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Tilting and Stick–Slip Tests for Evaluating Static and Dynamic Frictional Properties of Rock Discontinuities

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Abstract

Static and dynamic frictional properties of rock discontinuities are of great importance in the evaluation of the initiation of failure and post-failure motions of rock engineering structures as well as the rupture and strong motions induced by earthquake faults in earthquake science. Nevertheless, experiments on static and dynamic frictional properties of rock discontinuities are very rare. In this study, the authors describe tilting and stick–slip experiments on various natural rock discontinuities and saw-cut surfaces to determine their static and dynamic frictional properties. Furthermore, these experimental results are compared with each other to discuss the static and dynamic frictional properties of rock discontinuities from tilting and stick–slip tests. Experimental results show that peak (static) friction angle for discontinuity surfaces obtained from tilting tests and stick–slip experiments are very close to each other.

Highlights

- In this paper, it is demonstrated that the static and dynamic frictional properties of rock discontinuities can be determined from tilting and stick-slip tests.
- Experimental results confrm that peak (static) friction angle for discontinuity surfaces obtained from tilting tests are very close to those obtained from stick-slip experiments.
- The experimental results could be useful for researchers dealing with the estimation of post-failure motions of failed bodies in Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering as well as strong motion simulations in Earthquake Science and Engineering.

Keywords Discontinuities · Static · Dynamic · Kinetic · Friction angle · Tilting · Stick–Slip

1 Introduction

The static and dynamic friction angles of rock discontinuities such as joints, faults, and intrinsic discontinuities such as bedding planes, sheeting joints, fow planes and faults are quite important as they infuence the initiation of failure and post-sliding conditions of natural and artifcial rock structures as well as in earthquake science (Aydan [1989,](#page-14-0) [2017](#page-14-1); Aydan et al. [1996](#page-14-2), [2011\)](#page-14-3). For example, the estimation of post-failure motions of natural or artifcial rock slopes is of great importance.

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Various techniques are used to measure the frictional properties of discontinuities and interfaces. Direct shear tests and triaxial testing could be used (e.g., Jaeger [1959](#page-14-4); Ripley and Lee [1962](#page-15-0); Byerlee [1970](#page-14-5); Coulson [1971](#page-14-6); Goodman and Ohnishi [1973](#page-14-7); Barton [1973](#page-14-8); Jaeger and Cook [1979;](#page-14-9) Aydan et al. [2004](#page-14-10), [2016](#page-14-11); Muralha et al. [2014\)](#page-15-1). However, such tests require some high-capacity equipment and they are generally used to determine frictional characteristics under high normal loads. If cohesion or adhesion do not exist, a simple method of testing is the tilting (tilt table) test, whose principles can be found in many earlier textbooks in physics (e.g., Edwin and Bergen [1891, 2015](#page-14-12); Dare and Slusher [1899,](#page-14-13) [1983](#page-15-2); Meriam and Kraig [1951,](#page-15-3) [2012](#page-15-4)).

Stick–slip testing technique could be also utilized for evaluating frictional characteristics of rock discontinuities, and there are some reports on the stick–slip behavior of discontinuities (e.g., Brace and Byerlee [1966;](#page-14-14) Byerlee

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[1970](#page-14-5), [1978\)](#page-14-15). Ohta and Aydan ([2010\)](#page-15-5) are probably the pioneers to utilize this technique in the feld of rock mechanics and rock engineering for evaluating the stick–slip behavior rock discontinuities although some theoretical models were already available (Bowden and Leben [1939;](#page-14-16) Bowden and Tabor [1950](#page-14-17); Jaeger and Cook [1979](#page-14-9)). However, there is no report on the application of this technique to infer frictional characteristics of rock discontinuities and compare them with other methods in the literature of rock mechanics and rock engineering, yet.

This study is concerned with the determination of the static and kinetic frictional properties of rock discontinuities from both tilting tests and stick–slip tests and compare the results with each other. The static and kinetic friction angles of rock discontinuities can be determined from tilting tests if the testing device is equipped with appropriate instruments such as non-contact laser transducers, accelerometers (e.g., Aydan [2016,](#page-14-18) [2022a;](#page-14-19) Aydan et al. [2017](#page-14-20), [2020\)](#page-14-21). The stick–slip testing device can also be used to measure frictional characteristics during the initiation and slip regime (e.g., Kiyota et al. [2018,](#page-14-22) [2019](#page-15-6); Aydan et al. [2020;](#page-14-21) Aydan [2022a](#page-14-19)). The authors performed numerous tilting tests and stick–slip tests on the same rock discontinuities and evaluated the static and kinetic frictional characteristics of polished, saw-cut and natural discontinuities associated with various rocks.

The paper presents the outcomes of these experiments and examines the interrelations among the results of the tilting tests and stick–slip tests. The natural rock discontinuities include schistosity planes in quartzite, green-schist, cooling surfaces in andesite, tension joint from granite of Salang Pass; the saw-cut surfaces are from Ryukyu limestone, Motobu limestone, andesite and basalt of Mt. Fuji, dolomite of Kita-Daitojima, grano-diorite of Ishigaki and Inada granite; the polished surfaces are from gabbro and dolomite; the fault plane surface specimens with striations are from the Efes Fault Zone in Western Turkey (Fig. [1](#page-1-0)) and it is a normal fault (Aydan et al. [2020](#page-14-21), [2022\)](#page-14-23).

2 Frictional Behavior of Discontinuities

The frictional properties of discontinuities and interfaces received great attention probably a thousand years ago since Sumerians, who established the fundamentals of science and engineering we use today (e.g., Kramer [1959,](#page-15-7) [1963;](#page-15-8) Dowson [1979;](#page-14-12) Frangipane [1997\)](#page-14-24). However, the studies on frictional characteristics of rock discontinuities in modern days are quite recent (e.g., Jaeger [1959](#page-14-4), [1971](#page-14-25); Byerlee [1978;](#page-14-15) Goodman and Ohnishi [1973;](#page-14-7) Barton [1976](#page-14-26)). Bowden and Tabor ([1950\)](#page-14-17) in the feld of mechanical engineering suggested that friction components of an interface consist of actual frictional resistance and the geometrical friction associated with morphology of the interface. This concept was also extended to rock discontinuities by considering a simple geometry of rock discontinuities by Patton ([1966](#page-15-9)) and Goldstein et al. [\(1966\)](#page-14-27) and the frictional resistance is assumed to consist of basic friction angle and additional friction angle resulting from the surface roughness, which is sometimes interpreted as dilation angle and corresponds to slope angle of a typical asperity (e.g., Bowden and Tabor [1950](#page-14-17); Patton [1966](#page-15-9)). Barton and Choubey ([1977\)](#page-14-28) generalized this concept by assuming that the frictional resistance consists of the basic friction angle and joint roughness coefficient (JRC). Barton and Choubey ([1977](#page-14-28)) suggested 10 roughness profles with assigned JRC values. The basic friction angle and JRC are fundamentally obtained from a back analysis of the results of tilting (tilt table) test on discontinuities of the same rock having a saw-cut surface and natural surface. Alejano et al. ([2018\)](#page-14-29)

(a) Efes Fault

(b) Striations

Fig. 1 A view of Efes Fault and a close-up view of its surface

developed an ISRM suggested method for obtaining the basic friction angle from tilting (tilt) tests.

Static and dynamic shearing tests on rock discontinuities are important for constitutive modeling under static and dynamic conditions (e.g., Aydan [2022a](#page-14-19); Aydan et al. [1994](#page-14-30), [1995](#page-14-31), [1996](#page-14-2), [2015,](#page-14-32) [2007,](#page-14-33) [2016;](#page-14-11) Ohta and Aydan [2010\)](#page-15-5). When structures are constructed on/in rock masses having various kinds geological discontinuities, their stability and response during excavation or failure require the determination of the shearing characteristics of the discontinuities. Dynamic conditions may be particularly signifcant in relation to the long-term stability of the structures and during earthquakes as well as in the earthquake mechanism due to the rate dependency of shear strength (e.g., Dieterich [1972](#page-14-34); Aydan et al. [1994,](#page-14-30) [2016,](#page-14-11) [2017;](#page-14-20) Aydan [2022a](#page-14-19), [b;](#page-14-35) Iwata et al. [2016](#page-14-36), [2019](#page-14-37)).

Fig. 2 Mechanical model for tilting experiments $(\alpha:$ inclination; *W*: block weight; S and N: Shear and Normal forces; *s,n*: shear and normal directions)

3 Theory of Tilting Tests

Tilting (tilting table or tilt) tests are known as a laboratory technique for measuring the friction angle in physics and illustrating the concept of friction. This technique is one of the most popular techniques due to its simplicity, and it is one of the most suitable techniques to perform and to obtain the frictional characteristics of rock discontinuities (e.g., Carsey and Farrar [1976](#page-14-38); Barton and Choubey [1977](#page-14-28); Aydan et al. [1995](#page-14-31), [2017](#page-14-20); Alejano et al. [2018](#page-14-29)).

Let us assume that a block is put upon a base block with an inclination α as illustrated in Fig. [2](#page-2-0). The dynamic force equilibrium equations for the block can be easily written as follows:

For the *s*-direction

$$
W\sin\alpha - S = m\frac{d^2s}{dt^2}.
$$
 (1)

For the *n*-direction

$$
W\cos\alpha - N = m\frac{d^2n}{dt^2},\tag{2}
$$

where *W*, *N*, *S*, *m*, *s*, *n*, *t*, and α are weight, normal force, shear force, mass, coordinate parallel to sliding direction, coordinate in normal direction, time and inclination of the basal plane, respectively. The mass of the block is related to its weight through the well-known relation, namely, $m = W/g$ where *g* is gravitational acceleration.

Let us further assume that the following frictional constitutive laws holds at the initiation and during the motion of the block (Aydan and Ulusay [2002](#page-14-39); Aydan [2017](#page-14-1)) as illustrated in Fig. [3](#page-2-1)b:

At the initiation of sliding motion,

$$
\frac{S}{N} = \tan \phi_s \tag{3}
$$

During the sliding motion,

$$
\frac{S}{N} = \tan \phi_{\rm d},\tag{4}
$$

where ϕ_s and ϕ_d are static and kinetic friction angles.

At the initiation of sliding, the inertia terms are zero so that the following relation is obtained:

$$
\tan \alpha = \tan \phi_s. \tag{5}
$$

The above relation implies that the angle of inclination at the initiation of sliding should correspond to the static friction angle of the discontinuity.

If the inertia term for normal direction is negligible during the motion and if the frictional resistance is assumed to be reduced to kinetic friction instantaneously, one obtains the following relations for the motion of the block

$$
\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 s}{\mathrm{d}t^2} = A,\tag{6}
$$

where $A = g(\sin \alpha - \cos \alpha \tan \phi_d)$ and *g* is gravitational acceleration.

The integration of diferential Eq. [\(6](#page-3-0)) yields the following

$$
s = A\frac{t^2}{2} + C_1 t + C_2,\tag{7}
$$

where C_1 and C_2 are integration coefficients. As the following conditions hold at the initiation of sliding.

$$
s = 0 \text{ and } v = 0 \text{ at } t = T_s,
$$
\n
$$
(8)
$$

where ν and T_s are velocity and time of sliding initiation. Equation [\(7](#page-3-1)) takes the following form

$$
s = \frac{A}{2} (t - T_s)^2. \tag{9}
$$

Coefficient *A* can be obtained either from a given displacement s_n at a given time t_n with the condition,

$$
A = 2 \frac{s_n}{(t_n - T_s)^2} \text{ for } t_n > T_s,
$$
\n(10)

or from the application of the least square technique to measured displacement response as follows (see Appendix for details)

Fig. 4 Mechanical modeling of stick–slip phenomenon. v_s : the velocity of moving base; k : the stiffness of the system; η : viscous resistance coefficient; *W*: the block weight; *S*: shear resistance; F_s and F_d are elastic reaction and viscous resistance,

$$
A = 2 \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} s_i (t_i - T_s)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (t_i - T_s)^4}.
$$
\n(11)

Once the constant *A* is determined, the dynamic friction angle is obtained from the following relation

$$
\phi_d = \tan^{-1} \left(\tan \alpha - \frac{1}{\cos \alpha} \cdot \frac{A}{g} \right).
$$
 (12)

4 Theory of Stick–Slip Tests

In this model, the basal plate is assumed to be moving with a constant velocity v_{s} , and overriding block is assumed to be elastically supported by the surrounding medium as illustrated in Fig. [4](#page-3-2). However, if damping exists, the support may be assumed as visco-elastic. The basic modeling concept assumes that the relative motion occurs between the basal plate and overriding block and it involves the stick and slip phases of the overriding block as illustrated in Fig. [5a](#page-4-0). Let us assume that the motion of the overriding block on the basal plate moving with a constant velocity can be modeled as stick–slip phenomenon (e.g., Bowden and Leben [1939](#page-14-16); Bowden and Tabor [1950](#page-14-17); Jaeger & Cook [1979](#page-14-9); Ohta and Aydan [2010;](#page-15-5) Aydan [2017,](#page-14-1) [2022a\)](#page-14-19). The derivation of the governing equations of the motion of the overriding block shown in Fig. [4](#page-3-2) are described as given below.

During the stick phase, the following holds

$$
\dot{x} = v_s, \ F_s = k \cdot x,\tag{13}
$$

(a) Schematic illustration of typical stick and slip phases. x_r : the amount of slip

(b) Variation of frictional resistance during a typical stick-slip cycle

(c) Variation of relative slip during a typical stick-slip cycle

where v_s is the velocity of the moving base plate and k is the stifness of the system. The initiation of slip obeys the friction law as given below (see Fig. [3b](#page-2-1)):

$$
S = \mu_s N,\tag{14}
$$

where μ_s is static friction coefficient, N is normal force. For the block shown in Fig. [4,](#page-3-2) the normal force is equal to the block weight W and it is related to the mass *m* and gravitational acceleration *g* through *mg*. It is assumed that the frictional resistance (S/N) is assumed to be reduced from the static friction coefficient (μ_s) to the kinetic friction coefficient (μ_k) as illustrated in Fig. [3](#page-2-1)b. During slip phase, the forces are kinetic friction, elastic restoring force (proportional to displacement *x*), viscous resistance (proportional to velocity \dot{x} , and inertia components and the force equilibrium takes the following form (Fig. [4\)](#page-3-2):

$$
-kx - \eta \dot{x} + \mu_k W = m \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 x}{\mathrm{d}t^2},\tag{15a}
$$

where μ_k is the dynamic friction coefficient and η is the viscous resistance coefficient. If viscous resistance is assumed to be negligible, Eq. $(15a)$ takes the following form

$$
-kx + \mu_k W = m \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 x}{\mathrm{d}t^2}.
$$
 (15b)

The solution of the ordinary diferential equation above can be obtained as.

$$
x = A_1 \cos \Omega t + A_2 \sin \Omega t + \mu_k \frac{W}{k}.
$$
 (16)

Figure [5](#page-4-0) shows a schematic illustration of a stick–slip cycle and variation of associated parameters. If the initial conditions ($t = t_s$, $x = x_s$ and $\dot{x} = v_s$) are introduced into Eq. [\(16\)](#page-5-1), the integration constants A_1 and A_2 are obtained as follows (Figs. [4](#page-3-2), [5\)](#page-4-0).

$$
x = \frac{W}{k}(\mu_s - \mu_k) \cos \Omega(t - t_s) + \frac{v_s}{\Omega} \sin \Omega(t - t_s) + \mu_k \frac{W}{k}
$$

\n
$$
\dot{x} = -\frac{W}{k}(\mu_s - \mu_k) \Omega \sin \Omega(t - t_s) + v_s \cos \Omega(t - t_s)
$$

\n
$$
\ddot{x} = -\frac{W}{k}(\mu_s - \mu_k) \Omega^2 \cos \Omega(t - t_s) - v_s \Omega \sin \Omega(t - t_s),
$$
\n(17)

where $\Omega = \sqrt{k/m}$ and $x_s = \mu_s \frac{W}{k}$.

At $t = t_t$ the slip terminates and the velocity of the overriding block becomes equal to the velocity of the moving basal plate, which is given as $\dot{x} = v_s$. This yields the period of slip as (see Fig. [5b](#page-4-0), c) for the illustrations of initiation and termination of a typical stick–slip cycle):

$$
t_{\rm t} = \frac{2}{\Omega} \left(\pi - \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{(\mu_{\rm s} - \mu_{\rm k}) W \Omega}{k \cdot v_{\rm s}} \right) \right) + t_{\rm s},\tag{18}
$$

where $x_s = v_s \cdot t_s$, which is illustrated in Fig. [5b](#page-4-0), c. The rise time, which corresponds to the slip period, is given by

$$
t_{\rm r} = t_{\rm t} - t_{\rm s}.\tag{19}
$$

The rise time can be specifcally obtained from Eq. [19](#page-5-2) by inserting the slip period t_t given by Eq. [18](#page-5-3) as

$$
t_{\rm r} = \frac{2}{\Omega} \left(\pi - \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\left(\mu_{\rm s} - \mu_{\rm k} \right) W \Omega}{k \cdot v_{\rm s}} \right) \right). \tag{20}
$$

If the velocity of the moving basal plate is negligible, that is, $v_s \approx 0$, the rise time (t_r) from Eq. [\(20\)](#page-5-4) reduces to the following form

$$
t_{\rm r} = \pi \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}.\tag{21}
$$

Thus, the amount of slip is obtained through the utilization of Eqs. (19) (19) (19) and (21) as

$$
x_{\rm r} = |x_{\rm t} - x_{\rm s}| = 2\frac{W}{k}(\mu_{\rm s} - \mu_{\rm k}).
$$
 (22)

The force drop during slip is obtained from Eq. (22) as

$$
F_{\rm d} = 2\left(\mu_{\rm s} - \mu_{\rm k}\right)W.\tag{23}
$$

Static and kinetic friction angles from a typical slip phase shown in Fig. [5b](#page-4-0), c can be determined from Eq. [\(23](#page-5-7)). Re-arranging Eq. ([23](#page-5-7)) yields the following relation for kinetic friction angle as

$$
\phi_{k} = \tan^{-1} \left(\mu_{s} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{F_{d}}{N} \right).
$$
 (24)

As noted from (Eq. [22\)](#page-5-7), the increase of the normal load on the blocks increases the amount of slip, decreases the velocity during slip (Eq. [17](#page-5-8)) and prolongs the period of stick–slip cycles as noted from Eq. [20](#page-5-4) or [21](#page-5-5).

5 Device for Tilting and Stick–Slip Tests

The device used for both tilting and stick–slip tests is the same and it is capable of performing diferent tests. In other words, it is a multi-purpose experimental device (Aydan [2017](#page-14-1), [2022a\)](#page-14-19). Figure [6](#page-5-9) illustrates the main components of the device. The endless belt part of the device is capable of performing a classical base-friction model test and this function allows us to carry out stick–slip experiments with the utilization of load cell, laser displacement transducers, acoustic emission sensors and accelerometers and the

Fig. 6 An overall view of the device and its main components

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data acquisition equipment as explained in the following subsections.

The device can also be used to measure the surface morphology of discontinuities along a given line. In other words, it is possible to measure digital surface profles using two laser transducers (one for profle and one for block velocity (see Aydan [2020](#page-14-40), p. 31) and various surface morphology parameters of rock discontinuities can be evaluated (e.g., Myers [1962](#page-15-10); Aydan and Shimizu [1995](#page-14-41); Aydan et al. [1996](#page-14-2)).

The endless part forms also tiltable base and it can be inclined up to 90 degrees. Tilting tests can be carried out together with the utilization of laser displacement transducers, acoustic emission sensors and accelerometers and the data acquisition equipment. While simple tilting tests described in the ISRM SM (Alejano et al. [2018](#page-14-29); Aydan et al. [1995](#page-14-31), [1996\)](#page-14-2) can be easily carried out by the device by using only an inclinometer, the laser transducers particularly allow us to measure not only peak friction angle but also kinetic friction angle (Aydan [2017,](#page-14-1) [2022a](#page-14-19); Aydan et al. [2017](#page-14-20)). The accelerometers can also be used to measure the inclination as well as to assess the initiation of slip and its response during the entire slip process.

5.1 Device for Tilting Tests

The experimental device consists of a table (endless belt part) tilted manually through a screw gear connected to a wheel. During the experiments, the displacement of the block and inclination of the table are measured through laser displacement transducers produced by KEYENCE and OMRON while the acceleration responses parallel and perpendicular to the shear movement are measured by a

three component accelerometer (TOKYO SOKKI) attached to the upper block and the WE7000 (YOKOGAWA) data acquisition system. The measured displacement and accelerations are recorded onto lap-top computers. The weight of the accelerometer is about 98 gf. Figure [7](#page-6-0) shows the experimental set-up.

5.2 Device for Stick–Slip Tests

Figure [8](#page-7-0) shows a view of the experimental set-up for stick–slip experiments described by Aydan (e.g., Aydan et al. [2011](#page-14-3); Ohta and Aydan [2010;](#page-15-5) Aydan and Ohta [2011](#page-14-42)). The experimental device consists of an endless conveyor belt and a fxed frame, and it is schematically illustrated in Fig. [8](#page-7-0)c. The inclination of the conveyor belt can be varied so that various tangential and normal gravitational forces can be easily imposed on the specimen as desired. The base can be tilted for tilting tests as shown in Fig. [7.](#page-6-0) To study the actual frictional resistance of interfaces of rock blocks, the lower block is attached to the belt while the upper block is attached to the fxed frame through a spring as illustrated in Figs. [6](#page-5-9) and [8](#page-7-0). We conducted experiments using rock specimens with planes having diferent surface morphologies. The base blocks were 200–400 mm long, 100–150 mm wide and 40–100 mm thick. The upper block was 100–200 mm long, 100 mm wide and 150–200 mm high.

To measure the frictional force acting on the upper block, the load cell (KYOWA LUR-A-200NSA1) is installed between the spring and the fxed frame as seen in Figs. [6](#page-5-9) and [8.](#page-7-0) During experiments, the displacement of the block is measured through the laser displacement transducers described in the previous section, and a contact type displacement transducer with a measuring range of 70 mm, while the acceleration responses parallel and perpendicular to the belt movement are measured by the same threecomponent accelerometer attached to the upper block. The measured displacement, acceleration and force are recorded onto laptop computers through the WE7000 (YOKOGAWA) data acquisition system.

When the upper block moves together on the base block at a constant velocity (stick phase, which is similar to static situation), the spring is stretched at a constant velocity. The shear force increases to some critical value and then a sudden slip occurs with an associated spring force drop. Because the unstable sliding of the upper block occurs periodically, the upper block slips violently over the base block. Figure [9](#page-8-0) shows displacement–friction coefficient responses (S: Shear force; N: Normal force) of the Efes fault specimen denoted BFP1-TFP1 under three diferent normal loads (850 gf, 1580 gf, 2580 gf). The normal loads on the specimens can be easily increased in the experiments. The frictional force drop is $2(\mu_s - \mu_k)W$ and it is given by Eq. [23](#page-5-5), in which **Fig.** 7 A view of a typical experimental set-up for tilting tests μ_s and μ_k are the static and kinetic (or dynamic) friction

(c) Illustration of the device

coefficients, respectively. As noted from Fig. 9 , the measured responses are in accordance with those expected from theoretical estimations presented in Sect. [4.](#page-3-3) As the stifness of the spring remains constant, the stress drop is more sudden under low normal stress compared to that under high normal stress as anticipated from Eq. ([22\)](#page-5-4). This fact may also have some implications in earthquake mechanics and associated strong motions in relation to the variability of the stifness of Earth's crust from region to region (e.g., Aydan [2022a](#page-14-19)). Furthermore, if the static friction coefficient is equal to the kinetic friction coefficient, the stress drop would be nil and this would correspond to creeping faults.

6 Experimental Results

In this section, the experimental results on frictional characteristics of discontinuities obtained from stick–slip tests and tilting tests are presented and discussed. Although the stick–slip tests and tilting tests may seem to be diferent,

Fig. 9 Responses during a typical slip phase under three diferent normal loads (N_1, N_2, N_3) . μ_s , μ_k : static and kinetic friction coefficients; S and N: Shear and Normal forces

it should be noted that a stick–slip cycle is quite similar to a tilting test as stick phase (zero relative velocity) corresponds to the static situation during tilting before the commencement of the slip. The slip phase in the stick–slip tests is a dynamic process and this phase is fundamentally equivalent to the slip phase in tilting tests. Furthermore, it may be appropriate to say that a stick–slip test allows one to test the frictional characteristics of the same surface repeatedly while a tilting test would correspond to single testing situation.

6.1 Discontinuities

Discontinuities used in the tilting and stick–slip experiments are listed in Table [1.](#page-8-1) Rocks involve igneous, metamorphic

Table 1 A list of localities, type and basic friction angle of discontinuities and unit weight of host rocks

Table 2 Determined static and dynamic friction angle of discontinuities from stick–slip tests on samples of the Efes fault

N (gf)	Static $(°)$	Dynamic $(°)$
850	37.6, 37.6	34.4, 24.3
1580	42.0, 42.0, 35.0	30.7, 35.4, 27.9
2580	39.4.28.4	30.1, 26.8

bfp1 base block fault plane, *tfp1* top block fault plane, *t1, t2, t3* test number

and sedimentary rocks sampled from Japan, Afghanistan, China and Turkey. The discontinuities involve cooling joints, schistosity planes, bedding planes, fault surfaces and sawcut surfaces with or without polishing. Furthermore, fault surfaces have striations and experiments on such specimens are carried out parallel and perpendicular to the striations. In Table [1](#page-8-1), the basic friction angle of discontinuities are also given so that the roughness of tested discontinuities can be inferred (see Tables [2](#page-8-2) and [3\)](#page-11-0).

6.2 Tilting Tests

A series of tilting tests are carried out on the discontinuities listed in Table [1.](#page-8-1) Base inclination, relative slip responses recorded in all experiments and time-slip responses are ftted to the function given by Eq. (9) (9) to obtain both the static and kinetic (or dynamic) friction angles. It should be noted that the slip is restrained after a certain amount of relative slip in all experiments. The measured time-slip responses during a tilting test on a rough discontinuity plane of granite

Rock Locality Country Type UW $(kN/m³)$ $\phi_b(^{\circ})$ Andesite Mt. Fuji Japan Saw-cut 26.1 24.9 Andesite Mt. Aso Japan Cooling 26.6 26.1 Basalt Mt. Fuji Japan Saw-cut 24.1 23.0 Quartzite Bayındır Türkiye Schistosity 25.1 26.1 Quartzite Kumamoto Japan Schistosity 27.7 28.5 Diorite Ishigaki Japan Saw-cut 26.5 29.2 Gabro Unknown China Saw-cut-P 29.8 23.7 Limestone Ryukyu Japan Saw-cut 22.9 27.7 Limestone Motobu Japan Saw-cut 25.3 25.3 Dolomite Kita-Daitojima Japan Saw-cut-P 26.2 22.0 Granite Inada Japan Rough 25.3 25.3 Granite Inada Japan Saw-cut 25.3 25.3 Granite Salang Afghanistan Saw-cut 25.9 30.1 Marl-BP Babadag Türkiye Bedding 19.0 32.0 Marl-BP Babadag Türkiye Saw-cut 19.0 28.2 Limestone Efes Fault Türkiye Fault plane 26.0 30.6 Limestone Efes Fault Türkiye Saw-cut 26.0 24.9

P polished, *UW* unit weight; ϕ ^{*b*} basic friction angle

(b) Expanded plot of time versus inclination and slip with fitted function

Fig. 10 Displacement response of rough discontinuity of granite during a tilting test and a fitted function to slip response $(\alpha_t: \text{tilt}$ angle; $t_o:$ slip initiation time; *t*: time; *g*: gravitational acceleration; ϕ_d : kinetic (dynamic) friction angle; *A*: constant)

are shown in Fig. [10](#page-9-0) as an example. Figure [10](#page-9-0)a shows the time-inclination and related time-slip response during the experiment while Fig. [10b](#page-9-0) shows close-up plots of timeinclination angle and related time-slip response for the period between 23.5 and 24.5 s. In this particular experiment, the relative movement of the upper block is allowed to be 40 mm. Figure [10b](#page-9-0) also shows the ftted function to time-slip response and its coefficient. The fitted function is fairly consistent with experimental results for a given time interval and the kinetic friction angle of the discontinuity was obtained as 30.28 while the static friction was 32.3°. Figure [10](#page-9-0) shows views of the tilting test on rough discontinuity plane of granite.

The static and dynamic (kinetic) friction coefficients of the rough interface of granite were calculated from measured displacement response and weight of upper block using the tilting testing equipment shown in Fig. [11](#page-9-1). Utilizing Eq. ([12\)](#page-3-5) and value of *A* of the ftted function, the static and kinetic friction angles were estimated to be within a range of 32.3°–37.6° and 30.3°–35.6°, respectively. The tests were repeated three times and the ranges correspond to the tests results obtained from three tests with a great caution to clean up the interface after each test according to the ISRM Suggested Method (Alejano et al. [2018\)](#page-14-29).

Similarly, the experimental results on saw-cut discontinuity surfaces of Ryukyu limestone specimens are plotted in Fig. [12,](#page-10-0) which shows time-inclination and related time-slip responses measured during a tilting experiment on a saw-cut surface of Ryukyu limestone. Figure [12b](#page-10-0) shows close-up plots of time-inclination angle and related time-slip response for the period between 12.8 and 13.6 s. Utilizing Eq. ([12\)](#page-3-5) and value of *A* of the ftted function, the static and kinetic friction angles of the saw-cut surfaces were calculated from measured time-slip response as explained in the previous section and they were estimated to be within a range of 28.8°–29.6° and 24.3°–29.2°, respectively. Similarly, the ranges are the results of three experiments performed with a great caution to clean up Ryukyu limestone saw-cut discontinuity planes after each test according to the ISRM Suggested Method (Alejano et al. [2018\)](#page-14-29).

Figure [13](#page-10-1)a shows an example of time-inclination, acceleration and slip records during a tilting experiment on a specimen having fault surfaces from the Efes Fault shown in Fig. [1.](#page-1-0) The slip induced a fuctuation of acceleration in the direction of slippage. The high acceleration is due to shock caused by the top block when it hit the barrier to terminate its motion.

The inclination angle is directly obtained from the acceleration component in the slip direction. The procedure described in Sect. [3](#page-2-2) was applied to the slip response of the fault surface specimen between 26.073 and 26.5 s as shown in Fig. [13](#page-10-1)b. The static and kinetic friction angles were obtained as 33° and 29.5° in this particular test.

Experiments were carried out by considering the orientation of striation on the fault surface. Friction angles of

Fig. 11 Views of tilting experiment on rough discontinuity plane of granite

(b) Expanded plot of time versus inclination and slip with fitted function

Fig. 12 Time versus inclination and slip records of tilting experiment on a saw-cut discontinuity plane of Ryukyu limestone specimen during a tilting test (ϕ_s, ϕ_d) : static and kinetic (dynamic) friction angles)

(a) Plots of time versus inclination, acceleration and slip during a tilting experiment.

Fig. 13 a Measured responses and **b** determination of dynamic friction angle of a fault plane specimen from Efes fault zone from the measured slip response and ftted function

the fault surface parallel and perpendicular to the direction of striations are given in Table [3](#page-11-0). The friction angle was smaller when testing was carried out parallel to the striation direction while it was higher when the experiments were carried out perpendicular to the striation direction. These results are consistent with previous experimental results reported by Aydan et al. ([1996](#page-14-2)) and indicate the frictional anisotropy of the natural discontinuities.

6.3 Stick–Slip Experiments

A series of stick–slip experiments are carried out on the discontinuities listed in Table [1](#page-8-1) using the stick–slip device shown in Fig. [8](#page-7-0). Stick–slip tests are carried out on the same specimens used in tilting experiments presented in previous section after cleaning the surface of fault plane specimens according to the ISRM Suggested Method on tilting experiments (Alejano et al. [2018\)](#page-14-29). Responses of frictional resistance and acceleration in some of these experiments are reported herein. The duration of stick–slip experiments is much longer than that in tilting experiments. As the relative slip history involves many cycles of slip, the surface conditions are likely to be infuenced by the slip history. In other words, some gouge-like material may accumulate on the discontinuity surface and this may infuence the overall frictional resistance during the many cycles of slip. Therefore, the evaluations are limited to the frst two cycles of stick–slip phases.

The peak (static) friction angle can be evaluated from the S/N response while the kinetic friction angle can be obtained from the theoretical relation (24) (24) . Figures [14](#page-11-1) and [15](#page-11-2) show the measured stick–slip responses of discontinuity surfaces of granite and Ryukyu limestone specimens, respectively. Peak (static) friction angle for both discontinuity surfaces obtained from tilting tests (37.6°) and stick–slip experiments (36.1°–37.4°) are very close to each other when the results given in Table [3](#page-11-0) are taken into account. The residual or kinetic (dynamic) friction angles for rough discontinuity surface of granite are also very close to each other. It was 35.9° in tilting tests while it ranged between 34.6° and 35.0° in the stick–slip tests.

Similarly, the kinetic friction angle (24.6°–26.8°) of the saw-cut discontinuity surface of the Ryukyu limestone, that was obtained from stick–slip experiments, was very close to that (24.7°) obtained from tilting experiments. Nevertheless, the kinetic (dynamic) friction angle obtained from stick–slip tests is generally lower than those obtained from the tilting experiments.

Experiments were carried out on fault surface specimens from the Efes Fault (see Fig. [1](#page-1-0)) under three diferent normal loads, namely dead-weight (850 gf), 1580 gf and 2580 gf. Figure [16](#page-11-3) shows the base displacement-frictional resistance responses in initial stages of the stick–slip experiment **Table 3** Static and kinetic friction of discontinuities tested under tilting and stick–slip testing conditions

Fig. 14 Stick–slip response of rough discontinuity plane of granite (μ_s, μ_k) : static and kinetic friction coefficients; S and N: Shear and Normal forces)

Fig. 15 Stick–slip response of saw-cut plane of Ryukyu limestone (μ_s, μ_k) : static and kinetic friction coefficients; S and N: Shear and Normal forces)

Fig. 16 Relative base displacement and frictional resistance responses in initial stages of the stick–slip experiment on a fault plane specimen from Efes Fault zone under three diferent normal loads (N_1, N_2, N_3) ; S and N: Shear and Normal forces

under three diferent normal loads. Table [2](#page-8-2) gives the static and kinetic (dynamic) friction angles obtained from the responses shown in Fig. [16](#page-11-3).

The static friction angle from stick–slip tests perpendicular to the striation ranged between 37.7° and 42° while it was 36.7° from tilting tests. For the same specimen, the dynamic (kinetic) friction angle ranged between 27.9° and 35.0° (see Table [2](#page-8-2)), it was 32.3° for tilting experiments. Despite some scattering, the results obtained from the two testing techniques are quite similar to each other.

Fig. 17 Comparison of static friction angles obtained from tilting and stick–slip experiments

Fig. 18 Comparison of kinetic friction angles obtained from tilting and stick–slip experiments

7 Comparisons and Discussions

In this section, the experimental results on frictional properties obtained from tilting tests and stick–slip experiments are compared with each other. Furthermore, the possibility of obtaining both peak (static) and kinetic (dynamic) friction angles from any of these experimental techniques is discussed.

First the static (peak) friction angles determined from tilting tests are compared with those obtained from stick–slip experiments. Figure [17](#page-12-0) shows the plots of static friction angle from tilting tests versus static friction angle from stick

Fig. 19 Comparison of static and kinetic friction angles obtained from tilting experiments on all rock specimens (limestone) (*𝜙*s;*𝜙*d: static and kinetic (dynamic) friction angle)

Fig. 20 Comparison of static and kinetic friction angles obtained from tilting experiments on Efes fault specimens (limestone) $(\phi_s; \phi_d)$: static and kinetic (dynamic) friction angle)

slip tests with the consideration of rock type. In the plots, the results for saw-cut and polished surfaces are diferentiated from those of natural surfaces. The results are close to the line with a gradient 1, which implies that the static friction angles obtained from tilting and stick slip experiments are almost the same irrespective of rock and discontinuity type.

The kinetic (dynamic) friction angle of discontinuity surfaces obtained from the stick–slip experiments and tilting experiments are plotted in Fig. [18](#page-12-1) by considering rock type as well as the surface conditions of tested samples.

As noted in Fig. [18,](#page-12-1) they are close to the line with a gradient 1. Nevertheless, the kinetic (dynamic) friction angle obtained from stick–slip tests is slightly lower than those obtained from the tilting experiments.

Figure [19](#page-12-2) shows the plots of static friction angle versus kinetic friction angle obtained from tilting tests and stick–slip tests. The results are plotted with diferent symbols for each rock type as well as testing technique. As noted from the fgure, the ratio of kinetic friction angle over the static friction angle is generally less than 1.0 and greater than 0.8. This fnding is in agreement with the previous experimental results reported by Aydan et al. ([2017](#page-14-20)).

The experimental results obtained in the tests on the Efes Fault specimens (brecciated limestone) are plotted for static versus dynamic friction angle in Fig. [20](#page-12-3) by distinguishing the results of tilting and stick–slip tests. Compared to the experimental results in Fig. [19,](#page-12-2) the ratio of kinetic friction angle over the static friction angle is generally less than 1.0 and greater than 0.6. The results are somewhat diferent in regard with the lower bound compared to Fig. [19.](#page-12-2) This might be due to some inherent characteristics of fault plane specimens resulting from the past relative large displacement greater than 25 m for this normal fault. Although some diferences are noted between the friction angles of the fault surface and other discontinuities, the overall trend is quite similar.

In accordance with the previously reported results by Aydan et al. ([2017](#page-14-20)), it is interesting to note that the kinetic friction angles of various rock discontinuities except fault planes are about 0.8–0.9 times that of the static friction angles irrespective of discontinuity type.

8 Conclusions

In this study, the authors described an experimental study on various natural rock discontinuities, fault surfaces and artifcially prepared saw-cut surfaces utilizing tilting and stick–slip experiments to determine their static and dynamic frictional properties and to show that static and dynamic frictional properties can be obtained from these two experimental techniques.

Experimental results indicated that the peak (static) friction angles of discontinuity surfaces obtained from tilting tests and stick–slip experiments are very close to each other. Nevertheless, the kinetic (dynamic) angles obtained from the stick–slip experiments are slightly lower than those obtained from the tilting experiments.

In accordance with the previously reported results by Aydan et al. ([2017](#page-14-20)), it is interesting to note that the ratio of kinetic friction angle to static friction angle of discontinuities surfaces is less than 1.0 and greater than 0.8. However, the ratio of kinetic friction angle to static friction angle of fault surfaces can be as low as 0.6.

Appendix: Derivation of Eq. [\(11\)](#page-3-6)

As shown in Sect. 3.1, the relative slip response of the sliding block during the slip-phase can be given by the following relation

$$
S = \frac{A}{2}(t - T_s)^2.
$$
 (25)

As pointed out in the same subsection, coefficient A can be obtained from a given displacement s_n at a given time t_n . However, there are many observation data and the application of the least square technique to measured displacement response become necessary. The residual between the measured response and ftted function is given as

$$
r_i = s_i - S(t_i, A). \tag{26}
$$

The sum of squared residual is written as

$$
E = \sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i^2,
$$
 (27a)

or

$$
E = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (s_i - S(t_i, A))^2.
$$
 (27b)

Minimizing the error function (*E*) with respect to coefficient *A* and requiring the gradient to be zero as given below

$$
\frac{\partial E}{\partial A} = \frac{\partial}{\partial A} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(s_i - S(t_i, A) \right)^2 \right) = 0,
$$
\n(28)

results in

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{n} s_i (t_i - T_s)^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{A}{2} (t_i - T_s)^4 = 0.
$$
 (29)

Re-arranging the equation above yields the following, which is given by Eq. (11) (11)

$$
A = 2 \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} s_i (t_i - T_s)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (t_i - T_s)^4}
$$
(30)

Declarations

Conflict of Interest The authors declare that they have no confict of interest.

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