

Abstract Submitted
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Velocity fluctuations in granular mixtures in a rotating drum JI-
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of Minnesota — Dense free surface granular flow often has two regimes. In the lower
region, particles slide over one another in dense, low-energy laminar-like flow. In
the upper region, particles bounce and “saltate” over one another in an energetic,
low-density cloud. We numerically study the magnitude of velocity fluctuations –
often associated with a granular temperature – for mixtures of particles differing
in size and density in these two regimes coexisting in a rotating drum. We found
that differences in the velocity fluctuation between the different mixture components
depend on the regime of the flowing layer. In the low-density energetic regime, the
velocity fluctuations of a component relative to the mixture vary with mass: heavier
particles have smaller velocity fluctuations than lighter particles in the same mix-
ture, regardless of size difference. In the high-density, low-energy regime, the smaller
particles always have larger velocity fluctuations than the larger particles. We show
this difference is attributable to the regime of flow: where the volume fraction is
relatively low near surface, collisions dominates the interactions between particles;
below the low volume region, geometric constraints dominate the interactions be-
tween particles.

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