

# Why do we need tensors?

## Scalars:

describe a quantity at a point

e.g. Temperature

## Vectors:

describe quantity and a direction

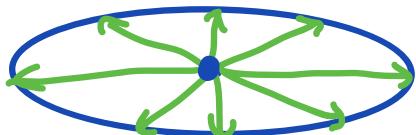
e.g. velocity (speed + direction)



## Tensors:

describes how a quantity changes with direction

Think of an ellipsoid



Examples: anisotropic properties

stress, strain

moment of inertia

## Second-order Tensors

Linear operators :  $\underline{v} = \underline{\underline{A}} \underline{u}$

maps vector  $\underline{u} \in \mathcal{V}$  into vector  $\underline{v} \in \mathcal{V}$

Two tensors  $\underline{\underline{A}}$  and  $\underline{\underline{B}}$  are equal if

$$\underline{\underline{A}} \underline{v} = \underline{\underline{B}} \underline{v} \quad \text{for all } \underline{v} \in \mathcal{V}$$

Zero tensor:  $\underline{\underline{0}} \underline{v} = \underline{0} \quad \text{for all } \underline{v} \in \mathcal{V}$

Identity tensor:  $\underline{\underline{I}} \underline{v} = \underline{v} \quad \text{for all } \underline{v} \in \mathcal{V}$

## Basic algebra

$\alpha$  = scalar,  $\underline{v}$  = vector,  $\underline{\underline{A}}$  &  $\underline{\underline{B}}$  2<sup>nd</sup>-ord. tensors

$$1) \quad (\alpha \underline{\underline{A}}) \underline{v} = \underline{\underline{A}}(\alpha \underline{v}) \quad \text{scalar multiplication}$$

$$2) \quad (\underline{\underline{A}} + \underline{\underline{B}}) \underline{v} = \underline{\underline{A}} \underline{v} + \underline{\underline{B}} \underline{v} \quad \text{tensor sum}$$

$$3) \quad (\underline{\underline{A}} \underline{\underline{B}}) \underline{v} = \underline{\underline{A}}(\underline{\underline{B}} \underline{v}) \quad \text{tensor product}$$

$$4) \quad (\text{tensor scalar product} \rightarrow \text{later})$$

$1+2 \Rightarrow$  imply linearity

$1, 2, 3$  produce other tensors

set  $\mathcal{V}^2$  of second order tensors  $\Rightarrow$  vector space

Q: What is a basis for  $\mathcal{V}^2$ ?

### Representation of a tensor

In a frame  $\{\underline{e}_i\}$  a second order tensor  $\underline{\underline{S}}$  is represented by nine numbers

$$S_{ij} = \underline{e}_i \cdot \underline{\underline{S}} \underline{e}_j$$

Matrix representation of tensor in  $\{\underline{e}_i\}$

$$[\underline{\underline{S}}] = \begin{bmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} & S_{13} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} & S_{23} \\ S_{31} & S_{32} & S_{33} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3$$

Note that  $[\underline{\underline{S}}]_{ij} = S_{ij}$

Consider  $\underline{v} = \underline{\underline{e}} \underline{u}$  where  $\underline{v} = v_k e_k$ ,  $\underline{u} = u_j e_j$

$$v_k e_k = \underline{\underline{e}}(u_j e_j) = \underline{\underline{e}} e_j u_j$$

Multiply by  $e_i$  from left

$$v_k e_i \cdot e_k = e_i \cdot \underline{\underline{e}} e_j u_j$$

$$v_k \delta_{ik} = e_i \cdot \underline{\underline{e}} e_j u_j$$

$$v_i = (e_i \cdot \underline{\underline{e}} e_j) u_j$$

$$v_i = S_{ij} u_j$$

## Dyadic Product

The dyadic product of two vectors  $\underline{a}$  and  $\underline{b}$  is the 2<sup>nd</sup>-order tensor  $\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b}$  defined by

$$(\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b}) \underline{v} = (\underline{b} \cdot \underline{v}) \underline{a} \quad \text{for all } \underline{v} \in V$$

This has the form:  $\underline{\underline{A}} \underline{v} = \alpha \underline{a}$

in components:  $A_{ij} v_j = \alpha a_i$

$$\alpha = \underline{b} \cdot \underline{v} = b_j v_j$$

$$A_{ij} = [\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b}]_{ij}$$

$$\Rightarrow [\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b}]_{ij} v_j = b_j v_j a_i$$

$$[\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b}]_{ij} v_j = (a_i b_j) v_j$$

$$\Rightarrow [\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b}]_{ij} = a_i b_j$$

So that

$$[\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b}] = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 b_1 & a_1 b_2 & a_1 b_3 \\ a_2 b_1 & a_2 b_2 & a_2 b_3 \\ a_3 b_1 & a_3 b_2 & a_3 b_3 \end{bmatrix} = \underline{a} \underline{b}^T$$

Linearity of dyadic product:

for scalars  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  and vectors  $\underline{a}, \underline{b}, \underline{v}, \underline{w} \in V$

$$(\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b}) (\alpha \underline{v} + \beta \underline{w}) = \alpha (\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b}) \underline{v} + \beta (\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b}) \underline{w}$$

The product of two dyadic products

$$(\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b})(\underline{c} \otimes \underline{d}) = (\underline{b} \cdot \underline{c}) \underline{a} \otimes \underline{d} \Rightarrow \text{HW2}$$

needed for tensor product.

## Basis for $V^2$

Given any frame  $\{e_i\}$  the nine dyadic products  $\{e_i \otimes e_j\}$  form a basis for  $V^2$ . Any second-order tensor  $\underline{\underline{S}}$  can be written as linear combination

$$\underline{\underline{S}} = S_{ij} e_i \otimes e_j$$

where  $S_{ij} = e_i \cdot \underline{\underline{S}} e_j$

Consider  $\underline{v} = \underline{\underline{S}} \underline{u}$  with  $v_i = v_i e_i$ ,  $u_k = u_k e_k$

$$\begin{aligned} v_i e_i &= S_{ij} (e_i \otimes e_j) (u_k e_k) \\ &= S_{ij} u_k (e_i \otimes e_j) \cdot e_k \quad \text{apply def. of dyadic} \\ &= S_{ij} u_k (e_j \cdot e_k) e_i = S_{ij} u_k \delta_{kj} e_i \end{aligned}$$

$$v_i e_i = S_{ij} u_j e_i$$

Index notation for tensor-vector multiplication

$$v_i = S_{ij} u_j \quad \text{used often}$$

Note: Transfer property of Kronecker delta

$$v_i = \delta_{ij} u_j = u_i$$

also applies to indices of tensors  
for example above

$$S_{ij} u_k \delta_{kj} e_i =$$

$$u_k \underbrace{S_{ij} \delta_{kj}}_{S_{ik}} e_i = S_{ik} u_k e_i$$

## Tensor algebra in components

Addition :  $\underline{H} = \underline{S} + \underline{T}$

$$\begin{aligned} H_{ij} e_i \otimes e_j &= S_{ij} e_i \otimes e_j + T_{ij} e_i \otimes e_j \\ &= (S_{ij} + T_{ij}) e_i \otimes e_j \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{H_{ij} = S_{ij} + T_{ij}}$$

Scalar multiplication :  $\underline{H} = \alpha \underline{S} \Rightarrow H_{ij} = \alpha S_{ij}$

Product :  $\underline{H} = \underline{S} \underline{T}$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{H} &= S_{ij} (e_i \otimes e_j) T_{kl} (e_k \otimes e_l) \\ &= S_{ij} T_{kl} \underbrace{(e_i \otimes e_j)(e_k \otimes e_l)}_{\text{product of two dyads}} \end{aligned}$$

$$= S_{ij} T_{kl} (e_j \otimes e_k) e_i \otimes e_l$$

$$\delta_{jk}$$

$$= S_{ij} T_{jl} e_i \otimes e_l$$

$$H_{il} e_i \otimes e_l = S_{ij} T_{jl} e_i \otimes e_l$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\boxed{H_{il} = S_{ij} T_{jl}}$$

note the dummy j!

## Determinant and Inverse

The determinant of  $\underline{\underline{A}} \in \mathcal{V}^2$  is the scalar

$$\det(\underline{\underline{A}}) = \det \begin{vmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{vmatrix} = \epsilon_{ijk} [\underline{\underline{A}}]_{i1} [\underline{\underline{A}}]_{j2} [\underline{\underline{A}}]_{k3}$$

where  $[\underline{\underline{A}}]_{i1}, [\underline{\underline{A}}]_{j2}, [\underline{\underline{A}}]_{k3}$  are the columns of  $[\underline{\underline{A}}]$

Triple scalar product:  $(\underline{a} \times \underline{b}) \cdot \underline{c} = \det[\underline{a}, \underline{b}, \underline{c}] = \epsilon_{ijk} a_i b_j c_k$   
determinants  $\Rightarrow$  volumes

Properties:  $\det(\underline{\underline{AB}}) = \det(\underline{\underline{A}}) \det(\underline{\underline{B}})$

$$\det(\underline{\underline{A}}^T) = \det(\underline{\underline{A}})$$

$$\det(\alpha \underline{\underline{A}}) = \alpha^n \det(\underline{\underline{A}}) \quad (\underline{\underline{A}} \text{ is } n \times n)$$

$\underline{\underline{A}}$  is singular if  $\det \underline{\underline{A}} = 0$ .

If  $\det \underline{\underline{A}} \neq 0$  then the inverse  $\underline{\underline{A}}^{-1}$  exists

$$\underline{\underline{A}}^{-1} \underline{\underline{A}} = \underline{\underline{A}} \underline{\underline{A}}^{-1} = \underline{\underline{I}}$$

## Transpose of a tensor

To any  $\underline{\underline{S}} \in V^2$  we associate a transpose  $\underline{\underline{S}}^T \in V^2$  the unique tensor such that

$$\underline{\underline{S}}\underline{u} \cdot \underline{v} = \underline{u} \cdot \underline{\underline{S}}^T \underline{v} \quad \text{for all } \underline{u}, \underline{v} \in V$$

This implies that  $S_{ij}^T = S_{ji}$  as follows

$$(S_{ij} u_j e_i) \cdot (v_l e_l) = (u_k e_k) \cdot (S_{ij}^T v_j e_i)$$

$$S_{ij} u_j v_l (e_i \cdot e_l) = S_{ij}^T v_j u_k (e_k \cdot e_i)$$

$$S_{ij} u_j v_l \delta_{il} = S_{ij}^T v_j u_k \delta_{ki}$$

$$S_{ij} u_j v_i = S_{ij}^T v_j u_i \quad \begin{matrix} \text{rename indices} \\ i \leftrightarrow j \text{ on rhs} \end{matrix}$$

$$S_{ij} u_j v_i = S_{ji}^T u_j v_i$$

$$\Rightarrow S_{ij} = S_{ji}^T \quad \checkmark$$

Properties of transpose:

$$(\underline{\underline{A}}^T)^T = \underline{\underline{A}}$$

$$(\underline{\underline{AB}})^T = \underline{\underline{B}}^T \underline{\underline{A}}^T$$

$$(\underline{u} \otimes \underline{v})^T = \underline{v} \otimes \underline{u}$$

$\underline{\underline{S}}$  is symmetric if  $\underline{\underline{S}} = \underline{\underline{S}}^T$   $S_{ij} = S_{ji}$

$\underline{\underline{S}}$  is skew-symmetric if  $\underline{\underline{S}} = -\underline{\underline{S}}^T$   $S_{ij} = -S_{ji}$

### Symmetric-Skew decomposition:

Any tensor  $\underline{\underline{S}} \in \mathcal{V}^2$  can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\underline{S}} &= \underline{\underline{E}} + \underline{\underline{W}} \\ \underline{\underline{E}} &= \frac{1}{2}(\underline{\underline{S}} + \underline{\underline{S}}^T) \\ \underline{\underline{W}} &= \frac{1}{2}(\underline{\underline{S}} - \underline{\underline{S}}^T)\end{aligned}\quad \begin{aligned}\underline{\underline{E}} &= \underline{\underline{E}}^T \\ \underline{\underline{W}} &= -\underline{\underline{W}}^T\end{aligned}$$

Note: Skew tensors often related to rotation

### Trace of a tensor

We define the trace of a dyad as

$$\text{tr}(\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b}) = \underline{a} \cdot \underline{b} = a_i b_i$$

this implies that

$$\text{tr}(\underline{\underline{A}}) = A_{ii} = A_{11} + A_{22} + A_{33}$$

as follows  $\text{tr}(A_{ij} e_i \otimes e_j) = A_{ij} \text{tr}(e_i \otimes e_j)$   
 $= A_{ij} S_{ij} = A_{ii}$

Properties:  $\text{tr}(\underline{\underline{A}}^T) = \text{tr}(\underline{\underline{A}})$

$$\text{tr}(\underline{\underline{AB}}) = \text{tr}(\underline{\underline{BA}})$$

$$\text{tr}(\underline{\underline{A}} + \underline{\underline{B}}) = \text{tr}(\underline{\underline{A}}) + \text{tr}(\underline{\underline{B}})$$

$$\text{tr}(\alpha \underline{\underline{A}}) = \alpha \text{tr}(\underline{\underline{A}})$$

Decomposition:  $\underline{\underline{A}} = \alpha \underline{\underline{I}} + \text{dev } \underline{\underline{A}}$

Spherical tensor:  $\alpha \underline{\underline{I}}$  where  $\alpha = \frac{1}{3} \text{tr}(\underline{\underline{A}})$

Deviatoric tensor:  $\text{dev } \underline{\underline{A}} = \underline{\underline{A}} - \alpha \underline{\underline{I}}$

$$\text{tr}(\text{dev } \underline{\underline{A}}) = 0$$