

# Finite Elements for Symmetric Tensors

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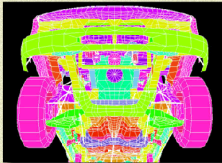
# Outline

- 1 Linear Elasticity Problem and Mixed Finite Elements
- 2 Conforming Elements on Tetrahedral Meshes
  - Brezzi's stability conditions
  - 2D triangular Arnold-Winther elements
  - 3D tetrahedral Arnold-Awanou-Winther elements
- 3 Relaxing Conformity and Symmetry
  - Nonconforming Elements
  - Elements with symmetry weakly imposed
- 4 Summary

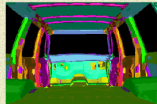
# Applications of finite element

## FEM Model Details

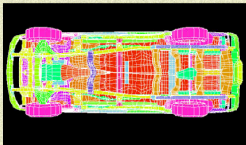
FEM Model – Front Suspension



FEM Model – Vehicle Interior



FEM Model – Bottom View



<http://www.epm.ornl.gov/SC98/car.html>

## Linear Elasticity Problem

Displacement  $u_i = x'_i - x_i$

$$dl'^2 = dl^2 + \sum_{i,k} 2(\epsilon u)_{ik} dx_i dx_k$$

$$(\epsilon u)_{ik} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} + \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_i} + \sum_l \frac{\partial u_l}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial u_l}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

For small deformations, the strain tensor is

$$(\epsilon u)_{ik} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} + \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

$\sum_k \sigma_{ik} n_k$  is the  $i$ th component of the force acting on the element of surface  $ds$  with normal  $\mathbf{n}$ .

# Linear Elasticity Problem

$$\begin{aligned}A \sigma &= \epsilon(u) \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ \operatorname{div} \sigma &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ u &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega,\end{aligned}$$

- $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  measures the displacement
- $\sigma : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$  measures the internal forces where  $\mathbb{S}$  is the space of  $n \times n$  symmetric matrices.

$$\epsilon(u) = \frac{1}{2}(\nabla u + (\nabla u)^T)$$

$A$  is called compliance tensor and  $f$  encodes the body forces.

# Variational Formulations

- 1 Primal variational principle : displacement over  $v = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \epsilon(v) : \epsilon(v) + f \cdot v$$

- 2 Dual Variational Principle : stress field over  $\operatorname{div} \tau = f$

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{A}_{\tau} : \tau$$

- 3 Mixed variational principle : stress field and displacement

$$\int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{A}_{\tau} : \tau + \operatorname{div} \tau \cdot v - f \cdot v \right) dx$$

## Mixed Weak Formulation

Find  $\sigma \in \Sigma = H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{S}) = \{\sigma \in L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{S}), \operatorname{div} \sigma \in L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)\}$   
and  $u \in V = L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}(A\sigma, \tau) + (\operatorname{div} \tau, u) &= 0, \quad \forall \tau \in \Sigma, \\ (\operatorname{div} \sigma, v) &= (f, v), \quad \forall v \in V.\end{aligned}$$

Discrete problem posed on  $\Sigma_h \subset \Sigma$  and  $V_h \subset V$

$$\sigma = (\sigma_{ij})_{i,j=1,\dots,n} \quad \sigma_{ij} = \sigma_{ji} \quad u = (u_i)_{i=1,\dots,n}$$

Stable approximations ?

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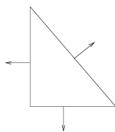
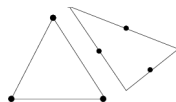
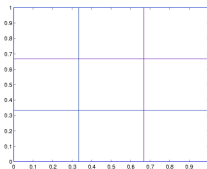
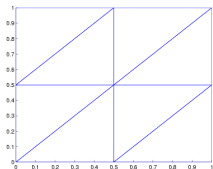
## Finite element spaces

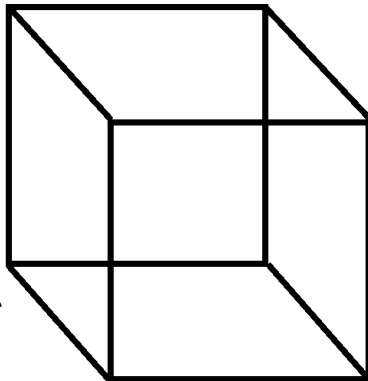
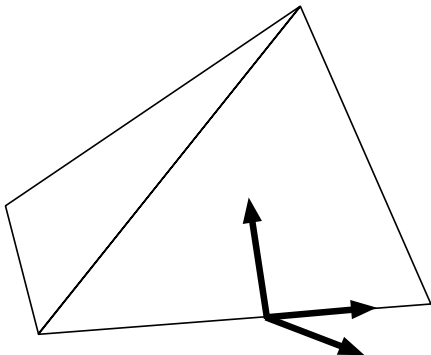
- $K$  is a closed subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with a nonempty interior and a Lipschitz continuous boundary
- $P_K$  is a finite dimensional space of vector valued or matrix valued functions defined over the set  $K$
- $\Theta_K$  is a finite set of linearly independent linear functionals,  $\theta_i, i = 1, \dots, N$  referred to as degrees of freedom of the finite element, defined over the set  $P_K$ .

It is assumed that the set  $\Theta_K$  is  $P_K$ -unisolvent in the sense that

$$\theta_i(p) = 0, i = 1, \dots, N \implies p \equiv 0$$

# Examples





## Continuity conditions for conformity

A piecewise infinitely differentiable function belongs to  $H^k$  if and only if it is  $C^{k-1}$

A piecewise smooth vector field  $v$  is in  $H(\text{div})$  if and only if for each common face  $F = K_1 \cap K_2$  of the triangulation, the trace on  $F$  of the normal component  $n \cdot v|_{K_1}$  and  $n \cdot v|_{K_2}$  is the same

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{13} \\ \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{22} & \sigma_{23} \\ \sigma_{13} & \sigma_{23} & \sigma_{33} \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma \text{ symmetric} \quad u = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Stable approximations ?

Surprisingly stable mixed finite elements for elasticity have been difficult to construct.

**Composite Elements** Fraeijis de Veubeke (1965), Watwood and Hartz (1968), Johnson and Mercier (1978), Arnold-Douglas-Gupta (1984)

**Modified variational problems** Arnold and Falk(1988), Becache, Joly and Tsogka (2002), ...

**Weakly imposed symmetry condition** Arnold, Brezzi and Douglas (1984), Stenberg (1986), Morley (1989), Arnold, Falk and Winther (2006) and (2007), ...

**Using polynomial shape functions** D. Arnold and R. Winther, (2002), D. Arnold and R. Winther, (2003), S. Adams and B. Cockburn, (2004), Yi (2005) and (2006), Hu and Shi, (2007), Man, Hu and Shi, (2008).

**My own contributions** : D. Arnold and **G. Awanou**, Rectangular Mixed Finite Elements for Elasticity. Math. Models and Methods in Appl. Sci. (2005).

**G. Awanou** A Rotated Nonconforming Rectangular Mixed Finite Element for Elasticity. To appear in Calcolo, (2009).

D. Arnold, **G. Awanou** and R. Winther, Finite elements for symmetric tensors in three dimensions. Mathematics of Computation, (2008).

D. Arnold and **G. Awanou**, Rectangular Mixed Elements for Elasticity with weakly imposed symmetry condition, (In preparation).

D. Arnold, **G. Awanou** and R. Winther, Nonconforming Tetrahedral Mixed Finite Elements for Elasticity, (In preparation).

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# Abstract Mixed Formulation

Find  $\sigma \in \Sigma = H(\text{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{S})$  and  $u \in V = L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} (A\sigma, \tau) + (\text{div } \tau, u) &= 0, \quad \forall \tau \in \Sigma, \\ (\text{div } \sigma, v) &= (f, v), \quad \forall v \in V. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a(\sigma, \tau) + b(\tau, u) &= 0, \quad \forall \tau \in \Sigma, \\ b(\sigma, v) &= (f, v), \quad \forall v \in V. \end{aligned}$$

Discrete Problem

$$\begin{aligned} a(\sigma_h, \tau_h) + b(\tau_h, u_h) &= 0, \quad \forall \tau_h \in \Sigma_h, \quad \Sigma_h \subset \Sigma \\ b(\sigma_h, v_h) &= (f, v_h), \quad \forall v_h \in V_h, \quad V_h \subset V. \end{aligned}$$

# Brezzi's stability conditions

$\Sigma_h \subset \Sigma$  and  $V_h \subset V$

Sufficient conditions for optimal error bounds

**First Brezzi condition**  $\exists \alpha > 0$  independent of  $h$  such that

$$a(\tau, \tau) \geq \alpha \|\tau\|_{\Sigma}^2$$

for all  $\tau$  in  $K_h$  where

$$K_h = \{\tau \in \Sigma_h : b(\tau, v) = 0, \forall v \in V_h\}$$

**Second Brezzi condition**  $\exists \beta > 0$  independent of  $h$  such that

$$\sup_{\tau \in \Sigma_h} \frac{b(\tau, v)}{\|\tau\|_{\Sigma}} \geq \beta \|v\|_V \quad \forall v \in V_h$$

$$\|\sigma - \sigma_h\|_{\Sigma} + \|u - u_h\|_V \leq \gamma \{\inf_{\tau \in \Sigma_h} \|\sigma - \tau\|_{\Sigma} + \inf_{v_h \in V_h} \|u - v_h\|_V\}$$

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# Commutative Diagram

Sufficient conditions for stability

- $\text{div } \Sigma_h \subset V_h$ .
- There exists a linear operator  $\Pi_h : H^1(\Omega, \mathbb{S}) \rightarrow \Sigma_h$ , bounded in  $\mathcal{L}(H^1, L^2)$  uniformly with respect to  $h$ , and such that with  $P_h : L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow V_h$  denoting the  $L^2$ -projection

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 H(\text{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{S}) & \xrightarrow{\text{div}} & L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n) \\
 \downarrow \Pi_h & & \downarrow P_h \\
 \Sigma_h & \xrightarrow{\text{div}} & V_h
 \end{array}$$

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# Arnold-Winther 2D elements

## Elasticity Differential Complex

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \mathcal{P}_1(\Omega) & \xrightarrow{\subset} & H^2(\Omega) & \xrightarrow{J} & H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{S}) & \xrightarrow{\operatorname{div}} & L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow I_h & & \downarrow \Pi_h & & \downarrow P_h \\
 \mathcal{P}_1(\Omega) & \xrightarrow{\subset} & \mathbf{Q}_h & \xrightarrow{J} & \Sigma_h & \xrightarrow{\operatorname{div}} & \mathbf{V}_h \rightarrow 0
 \end{array}$$

$$Jq := \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 q}{\partial y^2} & -\frac{\partial^2 q}{\partial x \partial y} \\ -\frac{\partial^2 q}{\partial x \partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 q}{\partial x^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{P}_1(T) \xrightarrow{\subset} \mathcal{P}_5(T) \xrightarrow{J} \mathcal{P}_3(T, \mathbb{S}) \xrightarrow{\operatorname{div}} \mathcal{P}_2(T, \mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow 0$$

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But which degrees of freedom ?  $\dim Q_h = 6V + E$

Condition for  $\sigma$  to be in  $H(\text{div})$  is that  $\sigma n$  is continuous

From the diagram

$$\mathcal{P}_1(T) \xrightarrow{\subset} \mathcal{P}_5(T) \xrightarrow{J} \mathcal{P}_3(T, \mathbb{S}) \xrightarrow{\text{div}} \mathcal{P}_2(T, \mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow 0$$

possible choices are  $\Sigma_T = \mathcal{P}_3(T, \mathbb{S})$  and  $V_T = \mathcal{P}_2(T, \mathbb{R}^2)$

$$3(V - E + T) - (6V + E) + (xV + yE + zT) - wT = 0$$

which gives  $x = 3, y = 4$  and  $z = w - 3$ .

Degrees of freedom

- 1 the values of each component of  $\tau(x)$  at the vertices of  $T$  (9 degrees of freedom)
- 2 the first two moments of each component of  $\tau n$  on each edge (12 degrees of freedom)

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But recall that for stability, need  $\text{div } \Sigma_h \subset V_h$  and commutativity property  $P_h \text{div } \tau = \text{div } \Pi_h \tau, \tau \in H(\text{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{S})$  or

$$\int_T \text{div}(\tau - \Pi_h \tau) \cdot \nu \, dx = - \int_T (\tau - \Pi_h \tau) : \epsilon(\nu) \, dx + \int_{\partial T} (\tau - \Pi_h \tau) n \cdot \nu \, ds$$

Sufficient conditions are  $\nu \in \text{span}\{1, x\}$  on each edge

$$\Sigma_T = \{ \tau \in \mathcal{P}_3(T, \mathbb{S}), \text{div } \tau \in V_T \} \text{ and } V_T = \mathcal{P}_1(T, \mathbb{R}^2)$$

So  $w = 6$  and  $z = 3$ .

**3** the values of  $\int_T \tau : \phi$  for all  $\phi$  in  $\epsilon(V_T)$

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## 3D elasticity sequence

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \mathcal{T} & \rightarrow & H^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R})^3 & \xrightarrow{\epsilon} & H(\text{curl curl}^*, \Omega, \mathbb{S}) & & \\ \xrightarrow{\text{curl curl}^*} & & H(\text{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{S}) & \xrightarrow{\text{div}} & L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^3) & \rightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \mathcal{T} & \xrightarrow{\subset} & \mathcal{P}_{k+4}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^3) & \xrightarrow{\epsilon} & \mathcal{P}_{k+3}(\Omega, \mathbb{S}) & & \\ \xrightarrow{\text{curl curl}^*} & & \mathcal{P}_{k+1}(\Omega, \mathbb{S}) & \xrightarrow{\text{div}} & \mathcal{P}_k(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^3) & \rightarrow & 0. \end{array}$$

$$\mathcal{T} \rightarrow R_h \xrightarrow{\epsilon} Q_h \xrightarrow{\text{curl curl}^*} \Sigma_h \xrightarrow{\text{div}} V_h \rightarrow 0$$

But both  $Q_h$  and  $\Sigma_h$  are spaces of symmetric matrix fields

## 3D elasticity sequence

$$\mathcal{T} \rightarrow H^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R})^3 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} H(\text{curl curl}^*, \Omega, \mathbb{S})$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{curl curl}^*} H(\text{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{S}) \xrightarrow{\text{div}} L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^3) \rightarrow 0$$

$$\mathcal{T} \xrightarrow{\subset} \mathcal{P}_{k+4}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^3) \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \mathcal{P}_{k+3}(\Omega, \mathbb{S})$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{curl curl}^*} \mathcal{P}_{k+1}(\Omega, \mathbb{S}) \xrightarrow{\text{div}} \mathcal{P}_k(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^3) \rightarrow 0.$$

$$\mathcal{T} \rightarrow R_h \xrightarrow{\epsilon} Q_h \xrightarrow{\text{curl curl}^*} \Sigma_h \xrightarrow{\text{div}} V_h \rightarrow 0$$

But both  $Q_h$  and  $\Sigma_h$  are spaces of symmetric matrix fields

## Features of the 2D elements

$V_K$  space of discontinuous piecewise polynomials,  $\mathcal{P}_s(K; \mathbb{R}^2)$

$$\Sigma_K = \{ \tau \in \mathcal{P}_k(K; \mathbb{S}) \mid \operatorname{div} \tau \in V_K \}$$

$\Sigma_K$  space of matrix fields with degrees of freedom

- vertex degrees of freedom
- degrees of freedom for  $\tau n$
- $\int_K \tau : \epsilon(v), v \in V_K$
- $\int_K \tau : \phi, \phi$  in

$$\{ \tau \in \Sigma_K, \operatorname{div} \tau = 0, \tau n = 0 \text{ on } \partial K \}$$

$$k=s+2, s \geq 1$$

## Discrete stress field

Postulate  $V_K = \mathcal{P}_s(K; \mathbb{R}^3)$ , and

$$\Sigma_K = \{ T \in \mathcal{P}_k(K; \mathbb{S}) \mid \operatorname{div} T \in V_K \}$$

$$\dim \mathcal{P}_k(T, \mathbb{R}) = \frac{(k+2)(k+1)}{2}$$

Need  $6 \times 4 = 24$  vertex degrees of freedom

edge with normal  $n_-$  and  $n_+$ ,  $n'_- T n_+ \in \mathcal{P}_k(e, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $k - 1$  d.o.f.

Same for  $n'_- T n_-$ ,  $n'_- T t$ ,  $n'_+ T n_+$ ,  $n'_+ T t$

$$\frac{(k+2)(k+1)}{2} - 3 - 3(k-1) = \frac{(k-1)(k-2)}{2} = \dim \mathcal{P}_{k-3}(f, \mathbb{R})$$

Face degrees of freedom  $\int_f T n \cdot v \, dx$ ,  $v \in \mathcal{P}_{k-3}(f, \mathbb{R}^3)$

$\int_K T n \cdot v \, dx = 0$ ,  $v \in V_K$  Need  $s \leq k - 3$

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## Low order elements

$$\Sigma_K = \{ T \in \mathcal{P}_4(K; \mathbb{S}) \mid \operatorname{div} T \in \mathcal{P}_1(K; \mathbb{R}^3) \} \quad \text{and} \quad V_K = \mathcal{P}_1(K; \mathbb{R}^3)$$

$$\dim \Sigma_K \leq 162 \quad \dim V_K = 12$$

### Degrees of freedom

- 1 vertex d.o.f. (  $4 \times 6 = 24$  )
- 2 edge d.o.f. (  $6 \times 3 \times 5 = 90$  )
- 3 face d.o.f. (  $4 \times 3 \times 3 = 36$  )
- 4  $\int_K T : U, U \in \epsilon(V_K)$  (6 d.o.f.)
- 5 the value of the moments  $\int_K T : U \, dx, U \in M_4(K)$ , (6 d.o.f.)

$$M_4(K) := \{ T \in \mathcal{P}_4(K; \mathbb{S}) \mid \operatorname{div} T = 0 \text{ and } Tn = 0 \text{ on } \partial K \}.$$

Somewhat similar space, Adams-Cockburn

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## Higher order elements

$$\Sigma_K = \{ T \in \mathcal{P}_{k+3}(K; \mathbb{S}) \mid \operatorname{div} T \in \mathcal{P}_k(K; \mathbb{R}^3) \} \quad \text{and} \quad V_K = \mathcal{P}_k(K; \mathbb{R}^3)$$

$$\|S - S_h\|_0 \leq C h^{k+2} \|S\|_{k+2}$$

$$\|u - u_h\|_0 \leq C h^{k+1} \|u\|_{k+1}$$

Reduced space is  $O(h^3)$  for stress and  $O(h^2)$  for displacement

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \mathcal{T} & \rightarrow & C^\infty(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^3) & \xrightarrow{\epsilon} & C^\infty(\Omega; \mathbb{S}) & \xrightarrow{L} & C^\infty(\Omega; \mathbb{S}) & \xrightarrow{\operatorname{div}} & C^\infty(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^3) & \rightarrow & 0 \\
 & & \downarrow \Pi_h^R & & \downarrow \Pi_h^Q & & \downarrow \pi_h^\Sigma & & \downarrow P_h & & \\
 \mathcal{T} & \rightarrow & R_h & \xrightarrow{\epsilon} & Q_h & \xrightarrow{L} & \Sigma_h & \xrightarrow{\operatorname{div}} & V_h & \rightarrow & 0
 \end{array}$$

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- 1 Linear Elasticity Problem and Mixed Finite Elements
- 2 Conforming Elements on Tetrahedral Meshes
  - Brezzi's stability conditions
  - 2D triangular Arnold-Winther elements
  - 3D tetrahedral Arnold-Awanou-Winther elements
- 3 Relaxing Conformity and Symmetry**
  - Nonconforming Elements**
  - Elements with symmetry weakly imposed
- 4 Summary

The divergence of the stress field is no longer  $L^2$  integrable

Consistency error has to be shown to be bounded

No vertex degrees of freedom and much less d.o.f.

**Triangular** Arnold-Winther 02 (12-3)

**2D Rectangular** Awanou 09 (16-3), Yi 05 (19-6), Yi 06 (13-4),  
Hu-Shi 07 (12-4)

**Tetrahedral** Arnold-Awanou-Winther 09 (36-6)

**3D Rectangular** Yi 05 (60-12), Man-Hu-Shi 08 (54-12)

$O(h)$  for stress and displacement (except Yi)

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- 4 Summary

$\mathbb{M}$  denotes the space of  $2 \times 2$  matrix fields

$$\text{as}(\tau) = \tau_{21} - \tau_{12}.$$

Find  $(\sigma, u, \gamma) \in \Sigma \times V \times Q \subset H(\text{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{M}) \times L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \times L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R})$   
 such that

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{A}\sigma, \tau) + (\text{div } \tau, u) + (\text{as } \tau, \gamma) &= 0, \quad \tau \in H(\text{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{M}), \\ (\text{div } \sigma, v) &= (f, v), \quad v \in L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2), \\ (\text{as } \sigma, q) &= 0, \quad q \in L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}). \end{aligned}$$

Discrete problem posed on  $\Sigma_h \subset \Sigma$ ,  $V_h \subset V$  and  $Q_h \subset Q$ .  
 Allows piecewise constant functions for stress and rotation on  
 triangular, tetrahedral and rectangular in two and three  
 dimensions.

## Advantages and Disadvantages

Conforming elements with symmetric stress fields

- 1 Vertex degrees of freedom
- 2 High number of degrees of freedom
- 3 But conformity useful in some situations

Nonconforming elements with symmetric stress fields

- 1 No vertex degrees of freedom and low number of d.o.f.
- 2 Can potentially be extended to arbitrary quadrilaterals

Elements with weakly imposed symmetry conditions

- 1 Typically simpler than conforming elements
- 2 But comparable to nonconforming elements

Fully nonconforming elements ?