

# Elasticity

## *Stress*

stress tensors, stress-strain relation, Hooke's law, elastic tensor, elastic parameters, Lamé parameters, shear modulus, compressibility, stress drop, stress on faults

What are the forces when an elastic body deforms?

# Questions

What is **stress** in the Earth?

What are the **physical units**?

How does stress vary **inside the Earth**?

Can stress be **directly observed**?

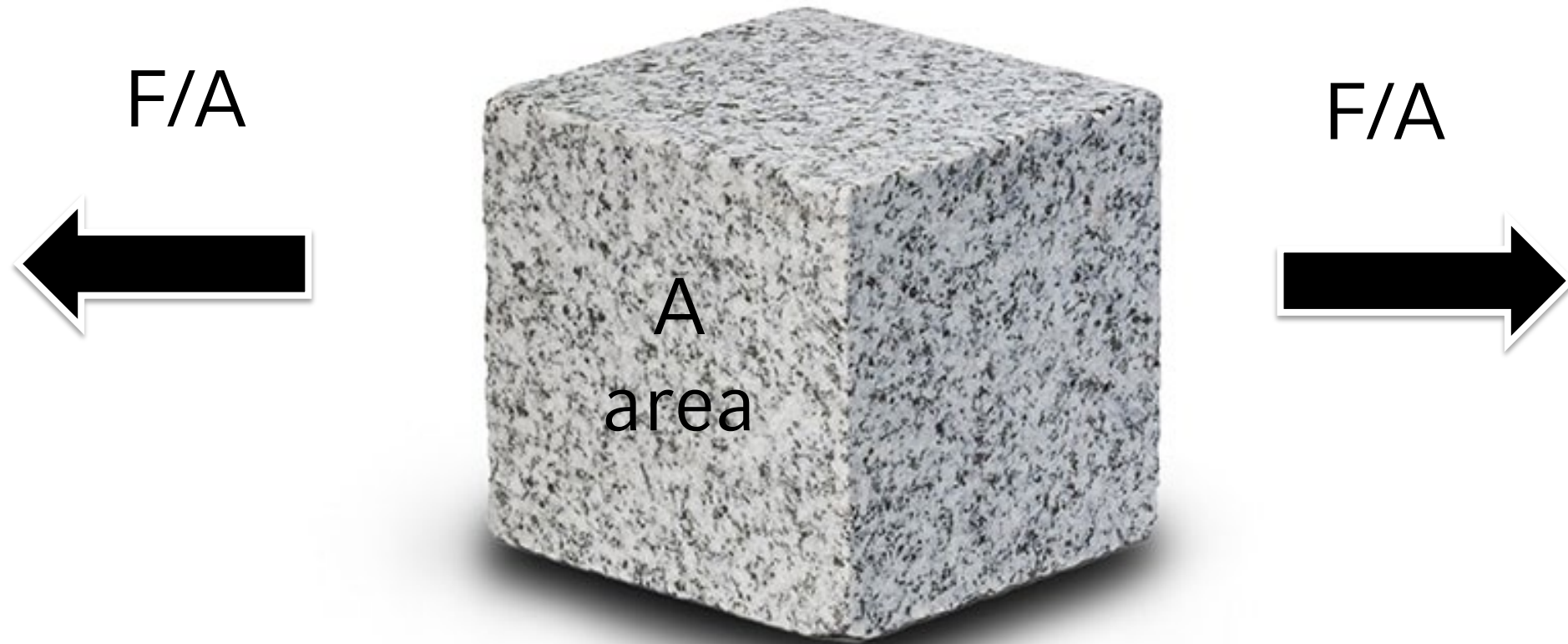
What is the **stress change (stress drop)** during an earthquake?

What is the stress of **seismic waves**?

What **types** of stress are there?



# Stress and strain



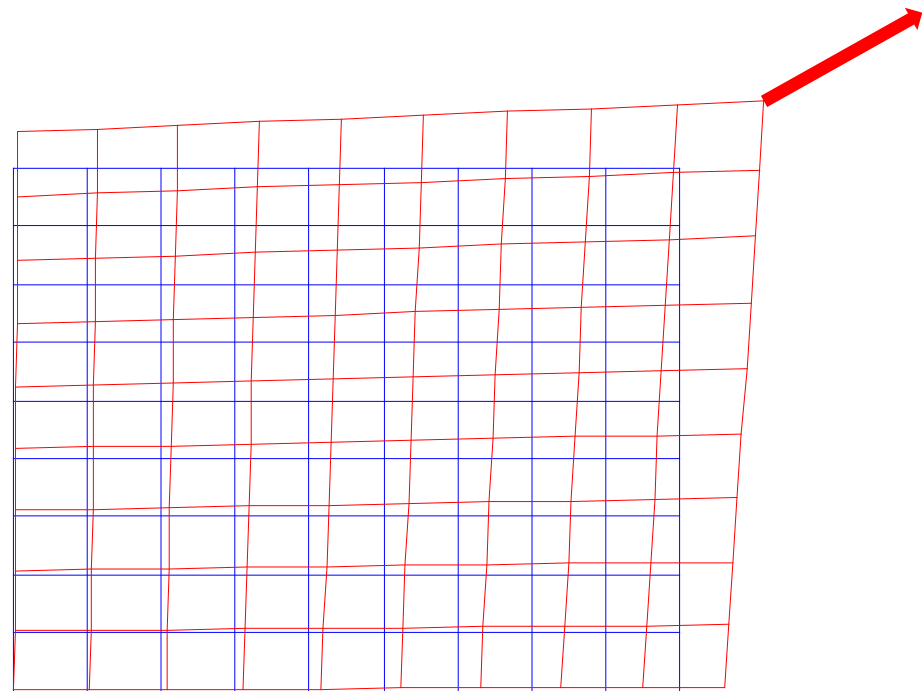
# Recall deformation

$$\varepsilon_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \partial_i u_j + \partial_j u_i \right)$$

$$i, j = 1, 2, 3$$

$$u_i \rightarrow u_i(x, y, z, t)$$

$$\varepsilon_{ij} \rightarrow \varepsilon_{ij}(x, y, z, t)$$

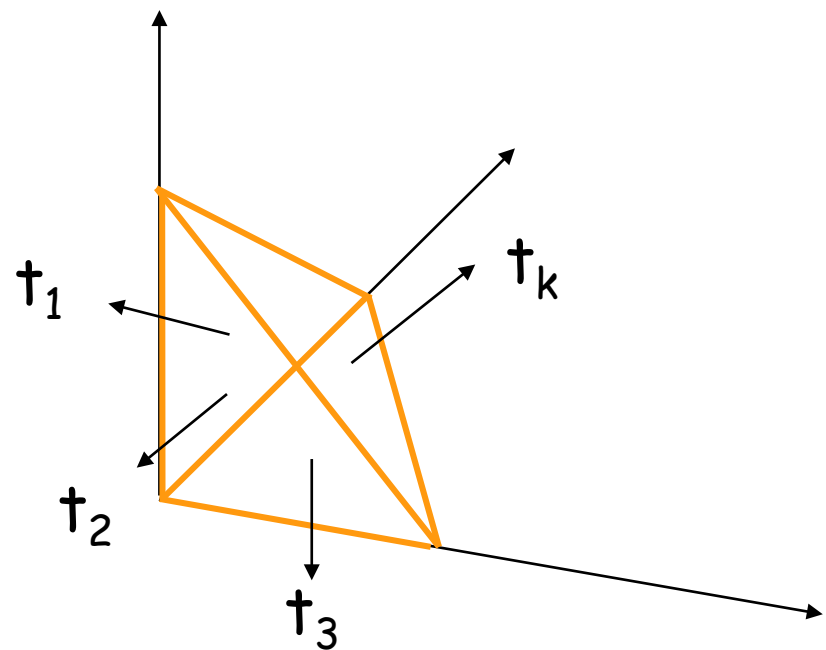
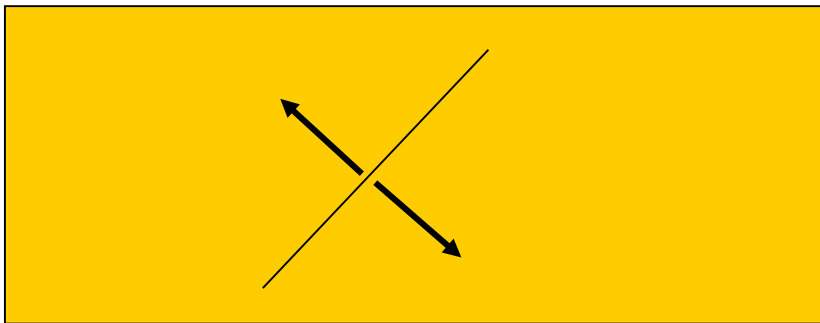


# Tractions

Force divided by an area is called **stress**.

Forces acting on planes are called **tractions**

The **tractions**  $\mathbf{t}_k$  along axis **k** are



$$\mathbf{t}_k = \begin{pmatrix} t_{k1} \\ t_{k2} \\ t_{k3} \end{pmatrix}$$

... and along an arbitrary direction

$$\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{t}_i n_i$$

... which – using the summation convention yields ..

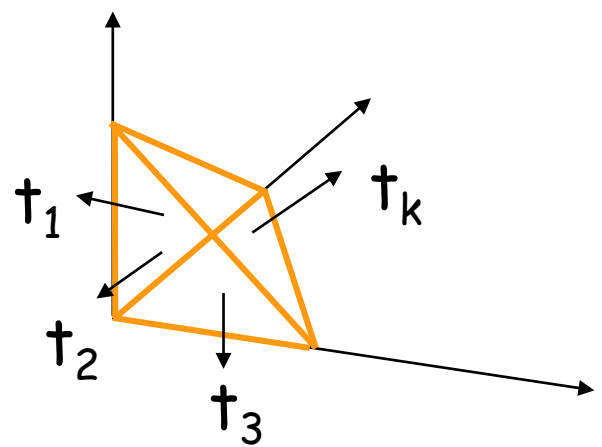
$$\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{t}_1 n_1 + \mathbf{t}_2 n_2 + \mathbf{t}_3 n_3$$

# Traction -> stress

Arranged in matrix form

$$\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \sigma}}{\sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} t_{1x} & t_{1y} & t_{1z} \\ t_{2x} & t_{2y} & t_{2z} \\ t_{3x} & t_{3y} & t_{3z} \end{pmatrix}$$

the stress tensor



# The stress tensor

Properly written as

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

compression — decompression  
shear stresses

# Stress and traction

... in components we can write this as

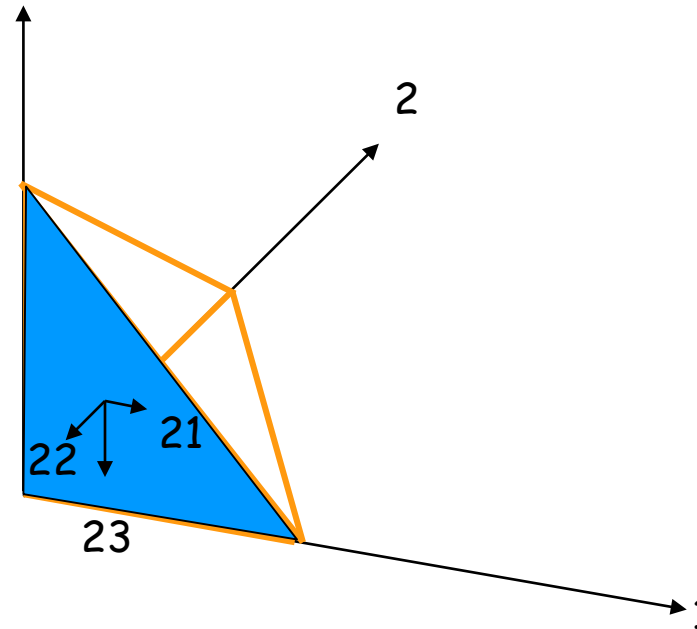
$$t_i = \sigma_{ij} n_j$$

where  $\sigma_{ij}$  is the stress tensor and  $n_j$  is a surface normal.

**The stress tensor describes the forces acting on planes within a body.** Due to the **symmetry condition**

$$\sigma_{ij} = \sigma_{ji}$$

there are only **six independent elements**.



$\sigma_{ij}$

The vector normal to the corresponding surface

The direction of the force vector acting on that surface



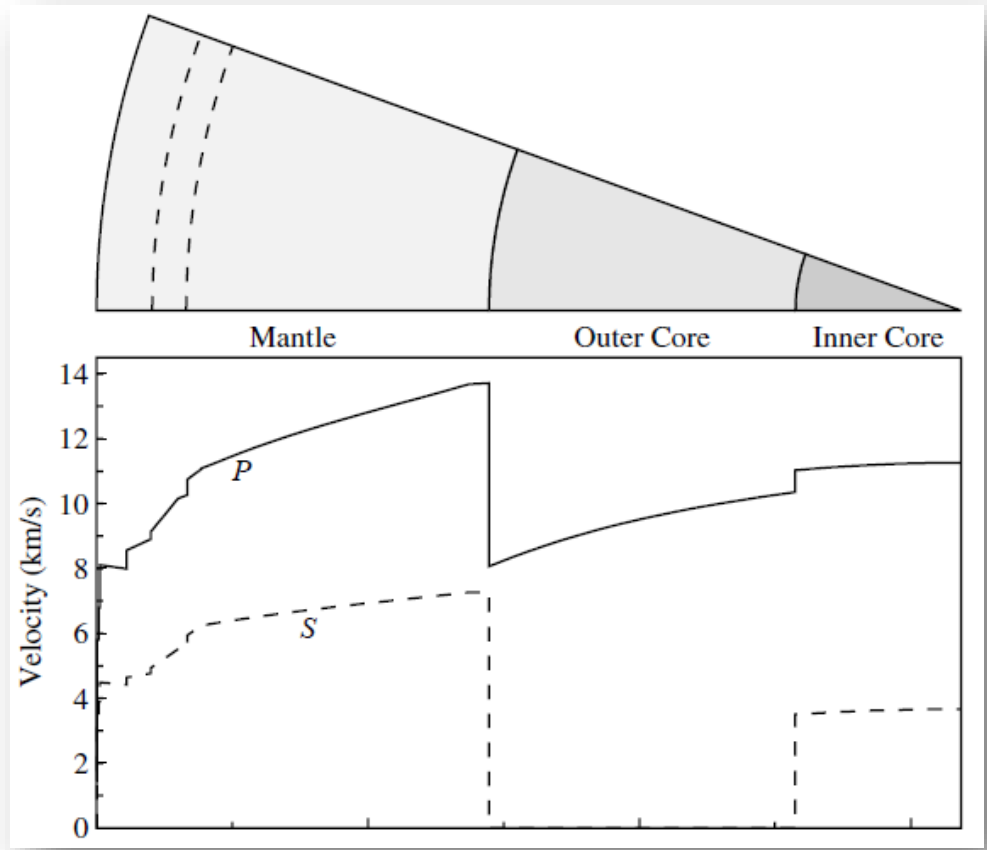
# Physical units of stress

<b>Stress units</b>	bars ( $10^6 \text{ dyn/cm}^2$ ), $1 \text{ N} = 10^5 \text{ dyn (cm g/s}^2\text{)}$ $10^6 \text{ Pa} = 1 \text{ MPa} = 10 \text{ bars}$ <b><math>1 \text{ Pa} = 1 \text{ N/m}^2</math></b> At sea level $p = 1 \text{ bar}$ At depth 3km $p = 1 \text{ kbar}$
<b>maximum compressive stress</b>	the direction perpendicular to the minimum compressive stress, near the surface mostly in horizontal direction, linked to tectonic processes.
<b>principle stress axes</b>	the direction of the eigenvectors of the stress tensor

# Stress inside the Earth

Table 2.1: Pressure versus depth inside Earth.

Depth (km)	Region	Pressure (GPa)
0–24	Crust	0–0.6
24–400	Upper mantle	0.6–13.4
400–670	Transition zone	13.4–23.8
670–2891	Lower mantle	23.8–135.8
2891–5150	Outer core	135.8–328.9
5150–6371	Inner core	328.9–363.9



# Stress values: Examples

Earthquake stress drop

ca. 5 MPa

$$F_G = mg$$

$$m = V \rho$$

$h \approx 192 \text{ m}$

Column height?

$$V = h A [\text{m}^3]$$

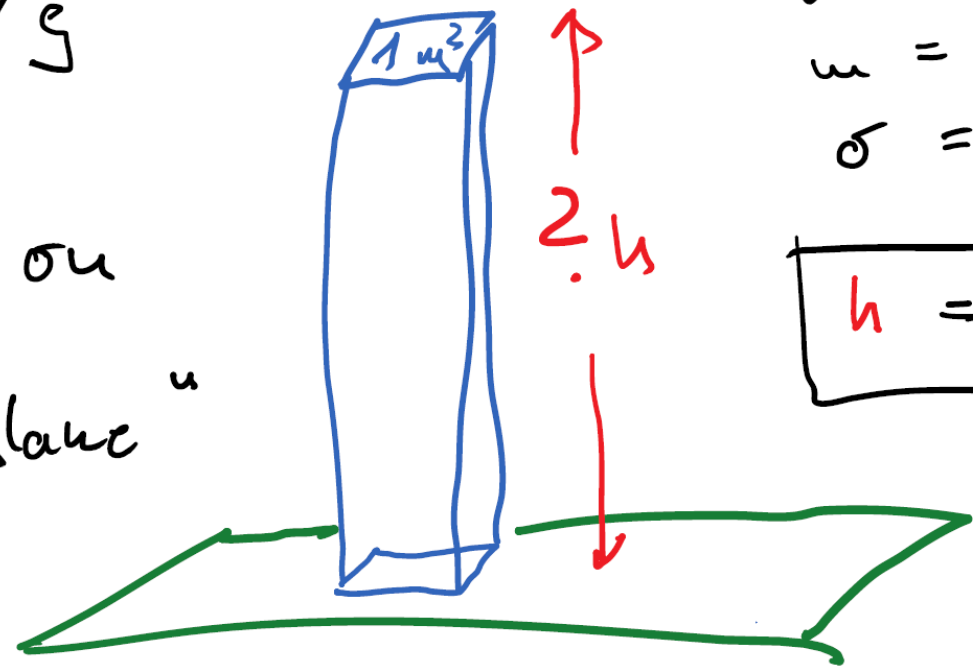
$$m = V \rho$$

$$\sigma = \frac{F_G}{A} = \frac{h \rho g}{1}$$

$$h = \frac{\sigma A}{\rho g}$$

fault  
plane

"Weight on  
fault plane"



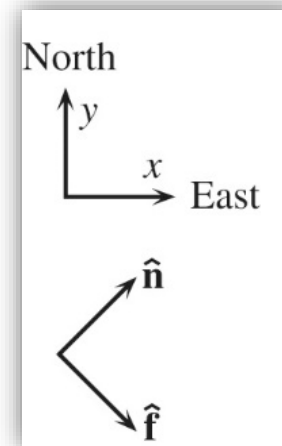
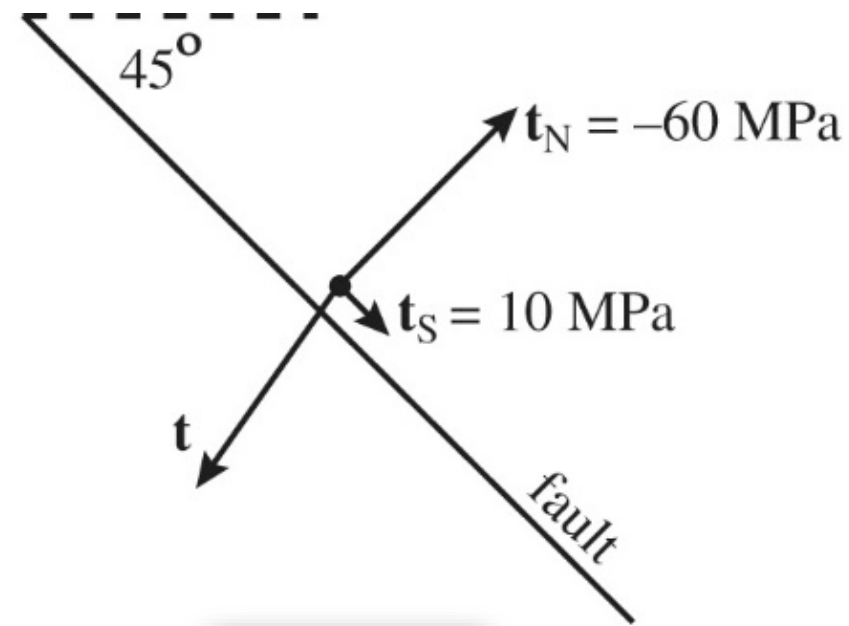
# Traction on faults



# Traction on faults (2D)

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & \sigma_{xy} \\ \sigma_{yx} & \sigma_{yy} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -40 & -10 \\ -10 & -60 \end{pmatrix} \text{ MPa}$$

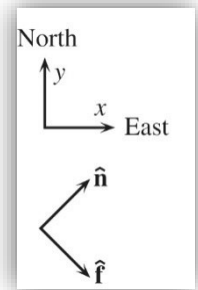
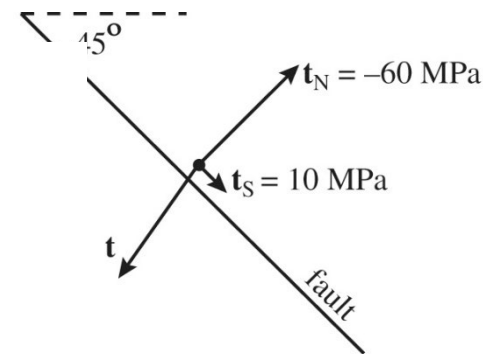
$$u = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.707 \\ 0.707 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Traction on faults (2D)

$$\underline{\underline{\sigma}} = \begin{pmatrix} -40 & -10 \\ -10 & -60 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.7071 \\ 0.7071 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -35.4 \\ 49.4 \end{pmatrix} \text{ MPa}$$

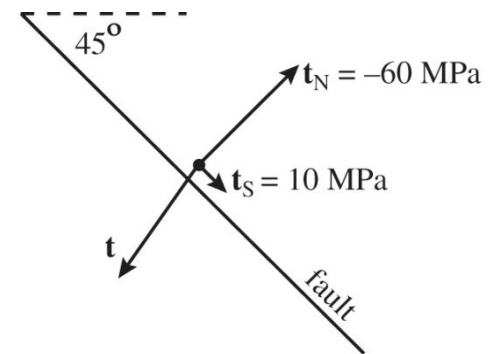
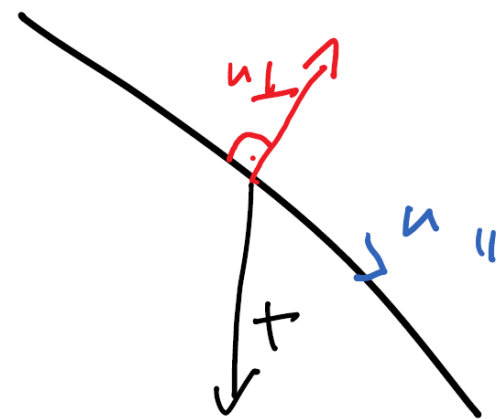


# Traction on faults (2D)

Unit vectors:

$$\hat{n}_\perp = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{n}_\parallel = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

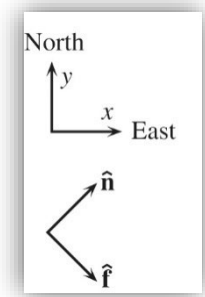


$$t_\perp = t \hat{n}_\perp$$

( scalar ! )

$$t_\parallel = t \hat{n}_\parallel$$

( scalar ! )



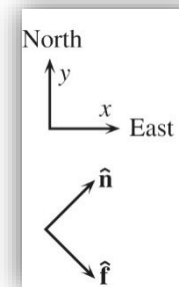
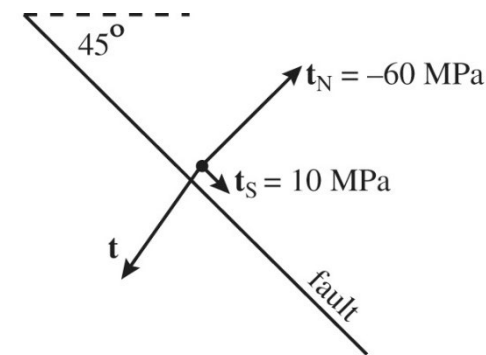
# Traction on faults (2D)

In our example:

$$t_{\perp} = (-35.4, -49.4) \cdot \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right) = -60 \text{ MPa}$$

$$t_{\parallel} = (-35.4, -49.4) \cdot \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right) = 10 \text{ MPa}$$

↑  
scalar product!





# Traction on faults - Exercise

Assume that the horizontal components of the 2-D stress tensor are

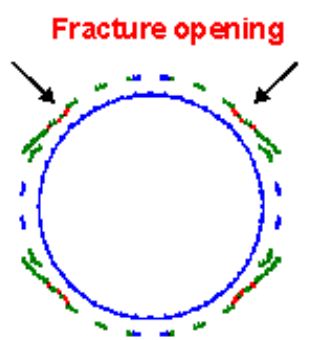
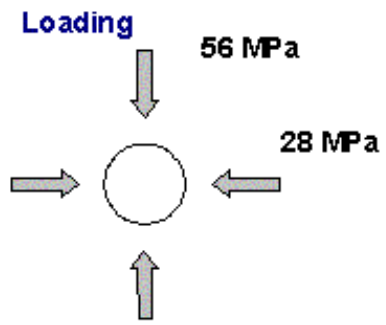
$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \begin{bmatrix} \tau_{xx} & \tau_{xy} \\ \tau_{yx} & \tau_{yy} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -30 & -20 \\ -20 & -40 \end{bmatrix} \text{ MPa}$$

(a) Compute the normal and shear stresses on a fault that strikes  $10^\circ$  east of north.

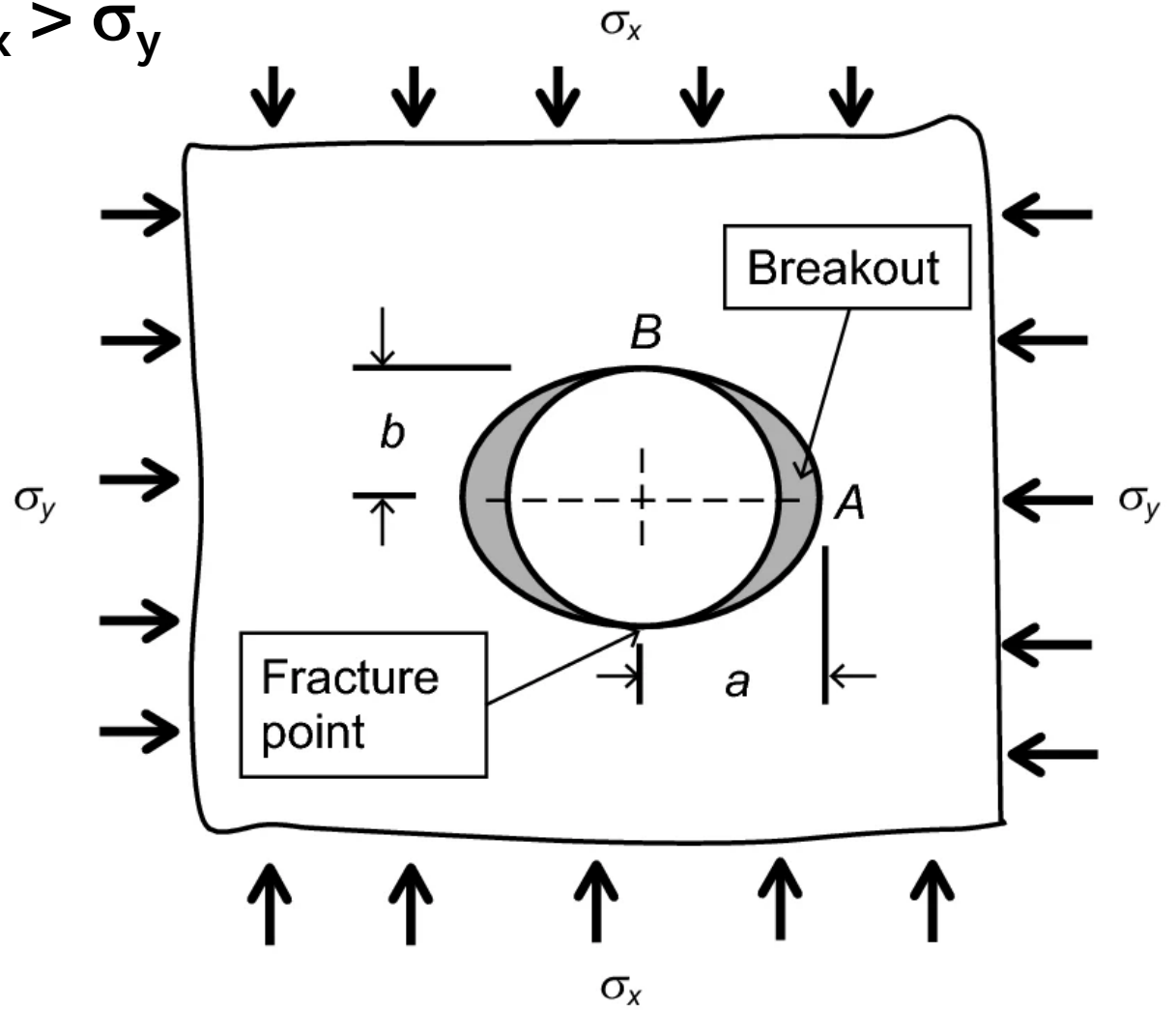
- Make a drawing
- Define normal and tangential vectors
- Calculate traction
- Calculate normal and tangential stresses

Approx. 20 mins

# Stress in boreholes



$$\sigma_x > \sigma_y$$



# Eigenvalue Problems

Assume we have a square matrix  $A$

This matrix operates on a vector  $x$

$$Ax = y$$

$y$  has different length + direction

Are there variations of  $A$  that lead to  $y$  pointing in same direction as  $x$ ?

$$Ax = \lambda x$$

# Eigenvalues

A bit of maths:

$$\underline{A} \underline{x} - \lambda \underline{x} = 0$$

↑                      ↑  
eigenvector       scalar "eigenvalue"

How to calculate  $\lambda$  and  $\underline{x}$ ?

→ Eigenvalue Problem

# Eigenvalues

Simple example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

we seek

$$\det |A - \lambda| = 0$$

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 2 \\ 2 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

This is done like:

$$\begin{array}{cc} 1-\lambda & 2 \\ 2 & 1-\lambda \end{array}$$

$$(1-\lambda)^2 - 4 = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = 3$$

$$\lambda_2 = -1$$

# Eigenvectors

Eigenvectors:

Put  $\lambda_{1,2}$  into  $\underline{A}\underline{x} - \lambda_{1,2}\underline{x} = 0$   
and solve for  $\underline{x}$  (twice in this case)

We obtain

1.  $x_1 = x_2 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \underline{e}_1$
2.  $x_1 = -x_2 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \underline{e}_2$

Eigenvectors are **orthogonal!**

$$\underline{e}_1 \cdot \underline{e}_2 \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

# Principal stresses

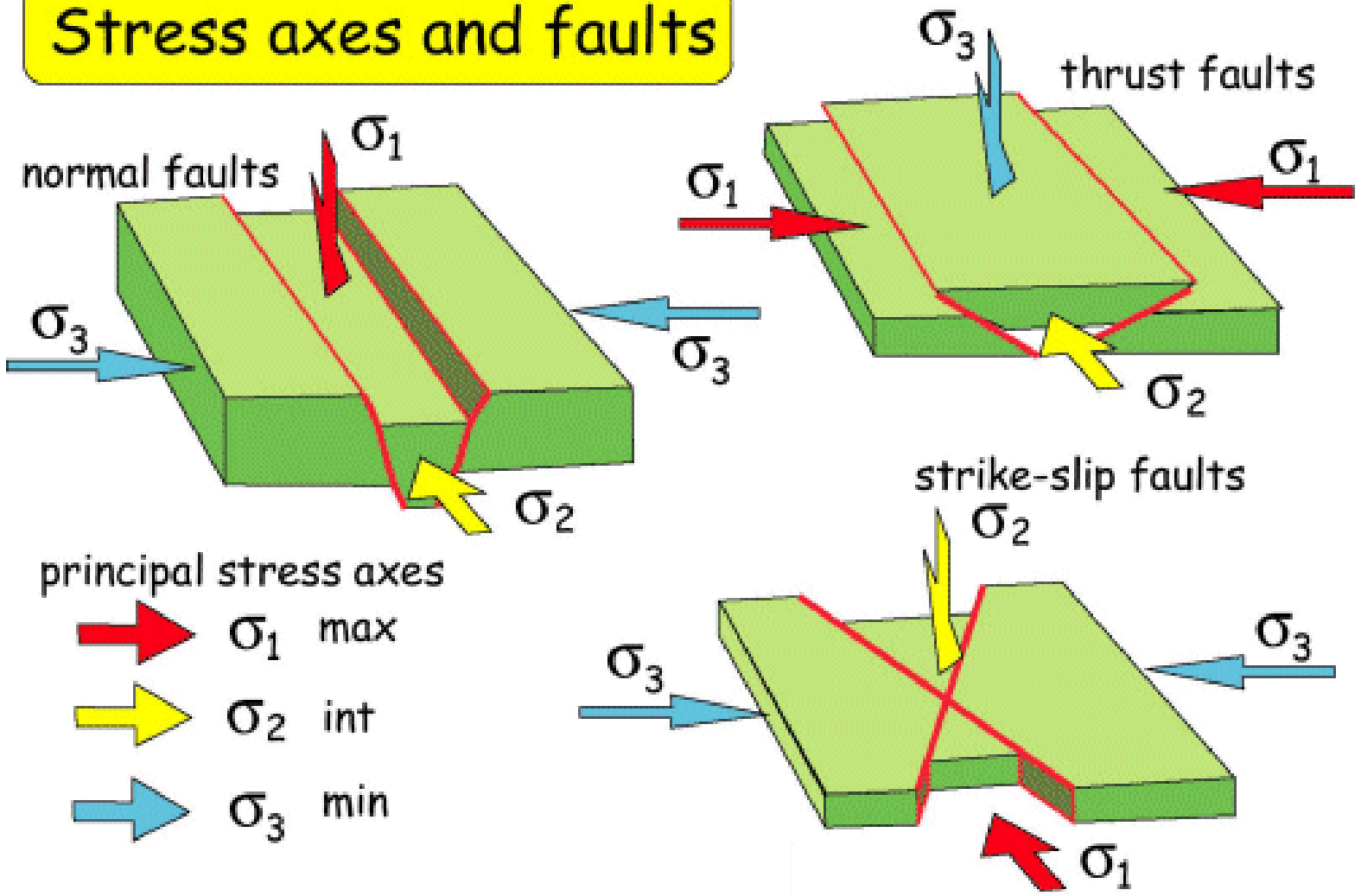
$$\sigma^{\text{rot}} = \underline{\underline{N}}^T \sigma \underline{\underline{N}} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

matrix with normalized eigenvectors

Principal stresses

# Why does this matter?

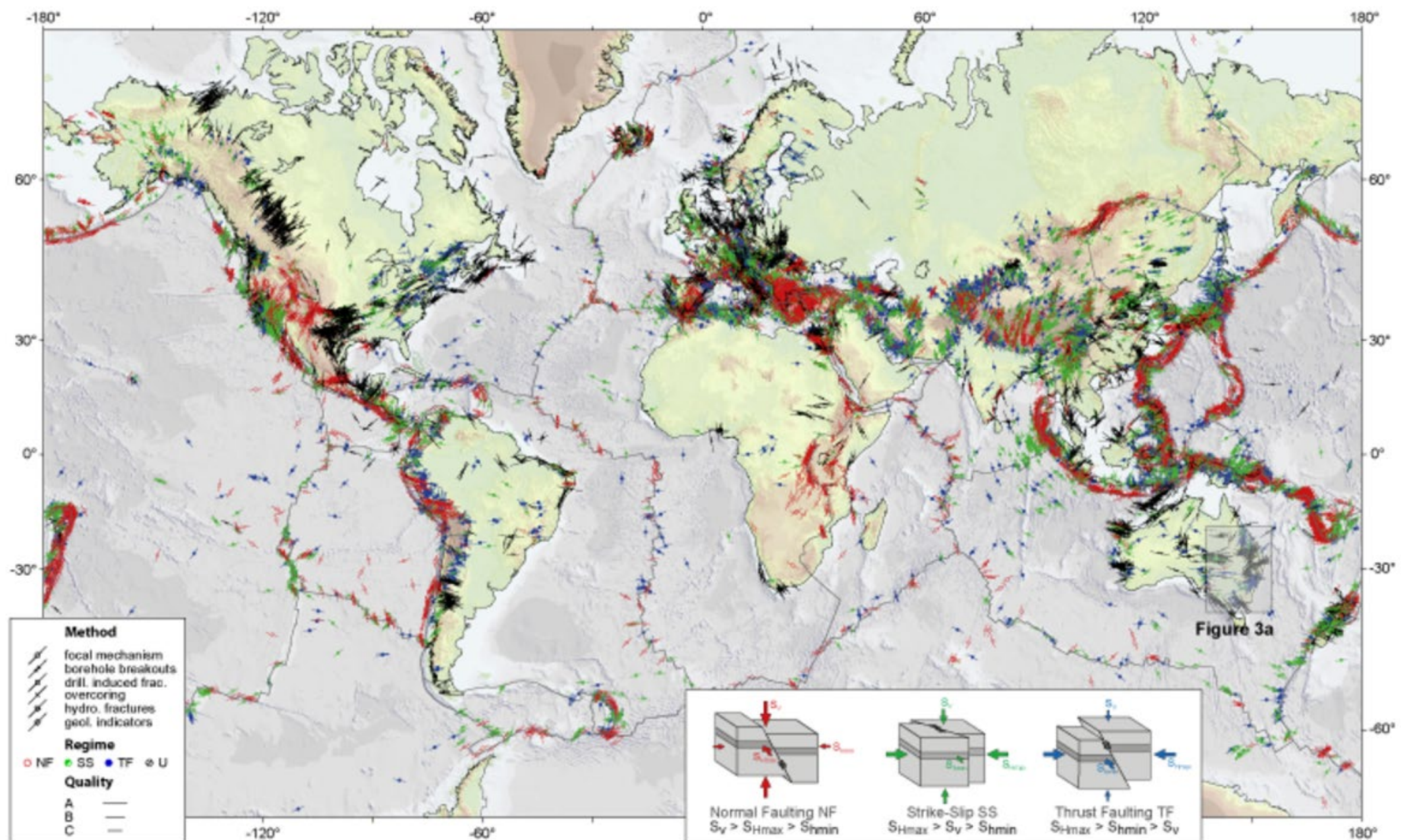
## Stress axes and faults



The **eigenvectors** give you the **directions of the principle stresses** that are of central interest in earthquake physics and tectonics

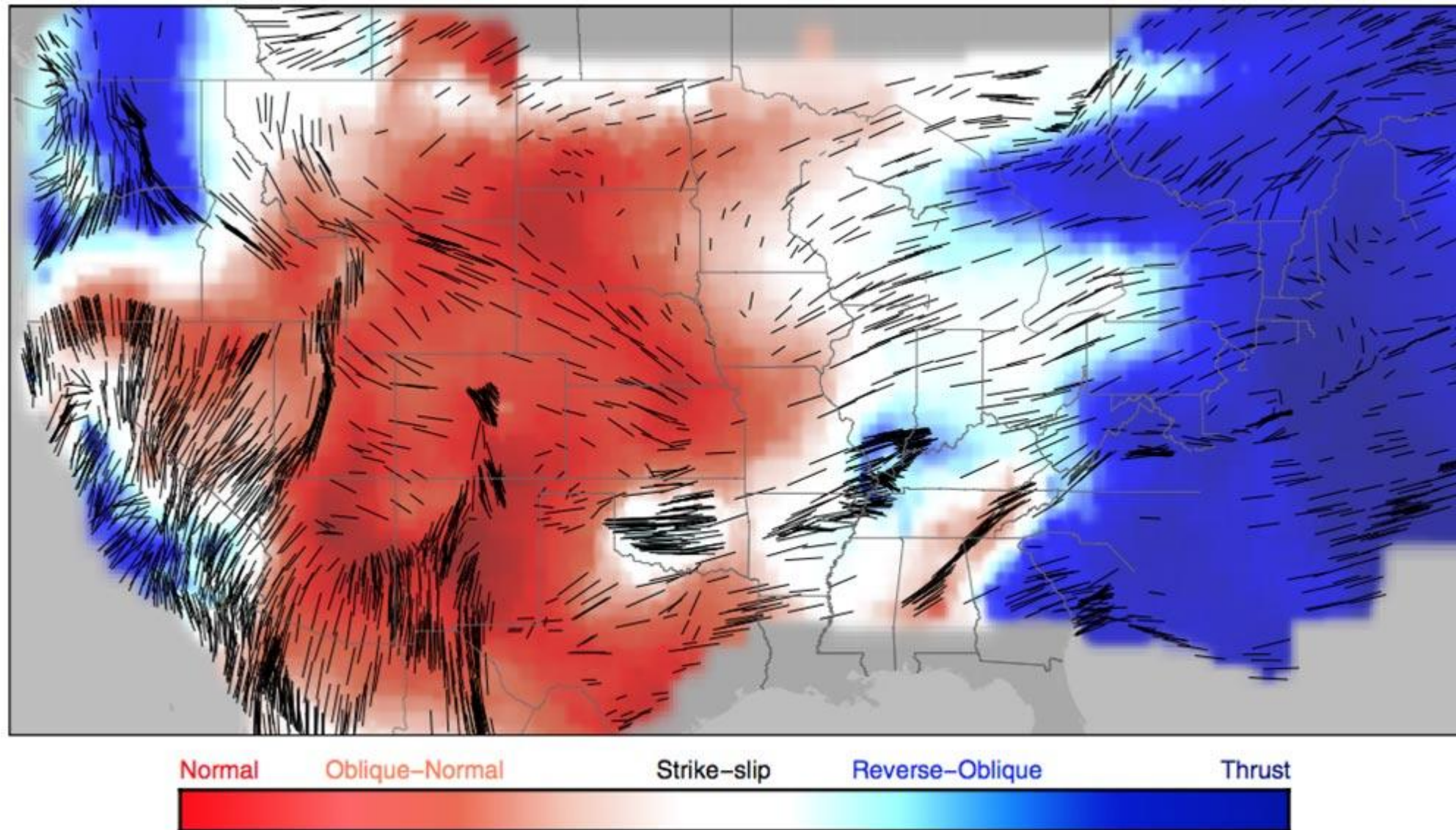


# The world stress map





# US stress map



# Hydrostatic stress

$$\sigma^H = \begin{pmatrix} -P & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -P & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -P \end{pmatrix}$$

$P$  is equal pressure in all direction.  
This is the case in *fluids*.

# Deviatoric stress

$\sigma_m$  is trace of  $\sigma$ :  $\sigma_m = \underbrace{\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3}_{\text{principal stresses}}$

Deviatoric stress:

$$\sigma_D = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} - \sigma_m & \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{13} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma_{22} - \sigma_m & \sigma_{23} \\ \sigma_{31} & \sigma_{32} & \sigma_{33} - \sigma_m \end{pmatrix}$$

# Stress separation

In other words:

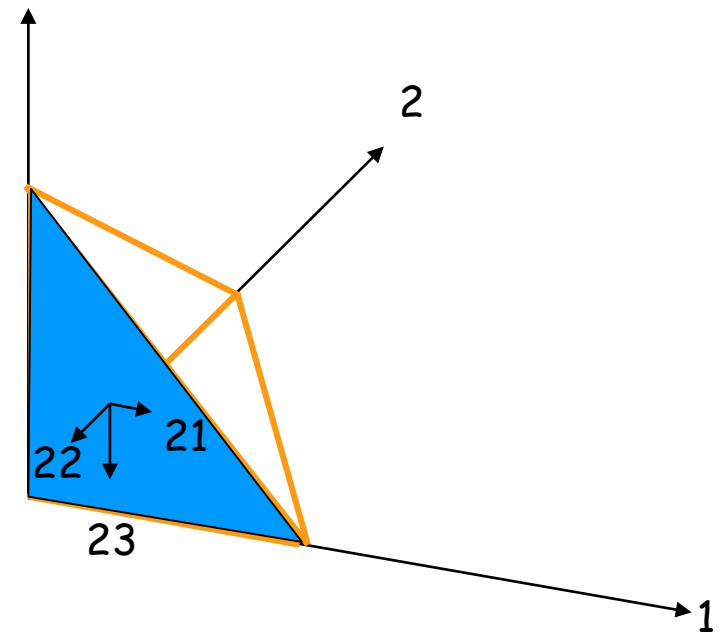
$$\underline{\underline{\sigma}} = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{hydrostatic stress}}}{\sigma_m} \underline{\underline{I}} + \underset{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{deviatoric stress}}}{\underline{\underline{\sigma_D}}}$$

$$\underline{\underline{\sigma}} = \begin{pmatrix} -p & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -p \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} + p & \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{13} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma_{22} + p & \sigma_{23} \\ \sigma_{31} & \sigma_{32} & \sigma_{33} + p \end{pmatrix}$$

$$p = -\sigma_m$$

# Summary

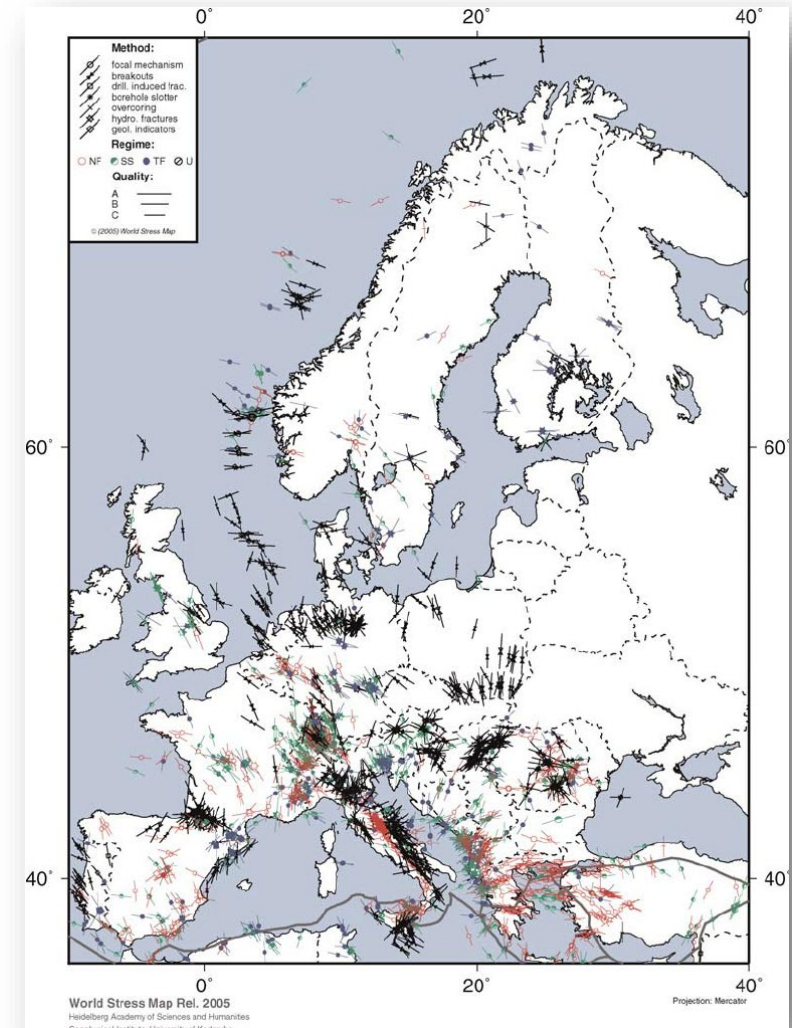
- Stress is **force per area**
- The stress units are **Pa (Pascal – N/m<sup>2</sup>)**
- Stress is a **tensor** (just like strain)
- The stress tensor elements correspond to **forces acting on faces**
- The Earth's surface is (in principal) **stress free**
- Stress **cannot** be **directly measured**





# Summary (cont'd)

- **Principal stress directions** are extremely important for tectonics and earthquake physics
- The principal stress directions and values can be obtained by **eigenvector analysis**
- The stress tensor can be synthesized by an **isotropic hydrostatic stress (volume changes)** and a **deviatoric stress (shape changes)**
- Stress directions can be estimated by **borehole breakouts** and **shear-wave splitting (anisotropy)**
- Stresses can reach up to **364 GPa** (inner core)



# Appendix

**a few words on vector fields**



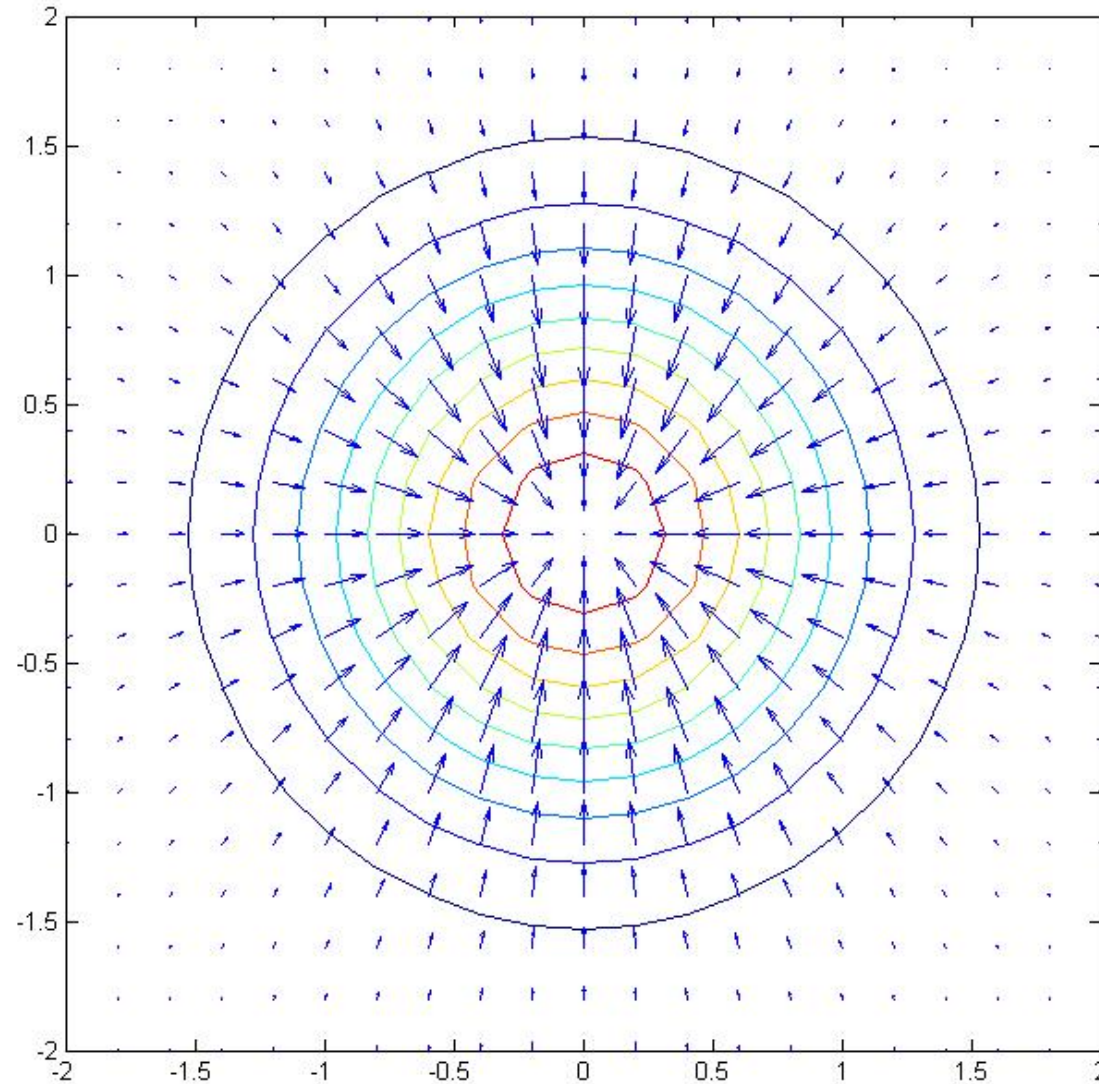
# Some operations on vector fields

## Gradient of a vector field

$$\nabla \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_x \\ \partial_y \\ \partial_z \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_x \\ \partial_y \\ \partial_z \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_x \\ u_y \\ u_z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_x u_x & \partial_y u_x & \partial_z u_x \\ \partial_x u_y & \partial_y u_y & \partial_z u_y \\ \partial_x u_z & \partial_y u_z & \partial_z u_z \end{pmatrix}$$

What is the meaning of the gradient?

# Gradient of 2D Gaussian function



# Some operations on vector fields

Divergence of a vector field

$$\nabla \bullet \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_x \\ \partial_y \\ \partial_z \end{pmatrix} \bullet \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_x \\ \partial_y \\ \partial_z \end{pmatrix} \bullet \begin{pmatrix} u_x \\ u_y \\ u_z \end{pmatrix} = \partial_x u_x + \partial_y u_y + \partial_z u_z$$

When  $\mathbf{u}$  is the displacement what is its divergence?

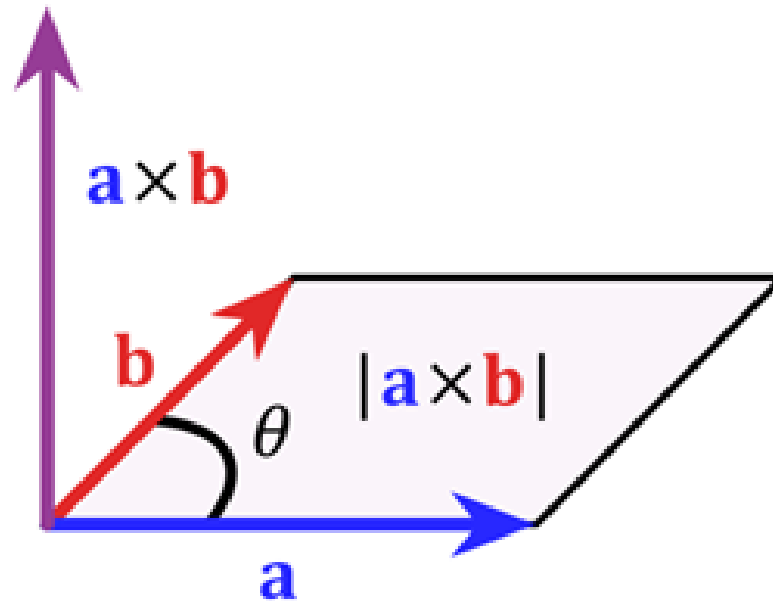
# Some operations on vector fields

Curl of a vector field

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_x \\ \partial_y \\ \partial_z \end{pmatrix} \times \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_x \\ \partial_y \\ \partial_z \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} u_x \\ u_y \\ u_z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_y u_z - \partial_z u_y \\ \partial_z u_x - \partial_x u_z \\ \partial_x u_y - \partial_y u_x \end{pmatrix}$$

Can we observe it?

# Vector product



$$A = |\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}| = |\mathbf{a}| |\mathbf{b}| \sin \theta$$