



Mohr's Circle Documentation

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This is a detailed documentation of the theory related to Mohr Circle and the Mohr Circle App. This is a final term project for the Course of ME 321 - Mechanics of Deformable bodies under the guidance of Prof. Ravi Shastri Ayyagari. To use the app, go to ([Rwik2000/MohrCircleGame \(github.com\)](https://github.com/Rwik2000/MohrCircleGame))

THEORY

- **What is Mohr's Circle, and why is it used?**

Mohr's circle is a useful graphical technique for finding principal stresses and strains in a material. Mohr's circle helps in calculating the principal angles (orientations) corresponding to the principal stresses or principal strains without using the stress or strain transformation equations. It also helps in finding out the value of normal and shear stresses at any specified angle.

- **How to Draw a Mohr's Circle?**

There are four different types of Mohr's Circle for four different cases.

1. Mohr's Circle for 2 Dimensional Stresses
2. Mohr's Circle for 3 Dimensional Stresses
3. Mohr's Circle for 2 Dimensional Strains
4. Mohr's Circle for 3 Dimensional Strains



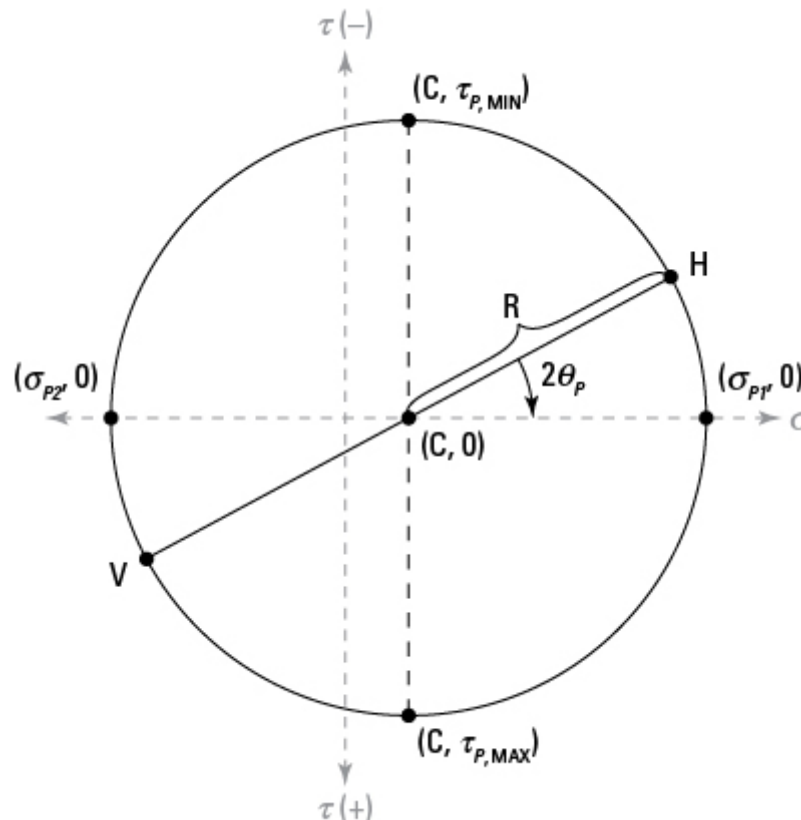
Mohr's Circle for 2 Dimensional Stress

For stresses that act on a body in a 2-D manner, 2-D Mohr's Circle is a simple and effective way to find out the principal stresses and their respective principal angles. This method also helps us find out the Normal and Shear stresses at any given angle with which the plane is rotated.



STEPS

1. Starting with a stress or strain element in the XY plane, construct a grid with normal stress on the horizontal axis and shear stress on the vertical. (Positive shear stress plots at the bottom.)
2. Plot the vertical face coordinates $V(\sigma_{xx}, -\tau_{xy})$.
3. Plot the horizontal coordinates $H(\sigma_{yy}, \tau_{xy})$. The sign of τ_{xy} is very essential in





finding out the correct mohr circle. It should be noted that the sign of τ_{xy} with σ_{xx} is negative because the shear stresses on the horizontal faces are creating a couple. This balances (or acts in the opposite direction of) the shear stresses on the vertical faces.

4. Draw a diameter line connecting Points V (from Step 1) and H (from Step 2).
5. Sketch the circle around the diameter from Step 3. The circle should pass through Points V and H, as shown here.
6. Compute the normal stress position for the circle's center point (C).

$$C = \frac{\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy}}{2}$$

7. Calculate the radius (R) for the circle.

$$R = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sigma_{xx} - \sigma_{yy}}{2}\right)^2 + (\tau_{xy})^2}$$

8. Determine the principal stresses σ_{P1} and σ_{P2} .

$$\sigma_{P1,P2} = C \pm R$$

9. Compute the principal angles θ_{P1} and θ_{P2} .

$$2\theta_{P1} = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2\tau_{xy}}{\sigma_{xx} - \sigma_{yy}} \right)$$

$$2\theta_{P2} = 2\theta_{P1} + 180^\circ$$

One could also use equations directly (instead of Mohr's circle) to determine transformed stresses at any angle:

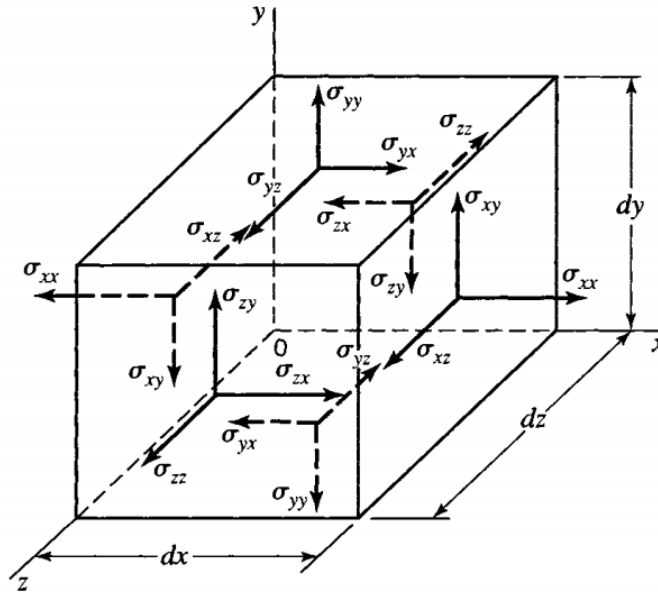
$$\sigma_{x'l} = \left(\frac{\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy}}{2} \right) + \left(\frac{\sigma_{xx} - \sigma_{yy}}{2} \right) \cos 2\theta + \tau_{xy} \sin 2\theta$$

$$\sigma_{x'l} = - \left(\frac{\sigma_{xx} - \sigma_{yy}}{2} \right) \sin 2\theta + \tau_{xy} \cos 2\theta$$



Mohr's Circle for 3 Dimensional Stress

Let us take a small cube of dimension (dx, dy, dz) from a large 3-D solid. Normal and shear stress will act on each face of the cube. ' σ_{ii} ' is the normal stress and σ_{ij} is the shear stress on each face ($i, j = x, y, z$). All total there are nine components, and these will describe the state of stress at a point. These nine components are shown in the figure below :



STEPS :

1. For the calculator purpose, we will be using the stress tensor (T)

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{zx} \\ \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{yy} & \sigma_{yz} \\ \sigma_{zx} & \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{zz} \end{bmatrix}$$

2. Assuming only surface force and body forces are acting on the body. Thus summing of the moment will give us the following result:

$$\sigma_{yz} = \sigma_{zy}, \sigma_{zx} = \sigma_{xz}, \sigma_{xy} = \sigma_{yx}$$



- The next steps involve finding the characteristic equation of the stress tensor and the corresponding eigen values.

$$|T - \sigma I| = 0$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} \sigma_{xx} - \sigma & \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{xz} \\ \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{yy} - \sigma & \sigma_{yz} \\ \sigma_{xz} & \sigma_{yz} & \sigma_{zz} - \sigma \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

- Solving the determination, we get

$$\sigma^3 - I_1 \sigma^2 + I_2 \sigma - I_3 = 0$$

This is the characteristic equation of the Stress tensor where the solution for σ gives the corresponding eigenvalues and thus the principal stresses. In the above equation, I_1 , I_2 , I_3 are :

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy} + \sigma_{zz} \\ I_2 &= \begin{vmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & \sigma_{xy} \\ \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{yy} \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & \sigma_{xz} \\ \sigma_{xz} & \sigma_{zz} \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} \sigma_{yy} & \sigma_{yz} \\ \sigma_{yz} & \sigma_{zz} \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \sigma_{xx}\sigma_{yy} + \sigma_{xx}\sigma_{zz} + \sigma_{yy}\sigma_{zz} - \sigma_{xy}^2 - \sigma_{xz}^2 - \sigma_{yz}^2 \\ I_3 &= \begin{vmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{xz} \\ \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{yy} & \sigma_{yz} \\ \sigma_{xz} & \sigma_{yz} & \sigma_{zz} \end{vmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

If principal stresses are known, then I_1 , I_2 , I_3 can be expressed in terms of the principal stresses.

$$I_1 = \sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3$$

$$I_2 = \sigma_1\sigma_2 + \sigma_2\sigma_3 + \sigma_1\sigma_3$$

$$I_3 = \sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3$$

- Putting the value of I_1 , I_2 and I_3 on the above cubic equation, we can find the principal stresses.

The roots the cubic equation will be σ_1 , σ_2 and σ_3 such that

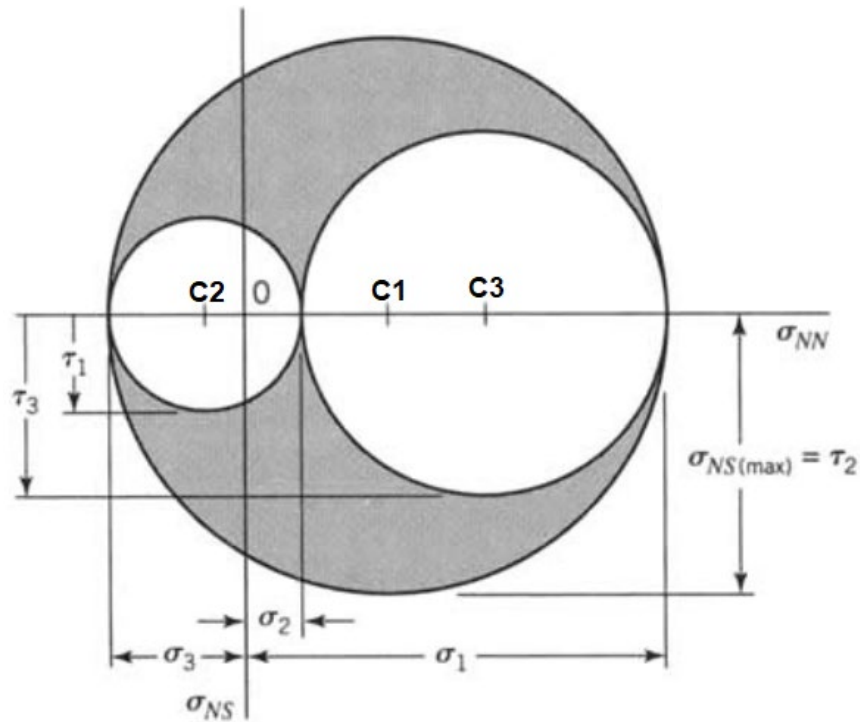
$$\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \sigma_3$$



6. Once we find out the principal stresses, we plot the corresponding circles. The centres and radii of the circle are found out using :

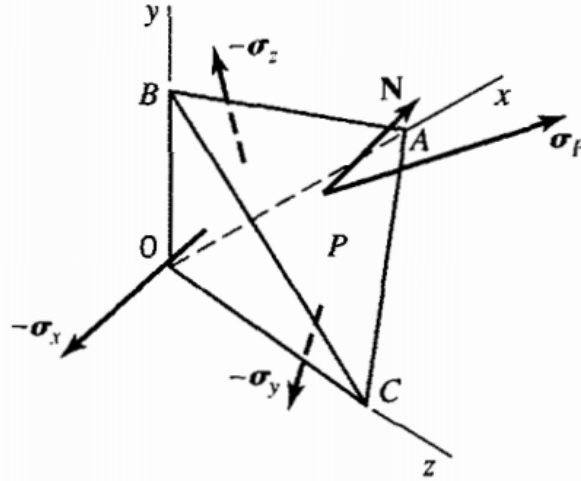
$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &: \left(\frac{\sigma_1 + \sigma_3}{2}, 0 \right) & R_1 &= \frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma_3}{2} \\ C_2 &: \left(\frac{\sigma_2 + \sigma_3}{2}, 0 \right) & R_2 &= \frac{\sigma_2 - \sigma_3}{2} \\ C_3 &: \left(\frac{\sigma_1 + \sigma_2}{2}, 0 \right) & R_3 &= \frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma_2}{2} \end{aligned}$$

7. Plot C_1 , C_2 , C_3 on the principal stress axis, i.e. on the σ_{NN} axis. Now using these centres, draw circles using the found radii. The shaded area shown in the figure is the permissible area (including the perimeters), i.e. only combinations of normal and shear stresses that lie in this region are possible.





8. To find the Normal and shear stresses on a plane, find out the direction cosines (l, m, n) of the normal of the planes



$$l = \cos(\alpha)$$

$$m = \cos(\beta)$$

$$n = \cos(\gamma)$$

Such that

$$l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = 1$$

here, α, β, γ are the angles made by the Normal to x, y and z -axes respectively.

9. The Normal Stress σ_{NN} on plane P is given by :

$$\sigma_{NN} = l^2 \sigma_1 + m^2 \sigma_2 + n^2 \sigma_3$$

10. Thus, the Shear stress σ_{NS} on the plane is

$$\sigma_{NS}^2 = l^2 \sigma_1^2 + m^2 \sigma_2^2 + n^2 \sigma_3^2 - \sigma_{NN}^2$$

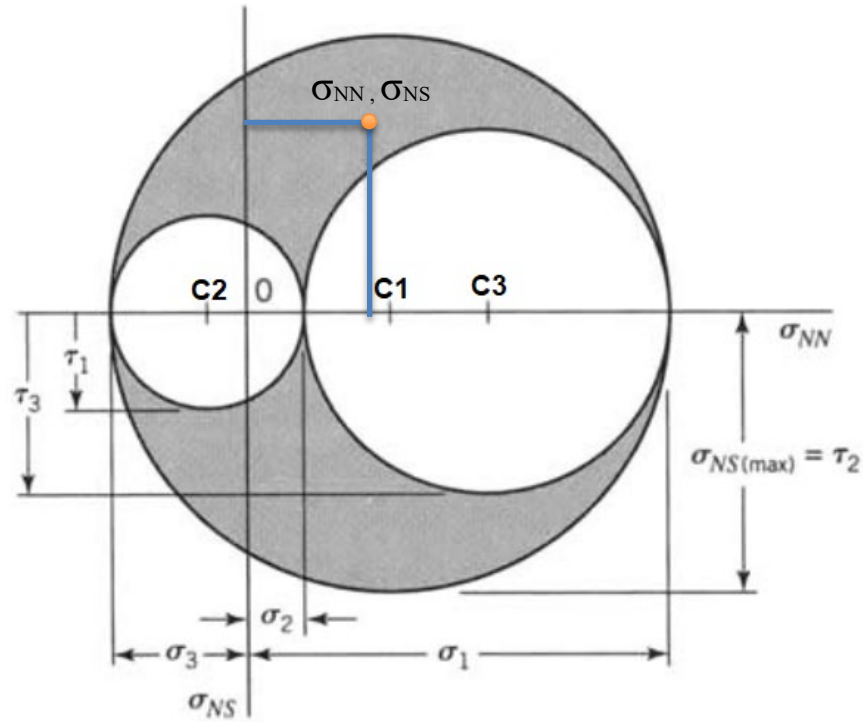
Maximum Shear stress is

$$\tau_{\max} = \sigma_{NS(\max)} = \frac{\sigma_{\max} - \sigma_{\min}}{2}$$

11. It should be noted that the direction of the shear stress cannot be found out using this method, and hence, by default, the out app takes the direction as positive. Plot the points $(\sigma_{NN}, \sigma_{NS})$. As the direction cosines satisfy $l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = 1$, the resulting point is ensured to be within the permissible region.



Thus finally, we get :



Mohr's Circle for strains

Mohr's Circle for strains has exactly the same procedure as that of Mohr's circle for stresses with the only difference being :

1. 2-Dimension - Instead of plotting $(\epsilon_{xx}, -\epsilon_{xy})$, (just like $(\sigma_{xx}, -\tau_{xy})$), we plot $(\epsilon_{xx}, -\epsilon_{xy}/2)$, and follow the same procedure as that Stresses.
2. 3-Dimension – Similar to the above point, instead of putting the valu of τ_{xy} , τ_{yz} , τ_{zx} , directly in the stress tensor, one has to divide the shear strains respectively by 2 and then put these values in the stress tensor. All the other steps are just the same as that of 3-Dimensional Mohr Circle