

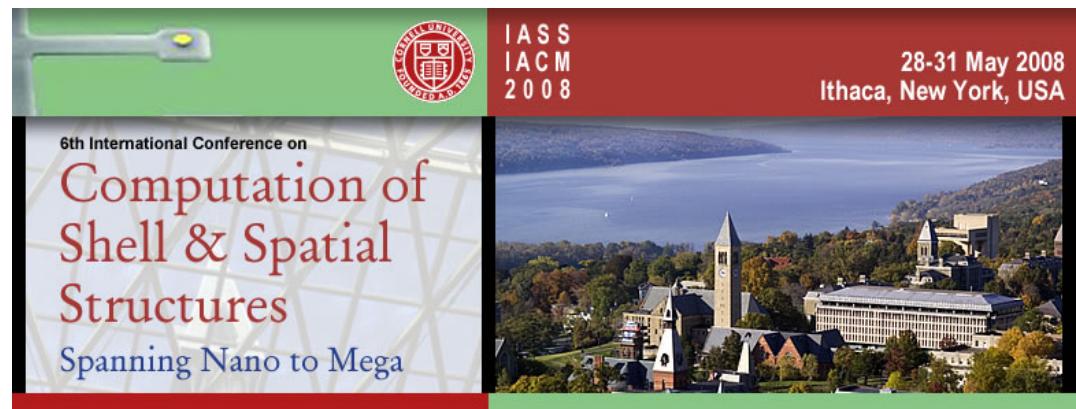
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# Modeling of Shells with Three-dimensional Finite Elements

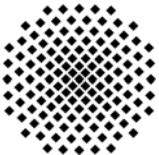
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## **outline**

**evolution of shell models**

**solid-like shell or shell-like solid element?**

**locking and finite element technology**

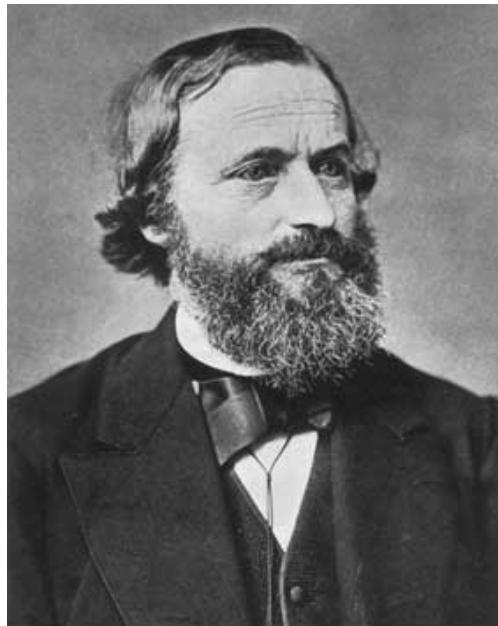
**how three-dimensional are  
3d-shells / continuum shells / solid shells?**



# History

## early attempts

- ring models (Euler 1766)
- lattice models (J. Bernoulli 1789)
- continuous models (Germain, Navier, Kirchhoff, 19th century)



Gustav Robert Kirchhoff  
1824 - 1887



Leonhard Euler 1707 - 1783



# History

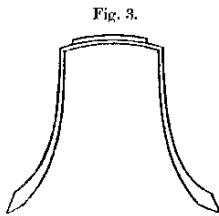


Fig. 3.

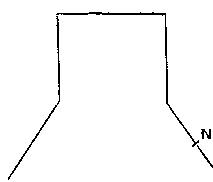


Fig. 4.

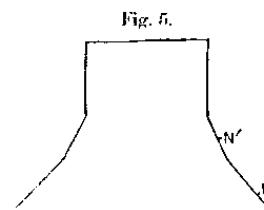


Fig. 5.



Lord Rayleigh (John W. Strutt)



**first shell theory = „Kirchhoff-Love“ theory**

*"This paper is really an attempt to construct a theory of the vibrations of bells"*

August E.H. Love, 1888



# All you need is Love?



first shell theory = „Kirchhoff-Love“ theory

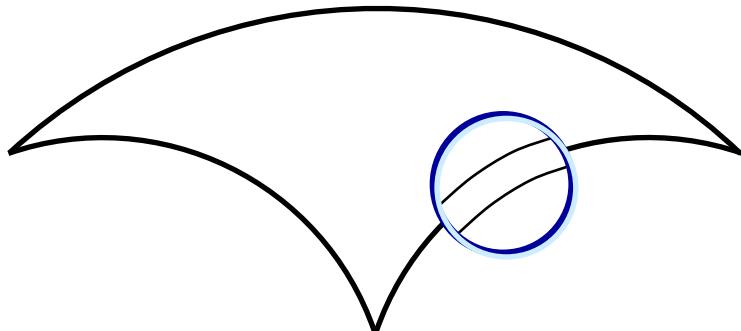
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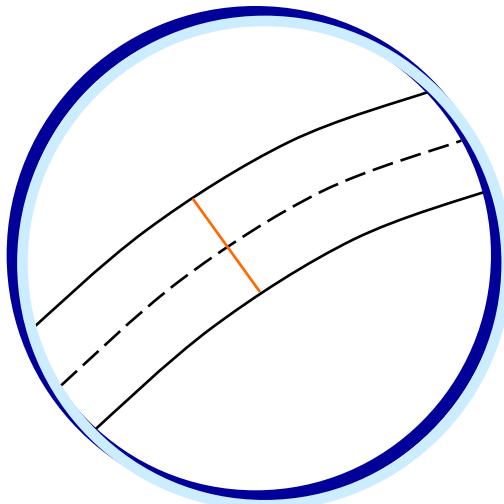


# Evolution of Shell Models

## fundamental assumptions



cross sections remain  
- straight  
- unstretched  
- normal to midsurface



Kirchhoff-Love

$$\sigma_{zz} = 0, (\varepsilon_{zz} = 0)$$

**contradiction**  
requires modification  
of material law

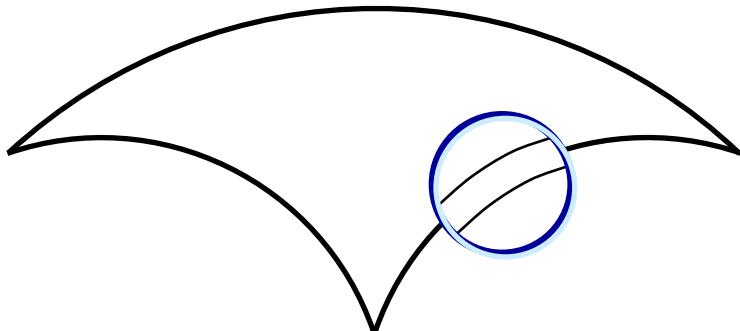
$$\gamma_{xz} = 0$$

$$\gamma_{yz} = 0$$

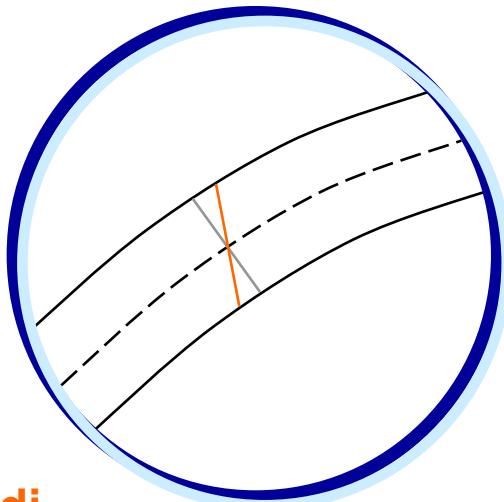


# Evolution of Shell Models

## fundamental assumptions



cross sections remain  
- straight  
- unstretched  
- normal to midsurface



Reissner-Mindlin, Naghdi

$$\sigma_{zz} = 0, (\varepsilon_{zz} = 0)$$

**contradiction**  
requires modification  
of material law

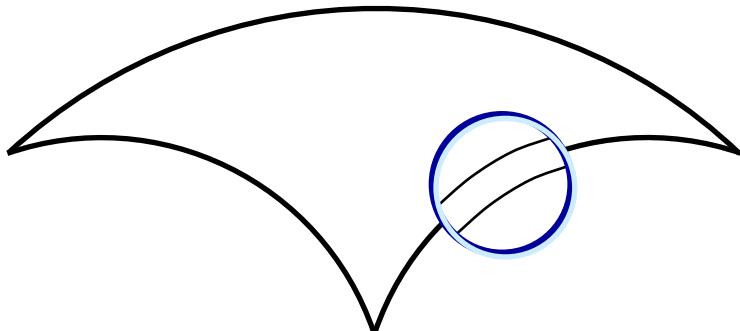
$$\gamma_{xz} \neq 0$$

$$\gamma_{yz} \neq 0$$

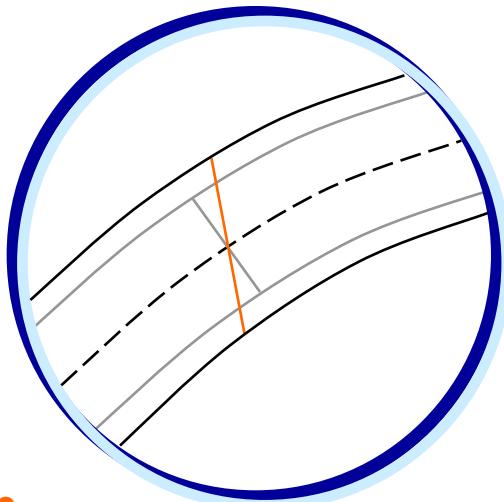


# Evolution of Shell Models

## fundamental assumptions



cross sections remain  
~~- straight~~  
~~- unstretched~~  
~~- normal to midsurface~~



7-parameter formulation

$$\sigma_{zz} \neq 0, \varepsilon_{zz} \neq 0$$

~~contradiction~~  
requires modification  
of material law

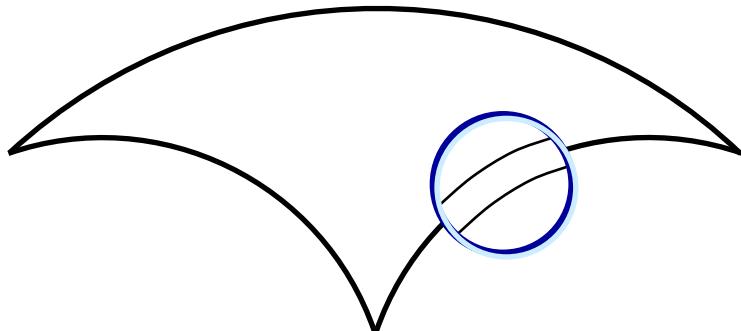
$$\gamma_{xz} \neq 0$$

$$\gamma_{yz} \neq 0$$



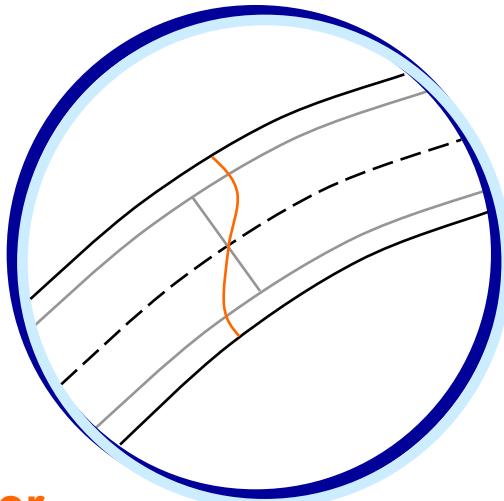
# Evolution of Shell Models

## fundamental assumptions



cross sections remain

- straight
- unstretched
- normal to midsurface



multi-layer, multi-director

$$\sigma_{zz} \neq 0, \varepsilon_{zz} \neq 0$$

~~contradiction  
requires modification  
of material law~~

$$\gamma_{xz} \neq 0$$

$$\gamma_{yz} \neq 0$$



# Evolution of Shell Models

**from classical „thin shell“ theories to 3d-shell models**

- 1888: Kirchhoff-Love theory  
membrane and bending effects
- middle of 20<sup>th</sup> century: Reissner/Mindlin/Naghdi  
+ transverse shear strains
- 1968: degenerated solid approach (Ahmad, Irons, Zienkiewicz)  
shell theory = semi-discretization of 3d-continuum
- 1990+: 3d-shell finite elements, solid shells,  
surface oriented (“continuum shell”) elements  
Schoop, Simo et al, Büchter and Ramm, Bischoff and Ramm,  
Krätsig, Sansour, Betsch, Gruttmann and Stein, Miehe and Seifert,  
Hauptmann and Schweizerhof, Brank et al., Wriggers and Eberlein,  
Klinkel, Gruttmann and Wagner, and many, many others

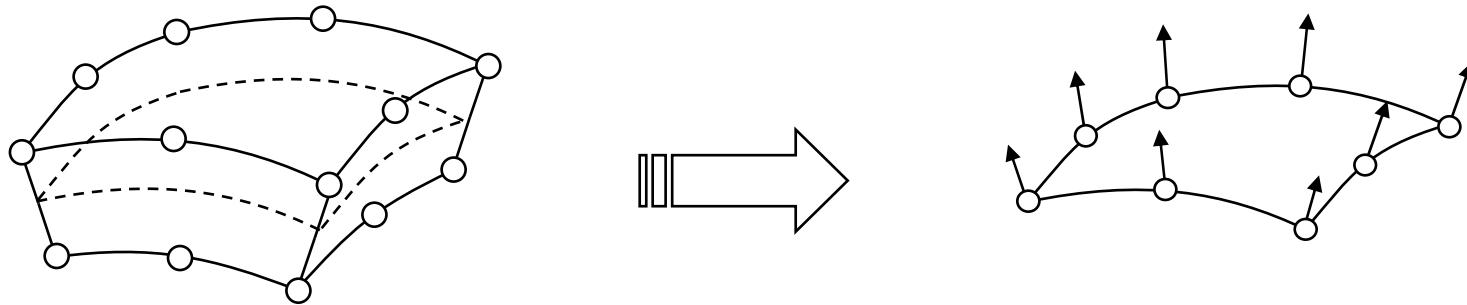
**since ~40 years parallel development of theories and finite elements**



# Evolution of Shell Models

the degenerated solid approach

Ahmad, Irons and Zienkiewicz (1968)



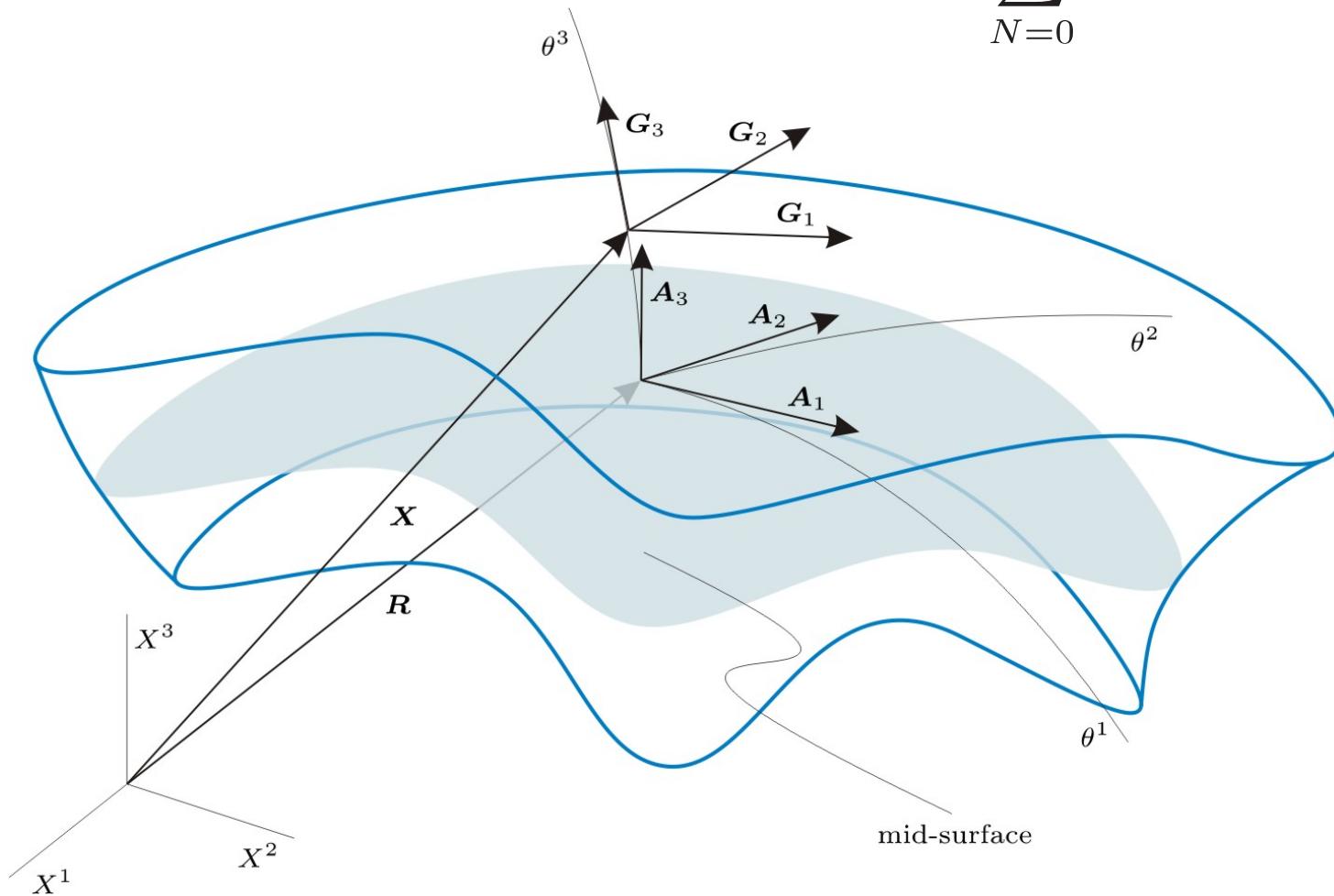
1. take a three-dimensional finite element (brick)
2. assign a mid surface and a thickness direction
3. introduce shell assumptions and  
refer all variables to mid surface quantities  
(displacements, rotations, curvatures, stress resultants)



# Derivation from 3d-continuum (Naghdi)

geometry of shell-like body

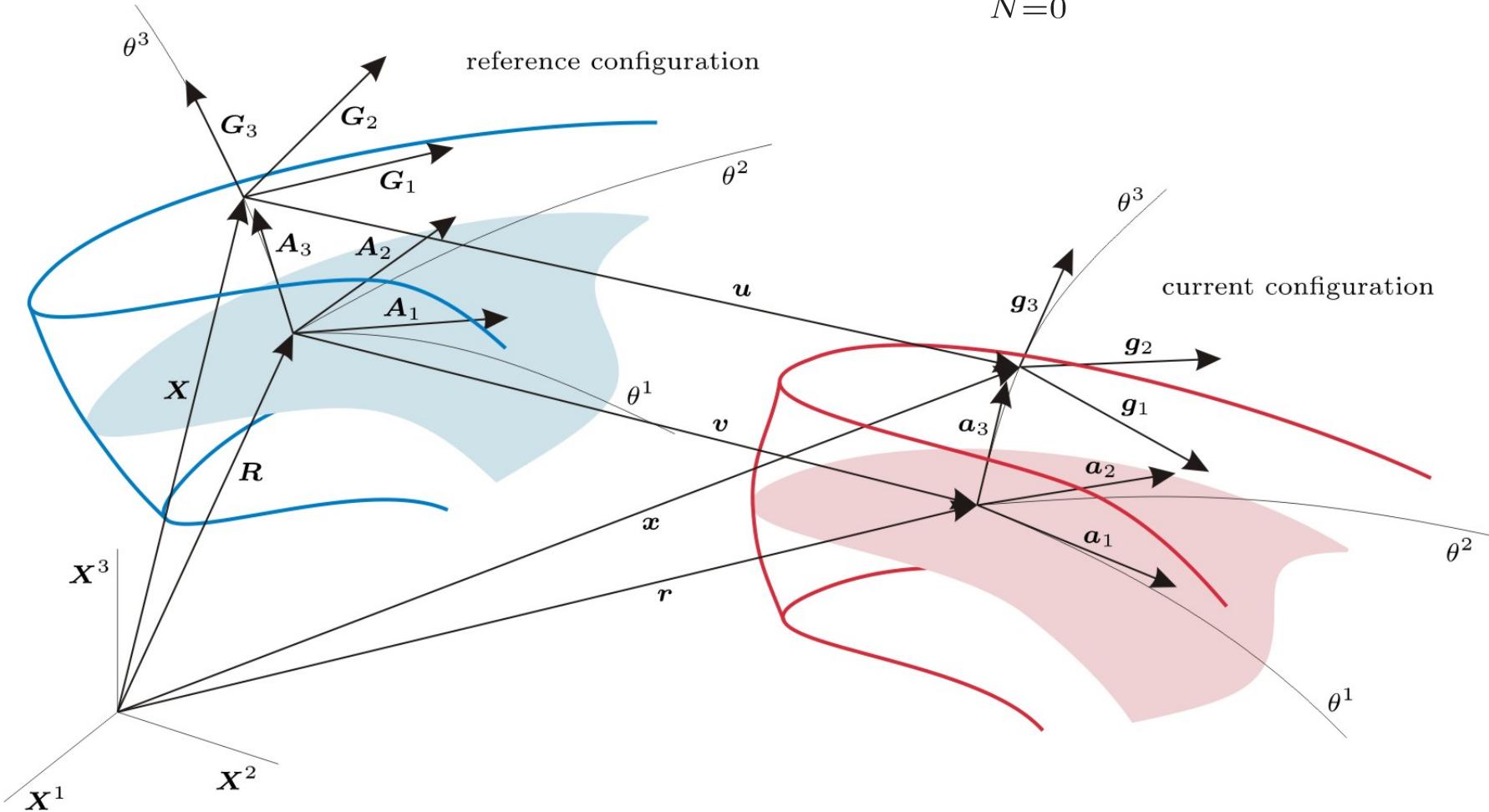
$$\mathbf{X}(\theta^1, \theta^2, \theta^3) = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} (\theta^3)^N \mathbf{R}^N(\theta^1, \theta^2)$$



# Derivation from 3d-continuum (Naghdi)

deformation of shell-like body

$$\mathbf{u}(\theta^1, \theta^2, \theta^3) = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} (\theta^3)^N \mathbf{v}^N(\theta^1, \theta^2)$$



# 7-parameter Shell Model

geometry of shell-like body

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{R} + \theta^3 \mathbf{D}$$

$$X_1 = R_1 + \theta^3 D_1$$

$$X_2 = R_2 + \theta^3 D_2$$

$$X_3 = R_3 + \theta^3 D_3$$

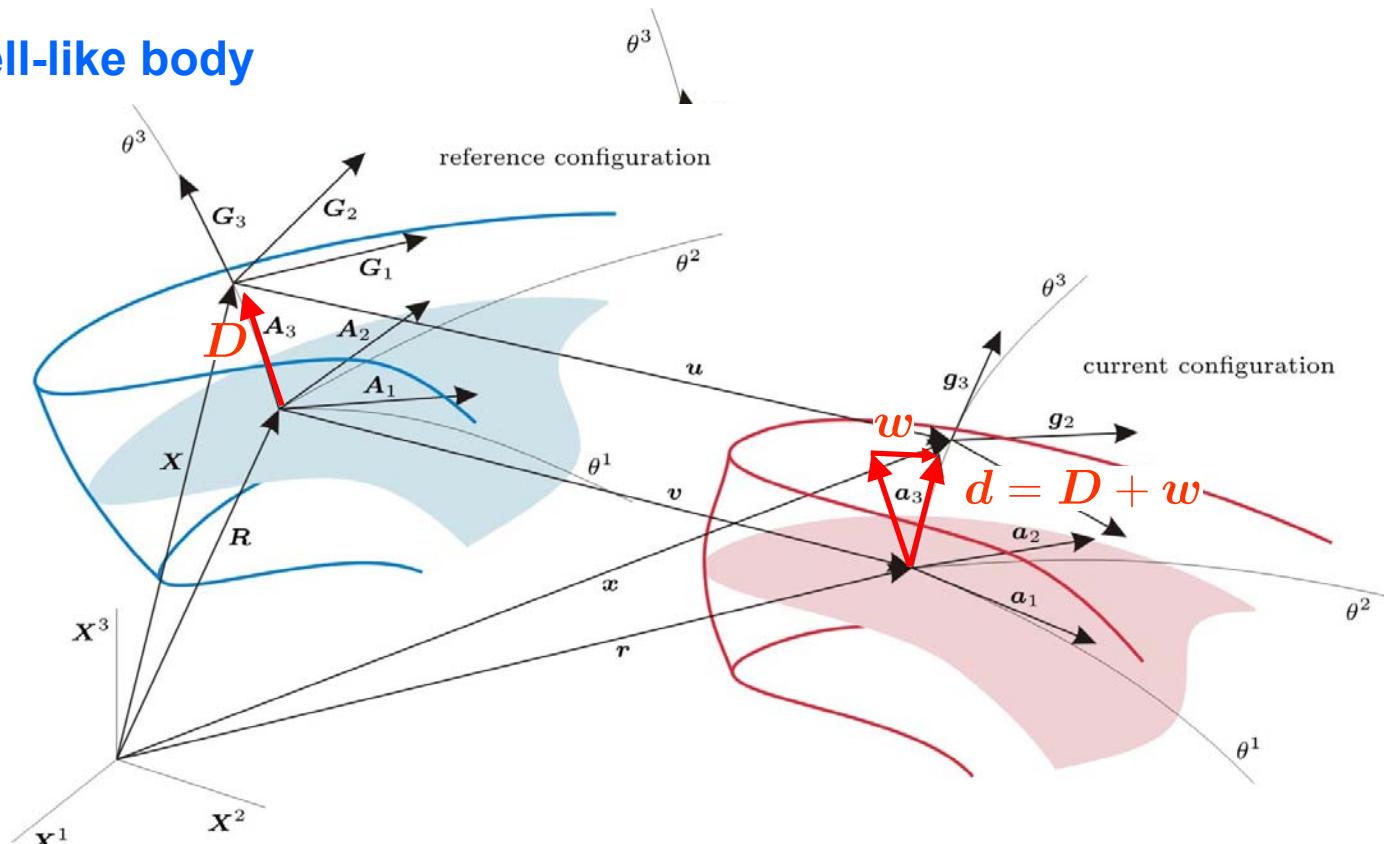
displacements

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v} + \theta^3 \mathbf{w}$$

$$u_1 = v_1 + \theta^3 w_1$$

$$u_2 = v_2 + \theta^3 w_2$$

$$u_3 = v_3 + \theta^3 w_3$$



+ 7<sup>th</sup> parameter for linear transverse normal strain distribution



# 7-parameter Shell Model

linearized strain tensor in three-dimensional space

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \varepsilon_{ij} \mathbf{G}^i \otimes \mathbf{G}^j$$

$$\varepsilon_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \theta^i} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial \theta^j} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \theta^j} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial \theta^i} \right) = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{u}_{,i} \cdot \mathbf{G}_j + \mathbf{u}_{,j} \cdot \mathbf{G}_i)$$

approximation (semi-discretization)

$$\mathbf{G}_\alpha = \mathbf{X}_{,\alpha} = \mathbf{R}_{,\alpha} + \theta^3 \mathbf{D}_{,\alpha} \quad \mathbf{G}_3 = \mathbf{X}_{,3} = \mathbf{D}$$

$$\mathbf{u}_{,i} = \mathbf{v}_{,i} + \theta^3 \mathbf{w}_{,i} \quad \mathbf{u}_{,3} = \mathbf{w}$$

strain components

$$\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} [(\mathbf{v}_{,\alpha} + \theta^3 \mathbf{w}_{,\alpha}) \cdot (\mathbf{R}_{,\beta} + \theta^3 \mathbf{D}_{,\beta}) + (\mathbf{v}_{,\beta} + \theta^3 \mathbf{w}_{,\beta}) \cdot (\mathbf{R}_{,\alpha} + \theta^3 \mathbf{D}_{,\alpha})]$$

$$\varepsilon_{\alpha 3} = \frac{1}{2} [(\mathbf{v}_{,\alpha} + \theta^3 \mathbf{w}_{,\alpha}) \cdot \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{w} \cdot (\mathbf{R}_{,\alpha} + \theta^3 \mathbf{D}_{,\alpha})] = \varepsilon_{3\alpha}$$

$$\varepsilon_{33} = \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{D} + \text{linear part via 7th parameter}$$



# 7-parameter Shell Model

## in-plane strain components

$$\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} [(\mathbf{v}_{,\alpha} + \theta^3 \mathbf{w}_{,\alpha}) \cdot (\mathbf{R}_{,\beta} + \theta^3 \mathbf{D}_{,\beta}) + (\mathbf{v}_{,\beta} + \theta^3 \mathbf{w}_{,\beta}) \cdot (\mathbf{R}_{,\alpha} + \theta^3 \mathbf{D}_{,\alpha})]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{v}_{,\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{R}_{,\beta} + \mathbf{v}_{,\beta} \cdot \mathbf{R}_{,\alpha}) \quad \text{membrane}$$

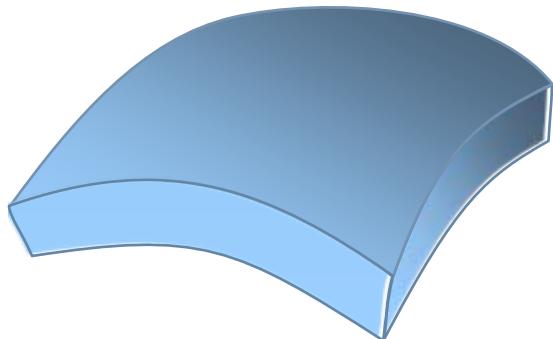
$$+ \frac{1}{2} \theta^3 (\mathbf{v}_{,\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{D}_{,\beta} + \mathbf{w}_{,\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{R}_{,\beta} \mathbf{v}_{,\beta} \cdot \mathbf{R}_{,\alpha} + \mathbf{w}_{,\beta} \cdot \mathbf{R}_{,\alpha}) \quad \text{bending}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} (\theta^3)^2 (\mathbf{w}_{,\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{D}_{,\beta} + \mathbf{w}_{,\beta} \cdot \mathbf{D}_{,\alpha}) \quad \text{higher order effects}$$

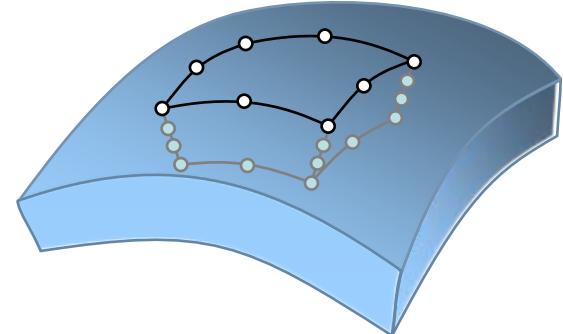



# Semi-discretization of Shell Continuum

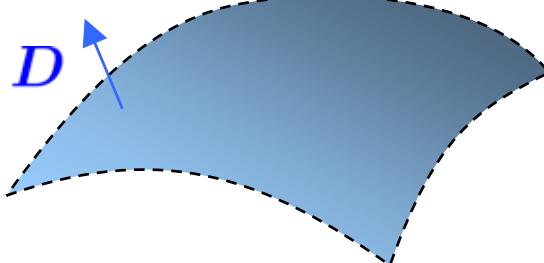
straight cross sections: inherent to *theory* or *discretization*?



discretization  
(3-dim.)



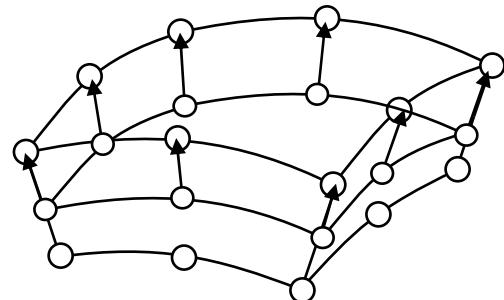
dimensional reduction



discretization  
(2-dim.)



linear shape functions  
+ additional assumptions



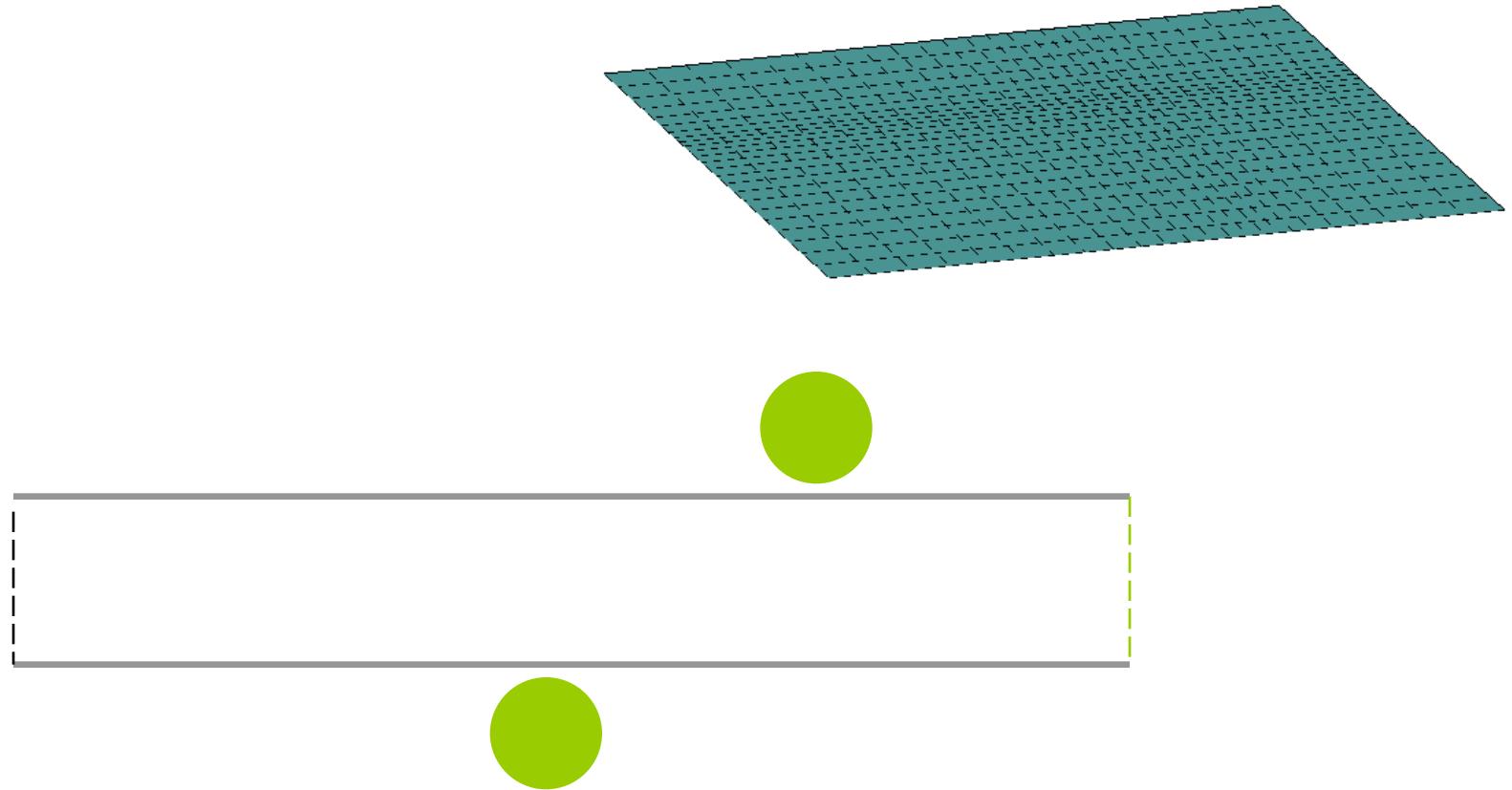
equivalence of shell theory and degenerated solid approach, Büchter and Ramm (1992)

— Solid-like Shell or Shell-like Solid? —



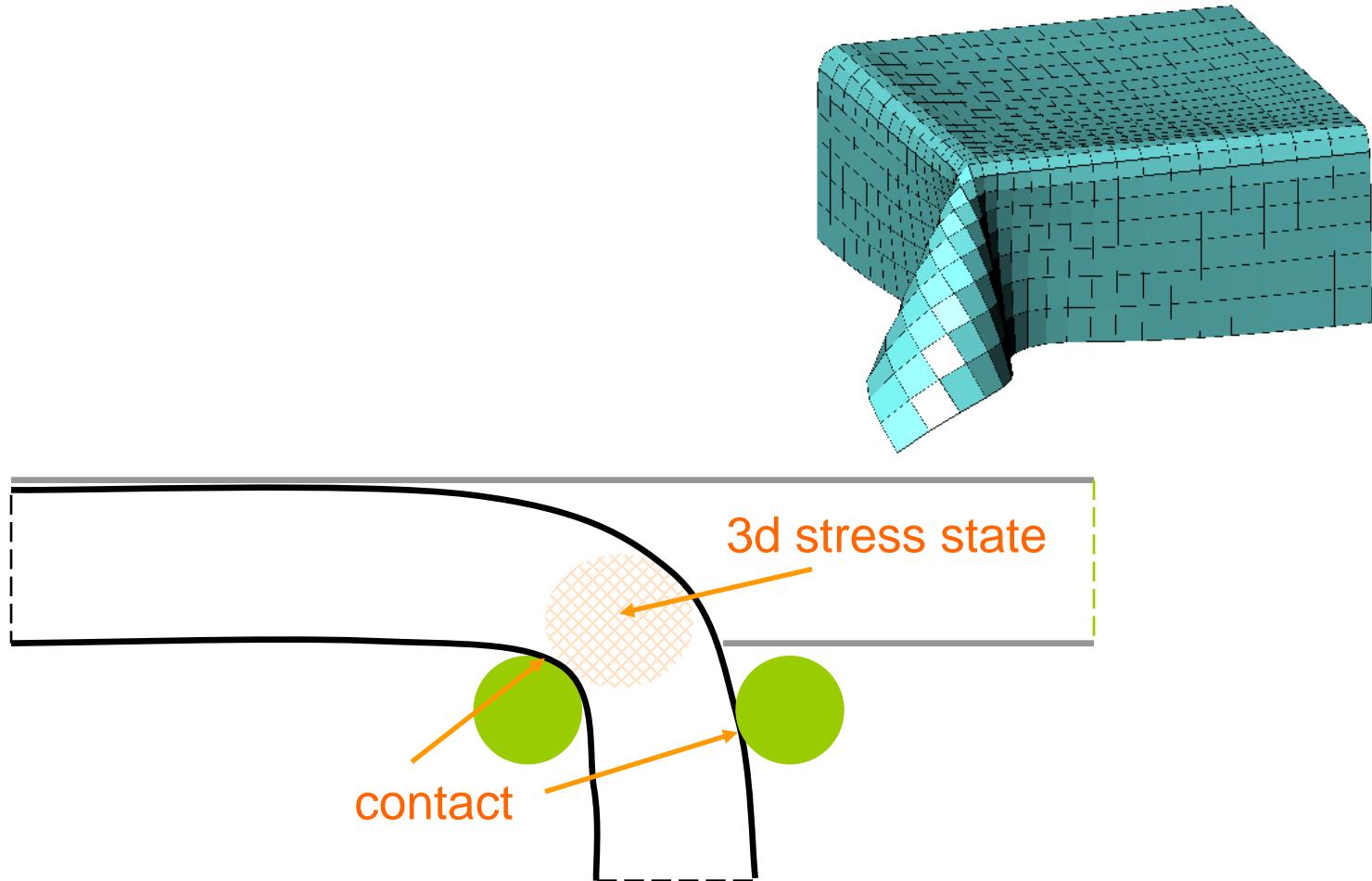
# Large Strains

metal forming, using 3d-shell elements (7-parameter model)



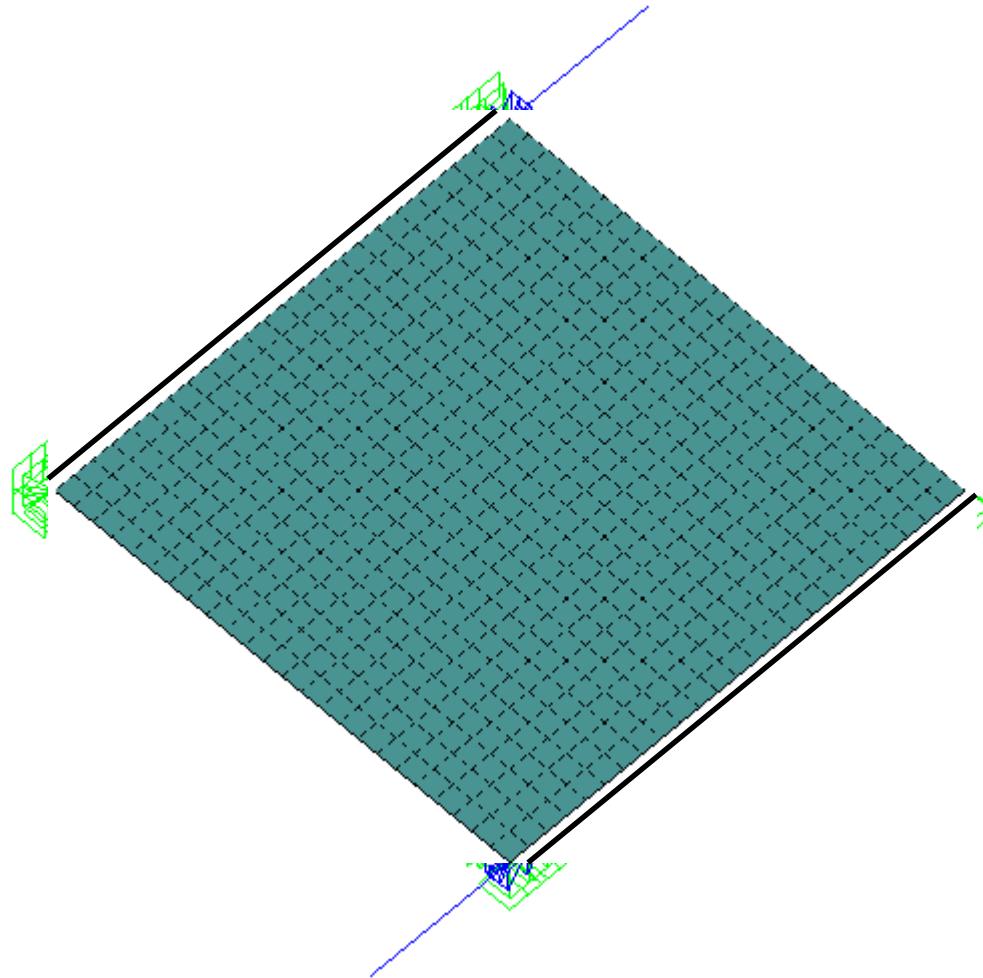
# Large Strains

metal forming, using 3d-shell elements (7-parameter model)



# Large Strains

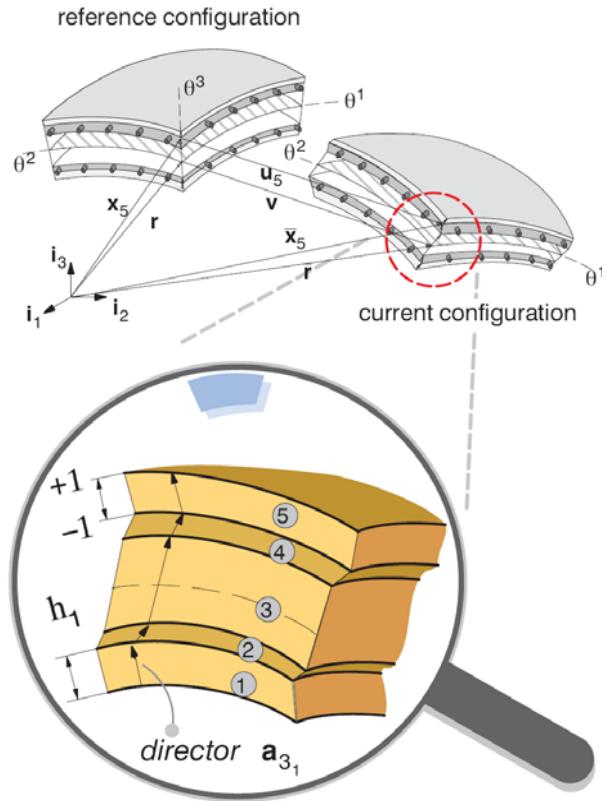
very thin shell (membrane), 3d-shell elements



# Motivation

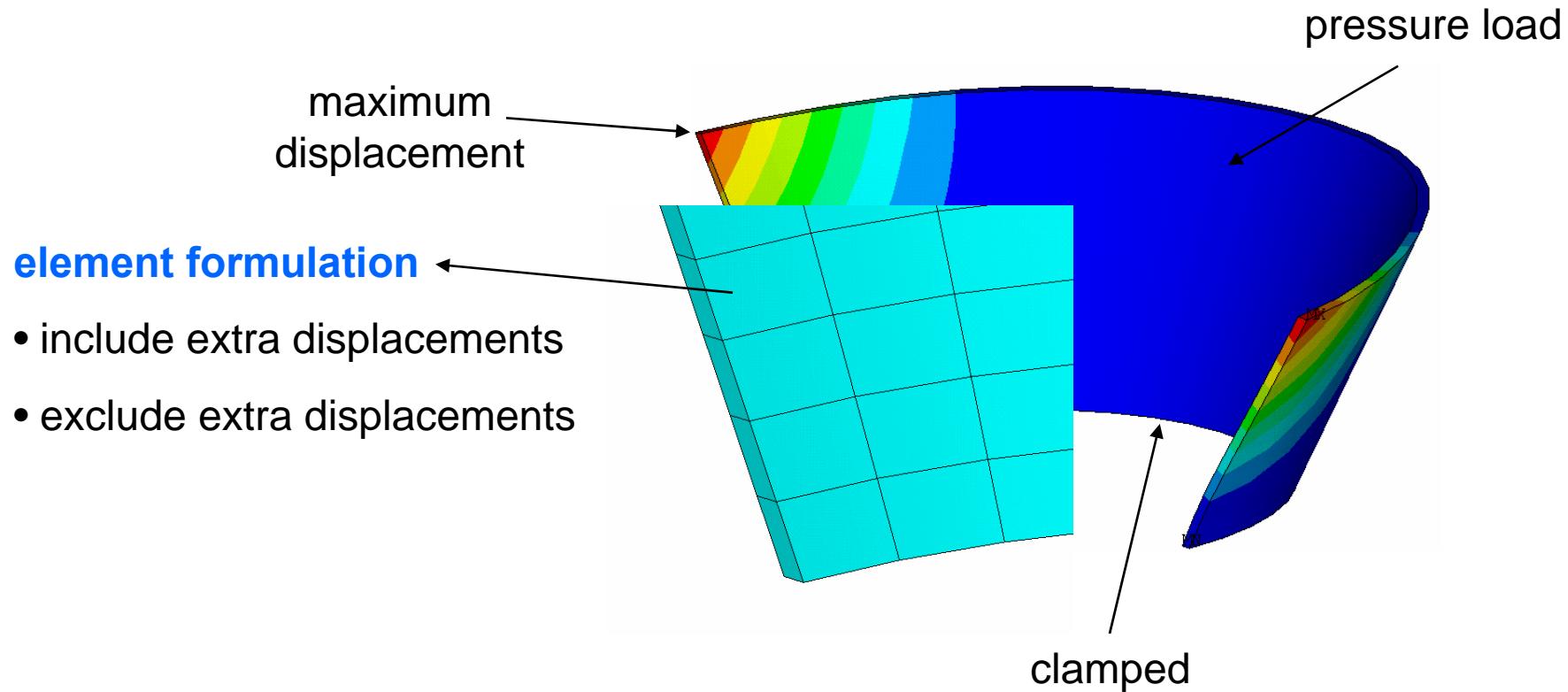
## why solid elements instead of 3d-shell elements?

- three-dimensional data from CAD
- complex structures with stiffeners and intersections
- connection of thin and thick regions, layered shells, damage and fracture,....



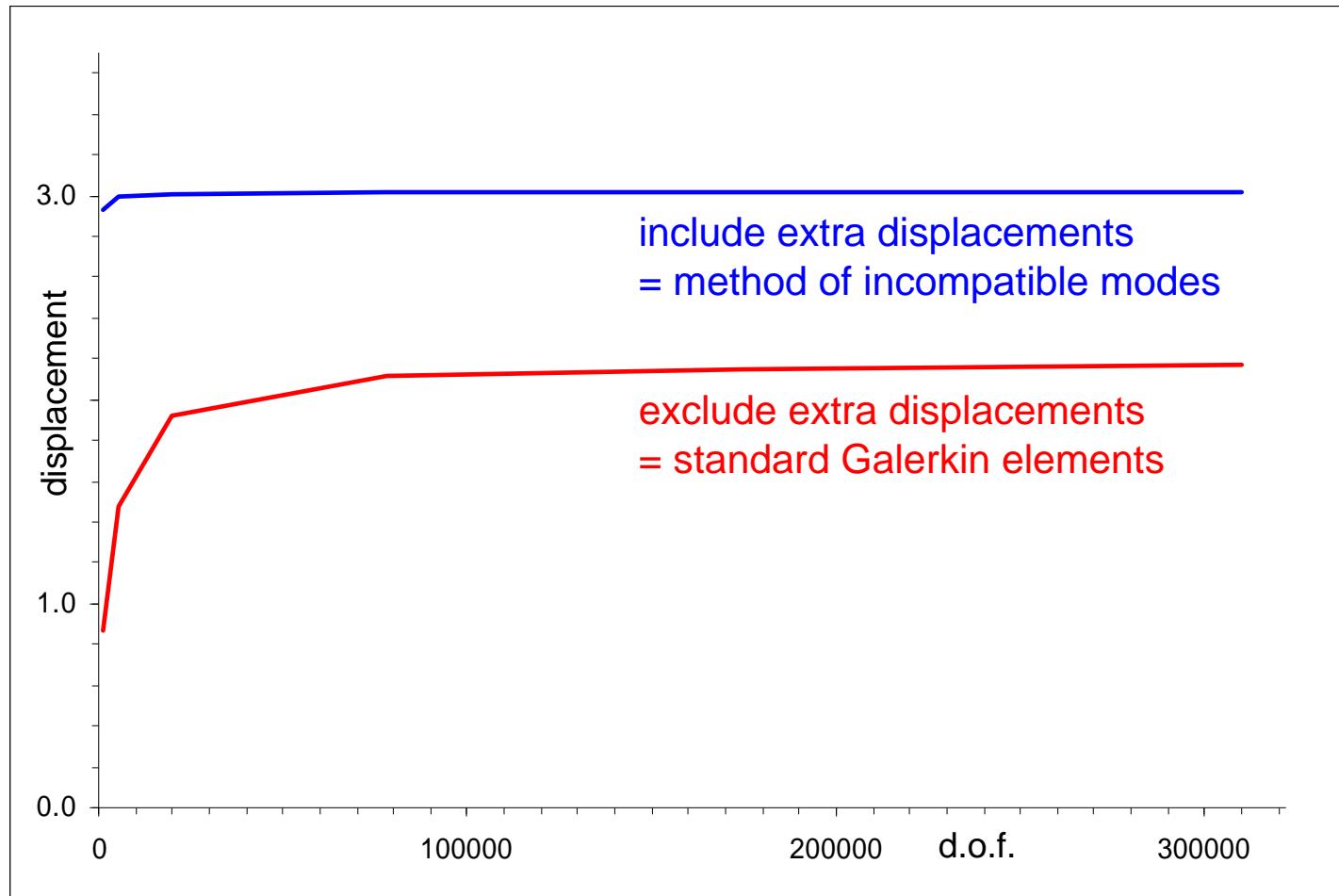
# Shell Analysis with Standard Solid Elements

a naïve approach: take a commercial code and go!



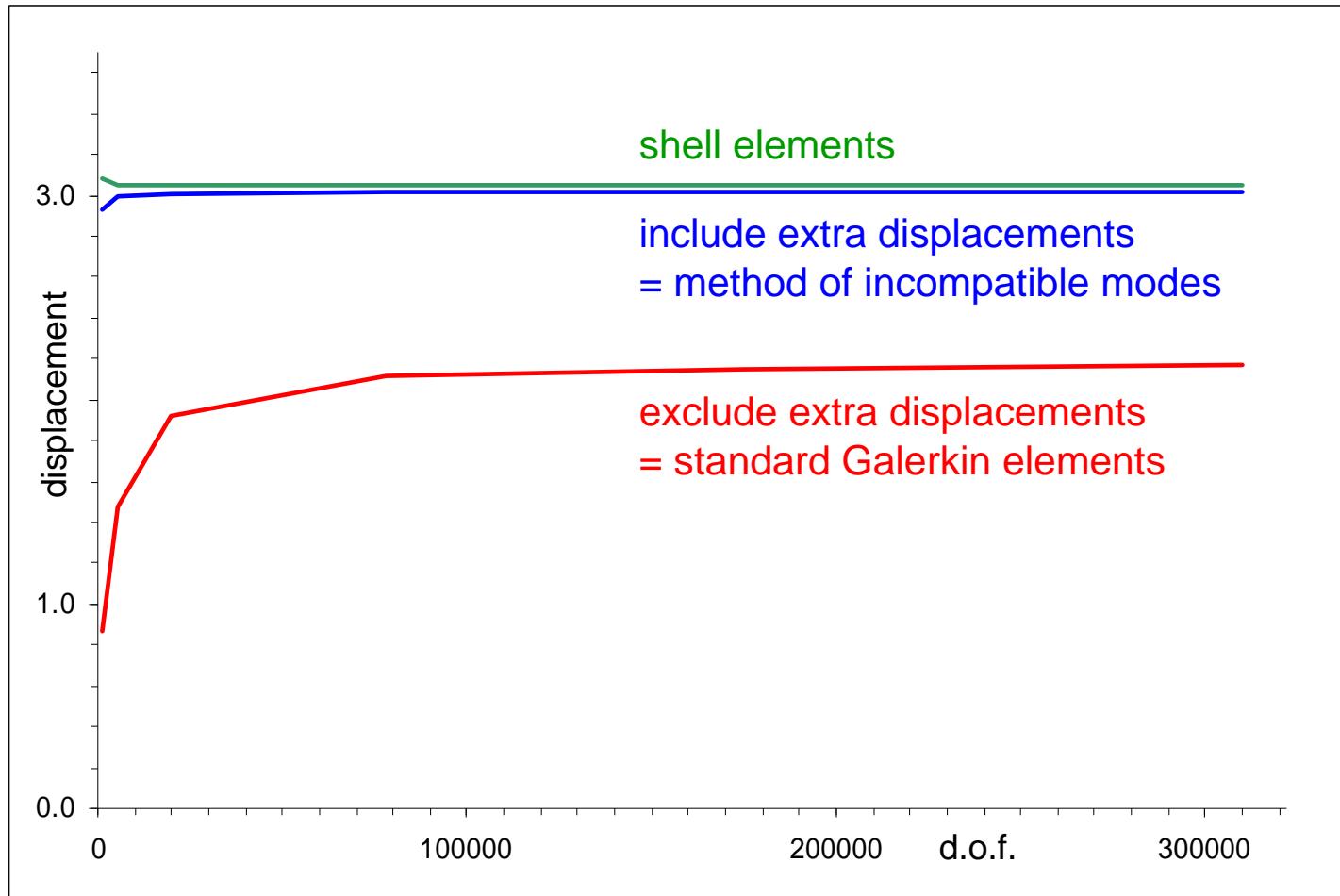
# Shell Analysis with Standard Solid Elements

a naïve approach: take a commercial code and go!



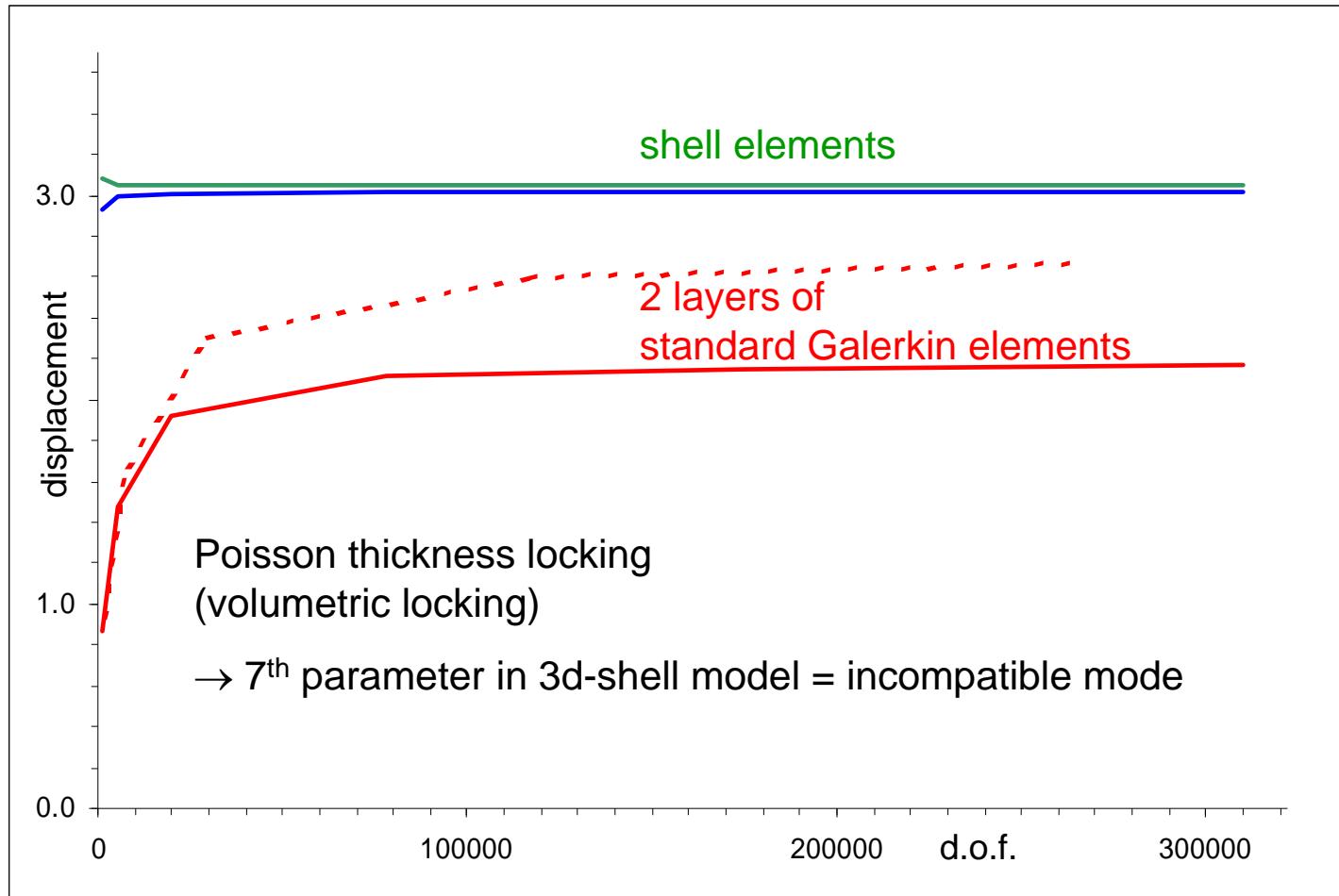
# Shell Analysis with Standard Solid Elements

one layer of standard Galerkin elements yields wrong results



# Shell Analysis with Standard Solid Elements

refinement in transverse direction helps (but is too expensive!)



# Three-dimensional Analysis of Shells

there are (at least) three different strategies

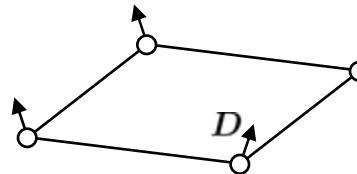
- **3d-shell (e.g. 7-parameter formulation)**

two-dimensional mesh

director + difference vector

6 (+1) d.o.f. per node

stress resultants

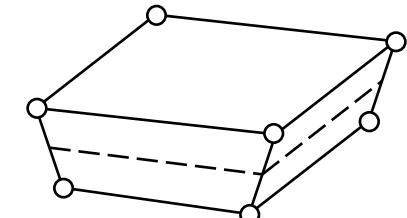


- **continuum shell (solid shell)**

three-dimensional mesh

3 d.o.f. per node (+ internal d.o.f.)

stress resultants

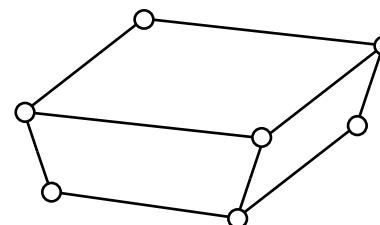


- **3d-solid (brick)**

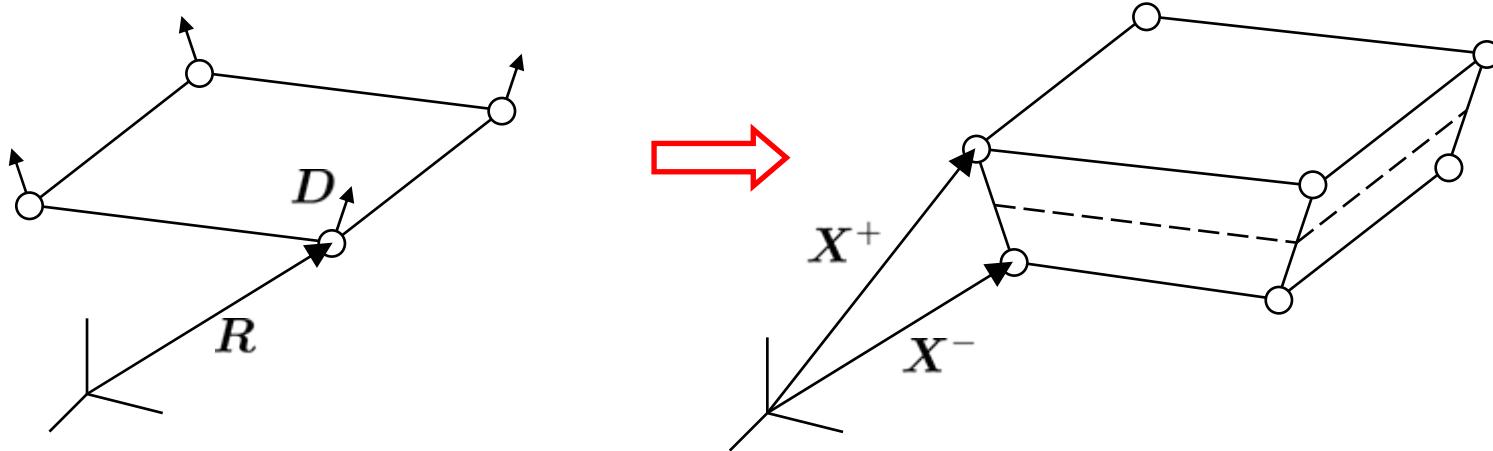
three-dimensional mesh

3 d.o.f. per node (+ internal d.o.f.)

3d stresses



# Surface Oriented Formulation



nodes on upper and lower shell surface

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{R} + \theta^3 \mathbf{D} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathbf{X} = \frac{1}{2} (1 - \theta^3) \mathbf{X}^- + \frac{1}{2} (1 + \theta^3) \mathbf{X}^+$$

nodal displacements instead of difference vector

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v} + \theta^3 \mathbf{w} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{2} (1 - \theta^3) \mathbf{u}^- + \frac{1}{2} (1 + \theta^3) \mathbf{u}^+$$

+ 7<sup>th</sup> parameter for linear transverse normal strain distribution



# Surface Oriented Formulation

## membrane and bending strains

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} = & \frac{1}{4} \left[ (\mathbf{u}_{,\alpha}^- + \mathbf{u}_{,\alpha}^+) \cdot (\mathbf{X}_{,\beta}^- + \mathbf{X}_{,\beta}^+) + (\mathbf{u}_{,\beta}^- + \mathbf{u}_{,\beta}^+) \cdot (\mathbf{X}_{,\alpha}^- + \mathbf{X}_{,\alpha}^+) \right] && \text{membrane} \\ & + \frac{1}{4} \theta^3 \left[ (\mathbf{u}_{,\alpha}^+ - \mathbf{u}_{,\alpha}^-) \cdot (\mathbf{X}_{,\beta}^- + \mathbf{X}_{,\beta}^+) + (\mathbf{u}_{,\beta}^+ - \mathbf{u}_{,\beta}^-) \cdot (\mathbf{X}_{,\alpha}^- + \mathbf{X}_{,\alpha}^+) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + (\mathbf{u}_{,\alpha}^- + \mathbf{u}_{,\alpha}^+) \cdot (\mathbf{X}_{,\beta}^+ - \mathbf{X}_{,\beta}^-) + (\mathbf{u}_{,\beta}^- + \mathbf{u}_{,\beta}^+) \cdot (\mathbf{X}_{,\alpha}^+ - \mathbf{X}_{,\alpha}^-) \right] && \text{bending} \\ & + \frac{1}{4} (\theta^3)^2 \left[ (\mathbf{u}_{,\alpha}^+ - \mathbf{u}_{,\alpha}^-) \cdot (\mathbf{X}_{,\beta}^+ - \mathbf{X}_{,\beta}^-) + (\mathbf{u}_{,\beta}^+ - \mathbf{u}_{,\beta}^-) \cdot (\mathbf{X}_{,\alpha}^+ - \mathbf{X}_{,\alpha}^-) \right] && \text{higher order effects}\end{aligned}$$

The equation is split into three parts by red curly braces. The first part is labeled "membrane", the second is labeled "bending", and the third is labeled "higher order effects". Red lines also connect the terms in each part.

→ “continuum shell” formulation



# Requirements

**what we expect from finite elements for 3d-modeling of shells**

- asymptotically correct ( $\text{thickness} \rightarrow 0$ )
- numerically efficient for thin shells (locking-free)
- consistent (patch test)
- competitive to „usual“ 3d-elements for 3d-problems

**required for both 3d-shell elements and solid elements for shells**



# A Hierarchy of Models

thin shell theory (Kirchhoff-Love, Koiter)  
3-parameter model

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_0^{\alpha\beta} \\ \sigma_0^{\alpha 3} \\ \sigma_0^{33} \\ \sigma_1^{\alpha\beta} \\ \sigma_1^{\alpha 3} \\ \sigma_1^{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} D_0^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_0^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_0^{\alpha\beta 33} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha\beta 33} \\ D_0^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_0^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_0^{\alpha 333} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha 333} \\ D_0^{33\gamma\delta} & D_0^{33\gamma 3} & D_0^{3333} & D_1^{33\gamma\delta} & D_1^{33\gamma 3} & D_1^{3333} \\ D_1^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha\beta 33} & D_2^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_2^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_2^{\alpha\beta 33} \\ D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha 333} & D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_2^{\alpha 333} \\ D_1^{33\gamma\delta} & D_1^{33\gamma 3} & D_1^{3333} & D_2^{33\gamma\delta} & D_2^{33\gamma 3} & D_2^{3333} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^0 \\ \cancel{\varepsilon_{\gamma 3}} \\ 0 \\ \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

modification of material law required



# A Hierarchy of Models

first order shear deformation theory (Reissner/Mindlin, Naghdi)  
5-parameter model

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_0^{\alpha\beta} \\ \sigma_0^{\alpha 3} \\ \sigma_0^{33} \\ \sigma_1^{\alpha\beta} \\ \sigma_1^{\alpha 3} \\ \sigma_1^{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} D_0^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_0^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_0^{\alpha\beta 33} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha\beta 33} \\ D_0^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_0^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_0^{\alpha 333} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha 333} \\ D_0^{33\gamma\delta} & D_0^{33\gamma 3} & D_0^{3333} & D_1^{33\gamma\delta} & D_1^{33\gamma 3} & D_1^{3333} \\ D_1^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha\beta 33} & D_2^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_2^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_2^{\alpha\beta 33} \\ D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha 333} & D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_2^{\alpha 333} \\ D_1^{33\gamma\delta} & D_1^{33\gamma 3} & D_1^{3333} & D_2^{33\gamma\delta} & D_2^{33\gamma 3} & D_2^{3333} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^0 \\ \varepsilon_{\gamma 3}^0 \\ 0 \\ \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

modification of material law required



# A Hierarchy of Models

shear deformable shell + thickness change  
6-parameter model

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_0^{\alpha\beta} \\ \sigma_0^{\alpha 3} \\ \sigma_0^{33} \\ \sigma_1^{\alpha\beta} \\ \sigma_1^{\alpha 3} \\ \sigma_1^{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} D_0^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_0^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_0^{\alpha\beta 33} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha\beta 33} \\ D_0^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_0^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_0^{\alpha 333} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha 333} \\ D_0^{33\gamma\delta} & D_0^{33\gamma 3} & D_0^{3333} & D_1^{33\gamma\delta} & D_1^{33\gamma 3} & D_1^{3333} \\ D_1^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha\beta 33} & D_2^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_2^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_2^{\alpha\beta 33} \\ D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha 333} & D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_2^{\alpha 333} \\ D_1^{33\gamma\delta} & D_1^{33\gamma 3} & D_1^{3333} & D_2^{33\gamma\delta} & D_2^{33\gamma 3} & D_2^{3333} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^0 \\ \varepsilon_{\gamma 3}^0 \\ \varepsilon_{33}^0 \\ \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^1 \\ \varepsilon_{\gamma 3}^1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

asymptotically correct for membrane state



# A Hierarchy of Models

**shear deformable shell + linear thickness change  
7-parameter model**

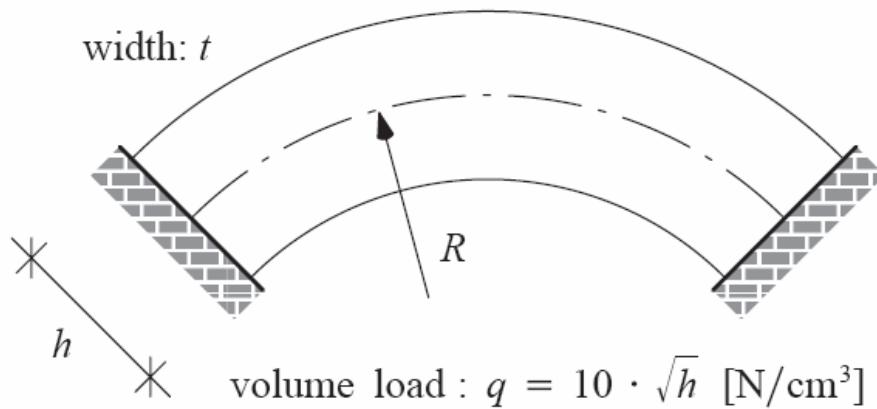
$$\begin{bmatrix}
 \sigma_0^{\alpha\beta} \\
 \sigma_0^{\alpha 3} \\
 \sigma_0^{33} \\
 \sigma_1^{\alpha\beta} \\
 \sigma_1^{\alpha 3} \\
 \sigma_1^{33} \\
 \sigma_2^{\alpha\beta} \\
 \sigma_2^{\alpha 3} \\
 \sigma_2^{33}
 \end{bmatrix}
 = \begin{bmatrix}
 D_0^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_0^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_0^{\alpha\beta 33} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha\beta 33} & D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_2^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_2^{\alpha\beta 33} \\
 D_0^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_0^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_0^{\alpha 333} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha 333} & D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_2^{\alpha 333} \\
 D_0^{33\gamma\delta} & D_0^{33\gamma 3} & D_0^{3333} & D_1^{33\gamma\delta} & D_1^{33\gamma 3} & D_1^{3333} & D_2^{33\gamma\delta} & D_2^{33\gamma 3} & D_2^{3333} \\
 D_1^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha\beta 33} & D_2^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_2^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_2^{\alpha\beta 33} & D_3^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_3^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_3^{\alpha\beta 33} \\
 D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_1^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_1^{\alpha 333} & D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_2^{\alpha 333} & D_3^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_3^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_3^{\alpha 333} \\
 D_1^{33\gamma\delta} & D_1^{33\gamma 3} & D_1^{3333} & D_2^{33\gamma\delta} & D_2^{33\gamma 3} & D_2^{3333} & D_3^{33\gamma\delta} & D_3^{33\gamma 3} & D_3^{3333} \\
 D_2^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_2^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_2^{\alpha\beta 33} & D_3^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_3^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_3^{\alpha\beta 33} & D_4^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} & D_4^{\alpha\beta\gamma 3} & D_4^{\alpha\beta 33} \\
 D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_2^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_2^{\alpha 333} & D_3^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_3^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_3^{\alpha 333} & D_4^{\alpha 3\gamma\delta} & D_4^{\alpha 3\gamma 3} & D_4^{\alpha 333} \\
 D_2^{33\gamma\delta} & D_2^{33\gamma 3} & D_2^{3333} & D_3^{33\gamma\delta} & D_3^{33\gamma 3} & D_3^{3333} & D_4^{33\gamma\delta} & D_4^{33\gamma 3} & D_4^{3333}
 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix}
 \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^0 \\
 \varepsilon_{\gamma 3}^0 \\
 \varepsilon_{33}^0 \\
 \varepsilon_{\gamma\delta}^1 \\
 \varepsilon_{\gamma 3}^1 \\
 \varepsilon_{33}^1 \\
 0 \\
 \varepsilon_{\gamma 3}^2 \\
 0
 \end{bmatrix}$$

**asymptotically correct for membrane +bending**



# Numerical Experiment (Two-dimensional)

a two-dimensional example: discretization of a beam with 2d-solids



geometry:

$$R = 50 \text{ cm}$$

$$t = 1 \text{ cm}$$

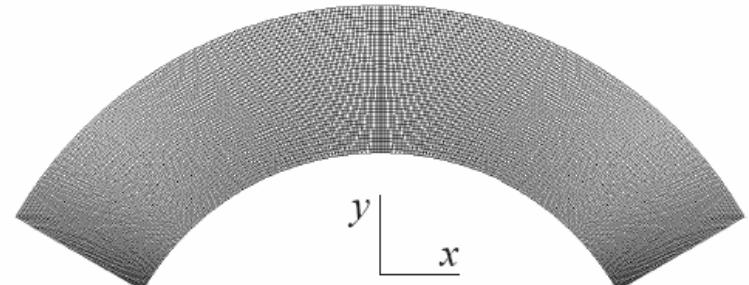
$$h = 50 \dots 0.5 \text{ cm}$$

material:

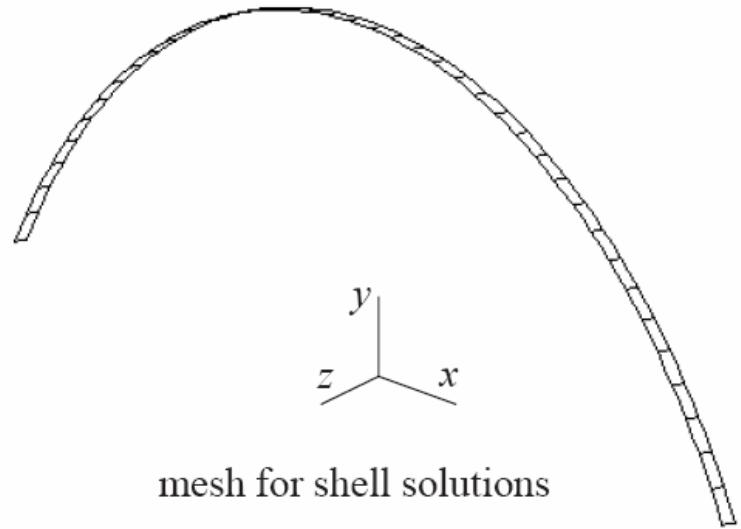
$$E = 21000 \text{ kN/cm}^2$$

$$\nu = 0.3$$

plane strain conditions  
in  $z$ -direction



mesh for reference solution

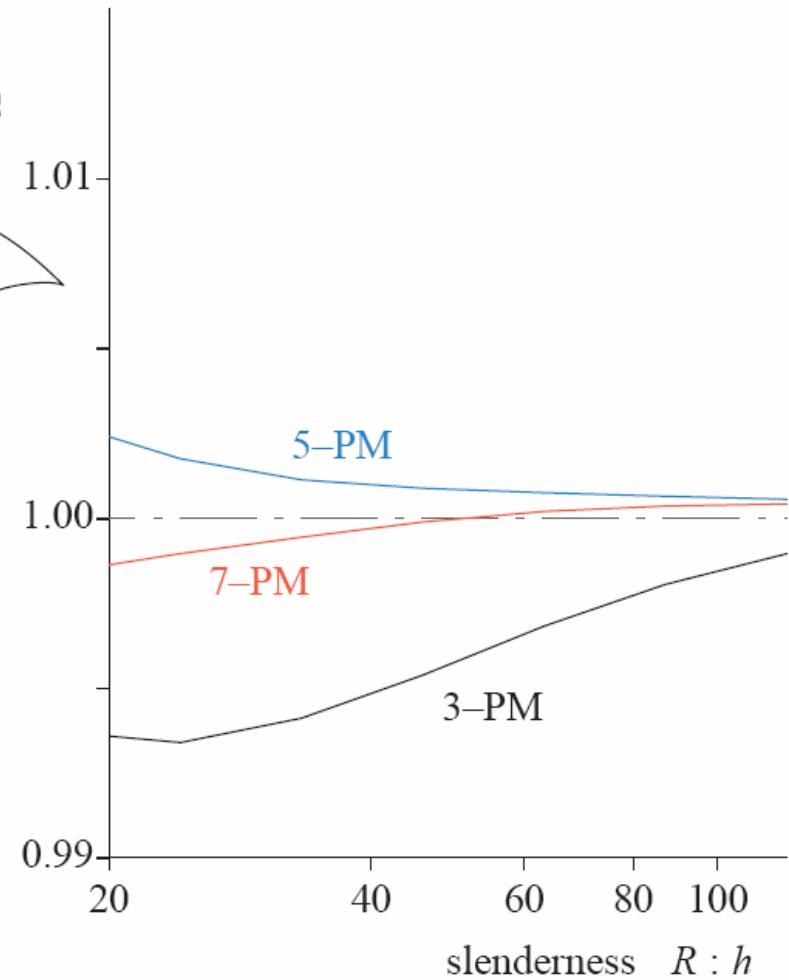
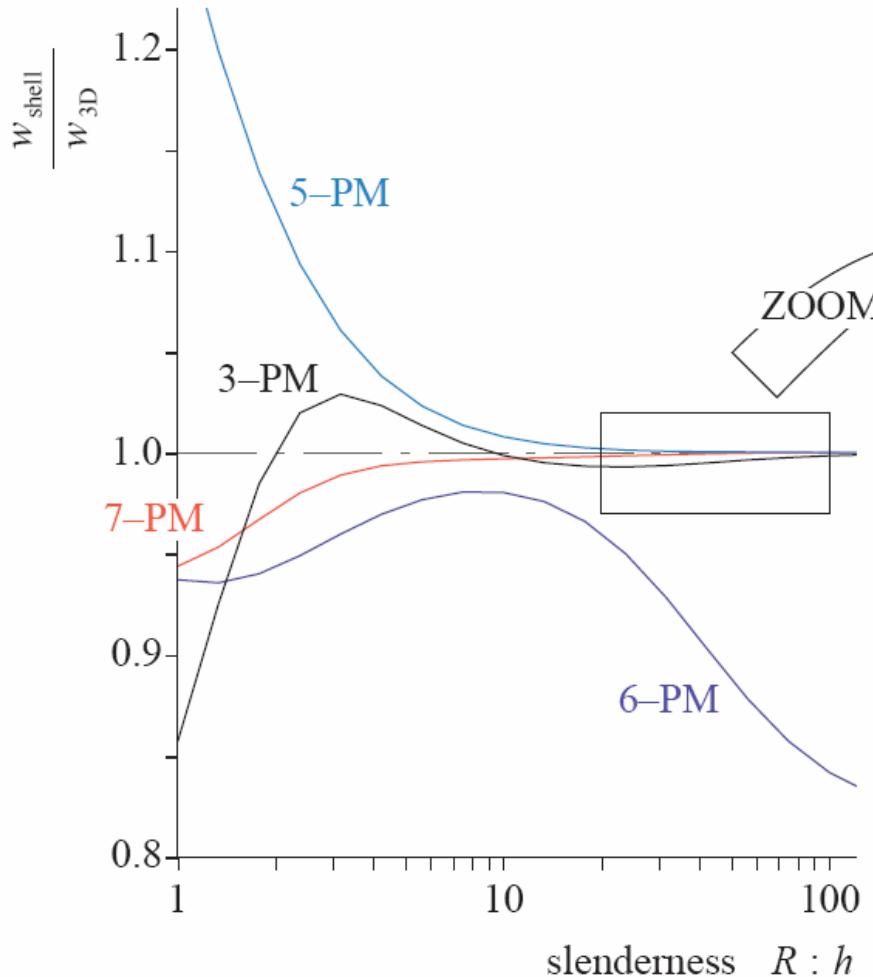


mesh for shell solutions



# Numerical Experiment (Two-dimensional)

a two-dimensional example: discretization of a beam with 2d-solids



# Requirements

**what we expect from finite elements for 3d-modeling of shells**

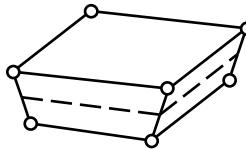
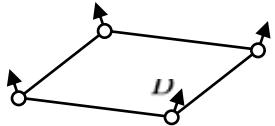
- asymptotically correct (thickness  $\rightarrow 0$ )
- numerically efficient for thin shells (locking-free)
- consistent (patch test)
- competitive to „usual“ 3d-elements for 3d-problems

**required for both 3d-shell elements and solid elements for shells**

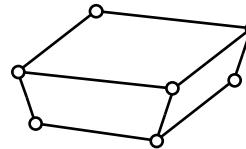


# Locking Phenomena

## 3d-shell/continuum shell vs. solid



3d-shell / continuum shell



3d-solid

in-plane shear locking

shear locking

transverse shear locking

(membrane locking)

membrane locking

volumetric locking

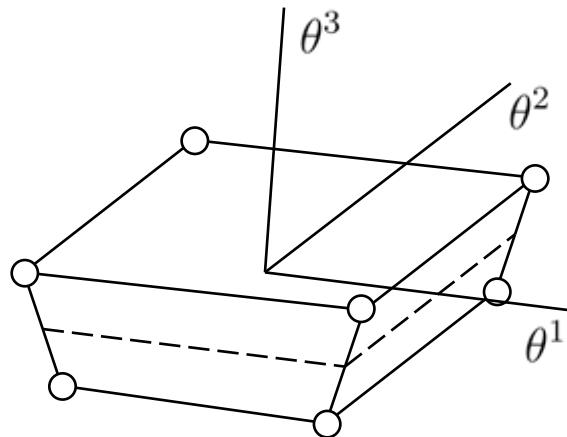
Poisson thickness locking

trapezoidal locking



# Comparison: Continuum Shell vs. 3d-solid

differences with respect to finite element technology  
and underlying shell theory

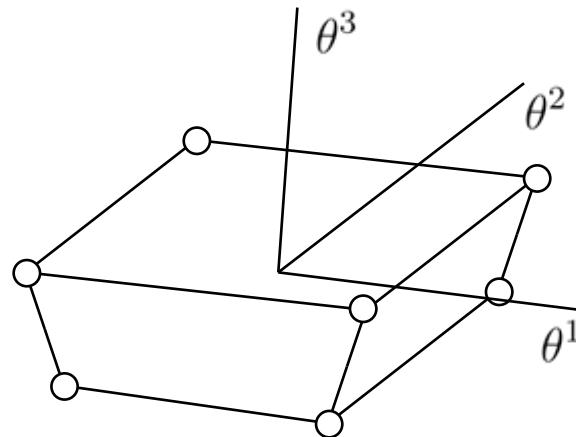


continuum shell

stress resultants

distinct thickness direction

$\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}$  linear in  $\theta^3$



3d-solid

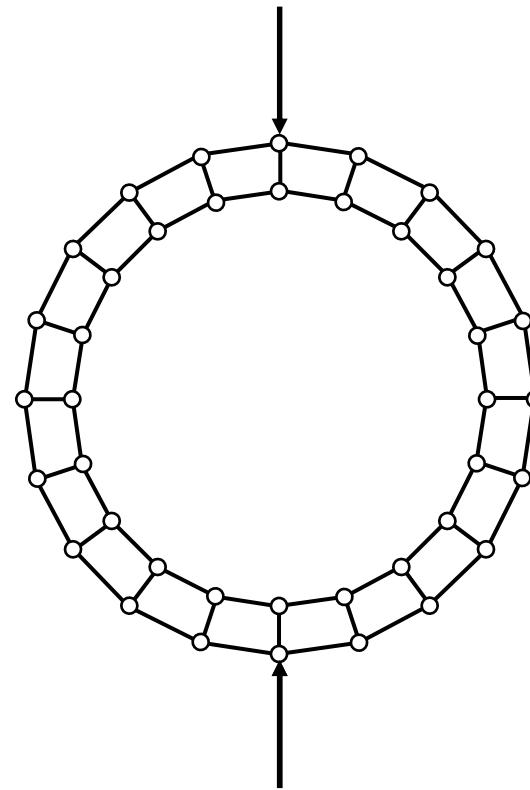
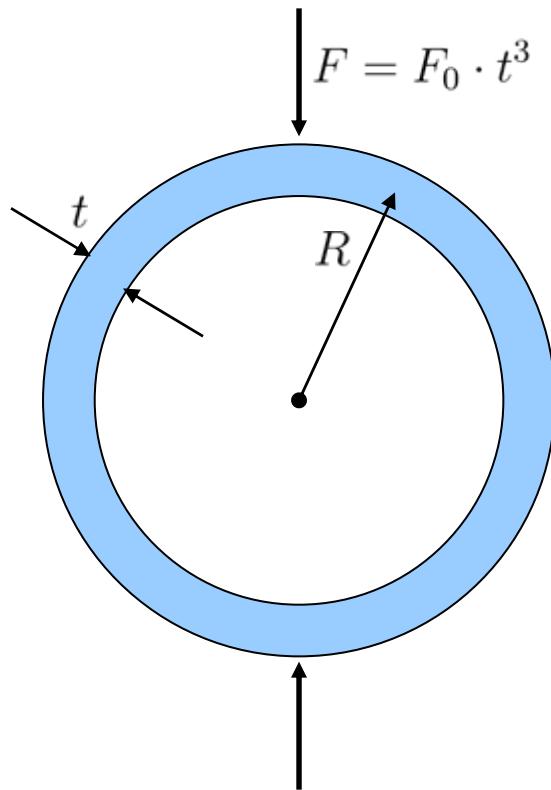
stresses

all directions are equal

$\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}$  quadratic in  $\theta^3$

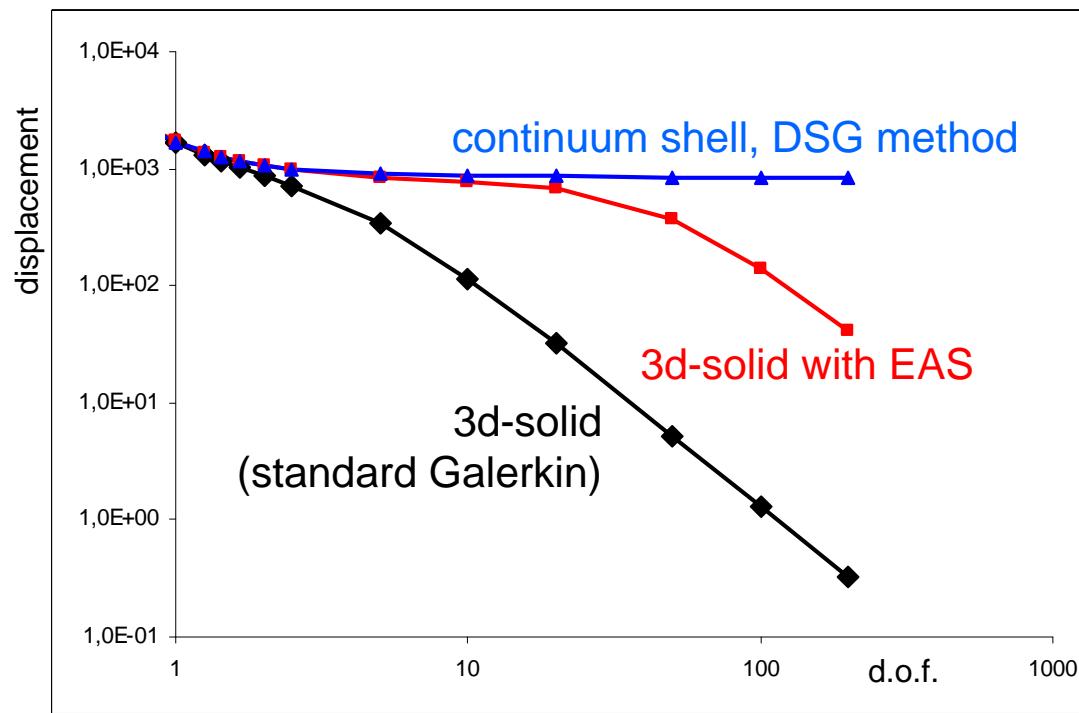
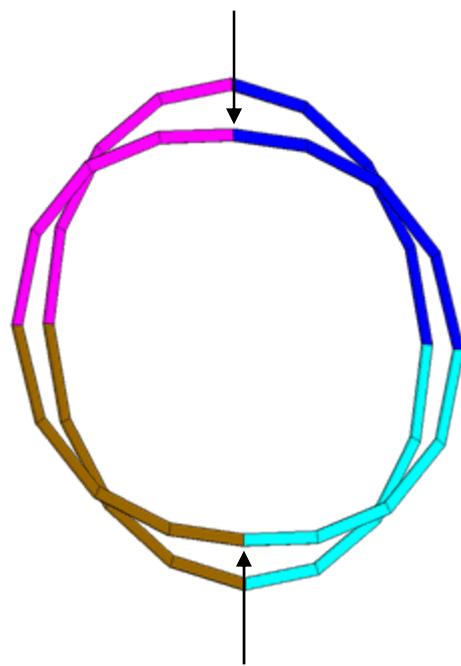
# Trapezoidal Locking (Curvature Thickness locking)

numerical example: pinched ring



# Trapezoidal Locking (Curvature Thickness locking)

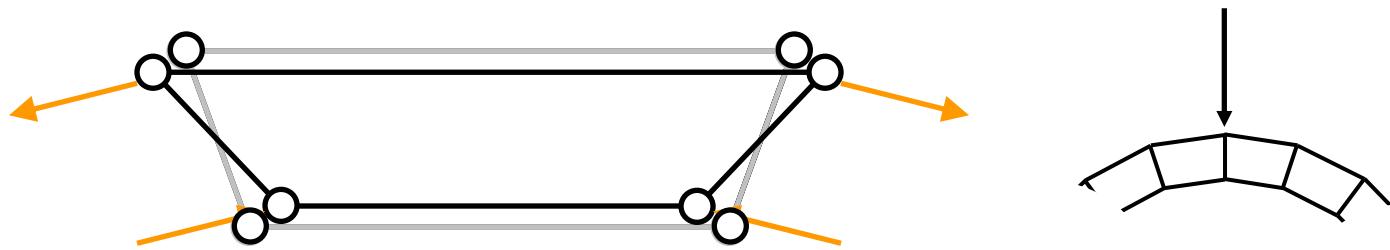
numerical example: pinched ring



# Trapezoidal Locking (Curvature Thickness locking)

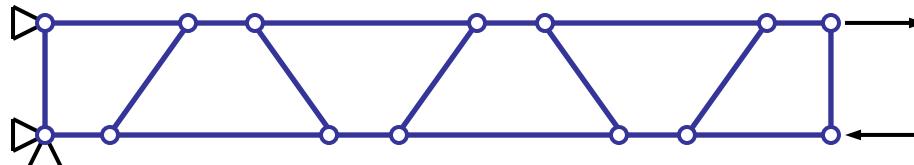
origin of locking-phenomenon explained geometrically

pure „bending“ of an initially curved element



...leads to artificial transverse normal strains and stresses

trapezoidal locking  $\leftrightarrow$  distortion sensitivity

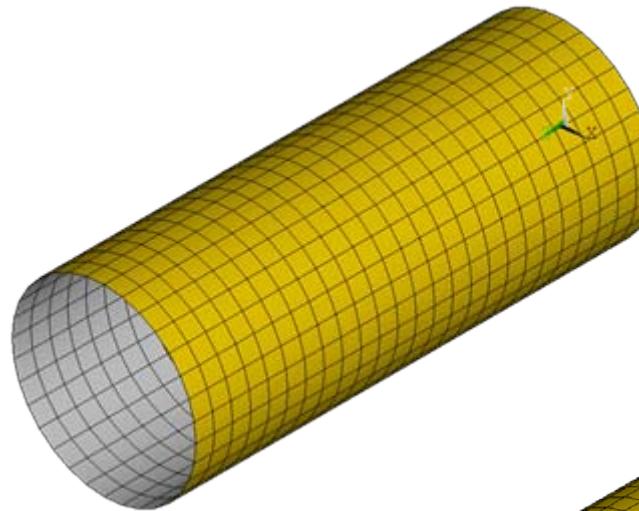


# Cylindrical Shell Subject to External Pressure

slenderness  $R/t = 100$

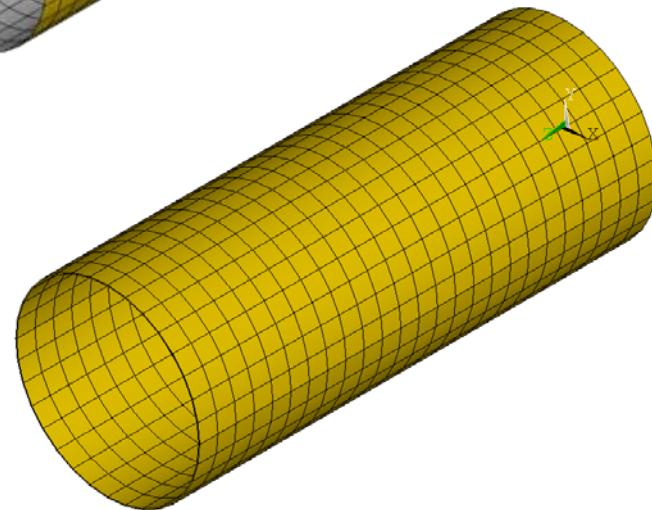
**shell elements**

coarse mesh, 4608 d.o.f.



**3d-solid elements**

coarse mesh, 4608 d.o.f.



# Cylindrical Shell Subject to External Pressure

slenderness  $R/t = 100$

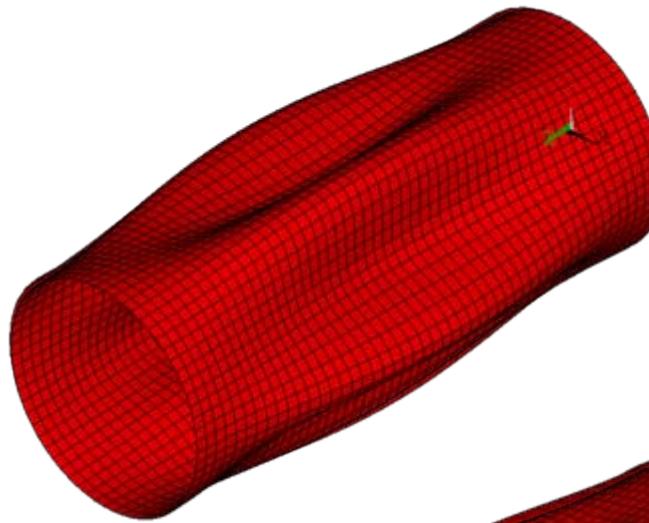
## shell elements

coarse mesh, 4608 d.o.f.

$$\lambda_{\text{crit}} = 0.58$$

fine mesh, 18816 d.o.f.

$$\lambda_{\text{crit}} = 0.57$$



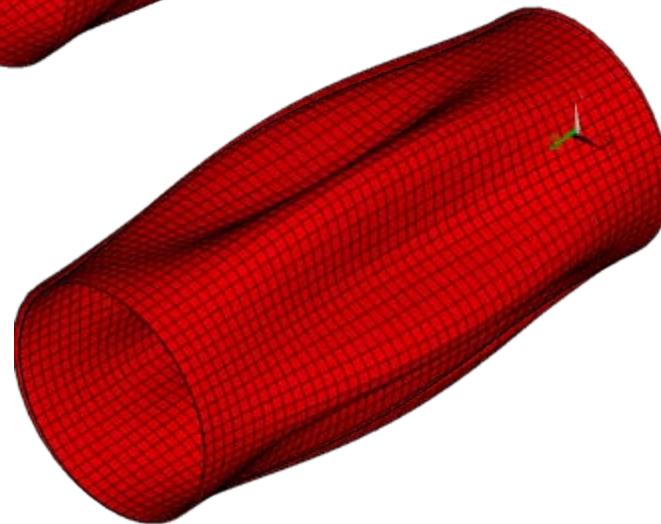
## 3d-solid elements

coarse mesh, 4608 d.o.f.

$$\lambda_{\text{crit}} = 0.95$$

fine mesh, 18816 d.o.f.

$$\lambda_{\text{crit}} = 0.58$$



# Cylindrical Shell Subject to External Pressure

slenderness  $R/t = 500$

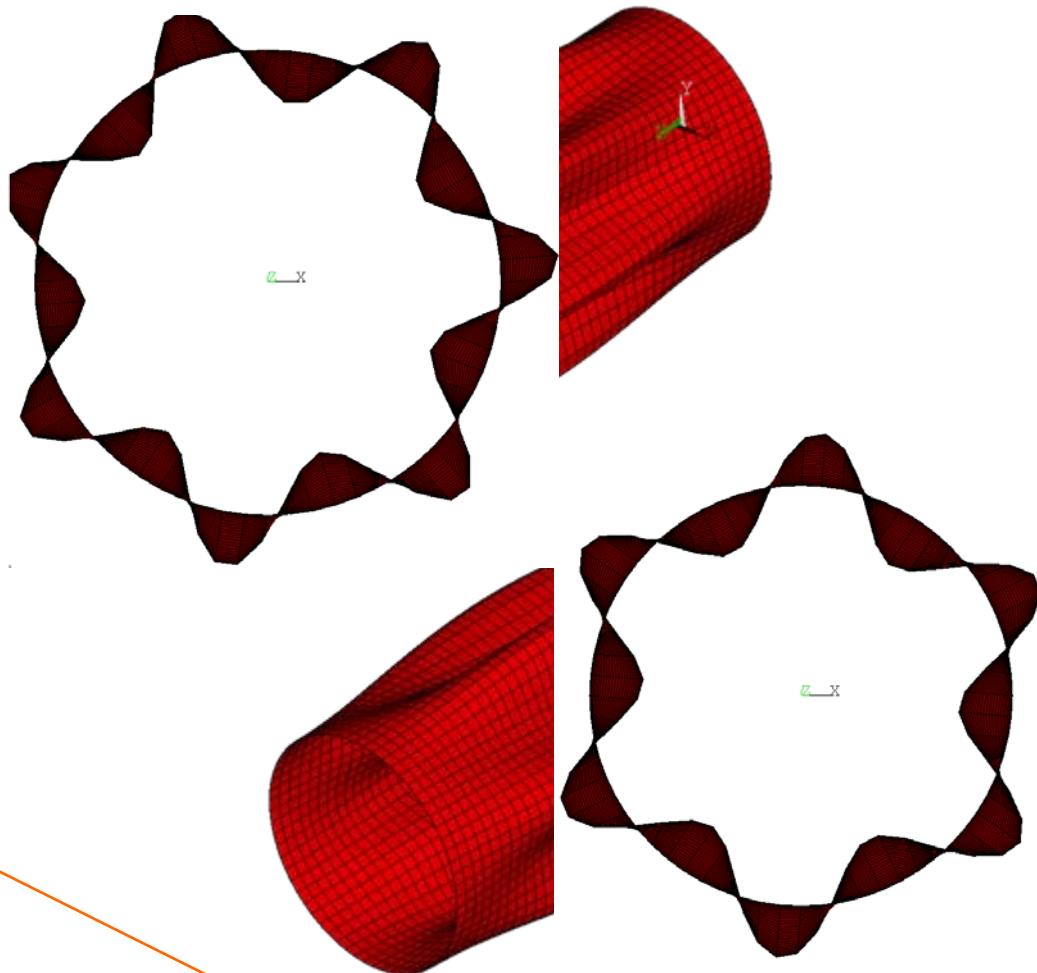
shell elements

coarse mesh, 4608 d.o.f.

$$\lambda_{\text{crit}} = 0.01$$

fine mesh, 18816 d.o.f.

$$\lambda_{\text{crit}} = 0.01$$



3d-solid elements

coarse mesh, 4608 d.o.f.

$$\lambda_{\text{crit}} = 0.13 \quad \text{factor 13!}$$

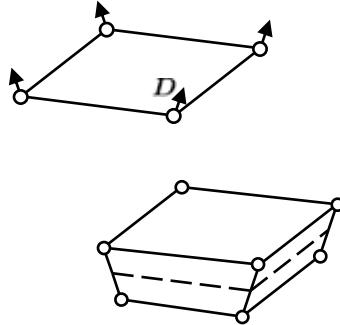
fine mesh, 4608 d.o.f.

$$\lambda_{\text{crit}} = 0.017 \quad \text{still 70% error!} \quad \text{due to trapezoidal locking}$$



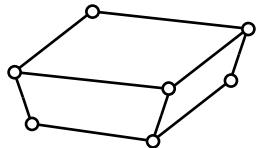
# Finite Element Technology: Summary

## 3d-shell, continuum shell, solid shell,...



- stress resultants allow separate treatment of membrane and bending terms
- „anisotropic“ element technology (trapezoidal locking)

## 3d-solid (brick)



- no “transverse” direction  
no distinction of membrane / bending
- (usually) suffer from trapezoidal locking

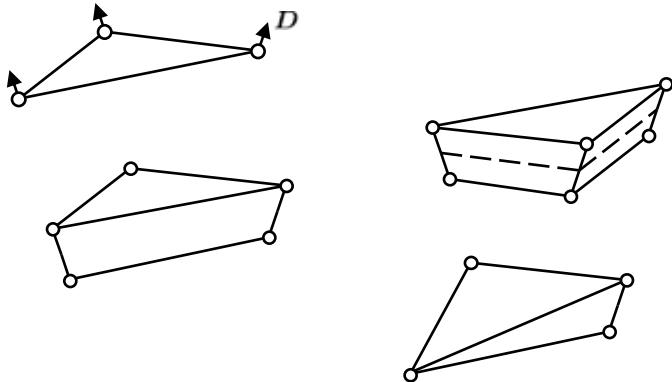
## general

- effective methods for transverse shear locking available
- membrane locking mild when (bi-) linear shape functions are used

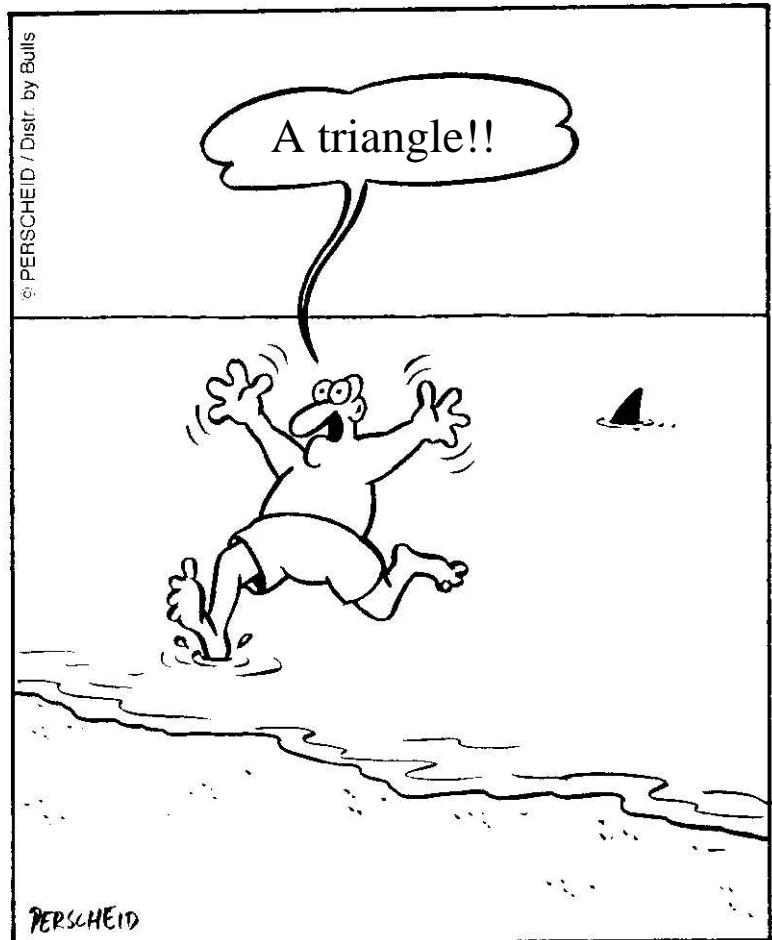


# Finite Element Technology: Summary

## triangles, tetrahedrons and wedges



- tetrahedrons: hopeless
- wedges: may be o.k.  
in transverse direction
- problem: meshing with hexahedrons  
extremely demanding



# Requirements

**what we expect from finite elements for 3d-modeling of shells**

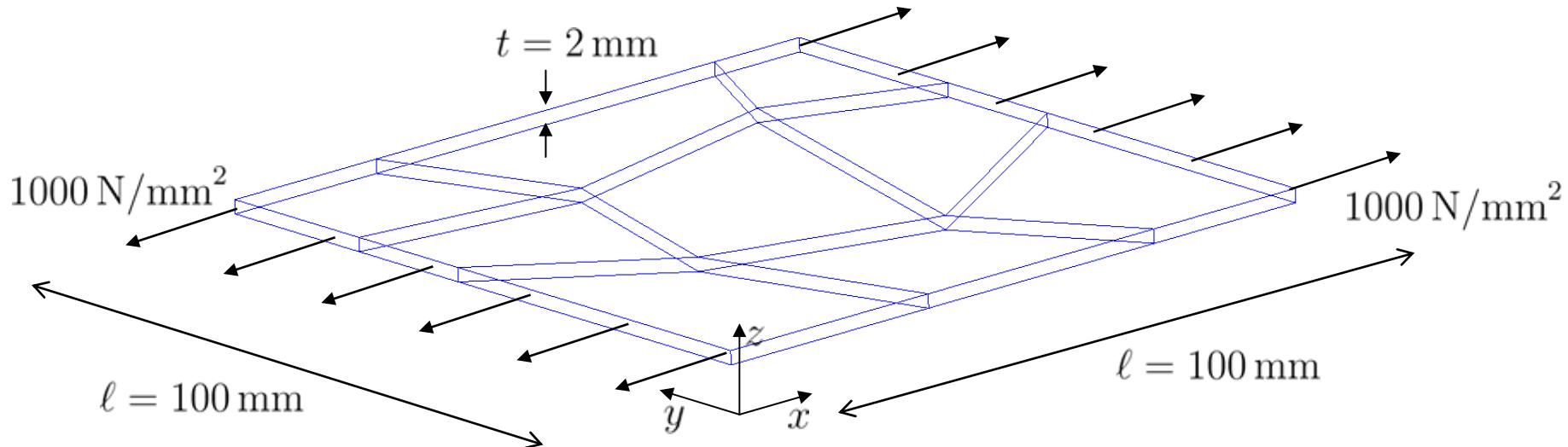
- asymptotically correct ( $\text{thickness} \rightarrow 0$ )
- numerically efficient for thin shells (locking-free)
- consistent (patch test)
- competitive to „usual“ 3d-elements for 3d-problems

**required for both 3d-shell elements and solid elements for shells**

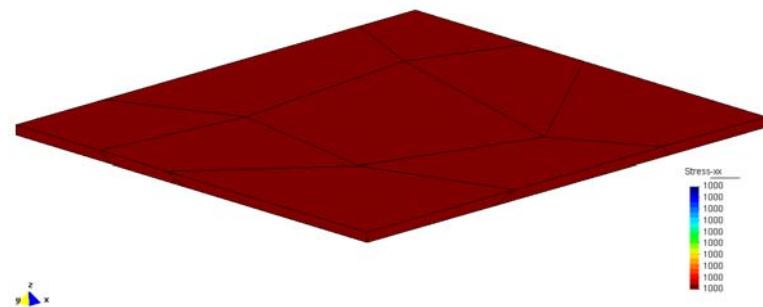


# Fundamental Requirement: The Patch Test

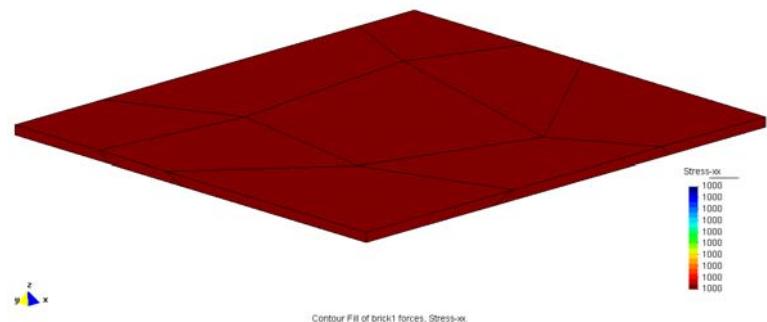
one layer of 3d-elements,  $\sigma_x = \text{const.}$



3d-solid

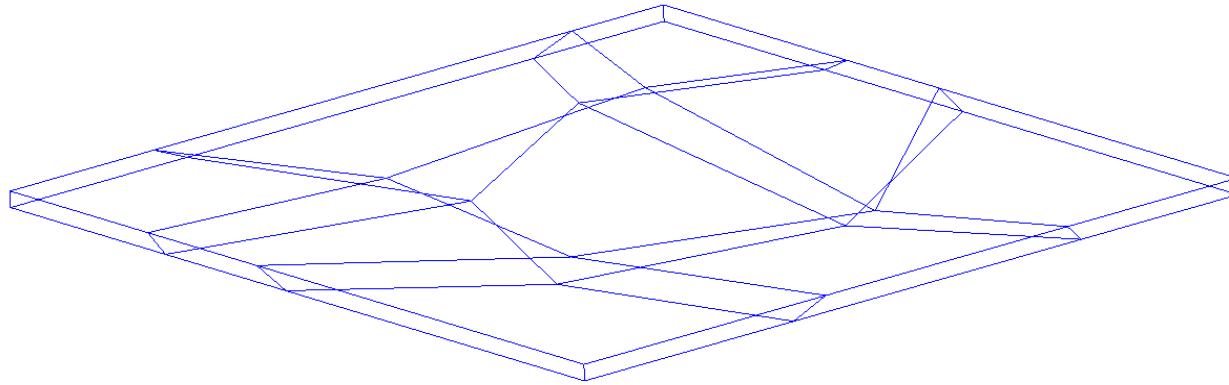


continuum shell, DSG

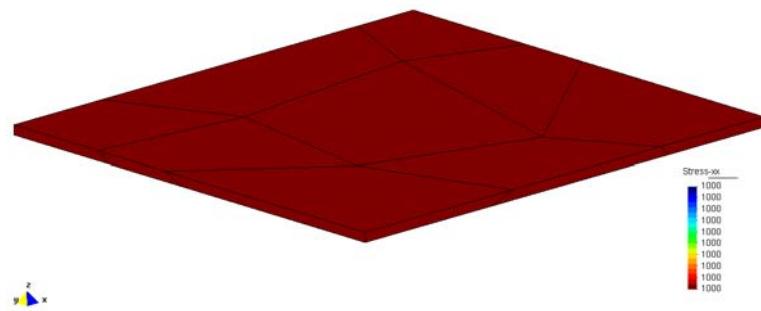


# Fundamental Requirement: The Patch Test

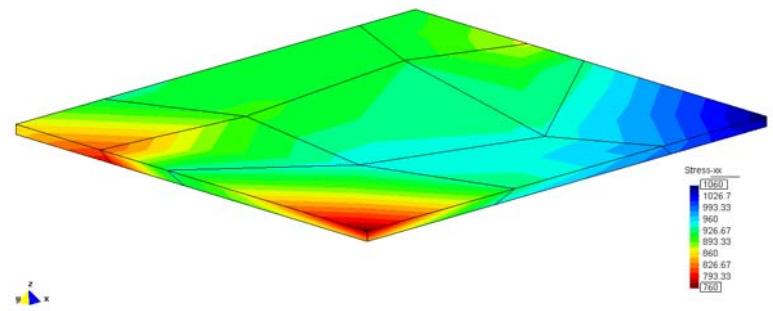
one layer of 3d-elements,  $\sigma_x = \text{const.}$ , directors skewed



3d-solid



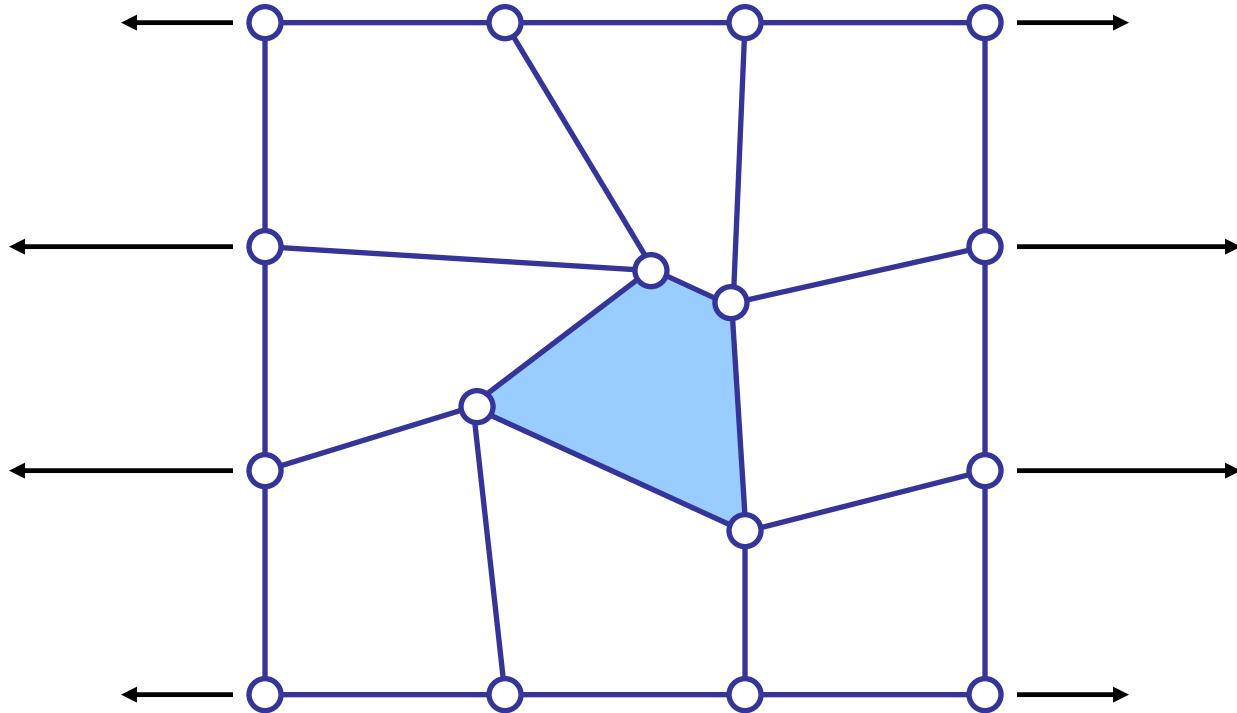
continuum shell, DSG



# Two-dimensional Model Problem

the fundamental dilemma of finite element technology

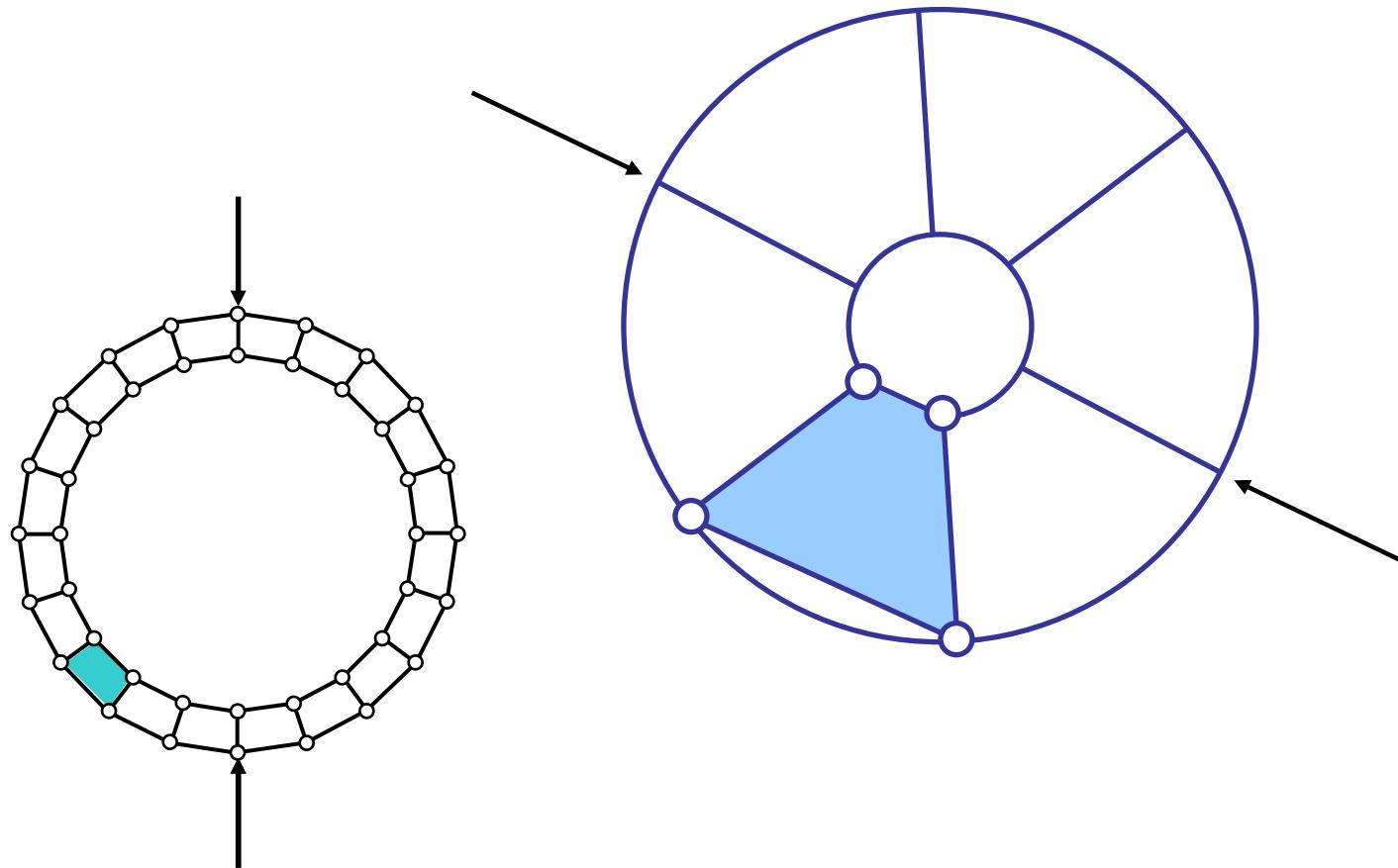
modeling constant stresses



# Two-dimensional Model Problem

the fundamental dilemma of finite element technology

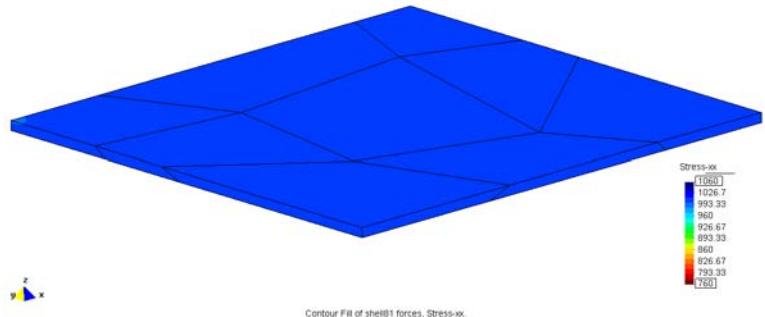
...or pure bending?



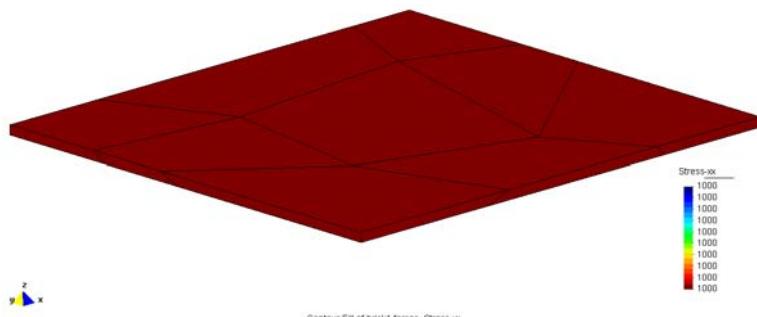
# Fundamental Requirement: The Patch Test

one layer of 3d-elements,  $\sigma_x = \text{const.}$ , directors skewed

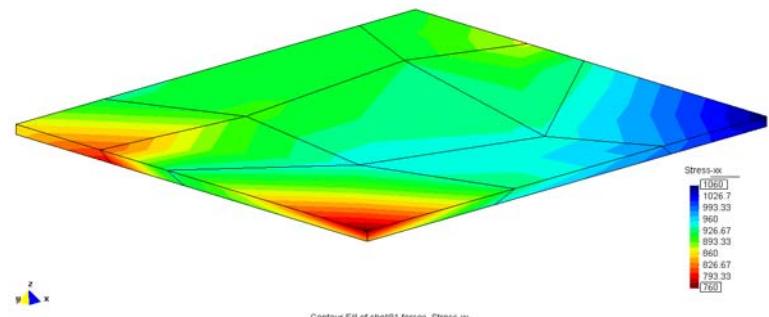
continuum shell, no DSG  
(trapezoidal locking in bending)



3d-solid



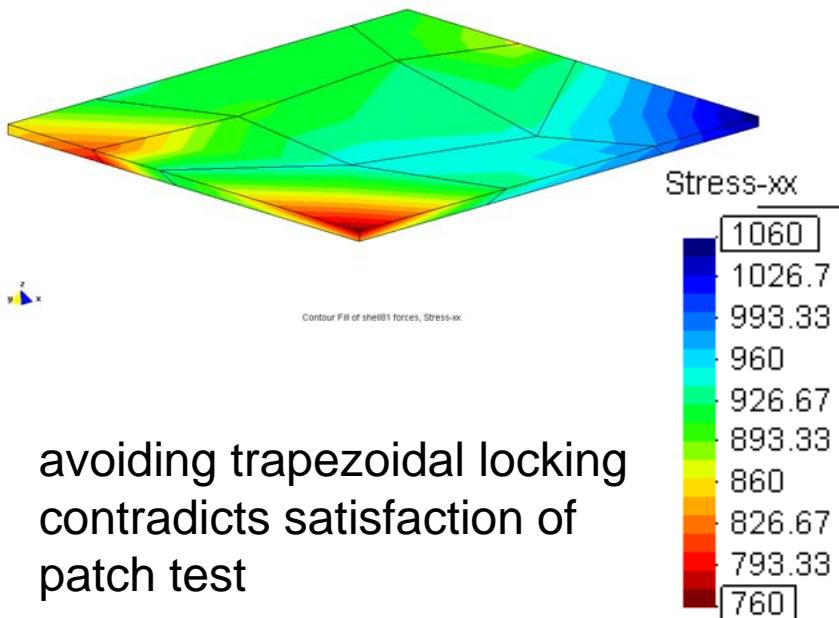
continuum shell, DSG



# Fundamental Requirement: The Patch Test

same computational results, different scales for visualization

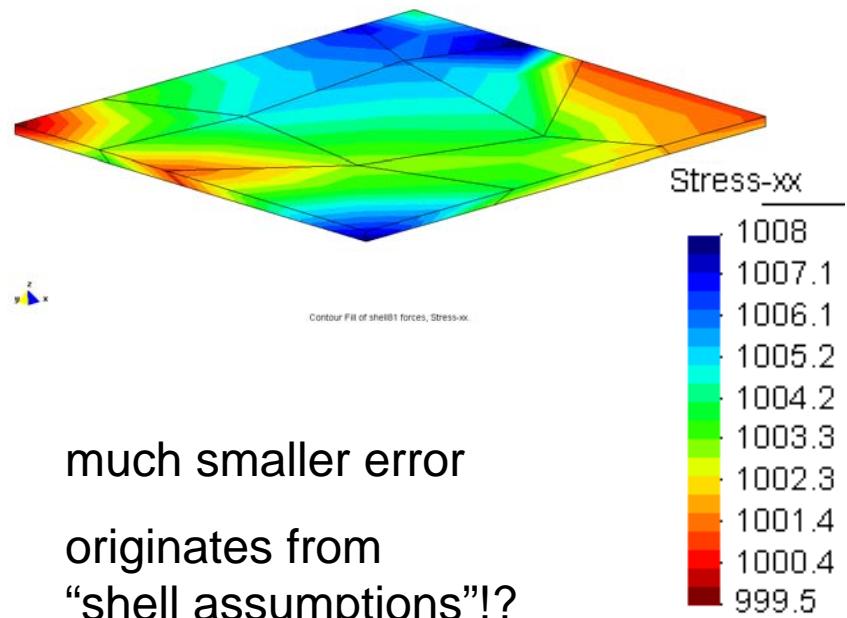
continuum shell, DSG



avoiding trapezoidal locking  
contradicts satisfaction of  
patch test

(known since long,  
e.g. R. McNeal text book)

continuum shell, no DSG  
(trapezoidal locking in bending)

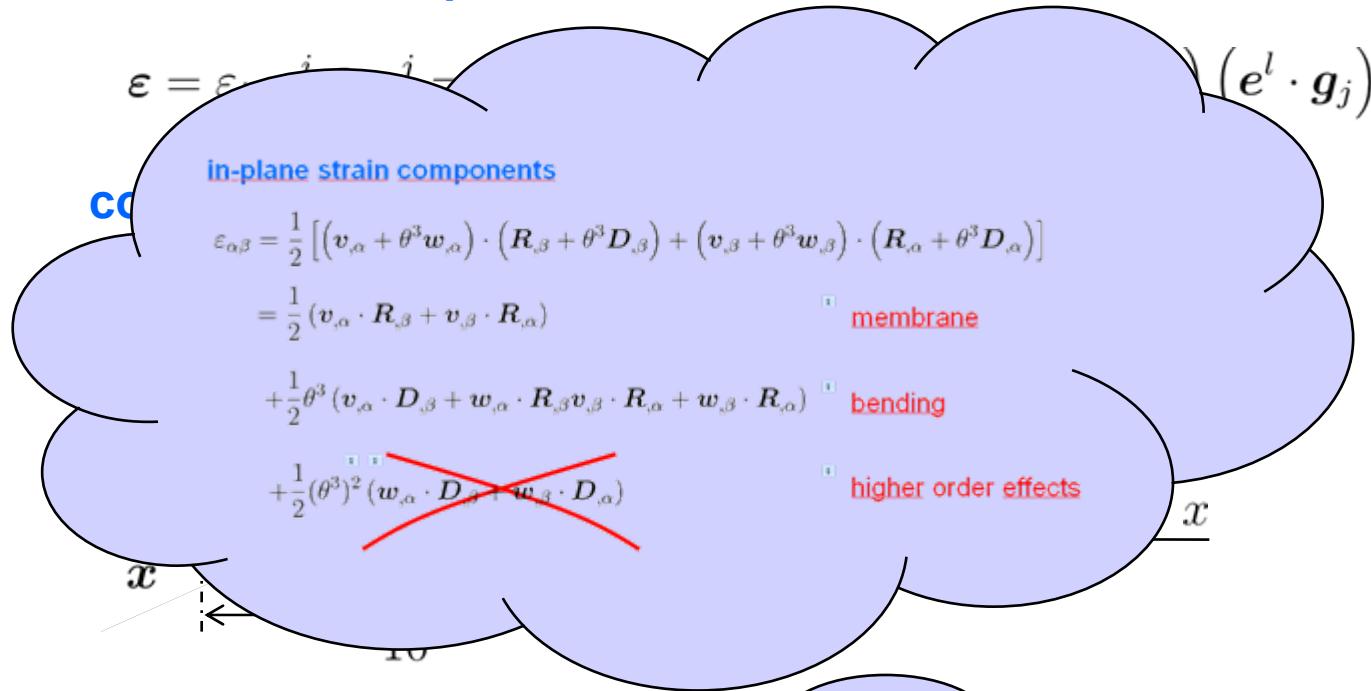


much smaller error  
originates from  
“shell assumptions”!?



# Fundamental Requirement: The Patch Test

## curvilinear components of strain tensor



$$\hat{\varepsilon}_{11} = \varepsilon_{kl} (\mathbf{e}^k \cdot \mathbf{g}_1) (\mathbf{e}^l \cdot \mathbf{g}_1)$$

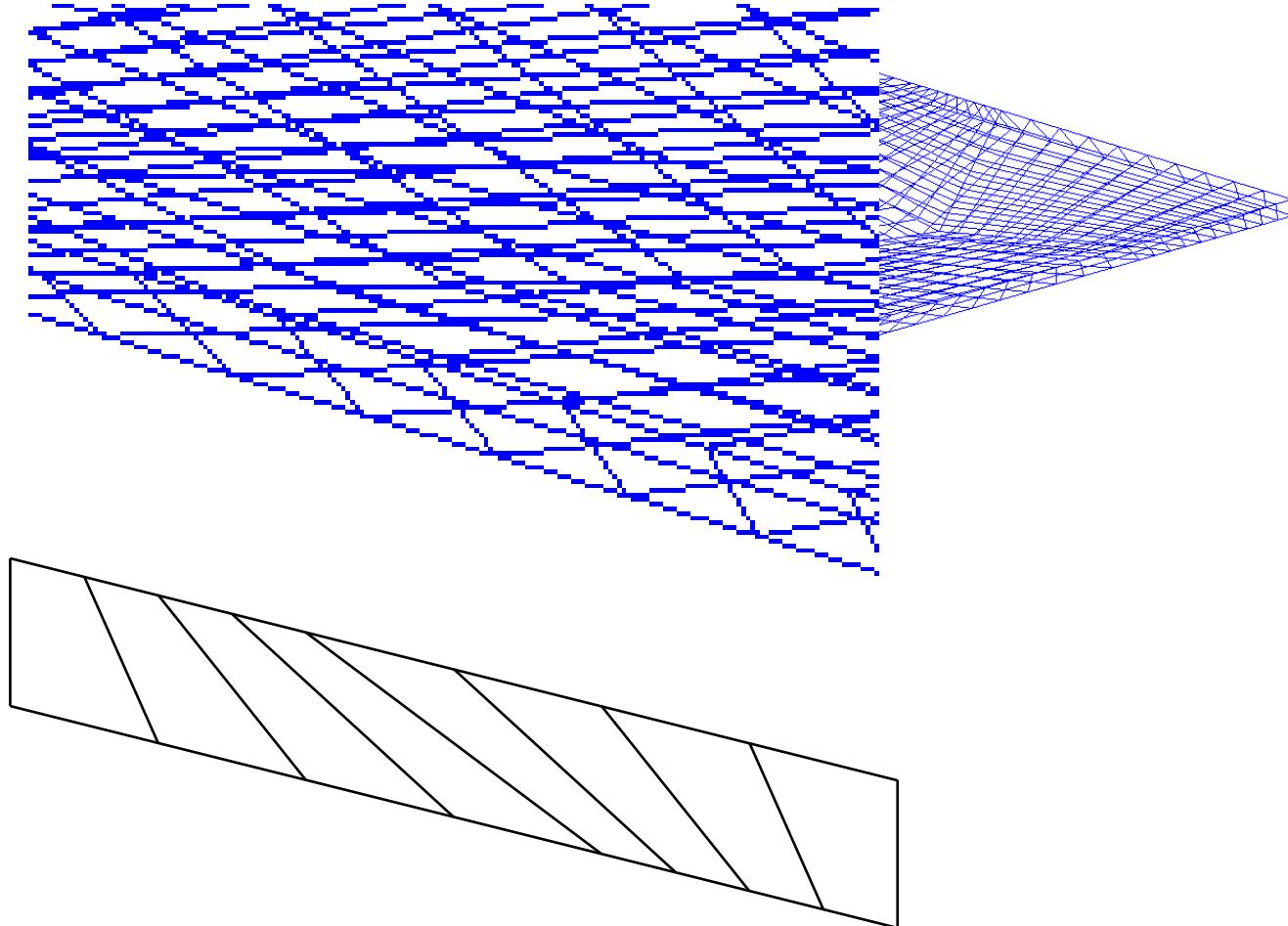
$$\mathbf{g}_1 := \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \theta^1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} (21 + \theta^3) \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{\varepsilon}_{11} = \varepsilon_{11} \left( \frac{21}{4} + \frac{\theta^3}{4} \right)^2 = \varepsilon_{11} \left( \frac{441}{16} + \frac{21}{8} \theta^3 + \frac{1}{6} (\theta^3)^2 \right)$$



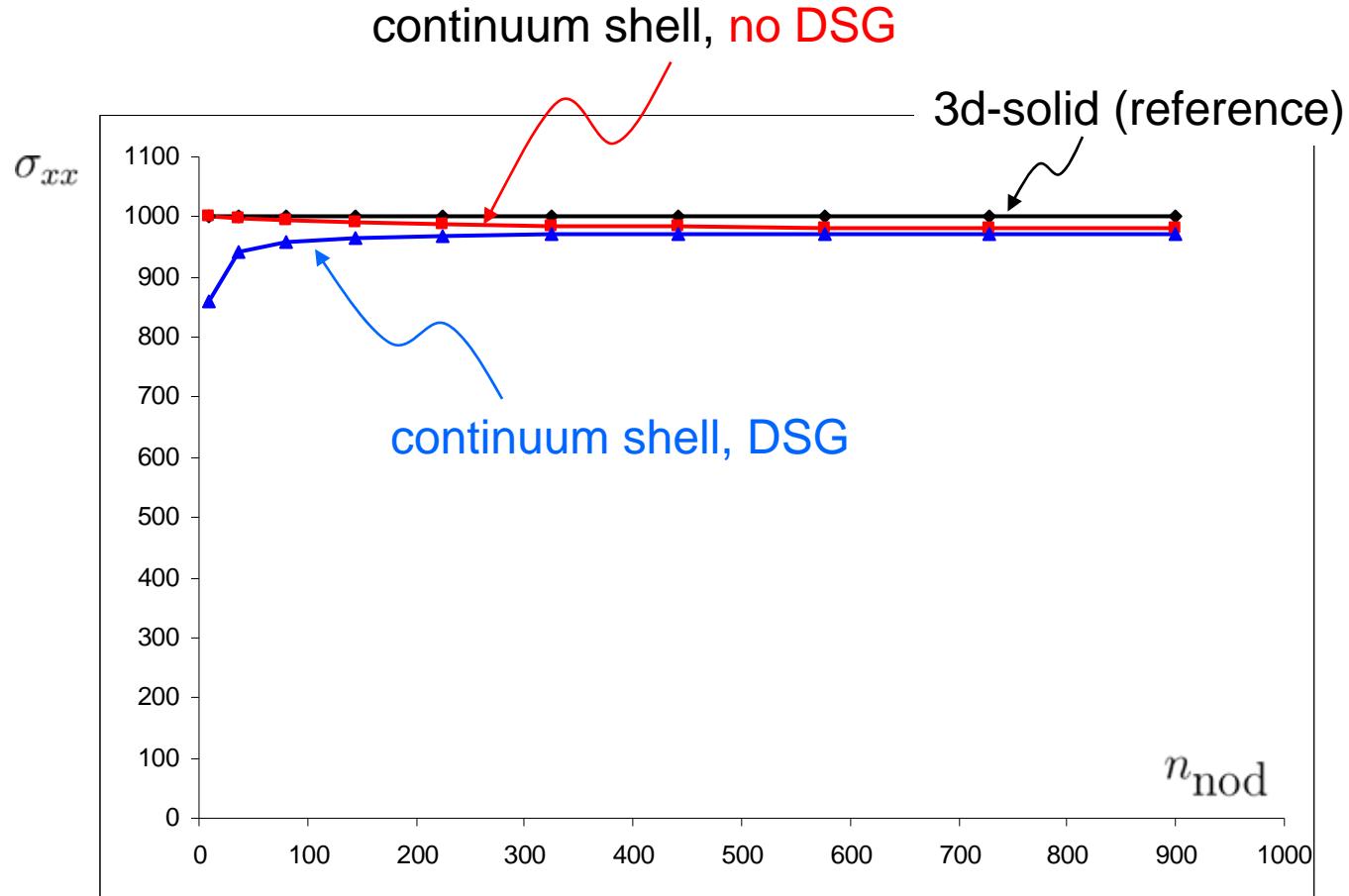
# Convergence

mesh refinement by subdivision



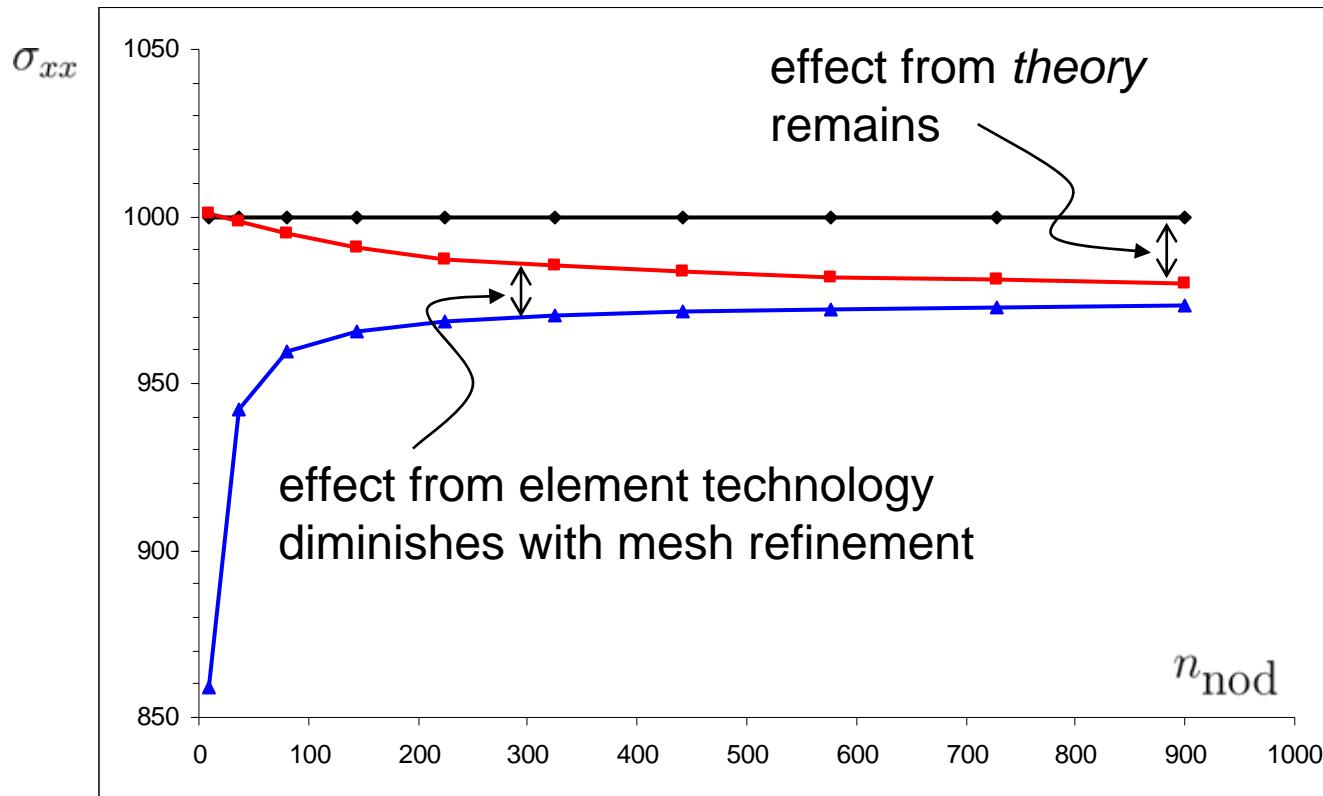
# Convergence

## mesh refinement



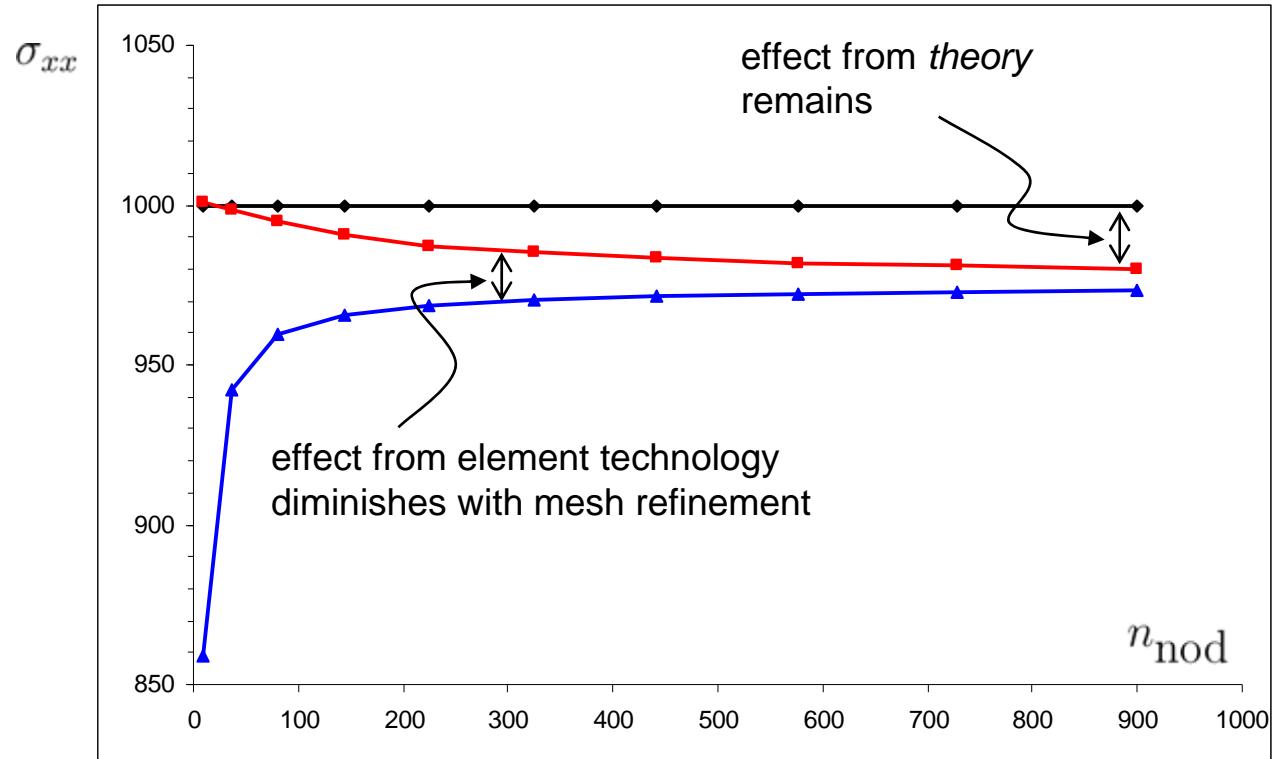
# Convergence

## mesh refinement



# Convergence

## mesh refinement



- quadratic terms ought to be included unless directors are normal
- non-satisfaction of patch test harmless when subdivision is used



# Requirements

**what we expect from finite elements for 3d-modeling of shells**

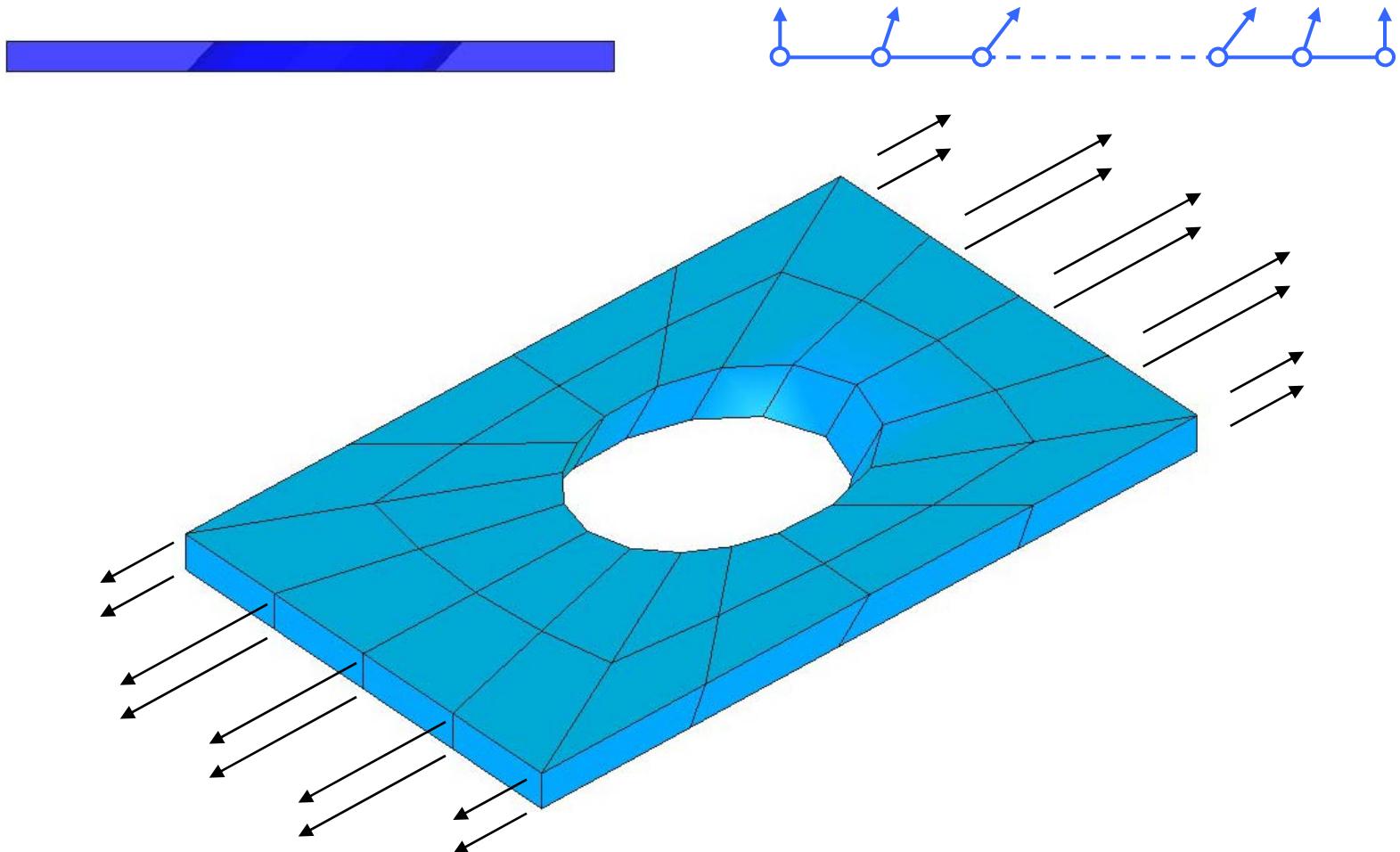
- asymptotically correct ( $\text{thickness} \rightarrow 0$ )
- numerically efficient for thin shells (locking-free)
- consistent (patch test)
- competitive to „usual“ 3d-elements for 3d-problems

**required for both 3d-shell elements and solid elements for shells**



# Panel with Skew Hole

**distorted elements, skew directors**

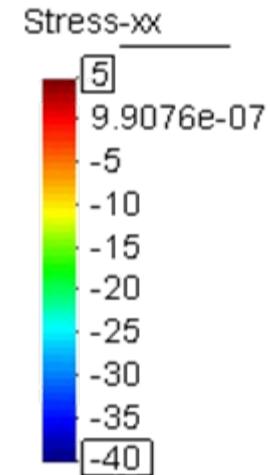
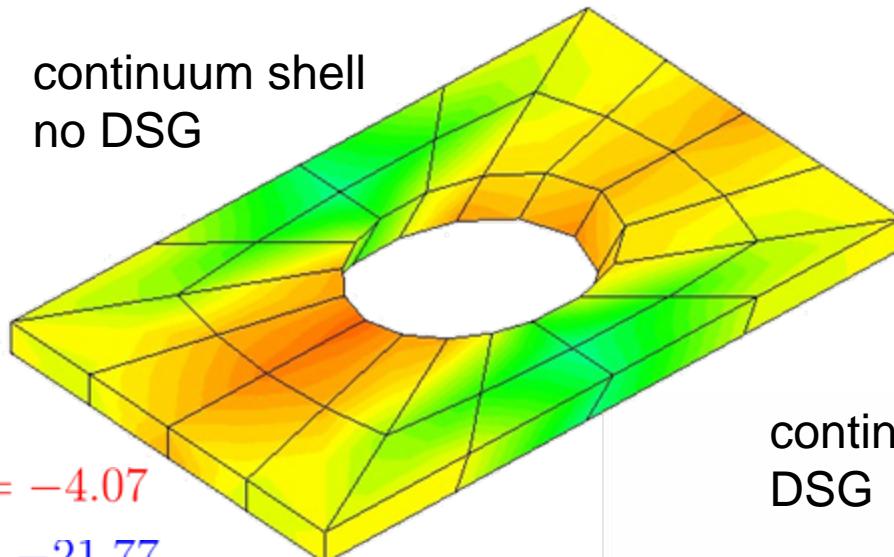


# Panel with Skew Hole

continuum shell elements

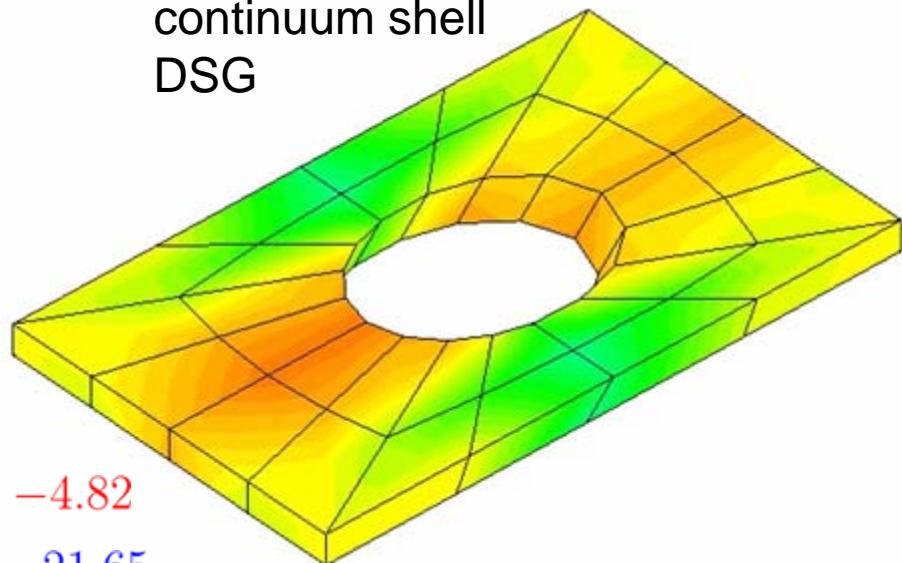
continuum shell  
no DSG

$$\sigma_{\max} = -4.07$$
$$\sigma_{\min} = -21.77$$



continuum shell  
DSG

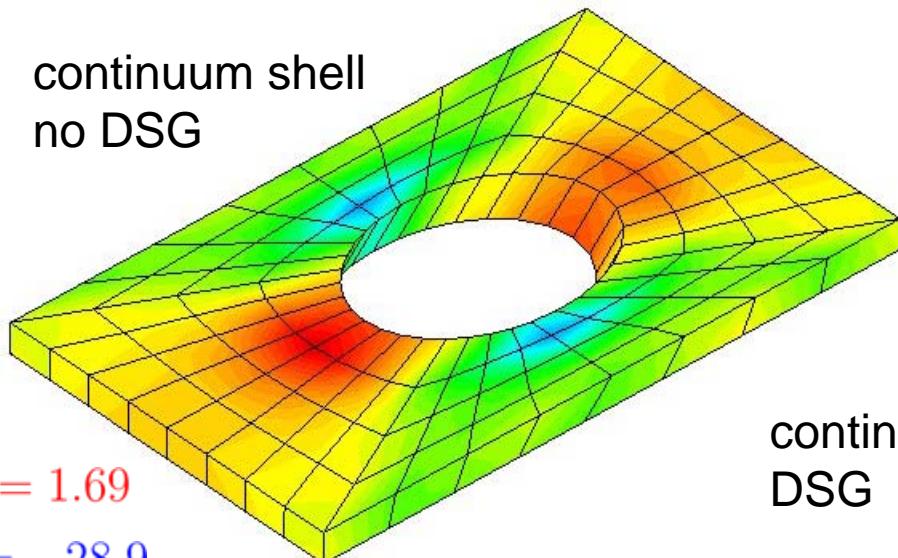
$$\sigma_{\max} = -4.82$$
$$\sigma_{\min} = -21.65$$



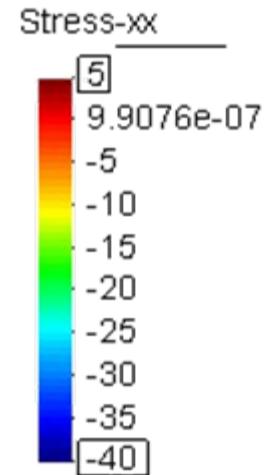
# Panel with Skew Hole

continuum shell elements

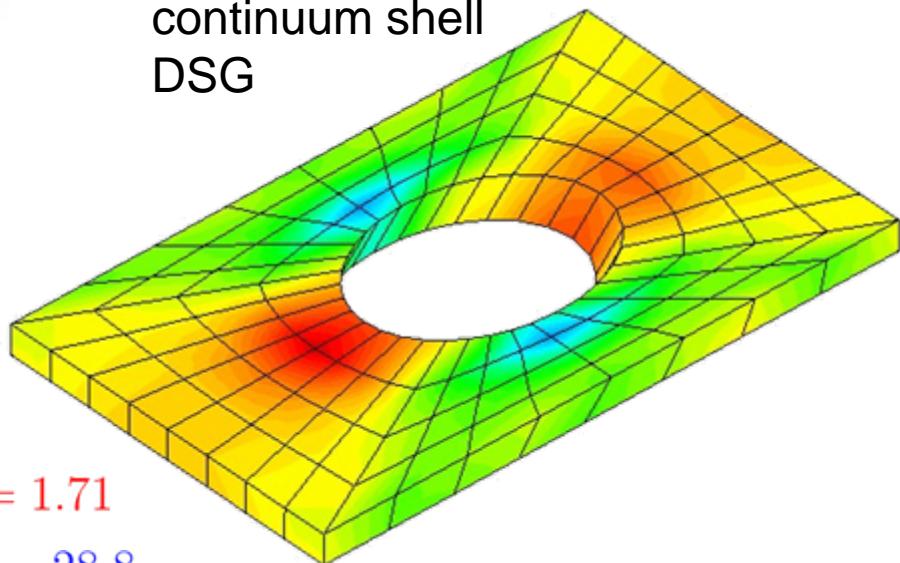
continuum shell  
no DSG



$$\sigma_{\max} = 1.69$$
$$\sigma_{\min} = -28.9$$



continuum shell  
DSG



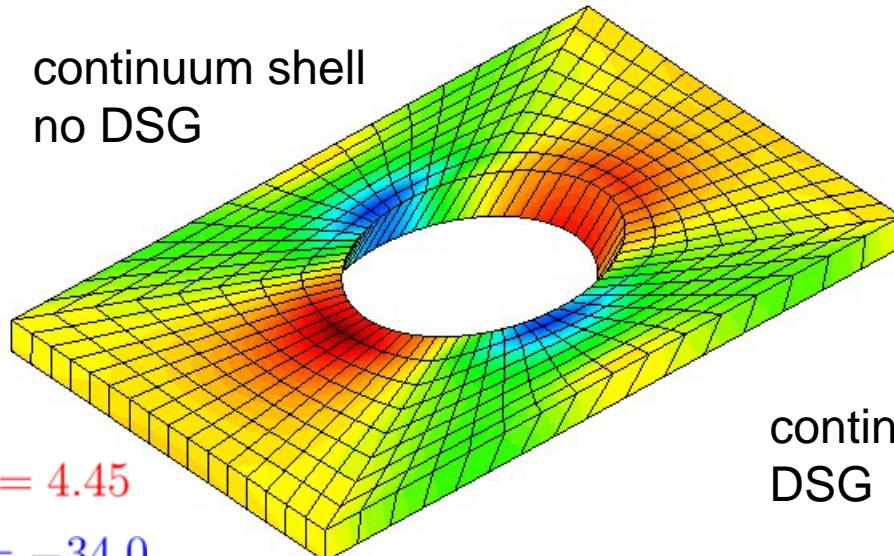
$$\sigma_{\max} = 1.71$$
$$\sigma_{\min} = -28.8$$



# Panel with Skew Hole

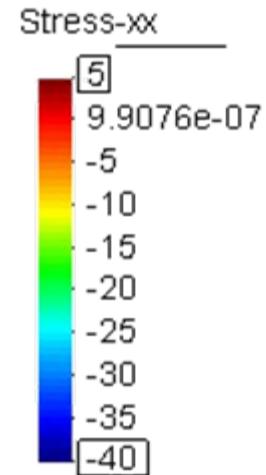
continuum shell elements

continuum shell  
no DSG

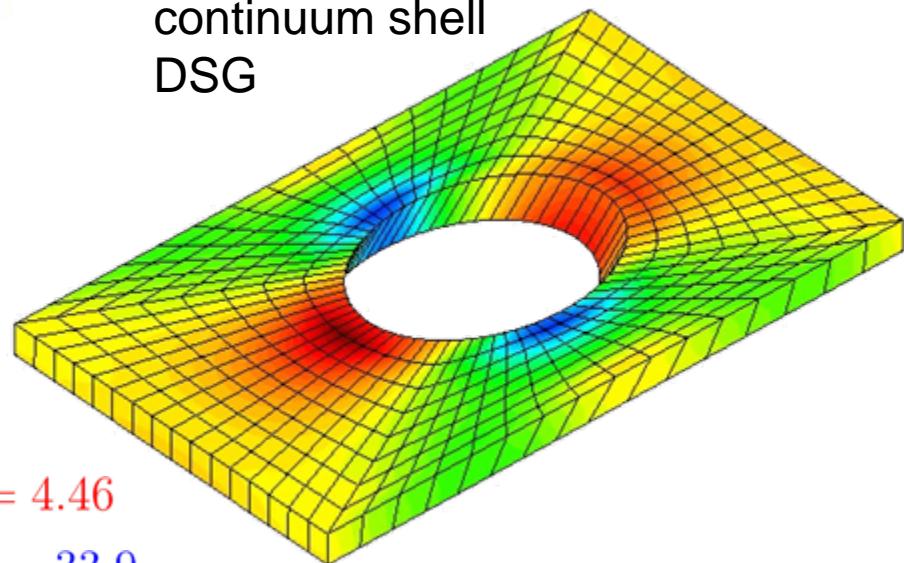


$$\sigma_{\max} = 4.45$$

$$\sigma_{\min} = -34.0$$



continuum shell  
DSG



$$\sigma_{\max} = 4.46$$

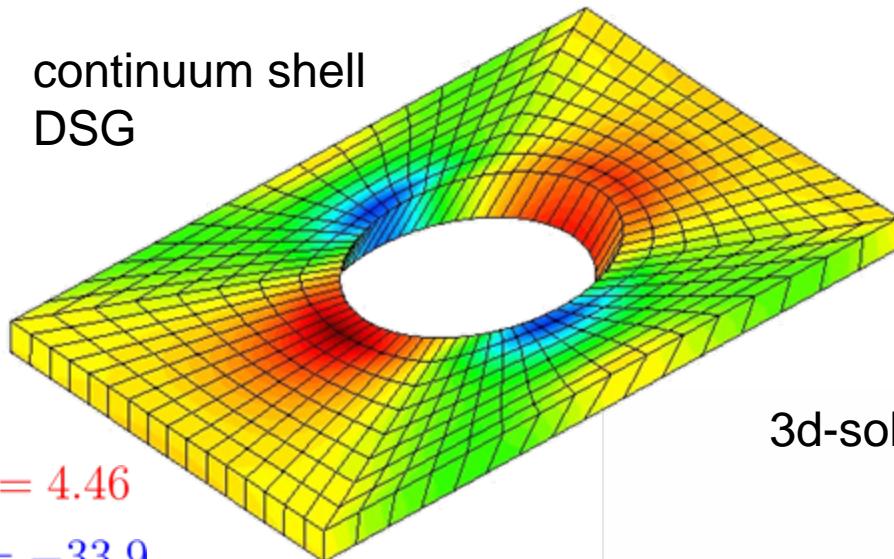
$$\sigma_{\min} = -33.9$$



# Panel with Skew Hole

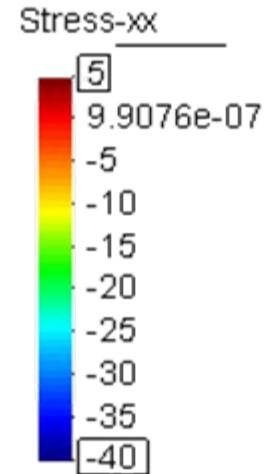
comparison to brick elements

continuum shell  
DSG

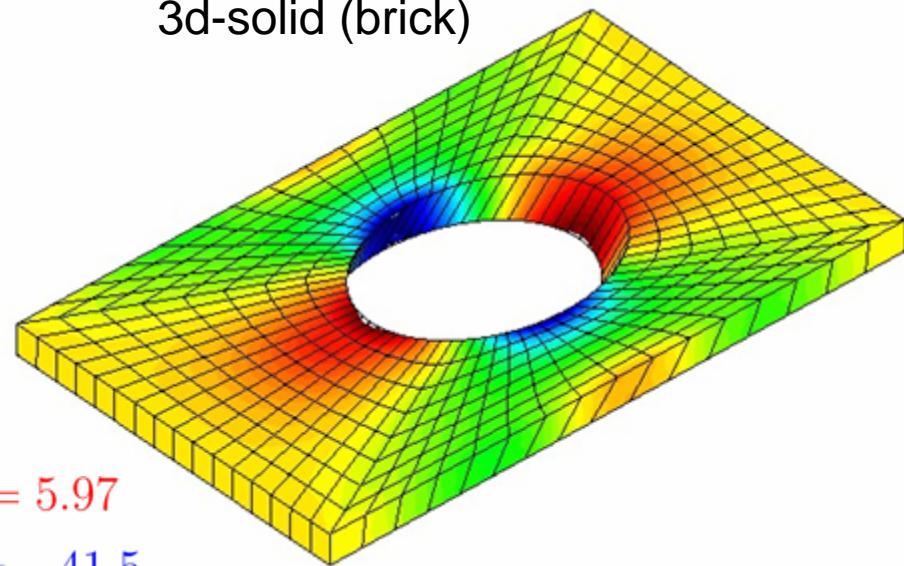


$$\sigma_{\max} = 4.46$$

$$\sigma_{\min} = -33.9$$



3d-solid (brick)



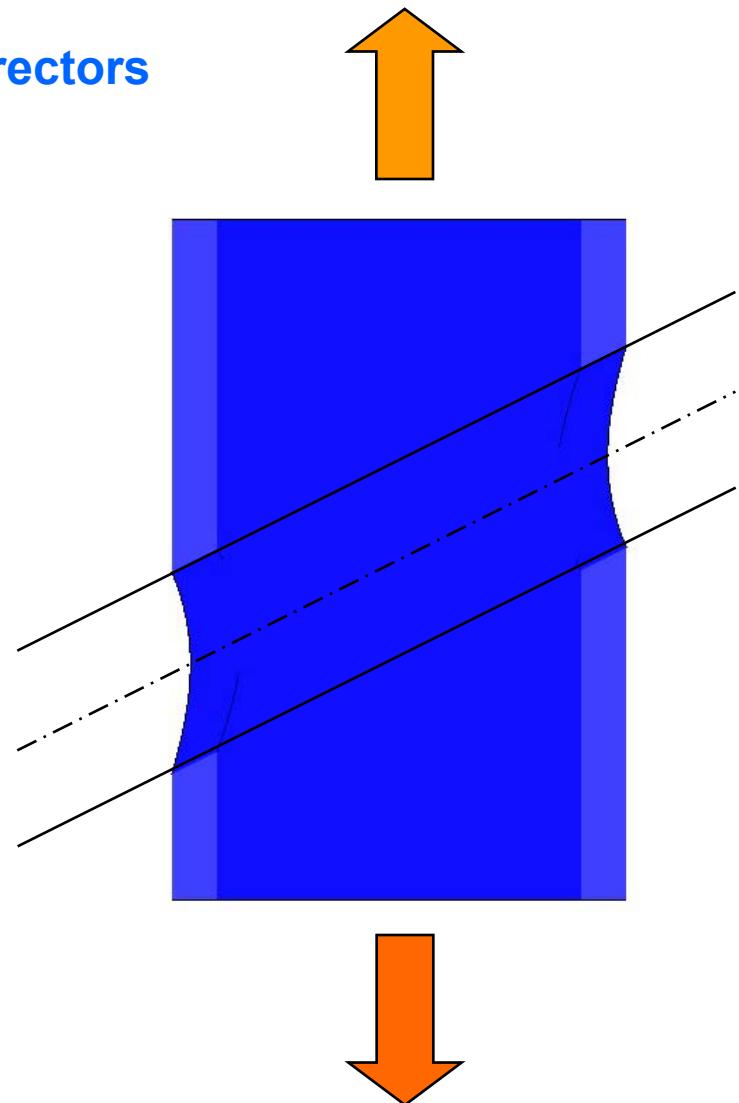
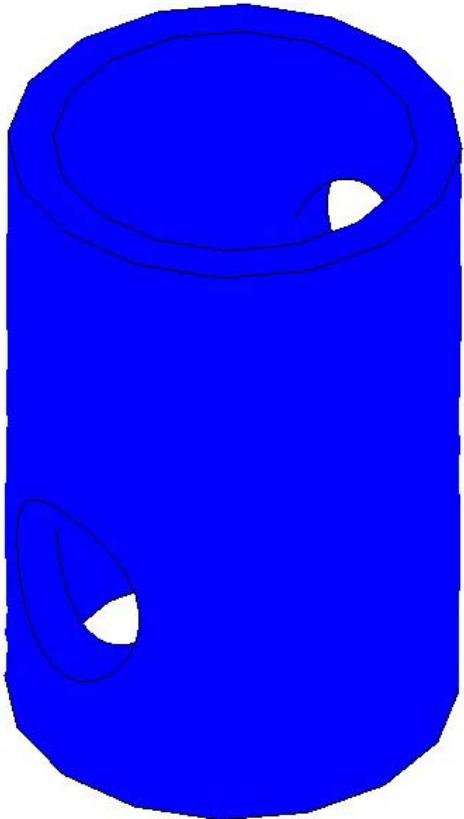
$$\sigma_{\max} = 5.97$$

$$\sigma_{\min} = -41.5$$



# Cylinder with Skew Hole

distorted and curved elements, skew directors



# Cylinder with Skew Hole

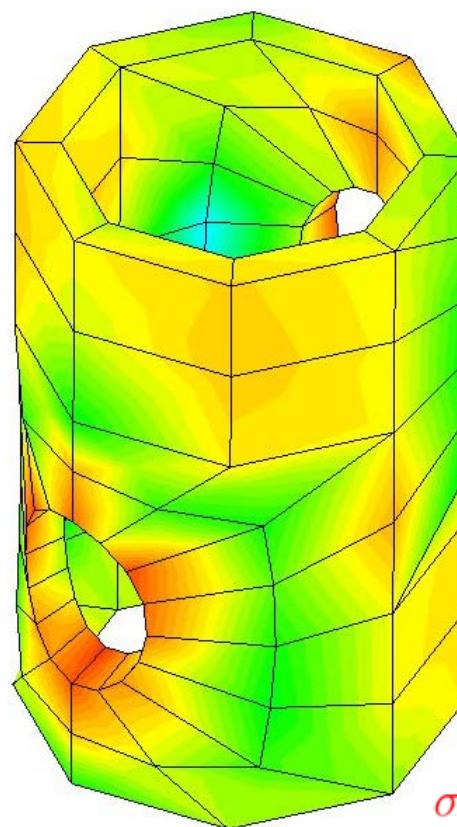
continuum shell elements



continuum shell  
no DSG

$$\sigma_{\max} = 3.40$$

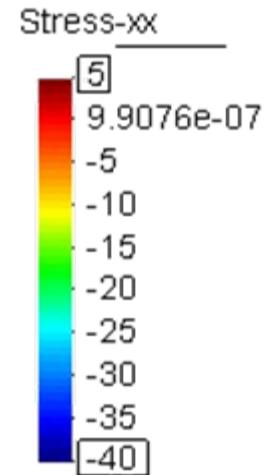
$$\sigma_{\min} = -23.7$$



continuum shell  
DSG

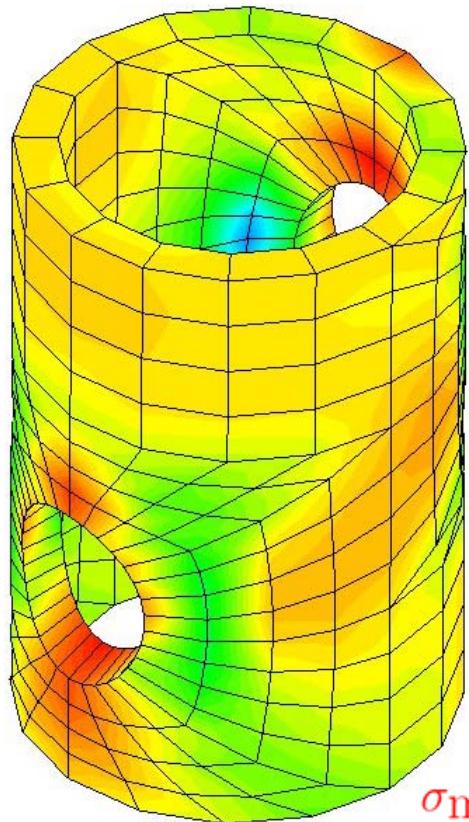
$$\sigma_{\max} = 3.69$$

$$\sigma_{\min} = -24.8$$

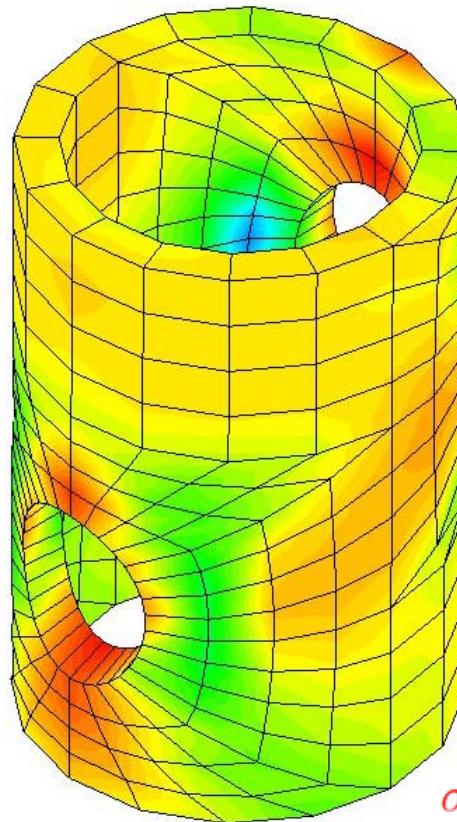


# Cylinder with Skew Hole

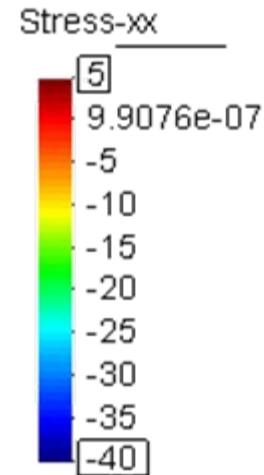
continuum shell elements



continuum shell     $\sigma_{\max} = 5.04$   
no DSG               $\sigma_{\min} = -29.06$

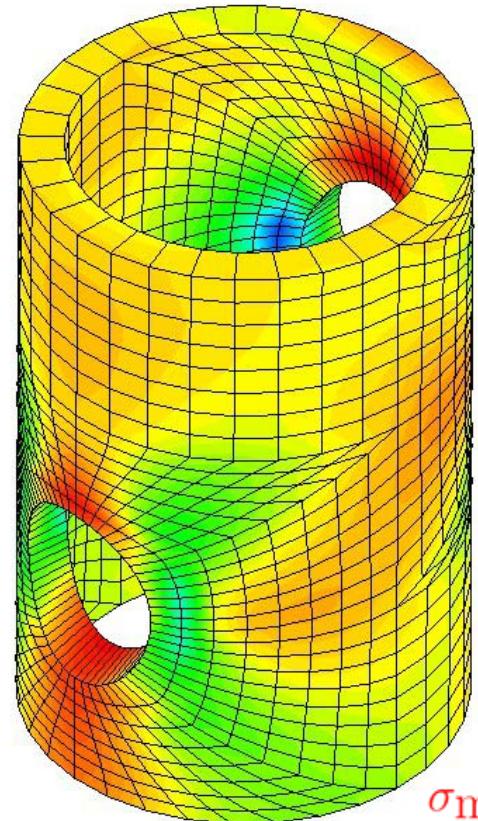


continuum shell     $\sigma_{\max} = 5.12$   
DSG                   $\sigma_{\min} = -29.24$



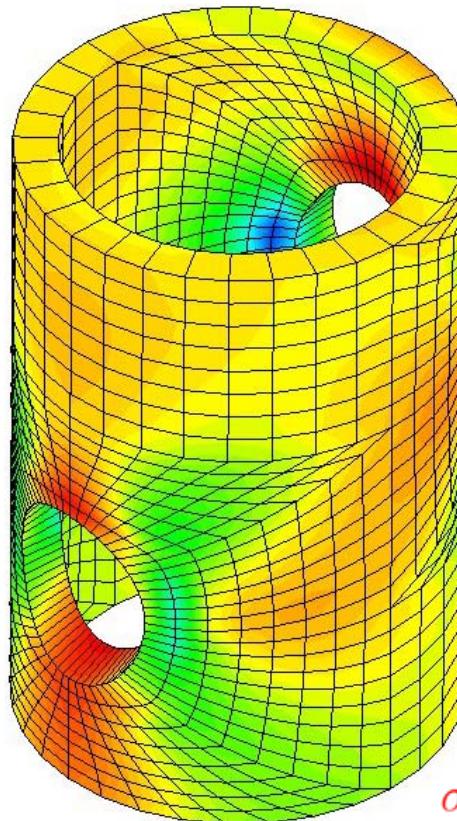
# Cylinder with Skew Hole

continuum shell elements

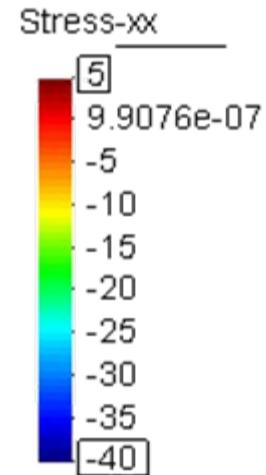


continuum shell  
no DSG

$$\sigma_{max} = 3.58$$
$$\sigma_{min} = -32.3$$

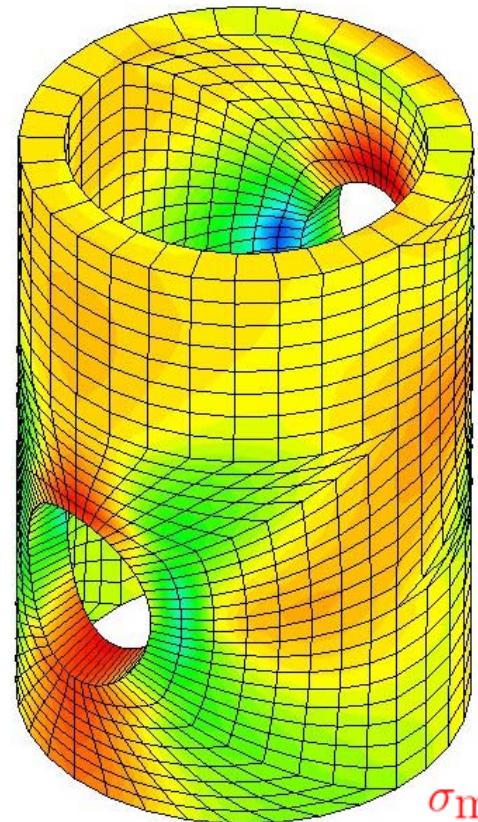


continuum shell  
DSG



# Cylinder with Skew Hole

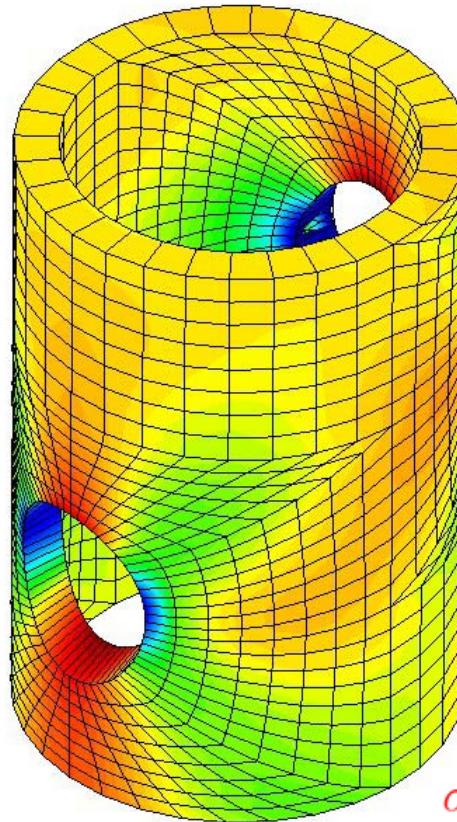
comparison to brick elements



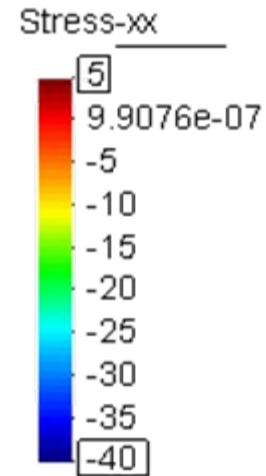
continuum shell  
DSG

$$\sigma_{\max} = 3.58$$

$$\sigma_{\min} = -32.3$$

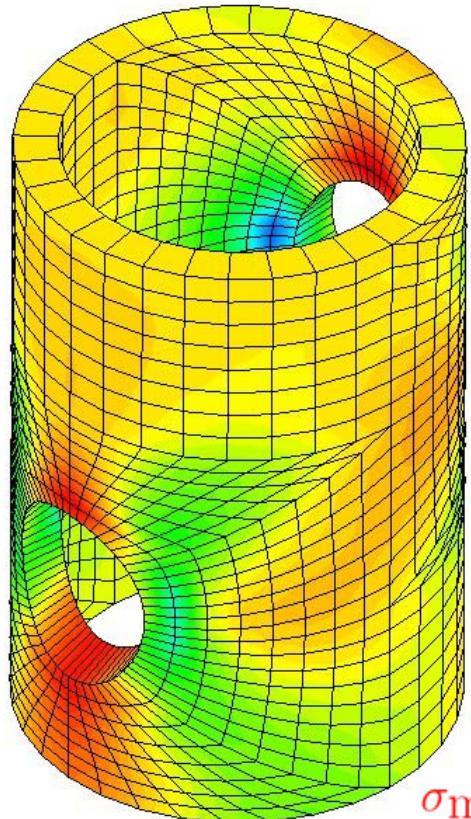


3d-solid elements (bricks)

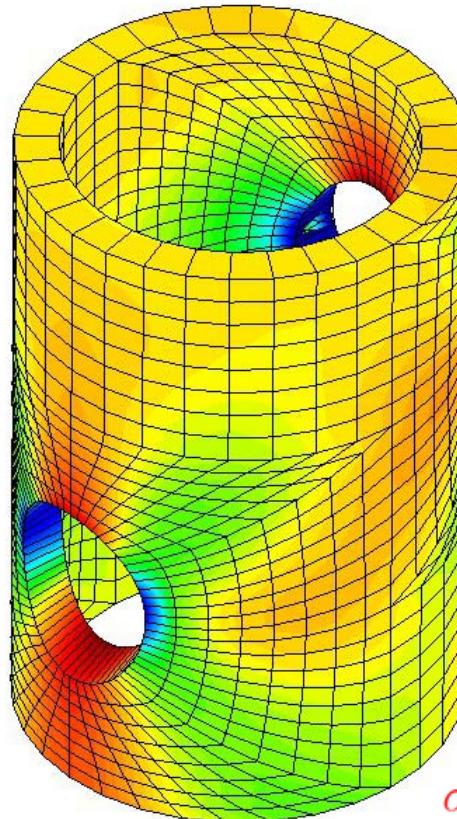


# Cylinder with Skew Hole

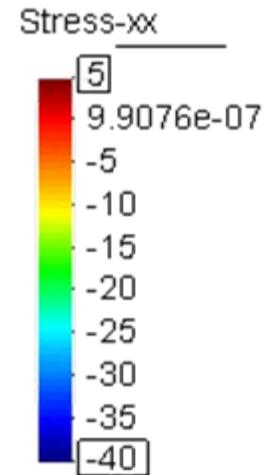
comparison to brick elements



continuum shell     $\sigma_{\min} = -30.93$   
standard Galerkin



3d-solid elements     $\sigma_{\min} = -41.5$   
(bricks)



# The Conditioning Problem

condition numbers for classical shell and 3d-shell elements

	b:l:h = 1:1:1	b:l:h = 1:1:0.1	b:l:h = 1:1:0.01
classical shell:	5 P: $c_K = 2.8 \cdot 10^2$	$c_K = 2.5 \cdot 10^4$	$c_K = 2.8 \cdot 10^6$
3d-shell:	7 P: $c_K = 1.0 \cdot 10^2$	$c_K = 1.9 \cdot 10^5$	$c_K = 1.9 \cdot 10^9$

- spectral condition norm  $c_K = \frac{\lambda_{\max}}{\lambda_{\min}}$

Wall, Gee and Ramm (2000)

- thin shells worse than thick shells
- 3d-shell elements ( $c_K \propto t^{-3}$ ) worse than standard shell elements ( $c_K \propto t^{-2}$ )



# Significance of Condition Number

## error evolution in iterative solvers

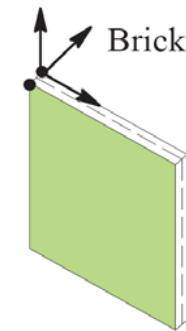
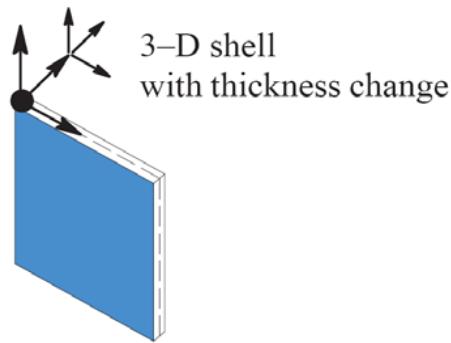
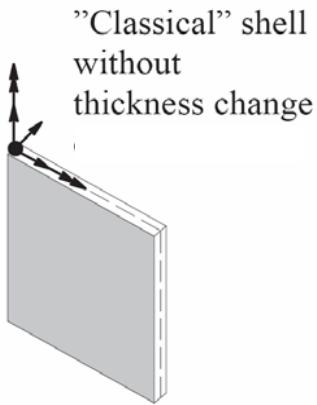
error of solution vector  $x$  after  $k^{\text{th}}$  iteration

$$e^k = \|x - x^k\|$$

estimated number of iterations (CG solver)

$$k \leq \sqrt{c_K} \ln \left( \frac{2}{\varepsilon} \right) + 1$$

## comparison of three different concepts

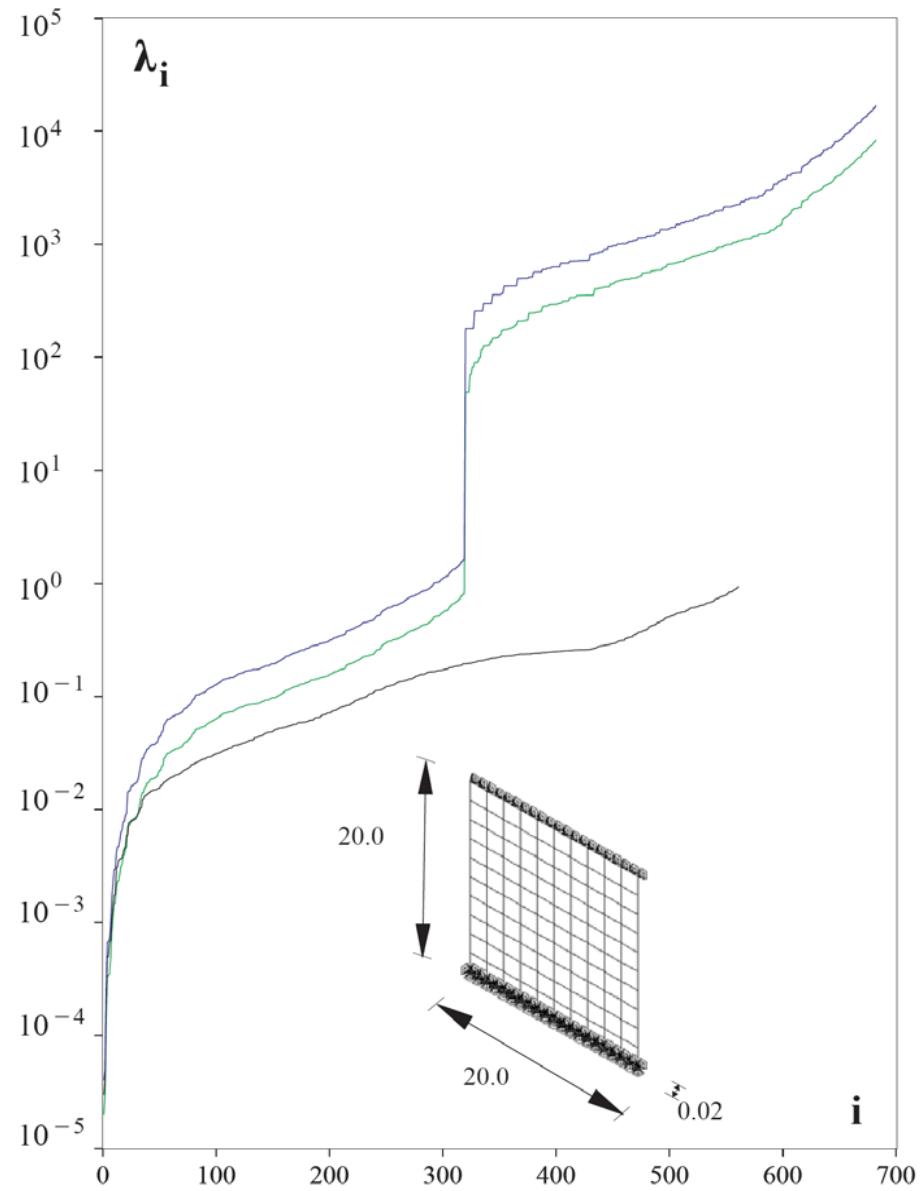
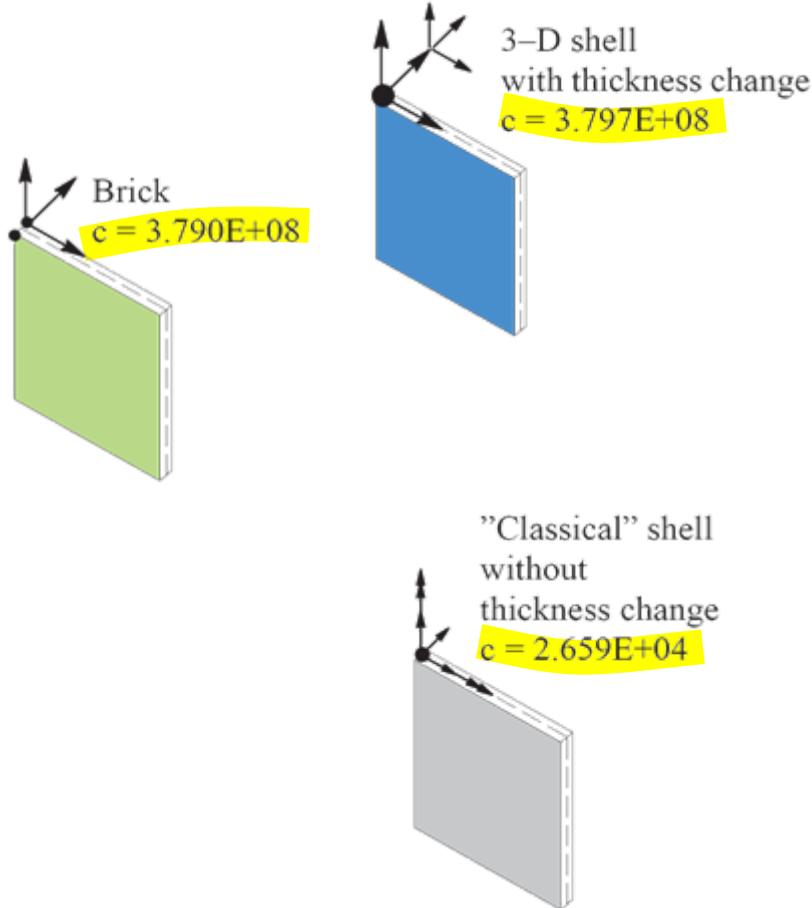


**Wall, Gee, Ramm,** The challenge of a three-dimensional shell formulation – the conditioning problem, *Proc. IASS-IACM*, Chania, Crete (2000)

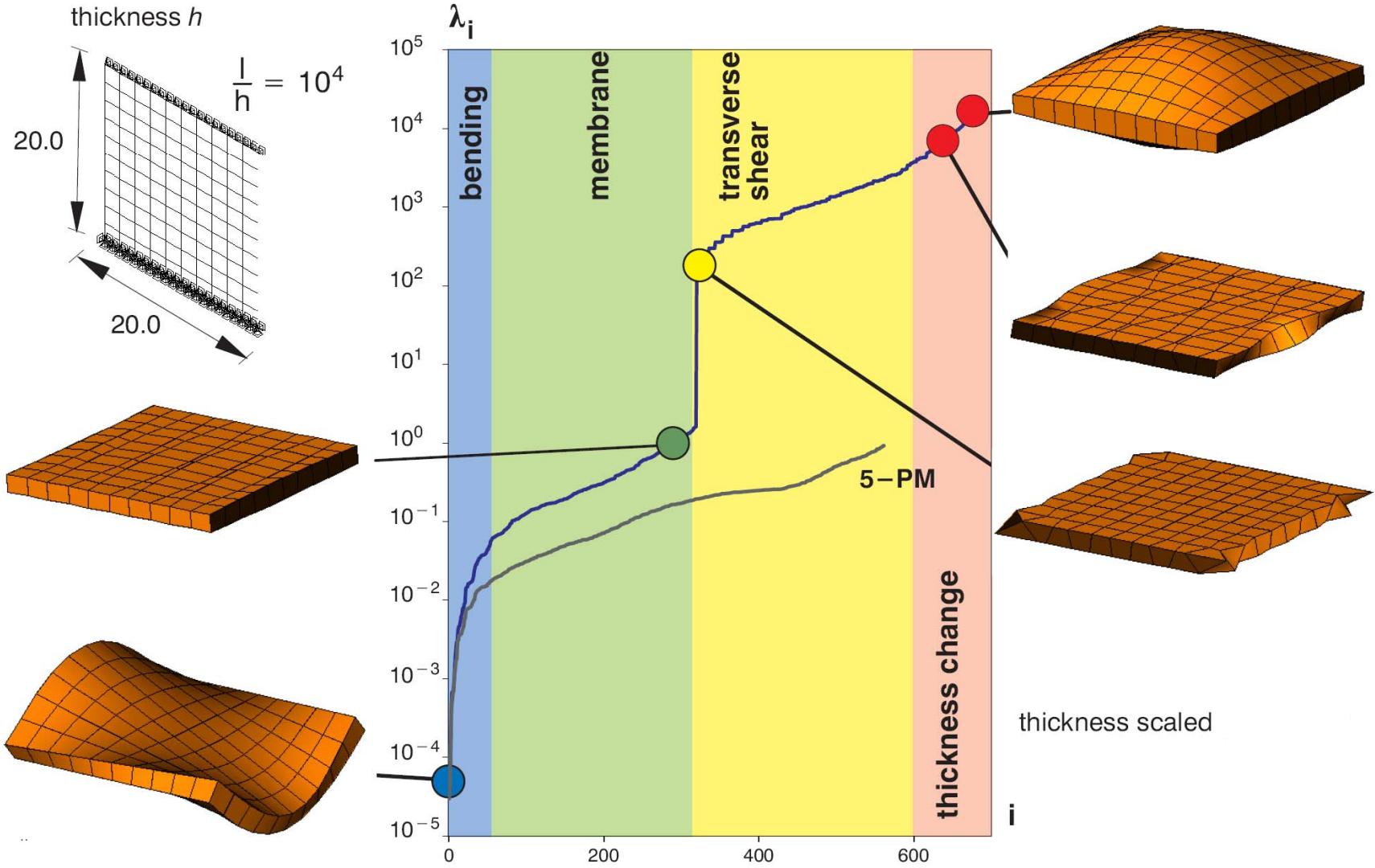


# Eigenvalue Spectrum

shell, 3d-shell and brick

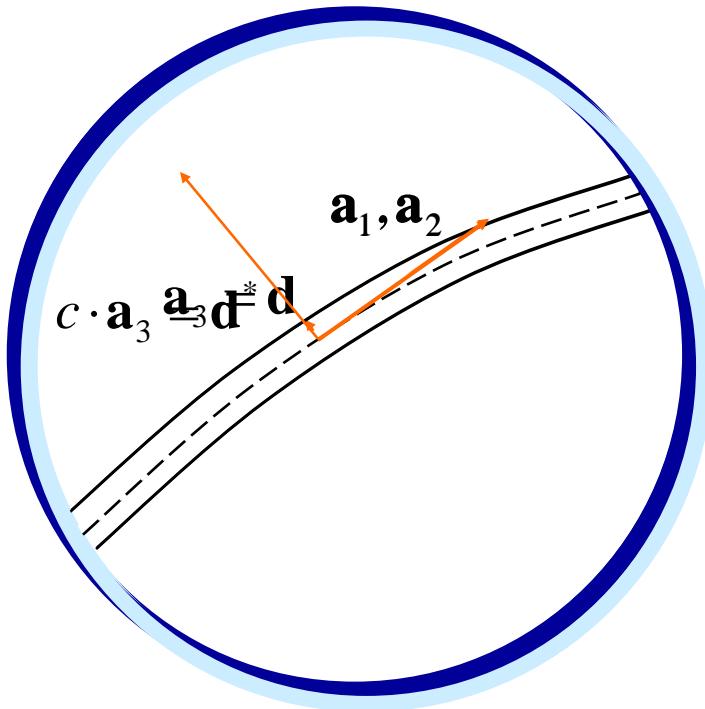
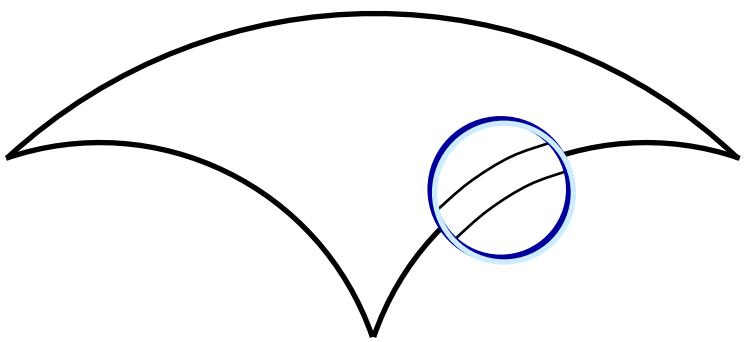


# Eigenvectors (Deformation Modes)



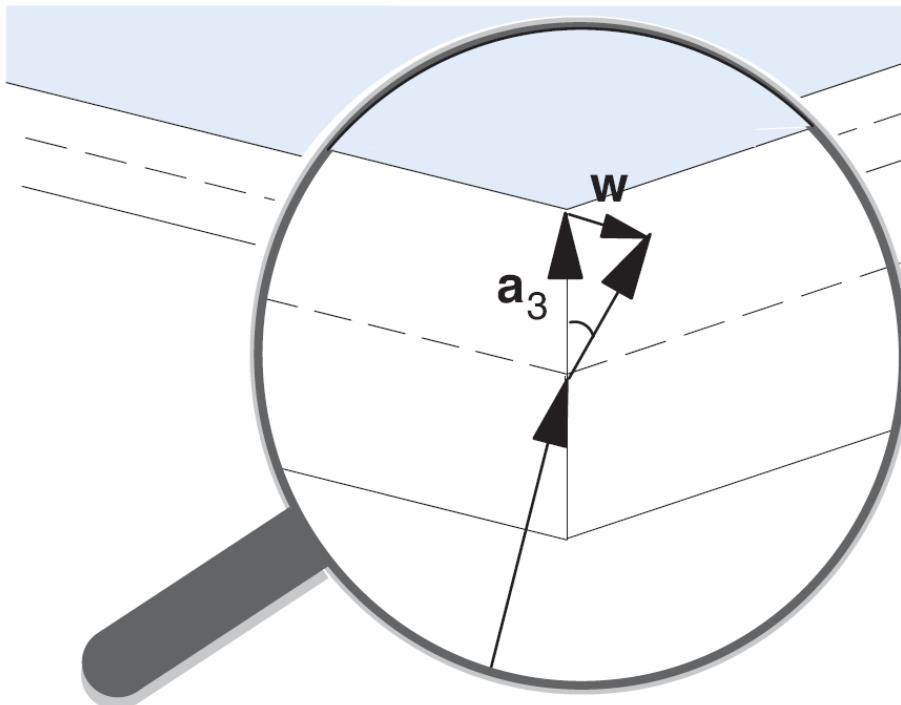
# Scaled Director Conditioning

scaling of director

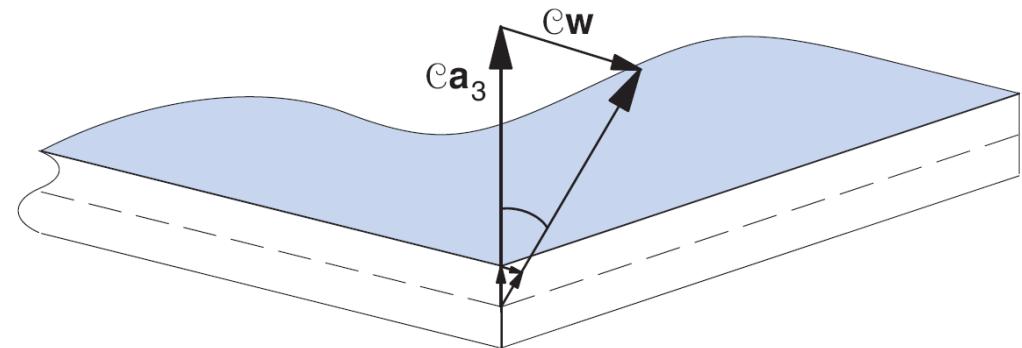


# Scaled Director Conditioning

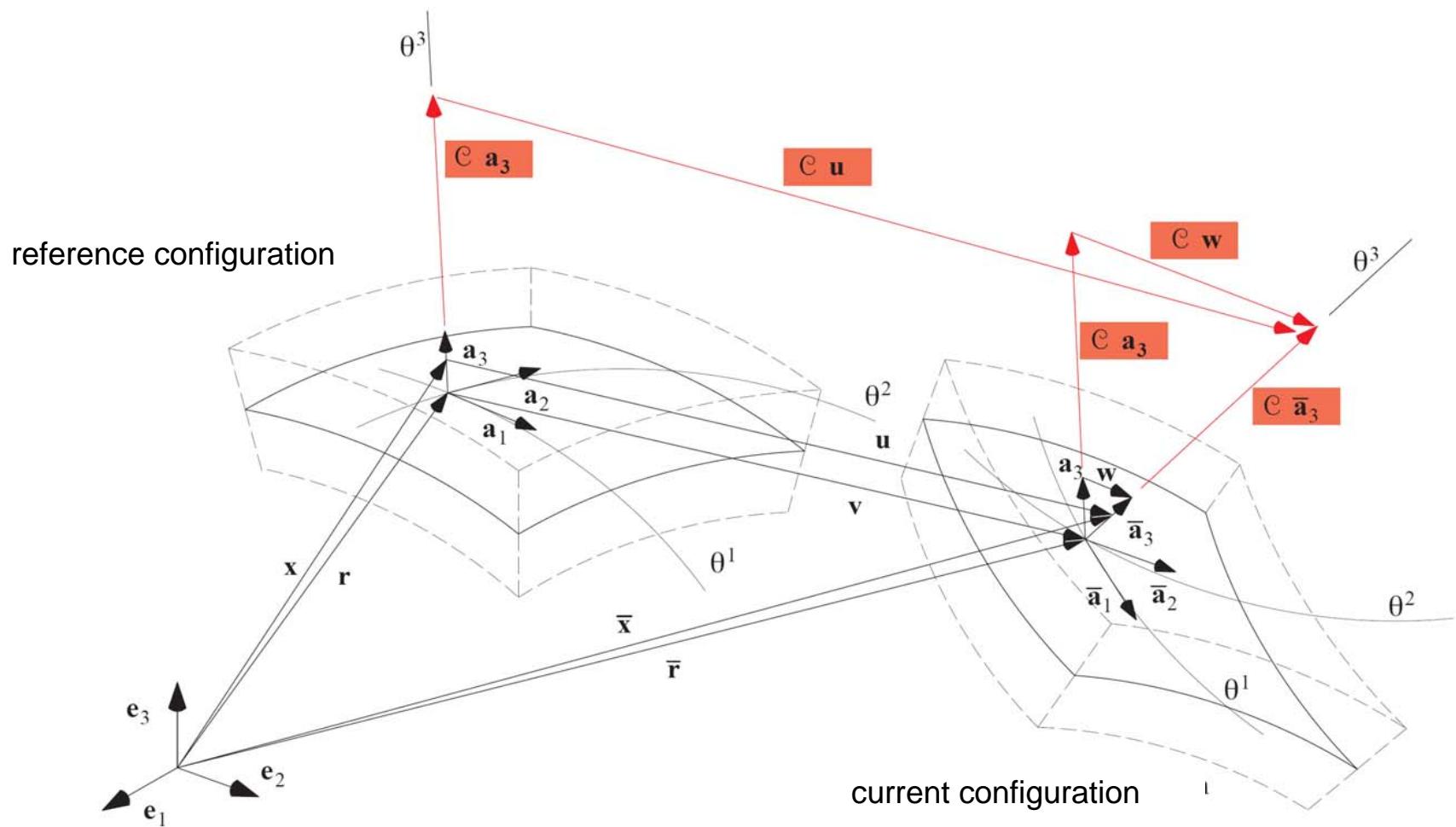
## scaling of director



linear scaling of  $w$   
does not influence results  
acts like a preconditioner

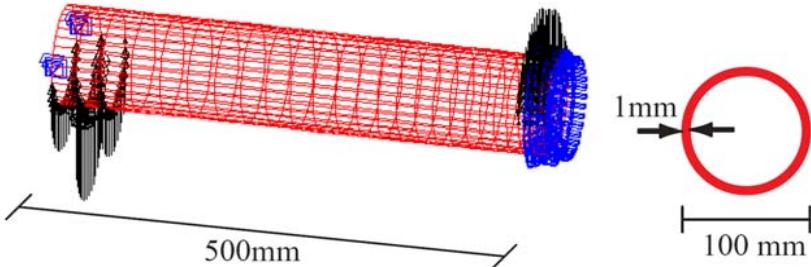


# Scaled Director Conditioning

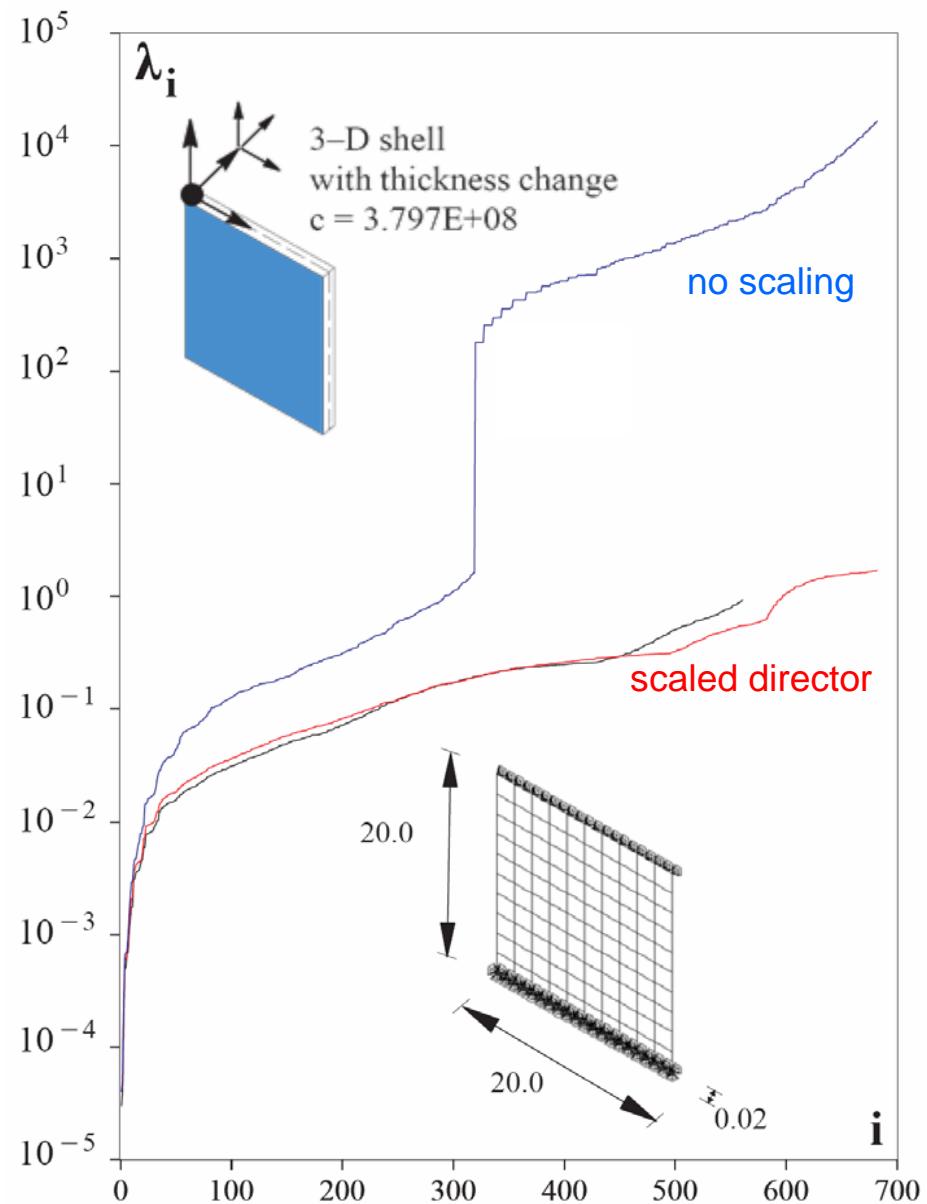


# Improved Eigenvalue Spectrum

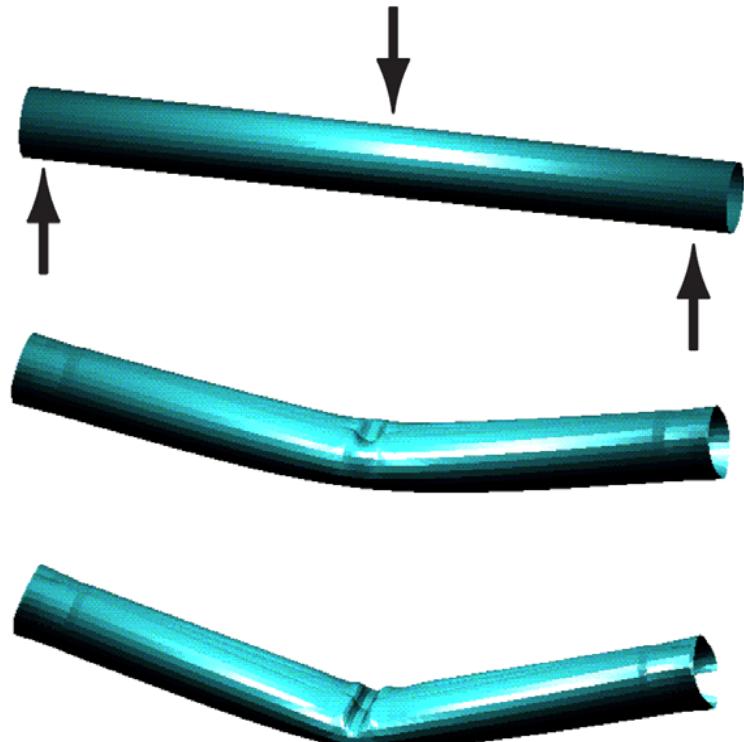
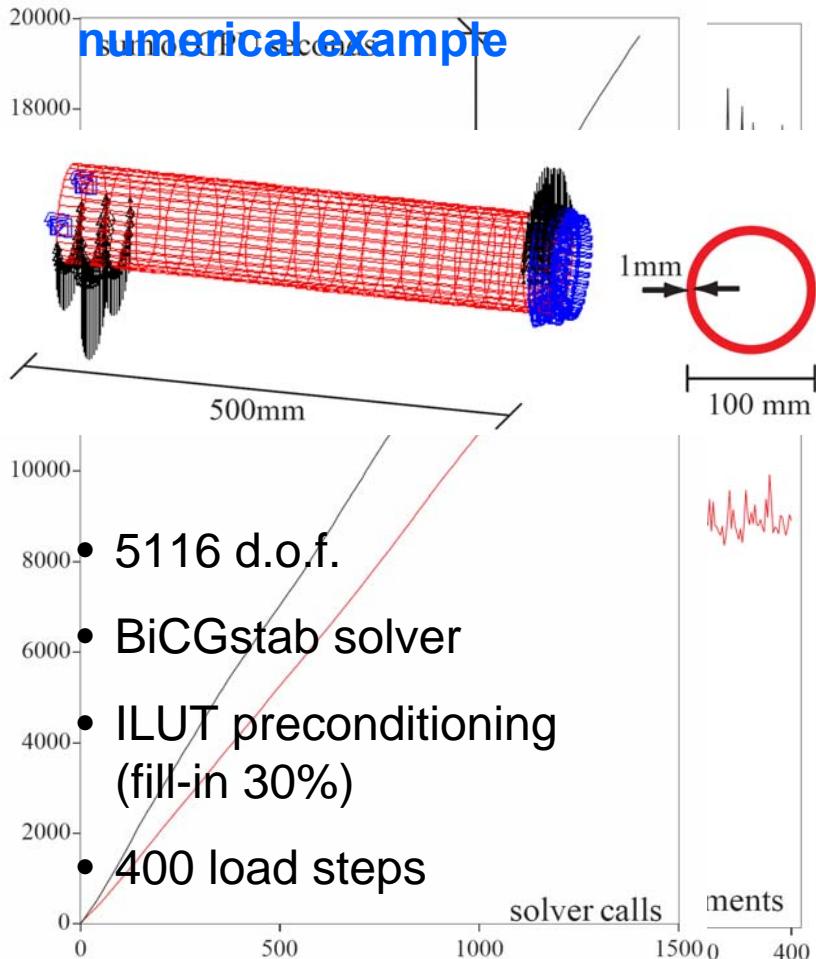
## numerical example



- 5116 d.o.f.
- BiCGstab solver
- ILUT preconditioning (fill-in 30%)
- 400 load steps

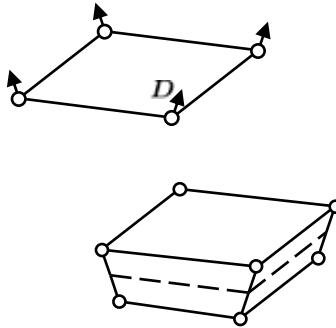


# Improved Eigenvalue Spectrum



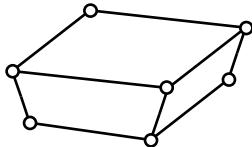
# Conclusions

## 3d-shell and continuum shell (solid shell)



- mechanical ingredients identical
- stress resultants
- flexible and most efficient finite element technology
- neglecting higher order terms bad for 3d-applications
- best for 3d-analysis of “real” shells

## 3d-solids



- usually suffer from trapezoidal locking (curvature thickness locking)
- pass all patch tests (consistent)
- higher order terms naturally included
- best for thick-thin combinations

