

# Tutorial T03 – Elasticity Stress

Answer the following questions as they could come up in an exam.

## 1 Stress equilibrium

... based on sections 3,5 (Exercise V12 in old material before 2022)

In a linear elastic ( $E = 2 \cdot 10^5$  MPa,  $\nu = 0.25$ ) body under load, the stress-field is given (with four free parameters), with respect to the Cartesian  $x_1 - x_2 - x_3$  coordinate system as:

$$\sigma_{11}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \sigma_0 \left[ 20 + \alpha_1 \left( \frac{x_1}{L} \right) - 10 \left( \frac{x_2}{L} \right) + \alpha_2 \left( \frac{x_1}{L} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$\sigma_{22}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \sigma_0 \left[ 10 + 8 \left( \frac{x_1}{L} \right) + \beta_1 \left( \frac{x_2}{L} \right) + \beta_2 \left( \frac{x_2}{L} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$\sigma_{12}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \sigma_0 \left[ 12 - 10 \left( \frac{x_1}{L} \right) + 7 \left( \frac{x_2}{L} \right) - 8 \left( \frac{x_1}{L} \right) \left( \frac{x_2}{L} \right) \right]$$

$\sigma_{13}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \sigma_{23}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \sigma_{33}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 0$ , and  
with reference stress  $\sigma_0 = 1$  MPa and reference length  $L = 1$  m.

Note: Question (a) is general, symbolic, with variables  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  and coefficients  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \beta_1, \beta_2$ ;  
only from question (b) on, use the single, chosen point P( $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0, x_3 = 0$ ).

### Questions:

... based on section 3

- Does the stress field agree with the stress-equilibrium equations in absence of volume-forces?  
Which relations have to be valid for the free coefficients  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \beta_1, \beta_2$  due to stress equilibrium?
- Compute the eigen-stresses in point P using linear algebra, mathematics -- not circle of Mohr.  
Describe and name the state of stress in point P (and in all other points in the body).
- Compute the eigen-direction of the major eigen-stress.

d) Draw the relevant circle of Mohr and confirm graphically the results of (b) and (c); explain.

... based on section 5

- Compute the equivalent stress according to Tresca.  
What is the origin of the limit-stress hypothesis of Tresca?
- Compute the equivalent stress according to von Mises.  
What is the origin of the limit-stress hypothesis of von Mises?
- Compute the specific elastic energy  $\pi_{el}$  in point P.

### Answers:

- Given was the plane stress-field, independent of  $x_3$ , in absence of body forces  $f_i = 0$ :

$$\sigma_{11}(x_1, x_2) = \sigma_0 \left[ 20 + \alpha_1 \frac{x_1}{L} - 10 \frac{x_2}{L} + \alpha_2 \left( \frac{x_1}{L} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$\sigma_{22}(x_1, x_2) = \sigma_0 \left[ 10 + 8 \frac{x_1}{L} + \beta_1 \frac{x_2}{L} + \beta_2 \left( \frac{x_2}{L} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$\sigma_{12}(x_1, x_2) = \sigma_0 \left[ 12 - 10 \frac{x_1}{L} + 7 \frac{x_2}{L} - 8 \frac{x_1}{L} \frac{x_2}{L} \right]$$

Using the respective stress-equilibrium equations, in this case two, one obtains:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx_1}\sigma_{11}(x_1, x_2) + \frac{d}{dx_2}\sigma_{12}(x_1, x_2) &= \sigma_0 \left[ \frac{\alpha_1}{L} + 2\alpha_2 \frac{x_1}{L^2} \right] + \sigma_0 \left[ \frac{7}{L} - 8 \frac{x_1}{L^2} \right] = 0 \\ \frac{d}{dx_1}\sigma_{12}(x_1, x_2) + \frac{d}{dx_2}\sigma_{22}(x_1, x_2) &= \sigma_0 \left[ \frac{-10}{L} - 8 \frac{x_2}{L^2} \right] + \sigma_0 \left[ \frac{\beta_1}{L} + 2\beta_2 \frac{x_2}{L^2} \right] = 0\end{aligned}$$

From these equations, one gets the coefficients that solve them:  $\alpha_1 = -7$ ,  $\alpha_2 = 4$ ,  $\beta_1 = 10$ ,  $\beta_2 = 4$ .

*Because the field equations must be valid for all constants and points  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ , independently, one can group them accordingly: The constant terms from the first and second equations provide  $\alpha_1$  and  $\beta_1$ , respectively, while the  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  groups provide  $\alpha_2$  and  $\beta_2$ .*

b)

The stress Tensor in point  $P = (x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0, x_3 = 0)$  is:  $[\sigma_{ij}] = \begin{bmatrix} 20 & 12 & 0 \\ 12 & 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  MPa

From this stress tensor, the characteristic equation is:

$$\sigma^3 - I_1\sigma^2 + I_2\sigma - I_3 = \sigma^3 - 30\sigma^2 + 56\sigma - 0 = (\sigma^2 - 30\sigma + 56)(\sigma - 0) = 0.$$

Knowing/recognizing that one eigen-value is zero, i.e. also  $I_3 = 0$ , the principal stresses can be computed from the second order polynomial as:  $\sigma_I = 28$  MPa,  $\sigma_{II} = 2$  MPa,  $\sigma_{III} = 0$  MPa. This is a plane-stress state with all stresses on the  $x_3$ -surface equal to zero, which also has consequences for the eigen-directions ...

c)

The principal directions can be calculated the usual way, where  $\hat{\mathbf{n}}^{(III)} = (0, 0, 1)$  is directly visible from the tensor, due to the zero shear stresses in the  $x_3$ -direction.

The eigen-direction of the major stress  $\sigma_I = 28$  MPa is obtained solving:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} - \sigma_I & \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{13} \\ \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{22} - \sigma_I & \sigma_{23} \\ \sigma_{13} & \sigma_{23} & \sigma_{33} - \sigma_I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n_1^{(I)} \\ n_2^{(I)} \\ n_3^{(I)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and normalization: } n_1^{(I)} + n_2^{(I)} + n_3^{(I)} = 1$$

so that:  $-8n_1^{(I)} + 12n_2^{(I)} = 0 \rightarrow n_1^{(I)} = (3/2)n_2^{(I)}$  and thus:  $[(9/4) + 1]n_2^{(I)} = 1 \rightarrow n_2^{(I)} = 2/\sqrt{13}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} n_1^{(I)} \\ n_2^{(I)} \\ n_3^{(I)} \end{bmatrix} = \pm \begin{bmatrix} 3/\sqrt{13} \\ 2/\sqrt{13} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The eigen-direction of the intermediate stress,  $\sigma_{II} = 2$  MPa was not asked, just for completeness:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} - \sigma_{II} & \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{13} \\ \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{22} - \sigma_{II} & \sigma_{23} \\ \sigma_{13} & \sigma_{23} & \sigma_{33} - \sigma_{II} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n_1^{(II)} \\ n_2^{(II)} \\ n_3^{(II)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and normalization: } n_1^{(II)} + n_2^{(II)} + n_3^{(II)} = 1$$

so that:  $18n_1^{(II)} + 12n_2^{(II)} = 0 \rightarrow n_1^{(II)} = -(2/3)n_2^{(II)}$  and thus:  $[(4/9) + 1]n_2^{(II)} = 1 \rightarrow n_2^{(II)} = 3/\sqrt{13}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} n_1^{(II)} \\ n_2^{(II)} \\ n_3^{(II)} \end{bmatrix} = \pm \begin{bmatrix} -2/\sqrt{13} \\ 3/\sqrt{13} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

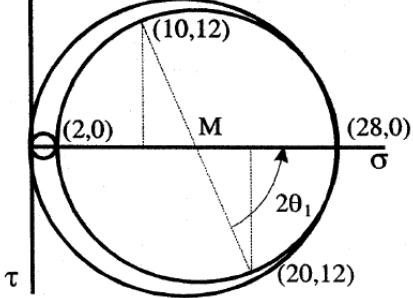


Figure 1: Sketch of a Mohr circle, focus is on the right, inner circle.

d) Mohr's circle

*Consider only the two non-zero eigenvalues that characterise the plane-stress state in point P.*

The circle centre is:  $M = \sigma_{avg} = \frac{\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy}}{2} = \frac{20+10}{2} = 15 \text{ MPa}$ ,

and its radius is:  $R = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sigma_{xx} - \sigma_{yy}}{2}\right)^2 + \sigma_{xy}^2} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{20-10}{2}\right)^2 + (12)^2} = 13 \text{ MPa}$ .

The eigenvalues are therefore:

$$\sigma_I = M + R = 28 \text{ MPa}, \sigma_{II} = C - R = 2 \text{ MPa}.$$

The eigen-directions are:

$\tan 2\theta = \frac{2\sigma_{xy}}{\sigma_{xx} - \sigma_{yy}} = \frac{24}{10} = 2.4 \Rightarrow \theta_I = (1/2) \arctan(2.4) = 67.38^\circ/2 = 33.69^\circ$ , which corresponds to the orientation of the first eigenvector relative to the horizontal  $\theta_I = \arcsin(2/\sqrt{13}) = \arccos(3/\sqrt{13})$ ; and  $\theta_{II} = (180^\circ + 67.3^\circ)/2 = 247.3^\circ/2 = 123.7^\circ = \arccos(-2/\sqrt{13})$ .

The max. shear stress is just the radius:  $\tau^{max} = R = 13 \text{ MPa}$

e) Failure criteria according to the (double) maximal shear stress:

$$\tau_{max} = \frac{1}{2} |\sigma_{max} - \sigma_{min}| = 14 \text{ MPa}, \sigma_{eq}^{Tresca} = 2\tau_{max} = 28 \text{ MPa}$$

f) Failure criteria according to the shape-change (distortion) energy:

$$\sigma_{eq}^{von-Mises} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}[(\sigma_I - \sigma_{II})^2 + (\sigma_{II} - \sigma_{III})^2 + (\sigma_{III} - \sigma_I)^2]} \approx 27 \text{ MPa}$$

$\sigma_{eq}^{von-Mises} < \sigma_{eq}^{Tresca}$ , thus the Tresca criterion is safer, since the limit stress is reached earlier.

g) Hooke's law for strain as function of stress:  $\varepsilon_{ij} = \frac{1}{E}[(1+\nu)\sigma_{ij} - \nu\sigma_{kk}\delta_{ij}]$ , with  $\sigma_{kk} = \sigma_{11} + \sigma_{22} + \sigma_{33}$ , using  $E = 2.10^5 \text{ MPa}$  and  $\nu = 1/4$ , one obtains:

$$\varepsilon_{11} = \frac{\sigma_{11}}{E} - \nu \frac{\sigma_{22}}{E} - \nu \frac{\sigma_{33}}{E} = 20/E - (10/4)/E = (35/2) \text{ MPa } E^{-1},$$

$$\varepsilon_{22} = \frac{\sigma_{22}}{E} - \nu \frac{\sigma_{11}}{E} - \nu \frac{\sigma_{33}}{E} = 10/E - (20/4)/E = 5 \text{ MPa } E^{-1},$$

$$\varepsilon_{33} = \frac{\sigma_{33}}{E} - \nu \frac{\sigma_{11}}{E} - \nu \frac{\sigma_{22}}{E} = -(10/4)/E - (20/4)/E = -(15/2) \text{ MPa } E^{-1},$$

$$\varepsilon_{12} = \frac{\sigma_{12}}{2G} = 6/G = 15 \text{ MPa } E^{-1} \text{ (with } G = \frac{E}{2(1+\nu)} = 2E/5),$$

and  $\varepsilon_{13} = \varepsilon_{23} = 0$ . Note that  $\varepsilon_{33} \neq 0$ , even though  $\sigma_{33} = 0$ .

$$[\varepsilon] = \begin{bmatrix} 35/2 & 15 & 0 \\ 15 & 10/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -15/2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ MPa } E^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 35 & 30 & 0 \\ 30 & 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -15 \end{bmatrix} \frac{10^{-5}}{4} = \begin{bmatrix} 87.5 & 75 & 0 \\ 75 & 25 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -37.5 \end{bmatrix} 10^{-6}.$$

Elastic energy:

$$\pi_{el} = 0.5 \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 \sigma_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij} = \sigma_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij} = 1.9 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ MPa} \left( = \frac{\text{Energy}}{\text{Volume}} \right)$$

in detail (diamonds entries not needed):

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{el} &= \begin{bmatrix} 20 & 12 & 0 \\ 12 & 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 87.5 & 75 & 0 \\ 75 & 25 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -37.5 \end{bmatrix} \frac{10^{-6}}{2} \text{ MPa} \\ &= \text{tr} \begin{bmatrix} 20 * 87.5 + 12 * 75 & \diamond & 0 \\ \diamond & 12 * 75 + 10 * 25 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \frac{10^{-6}}{2} \text{ MPa} \\ &= (1750 + 900 + 900 + 250) \frac{10^{-6}}{2} \text{ MPa} = 1.9 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ MPa} \end{aligned}$$

Note that stress and energy density have the same units.

## 2 Stress and transformation

... based on sections 3, 4, 5.1 (Exercise V4 in old material before 2022)

**Given:**

$$E = 2 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ Pa}, \nu = 0.25$$

Stress-state in point P:  $[\sigma] = \begin{bmatrix} 19 & -5 & -\sqrt{6} \\ -5 & 19 & -\sqrt{6} \\ -\sqrt{6} & -\sqrt{6} & 10 \end{bmatrix} \text{ MPa}$

**Questions:**

- a) Show that the principal stresses are 8, 16 and 24 MPa.
- Compute the directional cosines (transformation matrix entries) of the smallest eigen-stress.  
... based on sections 4,5
- b) Compute the volumetric (isotropic) strain.
- c) What is the largest angle-change (not shear-strain) in P?  
... based on section 5
- d) Which material property is implicitly used/assumed in Hooke's law?

**Answers:**

a)

From  $\det(\sigma_{ij} - \sigma\delta_{ij}) = 0$ , the characteristic equation follows as:

$$\sigma^3 - I_1\sigma^2 + I_2\sigma - I_3 = \sigma^3 - 48\sigma^2 + 704\sigma - 3072 = 0.$$

Given the eigenvalues,  $\sigma$ , one can test their validity by inserting one by one; or one can factorize the equation, e.g. by polynomial division; or one computes the invariants from the eigen-values and confirms the characteristic equation, watch the signs in the definitions.

Sorting the eigen-values is convention and part of the answer:

$$\sigma_I = 24 \text{ MPa}, \sigma_{II} = 16 \text{ MPa}, \text{ and } \sigma_{III} = 8 \text{ MPa}.$$

it allows to refer a certain eigen-value, e.g. the smallest and its eigen-direction.

The eigen-direction of the minor eigen-stress,  $\sigma_{III} = 8 \text{ MPa}$  is obtained by solving:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} - \sigma_{III} & \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{13} \\ \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{22} - \sigma_{III} & \sigma_{23} \\ \sigma_{13} & \sigma_{23} & \sigma_{33} - \sigma_{III} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n_1^{(III)} \\ n_2^{(III)} \\ n_3^{(III)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and normalization: } n_1^{(III)} + n_2^{(III)} + n_3^{(III)} = 1$$

so that (dropping the superscript for brevity):

$$11n_1 - 5n_2 - \sqrt{6}n_3 = 0 \rightarrow n_1 = (5/11)n_2 + (\sqrt{6}/11)n_3$$

$$-5n_1 + 11n_2 - \sqrt{6}n_3 = 0 \rightarrow n_2 = (5/11)n_1 + (\sqrt{6}/11)n_3$$

$$-\sqrt{6}n_1 - \sqrt{6}n_2 + 2n_3 = 0 \rightarrow n_3 = (\sqrt{6}/2)n_1 + (\sqrt{6}/2)n_2$$

Subtracting line 2 from 1 yields:  $n_1 - n_2 = (5/11)(n_2 - n_1) \rightarrow n_1 = n_2$

$$\text{Inserting into line 3 yields: } n_3 = \sqrt{6}n_1, \text{ so that: } \begin{bmatrix} n_1^{(III)} \\ n_2^{(III)} \\ n_3^{(III)} \end{bmatrix} = \pm c \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix}$$

where the unknown  $c = 1/\sqrt{8} = \sqrt{2}/4$  is obtained from normalization, resulting in:

$$\implies \begin{bmatrix} n_1^{(III)} \\ n_2^{(III)} \\ n_3^{(III)} \end{bmatrix} = \pm \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2}/4 \\ \sqrt{2}/4 \\ \sqrt{3}/2 \end{bmatrix}$$

b)

For the volumetric (isotropic) strain, we can use the short-cut (not the full strain tensor), as:  
 $\varepsilon_V = \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3 = \left[ \frac{1-2\nu}{E} \right] \sigma_{kk} = 12 \cdot 10^{-5}$ .

c)

The largest change of angle is:  $\gamma_{max} = \frac{\tau_{max}}{G} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sigma_I - \sigma_{III}}{G} = 10^{-4}$ , using  $G = \frac{E}{2(1+\nu)} = (4/5) \cdot 10^5$  MPa,  
 where the largest shear strain is just half of that:  $\varepsilon_{max} = \gamma_{max}/2$ .

d)

Isotropic (direction independent) material behavior is intrinsically assumed in the law of Hooke.