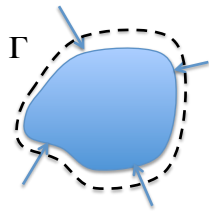


Basic Elastostatics

- The equilibrium (static) deformation of an elastic body is determined by a local balance of the effective force density:



$$0 = f_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) + \nabla_j \sigma_{ij}(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$$

External Force
Field

Internal Stress
Field

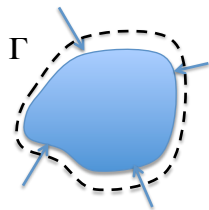
- For weak deformation of a linear elastic solid, we have:

$$\sigma_{ij}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) = 2\mu\epsilon_{ij}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) + \lambda\delta_{ij}\epsilon_{kk}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \quad \text{Hooke's Law}$$

$$\epsilon_{ij}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right) \quad \text{Linear Cauchy strain tensor}$$

Basic Elastostatics

- The equilibrium (static) deformation of an elastic body is determined by a local balance of the effective force density:



$$0 = f_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) + \nabla_j \sigma_{ij}(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$$

External Force
Field

Internal Stress
Field

- For weak deformation of a linear elastic solid, we have:

$$\epsilon_{ij}(\vec{\mathbf{r}}) = \frac{1+\nu}{E} \sigma_{ij} - \frac{\nu}{E} \delta_{ij} \sigma_{kk} \quad \text{Inverted-Hooke's Law}$$

$$\nu = \frac{\lambda}{2(\lambda + \mu)} \quad E = \mu \frac{3\lambda + 2\mu}{\lambda + \mu}$$

Navier's Equation

- Taking the gradient of the stress tensor:

$$\nabla_j \sigma_{ij} = 2\mu \nabla_j \epsilon_{ij} + \lambda \delta_{ij} \nabla_j \epsilon_{kk} = \mu \nabla^2 u_i + (\mu + \lambda) \nabla_i \nabla_j u_j$$

... gives Navier's equation:

$$\underline{f}(\underline{r}) + \mu \nabla^2 \underline{u}(\underline{r}) + (\lambda + \mu) \nabla \nabla \cdot \underline{u}(\underline{r}) = 0$$

- Boundary conditions connect surface stress to traction forces:

$$\underline{t} = \underline{\sigma} \cdot \hat{n}|_{\Gamma}$$

Prototypical Deformations

- Extension/Compression:



- Simple shear:



- Settling under an external body force:



- Bending:



- Twisting:



Dimensional Analysis

- Approximate solutions and characteristic scales can be obtained by simple dimensional analysis
- We characterize the material by a typical elastic constant E , density ρ , and linear dimension L
- External perturbations have a characteristic surface stress P or a characteristic external body force density f
- From these, we can estimate the characteristic deformation of the material

Analysis of Applied Stress

- In equilibrium, characteristic surface stress P gives rise to a more-or-less uniform level of stress $|\sigma| \sim P$ in the medium
 - The linear relation between stress and strain leads to a characteristic strain level $|\epsilon| \sim |\sigma|/E \sim P/E$ in the material
 - Across the linear dimension L of the sample this leads to a variation of displacement of order: $|\Delta u| \sim L|\epsilon| \sim LP/E$
- e.g.: a rod of hard plastic ($K \sim 100$ MPa; $L=1$ m; $A=10$ cm²) is subjected to a compressing force of $\tau \sim 100$ N.

Estimated length change: $|\Delta u| \sim \tau L/(AK) \sim 1$ mm

Analysis of Applied Body Force

- An applied body force density on an elastic material gives rise to a stress gradients across the body due to the distributed nature of the force: $|\Delta\sigma| \sim f L$
- In equilibrium, this gives rise to a characteristic variation in strain across the material, $|\Delta\epsilon| \sim |\Delta\sigma|/E \sim L/D$, where $D=E/f$ is a characteristic deformation length scale:
- Across the linear dimension L of the sample this leads to a variation of displacement of order: $|\Delta u| \sim L|\Delta\epsilon| \sim L^2/D$

e.g.: a cube of jello ($K \sim 1000 \text{ Pa}$; $\rho = 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$; $L = 10 \text{ cm}$)
settles under its own weight an amount: $|\Delta u| \sim \rho g L^2 / K \sim 1 \text{ cm}$

Saint-Venant's Principle

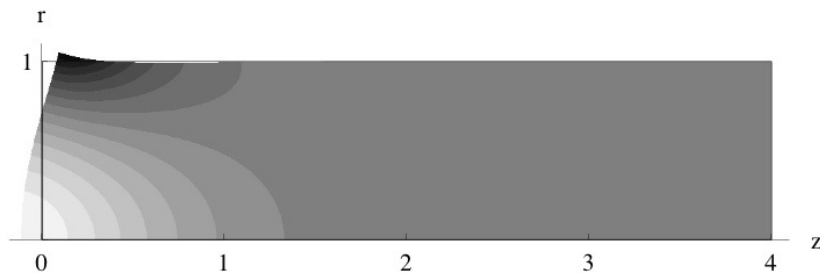
"The deformation due to a localized external force distribution (with vanishing total force and moment) decays rapidly on the length scale of the force distribution"

- Deformation the in the far field is unaffected by the details of the local applied force density
- Useful for approximation schemes

c.f. the effect of dipoles in electrostatics

Saint-Venant's Illustration

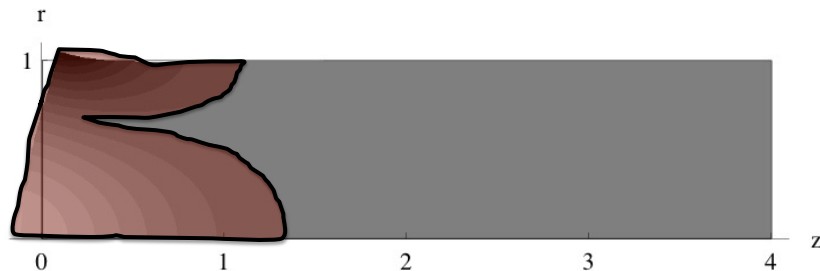
- Deformation of a cylindrical rod in response to a radial surface pressure applied at one end: $P_z = P_0(2r^2 - 1)$
- Materials parameters: $L=4R$, $E=5P_0$, $\nu=1/3$
- Numerical finite element solution for pressure field:



N.B.: the average pressure on the end is zero,
so the extent of it's effects should be short-ranged

Saint-Venant's Illustration

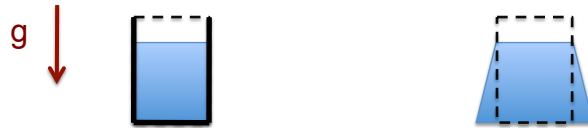
- Deformation of a cylindrical rod in response to a radial surface pressure applied at one end: $P_z = P_0(2r^2 - 1)$
- Materials parameters: $L=4R$, $E=5P_0$, $\nu=1/3$
- Numerical finite element solution for pressure field:



Note the localized pressure distribution at the $z=0$ end

Gravitational Settling

- Elastic materials will generally slump in a non-uniform manner in a constant external body force (like gravity)
- Two typical cases: constrained vs free settling:



- In the constrained case, the settling is laterally uniform
(simple analytical solution)
- In the free case, there is shear and lateral bulging
(no analytical solution)

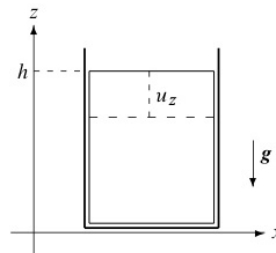
Uniform Gravitational Settling

- Strictly vertical displacement:

$$\underline{u} = (0, 0, u_z(z)) \text{ with } u_z(0) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon_{zz} = \nabla_z u_z$$

$$(\epsilon_{i,j} = 0 \text{ for } i, j \neq z)$$



- Hookes' law gives:

$$\sigma_{xx}(z) = \sigma_{yy}(z) = \lambda \epsilon_{zz}$$

$$\sigma_{zz}(z) = (\lambda + 2\mu) \epsilon_{zz}$$

- Cauchy's equilibrium condition with BC:

$$\nabla_z \sigma_{zz}(z) = \rho g \text{ with } \sigma_{zz}(h) = 0$$

- Stress field solution:

$$\sigma_{zz}(z) = -\rho g(h - z)$$

Uniform Gravitational Settling

- Pressure components:

$$P_z = -\sigma_{zz}(z) = \rho g(h - z)$$

$$P_x = P_y = P_z \lambda / (\lambda + 2\mu)$$

- Strain field solution:

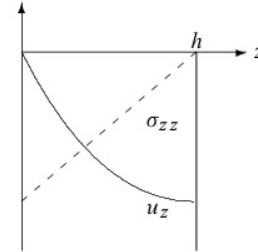
$$\epsilon_{zz} = \nabla_z u_z = \frac{\sigma_{zz}(z)}{(\lambda + 2\mu)} = -\frac{(h - z)}{D}$$

- Characteristic deformation length scale: $D = \frac{\lambda + 2\mu}{\rho g}$

- Displacement solution: $\nabla_z u_z = -\frac{(h - z)}{D}$ with $u_z(0) = 0$

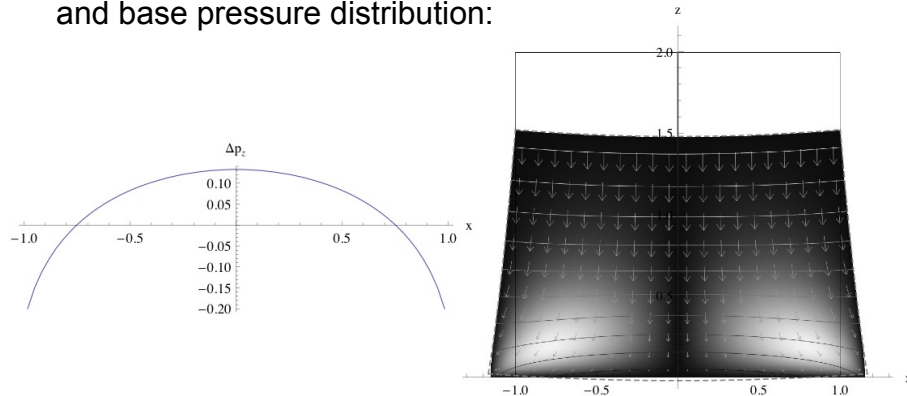
gives

$$u_z(z) = -\frac{z(2h - z)}{2D}$$



Free Gravitational Settling

- Deformation of a cylindrical rod in response to vertical gravitational field
- Materials parameters: $H=2R$, $D=4R$, $\nu=1/3$
- Numerical finite element solution for displacement field and base pressure distribution:



Shear-Free Settling

- No-shear ansatz: $\sigma_{xy} = \sigma_{yz} = \sigma_{zx} = 0$
- Cauchy's equilibrium conditions become:

σ_{xx} is independent of x
 σ_{yy} is independent of y

$\nabla_x \sigma_{xx} = 0$
 $\nabla_y \sigma_{yy} = 0$
 $\nabla_z \sigma_{zz} = \rho g$
- On free side boundaries:

$0 = t_x = \sigma_{xx} n_x \Rightarrow \sigma_{xx} \equiv 0$
 $0 = t_y = \sigma_{yy} n_y \Rightarrow \sigma_{yy} \equiv 0$
- On bottom:

$$\sigma_{zz}(h) = 0 \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \boxed{\sigma_{zz}(z) = -\rho g (h - z)}$$

Shear-Free Settling

- Strain field solution (Inverse Hooke's Law):

$$\epsilon_{zz}(z) = -\frac{(h - z)}{D}$$

$$\epsilon_{xx}(z) = \epsilon_{yy}(z) = \nu \frac{(h - z)}{D}$$
- Characteristic deformation length scale: $D = E/\rho g$
- Displacement solution:

$$\nabla_z u_z = -(h - z)/D \quad \text{with} \quad u_z(0) = 0$$

$$\nabla_x u_x = \nu(h - z)/D \quad \text{with} \quad u_x(0) = 0$$

$$\nabla_y u_y = \nu(h - z)/D \quad \text{with} \quad u_y(0) = 0$$

Shear-Free Settling Displacements

- Imposing shear-free conditions: $\epsilon_{xz} = \epsilon_{yz} = \epsilon_{xy} = 0$

... gives:

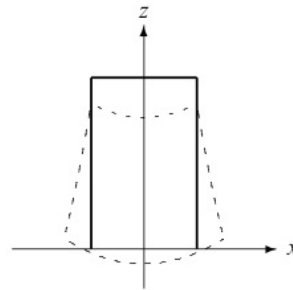
$$u_z = z(z - 2h)/2D + \nu(x^2 + y^2)/2D + K$$

$$u_x = \nu(h - z)x/D$$

$$u_y = \nu(h - z)y/D \quad \text{with} \quad D = E/\rho g$$

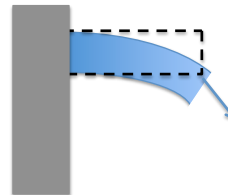
N.B.:

- The complicated form of u_z is due to the requirement of the shear free conditions
- The condition $u_z(0)=0$ is violated by this solution for any choice of the integration constant K ! In the spirit of the St. Venant principle, this doesn't affect the far field solution



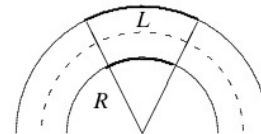
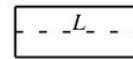
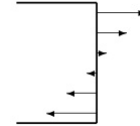
Beam Bending

- Beams are rectilinear elastic objects with uniform cross section along their length.
- They are often treated as bundles of independent elastic fibers (rays) with no inter-fiber shear stresses
- Under various applied loads, these will bend into equilibrium shapes.
- Gradual bending can be treated with linear elasticity theory



Idealized Bending

- Beam bending is *pure*:
 - only forces from surface stresses applied to ends
 - end stresses do not change the average beam length
- Beam bending is *uniform*:
 - internal stresses and strains are not a function of the longitudinal coordinate along beam
- Result: all beam rays follow circular paths:
- Bending is *shear free*:
 - internal shear stress is ignored



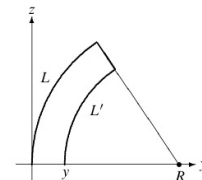
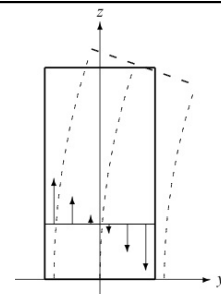
Idealized Bending

- Consider a beam with square cross section:
(origin at centroid of square on base of beam)
- Relation of neighboring arc lengths gives the longitudinal strain:

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon_{zz}(y) = \frac{\delta L}{L} \simeq \frac{(L' - L)}{L} \simeq \frac{-y}{R}$$

- Stresses are *shear free* and *longitudinal*:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hooke's Law} &\Rightarrow \sigma_{zz} = E\epsilon_{zz} \\ \text{No transverse forces} &\Rightarrow \sigma_{xx} = \sigma_{yy} = 0 \\ \text{No shear forces} &\Rightarrow \sigma_{xy} = \sigma_{yz} = \sigma_{xz} = 0 \end{aligned}$$



The length of the arc at x must satisfy $L'/(R-y) = L/R$.

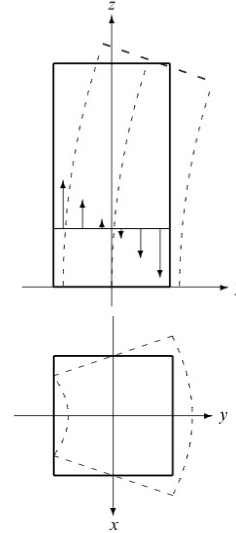
Idealized Bending

- Inverting Hooke's law gives the strains:

$$\epsilon_{xx}(y) = \epsilon_{yy}(y) = -\nu \epsilon_{zz}(y) \simeq \nu \frac{y}{R}$$

- Integration gives the displacement field using $\epsilon_{ii} = \nabla_i u_i$:

$$\begin{aligned} u_x(x, y) &\simeq \nu \frac{xy}{R} \\ u_y(x, y, z) &\simeq \frac{z^2}{2R} + \nu \frac{y^2 - x^2}{2R} \\ u_z(y, z) &\simeq -\frac{yz}{R} \end{aligned}$$



N.B.: form of u_y is determined by shear free conditions

Total Forces and Moments for Bending

- Idealized bending is **force free**:

$$\mathcal{F}_z = \int_A \sigma_{zz} dS_z = -\frac{E}{R} \int_A y dA = 0$$

(satisfies the conditions of St. Venant's principle)

- The moments of the longitudinal stress (bending || y):

$$d\mathcal{M} = \underline{r} \times d\underline{\mathcal{F}} = \underline{r} \times \underline{\sigma} \cdot d\underline{S} = (\underline{r} \times \hat{z}) \sigma_{zz} dA$$

$$\mathcal{M}_x = \int_A y \sigma_{zz} dS_z = -\frac{E}{R} \int_A y^2 dA \equiv -\mathcal{M}_b \quad \underline{\text{Bending Moment}}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_y = -\int_A x \sigma_{zz} dS_z = \frac{E}{R} \int_A xy dA \quad (= 0 \text{ for symmetric beams})$$

$$\mathcal{M}_z = 0$$

Euler-Bernoulli Law

$$\mathcal{M}_b = \frac{EI}{R} \equiv G_b \kappa$$

$\kappa=1/R$ is the curvature

$G_b=E*I$ is the flexural rigidity

$$I = \int_A y^2 dA \quad \text{Area Moment}$$

▪ Examples:

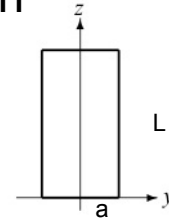
$$I = \frac{4}{3}ab^3 \quad \text{for rectangular beam } (x * y = 2a * 2b)$$

$$I = \frac{\pi}{4}ab^3 \quad \text{for elliptical beam } (x * y = 2a * 2b)$$

$$I = \frac{\pi}{4}(b^4 - a^4) \quad \text{for circular pipe (radii } a < b)$$

Idealized Bending vs Extension

- Consider a long beam with length L
and cross section $A=a^2$:



- A longitudinal force $F_z=F$ gives a longitudinal displacement:

$$u_z \simeq \frac{LF}{AE}$$

- A transverse force $F_y=F$ gives a transverse displacement:

$$u_y \simeq \frac{L^2}{2R} \sim \frac{L^3 F}{EI} \quad \text{since } 1/R = \frac{\mathcal{M}_b}{EI} \sim \frac{LF}{EI}$$

- Ratio of longitudinal to transverse displacement is small:

$$\left| \frac{u_z}{u_y} \right| \simeq \frac{I}{AL^2} \sim \left(\frac{a}{L} \right)^2 \ll 1 \quad \text{since } I \sim Aa^2$$

Bending Energy

- Consider a long beam with length L and cross section A bent ideally with:

$$\epsilon_{xx}(y) = \epsilon_{yy}(y) = -\nu\epsilon_{zz}(y) \simeq \nu\frac{y}{R}$$

$$\sigma_{zz} = E\epsilon_{zz}$$

- The energy density for bending is:

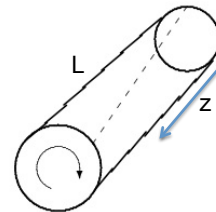
$$e_b = \frac{1}{2}\underline{\sigma} : \underline{\epsilon} = \frac{1}{2}\sigma_{zz}\epsilon_{zz} = \frac{1}{2}E\epsilon_{zz}^2 \simeq \frac{Ey^2}{2R^2}$$

- This gives a bending energy per unit length:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{E}_b}{\partial \ell} = \frac{\mathcal{E}_b}{L} = \frac{1}{L} \int_V e_b dV \simeq \frac{E}{2R^2} \int_A y^2 dA \equiv \frac{EI}{2R^2} = \frac{\mathcal{M}_b^2}{2EI}$$

Idealized Twisting

- Consider a long circular beam with length L and radius a :



- A pure torsion rotates the beam by small, uniform amount τ per unit length ($\tau L \ll 1$):

Pure torsion consists of rotating every cross section by a fixed amount per unit of length.

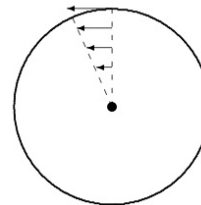
- At a position z , the accumulated twist is given by the axial vector angle:

$$\underline{\phi} = \tau z \hat{e}_z$$

- The local displacement field is given by:

$$\underline{u} = \underline{\phi} \times \underline{r} = \tau z \hat{e}_z \times \underline{r} = \tau z (-y, x, 0)$$

(a purely tangential displacement)



Twisting Strains and Stresses

- The gradient tensor is: $\underline{\nabla} u = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\tau z & -\tau y \\ \tau z & 0 & \tau x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

- The non-trivial strain tensor components are:

$$\epsilon_{xz} = \epsilon_{zx} = -\frac{1}{2}\tau y \quad \epsilon_{yz} = \epsilon_{zy} = +\frac{1}{2}\tau x$$

- Hooke's Law with vanishing diagonal strains gives exclusively shear components in the stress tensor:

$$\sigma_{xz} = \sigma_{zx} = -\mu\tau y \quad \sigma_{yz} = \sigma_{zy} = +\mu\tau x$$

- These are consistent with the boundary conditions:

$$\underline{\sigma} \cdot \hat{e}_r|_{r=a} = 0$$

$$\underline{\sigma} \cdot \hat{e}_z|_{z=0,L} = \mu\tau \hat{e}_z \times \underline{r}|_{z=0,L}$$

Twisting Moment

- Total moment of force around twisting axis (z):

$$d\mathcal{M} = \underline{r} \times d\underline{\mathcal{F}} = \underline{r} \times \underline{\sigma} \cdot d\underline{S} = (x\sigma_{yz} - y\sigma_{xz}) \hat{z} dA$$

gives:

$$\mathcal{M}_t = \int_A (x\sigma_{yz} - y\sigma_{xz}) dA = \mu\tau \int_A (x^2 + y^2) dA$$

- Euler-Bernoulli analog for twist:

$$\mathcal{M}_t = \mu J \tau \equiv G_t \tau$$

$G_t = \mu J$ is the torsional rigidity

$$J = \int_A (x^2 + y^2) dA$$

e.g.: $J = \frac{\pi}{2}(b^4 - a^4)$ for circular pipe (radii $a < b$)

Twisting Energy

- Consider a long beam with length L and cross section A

twisted ideally with:

$$\epsilon_{xz} = \epsilon_{zx} = -\frac{1}{2}\tau y \quad \sigma_{xz} = \sigma_{zx} = -\mu\tau y$$

$$\epsilon_{yz} = \epsilon_{zy} = +\frac{1}{2}\tau x \quad \sigma_{yz} = \sigma_{zy} = +\mu\tau x$$

- The energy density for bending is:

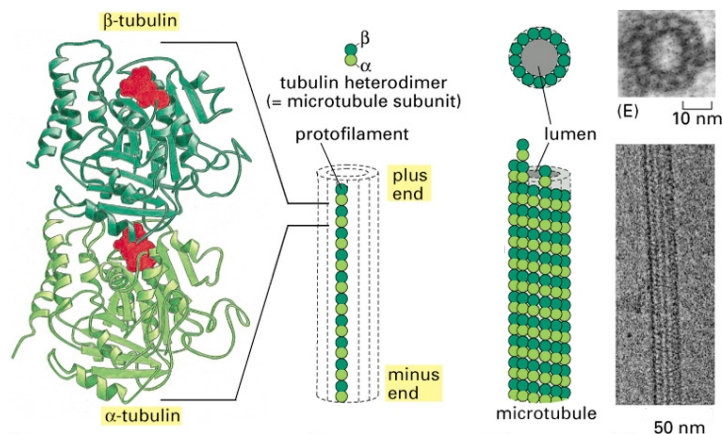
$$e_t = \frac{1}{2}\underline{\sigma} : \underline{\epsilon} = \frac{1}{2} 2 (\sigma_{xz} \epsilon_{xz} + \sigma_{yz} \epsilon_{yz}) = \frac{1}{2} \mu \tau^2 (x^2 + y^2)$$

- This gives a twisting energy per unit length:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{E}_t}{\partial \ell} = \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{L} = \frac{1}{L} \int_V e_t dV \simeq \frac{1}{2} \mu \tau^2 \int_A (x^2 + y^2) dA \equiv \frac{1}{2} \mu \tau^2 J = \frac{\mathcal{M}_t^2}{2\mu J}$$

Microtubules

- Protofilaments form from oriented dimers of tubulin
- 13 staggered protofilaments form the hollow tubule
- Directional assembly and disassembly



Microtubule Mechanics

VOLUME 89, NUMBER 24

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

9 DECEMBER 2002

Nanomechanics of Microtubules

A. Kis,^{1,*} S. Kasas,^{2,3} B. Babić,⁴ A. J. Kulik,¹ W. Benoit,¹ G. A. D. Briggs,^{1,†} C. Schönenberger,⁴
S. Catsicas,² and L. Forró¹

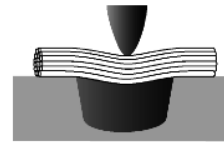
¹Institute of Physics of Complex Matter, EPFL, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

²Institut de Neurosciences, EPFL, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

³Institut de Biologie Cellulaire et de Morphologie, UNIL, CH-1005 Lausanne, Switzerland

⁴Institute of Physics, University of Basel, CH-4056 Basel, Switzerland

- AFM study of tubule response to loading:



- Shear modulus is ~100 times smaller than Young's:

$$\mu \approx 1.4 \text{ MPa} \quad E \approx 100 \text{ Mpa}$$

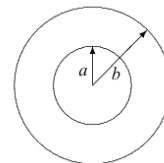
Continuum Microtubule Model

- Isotropic elastic cylindrical shell model:

$a \approx 15 \text{ nm}$ and $b \approx 25 \text{ nm}$ give:

$$I = \frac{\pi}{4}(b^4 - a^4) \simeq 2.7 \times 10^{-31} \text{ m}^4$$

$$J = 2I \simeq 5.4 \times 10^{-31} \text{ m}^4$$



- Young's and shear moduli from experiment:

$$\mu \approx 1.4 \text{ MPa} \quad E \approx 100 \text{ Mpa}$$

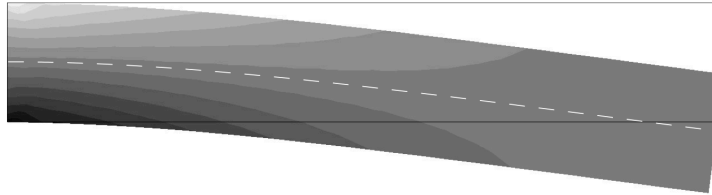
- We can estimate the flexural and torsional rigidity

$$G_b = EI \simeq 2.7 \times 10^{-23} \text{ N m}$$

$$G_t = \mu J \simeq 7.5 \times 10^{-25} \text{ N m}$$

Rod Bending Example

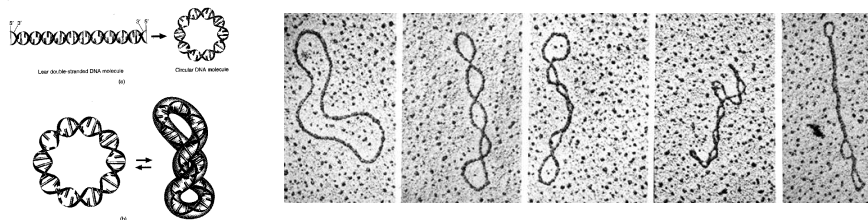
- Deformation of a cantilever by its own weight (Fig 10.1):
- Numerical solution for longitudinal stress field σ_{zz} :



- Dashed line is slender beam theory for the centroid

Super-Twisted DNA Example

- Closed DNA loop conformation is a combination of bending, twisting, and writhing:



- The relative amount of twisting and writhing is a topological invariant:

$$Tw + Wr = \text{Const}$$

Twisting number: Tw = # of internal twists in the DNA strand

Writhing number: Wr = # of external twists in the DNA strand