

Anatomy of a Laboratory Fault



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24 May 2023



11:30 a.m.



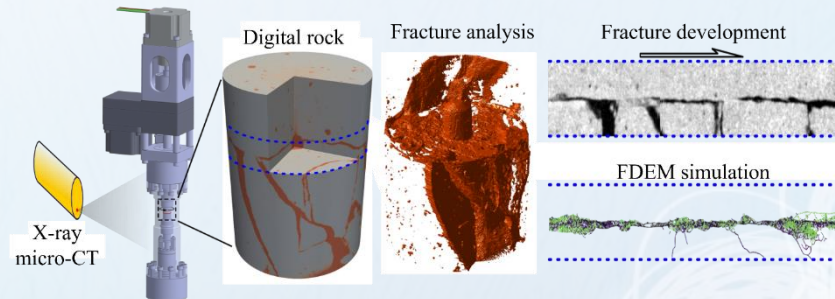
**Conference Room, 3/F,
Mong Man Wai Building**



[Zoom Link](#) (Mixed-mode)

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We developed a novel in-situ rotary shear apparatus under micro-CT that is capable of visualizing the specimen while conducting shear experiments. This apparatus is used to obtain time-lapse observations of a laboratory fault subject to shear deformation. Machine learning methods are employed to perform quantitative CT image analysis. The hybrid finite-discrete element method (FDEM) is utilized to recreate the experimental results and improve the interpretations on the evolution of stress conditions on the rough fault surface. We show that surface roughness plays a dominant role in the frictional behaviour, and we established the energy budget of the slipping events. Our results provide crucial information on the underlying mechanisms responsible for the loss of shear stability of a rough fault.



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