPa and  $A$  in  $m^2$ ) the exponent  $q= -0.27$  and  
138  $q= -0.42$ , for narrow and wide structures, respectively, while  $C=1.06$  for narrow structures  
139 and  $C=6.02$  for wide ones (Figure 2a). The local pressures measured on the narrow structure  
140 were lower than those measured on the wide structure (Figure 2b). Timco and Sudom (2013)  
141 attributed this behavior to confinement which is expected to be higher for thicker ice  
142 experienced by the wider structure.

143

144 From Figure 1, Table 2 summarizes values derived for the parameters  $C$  and  $q$  in the PA  
145 relationship (Eq. 1). Values in parentheses correspond to  $q= -0.5$ .  $C$  and  $q$  were derived using  
146 a curve fitting application (cftool) in Matlab. The table shows that when indenters of different  
147 radii are used, the values of  $C$  and  $q$  change. The value of  $q$  shows no systematic dependence  
148 on indenter radius, but  $C$  increases with increasing radius, Figure 3. Taking  $q= -0.5$ , the  
149 corresponding value of  $C$  scales with radius as  $C=1.9R$  ( $R$  is in meters) with a goodness of fit  
150 of  $R^2=0.69$ . For very small indentation depth (i.e., of the order of a few grain diameters), the  
151 absolute value of  $q$  increases (see test with 200 mm indenter in Table 1), implying a lower  
152 limit to the validity of the pressure-area relation (more below).

153

154 To summarize, the data from indentation tests on polycrystalline, freshwater ice rapidly  
155 loaded by a spherically shaped indenter at  $-10^{\circ}C$  exhibit *two* size effects:

156

157 1. *an indentation size effect* in which indentation pressure decreases as the size of the loaded  
158 area increases. The relationship  $p=CA^q$  is found to hold for indenters submerged almost to



159 their diameters. However, for loads giving small indentations with respect to the grain  
160 diameter, the relationship is inapplicable; and

161 2. *an indenter radius effect* in which, for a given contact area, indentation pressure increases  
162 with increasing radius of the indenter.

163

### 164 **3. Explanation of the pressure-area curve in terms of materials behavior**

165

166 The discussion in this section centers on placing the behavior of ice within the context of  
167 materials behavior as a whole.

#### 168 *3.1. Definitions*

169

170 Within the context of materials behavior, indentation pressure is equivalent to *hardness*  
171 –the material resistance to inelastic deformation by indentation. Like indentation pressure,  
172 hardness  $H$  was defined by Meyer in 1908 and described by Barnes et al. (1971) for ice and  
173 by Tabor (2000) for metals as:

174

$$175 \quad H = p = \frac{F}{\pi a^2} \quad [2]$$

176

177 where  $F$  is the indentation force and  $a$  is the chordal radius of indentation, Figure 4. Unlike  
178 indentation of ice, an indentation test on a metallic (or ceramic) material usually consists of  
179 performing an indent at the surface of the material by the penetration of a rigid indenter at a  
180 given indentation load for a given time.

181

182 Further, we define a ‘representative’ stress  $\sigma$  acting on the whole material beneath the  
183 indenter, even though stress varies spatially. The representative stress is a function of

184 hardness  $\sigma=f(H)$ . Also, we define a ‘representative’ inelastic strain (Eq. 3a and 3b) within the  
 185 contact zone, even though strain also varies spatially. We consider two definitions of strain.  
 186 One is from Tabor (2000):

187

$$188 \quad \varepsilon = \phi\left(\frac{a}{R}\right) = m\left(\frac{a}{R}\right)^\beta \quad [3a]$$

189

190 where  $m, \beta$  are material constants with positive values and  $R$  is the radius of the indenter. The  
 191 other definition of strain is one that we introduce:

192

$$193 \quad \varepsilon = \psi\left(\frac{u}{a}\right) = \frac{u}{s \cdot a}, \quad [3b]$$

194

195 where  $u$  is the penetration distance and  $s$  is a non-dimensional factor, such that the product  $s \cdot a$   
 196 characterizes the depth at which the inelastic strain is almost zero.

197 To relate indentation area to strain, we note that for a spherically-shaped indenter the  
 198 projected area  $A$  is a function of  $u$ :

199

$$200 \quad A = \pi(2Ru - u^2). \quad [4]$$

201

202 Solving Eq. (4) with respect to  $u$  and taking into account the fact that the maximum  
 203 indentation is limited to the indenter radius, we get:

204

$$205 \quad u = R - R\sqrt{1 - \frac{A}{\pi R^2}}. \quad [5]$$

206

207 Given that  $A=\pi a^2$  we can then rewrite strain in terms of area. Then Eq. 3a:

208

$$209 \quad \varepsilon = m \left( \frac{\sqrt{A}}{\sqrt{\pi R}} \right)^\beta \quad [6a]$$

210

211 and from Eq. 3b:

212

$$213 \quad \varepsilon = \sqrt{\pi} \frac{1}{s\sqrt{A}} \left( R - R \sqrt{1 - \frac{A}{\pi R^2}} \right) \quad [6b]$$

214

215 Since the representative stress is a function of hardness, we can express pressure/hardness-  
216 area curves in terms of stress-strain characteristics. For comparison, Figure 5 presents  
217 schematic stress (pressure/hardness)-strain (area) curves for ductile metals and brittle  
218 ceramics and for ice. Ductile metals exhibit strain hardening (Tabor, 2000), while ceramics  
219 (Gong et al., 1999) and ice (Golding et al., 2012) exhibits strain softening once terminal  
220 failure sets in. The  $q$ -values in Figure 5 are justified below.

221

### 222 *3.2. Materials-based explanation of size effects*

223

224 Before accounting for the hardness (pressure)-area relationship in ice, we first describe  
225 similar relationships for metals, ceramics and rocks, to show how ice fits a pattern exhibited  
226 by other materials.

227

#### 228 *3.2.1. Ductile solids (e.g., metals)*

229

230 For ductile metals, Tabor (2000) expressed the constitutive stress-strain relationship as:

231

$$232 \quad \sigma = b\varepsilon^\alpha, \quad [7]$$

233

234 where  $\alpha > 0$  represents strain-hardening behavior and  $\varepsilon$  is described by Eq. 3a. Then from Eq.

235 2:

236

$$237 \quad H = p = \frac{F}{\pi a^2} = c\sigma. \quad [8]$$

238

239 where  $c$  is a constant. Equation 8 may be rewritten as:

240

$$241 \quad H = p = cb \left( \phi \left( \frac{a}{R} \right) \right)^\alpha = cbm^\alpha \left( \frac{a}{R} \right)^{\alpha\beta} = cbm^\alpha \left( \frac{1}{R} \right)^{\alpha\beta} A^{0.5\alpha\beta} \pi^{-0.5\alpha\beta} = CA^q, \quad [9]$$

242

243 where  $C = cbm^\alpha R^{-\alpha\beta} \pi^{-0.5\alpha\beta} = kR^{-2q}$  and  $q = 0.5\alpha\beta$ . For ductile metals,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , and hence  $q$

244 have positive values (Tabor, 2000), and so for that material, the hardness/pressure *increases*

245 with increasing area of indentation and the coefficient  $C$  *decreases* with increasing radius of

246 the indenter. This behavior is a direct result of the strain hardening character of metals and is

247 opposite the behavior exhibited by ice.

248

249 The fact that  $q > 0$  for metals is evident from Meyer's (1908) law. That law states that for an

250 indenter of fixed diameter, the relationship between the load  $F$  and the chordal diameter  $2a$  of

251 the indent is  $F = k_m(2a)^n$ , where  $k_m$  and  $n$  are constants for the metal under examination.

252 Dividing Meyer's expression by the area of indentation  $A = \pi a^2$  and expressing  $a$  via  $A$ , we

253 obtain the following hardness-area relation  $H = p = CA^q$ , where  $C = 2^n \cdot \pi^{-0.5n} \cdot k_m$  and  $q = 0.5n - 1$ .

254 Tabor (2000) noted that for ductile metals Meyer's exponent  $n$  is generally greater than 2.0  
 255 and usually lies between 2.0 and 2.5. Consequently, for metals,  $q$  lies between 0.0 and 0.25.  
 256 Meyer (1908) found experimentally that the index  $q$  was almost independent of  $R$  but  $C$  was  
 257 proportional to  $R^{-2q}$ . Equation 9 derived from stress-strain relationship supports this  
 258 observation. Tabor (2000) added that, because at very small loads deformation is essentially  
 259 elastic, there is a lower limit to the validity of Meyer's law, given as  $a/R=0.1$ .

260

### 261 3.2.2. Brittle solids (e.g., ceramics and rock)

262 For ceramics, the relationship between hardness and contact area (or indentation size  
 263 effect) is opposite that of metals and similar to that of ice. The relationship may be expressed  
 264 using Auerbach's (1891) law. The law states that the force  $F$  required to produce a cone crack  
 265 is proportional to the radius of the indenter  $R$  such that  $F=k_a R$ , where  $k_a$  is the Auerbach  
 266 constant. Rock, too, obeys Auerbach's law (Lundquist, 1981, Momber, 2004). Following  
 267 Fischer-Cripps (2007), we can rewrite  $F$  in terms of the chordal radius  $a$  using Hertzian  
 268 contact equations for a spherical indenter and a flat surface. Accordingly:

269

$$270 \quad F = \left( \frac{4}{3} k_a E^* \right)^{0.5} a^{1.5}, \quad [10]$$

271

272 where  $E^*$  is an effective elastic modulus that takes into account Poisson's ratio and the  
 273 modulus of both the indenter and the specimen. (The expression for  $E^*$  can be found in  
 274 Fischer-Cripps (2007)). We can rewrite Eq. 10 as  $p=F/A=CA^q$ , where

275

$$276 \quad C = \left( \frac{4}{3} \frac{1}{\pi^{1.5}} k_a E^* \right)^{0.5} \quad [11]$$

277

278 and  $q = -0.25$ . Moreover, Gong et al. (1999) pointed out that Meyer's law is applicable to a  
279 variety of ceramics and that for those materials Meyer's exponent  $n = 1.5$  to  $2$ .  
280 Correspondingly,  $q = -0.25$  to  $0.0$ . A satisfactory explanation of the physical meaning of these  
281 relationships (for both ceramics and rock) is still lacking, but may reside in the explanation  
282 we propose below for ice.

283

### 284 *3.2.3. Polycrystalline ice*

285 Returning to the two size effects observed for ice, we base our interpretation on the strain  
286 softening behavior that ice exhibits once terminal failure is reached. The indentation analysis  
287 presented in this section assumes that the representative volume of the material has passed  
288 through the point of terminal failure such that strain softening takes place. This is a reasonable  
289 assumption because characteristics of brittle compressive failure (i.e., radial cracks, saw-tooth  
290 load behavior) were evident in all tests considered. Strain softening is evident from  
291 compressive stress-strain curves when ice is rapidly loaded (to impart brittle behavior) under  
292 triaxial states of stress (e.g., see Golding et al., 2012).

293 Following Tabor's (2000) analysis for metals, the principal difference for ice is that  $\alpha < 0$   
294 (in Eq. 7). This implies that  $q < 0$ , as observed. It could then be said that ice exhibits an  
295 'inverse' indentation size effect, relative to the one seen in metals. Correspondingly, the value  
296 of the constant  $C$  in the PA relationship is expected to increase with increasing  $R$ , as shown in  
297 Figure 3.

298 Qualitatively, therefore, the two size effects exhibited by the indentation of ice can be  
299 explained in terms of its strain softening behavior. Quantitatively, we caution against  
300 quantifying both  $C$  and  $q$  from Eq. 9 as we do not have independent measurements of the  
301 material constants in that relationship.

302

303 The two size effects can also be derived phenomenologically by using the second  
304 definition of strain, Eq. 3b. Accordingly, consider two indenters of radii  $R_l$  and  $R_s$  such that  $R_l$   
305  $> R_s$ . When the chordal radii of imprints left by indenters are equal  $a_l = a_s$  (i.e., the contact area  
306  $A$  is the same), the smaller radius indenter creates a deeper crater, i.e.,  $u_s > u_l$  where  $u$  is the  
307 depth of imprint. Assuming that both  $u_s$  and  $u_l$  fulfill the requirements of continuity, we then  
308 can establish the ratio of strain created by the smaller radius indenter to that created by the  
309 larger radius indenter.

310

$$311 \quad \frac{\varepsilon_s}{\varepsilon_l} = \frac{u_s a_l}{u_l a_s} = \frac{u_s}{u_l}, \quad [12]$$

312 assuming that  $s_l = s_s$ .

313 Substituting Eq. 5 into Eq. 12 we get:

314

$$315 \quad \frac{\varepsilon_s}{\varepsilon_l} = \frac{1}{f_1} \frac{(1 - \sqrt{1 - f_2})}{(1 - \sqrt{\frac{f_2}{f_1}})}, \text{ where } f_1 = \frac{R_l}{R_s} \text{ and } f_2 = \frac{A}{\pi R_s^2}. \quad [13]$$

316

317 Moreover,  $f_1 \geq 1.0$  and  $0 < f_2 \leq 1.0$ . The ratio of strains is weakly dependent on the magnitude  
318 of  $f_2$ , as can be seen by plotting  $\varepsilon_s/\varepsilon_l$  against  $f_2$  for different values of  $f_1$ . (For example, for  $f_1$   
319  $= 2.0$ ,  $\varepsilon_s/\varepsilon_l$  approaches a constant value equal to  $f_1$ ). Hence, the representative strain generated  
320 by the smaller radius indenter is higher than that generated by the larger radius indenter.

321

322 Now we relate the strains to the stress levels. Figure 6 shows stress vs. time and strain vs.  
323 time plots obtained by Golding et al. (2012) from ice loaded triaxially under high degree of  
324 confinement. From Figure 6, assuming that strain softening will continue to large strains, one  
325 can see that, the representative stress ( $\sigma_{11}$ ) is expected to be higher for the larger radius

326 indenter and so does the hardness. This means that for a given contact area  $A$ , the hardness  
327 under the larger radius indenter will be higher than that under the smaller radius indenter. It  
328 can also be interpreted that  $C$  in the equation  $p=CA^q$  gets larger with increasing the radius of  
329 indenter. This is indenter radius effect we were looking for.

330

331 To summarize, we have applied two slightly different definitions of inelastic strain in an  
332 attempt to explain two size effects observed during the indentation of polycrystalline ice.  
333 First, we borrowed the definition of strain from metallic materials and applied the continuum  
334 indentation analysis of Tabor (2000). In the second approach, we used another definition of  
335 strain that takes into account the size of the deformation region below the indenter. We  
336 utilized the experimentally found stress-strain relationship for the ice loaded triaxially under  
337 high degrees of confinement. In so doing, we were able to account for both the indentation  
338 size effect and the indenter radius effect.

339

#### 340 **4. Discussion**

341 Ice pressure is a function of many variables not just the contact area. But, in Sanderson's  
342 PA relation, the other variables are hidden in the proportionality constants  $C$  and  $q$ . This paper  
343 has re-examined full and laboratory scale data on freshwater ice indentation with spherically-  
344 shaped indenter tips and has addressed two questions. Firstly, given the PA relation (Eq. 1),  
345 do  $C$  and  $q$  relate to the material properties of ice and to the system parameters of the  
346 indenter? The answer is yes, as taking into account strain-softening behavior of ice, the  
347 parameters  $C$  and  $q$  can be expressed in terms of material parameters (strain softening  
348 exponent, etc.); see Eq. 9. Secondly, for a given spherical indenter tip, do  $C$  and  $q$  vary with  
349 indenter tip radius? The analysis in this paper has shown that that the coefficient  $C$  increases



350 with increasing size of the indenter, but the exponent  $q$  shows no systematic dependence on  
351 radius.

352 So, what do we have now on Sanderson's pressure-area relationship  $p=CA^q$  that the earlier  
353 explanations (i.e., Palmer and Sanderson (1991), Palmer et al. (2009), Sanderson (1988) and  
354 Schulson and Duval (2009)) did not offer? In short, we have shown that the indentation of ice  
355 exhibits two effects of size, and we have developed greater physical insight into the  
356 coefficient  $C$  and the exponent  $q$ . Also, we have an appreciation that ice, when indented  
357 within the regime of brittle behavior, reflects behavior exhibited by other materials.

358 On size effects, in examining only data that have been obtained under more or less one set  
359 of conditions – indenter shape (spherical), temperature, rapid loading, confined freshwater ice  
360 – we have shown that indentation pressure depends on both indentation size and indenter  
361 radius, and that both effects can be explained in terms of the strain softening behavior of ice  
362 when rapidly deformed beyond the point of terminal failure. We expect that indenters of other  
363 shapes may lead to similar effects.

364 On the parameters in Sanderson's relationship, earlier explanations found that  $q<0$  for  
365 global pressure and, depending on which model one favored, led to specific, but different  
366 values:  $-0.5$ ,  $-0.27$ ,  $-0.25$ ,  $-1.0$ . The present, constitutive based model also finds that  $q<0$ , but  
367 does not specify one value. Instead, the new model expresses  $q$  in terms of the product of the  
368 strain softening exponent  $\alpha$  (Eq. 7) and the exponent  $\beta$  that relates inelastic strain to the ratio  
369 of the radii of the indentation and the indenter (Eq. 3a),  $q= -0.5\alpha\beta$ . At this juncture, there are  
370 no data available on the value of the either exponent, only the qualitative results (from stress-  
371 strain curves in Figure 6) that  $\alpha<0$  beyond the point of terminal failure and that  $\beta>0$ . It is  
372 premature, therefore, to go further than we have. Our sense, however, is that the actual value  
373 of both exponents may be a function of the conditions of deformation (temperature,  
374 indentation velocity, grain size of the ice, etc.) and, thus, that the value of  $q$  depends

375 somewhat on the conditions of indentation. From a practical perspective, however, the value  
376  $q = -0.5$  seems to describe field data quite well.

377 In terms of the coefficient  $C$ , earlier models were not informative. The present model, in  
378 comparison, expresses  $C$  algebraically in terms of a number of materials parameters (Eq. 9)  
379 and indenter radius. Again, since the values of material parameters are not available, it is  
380 difficult to specify  $C$  numerically. Yet, with respect to the objective of this study, the new  
381 model shows that  $C$  increases with the radius of the indenter, owing to the strain softening  
382 character of ice ( $\alpha < 0$ ).

383 Finally, the constitutive-based explanation has placed ice within the context of non-linear  
384 inelastic behavior of materials as a whole.

385

## 386 **5. Summary and conclusions**

387

388 This paper has been concerned with the situation where a hard, spherically shaped indenter  
389 of radius between 5 and 2300 mm is pressed rapidly into the flat surface of polycrystalline,  
390 freshwater ice at approximately  $-10^\circ\text{C}$ . This paper has addressed two questions regarding the  
391 pressure-area relationship for the indentation of ice: do the proportionality constants between  
392 the ice pressure and contact area relate to the material properties of ice and to the system  
393 parameters of the indenter, and do these proportionality constants vary with indenter radius.

394 Analysis of field and laboratory data has shown that:

- 395 • There are two effects of size on indentation pressure: an *indentation size effect* and  
396 an *indenter radius effect*. The indentation size effect means that the contact  
397 pressure  $p$  (hardness) decreases as the magnitude of the loaded area  $A$  increases.  
398 Accordingly, for conditions of brittle behavior, the relationship  $p = CA^q$  is found to  
399 hold for spherical indenters submerged almost to their diameters, where  $q < 0$ .

400           However, for loads giving small indentations with respect to the grain size of the  
401           ice, the relationship does not apply. The indenter radius effect means that, for a  
402           given contact area, indentation pressure (hardness) increases with increasing radius  
403           of the indenter; i.e., that the coefficient  $C$  increases with increasing size of the  
404           indenter, but  $q$  is weakly dependent on radius.

- 405           • The pressure-area relationship reflects semi-quantitatively the stress-strain  
406           constitutive relationship for ice as a material, particularly the strain-softening of ice  
407           when deformed beyond terminal failure within the regime of brittle behavior. In  
408           this regard, the indentation of ice is reminiscent of the indentation of metals,  
409           ceramics and rock.
- 410           • A continuum indentation analysis, taking into account the strain softening character  
411           of the ice, can account for the two size effects.

412

413           In the context of structure-ice interactions, the information presented in this paper can be  
414           helpful in establishing or interpreting the coefficients in the PA relationship for the scenarios  
415           of indentation into an ice wall. The link between a constitutive stress-strain relationship for  
416           ice and the resulting pressure-area dependency can be used in future mathematical models of  
417           ice crushing.

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419

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483

## 484 **Appendix A**

485

486 *Small-scale laboratory ice indentation tests (Kim et al., 2012)*

487 Load-time and displacement-time curves were used to access ice pressure. For each test,  
488 the local load-peaks were used to calculate pressures between the surface of the indenter and  
489 the indentation. Projected contact area at a given peak load was determined using the  
490 corresponding displacement of the indenter. The pressure was calculated as the ratio of the  
491 load to the projected area of indentation at the corresponding time step and corresponded to  
492 global ice pressure.

493

494 *Medium-scale indentation tests (Masterson et al., 1992)*

495 Masterson et al. (1992) and Masterson and Frederking (1993) used local peaks of the load-  
496 time histories to construct pressure-area plots. The pressure on the projected area of the  
497 indenter was calculated as the measured load from the load cells divided by the contact area at  
498 the time of peak load. The surface contact area, calculated from indenter penetration as a

499 function of time, was used in the pressure calculations because for the maximum penetration,  
 500 the difference between the projected and surface area was 5 percent or less. To access global  
 501 pressures for the tests, we digitized using Java program “Plot Digitizer” the data available in  
 502 Figure 14 of Masterson et al. (1992) and in Figure 6 of Masterson and Frederking (1993) for  
 503 spherically shaped indenters.

504

505 *Laboratory impact tests (Timco and Frederking, 1993)*

506 Timco and Frederking (1993) calculated the average pressure as the ratio of the impact  
 507 force ( $F$ ) to the area ( $A$ ) at the corresponding time step using force-time and displacement-  
 508 time curves. The impact force, in turn, was calculated from the measured acceleration ( $a_z$ ) and  
 509 known mass of the indenter ( $M$ ) as  $F=Ma_z$ . The area of contact throughout the impact ( $A$ ) was  
 510 calculated from the geometries of the ice and the indenter by determining the penetration  
 511 depth as a function of time from the acceleration record. To access pressures for the tests, we  
 512 digitized (again using Java program “Plot Digitizer”) the data available in Figure 17 of Timco  
 513 and Frederking (1993) for a spherically shaped indenter (Test J30-003). This gave us average  
 514 global pressure versus projected contact area during the impact event.

515

516 **Tables**

517

518 Table 1. Summary of various pressure-area relationships in offshore codes and in ships  
 519 rules; pressure is in units of MPa; subscripts  $G$  and  $L$  indicate global and local pressure,  
 520 respectively. The definition of global/local pressure is adopted from Timco and Sudom  
 521 (2013).

Codes and rules	PA-relation	Contact area	Comments
Canadian Standard Association CSA S471-04, Clause E.6.2.3	$p_G=26.9$	$A \leq 0.1 \text{ m}^2$	The constant coefficients have been multiplied by factors appropriate for the sea ice
	$p_G=8.5A^{-0.5}$	$0.1 < A \leq 30 \text{ m}^2$	

			$p_G=2.7A^{-0.165}$	$A \geq 30 \text{ m}^2$	regime with annual freezing degree days of 3000 to 4000 °C-days.
ISO (International Organization) 19906, Standard Clause A.8.2.4.3.3			$p_G \approx 2.8A^{-0.15}$ $A = w \cdot h$	$2.0 \leq A < 200 \text{ m}^2$	In ISO, the global pressure is used in combination with ice thickness ( $h$ ) and structural width ( $w$ ). This pressure-area relation is an approximation for scenarios where first-year or multi-year ice of thickness more than 1.0 m acts against a vertical structure in Arctic areas.
ISO 19906, Clause A.8.2.4.3.5 and Canadian Standard Association CSA S471-04, Clause E.6.2.3 (Random action)			$p_G = C_p A^{D_p}$ , where $C_p = 3.0 \pm 1.5$ , $D_p = -0.4 \pm 0.2$	$A < 50 \text{ m}^2$	Determined using data collected during ship rams in multi-year ice, i.e., from the Kigoriak, Polar Sea, MV Arctic, Manhattan, and Oden icebreaker trials.
ISO 19906, Clause A.8.2.5.3			$p_L = 7.40A^{-0.70}$ $p_L = 1.48$	$A \leq 10 \text{ m}^2$ $A > 10 \text{ m}^2$	Determined using data collected by Masterson et al. (2007). These include pressure from interactions with the Molikpaq structure, with Hobson's Choice ice island and also from indenter and flat-jack field tests.
API RP 2N (American Petroleum Institute Recommended Practice), Clause 5.4.7a			$p^a = 8.1A^{-0.5}$ $p^a = 1.5$	$0.1 \leq A \leq 29 \text{ m}^2$ $A > 29 \text{ m}^2$	Corresponds to the average value +2STD for combined data for on Figure 11 in Masterson and Frederking (1993). These are taken from indenter and from flat-jack field tests, from ship ramming trials and from ice interactions with the Molikpaq structure and with Hobson's Choice ice island.
IACS UR I2 (International Association of Classification Societies Unified Requirements), Background notes to design ice load			$p_G = P_o A^{-0.1}$ , where $P_o$ depends on the Polar Class of the vessel and varies between 1.25 and 6.0.	Calculated based on penetration depth, geometry of the ice edge and of the vessel	For derivation of the oblique collision force on the bow.
DNV (Det Norske Veritas) Rules for Classification of Ships, Part 5, Ch.1, Sec. 4, Clause D 400			$p_L = CA^{-0.50}$ $p_L = CA^{-0.15}$ , where $C$ is the correction factor depending on Ice Class and ice reinforced area in question. It varies between 2.4 and 5.8 in the bow and stem area.	$A \leq 1.0 \text{ m}^2$ $A > 1.0 \text{ m}^2$	The design pressure shall be applied over a corresponding contact area reflecting the type of load in question.

522 <sup>a</sup> Derivation of pressure is based on the assumption that only one PA curve applies to all  
523 design conditions (Blanchet and DeFranco, 2001).

524

525

526

Table 2. Summary of curve fitting parameters.

Indenter	Maximum	$C$	$q$	Goodness
----------	---------	-----	-----	----------



radius (mm)	penetration depth (mm)	(MPa·m <sup>-2d</sup> )	(-)	of fit R <sup>2</sup>
5 <sup>a</sup>	5	0.053 (0.22)	-0.64 (-0.5)	0.99 (0.97)
12.7 <sup>a</sup>	12.7	0.11 (0.30)	-0.63 (-0.5)	0.98 (0.99)
100	uncertain	0.60 (0.79)	-0.55 (-0.5)	0.68 (0.68)
200	20	5.6·10 <sup>-5</sup> (0.24)	-2.3 (-0.5)	0.91 (0.24)
400	40	0.46 (0.92)	-0.74 (-0.5)	0.94 (0.99)
900	90	1.04 (2.1)	-0.92 (-0.5)	0.63 (0.64)
1280	128	4.4 (4.3)	-0.50 (-0.5)	0.90 (0.91)
2300	230	3.3 (3.3)	-0.44 (-0.5)	0.79 (0.99)

527 <sup>a</sup> tests with constant indentation speed

528

529 Table A1. Summary of test parameters for the considered data sets.

Data source	<i>Kim et al. (2012)</i>	<i>Masterson et al. (1992)</i>	<i>Timco and Frederking (1993), Test J30-003</i>
Test type	indentation at a constant speed of 5.08 mm/s	indentation with a speed varying from 100 mm/s at the ice surface to zero after traveling a distance in the ice	drop test with an impact speed of 3700 mm/s
Indenter	hemispherical with $R=5.0$ mm and 12.7 mm	spherically shaped with $R=200$ mm, 400 mm, 900 mm, 1280 mm and 2300 mm	spherically shaped with $R=100$ mm
Ice type	freshwater granular ice (grain size 1 to 2.4 mm)	iceberg ice (effective grain size 10 mm)	freshwater columnar S2 ice (column diameter 1–6 mm) indented along the columns
Temperature	-10°C	-10°C	-12°C
Maximum penetration	0.08R–R	0.1R	0.09R
Time to maximum displacement	0.2–2.5 s	0.3–3.6 s	≈ 0.006 s
Sampling frequency	2 kHz	10 kHz	50 kHz

530

531 **Figure captions**

532 Figure 1. Summary of pressure-area data from indentation and impact tests on freshwater  
 533 ice with spherical indenters of different radii.

534 Figure 2. Compilation plots of all measurements on field structures where the ice failed in  
 535 a crushing mode; source: Timco and Sudom (2013), Figures 20 and 21.

536 Figure 3. Indentation of freshwater, polycrystalline ice. Plot of  $C$  against  $R$ . Data taken  
 537 from Table 1;  $C$  values are for  $q$  of  $-0.5$ .

538 Figure 4. Illustration of the indentation problem ( $a$ —chordal radius of indentation,  $u(t)$   
 539 —penetration depth,  $F(t)$ —indentation force,  $R$ —radius of the indenter).

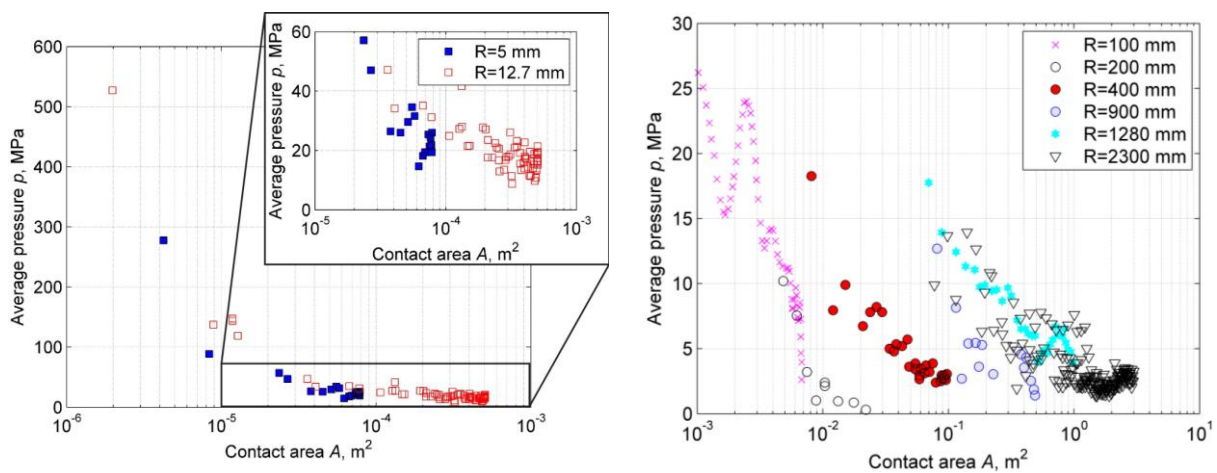
540 Figure 5. Schematic representation of stress vs. strain relationship (or hardness vs. area  
 541 curve) for ductile and brittle solids; logarithmic scales.

542 Figure 6. Stress vs. time and strain vs. time from freshwater ice loaded at temperature of  
 543  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $\dot{\epsilon}_{11} = 3 \times 10^{-2} \text{ 1/s}$ . Note that for an indentation test the first principal stress ( $\sigma_{11}$ ) is  
 544 expected to be smaller due to shear (data from Golding et al., 2012).

545

546 **Figures**

547



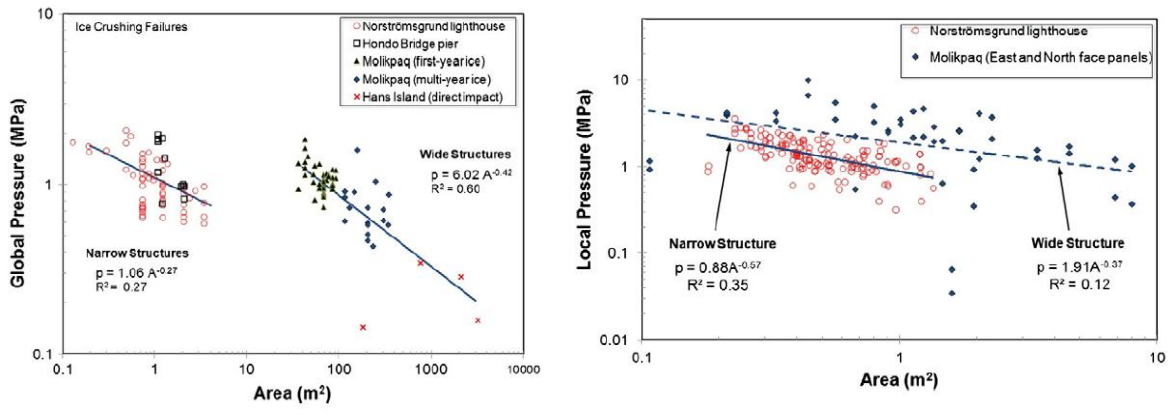
(a) Constant indentation speed (unlimited energy in the interaction)

(b) Variable indentation speed (limited energy)

548

Figure 1.

549



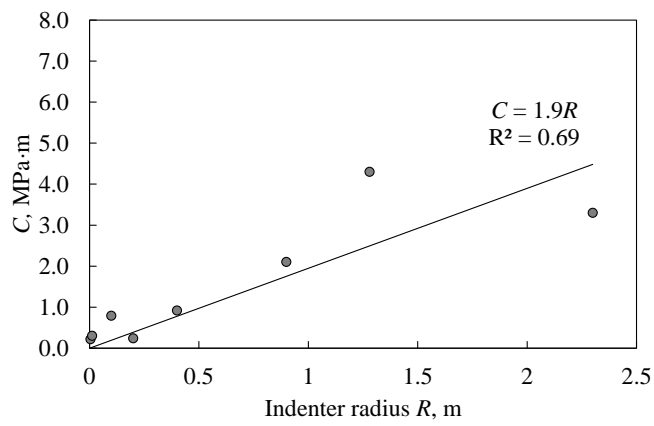
(a) Global pressure vs. area

(b) Local pressure vs. area

550

Figure 2.

551

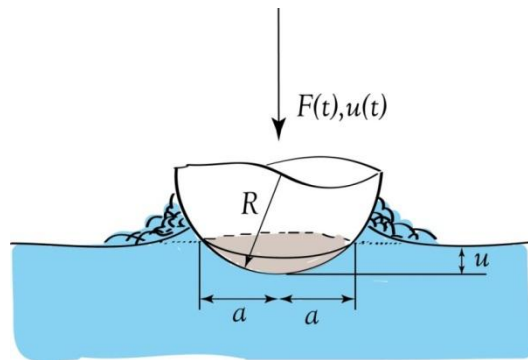


552

Figure 3.

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554



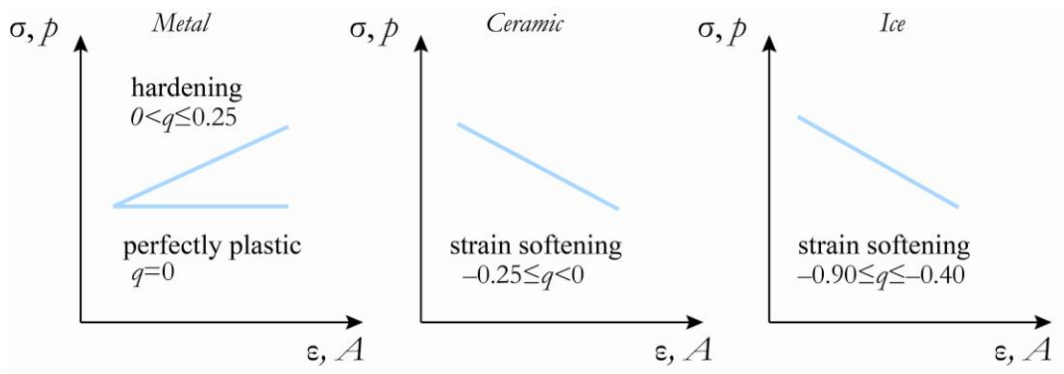
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Figure 4.

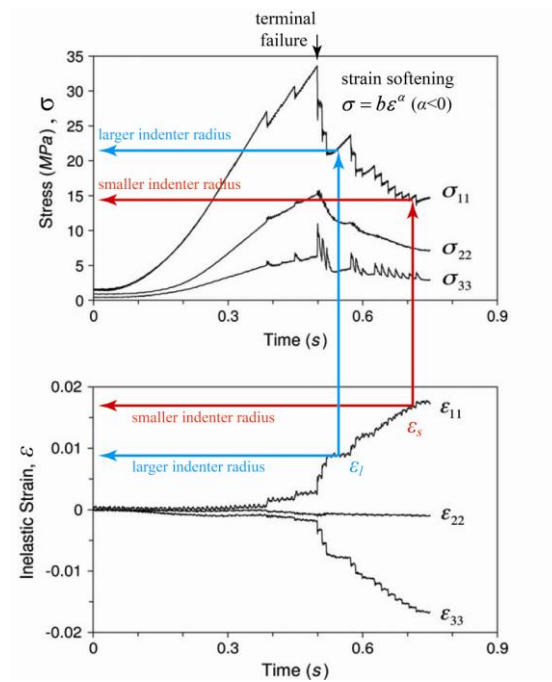
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Figure 5.



561

562

Figure 6.