

## Basic measures of stress

### Stress Tensor

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{xz} \\ \sigma_{yx} & \sigma_{yy} & \sigma_{yz} \\ \sigma_{zx} & \sigma_{zy} & \sigma_{zz} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $\sigma_{xx}$  is normal stress on plane x  
and  $\sigma_{xy}$  is shear stress on plane x parallel to axis y

$\mathbf{T}$  is symmetric (i.e.  $\sigma_{xy} = \sigma_{yx}$ )

### Principal stresses

$\sigma_1 > \sigma_2 > \sigma_3$  are the normal stresses that operate parallel to the eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{T}$  (the stress axes).

### Mean stress

If the magnitudes of the principal stresses are  $\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3$  then:

$$\sigma_m = (\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3)/3$$

### Differential stress

$$\sigma_d = \sigma_1 - \sigma_3$$

Maximum shear stress =  $\sigma_d/2$

### Deviatoric stress

$$\mathbf{T}_d = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{xx} - \sigma_m & \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{xz} \\ \sigma_{yx} & \sigma_{yy} - \sigma_m & \sigma_{yz} \\ \sigma_{zx} & \sigma_{zy} & \sigma_{zz} - \sigma_m \end{pmatrix}$$

### Stress on a plane

For a plane with unit normal vector vector  $\mathbf{x}$ ,

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{x}$$

Resolved normal stress  $\sigma_n = \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{x}$

If  $\sigma$  is the magnitude of the stress on the plane,  
 $\sigma_n$  is the magnitude of the normal stress and  $\sigma_s$  is  
the magnitude of the shear stress, then:

$$\sigma^2 = \sigma_n^2 + \sigma_s^2$$

## Basic measures of strain

### Strain in one dimension

**Extension** (sometimes elongation)  $e = (l-l_0)/l_0$

**Stretch**  $S = l/l_0 = 1+e$

**Quadratic elongation**  $\lambda = l^2/l_0^2 = (1+e)^2$

**Natural strain**  $\varepsilon = \ln(S) = \ln(1+e) = \ln(l/l_0)$

where original length is  $l_0$  and new length is  $l$

**Engineering shear strain**  $\gamma = \tan \psi$

**Tensor shear strain**  $e_s = 0.5 \tan \psi$

where angle of shear is  $\psi$

### Strain in 2 dimensions\*

Principal strains are designated by subscripts 1 and 3, e.g. principal elongations are  $e_1 > e_3$   
principal stretches are  $S_1=X, S_3=Z$

**Strain ratio**  $R_s = S_1/S_3$

**Dilation**  $1+\Delta = S_1 S_3$

### Fundamental strain equations (Mohr circle)

For a line at an angle  $\theta$  from the  $S_1$  axis,

if  $\lambda' = l/\lambda$  and  $\gamma' = \gamma/\lambda$  then

$$\lambda' = \frac{\lambda'_3 + \lambda'_1}{2} - \frac{\lambda'_3 - \lambda'_1}{2} \cos(2\theta)$$

and

$$\gamma' = \frac{\lambda'_3 - \lambda'_1}{2} \sin(2\theta)$$

If  $\lambda'$  is plotted against  $\gamma'$  these are the equations of a circle centred at  $\lambda = \frac{\lambda'_3 + \lambda'_1}{2}$  with radius  $\frac{\lambda'_3 - \lambda'_1}{2}$

### Shear zones

For a simple shear zone with angle of shear  $\psi$ , shear strain  $\gamma$ , the extension axis  $S_1$  is inclined to the shear zone boundary with angle  $\theta$  given by:

$$\gamma = \tan(\psi) = 2 / \tan(2\theta)$$

### Reorientation of lines from strain ellipse

For a line with initial orientation  $\alpha$  and orientation after deformation  $\alpha'$

$$\tan(\alpha - \theta) / \tan(\alpha' - \theta) = R_s$$

where  $R_s$  is the strain ratio,  $\theta$  is initial clockwise angle of  $S_1$  from x axis;  $\theta'$  is clockwise angle of  $S_1$  from x axis after deformation.

### Strain in 3 dimensions\*

Principal strains are designated by subscripts 1, 2 and 3, e.g. principal elongations are  $e_1 > e_2 > e_3$   
Principal stretches are  $S_1=X, S_2=Y, S_3=Z$

**Dilation**  $1+\Delta = S_1 S_2 S_3$

**Condition for plane strain:**  $S_2=1; S_1 S_3=1$

### Strain ratios for Flinn plot

$$a = S_1/S_2$$

$$b = S_2/S_3$$

Shape parameter  $k = a/b$

\*Note: the formulas are based on Ramsay, J.G., and Huber, M.I. (1983) *The Techniques of Modern Structural Geology, Volume 1: Strain Analysis*, Academic Press, London, but with sign convention modified for clockwise measurement of angles and shear strains