



# FEM: A Basic Overview of the Method & Outlook on Applications

William Counts

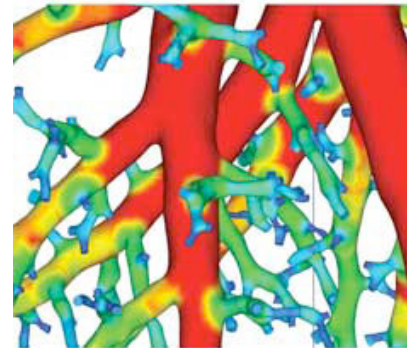
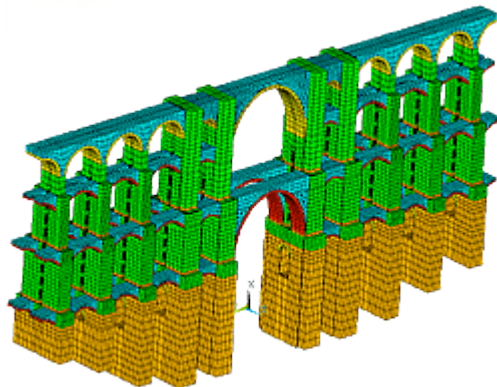
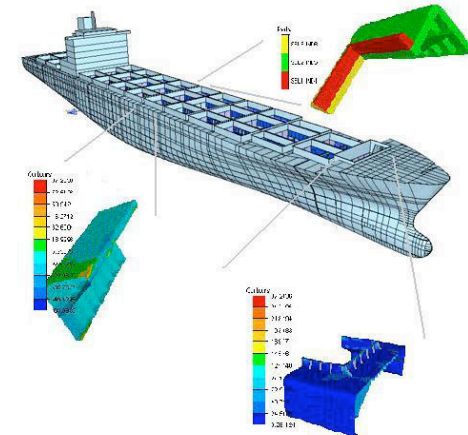
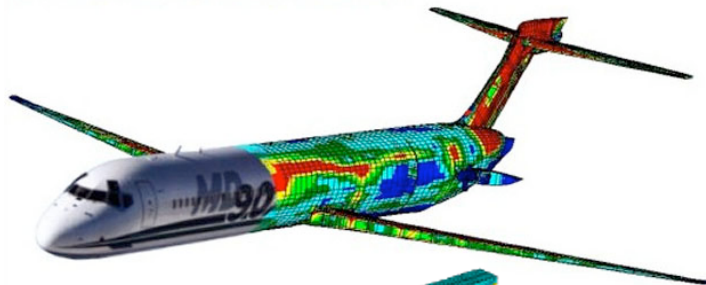
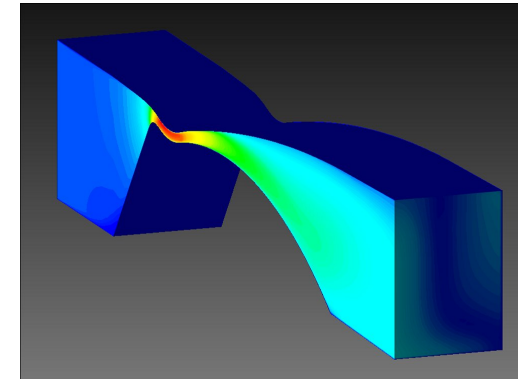
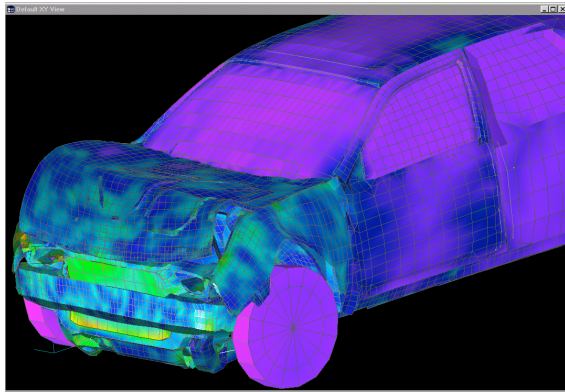
*, August 25, 2008, Aachen*



# Introduction

## FEM: Finite Element Method

**A great picture generating tool!!!!**

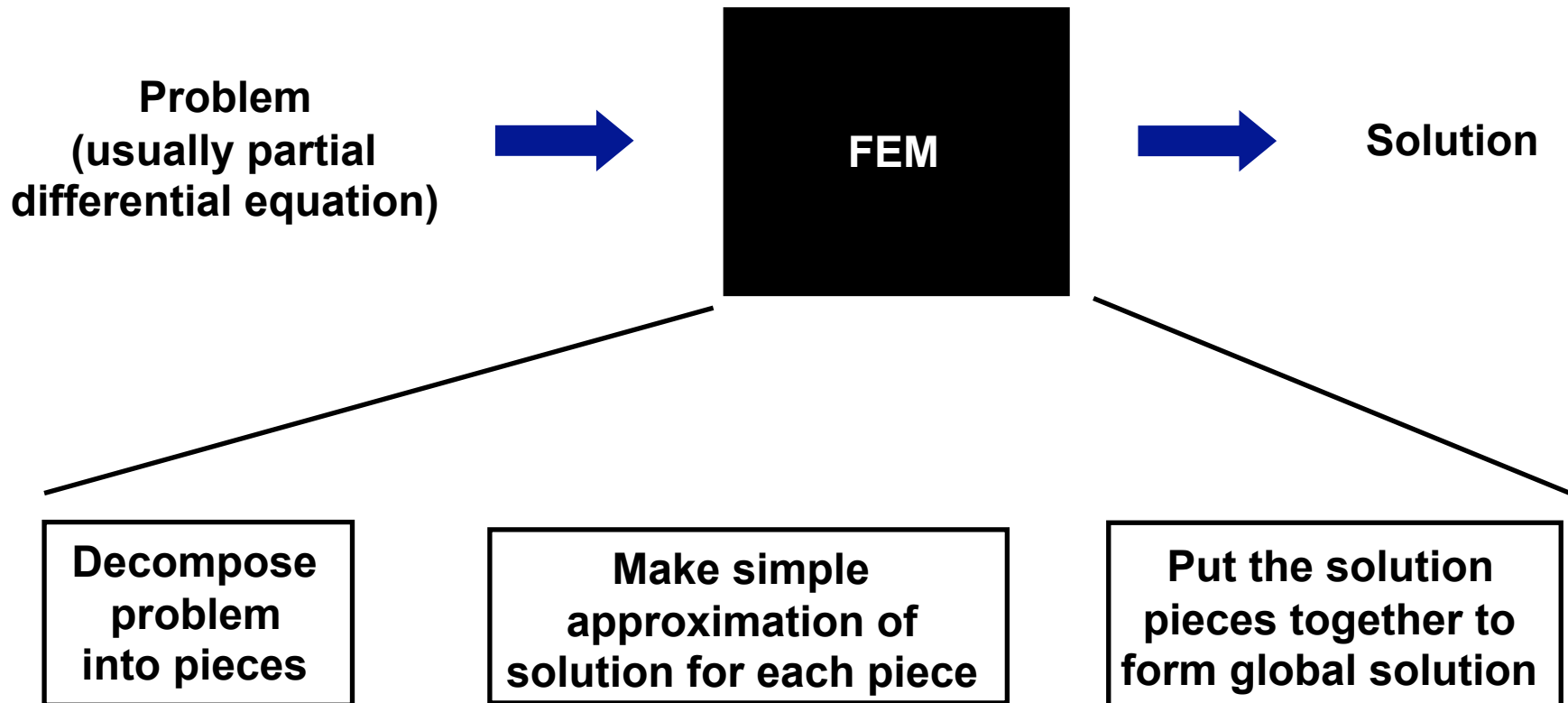


**MORE THAN JUST COMPUTER GENERATED ART**



## My view: FEM is a mathematical tool.

**Any physically meaningful output MUST result from physical input provided by you to FEM**

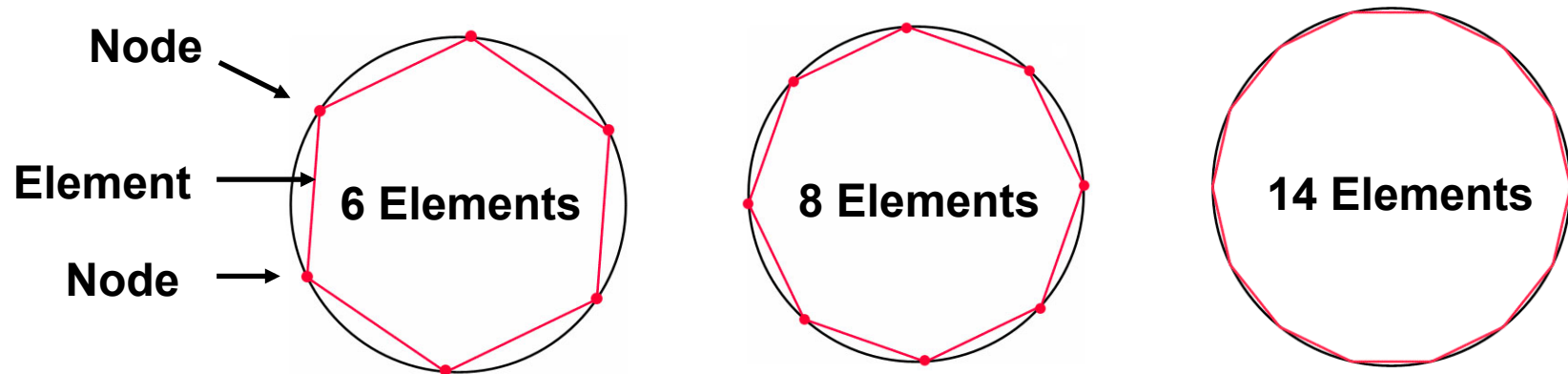




# Introduction

## Example: Computing the circumference of a circle with radius $r$

- Decompose (or Discretize) the problem



- Approximate solution for each piece (or element)

$$L_e = 2r \sin \frac{\theta}{2}$$

- Assemble the Element Equations and Solve

$$P_c = \sum_{N_e} L_e = \sum_{N_e} 2r \sin \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$N_e = 6 \quad P_c = 6.00 r$$

$$N_e = 8 \quad P_c = 6.12 r$$

$$N_e = 14 \quad P_c = 6.23 r$$

**→**  $2\pi r$



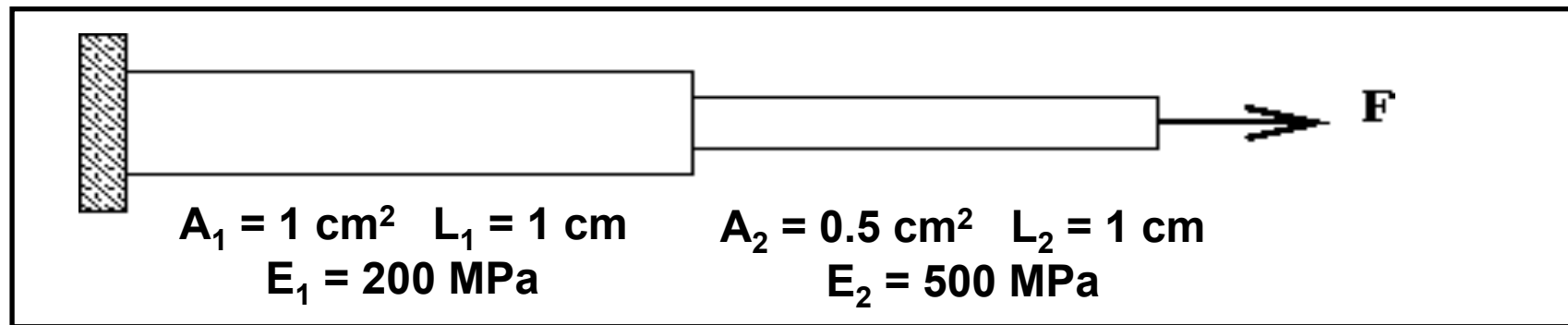
- FEM can be applied to many different problems

Problem Type	DOF #1	DOF #2
Structures and solid mechanics	Displacement	Mechanical force
Heat conduction	Temperature	Heat flux
Acoustic fluid	Displacement potential	Particle velocity
Potential flows	Pressure	Particle velocity
General flows	Velocity	Fluxes
Electrostatics	Electric potential	Charge density
Magnetostatics	Magnetic potential	Magnetic intensity

- Going to use “Structures and solid mechanics” examples
- Easily apply other problem types by substituting appropriate variables and equations



# FEM – 1D Rod Example



## FEM

1) Enforce Equilibrium  $\rightarrow \sum F = 0$

2) Ensure compatibility (no formation of holes/voids)

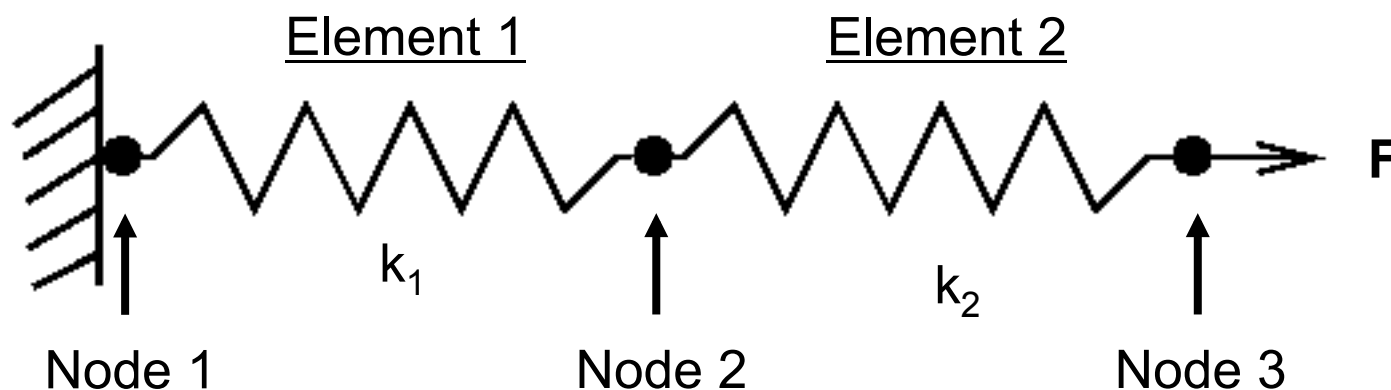
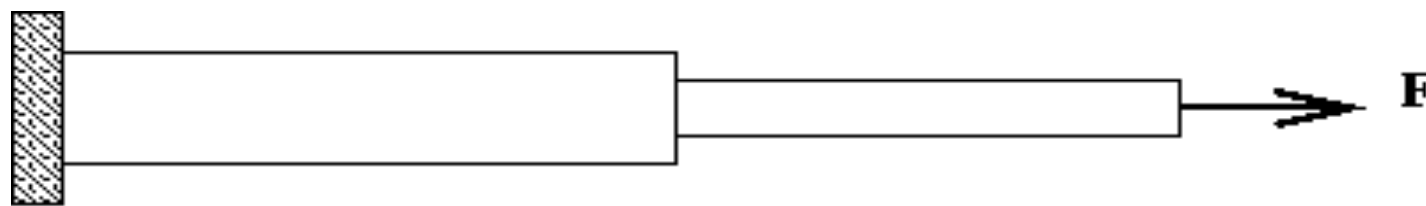
## Modeler

Provide constitutive equation for each rod  
(i.e. what is the relationship between force and displacement)

Model rods as elastic springs  $\rightarrow F = kd$     $k = \frac{AE}{L}$



# FEM – 1D Rod Example



**For each element, write a force balance at each node**

Element 1

$$f_{E1}^{\text{Node-1}} + k_{E1} (u^{\text{Node-1}} - u^{\text{Node-2}}) = 0$$

$$f_{E1}^{\text{Node-2}} + k_{E1} (u^{\text{Node-2}} - u^{\text{Node-1}}) = 0$$

Element 2

$$f_{E2}^{\text{Node-2}} + k_{E2} (u^{\text{Node-2}} - u^{\text{Node-3}}) = 0$$

$$f_{E2}^{\text{Node-3}} + k_{E2} (u^{\text{Node-3}} - u^{\text{Node-2}}) = 0$$



# FEM – 1D Rod Example

- Assemble the force balance equations for all 3 nodes

$$\begin{bmatrix} k_{E1} & -k_{E1} & 0 \\ k_{E1} & k_{E1} + k_{E2} & -k_{E2} \\ 0 & -k_{E2} & k_{E2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u^{\text{Node-1}} \\ u^{\text{Node-2}} \\ u^{\text{Node-3}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -f_{E1}^{\text{Node-1}} \\ -f_{E1}^{\text{Node-2}} - f_{E2}^{\text{Node-2}} \\ -f_{E2}^{\text{Node-3}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[K][u] = [f]$$

K = Stiffness Matrix    u = displacement vector    f = force vector

- Apply Boundary Conditions

$$\begin{bmatrix} k_{E1} & -k_{E1} & 0 \\ k_{E1} & k_{E1} + k_{E2} & -k_{E2} \\ 0 & -k_{E2} & k_{E2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ u^{\text{Node-2}} \\ u^{\text{Node-3}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -f_{E1}^{\text{Node-1}} \\ 0 \\ F \end{bmatrix}$$

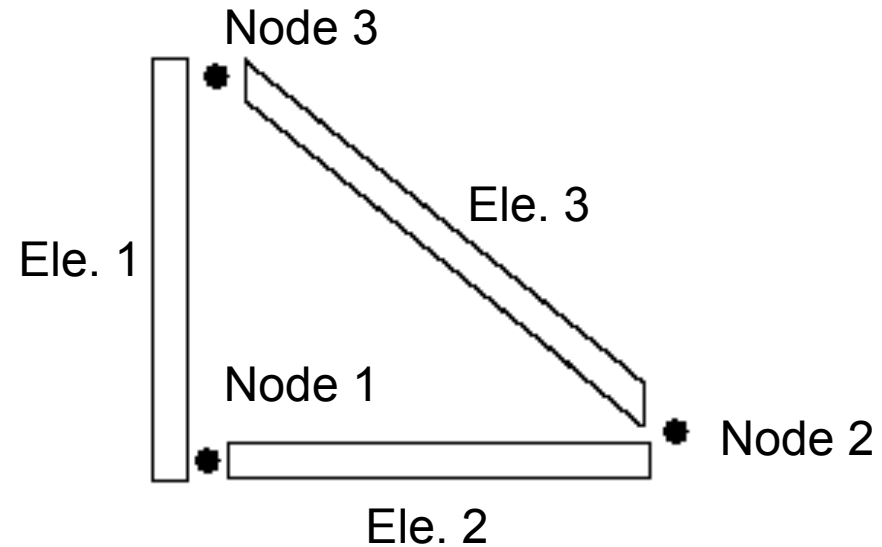
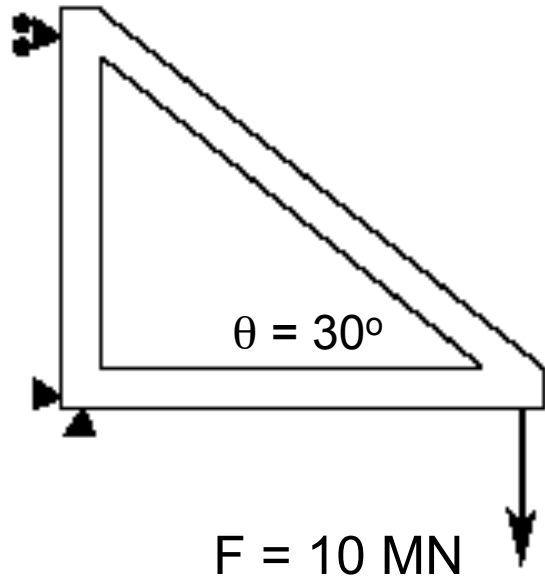
3 equations and 3 unknowns

Easily solve with a matrix inversion





# FEM – 2D Truss Example



- FEM**

#1) Equilibrium  $\sum F_x = 0 \quad \sum F_y = 0$

#2) Compatibility

- Modeler**

Elastic spring model to define the F vs. d relationship

- 2D → Account for orientation
- Rotate u and f

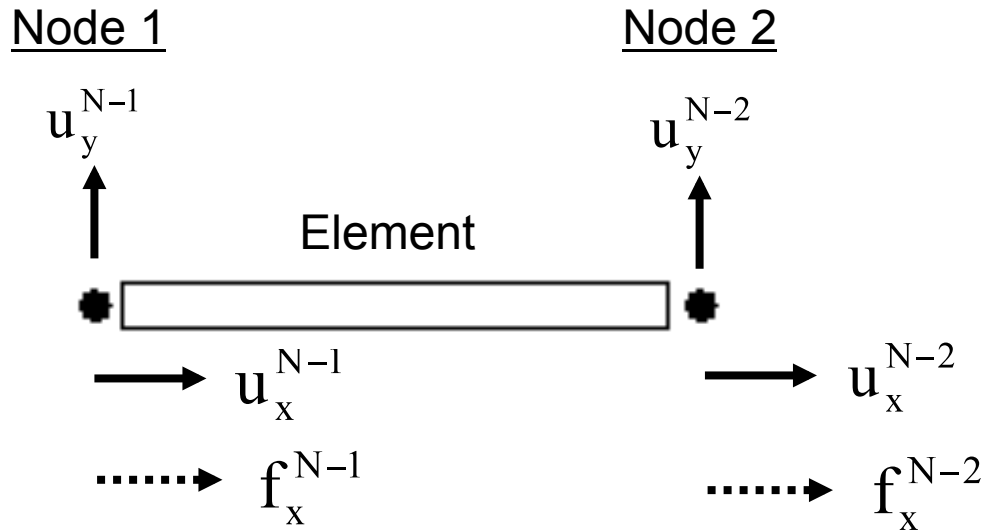
$$[k][T][u] = [T][f]$$

$$[k'] [u] = [f'] \quad [k'] = [T]^T [k] [T]$$

$$[T] = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta & 0 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 0 & -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$



# FEM – 2D Truss Example



- Element can be displaced in 2 directions
- Element supports along axial direction

Element force balance equations

$$f_x^{N-1} + k_E (u_x^{N-1} - u_x^{N-2}) = 0$$

$$f_y^{N-1} + k_E (u_y^{N-1} - u_y^{N-2}) = 0$$

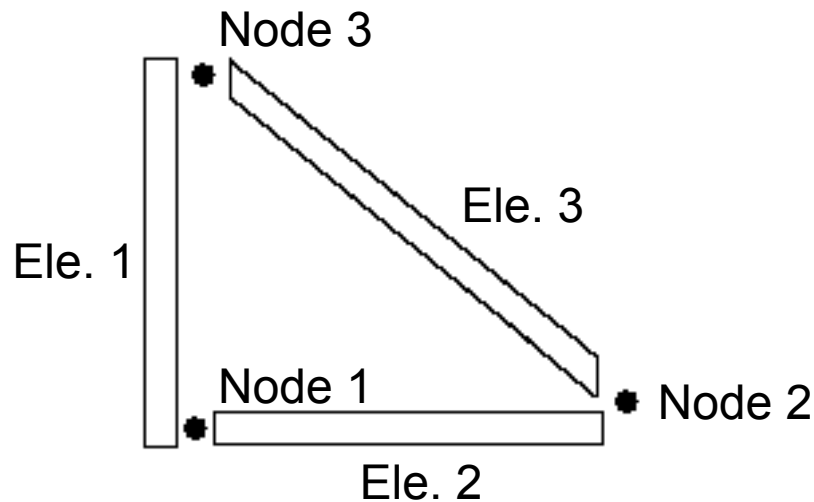
$$f_x^{N-2} + k_E (u_x^{N-2} - u_x^{N-1}) = 0$$

$$f_y^{N-2} + k_E (u_y^{N-2} - u_y^{N-1}) = 0$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{Green Arrow} \\ [T]^T \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} k_E & 0 & -k_E & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -k_E & 0 & k_E & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} [T] \begin{bmatrix} u_x^{N-1} \\ u_y^{N-1} \\ u_x^{N-2} \\ u_y^{N-2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_x^{N-1} \\ 0 \\ f_x^{N-2} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



# FEM – 2D Truss Example



	$A(m^2)$	$E(MPa)$	$L(m)$
Ele 1	0.01	10	5
Ele 2	0.01	10	8.66
Ele 3	0.01	10	10

$$k = \frac{AE}{L}$$

$$k_1 = 2000 \quad k_2 = 1154.73 \quad k_3 = 1000$$

$$[T_1] = \begin{bmatrix} c90 & s90 & 0 & 0 \\ -s90 & c90 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c90 & s90 \\ 0 & 0 & -s90 & c90 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[T_2] = \begin{bmatrix} c0 & s0 & 0 & 0 \\ -s0 & c0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c0 & s0 \\ 0 & 0 & -s0 & c0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[T_3] = \begin{bmatrix} c150 & s150 & 0 & 0 \\ -s150 & c150 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c150 & s150 \\ 0 & 0 & -s150 & c150 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.866 & -0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & -0.866 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.866 & -0.5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.5 & -0.866 \end{bmatrix}$$



# FEM – 2D Truss Example

- Calculate the element stiffness matrixes →

$$[T] \begin{bmatrix} k_E & 0 & -k_E & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -k_E & 0 & k_E & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} [T]$$

For example Element 3:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -0.866 & -0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & -0.866 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.866 & -0.5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.5 & -0.866 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1000 & 0 & -1000 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1000 & 0 & 1000 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -0.866 & -0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & -0.866 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.866 & -0.5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.5 & -0.866 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[k'_{E3}] = \begin{bmatrix} 750 & -433.2 & -750 & 433.2 \\ -433.2 & 250 & 433.2 & -250 \\ -750 & 433.2 & 750 & -433.2 \\ 433.2 & -250 & -433.2 & 250 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[k'_{E1}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2000 & 0 & -2000 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2000 & 0 & 2000 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[k'_{E2}] = \begin{bmatrix} 1154.73 & 0 & -1154.73 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1154.73 & 0 & 1154.73 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



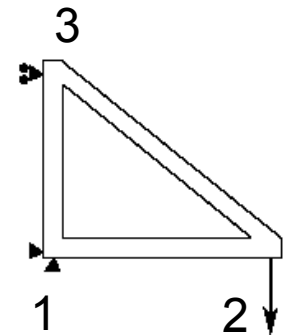
# FEM – 2D Truss Example

- Assemble the element stiffness matrixes

$$\begin{bmatrix}
 1154.73 + 750 & -433.2 & -750 & 433.2 & -1154.73 & 0 \\
 -433.2 & 250 & 433.2 & -250 & 0 & 0 \\
 -750 & 433.2 & 750 & -433.2 & 0 & 0 \\
 433.2 & -250 & -433.2 & 250 + 2000 & 0 & -2000 \\
 -1154.73 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1154.73 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & -2000 & 0 & 2000
 \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 u_x^{N-2} \\
 u_y^{N-2} \\
 u_x^{N-3} \\
 u_y^{N-3} \\
 u_x^{N-1} \\
 u_y^{N-1}
 \end{bmatrix}
 =
 \begin{bmatrix}
 f_x^{N-2} \\
 f_y^{N-2} \\
 f_x^{N-3} \\
 f_y^{N-3} \\
 f_x^{N-1} \\
 f_y^{N-1}
 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Apply boundary conditions

$$\begin{bmatrix}
 1154.73 + 750 & -433.2 & -750 & 433.2 & -1154.73 & 0 \\
 -433.2 & 250 & 433.2 & -250 & 0 & 0 \\
 -750 & 433.2 & 750 & -433.2 & 0 & 0 \\
 433.2 & -250 & -433.2 & 250 + 2000 & 0 & -2000 \\
 -1154.73 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1154.73 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & -2000 & 0 & 2000
 \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 u_x^{N-2} \\
 u_y^{N-2} \\
 0 \\
 u_y^{N-3} \\
 0 \\
 0
 \end{bmatrix}
 =
 \begin{bmatrix}
 0 \\
 -10 \\
 0 \\
 0 \\
 0 \\
 0
 \end{bmatrix}$$



- Solve 3 equations with 3 unknowns

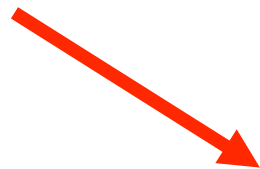
$$u_x^{N-2} = -0.015 \quad u_y^{N-2} = -0.071 \quad u_y^{N-3} = -0.005$$



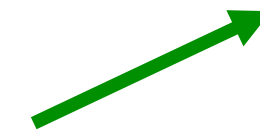
# FEM: Strong Form vs. Weak Form

- Governing equations are usually complex differential equations
- Often these equations cannot be solved over an element

PROBLEM  
Equations do not permit  
the exact solution



TOOL  
Variational  
Approach



SOLUTION  
Instead of finding an exact  
solution at every point, we find a  
solution that satisfies the strong  
form on average over the  
domain



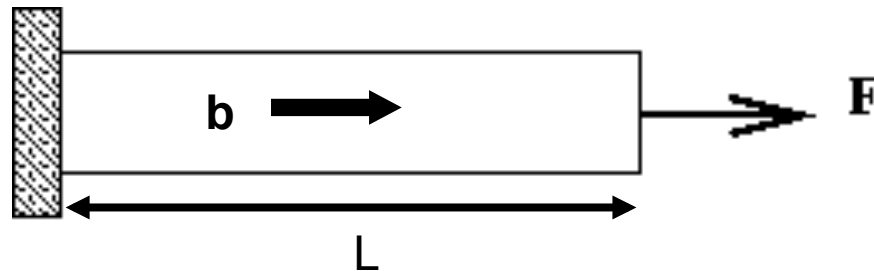
# FEM: Strong Form vs. Weak Form

Weak Form is based on Potential Energy ( $\Pi$ )

$\Pi$  = Strain Energy – Energy from applied loads

$$\Pi = U - W$$

**Example System:**



**Assume Linear Elastic material:**

$$dU = \frac{1}{2} \sigma \varepsilon = \frac{1}{2} E \left( \frac{du}{dx} \right)^2 \quad (\text{eng. density})$$

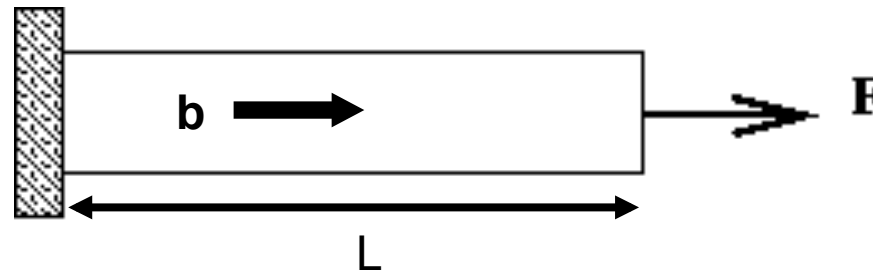
$$U = \int_0^L \frac{1}{2} E \left( \frac{du}{dx} \right)^2 dV = \int_0^L \frac{1}{2} E \left( \frac{du}{dx} \right)^2 A dx$$

$$W = \int_0^L bu dx + Fu(x = L)$$

$$\Pi(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L EA \left( \frac{du}{dx} \right)^2 dx - \int_0^L bu dx - Fu(x = L)$$



# FEM: Strong Form vs. Weak Form



## Strong Form

- Governing PDE's with boundary conditions

$$\text{PDE: } EA \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} + b = F$$

$$\text{BC: } u(0) = 0$$

$$EA \frac{du}{dx} \Big|_{x=L} = F$$

**FEM**



## Weak Form

- *Variational statement* of the problem

$$\Pi(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L EA \left( \frac{du}{dx} \right)^2 dx - \int_0^L bu \, dx - Fu(x=L)$$



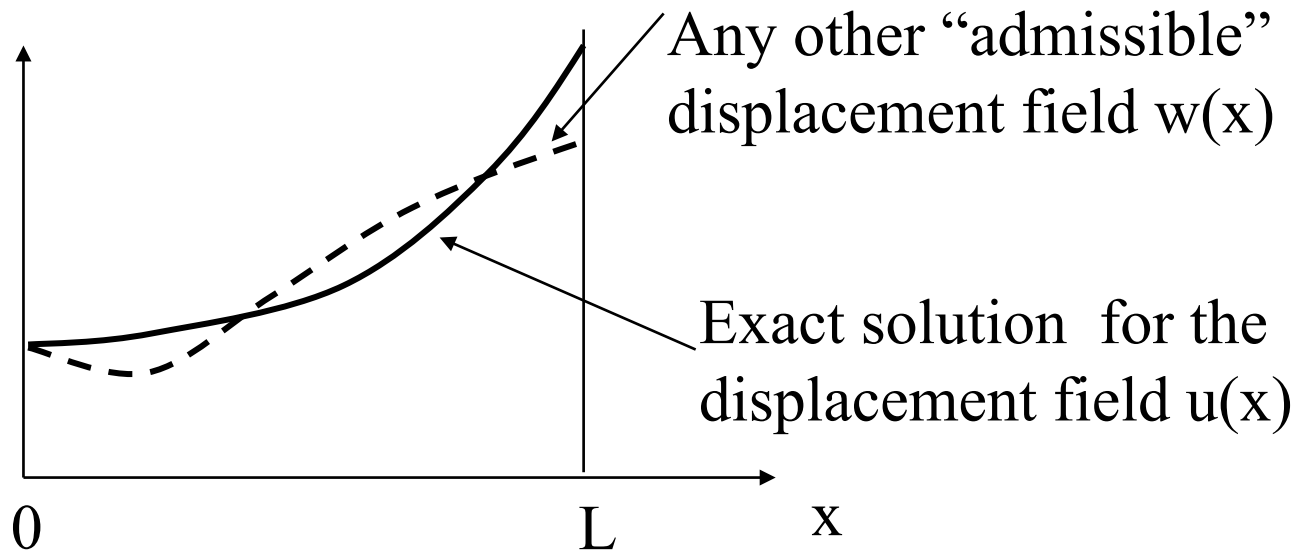


# FEM: Strong Form vs. Weak Form

Exact solution,  $u(x)$  is unknown

FEM “guesses” an admissible displacement field,  $w(x)$

Admissible: 1) 1<sup>st</sup> derivative must be real  
 2)  $w(0) = 0$   
 (Force BC automatically satisfied)



**FEM works  $w(x)$**   $\longrightarrow$  
$$\Pi(w) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L EA \left( \frac{dw}{dx} \right)^2 dx - \int_0^L bw dx - Fw(x=L)$$



# FEM: Strong Form vs. Weak Form

How are  $w(x)$  and  $u(x)$  related?

## Principle of Minimum Potential Energy

Among all admissible displacements ( $w(x)$ 's), the one that **MINIMIZES** the total potential energy ( $\Pi$ ) is  $u(x)$

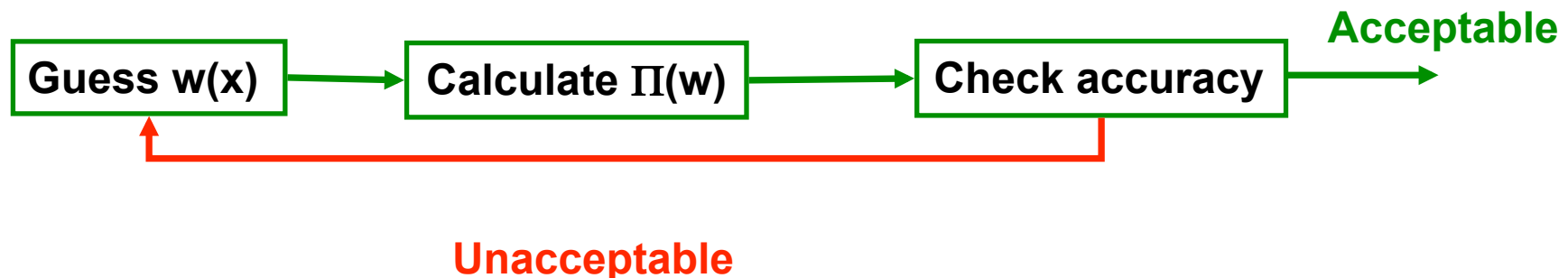
$$\Pi(u) < \Pi(w)$$

## FEM

Given the Principle of Minimum Potential Energy



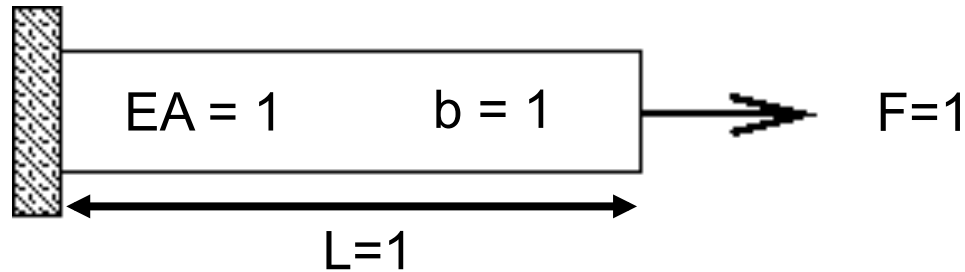
Iterative scheme to find a  $w(x)$  that closely approximates  $u(x)$





# FEM: Strong Form vs. Weak Form

**Example:**



**Boundary Conditions:**  $EA \frac{du}{dx} \Big|_{x=L} = F$        $u(0) = 0$

**Strong Form:**  $EA \frac{d^2u}{dx^2} + b = F$       **Exact Solution**       $u = 2x - \frac{x^2}{2}$

$\Pi(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L EA \left( \frac{du}{dx} \right)^2 dx - \int_0^L bu \, dx - Fu(x=L)$        $\Pi(u) = -\frac{7}{6}$

**Weak Form:**

$\Pi(w) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L EA \left( \frac{dw}{dx} \right)^2 dx - \int_0^L bw \, dx - Fw(x=L)$        $w(x) = x$        $\Pi(w) = -1$



# FEM: Strong Form vs. Weak Form

Strong Form

vs.

Weak Form

$$EA \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} = F$$

$$\Pi(w) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L EA \left( \frac{dw}{dx} \right)^2 dx - \int_0^L bw dx - Fw(x=L)$$

- Weak Form → weaker statement of the problem
  - Based on potential energy
  - Has the effect of relaxing the problem
  - “Average” solution over the domain
  - A solution of the strong form will also satisfy the weak form, but not vice versa.
  - Principle of Minimum Potential Energy
    - $w(x)$  that minimizes  $\Pi$ , equals  $u(x)$

# Galerkin's Method / Rayleigh-Ritz Principle



How does FEM determine  $w(x)$  function?

$w(x)$  must be 1<sup>st</sup> order continuous and satisfy BC

Generally, polynomials and sine/cosine functions are simple enough to be practical.

$$w(x) = w_0 + w_1 x$$

$$w(x) = w_0 + w_1 x + w_2 x^2$$

$w_i$ 's are to be determined

$$\frac{\partial \Pi}{\partial w_i} = 0$$

**Numerical Methodology used to determine  $w_i$ 's**

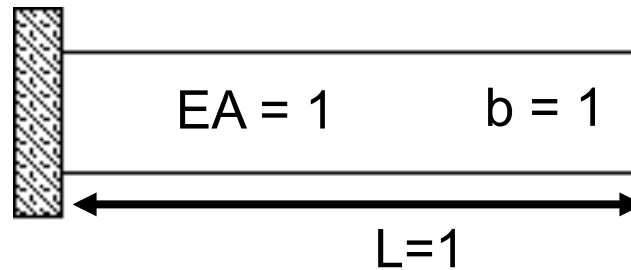


**Galerkin's Method/  
Rayleigh-Ritz**



# Galerkin's Method / Rayleigh-Ritz Principle

**Example:**



$$\Pi(w) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L EA \left( \frac{dw}{dx} \right)^2 dx - \int_0^L bw dx$$

$$w(x) = w_0 + w_1 x \quad w(0) = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad w_0 = 0$$

$$\Pi(w) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \left( \frac{d}{dx} (w_1 x) \right)^2 dx - \int_0^1 w_1 x dx \quad \Pi(w) = w_1^2 - w_1$$

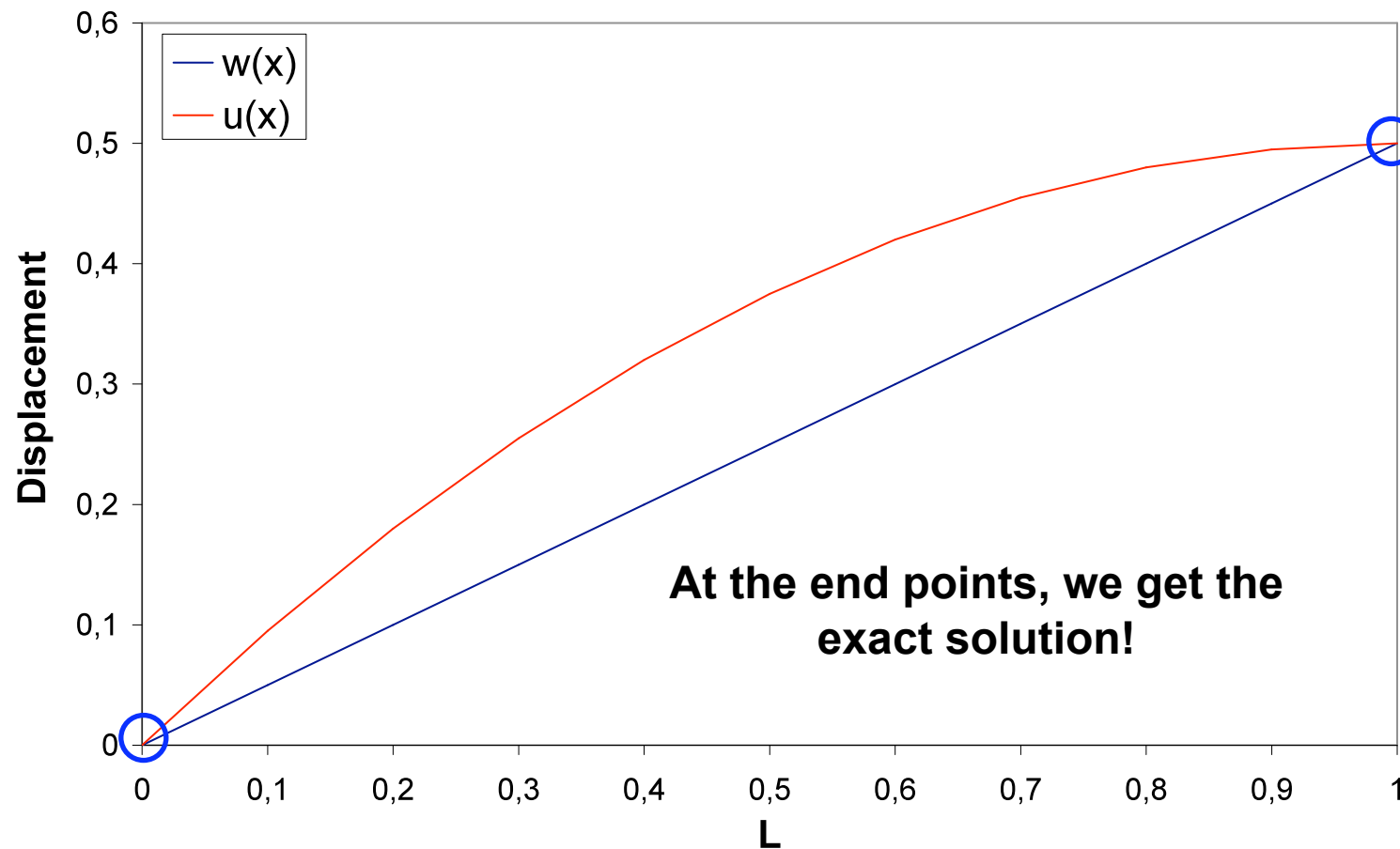
$$\frac{\partial \Pi}{\partial w_1} = 0 = 2w_1 - 1 \quad w_1 = \frac{1}{2}$$



# Galerkin's Method / Rayleigh-Ritz Principle

$$w(x) = \frac{1}{2}x$$

$$u(x) = bLx - \frac{bx^2}{2} = x - \frac{x^2}{2}$$





# Galerkin's Method / Rayleigh-Ritz Principle

Reformulate equations in a more general form

$$w(x) = \sum_{j=1}^N c_j \varphi_j(x) \quad \text{solve for } c_j$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^N c_j \int_0^L \frac{d\varphi_j}{dx} \frac{d\varphi_i}{dx} dx = \int_0^L b \varphi_i dx$$

$$K_{ij} = \int_0^L \frac{d\varphi_j}{dx} \frac{d\varphi_i}{dx} dx$$

Stiffness Matrix

$$f_i = \int_0^L p_0 \varphi_i dx$$

Force vector

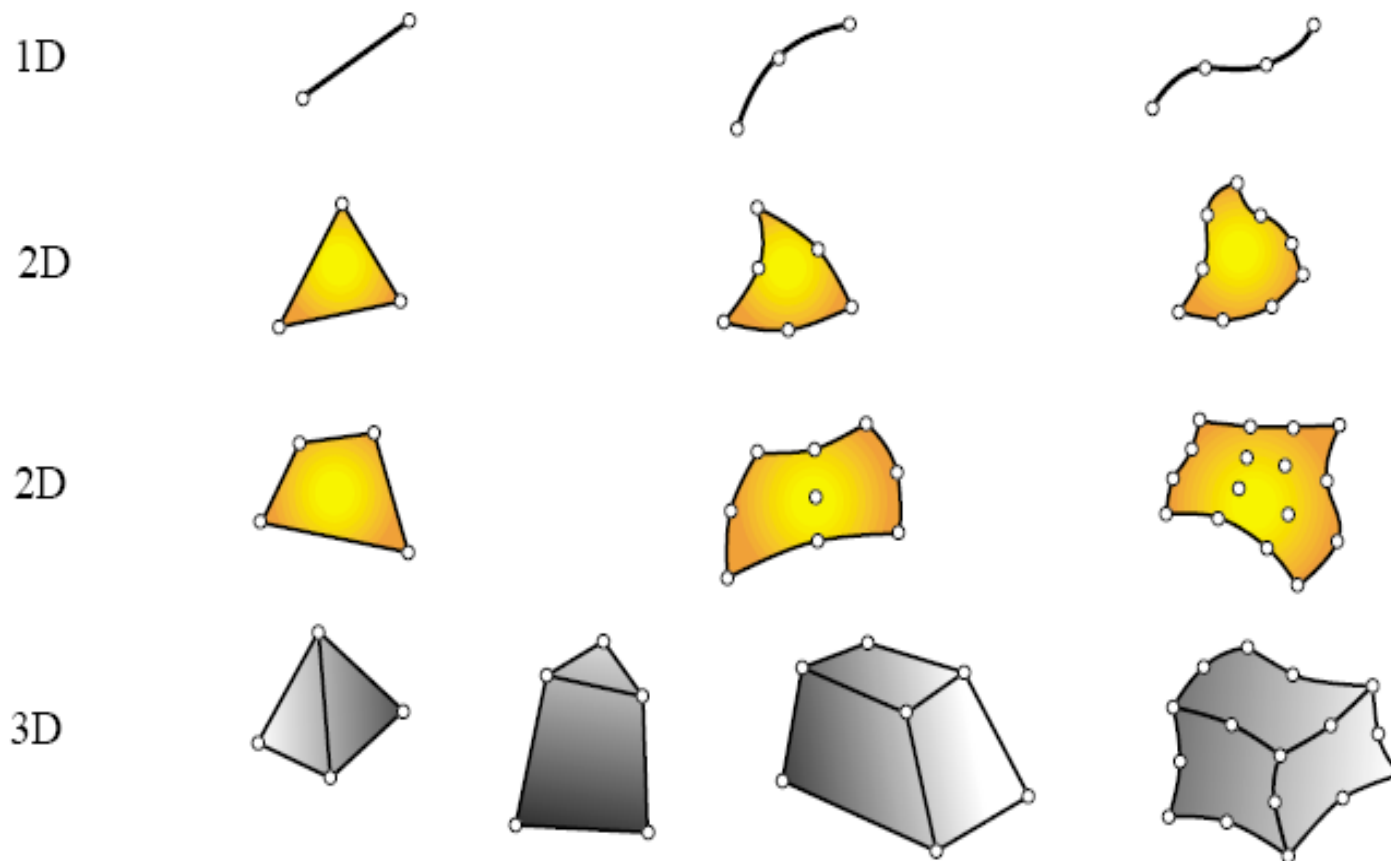
**Recover:  $Kc=f$**



# FEM: Elements

- Wide range of element types and shapes

## Sample Elements

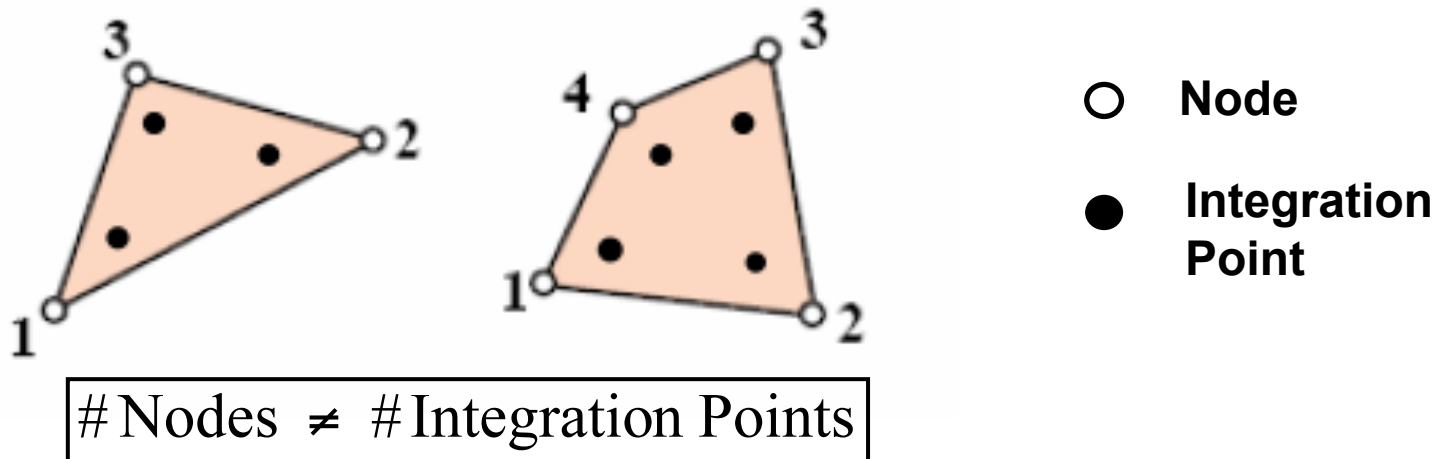


- Main difference → Solution form within the element



# FEM: Elements

- Three important parts that make up an element
  - Nodes
  - Integration Points
  - Shape Function (Internal interpolation function)

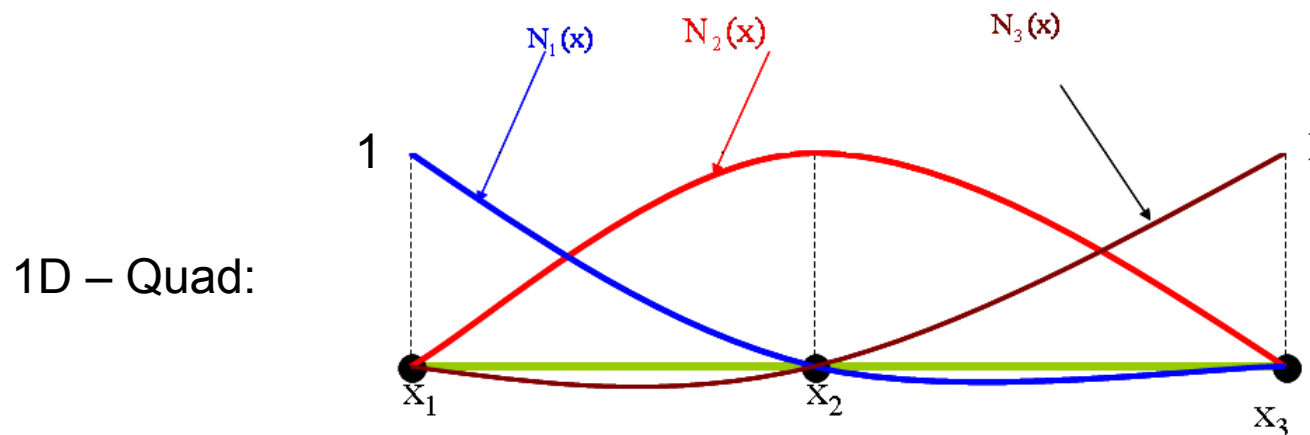
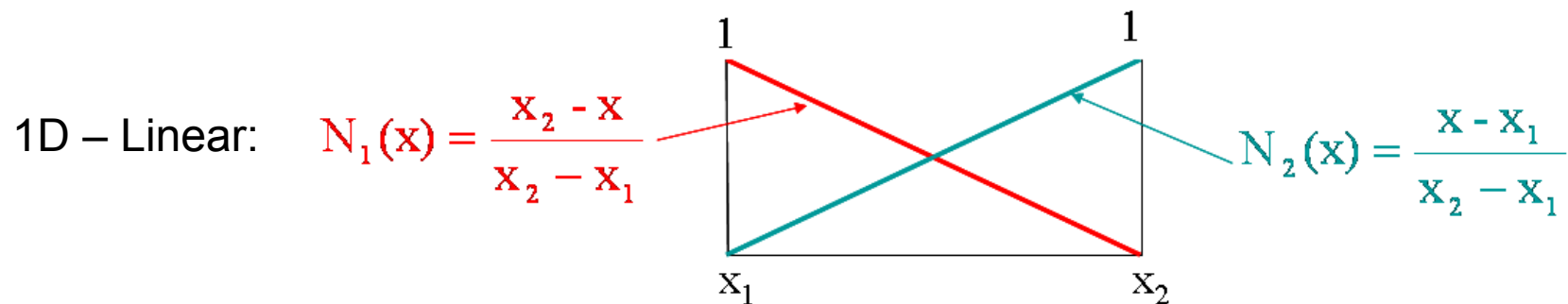


- Forces & displacements are defined at Nodes
- Stresses & Strains are defined at the Integration Points
- Nodes and Integration Points are linked via the shape functions



# FEM: Elements

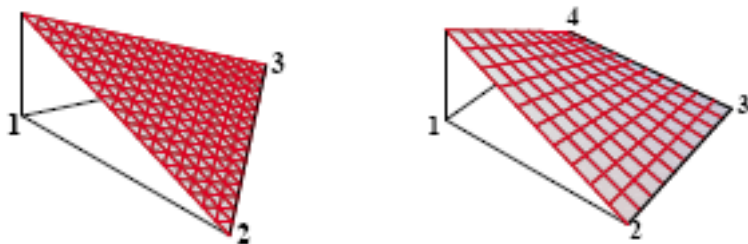
- Shape function describes how much each node affects the rest of the element
  - Internal interpolation functions
- 1 shape function per node
- Shape function can have various forms
  - Most common are linear & quadratic



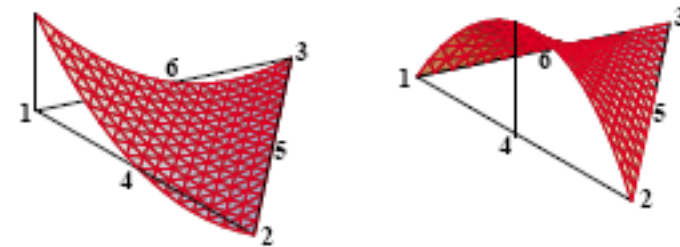
# FEM: Elements

- 2D Shape functions are planes rather than lines

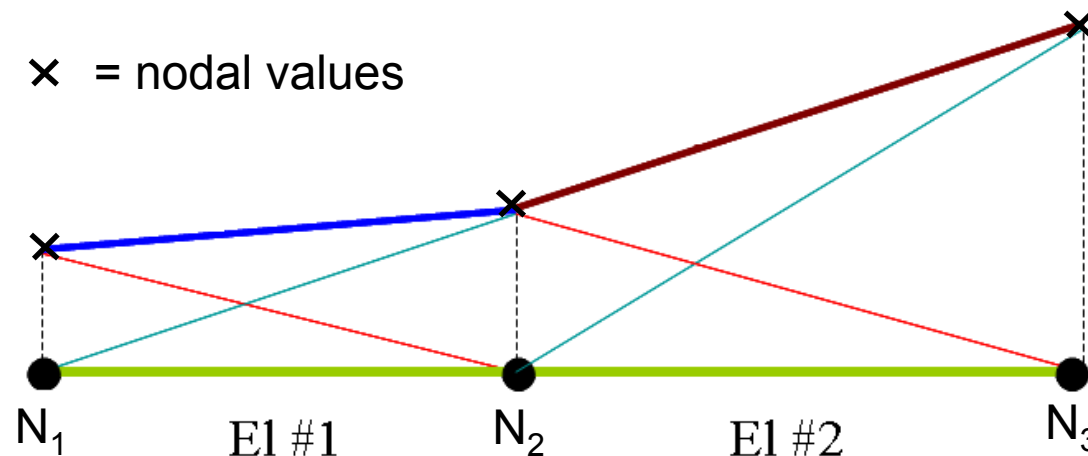
## Linear Shape functions



## Quad. Shape Functions



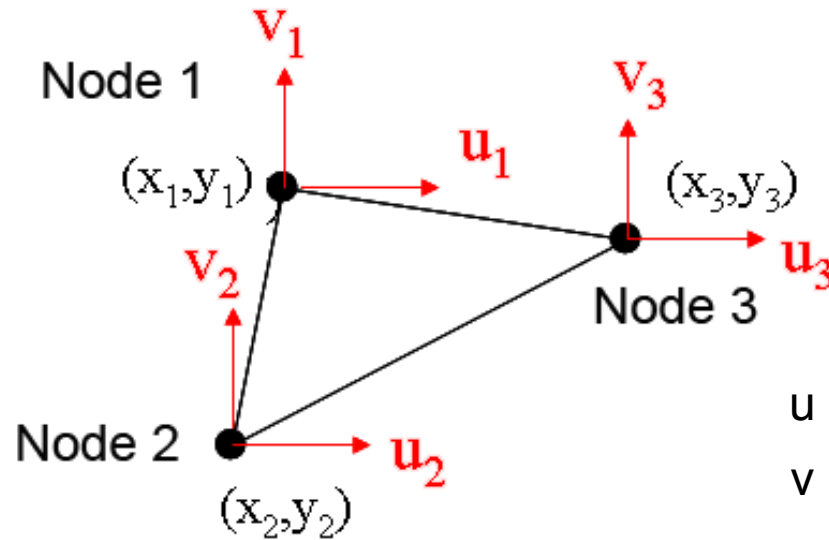
- Shape functions guarantee nodal based quantities (like force and displacement) are **CONTINUOUS** across element boundaries
- Shape function derivatives are **NOT CONTINUOUS** across element boundaries





# FEM: Elements

## 2D Linear Element:



$u$  = displacement in x  
 $v$  = displacement in y

A displacement approximation

$$u(x, y) \approx N_1 u_1 + N_2 u_2 + N_3 u_3$$

$$v(x, y) \approx N_1 v_1 + N_2 v_2 + N_3 v_3$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} u(x, y) \\ v(x, y) \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} N_1 & 0 & N_2 & 0 & N_3 & 0 \\ 0 & N_1 & 0 & N_2 & 0 & N_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} u_1 \\ v_1 \\ u_2 \\ v_2 \\ u_3 \\ v_3 \end{Bmatrix}$$



# FEM: Elements

## FEM calculates strain from the nodal displacements

### Definition of Strain

$$\varepsilon = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_x \\ \varepsilon_y \\ \gamma_{xy} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \end{bmatrix}$$

### FEM Strain Calculation

Based on the derivative of the shape functions

$$\varepsilon_x \approx \frac{\partial N_1(x, y)}{\partial x} u(x, y) + \frac{\partial N_2(x, y)}{\partial x} u(x, y) + \frac{\partial N_3(x, y)}{\partial x} u(x, y)$$

$$\varepsilon_y \approx \frac{\partial N_1(x, y)}{\partial y} v(x, y) + \frac{\partial N_2(x, y)}{\partial y} v(x, y) + \frac{\partial N_3(x, y)}{\partial y} v(x, y)$$

$$\varepsilon \approx \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial N_1(x, y)}{\partial x} & 0 & \frac{\partial N_2(x, y)}{\partial x} & 0 & \frac{\partial N_3(x, y)}{\partial x} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\partial N_1(x, y)}{\partial y} & 0 & \frac{\partial N_2(x, y)}{\partial y} & 0 & \frac{\partial N_3(x, y)}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial N_1(x, y)}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial N_1(x, y)}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial N_2(x, y)}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial N_2(x, y)}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial N_3(x, y)}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial N_3(x, y)}{\partial x} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ v_1 \\ u_2 \\ v_2 \\ u_3 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Because shape function derivatives are NOT CONTINUOUS across element boundaries, calculating  $\varepsilon$  at nodes could be a problem.
- $\varepsilon$  is always calculated at integration points (inside the element)



# FEM: Elements

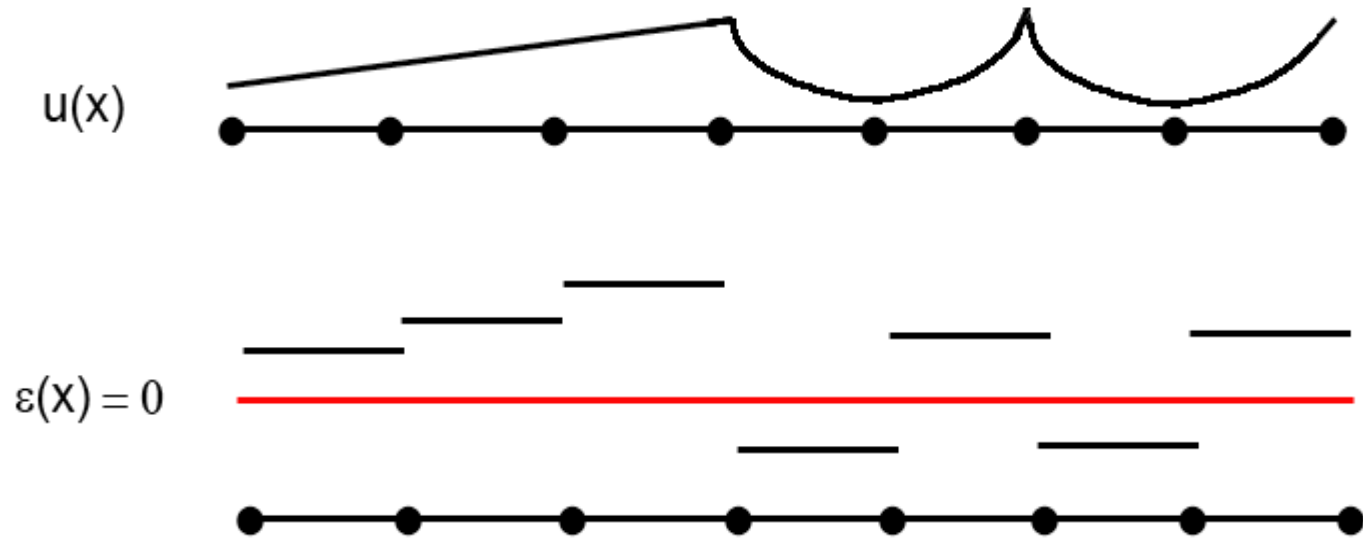
## 1D Element with Linear Shape Functions

$x_1$                        $x_2$   
 $\longleftrightarrow L \longrightarrow$

Linear Shape Functions

$$N_1(x) = \frac{x_2 - x}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{x_2 - x}{L}$$

$$N_2(x) = \frac{x - x_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{x - x_1}{L}$$

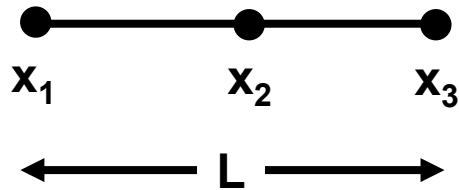


**Linear shape functions lead to elements that have a constant strain profile**



# FEM: Elements

## 1D Element with Quadratic Shape Functions

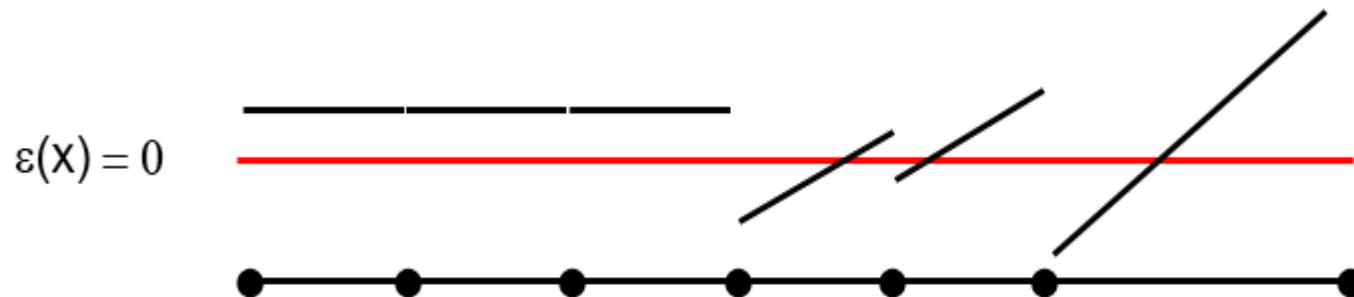


### Quad. Shape Functions

$$N_1(x) = \frac{(x_2 - x)(x_3 - x)}{(x_2 - x_1)(x_3 - x_1)}$$

$$N_2(x) = \frac{(x_1 - x)(x_3 - x)}{(x_1 - x_2)(x_3 - x_2)}$$

$$N_3(x) = \frac{(x_1 - x)(x_2 - x)}{(x_1 - x_3)(x_2 - x_3)}$$

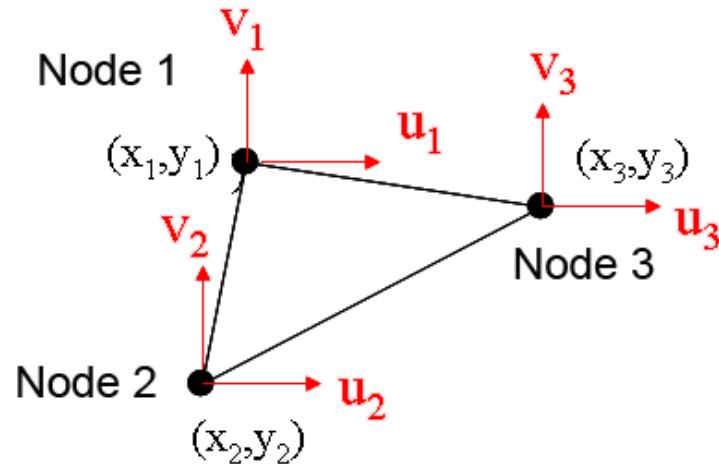


**Quadratic shape functions lead to elements that have a linear strain profile**





# FEM: Elements



## Linear Shape Functions

$$N_1 = \frac{a_1 + b_1x + c_1y}{2A}$$

$$N_2 = \frac{a_2 + b_2x + c_2y}{2A}$$

$$N_3 = \frac{a_3 + b_3x + c_3y}{2A}$$

$$[B] = \frac{1}{2A} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & 0 & b_2 & 0 & b_3 & 0 \\ 0 & c_1 & 0 & c_2 & 0 & c_3 \\ b_1 & c_1 & b_2 & c_2 & b_3 & c_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_x &= u_1 b_1 + u_2 b_2 + u_3 b_3 \\ \varepsilon_y &= u_1 c_1 + u_2 c_2 + u_3 c_3 \end{aligned}$$

**Note: No dependence on x and y**

**Linear shape functions lead to elements that have a constant strain profile**



## Stress at each integration point

$$\sigma = [D][\varepsilon] = [D][B][u]$$

D = appropriate elasticity matrix (user input)  
B = element dependent

Summary: For a 1D linear element

- **Approximate displacement**

$$u(x) = \frac{1}{L} \begin{bmatrix} x_2 - x & x - x_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- **Approximate Strain**

$$\varepsilon = \frac{1}{L} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- **Approximate Stress**

$$\sigma = \frac{E}{L} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}$$



## FEM Method with Elements

- **Assemble individual element stiffness matrix**

$$[K_e] = \int_{V^e} [B_e]^T [D_e] [B_e] dV$$

- **Assemble global stiffness matrix**

$$[K] = \sum_{\# \text{ Ele}} [K_e]$$

- **Apply Boundary Conditions**

$$[K][u] = [f]$$



## There are three general sources of error in a finite-element solution

#1: Errors due to the approximation of the domain



#2: Errors due to the approximation of the solution

$$EA \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} = F \quad \text{vs.} \quad \Pi(w) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L EA \left( \frac{dw}{dx} \right)^2 dx - \int_0^L bw dx - Fw(x=L)$$

#3: Errors due to numerical computation

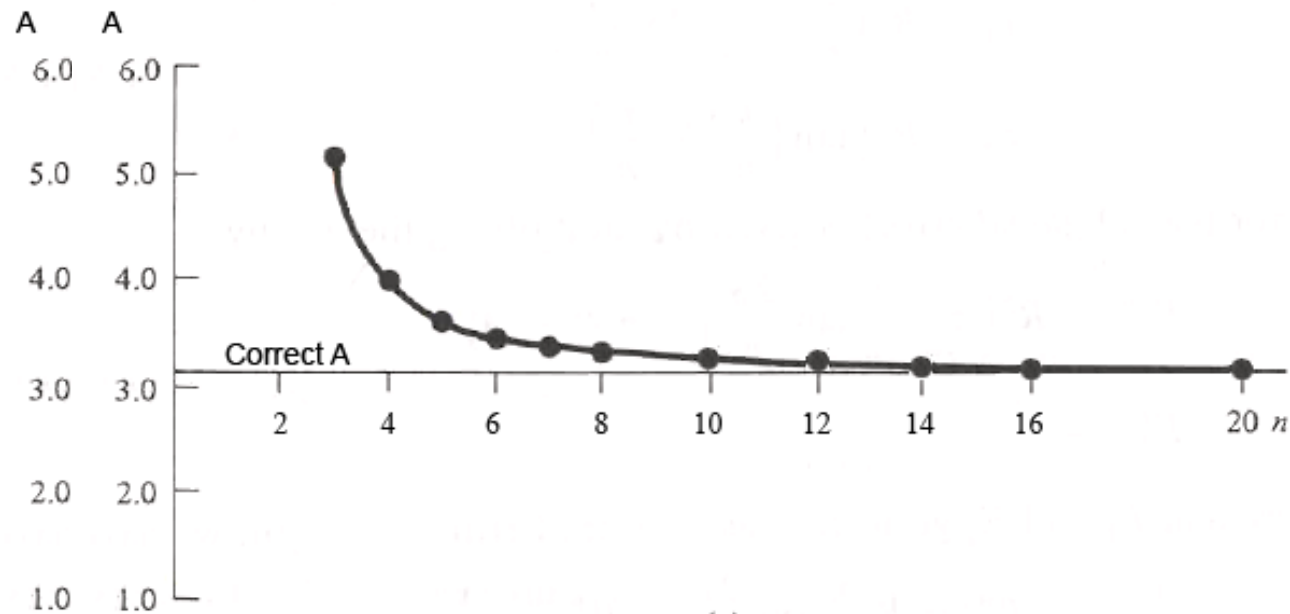
(like numerical integration and round-off errors in a computer)

***The estimation of these errors, in general, is not a simple matter.***



# FEM: Accuracy vs. Convergence

- The accuracy and convergence of the finite-element solution depends on a number of factors
  - Like the differential equation solved (or the variational form used) and the type of element.
  
- Accuracy
  - Difference between the exact solution and the finite-element solution
  
- Convergence
  - The accuracy of the solution as the number of elements in the mesh is increased



**Desired Result**

**Converged solution is NOT necessarily an accurate solution**



# FEM: Overview

- FEM    Partial Differential Equation Solver
  - Solves PDE by
    - 1) Breaking solution space into pieces (elements)
    - 2) Approximating the solution on each element
    - 3) Solving a force balance (equilibrium) equation

$$[K][u] = [f]$$

K = stiffness matrix (composed of element and material properties)

- FEM solves the weak form of the equilibrium equation
  - “Average” solution over the domain NOT the exact solution
- Three primary parts of an element
  - Nodes
  - Integration Points
  - Shape Functions



# FEM: Overview

- Large number of element types and shapes
  - Element choice will affect your results

**Linear elements** → **Constant strain**

**Quadratic elements** → **Linear strain**

- FEM Error
  - Domain Approximation
  - Solution Approximation
  - Numerical Computations

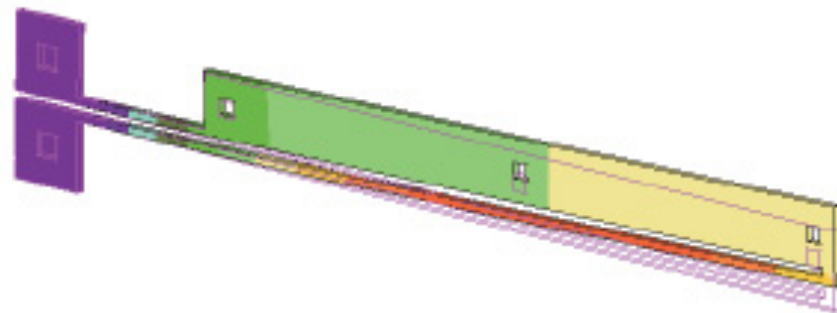
FEM error is difficult to quantify

- Convergence vs. Accuracy
  - A converged result is NOT necessarily an accurate result

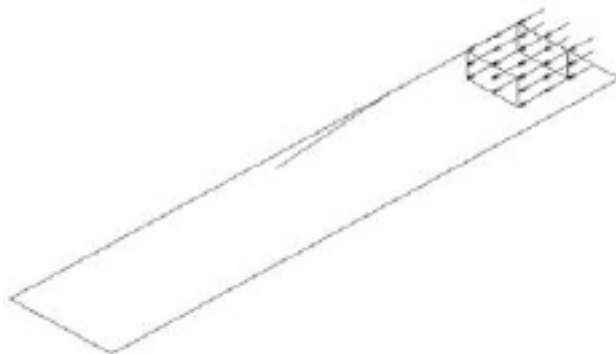
**Any physically meaningful output MUST result from physical input provided by you to FEM**

# FEM: Cases where it works well

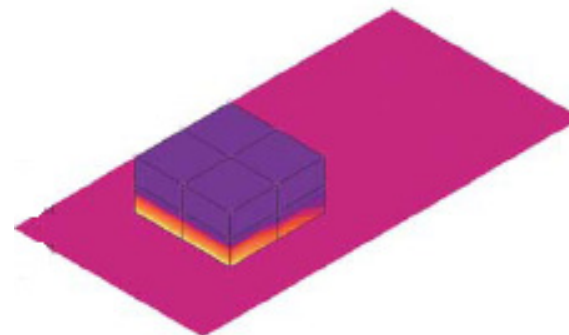
## Examples:



**Coupled temperature and deformation problems**

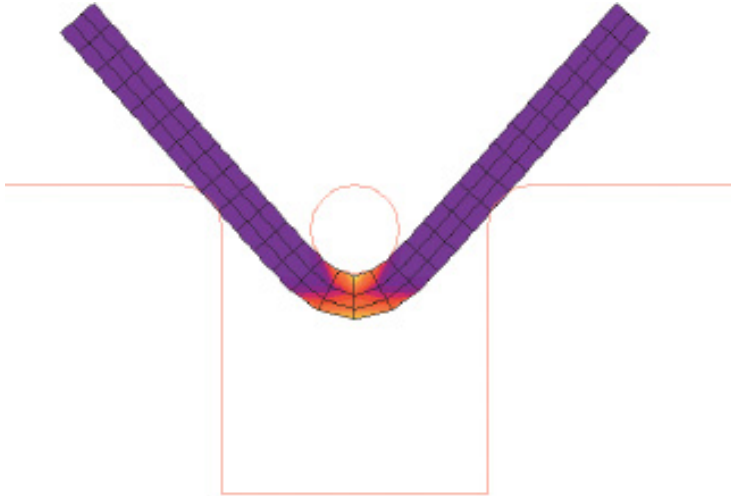


**Time dependent temperature analysis due to friction**

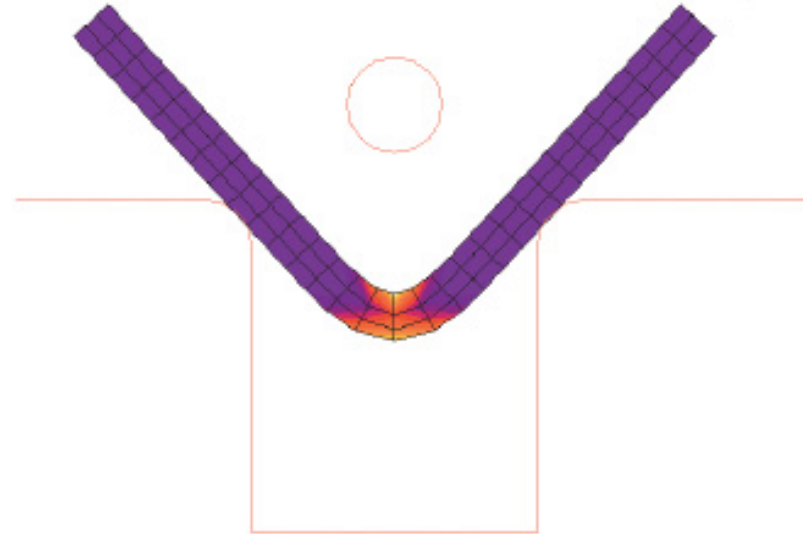




# FEM: Cases where it works well



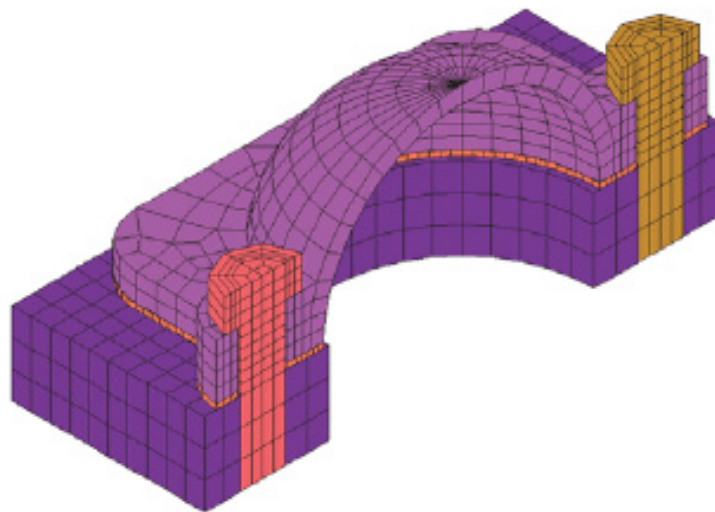
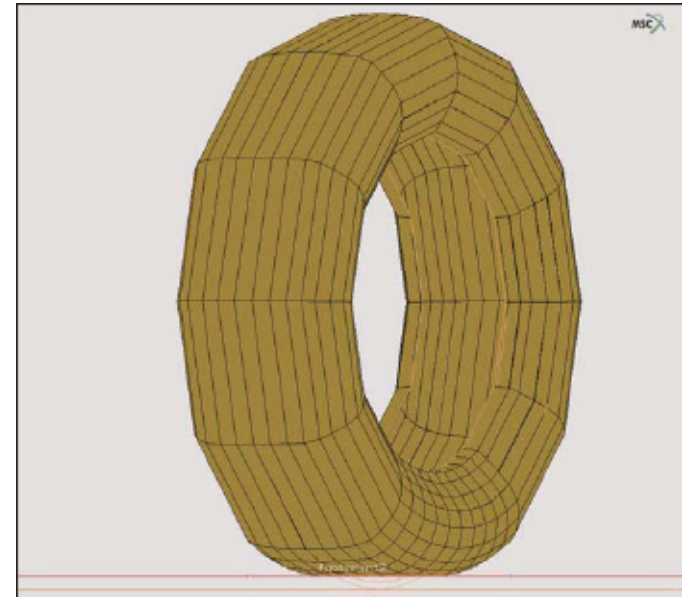
**Complex deformations**



**Elastic spring-back**

# FEM: Cases where it works well

## Multiple components/complex geometries



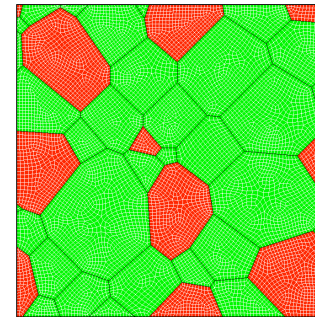
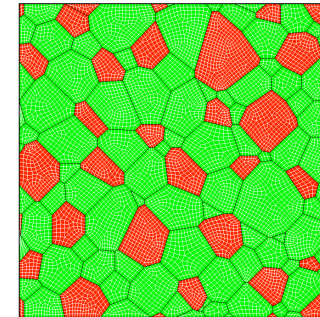
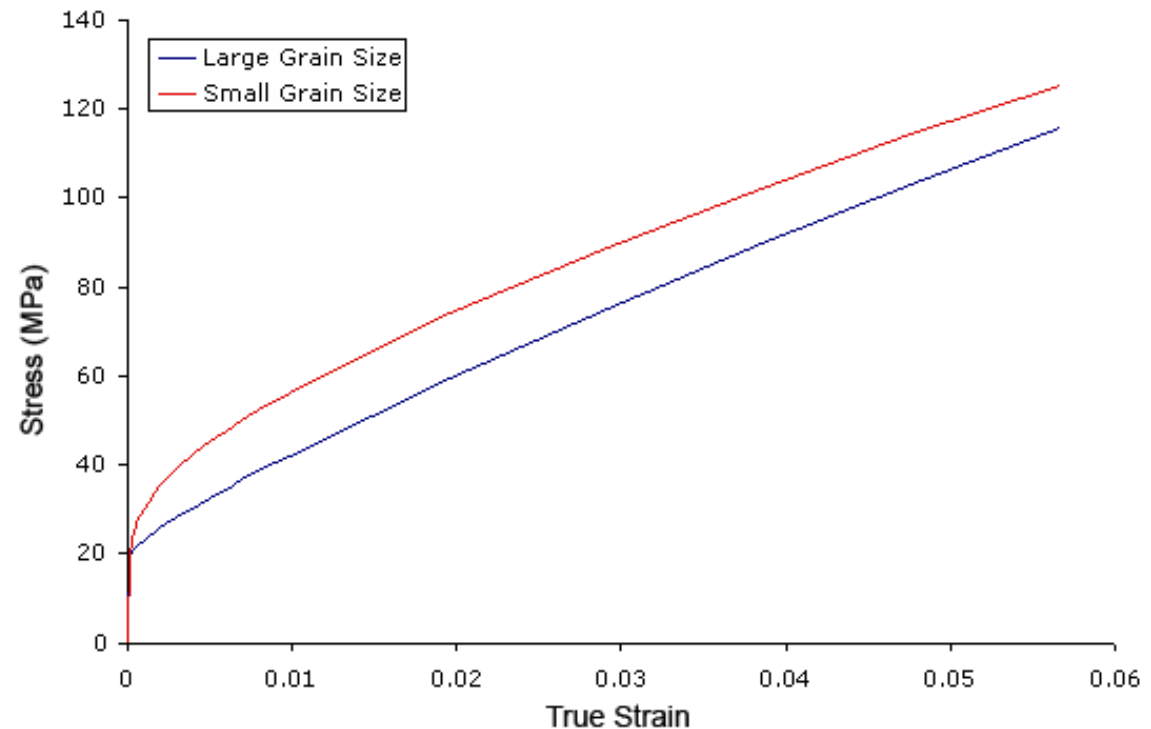


## FEM: Cases where it does not work as well

- 2 Material Science examples
  - FEM “works”
    - ⇒ Converges to a solution
    - ⇒ Solution is not correct
- Length scale issues
- Inhomogeneous Materials

# FEM Example: Length Scales

- Structural finite element codes are continuum based
- Finite element mesh has dimensions
- Local models: dimensions do not effect the  $\sigma$ - $\varepsilon$  result
- Predicted  $\sigma$ - $\varepsilon$  results from two different grain sizes are similar

150  $\mu\text{m}$ 3.4  $\mu\text{m}$ 



# FEM Example: Overview

## Motivation

- Accounting for microstructure heterogeneity within a material computationally expensive.
- At the microscopic scale, strain and stress path are complex.
- Generally, it is not possible to exactly mesh and simulate the material's microstructure

## Problem Statement

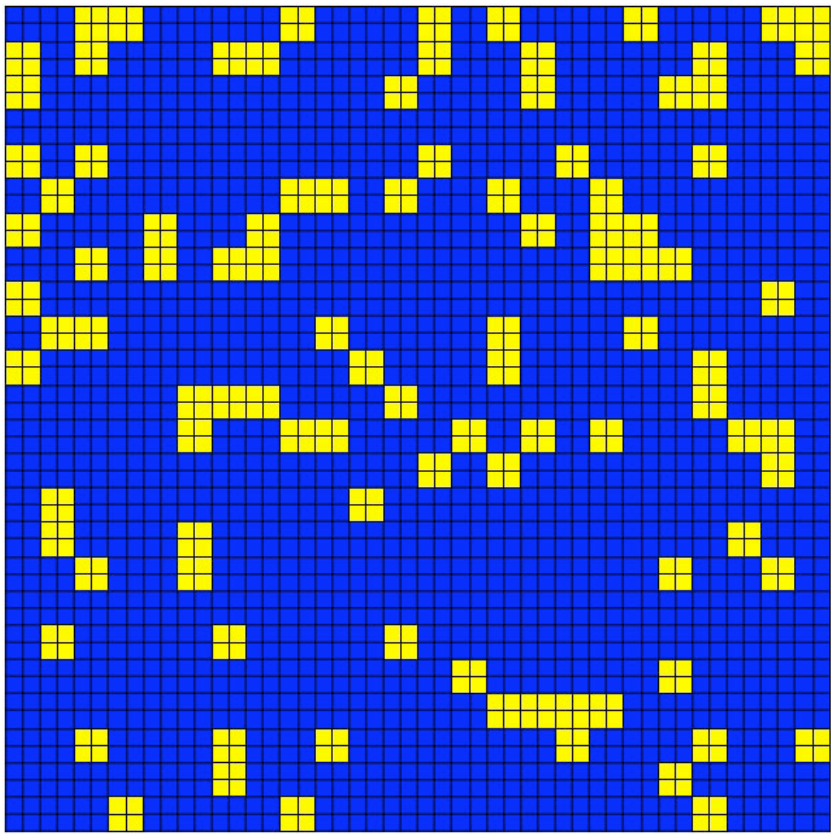
To investigate the effect of element type and mesh resolution on the  $\sigma$ - $\varepsilon$  response of a two phase material.

(Hard Phase: Martensite) (Soft Phase: Ferrite)

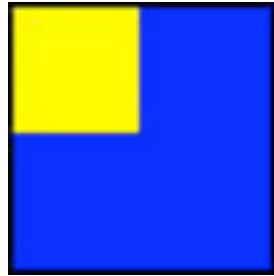
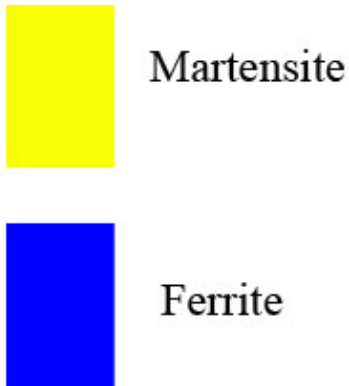


# FEM Example: Mesh Refinement

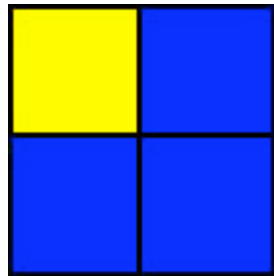
## Coarse Mesh: Material per element



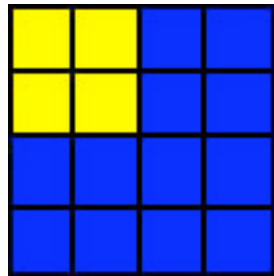
48x48 elements (2304 total elements)



Material per IP



Material per element



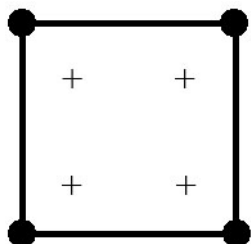
Material per 4 elements



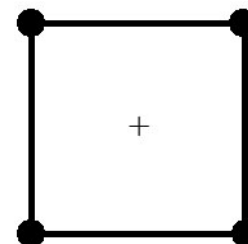
# FEM Example: Element Types

- Element Types

- 2D Linear (4 nodes)

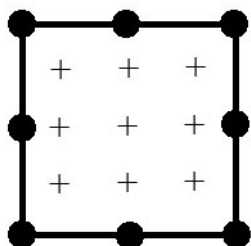


Full Integration

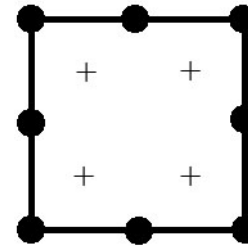


Reduced Integration

- 2D Quadratic (9 nodes)



Full Integration

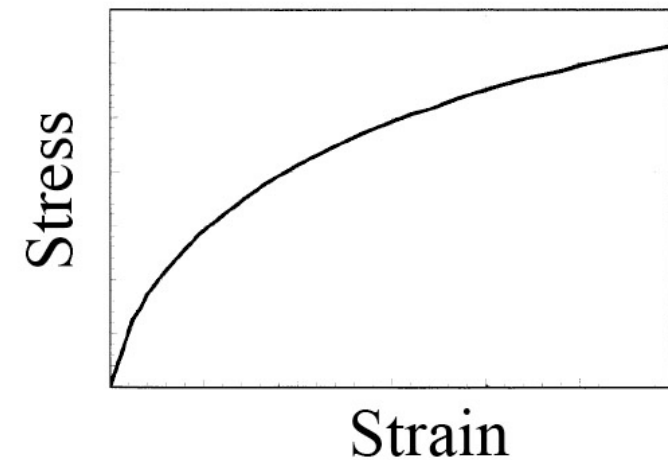
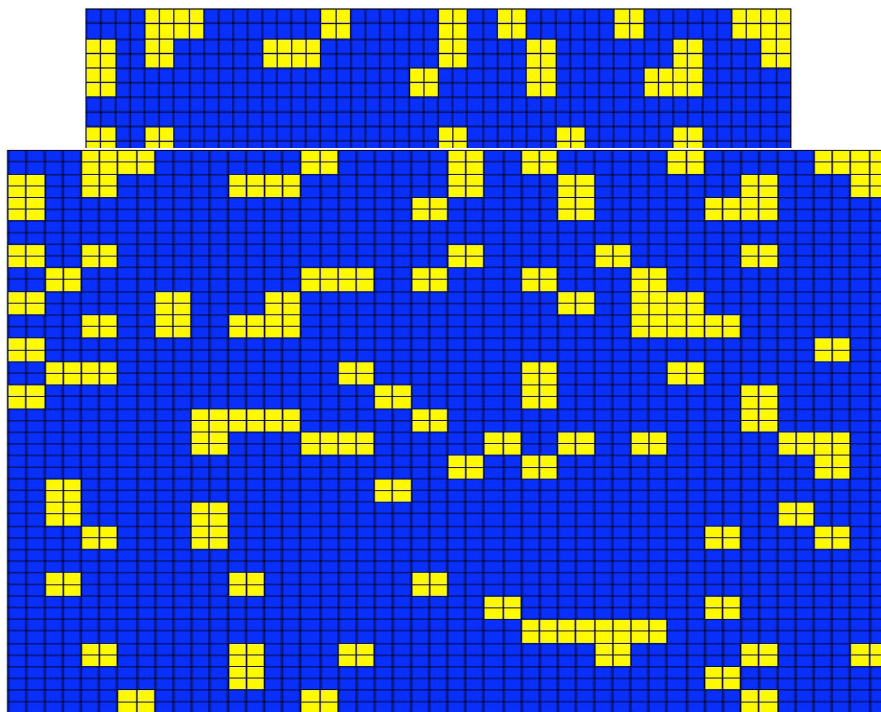


Reduced Integration

# FEM Example: Results

## 2D Plane Strain Rolling

- Prescribe displacements
- Volume conserving ( $\epsilon_x = \epsilon_y$ )
- 30 % thickness reduction
- Elastic-plastic constitutive equations



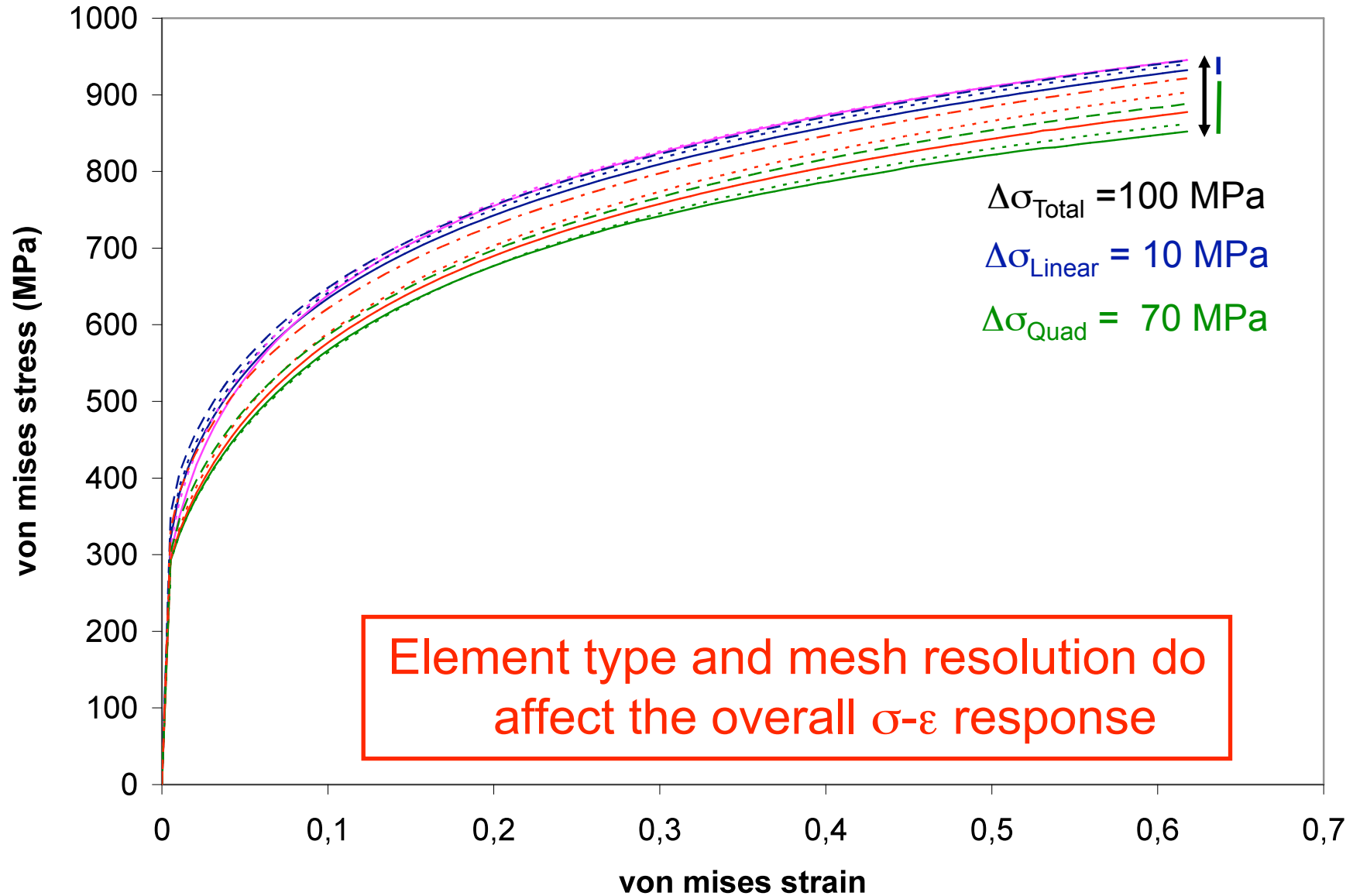
**Study the effect of element type & mesh resolution on the  $\sigma$ - $\epsilon$  response**





# FEM Example: $\sigma$ - $\epsilon$ Results

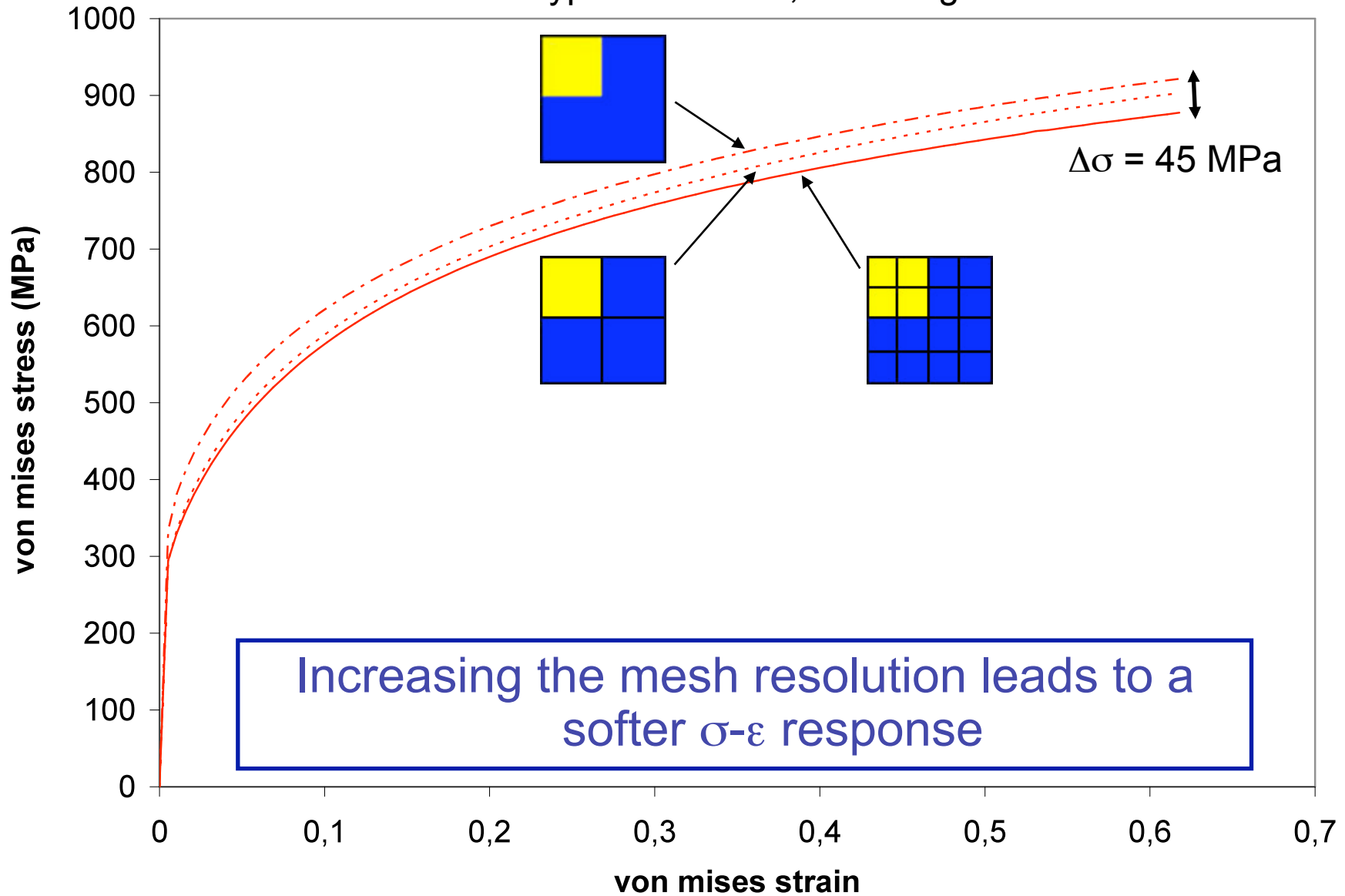
$\sigma$ - $\epsilon$  curves of 4 different element types with 3 different mesh resolutions





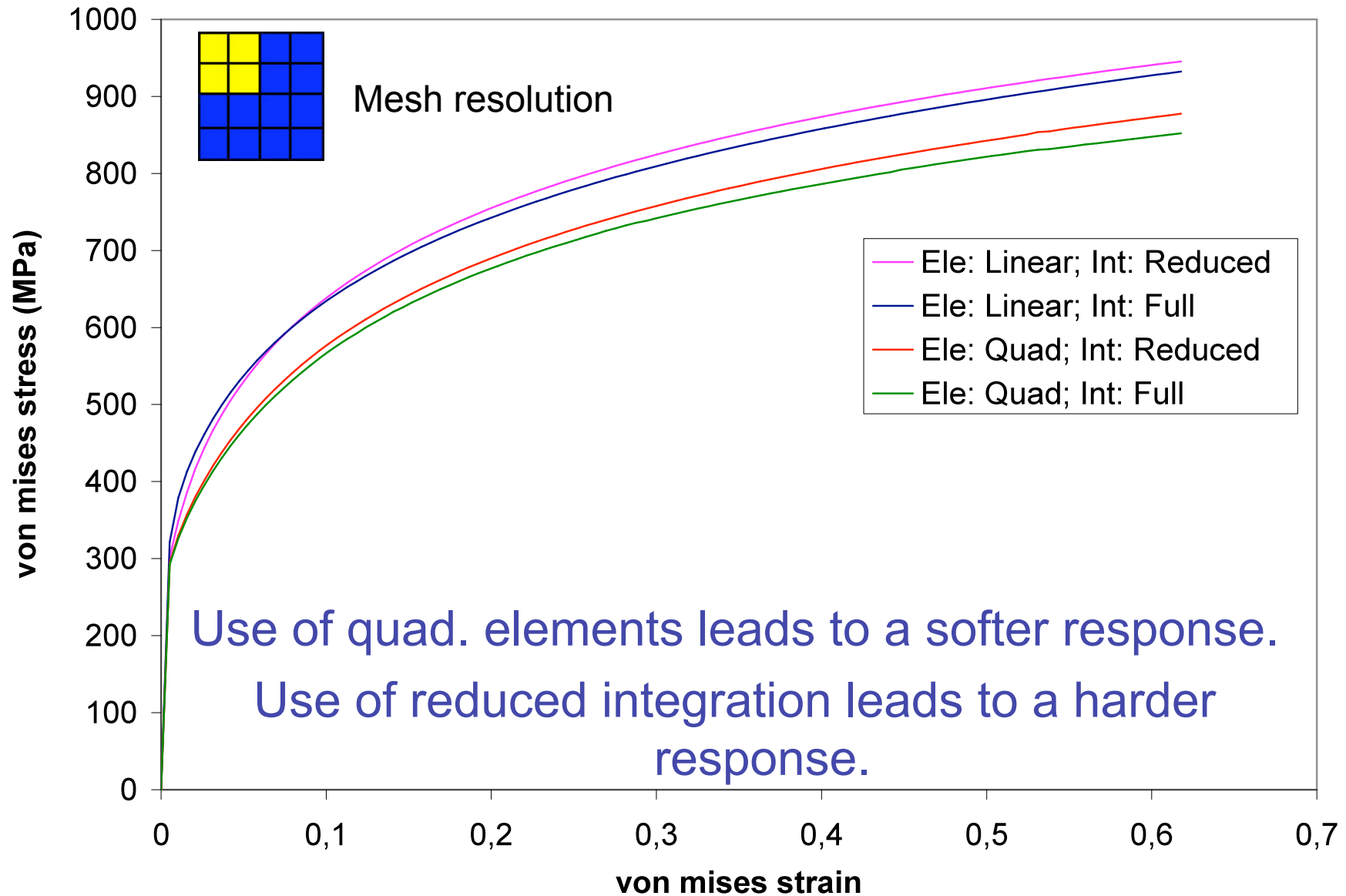
# FEM Example: Effect of Mesh Refinement

Element type: Quadratic; Full integration





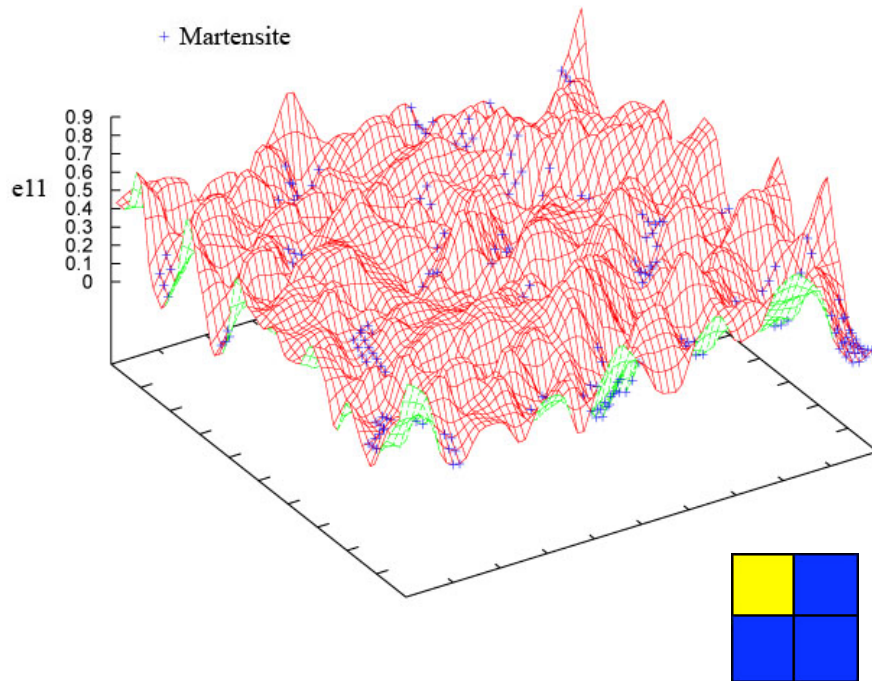
# FEM Example: Effect of Element Type



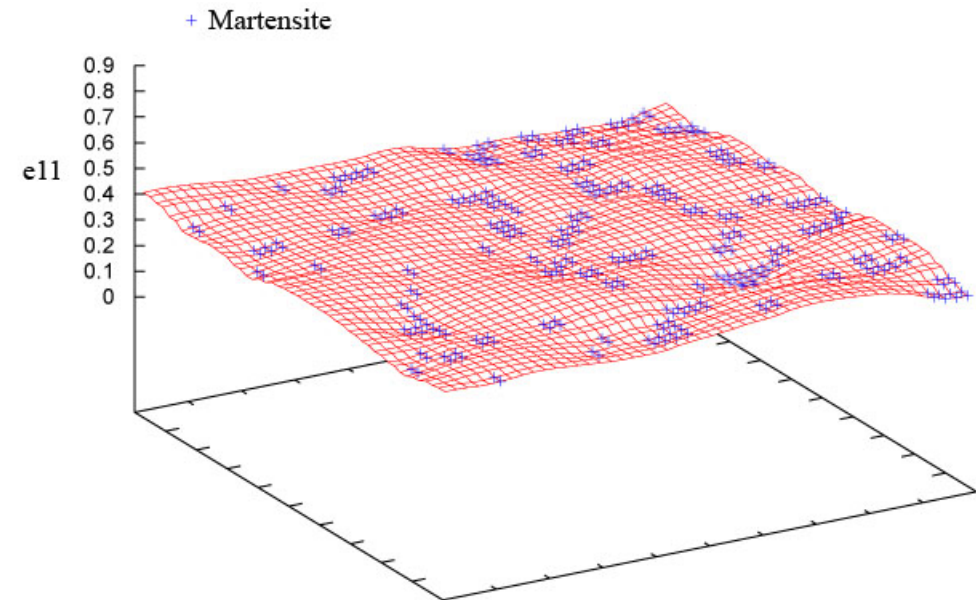


# FEM Example: Strain Maps

## Quad Element; Full Integration



## Linear Element; Full Integration

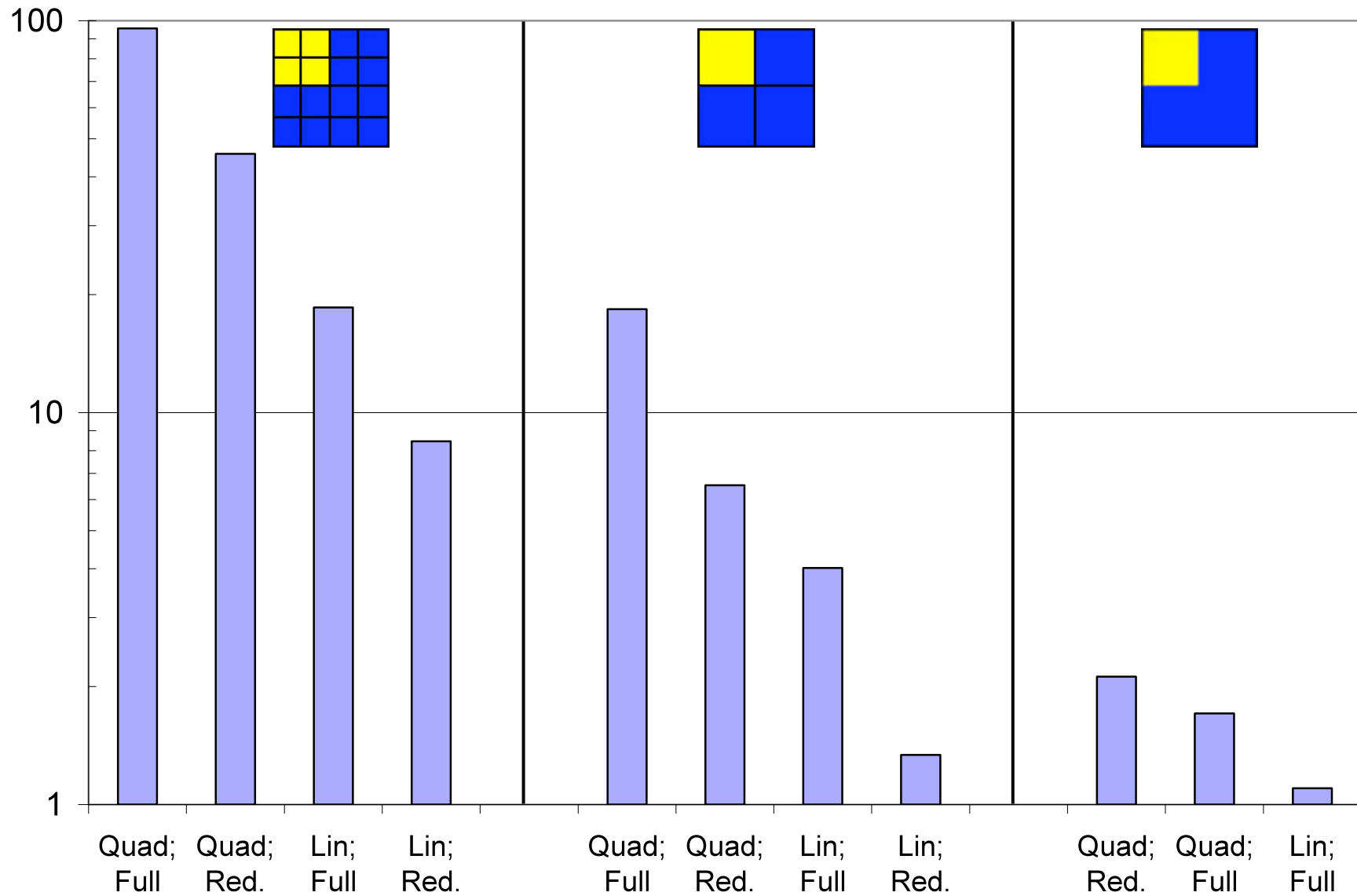


Strain state appears reasonable

- Linear elements →  $\epsilon$  is relatively flat
- Quad elements →  $\epsilon$  flows around the martensite



# FEM Example: Performance



Use of linear elements GREATLY reduces computation time

## FEM Example: Conclusions

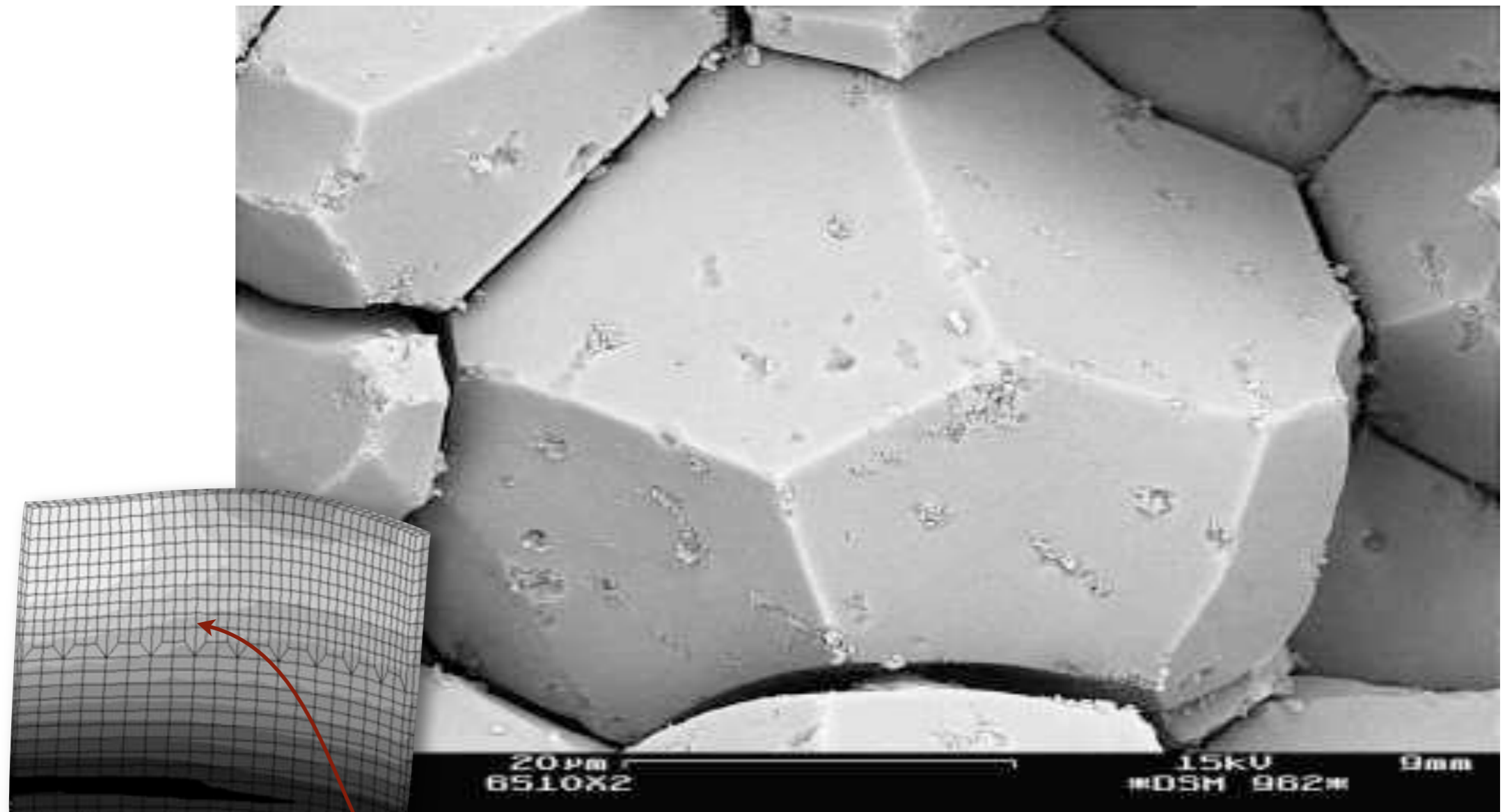


- Mesh dimensions do not enter into  $\sigma$ - $\varepsilon$  constitutive relationship
- Element type and mesh resolution do affect the overall  $\sigma$ - $\varepsilon$  response
  - $\Delta\sigma = 100$  MPa
- Increasing the mesh resolution leads to a softer  $\sigma$ - $\varepsilon$  response
- Use of quadratic elements leads to a softer  $\sigma$ - $\varepsilon$  response
- Linear elements predict a relatively flat  $\varepsilon$  profile
- Quadratic elements predict a much more contoured  $\varepsilon$  profile
- Use of linear elements GREATLY reduces computation time

## PART IV

# Polycrystal Plasticity Models

motivation



material point comprises **lots** of grains



- orientation,  $\mathbf{g}$ , of crystallite can be specified by a set of three Euler angles

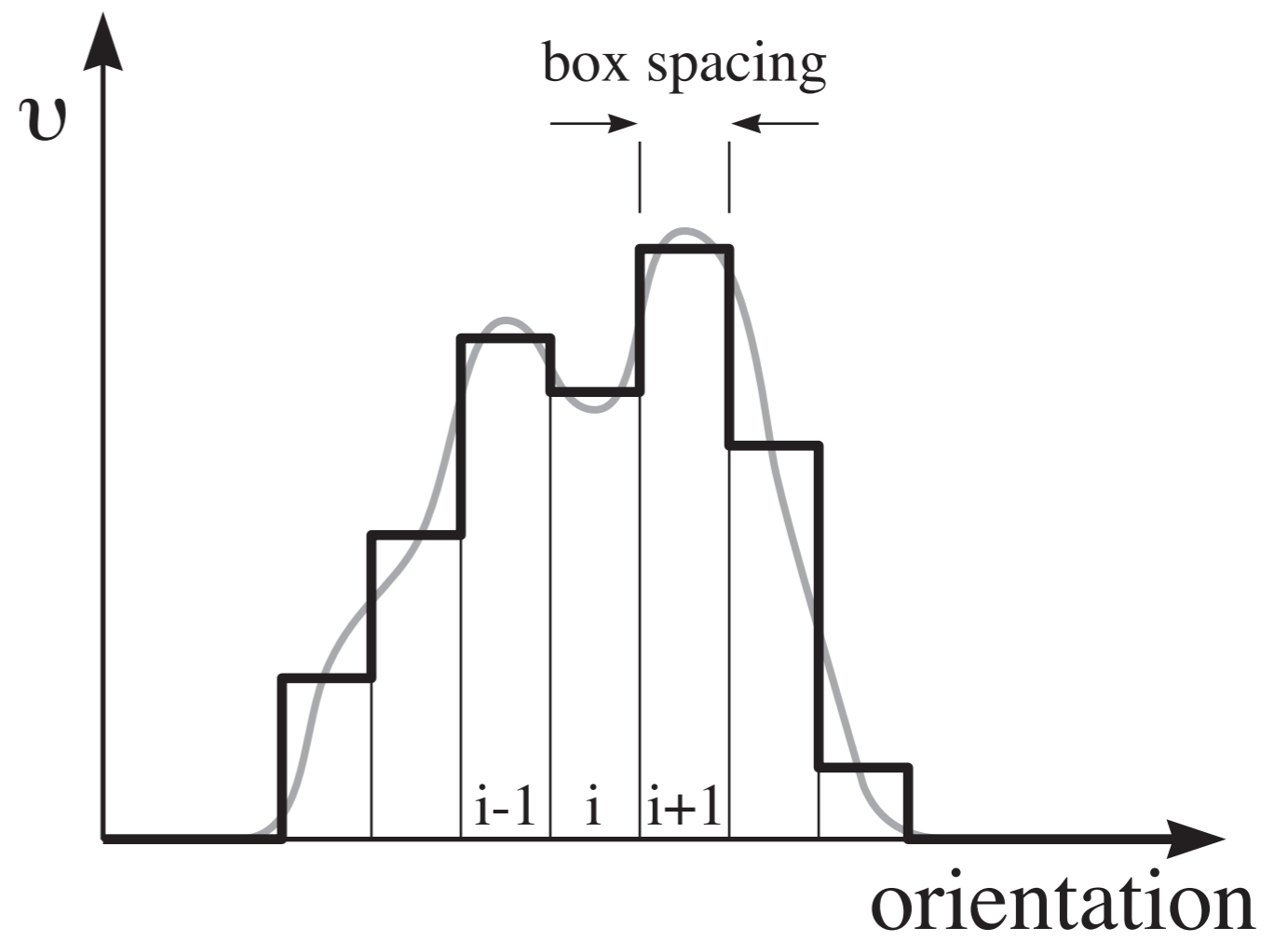
$$\mathbf{g} = \{\varphi_1, \phi, \varphi_2\}$$

- crystallite orientation distribution function (codf) defines probability,  $f(\mathbf{g})$ , that a volume fraction,  $dV/V$ , of the polycrystalline aggregate is taken up by crystals of orientation between  $\mathbf{g}$  and  $\mathbf{g}+d\mathbf{g}$

$$v \equiv \frac{dV}{V} = f(\mathbf{g})d\mathbf{g}$$

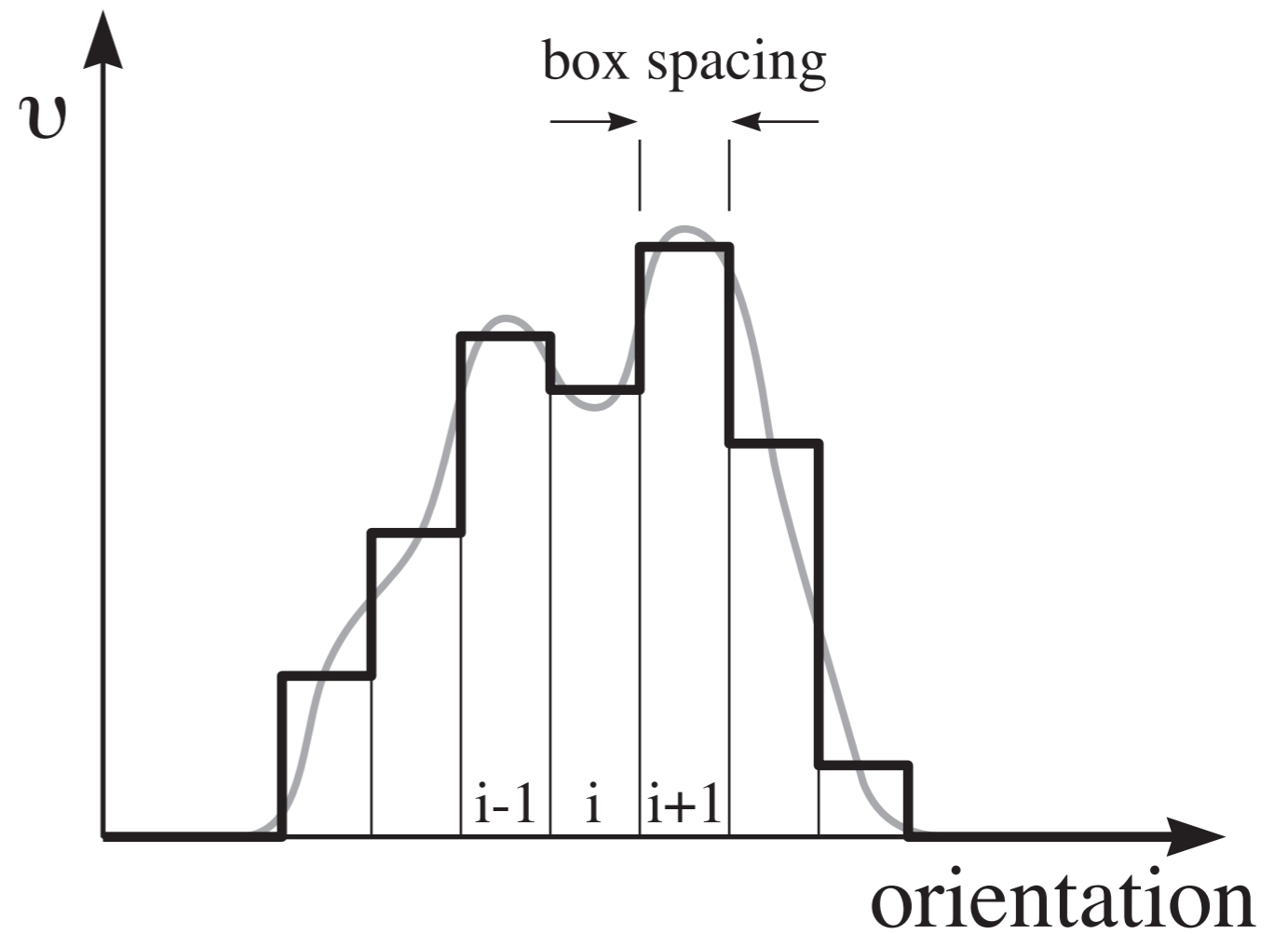
- codf values typically available on a discrete grid in orientation space, or continuously from coefficients of a harmonic series expansion

goal

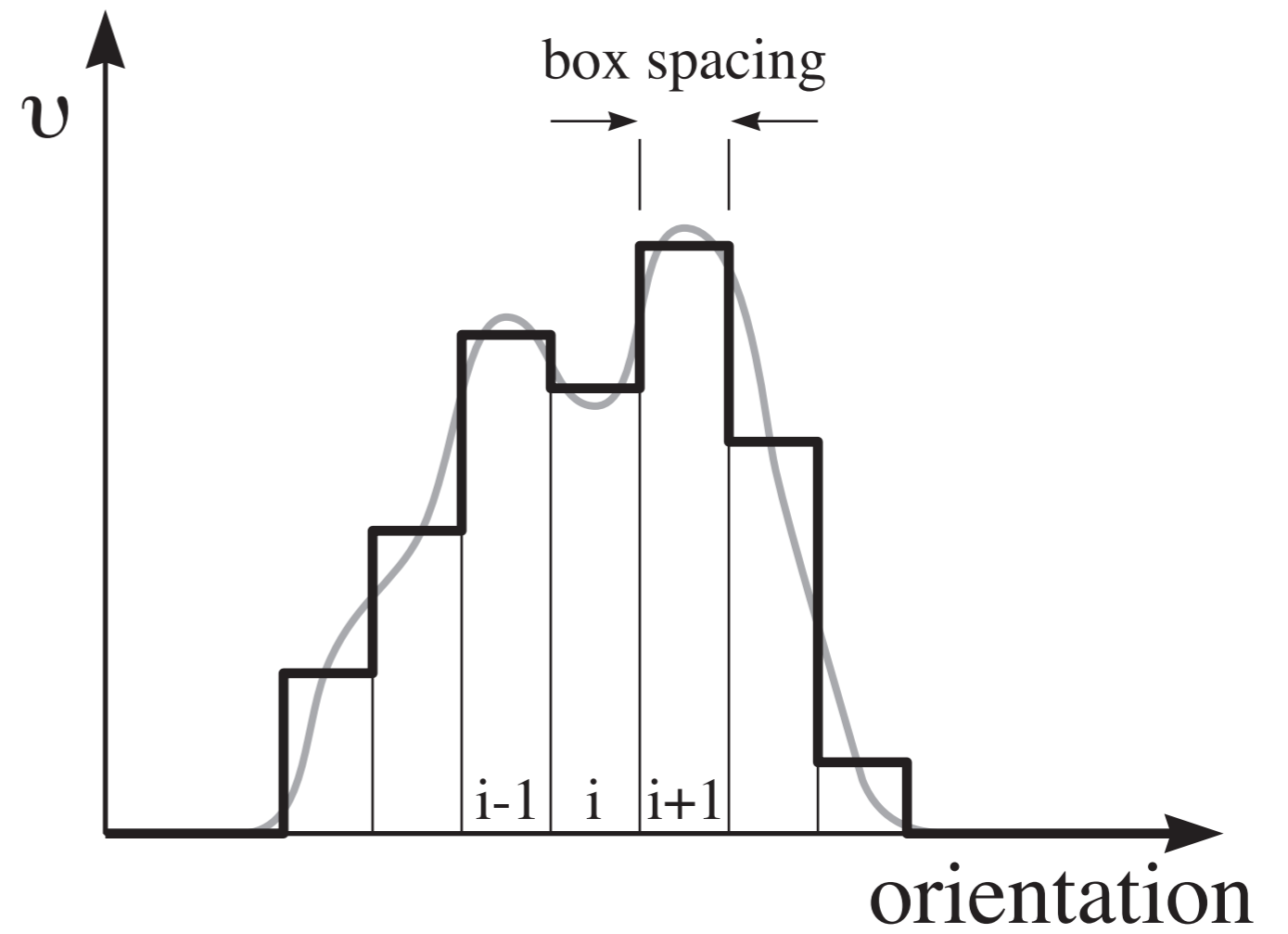


goal

- select  $N^*$  from all those  $N$  orientations having non-zero  $v_i$  in discrete codf representation



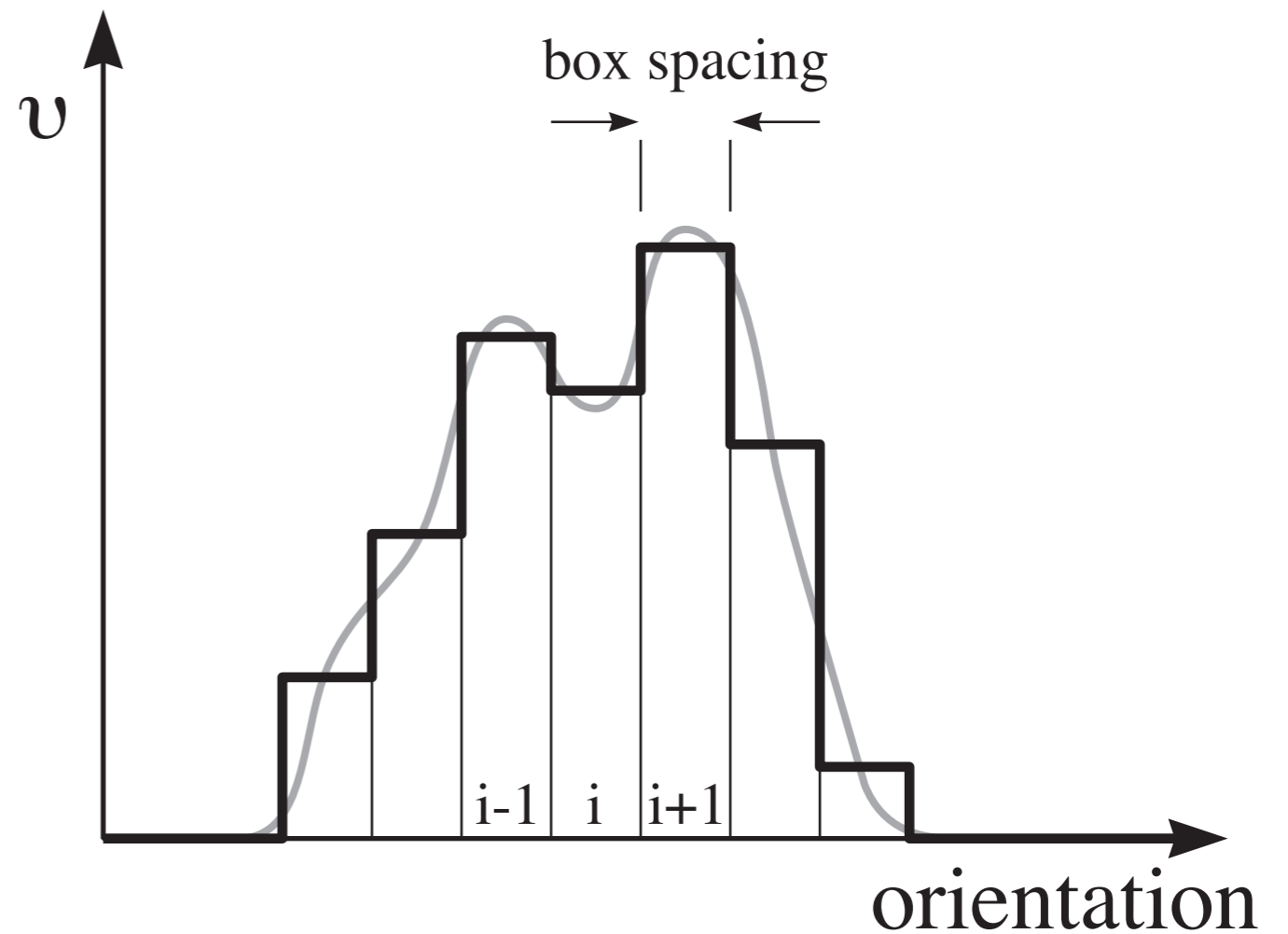
*probabilistic reconstruction*



- add randomly selected orientation if random number

$$r \in [0, 1] \leq v_i$$

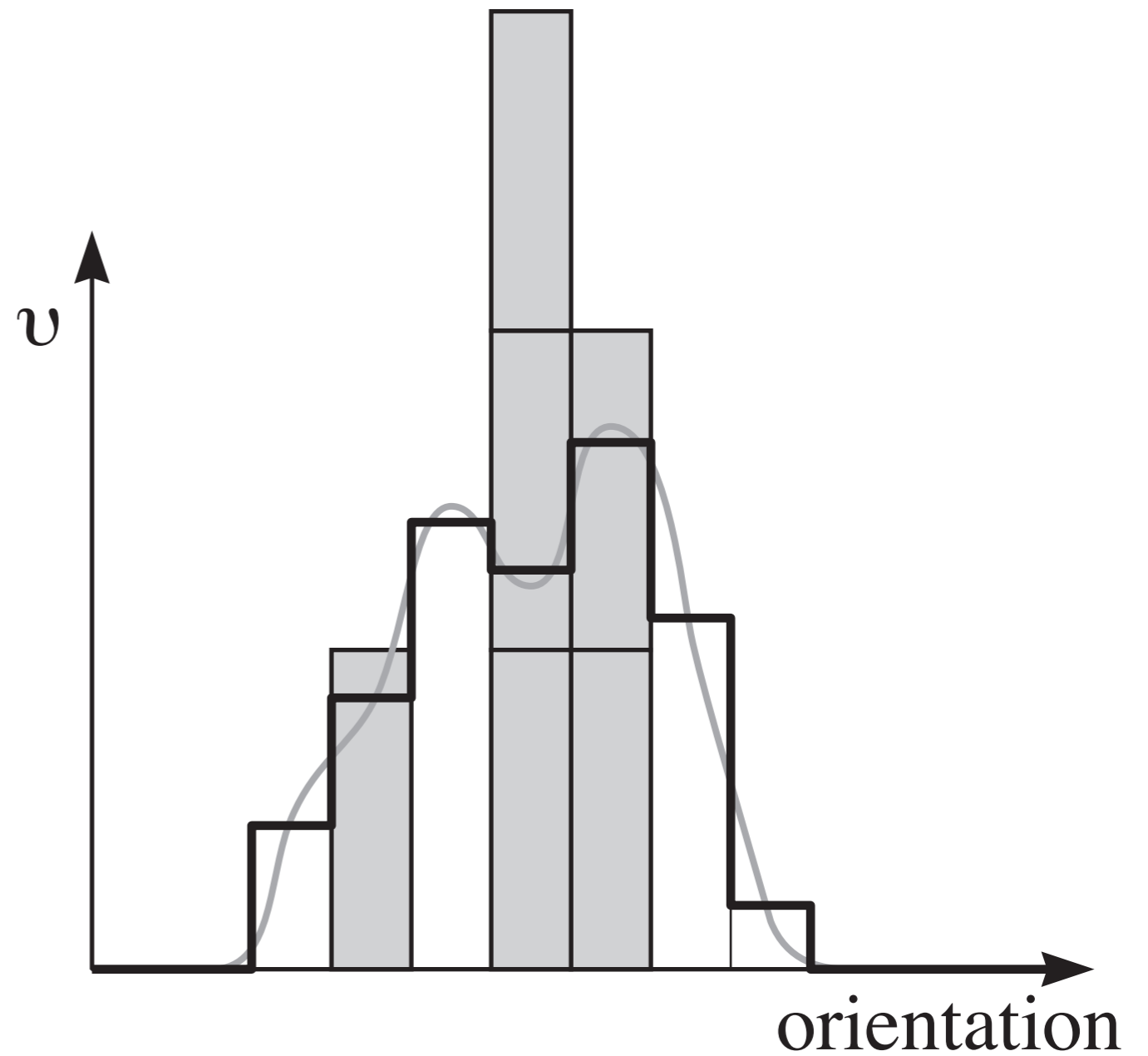
- continue until  $N^*$  orientations collected



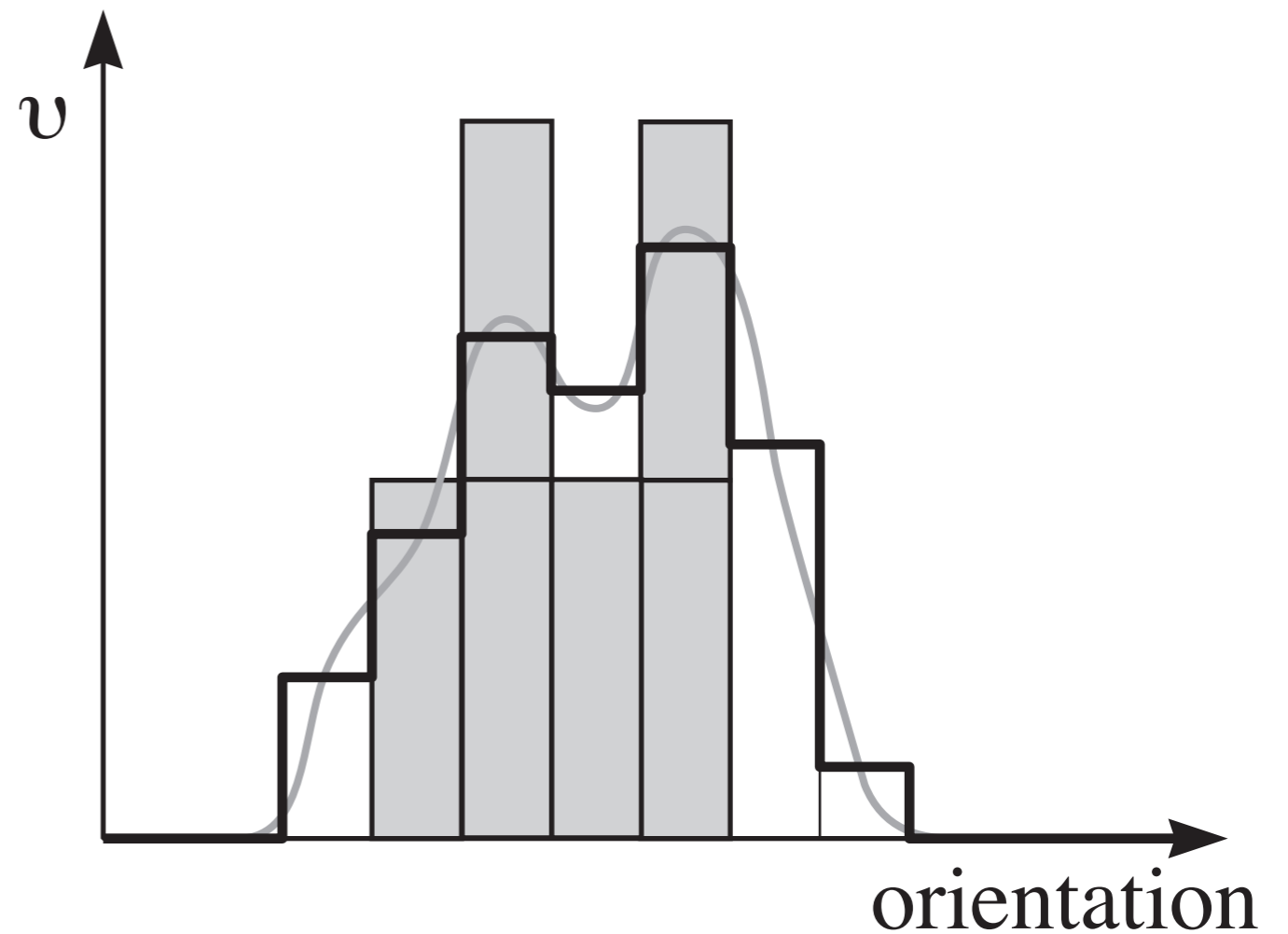
- add randomly selected orientation if random number

$$r \in [0, 1] \leq v_i$$

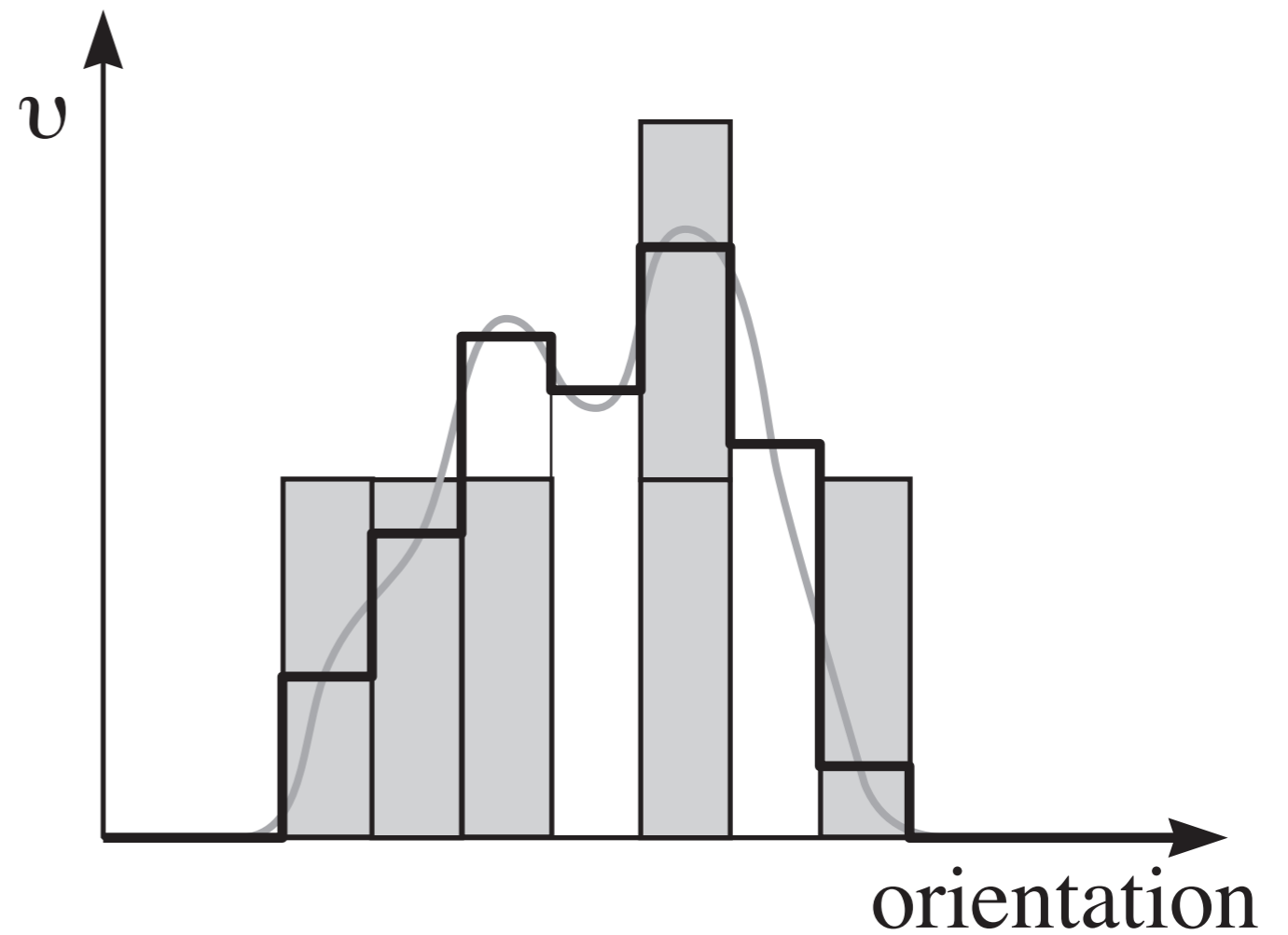
- continue until  $N^*$  orientations collected



- add randomly selected orientation if random number  
 $r \in [0, 1] \leq v_i$
- continue until  $N^*$  orientations collected

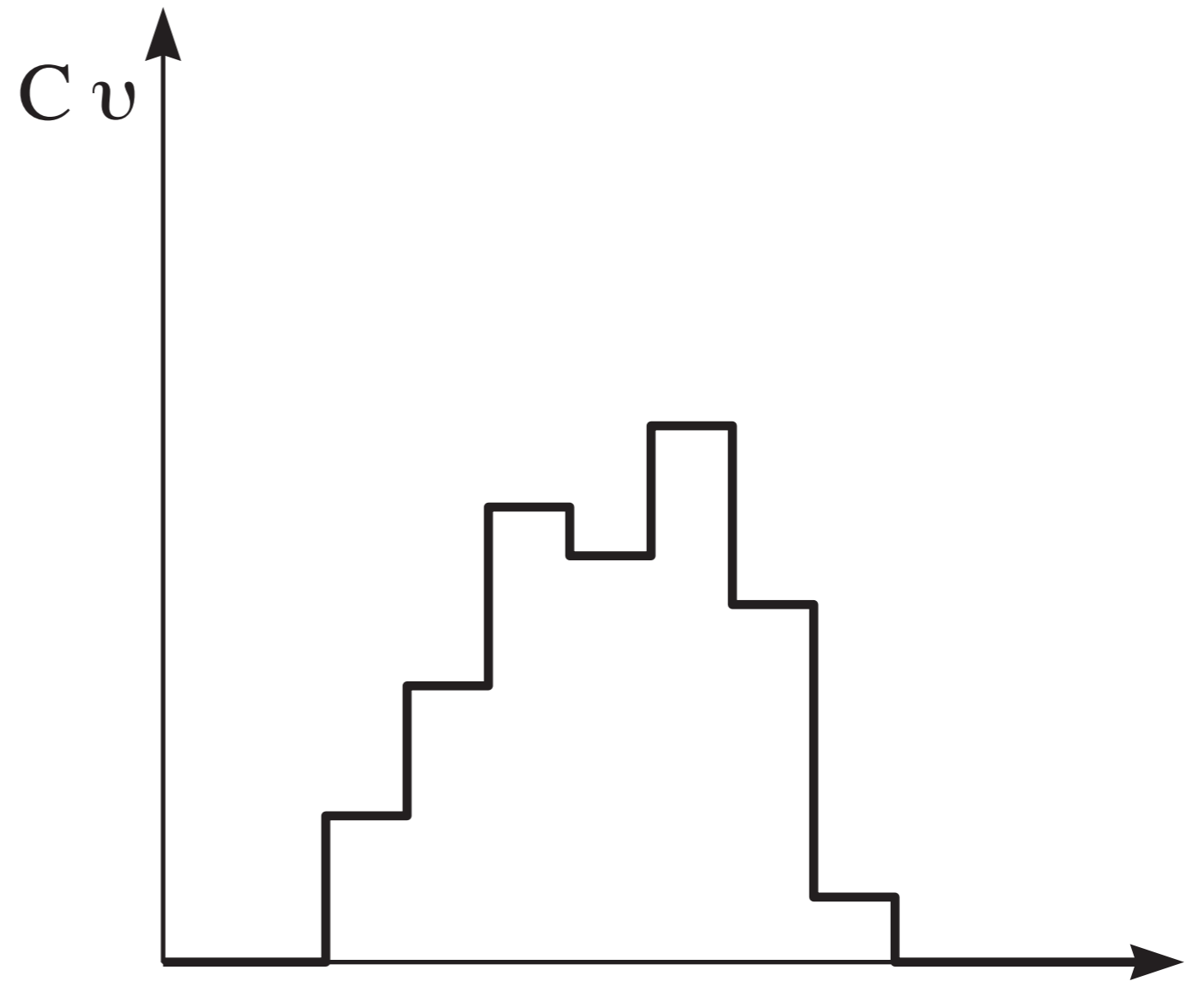


- add randomly selected orientation if random number  
 $r \in [0, 1] \leq v_i$
- continue until  $N^*$  orientations collected

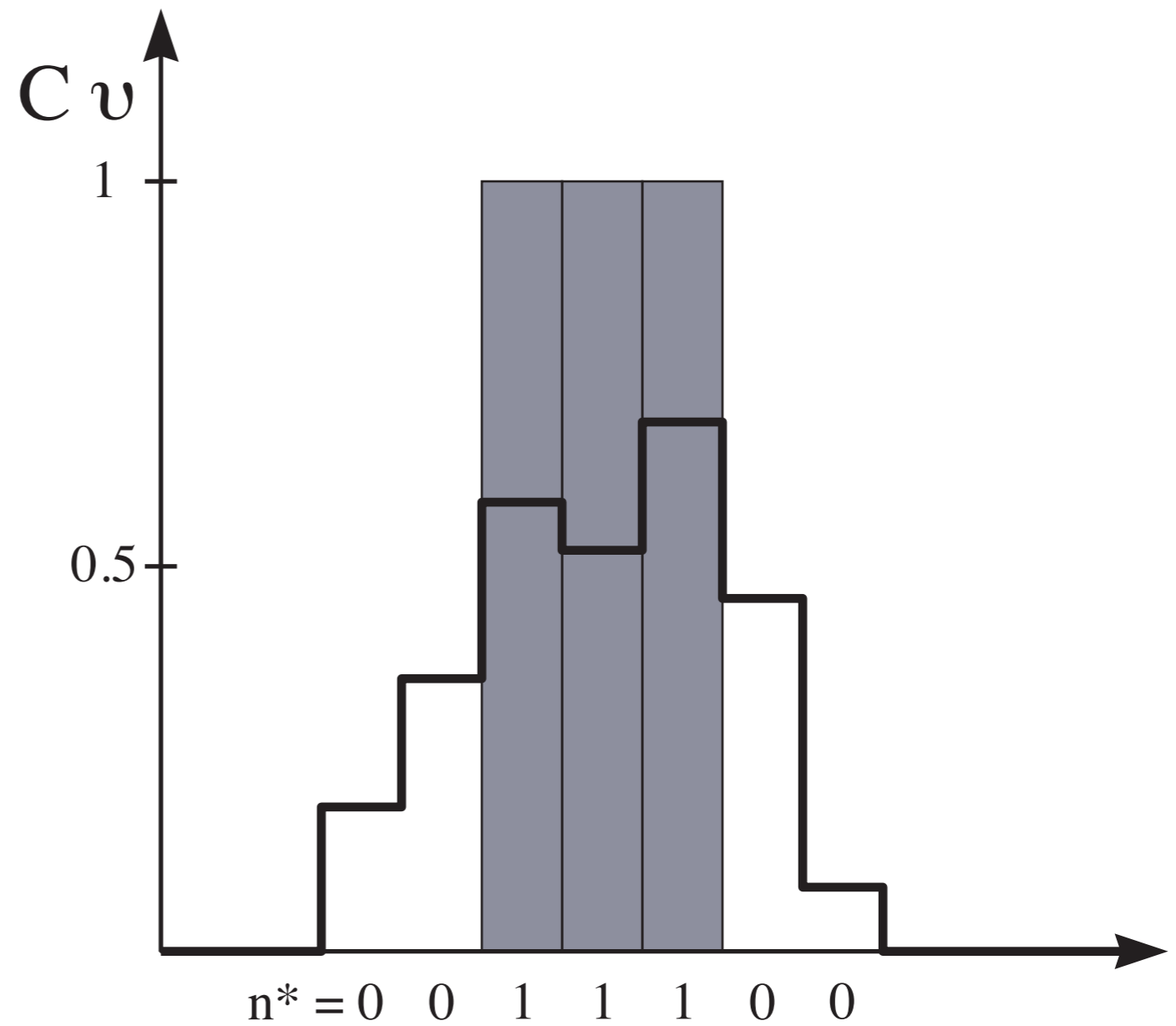




*deterministic reconstruction*



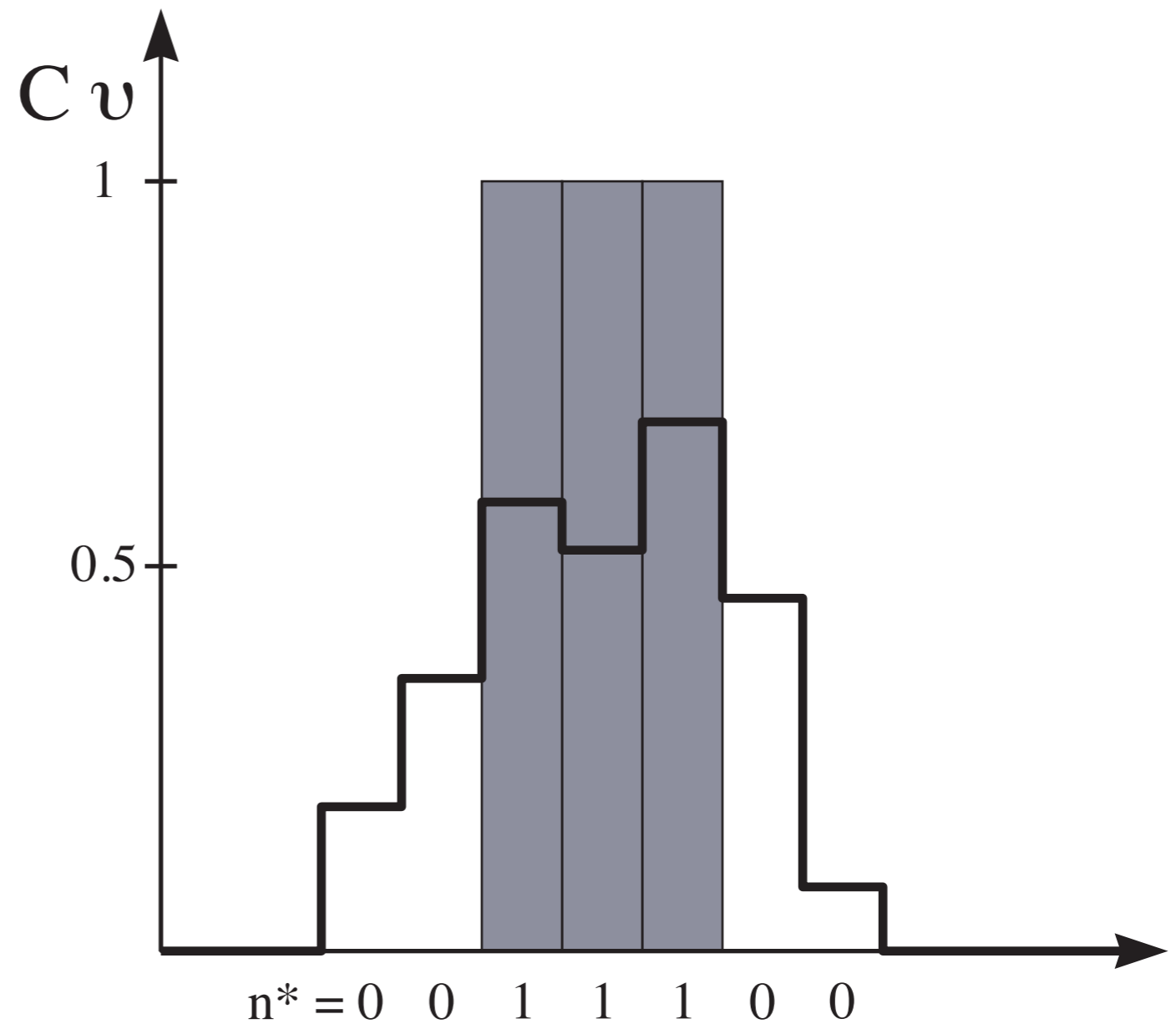
- select each orientation  
 $n_i^* = \text{round}(C v_i)$   
times



- select each orientation  
 $n_i^* = \text{round}(C v_i)$   
times

- vary  $C$  to ensure

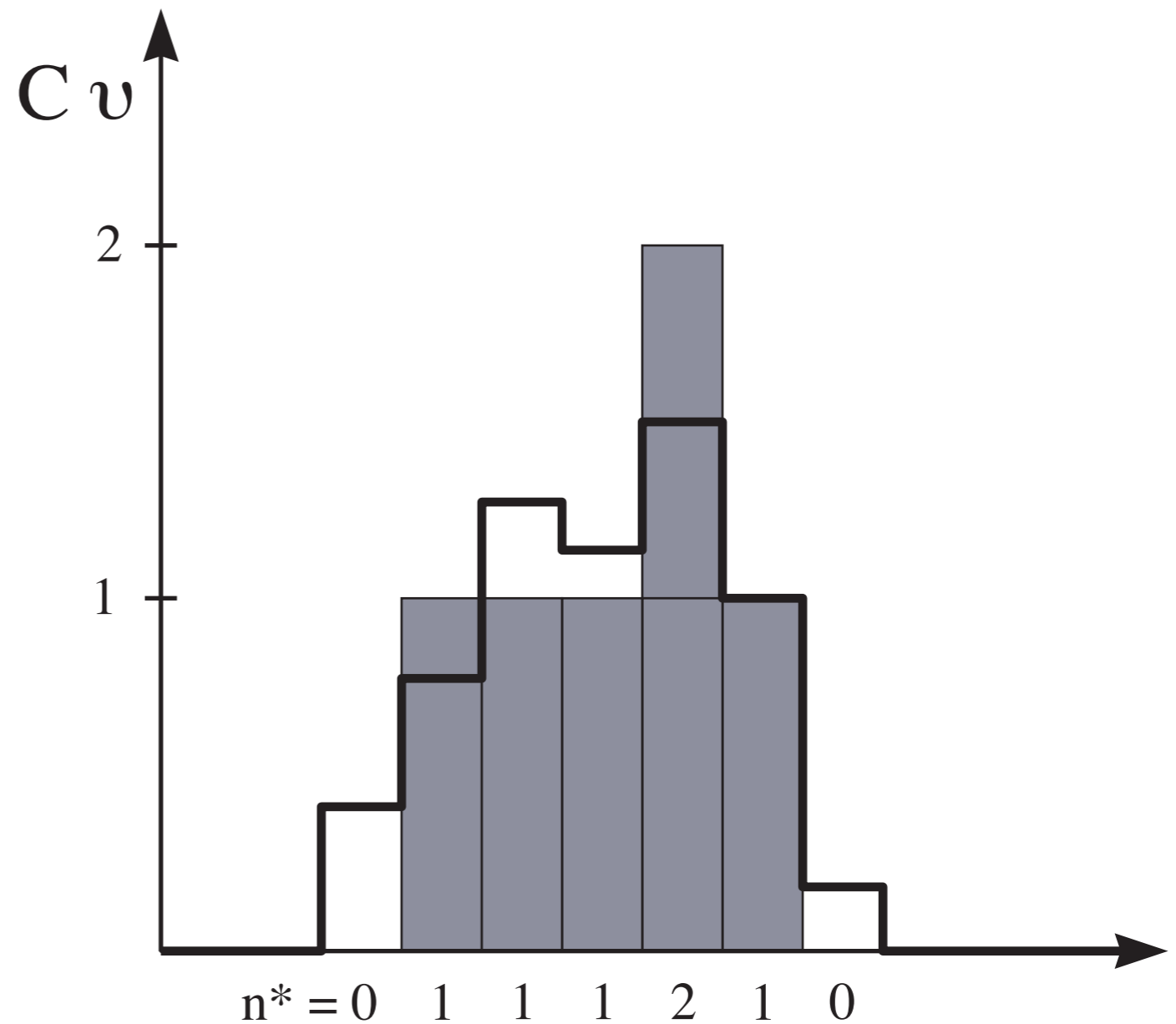
$$\sum_{i=1}^N n_i^* \stackrel{!}{=} N^*$$



- select each orientation  
 $n_i^* = \text{round}(C v_i)$   
times

- vary  $C$  to ensure

$$\sum_{i=1}^N n_i^* \stackrel{!}{=} N^*$$



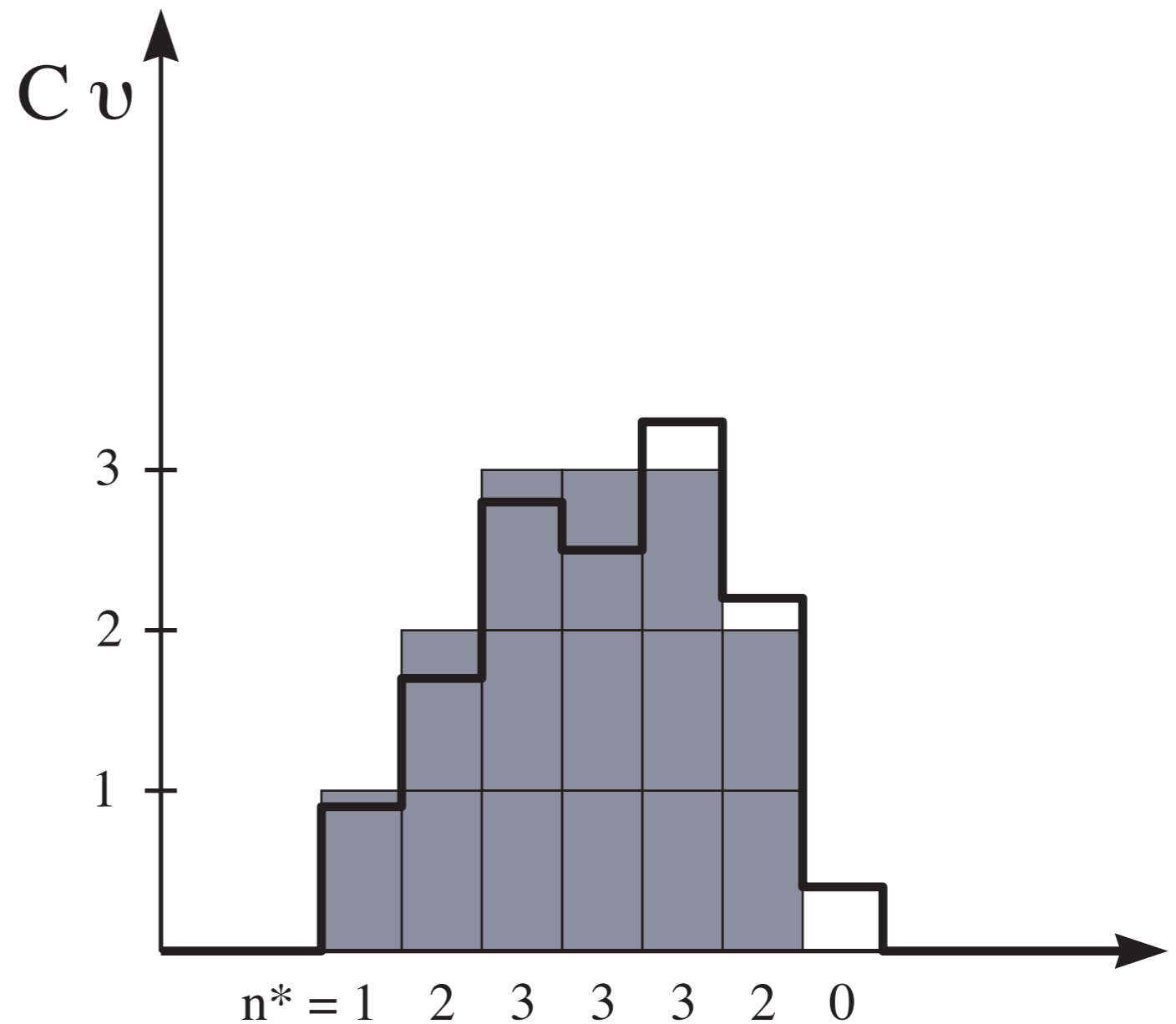
- select each orientation

$$n_i^* = \text{round}(C v_i)$$

times

- vary  $C$  to ensure

$$\sum_{i=1}^N n_i^* \stackrel{!}{=} N^*$$



# exemplary textures

## strong

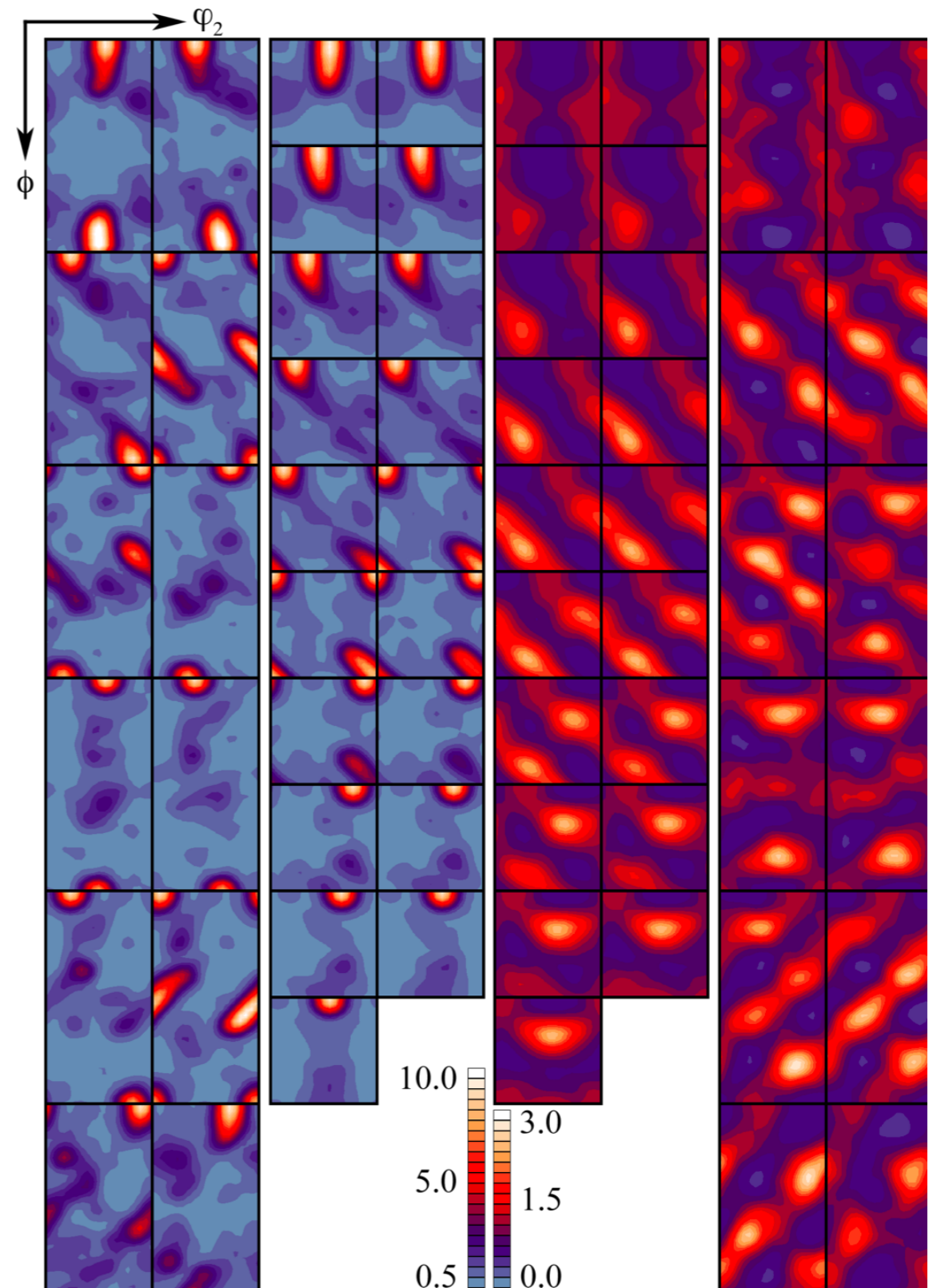
- $N = 6048$  (monoclinic)
- $N = 1512$  (orthotropic)

## intermediate

- $N = 6048$
- $N = 1512$

## random

- $N = 186624$
- $N = 27000$
- $N = 5832$

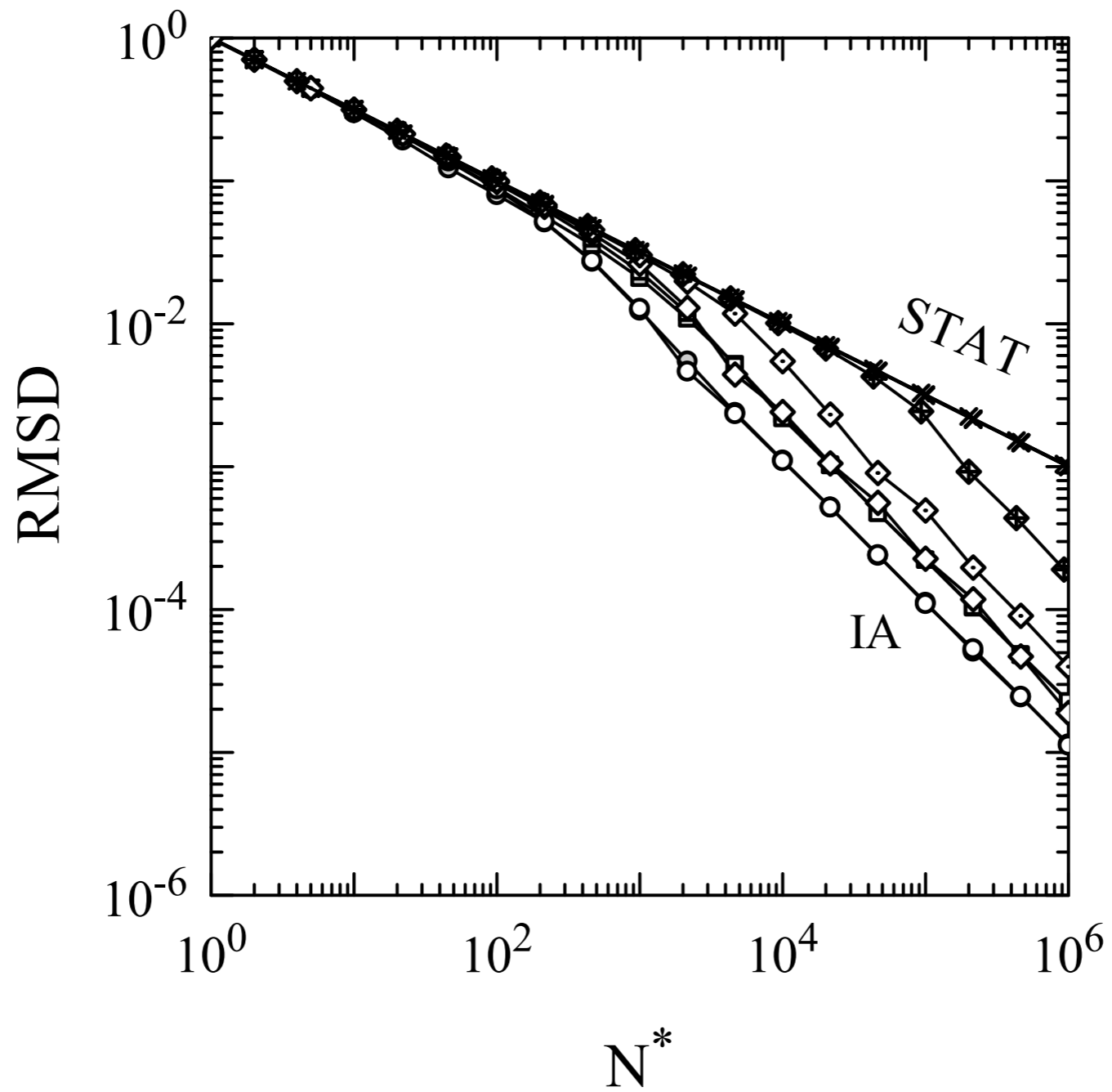


*measure of approximation quality*

---

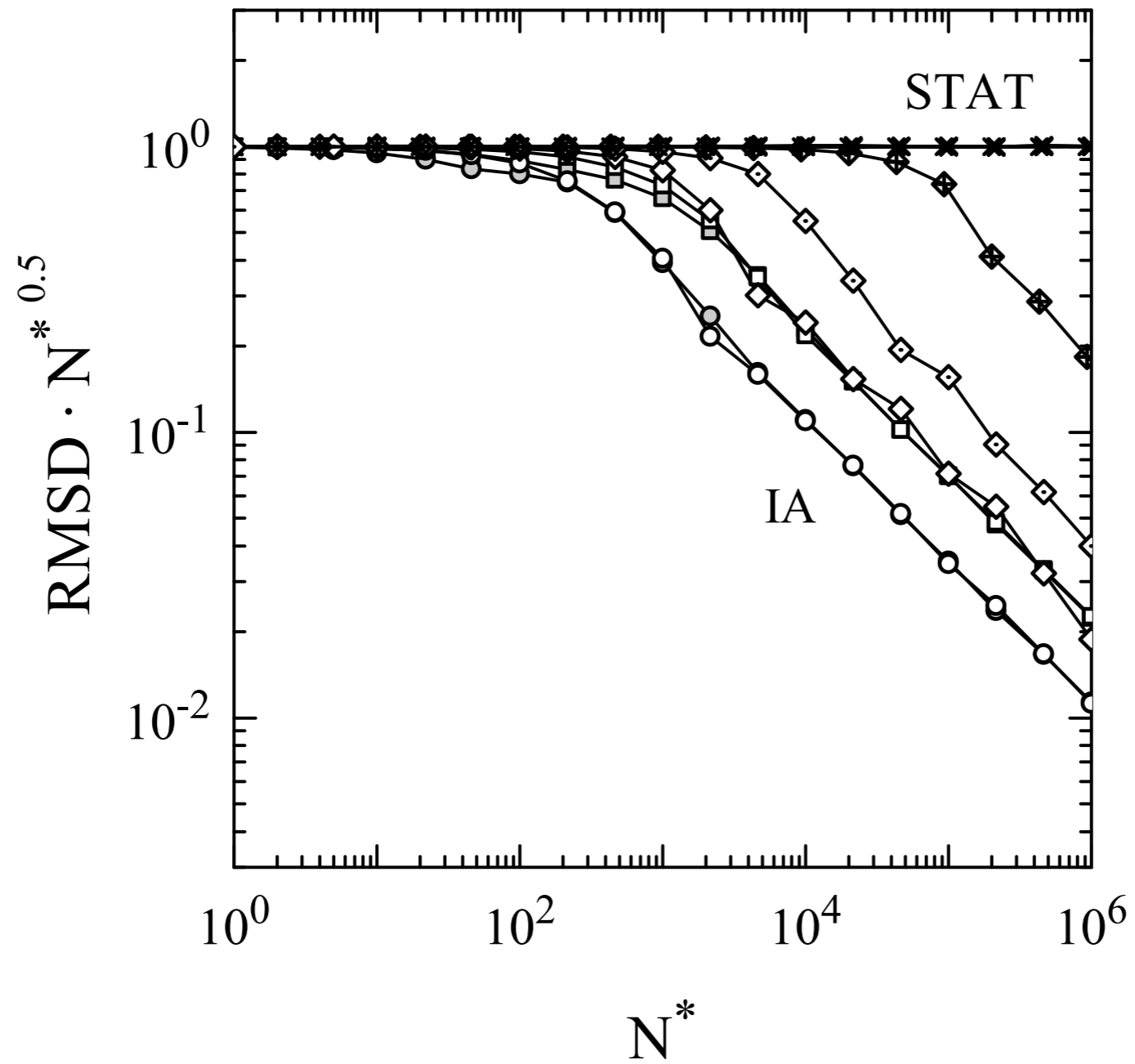
$$\text{RMSE} = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N (v_i - v_i^*)^2}$$

results (root mean squared deviation)

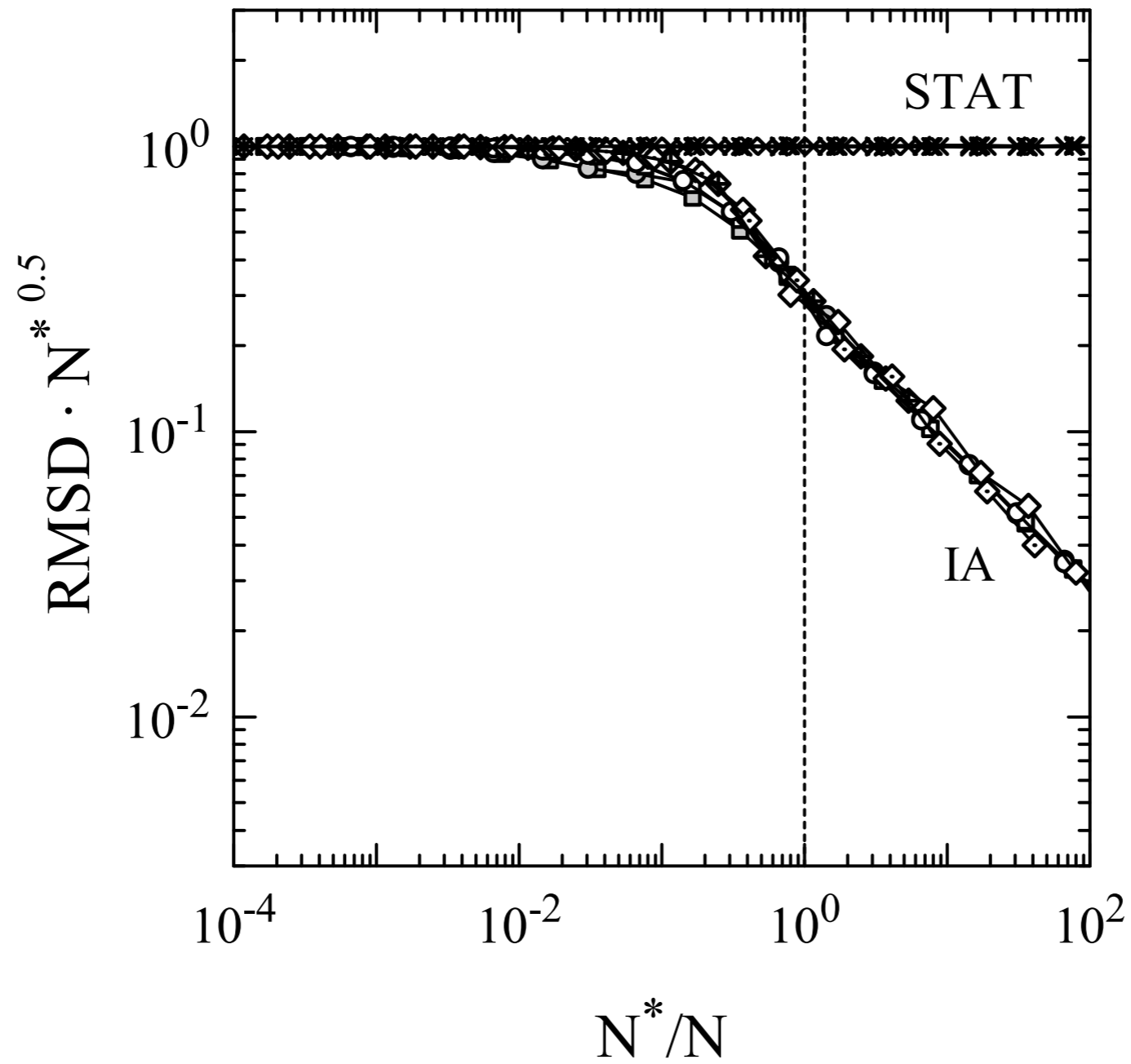




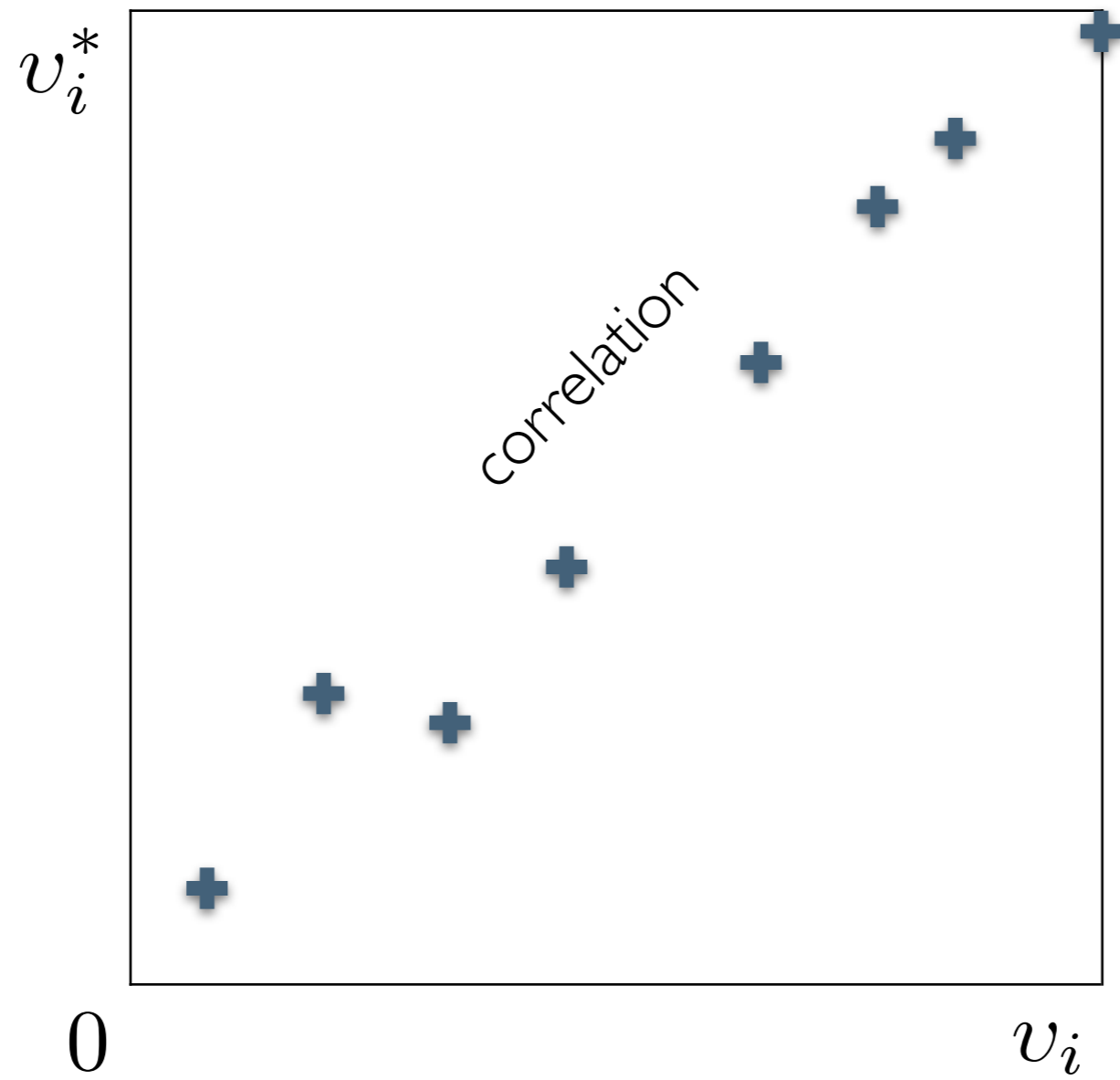
results (root mean squared deviation)



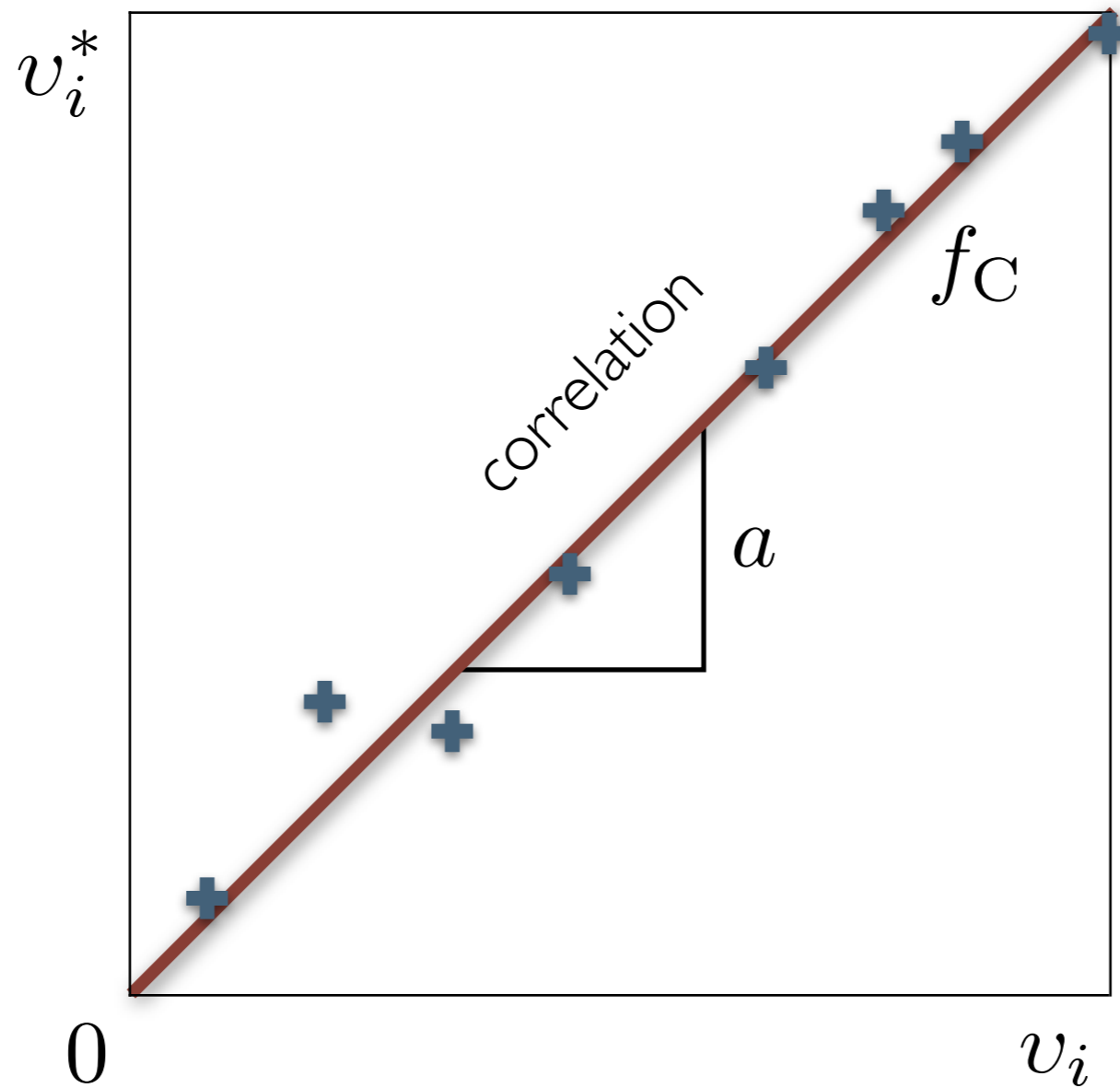
results (root mean squared deviation)



measure of approximation quality



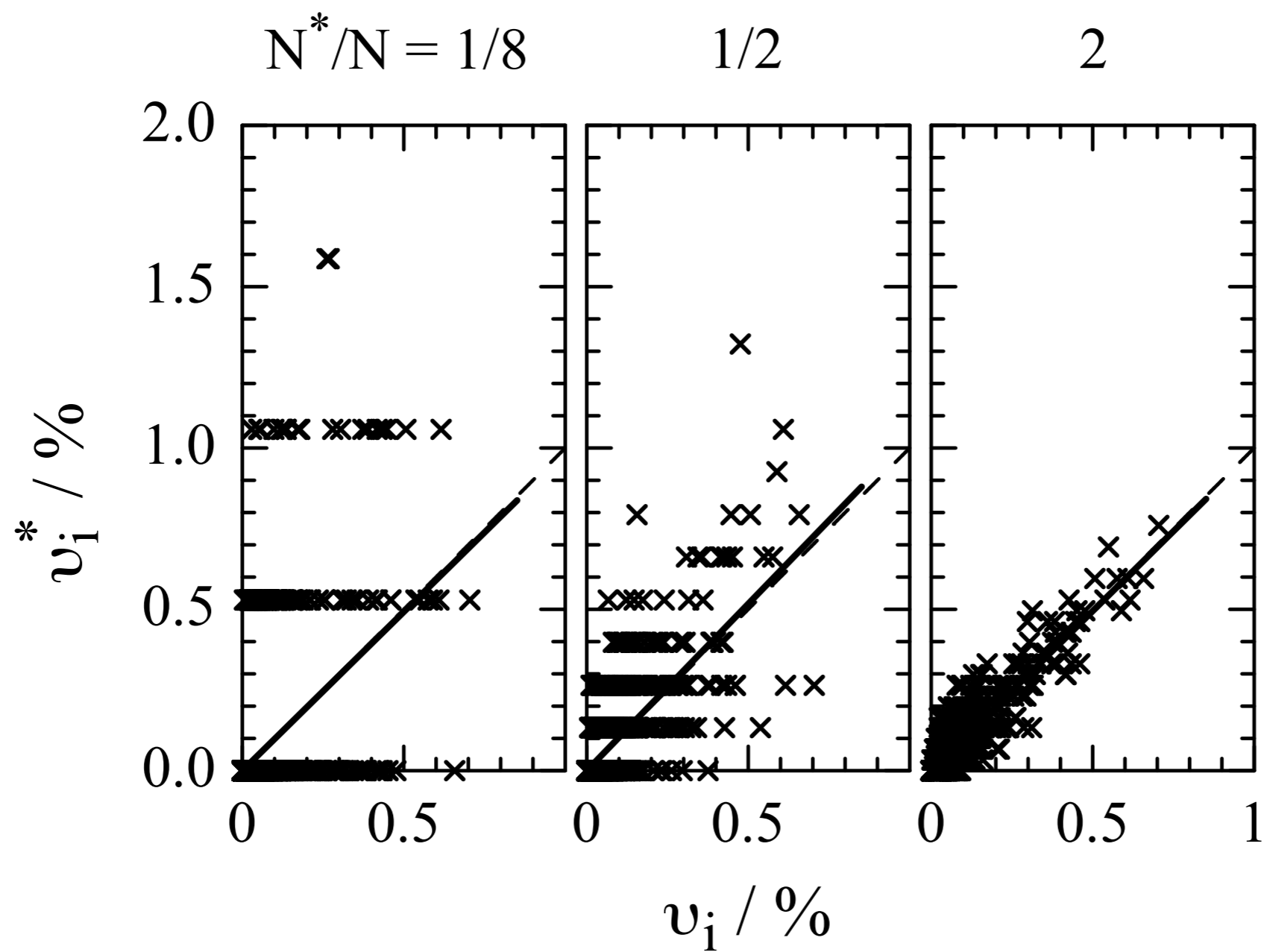
# measure of approximation quality



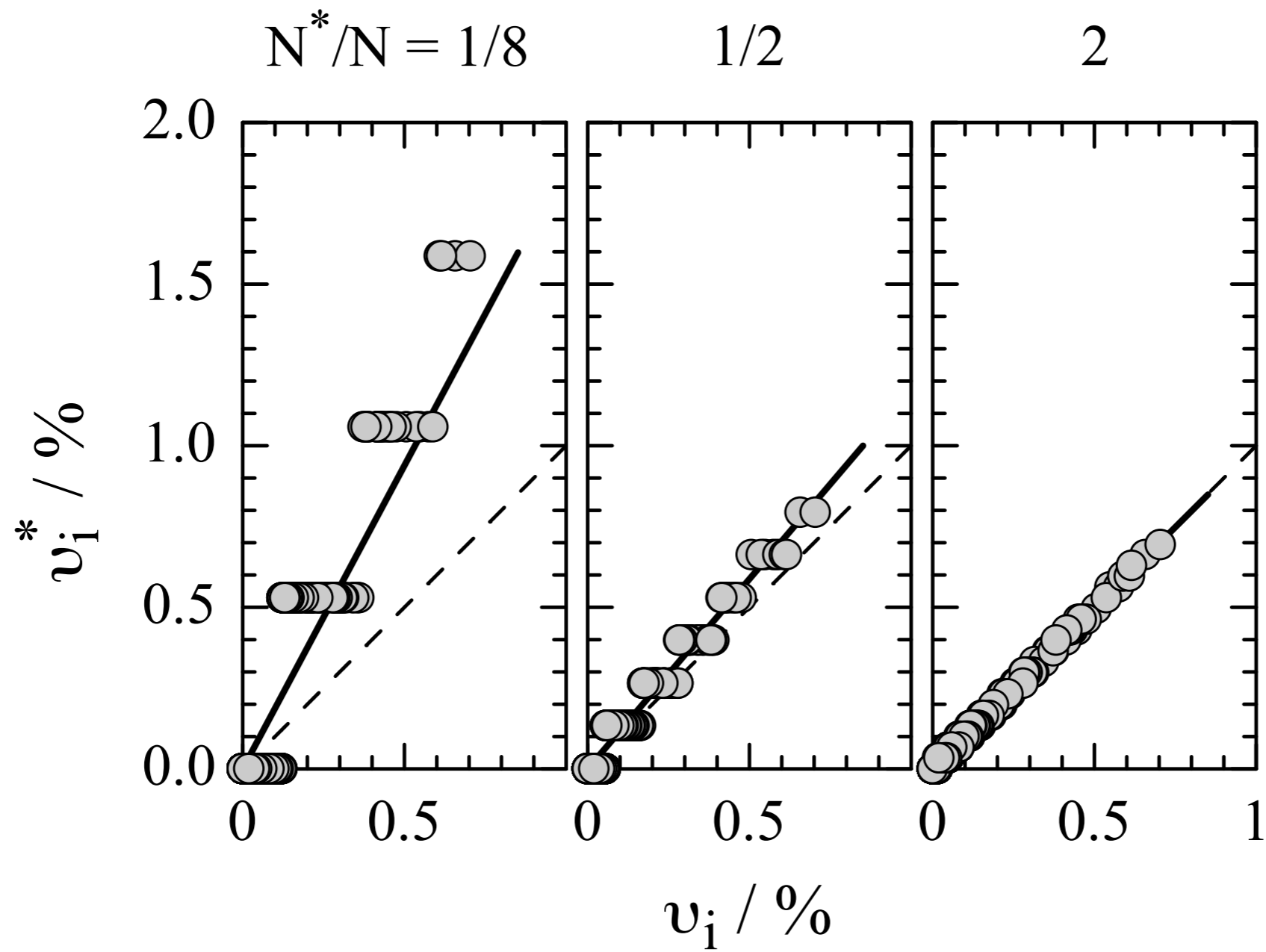
$$a = \frac{N \sum_{i=1}^N v_i v_i^* - \sum_{i=1}^N v_i \sum_{i=1}^N v_i^*}{N \sum_{i=1}^N v_i v_i - \sum_{i=1}^N v_i \sum_{i=1}^N v_i}$$

$$f_c = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N v_i v_i^* / N - \langle v_i \rangle \langle v_i^* \rangle}{\sqrt{\langle v_i^2 \rangle - \langle v_i \rangle^2} \sqrt{\langle v_i^{*2} \rangle - \langle v_i^* \rangle^2}}$$

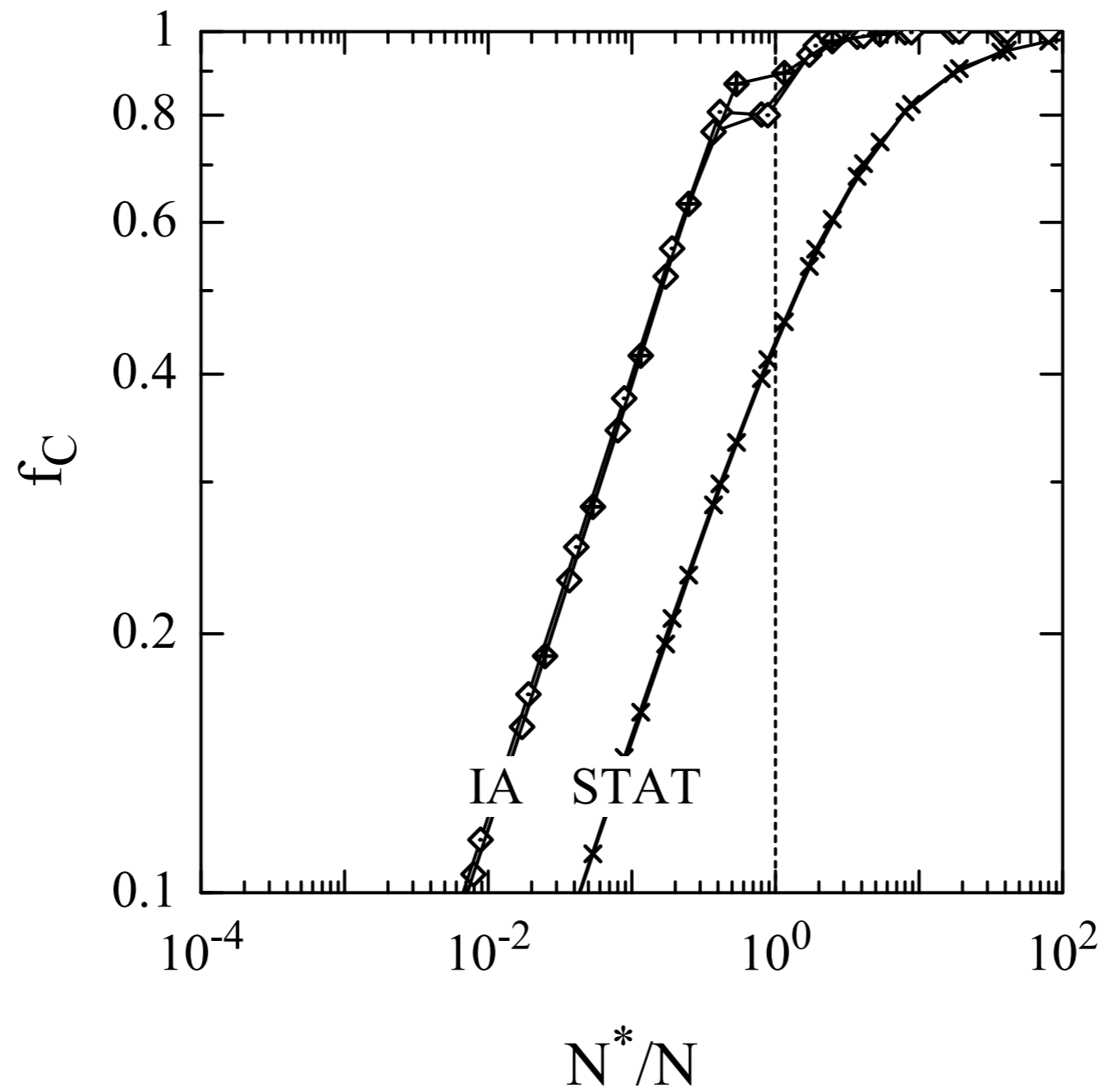
results (correlation for strong texture / probabilistic reconstruction)



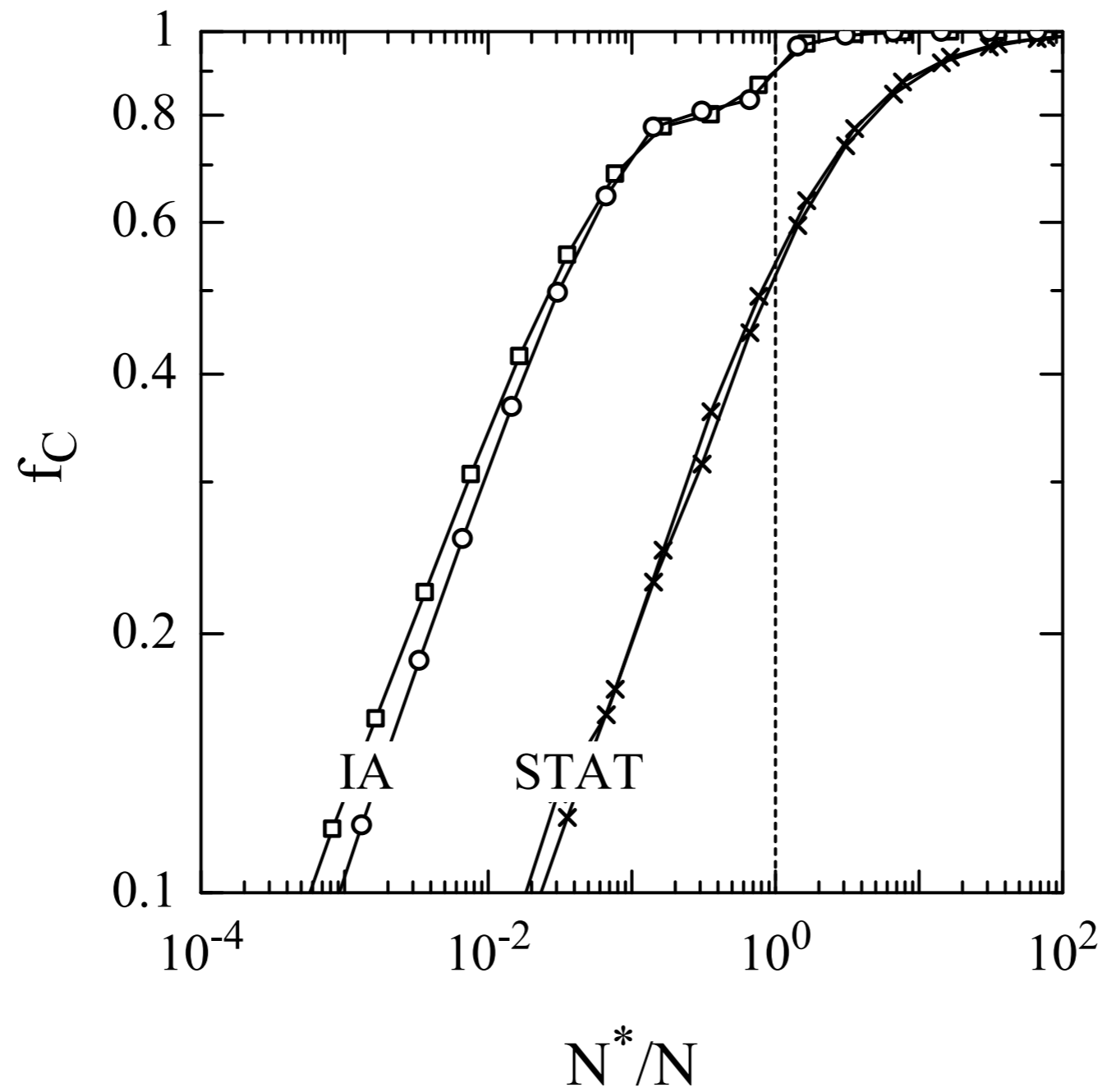
results (correlation for strong texture / deterministic reconstruction)



results (correlation factor)

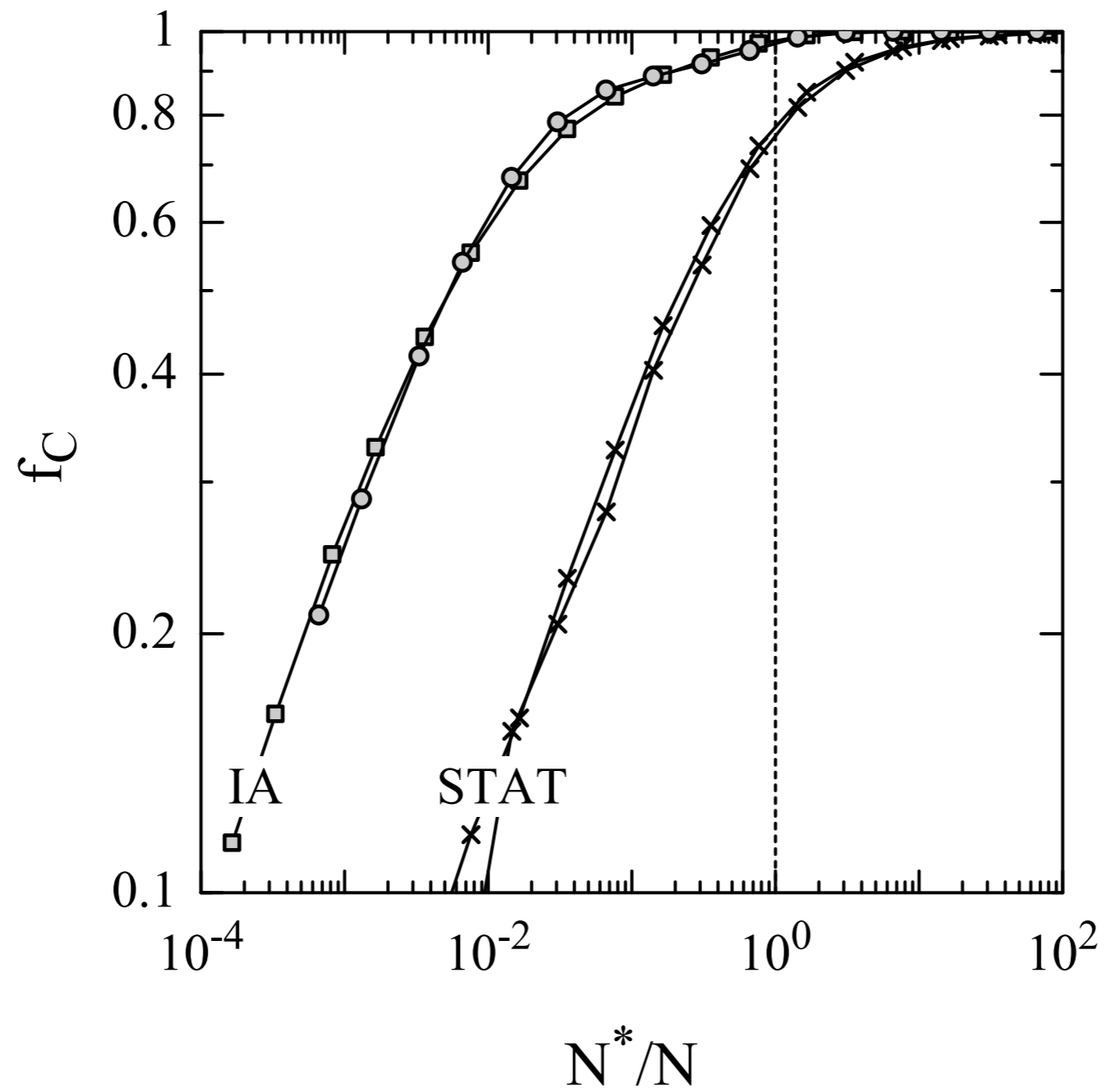


results (correlation factor)

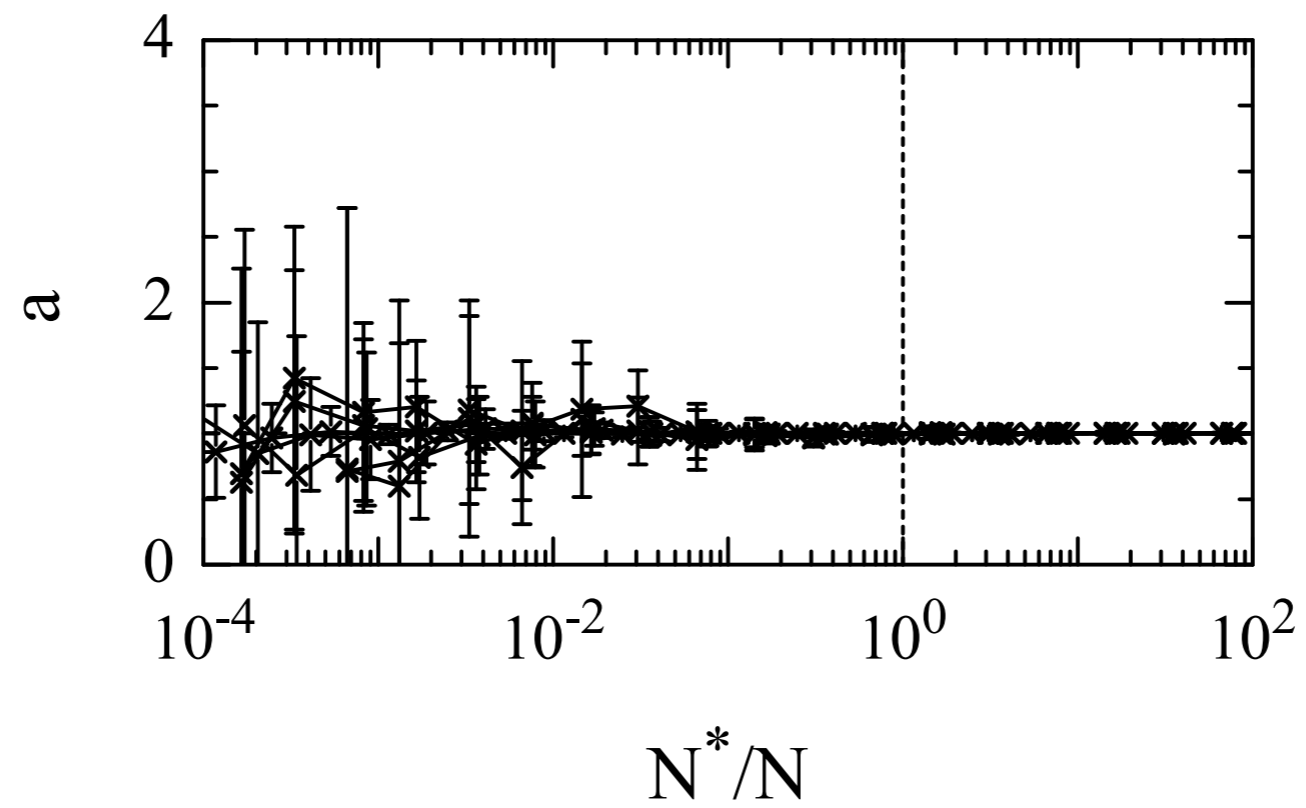




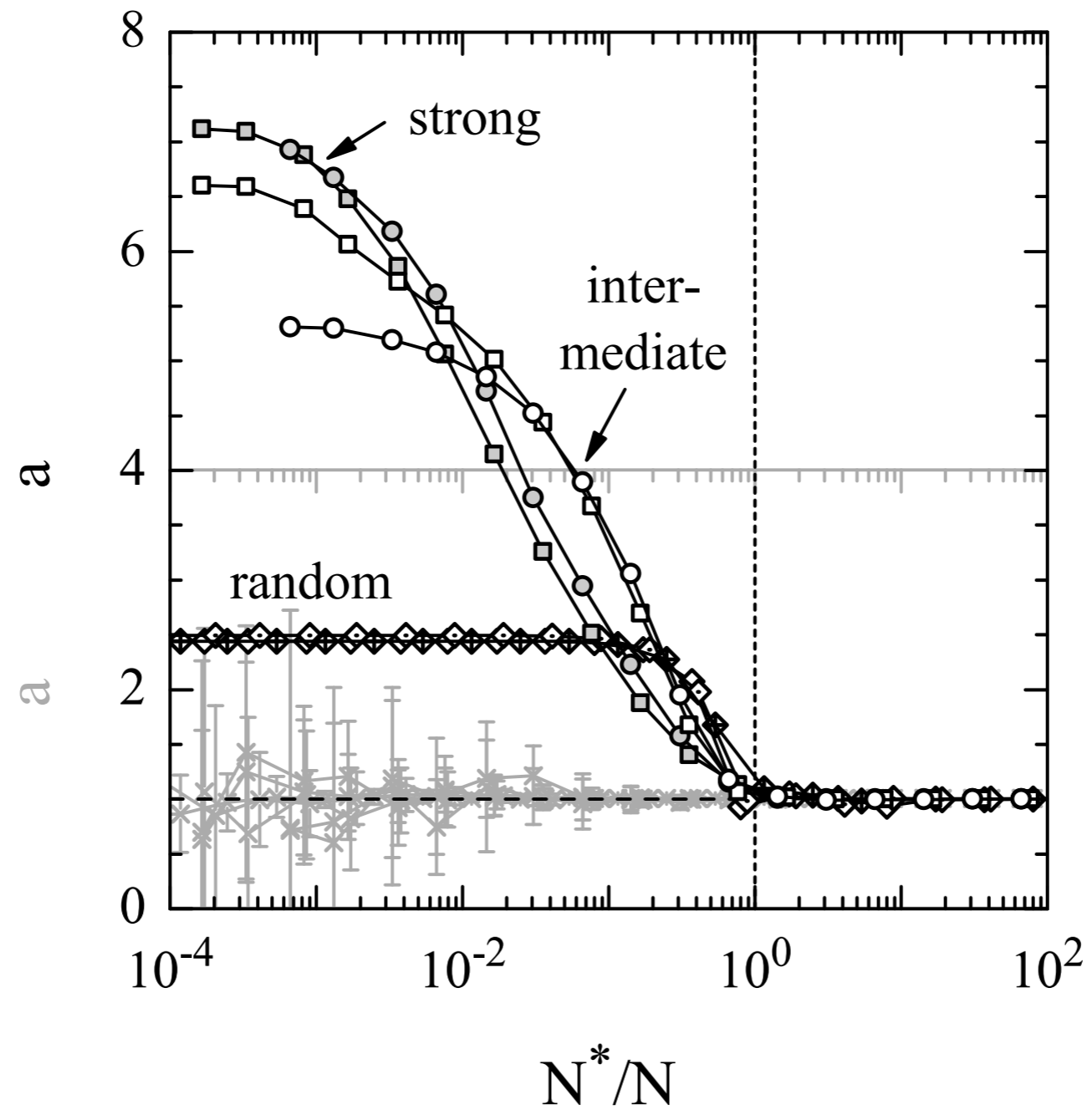
results (correlation factor)



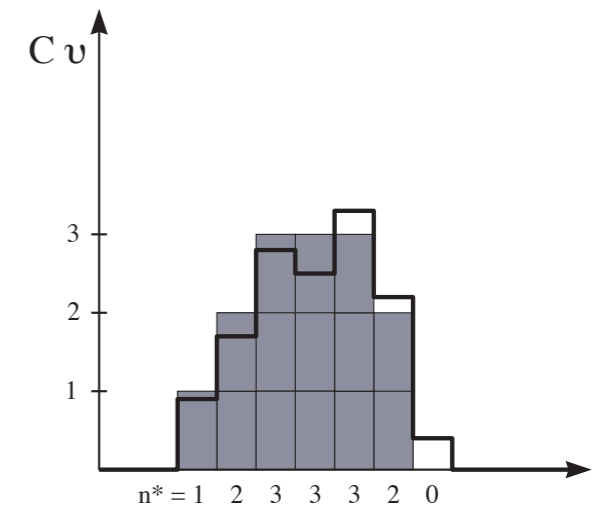
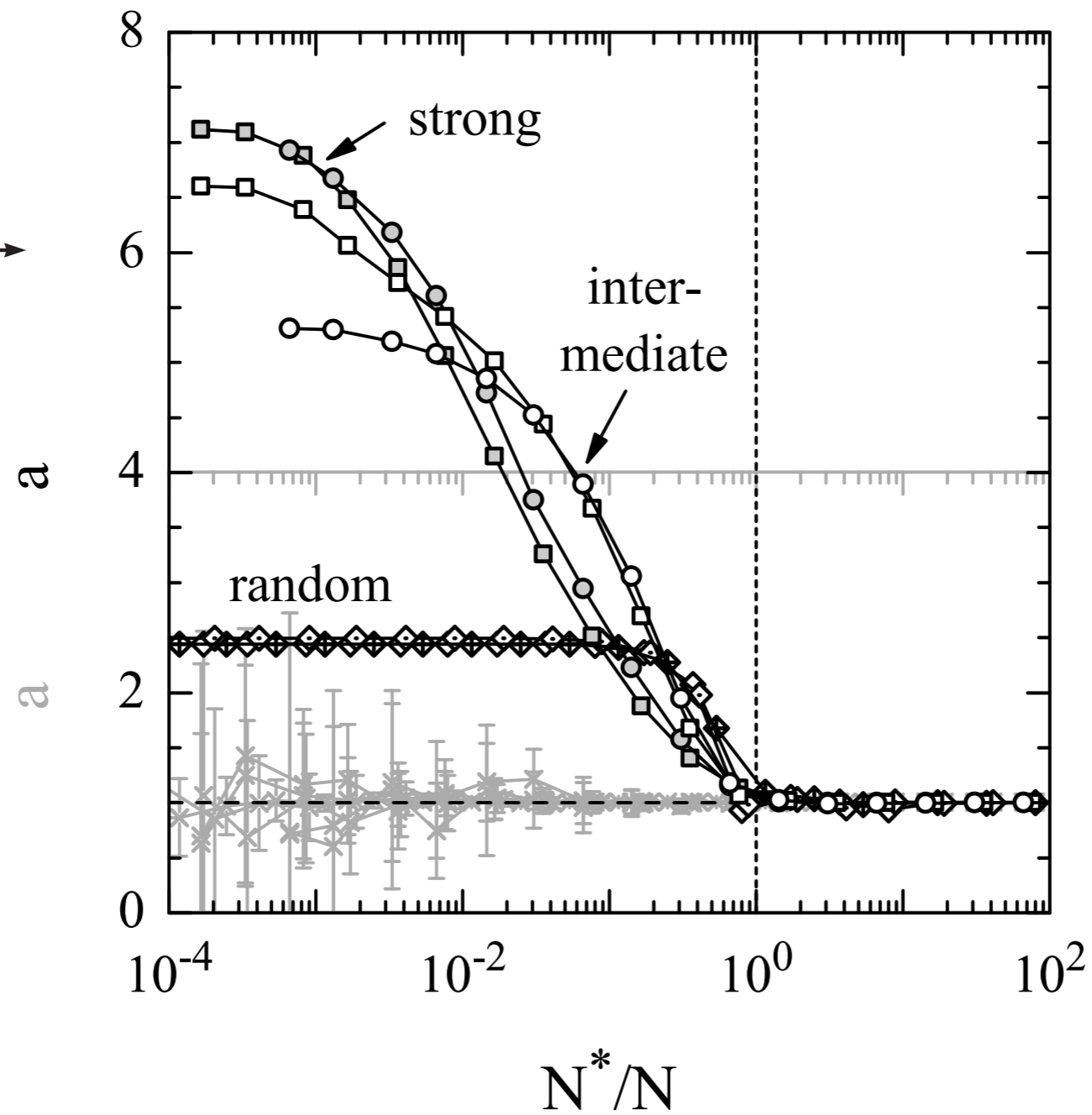
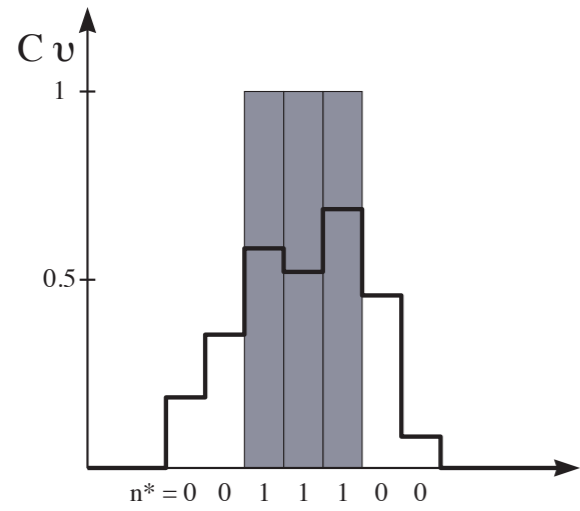
results (correlation slope)



results (correlation slope)



# results (correlation slope)



## hybrid approach

- select each orientation

$$n_i^* = \text{round}(C v_i)$$

times

- vary  $C$  to ensure population size

$$\sum_{i=1}^N n_i^* \stackrel{!}{=} \max(N^*, N)$$

- select  $N^*$  orientations from this population  
**at random**

# hybrid approach

- select each orientation

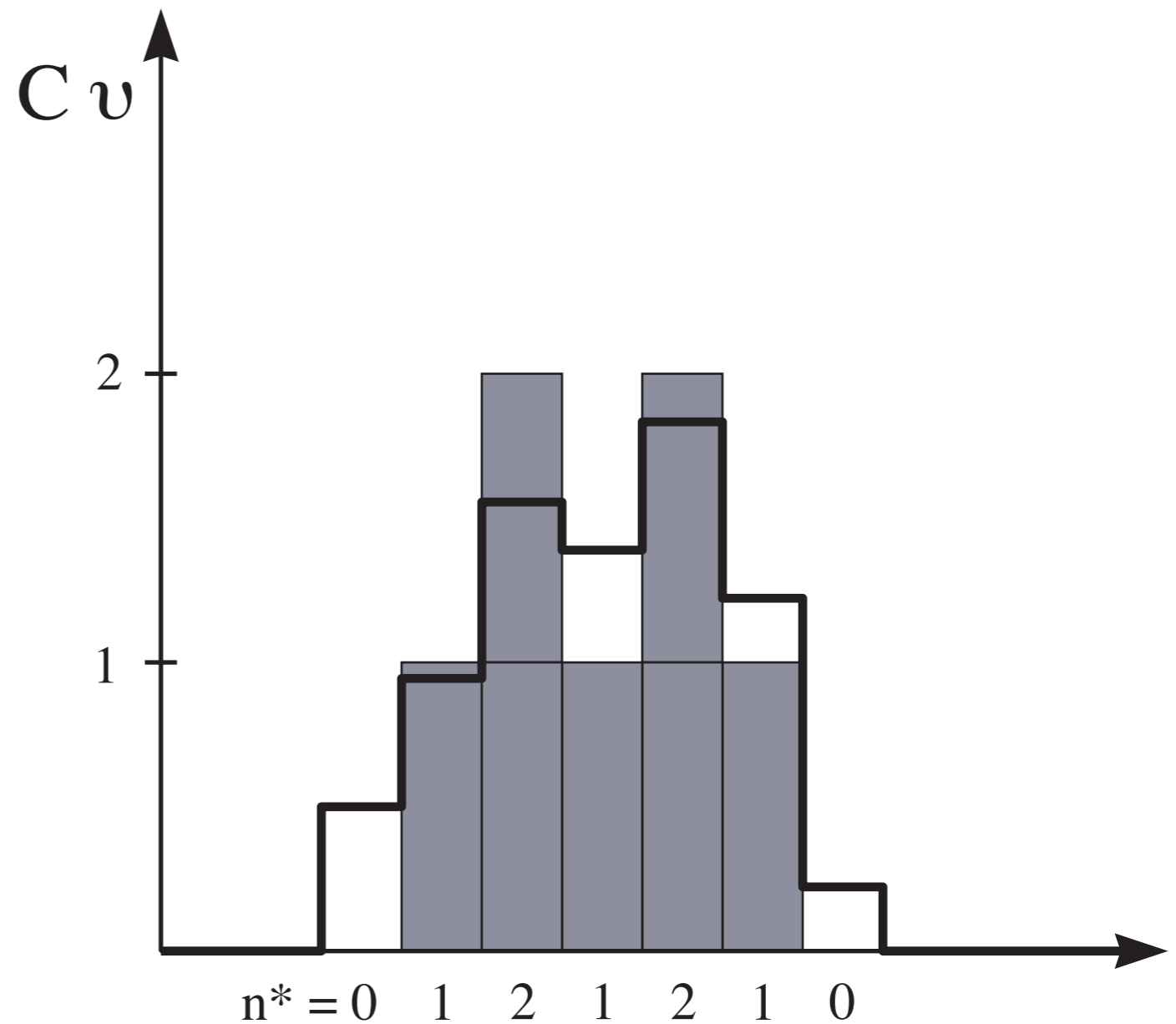
$$n_i^* = \text{round}(C v_i)$$

times

- vary  $C$  to ensure population size

$$\sum_{i=1}^N n_i^* \stackrel{!}{=} \max(N^*, N)$$

- select  $N^*$  orientations from this population  
**at random**



# hybrid approach

- select each orientation

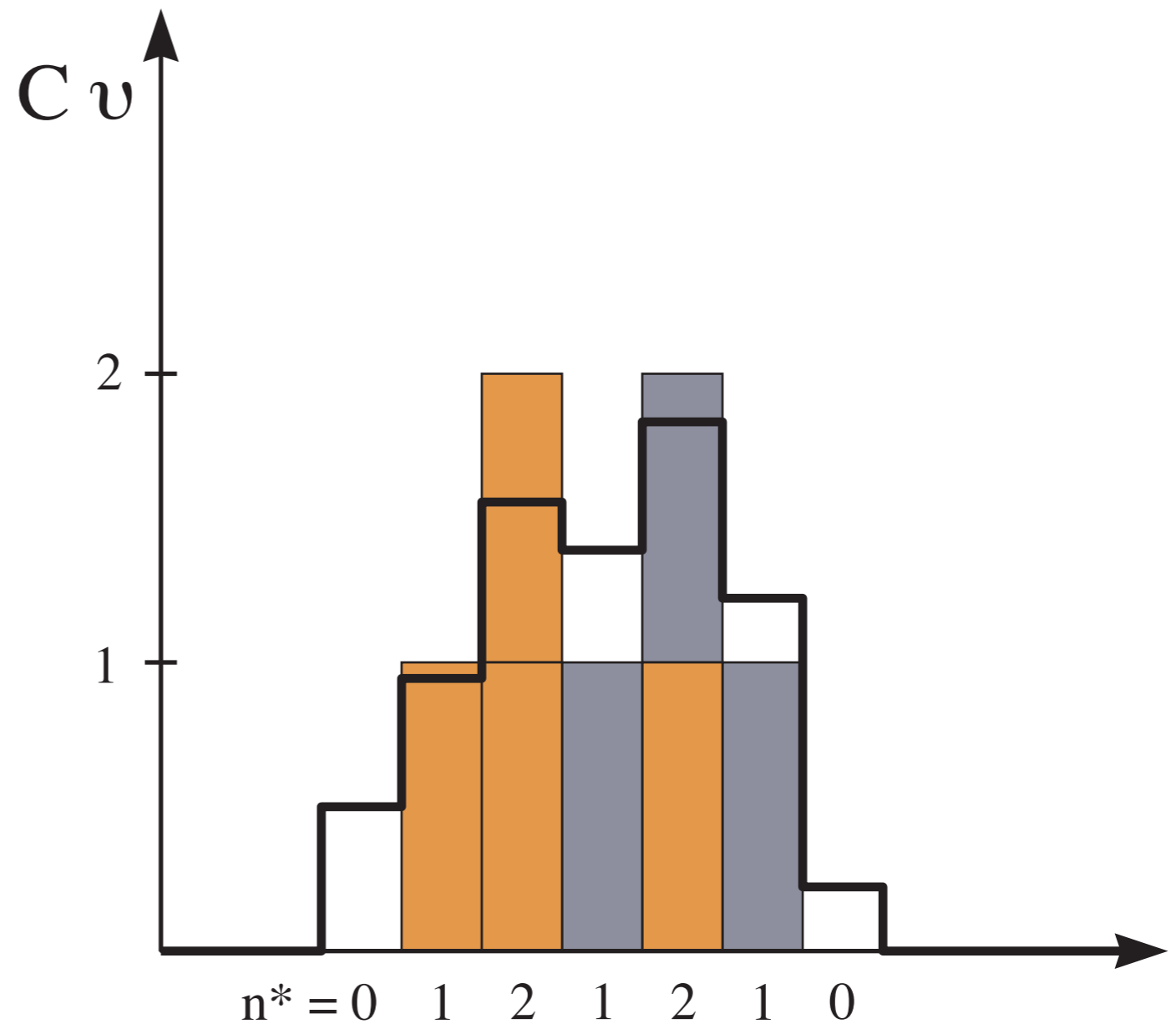
$$n_i^* = \text{round}(C v_i)$$

times

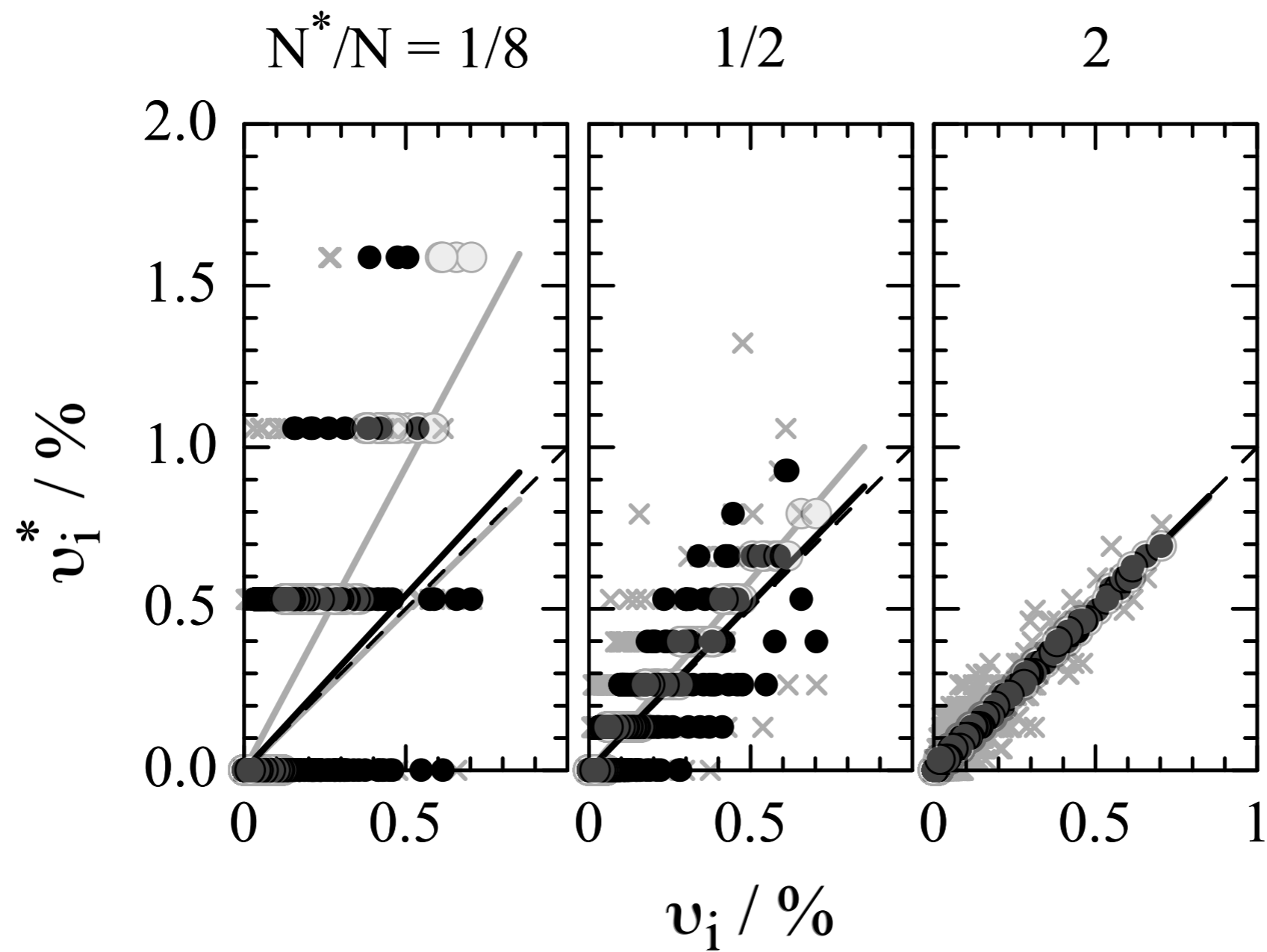
- vary  $C$  to ensure population size

$$\sum_{i=1}^N n_i^* \stackrel{!}{=} \max(N^*, N)$$

- select  $N^*$  orientations from this population  
**at random**

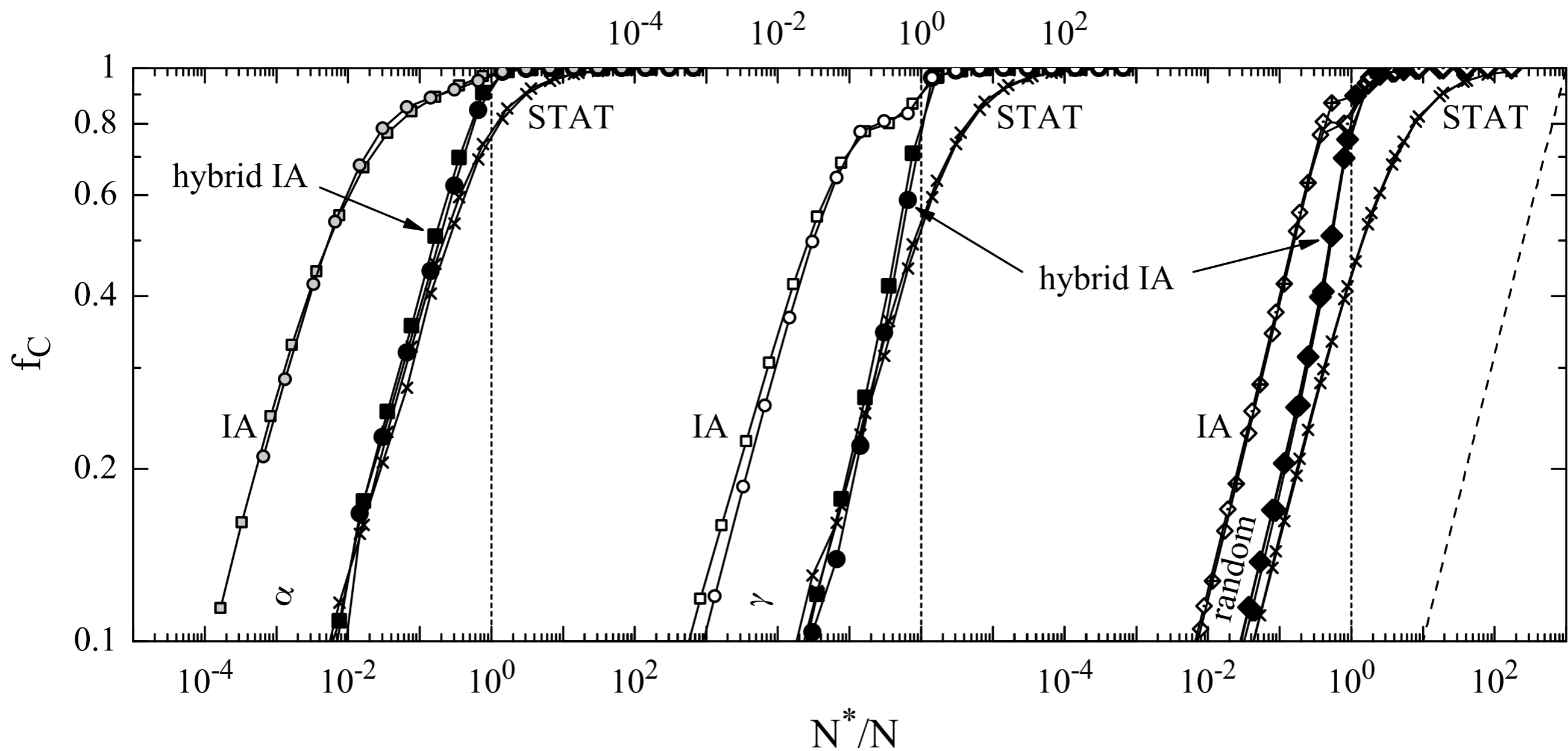


results (correlation for strong texture / hybrid reconstruction)

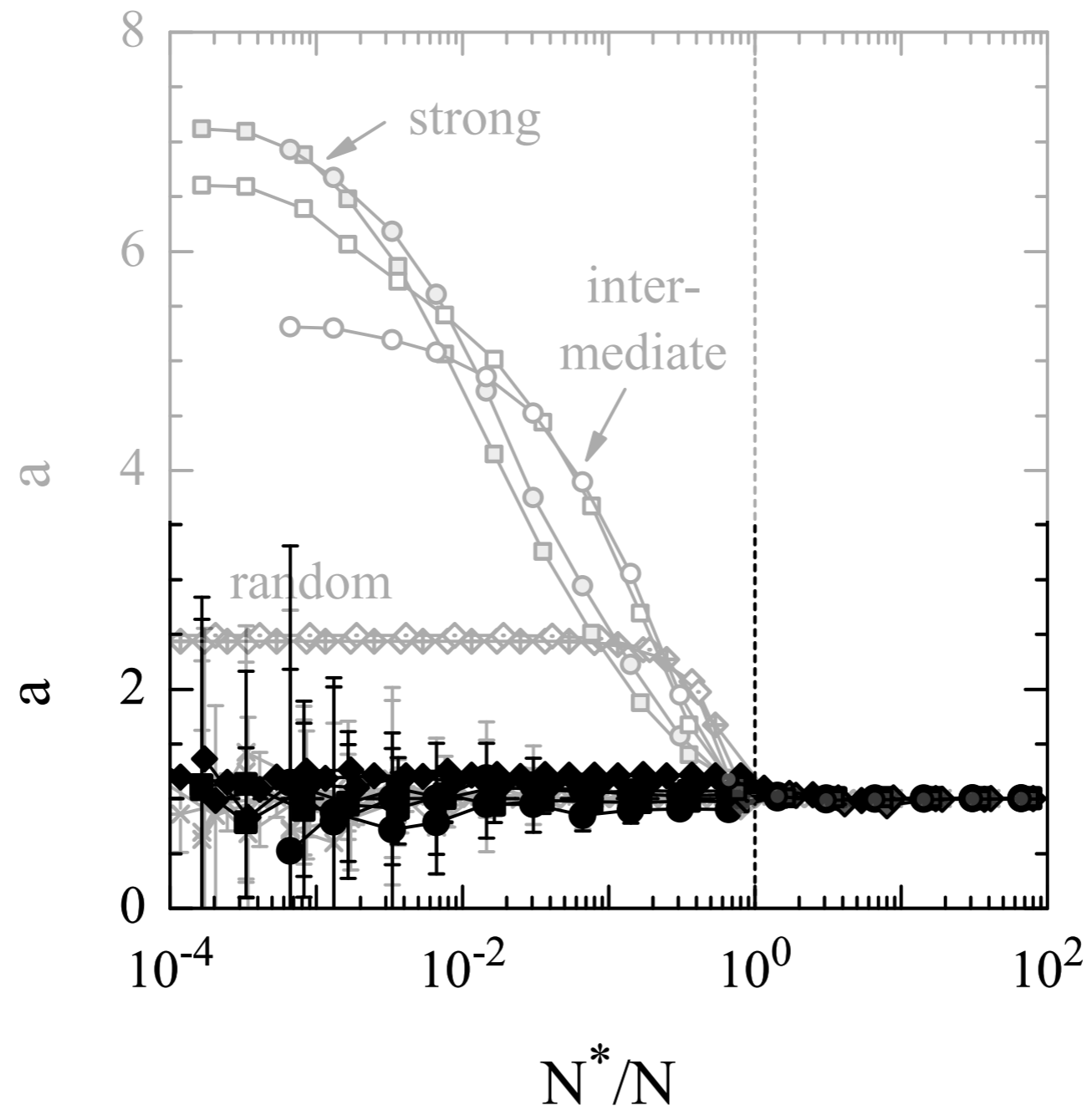




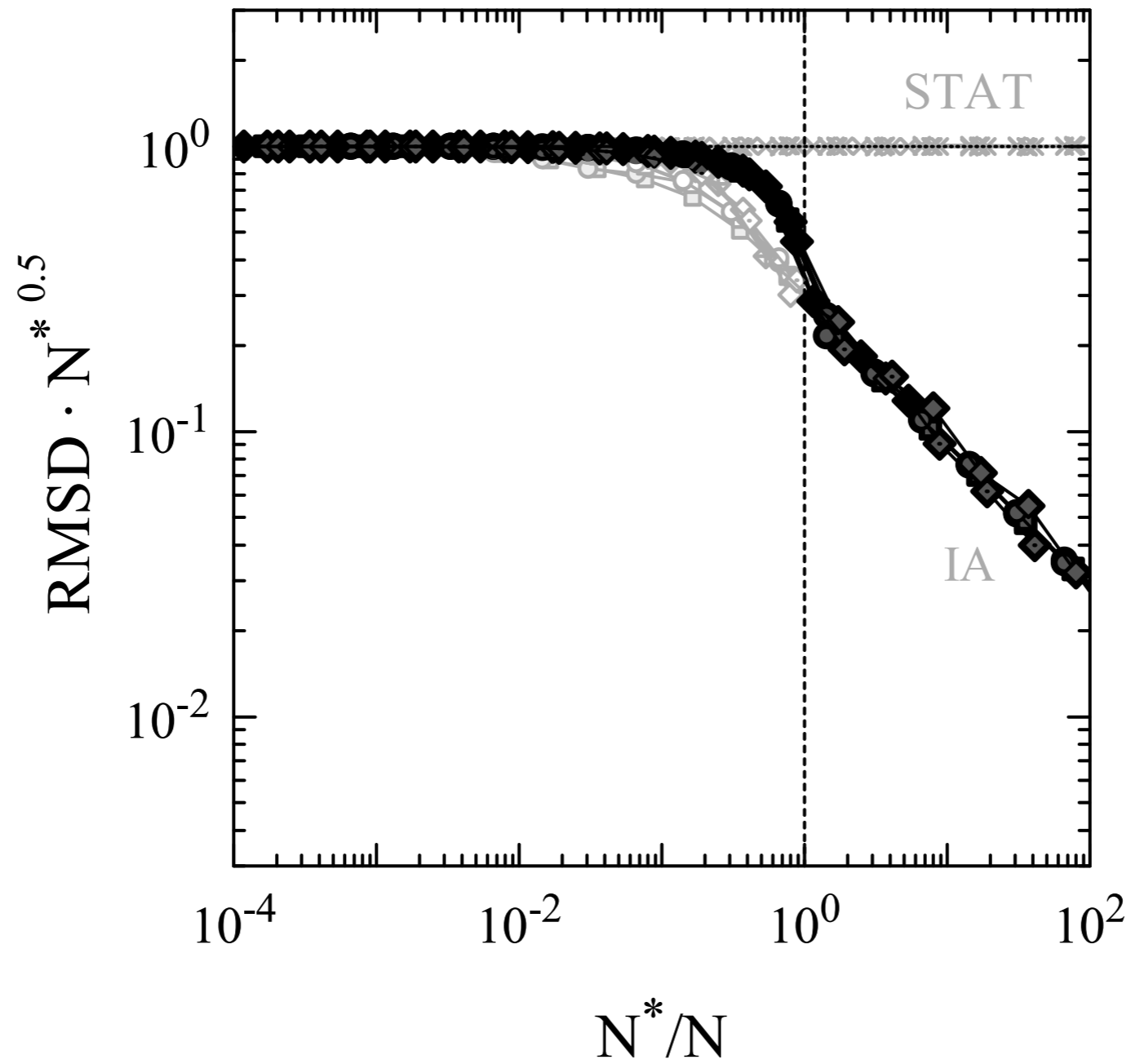
results (correlation factor)



results (correlation slope)



results (root mean squared deviation)



results (visual codf)

