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Kinematic vorticity analysis and mélange fabrics classification of the Zagros accretionary prism, Iran

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The NW-SE trending Zagros accretionary prism in the southwestern Iran consist two units: The Hasan Abad upper sedimentary mélange and Seh-Ghalatoun lower metamorphic mélange along the Neyriz ophiolite. The upper sedimentary mélange fabrics including type-I mélange with S-, C-, and C'-type shear-band clearage; type II mélange with stretching lineation defined by ribbons, stripes, rods of flattened lenses of greywacke or limestone. The lower metamorphic units fabrics display -, and -type porphyrocalsts and quartz ribbon mylonites. The estimated kinematic vorticity number (Wk) was calculated from rotation of porphyroclasts and orientation of finite strain ellipse long axis with respect to shear zone boundaries, quartz c-axis patterns using strain-ratio/quartz c-axis, the porphyroclast hyperbolic distribution method and rigid grain net (RGN). The kinematic vorticity number (Wk) is an important to measure for quantifying components of pure shear and simple shear in the high strain zones. It is defined (for 0 < Wk < 1) as a non-linear ratio of pure shear (Wk =0) to simple shear (Wk =1) assuming steady-state deformation. Using these methods yields W values of 0.84. In natural system the vorticity of flow vary with position and time. In cases of non-steady state deformation, flow is appropriately characterized by the mean kinmatic vorticity number (Wm) in which W (instantaneous deformation. (Wk) is equal to finite deformation (Wm). The mean estimated finite deformation (Wm) values indicates 39.5