

## ESS 411/511 Geophysical Continuum Mechanics Class #14

Highlights from Class #13 – John-Morgan Manos  
Today's highlights on Monday – Alysa Fintel

Our text doesn't cover our next topics very thoroughly, so we will use a few other sources, which are posted on the class web site under READING & NOTES. <https://courses.washington.edu/ess511/NOTES/notes.shtml>

For Monday class – Please read

- Stein and Wyss session 5.7.2
- Stein and Wyss session 5.7.3/4
- Raymond notes on failure

Also see slides about upcoming topics

- Failure and Mohr's circles – slides

## 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

# Midterm

- Study questions will be posted this weekend.
- HW session next Thursday will be devoted to the study questions

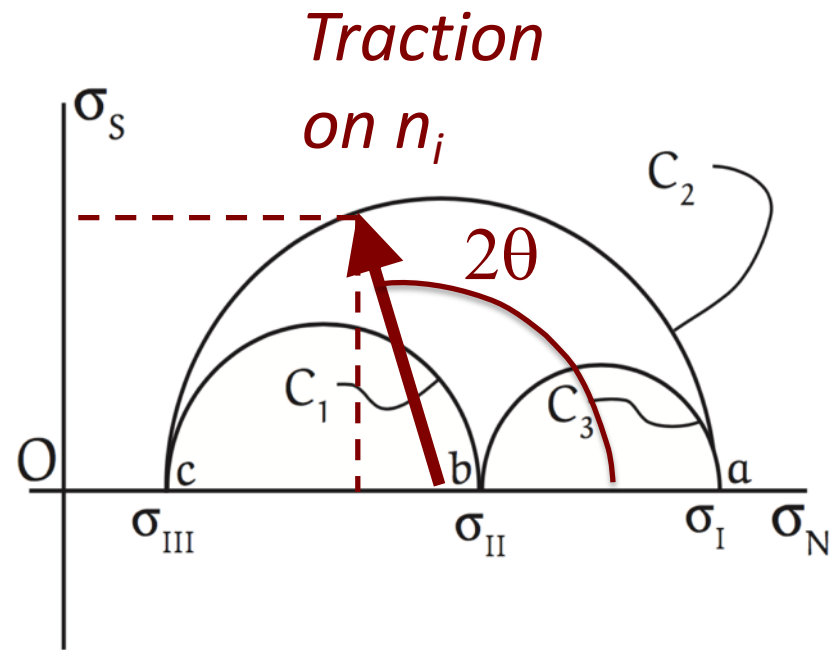
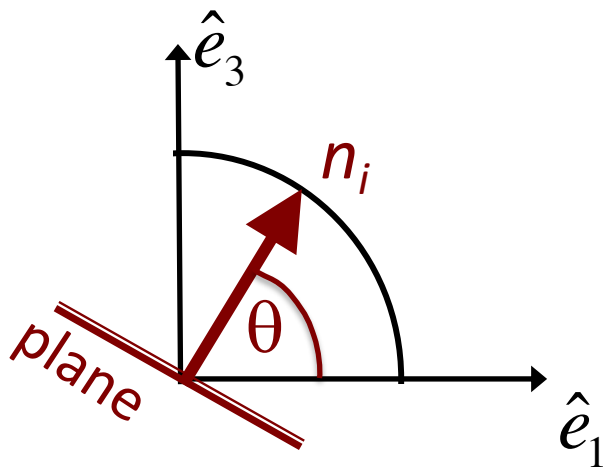
# Problem Set #1

- Remember to include *units* when you evaluate expressions
- Q 1 – some of you got the correct equation for stress evolution  $n$  (a), then totally ignored it when drawing your graphs.
- 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 shear strain rate fell below the minimum strain rate needed for failure in (c).
- 1(f) some of you didn't use the thickness of the asthenosphere (100 – 200 km), or the typical rate of plate motion (1-10 cm per year) to estimate the strain rate.

## 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.
- Data from some of your experiments would require very complicated interpretation.

## Mohr's circle in 2-D view



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### Revisiting creation of 3 Mohr's circles for stress state $\sigma_{ij}$

- $\sigma_I, \sigma_{II}, \sigma_{III}$  are principal stresses
- $n_i$  is normal vector to a plane at point P
- $\sigma_N$  and  $\sigma_S$  are normal and shear components of traction vector  $t_i^{(n)} = \sigma_{ij} n_j$  on that plane

Projection of  $t_i^{(n)}$  onto  $n_i$

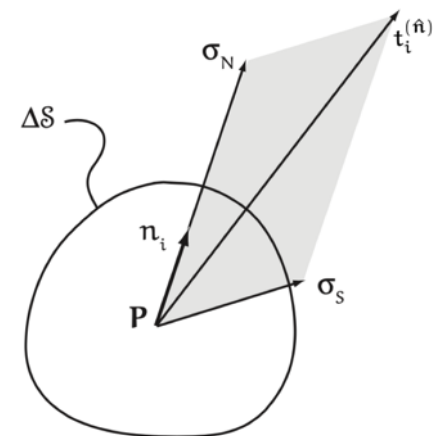
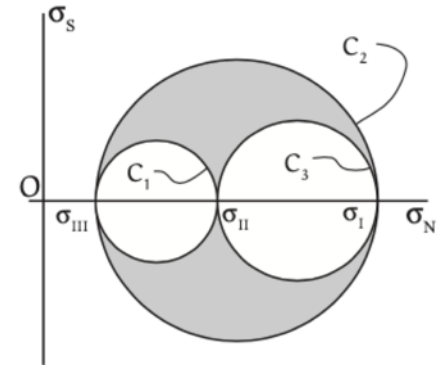
$$\sigma_N = \sigma_I n_1^2 + \sigma_{II} n_2^2 + \sigma_{III} n_3^2$$

Pythagoras gives  $\sigma_S$

$$\sigma_N^2 + \sigma_S^2 = \sigma_I^2 n_1^2 + \sigma_{II}^2 n_2^2 + \sigma_{III}^2 n_3^2$$

$n_i$  is a unit vector

$$n_1^2 + n_2^2 + n_3^2 = 1$$



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### Revisiting creation of 3 Mohr's circles

We can use those 3 equations to find  $n_i$ , the plane on which traction  $\sigma_N$  and  $\sigma_S$  exists

use those 3 equations to find all the values of  $\sigma_N$  and  $\sigma_S$  that satisfy the equality in

$$n_1^2 = \frac{(\sigma_N - \sigma_{II})(\sigma_N - \sigma_{III}) + \sigma_S^2}{(\sigma_I - \sigma_{II})(\sigma_I - \sigma_{III})} \quad \text{Denominator } > 0$$

$$n_2^2 = \frac{(\sigma_N - \sigma_{III})(\sigma_N - \sigma_I) + \sigma_S^2}{(\sigma_{II} - \sigma_{III})(\sigma_{II} - \sigma_I)} \quad \text{Denominator } < 0$$

$$n_3^2 = \frac{(\sigma_N - \sigma_I)(\sigma_N - \sigma_{II}) + \sigma_S^2}{(\sigma_{III} - \sigma_I)(\sigma_{III} - \sigma_{II})} \quad \text{Denominator } > 0$$

We can also multiply each equation by the denominator on the RHS term

The LHS squares are always non-negative.

Knowing the signs of the denominators, we can create 3 inequalities involving the RHS numerators

This gives the Mohr's circle connecting  $\sigma_{II}$  and  $\sigma_{III}$

The inequality allows all  $\sigma_N$  and  $\sigma_S$  that fall outside the circle

$$(\sigma_N - \sigma_{II})(\sigma_N - \sigma_{III}) + \sigma_S^2 \geq 0$$

## Revisiting creation of 3 Mohr's circles

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We can also use those 3 equations to find all the values of  $\sigma_N$  and  $\sigma_S$  that satisfy the equality in

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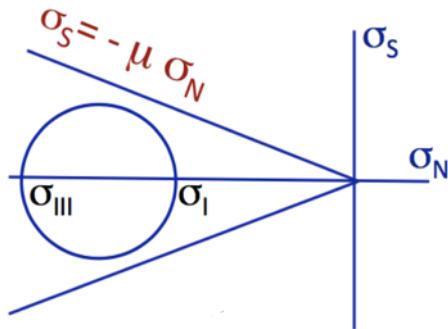


## Class-prep questions for today

### Failure of materials

Faults can slip when shear stress  $\sigma_S$  is large enough to overcome frictional resistance. Frictional resistance to failure can be modeled as increasing proportional to the normal traction  $\sigma_N$ .

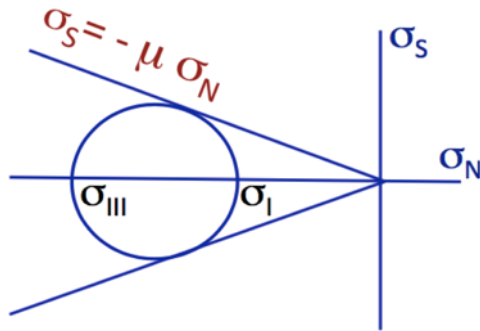
In stress space, if a stress state  $\sigma_N$  and  $\sigma_S$  exists that intersects or touches the frictional line, then the plane represented at that point can fail.



In the diagrams, all principal stresses are negative.

- Are they compressive or extensile?
- In the first diagram, do any stress states exist outside the circle shown?
- Can any faults fail in this stress field?

In the second diagram (below):



- What has changed in the stress field?
- Can any faults fail in this new stress field?
- If yes, how many different faults can fail?
- How could you identify the orientation(s) from the Mohr's circle?

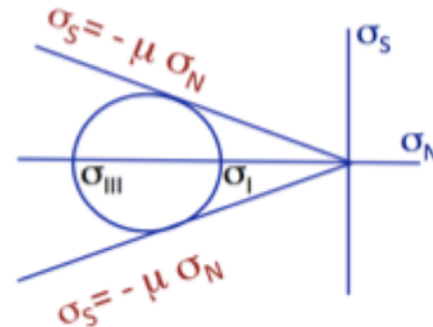
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Prep for Class 15 on Monday

### Failure of materials

Last class, we looked at frictional sliding on pre-existing fractures or faults with a coefficient of friction  $\mu$ .

- What physical characteristics of a surface cause friction?



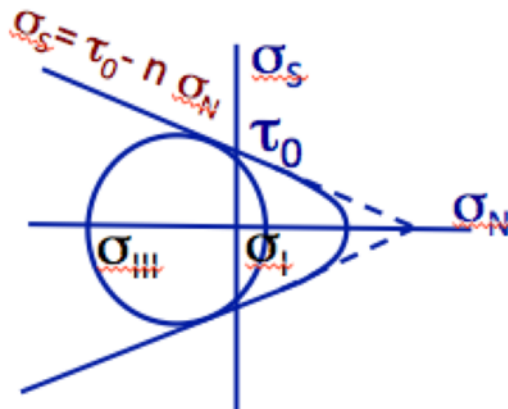
Now we are going to actually break new rocks.

Mohr-Coulomb failure

$$\sigma_S = \tau_0 - n \sigma_N$$

$n$  = **coefficient of internal friction** for fracture on a new fault surface

$\tau_0$  = cohesion of the material



- Explain what you think  $n$  and  $\tau_0$  might mean in terms of micro-scale processes at the micro-crack, crystalline, or lattice scales.
- Why do you think the failure envelope is rounded off at the right? Think about the sign of  $\sigma_N$  and the processes that might contribute to internal friction.

# Cartesian Space vs Stress Space

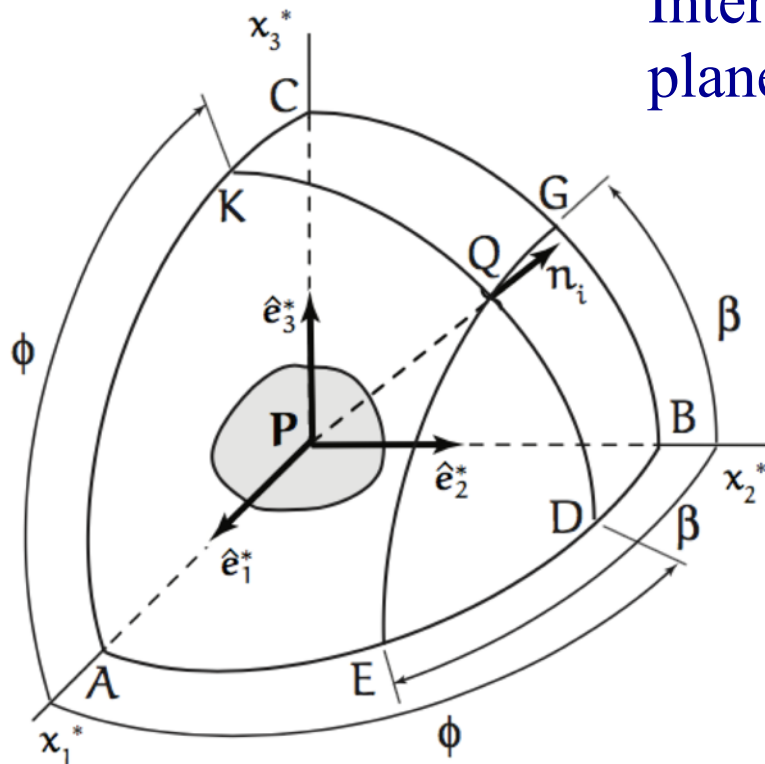
$\hat{e}_i^*$  are principal directions defining principal planes at **P**.

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

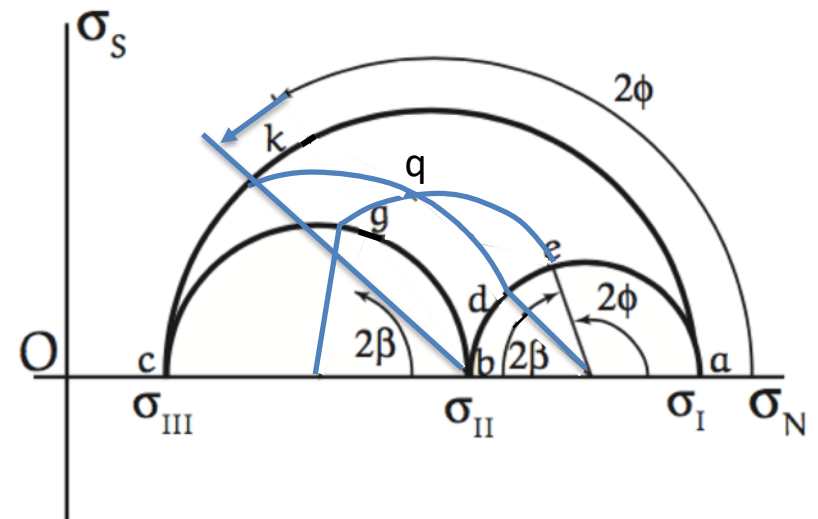
Similarly, KQD maps onto kqd.

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. ☺)

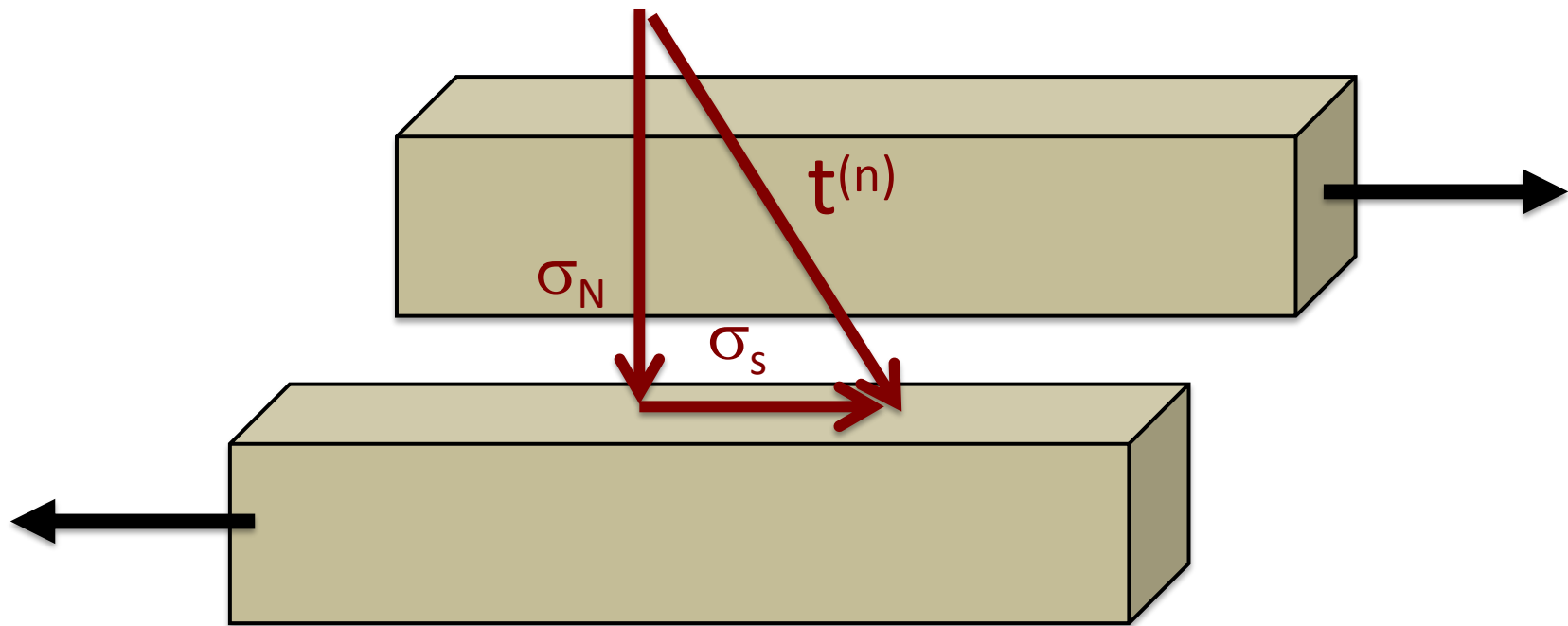


(a) Reference angles  $\phi$  and  $\beta$  for intersection point **Q** on surface of body octant.



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

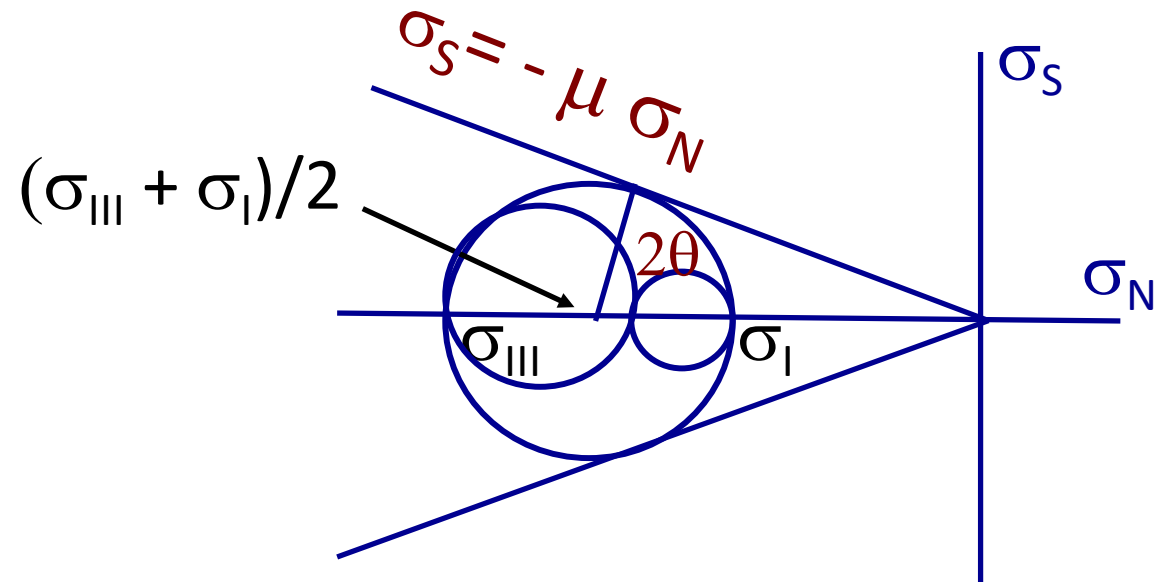
## Sliding friction



$$\sigma_s = -\mu \sigma_N$$

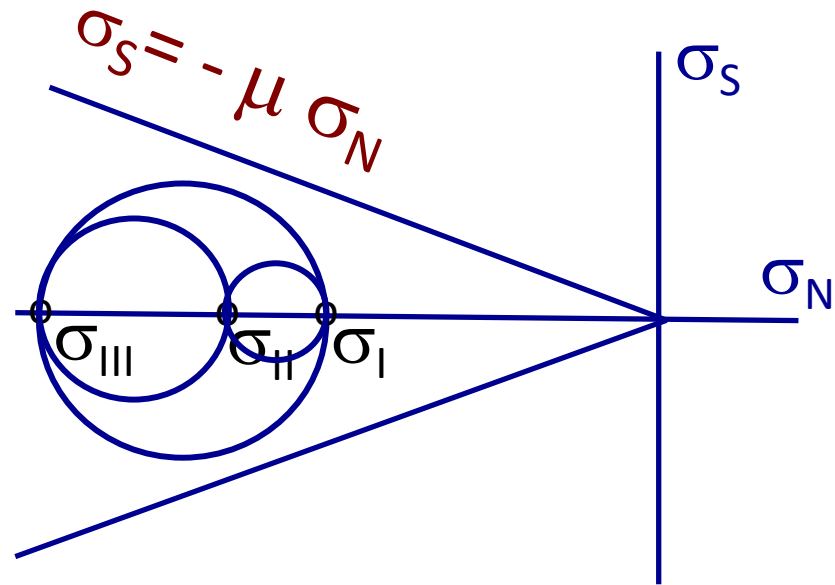
$\mu$  is ***coefficient of friction*** for sliding on a pre-existing break

## Frictional sliding



$\sigma_S = -\mu \sigma_N$   $\mu$  is **coefficient of friction** for sliding on a pre-existing break

## Differential stress $\sigma_{III} - \sigma_I$

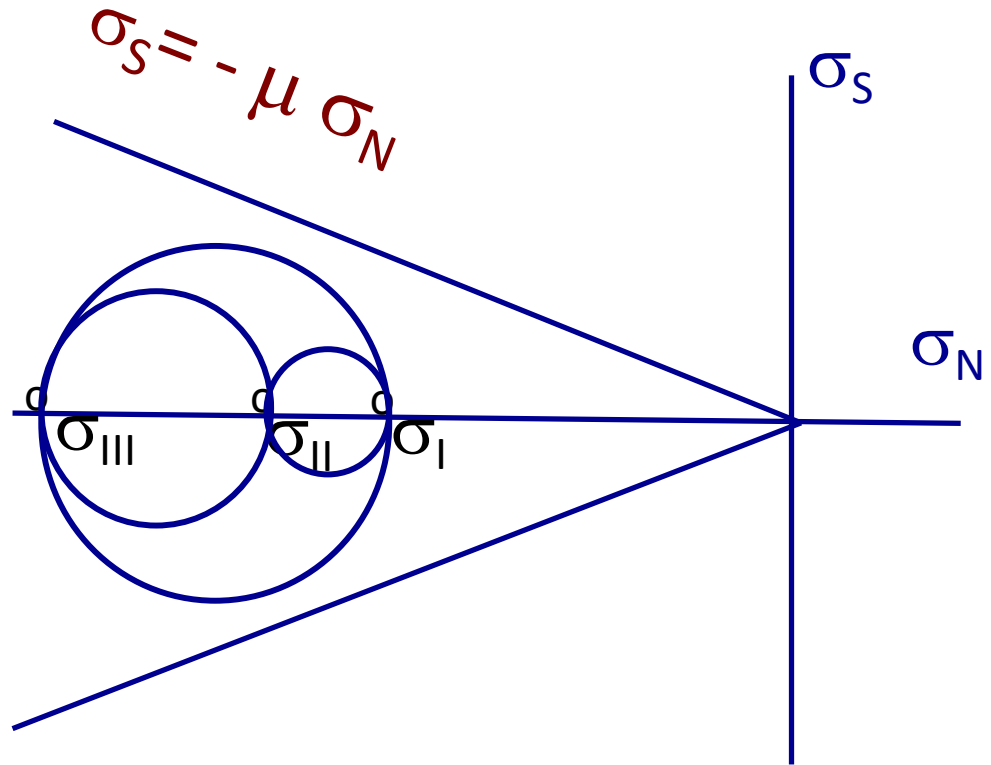


But, if  $\sigma_{III} = \sigma_I$ , all 3 principal stresses are equal

- What do the 3 Mohr's circle look like?
- Describe this state of stress inside the body.
- Is frictional failure possible, if differential stress is zero?

## Differential stress

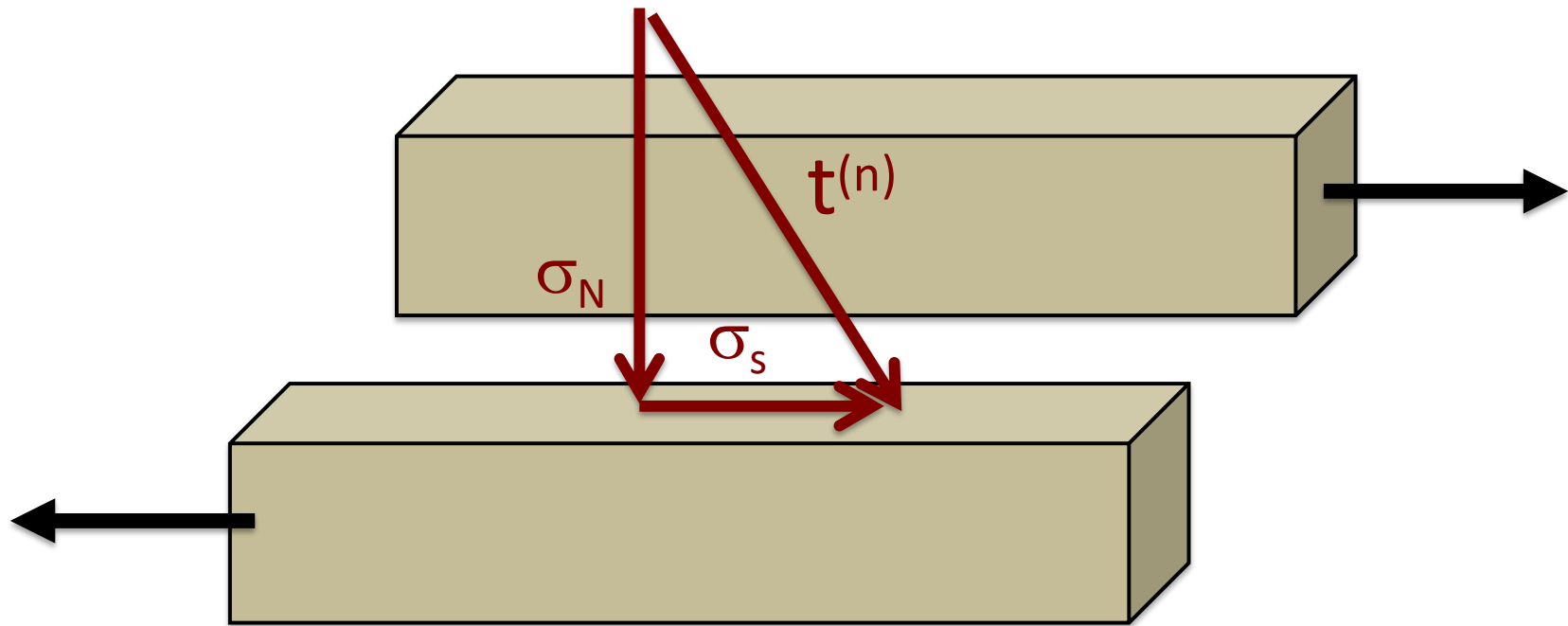
$$\sigma_{III} - \sigma_I$$



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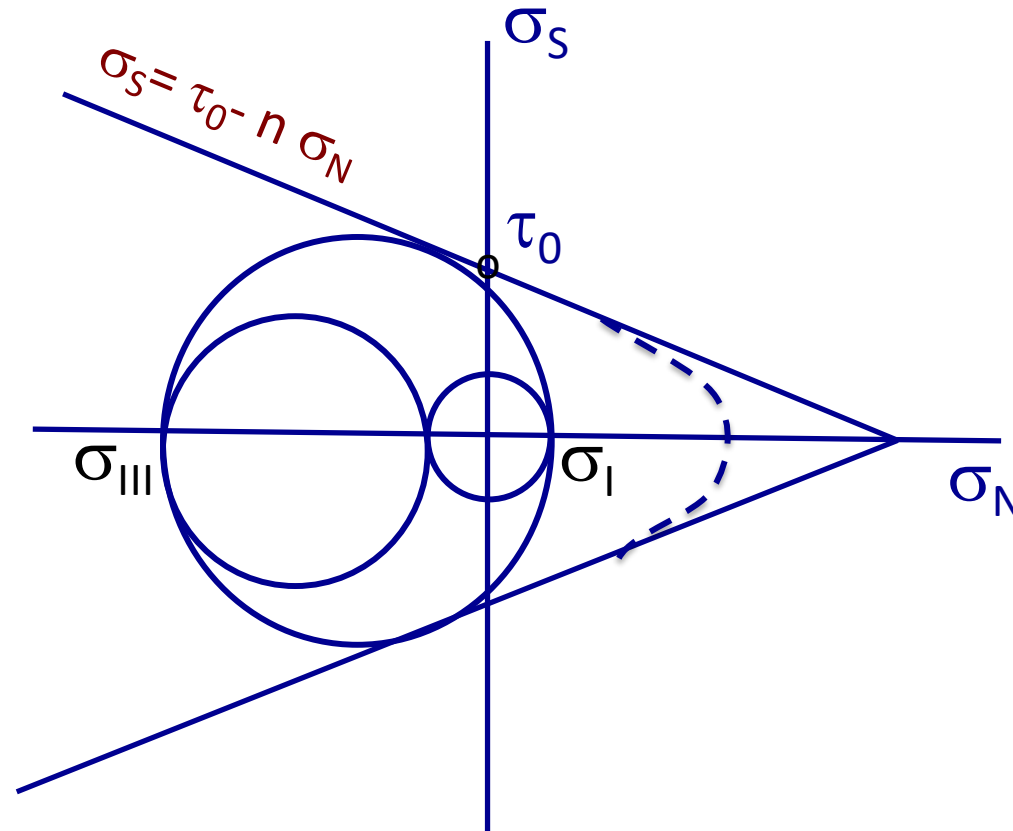
## Mohr-Coulomb Fracture



$\sigma_s = \tau_0 - n \sigma_N$   $n$  is **coefficient of internal friction** for fracture on a new fault surface  
 $\tau_0$  is cohesion of the material



# Mohr-Coulomb Fracture



$\sigma_S = \tau_0 - \eta \sigma_N$   $\eta$  is **coefficient of internal friction** for fracture on a new fault surface  
 $\tau_0$  is cohesion of the material

## Failure in shear

- Why is failure is not on the plane with maximum shear stress?
- Why are there 2 conjugate failure planes?

