

MSE160 Notes

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1 Introduction

1.1 Types of Material

- There are three classes of material (though not all materials fall under these categories):
 - Metals
 - Ceramics
 - Polymers
- **Metals** (e.g. Fe, Cr, Cu, Zn, Al) are held together with *metallatic* bonds and is described by **bond theory**.
- **Ceramics** (e.g. porcelain, concrete) are held together with *ionic* bonds and are *brittle*. A lot of them are metal oxides.
- **Polymer** (Teflon®, Gore-tex®, polyethylene) *tend* to be from *covalent bonds*

Warning: The word plastic actually describes a material property, and not a material type. There are plastics that are not polymers.

- Examples of materials that do not fall under this classification scheme include wood, skin, superconductors, and more.

1.2 Elastic Behaviour

- Hooke's law tells us that $F = -k\Delta x$, where Δx is the displacement from equilibrium.
- **Engineering stress** is defined as $\sigma = \frac{F}{A_0}$ where A_0 is the *initial* (unloaded) cross-sectional area.

Warning: Due to material properties, the cross sectional area of a spring can change as it elongates or compresses, so the engineering stress only refers to the initial cross sectional area. The *true stress* refers to the force divided by the real area.

- **Engineering strain** is defined as $\varepsilon = \frac{\Delta \ell}{\ell_0}$ and the two are related via the **Young's Modulus**:

$$\sigma = E\varepsilon \quad (1)$$

- There are two possible definitions for elastic deformation. When viewing it from a macroscopic perspective:

Definition: During elastic deformation, the sample dimensions return to their original dimensions upon unloading.

but it is also possible to view it from a microscopic perspective:

Definition: During elastic deformation, atoms return to their original positions upon unloading.

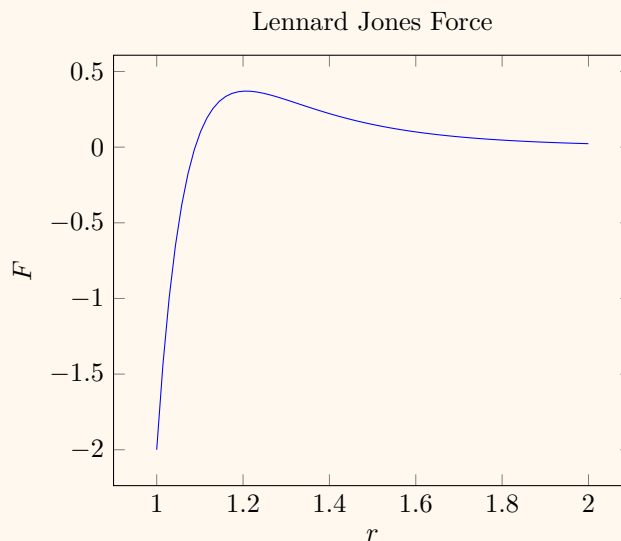
1.3 Simple Model for Bonding in solids

- A crude (but quite accurate) model is to assume nearby atoms in a solid are connected by springs. (This is actually Einstein's model of solid, except he modeled the interactions as quantum harmonic oscillators)

Idea: A more realistic model would be using the Lennard-Jones potential, which gives the force between two atoms as:

$$V = -\frac{a_1}{r^{13}} + \frac{a_2}{r^7} \quad (2)$$

and is graphically represented below (here, $a_1 = 5$ and $a_2 = 3$ for illustration purposes only)



When the two atoms are close to each other, the force scales roughly linearly with displacement, which is exactly the description of Hooke's Law.

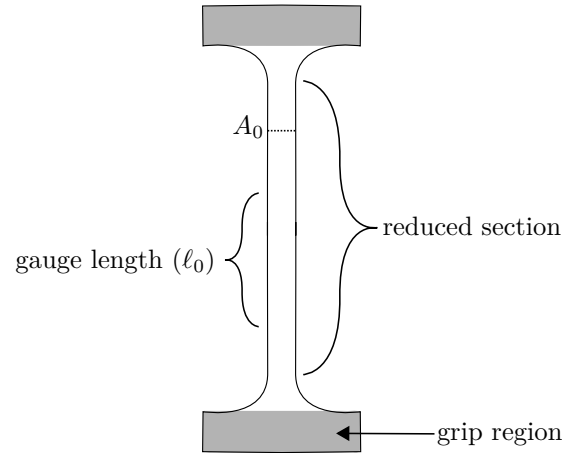
- Specifically, the Young's Modulus can be recovered by defining it as:

$$E \propto \left. \frac{dF}{dr} \right|_{r=r_0} \quad (3)$$

where r_0 is the equilibrium distance and is only dependent on the material. Permanently deforming a metal will not change its Young's Modulus.

1.4 Getting a stress-strain curve

- The tensile specimen is in a **dogbone** shape as illustrated below: and the test is performed by gripping the grip



regions and performing a uni-axial tension test.

1.5 Poisson's Ratio and Shear

- When a material deforms, it does not deform in only one direction. The **poisson's ratio** ν relates the strain in all three directions:

$$\nu = -\frac{\varepsilon_R}{\varepsilon_Z} = -\frac{\varepsilon_x}{\varepsilon_z} = -\frac{\varepsilon_y}{\varepsilon_z} \quad (4)$$

for a cylindrically symmetrical material.

- Shear stress is defined as

$$\tau = \frac{F}{A_0} \quad (5)$$

and shear strain is defined as:

$$\gamma = \frac{\Delta \ell}{\ell_0} \quad (6)$$

- Similarly, shear stress and strain is related via the shear modulus G :

$$\tau = G\gamma \quad (7)$$

- The Young's modulus and the shear modulus is related via the poisson ratio:

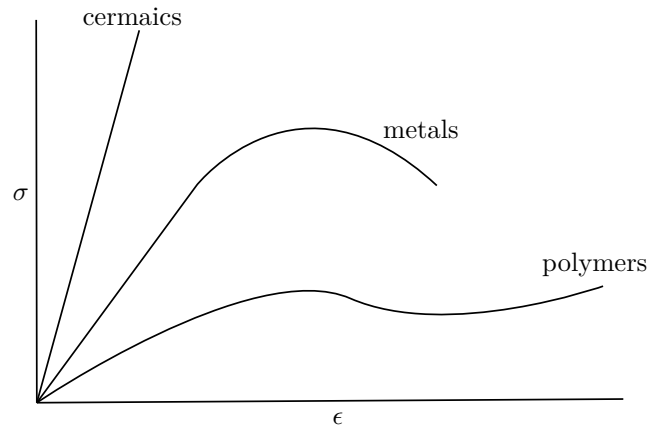
$$E = 2G(1 + \nu) \quad (8)$$

2 Inelastic Behaviour

- Permanent deformation can be defined in three ways:
 1. Upon unloading, sample does not return to original dimensions
 2. Strain does not return to zero
 3. Atoms move to new positions
 4. Occurs near the end of linear behaviour
- Plastic comes from the greek word *plastikos*, which means to shape or to sculpt. In this course, plastic does not refer to the material type but instead the permanent deformation.
- The **strength** of a material describes when the permanent deformation occurs.

Warning: Strength depends on context and is not always defined as above.

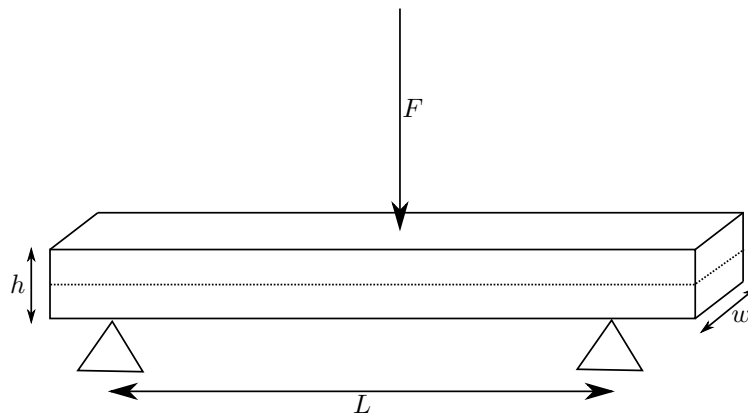
- The stress strain curve for different materials resemble different shapes.
 - Polymers have a distinct yielding region
 - Metals start a concave down behaviour as soon as elastic deformation ends
 - Ceramics have linear behaviour all the way until they fracture



- For polymers, the use of *Young's Modulus* is misleading since the elastic behaviour depends on several different types of bonds, while Young's Modulus is related to the behaviour of a single bond. As a result, the term **elastic modulus** is used to describe polymers and composite materials.

2.1 Ceramics

- Ceramics are not typically tested in tension because:
 1. It is difficult to grip because it crumbles easily
 2. It is difficult to shape it into a dogbone shape
 3. Machine alignment is difficult to achieve.
- Instead, we test them by **3-point bending**:



- The dotted line is the neutral axis and since it is weak in tension, the plate will break in the lower half at a stress value of:

$$\sigma = \frac{3FL}{2wh^2} \quad (9)$$

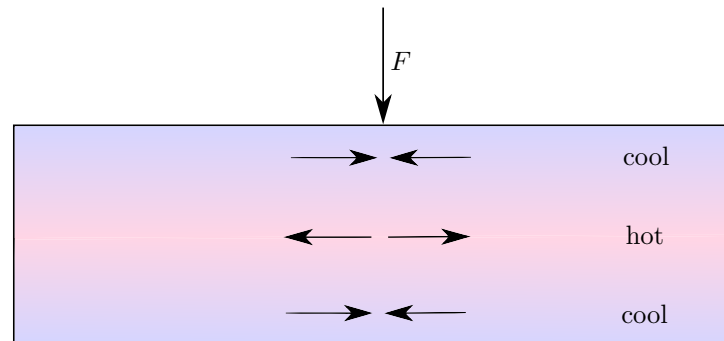
2.2 Tempered Glass

- **Tempered glass** has a very high strength and is relatively “safe” when it fractures (small pieces instead of large ones)

Idea: Initially, tempered glass is very hot in a large volume. However, as it rapidly cools, the surfaces cool faster than the center. Since glass is made of silica bonded to four oxygen, it forms a very complex network structure. Therefore, during this rapid cooling, it “fixes” in excess volume.

The regions in the middle that are cooling more slowly is trying to contract but is constrained by the outer surface that it goes into tension. The fast cooling regions on the other hand will be in tension.

- When the glass bends, the opposite side of the window can still be in considerable compression even though for a regular ceramic it should be in tension. This increases the strength.



- The stress distribution creates **residual stress** which results in stored strain energy. When the glass gets fractured, the stored strain energy gets transformed into **surface energy**.
- Since surface energy is proportional to surface area, this means that the fractured pieces are smaller.
- **Chemical processes** can also be used to create tempered glass, such as gorilla glass. Ions with a larger size diffuse into the surface and take up a larger space in the network resulting in an increase in volume at the surface.