

## ESS 411/511 Geophysical Continuum Mechanics Class #13

Highlights from Class #12 – Xinyu Wan  
Today's highlights on Friday – Maleen Kidiwela

For Friday class

- Please read Mase, Smelser, and Mase, Ch 3 through Section 3.8

Your short CR/NC Pre-class prep writing assignment (1 point) in Canvas

- It will be due in Canvas at the start of class.
- I will send another message when it is posted in Canvas.

## ESS 411/511 Geophysical Continuum Mechanics

### Broad Outline for the Quarter

- Continuum mechanics in 1-D
- 1-D models with springs, dashpots, sliding blocks
- Attenuation
- Mathematical tools – vectors, tensors, coordinate changes
- Stress – principal values, **Mohr's circles for 3-D stress**
- Coulomb failure, pore pressure, crustal strength
- Measuring stress in the Earth
- Strain – Finite strain; infinitesimal strains
- Moments – lithosphere bending; Earthquake moment magnitude
- Conservation laws
- Constitutive relations for elastic and viscous materials
- Elastic waves; kinematic waves

## Class-prep questions for today (break-out rooms)

### Mohr's circles

Why are Mohr's circles actually *circles* in stress space, and not some other shape, such as general ellipses for example?

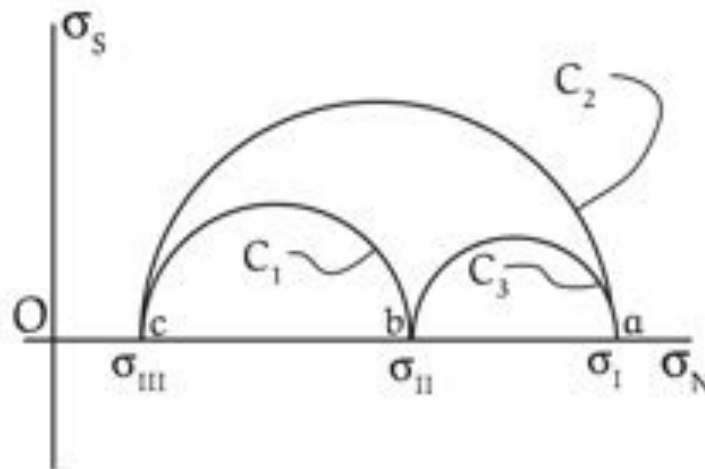
For a given stress tensor  $t_{ij}$  in stress space, with principal stresses

$$\sigma_I > \sigma_{II} > \sigma_{III}$$

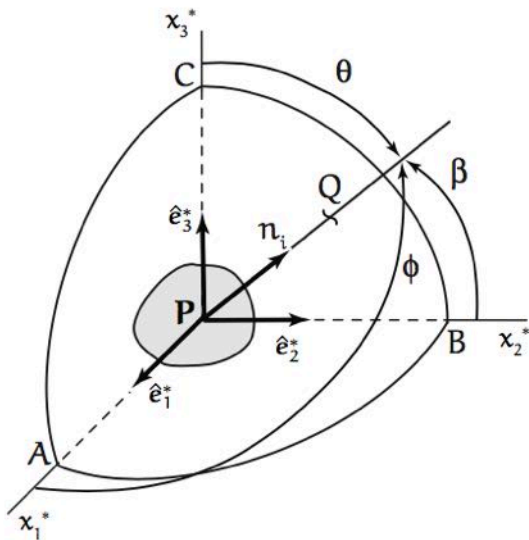
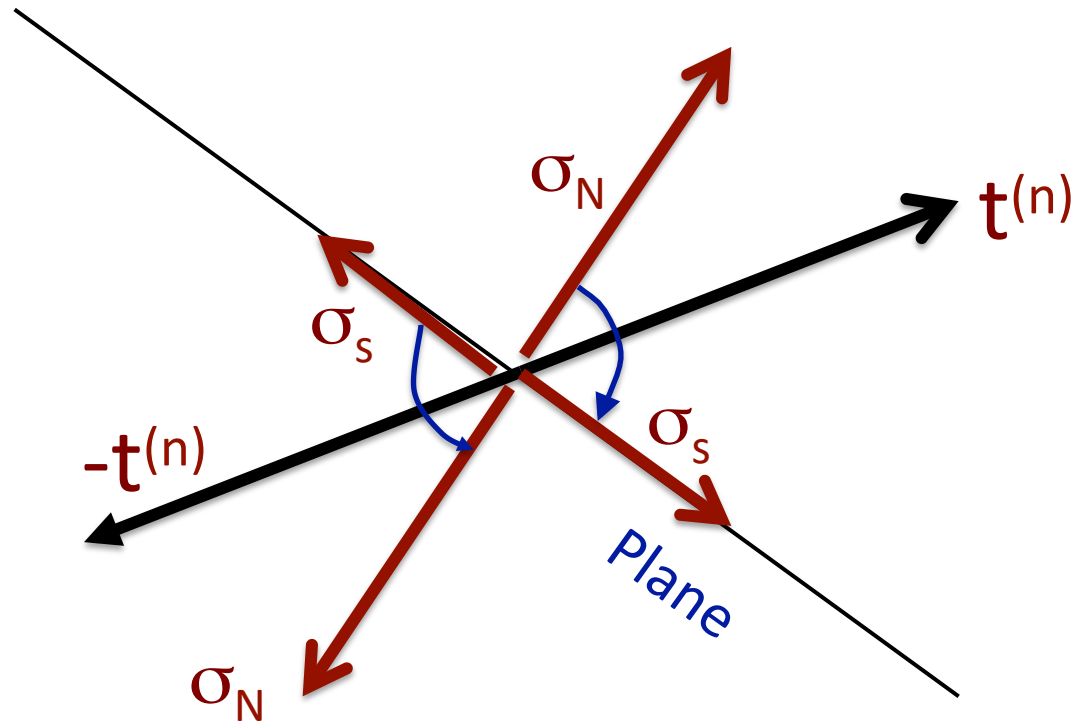
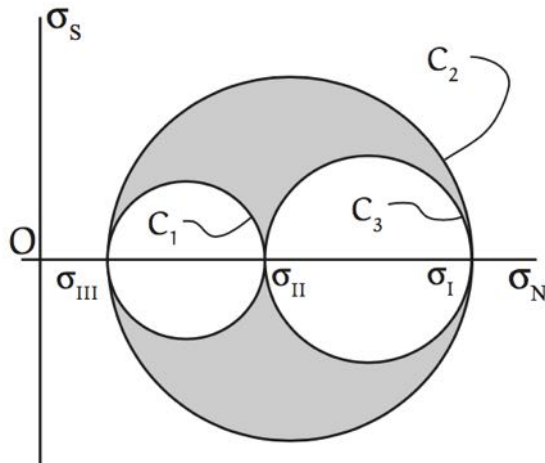
the normal and shear components of  $t_{ij}$ ,  $\sigma_N$  and  $\sigma_S$  for all possible planes with normal vectors  $n_i$  plot in a restricted areas in stress space, and all other areas are “out of bounds”.

In which area do *all* the possible stress states  $(\sigma_N, \sigma_S)$  plot in the stress-space diagram?

Why do Mohr's circles always seem to stop at  $\sigma_S = 0$ ? Is a negative shear component impossible?



## Mohr's circles in 4<sup>th</sup> quadrant



Normal vectors  $n_j$  defining a plane can point in either direction, e.g. into opposite octant in Cartesian space

# Problem Set #1

- Remember to include *units* when you evaluate expressions
- Some of you interpreted 1(f) to be about shearing the lithosphere.

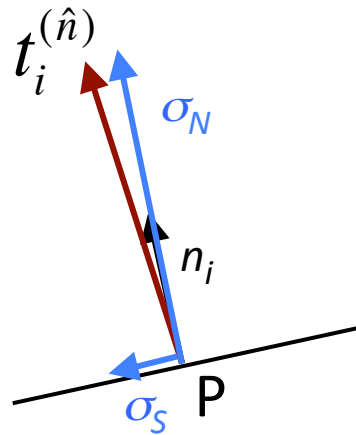
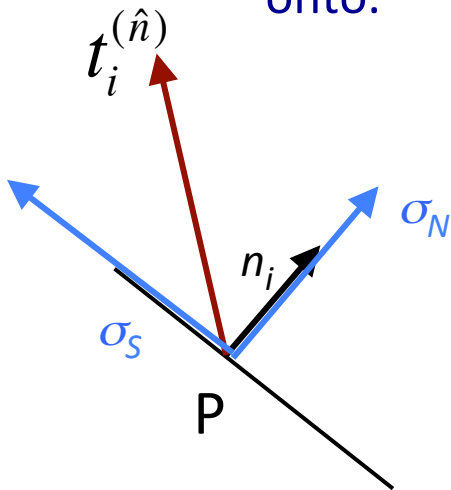
If you used the thickness of the asthenosphere (~200 km), you would have found that the strain rate fell below the minimum strain rate needed for failure.

## Question 2 – viscosity of silly putty

- Some of you are clearly theoreticians rather than experimentalists. You never told me how you would set up an experiment in your Lab.

## Section 3.7 – Minimum and maximum stress values

$\sigma_N$  and  $\sigma_S$  can vary dramatically depending on which plane the traction vector  $t_i^{(\hat{n})}$  is resolved onto.



# Cartesian Space vs Stress Space

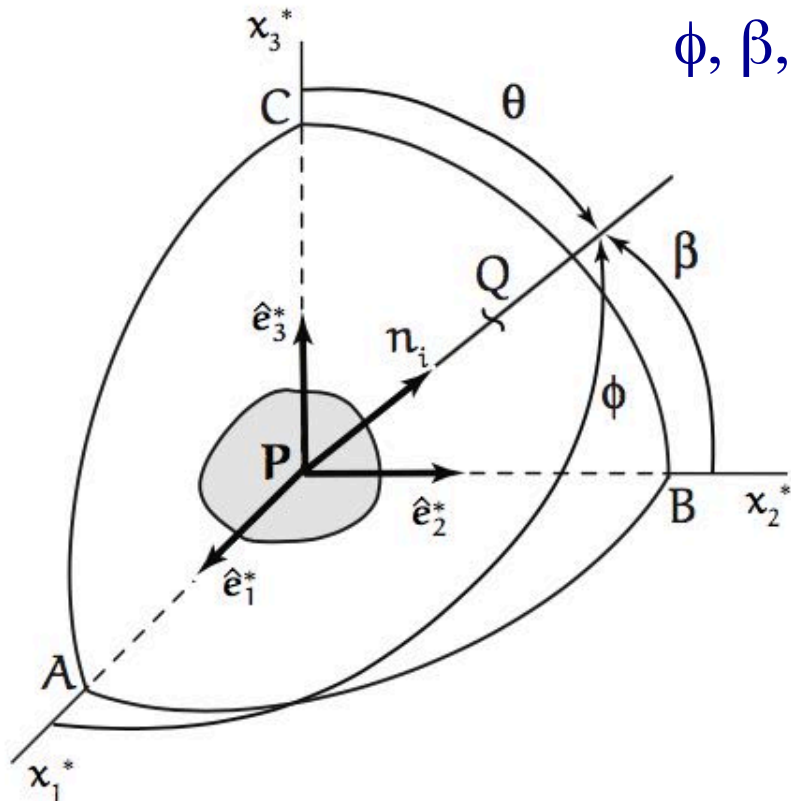
$\hat{e}_i^*$  are principal directions defining principal planes at **P**.

Lower-case letters in stress space correspond to upper-case letters in Cartesian space.

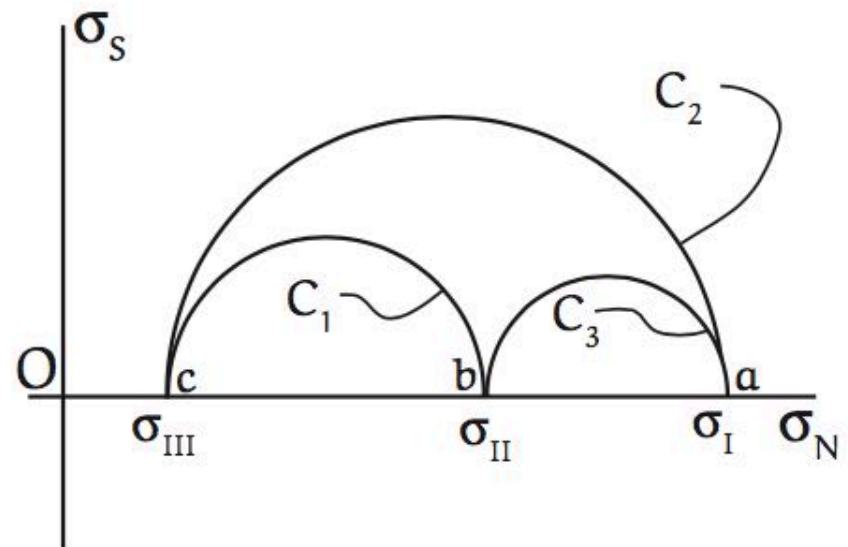
End point **Q** of unit vector  $n_i$  can fall anywhere on unit sphere centered at **P**.

$\phi, \beta, \theta$  relate **Q** to coordinate axes.

The 3 circles correspond to **Q** lying in a principal plane.



(a) Octant of small spherical portion of body together with plane at **P** with normal  $n_i$  referred to principal axes  $Ox_1^*x_2^*x_3^*$ .



(b) Mohr's stress semicircle for octant of Fig. 3.14(a).

# Cartesian Space vs Stress Space

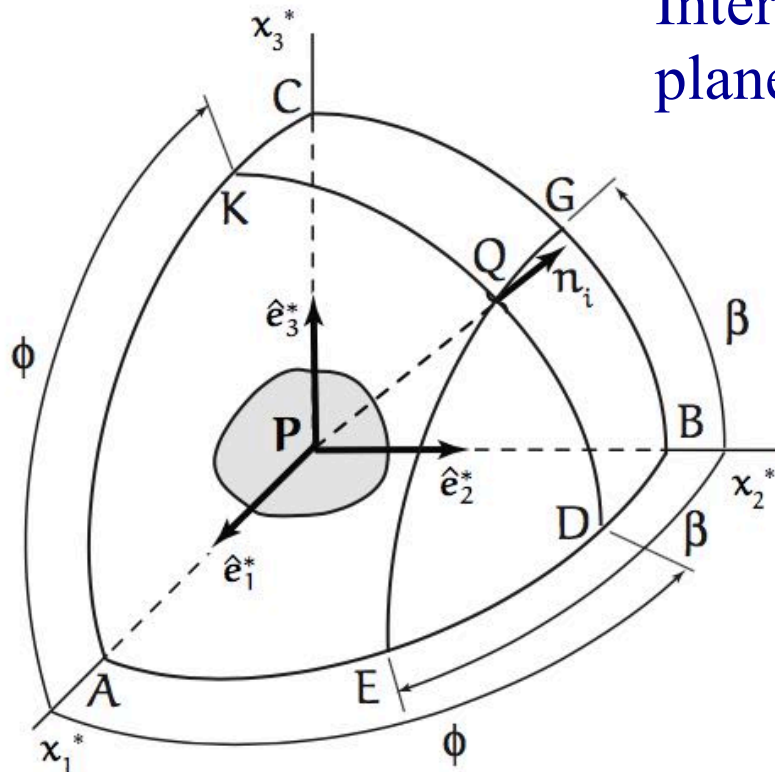
$\hat{e}_i^*$  are principal directions defining principal planes at **P**.

Small circles in Cartesian space (e.g. EQG) map onto circles (e.g. eqg) concentric with primary Mohr's circles (e.g. akc).

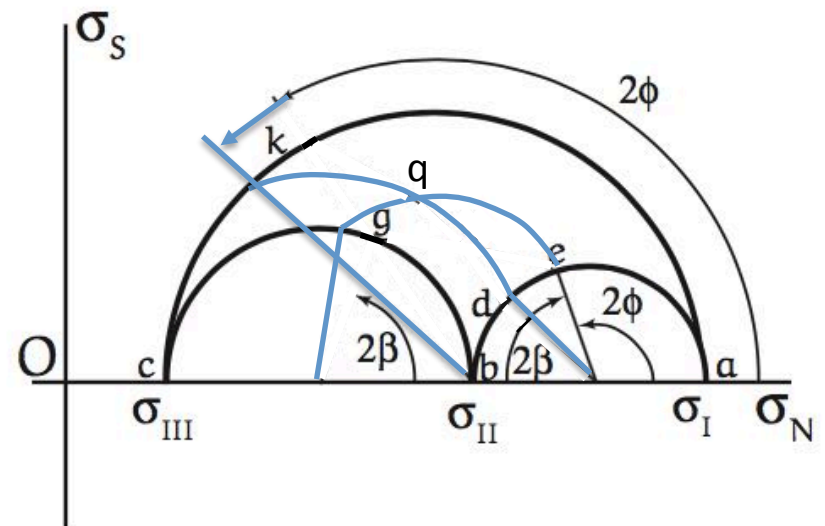
Similarly, KQD maps onto kqd.

Intersection at **q** shows  $\sigma_N$  and  $\sigma_s$  on plane defined by normal vector  $n_i$  at **Q**.

(I have attempted to (sort of) correct the stress-plane figure below. ☺ )



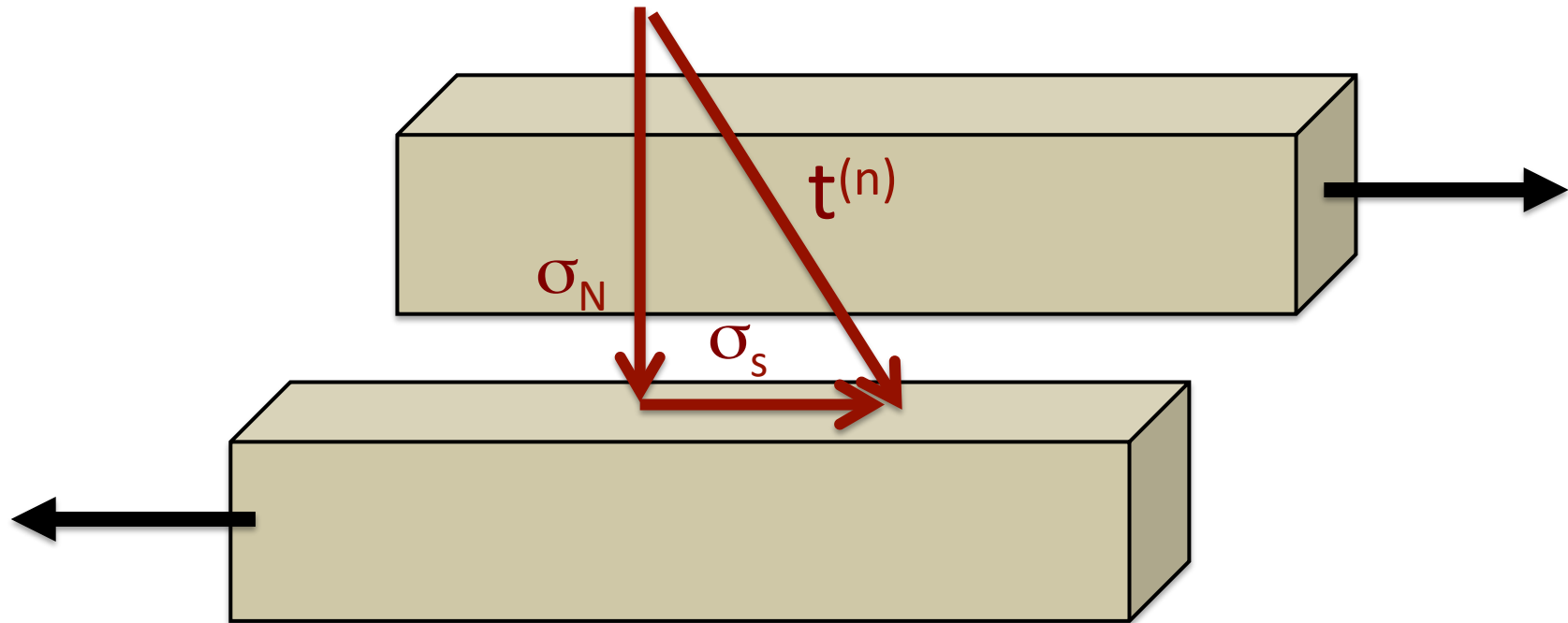
(a) Reference angles  $\phi$  and  $\beta$  for intersection point **Q** on surface of body octant.



(b) Mohr's stress semicircle for octant of Fig. 3.15(a).

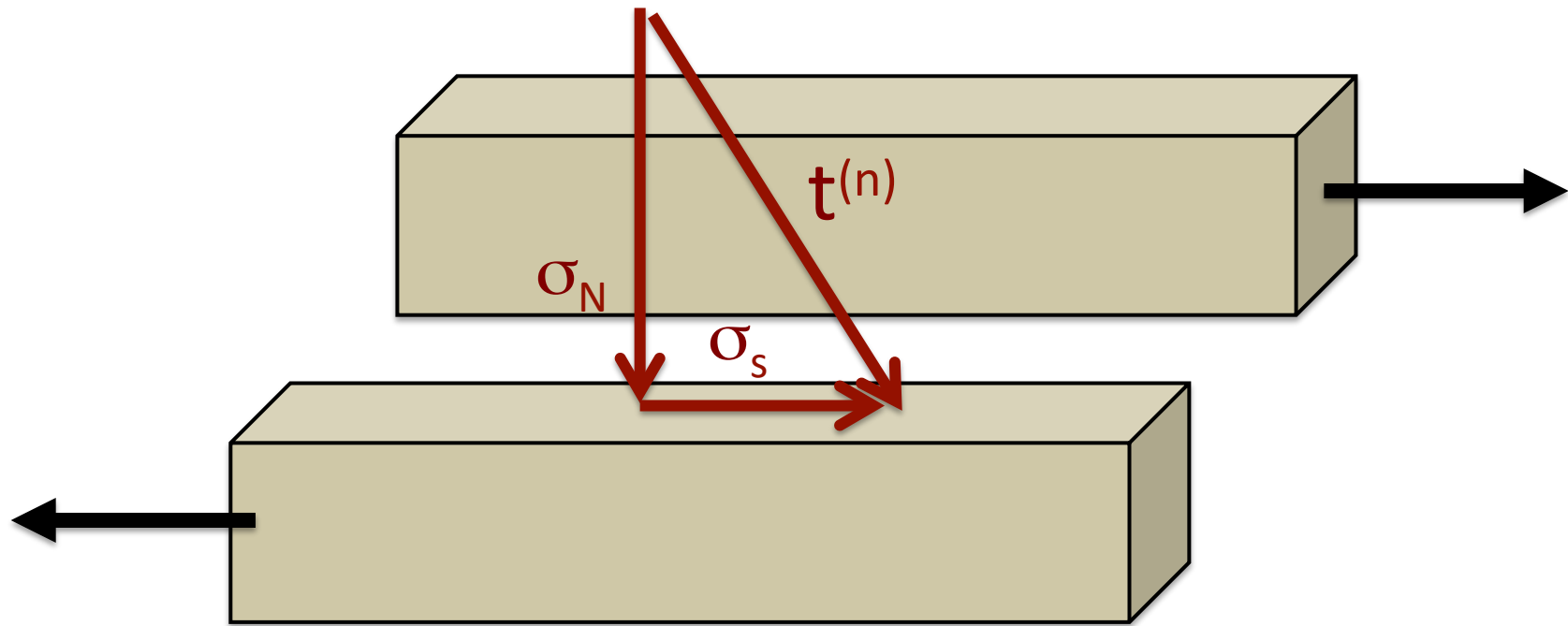


## Sliding friction



$$\sigma_s = -\mu \sigma_N \quad \mu \text{ is } \textit{coefficient of friction} \text{ for sliding on a pre-existing break}$$

## Mohr-Coulomb Fracture



$\sigma_s = -n \sigma_N$   $n$  is **cohesion**, or internal friction  
opposing rupture in unbroken  
material