

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA**  
**SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING**

**Strength of Materials II – MEC 3352**

**PRINCIPAL STRAINS IN 3 - DIMENSIONS**

# PRINCIPAL PLANES

The principal planes can be described in the following manner:

- A plane is said to be a principal plane, when the shear stress acting on that plane is zero.
- The converse of the above statement is also true:
- If the shear stress on a given plane is zero, then that plane must be a principal plane.
- A point subjected to plane stress has three principal stresses: the two in-plane principal stresses  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$ , and a third principal stress  $\sigma_3$ , which acts in the out-of-plane direction.

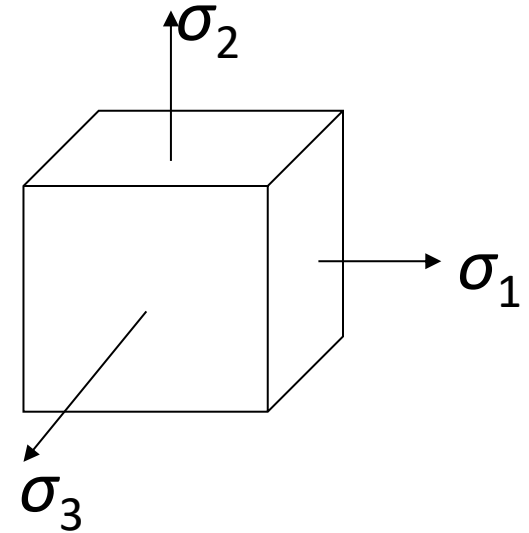
# 3D PRINCIPAL STRAINS

From the 2D case, it can be shown that the principal strains in 3D  $\sigma_1$ ,  $\sigma_2$  and  $\sigma_3$  are:

$$\varepsilon_1 = \sigma_1/E - \nu\sigma_2/E - \nu\sigma_3/E \quad (1)$$

$$\varepsilon_2 = \sigma_2/E - \nu\sigma_3/E - \nu\sigma_1/E \quad (2)$$

$$\varepsilon_3 = \sigma_3/E - \nu\sigma_1/E - \nu\sigma_2/E \quad (3)$$



# PRINCIPAL STRESSES DETERMINED FROM PRINCIPAL STRAINS

## 3D Stress System:

We re-writing equations (1), (2) and (3) as follows:

$$E\varepsilon_1 = \sigma_1 - \nu\sigma_2 - \nu\sigma_3 \quad (4)$$

$$E\varepsilon_2 = \sigma_2 - \nu\sigma_3 - \nu\sigma_1 \quad (5)$$

$$E\varepsilon_3 = \sigma_3 - \nu\sigma_1 - \nu\sigma_2 \quad (6)$$

- Subtracting (5) from (4):

$$E(\varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2) = (\sigma_1 - \sigma_2)(1 + \nu) \quad (7)$$

# PRINCIPAL STRESSES DETERMINED FROM PRINCIPAL STRAINS

From (1) and (3), we eliminate  $\sigma_3$ :

$$E(\varepsilon_1 + \nu \varepsilon_3) = \sigma_1(1 - \nu^2) - \sigma_2(1 + \nu) \nu \quad (8)$$

Multiplying (7) by  $\nu$  and subtracting from (8):

$$\begin{aligned} E[(1 - \nu)\varepsilon_1 + \nu(\varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3)] \\ &= \sigma_1(1 - \nu^2) - \sigma_2(1 + \nu) \nu - (\sigma_1 - \sigma_2)(1 + \nu) \nu \\ &= \sigma_1(1 - \nu - 2\nu^2) \\ &= \sigma_1(1 + \nu)(1 - 2\nu) \end{aligned}$$

# PRINCIPAL STRESSES DETERMINED FROM PRINCIPAL STRAINS

Re-arranging:

$$\sigma_1 = \frac{E[(1-\nu)\varepsilon_1 + \nu(\varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3)]}{(1+\nu)(1-2\nu)} \quad (9)$$

Similarly

$$\sigma_2 = \frac{E[(1-\nu)\varepsilon_2 + \nu(\varepsilon_3 + \varepsilon_1)]}{(1+\nu)(1-2\nu)} \quad (10)$$

and

$$\sigma_3 = \frac{E[(1-\nu)\varepsilon_3 + \nu(\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2)]}{(1+\nu)(1-2\nu)} \quad (11)$$

## 2D STRESS SYSTEM:

For a 2D system,  $\sigma_3 = 0$ , and equations (4), (5) and (6) reduce to:

$$E\varepsilon_1 = \sigma_1 - \nu\sigma_2 \quad (12)$$

$$E\varepsilon_2 = \sigma_2 - \nu\sigma_1 \quad (13)$$

Solving (12) and (13) for  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  gives

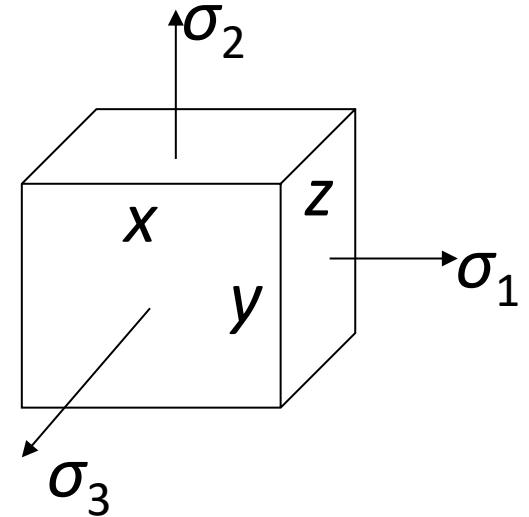
$$\sigma_1 = \frac{E(\varepsilon_1 + \nu\varepsilon_2)}{(1 - \nu^2)} \quad (14)$$

and

$$\sigma_2 = \frac{E(\varepsilon_2 + \nu\varepsilon_1)}{(1 - \nu^2)} \quad (15)$$

# VOLUMETRIC STRAIN

- Consider a block with sides  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  acted upon by principal stresses  $\sigma_1$ ,  $\sigma_2$  and  $\sigma_3$ .
- Let corresponding linear strains be  $\epsilon_1$ ,  $\epsilon_2$  and  $\epsilon_3$ .



- Corresponding resultant dimensions are:

$$(x + \epsilon_1 x), (y + \epsilon_2 y) \text{ and } (z + \epsilon_3 z)$$

or  $x(1 + \epsilon_1), y(1 + \epsilon_2) \text{ and } z(1 + \epsilon_3)$

**Volumetric strain**, is given as:

$$\epsilon_v = \frac{\text{Change in volume}}{\text{Original volume}}$$



# VOLUMETRIC STRAIN

$$\varepsilon_v = \frac{x(1 + \varepsilon_1).y(1 + \varepsilon_2).z(1 + \varepsilon_3) - xyz}{xyz}$$

$$= (1 + \varepsilon_1).(1 + \varepsilon_2).(1 + \varepsilon_3) - 1$$

- Expanding and neglecting second order terms – since strains are small:

$$\varepsilon_v = \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3 \quad (16)$$

- Expressing the strains in terms of principal stresses (using Equations (1), (2) and (3)):

$$\text{Volumetric strain, } \varepsilon_v = \frac{(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3)(1 - 2\nu)}{E} \quad (17)$$

# Examples

## Example 001

An aluminium alloy block is subjected to a uniform pressure of  $p = 35$  MPa as shown in Figure Q1. Taking  $E = 73$  GPa;  $\nu = 0.33$ , determine the

- i) change in lengths of sides  $AB$ ,  $BC$ , and  $BD$ . [6 marks]
- ii) change in volume of the block. [2 marks]

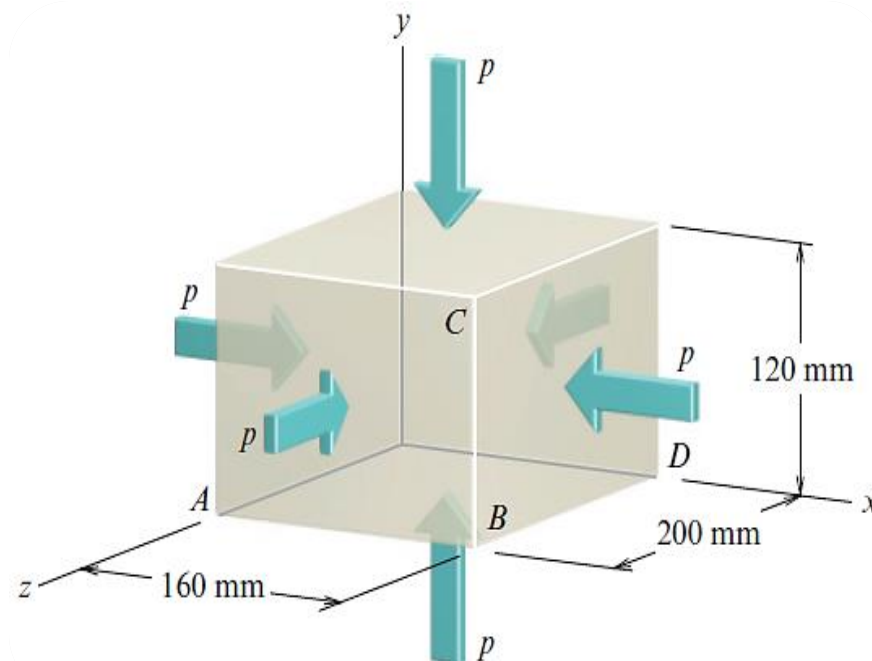


Figure Q1: Block under hydrostatic pressure

## Example 001

Change in length of sides  $AB$ ,  $BC$ , and  $BD$

**Normal stresses:**

The normal stresses (principal stresses) are equal:

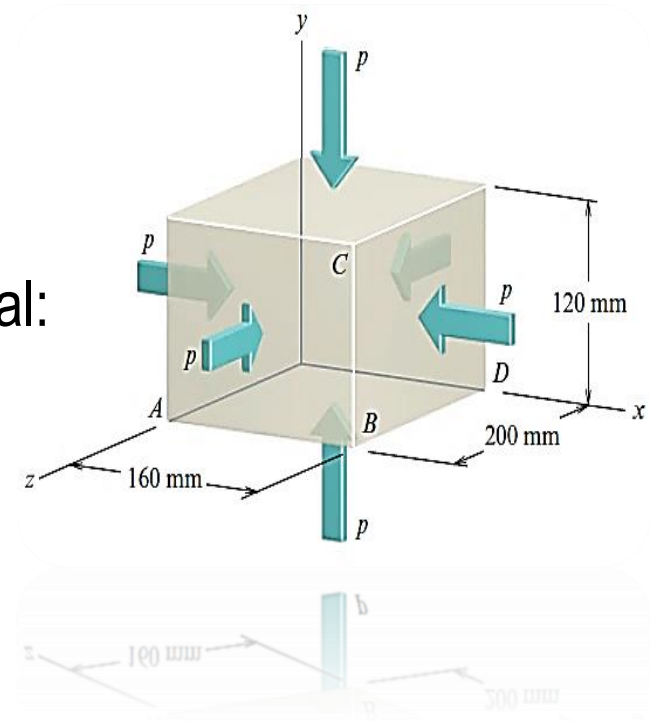
$$\sigma_x = \sigma_y = \sigma_z = -p = -35 \text{ MPa}$$

**Normal strains:**

We have  $\varepsilon_x$  for a hydrostatic stress state expressed as:

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon_x &= \frac{1}{E}[\sigma_x - \nu(\sigma_y + \sigma_z)] \\ &= \frac{1}{E}[-p - \nu(-p - p)] \\ &= -\frac{p}{E}(1 - 2\nu)\end{aligned}$$

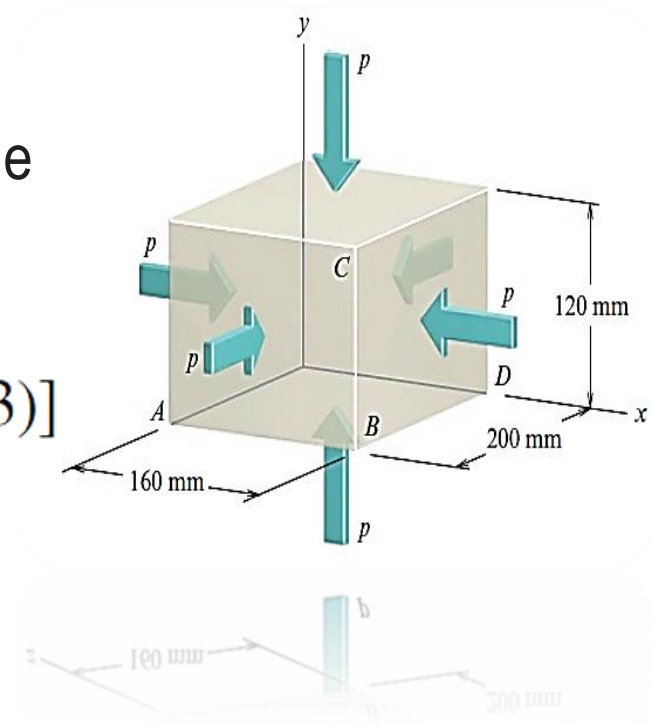
We get the same expression for  $\varepsilon_y$  and  $\varepsilon_z$



## Example 001

For a pressure  $p = 35$  MPa, the strains in the aluminium alloy block are:

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_x = \epsilon_y = \epsilon_z &= -\frac{35 \text{ MPa}}{73,000 \text{ MPa}}[1 - 2(0.33)] \\ &= -163.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mm/mm}\end{aligned}$$



**Deformations:**

$$\delta_{AB} = (160 \text{ mm})(-163.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mm/mm}) = -0.0261 \text{ mm}$$

$$\delta_{BC} = (120 \text{ mm})(-163.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mm/mm}) = -0.01956 \text{ mm}$$

$$\delta_{BD} = (200 \text{ mm})(-163.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mm/mm}) = -0.0326 \text{ mm}$$

## Example 001

### Volumetric Strain:

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_v &= \epsilon_x + \epsilon_y + \epsilon_z \\ &= 3(-163.0 \times 10^{-6}) \\ &= -489.0 \times 10^{-6}\end{aligned}$$

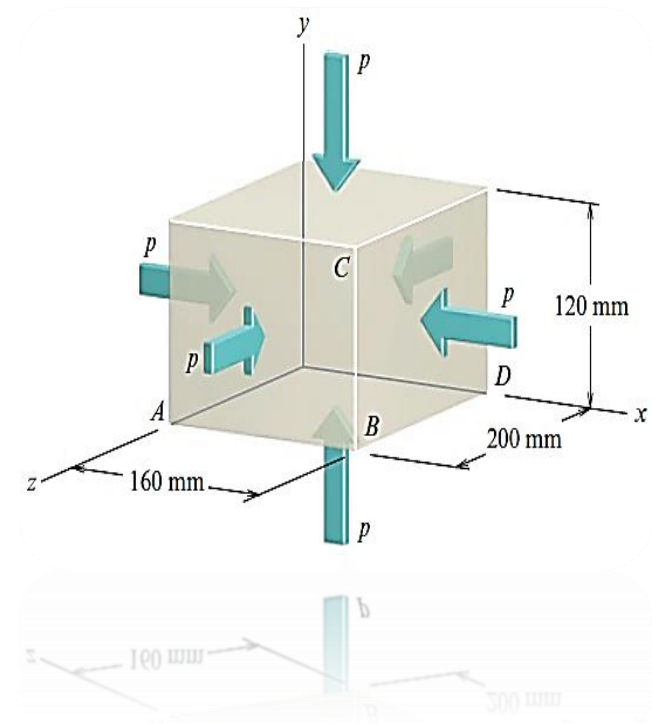
### Initial volume of the block:

$$\begin{aligned}V &= (160 \text{ mm})(120 \text{ mm})(200 \text{ mm}) \\ &= 3.84 \times 10^6 \text{ mm}^3\end{aligned}$$

### Change in Volume of the Block

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta V &= \epsilon_v \cdot V \\ &= (-489.0 \times 10^{-6})(3.84 \times 10^6 \text{ mm}^3) \\ &= -1,878 \text{ mm}^3\end{aligned}$$

Note that volume of the block has decreased under hydrostatic pressure.



# Examples

## Example 002

A 75 mm marble cube shown in Figure Q2 has the measured compressive strains of  $\varepsilon_x = -650 \times 10^{-6}$  and  $\varepsilon_y = \varepsilon_z = -370 \times 10^{-6}$ .

Taking  $E = 55 \text{ GPa}$ ;  $\nu = 0.22$ , determine the following:

- normal stresses  $\sigma_x$ ,  $\sigma_y$ , and  $\sigma_z$  acting on the  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  faces of the cube. [9 marks]
- maximum shear stress in the material. [3 marks]

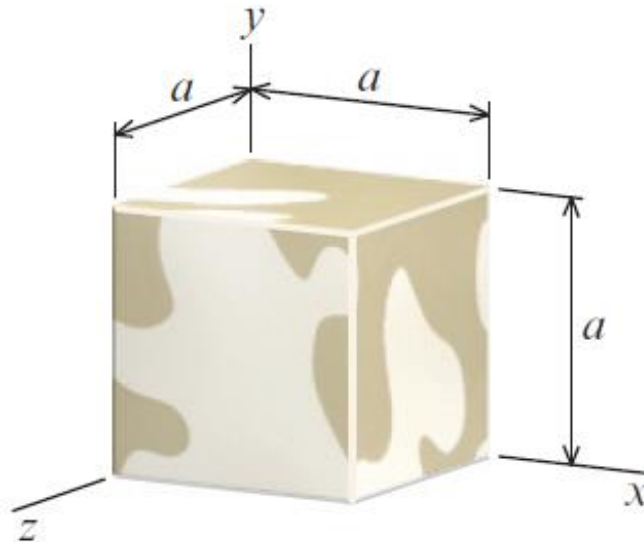


Figure Q2: Marble cube

## Examples 002

### Normal Stresses

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_x &= \frac{E}{(1 + \nu)(1 - 2\nu)} [(1 - \nu)\epsilon_x + \nu(\epsilon_y + \epsilon_z)] \\ &= \frac{55,000 \text{ MPa}}{(1 + 0.22)[1 - 2(0.22)]} [(1 - 0.22)(-650) + (0.22)(-370 - 370)](10^{-6}) \\ &= -53.9 \text{ MPa}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_y &= \frac{E}{(1 + \nu)(1 - 2\nu)} [(1 - \nu)\epsilon_y + \nu(\epsilon_x + \epsilon_z)] \\ &= \frac{55,000 \text{ MPa}}{(1 + 0.22)[1 - 2(0.22)]} [(1 - 0.22)(-370) + (0.22)(-650 - 370)](10^{-6}) \\ &= -41.3 \text{ MPa}\end{aligned}$$

## Examples 002

### Normal Stresses

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_z &= \frac{E}{(1 + \nu)(1 - 2\nu)} [(1 - \nu)\epsilon_z + \nu(\epsilon_x + \epsilon_y)] \\ &= \frac{55,000 \text{ MPa}}{(1 + 0.22)[1 - 2(0.22)]} [(1 - 0.22)(-370) + (0.22)(-650 - 370)](10^{-6}) \\ &= -41.3 \text{ MPa}\end{aligned}$$

### Maximum shear stress

- There are no shear stresses acting on the  $x$ ,  $y$ , or  $z$  faces of the marble cube
- Consequently,  $\sigma_x$ ,  $\sigma_y$ , and  $\sigma_z$  must be principal stresses:

$$\sigma_x = -53.9 \text{ MPa}$$

$$\sigma_y = -41.3 \text{ MPa}$$

$$\sigma_z = -41.3 \text{ MPa}$$



# STRAIN ENERGY

- The three (3) principal stresses ( $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3$ ) applied on the principal planes result in (3) three principal strains ( $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_3$ ).
- Work is done on the material during the deformation process as the stresses are gradually applied.
- During the deformation process the material's energy levels changes.
- The change is due to the energy absorbed by the material during the loading process.
- This change in the material's internal energy level leads us to the concept of strain energy.

# STRAIN ENERGY

- We define strain energy as the energy absorbed by the material during the loading process.
- This strain energy is also defined as the work done by the load; provided no energy is added to or subtracted from the material in the form of heat.
- Strain energy is also known as internal work to distinguish it from external work.
- We now consider a simple bar subjected to a tensile force  $F$ .
- We then consider a small element on the bar of dimensions  $dx$ ,  $dy$  and  $dz$ .

# STRAIN ENERGY

- By definition, strain energy ( $U$ ), is the work done by a system of stresses in straining a material.
- Consider a cube (or element) under a system of principal stresses  $\sigma_1$ ,  $\sigma_2$  and  $\sigma_3$ .
- For the corresponding strains of  $\varepsilon_1$ ,  $\varepsilon_2$  and  $\varepsilon_3$ , the work done is:

$$U = \sum \frac{1}{2} \sigma \varepsilon$$

- The work done (if the stresses are gradually applied).

$$U = \frac{1}{2} \sigma_1 \varepsilon_1 + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_2 \varepsilon_2 + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_3 \varepsilon_3$$

- Using Equations (1), (2) and (3):

$$\varepsilon_1 = \sigma_1/E - \nu\sigma_2/E - \nu\sigma_3/E \quad (1)$$

$$\varepsilon_2 = \sigma_2/E - \nu\sigma_3/E - \nu\sigma_1/E \quad (2)$$

$$\varepsilon_3 = \sigma_3/E - \nu\sigma_1/E - \nu\sigma_2/E \quad (3)$$

- We therefore, get the following expression for the work done:

$$U = \frac{1}{2E} [\sigma_1(\sigma_1 - \nu\sigma_2 - \nu\sigma_3) + \sigma_2(\sigma_2 - \nu\sigma_3 - \nu\sigma_1) + \sigma_3(\sigma_3 - \nu\sigma_1 - \nu\sigma_2)]$$

# STRAIN ENERGY

$$U = \left( \frac{1}{2E} \right) \left[ \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + \sigma_3^2 - 2\nu(\sigma_1\sigma_2 + \sigma_2\sigma_3 + \sigma_3\sigma_1) \right] \quad (18)$$

per unit volume

For a 2D stress system,  $\sigma_3 = 0$

$$U = \left( \frac{1}{2E} \right) \left[ \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 - 2\nu(\sigma_1\sigma_2) \right] \quad (19)$$

per unit volume.

We can express the principal stresses as follows:

$$\sigma_1 = \frac{1}{3}(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3) + \frac{1}{3}(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2) + \frac{1}{3}(\sigma_1 - \sigma_3) \quad (20)$$

$$\sigma_2 = \frac{1}{3}(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3) + \frac{1}{3}(\sigma_2 - \sigma_3) + \frac{1}{3}(\sigma_2 - \sigma_1) \quad (21)$$

$$\sigma_3 = \frac{1}{3}(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3) + \frac{1}{3}(\sigma_3 - \sigma_1) + \frac{1}{3}(\sigma_3 - \sigma_2) \quad (22)$$

# SHEAR STRAIN ENERGY

- Remember that shear stresses on principal planes are ZERO.
- Thus, under the action of the mean ( $\bar{\sigma}$ ) stress, there WILL BE volumetric strain but with NO distortion of shape (i.e. no shear stress anywhere).

$$\bar{\sigma} = \frac{\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3}{3}$$

- The strain energy under this mean stress acting in each direction can be obtained from the general formula, Equation (18):

$$U = \left( \frac{1}{2E} \right) [\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + \sigma_3^2 - 2\nu(\sigma_1\sigma_2 + \sigma_2\sigma_3 + \sigma_3\sigma_1)] \quad (18)$$

- Using the mean stress, equation (18) and equations (20) to (22) we express the volumetric strain energy as follows:

$$U = \left( \frac{3}{2E} \right) \left[ \frac{\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3}{3} \right]^2 \cdot (1 - 2\nu) \quad (23)$$

- The other terms in the re-arrangement of  $\sigma_1$ ,  $\sigma_2$  and  $\sigma_3$  are proportional to the **maximum shear stress values** in the three planes, and will cause a distortion of the shape.

## SHEAR STRAIN ENERGY

$$U = \left( \frac{1}{6E} \right) [\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3]^2 \cdot (1 - 2\nu)$$

- Let  $U_s$  = Shear strain energy

$$U_s = [\text{Total strain energy}] - [\text{Volumetric strain energy}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} U_s &= \left( \frac{1}{2E} \right) [\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + \sigma_3^2 - 2\nu(\sigma_1\sigma_2 + \sigma_2\sigma_3 + \sigma_3\sigma_1)] \\ &\quad - \left( \frac{1}{6E} \right) [(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3)^2 \cdot (1 - 2\nu)] \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{6E} \right) \left[ \begin{array}{l} (\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + \sigma_3^2)(3 - 1 + 2\nu) \\ -(\sigma_1\sigma_2 + \sigma_2\sigma_3 + \sigma_3\sigma_1)(6\nu + 2 - 4\nu) \end{array} \right] \\ &= \left( \frac{1 + \nu}{6E} \right) [2(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + \sigma_3^2) - 2(\sigma_1\sigma_2 + \sigma_2\sigma_3 + \sigma_3\sigma_1)] \quad (24) \end{aligned}$$

# SHEAR STRAIN ENERGY

- Remember that:

$$E = 2G(1 + \nu).$$

- Thus:

$$U_s = \left( \frac{1 + \nu}{12G} \right) [(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2)^2 + (\sigma_2 - \sigma_3)^2 + (\sigma_3 - \sigma_1)^2]$$

# SHEAR STRAIN ENERGY

The quantities in brackets are each twice the maximum shear stress in their respective planes .

In pure shear system (stress  $\tau$ ), the principal stresses are  $\pm\tau, 0$  (**review maximum shear stresses**).

$$\therefore U_s = \left( \frac{1+\nu}{12G} \right) \left[ (2\tau)^2 + (-\tau)^2 + (-\tau)^2 \right]$$

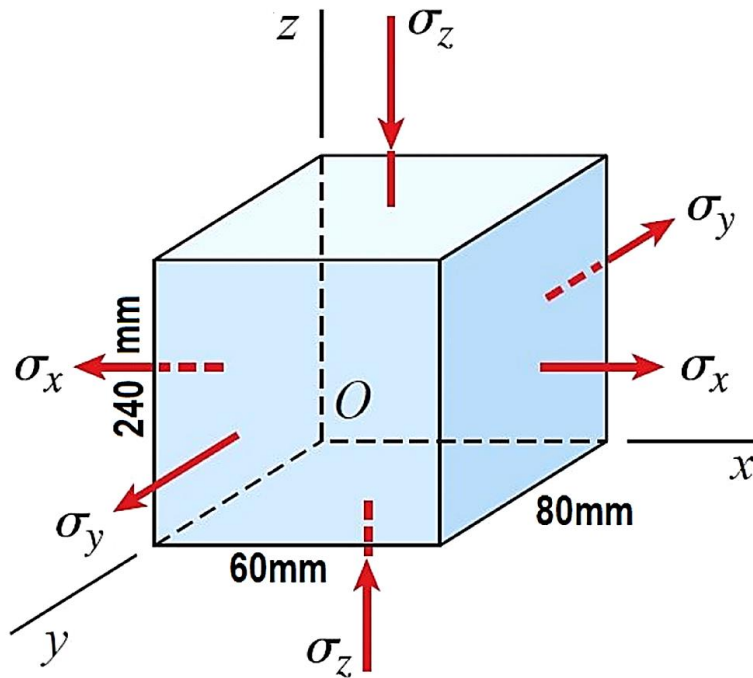
(Since  $\sigma_1 = \tau, \sigma_2 = -\tau$  when  $\sigma_3 = 0$ )

$$U_s = \frac{\tau^2}{2G} \quad (25)$$

(Compare with strain energy in direct shear stress)



# Examples



## Example 003

A rectangular block measuring 240 mm x 80mm x 60mm is loaded as shown in the diagram, and  $F_x = 80\text{kN}$ ,  $F_y = 100\text{kN}$ ,  $F_z = 40\text{kN}$ . Compute the change in volume, the bulk modulus and modulus of rigidity. Take  $E = 200\text{kN/mm}^2$  and  $\nu = 0.3$

## Examples

### Example 004

A block of steel measuring 240 mm x 16 mm x 25 mm, is subjected to a tensile force of 40kN in the direction of its length. Given that the modulus of elasticity ( $E$ ) and the Poisson's ratio ( $\nu$ ) are 200kN/mm<sup>2</sup> and 0.33 respectively. Compute the change in the volume of the block.

# Examples

## Example 005

- a) Derive an expression for strain energy induced in a material per unit volume, under gradual tensile loading.
- b) Calculate the strain energy stored in a bar 3 m long and 40mm in diameter when subjected to a tensile load of 80kN. Take  $E = 210\text{kN/mm}^2$ .

**Grazie**