

Table of Contents

Acknowledgments	i
Abstract	ii
Zusammenfassung	iii
Table of Contents	i
List of Figures	iv
List of Tables	x
List of Symbols	xi
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Purposes and scope of study	3
1.3 Organization of dissertation	3
2 Literature Review	5
2.1 Introduction	5
2.2 Studies on granular materials using DEM	5
2.3 Silo flow problems	8
2.3.1 Stress distribution in silos	8
2.3.2 Other experimental studies	12
2.3.3 Numerical studies	13
2.4 Studies about mine shaft backfilling	15
2.4.1 Filling material and schemes	15
2.4.2 Filling techniques	16
2.4.3 Mechanical behavior of backfill column	18
3 Particle Based Simulation Methods	21
3.1 Introduction	21
3.2 Calculation cycle	22
3.3 Basic relations	23
3.3.1 Force-displacement law	23
3.3.2 Law of motion	24
3.4 Contact models	24
3.4.1 Stiffness models	24

3.4.2	Slip model	26
3.4.3	Bonding models.....	26
3.5	Mechanical timestep.....	27
3.6	Damping models	28
3.6.1	Local damping.....	28
3.6.2	Viscous damping.....	28
3.7	Rolling resistance model	30
3.8	Clump and cluster logic.....	34
3.8.1	Clumps	34
3.8.2	Clusters.....	35
3.9	Sample generation in PFC.....	36
3.10	Measurement Logic.....	36
3.11	Handling of large number of particles.....	36
3.12	Servo-controlled walls.....	37
4	Experiments and numerical simulations with glass balls	39
4.1	Interface friction tests.....	39
4.2	Repose tests	40
4.3	Oedometer test.....	43
4.3.1	Oedometer test in the lab.....	43
4.3.2	DEM simulations of oedometer tests	44
4.4	Direct shear test.....	48
4.5	Small scale shaft experiment.....	54
4.6	Conclusions	61
5	Laboratory tests and numerical simulations of ballast material	63
5.1	Preceding considerations.....	63
5.2	Backfill material selection.....	64
5.3	Backfill material properties	64
5.4	Use of Clumps.....	66
5.5	Particle up-scaling.....	68
5.6	Symmetry considerations	69
5.7	Sample generation	69
5.8	Dumping test	70
5.9	Repose test.....	77

5.10	Oedometer compression test	80
5.11	Conclusions from simulations of lab tests.....	88
6	Three dimensional simulation of shaft backfilling.....	89
6.1	Set-up of numerical model	89
6.1.1	Model geometry	89
6.1.2	Particle shape and size.....	91
6.1.3	Input parameters and model settings.....	92
6.1.4	Backfilling process.....	93
6.1.5	DEM analysis of additional loading on top of the ballast column	94
6.1.6	Stability and settlement of ballast under wet conditions.....	96
6.2	Simulation results.....	96
6.2.1	Effect of dumping height.....	100
6.2.2	Effect of particle shape.....	102
6.2.3	Effect of particle size.....	102
6.2.4	Effect of wall friction	105
6.2.5	Effect of backfill stiffness and friction.....	108
6.2.6	Effect of damping.....	111
6.2.7	Silo effect	112
6.2.8	Behaviour of backfill column under additional vertical load.....	115
6.3	Findings.....	118
7	Conclusions and Recommendations.....	121
7.1	Suitability of DEM simulations.....	121
7.2	Mechanical behavior of ballast material as backfill.....	122
7.3	Simulation of shaft backfilling.....	122
7.4	Behavior of backfill in shaft.....	123
7.5	Further work.....	124
	References	127
	Appendices.....	135