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ON THE MECHANICAL BEHAVIOR OF COMPACTED PACK  
ICE: A THEORETICAL AND NUMERICAL INVESTIGATION

Keguang Wang

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# **On the mechanical behavior of compacted pack ice: A theoretical and numerical investigation**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Pack ice is an aggregate of ice floes drifting on the sea surface. The forces controlling the motion and deformation of pack ice are air and water drag forces, sea surface tilt, Coriolis force and the internal force due to the interaction between ice floes. In this thesis, the mechanical behavior of compacted pack ice is investigated using theoretical and numerical methods, focusing on the three basic material properties: compressive strength, yield curve and flow rule.

A high-resolution three-category sea ice model is applied to investigate the sea ice dynamics in two small basins, the whole Gulf Riga and the inside Pärnu Bay, focusing on the calibration of the compressive strength for thin ice. These two basins are on the scales of 100 km and 20 km, respectively, with typical ice thickness of 10-30 cm. The model is found capable of capturing the main characteristics of the ice dynamics. The compressive strength is calibrated to be about 30 kPa, consistent with the values from most large-scale sea ice dynamic studies. In addition, the numerical study in Pärnu Bay suggests that the shear strength drops significantly when the ice-floe size markedly decreases.

A characteristic inversion method is developed to probe the yield curve of compacted pack ice. The basis of this method is the relationship between the intersection angle of linear kinematic features (LKFs) in sea ice and the slope of the yield curve. A summary of the observed LKFs shows that they can be basically divided into three groups: intersecting leads, uniaxial opening leads and uniaxial pressure ridges. Based on the available observed angles, the yield curve is determined to be a curved diamond. Comparisons of

this yield curve with those from other methods show that it possesses almost all the advantages identified by the other methods.

A new constitutive law is proposed, where the yield curve is a diamond and the flow rule is a combination of the normal and co-axial flow rule. The non-normal co-axial flow rule is necessary for the Coulombic yield constraint. This constitutive law not only captures the main features of forming LKFs but also takes the advantage of avoiding overestimating divergence during shear deformation. Moreover, this study provides a method for observing the flow rule for pack ice during deformation.

**Key words:** compacted pack ice, scale analysis, compressive strength, linear kinematic features, characteristic inversion method, yield curve, normal flow rule, co-axial flow rule

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Nature of the Problem

Pack ice is an aggregate of ice floes drifting on the sea surface. The compacted pack ice, which refers to the pack ice of compactness over 80%, is considered as a continuum in the present thesis. Consequently, this thesis follows much of the continuum mechanics in the investigation of the mechanical behavior. The fundamental laws of continuum mechanics consist of conservation laws of mass, momentum, energy and angular momentum, which must hold for every process or motion that a continuum may undergo (Mase, 1970). Of the central importance in continuum mechanics is the rheology, also known as the constitutive law, which characterizes the relation between the internal stress and the deformation in terms of the material properties. For example, the constitutive law for the Newtonian fluid reads (e.g. Morrison, 2001)

$$\sigma_{ij} = -2\mu\dot{\varepsilon}_{ij} + \left(\frac{2\mu}{3} - \kappa\right)\dot{\varepsilon}_{kk}\delta_{ij} \quad (1)$$

where  $\sigma_{ij}$  is the stress tensor,  $\delta_{ij}$  is the Kronecker operator,  $\mu$  and  $\kappa$  are the shear and dilatational viscosities, and  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{kk}$  is the trace of strain-rate tensor  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{ij}$ . If the fluid is incompressible, then the constitutive law becomes

$$\sigma_{ij} = 2\mu\dot{\varepsilon}_{ij} \quad (2)$$

Similarly, the constitutive law for glaciers takes (e.g. Paterson, 1994)

$$\tau_{ij} = \nu\dot{\varepsilon}_{ij}^r \quad (3)$$

where  $\tau_{ij}$  is the shear stress tensor and  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{ij}$  is the shear strain rate tensor;  $r$  is a constant;  $\nu$  is the viscosity of the glacier, which depends on ice temperature, crystal orientation, impurity content and perhaps other factors. As  $r$  is usually not equal to 1, Eq. (3) describes a nonlinear relationship between the shear stress and the shear strain rate.

In sea ice dynamics, several rheologies have been employed: elastic-plastic (e.g. Coon et al., 1974; Pritchard, 1981), viscous-plastic (e.g. Hibler, 1979), cavitating fluid (e.g. Flato and Hibler, 1992), granular (Tremblay and Mysak, 1997). Of the most extensively applied in sea ice dynamics is the viscous-plastic rheology of Hibler (1979), which gives a linear viscous law for very small strain rates and a plastic law for large strain rates

$$\sigma_{ij} = 2\eta\dot{\varepsilon}_{ij} + [(\zeta - \eta)\dot{\varepsilon}_{kk} - P/2]\delta_{ij} \quad (4)$$

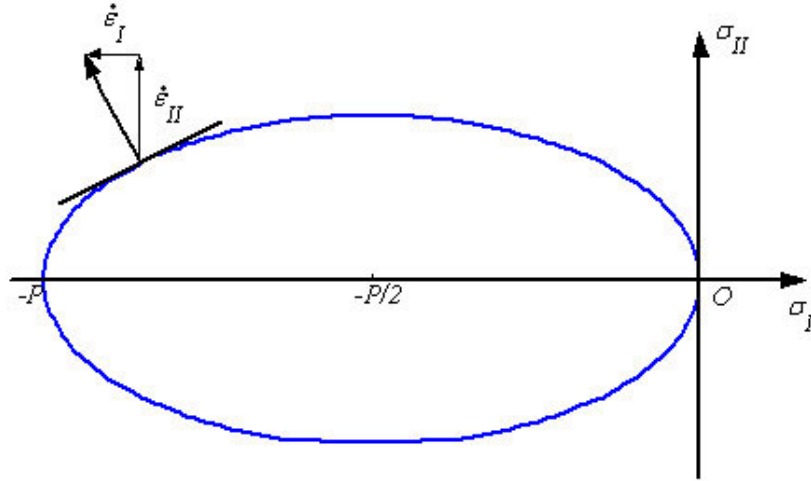
where  $\sigma_{ij}$  is the two-dimensional stress tensor,  $\zeta$  and  $\eta$  are non-linear bulk and shear viscosities,  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{kk}$  is the trace of the two-dimensional strain-rate tensor  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{ij}$ , and  $P$  is the pressure in two dimensional mechanics (Hibler, 1979)

$$P = P^* h \exp[-C(1 - A)], \quad (5)$$

where  $P^*$  the compressive strength of ice (dimension force/area),  $h$  is the mean ice thickness and  $A$  the ice compactness, and  $C$  is the strength reduction constant for lead opening. The viscosity coefficients  $\zeta$  and  $\eta$  are functions of the strain-rate invariants and the ice strength (Hibler, 1979)

$$\zeta = P/2\Delta, \quad \eta = \zeta/e^2, \quad (6)$$

where  $\Delta = \max\{\Delta_0, (\dot{\varepsilon}_I^2 + e^{-2}\dot{\varepsilon}_{II}^2)^{1/2}\}$ ,  $\Delta_0$  is the maximum linear viscous creep rate,  $e$  is the ratio of the compressive strength to shear strength or the aspect ratio of the yield ellipse, and  $\dot{\varepsilon}_I$  and  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{II}$  are the sum and difference of the principal values of  $\dot{\varepsilon}_{ij}$ .



**Figure 1.** The elliptical yield curve and the normal flow rule in the invariant coordinates. For the isotropic material, the orientations of the principal stresses and principal strain rates are coincident.

The constitutive law (Eq. 4) and the viscosities (Eq. 6) are a direct outcome of the elliptical yield curve (Hibler, 1977) and the normal flow rule. A yield curve describes the limit of any possible combination of stresses. Express the elliptical yield curve in the invariant form we have



$$F(\sigma_I, \sigma_{II}) = \left(\sigma_I + \frac{P}{2}\right)^2 + (e\sigma_{II})^2 - \left(\frac{P}{2}\right)^2 = 0 \quad (7)$$

where  $\sigma_I$  and  $\sigma_{II}$  are the mean compressive stress and maximum shear stress, respectively. As can be seen in Figure 1, this elliptical yield curve is centered at  $(-P/2, 0)$ , with the long and short axes being  $P/2$  and  $P/2e$ , respectively. The normal flow rule states that the strain-rate vector  $(\dot{\epsilon}_I, \dot{\epsilon}_{II})$  is normal to the yield curve at the failure point (Figure 1).

Applying this flow rule, we get

$$\dot{\epsilon}_I = \lambda \frac{\partial F}{\partial \sigma_I} = 2\lambda \left(\sigma_I + \frac{P}{2}\right) \quad (8a)$$

$$\dot{\epsilon}_{II} = \lambda \frac{\partial F}{\partial \sigma_{II}} = 2\lambda e^2 \sigma_{II} \quad (8b)$$

where  $\lambda$  is a nonnegative variable that adjusts its magnitude to prohibit the stress state from exceeding the yield constraint (Pritchard, 1988; Paper III). It can be determined by substituting Eqs. (8) into Eq. (7),

$$\lambda = \frac{\sqrt{\dot{\epsilon}_I^2 + e^{-2}\dot{\epsilon}_{II}^2}}{P} = \frac{\Delta}{P} \quad (9)$$

Using the general form of the normal flow rule (e.g. Coon et al., 1974; Paper III), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\epsilon}_{ij} &= \lambda \frac{\partial F}{\partial \sigma_{ij}} = \frac{\lambda}{2} \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial \sigma_I} \delta_{ij} + \frac{\sigma'_{ij}}{\sigma_{II}} \frac{\partial F}{\partial \sigma_{II}} \right) \\ &= \frac{\dot{\epsilon}_I}{2} \delta_{ij} + \lambda e^2 \sigma'_{ij} = \frac{\dot{\epsilon}_I}{2} \delta_{ij} + \lambda e^2 (\sigma_{ij} - \sigma_I \delta_{ij}) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where  $\sigma'_{ij} = \sigma_{ij} - \sigma_I \delta_{ij}$  is the stress deviator. From Eqs. (8-10) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{ij} &= \frac{\dot{\epsilon}_{ij} - \dot{\epsilon}_I \delta_{ij} / 2}{\lambda e^2} + \sigma_I \delta_{ij} = \frac{\dot{\epsilon}_{ij} - \dot{\epsilon}_I \delta_{ij} / 2}{\lambda e^2} + \left( \frac{\dot{\epsilon}_I}{2\lambda} - \frac{P}{2} \right) \delta_{ij} \\ &= \frac{P}{e^2 \Delta} \dot{\epsilon}_{ij} + \left( \frac{P}{2\Delta} - \frac{P}{2e^2 \Delta} \right) \dot{\epsilon}_I \delta_{ij} - \frac{P}{2} \delta_{ij} \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

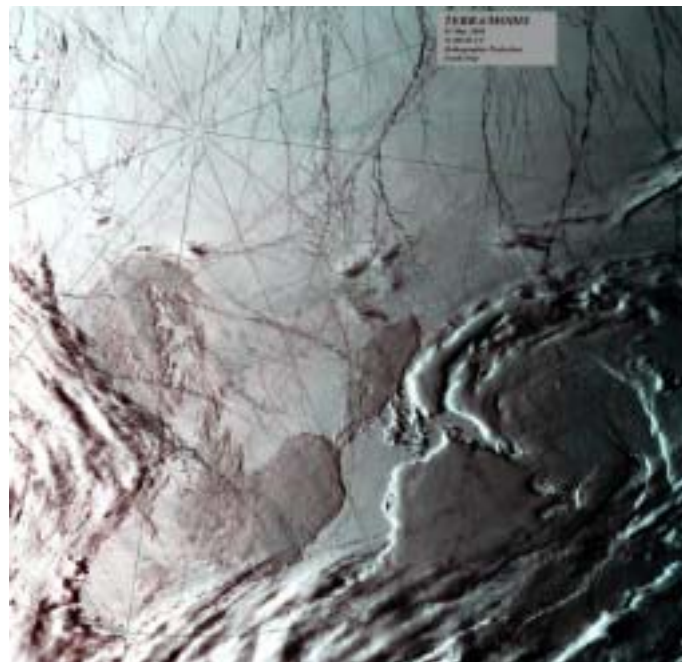
Denote  $\zeta = P/2\Delta$  and  $\eta = P/2e^2\Delta$ , we can easily get the results as shown in Eq. (4).

The above viscous-plastic rheology has so far been the standard constitutive law for large-scale sea ice dynamics. It is clear that this constitutive law has the mathematical simplicity and computational facility. However, it has been shown that the elliptical yield curve is not the physically most appropriate one through model comparisons (e.g. Ip et al., 1991; Zhang and Rothrock, 2005; Hutchings et al., 2005). There also exist large

uncertainties in how to formulate the compressive strength, as the different formulations lead to different dependence on the ice thickness (e.g. Coon, 1974; Rothrock, 1975; Hibler, 1979; Hibler, 1980; Wu and Leppäranta, 1988; Flato and Hibler, 1991; Flato and Hibler, 1995). The flow rule has so far received least attention. The deformation fields (e.g. Kwok, 2001) show that in most cases shear deformation is much larger than divergence and the present constitutive law is of poor capability to model it (e.g. Geiger et al., 1998).

## 1.2. Objectives of the Thesis

The overall goal of this thesis is to investigate the mechanical behavior of compacted pack ice using theoretical and numerical methods, thereby advancing our understanding of the sea ice dynamics and giving guidance for later modeling studies. Specifically, Papers **I** and **II** investigate the compressive strength of thin pack ice in two small basins using an existing sea ice dynamic model; Paper **III** investigates the impact of the constitutive law on the deformation patterns in pack ice, with special emphasis on the non-normal flow rules; in Paper **IV**, a characteristic inversion method is developed, which relates the slope of the yield curve to the angle between intersecting linear kinematic features (LKFs), to observe the yield curve of compacted pack ice through satellite images.



**Figure 2.** Terra/MODIS bands 1,4,3 RGB true color image of the North Pole on 5 May 2000. Sea ice appears white, and areas of open water or recently refrozen sea surface appear black (from Paper **IV**).

The LKFs in this study refer to the long, narrow geophysical features in pack ice that are morphologically distinct from the surrounding ice (Paper IV). They may consist of open water, new ice, young ice, rafted ice, or even ridged ice (Kwok, 2001). A typical pattern of the LKFs in the central Arctic is shown in Figure 2. In this Terra/MODIS true color image, sea ice appears white; areas of open water or recently refrozen sea surface appear black. These dark lines are called leads, being the preferable LKFs for this study. The intersection angles between these LKFs are normally  $20^\circ$  to  $60^\circ$ , with the most significant ones being  $30^\circ$  to  $45^\circ$ . The range of these angles is important for determining the yield curve in Paper IV.

### 1.3. Main Results Achieved

Papers I and II are a continuation of the early studies of sea ice dynamics in the Baltic Sea and Bohai Sea (Leppäranta, 1981; Wu and Leppäranta, 1988, 1990; Leppäranta and Zhang, 1992; Zhang and Leppäranta, 1992, 1995; Omstedt et al., 1994; Haapala and Leppäranta, 1996, 1997; Wu et al., 1997; Leppäranta et al., 1998; Zhang, 2000; Leppäranta and Wang, 2002). These two papers focused on the sea ice dynamics in small basins, with particular emphasis on the calibration of the compressive strength. It is shown that the model works well in these two small basins and the observed ice dynamic events can be well reproduced. The compressive strength was calibrated to be about 30 kPa in these two studies. The shear strength may drop significantly when the ice floes are broken into blocks of less than 20 m.

Paper IV investigated the relationship between the LKFs and the yield curve. It is found, through a characteristic analysis of the stress field in the pack ice, that the intersection angle between LKFs is closely associated with the slope of the yield curve. A summary of the LKFs shows that they can basically be divided into three groups, i.e. intersecting leads, uniaxial opening leads and uniaxial pressure ridges. Applying the relationship to the observed LKFs leads to a curved diamond yield curve. This study opened a new application of satellite remote sensing, and is believed to be able to acquire a realistic yield curve for pack ice, since the relationship identified here is closely related to the stress field of the concerned pack ice.

Paper III proposed a new constitutive law by considering the pack ice as a two-dimensional granular plastic, where the yield curve is the Mohr-Coulomb law with a limit of maximum principal stress, and the flow rule uses a combination of the normal and co-axial flow rule. It is shown that this new rheology not only captures the main features

of forming LKFs but also avoids overestimating divergence during shear deformation. This study provides an opportunity for selecting the most realistic constitutive law based on the observations of the strain-rate field.

It is expected that the probed yield curve, flow rule and the compressive strength would be highly beneficial to modeling applications, in particular the modeling of LKFs-resolved sea ice patterns. Such applications are, however, out of the present scope and will not be discussed in detail in the present thesis.

#### **1.4. Author's Contribution**

The author of this thesis is fully responsible for Papers **III** and **IV**, and for this summary. He is mostly responsible for Papers **I** and **II**; author's contributions in these two papers are both about 2/3.

## **2. DYNAMIC CALIBRATION OF THE COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH**

The compressive strength is one of the key material properties in sea ice dynamics. It has been shown to be a very sensitive parameter in sea ice numerical modeling (Hibler and Walsh, 1982; Hibler and Ackley, 1983; Zhang and Leppäranta, 1995; Leppäranta et al., 1998; Zhang, 2000; Papers **I** and **II**). There have been several methods to estimate this parameter. For example, Coon (1974) considers a buckling mechanism, Rothrock (1975) and Thorndike et al. (1975) relate it to the potential energy change during ridging. The method applied here is the dynamic calibration method, which determines the compressive strength through the comparison of numerical simulations with observations. This method has long been applied in the sea ice dynamic simulations (e.g. Hibler, 1979; Hibler and Walsh, 1982; Hibler and Ackley, 1983; Zhang and Leppäranta, 1995; Leppäranta et al., 1998; Zhang, 2000; Papers **I** and **II**).

Sea ice models formulated through ice thickness distribution (ITD) are in principle of higher capability in estimating the compressive strength, since they provide a more detailed description of ice conditions than the ice-category-based models. There have been extensive discussions on the strength and ridging through ITD (e.g. Thorndike et al., 1975; Rothrock, 1975; Hibler, 1980; Flato and Hibler, 1995; Bitz et al., 2001; Haapala et al., 2005; Lipscomb et al., 2007). However, most of these studies focus on the comparison of ITD between the observed and simulated; none has verified the simulated ice velocity field against the observations. The accuracy in these formulations therefore remains

uncertain, and these results will not be discussed in the present thesis.

The model used here is the Wu and Leppäranta (1988) model, which follows much of the Hibler (1979) model with some modifications in the ice categorization and the ice redistribution scheme. Hibler (1979) separated the ice-covered area into open water and thick ice, which is traditionally called a two-category model. The present model is a direct development of his model by further separating the ice into level ice and deformed ice. It is usually called a three-category ice model among others (e.g. Walsh and Zwally, 1990; Flato and Hibler, 1991; Harder and Lemke, 1994). A further separation of the deformed ice into rafted ice and ridged ice is made by Haapala (2000), who also included lead ice in the level ice.

## 2.1. Model Description

The basic equations in this model consist of an ice categorization equation, conservation equations of ice mass and momentum, and a viscous-plastic constitutive law as described in Section 1.

The ice categorization equation describes the ice conditions,

$$m = \rho_i (\bar{h}_u + \bar{h}_d) A, \quad (12)$$

where  $m$  is ice mass,  $\rho_i$  is the ice density,  $A$  is the total ice compactness, and  $\bar{h}_u = h_u A_u / A$  and  $\bar{h}_d = h_d A_d / A$  are the mean thickness of the level and deformed ice in the ice-covered region; the actual thickness and compactness of the level and deformed ice,  $h_u$ ,  $h_d$ ,  $A_u$ ,  $A_d$ , are not explicitly utilized in the model. The momentum equation controls the motion and deformation,

$$m \left( \frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} + f\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{u} + g\nabla \xi \right) = \boldsymbol{\tau}_a + \boldsymbol{\tau}_w + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \quad (13)$$

where  $d/dt$  is the substantial time derivative,  $\mathbf{u}$  is the ice velocity,  $f$  the Coriolis parameter,  $\mathbf{k}$  is the unit upward vector normal to the surface,  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_a$  and  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_w$  are the air and water stresses,  $g$  is the gravity acceleration,  $\xi$  is the sea surface elevation, and  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  the internal ice stress tensor. In order to be consistent with the free-drift limit, the compactness  $A$  is required to be added before the air and water stresses of the momentum equation (e.g. Connolley et al., 2004; Paper III); however, the difference is very small except where ice compactness is much lower than unity (Connolley et al., 2004). The air and water stresses are determined by the bulk formula (McPhee, 1986)

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_a = \rho_a C_a |\mathbf{U}_a| (\mathbf{U}_a \cos \phi + \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{U}_a \sin \phi), \quad (14a)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_w = \rho_w C_w |\mathbf{U}_w - \mathbf{u}| [(\mathbf{U}_w - \mathbf{u}) \cos \theta + \mathbf{k} \times (\mathbf{U}_w - \mathbf{u}) \sin \theta], \quad (14b)$$

where  $\rho_a$  and  $\rho_w$  are air and water densities,  $C_a$  and  $C_w$  are air and water drag coefficients,  $\mathbf{U}_a$  and  $\mathbf{U}_w$  are wind and current velocities, and  $\phi$  and  $\theta$  are boundary layer turning angles for air and water. The mass conservation equation depicts the ice advection and redistribution,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \{A, \bar{h}_u, \bar{h}_d\} = -\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \{A, \bar{h}_u, \bar{h}_d\} + \{\psi_A, \psi_u, \psi_d\}, \quad (15)$$

where  $\psi_A, \psi_u, \psi_d$  are the ice redistribution functions satisfying the following constraint

$$(\bar{h}_u + \bar{h}_d)\psi_A + A(\psi_u + \psi_d) = -(\bar{h}_u + \bar{h}_d)A\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}. \quad (16)$$

The viscous-plastic rheology of Hibler (1979) is applied in the present model with some modification in the formulation of the pressure,

$$P = P^* \bar{h} \exp[-C(1 - A)], \quad (17)$$

where  $\bar{h} = (\bar{h}_u + \bar{h}_d)A$  is the total mean ice thickness (ice volume per unit area),  $P^*$  is the compressive strength.

## 2.2. Model Applications

The numerical model introduced here, as a result of the Chinese-Finnish cooperation in marine research, has been applied to a variety of purposes. This model was the routine ice forecast model in the Finnish Ice Service (Bai et al., 1995; Cheng et al., 1999), in the National Center for Marine Environmental Forecasts of China (Wu and Leppäranta, 1988, 1990; Wu et al., 1998; Wang et al., 1999) and in the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (Omstedt et al., 1994; Omstedt and Nyberg, 1995).

This model has also been intensively used in the investigation of ice dynamics in the Bohai Sea (e.g. Wu and Leppäranta, 1988, 1990; Wang and Wu, 1994; Wu et al., 1997; Wang et al., 1999), in the Baltic Sea and its sub-basins (Leppäranta and Zhang, 1992; Zhang and Leppäranta, 1992, 1995; Leppäranta et al., 1998; Leppäranta and Wang, 2002), and in large lakes (Wang et al., 2006). The focuses have mainly on the calibration of the compressive strength and investigation of the scale effect in sea ice dynamics (Leppäranta, 1998, 2005). This model has also been applied to investigate the sea ice dynamics for the frequency response (Leppäranta and Wang, 2004).

Coupling of this model with ocean models has been applied to investigate the effect of sea ice on the sea level variations (Zhang and Leppäranta, 1992, 1995; Omstedt et al., 1994), and on the seasonal ice climate (Haapala and Leppäranta, 1996, 1997; Zhang et al., 1997). The interaction between tide and sea ice in Bohai Sea has been studied by Zhang and Wu (1994), Li (1997) and Su (2001).

The present study (Papers **I** and **II**) is a result of the Chinese-Finnish-Estonian collaboration, initialized by the need of sea ice prediction in the Gulf of Riga and Pärnu Bay for harbor traffic in Pärnu. Special interest was in the study of sea ice dynamics in small basins and the investigation of scale effect in the ice thickness and basin size.

### **2.3. Modeling Results**

The modeling study in the present thesis (Papers **I** and **II**) is a continuation of the earlier studies on sea ice dynamics. The main purpose of the modeling was a) to construct a high-resolution model for routine ice forecast in the Gulf of Riga (Paper **I**); b) to investigate the model capability in very small basins and investigate the scale effect (Papers **I** and **II**); c) to calibrate the compressive strength for situations of small basin and small ice thickness (Papers **I** and **II**); d) to study the influence of coastal topography and islands (Leppäranta and Wang, 2002); and e) to construct a monitoring and forecasting system for the Gulf of Riga (Kõuts et al., 2006). In this thesis, only the main results of Papers **I** and **II** are summarized.

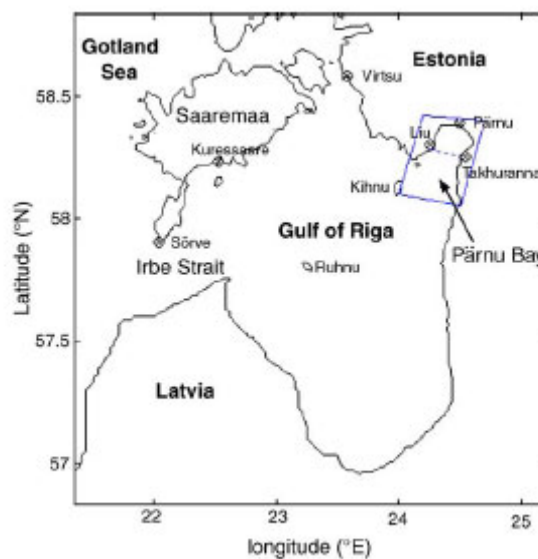
#### **2.3.1. Tuning of the Rheological Parameters**

To validate the model capability running in small basins, the main tuning parameters would be the rheological parameters and the air and water drag coefficients. In this study, we employed the air and water drag coefficients obtained in earlier studies (Leppäranta and Omstedt, 1990). The focus here is therefore on the rheological parameters, including the compressive strength  $P^*$  and the ratio of compressive strength to shear strength,  $e$ ; the other parameters, e.g. the strength reduction constant for lead opening  $C$  and the maximum linear viscous creep rate  $\Delta_0$ , have all followed the standard values after Hibler (1979).

Despite the great importance of the compressive strength  $P^*$  in sea ice dynamics, its dependence on the ice thickness is, however, not fully understood. Coon (1974) gives a dependence on the square root of ice thickness, Hibler (1979) gives a constant strength, and Overland and Pease (1988) propose a linear dependence on the ice thickness. There

have been a variety of studies to calibrate the ice compressive strength for thick ice and in large basins (e.g. Hibler and Walsh, 1982; Hibler and Ackley, 1983; Flato and Hibler, 1991; Leppäranta et al., 1998; Zhang, 2000). The present study is therefore significant to provide the results for thin ice and small basins, because the formulation of the compressive strength must be appropriate for both thin ice and thick ice. To the author's knowledge, there have been no such studies before.

The Gulf of Riga and its sub-basin Pärnu Bay (Figure 3) are small basins in the Baltic Sea, on the scales of 100 km and 20 km, respectively. They are even smaller than one grid length of the model for the Arctic and Weddell Sea simulations (Hibler, 1979; Hibler and Walsh, 1982; Hibler and Ackley, 1983). In addition, the complex topography and islands in the gulf provide a special task for sea ice dynamics. It is shown that the model works well even in such small basins (Papers I and II), suggesting that the continuum approximation may be applicable for basins of tens of kilometers and model grid of hundreds meters. It is interesting to prospect how this approximation will work for even smaller basins.



**Figure 3.** Topography of the Gulf of Riga and Pärnu Bay (from Paper II)

Two cases in winters 1983/84 and 1986/87 were selected for the Gulf of Riga because of the typical ice conditions (e.g. Haapala and Leppäranta, 1996). The ice conditions in winter 1983/84 were normal, with a typical ice thickness of 10-20 cm in the Gulf of Riga. In 1986/87 the ice conditions were severe and the typical ice thickness was 15-30 cm.

To investigate the dynamic process, short-range (3-7 days) simulations was performed. The time step was 30 minutes and the model resolution was 1 nautical mile, a grid size usually considered as the margin of the continuum treatment for sea ice dynamics. A series



of sensitivity experiments was performed to determine an optimal compressive strength for the Gulf of Riga. The compressive strength  $P^*$  was set to be 10, 30 and 50 kPa, respectively. The air and water drag coefficients and the turn angles, being 0.0018, 0.0035 and  $17^\circ$ , were obtained from Leppäranta and Omstedt (1990), being a set of standard parameters for all the ice dynamic studies in the Baltic Sea. The other rheological parameters ( $e$ ,  $C$ , and  $\Delta_0$ ) were all taken from standard values (Hibler, 1979). The numerical studies in Paper I show that the model is capable of reproducing the main characteristics of ice drift and deformation processes in the Gulf of Riga. It is also shown that the optimized compressive strength is 30 kPa.

Paper II is a continuation of ice dynamic study of Paper I toward an even smaller basin. The select dynamic ice event took place in 1-15 February 2002 in Pärnu Bay, with a typical ice thickness of 10-30 cm. The ice was in most time immobile except on 4-5 the ice floes were broken into small blocks by a strong storm and on 13-14 February half of the ice cover flowed out of Pärnu Bay. Such situations are getting more and more common in recent years.

Three 5-day simulations were performed to investigate the ice dynamic events. The model grid here was down to 463 m and time step to 5 minutes. Similar sensitive experiments were performed to calibrate the compressive strength and to simulate the deformation history of the ice cover. The compressive strength was again found to be about 30 kPa.

To interpret the ice cover remaining immobile under higher wind but flew out of Pärnu Bay, it is found that a larger aspect ratio of the yield ellipse,  $e = 10$ , is necessary (Paper II). This is explained by the fact that the ice floes were broken into small blocks during the strong storm process. However, since this is only one case study, more verification would be favorable.

### **2.3.2. Scale Analysis**

Ice forms in the Gulf of Riga annually, and the length of the ice season is 3-5 months. In mild winters ice only covers the northern part, mainly in the Pärnu Bay, while in normal or severe winters the whole basin freezes over. The thickness of undeformed drift ice is typically 10-30 cm. The ice cover in the whole gulf is usually mobile; but in Pärnu Bay the ice thickness is usually large enough to form stable fast ice, except in mild winters thin fast ice may be broken by strong winds. These facts suggest that the ice in the Gulf of Riga and Pärnu Bay is in the demarcation between stable and unstable conditions.

The basis of the scale analysis is the ice momentum balance. It can be considered as a simplified form of the dynamic calibration method. To break the ice cover, the condition for unstable ice cover must be satisfied (Leppäranta, 1998, 2005; Paper II)

$$\tau_a L > P^* H, \quad (18)$$

where  $L$  is the fetch of wind over the ice-covered area,  $H$  is the typical ice thickness.

Take typical scales in the Gulf of Riga:  $L = 100$  km,  $H = 30$  cm,  $U_a = 10$  m/s; and consider that the ice is commonly mobile (Paper I), we get  $P^* < 78$  kPa according to Eq. (18). Referring to the wind and ice conditions during 1-15 February 2002 in Pärnu Bay (Paper II), we have typical scales  $L = 20$  km,  $H = 30$  cm,  $U_a = 10$  m/s for the stable ice cover, from which we get  $P^* \geq 15.6$  kPa. Similarly, we have typical scales  $L = 20$  km,  $H = 30$  cm,  $U_a = 20$  m/s for the unstable ice cover (Paper II), we have  $P^* < 62.4$  kPa. Therefore, a reasonable estimate for the ice thickness of 30 cm is between 15.6 kPa and 62.4 kPa.

Take typical scales  $L = 20$  km,  $H = 10$  cm,  $U_a = 8$  m/s for the stable pack ice in Pärnu Bay (Paper II), we have an estimate of the compressive strength for ice thickness of 10 cm  $P^* \geq 30$  kPa. Because the compressive strength of thicker ice is usually larger than that of thinner ice, it is reasonable to conclude that the compressive strength for ice thickness of 10 – 30 cm is in the range of 30 – 60 kPa.

A more comprehensive scale analysis can be made by taking into account the yield curve and considering the orientations of the wind and coast (e.g. Pritchard, 1976; Tremblay and Hakakian, 2006). Using the elliptical yield curve and taking the elliptical aspect ratio  $e = 2$  results in a minor change in the result (Tremblay and Hakakian, 2006), with about 10% difference. As the wind velocity is almost perpendicular to the coast in the present study, the estimated compressive strength is believed to be comparable to their results.

## 2.4. Comparison with the Other Studies

The ice compressive strength calibrated from Papers I and II is most probably close to 30 kPa for the ice thickness typical of 10 – 30 cm. This value is consistent with the results calibrated from most of the other regions with mean ice thickness ranging from about 3.0 m in the Arctic (e.g. Hibler and Walsh, 1982; Flato and Hibler, 1991), through about 0.8 m in the Weddell Sea (e.g. Hibler and Ackley, 1983; Geiger et al., 1998), to about 0.5 m in the Bothnian Bay (e.g. Haapala and Leppäranta, 1996; Zhang, 2000).

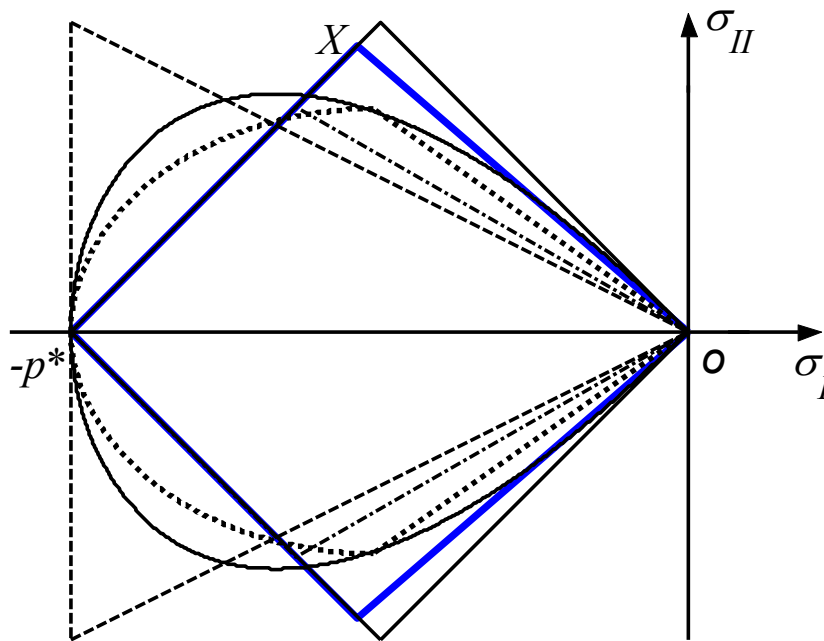
**Table 1.** Summary of calibrated ice strength from simulations in different regions

Authors	Region	Typical ice thickness (m)	$P^*$ (kPa)
Hibler (1979)	Arctic Ocean	3	5
Hibler and Walsh (1982)	N Hemisphere	3	27.5
Hibler and Ackley (1983)	Weddell Sea	0.5-1	27.5
Flato and Hiber (1991)	Arctic Ocean	3	27.5
Flato and Hibler (1992)	Arctic Ocean	3	27.5
Harder and Lemke (1994)	Weddell Sea	0.5-1	20
Zhang and Leppäranta (1995)	Bothnian Bay	0.7	10-100
Haapala and Leppäranta (1996)	Baltic Sea	0.3-0.7	25
Tremblay and Mysak (1997)	Arctic Ocean	3	7
Wu et al. (1997)	Bohai Sea	0.1-0.3	5
Wu et al. (1997)	Labrador Sea	1	27
Leppäranta et al. (1998)	Bothnian Bay	0.7	10-50
Geiger et al. (1998)	Weddell Sea	0.5-1	27.5
Arbetter et al. (1999)	Arctic Ocean	3	27.5
Harder and Fischer (1999)	Weddell Sea	0.5-1	20
Kreyscher et al. (2000)	Arctic Ocean	3	15-27.5
Zhang (2000)	Bothnian Bay	0.7	30
Paper I	Gulf of Riga	0.1-0.3	30
Paper II	Pärnu Bay	0.1-0.3	30
Tremblay and Hakakian (2006)	Arctic Ocean	3	30-45

A summary of the dynamically calibrated compressive strength is given in Table 1. It is seen that most of the ice strength is in the range of 20 – 30 kPa; the exceptional ones include 5 kPa in Hibler (1979), 7 kPa in Tremblay and Mysak (1997), and 5 kPa in Wu et al. (1997). The reason of the low strength in Hibler (1979) and Tremblay and Mysak (1997) is the application of the 8-day mean and monthly mean wind fields, respectively. If these mean wind speeds were 1/2 of the daily wind speeds, the actual wind stress would be 3 times larger according to Eq. (14a). Similar to the scale analysis, the appropriate strength would be 20 kPa in Hibler (1979) and 28 kPa in Tremblay and Mysak (1997), which is in the same range of the other studies. The low strength in the Bohai Sea (Wu et al., 1997) is perhaps due to the utilization of the low air drag coefficient of 0.0013. On the whole, the compressive strength  $P^*$  tends to be a constant over a wide range of ice thickness between 0.1 and 3.0 m. However, the physical interpretation for such a result is so far uncertain.

### 3. OBSERVATION OF THE YIELD CURVE

In addition to the elliptical yield curve, there have also been a number of yield curves proposed in sea ice dynamics, e.g. Ice cream cone (Coon, 1974), teardrop (Rothrock, 1975), diamond (Pritchard, 1981), Coulomb's law (Tremblay and Mysak, 1997), modified Coulomb's law (Hibler and Schulson, 2000), as shown in Figure 4. The fact that so many yield curves have been proposed, on the other hand, indicates that no yield curve has been well-acknowledged. The elliptical yield was employed mainly due to the computational facility. Numerical studies have shown that the diamond, teardrop and the modified Coulomb yield curves may produce more realistic results than the ellipse (e.g. Ip et al., 1991; Hutchings et al., 2005; Zhang and Rothrock, 2005).



**Figure 4.** Typical yield curves used in sea ice dynamics in the coordinates of the stress invariants: a) Dash-dot lines together with the thick lines connecting to  $-p^*$ , Ice cream cone (Coon, 1974); b) thin solid curve, teardrop (Rothrock, 1975); c) Thin solid lines, diamond (Pritchard, 1981); d) Dashed lines, Coulomb's law (Tremblay and Mysak, 1997); e) Dotted lines and curve, modified Coulomb's law (Hibler and Schulson, 2000); f) thick solid lines, diamond (from Paper III).

Due to the great importance in sea ice dynamics, determination of the yield curve has long been one of the major research focuses. There have been four methods in probing the

yield curve, namely energy estimation (e.g. Thorndike et al, 1975; Rothrock, 1975; Ukita and Moritz, 1995, 2000), dynamic comparison (Ip et al., 1991; Geiger et al., 1998; Hutchings et al., 2005; Zhang and Rothrock, 2005), particle simulation (Hopkins and Hibler, 1991a; Hopkins, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2001), and scale-independent extending (Schulson and Hibler, 1991; Hibler and Schulson, 2000; Schulson, 2001, 2004). However, the main problem in these methods is the indirect derivation; none is based on the stress field of the real concerned pack ice. It is the purpose of Paper **IV** to develop a stress-associated method to observe the yield curve.

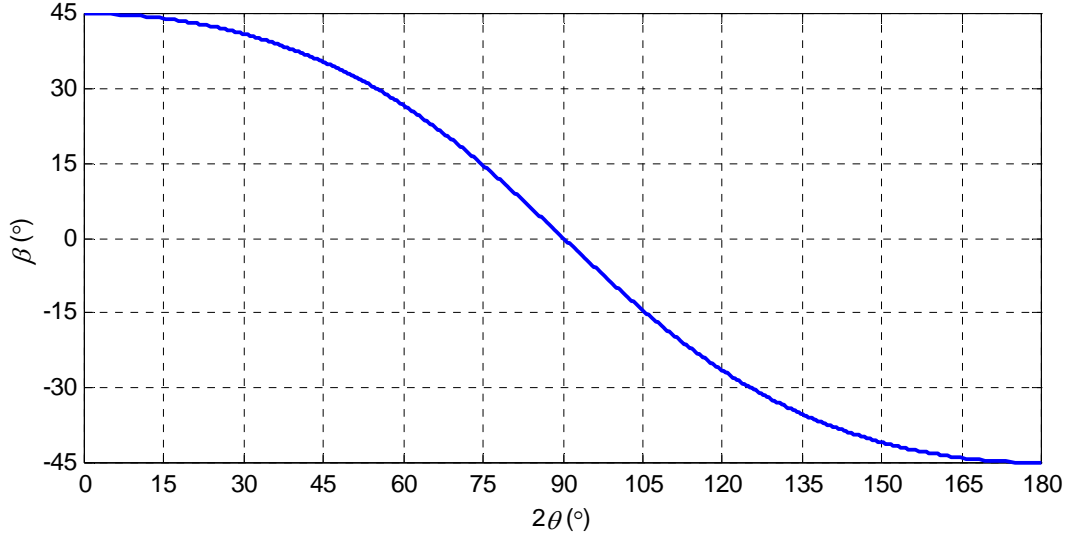
### 3.1. The Characteristic Inversion Method

The method developed here uses the characteristic analysis, assuming an isotropic ice cover, a quasi-steady deformation, a full coverage of the observed intersection angles and the corresponding slopes, and a convex postulate for the yield curve. The basis for observing the yield curve is the relationship between the angle between intersecting LKFs and the slope of the yield curve (see details in Paper **IV**)

$$\beta = \arctan(\cos 2\theta) \quad \text{or} \quad 2\theta = \arccos(\tan \beta). \quad (19)$$

where  $\beta$  is the slope of the yield curve, and  $2\theta$  is the angle between intersecting LKFs. This relationship shows that the slope of the yield curve is only dependent on the intersection angle between LKFs and vice versa. Their relationship is shown in Figure 5, where  $2\theta$  takes real values only when  $\beta$  ranges from  $-45^\circ$  to  $45^\circ$ . As can be seen,  $2\theta$  ranges from  $90^\circ$  to  $180^\circ$  when  $\beta$  is negative, while it changes within  $0^\circ$  and  $90^\circ$  when  $\beta$  is positive. In addition, when  $2\theta$  changes from  $0^\circ$  to  $60^\circ$  or from  $120^\circ$  to  $180^\circ$ ,  $\beta$  varies quite slowly; while for the remaining situations,  $\beta$  changes rather rapidly.

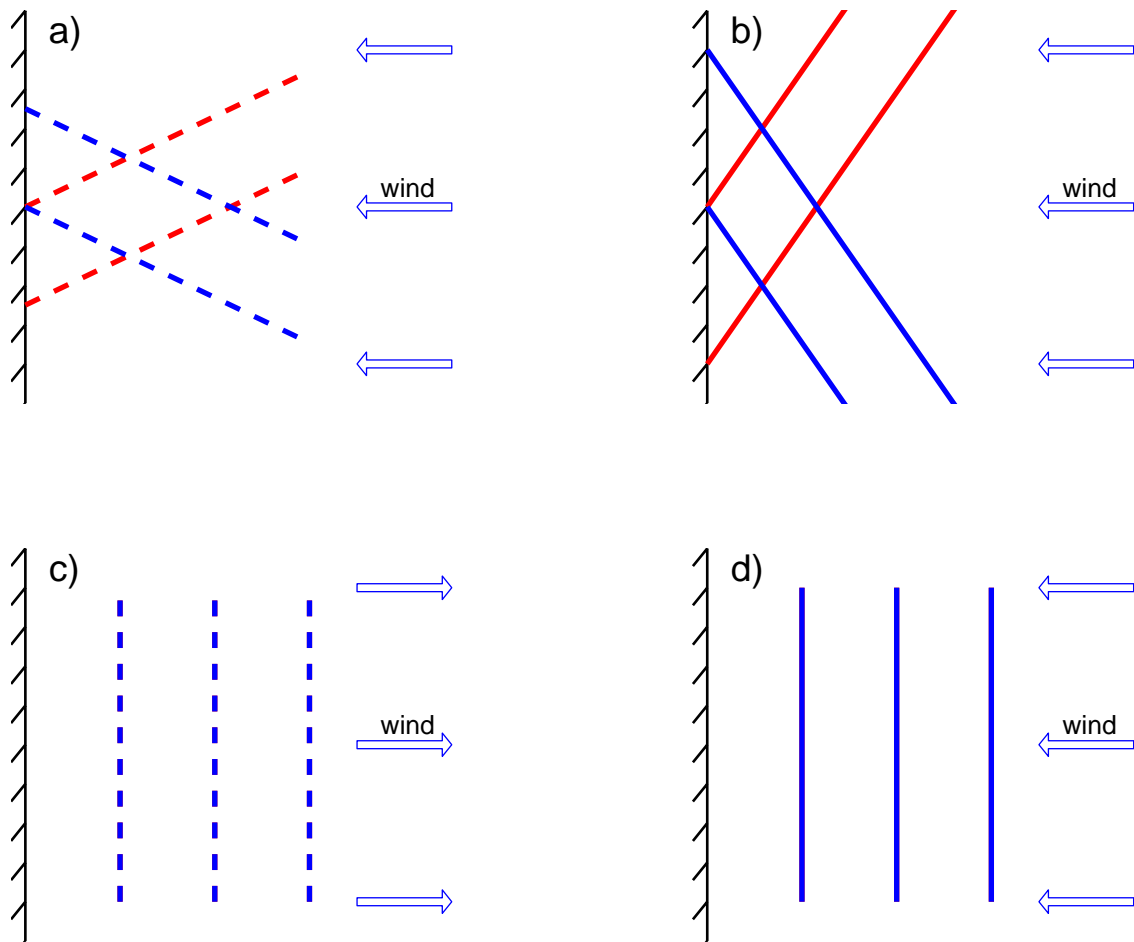
It should be noted that the intersection angle  $2\theta$  must contain the major principal direction (MPD) as the bisector. As defined, the MPD is the line along the larger algebraic principal stress (Paper **IV**). Therefore, when ice cover undergoes uniaxial compression, the LKFs (pressure ridges) are along the MPD, resulting in  $2\theta$  being equal to  $0^\circ$ . On the other hand, when ice cover undergoes uniaxial tension, the LKFs (uniaxial opening leads) are perpendicular to the MPD, resulting in  $2\theta$  being equal to  $180^\circ$ . For other situations, the determination of the MPD may rely on a detailed calculation.



**Figure 5.** Relationship between the slope of the yield curve,  $\beta$ , and the angle between LKFs,  $2\theta$  (from Paper IV).

### 3.2. Observed LKFs and the Corresponding Slope Range of Yield Curve

According to Eq. (19), the slope of the yield curve can be determined by observing the intersection angle of the LKFs. Figure 6 schematically shows the typical patterns of observed LKFs along with the corresponding surface wind and coastal boundary conditions. Basically, the LKFs can be divided into three groups. The first group consists of intersection leads (Figure 6a), where the MPD is perpendicular to the wind and  $2\theta$  is larger than  $90^\circ$ . However, no intersecting LKFs have been observed with  $2\theta$  less than  $90^\circ$ , as shown in Figure 6b. A second group is the uniaxial opening leads perpendicular to the offshore wind (Figure 6c), the MPD in this case being aligned with the wind direction. There is also a less common case of uniaxial opening leads under the onshore wind (e.g. Goldstein et al., 2000); the leads in this case are along the wind direction, but the MPD remains to be perpendicular to the leads. The third group is the pressure ridges, which is aligned with the MPD and perpendicular to the wind direction (Figure 6d).



**Figure 6.** Typical observed LKFs (thick lines, solid for ridges and dashed for leads) and surface wind (open arrows) observed near the coastal or fast ice boundary: a) intersection leads with the MPD perpendicular to the wind and the intersection angle  $2\theta$  larger than  $90^\circ$ ; c) uniaxial opening leads perpendicular to the wind; and d) pressure ridges perpendicular to the wind. No intersecting LKFs have been observed with the MPD perpendicular to the wind and the intersection angle  $2\theta$  less than  $90^\circ$ , as shown in b). The solid lines in b) imply that the normal flow rule is applied, but they can also be leads if a non-normal flow rule is employed (from Paper IV).

Table 2 summarizes the observed angles between LKFs,  $2\theta$ , and their corresponding slopes of the yield curve,  $\beta$ . The intersection angles  $2\theta$  have been revised to contain the MPD as the bisector. As can be seen, the first group of LKFs (intersecting leads) is most commonly observed, with  $2\theta$  ranging between  $120^\circ$  and  $160^\circ$ . The range of the slopes  $\beta$  corresponding to this group is  $-26.6^\circ$  to  $-43.2^\circ$ . The second group of LKFs (uniaxial opening leads) usually appears in long and relatively narrow areas, such as the northern Baltic Sea and Fram Strait, when the ice cover is forced by wind along the long axis of the basin towards the open water. The observed intersection angle  $2\theta$  of this group is  $180^\circ$  and

the corresponding slope  $\beta$  is  $-45^\circ$ . The third group of LKFs (pressure ridges) is created by uniaxial compression. The intersection angle  $2\theta$  of this group is  $0^\circ$  and the corresponding slope  $\beta$  is  $45^\circ$ .

**Table 2.** Observed angles between intersecting LKFs,  $2\theta$ , and the corresponding slope of the yield curve,  $\beta$  (from Paper IV)

Authors	Sea area	$2\theta$ ( $^\circ$ )	$\beta$ ( $^\circ$ )
Marko and Thomson (1977)	Canada Basin	140–160	-37.5– -43.2
Leppäranta (1983b)	Baltic Sea	146–154	-39.7– -41.9
Vinje and Finnekåsa (1986)	Fram Strait	147–153	-40.0– -41.7
Fily and Rothrock (1986)	central Arctic	146–158	-39.7– -42.8
Erlingsson (1988)	Greenland Coast	145–151	-39.2– -41.2
Pritchard (1992)	Fram Strait	90, 120, 180	0, -26.6, -45
Walter and Overland (1993)	Beaufort Sea	130–160, 180	-32.7– -43.2, -45
Cunningham et al. (1994)	Beaufort Sea	140–150	-37.5– -40.9
Overland et al. (1995)	Arctic Ocean	140–160, 180	-37.5– -43.2, -45
Leppäranta et al. (1998)	Baltic Sea	180	-45
Overland et al. (1998)	Arctic Ocean	130–160, 180	-32.7– -43.2, -45
Goldstein et al. (2000)	Baltic Sea	0, 180	45, -45
Schulson (2004)	Arctic Ocean	120–150	-26.6– -40.9
Wang (2004)	central Arctic	120–160	-26.6– -43.2

### 3.3. The Observed Yield Curve

According to the relationship between  $2\theta$  and  $\beta$  (Eq. 19), the resulting yield curve is a curved diamond, as described by the following equations (Paper IV),

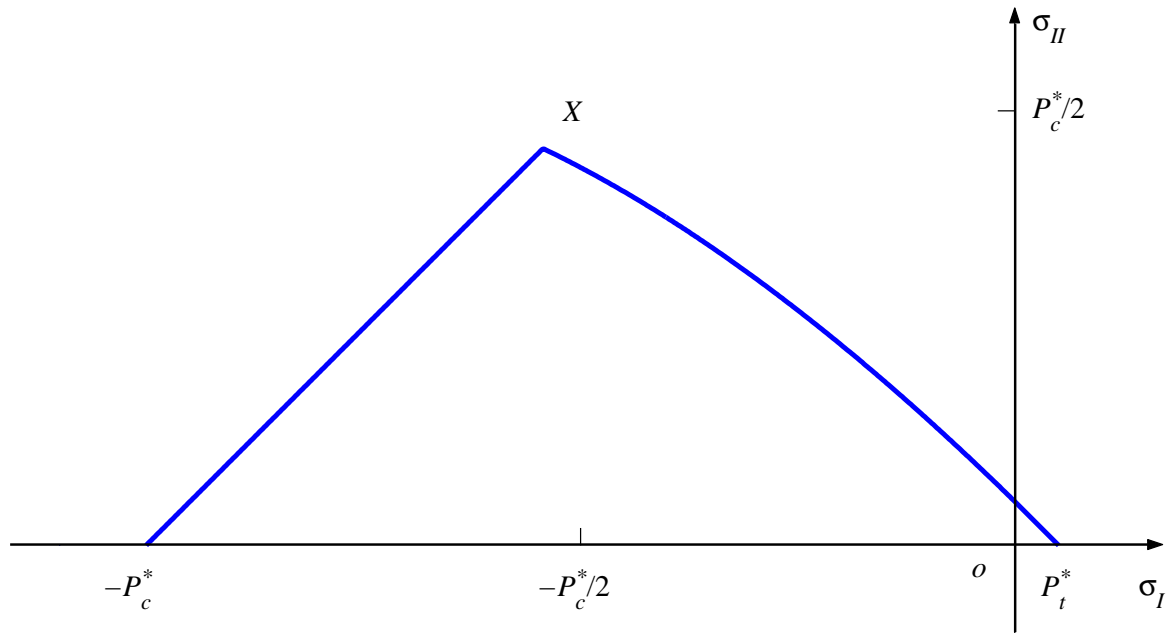
$$\sigma_{II} = P_c^* + \sigma_I, \text{ if } -P_c^* \leq \sigma_I \leq \sigma_{IX}, \quad (20a)$$

$$\sigma_{II} = \mu(P_t^* - \sigma_I)(1 + \alpha\sigma_I/P_c^*)^{1/2}, \text{ if } \sigma_{IX} < \sigma_I < 0 \quad (20b)$$

$$\sigma_{II} = P_t^* - \sigma_I, \text{ if } 0 \leq \sigma_I \leq P_t^*, \quad (20c)$$

where  $\sigma_{IX}$  is the mean compressive stress at the intersection point  $X$  (see Figure 7), and  $P_t^* = P_c^*/20$ ,  $\mu = 1$ ,  $\alpha = 0.75$ , and  $\sigma_{IX} = -0.542P_c^*$ .





**Figure 7.** The calculated curved diamond yield curve for pack ice, where  $\sigma_I$  and  $\sigma_{II}$  are the mean compressive stress and maximum shear stress,  $P_c^*$  and  $P_t^*$  are the compressive strength and tensile strength, respectively (from Paper IV).

### 3.4. Comparison with the Other Methods

Comparisons of this yield curve with those obtained from the other methods show that they are in general consistent (Paper IV). Numerical simulations of the Arctic pack ice have shown that the diamond (Pritchard, 1981) and the teardrop (Rothrock, 1975) produce a statistically more realistic velocity field than the ellipse (Hibler, 1979) against buoy tracks (Ip et al., 1991) and against submarine observations (Zhang and Rothrock, 2005). These two curves are rather close to the curved diamond. The yield curve obtained from the particle simulations is a concave diamond in the presence of tensile strength while lying between a teardrop and a lens otherwise (Hopkins and Hibler, 1991a; Hopkins, 2001). These two curves are again close to the curved diamond. By assuming the ice cover with flaws in all directions and applying the Coulombic model from laboratory intact ice samples, Hibler and Schulson (2000) obtain a modified Coulombic yield curve, which is also close to the curved diamond. Using the kinematic model and considering a random isotropic geometry of the ice floes, Ukita and Moritz (2000) derive a sine lens when sliding makes no contribution and obtain a teardrop when sliding contributes to the energy dissipation, which are both close to the curve diamond. It is seen that, on the whole, the calculated curved diamond is a yield curve possessing almost all the advantages identified

by the other methods.

Unlike the other methods using indirect deductions, the present yield curve is constructed on observations directly associated with the stress field in the pack ice. As more and more observations become available, this method is very likely to be a valid candidate to determine a realistic yield curve for sea ice. Furthermore, it also greatly facilitates the observations, since measuring angles is much easier than tracking the deformation field or tracking the production of open water or ice ridges.

From the curved diamond yield curve we can see that the failure stress during shear is in most time on a state close to the uniaxial compression. This situation is consistent with the recent field observations of stress tensors in ice floes (Coon et al., 1998; Richter-Menge and Elder, 1998; Richter-Menge et al., 2002).

#### **4. A COMBINED NORMAL AND NON-NORMAL FLOW RULE**

The research on the flow rule of pack ice has been very rare. Early studies generally postulate that the normal flow rule is followed in sea ice dynamics (e.g. Coon, 1974; Coon et al., 1974; Rothrock, 1975; Hibler, 1979; Pritchard, 1981). This is natural as the flow rule cannot be verified before the determination of the yield curve. Ukita and Moritz (1995), applying the kinematic model and the idea of minimization of the maximum shear stress, tried to prove the validity of normality; however, their proof is obscured due to the presumption of a constant ratio of ridging to sliding on the whole band of the deformation rate. The proof of such a constant ratio is not easier than the normality itself.

##### **4.1. The Co-Axial Flow Rule**

The application of the normal flow rule with the elliptical yield curve is shown in Section 1. In Paper **III** we introduced a new flow rule, the so-called co-axial flow rule for sea ice dynamics. This flow rule has commonly been applied in the mechanics of granular material (e.g. Nedderman, 1992). This flow rule states that the strain-rate and stress deviators are proportional,

$$\dot{\epsilon}'_{ij} = \lambda' \sigma'_{ij} \quad (21)$$

where  $\lambda'$  is a scalar variable. This condition leads to the principal stresses and the principal rates of strain being co-axial. The normal flow rule is a special case of the co-axial flow rule (Paper **III**).

The co-axial flow rule is usually proposed together with the Coulomb yield constraint. As it only gives a relationship between the stress and strain-rate deviators, a supplementary relation is often proposed to determine the relationship between the shear deformation and the divergence (e.g. Balendran and Nemat-Nasser, 1993; Tremblay and Mysak, 1997). Paper **III** gives a linear variation of the divergence against the shear,

$$\dot{\epsilon}_I = \dot{\epsilon}_{II} \sin \delta \quad (22)$$

where the angle of dilatancy  $\delta$  is generally less than the angle of friction  $\phi$ . It is parameterized along the yield curve of Coulomb's shear such that

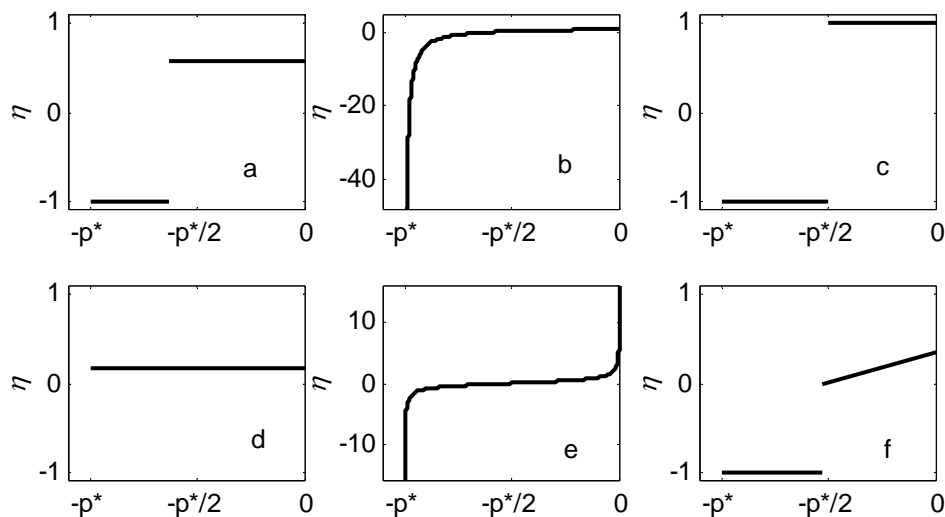
$$\delta = \frac{\sigma_I - \sigma_{IX}}{c \cot \phi - \sigma_{IX}} \delta_m \quad (23)$$

where  $\delta_m$  is the maximum angle of dilatancy,  $\sigma_{IX}$  is the demarcation between the uniaxial compression and the Coulombic shear (Paper **III**).

## 4.2. Comparison with the Other Constitutive Laws

The normal flow rule is proposed for the uniaxial compression on the yield curve in Paper **III**; it is probably also valid for the uniaxial tension for the curved diamond (Paper **IV**). In Paper **III**, a theoretical method is provided to assess the validity of the flow rule against the deformation field. The resulting ratios between divergence and shear for the yield curves commonly applied in sea ice dynamics are shown in Figure 8. The elliptical yield curve (Hibler, 1977) is not included, since the modified Coulomb works much better than it (Hibler and Schulson, 2000; Hutchings et al., 2005). As can be seen, the ratios from Coon's cream cone and Pritchard's Diamond are rather close to that of the present study, consisting of a uniaxial compression and shear. The difference in these three constitutive laws lies in how much divergence would occur during shear. Tremblay and Mysak's constitutive law, as has been pointed out, takes an overall divergence when the compressive stress is higher than  $-p^*$ . Rothrock's teardrop with the normal flow rule possesses a small divergence when  $\sigma_I$  is low, but results in significant convergence when  $\sigma_I$  becomes close to  $-p^*$ . Hibler and Schulson's constitutive law generally yields small ratio of divergence to shear, but tends to be considerably large when  $\sigma_I$  is getting to 0 or  $-p^*$ . As suggested by Eq. (19), uniaxial pressure ridge is rarely formed by using the teardrop and modified Coulomb's law, implying that in the case of high mean compressive stress these two constitutive laws are less effective than the others. Using a constant divergence rate in Tremblay and Mysak's constitutive law does not predict compression except the mean compressive stress reaches  $-p^*$ , which is physically unreasonable. For the

constitutive laws applied by Coon (1974) and Pritchard (1981), we know that the typical angle of friction needs to be about  $60^\circ$  and that the normal flow rule usually overestimates divergence during shear. Therefore, the present constitutive law possesses the highest capability in correctly modeling the observed LKFs and divergence patterns.



**Figure 8.** The ratios of divergence to shear,  $\eta = \dot{\epsilon}_I / \dot{\epsilon}_{II}$ , for different yield curves and flow rules (from Paper III): a) Yield curve of ice cream cone with the normal flow rule (Coon, 1974); b) Teardrop yield curve with the normal flow rule (Rothrock, 1975); c) Diamond yield curve with the normal flow rule (Pritchard, 1981); d) Coulomb's law with the co-axial flow rule (Tremblay and Mysak, 1997); e) Modified Coulomb's law with a combined normal and non-normal flow rule (Hibler and Schulson, 2000); f) Diamond Yield curve with a combined normal and co-axial flow rule (Paper III).

## 5. CONCLUSIONS AND PERSPECTIVE

This thesis has been dedicated to investigating the mechanical behavior of compacted pack ice, using model simulations and theoretical investigations. The focus has been on the investigation of the main mechanical properties of the pack ice being a plastic material, i.e. the compressive strength, the yield curve and the flow rule. We have the following conclusions:

- The compressive strength of thin ice (10-30 cm) in the Gulf of Riga was calibrated to be about 30 kPa through model studies (Paper I), which is consistent with most of the other studies performed in larger basins. The sea ice dynamic

model applied is based on the conservation laws of ice mass and momentum together with a three-category ice state (open water, undeformed ice and deformed ice) and a viscous-plastic rheology. The grid size was 1 nautical mile and time step was 30 minutes. It is shown that the main characteristics of the sea ice dynamics in the Gulf of Riga can be well reproduced.

- The compressive strength of the thin fast ice sheet (about 30 cm) was estimated to be between 30 and 60 kPa through scale analysis; and the compressive strength of the thin pack ice (about 10 cm) was calibrated to be again about 30 kPa in Pärnu Bay, a small basin of 15 km across in the Gulf of Riga (Paper II). The same sea ice dynamics model was used except that the grid size was down to 1/4 nautical mile and time step to 5 minutes. The model successfully reproduced the stable ice situations during 1-5 and 6-12 February 2002 and the severe deformation process during 5-6 February 2002.
- In order to correctly capture the phenomena that the ice cover remained immobile in high wind but flew out of Pärnu Bay under a mild wind during 13-14 February 2002 (Paper II), It is found, through a series of sensitivity experiments, that the shear strength needs to drop significantly. The reason for such a change has been owing to the breakage of the ice floes into small blocks of less than 20 m across. It is expected that similar effect would also exert in the summer polar oceans and in seas full of small ice floes.
- A method for observing the yield curve of compacted pack ice is developed based on the characteristic analysis (Paper IV). The analysis shows that the slope of the yield curve is only dependent on the angle between intersecting LKFs. The basic assumption made in this analysis is the isotropy, which is generally satisfied in the homogeneous ice cover.
- Using the characteristic inversion method and available observations of the LKFs, it is found that the yield curve of compacted pack is a curved diamond (Paper IV). The observed LKFs can basically be divided into 3 groups: intersecting leads, uniaxial opening leads and uniaxial pressure ridges. The first group of LKFs (intersecting leads) is most commonly observed, with the intersection angle  $2\theta$  ranging between  $120^\circ$  and  $160^\circ$  and the corresponding slopes  $\beta$   $-26.6^\circ$  to  $-43.2^\circ$ . The intersection angle of the second group of LKFs (uniaxial opening leads) is  $180^\circ$  and the corresponding slope  $\beta$  is  $-45^\circ$ . The intersection angle  $2\theta$  of the third group of LKFs (pressure ridges) is  $0^\circ$  and the corresponding slope  $\beta$  is  $45^\circ$ .
- The new constitutive law proposed in Paper III consists of Coulomb's friction

law describing the in-plane shear and the maximum principal stress law describing the out-of-plane uniaxial compression. For the shear deformation, the co-axial flow rule with a dilatancy linearly dependent on the shear is proposed; while for the uniaxial compression, the normal flow rule is shown to be appropriate. This constitutive law is not only capable to simulate the in-plane shear and out-of-plane uniaxial compression, but also capable to avoid overestimating divergence during shear.

Based on the studies performed and the results obtained, it is noteworthy to continue the following studies in the future:

- The result that thin ice of thickness 10-30 cm still has a  $P^*$  of about 30 kPa suggests that the compressive strength tends to be a constant over a wide range of ice thickness. A physically consistent explanation of this result would therefore be necessary. It is expected that such an explanation will help reveal the material properties of the compacted pack ice.
- Determination of the flow rule from observations would greatly improve our understanding in sea ice dynamics and our capability in modeling the sea ice dynamics. A feasible method is provided in Paper III to estimate the flow rule, which is worthy for a thorough study.
- Of the most significant of the present study is that it provides a basis for the formulation of the next-generation sea ice dynamic model, which characterizes with high-resolution LKFs-resolved features. This work is currently underway.

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