

Press release

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<https://www.efce.org>

Avalanche work sweeps up EFCE particulates award

Work to better understand the behaviour of sand pile avalanches has been awarded the 2019 EFCE Excellence Award in Mechanics of Particulate Solids.

Dr. Matthew Arran won the award for this thesis '*Intermittency between avalanche regimes on grain piles*', which he completed as part of his PhD in the Department of Applied Maths and Theoretical Physics at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom, under the supervision of Nathalie M. Vriend.



Praising Arran's work for its extremely high technical quality, the judges said that the thesis had led to a completely new understanding of avalanche behaviour. "From our understanding, he was able to detect two different avalanche scenarios, and provide an understanding of a new behaviour. He was able to hypothesize why these scenarios could occur and then provide a careful experimental and theoretical explanation to support his hypothesis."

The jury praised the beautiful presentation and innovative scope of the work, which has true scientific impact. "Arran has a unique ability to tell a remarkable story while at the same time incorporating high level theoretical and experimental work."



Matthew Arran (right) received the award from the Chair of the EFCE Working Party on Mechanics of Particulate Solids, Professor Álvaro Ramírez-Gomez (left), during the 2019 PARTEC conference, which took place in Nuremberg, Germany, on 9-11 April 2019.

The prize consists of a €1500 cash prize and travel stipend and was kindly sponsored by Jenike and Johanson Inc.



Ends

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EFCE Working Party on Mechanics of Particulate Solids (<https://efce.info/wpmps.html>)

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Notes to media:

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About EFCE

Founded in 1953, The European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE) is a non-profit-making association, whose object is to promote co-operation in Europe between non-profit-making professional scientific and technical societies in 30 countries for the general advancement of chemical engineering and as a means of furthering the development of chemical engineering. See www.efce.org

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