

# Strain gradient and micromorphic plasticity

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# Plan

- 1 Introduction
  - Mechanics of generalized continua
- 2 Strain gradient plasticity theory
  - Method of virtual power
  - Constitutive equations
  - Shearing of a laminate microstructure
- 3 Micromorphic plasticity theory
  - Balance and constitutive equations
  - Rate-independent plasticity
  - Shearing of a laminate microstructure
- 4 Discussion

# Notations

Cartesian basis

$$\underline{\mathbf{A}} = A_i \underline{\mathbf{e}}_i, \quad \underline{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}} = A_{ij} \underline{\mathbf{e}}_i \otimes \underline{\mathbf{e}}_j, \quad \underline{\tilde{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}}} = \underline{\tilde{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}}} = \underline{\underline{\underline{\mathbf{A}}}} = A_{ijk} \underline{\mathbf{e}}_i \otimes \underline{\mathbf{e}}_j \otimes \underline{\mathbf{e}}_k$$

tensor products

$$\underline{\mathbf{a}} \otimes \underline{\mathbf{b}} = a_i b_j \underline{\mathbf{e}}_i \otimes \underline{\mathbf{e}}_j, \quad \underline{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}} \otimes \underline{\tilde{\mathbf{B}}} = A_{ij} B_{kl} \underline{\mathbf{e}}_i \otimes \underline{\mathbf{e}}_j \otimes \underline{\mathbf{e}}_k \otimes \underline{\mathbf{e}}_l$$

$$\underline{\tilde{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}}} \boxtimes \underline{\tilde{\tilde{\mathbf{B}}}} = A_{ik} B_{jl} \underline{\mathbf{e}}_i \otimes \underline{\mathbf{e}}_j \otimes \underline{\mathbf{e}}_k \otimes \underline{\mathbf{e}}_l$$

contractions

$$\underline{\mathbf{A}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{B}} = A_i B_i, \quad \underline{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}} : \underline{\tilde{\mathbf{B}}} = A_{ij} B_{ij}, \quad \underline{\tilde{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}}} \dot{=} \underline{\tilde{\tilde{\mathbf{B}}}} = A_{ijk} B_{ijk}$$

nabla operators

$$\nabla_x = ,i \underline{\mathbf{e}}_i, \quad \nabla_X = ,I \underline{\mathbf{E}}_I$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{u}} \otimes \nabla = u_{i,j} \underline{\mathbf{e}}_i \otimes \underline{\mathbf{e}}_j, \quad \underline{\tilde{\sigma}} \cdot \nabla = \sigma_{ij,j} \underline{\mathbf{e}}_i$$

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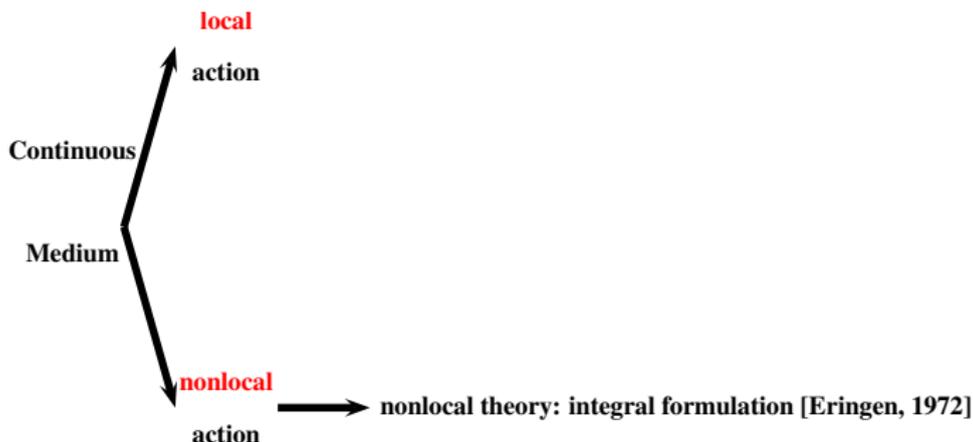
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# Mechanics of generalized continua

Principle of **local action**: *the stress state at a point  $\underline{X}$  depends on variables defined at this point only*

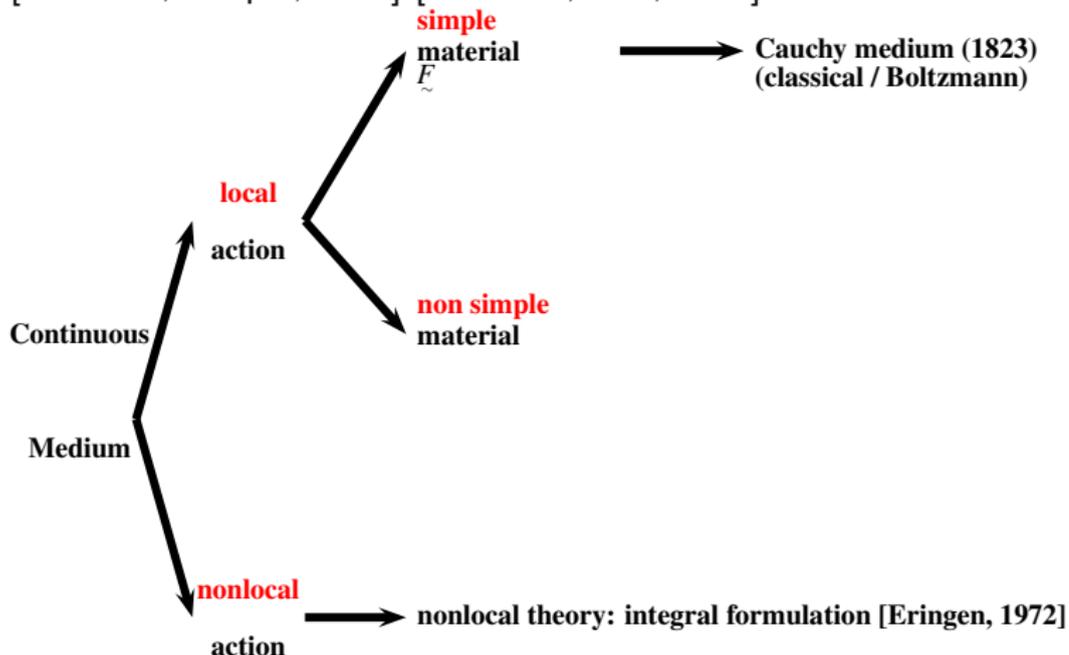
[Truesdell, Toupin, 1960] [Truesdell, Noll, 1965]



# Mechanics of generalized continua

**Simple** material: A material is simple at the particle  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$  if and only if its response to deformations homogeneous in a neighborhood of  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$  determines uniquely its response to every deformation at  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$ .

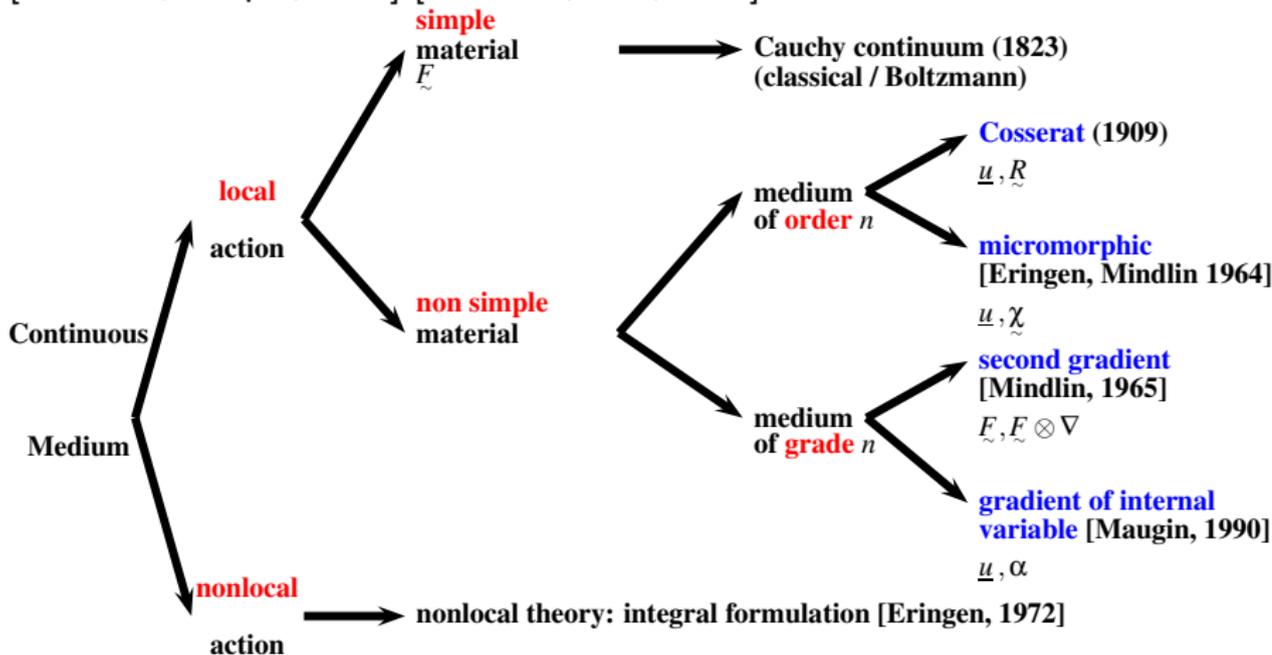
[Truesdell, Toupin, 1960] [Truesdell, Noll, 1965]



# Mechanics of generalized continua

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[Truesdell, Toupin, 1960] [Truesdell, Noll, 1965]



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## Power of internal forces

- Model variables according to a first gradient theory

$$MODEL = \{ \underline{\mathbf{v}}, \underline{\mathbf{v}} \otimes \nabla, \dot{p}, \nabla \dot{p} \}$$

velocity  $\underline{\mathbf{v}}$  and cumulative plastic strain  $p$  are assumed to be independent degrees of freedom

- Virtual power of internal forces of a subdomain  $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{B}$  of the body

$$\mathcal{P}^{(i)}(\underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \dot{p}^*) = \int_{\mathcal{D}} p^{(i)}(\underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \dot{p}^*) dV$$

simple stress tensor  $\underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}$ , generalized stresses  $a$  (unit MPa),  $\underline{\mathbf{b}}$  (unit MPa.mm), microforces according to [Gurtin, 2002]

- The virtual power density of internal forces is a linear form on the fields of virtual modeling variables

$$p^{(i)} = \underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} : (\underline{\mathbf{v}}^* \otimes \nabla) + a \dot{p}^* + \underline{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \nabla \dot{p}^*$$

- The virtual power density of internal forces is invariant with respect to superimposed rigid body motion  $\Rightarrow \underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}$  is symmetric [Germain, 1973a]

## Power of contact forces

- Application of Gauss theorem to the power of internal forces

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\mathcal{D}} p^{(i)} dV &= \int_{\partial\mathcal{D}} \underline{\mathbf{v}}^* \cdot \underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{n}} dS + \int_{\partial\mathcal{D}} \dot{p}^* \underline{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{n}} dS \\ &- \int_{\mathcal{D}} \underline{\mathbf{v}}^* \cdot \underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} \cdot \nabla dV - \int_{\mathcal{D}} \dot{p}^* (\underline{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \nabla - a) dV\end{aligned}$$

The form of the previous boundary integral dictates the form of the

- power of contact forces acting on the boundary  $\partial\mathcal{D}$  of the subdomain  $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{B}$

$$\mathcal{P}^{(c)}(\underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \dot{p}^*) = \int_{\partial\mathcal{D}} p^{(c)}(\underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \dot{p}^*) dS$$

$$p^{(c)}(\underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \dot{p}^*) = \underline{\mathbf{t}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{v}}^* + a_c \dot{p}^*$$

simple traction  $\underline{\mathbf{t}}$  (unit MPa), double traction  $a_c$  (unit MPa.mm)

## Power of forces acting at a distance

$$\mathcal{P}^{(e)}(\underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \dot{\rho}^*) = \int_{\mathcal{D}} \rho^{(e)}(\underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \dot{\rho}^*) dV$$

$$\rho^{(e)}(\underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \dot{\rho}^*) = \underline{\mathbf{f}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{v}}^* + \underline{\mathbf{c}} : (\underline{\mathbf{v}}^* \otimes \underline{\nabla}) + a_e \dot{\rho}^* + \underline{\mathbf{b}}_e \cdot \underline{\nabla} \dot{\rho}^*$$

simple body forces  $\underline{\mathbf{f}}$  (unit  $\text{N}\cdot\text{mm}^{-3}$ ), double body forces  $\underline{\mathbf{c}}$  and  $a_e$  (unit  $\text{N}\cdot\text{mm}^{-2}$ ), triple body force  $\underline{\mathbf{b}}_e$  (unit  $\text{N}\cdot\text{mm}^{-1}$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}^{(e)}(\underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \dot{\rho}^*) &= \int_{\partial\mathcal{D}} (\underline{\mathbf{v}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{c}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{n}} + \dot{\rho}^* \underline{\mathbf{b}}_e \cdot \underline{\mathbf{n}}) dS \\ &- \int_{\mathcal{D}} (\underline{\mathbf{v}}^* \cdot (\underline{\mathbf{c}} \cdot \underline{\nabla} - \underline{\mathbf{f}}) dV + \dot{\rho}^* (\underline{\mathbf{b}}_e \cdot \underline{\nabla} - a_e)) dV \end{aligned}$$

## Principle of virtual power

In the static case,  $\forall \underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \forall \dot{\underline{\mathbf{p}}}^*, \forall \mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{B}$ ,

$$\mathcal{P}^{(i)}(\underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \dot{\underline{\mathbf{p}}}^*) = \mathcal{P}^{(c)}(\underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \dot{\underline{\mathbf{p}}}^*) + \mathcal{P}^{(e)}(\underline{\mathbf{v}}^*, \dot{\underline{\mathbf{p}}}^*)$$

[Germain, 1973b]

## Principle of virtual power

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which leads to

$$\int_{\partial\mathcal{D}} \underline{\mathbf{v}}^* \cdot (\underline{\mathbf{t}} - (\underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} - \underline{\mathbf{c}}) \cdot \underline{\mathbf{n}}) + \dot{\underline{\mathbf{p}}}^* (a_c - (\underline{\mathbf{b}} - \underline{\mathbf{b}}^e) \cdot \underline{\mathbf{n}}) dS$$
$$+ \int_{\mathcal{D}} \underline{\mathbf{v}}^* \cdot ((\underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} - \underline{\mathbf{c}}) \cdot \nabla + \underline{\mathbf{f}}) + \dot{\underline{\mathbf{p}}}^* ((\underline{\mathbf{b}} - \underline{\mathbf{b}}_e) \cdot \nabla - a + a_e) dV = 0$$

cf. [Germain, 1973b, Forest and Sievert, 2003,  
Kirchner and Steinmann, 2005, Lazar and Maugin, 2007,  
Hirschberger et al., 2007]

## Balance and boundary conditions

The application of the principle of virtual power leads to the

- balance of momentum equation (static case)

$$(\underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} - \underline{\boldsymbol{c}}) \cdot \underline{\nabla} + \underline{\mathbf{f}} = 0, \quad \forall \underline{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathcal{B}$$

- balance of generalized moment of momentum equation (static case)

$$(\underline{\mathbf{b}} - \underline{\mathbf{b}}_e) \cdot \underline{\nabla} - a + a_e = 0, \quad \forall \underline{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathcal{B}$$

- boundary conditions

$$(\underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} - \underline{\boldsymbol{c}}) \cdot \underline{\mathbf{n}} = \underline{\mathbf{t}}, \quad \forall \underline{\mathbf{x}} \in \partial\mathcal{B}$$

$$(\underline{\mathbf{b}} - \underline{\mathbf{b}}_e) \cdot \underline{\mathbf{n}} = a_c, \quad \forall \underline{\mathbf{x}} \in \partial\mathcal{B}$$

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# Continuum thermodynamics

- Enhance the local balance of energy and the entropy inequality

$$\rho \dot{\epsilon} = p^{(i)} - \operatorname{div} \underline{\mathbf{q}} + \rho r, \quad -\rho(\dot{\psi} + \eta \dot{T}) + p^{(i)} - \frac{\mathbf{q}}{T} \cdot \nabla T \geq 0$$

- Decomposition of total strain

$$\underline{\mathbf{v}} = \underline{\dot{\mathbf{u}}}, \quad \underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}} = \frac{1}{2}(\underline{\mathbf{u}} \otimes \nabla + \nabla \otimes \underline{\mathbf{u}})$$
$$\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}} = \underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}^e + \underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}^p$$

- Consider the constitutive functionals:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi &= \hat{\psi}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}^e, T, p, \alpha, \nabla p), & \eta &= \hat{\eta}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}^e, T, p, \alpha, \nabla p) \\ \underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} &= \hat{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}^e, T, p, \alpha, \nabla p) \\ a &= \hat{a}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}^e, T, p, \alpha, \nabla p), & \underline{\mathbf{b}} &= \hat{\mathbf{b}}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}^e, T, p, \alpha, \nabla p) \end{aligned}$$

# State laws

- Clausius–Duhem inequality (isothermal)

$$\left(\underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} - \rho \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}^e}\right) : \dot{\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}}^P + \left(a - \rho \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \rho}\right) \dot{\rho} + \left(\underline{\mathbf{b}} - \rho \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \nabla \rho}\right) \cdot \nabla \dot{\rho} + \underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} : \dot{\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}}^P - \rho \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \alpha} \dot{\alpha} \geq 0$$

- Derive the state laws [Coleman and Noll, 1963]

$$\underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} = \rho \frac{\partial \hat{\psi}}{\partial \underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}^e}, \quad X = \rho \frac{\partial \hat{\psi}}{\partial \alpha}, \quad R = \frac{\partial \hat{\psi}}{\partial \rho}, \quad \underline{\mathbf{b}} = \frac{\partial \hat{\psi}}{\partial \nabla \rho}$$

- Residual dissipation

$$D^{\text{res}} = \underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} : \dot{\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}}^P + (a - R) \dot{\rho} - X \dot{\alpha} \geq 0$$

## Flow rule and evolution law

- Introduce an equivalent stress measure  $\sigma_{eq}$  such that

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} : \dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}}^P = \sigma_{eq} \dot{\rho}$$

which defines the cumulative plastic strain rate  $\dot{\rho}$

$$D^{res} = (\sigma_{eq} + a - R)\dot{\rho} - X\dot{\alpha} \geq 0$$

- Introduce the viscoplastic potential  $\Omega(\sigma_{eq} + a - R, X)$  such that

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}}^P = \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial (\sigma_{eq} + a - R)}, \quad \dot{\alpha} = -\frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial X}$$

$\Omega$  convex with respect to the first, concave with respect to the second variable for positive dissipation

- Rate-independent case; introduce the yield function

$$f(\boldsymbol{\sigma}, a, R) = \sigma_{eq} - R_0 - R + a$$

where  $R_0$  is the initial yield stress

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}}^P = \dot{\rho} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}}, \quad \sigma_{eq} = \boldsymbol{\sigma} : \frac{\partial f}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}}$$

## Specific constitutive equations

- Free energy function

$$\rho\psi(\underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}^e, p, \nabla p) = \frac{1}{2}\underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}^e : \underline{\underline{\Lambda}} : \underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}^e + \frac{1}{2}Hp^2 + \frac{1}{2}\nabla p \cdot \underline{\underline{\mathbf{A}}} \cdot \nabla p$$

- State laws

$$\underline{\underline{\sigma}} = \underline{\underline{\Lambda}} : \underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}^e, \quad R = Hp, \quad \underline{\underline{\mathbf{b}}} = \underline{\underline{\mathbf{A}}} \cdot \nabla p$$

- Balance of generalized momentum (homogeneous material)

$$a = \operatorname{div} \underline{\underline{\mathbf{b}}} = \operatorname{div} (\underline{\underline{\mathbf{A}}} \cdot \nabla p) = \underline{\underline{\mathbf{A}}} : (\nabla \otimes \nabla p)$$

- Yield function  $f(\underline{\underline{\sigma}}, R, a) = J_2(\underline{\underline{\sigma}}) - R_0 - Hp + a$
- Consistency condition;  $\dot{p}$  is solution of a p.d.e.

$$\left(H + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \underline{\underline{\sigma}}} : \underline{\underline{\Lambda}} : \frac{\partial f}{\partial \underline{\underline{\sigma}}}\right)\dot{p} + \underline{\underline{\mathbf{A}}} : (\nabla \otimes \nabla \dot{p}) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \underline{\underline{\sigma}}} : \underline{\underline{\Lambda}} : \underline{\underline{\dot{\varepsilon}}}$$

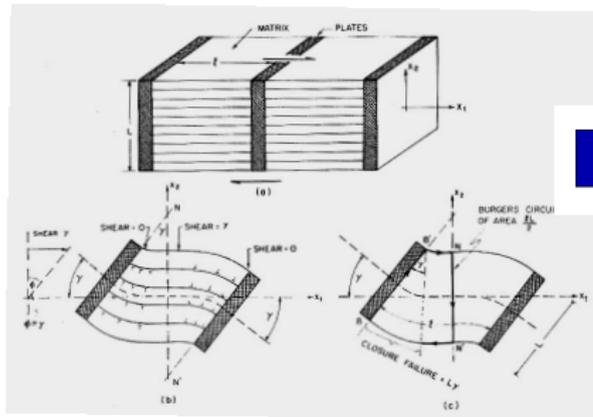
- Isotropic case + von Mises : Aifantis model [Aifantis, 1987]

$$\underline{\underline{\Lambda}} = c^2 \underline{\underline{\mathbf{1}}}, \quad \sigma_{eq} = R_0 + Hp - c^2 \Delta p$$

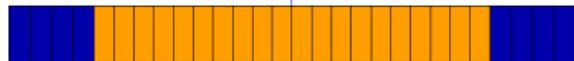
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# Confined plasticity



[Ashby, 1970]



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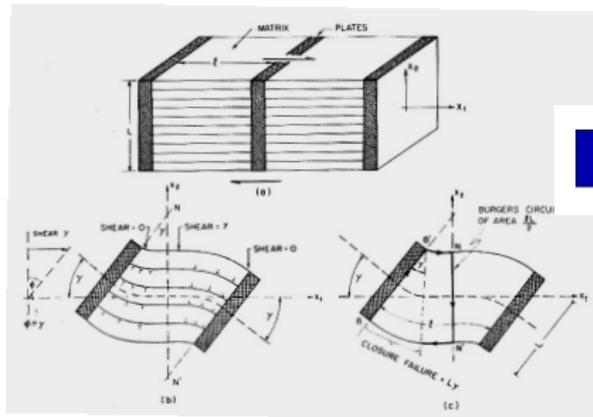
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periodic simple shear test:  
classical solution

conventional continuum plasticity predicts homogenous plastic deformation in the layers

# Confined plasticity



[Ashby, 1970]



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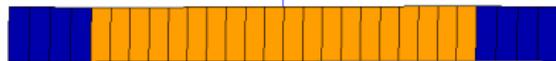
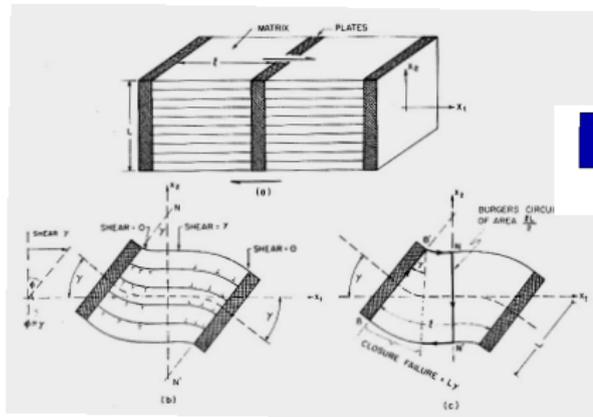
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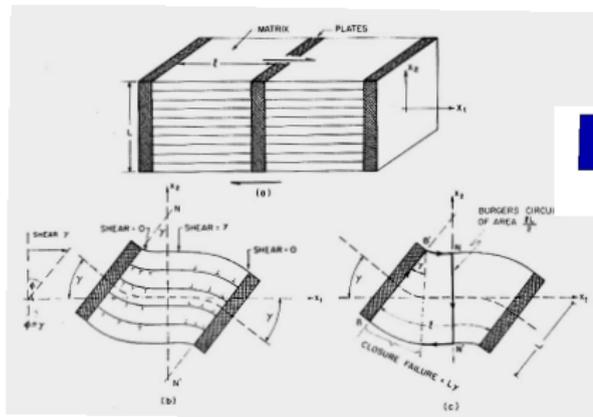
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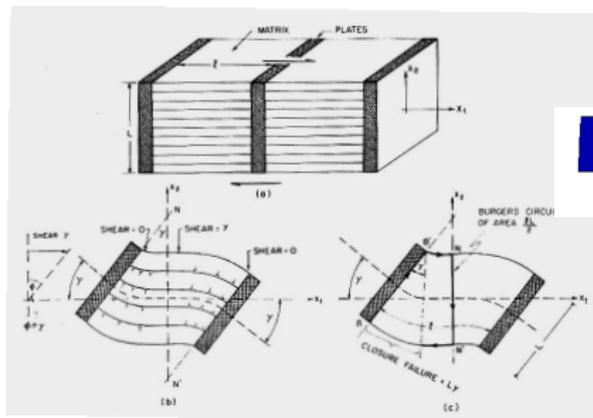
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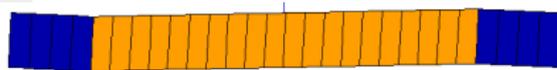
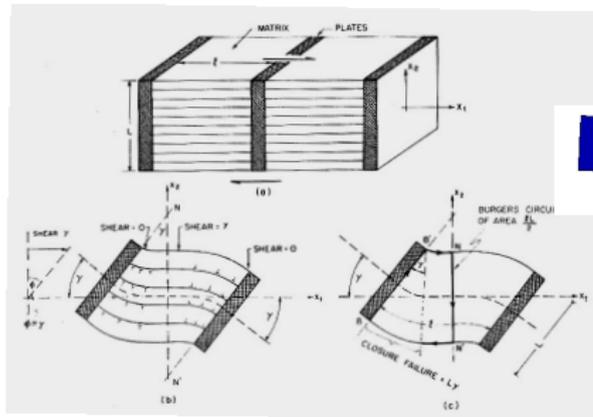
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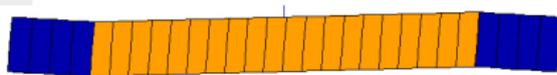
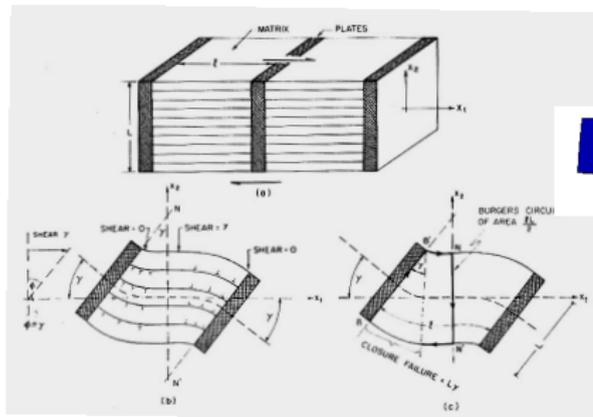
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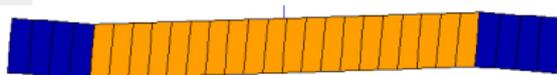
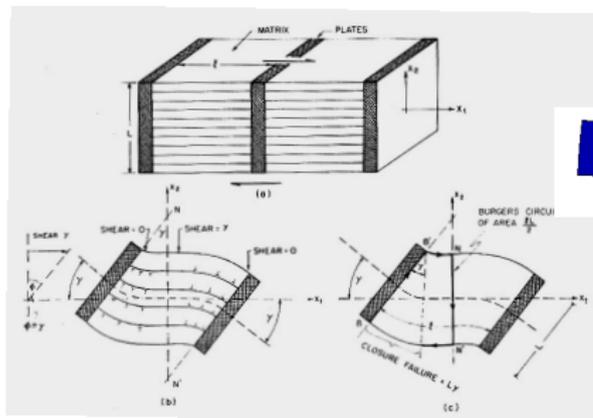
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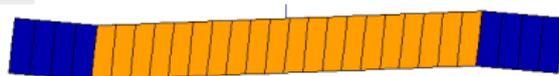
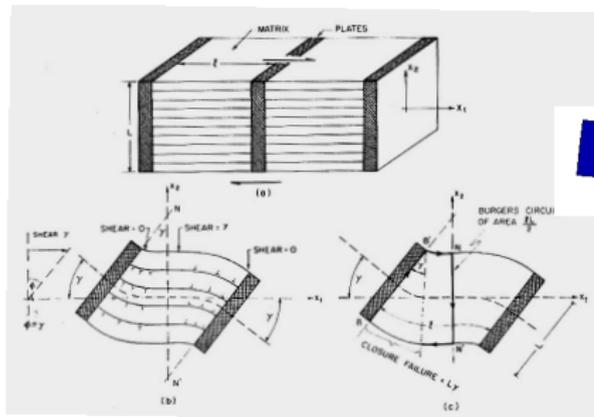
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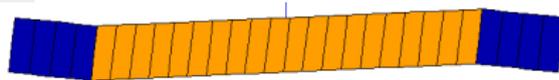
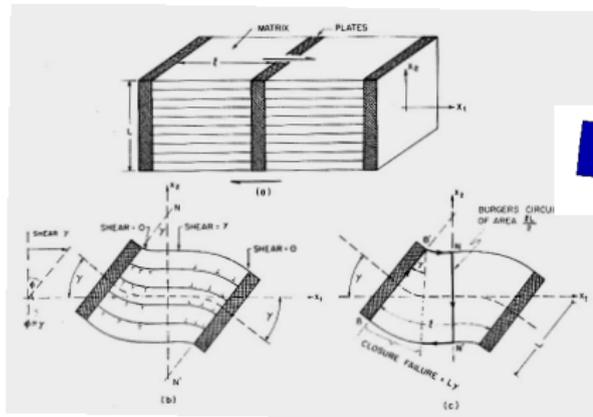
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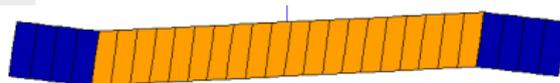
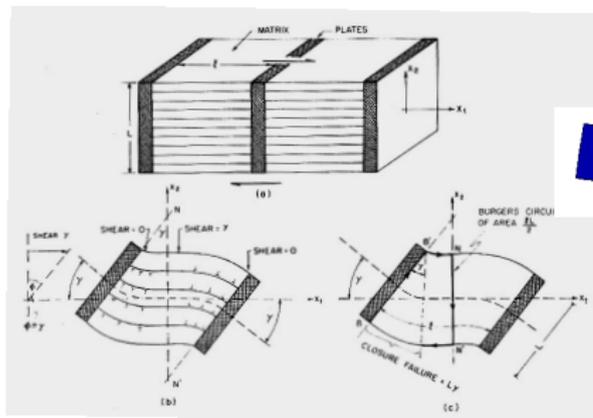
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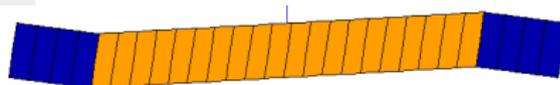
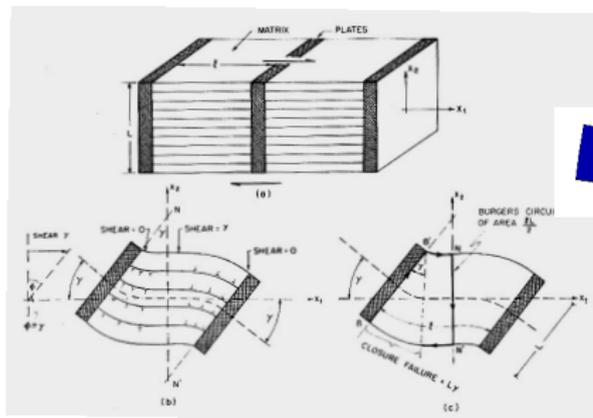
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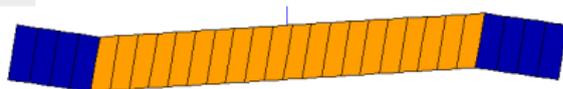
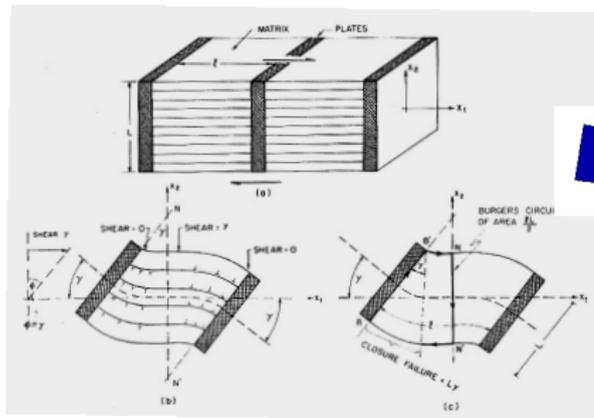
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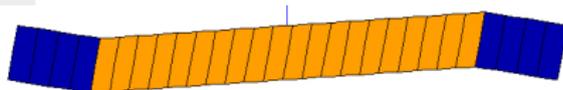
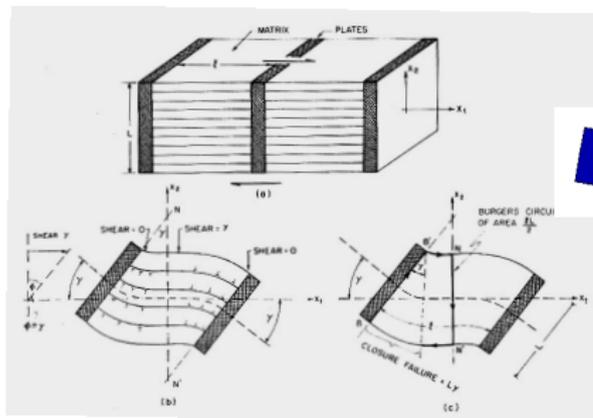
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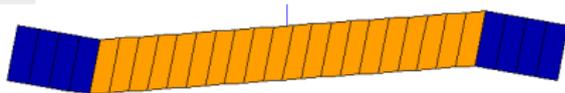
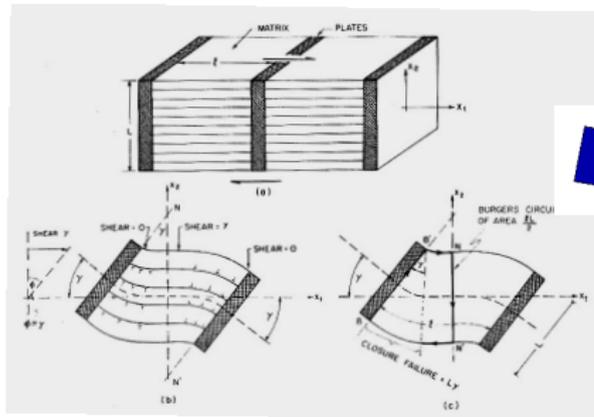
▶ end

periodic simple shear test:  
classical solution

[Ashby, 1970]

conventional continuum plasticity predicts homogenous plastic deformation in the layers

# Confined plasticity



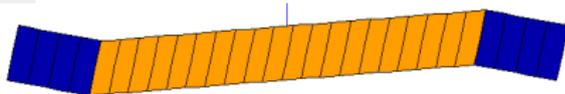
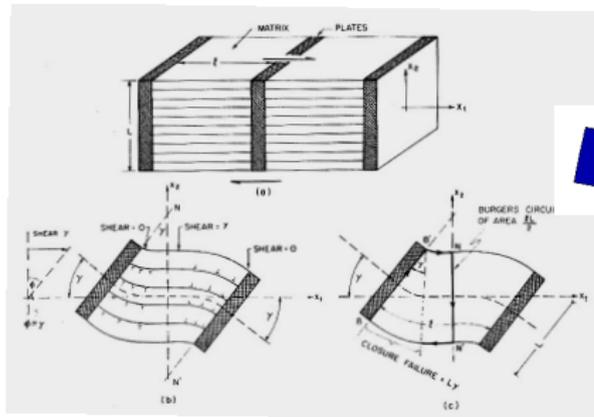
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◀ start

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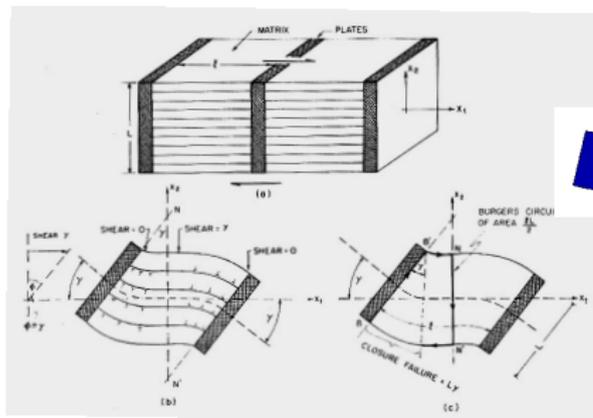
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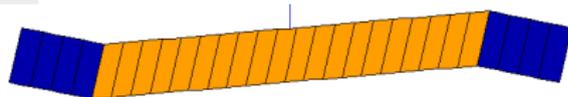
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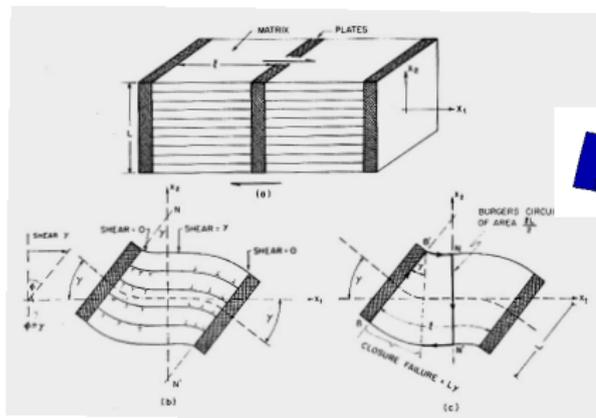
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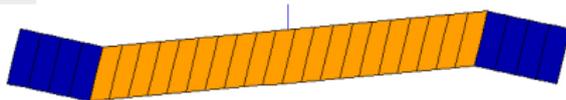
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[Ashby, 1970]



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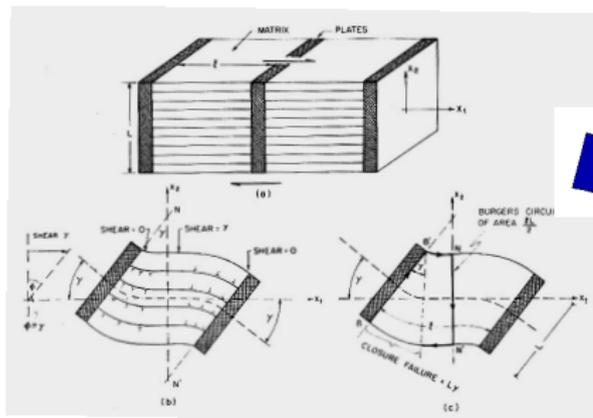
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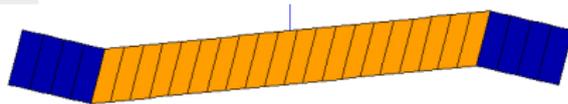
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[Ashby, 1970]



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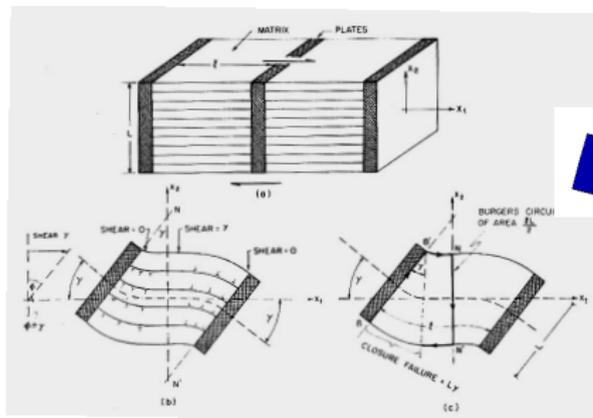
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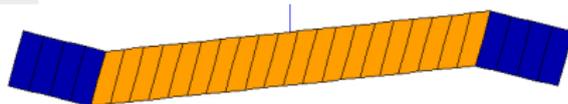
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[Ashby, 1970]



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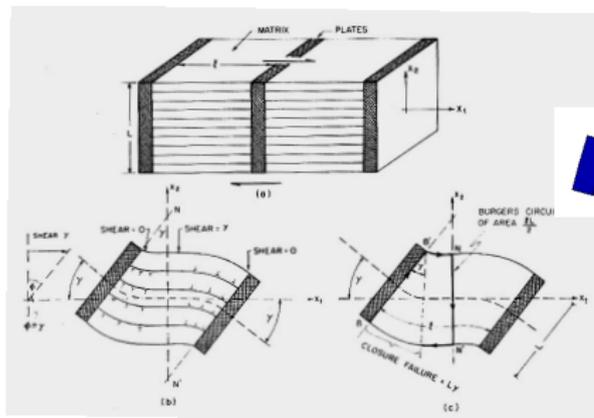
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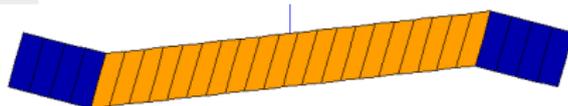
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◀ start

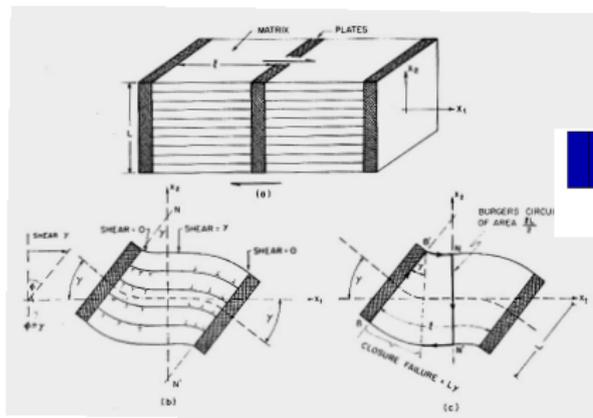
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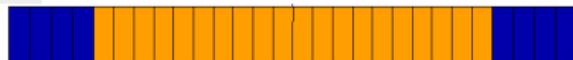
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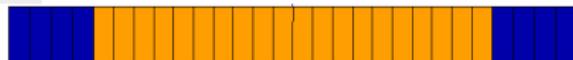
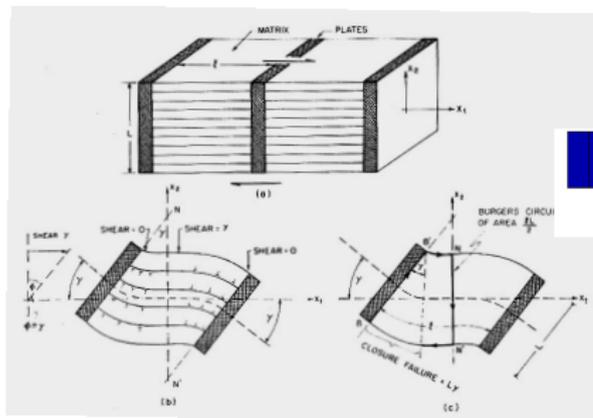
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periodic shear test

Additional interface conditions associated with strain gradient plasticity induce size-dependent non-homogenous deformation

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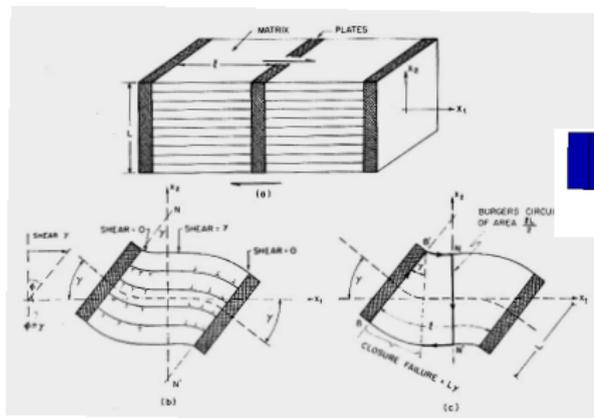
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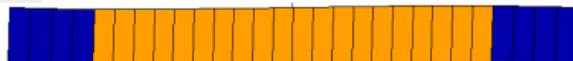
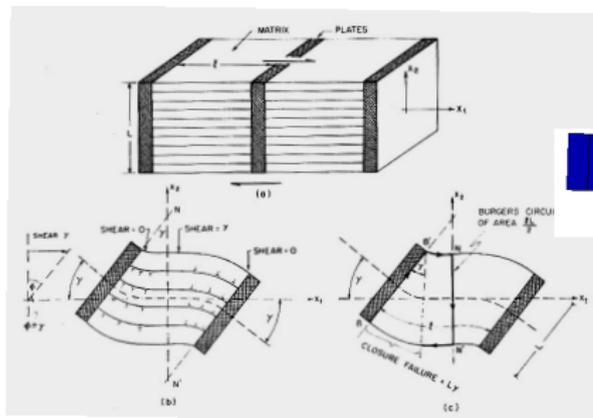
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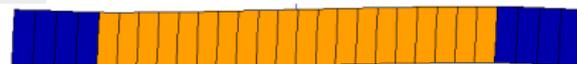
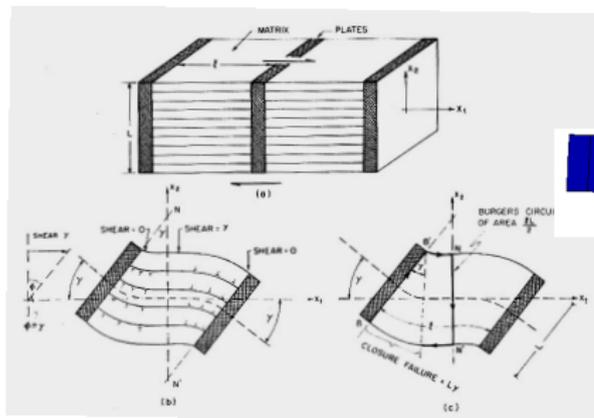
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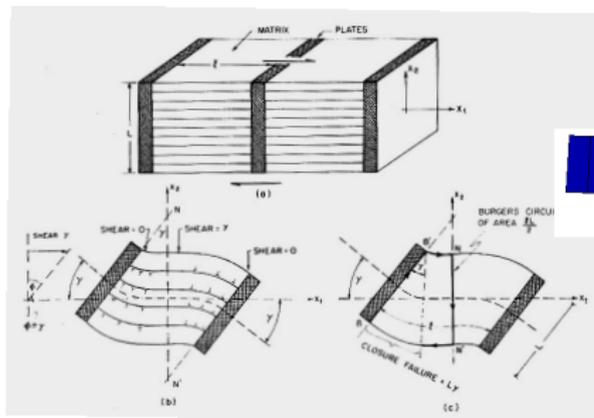
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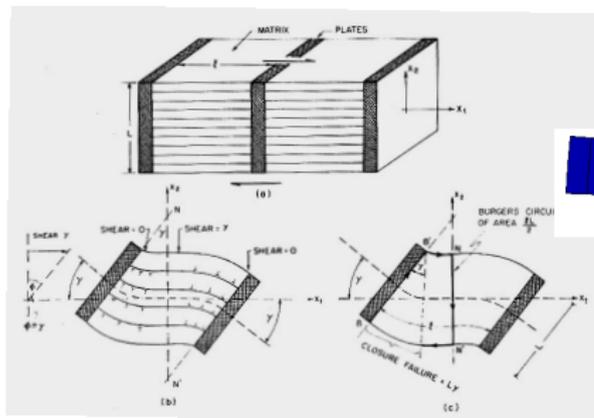
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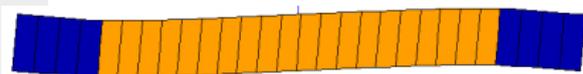
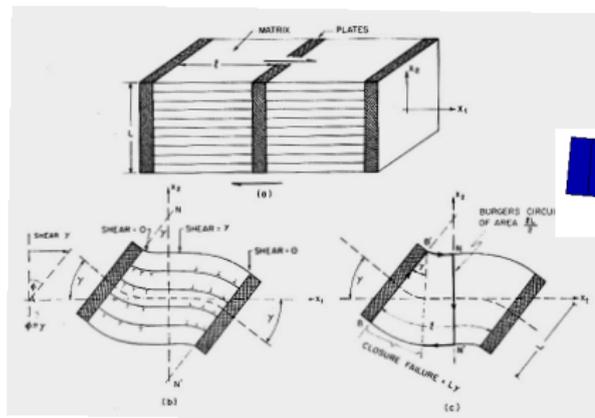
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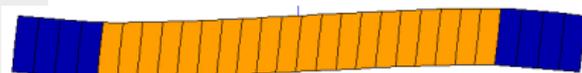
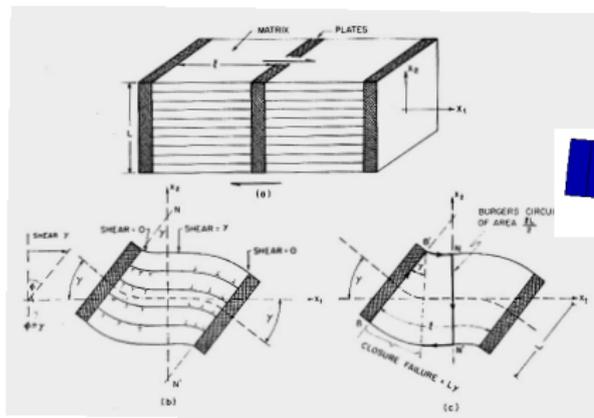
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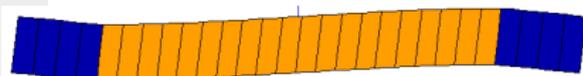
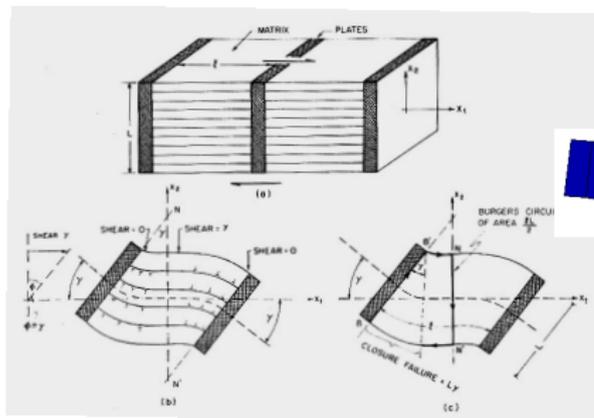
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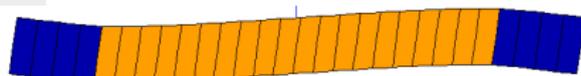
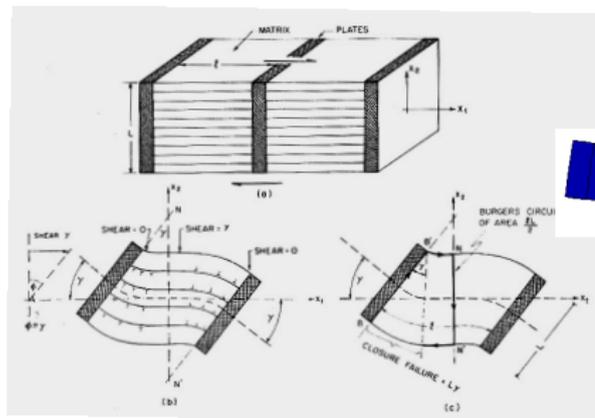
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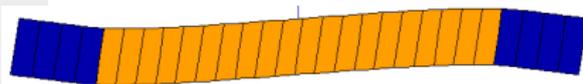
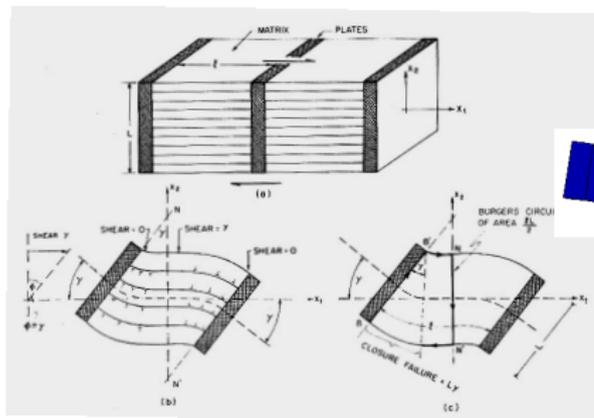
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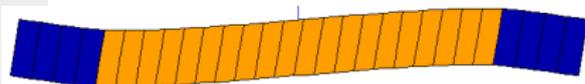
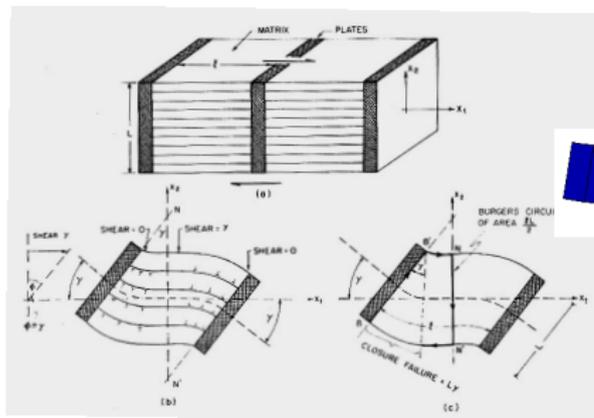
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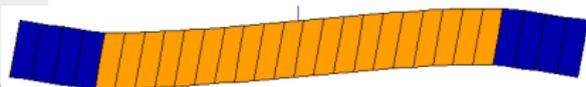
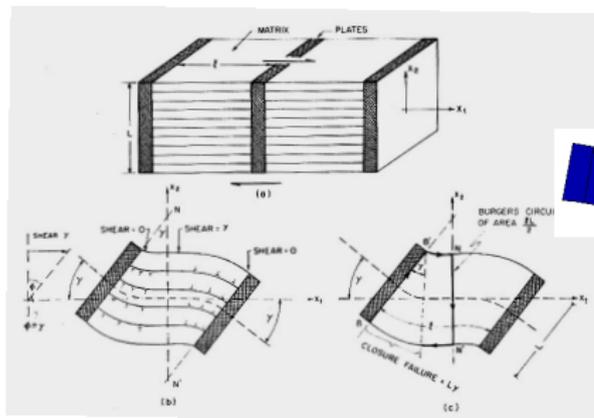
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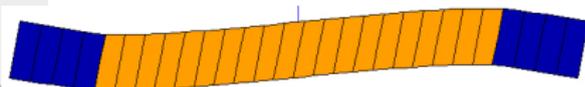
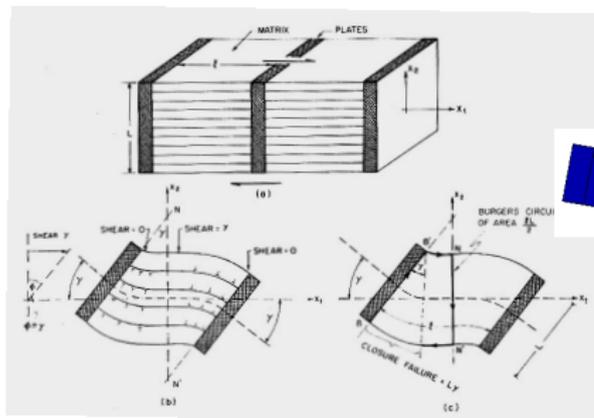
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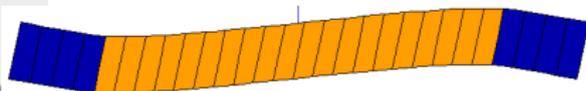
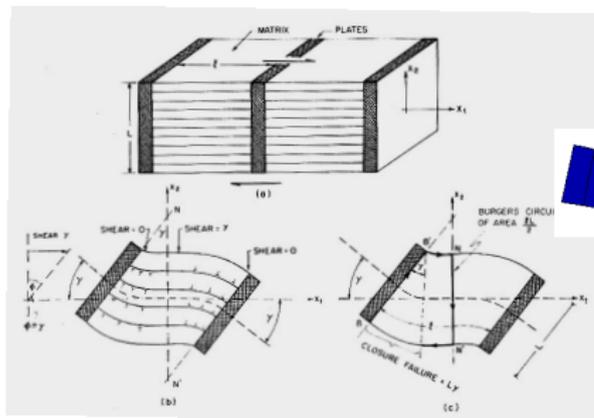
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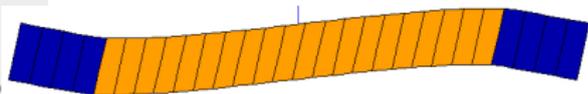
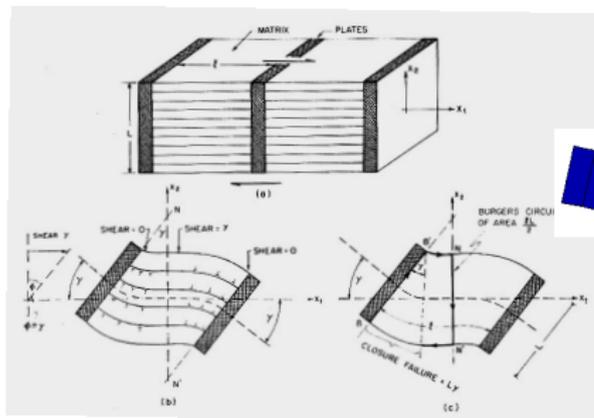
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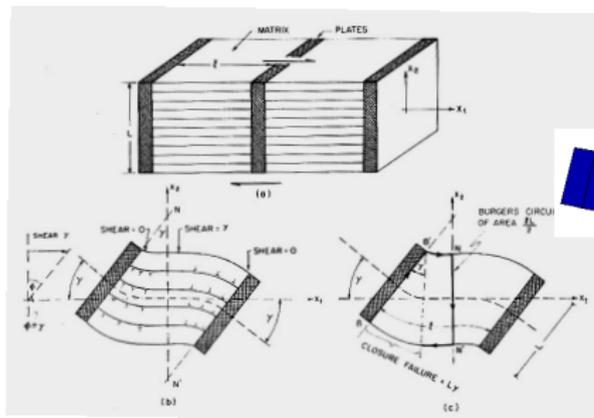
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periodic shear test

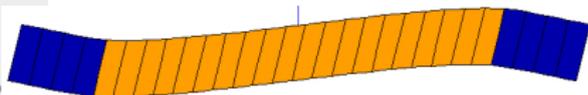
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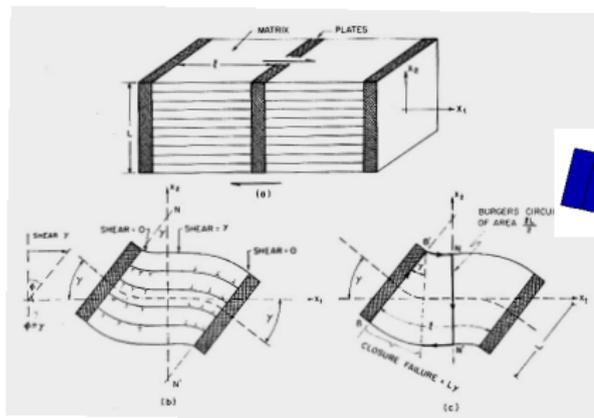
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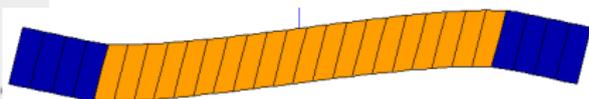
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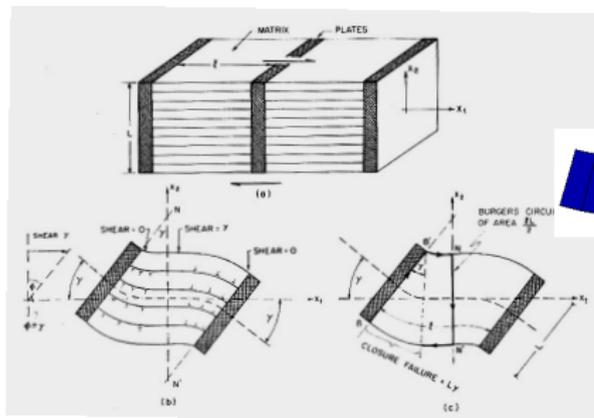
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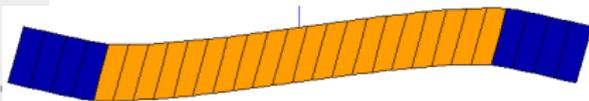
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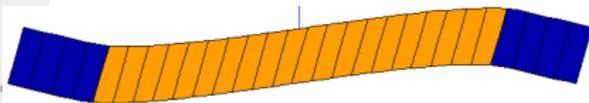
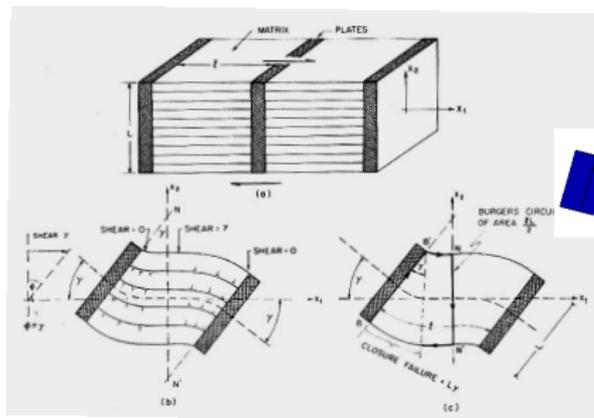
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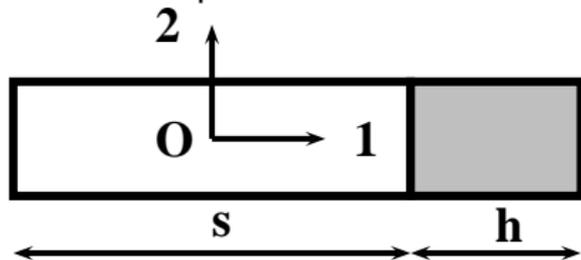
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## Laminate microstructure under shear

Unit cell of a periodic two-phase laminate

$$l = s + h$$



Aifantis material in the white (soft) phase, purely elastic gray (hard) phase

- Form of the solution for imposed mean shear  $\bar{\gamma}$

$$u_1 = \bar{\gamma} x_2, \quad u_2(x_1) = u(x_1), \quad u_3 = 0$$

unknown periodic functions  $u(x_1), p(x_1)$

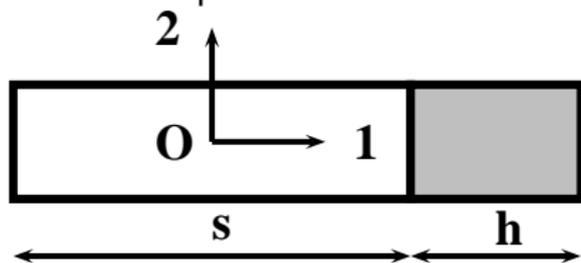
- Deformation gradient and strain

$$[\nabla \underline{\mathbf{u}}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \bar{\gamma} & 0 \\ u_{,1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad [\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2}(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}) & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Resolution of the b.v.p.

Let us consider homogeneous isotropic elasticity and no hardening in the plastic phase for simplicity

- Equilibrium: homogeneous shear stress  $\sigma_{12}$  throughout the laminate
- Displacement in the hard phase

$$\sigma_{12} = \mu(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}^h) \implies u_{,1}^h = C, \quad u^h = Cx_1 + D$$

- Plastic strain in the soft phase

$$\dot{\underline{\underline{\epsilon}}}^p = \frac{3}{2} \dot{p} \frac{\underline{\underline{s}}}{J_2(\underline{\underline{\sigma}})}, \quad \dot{\underline{\underline{\epsilon}}}^p = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \dot{p} (\mathbf{e}_1 \otimes \mathbf{e}_2 + \mathbf{e}_2 \otimes \mathbf{e}_1)$$

from the yield condition we get

$$\sigma_{12} = \mu(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}^h) \implies u_{,1}^h = C, \quad u^h = Cx_1 + D$$

so that the plastic strain is parabolic

$$p = \alpha \left( x_1^2 - \frac{s^2}{4} \right)$$

- Continuity of plastic strain at the interface  $p(\pm s/2) = 0$

## Resolution of the b.v.p.

- Displacement in the soft phase

$$\sigma_{12} = \mu(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}^s - \sqrt{3}p) \quad \Longrightarrow \quad u_{,1}^s = C + \sqrt{3}p$$

$$u^s = \left( C - \alpha\sqrt{3}\frac{s^2}{4} \right) x_1 + \alpha\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} x_1^3$$

## Interface conditions

- Displacement continuity at  $x_1 = \pm s/2$

$$u^s\left(\frac{s}{2}\right) = u^h\left(\frac{s}{2}\right) \implies -\sqrt{3}\alpha \frac{s^3}{12} = D$$

- Displacement periodicity at  $x_1 = -s/2$  and  $x_1 = s/2 + h$

$$u^s\left(-\frac{s}{2}\right) = u^h\left(\frac{s}{2} + h\right) \implies \sqrt{3}\alpha \frac{s^3}{12} = Cl + D$$

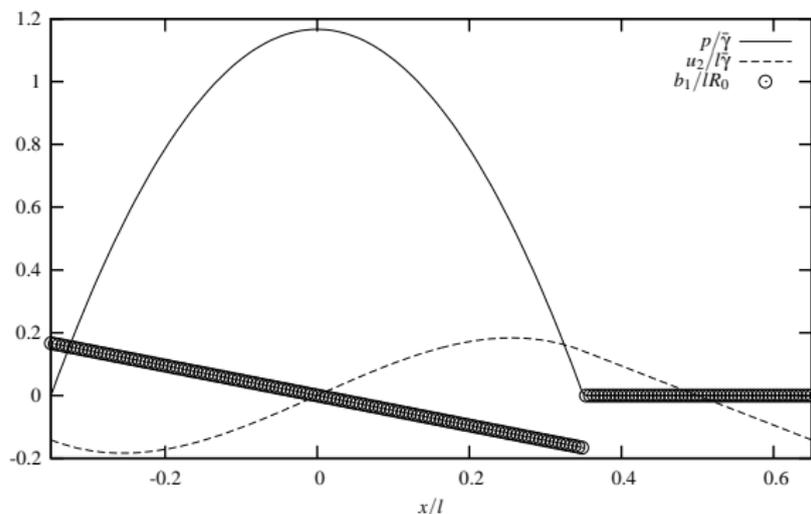
- Continuity of the stress vector at  $x_1 = \pm s/2$

$$R_0 - 2c\alpha = \mu\sqrt{3}(\bar{\gamma} + C)$$

- The wanted constants are deduced from the previous equations

$$C = \frac{R_0 - \sqrt{3}\mu\bar{\gamma}}{\sqrt{3}\mu + \frac{12cl}{\sqrt{3}s^3}}, \quad D = -C\frac{l}{2}, \quad \alpha = -\frac{12}{\sqrt{3}}\frac{D}{s^3}$$

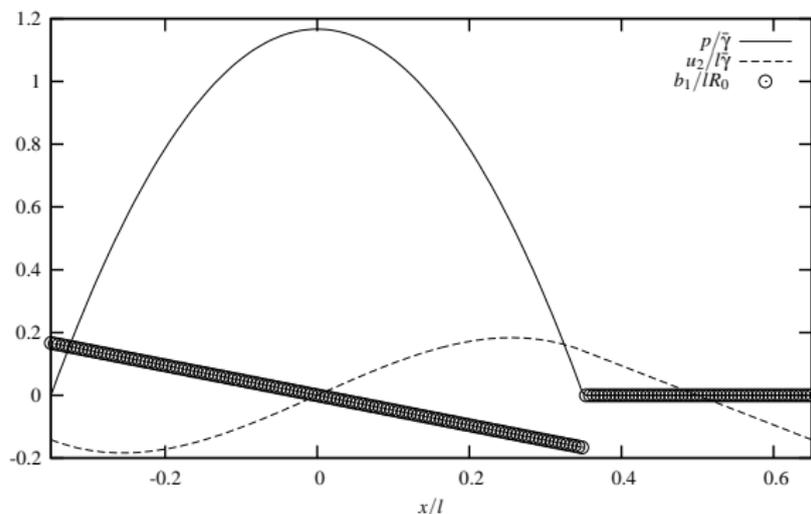
## Plastic strain profile in the channel



$\mu$ (MPa)	$R_0$ (MPa)	$c$ (MPa.mm <sup>2</sup> )	$f$	$l$ ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	$\bar{\gamma}$
30000	20	0.005	0.7	10	0.01

- Characteristic length:  $l_c = \sqrt{c/\mu} = 0.4 \mu\text{m}$ , leading to strong size effects in the micron range and below

## Plastic strain profile in the channel



$\mu$ (MPa)	$R_0$ (MPa)	$c$ (MPa·mm <sup>2</sup> )	$f$	$l$ ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	$\bar{\gamma}$
30000	20	0.005	0.7	10	0.01

- The higher order stress  $b_1 = 2c\alpha$  experiences a jump at the interface  $s = \pm s/2$ :

$$b_1\left(\frac{s^+}{2}\right) - b_1\left(\frac{s^-}{2}\right) = 0 - c\alpha s, \quad \llbracket b_1 \rrbracket \left(\frac{s}{2}\right) = -c\alpha s$$

## Overall size effect

- Macroscopic stress strain relation

$$\frac{\sigma_{12}}{\mu} = \frac{1}{\mu f s^2 + 4c} \left( \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} f s^2 R_0 + 4c \bar{\gamma} \right)$$

bilinear response depending explicitly on channel size  $s$

- Macroscopic stress vs mean plastic strain;

$$\bar{p} = \frac{1}{l} \int_{-s/2}^{s/2} p(x_1) dx_1 \quad \implies \quad \sqrt{3} \bar{p} = f \bar{\gamma} - C(1-f) - f \frac{\sigma_{12}}{\mu}$$

$$\sigma_{12} = \frac{R_0}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{4\sqrt{3}c}{f^3 l^2} \bar{p}$$

microstructure-induced linear hardening depending on unit cell size  $l$

- Limit cases

- ★ thick channels: size independent threshold  $\sigma_{12} = R_0/\sqrt{3}$
- ★ thin films: scaling law  $\sigma_{12}/\bar{p} \sim 1/l^2$

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# General scalar microstrain gradient plasticity

- Classical and generalized plasticity

$$DOF = \{\underline{\mathbf{u}}, p_\chi\} \quad STATE = \{\underline{\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}}^e, p, \alpha, p_\chi, \nabla p_\chi\}$$

scalar plastic microstrain variable  $p_\chi$

- Enhanced power of internal forces and extra balance equation

$$p^{(i)} = \underline{\underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}} : \underline{\underline{\dot{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}}} + a \dot{p}_\chi + \underline{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \nabla \dot{p}_\chi, \quad p^{(c)} = \underline{\mathbf{t}} \cdot \underline{\dot{\mathbf{u}}} + a^c \dot{p}_\chi$$

$$\operatorname{div} \underline{\mathbf{b}} - a = 0, \quad \forall \underline{\mathbf{x}} \in \Omega, \quad \underline{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{n}} = a^c, \quad \forall \underline{\mathbf{x}} \in \partial\Omega$$

# General scalar microstrain gradient plasticity

- State laws

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\underline{\xi}} &= \underline{\underline{\xi}}^e + \underline{\underline{\xi}}^p \\ \underline{\underline{\sigma}} &= \rho \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \underline{\underline{\xi}}^e}, \quad R = \rho \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial p}, \quad X = \rho \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \alpha} \\ \underline{\underline{a}} &= \rho \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial p_\chi} + a^v, \quad \underline{\underline{b}} = \rho \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \nabla p_\chi}\end{aligned}$$

- Evolution laws

$$\begin{aligned}D^{res} &= \underline{\underline{\sigma}} : \dot{\underline{\underline{\xi}}}^p + (a^v - R)\dot{p} - X\dot{\alpha} \geq 0 \\ \dot{\underline{\underline{\xi}}}^p &= \dot{\lambda} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \underline{\underline{\sigma}}}, \quad \dot{p} = -\dot{\lambda} \frac{\partial f}{\partial R}, \quad \dot{\alpha} = -\dot{\lambda} \frac{\partial f}{\partial X}\end{aligned}$$

[Forest, 2009]

## Explicit constitutive equations

- Quadratic free energy potential

$$\rho\psi(\underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}^e, p, p_\chi, \nabla p_\chi) = \frac{1}{2}\underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}^e : \underline{\underline{\Lambda}} : \underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}^e + \frac{1}{2}Hp^2 + \frac{1}{2}H_\chi(p-p_\chi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}\nabla p_\chi \cdot \underline{\underline{\mathbf{A}}} \cdot \nabla p_\chi$$

[Forest, 2009, Dimitrijevic and Hackl, 2011]

- Constitutive equations

$$\underline{\underline{\sigma}} = \underline{\underline{\Lambda}} : \underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}^e, \quad a = -H_\chi(p-p_\chi), \quad \underline{\mathbf{b}} = \underline{\underline{\mathbf{A}}} \cdot \nabla p_\chi, \quad R = (H+H_\chi)p - H_\chi p_\chi$$

- Substitution of constitutive into extra balance equations

$$p_\chi - \frac{1}{H_\chi} \operatorname{div}(\underline{\underline{\mathbf{A}}} \cdot \nabla p_\chi) = p$$

- Homogeneous and isotropic materials

$$\underline{\underline{\mathbf{A}}} = A \underline{\underline{\mathbf{1}}}$$

$$p_\chi - \frac{A}{H_\chi} \Delta p_\chi = p, \quad \text{b.c.} \quad \underline{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{n}} = A \nabla p_\chi \cdot \underline{\mathbf{n}} = a^c$$

same p.d.e. as in the *implicit gradient-enhanced elastoplasticity* with  $a^c = 0$

[Engelen et al., 2003]

## Link to Aifantis strain gradient plasticity

- Yield function

$$f(\underline{\sigma}, R) = \sigma_{eq} - R_0 - R$$

- Hardening law

$$R = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial p} = (H + H_\chi)p - H_\chi p_\chi$$

- Under plastic loading

$$\sigma_{eq} = R_0 + Hp_\chi - A\left(1 + \frac{H}{H_\chi}\right)\Delta p_\chi$$

compare with Aifantis model [Aifantis, 1987]

$$\sigma_{eq} = R_0 + R(p) - c^2 \Delta p$$

The equivalence is obtained for  $H_\chi = \infty$  (internal constraint):

$$p_\chi \simeq p, \quad A = c^2$$

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# Consistency condition

- Consistency condition

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{f} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} : \dot{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial R} \dot{R} \\ &= \frac{\partial \sigma_{eq}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}} : \boldsymbol{\Lambda} : (\dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}} - \dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}}^p) - \frac{\partial R}{\partial p} \dot{p} - \frac{\partial R}{\partial p_\chi} \dot{p}_\chi = 0\end{aligned}$$

- Plastic multiplier

$$\dot{p} = \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{N}} : \boldsymbol{\Lambda} : \dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}} - \frac{\partial R}{\partial p_\chi} \dot{p}_\chi}{\tilde{\mathbf{N}} : \boldsymbol{\Lambda} : \tilde{\mathbf{N}} + \frac{\partial R}{\partial p}}, \quad \text{with} \quad \tilde{\mathbf{N}} = \frac{\partial \sigma_{eq}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\sigma}}$$

where  $\dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}}$  and  $\dot{p}_\chi$  are controllable variable.

- Even though the yield condition can be written as a partial differential equation, there is no need for a variational formulation of the consistency condition contrary to [Mühlhaus and Aifantis, 1991, Liebe et al., 2001]. There is no need for a plastic front tracking technique. The plastic microstrain  $p_\chi$  and the generalized traction  $\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{n}$  are continuous across the elastic/plastic domain.

## Thermal effects

- For temperature dependent parameters

$$a = \operatorname{div} \underline{\mathbf{b}} = \operatorname{div} (A \nabla p_\chi) = A \Delta p_\chi + \frac{\partial A}{\partial T} \nabla T \cdot \nabla p_\chi$$

$$p_\chi - \frac{A}{H_\chi} \Delta p_\chi - \frac{1}{H_\chi} \frac{\partial A}{\partial T} \nabla T \cdot \nabla p_\chi = p$$

- Consistency condition

$$\dot{p} = \frac{\underline{\mathbf{N}} : \underline{\underline{\Lambda}} : (\underline{\dot{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}} - \underline{\dot{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}}^{th}) - \frac{\partial R}{\partial p_\chi} \dot{p}_\chi - \frac{\partial R}{\partial T} \dot{T}}{\underline{\mathbf{N}} : \underline{\underline{\Lambda}} : \underline{\mathbf{N}} + \frac{\partial R}{\partial p}}$$

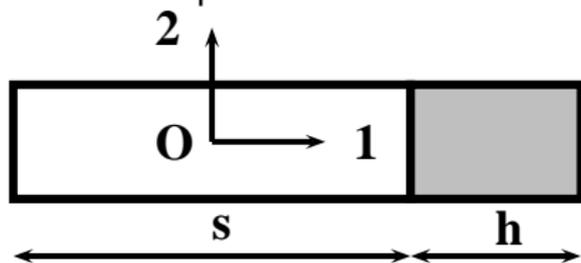
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## Laminate microstructure under shear

Unit cell of a periodic two-phase laminate

$$l = s + h$$



Micromorphic material in the white (soft) phase, purely elastic  
micromorphic gray (hard) phase

- Form of the solution for impose mean shear  $\bar{\gamma}$

$$u_1 = \bar{\gamma} x_2, \quad u_2(x_1) = u(x_1), \quad u_3 = 0$$

unknown periodic functions  $u(x_1)$ ,  $p(x_1)$ ,  $p_\chi(x_1)$

- Deformation gradient and strain

$$[\nabla \underline{\mathbf{u}}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \bar{\gamma} & 0 \\ u_{,1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad [\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2}(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}) & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Resolution of the b.v.p.

Let us consider homogeneous isotropic elasticity, homogeneous  $H_\chi$  and no hardening in the plastic phase for simplicity

- The shear stress is uniform throughout the laminate and takes the value

$$\sqrt{3}\sigma_{12} = R_0 + R = R_0 + H_\chi(p - p_\chi) = R_0 - Ap_{\chi,11}$$

- Derivation of the previous equations with respect to  $x_1$  shows that  $p_{\chi,111} = 0$  which leads to the parabolic profile of the micro-plastic deformation in the soft phase

$$p_\chi(x) = \alpha x^2 + \beta, \quad \forall |x| \leq \frac{s}{2}$$

Note that

$$\sqrt{3}\sigma_{12} = R_0 - 2A\alpha$$

- The parabolic plastic strain profile follows

$$p = \alpha x^2 + \beta - \frac{2A}{H_\chi}$$

## Resolution of the b.v.p.

A new feature of the model is that the microplastic strain  $p_\chi$  does not vanish in general in the hard phase, whereas  $p$  does:

$$p_\chi - \frac{A^h}{H_\chi} \Delta p_\chi = 0$$

$$p_\chi^h = \alpha_h \cosh \omega_h \left(x - \frac{l}{2}\right), \quad \frac{s}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{s}{2} + h, \quad \text{with} \quad \omega_h^2 = \frac{H_\chi}{A_h}$$

the  $p_\chi^h$  profile is of hyperbolic nature

# Interface conditions

- Continuity of micro-plastic deformation at  $x = s/2$ :

$$\alpha \frac{s^2}{4} + \beta = \alpha_h \cosh \omega_h \frac{h}{2}$$

- Continuity of the generalized stress component  $b_1$ :

$$A\alpha s = -A_h \alpha_h \omega_h \sinh \omega_h \frac{h}{2}$$

## Interface conditions

The displacement in the plastic and elastic phases can be expressed as

$$u^s = \alpha \frac{x^3}{\sqrt{3}} + \left( \sqrt{3}\beta - \bar{\gamma} + \frac{R_0}{\sqrt{3}\mu} - 2A\alpha \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}\mu} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{H_x} \right) \right) x$$

$$u^h = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}\mu} (R_0 - 2A\alpha) - \bar{\gamma} \right) x + C$$

They are used to exploit two additional interface conditions

- Continuity of the displacement at  $x = s/2$ :

$$u^s(s/2) = u^h(s/2)$$

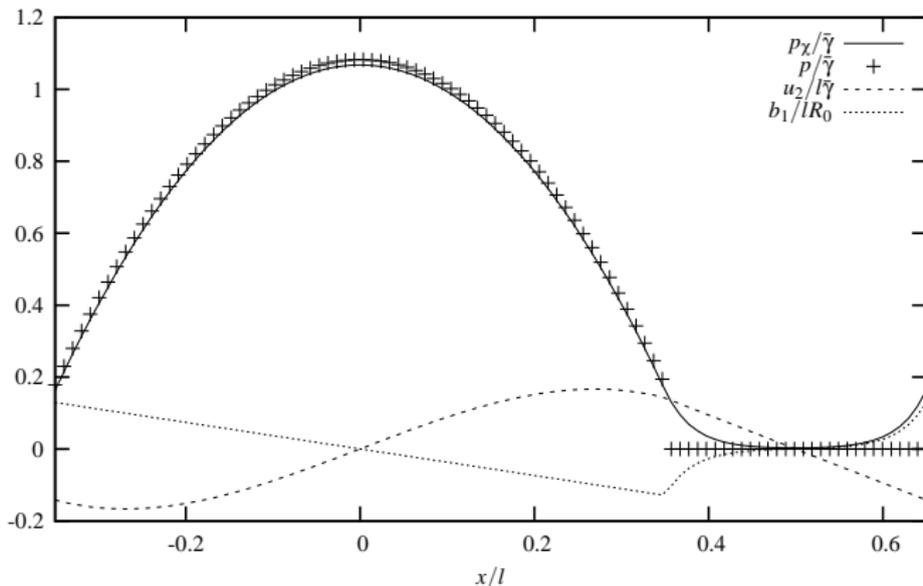
$$\alpha \frac{s^3}{8\sqrt{3}\mu} + \sqrt{3} \left( \beta - \frac{2A\alpha}{H_x} \right) \frac{s}{2} = C$$

- Periodicity of the displacement component

$$u^s(-s/2) = u^h(s/2 + h)$$

$$-\left( \frac{\sigma_{12}}{\mu} - \bar{\gamma} \right) l + \sqrt{3} \left( \beta + \frac{2A\alpha}{H_x} \right) \frac{s}{2} - \alpha \frac{s^3}{8\sqrt{3}} = C$$

# Plastic strain profiles in the channel



$\mu$ (MPa)	$R_0$ (MPa)	$H_\chi$ (MPa)	$A$ (MPa.mm <sup>2</sup> )	$f$	$l$ ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	$\bar{\gamma}$
30000	20	50000	0.005	0.7	10	0.01

## Overall size effect

The scaling law results from the expression of the overall stress  $\sigma_{12}$  as a function of the mean plastic strain over the unit cell:

$$\bar{p} = \frac{1}{l} \int_{-\frac{s}{2}}^{\frac{s}{2}} \left( \alpha x^2 + \beta - \frac{2A\alpha}{H_\chi} \right) dx = \beta f \left( 1 - \frac{1}{L^2} \left( \frac{s^2}{12} - \frac{2A}{H_\chi} \right) \right)$$

with  $L^2 = \frac{s^2}{4} + \frac{A}{A_h} \frac{s}{\omega_h} \operatorname{coth}(\omega_h \frac{h}{2}) = -\frac{\beta}{\alpha}$ . The uniform stress component can now be expressed as a function of the volume fraction  $f$  of the soft phase and of the unit cell size  $l$ :

$$\sqrt{3}\sigma_{12} = R_0 + \frac{2A}{f} \frac{\bar{p}}{\frac{f^2 l^2}{6} + \frac{2A}{H_\chi} + \frac{A}{A_h} \frac{fl}{\omega_h} \operatorname{coth}(\omega_h \frac{h}{2})}$$

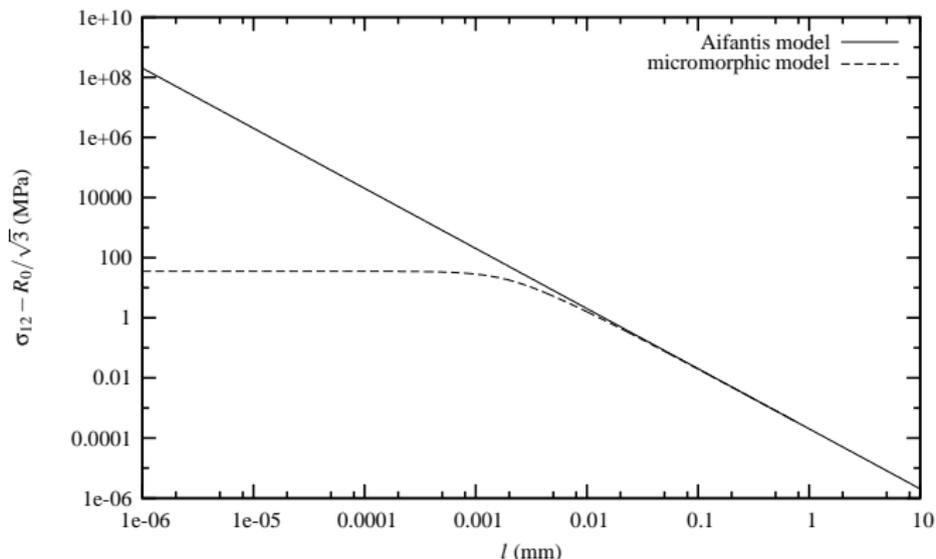
displaying a size-dependent overall linear hardening

# Scaling laws

Two limit cases naturally arise

- Internal constraint  $H_\chi \rightarrow \infty$  for which the strain gradient plasticity model is retrieved
- Unit cell size  $l \rightarrow 0$  leads to saturation stress

$$\sqrt{3}\sigma_{12} - R_0 \sim H_\chi \frac{1-f}{f} \bar{p}$$



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# Main comments

- The choice of quadratic potentials with respect to strain gradients leads to the existence of a size dependent overall linear hardening modulus in a laminate microstructure
- The corresponding scaling law according to Aifantis strain gradient plasticity (one new material parameter) is  $1/l^2$
- In contrast the micromorphic model (two new material parameters) leads to a saturation at nano-scales
- Physical metallurgy hints rather at scaling laws of the Orowan ( $1/l$ ) or Hall-Petch ( $1/\sqrt{l}$ ) types

# Needed improvements

- Improve constitutive equations; for instance

$$\rho\psi(\nabla p) = \sqrt{\nabla p \cdot \mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla p}$$

[Conti and Ortiz, 2005, Okumura et al., 2007]

- Add higher order dissipative parts  
[Forest, 2009, Anand et al., 2012]
- Enhance interface conditions  
[Gurtin and Needleman, 2005, Acharya, 2007,  
Gurtin and Anand, 2008]

## Extension to crystal plasticity

- In crystal plasticity, the relevant variable is not the gradient of the cumulative plastic strain but rather the dislocation density tensor

$$\underline{\Gamma} = -\text{curl } \underline{\mathbb{H}}^P, \quad \underline{\mathbb{H}} = \underline{\mathbf{u}} \otimes \nabla = \underline{\mathbb{H}}^e + \underline{\mathbb{H}}^P$$

[Cermelli and Gurtin, 2001, Svendsen, 2002]

but no effects in laminates...

- A strain gradient and a micromorphic theory can be designed based on the introduction of the dislocation density tensor in the free energy function [Aslan et al., 2011]
- Similar effects arise in laminate microstructures but the overall linear hardening is of kinematic nature

$$x = \text{curl curl } \underline{\mathbb{H}}^P : \underline{\mathbf{m}} \otimes \underline{\mathbf{n}}$$

[Cordero et al., 2010, Cottura et al., 2012]

- Hall–Petch related size effects can be predicted in polycrystals based on full field simulations [Forest et al., 2000, Bayley et al., 2007, Neff et al., 2009, Bargmann et al., 2010, Cordero et al., 2012, Wulfinghoff and Boehlke, 2012]
- Constitutive equations are still unrealistic...

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