

Implicit implementation of the Prevost model

(Cyclic loading of soils)

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1 Introduction

The **Prevost model** is dedicated to the modelling of the cyclic behaviour of cohesionless soils. It consists of conical nested surfaces, allowing plasticity effects in both loading and unloading. The volumetric hardening-rule is non associated and takes into account the phase transformation line, delineating contractive from dilative plastic behaviours.

The **implementation** of a model into the finite element code LAGAMINE is carried out. This crucial step transforms an analytical constitutive law into its discrete counterpart. The resulting algorithm must be accurate, efficient and robust. A closest-point projection algorithm is adopted to solve the set of non-linear equations. This method lies within the framework of return-mapping algorithms. It is **implicit**, i.e. the return direction is not known *a priori*. An iterative local procedure is then required. The Prager hardening rule is employed to describe the hardening of the yield surface.

Results presented ensure the implemented algorithm corresponds to the analytical model. Triaxial extensive and compressive tests are illustrated.

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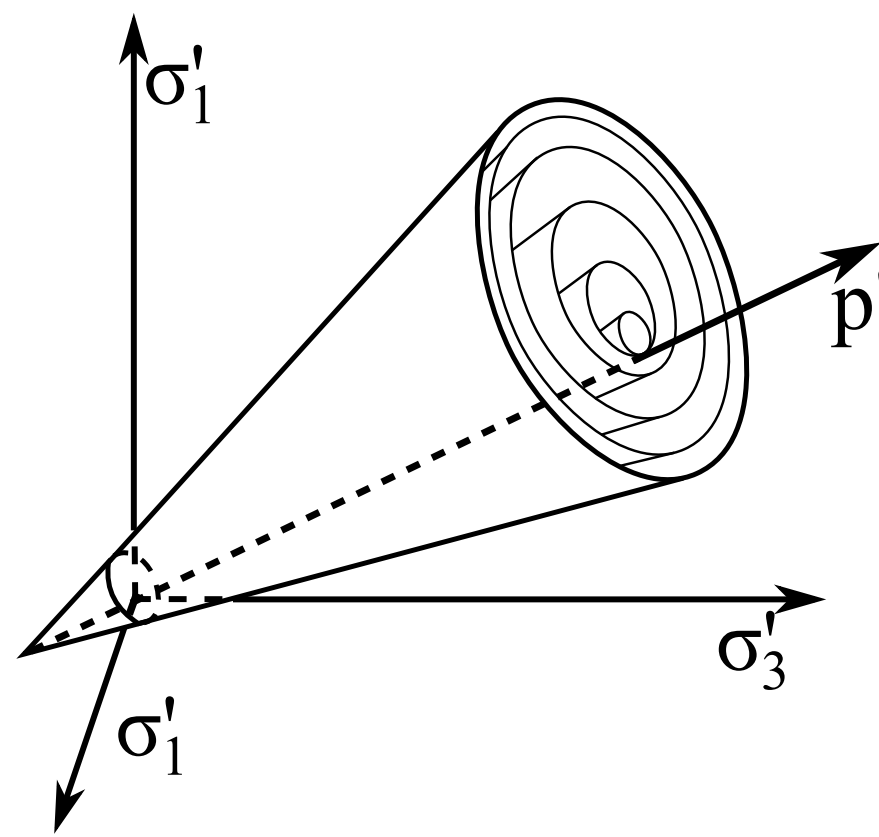
Definitions

Cauchy effective stress tensor σ'

Mean effective stress $p' = (1/3) \cdot \sigma' : \delta$

Deviatoric stress tensor $s = \sigma' - p' \cdot \delta$

Invariant of deviatoric stress $q = \sqrt{(3/2) \cdot s : s}$

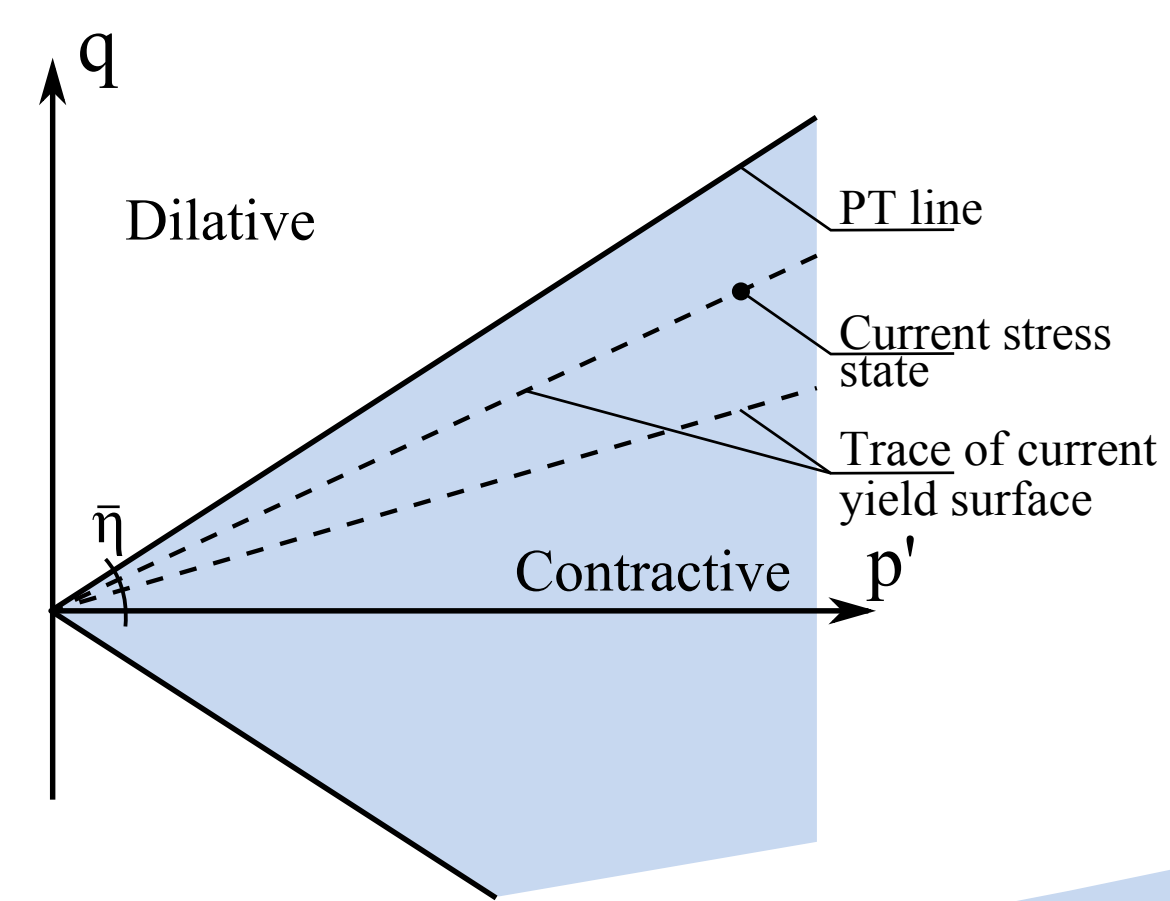


Stress-states lying under the **Phase Transformation line** ($\eta = q/p' < \bar{\eta}$) have a contractive volumetric plastic behaviour, i.e.

$$\dot{\epsilon}_v^p = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{\eta^2 - \bar{\eta}^2}{\eta^2 + \bar{\eta}^2} \cdot \dot{\lambda} < 0$$

$= P''$

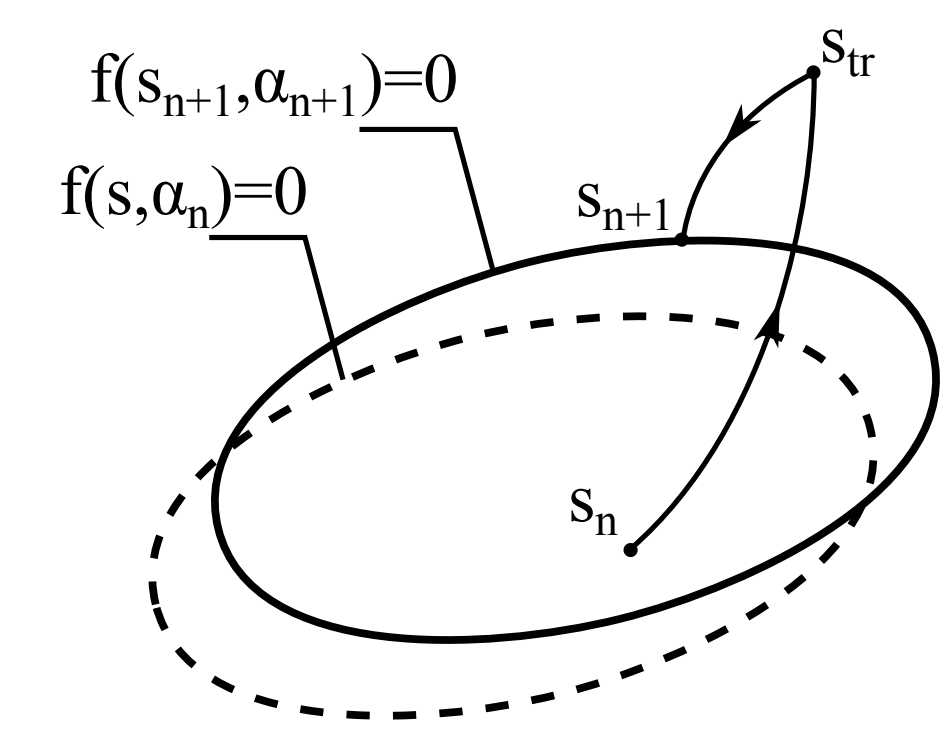
where $\dot{\lambda}$ is the continuous plastic multiplier.



4 Implicit implementation

The algorithm is based on a 2-step **return mapping**

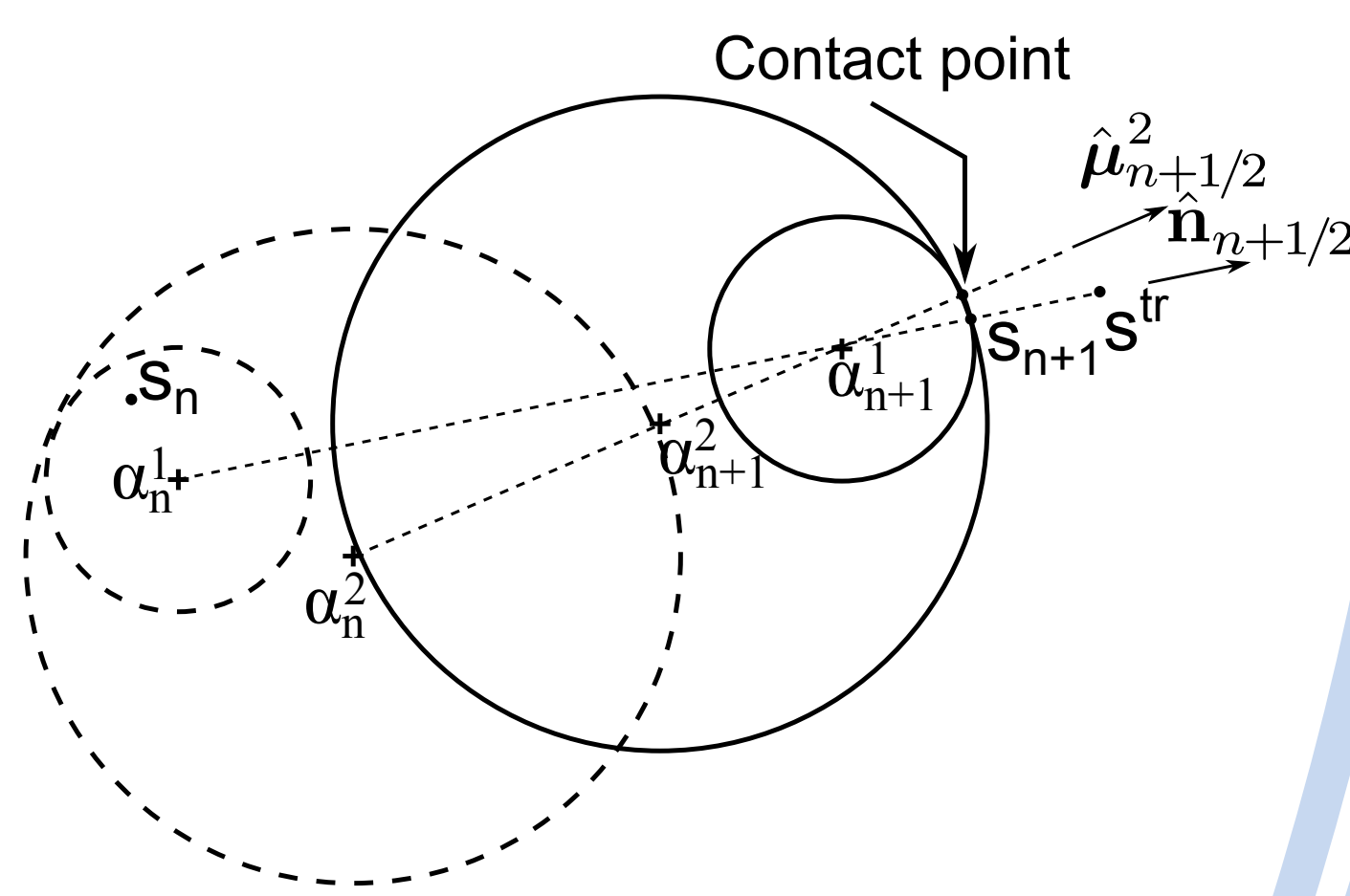
$$\Delta \sigma = \underbrace{\mathbb{E} : \Delta \epsilon}_{\text{Elastic predictor } S_n \rightarrow S_{tr}} - \underbrace{\mathbb{E} : P_{n+1/2} \cdot \Delta \lambda_{n+1}}_{\text{Plastic corrector } S_{tr} \rightarrow S_{n+1}}$$



The implicit **Prager rule** describes the evolution of the yield surface, i.e. the evolution of its backstress (Montans 2001)

$$\Delta \alpha^1 = \Delta \lambda_{n+1}^1 \cdot H_{1,n+1}^* \cdot \hat{n}_{n+1/2}$$

and other surfaces are translated accordingly along $\hat{\mu}_{n+1/2}^i$



The closest point projection algorithm consists in solving the set of equations corresponding to four unknowns (Mira 2009)

$$r_1 = \frac{H_{1,n+1}^*}{H^1} \cdot \|Q'_{n+1/2}\| - 1$$

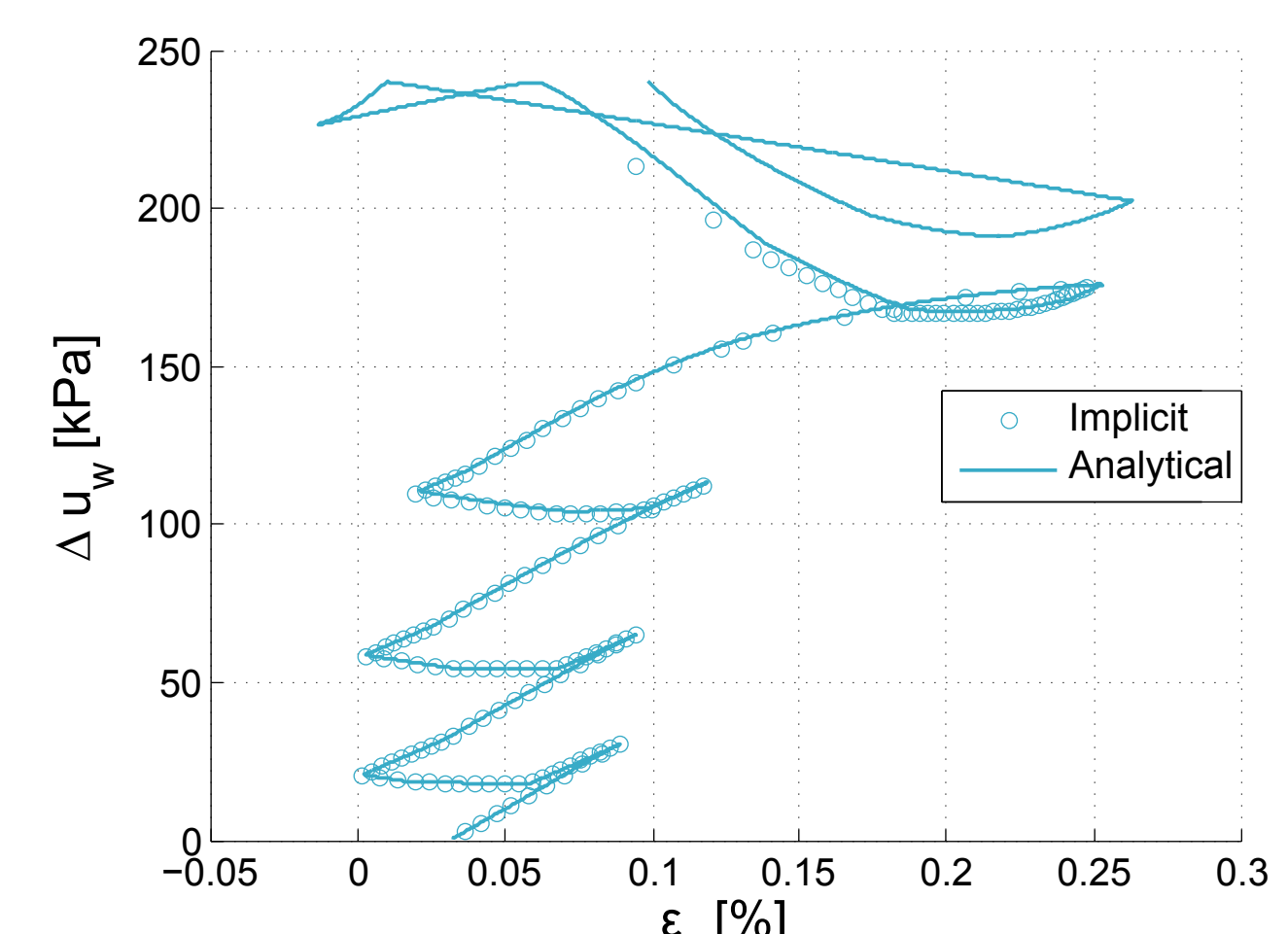
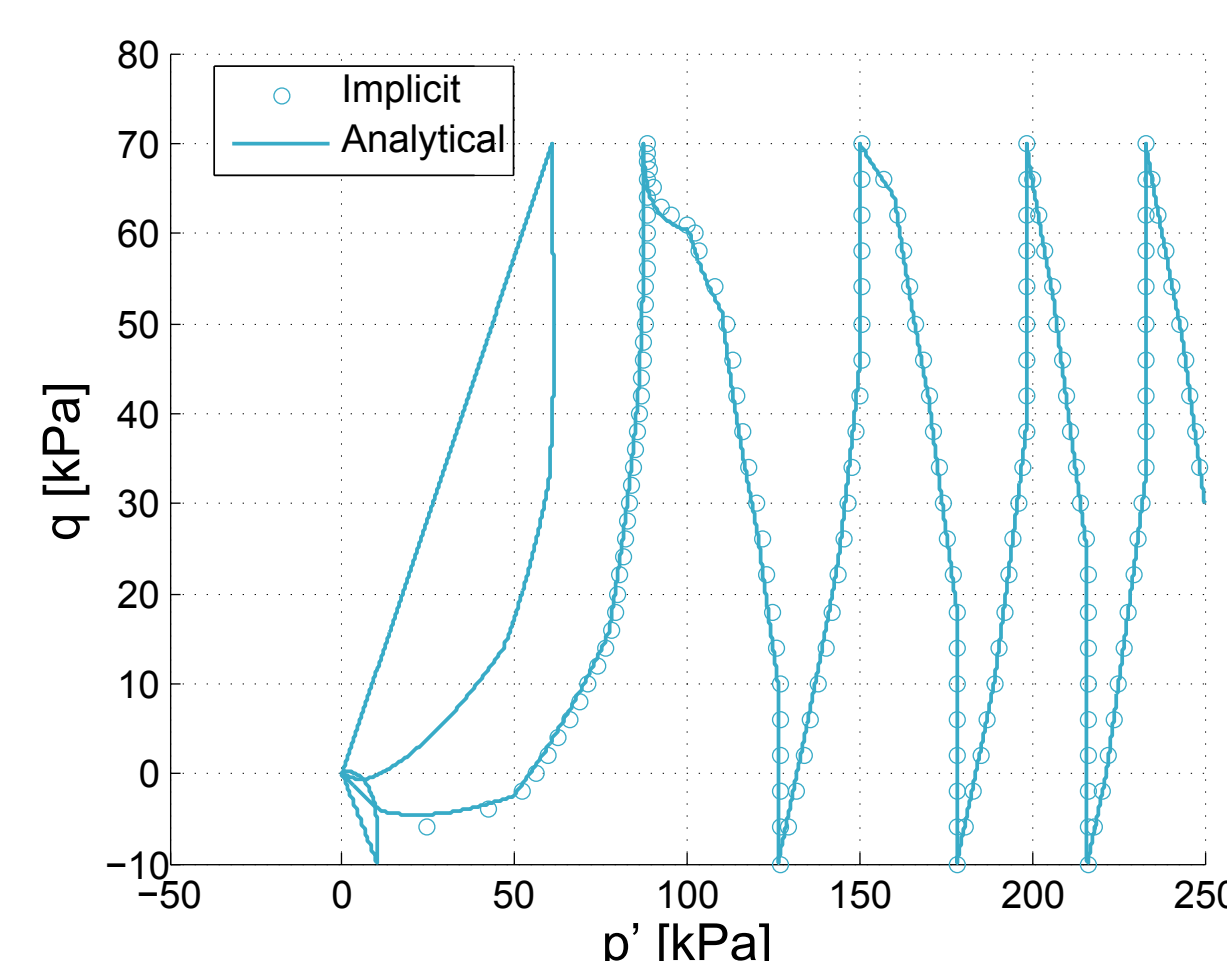
$$r_2 = (s_{n+1}^{tr} - p'_{n+1} \cdot \alpha_n^1) : \hat{n}_{n+1/2} - \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \cdot p'_{n+1} \cdot M^1 - 2 \cdot G \cdot \Delta \lambda_{n+1} \cdot \|Q'_{n+1/2}\| - \Delta \lambda_{n+1}^1 \cdot H_{1,n+1}^*$$

$$r_3 = p'_{n+1} - p'_{tr} + 3 \cdot B \cdot \Delta \lambda_{n+1} \cdot P''_{n+1/2}$$

$$r_4 = \|Q'_{n+1/2}\| - 2 \cdot \frac{\|s_{n+1} - p'_{n+1} \cdot \alpha_{n+1}^1\|}{\left\| \frac{\partial f}{\partial \sigma} \right\|}$$

Cyclic undrained tests

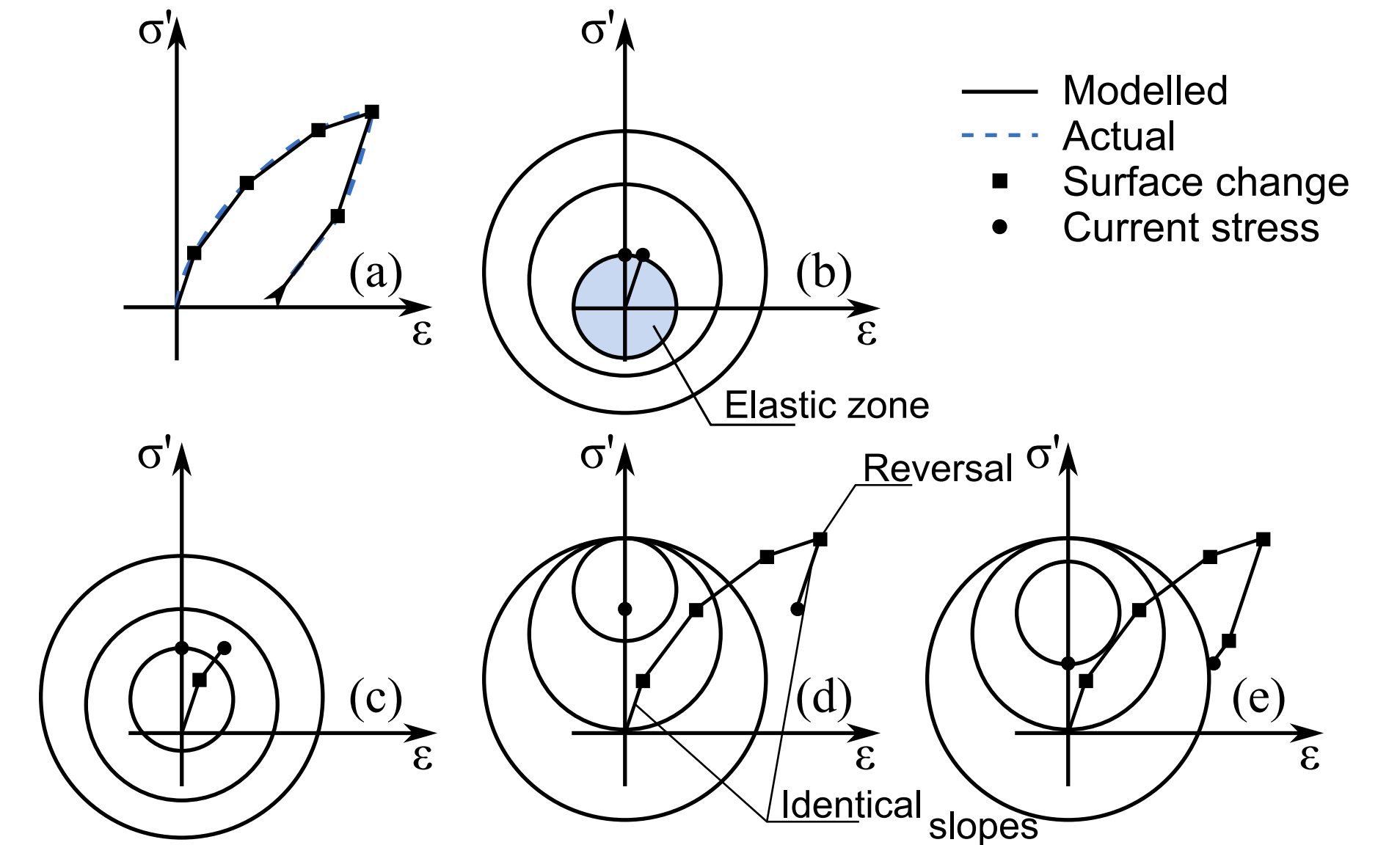
Implicit scheme correctly captures the progressive accumulation or pore water pressure along the test.



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Prevost model

Multi-surface concept consists in discretising the plastic modulus by a discrete number of hardening surfaces.



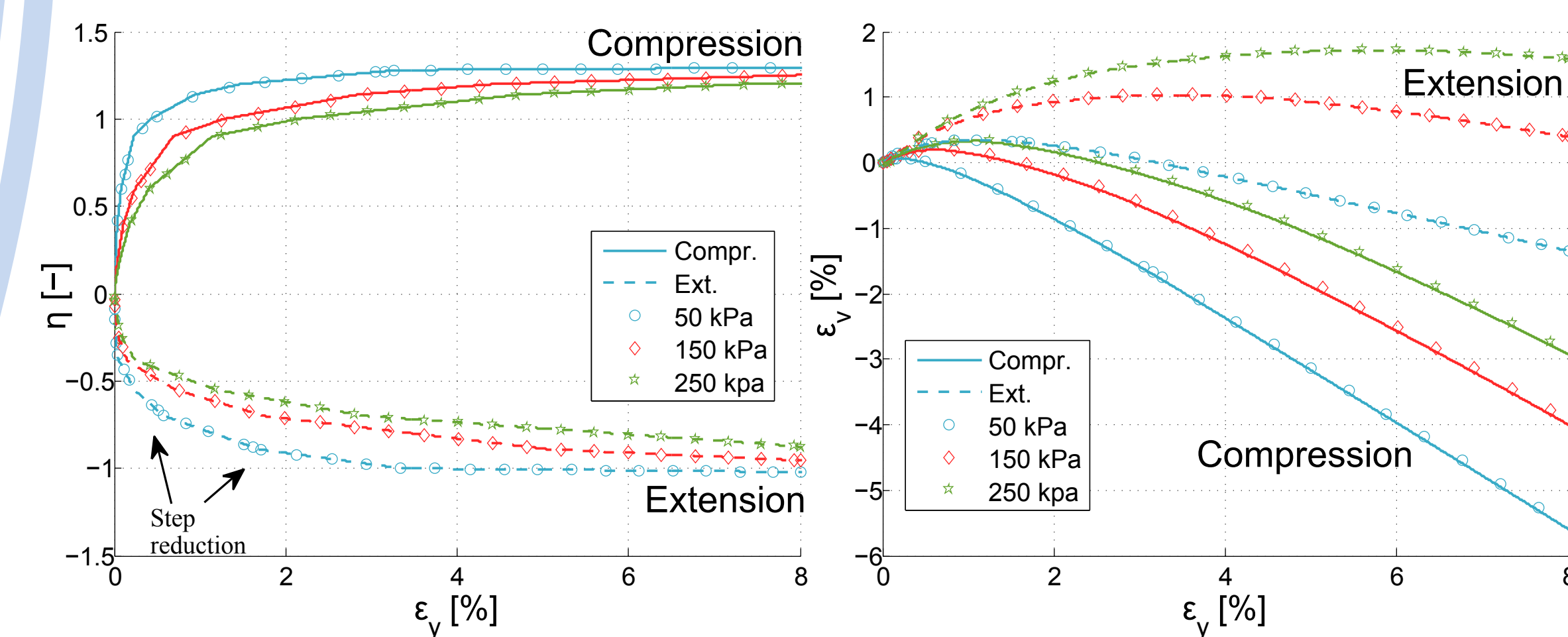
Each homothetic surface is characterised by the backstress tensor defining its centre α and its opening M (Prevost 1985).

$$f \equiv (s - p' \cdot \alpha) : (s - p' \cdot \alpha) - (p' \cdot M)^2 = 0$$

5 Results

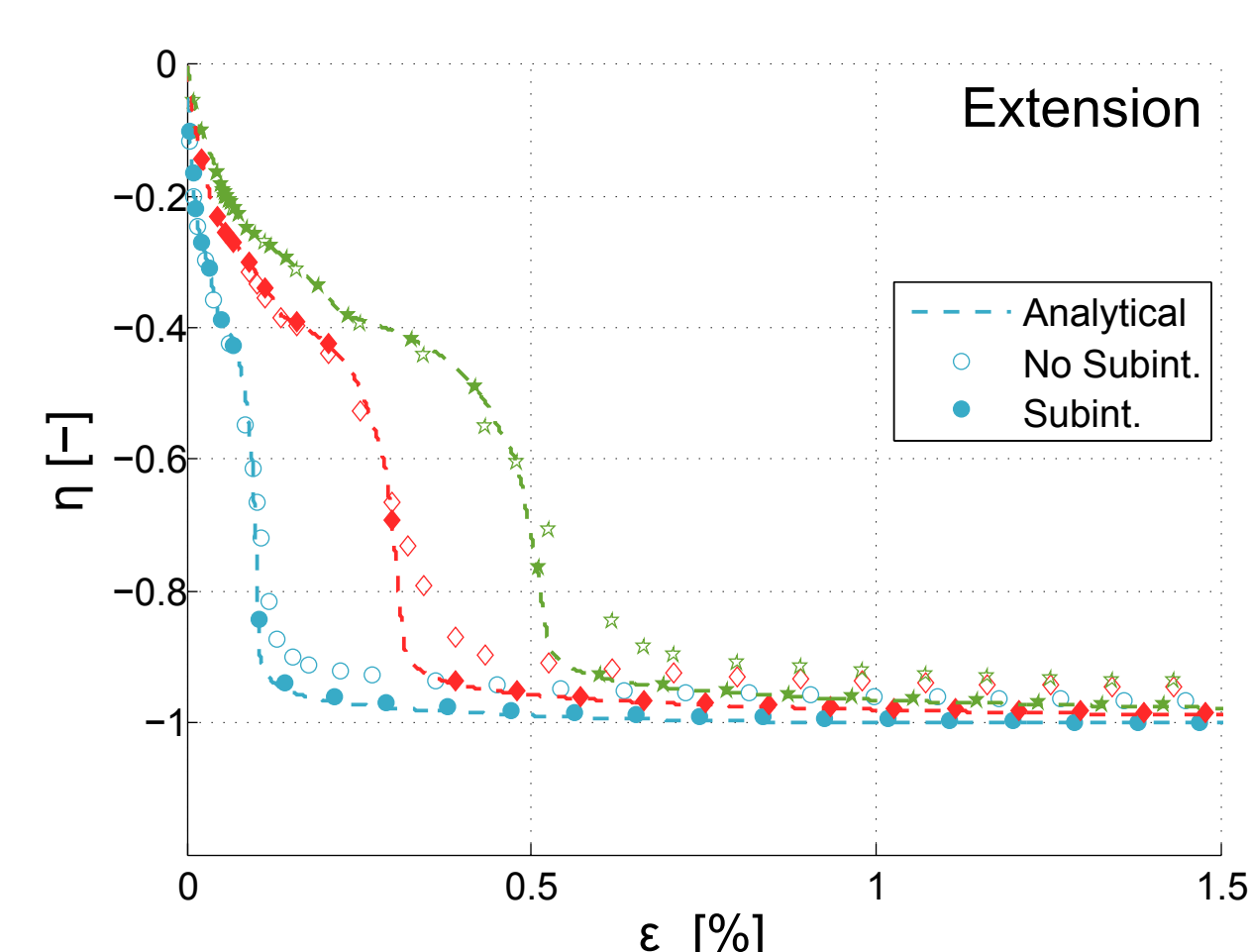
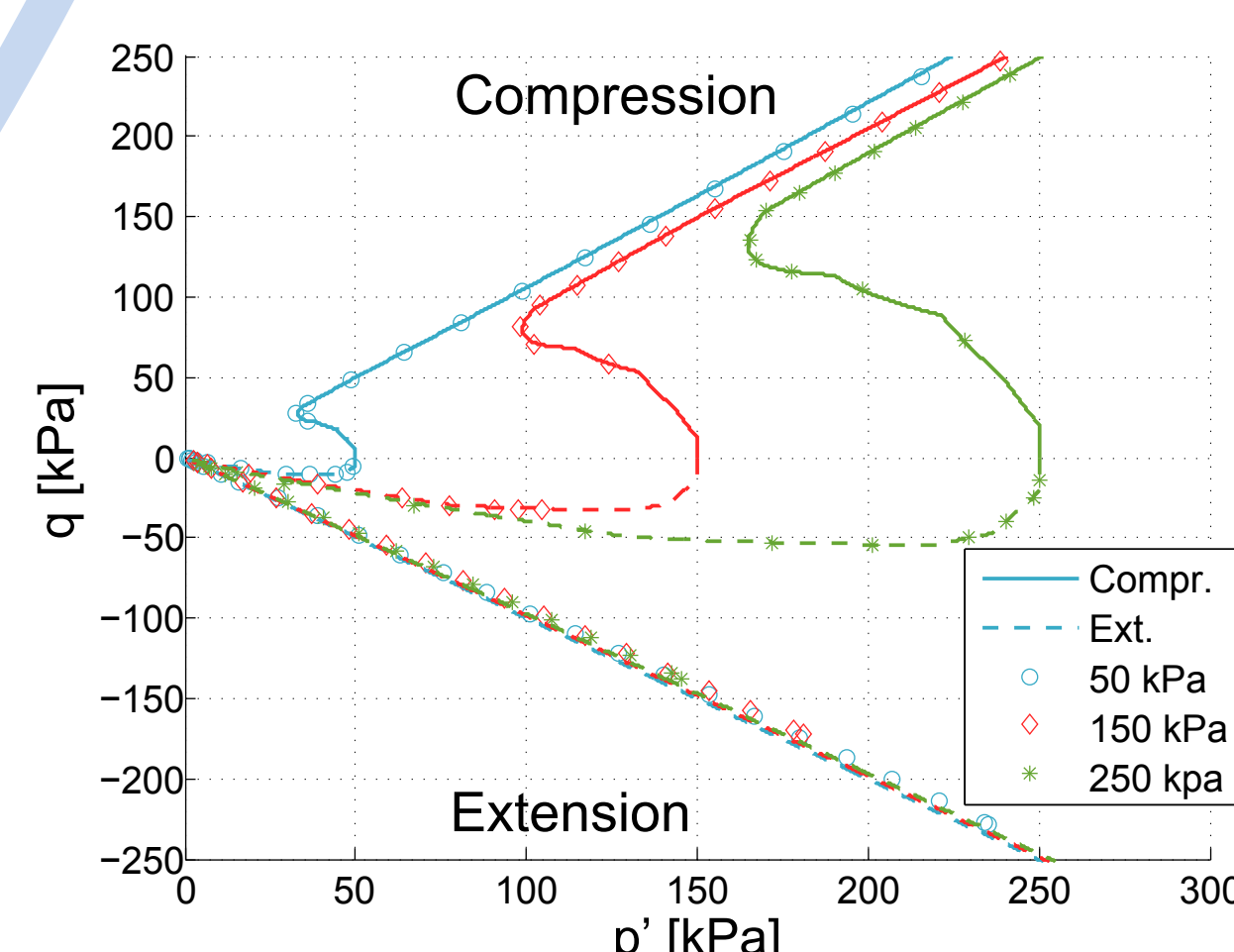
Analytical (solid or dashed lines) and implicit (markers) numerical simulations of triaxial tests are compared

Drained triaxial tests



Undrained triaxial tests

Extensive simulations suffer a large variation of η over a small range of ϵ_y . Sub-stepping is required to ensure an accurate integration



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References

- Prevost, J.-H. (1985). A simple plasticity theory for frictional cohesionless soils. *Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering*, 4, 9-17
- Montans, F.J. (2001). Implicit multilayer J2 plasticity using Prager's translation rule. *International Journal for Numerical Methods in Engineering*, 50, 347-375
- Mira, P., Tonni, L., Pastor, M., Fernandez-Merodo, J.A. (2009). A generalized mid-point algorithm for the integration of a generalized plasticity model for sands. *International Journal for Numerical Methods in Engineering*, 77, 1201-1223

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