

**Table S1.** Explanation of the symbols used in Figure 1.

Symbols	Meaning
$P$	The compressive load applied along one of the diagonals of the masonry wallette (diagonal compression load).
$\vartheta$	The angle between the direction of $P$ and the horizontal mortar joints (bed joints).
$x$ and $y$	The axes of the local reference frame of origin $A$ , parallel to the mortar joints ( $x$ is parallel to the horizontal mortar joints—or bed joints—and $y$ is parallel to the vertical mortar joints—or head joints).
$\sigma_x$	The normal stress acting—in the direction of the $x$ -axis—on the planes of the infinitesimal neighborhood of $A$ that are perpendicular to the $x$ -axis.
$\sigma_y$	The normal stress acting—in the direction of the $y$ -axis—on the planes of the infinitesimal neighborhood of $A$ that are perpendicular to the $y$ -axis.
$\tau_{xy}$ <sup>1</sup>	The shear stress—directed along the $y$ -axis—acting on the planes of the infinitesimal neighborhood of $A$ that are perpendicular to the $x$ -axis (the $x$ -index designates the unit normal vector to the coordinate plane on which the shear stress acts, the $y$ -index identifies the coordinate direction along which the shear stress acts).

<sup>1</sup>  $\tau_{yx}$ , the shear stress—directed along the  $x$ -axis—acting on the planes of the infinitesimal neighborhood of  $A$  that are perpendicular to the  $y$ -axis, is equal to  $\tau_{xy}$ :  $\tau_{yx} = \tau_{xy}$ .