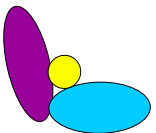


# STATE VARIABLES OF DISCRETE SYSTEMS

- Geometry
- Stress tensors
- Strain tensors



# BASIC ASSUMPTIONS

Rigid elements: translate; rotate;  
own deformations are small and  
restricted to the neighborhood of contacts

Contacts: small, point-like;  
transmit concentrated forces

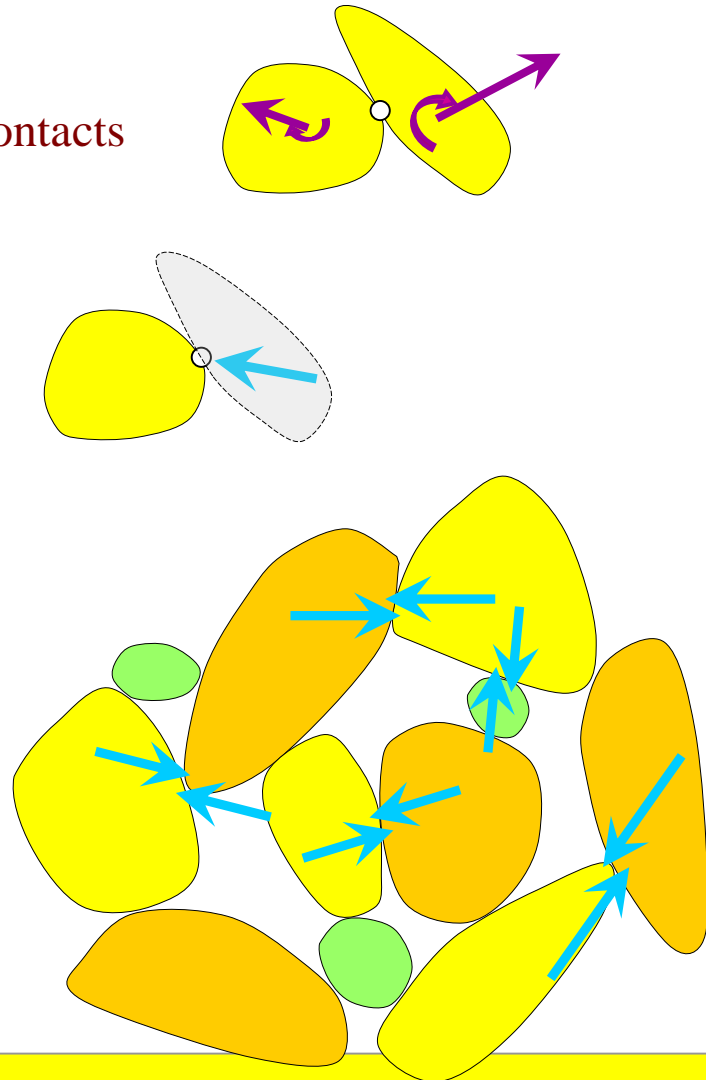
can be generalized!!!

[large contact surfaces;  
contact moments etc.]

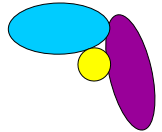
Averaged geometrical characteristics;

Stress tensors:

**this presentation**

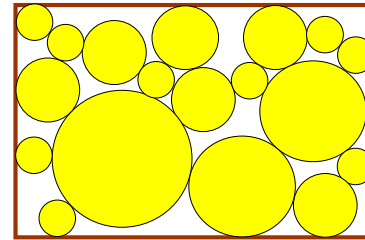
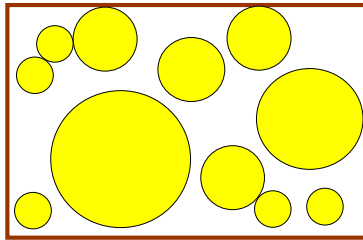


# GEOMETRICAL CHARACTERISTICS



1. Porosity
2. Coordination number
3. Fabric tensor

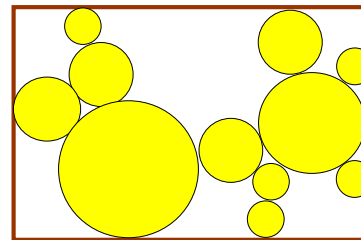
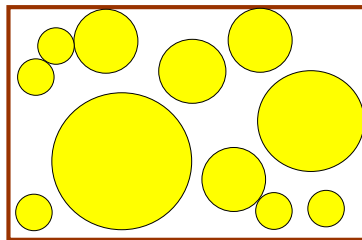
Porosity:



$$\rho = \frac{\text{empty volume}}{\text{gross volume}}$$

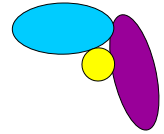
$$N_c = \frac{2M_{e\&e} + M_{e\&w}}{N_e}$$

Coordination number:

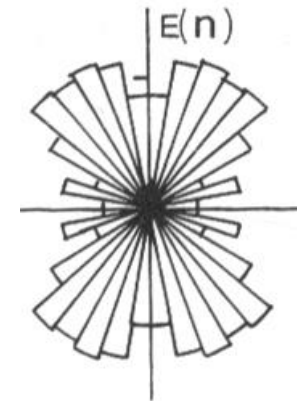
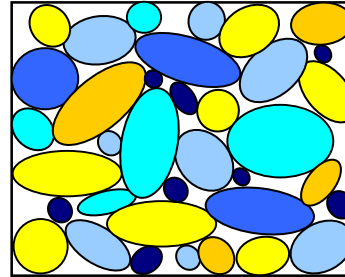
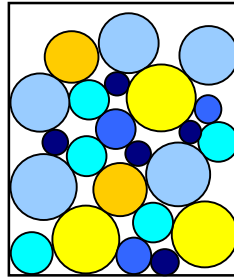


$N_c$  : average number of contact per element

# GEOMETRICAL CHARACTERISTICS



Characterize anisotropy:



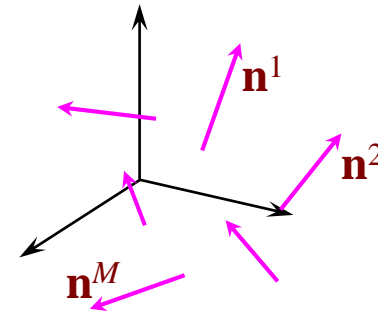
Fabric tensors

Given:  $\mathbf{n}^1; \mathbf{n}^2; \dots \mathbf{n}^M$  unit vectors (2D, 3D, ...)

Directional distribution?

e.g. is there any preferred orientation?

e.g. how it changes during a loading process?

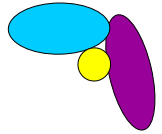


2nd order fabric tensor:

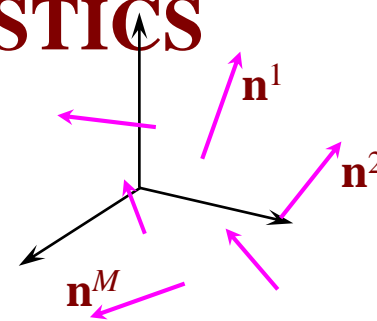
(Satake, 1978)

$$\phi_{ij} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{c=1}^M n_i^c n_j^c$$

# GEOMETRICAL CHARACTERISTICS



Given:  $\mathbf{n}^1; \mathbf{n}^2; \dots \mathbf{n}^M$  unit vectors (2D, 3D, ...)

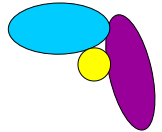


2nd order fabric tensor: (Satake, 1978)

$$\phi_{ij} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{c=1}^M n_i^c n_j^c$$

- characteristics: positive definit  
symmetric ( $\Rightarrow$  real eigenvalues,  $\perp$  eigenvectors)  
trace = 1  
 $\mathbf{n}$  and  $-\mathbf{n}$  : gives the same result
- after determining its eigenvalues and eigenvectors:  
differences between eigenvalues: shows the strength of anisotropy  
eigenvector belonging to largest eigenvalue: preferred orientation of the vector set
- Visualization: „fabric ellipsoid” (in 2D: „fabric ellipse”)

# GEOMETRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

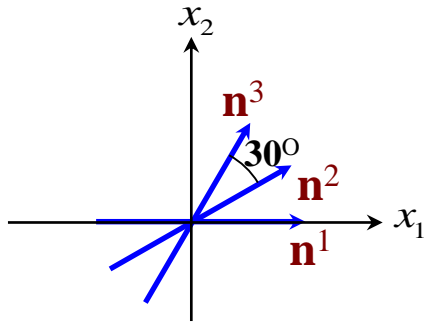


2nd order fabric tensor:

(Satake, 1978)

$$\phi_{ij} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{c=1}^M n_i^c n_j^c$$

Example:



$$\mathbf{n}^1 = \begin{bmatrix} +1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{n}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} +0,866 \\ +0,5 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{n}^3 = \begin{bmatrix} +0,5 \\ +0,866 \end{bmatrix};$$

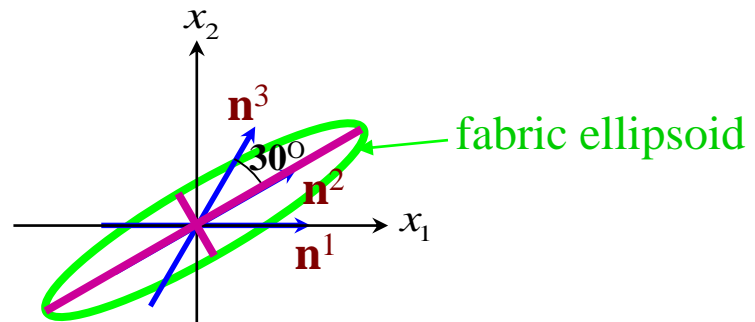
$$\mathbf{n}^1 \circ \mathbf{n}^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{n}^2 \circ \mathbf{n}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0,75 & 0,433 \\ 0,433 & 0,25 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{n}^3 \circ \mathbf{n}^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0,25 & 0,433 \\ 0,433 & 0,75 \end{bmatrix};$$

$$\Phi = \begin{bmatrix} 0,6667 & 0,2887 \\ 0,2887 & 0,3333 \end{bmatrix}$$

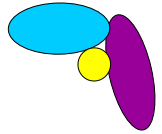
Eigenvalues, eigenvectors:

$$0,8333 \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0,866 \\ 0,5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$0,1667 \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -0,5 \\ 0,866 \end{bmatrix}$$



# GEOMETRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

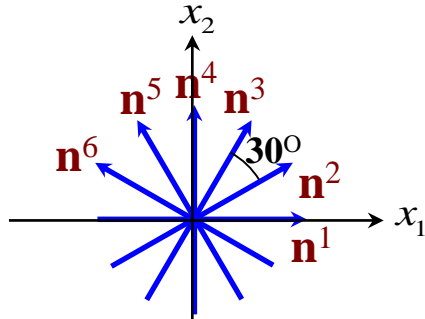


2nd order fabric tensor:

(Satake, 1978)

$$\phi_{ij} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{c=1}^M n_i^c n_j^c$$

Example:



$$\mathbf{n}^1 = \begin{bmatrix} +1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{n}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} +0,866 \\ +0,5 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{n}^3 = \begin{bmatrix} +0,5 \\ +0,866 \end{bmatrix};$$

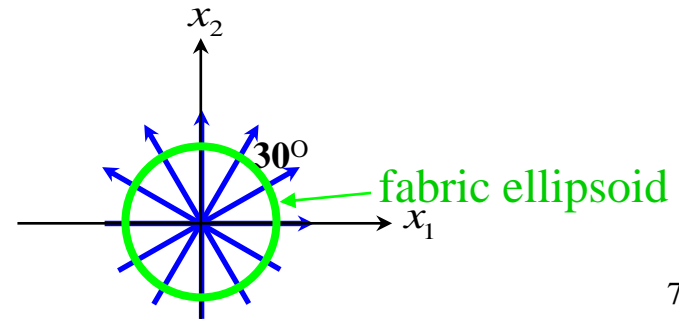
$$\mathbf{n}^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ +1 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{n}^5 = \begin{bmatrix} -0,5 \\ +0,866 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{n}^6 = \begin{bmatrix} -0,866 \\ +0,5 \end{bmatrix};$$

$$\mathbf{n}^1 \circ \mathbf{n}^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{n}^2 \circ \mathbf{n}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0,75 & 0,433 \\ 0,433 & 0,25 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{n}^3 \circ \mathbf{n}^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0,25 & 0,433 \\ 0,433 & 0,75 \end{bmatrix};$$

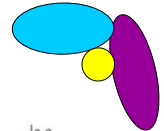
$$\mathbf{n}^4 \circ \mathbf{n}^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{n}^5 \circ \mathbf{n}^5 = \begin{bmatrix} 0,25 & -0,433 \\ -0,433 & 0,75 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{n}^6 \circ \mathbf{n}^6 = \begin{bmatrix} 0,75 & -0,433 \\ -0,433 & 0,25 \end{bmatrix};$$

$$\boldsymbol{\phi} = \begin{bmatrix} 0,5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0,5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigenvalues: 0,5 ; 0,5 →

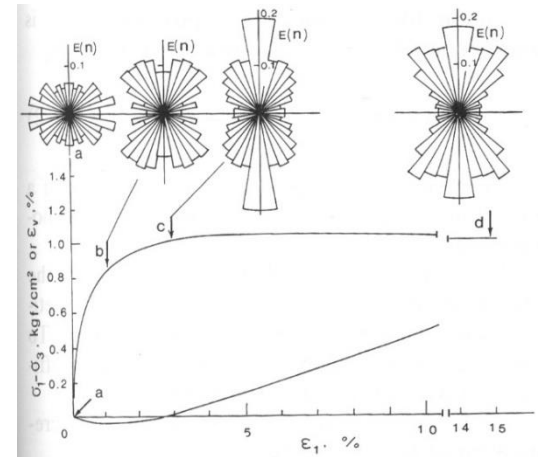


# GEOMETRICAL CHARACTERISTICS



## Application of fabric tensors

**n** can be: e.g. contact normals;  
 directions of voids;  
 longest axis of grains etc.



- diagnostics, follow the change of anisotropy during loading procedures
- theoretical modelling: state variables involved in constitutive relations

(e.g. Nemat-Nasser et al, 2002)

## Higher order fabric tensors:

e.g. 4th order fabric tensor: 
$$\phi_{ijhl} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{c=1}^M n_i^c n_j^c n_h^c n_l^c$$

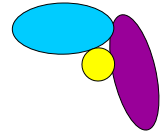
## Weighted fabric tensors:

e.g. weighted with contact normal force magnitude: 
$$\phi_{ij}^N = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{c=1}^M N^c n_i^c n_j^c$$

e.g. weighted with the length of branch vector: 
$$\phi_{ij}^l = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{c=1}^M l^c n_i^c n_j^c$$

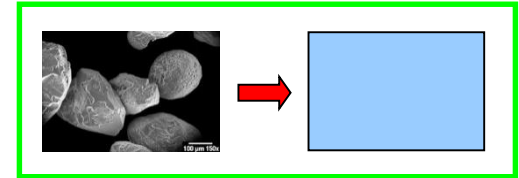


# STRESS TENSOR



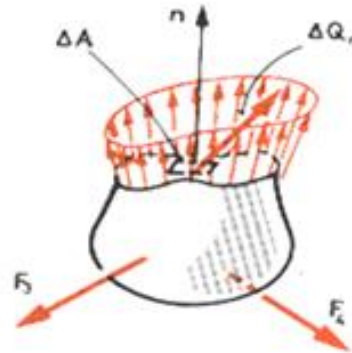
- Repetition: Stress tensor in continuum mechanics
- Microstructural stress tensors based on equivalent continua

## Stress tensor in continuum mechanics:



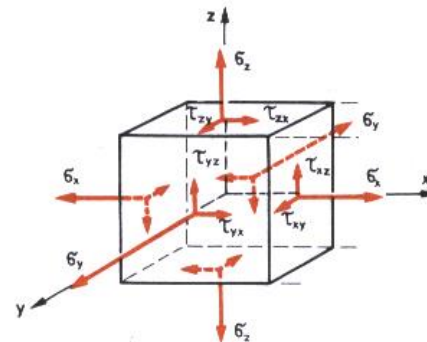
stress vector belonging to a point  $P$  and plane  $\mathbf{n}$  :

$$\mathbf{p}_n = \lim_{\Delta A \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta \mathbf{Q}_n}{\Delta A}$$



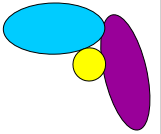
$$p_i = \lim_{\Delta A \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta Q_i}{\Delta A}$$

stress tensor belonging to a point  $P$  :  
gives for any  $\mathbf{n}$ :  $\boldsymbol{\sigma} \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{p}_n$

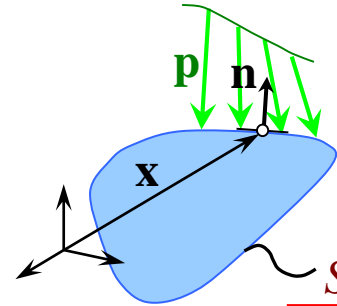
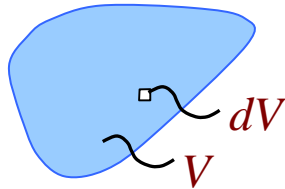


$$\sigma_{ij} n_j = p_i$$

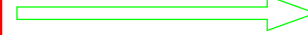
# STRESS TENSOR



Average stress tensor in a finite size domain:



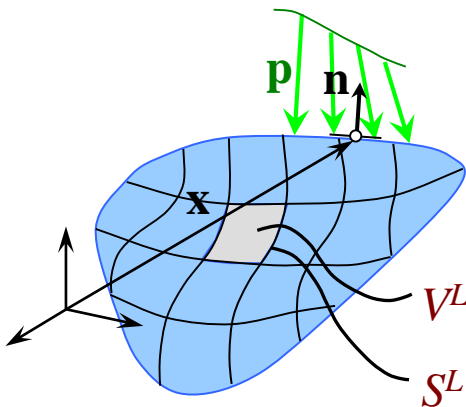
$$\bar{\sigma}_{ij} = \frac{1}{V} \oint_{(V)} \sigma_{ij} dV$$



$$\bar{\sigma}_{ij} = \frac{1}{V} \oint_{(S)} x_i (p_j dS)$$

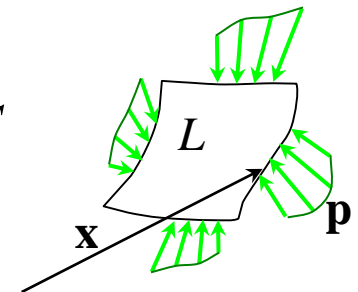
(Gauss-Ostrogradskij theorem)

Finite domain subdivided into finite cells:



L-th cell:

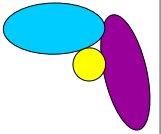
$$\bar{\sigma}_{ij}^L = \frac{1}{V^L} \oint_{(S^L)} x_i p_j dS$$



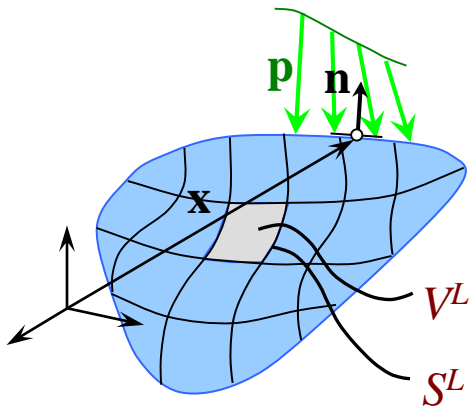
For the whole domain:

$$\bar{\sigma}_{ij} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(L)} (\bar{\sigma}_{ij}^L V^L) = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(L)} \left( \oint_{(S^L)} x_i p_j dS \right) = \frac{1}{V} \oint_{(S)} x_i p_j dS$$

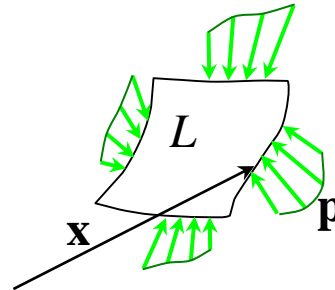
# STRESS TENSOR



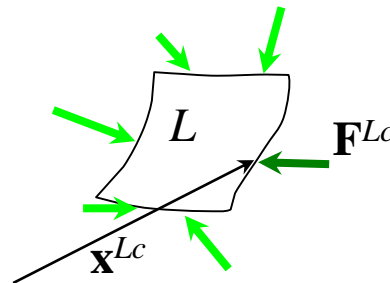
Continuous domain subdivided into finite cells, with concentrated forces transmitted between the cells:



L-th cell:

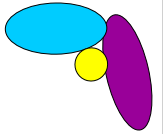


$$\bar{\sigma}_{ij}^L = \frac{1}{V^L} \oint_{(S^L)} x_i (p_j dS)$$

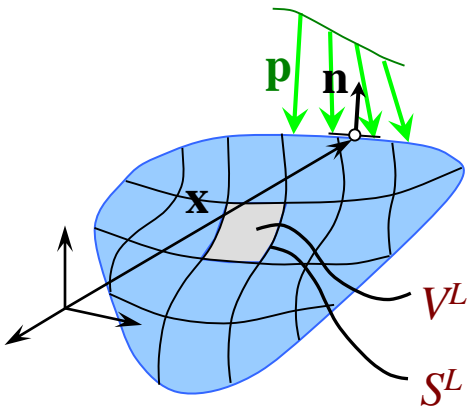


$$\bar{\sigma}_{ij}^L = \frac{1}{V^L} \sum_{(Lc \in S^L)} x_i^{Lc} F_j^{Lc}$$

# STRESS TENSOR



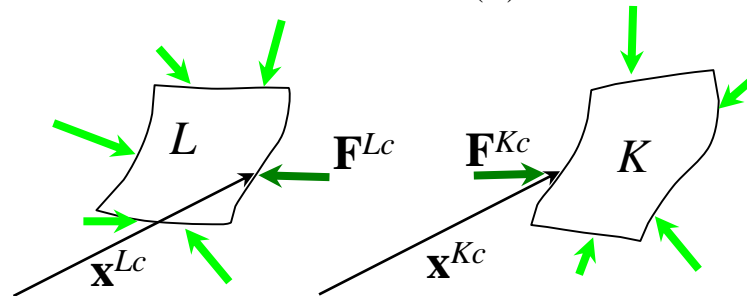
Continuous domain subdivided into finite cells, with concentrated forces transmitted between the cells:



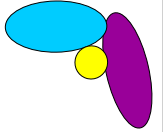
L-th cell: 
$$\bar{\sigma}_{ij}^L = \frac{1}{V^L} \sum_{(Lc \in S^L)} x_i^{Lc} F_j^{Lc}$$

For the whole domain:

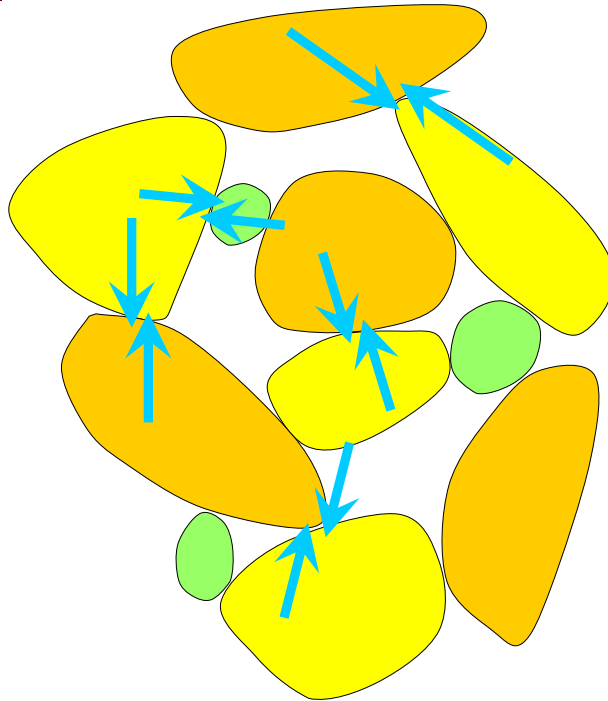
$$\bar{\sigma}_{ij} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(L)} (\sigma_{ij}^L V^L) = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(L)} \left( \sum_{(Lc \in S^L)} x_i^{Lc} F_j^{Lc} \right)$$



# STRESS TENSOR



Discrete system:



Weber (1966)

Rothenburg et al (1981)

Christoffersen et al (1981)

Bagi (1996, 1999)

...

Aim: to derive a stress tensor from the contact forces between the elements

# STRESS TENSOR

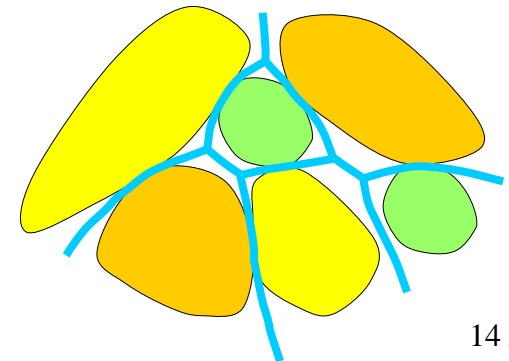
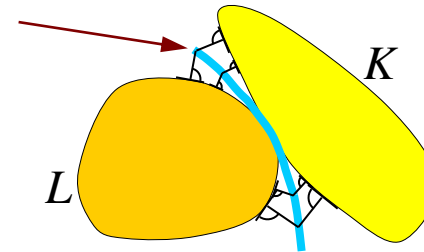
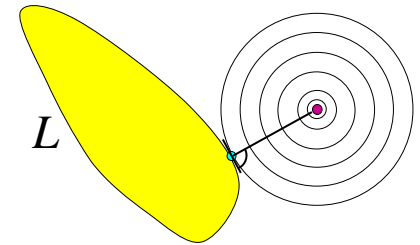
Discrete system:

The equivalent continuum: „material cell system”

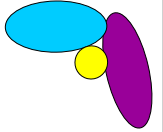
1. Definition of the distance of a point from element  $L$  :
2. Those points that have equal distance from elements  $L$  and  $K$  :

3. Assign every point of the space to that element being at shortest distance from:

⇒ „material cell system”

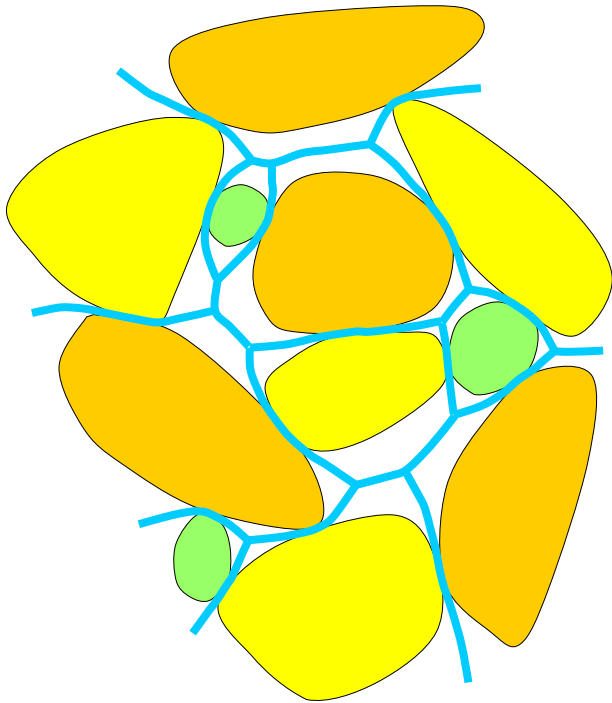


# STRESS TENSOR



Discrete system:

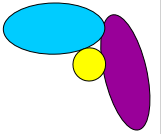
The equivalent continuum: „material cell system”



Characteristics:

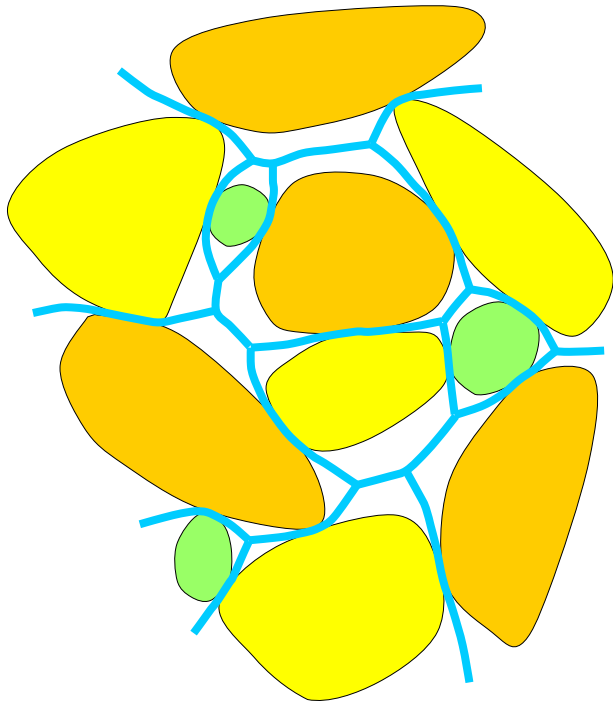
- every element is in exactly one cell,  
every cell contains exactly one element
- common face between neighbouring cells:  
contains the contact point of the two elements

# STRESS TENSOR



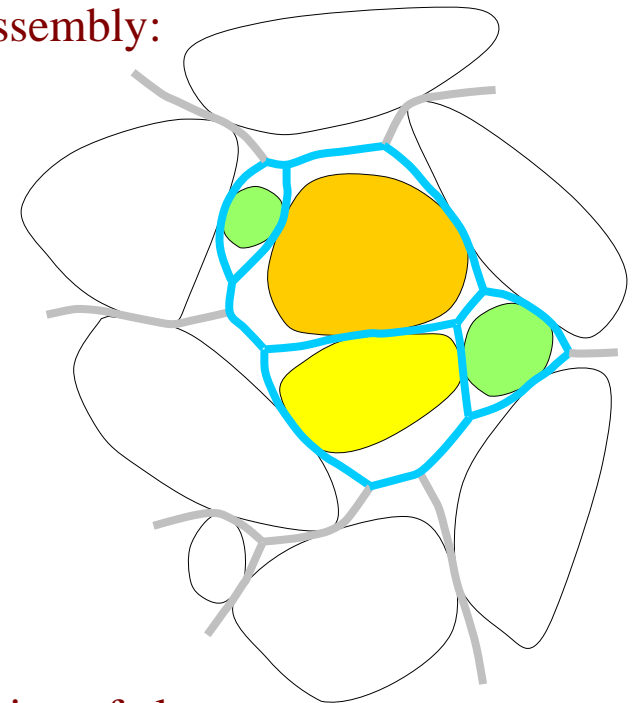
Discrete system:

The equivalent continuum: „material cell system”



4. Finite sub-assembly:

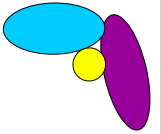
e.g.:



any collection of elements  
with finite material cell

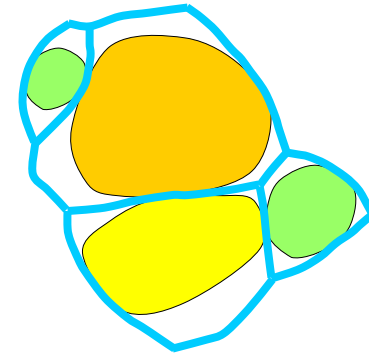
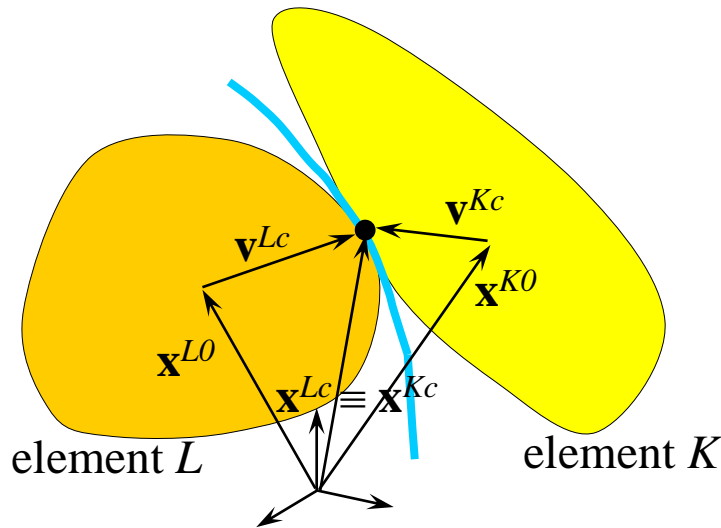


# STRESS TENSOR



Discrete system:

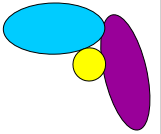
The equivalent continuum: „material cell system”



$$\sum_{(Lc \in S^L)} x_i^{L0} F_j^{Lc} = 0; \quad \text{remains: } \sum_{(Lc \in S^L)} v_i^{Lc} F_j^{Lc}$$

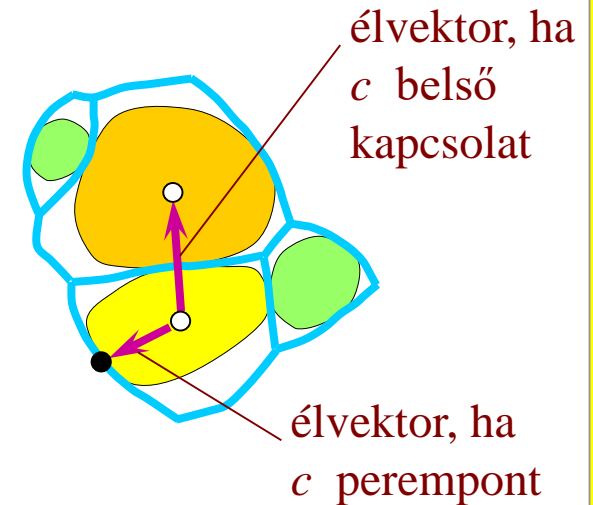
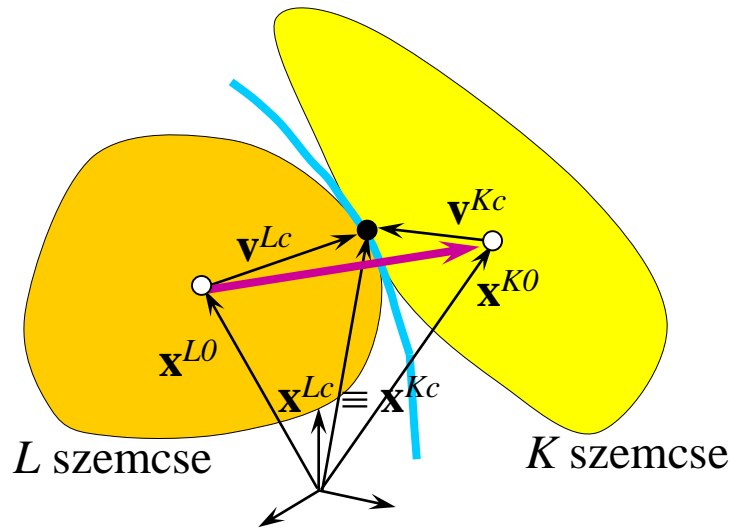
$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\sigma}_{ij} &= \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(L)} (\sigma_{ij}^L V^L) = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(L)} \left( \sum_{(Lc \in S^L)} x_i^{Lc} F_j^{Lc} \right) = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(L)} \left( \sum_{(Lc \in S^L)} (x_i^{L0} + v_i^{Lc}) F_j^{Lc} \right) = \\ &= \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(L)} \left( \sum_{(Lc \in S^L)} v_i^{Lc} F_j^{Lc} \right) = \frac{1}{V} \left( \sum_{(c \text{ inside})} (v_i^{Lc} - v_i^{Kc}) F_j^{Lc} + \sum_{(c \text{ boundary})} v_i^{Lc} F_j^{Lc} \right) \end{aligned}$$

# STRESS TENSOR



Discrete system:

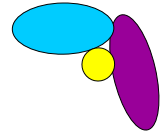
The equivalent continuum: „material cell system”



$$\bar{\sigma}_{ij} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(L)} \left( \sum_{(Lc \in S^L)} v_i^{Lc} F_j^{Lc} \right) = \frac{1}{V} \left( \sum_{(c \text{ inside})} \overbrace{(v_i^{Lc} - v_i^{Kc})} F_j^{Lc} + \sum_{(c \text{ boundary})} \overbrace{v_i^{Lc}} F_j^{Lc} \right) =$$

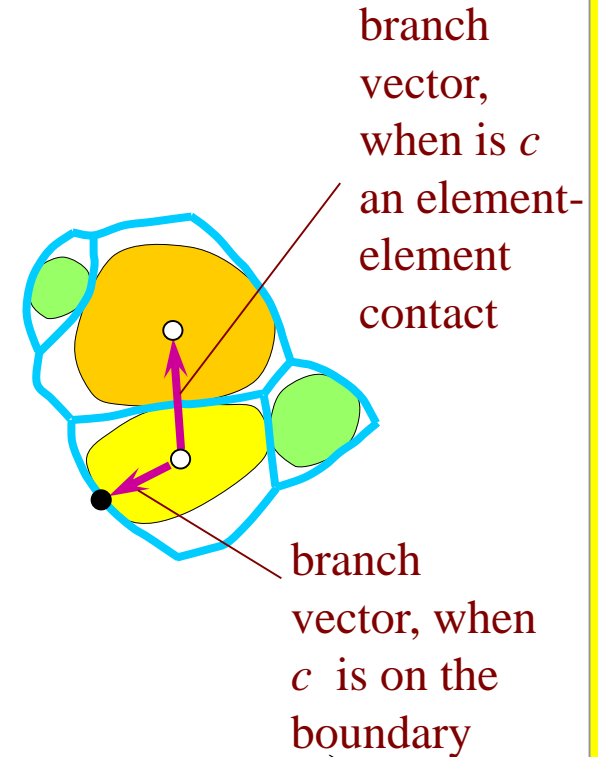
$$\boxed{= \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(c)} l_i^c F_j^c}$$

# STRESS TENSOR



Discrete system:

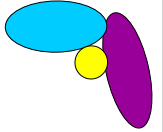
The equivalent continuum: „material cell system”



$$\bar{\sigma}_{ij} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(L)} \left( \sum_{(Lc \in S^L)} v_i^{Lc} F_j^{Lc} \right) = \frac{1}{V} \left( \sum_{(c \text{ inside})} (v_i^{Lc} - v_i^{Kc}) F_j^{Lc} + \sum_{(c \text{ boundary})} v_i^{Lc} F_j^{Lc} \right) =$$

$$\boxed{= \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(c)} l_i^c F_j^c} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \text{SYMMETRIC!}$$

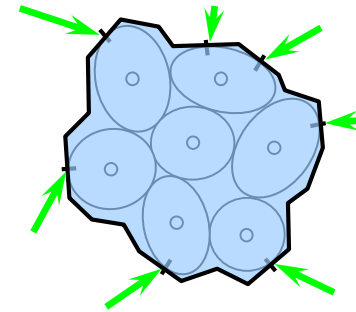
# STRESS TENSOR



The most widespread version:

$$\bar{\sigma}_{ij} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{(c)} l_i^c F_j^c$$

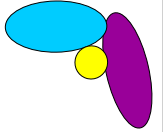
for every  
inside and  
boundary  
contact



can be proven:

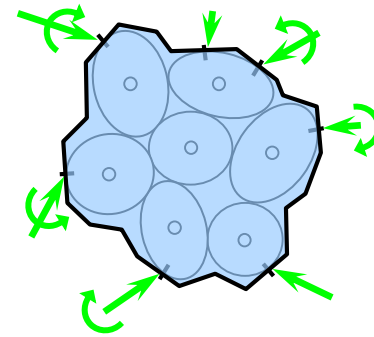
also valid in the presence of volume forces

# STRESS TENSOR

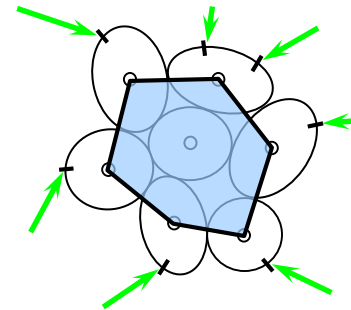


## Non-symmetric microstructural stress definitions:

→ in the presence of contact moments:



→ in case of the boundary of the domain cutting through the elements:

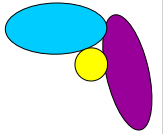


Diebels et al (2001)

Bardet & Vardoulakis (2001)

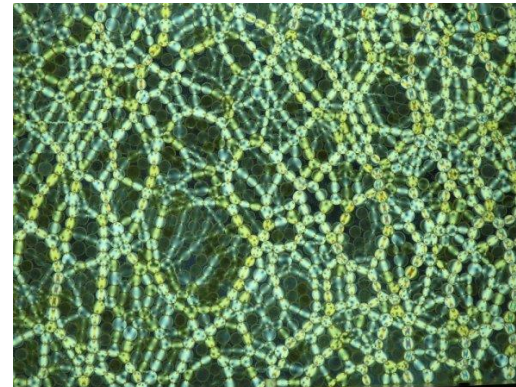
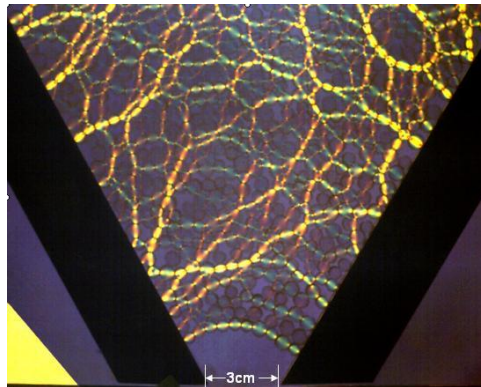
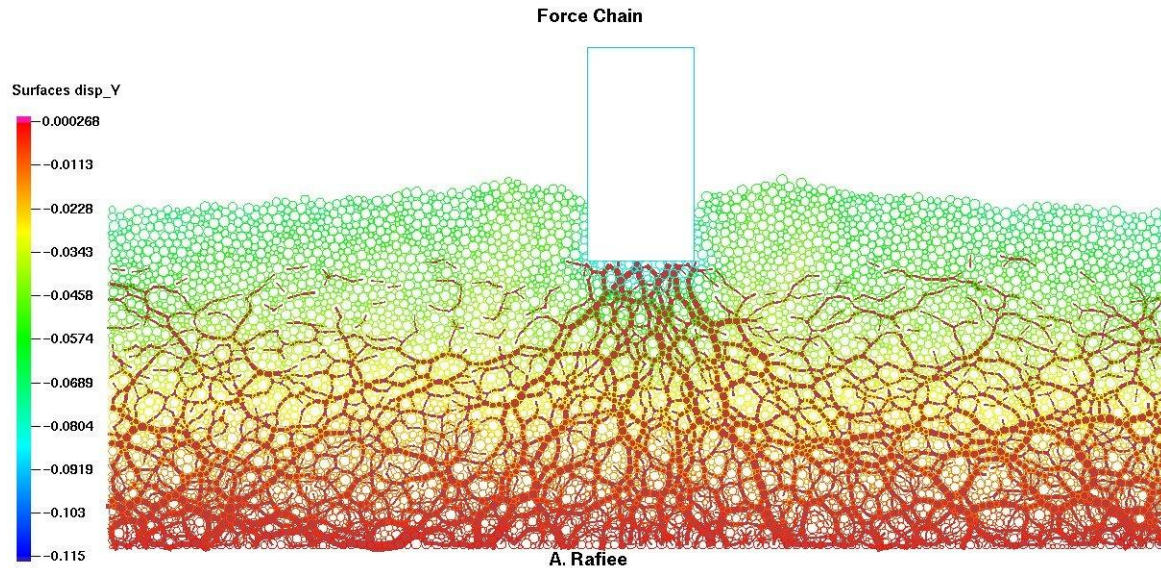
Fortin et al (2003)

# STRESS TENSOR

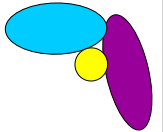


Load carrying of granular assemblies:

FORCE CHAINS



# QUESTIONS



1. Explain what is „porosity” and „coordination number”.
2. Introduce the 2nd order fabric tensor defined by Satake.  
What other types of fabric tensors do you know?
3. How can we express the average stress tensor of a finite-sized continuous domain in terms of the forces acting on its boundary?
4. What is the distance of a point from an element?
5. Define the material cell system.
6. Define the microstructural stress tensor of a finite sub-assembly.