

ECCW**Exact Critical Coulomb Wedge**

B.C.L. Mary

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Summary

The ECCW application allows to compute the exact solution of critical Coulomb wedge, draw it, sketch it, with love. Are available compressive or extensive geological context, with or without fluid pore pressure. ECCW is part of the SLAMTec package.

Contents

1	Usage	2
1.1	Compute critical surface slope α_c	2
1.2	Tectonic context	3
1.3	Complete envelope of the critical domain	4
2	Understand ECCW	7
2.1	Criticality.	7
2.2	Motor of faulting	7
3	Compute ECCW	8
3.1	The implicit solution	8
3.2	Solve ECCW	8
3.3	Newton's method	8
3.4	Adaptation of Newton's method to a set of functions	9

1 Usage

```
eccw [phi_B phi_D [delta_lambda_B delta_lambda_D
density_ratio] [beta]] [arguments]
```

The ECCW application gets a maximum of 6 positional parameters. According to the number of given parameters, the result is different. Two main behaviours are to expect :

- compute the critical surface slope α_c ,
- draw the complete envelope of the critical domain.

Additionally, four optional arguments can be used :

`--file` : plotting a list of specific nodes ;

`--nodraw` : disable plotting (for command line workflow purpose) ;

`--box` : set limits of plot ;

`--sketch` : draw sketches of the wedge with faults orientations and directions.

1.1 Compute critical surface slope α_c

To obtain the *value* of the critical slope for a given set of parameters, just mind to give the angle of the décollement **beta** at the end of the given parameters.

1.1.1 Dry case

For dry case, three parameters are expected in following order :

phi_B : bulk friction angle ϕ_B in degree ;

phi_D : friction angle of décollement ϕ_D in degree ;

beta : slope of décollement β in degree.

example

```
$ eccw 30 10 3
alphac = 1.4403 or 26.3795
```

With the solution, a window pop out with a plot of the complete solution (Figure 1). A vertical line illustrate the value of asked basal slope β , with two black dots at its intersection with the critical envelope. See section 2 for physical meaning of results.

If the asked value of **beta** has no possible solution for the given parameters, a simple message tells it. The plot of the critical envelope helps to diagnose such a response using the position of the vertical black line (try to set **beta** to -15 in previous example).

For some reasons, the user may want to obtain the solution alone, without any plot. In that case the argument `--nodraw` can be added.

example

```
$ eccw 30 10 3 --nodraw
```

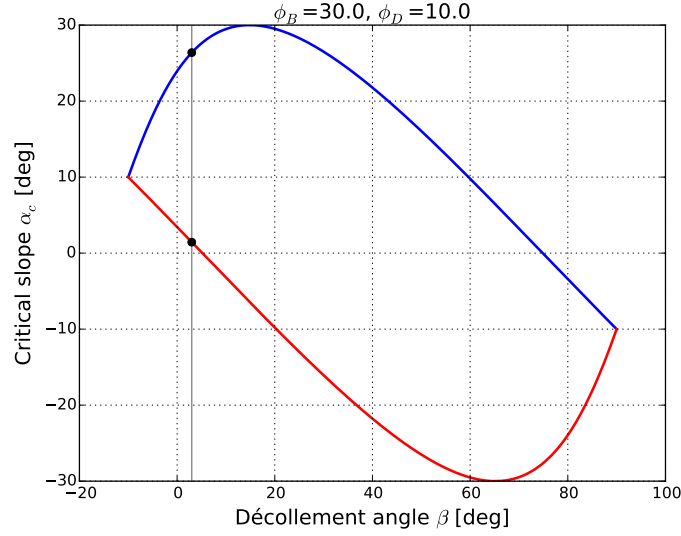


Figure 1: Example of plot obtained with the computation of the critical surface, for dry case.

1.1.2 With fluids

For fluid pore pressure case (see Figure 2), six parameters are expected in following order :

phi_B : bulk friction angle ϕ_B (in degree) ;

phi_D : friction angle of décollement (ϕ_D in degree) ;

delta_lambda_B : bulk fluid overpressure gradient $\Delta\lambda_B \in [0 : 1 - \frac{\rho_f}{\rho}]$. This is the deviation from pure hydrostatic pore pressure profile ;

delta_lambda_D : décollement fluid overpressure gradient $\Delta\lambda_D \in [0 : 1 - \frac{\rho_f}{\rho}]$;

density_ratio : ratio of fluid density ρ_f (~ 1000) and saturated rock density $\rho \in [1100 : 3000]$;

beta : slope of décollement β in degree.

example

```
$ eccw 30 10 0.5 0.4 0.42 3
alphac = 1.9711 or 3.4732
```

1.2 Tectonic context

Computation or display of critical surface slope is available for compressive or extensive tectonic context. Default context is compressive. To obtain a result in extensive context, the user had to set a *negative* value to the parameter **phi_D** (friction angle on décollement ϕ_D).

example

```
$ eccw 30 -10 12 --nodraw
alphac = -11.2839 or -6.2474
```

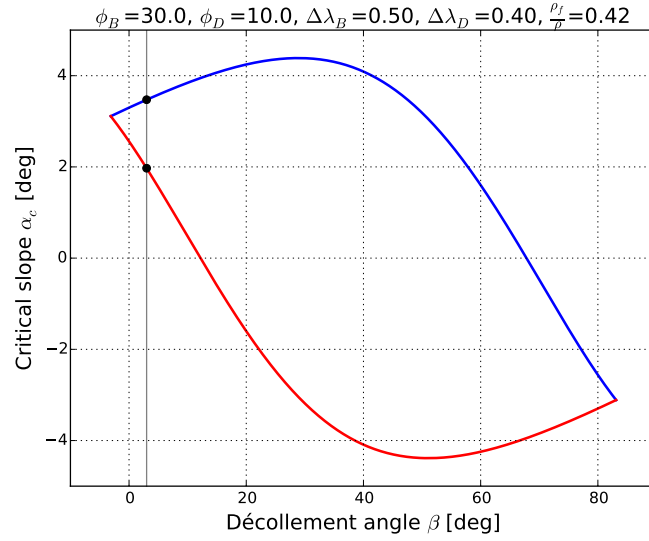


Figure 2: Example of plot obtained with the computation of the critical surface, for case with fluids.

1.3 Complete envelope of the critical domain

For both cases, dry and with fluids, when last parameter β is omitted, only the plot of the critical envelopes are displayed.

example

```
$ eccw 30 10
$ eccw 30 10 0.5 0.4 0.42
```

Three optional display arguments are described in what follows. All of them can be used combined altogether and of course combined with a **beta** value.

1.3.1 Plot reference points

Optional argument `--ECCWfile` plots a collection of points given in a file in given parameter (see Figure 3). The file as to be set with (x, y) coordinates into two columns. Optionally, color and diameter of the point can be added in third and fourth columns. Colors are given by classic key letter (b for blue, y for yellow, k for black, ...). Diameters are given in pixels (default is 50).

file example

```
1      5.
5.     2.3  b
-0.2   3     y   100
```

example

```
$ eccw 30 10 --file file-example
```

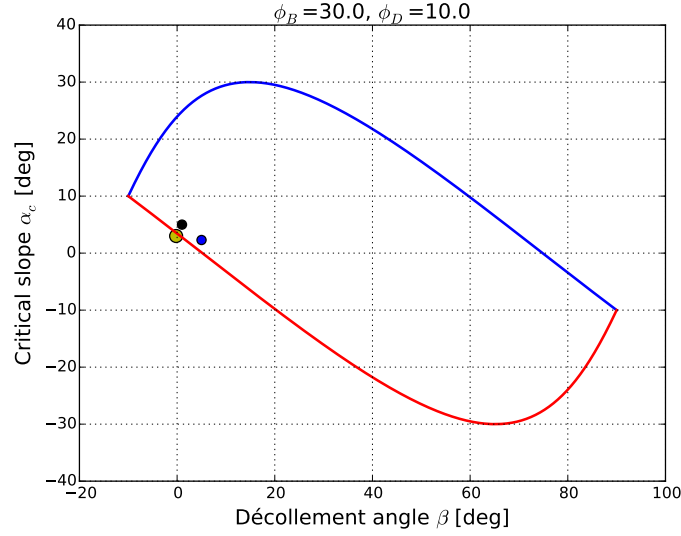


Figure 3: Example of plot obtained with `--ECCWfile` argument : some colored reference points are added.

1.3.2 Set limits of plot

Specify the boundaries of what is displayed is simply done using the argument `--ECCWbox` followed by coordinates of min x, max x, min y, max y.

example

```
$ eccw 30 10 --box -15 10 -10 35
```

1.3.3 Drawing sketches of the wedge

This last option helps a lot to understand the meaning of the given results. By simply adding the argument `--ECCWsection`, real time computed lovely sketches are displayed (see Figure 4). These sketches show the orientation of the awaited faults with two set of fine gray lines. The direction of these faults is given by the half-arrows. The half-arrows on the décollement illustrate the tectonic context (compressive or extensive).

The user may be happy to know that the boxes containing the sketches can be clicked and dropped. This help when default positioning is not luckily optimal...

example

```
$ eccw 30 10 --sketch
```

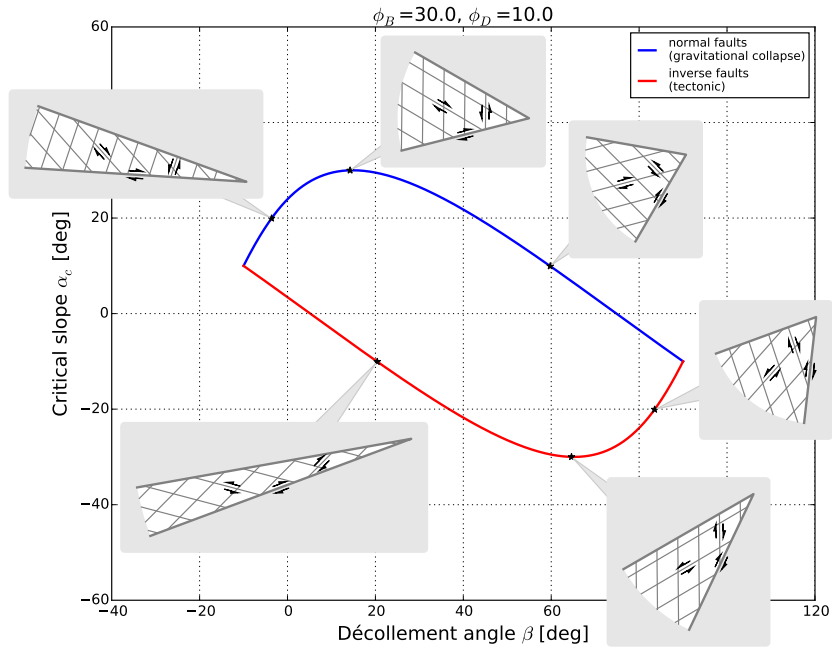


Figure 4: Example of plot obtained with `--ECCWsection` argument : sketches of the wedge with the orientation and direction of faults are drawn for caracteristic values.

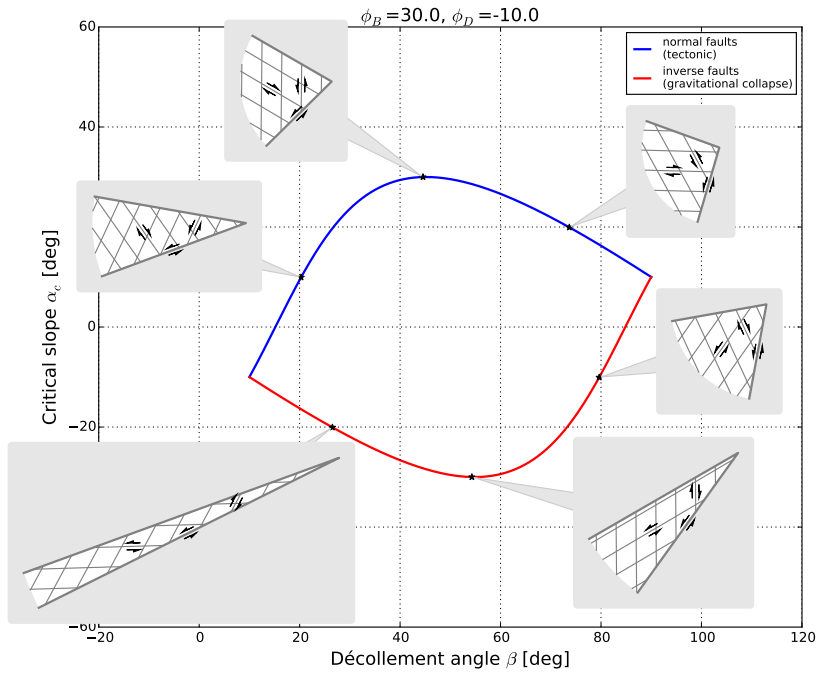


Figure 5: Example of plot obtained with `--ECCWsection` in extensive context (negative ϕ_D value).

2 Understand ECCW

2.1 Criticality.

Explain critical, sub-critical, super-critical.

2.2 Motor of faulting

Mathematically constituted of four parts due to the two arcsin included in the implicit solution (see section 3), the critical envelope is meaningful by group of two. In all plots of this documentation, the envelope is drawn in two parts, highlighted by the red and blue lines. The red line represents configurations where the faults are in reverse mode, while the configurations under the blue line are in normal mode (see Figure 4 and 5).

The "motor" of normal or reverse faulting is in all cases tectonic motion or gravitational collapse. According to the geological context, these "motors" are set differently. For compressive context, reverse faulting (bottom red line) is driven by tectonic motion while normal faulting is due to gravitational collapse (Figure 4). For extensive context this normal faulting (upper blue line) which is driven by tectonic motion and reverse faulting by gravitational collapse (Figure 5).

3 Compute ECCW

3.1 The implicit solution

$$\alpha_c + \beta = \Psi_D - \Psi_0 \quad (1)$$

with

$$\Psi_D = \frac{1}{2} \arcsin \left(\frac{(1 - \lambda_D) \sin(\phi_D)}{(1 - \lambda_B) \sin(\phi_B)} + \frac{\lambda_D - \lambda_B}{1 - \lambda_B} \sin(\phi_D) \cos(2\Psi_0) \right) - \frac{1}{2} \phi_D \quad (2)$$

$$\Psi_0 = \frac{1}{2} \arcsin \left(\frac{\sin(\alpha'_c)}{\sin(\phi_B)} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \alpha'_c \quad (3)$$

$$\alpha'_c = \arctan \left(\frac{1 - \frac{\rho_f}{\rho}}{1 - \lambda_B} \tan(\alpha) \right) \quad (4)$$

3.2 Solve ECCW

An iterative method is necessary to solve ECCW. Here we had choose Newton's secant method. But some issues raise when one try to solve (1) directly due to the two arcsin included in (2) and (3). We choose here to rewrite equations (1), (2) and (3) into a set of three functions that should equals zero :

$$f_1 = \alpha_c + \beta - \Psi_D + \Psi_0 \quad (5)$$

$$f_2 = \sin(2\Psi_D + \phi_D) - \frac{(1 - \lambda_D) \sin(\phi_D)}{(1 - \lambda_B) \sin(\phi_B)} - \frac{\lambda_D - \lambda_B}{1 - \lambda_B} \sin(\phi_D) \cos(2\Psi_0) \quad (6)$$

$$f_3 = \sin(2\Psi_0 + \alpha'_c) \sin(\phi_B) - \sin(\alpha'_c) \quad (7)$$

This set of equation can be used in an adapted form of the Newton's Method.

3.3 Newton's method

We use the Newton's secant method to iteratively converge towards the solution.

The iteration :

$$\Delta x = \frac{f(x_i)}{f'(x_i)} \quad (8)$$

with $\Delta_x = x_{i+1} - x_i$ and f' the derivative of f . Iterates until $\Delta x < \epsilon$, an arbitrary small threshold. Initial value x_0 is given by user.

The derivative f' can be approximated using finite difference:

$$f'(x_i) = \frac{f(x_i) - f(x_{i-1})}{x_i - x_{i-1}} \quad (9)$$

or

$$f'(x_i) = \frac{f(x_i + h) - f(x_i)}{h} \quad (10)$$

with h a an arbitrary small value.

3.4 Adaptation of Newton's method to a set of functions

Let's define \underline{F} , a set of n functions :

$$\underline{F} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\underline{X}) \\ \vdots \\ f_n(\underline{X}) \end{bmatrix} \quad (11)$$

with $\underline{X} = x_1, \dots, x_n$, n parameters. The derivative of each subfunction f_k is the sum of the partial derivative on \underline{X} . It is convenient for what follows to define $\underline{\underline{M}}$, a $n \times n$ matrix, constituted of partial derivative on \underline{X} for columns, with lines dedicated to subfunctions :

$$\underline{\underline{M}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \text{ff} & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

Each elements of $\underline{\underline{M}}$ can be approximated using (9) or (10). For example, using (10) on a set of 3 equations function of $\underline{X} = (x, y, z)$, $\underline{\underline{M}}(\underline{X}_i)$ is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{f_1(x_i+h, y_i, z_i) - f_1(\underline{X}_i)}{h} & \frac{f_1(x_i, y_i+h, z_i) - f_1(\underline{X}_i)}{h} & \frac{f_1(x_i, y_i, z_i+h) - f_1(\underline{X}_i)}{h} \\ \frac{f_2(x_i+h, y_i, z_i) - f_2(\underline{X}_i)}{h} & \frac{f_2(x_i, y_i+h, z_i) - f_2(\underline{X}_i)}{h} & \frac{f_2(x_i, y_i, z_i+h) - f_2(\underline{X}_i)}{h} \\ \frac{f_3(x_i+h, y_i, z_i) - f_3(\underline{X}_i)}{h} & \frac{f_3(x_i, y_i+h, z_i) - f_3(\underline{X}_i)}{h} & \frac{f_3(x_i, y_i, z_i+h) - f_3(\underline{X}_i)}{h} \end{bmatrix} \quad (13)$$

Using (11) and (12), we can now rewrite (8) :

$$\underline{\underline{M}} \cdot \Delta \underline{X} = -\underline{F} \quad (14)$$

$$\Delta \underline{X} = \underline{\underline{M}}^{-1} \cdot -\underline{F} \quad (15)$$