

Young's modulus meets Lennard-Jones

$$Y = -\frac{1}{r_0} \left(\frac{dF}{dr} \right)_{r=r_0}$$

But, $F = -\frac{dV}{dr} \quad \therefore Y = \frac{1}{r_0} \left(\frac{d^2V}{dr^2} \right)_{r=r_0}$

Also, $V(r) = \epsilon \left(\frac{r_0^{12}}{r^{12}} - \frac{2r_0^6}{r^6} \right)$

$$\frac{dV(r)}{dr} = \epsilon \left(\frac{-12r_0^{12}}{r^{13}} + \frac{12r_0^6}{r^7} \right)$$

$$\frac{d^2V(r)}{dr^2} = \epsilon \left(\frac{+156r_0^{12}}{r^{14}} - \frac{84r_0^6}{r^8} \right)$$

So $\left. \frac{d^2V(r)}{dr^2} \right|_{r=r_0} = \epsilon \left(\frac{156}{r_0^2} - \frac{84}{r_0^2} \right) = \frac{72\epsilon}{r_0^2}$

$$\therefore Y = \frac{72\epsilon}{r_0^3}$$

Materials have a maximum breaking force, which occurs when the force applied to ~~the~~ atoms outweighs the attractive Lennard-Jones ~~potential~~ force between them, which occurs when $\frac{dF}{dr} = 0$

$$\frac{dF}{dr} = 0 \Rightarrow F = F_{\max}$$

Can work out the distance, r_{\max} , that this occurs at:

to use above expression lazily

$$0 = -\frac{dF}{dr} = \epsilon \left(\frac{156r_0^{12}}{r^{14}} - \frac{84r_0^6}{r^8} \right) \Rightarrow r_{\max} = \sqrt[6]{\frac{13}{7}} r_0$$

$F_{\max} = \frac{2.64\epsilon}{r}$