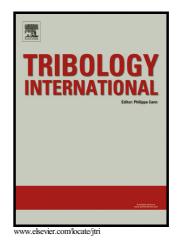
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Y. Waddad, V. Magnier, P. Dufrénoy, G. De Saxcé



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### A multiscale method for frictionless contact mechanics of rough surfaces

Y.Waddad<sup>a,b,c,\*</sup>, V.Magnier<sup>a,b,c</sup>, P.Dufrénoy<sup>a,b,c</sup>, G.De Saxcé<sup>a,b,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Université Lille Nord de France, F-59000 Lille, France
 <sup>b</sup>Lille1-LML, F-59655 Villeneuve dAscq, France
 <sup>c</sup> CNRS, UMR 8107, F-59655 Villeneuve dAscq, France

#### Abstract

An efficient methodology is proposed for the analysis of frictionless contact between rough surfaces. The surface is described by parabolic asperities which deform according to Hertz Theory. The problem is solved considering interactions between elliptic contact zones. Such analysis provide interface laws that are incorporated into a macroscopic numerical model where contact surfaces are flat. This operation is done by means of Love solution for elastic half spaces and the penalty method.

A numerical example of this multiscale method is presented to show its robustness. In comparison with a purely numerical model where roughness is explicitly described, the proposed strategy provides good results and saves a considerable amount of time.

*Keywords:* Surface roughness, Hertz theory, Contact mechanics, Finite element method.

#### Introduction

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Contact mechanics is a fundamental problem in mechanical engineering. It provides necessary information to design safely many systems that involve two or more bodies that are contacting each other, such as braking systems, bladeabradable seals and many others.

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<sup>\*</sup>Corresponding author Email address: waddad.yassine@gmail.com (Y.Waddad)

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