

# Aspect ratio histograms of 3D Ellipsoids and 2D Ellipses\*



\* Paper submitted to Geophysics

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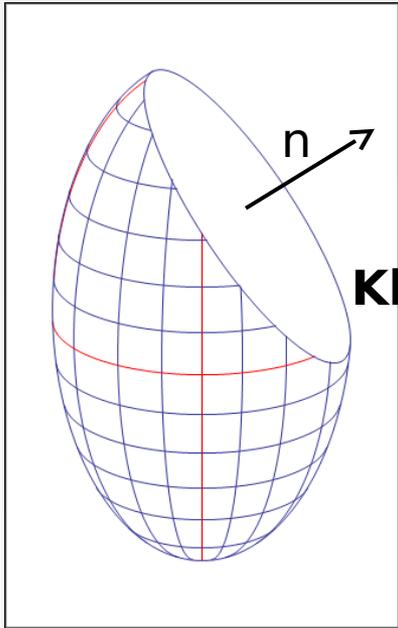


# 3D ellipsoids might represent...

- **Pore**
- **Crack**
- **Grain**



# Cutting an ellipsoid with a plane



$$\frac{x_1^2}{a^2} + \frac{x_2^2}{b^2} + \frac{x_3^2}{c^2} = 1 \quad n = (n_1, n_2, n_3)^T$$

**Klein** (2012) shows that the cut is an ellipse with half axes

$$A = \sqrt{\frac{1-d}{\beta_1}} \quad B = \sqrt{\frac{1-d}{\beta_2}} \quad \rightarrow \quad \alpha' = \sqrt{\frac{\beta_2}{\beta_1}} \text{ 2D aspect ratio}$$

$$\beta^2 - \left[ n_1^2 \left( \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} \right) + n_2^2 \left( \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} \right) + n_3^2 \left( \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} \right) \right] \beta + \frac{n_1^2}{b^2 c^2} + \frac{n_2^2}{a^2 c^2} + \frac{n_3^2}{a^2 b^2} = 0$$

**Special case 1:** two shortest semiaxes,  $a = b < c$   $\alpha = c/a$  3D aspect ratio



$$\alpha' = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{1 + n_3^2 (\alpha^2 - 1)}}$$

Simple relation between 2D and 3D aspect ratio

# The histogram of the 2D aspect ratio

$$\alpha' = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{1 + n_3^2 (\alpha^2 - 1)}}$$

Histogram given by **the derivative** of  $n_3$  with respect to the 2D aspect ratio:

$$h(\alpha') \propto \frac{dn_3}{d\alpha'} = \frac{\text{const} \cdot \alpha^2}{\alpha'^2 \sqrt{(\alpha^2 - 1)(\alpha^2 - \alpha'^2)}}$$

$$h(\alpha') = \frac{N\alpha^2}{\alpha'^2 \sqrt{(\alpha^2 - 1)(\alpha^2 - \alpha'^2)}}$$

N = number of realization

**Note:  $h$  is independent of  $n_3$ -distribution**

## The 3D to 2D transform:

$$h_{2D}(\alpha') = \int h_{3D}(\alpha) K(\alpha, \alpha') d\alpha$$

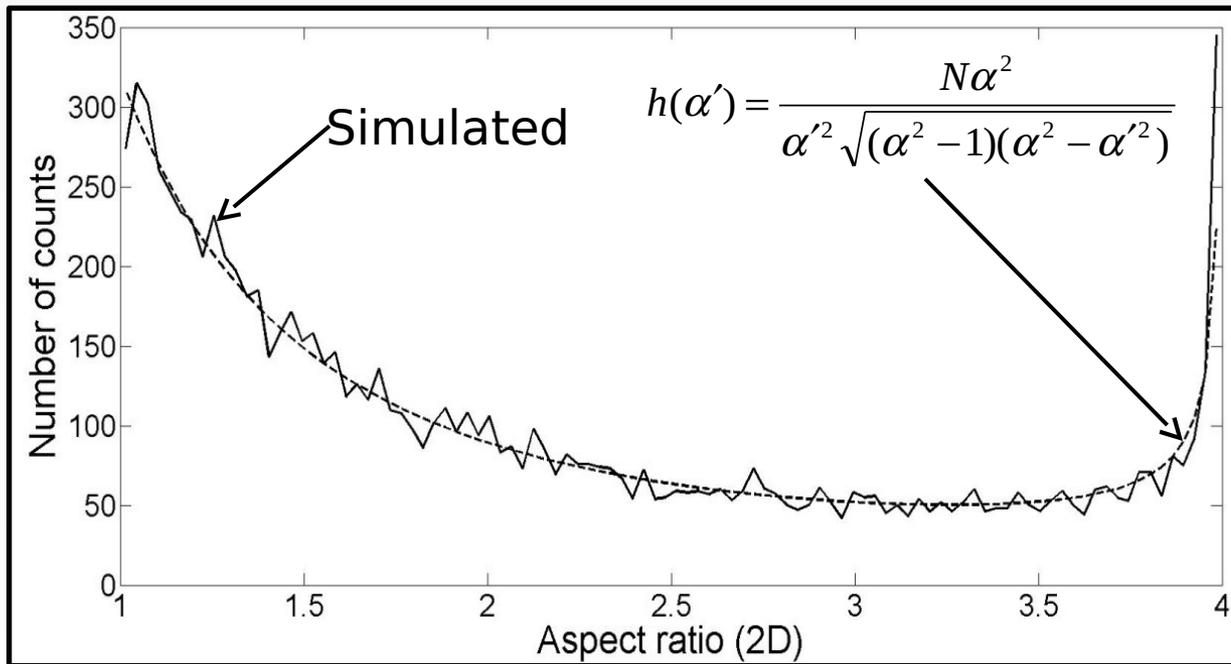
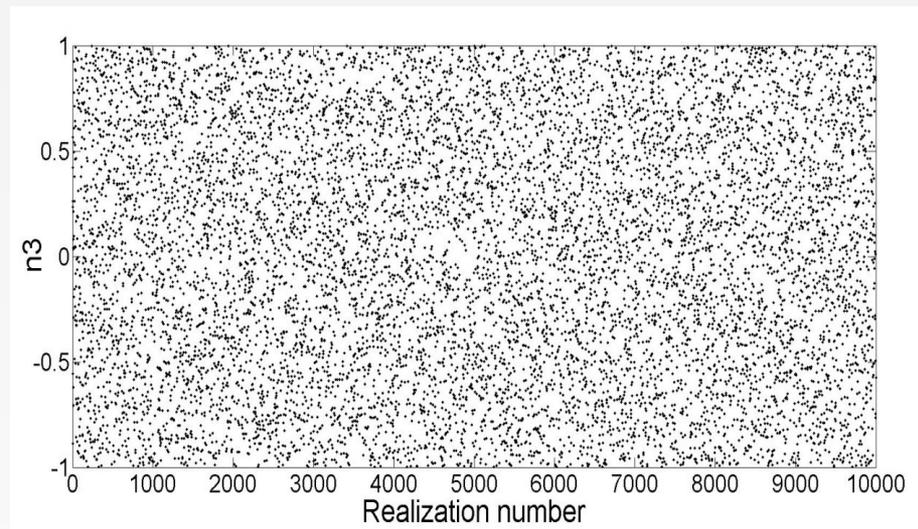
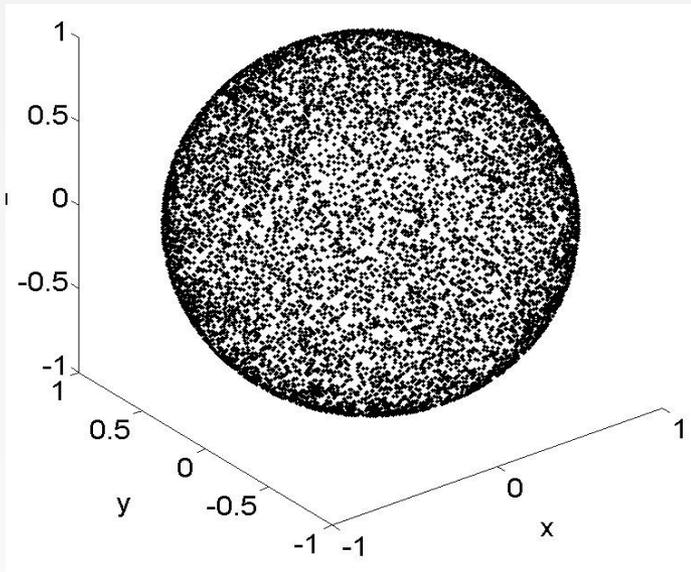
$$K(\alpha, \alpha') = \frac{\alpha^2}{\alpha'^2 \sqrt{(\alpha^2 - 1 + \varepsilon)(\alpha^2 - \alpha'^2 + \varepsilon)}}$$

## The 2D to 3D transform:

$$h_{3D}(\alpha) = \int h_{2D}(\alpha') K^{-1}(\alpha', \alpha) d\alpha'$$

$$K^{-1}(\alpha', \alpha) = \frac{\alpha(\alpha'^2 - 1)}{\alpha'(\alpha^2 - 1 + \varepsilon)^{\frac{3}{2}} \sqrt{(\alpha^2 - \alpha'^2 + \varepsilon)}}$$

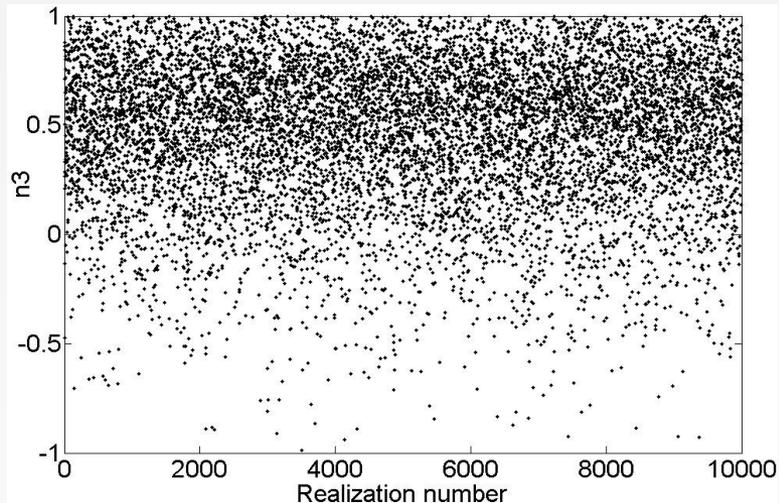
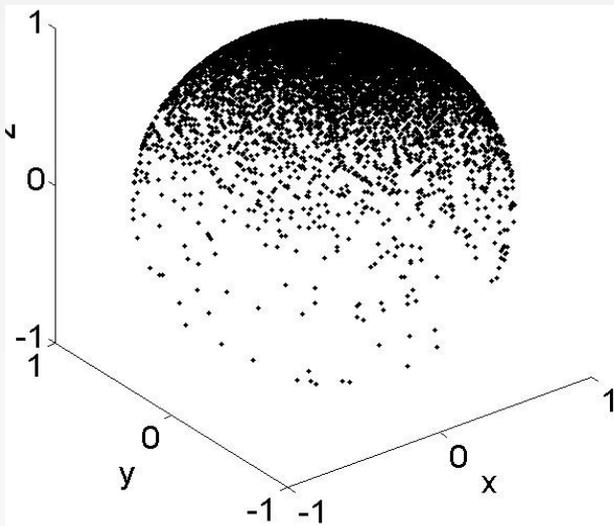
# Uniform distribution - 10 000 realization



$$\alpha = \alpha_{3D} = 4$$

$$\alpha' = \alpha_{2D}$$

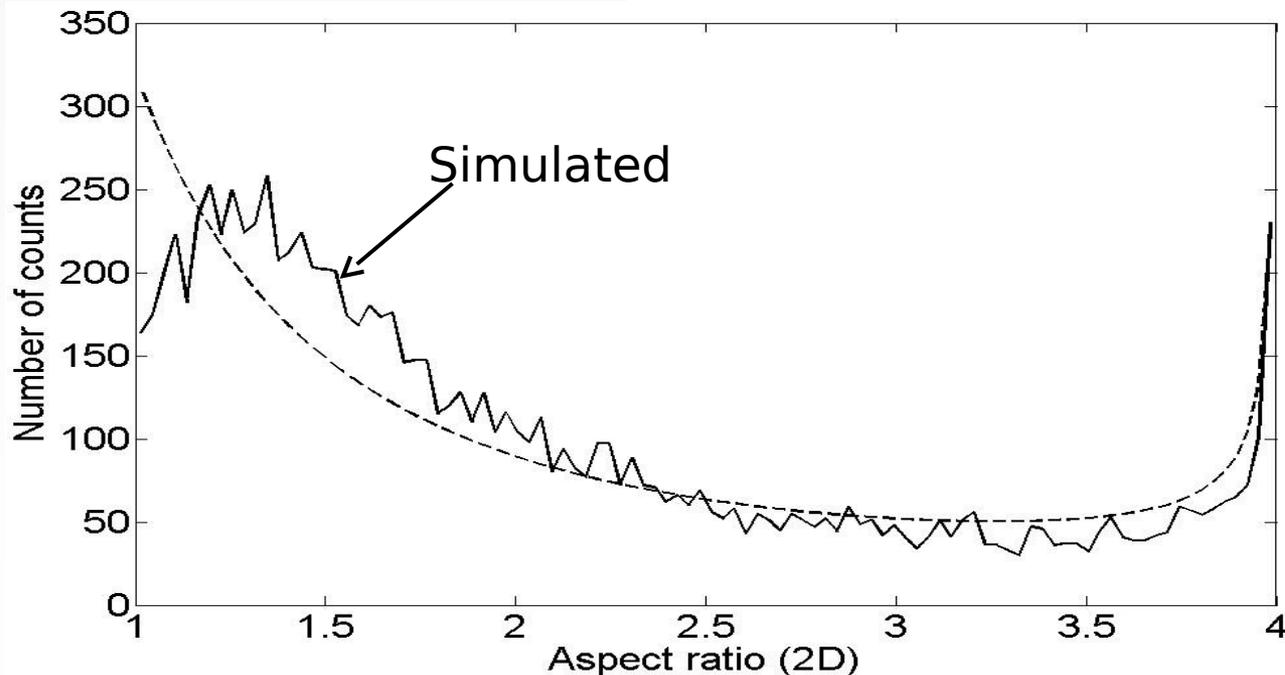
# Non-uniform example



Normal distribution:

$$\langle n_1 \rangle = \langle n_2 \rangle = \langle n_3 \rangle = 0.47$$

$$\sigma = 0.33$$

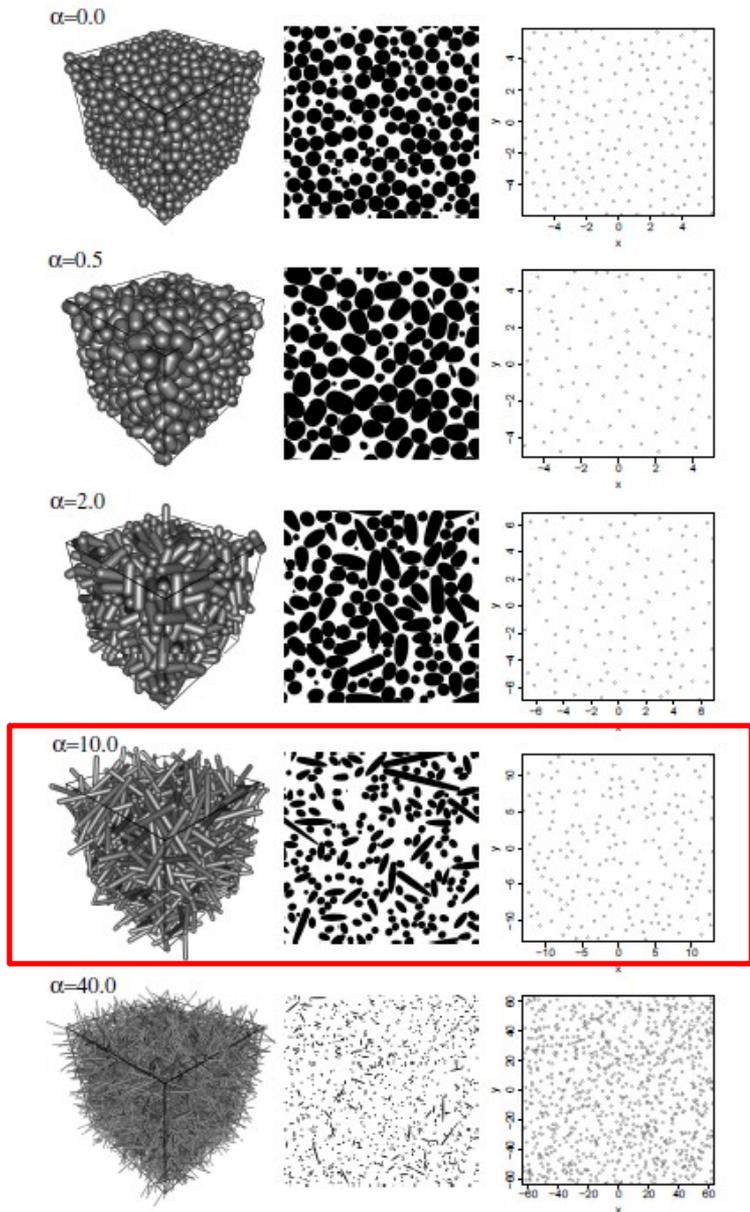


Decreasing the standard deviation yields a worse fit

$$h(\alpha') = \frac{N\alpha^2}{\alpha'^2 \sqrt{(\alpha^2 - 1)(\alpha^2 - \alpha'^2)}}$$

Note: This formula is general, not dependent on the assumed distribution -independent of  $n_3$

# Rudge et al., 2008:

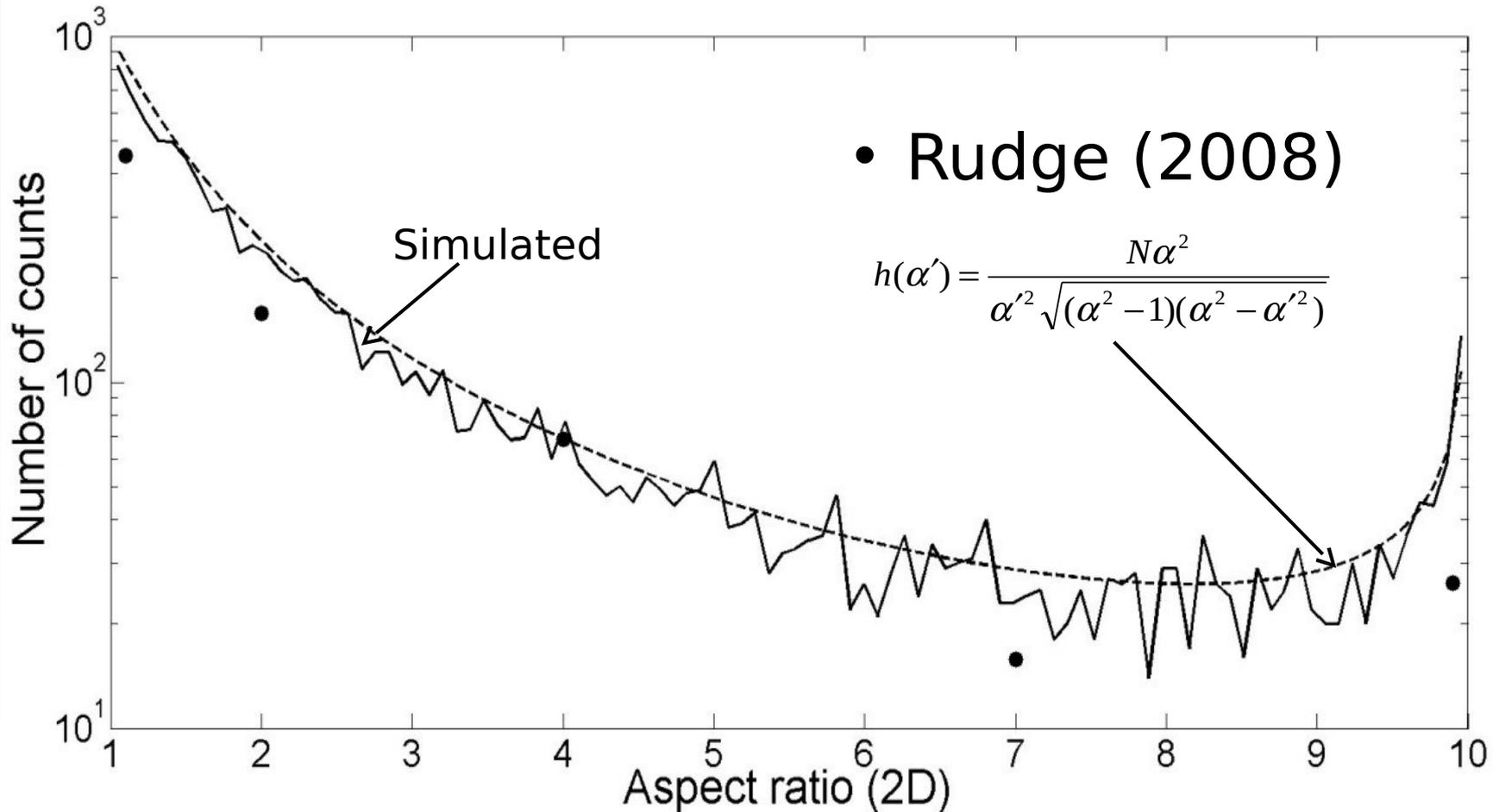


Rudge et al., 2008 use spherocylinders and use a random close packing – followed by one single 2D cut.

**I computed the 2D aspect ratio from this figure and compared to my results**

**=>**

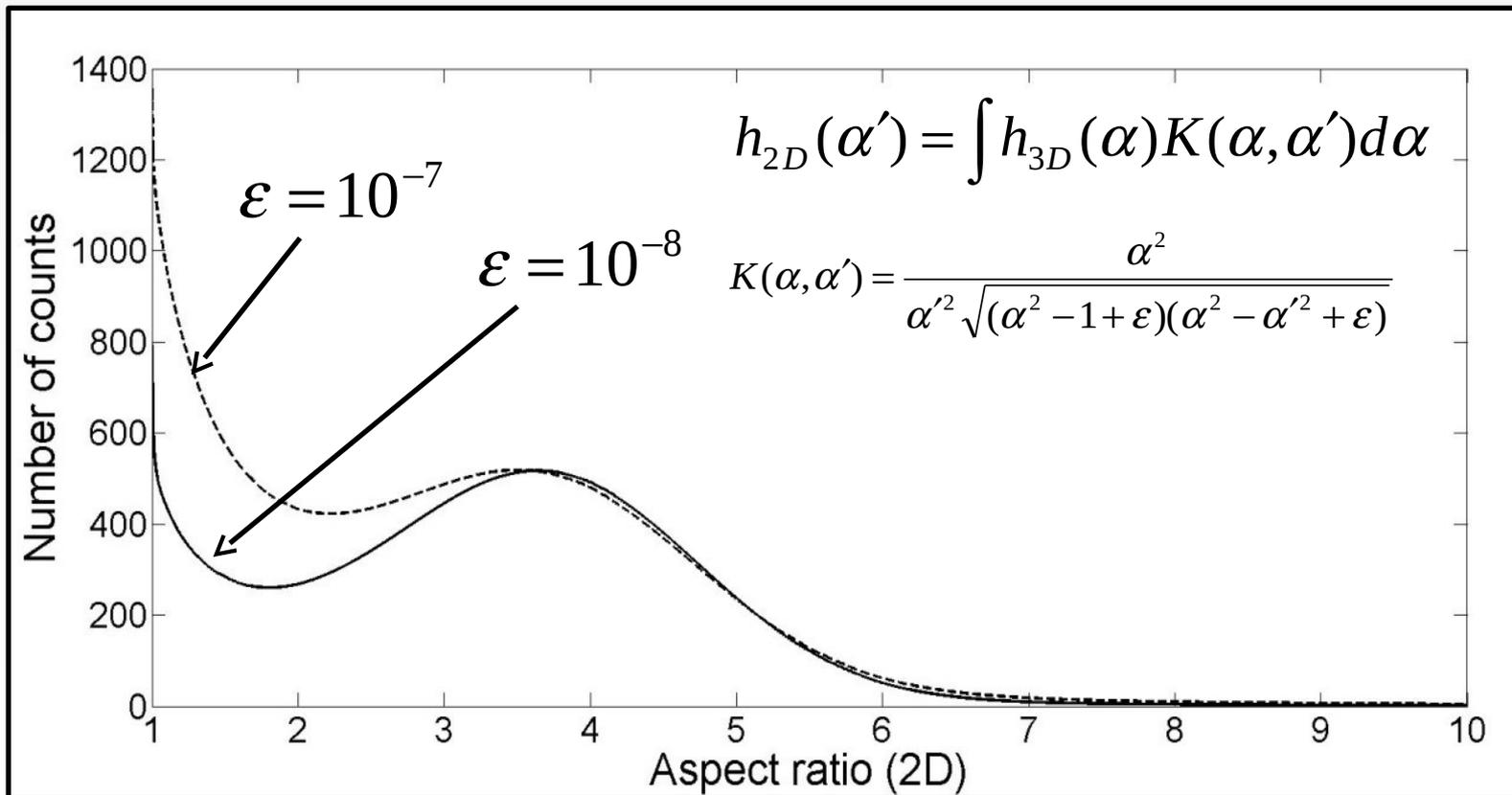
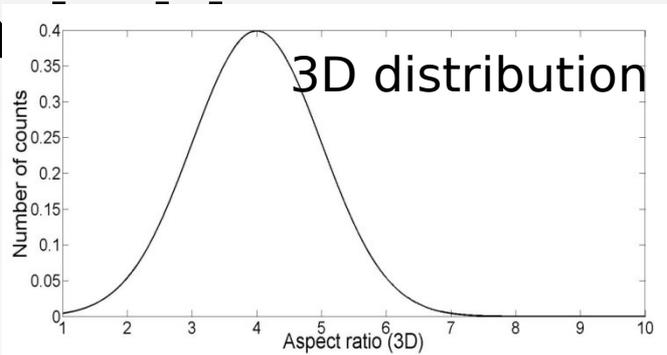
# Comparison with Rudge et al., 2008



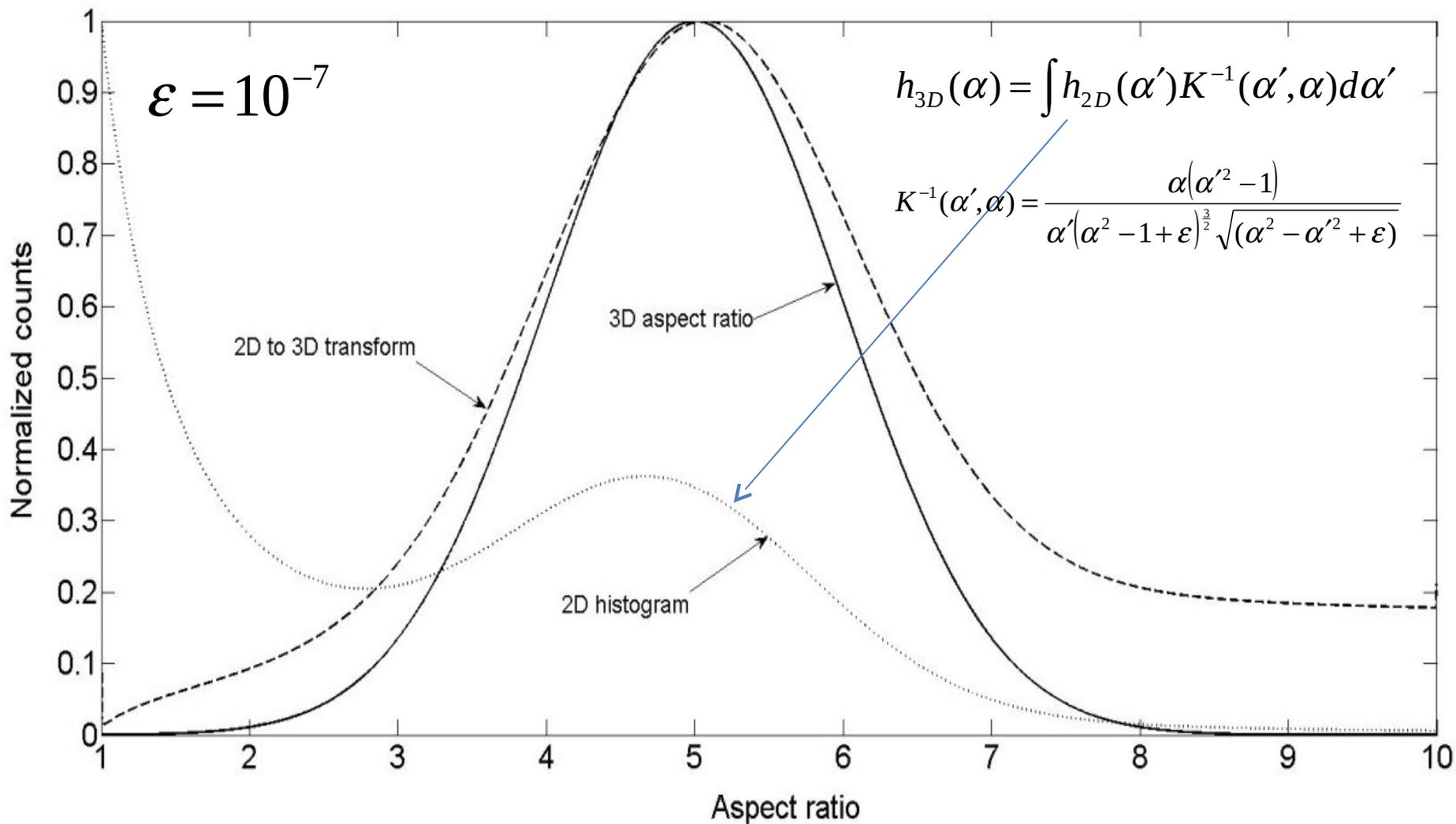
Rudge et al., 2008 use spherocylinders and use a random close packing - followed by one single 2D cut

# A normal distribution of 3D aspect ratio -forward modeling of 2D aspect

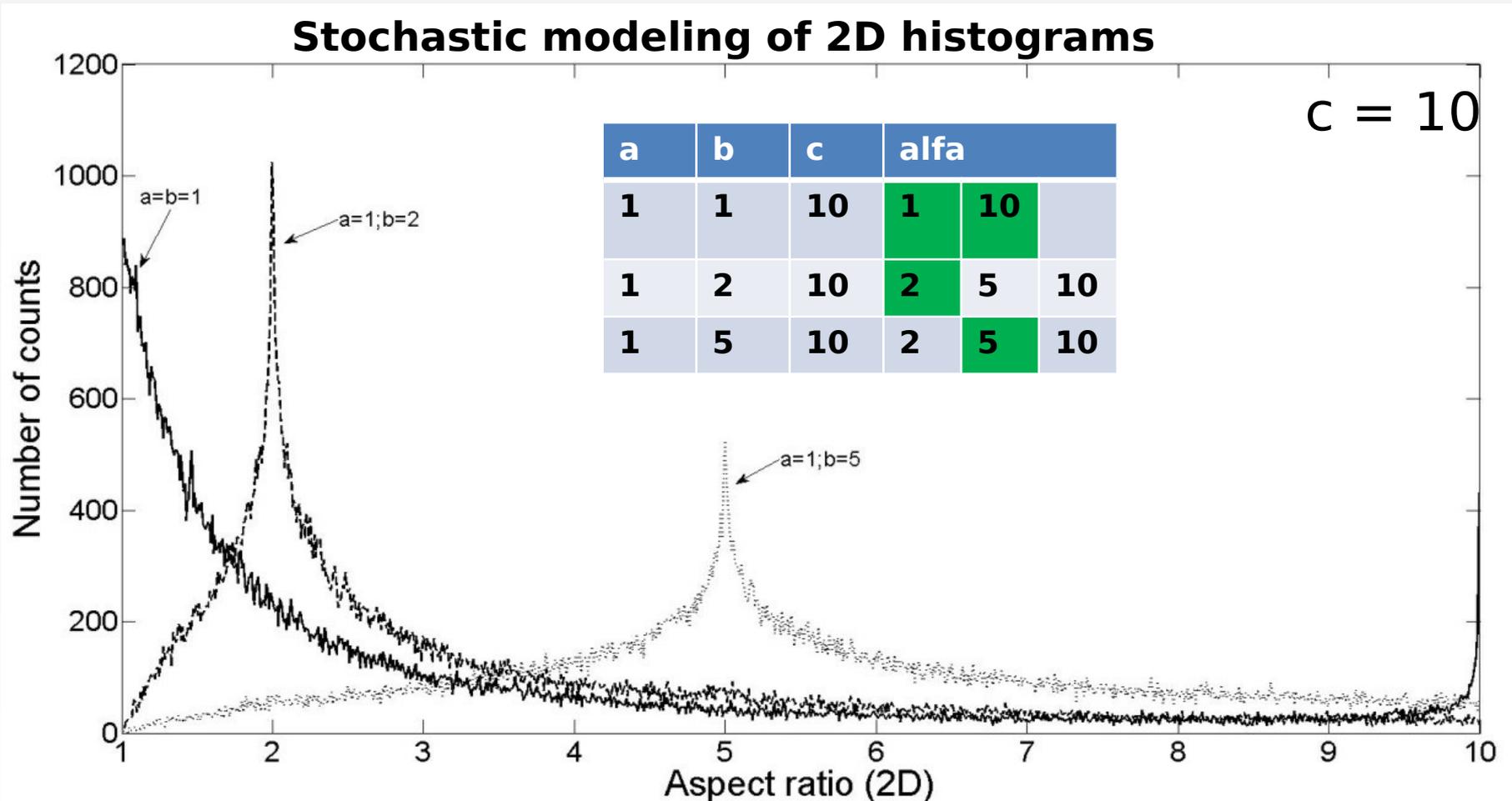
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# Testing the 2D to 3D transform



Far,  $a=b$ ; what if  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are different?



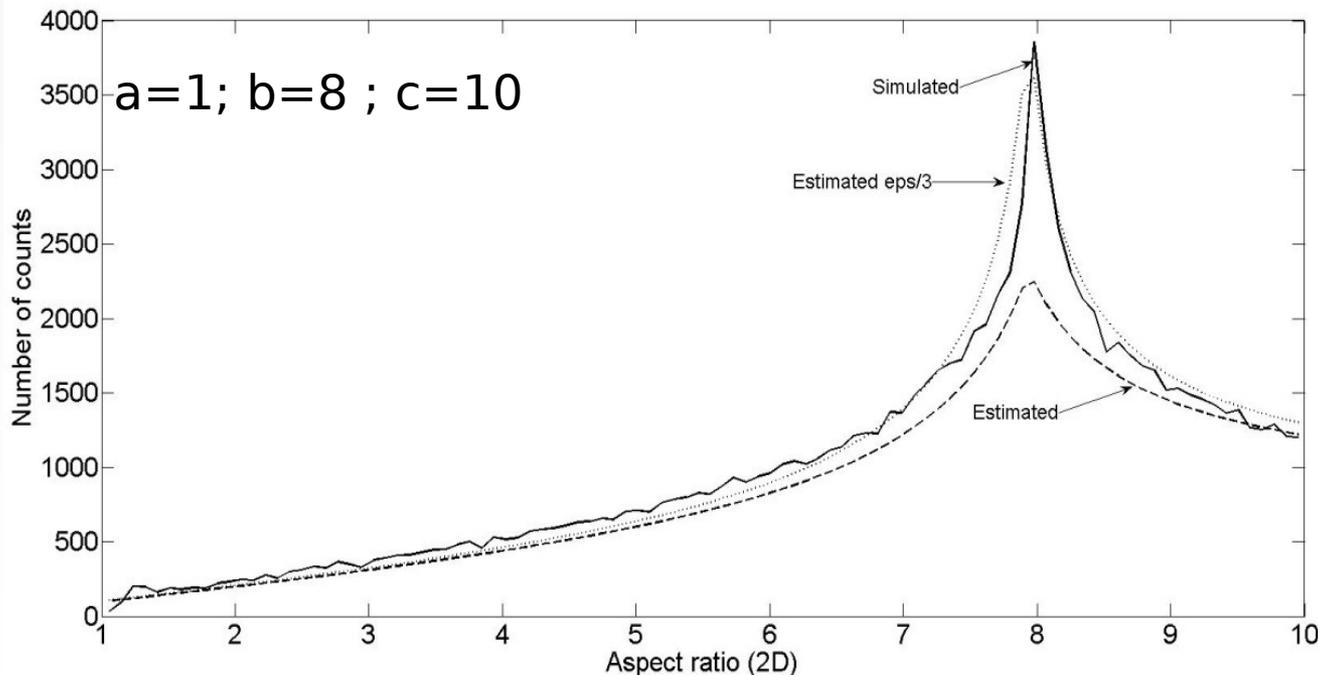
***Shorter axes aspect ratios easier to detect***

# An attempt to find an equation for the general case (a=1, b and c different)

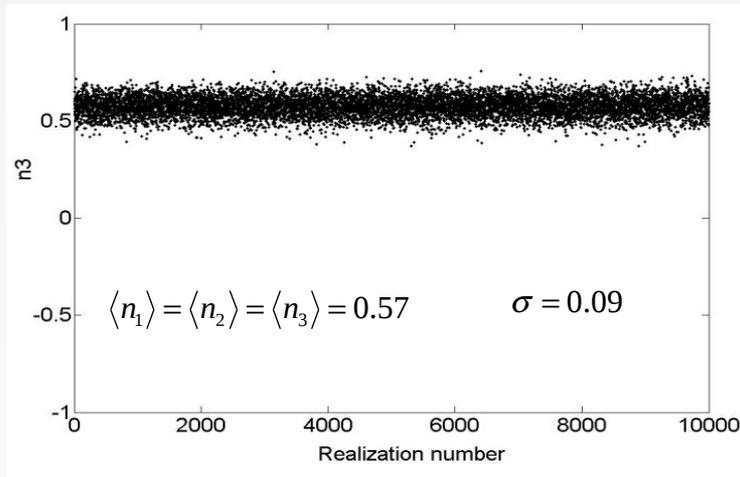
$$h(\alpha') \propto \frac{dn_1}{d\alpha'} = \frac{\text{const} \cdot \alpha'}{b\sqrt{b^2 - 1 - \alpha'^2} + \varepsilon_{bc} b^4}$$

$$\varepsilon_{bc} = \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{1}{b^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \right)$$

**Note: Approximate equation - far from exact!**



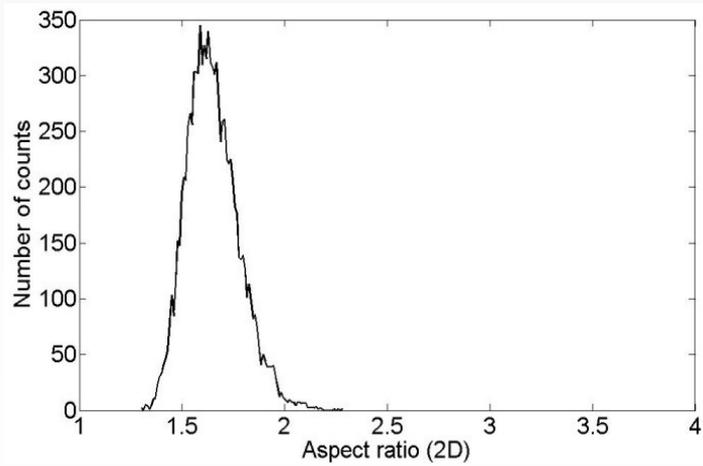
# The importance of 3D selection of cuts to reveal the aspect ratio



$$\langle n_3^2 \rangle = \sigma^2 + \mu^2 = 0.09^2 + 0.57^2 = 0.33$$

$$\alpha' = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{1 + n_3^2(\alpha^2 - 1)}}$$

$$\alpha' = 4 / \sqrt{1 + 0.33 \cdot 15} = 1.63$$



The true value of 4 is not observed on the 2D histogram, but the «wrong» value of 1.6

# Coupling aspect ratio (3D) to rock physics

$$\frac{1}{K_\phi} = \frac{4(c/a)(1-\nu^2)}{3\pi K_0(1-2\nu)} = \frac{4\alpha(1-\nu^2)}{3\pi K_0(1-2\nu)}$$

Penny-shaped pore:  
 $c \gg a=b$

*Mavko et al., 2009*

$\nu$  Poisson ratio (solid mineral)

$K_0$  Bulk modulus (solid mineral)

$\alpha$  3D aspect ratio

$$\frac{1}{K_{dry}} = \frac{1}{K_0} + \frac{\phi}{K_\phi}$$

$K_\phi$  is the pore stiffness

## Another application: Anisotropy

# Discussion and conclusions

- **Simple equation to derive 2D aspect ratio histograms from 3D ellipsoids is derived**
- **2D to 3D transform of aspect ratio is derived and tested by stochastic simulations**
- **Using thin sections to estimate 3D aspect ratio might be misleading**
- **Useful for rock physics applications?**



# Acknowledgments

- **Jon Marius Venstad, Kjetil Eik Haavik, Dave Hale, Mike Batzle, Kenneth Duffaut, Roger Sollie and C. Morency for discussions and comments**
- **Tor Arne Johansen, Bernardo Moyano for inviting me as an opponent for Bernardo's PhD defense.**
- **The Norwegian Research Council is acknowledged for financial support to the ROSE consortium at NTNU**
- **Geophysics Department at Colorado School of Mines for hosting me the autumn semester 2014.**