# Introduction Tensors

- Tensors, generalisation of vectors to more dimensions
- Use when properties depend on direction in more than one way.
- Stress tensor as example
- Stress is force per area, depends on the direction of the force as well as the chosen cross sectional area (which can be described by its normal) on which the stress is evaluated.

# **Tensors**

#### Used in

Stress, strain, moment tensors

Electrostatics, electrodynamics, rotation, crystal properties

## Tensors describe properties that depend on direction

Tensor rank 0 - scalar - independent of direction

Tensor rank 1 - vector - depends on direction in 1 way

Tensor rank 2 - tensor - depends on direction in 2 ways

*Tensor comes from the word tension (= stress)* 

# Notation

- Tensors as T
- for second order: T or  $\underline{T}$
- Index notation  $T_{ij}$ , i,j=x,y,z or i,j=1,2,3
- But also higher order  $T_{ijkl}$

# An example tensor

Gradient of velocity depends on direction in two ways

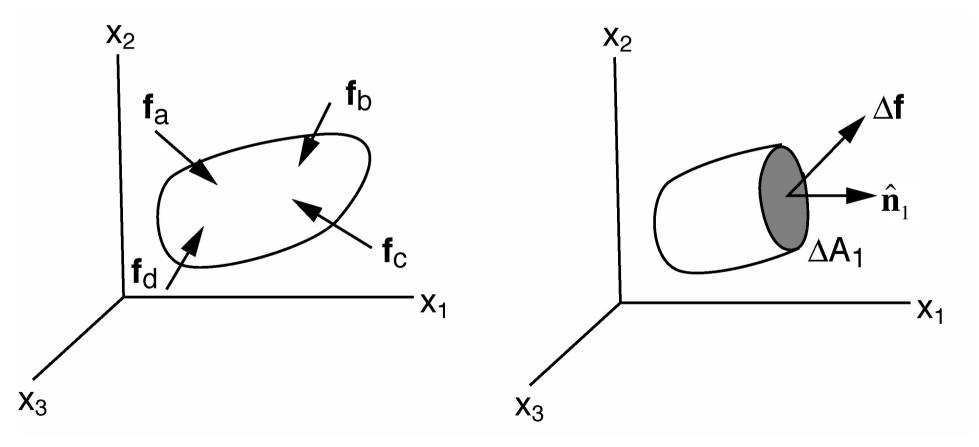
$$\nabla \mathbf{v} = \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x_3} \\ \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_3} \\ \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x_3} \end{bmatrix}$$

Component of velocity

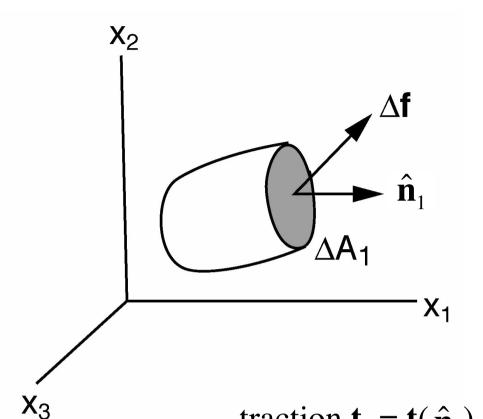
Coordinate direction

# Another example: Stress

- > Body forces depend on volume, e.g., gravity
- > Surface forces depend on surface area, e.g., friction



forces introduce a state of stress in a body



•  $\Delta \mathbf{f}$  necessary to maintain equilibrium depends on orientation of the plane,  $\hat{\mathbf{n}}_1$ 

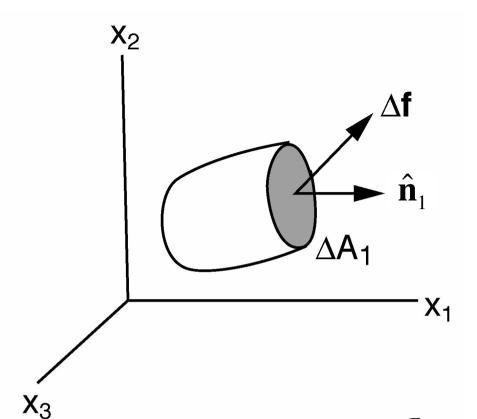
traction 
$$\mathbf{t_1} = \mathbf{t}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}_1) = \lim_{\Delta A \to 0} \Delta \mathbf{f} / \Delta A_1$$

$$\mathbf{t_1} = (\sigma_{11}, \sigma_{12}, \sigma_{13})$$

$$\sigma_{11} = \lim_{\Delta A_1 \to 0} \Delta \mathbf{f}_1 / \Delta A_1$$

$$\sigma_{12} = \lim_{\Delta A_1 \to 0} \Delta \mathbf{f}_2 / \Delta A_1$$

$$\sigma_{13} = \lim_{\Delta A_1 \to 0} \Delta \mathbf{f}_3 / \Delta A_1$$



Need nine components to fully describe the stress

$$\sigma_{11}, \sigma_{12}, \sigma_{13} \text{ for } \Delta A_1$$
  
 $\sigma_{22}, \sigma_{21}, \sigma_{23} \text{ for } \Delta A_2$   
 $\sigma_{33}, \sigma_{31}, \sigma_{32} \text{ for } \Delta A_3$ 

$$\sigma_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{13} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma_{22} & \sigma_{23} \\ \sigma_{31} & \sigma_{32} & \sigma_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

first index = orientation of plane second index = orientation of force

#### Difference between a tensor and its matrix

Tensor – physical quantity that is independent of coordinate system used

Matrix of a tensor – contains components of that tensor in a particular coordinate frame

Could test that indeed tensor addition and multiplication satisfy transformation laws

# Summation (Einstein) convention

When an index in a single term is a duplicate, dummy index, summation implied without writing summation symbol

$$a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2 + a_3 v_3 = \sum_{i=1}^{3} a_i v_i = a_i v_i$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{3} \sum_{j=1}^{3} a_{ij} x_i y_j = a_{ij} x_i y_j = a_{11} x_1 y_1 + a_{12} x_1 y_2 + a_{13} x_1 y_3 + a_{21} x_2 y_1 + a_{22} x_2 y_2 + a_{23} x_2 y_3 + a_{31} x_3 y_1 + a_{32} x_3 y_2 + a_{33} x_3 y_3$$

**Invalid,** indices repeated more than twice

$$\sum_{i=1}^{3} a_i b_i v_i \neq a_i b_i v_i$$

# Notation conventions

index notation

$$\alpha_{ij}x_iy_j =$$

matrix-vector notation

$$\mathbf{x}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} =$$

$$(x_1 \quad x_2 \quad x_3) \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{11} & \alpha_{12} & \alpha_{13} \\ \alpha_{21} & \alpha_{22} & \alpha_{23} \\ \alpha_{31} & \alpha_{32} & \alpha_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

other versions index notation

$$\alpha_{ij} x_i y_j = x_i \alpha_{ij} y_j = \alpha_{ij} y_j x_i$$

# Dummy vs free index

$$a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + a_3v_3 = \sum_{i=1}^3 a_iv_i = \sum_{k=1}^3 a_kv_k$$

• i,k – dummy index – appears in duplicates and can be substituted without changing equation

$$F_{j} = A_{j} \sum_{i=1}^{3} B_{i} C_{i} \implies F_{1} = A_{1} (B_{1} C_{1} + B_{2} C_{2} + B_{3} C_{3})$$

$$F_{2} = A_{2} (B_{1} C_{1} + B_{2} C_{2} + B_{3} C_{3})$$

$$F_{3} = A_{3} (B_{1} C_{1} + B_{2} C_{2} + B_{3} C_{3})$$

• j – free index, appears once in each term of the equation

#### Addition and subtraction of tensors

 $\mathbf{W} = a\mathbf{T} + b\mathbf{S}$ add each component:  $W_{ijkl} = aT_{ijkl} + bS_{ijkl}$ 

T and S must have same rank, dimension and units W has same rank, dimension and units as T and S

T and S are tensors => W is a tensor commutative, associative

This is same as how vectors and matrices are added.

## **Multiplication of tensors**

 $\underline{Inner\ product = dot\ product}$ 

$$W = T \cdot S$$

involves contraction over 1 index:  $W_{ik} = T_{ij}S_{jk}$ As normal matrix and matrix-vector multiplication

T and S can have different rank, but same dimension rankW = rankT+rankS-2, dimension as T and S, units as product of units T and S

T and S are tensors => W is a tensor

Examples: 
$$|\mathbf{v}|^2 = \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}$$
  
 $\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{C} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$  or  $\sigma_{ij} = C_{ijkl} \varepsilon_{kl}$  (Hooke's law)

## **Multiplication of tensors**

Tensor product=outer product = dyadic product ≠ cross product

 $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{TS}$  often written as  $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{T} \otimes \mathbf{S}$ no contraction:  $W_{ijkl} = T_{ij}S_{kl}$ 

T and S can have different rank, but same dimension rank W = rank T + rank S, dimension as T and S, units as product of units T and S

T and S are tensors => W is a tensor

Examples:  $\nabla \mathbf{v}$  (gradient of a vector)  $\neq \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$  (divergence)

remember gradient is a vector 
$$\nabla = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3}\right)$$

## **Multiplication of tensors**

#### For both multiplications

Distributive: A(B+C)=AB+AC

Associative: A(BC)=(AB)C

Not commutative:  $TS \neq ST$ ,  $T \cdot S \neq S \cdot T$ 

but:  $T \cdot S = S^T \cdot T^T$ 

and:  $ab=(ba)^T$  but only for rank 2

Remember transpose:  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{T}^{T} \cdot \mathbf{a} => T_{ji} = T^{T}_{ij}$ 

### Special tensor: Kronecker delta $\delta_{ii}$

$$\delta_{ij} = \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}}_j$$
  
$$\delta_{ij} = 1 \text{ for } i=j, \delta_{ij} = 0 \text{ for } i \neq j$$

In 3-D: 
$$\delta = \mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Isotropic tensors, invariant upon coordinate transformation

- Scalars
- **0** vector
- $-\delta_{ij}$

**T·
$$\delta$$
=T·I=T** or  $T_{ij}\delta_{jk} = T_{ik}$ 

 $\delta$  is isotropic:  $\delta_{ij} = \delta'_{ij}$  upon coordinate transformation can be used to write dot product:  $T_{ij}S_{jl} = T_{ij}S_{kl}\delta_{jk}$  can be used to write trace:  $A_{ii} = A_{ij}\delta_{ij}$  orthonormal transformation:  $\alpha_{ij}\alpha^T_{jk} = \delta_{ik}$ 

# Special tensor: Permutation symbol $\epsilon_{iik}$

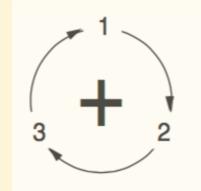
$$\varepsilon_{ijk} = (\hat{\mathbf{e}}_i \times \hat{\mathbf{e}}_j) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}}_k$$

 $\varepsilon_{iik} = 1$  if i,j,k an even permutation of 1,2,3

 $\varepsilon_{iik}$  = -1 if i,j,k an odd permutation of 1,2,3

 $\varepsilon_{ijk} = 0$  for all other i,j,k

$$\varepsilon_{123} = \varepsilon_{231} = \varepsilon_{312} = 1$$
 $\varepsilon_{213} = \varepsilon_{321} = \varepsilon_{132} = -1$ 
 $\varepsilon_{111} = \varepsilon_{112} = \varepsilon_{222} = \dots = 0$ 



Note that  $\varepsilon_{ijk}a_ib_j\hat{e}_k$  where  $\hat{e}_k$  is the unit vector in k direction is index notation for cross product  $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$ 

Exercise: useful identity  $\varepsilon_{ijm}$   $\varepsilon_{klm} = \delta_{ik}\delta_{jl} - \delta_{il}\delta_{jk}$ 

#### **Vector derivatives - curl**

Curl of a vector: 
$$\nabla \times \mathbf{v} = \varepsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} v_j \hat{\mathbf{e}}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x_2} - \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_3} \\ \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x_3} - \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix}$$

In index notation, using special tensor

#### Some tensor calculus

Some tensor calculus

Gradient of a vector is a tensor: 
$$\nabla \mathbf{v} = \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x_3} \\ \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_3} \\ \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_3} \\ \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x_3} \end{bmatrix}$$

Such that the change  $\mathbf{d}\mathbf{v}$  in field  $\mathbf{v}$  in direction  $\mathbf{d}\mathbf{x}$  is:  $\mathbf{d}\mathbf{v} = \nabla \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{d}\mathbf{x}$ 

Divergence of a vector: 
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x_2} + \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x_3}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = tr(\nabla \mathbf{v})$$

Trace of a tensor is the sum of diagonal elements

#### Some tensor calculus

Divergence of a tensor: 
$$\nabla \cdot T = \frac{\partial T_{ij}}{\partial x_j} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial T_{1j}}{\partial x_j} \\ \frac{\partial T_{2j}}{\partial x_j} \\ \frac{\partial T_{3j}}{\partial x_j} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial T_{11}}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial T_{12}}{\partial x_2} + \frac{\partial T_{13}}{\partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial T_{21}}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial T_{22}}{\partial x_2} + \frac{\partial T_{23}}{\partial x_3} \\ \frac{\partial T_{3j}}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial T_{31}}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial T_{32}}{\partial x_2} + \frac{\partial T_{33}}{\partial x_3} \end{pmatrix}$$

Laplacian = div(grad f), where f is a scalar function

$$\nabla \cdot \nabla f = \nabla^2 f = \Delta f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_i} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2^2} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_3^2}$$

# Objectives

- Be able to perform vector/tensor operations (addition, multiplication) on Cartesian orthonormal bases
- Be able to do basic vector/tensor calculus (time and space derivatives, divergence, curl of a vector field) on these bases.
- Perform transformation of a vector from one to another Cartesian basis.
- Understand differences/commonalities tensor and vector
- Use index notation and Einstein convention

# Summary

#### Vectors

- Addition, linear independence
- Orthonormal Cartesian bases, transformation
- Multiplication
- Derivatives, del, div, curl

#### Tensors

- Tensors, rank, stress tensor
- Index notation, summation convention
- Addition, multiplication
- Special tensors,  $\delta_{ij}$  and  $\epsilon_{ijk}$
- Tensor calculus: gradient, divergence, curl, ...

Further reading/studying e.g: **Reddy** (2013) 2.2.1-2.2.3, 2.2.5, 2.2.6, 2.4.1, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 2.4.6, 2.4.8 (not co/contravariant), **Lai, Rubin, Kremple** (2010): 2.1-2.13, 2.16, 2.17, 2.27-2.32, 4.1-4.3, **Khan Academy**—linear algebra, multivariate calculus