

# Penetration of granular materials by small-arms bullets

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## Abstract

This paper presents an experimental and numerical study on the penetration of granular materials by small-arms bullets. In the experimental tests, five different types of granular material (0-2 mm wet sand, 0-2 mm dry sand, 2-8 mm gravel, 8-16 mm crushed stone and 16-22 mm crushed rock) were impacted by four different types of small-arms bullets (7.62 mm Ball with a soft lead core, 7.62 mm AP with a hard steel core, 12.7 mm Ball with a soft steel core and 12.7 mm AP with a tungsten carbide core). The tests were carried out using different rifles to fire the projectiles, while the granular materials were randomly packed in a 320 mm diameter specially-designed steel tube. In all tests, the initial projectile velocity and the depth of penetration in the granular material were measured for each bullet type. In the numerical simulations, a discrete particle-based approach was used to model the behaviour of sand during bullet impact. The method works with discrete particles that transfer forces between each other through contact and elastic collisions, allowing for a simple and robust treatment of the interaction between the sand particles and the bullet which is represented by finite elements. An important observation from the study is that the penetration depth in dry sand is strongly influenced by deviation of the bullet from its original trajectory. Good agreement between the available experimental results and the numerical predictions is also in general obtained.

*Keywords:* Soil penetration; Small-arms bullets; Experimental tests; Discrete particles; Numerical simulations

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## 1. Introduction

In international operations, long-distance transportation of protective elements is often necessary, and the weight of the system becomes a critical parameter. This limits the use of traditional structures made of steel or concrete, and a main challenge is to design barriers that

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have sufficiently low mass to be transported while at the same time having enough strength to defeat the threat. Børvik et al. [1][2] proposed to use extruded aluminium panels as a lightweight and mobile shelters. Such systems constitute a cheap, low-weight solution that quickly can be installed in camps out-of-area. To increase the ballistic perforation resistance of the protection, a local granular material is filled in the empty cavities between the panels. At repatriation or if the protection has to be moved, the mass is simply emptied through a hatch beneath the panels, and the system retains its low mass. However, ballistic tests have revealed that the relation between the grain size of the granular material and the calibre of the bullet significantly affects the perforation resistance of the protection, so a proper filling material is crucial [1]. Thus, to understand the behaviour of granular materials during impact by small-arms bullets is crucial for the design of such lightweight protective structures.

The study of projectile penetration in granular materials can be traced back to 1742 with the Robin-Euler penetration depth formula. Since then, a number of empirical models, some of which are still used today, have been proposed (see e.g. Young [3] and Corbett et al. [4]). Even though the problem has been studied for centuries, the number of systematic and detailed experimental studies available in the open literature is few. Allen et al. [5][6] presented some test data and a theoretical model for the penetration of nonrotating projectiles in sand, while Bai and Johnson [7] proposed a model to investigate the effects of impact velocity and sand resistance during ricochet. Forrestal et al. [8]-[10] developed closed-form analytical equations based on the cavity expansion theory and experimental tests for nonrotating pointed-nose projectiles that penetrated soil targets after normal impact. However, these and similar methods require tri-axial material data from samples cored from the actual target material to give an accurate prediction of the depth of penetration, and such test data are not readily available. A comprehensive review of the response of granular media to rapid penetration was recently published by Omidvar et al. [11].

During the last decade, there have been numerous attempts at describing the constitutive behaviour (e.g. [12]-[20]) and to develop numerical methods (e.g. [21]-[32]) for granular materials under extreme dynamic loading conditions, partly motivated by impact cratering in geophysics and landmine explosions in international operations. A review of the stress-strain behaviour of sand at high strain rates was presented by Omidvar et al. [33]. Although advanced numerical techniques like the coupled Lagrangian-Eulerian approach have allowed new insight into the complex process of soil-structure interaction, their ability to describe sand particle-particle contact and loose soil ejecta are very limited [16]. However, the recent approach of using discrete particles to model real sand behaviour has shown to be promising (see e.g.

[25][32][34]). This method, which is based on a Lagrangian formulation, has several advantages over coupled Lagrangian-Eulerian approaches as both numerical advection errors and severe contact problems are avoided, while at the same time keeping the computational time at a reasonable level.

The purpose of this study is two-fold. Firstly, a rather comprehensive experimental study on the penetration of granular materials by small-arms bullets was carried out. In the experimental tests, five different types of granular material (0-2 mm wet sand, 0-2 mm dry sand, 2-8 mm gravel, 8-16 mm crushed stone and 16-22 mm crushed rock) were impacted by four different types of small-arms bullets (7.62 mm Ball with a soft lead core, 7.62 mm AP with a hard steel core, 12.7 mm Ball with a soft steel core and 12.7 mm AP with a tungsten-carbide core). A number of tests were conducted for each combination of granular material and projectile type, giving a total of 126 tests. The tests were carried out using different rifles to fire the projectiles, while the granular materials were randomly packed in a 320 mm diameter specially-designed steel tube. In all tests, the initial bullet velocity and the depth of penetration in the granular material were measured, and the penetration depth was plotted as a function of bullet type and filling material. This was done to study the behaviour of granular materials during bullet impact, and at the same time establish an experimental database for validation of numerical methods. Secondly, a discrete particle-based approach [35] was used to model sand and its interaction with the bullet during penetration. The method has been implemented in the non-linear finite element code IMPETUS Afea Solver [36]. It works with discrete, rigid, spherical particles that transfer forces between each other through a penalty- based contact formulation. Modelling the sand as discrete particles allows for a numerically simple and robust treatment of its interaction with structural parts represented by finite elements (see [25] and [34]), and several parametric studies for increased understanding of this particular penetration problem have been carried out. As will be shown, good agreement between the experimental and predicted results is in general obtained, especially when the complexity of the problem and the simplicity of the approach are taken into account.

## **2. Experimental set-up**

### *2.1 Test rig*

The ballistic set-up used in the experimental study is similar to that described in Børvik et al. [37][38]. Here, a 7.62 x 63 mm smooth-bore Mauser gun or a 12.7 x 99 mm McMillan sniper rifle with barrel lengths of about 1 m was used to fire the different bullets. Note that the

McMillan rifle gives gyroscopic stability to the bullet by spinning it around its own axis of symmetry, while spin is absent when using the smooth-bore Mauser gun. During testing, the stock was removed and the weapon was mounted in a rigid rack inside a 16 m<sup>3</sup> impact chamber. This fixture guaranteed a well-defined impact point in all tests, and the various rifles could be fired by a magnetic trigger from safe distance. Several independently operating optical velocity measurement systems, shown to be accurate to within 1-2% [38], were used to measure the initial velocity of the bullets just before impact with the target. Due to the opaque nature of the granular materials, no high-speed cameras were used in these tests.

To be able to confine the granular materials during impact and to measure the penetration depth after impact, the jig shown in Figure 1 was designed. It consists of a thick-walled steel tube with inner diameter  $D_i = 320$  mm, wall thickness  $H_t = 12.5$  mm and length  $L_t = 1000$  mm. The tube was mounted in a frame, making it possible to turn the tube around its own midpoint into an upright position. In the upright position the tube was randomly packed with the granular material to be tested. A steel disc (with a central hole of 30 mm) was used to close the tube. The hole was sealed by a thin plastic film to hold the granular material in place before testing. Due to the disc the granular material was marginally compressed inside the tube. The distance from the muzzle of the rifle to the front of the tube was 500 mm in all tests.

After firing, the penetration depth was carefully determined by removing the granular masses along the penetration channel. In most of the tests, the bullet left a trail of compressed and partly fractured material that could be followed. Due to difficulties in finding all the embedded bullet parts after a test, the granular material was also filtered as it was removed. This was in several of the tests rather tedious, and even though this was done with great care some experimental uncertainty must be expected. Advanced digital diagnostic techniques for measurements during ballistic penetration of sand have been proposed (see e.g. [28][29][30]), but such sophisticated approaches were not considered in these tests. After each test, the tube was filled with new masses and a new test could be conducted.

It should finally be noticed that due to the limited diameter of the tube, the granular material will be confined inside the rigid steel tube during penetration. The effect of this confinement compared to naturally confined materials is not known. However, since the impact velocity is high and the tube diameter is significantly larger than the diameter of the bullets this effect is assumed negligible. In this study, all tests were carried out under identical impact conditions using well defined boundary conditions. The effect of the boundary conditions will be studied numerically in Section 4.

## 2.2 Granular materials

Four different fractions of the same granular material have been used in this study, i.e. 0-2 mm wet and dry sand, 2-8 mm gravel, 8-16 mm crushed stone and 16-22 mm crushed rock. The grading curves and medians of the various granular materials are given in Figure 2. All materials used in the tests are based on concrete aggregates from Årdal in Sogn, Norway, and the mineral composition is feldspar (49%), granite (40%), quartzite (6%) and dark rock (5%). These numbers are collected from samples taken from 1-2 mm and 2-4 mm masses. Table 1 shows some material properties for the different fractions of the granular materials with respect to the bulk material. The fineness modulus is obtained by adding the total percentage of the sample of an aggregate retained on each of the specified sieves, and then dividing the sum by 100 [39]. The density of the granular material is as seen decreasing as the fineness modulus and consequently the void-volume fraction increases. Note also that the only difference between the wet and the dry sand is the additional water of  $130 \text{ kg/m}^3$  that was added to the dry sand just before the tests. Figure 3 shows an optical microscope image from a typical dry sand sample. The grain morphology is found to vary significantly, with a large number of small grains having a size between 0.05 and 0.1 mm to fewer, but rather bulky, grains of several mm (see also Figure 2 a)).

## 2.3 Small-arms bullets

Four different types of small-arms bullets were used in the tests. These were 7.62 mm Ball with a lead-filled core, 7.62 mm AP with a hardened steel core, 12.7 mm Ball with a soft steel core and 12.7 mm AP with a tungsten carbide (WC) core. In addition, a number of tests were carried out using 12.7 mm AP with a reduced impact velocity for reasons that will be explained in Section 3. A direct comparison between the different granular materials and the AP bullets is shown in Figure 4.

Schematic drawings and dimensions of the various bullets are given in Figure 5. A Niton XLi PMI (Positive Material Identifier) was used to determine the chemical compositions (given as average values based on a number of measurements) of the materials in the bullets. For the 7.62 mm Ball bullet, the soft lead core is cast into a brass jacket. The brass consists of 87% copper and 10% zinc, together with some fractions of other alloying elements. The lead is alloyed with 10% antimony and 2% bismuth to increase the strength of the core. For the 7.62 mm AP bullet, the ogive-nose hardened core (with Calibre Radius Head of 3 and Hardness Rockwell C of 63) made of tool steel is inserted in a brass cap, before the jacket is clamped onto it. A lead cap is

placed in front of the core to stabilize the projectile during flight and in the initial stage of penetration. Based on PMI measurements, the brass and lead used in the AP bullet were found to be similar to those used in the Ball bullet. Geometries and masses of the different parts that made up the 7.62 mm bullets are given in Table 2. Note that some variation in both length and mass may occur, so the values should be considered as nominal values. The total mass of the Ball projectile is about 9.5 grams, while the total mass of the AP projectile is about 10.5 grams. The muzzle velocity of both bullets is roughly 900 m/s, so the initial kinetic energy is rather similar. Thus, the main distinction in behaviour during penetration is caused by the difference in core hardness. The PMI was also used to determine the chemical composition of the various parts that made up the 12.7 mm bullets. Both the jacket and the lead consist of the same alloys as for the 7.62 mm bullets. For the 12.7 mm Ball bullet, the steel core consists of 95% Fe, 2.7% Mn, 0.9% Ni and some smaller fractions of other alloying elements. The average hardness of the core was measured to 180 HV<sub>10</sub> (i.e. mild steel). In addition, end and front caps in lead are used for stabilization. The core of the 12.7 mm AP bullet is made of two parts. The main penetrator consists of tungsten carbide (WC) with 86% W, 7.3% Co, 1.8% Cu and 1.1% Fe. WC has high density, high melting temperature and extreme hardness. The latter property makes the core strong, but has the disadvantage that it may become brittle and fracture upon impact. The WC part is inserted in a steel sabot. In addition, an end cap of lead and a polymer-based front cap are used for stabilization. Geometries and masses of the different parts in the 12.7 mm bullets are also given in Table 2. As for the 7.62 mm bullets, the difference in penetration ability is related to the core strength, since both the mass (42 versus 46 grams) and muzzle velocity (about 830 m/s) are similar for the two bullets.

### **3. Experimental results**

The experimental programme is given in Table 3. The various granular materials demanded different number of tests due to uncertainties in measuring the penetration depth after firing. Thus, a number of tests were conducted for each combination of granular material and bullet type, giving a total of 126 tests. The impact velocity was kept constant at muzzle velocity for the different bullets (i.e. no adjustment of the ammunitions was carried out). Even so, some spread in the measured impact velocity was observed (typically  $\pm 20$  m/s). This is illustrated in Figure 6 showing the penetration depth by 7.62 mm AP bullets in wet and dry sand. Note that the spread in penetration depth is random and not only caused by the variation in impact velocity. Measured average impact velocities and kinetic energies are given in Table 4 together

with calculated standard deviations based on the entire population. Since the 12.7 mm AP bullet at muzzle velocity (830 m/s) perforated the 1 m long tube in Figure 1 when filled with wet sand, it was decided to adjust this ammunition to a constant impact velocity of 670 m/s (termed 12.7 mm AP-red in the following). This impact velocity represents a firing distance of approximately 500 m, and gave a reduction in kinetic energy of about 35% compared to muzzle velocity (see Table 4). To study the difference in performance between muzzle and reduced velocity, both impact velocities were applied in the tests.

The main results in terms of average penetration depths are given in Table 5 and plotted in Figure 7. In addition, calculated standard deviations are given in parenthesis in Table 5. The rather large standard deviations seen in some of the test series are mainly caused by outliers deviating considerably from the mean value. By omitting these outliers the standard deviation is much reduced while the average penetration depth remains rather similar, as also shown in Table 5. A direct comparison between penetration depths versus granular material for some bullet types are shown in Figure 8, while pictures of damaged bullet parts after typical tests are presented in Figure 9.

From these results, a number of interesting observations are made. First of all, it is clear from Figure 7 that the penetration depth is considerably larger in wet sand than in dry sand independent of bullet type. The penetration depth is actually more than twice in wet sand than in dry sand for 7.62 mm Ball and 12.7 mm AP bullets. The reason for this is not fully understood, but the increased penetration depth in wet sand at high impact velocities has been observed by others. It seems to be due to a combination of reduced friction between the soil grains, partly liquefaction, possible shock waves and increased pore pressure in wet sand [31]. It is also evident that the penetration depth increases exponentially with the expected bullet performance and strength (i.e. penetration capability) for the smallest grain sizes. This confirms that the relation between grain size and bullet performance is a vital parameter in the penetration of granular materials [1]. One exception is the 7.62 mm Ball bullet. Here the penetration depth is almost constant for all grain sizes as long as the material is dry. The reason may be that the lead-core bullet is rather weak compared to the others, and it is completely crushed upon impact with the target material, and thereby losing all of its penetration capability. For the largest grain sizes, the penetration depth increases more linearly with bullet performance (at least for the grain sizes used in this study). Thus, the difference (in mm) in penetration depth with grain size increases with projectile performance and is most distinct for the 12.7 mm AP bullet. Note also that the penetration depth in general is larger in gravel (2-8 mm) than in dry sand (0-2 mm), especially for the 12.7 mm AP bullet.

Figure 8 a) gives a comparison of penetration depths versus granular material for 7.62 mm bullets. The penetration depths for the ball bullet stay almost constant in dry materials, while the AP bullet displays a distinct decrease in penetration depth with grain size. For the largest grain size (16-22 mm), the penetration depths almost coincide. A similar behaviour is seen in Figure 8 b), where a comparison of 12.7 mm bullets at muzzle velocity is given. In contrast to the 7.62 mm Ball bullet, the 12.7 mm Ball bullet shows a rather steady decrease in penetration depth with grain size, even though it is not as distinct as for the AP bullets. Keep in mind that the core strength of the 12.7 mm Ball bullet is considerably higher than for the 7.62 mm Ball bullet. Finally, Figure 8 c) shows a comparison between the penetration depths for the 12.7 AP bullets (with an average impact velocity of 829 m/s) and the 12.7 mm AP-red bullets (having an average impact velocity of 673 m/s). The reduction in impact velocity of the AP-red bullet gives a considerable decrease in kinetic energy compared to muzzle velocity (Table 4). Even so, the penetration depths are very similar for the two bullets (except for penetration in wet sand). For the largest grain sizes, the penetration depth for the AP-red bullet is actually found to be larger than for the AP bullet at muzzle velocity. This observation is in agreement with the statement by Bless et al. [30] that for a given type of sand the total penetration depth depends little on impact velocity. Measurements from Bless et al. [30] (using a PDV probe) also showed that much penetration takes place at low velocities, indicating that measuring the penetration depth is probably not the only way to characterize bullet performance. However, for wet sand the penetration depth is very much a function of the impact velocity.

Some of the observations discussed above may be explained by studying the pictures in Figure 9 of damaged bullets after typical tests. Pictures of the 7.62 mm Ball bullets are not shown as these projectiles were completely demolished during impact. If we first compare pictures of the 12.7 mm AP and AP-red bullets (i.e. the two columns to the right in Figure 9), it is seen that the core of the bullet stays intact longer when the impact velocity is reduced. The WC part of the core has separated from the steel sabot during impact in all granular materials and it has fractured in a number of pieces at a grain size of 8-16 mm for the AP bullet. This is in contrast to the AP-red bullet where separation and fragmentation first take place at a grain size of 8-16 and 16-22 mm, respectively (except for wet sand where separation of the sabot without fracture was seen). Thus, the delayed fragmentation of the AP-red bullet core seems to compensate for the reduced impact velocity. Further, the 7.62 mm AP bullet is undamaged to a grain size of 2-8 mm (i.e. the first column to the left in Figure 9), while it fractures into a number of pieces for grain sizes larger than the bullet diameter. The mild steel core of the 12.7 mm Ball bullet starts to erode at a grain size of 2-8 mm, and severe erosion is registered for larger grain



sizes. For penetration in wet and dry sand, all bullets seem to be more or less intact. An exception is the 12.7 mm AP bullet, where both separation and some fragmentation are observed. It is also assumed that the jacket has little effect on the penetration depth for the various bullets, since it is ripped off early in the penetration process.

From these results, the main sources of energy redistribution and dissipation during impact can be studied. Some of the bullet's kinetic energy is transformed into elastic and kinetic (ejecta) energy through contact and collision between grains during crater formation. Other parts are dissipated by grain and bullet plastic deformation and fracture. However, for sand the grain fracture process is assumed to dissipate little energy [16], and Figure 9 reveals that the cores are essentially undamaged after impact. Huang et al. [20] further showed that the grain-breakage extent under confined uniaxial dynamic tests in a modified SHPB is smaller than that under quasi-static loading for the same stress level. In this study, possible fracture in the sand grains and bullet cores are in any case neglected in the numerical models to be presented in Section 4. For larger grain sizes these effects cannot be neglected, and more advanced modelling is required (see e.g. [20]). For dry materials the most dominant energy-dissipation mechanism seems to be friction due to particle-particle contact and body-grain sliding (see also [11][22]). For wet materials, the effect of friction is considerably reduced and damping in the sand mixture seems to be the most important energy-dissipation mechanism. Another very important mechanism that controls the penetration depth in granular materials is the change of bullet trajectory during penetration. The trajectory will be affected by several parameters, such as the pitch/yaw at impact, the impact velocity, the diameter of the bullet, the water content in the sand, the grain size of the granular material and possible sand grain/bullet core fracture. From this study it seems like the larger the grain size, the more trajectory disturbance of the bullet is obtained.

## **4. Numerical simulations**

### *4.1. A particle-based method to model bullet penetration in sand*

A discrete particle-based approach [25][35] has been developed to model the interaction effects between various media and structural parts. To represent the soil, the method applies discrete, rigid, spherical particles that transfer forces between each other through contact and elastic collisions, while structural parts are represented by finite elements (see Figure 10 a)). In [25] the particle-based soil parameters were calibrated to accurately represent an aggregate of silica spheres representing a generic soil in mine blast applications. The spheres had a uniform

diameter of 200  $\mu\text{m}$  and the parameters were tuned for both dry and fully saturated wet conditions. The approach was validated against experimental test data where stainless steel plates were subjected to the combined blast and soil impact loading from a buried charge [25]. A similar study on blast loaded extruded aluminium panel was conducted in [34].

There are essentially two reasons for using a particle-based approach when modelling soil. Firstly, the method is based on a Lagrangian description of motion which, in contrast to arbitrary Lagrangian-Eulerian (ALE) and Eulerian methods, is not associated with advection related numerical errors [40]. Secondly, the framework allows for a simple, physically clear and robust treatment of the interaction between the soil and the structural parts. This interaction is numerically challenging when working with e.g. coupled Lagrangian-Eulerian methods. All models applied in this study have been implemented in the non-linear finite element code IMPETUS Afea Solver [36].

The same particle-based approach as described above has been used in the numerical simulations in this study. The numerical approach is limited to 0-2 mm dry sand conditions penetrated by AP bullets. As relevant mechanical properties were not available for the sand used in the tests, it was decided to use the parameters for the generic dry soil from the studies presented in [25] and [34]. The only modified input parameter is the initial density  $\rho_0$ , which was adjusted from 1620  $\text{kg/m}^3$  to 1726  $\text{kg/m}^3$  to reflect the real sand density (see Table 1).

As already stated, one simplification with the suggested approach is that it neglects fracture in the sand grains near the projectile. According to Parab et al. [41], grain failure in front of the projectile is an important energy dissipating mechanism during sand penetration. Based on high pressure compression testing under uniaxial and triaxial loading conditions, five different types of damage and fracture mechanisms have been defined from microscopic observations of individual sand particles – from single abrasion fracture to full pulverisation (see e.g. [41][42][43]). Braslau [44] estimated that around 8 % of the projectile's kinetic energy is dissipated by pulverisation of sand grains, but in these tests the impact velocity was extremely high (6.37 km/s). In this study, our primary focus is the loading on the projectile and to accurately predict its deceleration and path when impacting a granular media. We do not anticipate in capturing the micromechanics of the sand particles since we are using a phenomenological model. A phenomenological model that can be made quite simple thanks to the discrete particle starting point. Just as in a continuum mechanical model, grain fracture is not modeled explicitly, but represented as inner friction in the material. Examples of more advanced simulations using mesoscale models of the sand can be found in [45] and [46].

#### 4.2. Modelling of sand

The details in the particle approach used to model sand are given in [25] and [34], but some of the main features will be repeated in the following for completeness. A penalty-based contact formulation is used to model the grain-grain interaction of the sand. The penalty contact enables incorporation of both friction and damping. The rheological model for the interaction between two sand particles with a mass  $m$  is shown in Figure 10 b). It consists of two linear springs, one acting in the normal direction and one in the tangential direction. Both springs have the same stiffness  $k$  in this study. In addition, a linear dashpot with a damping coefficient  $c$  is acting in parallel with the normal contact spring. Furthermore, the tangential spring force is limited by a Coulomb friction coefficient  $\mu$ . To reduce the computational cost, the sand particles are only given translational degrees of freedom, since incorporation of the rotational degrees of freedom severely reduces the critical time step size in the central difference time integration scheme. This simplification is acceptable as long as the solid-volume fraction is high and one can tune the sand parameters (stiffness, damping, friction and initial packing) such that the aggregates behave correctly [34].

In [25] the soil parameters were optimized to accurately represent an aggregate of silica glass spheres (with a constant diameter of 200  $\mu\text{m}$ ) enclosing a charge of C-4. The original density of the silica glass was about 2700  $\text{kg/m}^3$  (i.e. similar to granite). The initial solid volume fill fraction was 60%, which gave an initial soil density of 1620  $\text{kg/m}^3$ . The same parameters, adjusted for the correct density, have been used in this study. The sand particle distribution and the sand model characterization were handled in a three-step process:

- Fill-up of a unit cell: To initialize the particle distribution in the numerical model, 1000 equally sized particles were randomly distributed in a unit cell with periodic boundary conditions. The solid-fill fraction was the same as in the real soil. A penalty-based contact with gradually increasing contact stiffness enabled the particles to be moved around until particle-particle penetrations reached a negligible value. No contact friction was used at this stage.
- Characterization of the unit cell: The unit cell (with correct solid-fill fraction and without any initial contact penetrations) was characterized by monitoring stresses during uniaxial compression. The stress components were extracted by dividing cross-section forces by the unit cell cross-section area. Figure 11 shows the unit cell and the dry soil behaviour at

different particle-particle contact stiffness and coefficients of friction. In [25] the parameters were coarsely adjusted to mimic a typical generic soil.

- **Optimization:** The soil parameters were fine-tuned in an optimization process aiming at matching the structural response based on a number of experimental tests. Note that any given soil geometry can be defined by repeating the unit cell from the first step in the various directions as many times as needed. As a result of the three-step process, it was decided to model the dry soil conditions with a friction coefficient  $\mu = 0.1$  and a contact stiffness  $k = (L/L_0)k_0$ , where  $L$  is the unit cell length,  $L_0 = 1$  m and  $k_0 = 0.4$  GN/m. More details regarding the model characterization of both dry and fully saturated wet soil can be found in [25] and [34].

The particle-size sensitivity of the optimization procedure was checked by repeating the process described above using 10,000 sand particles in the unit cell. No noticeable difference in the final results was obtained.

#### 4.3. Modelling of the bullets

The hard core of the AP bullets were modelled as rigid, while a modified version of the Johnson-Cook constitutive relation (or the MJC model) was used to model the deformable parts of the bullet. Thus, the constitutive behaviour of the deformable materials is assumed to be isotropic and the von Mises equivalent stress is expressed as [41]

$$\sigma_{eq} = (A + B\varepsilon_{eq}^n)(1 + \dot{\varepsilon}_{eq}^*)^C(1 - T^{*m}) \quad (1)$$

where  $\varepsilon_{eq}$  is the equivalent plastic strain and  $(A, B, n, C, m)$  are material constants. The dimensionless plastic strain rate is given by  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{eq}^* = \dot{\varepsilon}_{eq} / \dot{\varepsilon}_0$ , where  $\dot{\varepsilon}_0$  is a user-defined reference strain rate. The homologous temperature is defined as  $T^* = (T - T_r) / (T_m - T_r)$ , where  $T$  is the absolute temperature,  $T_r$  is the ambient temperature and  $T_m$  is the melting temperature. The temperature change due to adiabatic heating is calculated as

$$\Delta T = \int_0^{\varepsilon_{eq}} \chi \frac{\sigma_{eq} d\varepsilon_{eq}}{\rho C_p} \quad (2)$$

where  $\rho$  is the material density,  $C_p$  is the specific heat and  $\chi$  is the Taylor-Quinney coefficient that represents the proportion of plastic work converted into heat.

Fracture in the various bullet parts (except the rigid hard cores) was modelled using a criterion proposed by Cockcroft and Latham (CL) [48] in which failure is assumed to occur when the integral of the maximum principle tensile stress along the plastic strain path reaches a critical value. The damage in an element is given as

$$D = \frac{W}{W_{cr}} = \int_0^{\varepsilon_{eq}} \frac{\langle \sigma_1 \rangle}{W_{cr}} d\varepsilon_{eq} \leq 1 \quad (3)$$

where  $\sigma_1$  is the major principal stress,  $\langle \sigma_1 \rangle = \sigma_1$  when  $\sigma_1 \geq 0$  and  $\langle \sigma_1 \rangle = 0$  when  $\sigma_1 < 0$ . Therefore, damage does not grow, and fracture cannot occur, when there is no tensile stress operating. It is further evident that the CL criterion includes the unilateral condition and further depends on both the stress triaxiality and the Lode parameter through the positive part of the major principal stress [49]. The critical value of  $W$ , denoted  $W_{cr}$ , can be determined from a single uniaxial tensile test and is simple to implement in finite element codes. The CL failure criterion has been found to give reliable results in ballistic perforation studies of steel and aluminium plates (see e.g. [49][50]). Here, the deviatoric stresses in the element are set to zero when  $W$  reaches its critical value  $W_{cr}$  at a specific integration point. This is defined as material failure. However, the element continues to take compressive stresses until the time step size drops below a critical level. The elements are eroded when falling below this critical level, which in this study was set to 5 ns. Material constants for the bullet parts were taken from Børvik et al. [38][51] and are listed in Table 6, while the physical constants for the various materials summarized in Table 7 were given nominal values provided in the literature. The polymer-based front cap of the 12.7 mm AP bullet was modelled as polycarbonate, with material constants taken from [52].

#### 4.4. Numerical models

All numerical simulations were carried out on a computer with 2 x Intel Xeon X5680 (3.33 GHz) CPUs and 4 x Nvidia Tesla C2070 GPUs using the finite element code IMPETUS Afea Solver [36]. This study is limited to the modelling of dry sand during penetration by hard-core

AP bullets, but several parametric studies for increased understanding of this particular penetration problem have been carried out. The reason why only the sand, and not the larger fractions of the granular materials, was modelled is that the interaction between particles and the bullet becomes inaccurate if the particles are considerably larger than the finite elements they are interacting with. Thus, the local contact conditions will not be accurate enough. Larger grains must be represented by finite elements as in e.g. [20], and this requires a more comprehensive modelling approach which is outside the scope of this study.

The geometry of the AP bullets and the sand target were similar to those used in the tests, but some simulations using only the hard core of the bullet were carried out for comparison. The bullets were modelled using fully integrated 3<sup>rd</sup>-order 64-node hexahedrons, with a typical element size in the range 0.1 to 1 mm. This gave a total of 53,416 and 121,384 nodes in the models for the 7.62 mm AP bullet and the 12.7 mm AP bullet, respectively. The impact velocities were taken as 917 m/s for the 7.62 mm AP bullet and 673 m/s for the 12.7 mm AP bullet. These values are the average velocities based on a large number of experimental tests, (see Table 4). The reason why the 12.7 mm AP bullet was run with reduced impact velocity was that core fracture occurred at muzzle velocity in the experimental tests as shown in Figure 9 b), and this is not accounted for in these simulations. The sand was modelled using particles with different grain-size diameters stacked in a steel tube with varying dimensions to study the effect of the boundary conditions. The chosen number of particles (from 250,000 to 16,000,000) gave a grain-size diameter  $d_s$  between 2.90 mm and 0.72 mm. This is larger than the smallest grains seen in Figure 3, but of the same order as the median of 0.65 mm for the sand (as shown in Figure 2 a)). Contact between the various parts was established using a penalty-based node-to-surface algorithm. In the current work, all exterior nodes and element faces were active in the contact. Typical computation times for a simulation using 7.62 mm bullets varied between 3 hours (250,000 particles) and 27 hours (16,000,000 particles). Typical numerical 3D models of AP bullets and sand targets are shown in Figure 12.

## 5. Numerical results

Figure 13 gives predicted penetration depths versus time for the hard core of the 7.62 mm AP bullet impacting dry sand with different grain size. Only the hard core of the bullet was modelled in these simulations to save computational time, since the jacket is assumed to have little effect on the total penetration depth (as discussed in Section 3). The tube was also

modelled with reduced dimensions of  $L_t = 300$  mm and  $D_t = 150$  mm to save computational time. As shown in Figure 12 b), seven slightly different impact points were chosen for each particle size to study the effect of random disturbances due to the particle stacking inside the tube. Due to the packing of the particles the impact point has a significant effect on the penetration depth, and justifies the large spread also seen experimentally (see Figure 6). Further, the solution seems to coincide for a particle size less than 1.8 mm (i.e. more than 1,000,000 particles). For larger particles the predicted penetration depth becomes too small. It is also very interesting to note that the scatter band in the numerical results is very similar to the scatter band found experimentally. Note that if the full AP bullet and 2,000,000 particles are used in the simulations, the average penetration depth based on 7 simulations was found to be 211 mm, i.e. a slight increase compared to simulations with only the hard core where the average penetration depth is 201 mm (which is practically identical to the average penetration depth found experimentally).

To further study the particle-size sensitivity in the proposed approach, similar simulations as those presented above were carried out using respectively 8,000,000 ( $d_s = 0.95$  mm), 12,000,000 ( $d_s = 0.83$  mm) and 16,000,000 ( $d_s = 0.72$  mm) particles in the sand target. Also these simulations were run with seven different impact points as shown in Figure 12 b). The results from this sensitivity study are shown in Figure 14, and two important observations are made. Firstly, some particle-size sensitivity is present in the simulations, but the penetration depth seems to stabilize when the number of particles becomes large. Secondly, the scatter band from the simulations seems to reduce as the number of particles increase. As the particle size is reduced, the sand target becomes more and more uniform, and the important effect of bullet trajectory change (as discussed in Section 3) during impact with larger particles are partly lost. Thus, the particle size should be of the same order or somewhat larger than the median of the real sand to give predictive results.

Figure 15 shows some plots from a typical simulation of the penetration process of a full AP bullet in 2,000,000 particles of dry sand. In a similar way as seen experimentally, the jacket is ripped off the core after some penetration, and is stopped at a much lower penetration depth. The core starts to deviate from its trajectory after some penetration due to the many impacts with the smaller particles, and this seems to be the major braking mechanism in the penetration process. Due to this deviation, the core starts to rotate, and it rotates approximately  $180^\circ$  before it is finally brought to rest at a penetration depth similar to that found experimentally.

The effect of the boundary conditions was checked by running simulations with 7.62 mm AP bullets and a particle size of  $d_s = 1.8$  mm. Both the full tube size ( $L_t = 1000$  mm and  $D_t = 320$  mm) and a tube with reduced dimensions ( $L_t = 300$  mm and  $D_t = 150$  mm) were used in the simulations. No noticeable effect on the penetration depth with tube size was registered. The reason for this is actually depicted in Figure 15, showing that the velocity field in the sand has not reached the boundary before the penetration process is over. Based on results like these, it was decided not to model the steel tube itself in the rest of the simulations with 7.62 mm bullets to save computational time. However, as will be shown the 12.7 mm bullet deviated more in the radial direction than the 7.62 mm bullet, so the steel tube had to be modelled in the simulations involving 12.7 mm bullets.

As stated in Section 2.1, the 7.62 mm bullets are not able to spin due to the smooth barrel, while the 12.7 mm bullets spin around their own axis of symmetry. During perforation of thin steel or aluminium plates, this spin is not assumed to have any significant effect on the penetration ability of the bullet. However, in deep penetration of a granular material like sand, the spin may be important. To study the effect of this spin, some simulations were carried out using both a full 7.62 mm AP bullet and only the hard core of the same bullet. A sand target with reduced dimensions of  $L_t = 300$  mm and  $D_t = 200$  mm was used in these simulations. The rotational speed (or spin) of the bullet was taken as 25000 Hz by assuming a tangential speed of 100 m/s at a radial distance of 3.95 mm, and the results from the simulations based on seven different impact points for each case are plotted in Figure 16. It is seen that when the full bullet is simulated, there is a clear drop in penetration depth when the bullet is allowed to spin. The average penetration depth without spin is 211 mm, while it is 181 mm with spin. In the experimental tests (without spin) the average penetration depth was found to be 202 mm. For the hard core only, the situation is different. Here the average penetration depth without spin is 201 mm, while it is 200 mm with spin. Also the general spread in the results is lower when only the hard core of the bullet is used in the simulations. Thus, it seems like the deformation and separation of the jacket inside the sand target is more important when the bullet is spinning. This process dissipates energy and slows down the bullet, and the depth of penetration is reduced, at least to some extent. This seems physical, but it remains to validate these results experimentally.

Figure 17 shows the effect of the bullet trajectory on the penetration depth. When the trajectory is constrained along the length of the tube (i.e. no rotations or deviations allowed), the bullet penetrates very deep. Since the bullet core is very aerodynamic, it is not slowed down



by the sand in a similar way as if it is allowed to deviate from the initial trajectory. The force that brakes the bullet is approximately proportional to the velocity squared. Thus, in a frictionless material the penetration depth goes towards infinity at low velocities, but due to frictional effects in the sand the bullet will eventually stop. Figure 17 further shows that if the bullet is free to rotate and diverge from the initial trajectory, the penetration depth is considerably reduced. Also the yaw angle at impact is important for the final penetration depth. If the yaw angle is increased to  $3^\circ$ , the penetration depth is decreased by approximately 25% compared to an impact without yaw.

Figure 13 showed an almost perfect comparison between the experimental results and the numerical predictions. To further investigate the quantitative capability of the numerical approach, it was decided to run the 12.7 mm AP bullets (Figure 12 a)) with reduced velocity impacting dry sand. In these simulations the sand target was modelled by 4,000,000 particles with a particle size of  $d_s = 2.1$  mm confined inside a steel tube with dimensions  $L_t = 700$  mm and  $D_t = 150$  mm. Figure 9 revealed that the WC part of the core may separate (without fracture) from the steel sabot during penetration. To explore the effect of this separation, simulations where the steel sabot was either loosely attached or fully fixed to the WC part of the core were run. The predicted results are summarized in Figure 18. Only five simulations were run for each case to save computational time. The average penetration depth based on these simulations is as seen slightly lower than that found experimentally (460 mm for both the loose and fixed steel sabot versus 498 mm in the experiments), but the predicted results fall within the experimental scatter band. However, it should be noticed that the simulations with a loose steel sabot were terminated after 2.5 ms, while the simulations with a fixed steel sabot were run 4 times longer. It is seen from Figure 18 that the penetration process continues for a long time at low velocities. This is in agreement with the experimental observations by Bless et al. [30]. Thus, the average penetration depth for the loosely attached steel sabot would have increased somewhat if the simulations were continued. For the fixed steel sabot, the penetration depth increases by approximately 50 mm when the simulation time is increased from 2.5 ms to 10 ms. From this it may be anticipated that the penetration depth increases somewhat when the steel sabot separates from the WC part, i.e. the steel sabot brakes the bullet due to a less aerodynamic surface.

Also these results seem to confirm the prediction accuracy of the approach. Note that due to the increased penetration depth and number of particles, the computational time increased from 10-15 hours to more than 150 hours (for the loose steel sabot) and 450 hours (for the fixed

steel sabot). Some plots from a typical numerical simulation showing the penetration process of a 12.7 mm AP bullet with a loose steel sabot impacting dry sand are shown in Figure 19, while corresponding plots from the penetration process of a 12.7 mm AP bullet with a fixed steel sabot are shown in Figure 20. If these plots are compared to those for the 7.62 mm AP bullet shown in Figure 16, the penetration process is seen to be similar. The only main difference is that the core of the 12.7 mm AP bullet seems to hit and slide along the steel tube wall at low velocities. Thus, it was necessary to model the whole tube.

These simulations demonstrate the capability of the proposed numerical approach to do both qualitative and quantitative predictions of the penetration process in sand by small-arms bullets. It is now possible, using this type of numerical tools, to do a number of parametric studies of small-arms bullets penetrating various types of sand-filled protective structures. One study of particular interest is the effect of water content in the sand. However, due to the lack of reliable material data for the sand used in this study, this is left for further studies.

## **6. Concluding remarks**

This paper has presented an experimental and numerical study on the penetration of granular materials by small-arms bullets. The tests were carried out using different rifles to fire the bullets, while the granular materials were randomly packed in a 320 mm diameter steel tube. In all tests, involving four different bullet types and five different granular materials, the initial bullet velocity and the depth of penetration in the granular material were measured. The general trends based on the experimental results are that the penetration depth is considerably larger in wet sand than in dry sand independent of bullet type, that the penetration depth increases exponentially with expected bullet performance for the smallest grain sizes (sand and gravel), while for the largest grain sizes (crushed stone and rock) the penetration depth increases more linearly with bullet performance and strength (at least for the grain sizes investigated in this study). It was also shown that core fracture may give a reduction in penetration capability. The main sources of energy dissipation during impact were found to be Coulomb friction due to particle-particle contact and body-grain sliding and the change of bullet trajectory during penetration. Also the plastic work in the jacket and the separation from the core were found to absorb some of the kinetic energy, so the full bullet should be modelled.

In the numerical simulations, a discrete particle-based approach was used to model the behaviour of dry sand during impact by 7.62 mm AP and 12.7 mm AP bullets. The method works with discrete, rigid, spherical particles that transfer forces between each other through

contact and collisions, allowing for a simple and robust treatment of the interaction between the sand particles and the bullet which is represented by finite elements. Based on the proposed approach, several numerical studies have been carried out. Taking the simplicity of the numerical simulations and the complexity of the investigated problem into account, good agreement between the experimental results and the numerical predictions is in general obtained. This validates the prediction accuracy of the proposed numerical approach.

### **Acknowledgements**

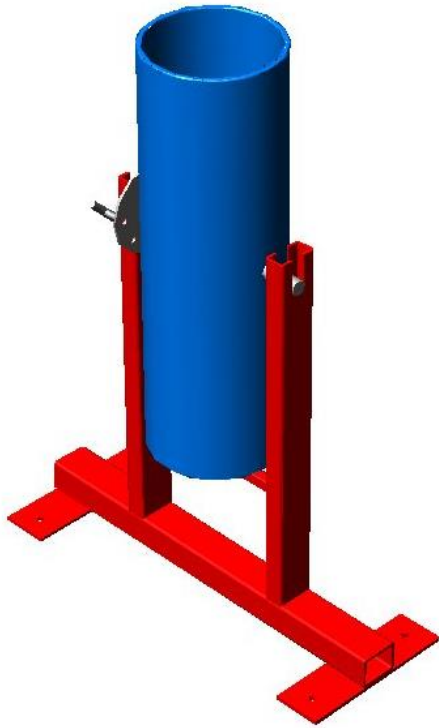
The financial support of this work from the Structural Impact Laboratory (SIMLab), Centre for Research-based Innovation (CRI), at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) is gratefully acknowledged.

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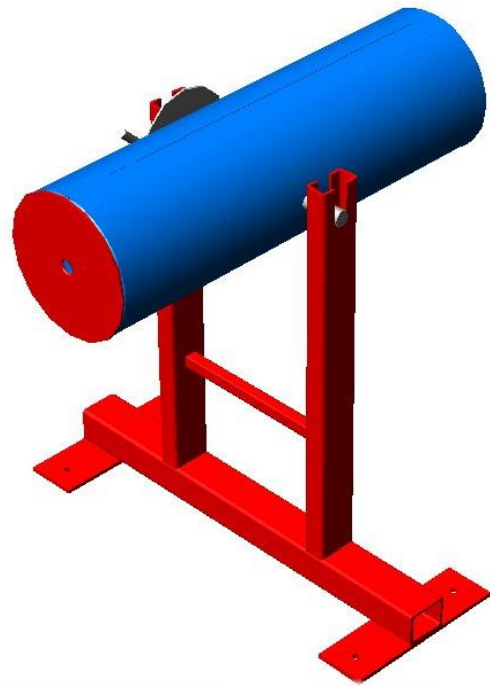
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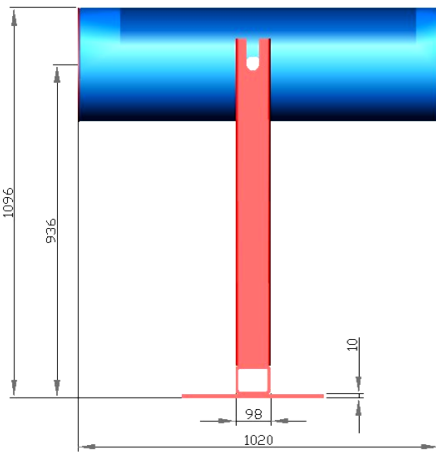
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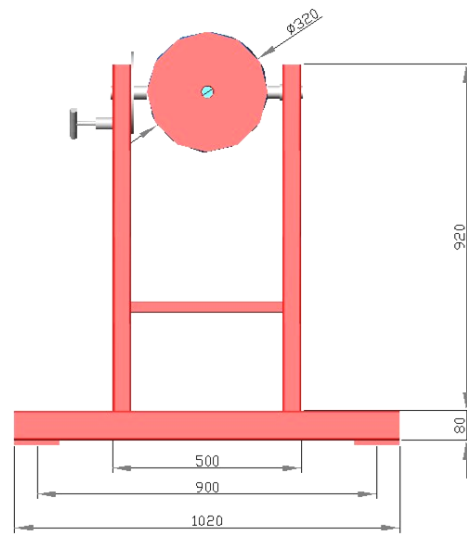
a) Empty tube in upright position



b) Filled tube in closed position



c) Side view of tube



d) Front view of tube

Figure 1. Schematic drawing of tube used to confine the granular materials during impact.

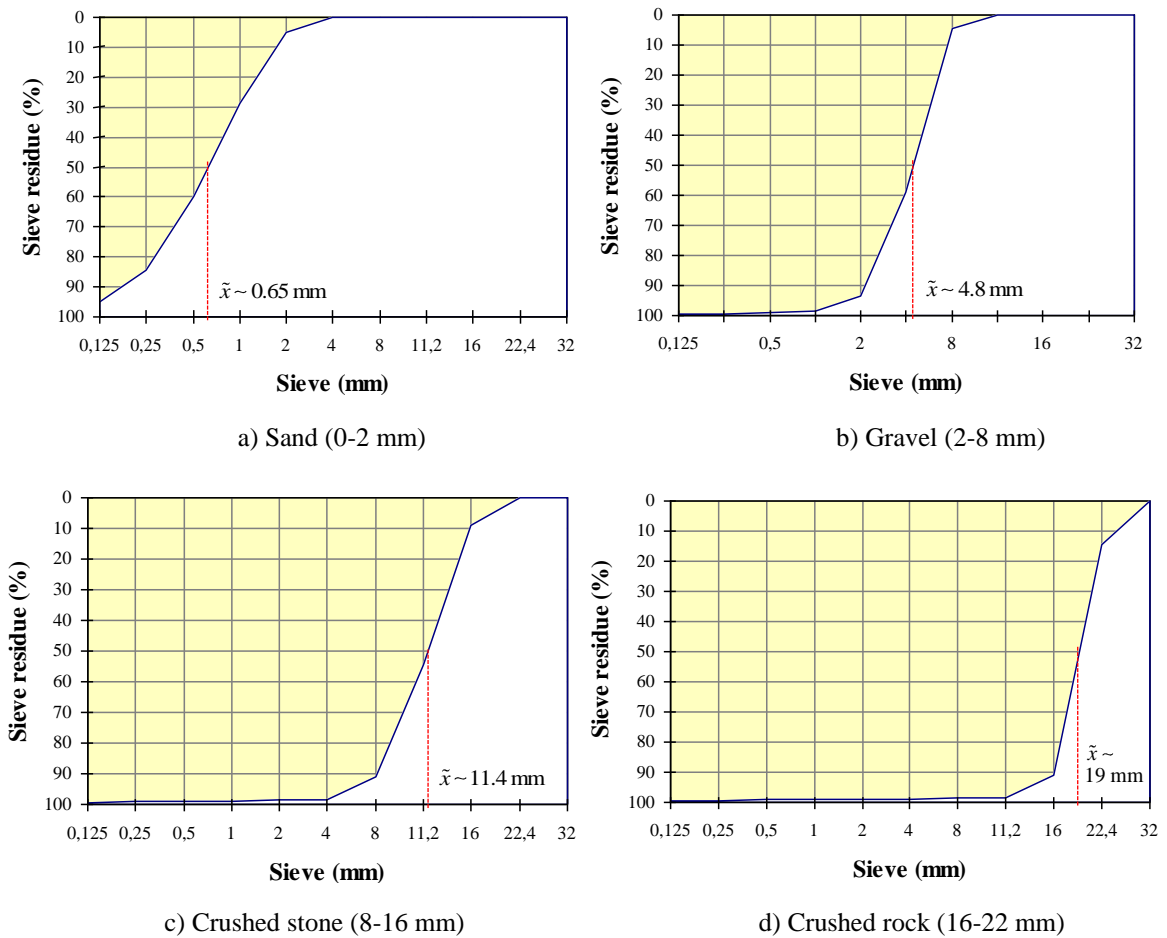


Figure 2. Grading curves and median  $\tilde{x}$  for the various granular materials.

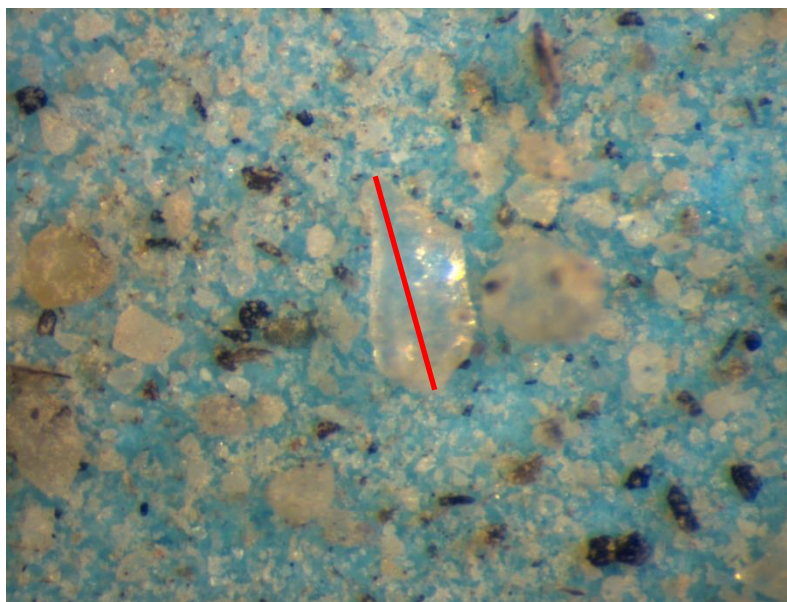


Figure 3. Optical microscope image of a typical sand sample. The red line across the largest grain seen in the picture has a length of 0.65 mm.



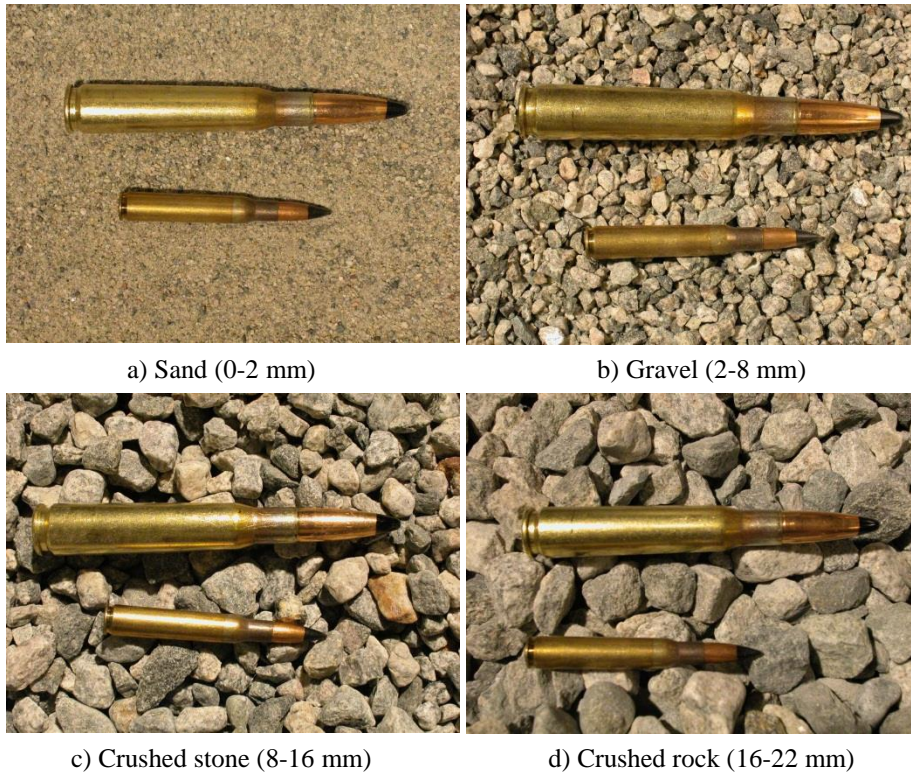


Figure 4. Comparison between granular materials and bullets used in the tests.

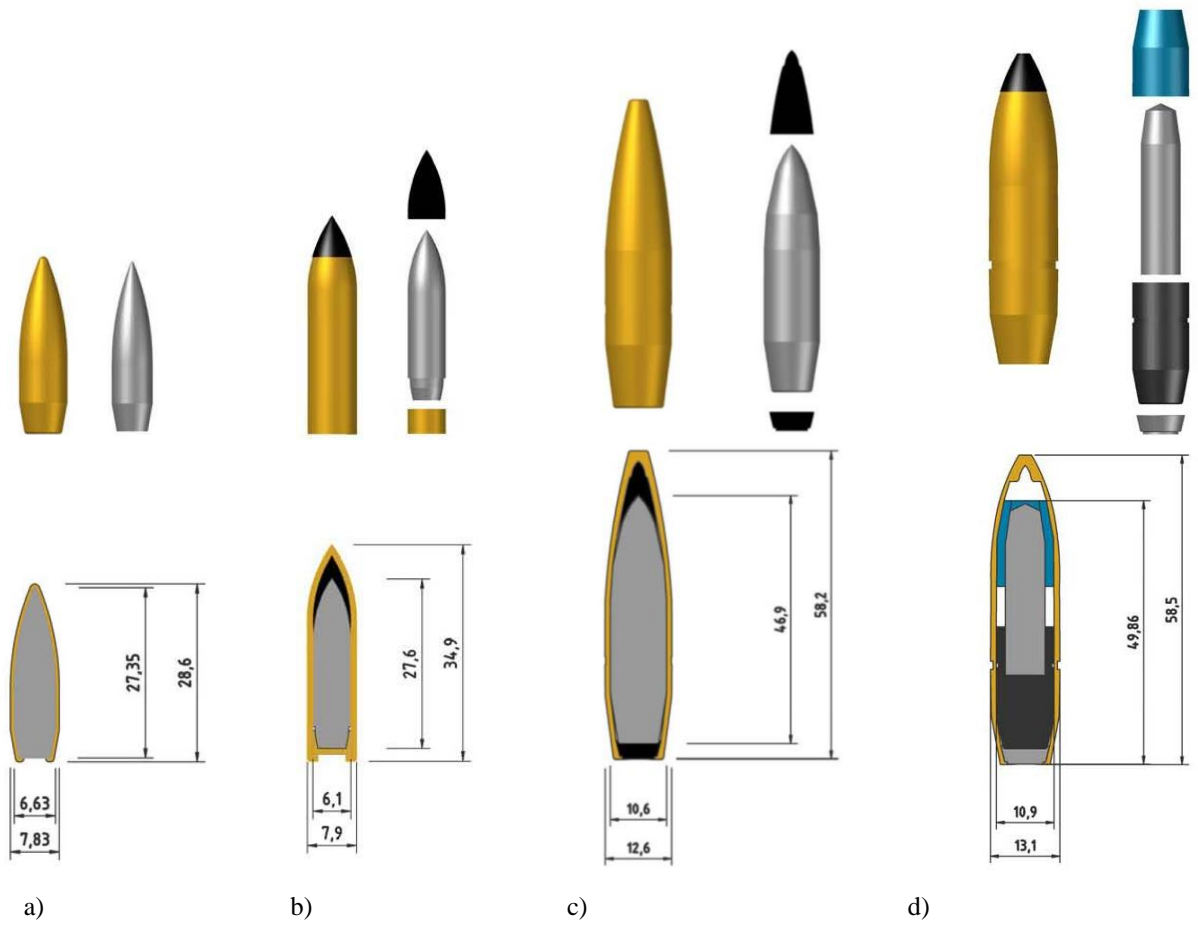


Figure 5. Schematic drawings and geometry of bullets: a) 7.62 mm Ball, b) 7.62 mm AP, c) 12.7 mm Ball and d) 12.7 mm AP.

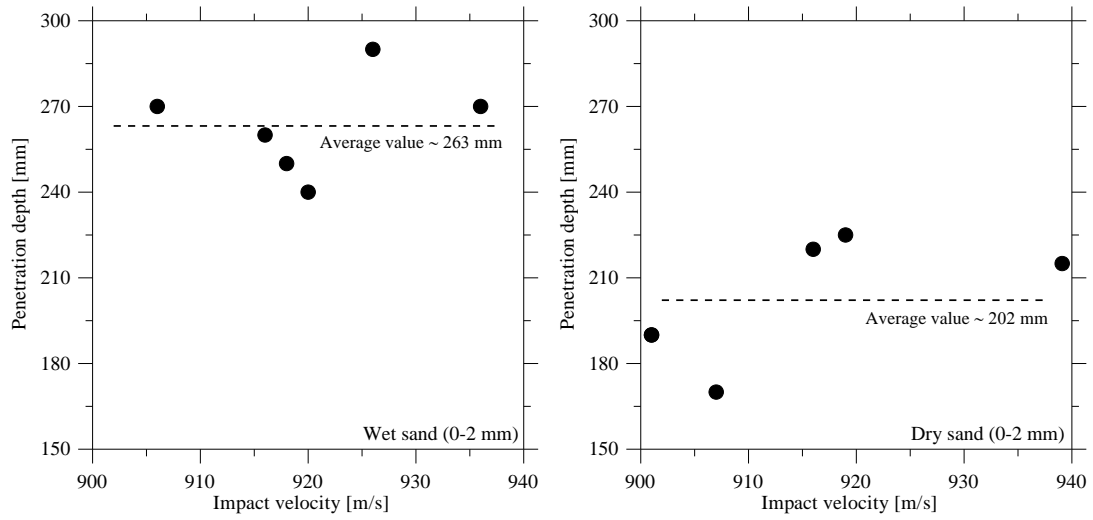


Figure 6. Penetration depth versus impact velocity of 7.62 mm AP bullets in wet sand (left) and dry sand (right).

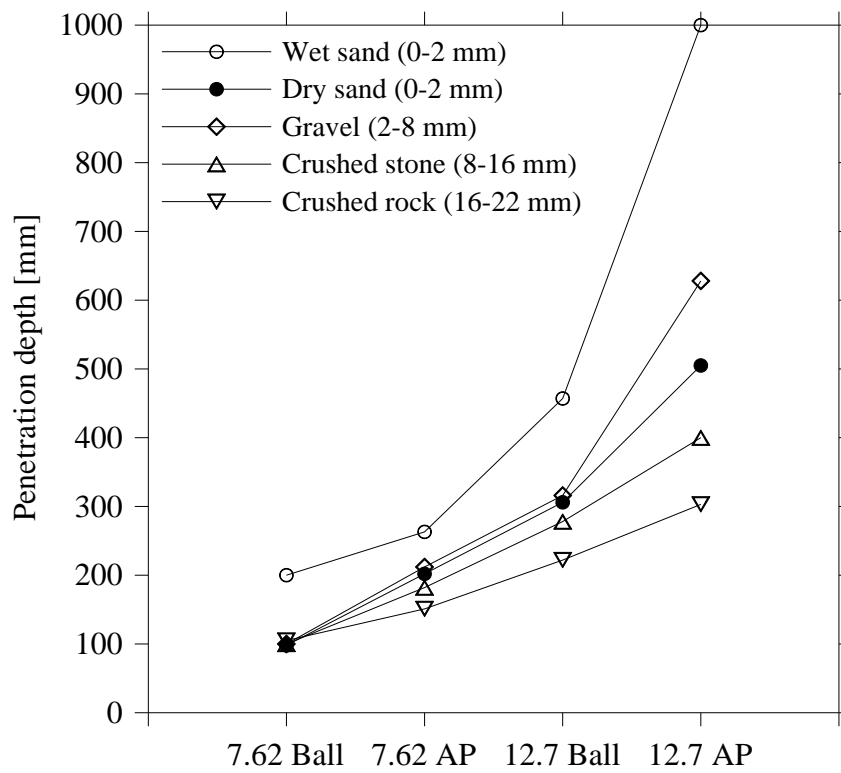
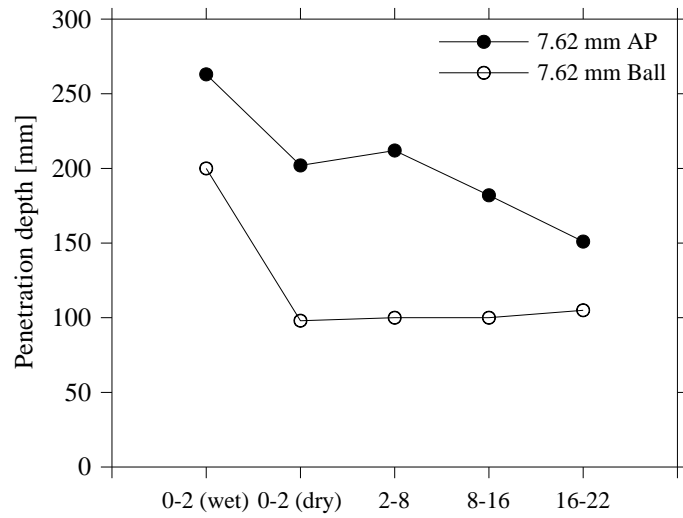
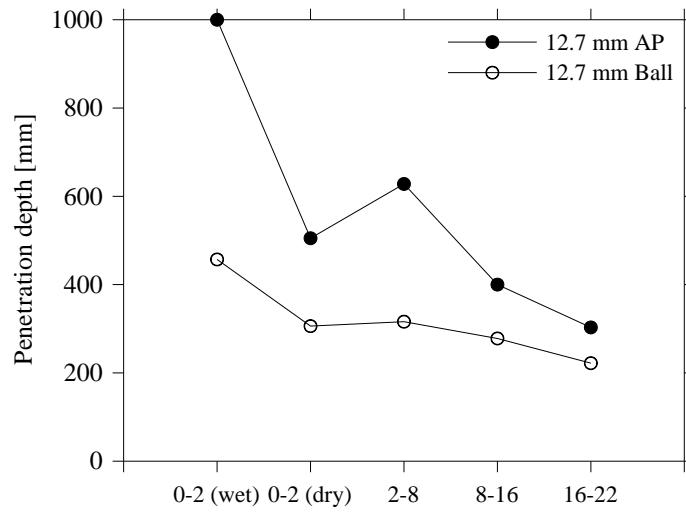


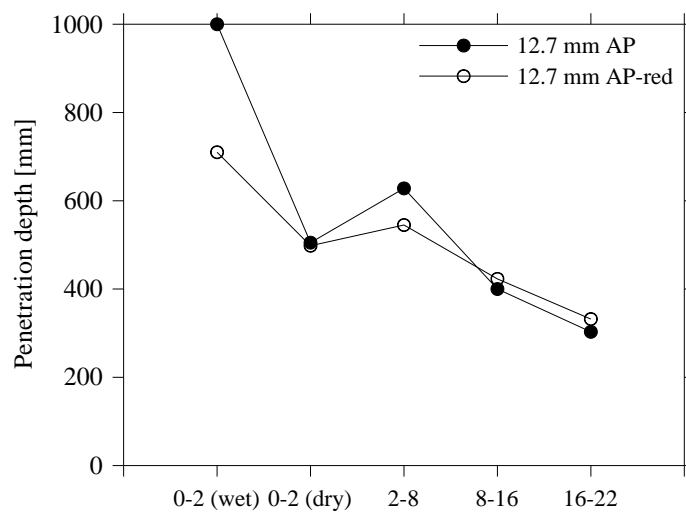
Figure 7. Average penetration depth versus bullet type.



a) 7.62 mm Ball versus 7.62 mm AP



b) 12.7 mm Ball versus 12.7 mm AP



c) 12.7 mm AP versus 12.7 mm AP-red

Figure 8. Average penetration depths versus granular material for various bullet types.

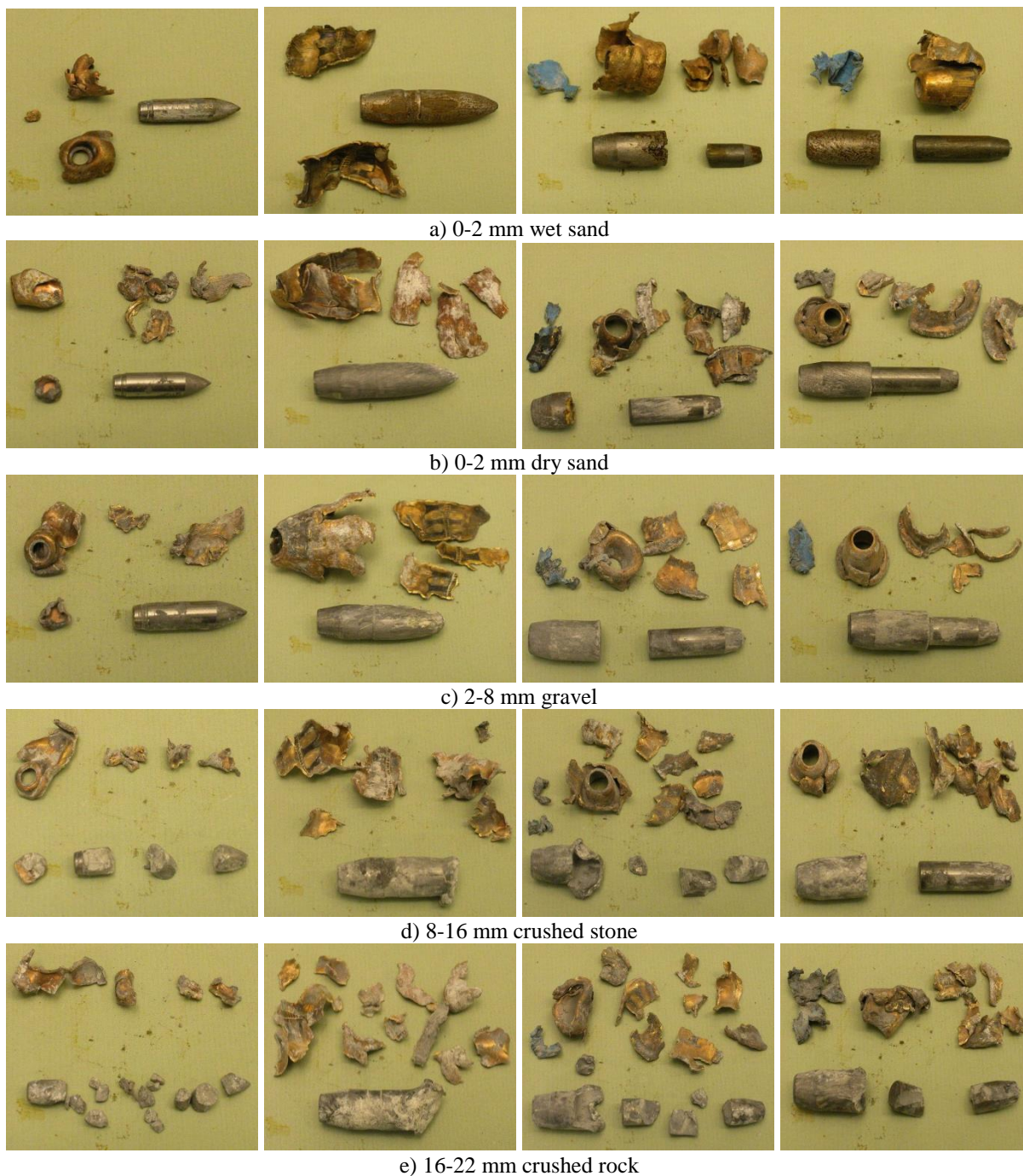


Figure 9. Pictures of damaged bullets after typical tests. From left to right: 7.62 mm AP ( $v_{avg} = 917$  m/s), 12.7 mm Ball ( $v_{avg} = 826$  m/s), 12.7 mm AP ( $v_{avg} = 829$  m/s) and 12.7 mm AP-red ( $v_{avg} = 673$  m/s). The pictures are not in scale.



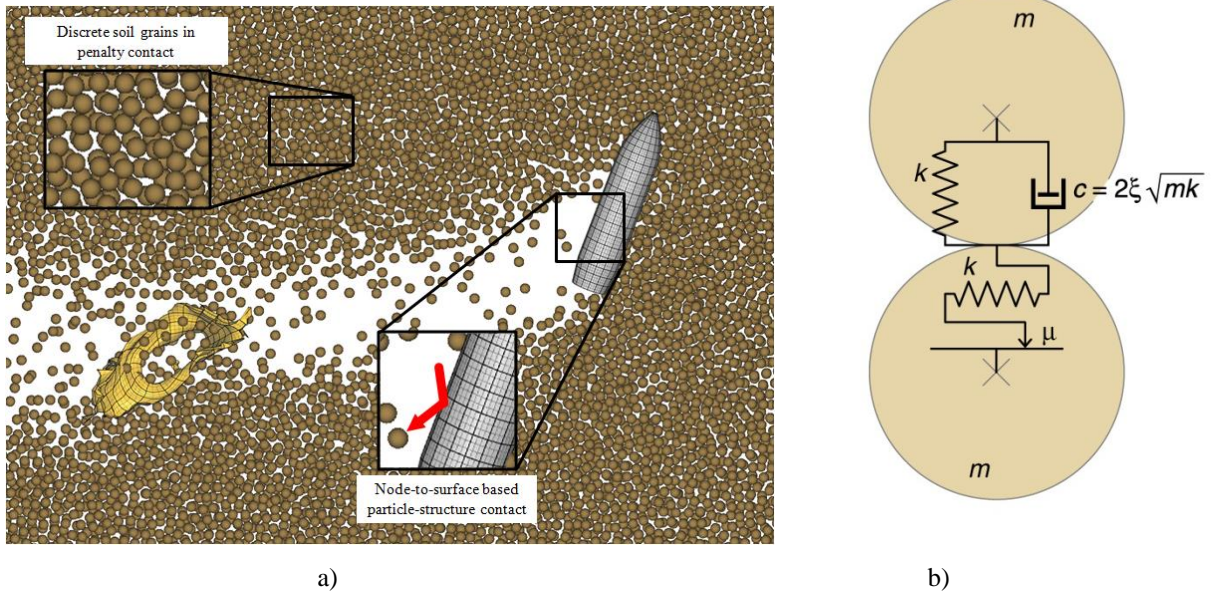


Figure 10. a) Modelling principle of the discrete particle-based method for the interaction between a penetrating AP bullet and the sand grains, and b) rheological model for the sand interaction.

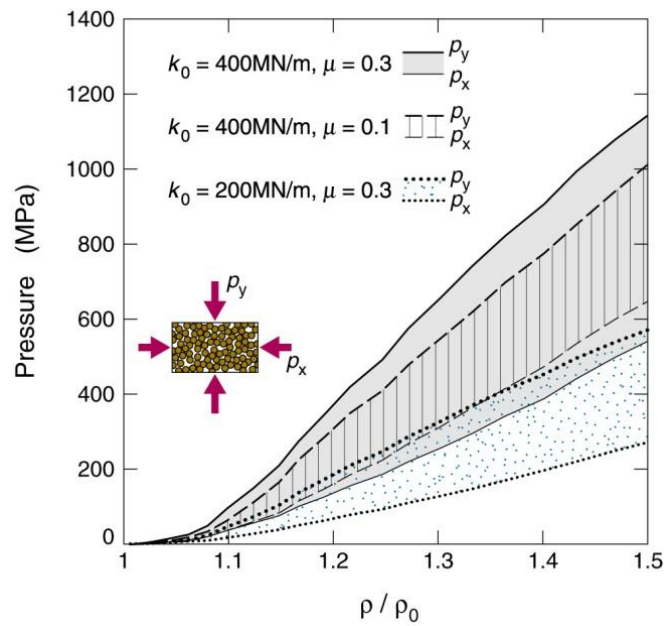
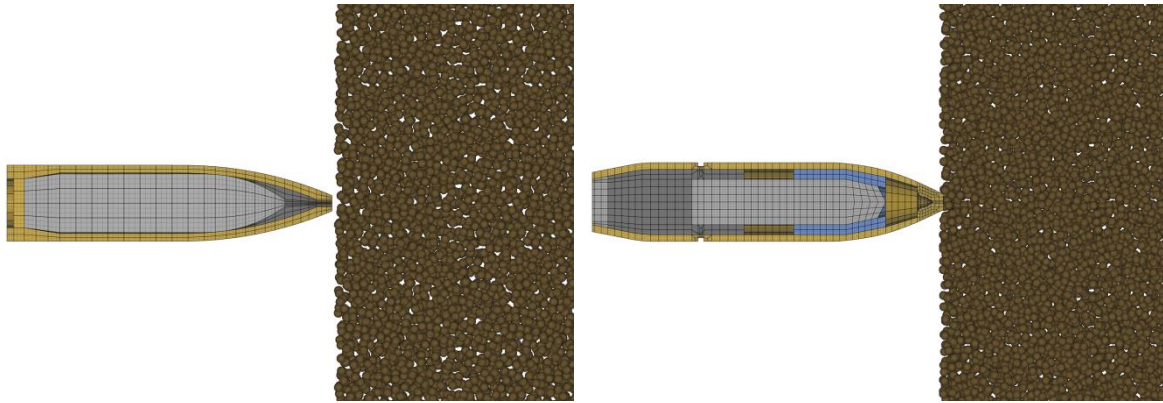
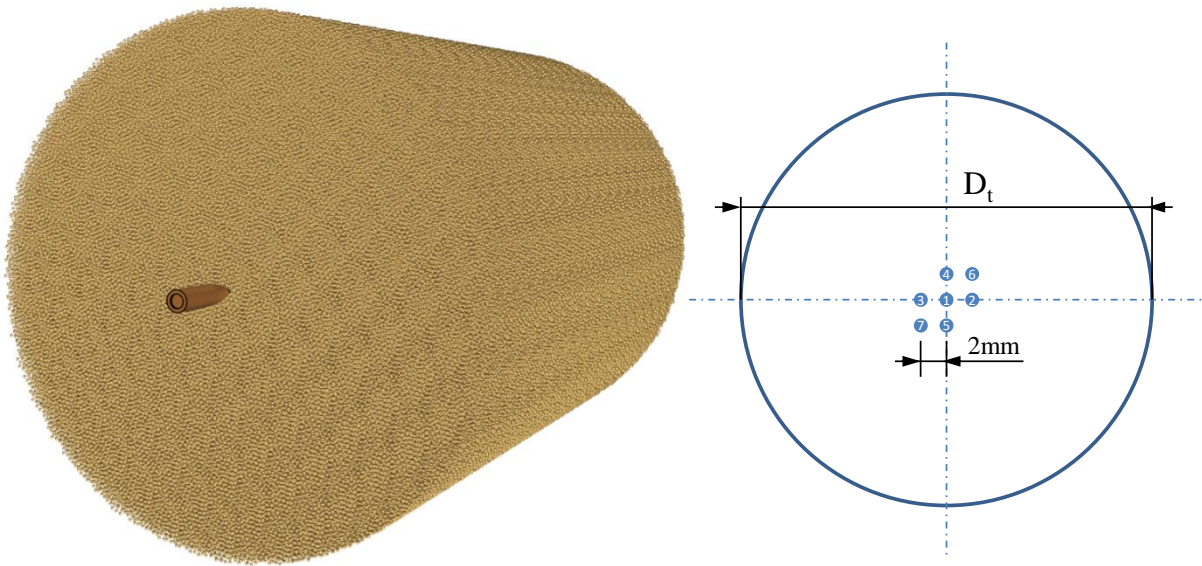


Figure 11. Pressures obtained in numerical simulations of the unit cell during compression tests of dry sand [34]. Here,  $\rho$  is the current density,  $\rho_0$  is the initial density and  $p$  is the applied pressure in various directions.



a) Details of a 7.62 mm AP bullet (left) and a 12.7 mm AP bullet (right) impacting a sand target (not in scale).



b) Overview showing the 7.62 mm AP bullet impacting a sand target and the various impact points.

Figure 12. Typical numerical models of AP bullets and sand targets.

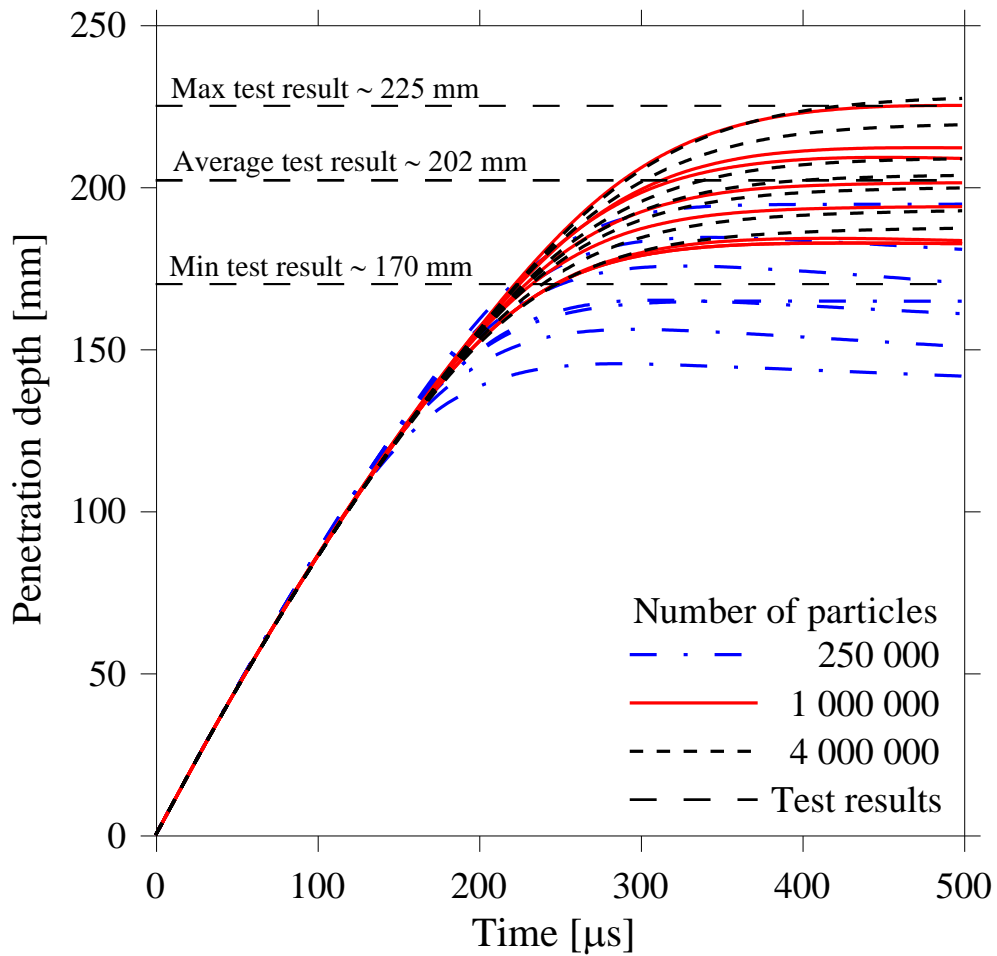


Figure 13. Predicted penetration depth versus time for the hard core of the 7.62 mm AP bullet impacting sand particles of different size. Seven different impact points were used for each particle size to study the effect of random disturbances due to the particle stacking in the tube with dimensions  $L_t = 300$  mm and  $D_t = 150$  mm. The number of particles give a grain size of  $d_s = 2.90$  mm (250,000 particles),  $d_s = 1.82$  mm (1,000,000 particles) and  $d_s = 1.15$  mm (4,000,000 particles).



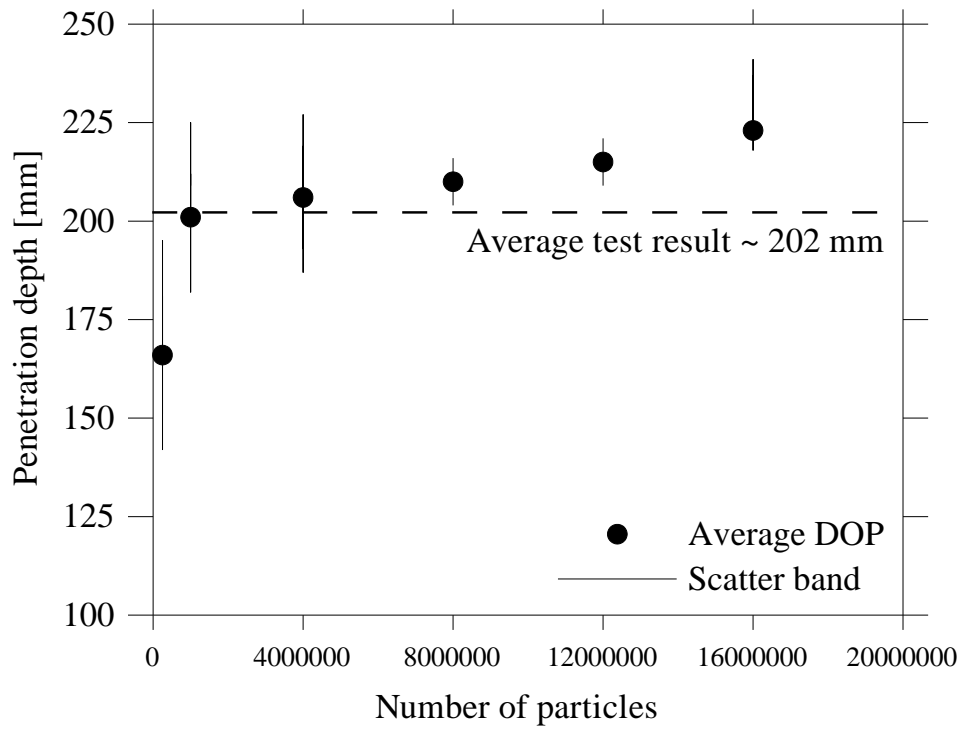


Figure 14. Particle-size sensitivity study.

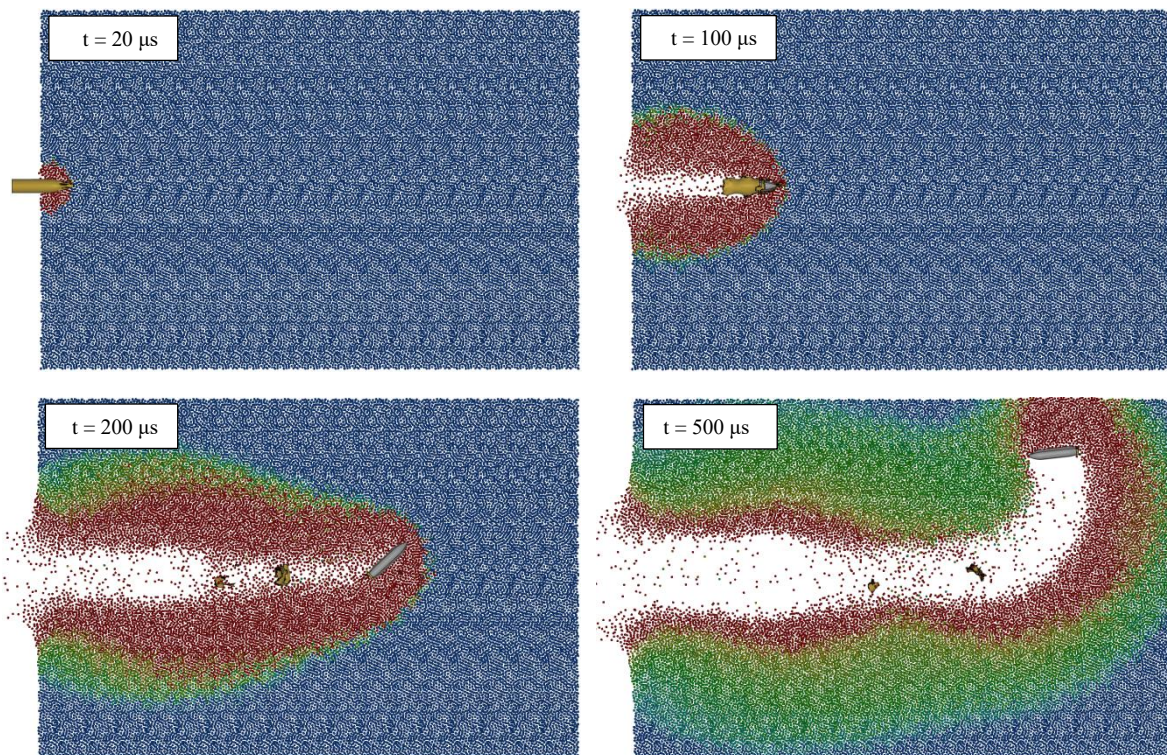


Figure 15. Colour plots from a typical numerical simulation showing penetration of a 7.62 mm AP bullet in 1,000,000 particles ( $d_s = 1.82$  mm) of dry sand. The colours represent the velocity field. Note that the pictures have been cropped from the right to better reflect the perforation process (i.e. the full sand target is not shown).

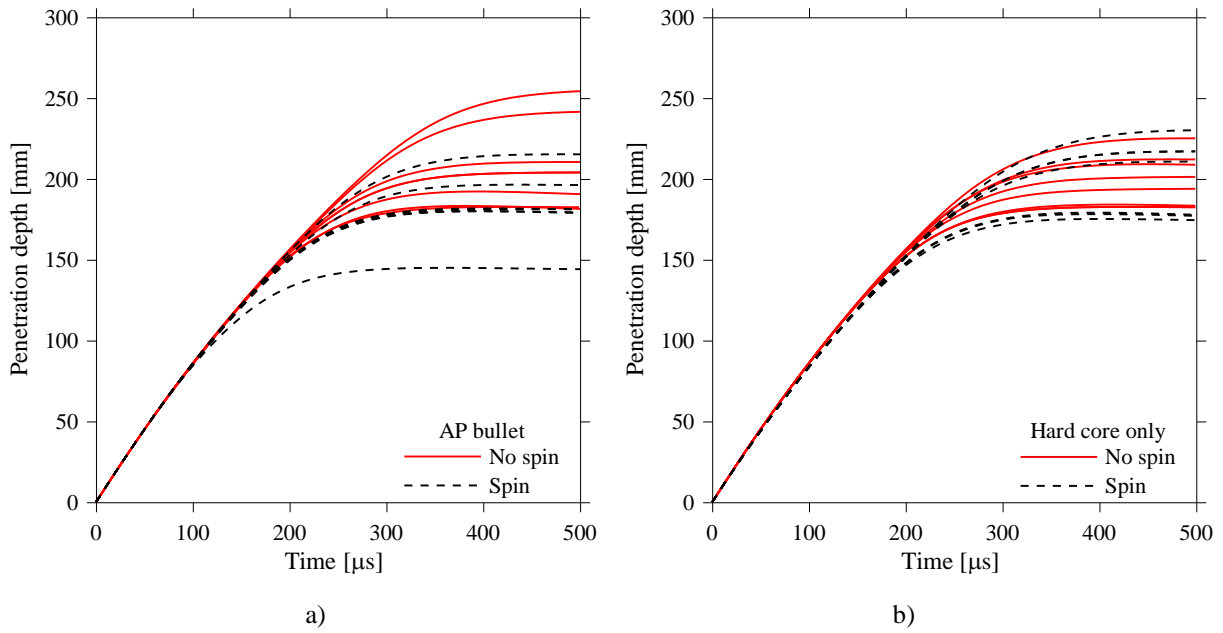


Figure 16. Predicted penetration depth versus time for a) full AP bullet and b) only the hard steel core of the 7.62 mm AP bullet with and without spin. Seven different impact points were used for each particle size to study the effect of random disturbances due to the particle stacking in the tube with reduced dimensions  $L_t = 300$  mm and  $D_t = 200$  mm. The number of particles in these simulations was equal to 1,000,000 ( $d_s = 1.82$  mm).

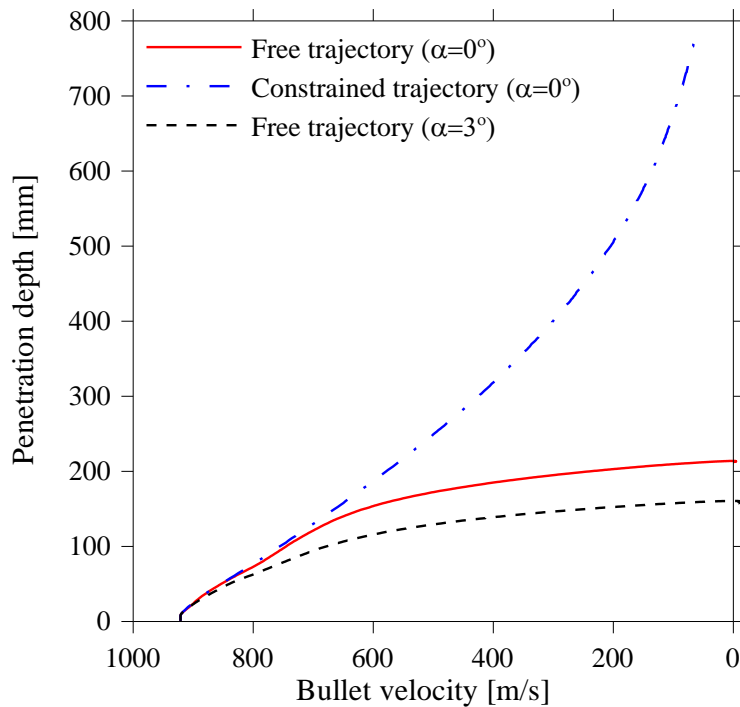


Figure 17. Plot showing the average penetration depth versus current bullet velocity of a 7.62 mm AP bullet in dry sand as a function of bullet trajectory (the bullet is either free to rotate or constrained to its initial path) and yaw angle  $\alpha$ .



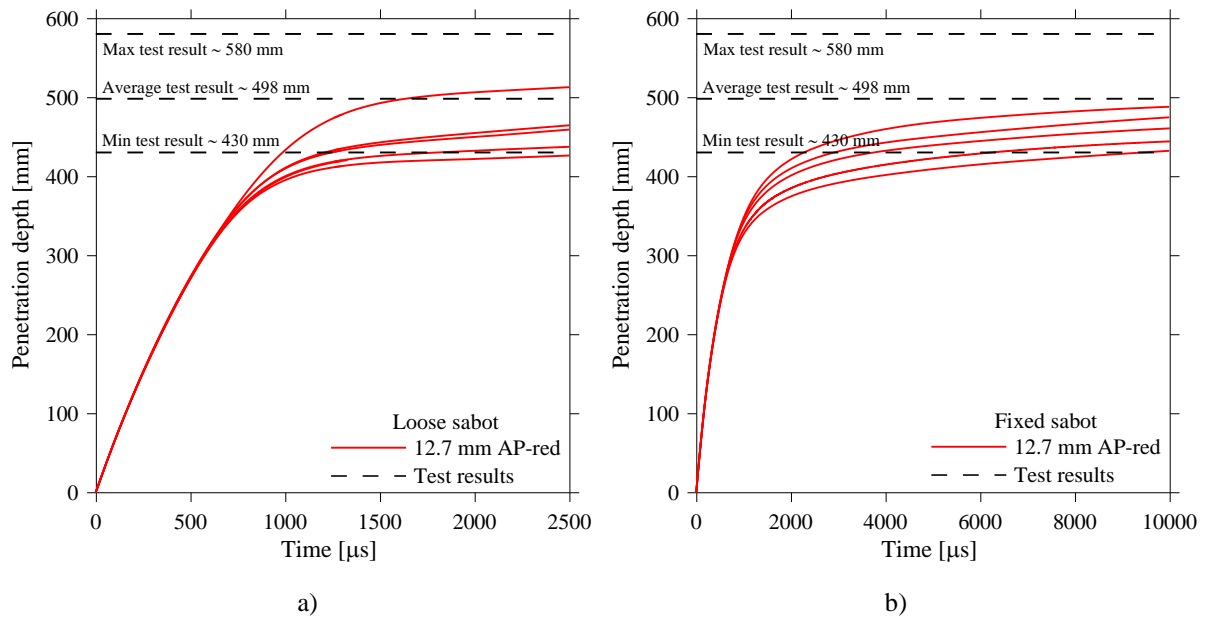


Figure 18. Predicted penetration depth versus time for the 12.7 mm AP-red bullet with a) loose sabot and b) fixed sabot impacting particles with a size of  $d_s = 2.1$  mm. Five different impact points were used for each particle size to study the effect of random disturbances due to the particle stacking in the tube with reduced dimensions  $L_t = 700$  mm and  $D_t = 150$  mm.

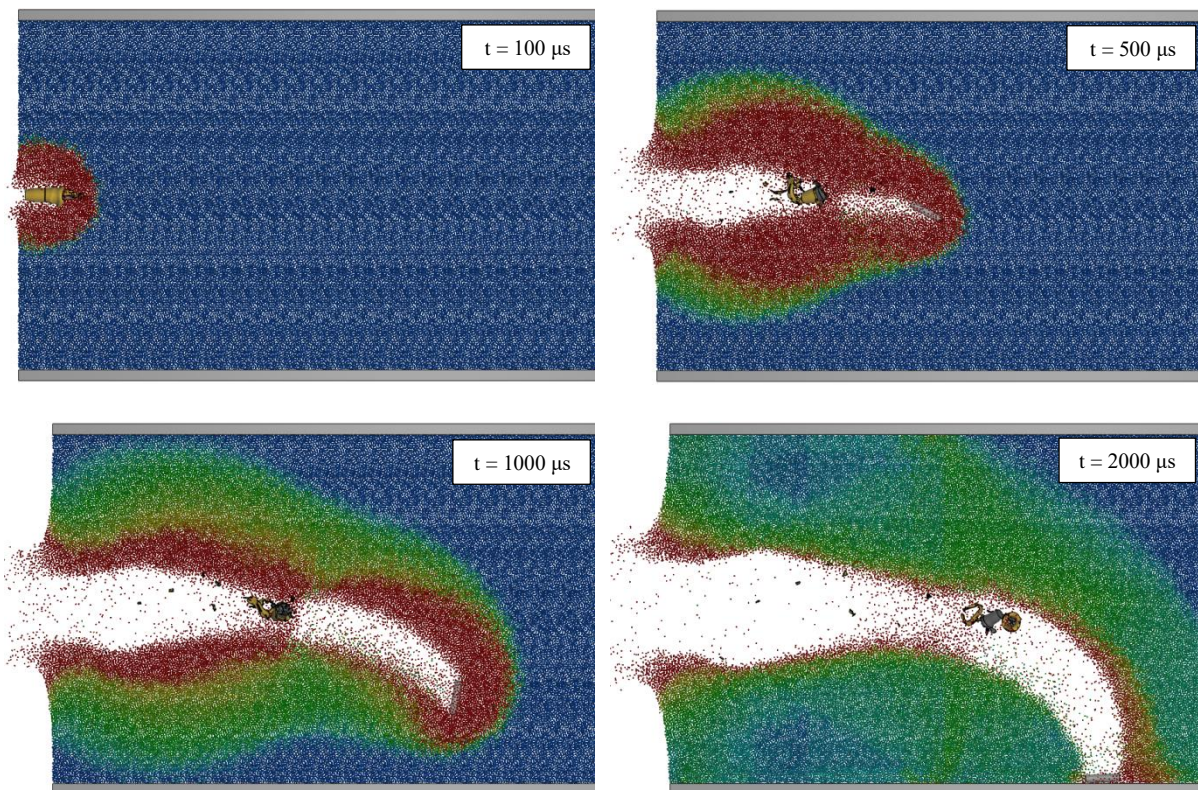


Figure 19. Colour plots from a numerical simulation showing penetration of a 12.7 mm AP bullet with a loose sabot in dry sand. The colours represent the velocity field. Note that the pictures have been cropped from the right to better reflect the perforation process.

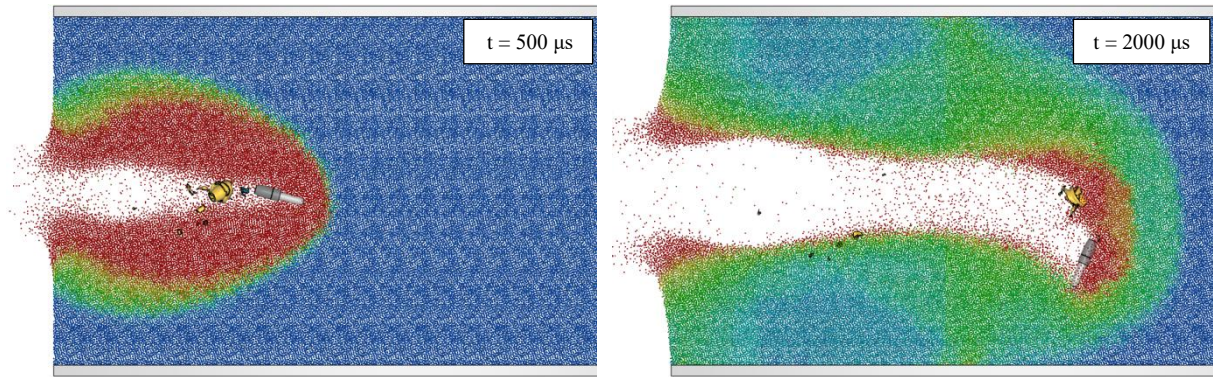


Figure 20. Colour plots from a numerical simulation showing penetration of a 12.7 mm AP bullet with a fixed steel sabot in dry sand. The colours represent the velocity field. Note that the pictures have been cropped from the right to better reflect the perforation process.

Table 1. Material properties of the granular materials.

Granular material	Fineness modulus	Young's modulus (MPa)	Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Breaking strength (MPa)
Wet sand (0-2 mm)	2.25	31800*	1856	232.6*
Dry sand (0-2 mm)	2.25	31800*	1726	232.6*
Gravel (2-8 mm)	5.03	31800*	1511	232.6*
Crushed stone (8-16 mm)	6.44	31800*	1508	232.6*
Crushed rock (16-22 mm)	7.35	31800*	1494	232.6*

\* These numbers are taken from Årdal granite.

Table 2. Geometry and mass of the various bullet parts.

Calibre	Part	Material	L [mm]	d <sub>max</sub> [mm]	m [g]
7.62 mm Ball	Jacket	Brass CuZn10	28.6	7.8	5.0
	Core	Antimony-alloyed lead	27.4	6.6	4.5
7.62 mm AP	Jacket	Brass CuZn10	34.9	7.9	4.4
	Core	Hardened steel	27.6	6.1	5.0
	Front cap	Antimony-alloyed lead	9.3	5.1	0.7
	End cap	Brass CuZn10	4.0	6.2	0.4
12.7 mm Ball	Jacket	Brass CuZn10	58.2	13.0	14.5
	Core	Mild steel	46.9	10.6	25.3
	End cap	Antimony-alloyed lead	4.4	7.8	1.6
12.7 mm AP	Jacket	Brass CuZn10	58.1	13.0	14.3
	Core	Tungsten carbide	32.7	7.8	20.5
	Sabot	Mild steel	23.0	10.8	9.5
	Front cap	Polymer-based	16.2	10.8	0.6
	End cap	Antimony-alloyed lead	3.5	9.2	0.8

Table 3. Experimental programme (where the number indicates the number of repetitions within each test series).

Granular material	7.62 Ball	7.62 AP	12.7 Ball	12.7 AP	12.7 AP-red
Wet sand (0-2 mm)	4	6	3	1	5
Dry sand (0-2 mm)	4	6	5	4	6
Gravel (2-8 mm)	3	5	5	8	4
Crushed stone (8-16 mm)	3	6	5	6	6
Crushed rock (16-22 mm)	6	6	6	8	5

Table 4. Average impact velocities (with standard deviations) and kinetic energies.

	7.62 Ball	7.62 AP	12.7 Ball	12.7 AP	12.7 AP-red
Average velocity [m/s]	902.1	916.8	825.5	828.6	672.5
Standard deviation [m/s]	5.93	11.63	9.50	6.54	6.71
Average impact energy [Nm]	3865	4413	14413	16135	10628

Table 5. Average penetration depth (in mm) and standard deviation (in parenthesis) with respect to bullet type and granular material.

Filling material	7.62 Ball	7.62 AP	12.7 Ball	12.7 AP	12.7 AP-red
Wet sand (0-2 mm)	200 (10.0)	263 (9.4)	455 (33.0)	> 1000 (-)	732 (86.3)**
Dry sand (0-2 mm)	98 (2.2)	202 (19.7)	306 (24.2)	505 (11.2)	498 (56.4)***
Gravel (2-8 mm)	100 (4.1)	212 (11.7)	316 (15.0)	628 (60.8)*	545 (28.7)
Crushed stone (8-16 mm)	100 (4.1)	182 (6.9)	278 (7.5)	400 (23.8)	423 (27.5)
Crushed rock (16-22 mm)	105 (5.0)	151 (10.2)	222 (12.1)	310 (9.4)	332 (35.4)

\* Without outliers the average penetration depth and standard deviation are 637 mm and 35.4 mm, respectively.

\*\* Without outliers the average penetration depth and standard deviation are 710 mm and 22.3 mm, respectively.

\*\*\* Without outliers the average penetration depth and standard deviation are 533 mm and 35.6 mm, respectively.

Table 6. Bullet material constants for the MJC constitutive relation and CL failure criterion.

Material	Yield stress	Strain hardening		Strain rate hardening		Temperature softening			Fracture
	$A$ (MPa)	$B$ (MPa)	$n$	$\epsilon_0^*$ (s <sup>-1</sup> )	$C$	$T_r$ (K)	$T_m$ (K)	$m$	$W_{cr}$ (MPa)
Lead core/cap	24	300	1.0	$5 \cdot 10^{-4}$	0.1	293	760	1.0	175
Brass jacket	206	505	0.42	$5 \cdot 10^{-4}$	0.01	293	1189	1.68	914
Polycarbonate	76	69	1.0	$5 \cdot 10^{-4}$	0	293	533	1.85	110

Table 7. General material constants for the MJC constitutive relation.

Material	$E$ (MPa)	$\nu$	$\rho$ (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	$C_p$ (J/kgK)	$\chi$	$\alpha$ (K <sup>-1</sup> )
Steel alloys	210000	0.33	7850	452	0.9	$1.2 \cdot 10^{-5}$
Tungsten carbide	643000	0.21	15565	238	0.9	$5.8 \cdot 10^{-6}$
Lead core/cap	10000	0.42	10660	124	0.9	$2.9 \cdot 10^{-5}$
Brass jacket	115000	0.31	8520	385	0.9	$1.9 \cdot 10^{-5}$
Polycarbonate	22000	0.37	1200	1340	0.9	$7.2 \cdot 10^{-5}$