

1. TENSORIAL ASPECTS OF PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

$$T_{ij} - T_{ji} = 0.$$

This result can be recovered by applying the relation (1.3.2.2) to a small volume in the form of an elementary parallelepiped, thus illustrating the demonstration using Green's theorem but giving insight into the action of the constraints. Consider a rectangular parallelepiped, of sides $2\Delta x_1$, $2\Delta x_2$ and $2\Delta x_3$, with centre P at the origin of an orthonormal system whose axes Px_1 , Px_2 and Px_3 are normal to the sides of the parallelepiped (Fig. 1.3.2.4). In order that the resultant moment with respect to a point be zero, it is necessary that the resultant moments with respect to three axes concurrent in this point are zero. Let us write for instance that the resultant moment with respect to the axis Px_3 is zero. We note that the constraints applied to the faces perpendicular to Px_3 do not give rise to a moment and neither do the components T_{11} , T_{13} , T_{22} and T_{23} of the constraints applied to the faces normal to Px_1 and Px_2 (Fig. 1.3.2.4). The components T_{12} and T_{21} alone have a nonzero moment.

For face 1, the constraint is $T_{12} + (\partial T_{12}/\partial x_1)\Delta x_1$ if T_{12} is the magnitude of the constraint at P . The force applied at face 1 is

$$\left[T_{12} + \frac{\partial T_{12}}{\partial x_1} \Delta x_1 \right] 4\Delta x_2 \Delta x_3$$

and its moment is

$$\left[T_{12} + \frac{\partial T_{12}}{\partial x_1} \Delta x_1 \right] 4\Delta x_2 \Delta x_3 \Delta x_1.$$

Similarly, the moments of the force on the other faces are

$$\text{Face } 1' : - \left[T_{12} + \frac{\partial T_{12}}{\partial x_1} (-\Delta x_1) \right] 4\Delta x_2 \Delta x_3 (-\Delta x_1);$$

$$\text{Face } 2 : \left[T_{21} + \frac{\partial T_{21}}{\partial x_2} \Delta x_2 \right] 4\Delta x_1 \Delta x_3 \Delta x_2;$$

$$\text{Face } 2' : - \left[T_{21} + \frac{\partial T_{21}}{\partial x_2} (-\Delta x_2) \right] 4\Delta x_1 \Delta x_3 (-\Delta x_2).$$

Noting further that the moments applied to the faces 1 and 1' are of the same sense, and that those applied to faces 2 and 2' are of the opposite sense, we can state that the resultant moment is

$$[T_{12} - T_{21}] 8\Delta x_1 \Delta x_2 \Delta x_3 = [T_{12} - T_{21}] \Delta \tau,$$

where $8\Delta x_1 \Delta x_2 \Delta x_3 = \Delta \tau$ is the volume of the small parallelepiped. The resultant moment per unit volume, taking into account the couples in volume, is therefore

$$T_{12} - T_{21} + \Gamma_3.$$

It must equal zero and the relation given above is thus recovered.

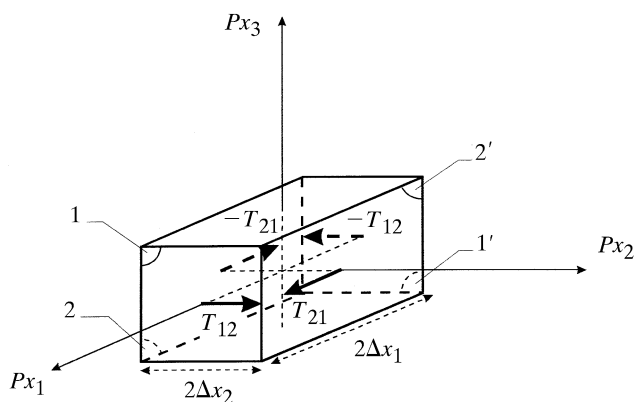


Fig. 1.3.2.4. Symmetry of the stress tensor: the moments of the couples applied to a parallelepiped compensate each other.

1.3.2.5. Voigt's notation – interpretation of the components of the stress tensor

1.3.2.5.1. Voigt's notation, reduced form of the stress tensor

We shall use frequently the notation due to Voigt (1910) in order to express the components of the stress tensor:

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &= T_{11}; & T_2 &= T_{22}; & T_3 &= T_{33}; \\ T_4 &= T_{23} = T_{32}; & T_5 &= T_{31} = T_{13}; & T_6 &= T_{12} = T_{21}. \end{aligned}$$

It should be noted that the conventions are different for the Voigt matrices associated with the stress tensor and with the strain tensor (Section 1.3.1.3.1).

The Voigt matrix associated with the stress tensor is therefore of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} T_1 & T_6 & T_5 \\ T_6 & T_2 & T_4 \\ T_5 & T_4 & T_3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

1.3.2.5.2. Interpretation of the components of the stress tensor – special forms of the stress tensor

(i) *Uniaxial stress*: let us consider a solid shaped like a parallelepiped whose faces are normal to three orthonormal axes (Fig. 1.3.2.5). The terms of the main diagonal of the stress tensor correspond to uniaxial stresses on these faces. If there is a single uniaxial stress, the tensor is of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & T_3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The solid is submitted to two equal and opposite forces, $T_{33}S_3$ and $-T_{33}S_3$, where S_3 is the area of the face of the parallelepiped that is normal to the Ox_3 axis (Fig. 1.3.2.5a). The convention used in general is that there is a uniaxial *compression* if $T_3 \leq 0$ and a uniaxial *traction* if $T_3 \geq 0$, but the opposite sign convention is sometimes used, for instance in applications such as piezoelectricity or photoelasticity.

(ii) *Pure shear stress*: the tensor reduces to two equal uniaxial constraints of opposite signs (Fig. 1.3.2.5b):

$$\begin{pmatrix} T_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(iii) *Hydrostatic pressure*: the tensor reduces to three equal uniaxial stresses of the same sign (it is spherical):

$$\begin{pmatrix} -p & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -p \end{pmatrix},$$

where p is a positive scalar.

(iv) *Simple shear stress*: the tensor reduces to two equal nondiagonal terms (Fig. 1.3.2.5c), for instance $T_{12} = T_{21} = T_6$. T_{12} represents the component parallel to Ox_2 of the stress applied to face 1 and T_{21} represents the component parallel to Ox_1 of the stress applied to face 2. These two stresses generate opposite couples that compensate each other. It is important to note that it is impossible to have one nondiagonal term only: its effect would be a couple of rotation of the solid and not a deformation.

1.3.2.6. Boundary conditions

If the surface of the solid C is free from all exterior action and is in equilibrium, the stress field T_{ij} inside C is zero at the surface. If C is subjected from the outside to a distribution of stresses T_n