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Interactive comment on "Laboratory and 3-D-distinct element analysis of failure mechanism of slope under external surcharge" by N. Li and Y. M. Cheng

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The friction angle is obtained from several direct shear tests and triaxial tests. Actually, this sand has been used for several tests in our laboratory, including bearing capacity and lateral earth pressure tests as well. From our experience, this sand is stiff with a high friction angle. From Fig.6, it is noticed that the movement at the corners of the top surface is negligible, which is a strong indication of the stiff structure of the soil.

This soil come from a supporting contractor, and is the soil from a slope in Hong Kong.

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