

Conception Non Conventionnelle : Art, Vivant, Design, Environnement

**Unconventional conception: Art, living, Design, environment**

GM 5 – CE

# Cellular (solids) materials

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LaMCoS*

# I. Introduction

## I.1. Context & objective

Arts, Vivant, Design,  
Environnement

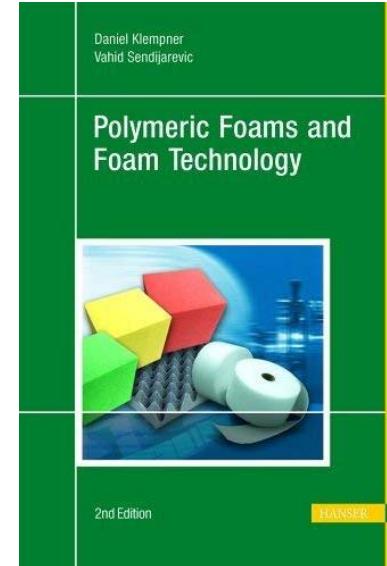
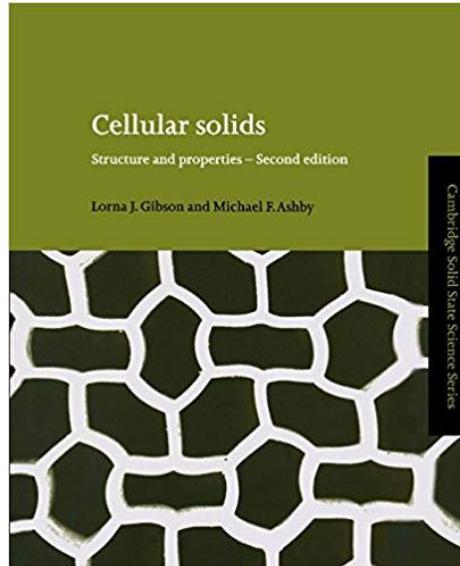
Matière &  
perception

Perception sensorielle

Matériaux non conventionnels :  
Bois, Verres, Tissus humains,  
**Matériaux Cellulaires**, Céramiques ...

# I. Introduction

## I.2. References



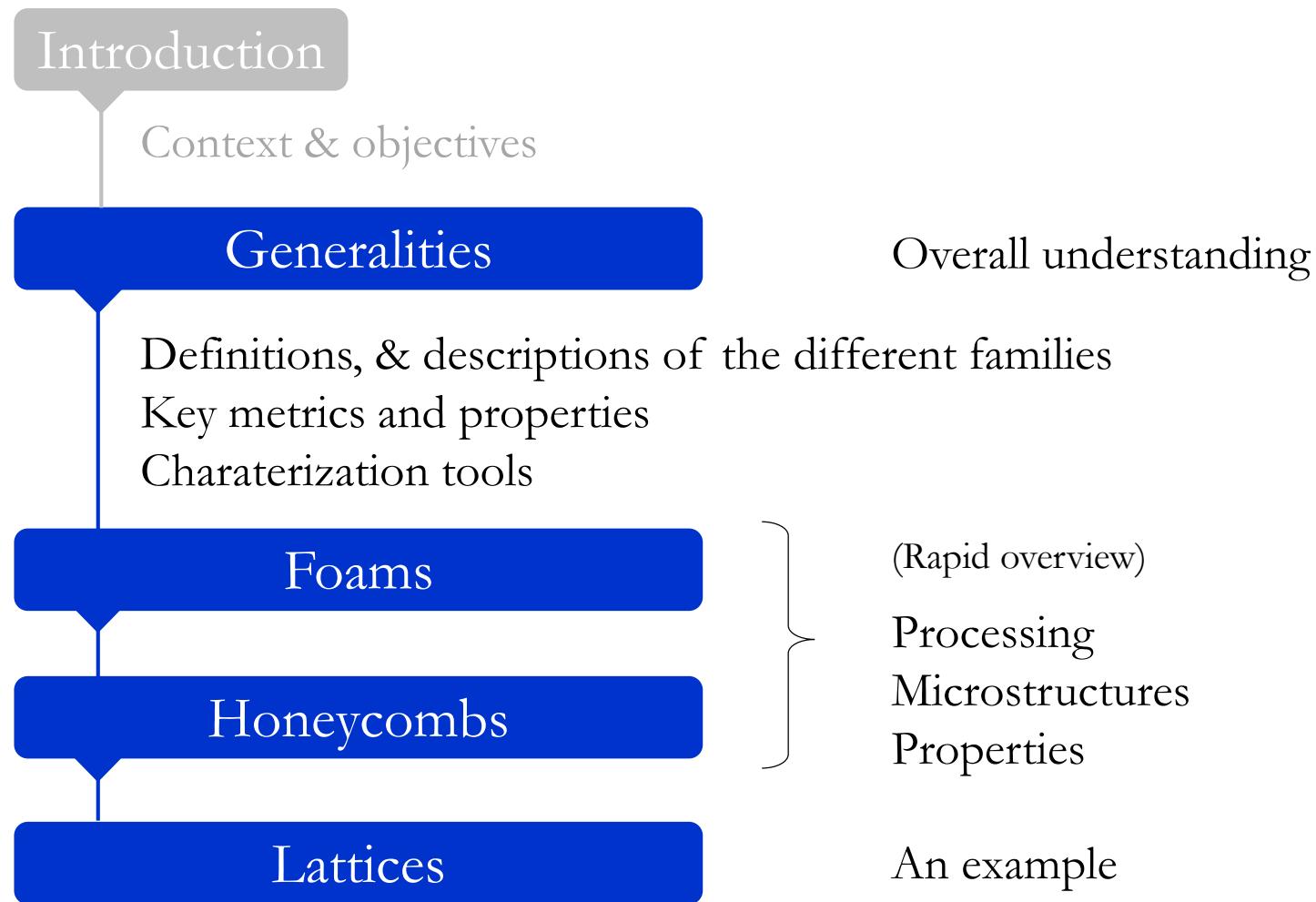
- [1] Gibson, L., Ashby, M. F. (1988).  
Cellular Solids, Structure and Properties.  
Cambridge Solid State Science Series

- [2] Klempner, D., & Sendijarevic, V. (2000).  
Handbook Of Polymeric Foams  
And Foam Technology.  
Hanser Publishers.

[...] Specialized literature and internet sources that will be listed throughout the document.

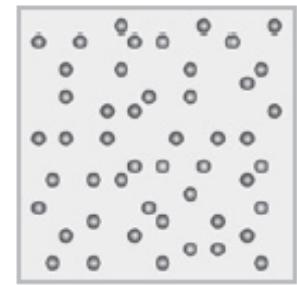
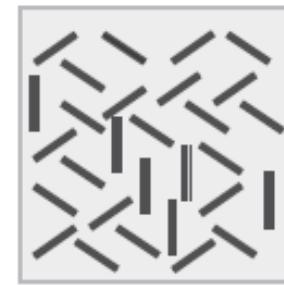
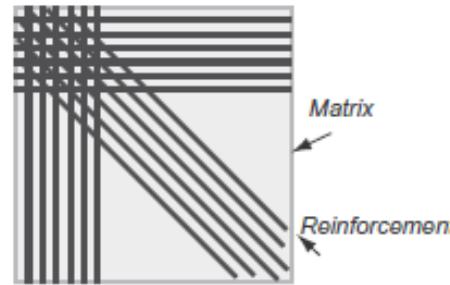
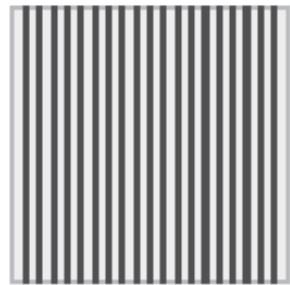
# I. Introduction

## I.3. Outline

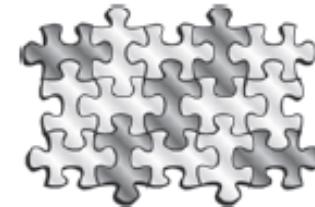
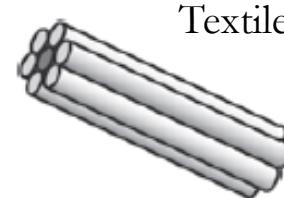
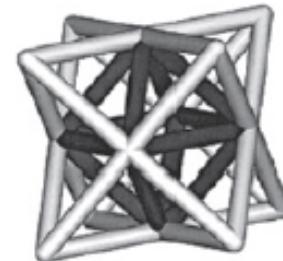
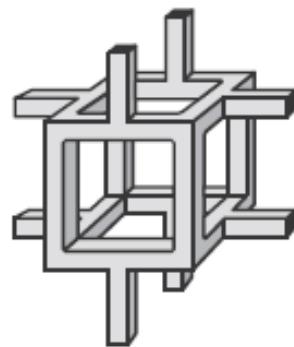


## II. Generalities

### II.1. Architected materials: family picture



Reinforced materials



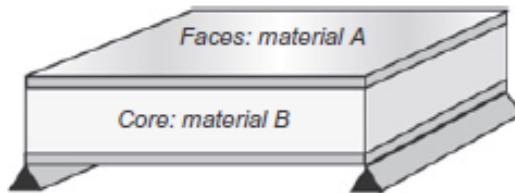
Cellular  
materials

Textile

Segmented  
structure

### Architected materials

Sandwich  
structures

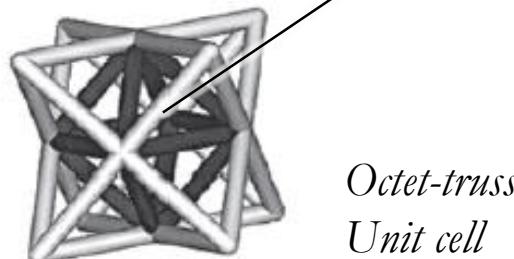
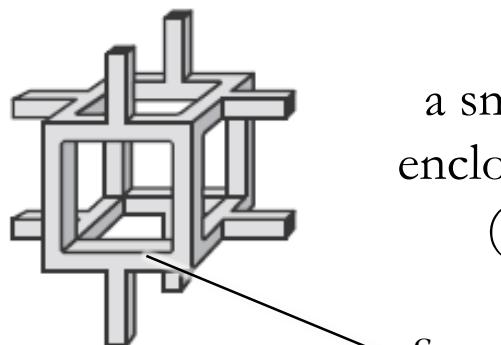
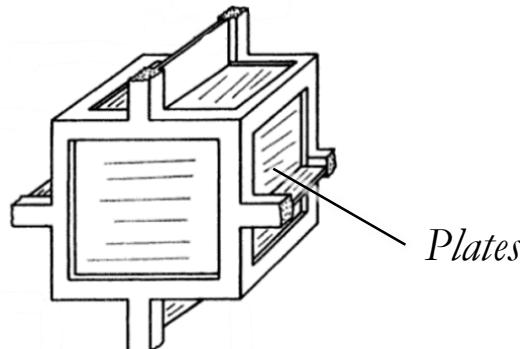


Material  
A  
B  
C  
D  
E

## II. Generalities

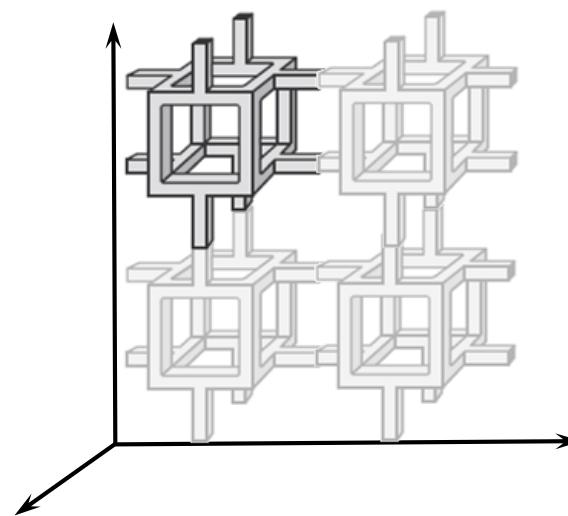
### II.2. Cellular (solids) materials

#### II.2.1. Definition



**Cella** (Latin):  
a small compartment,  
enclosed **space = voids**  
(gaseous phase)

**Cellular solids:**  
an assembly of packed cells  
within 3D space.



Interconnected network of solid struts or plates composing the edges and/or faces of the numerous cells.

## II. Generalities

### II.2. Cellular (solids) materials

#### II.2.2. Classification

- Foams (Mousses)

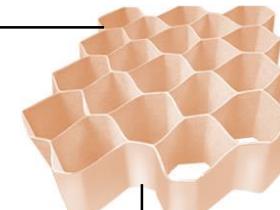
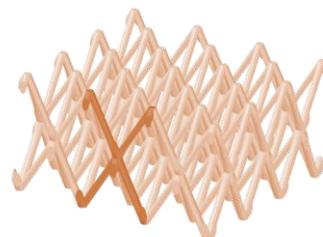


Stochastic

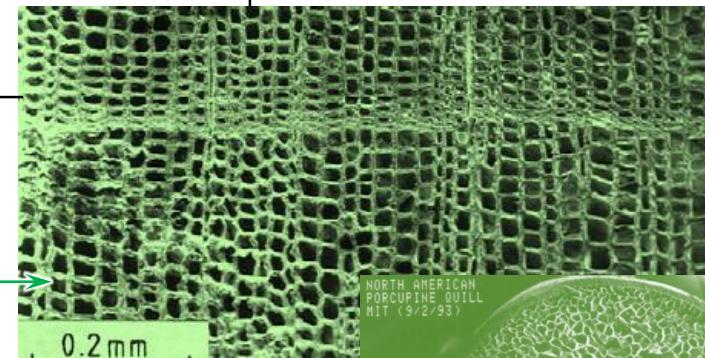
- Honeycomb structures (Structures en nid d'abeilles)

Periodic

- Lattices (Treillis)

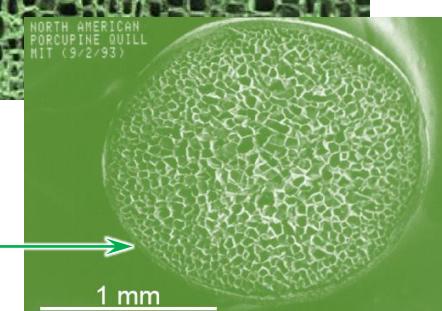


- Wood, leaves, fruits (bois, feuilles, fruits...)



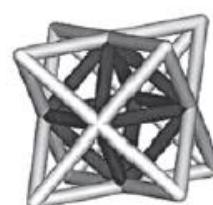
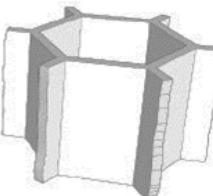
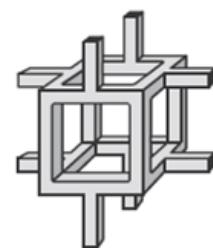
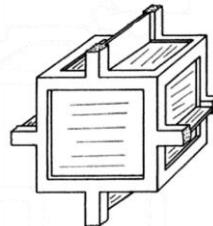
- Cellulose, bone, hair, feathers (cellules, os, poils, plumes,...)

Porcupine



## II. Generalities

### II.3. Cellular material properties



The Cellular solids can be seen as **an assembly of materials and voids** in 3D space.

⇒ Peculiar **properties** that first come to mind:

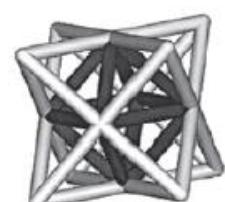
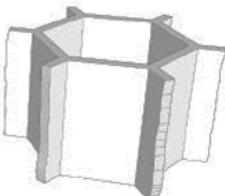
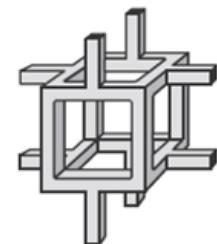
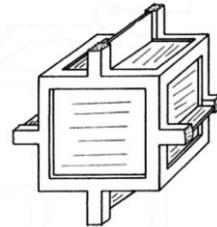
And the less obvious:

\* total surface area of a material per unit of mass (with units of  $m^2/kg$  or  $m^2/g$ ) or solid or bulk volume (units of  $m^2/m^3$  or  $m^{-1}$ )

## II. Generalities

### II.3. Cellular material properties

#### II.3.1. Key ingredients



The Cellular solids can be seen as **an assembly of materials and voids** in 3D space.

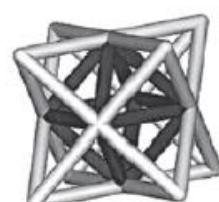
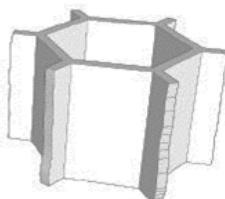
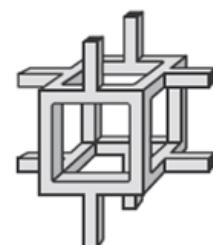
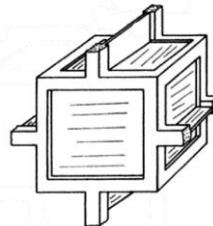
⇒ Its **properties** mainly depend on:



## II. Generalities

### II.3. Cellular material properties

#### II.3.2a. Relative density



The **volume fraction** or **relative density** characterizes the ratio between matter and “void”:

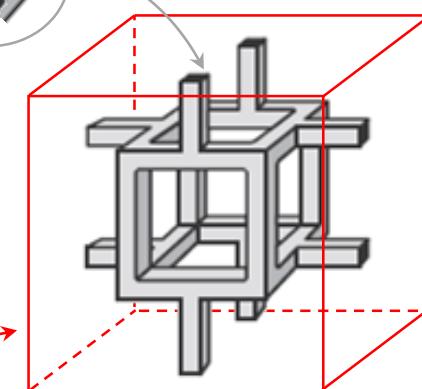
*Density of the cellular solid ( $\text{kg/m}^3$ )*

$$\bar{\rho} = \frac{\rho}{\rho_s} = \frac{V_s}{V_t}$$

*Density of the parent material ( $\text{kg/m}^3$ )*

*Volume of the solid matter*

*Total volume (occupation)*



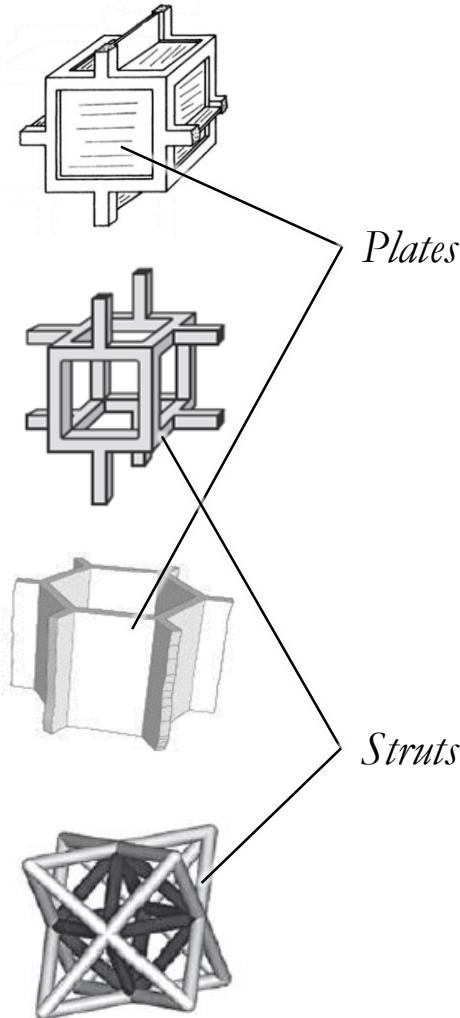
$$\bar{\rho} = 1 - p$$

*Porosity: volume fraction of pores*

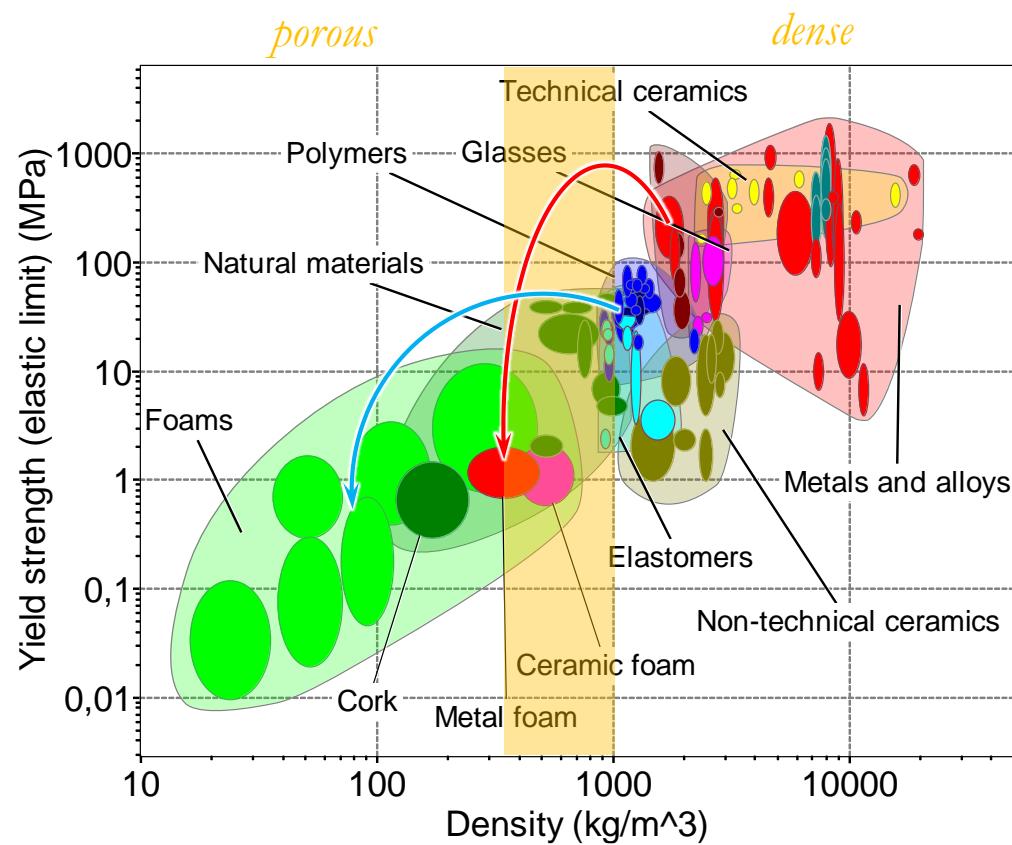
## II. Generalities

### II.3. Cellular material properties

#### II.3.2b. Parent material properties



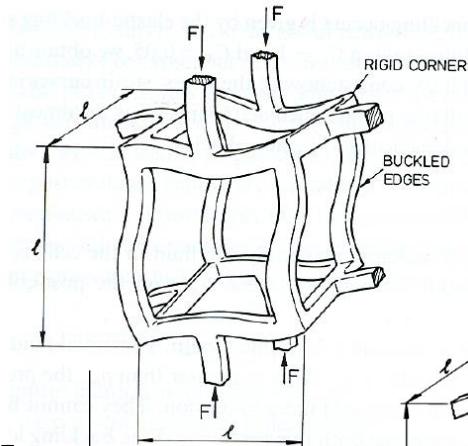
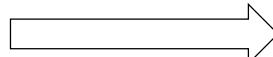
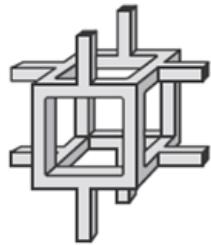
The constitutive material(s) has(ve) its own **intrinsic properties**:



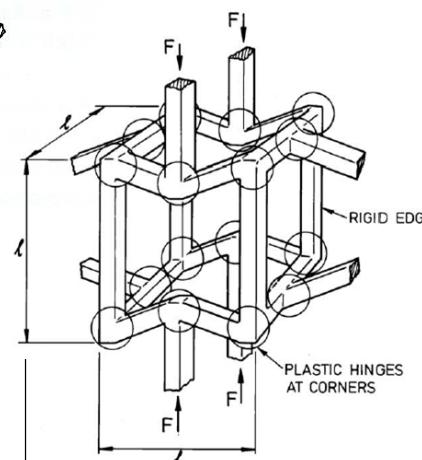
## II. Generalities

### II.3. Cellular material properties

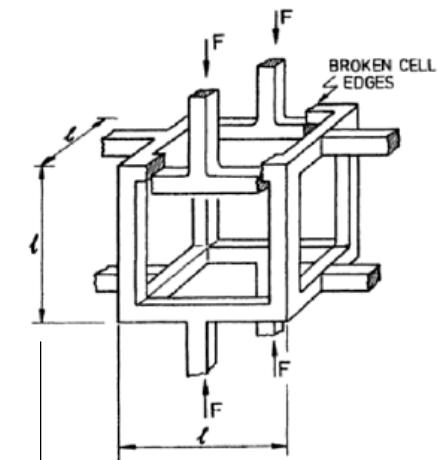
#### II.3.2b. Parent material properties



“soft”

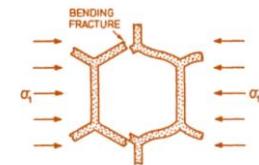
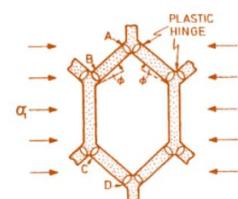
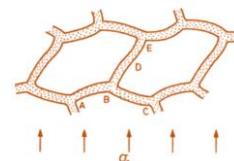
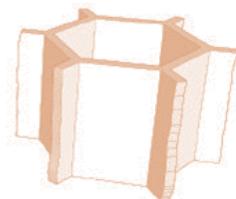


“ductile”



“brittle”

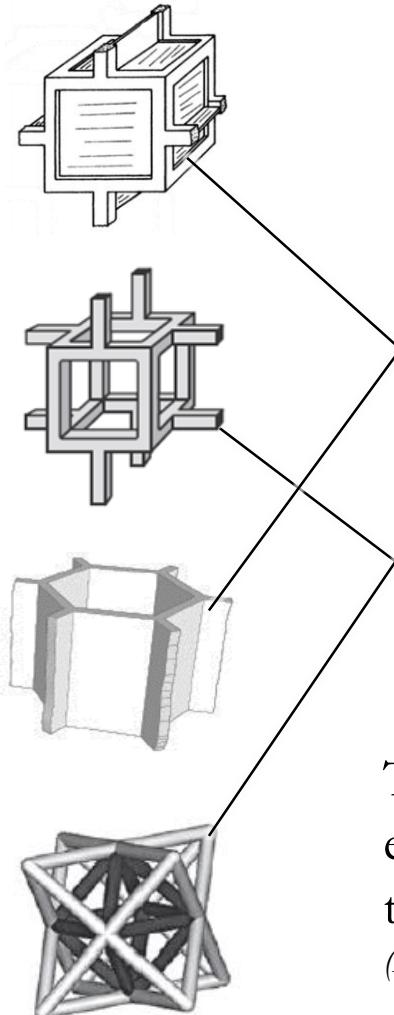
The yielding (onset of non-linear behaviour) of the cellular material does not necessarily depend on the yield strength of the parent material.



## II. Generalities

### II.3. Cellular material properties

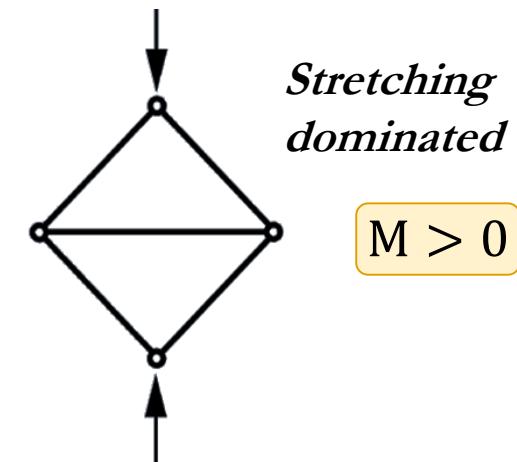
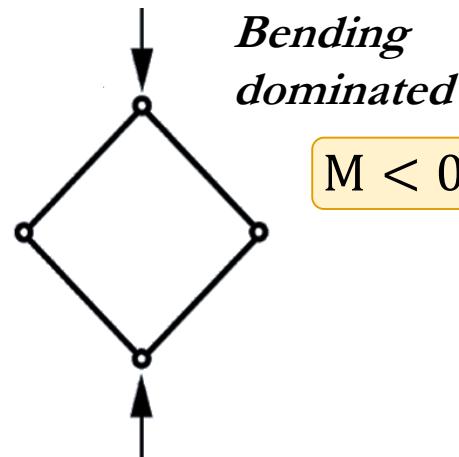
#### II.3.2c. Architecture



*Closed  
cells*

*Open  
cells*

The **architecture**, i.e. the way the matter is distributed within space:



The **connectivity** has a crucial effect on how the deformation takes place within the structure  
(*Maxwell criteria*)

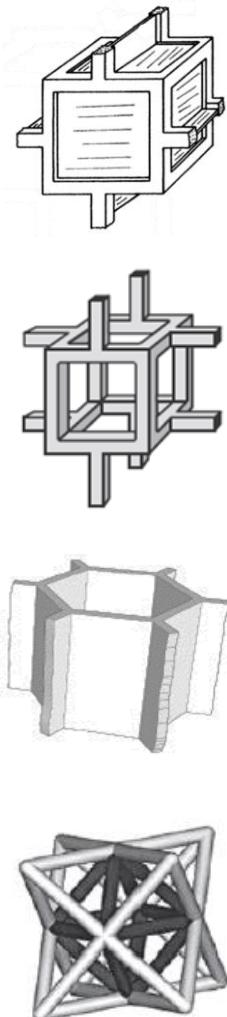
$$M = b - 3j + 6$$

b: nb of struts  
j: nb of frictionless joints

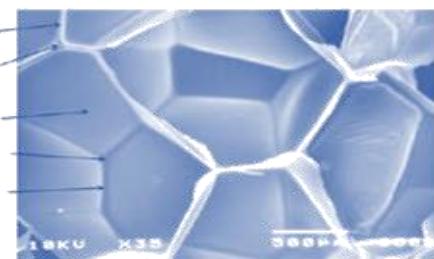
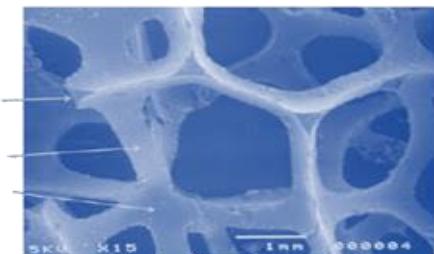
## II. Generalities

### II.4. Cellular material characterization

#### II.4.1. Geometry (architectures)



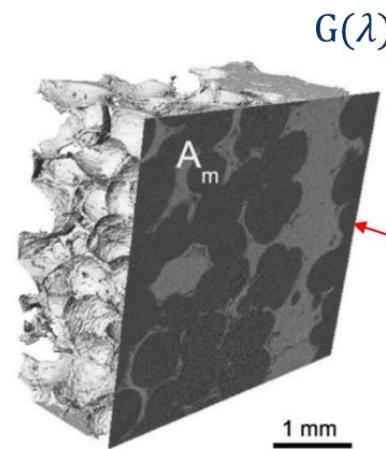
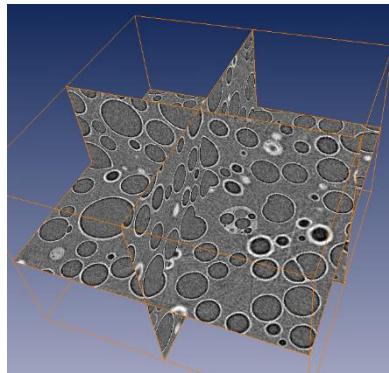
	<b>Material</b>	Rigid polyurethane (Fig. 2.19)
	Density, $\rho^*$ ( $\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$ )	32
	Open or closed cells	Closed
	Edge connectivity, $Z_e$	4
	Face connectivity, $Z_f$	3
	Mean edges/face, $\bar{n}^*$	—
	Mean faces/cell, $\bar{f}^*$	—
	Cell shape*	—
	Symmetry of structure	Axisymmetric
	Cell edge thickness, $t_e$ ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	30
	Cell face thickness, $t_f$ ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	3
	Fraction of material in cell edges, $\phi$	0.70
	Largest principal cell dimension, $\bar{L}_1$ (mm)	0.53
	Smallest principal cell dimension, $\bar{L}_3$ (mm)	0.44
	Intermediate principal cell dimension, $\bar{L}_2$ (mm)	0.53
	Shape anisotropy ratios, $R_{12} = \bar{L}_1/\bar{L}_2$ and $R_{13} = \bar{L}_1/\bar{L}_3$	$R_{12} = 1.0; R_{13} = 1.2$
	Standard deviation of cell size (mm)	0.075
	Other specific features (periodic variations in density, cell size, etc.)	None



## II. Generalities

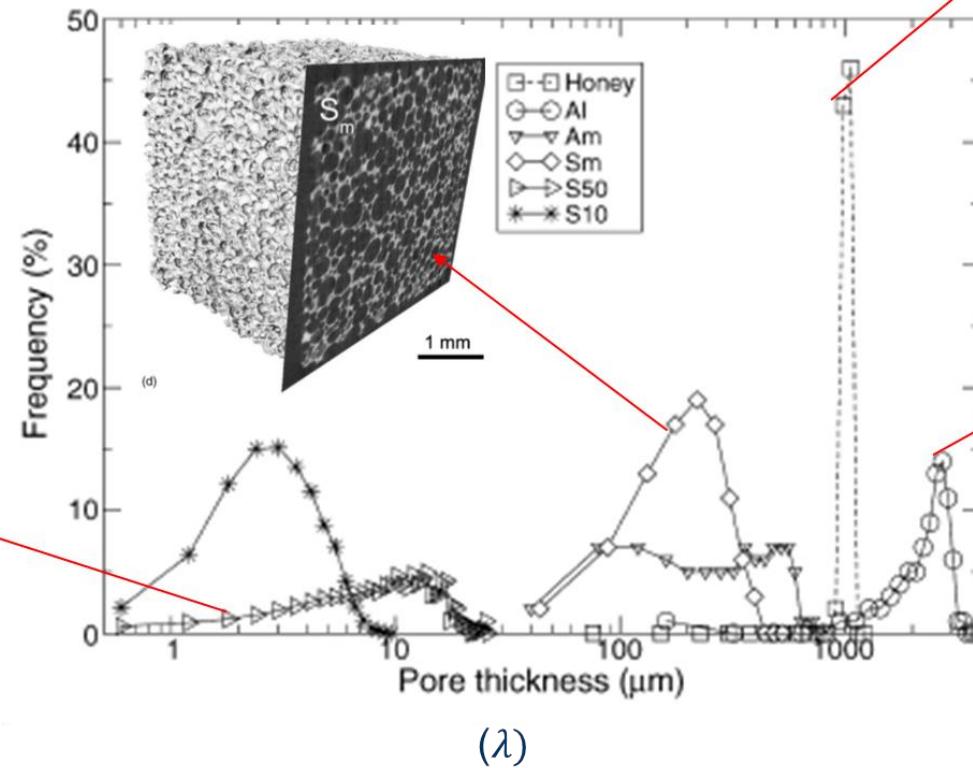
### II.4. Cellular material characterization

#### II.4.1. Geometry (architectures)



### 3D imaging techniques & associated image processing

*(X-ray computed tomography)*



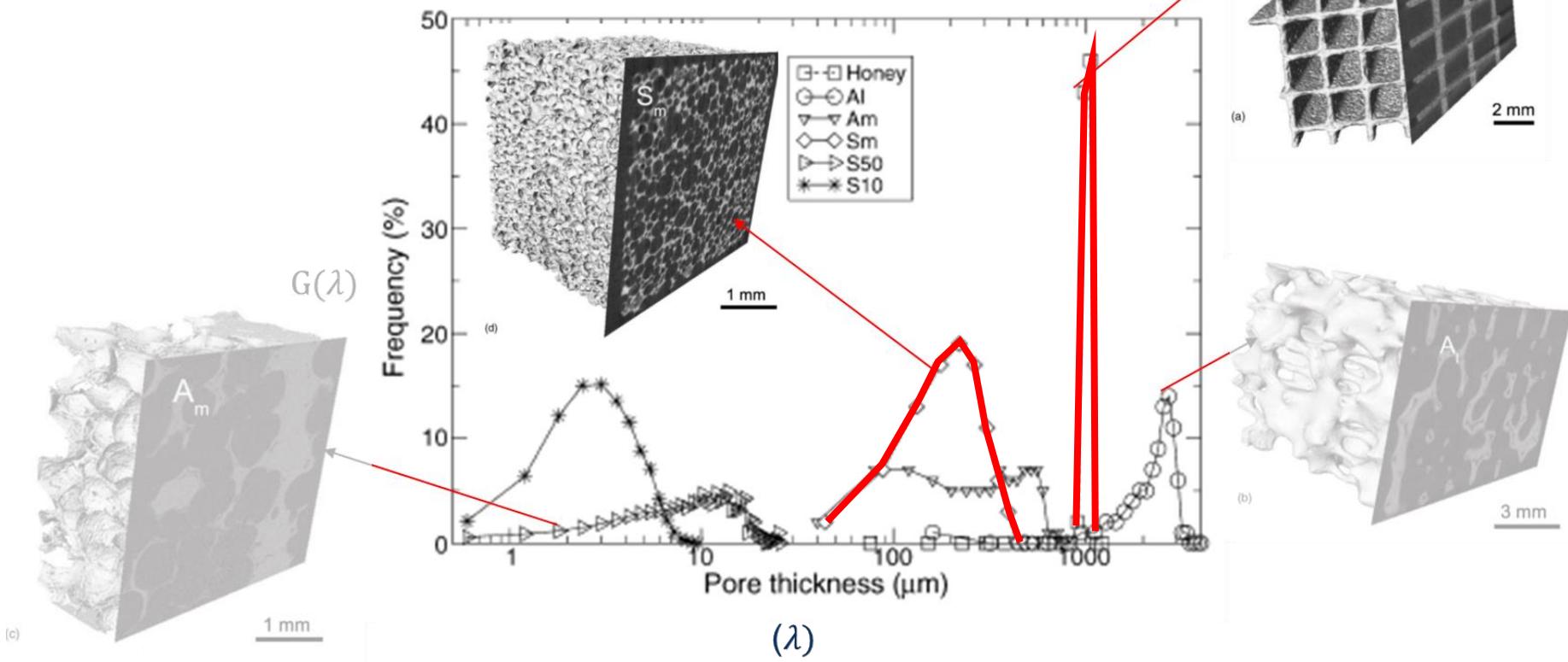
## II. Generalities

### II.4. Cellular material characterization

#### II.4.2. Mechanical properties

Specifically for stochastic materials, the number of cells along the main dimensions of the tested sample need to be sufficiently large so that the measured properties can be considered representative of the material.

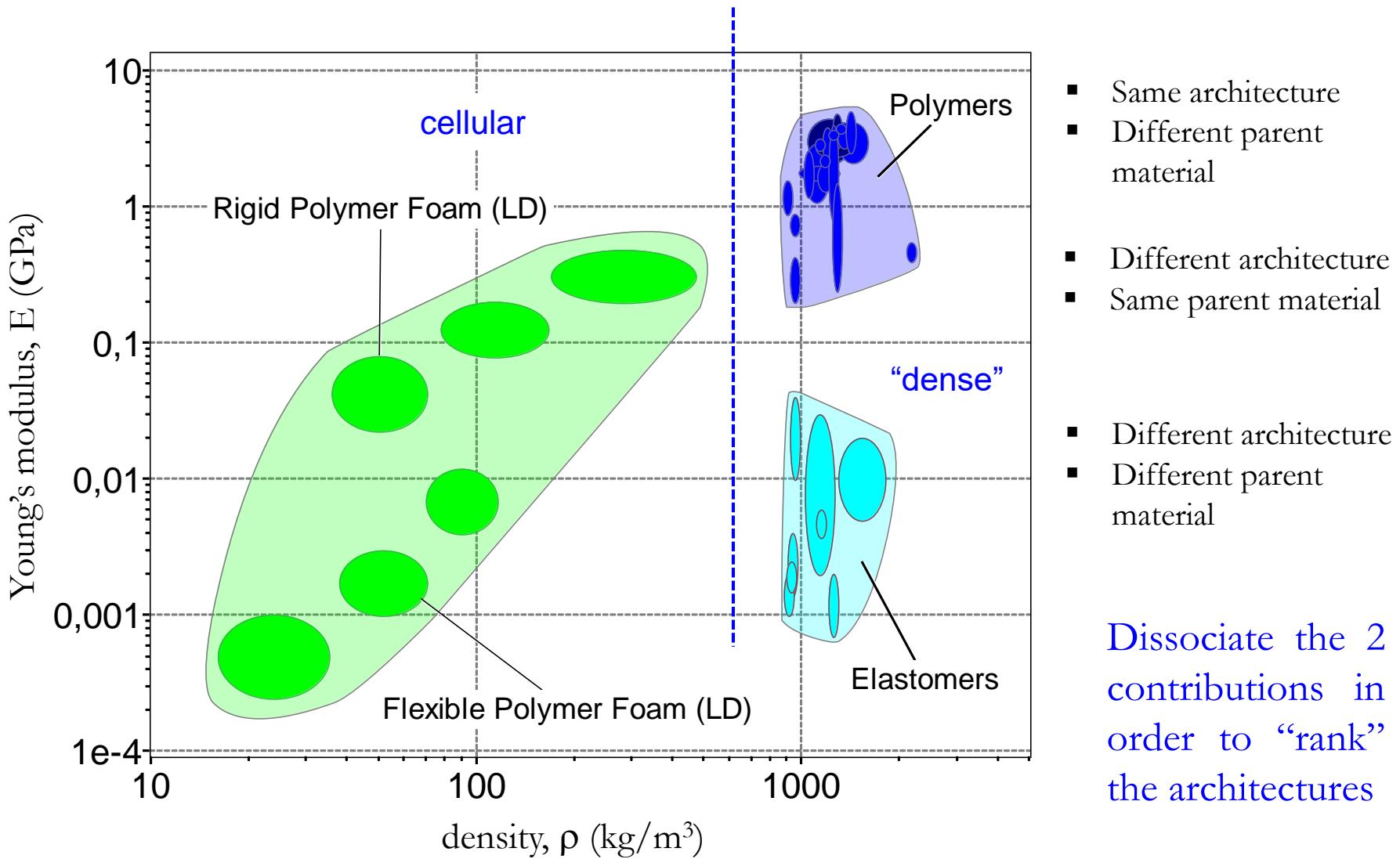
#### Statistically Representative Volume Element (SRVE)



## II. Generalities

### II.5. Material & geometrical contributions

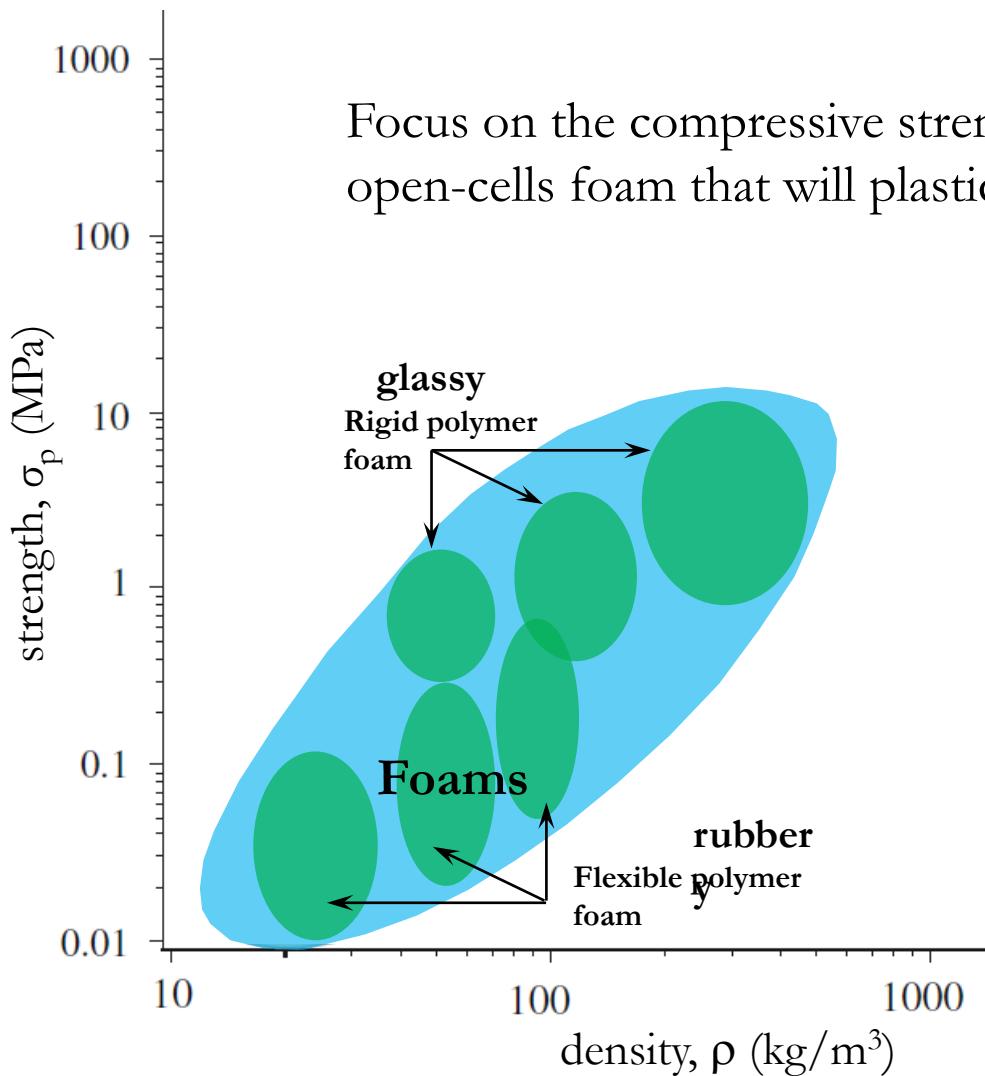
#### II.5.1. Open question



## II. Generalities

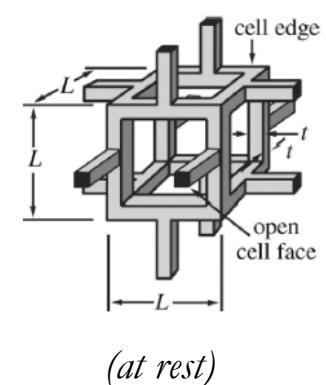
### II.5. Material & geometrical contributions

#### II.5.2. Specific properties

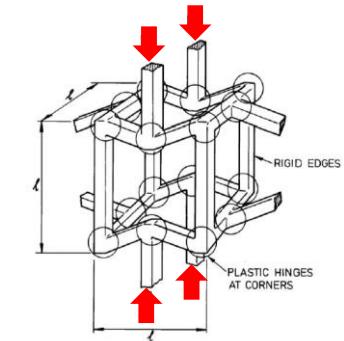


Focus on the compressive strength of an open-cells foam that will plastically “yield”:

*Ideal RVE*



(at rest)

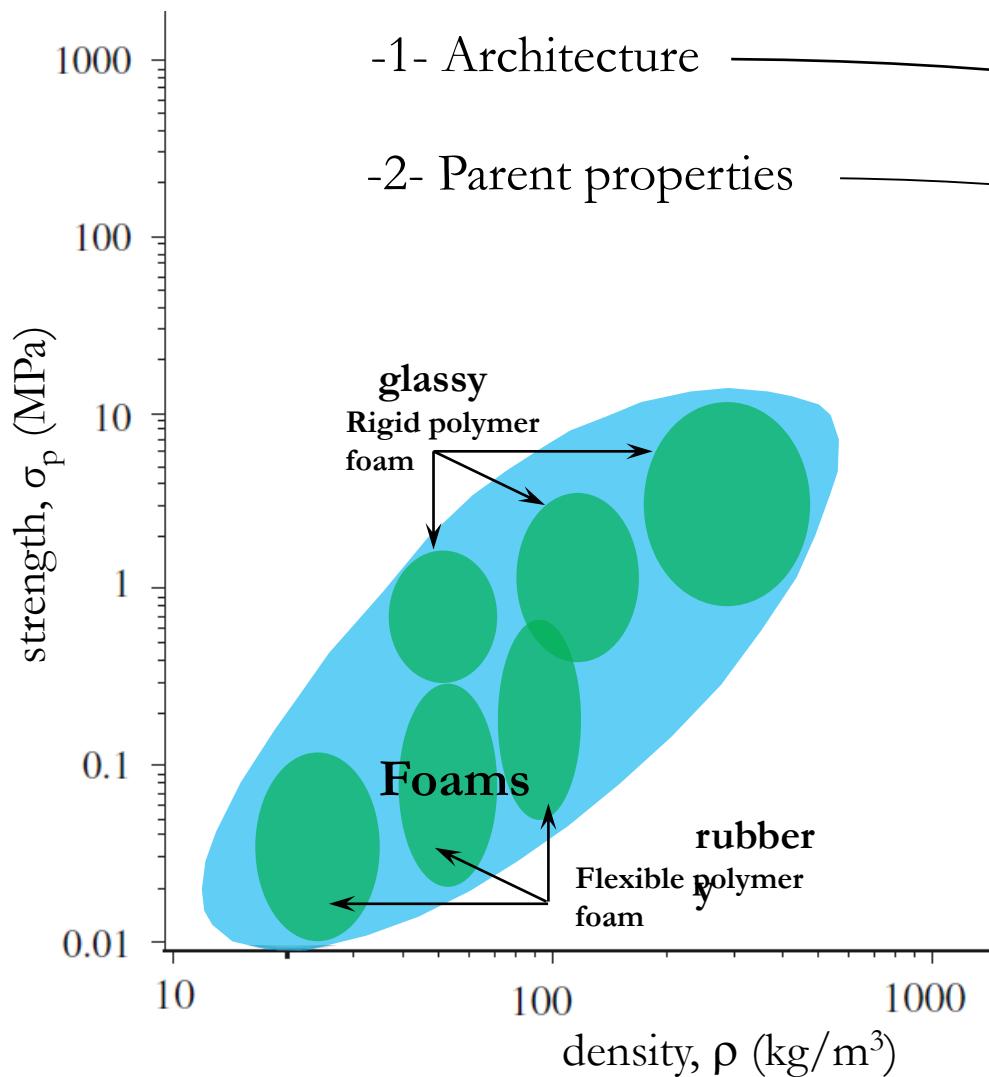


(yielded)

## II. Generalities

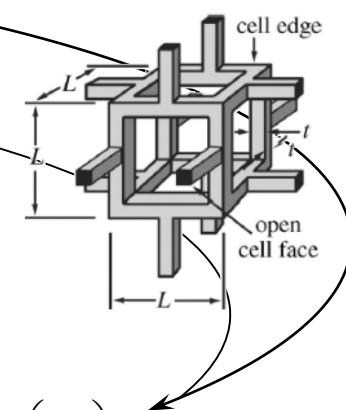
### II.5. Material & geometrical contributions

#### II.5.2. Specific properties

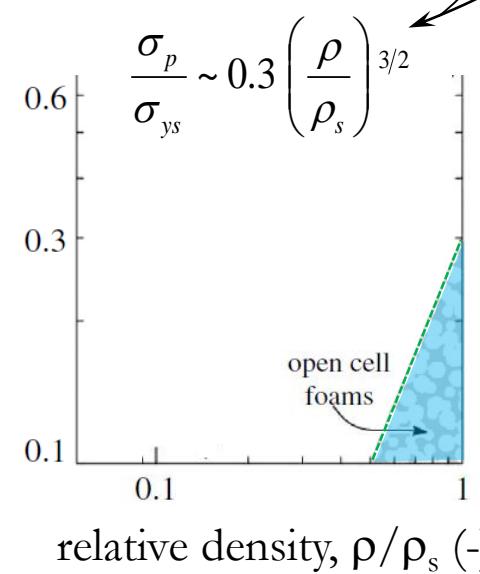


*unit cell representation*

$\sigma_{ys}, \rho_s, \dots$



specific strength,  $\sigma_p/\sigma_{ys}$  (-)

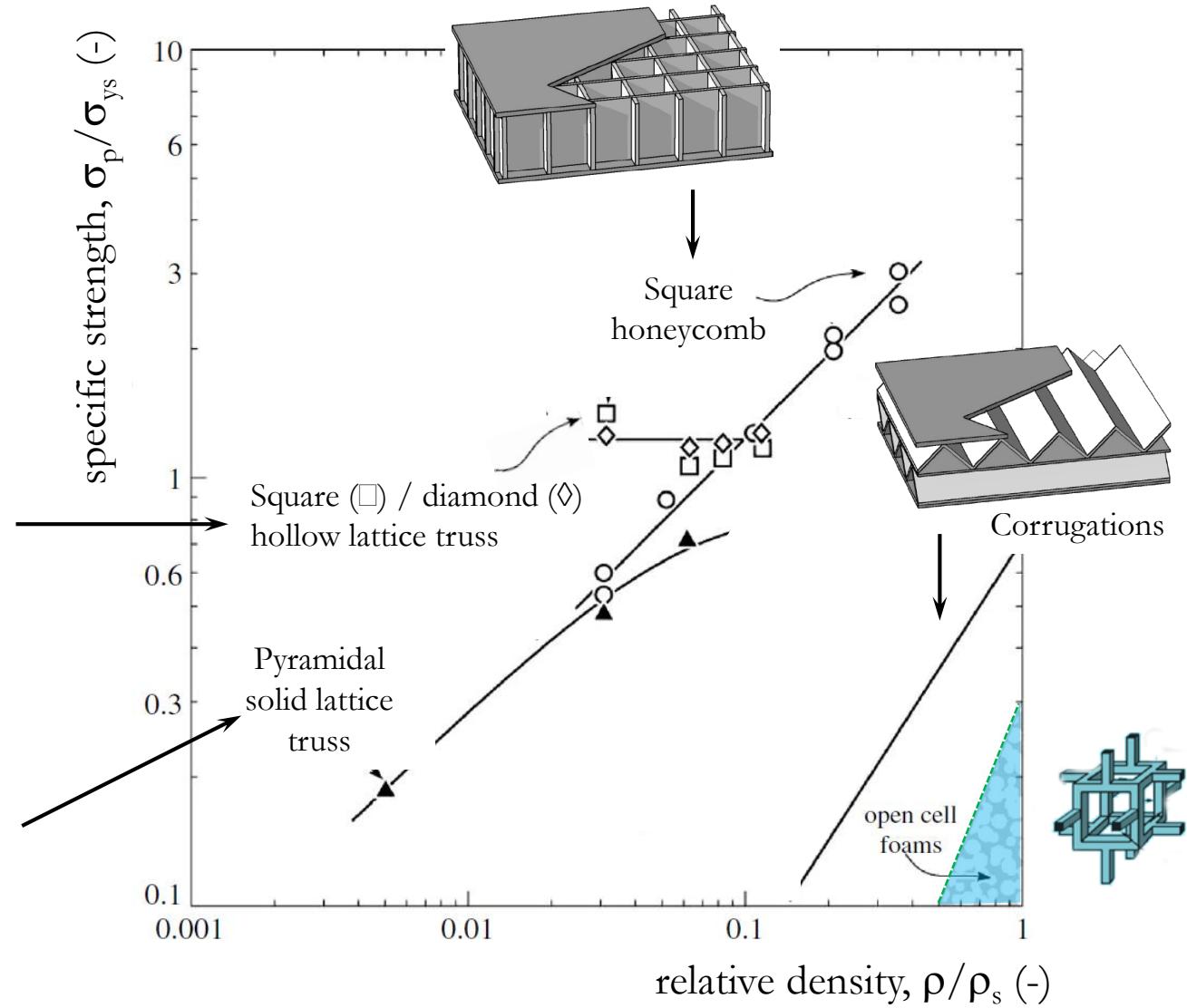
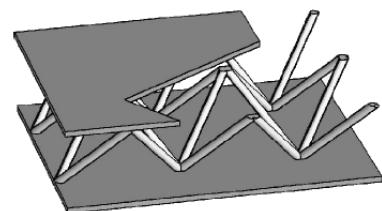
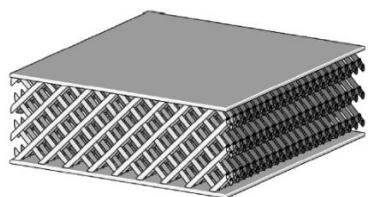


## II. Generalities

### II.5. Material & geometrical contributions

#### II.5.2. Specific properties

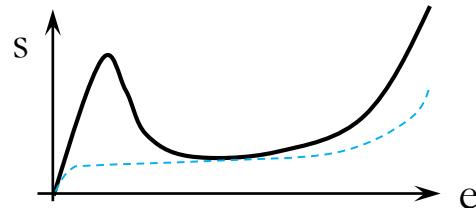
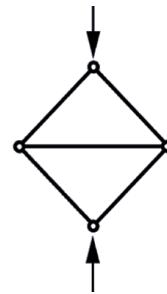
Foams seem  
useless ...



## II. Generalities

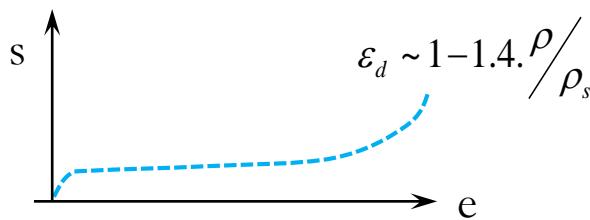
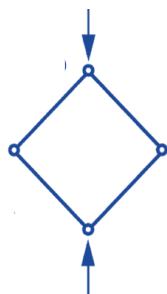
### II.6. Crushing response

stretching dominated

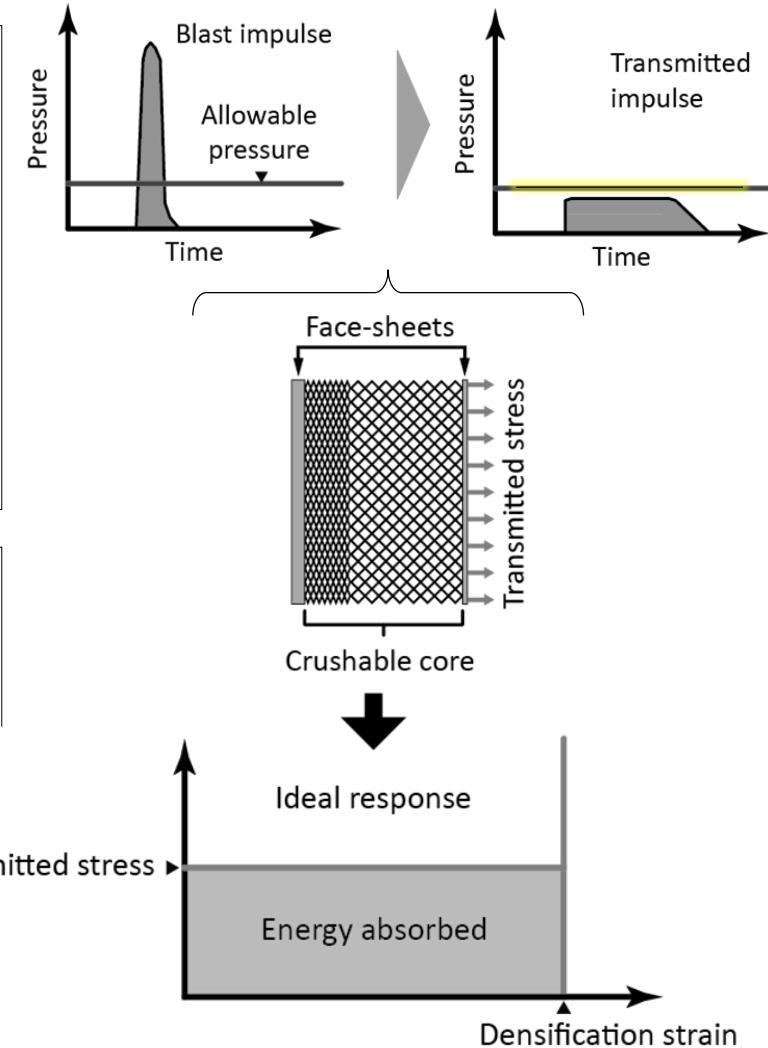


- High strength

bending dominated



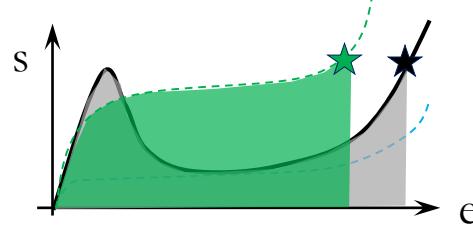
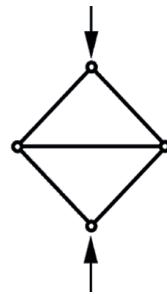
- Low strength



## II. Generalities

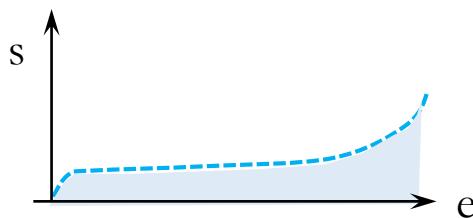
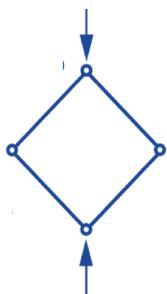
### II.6. Crushing response

stretching dominated



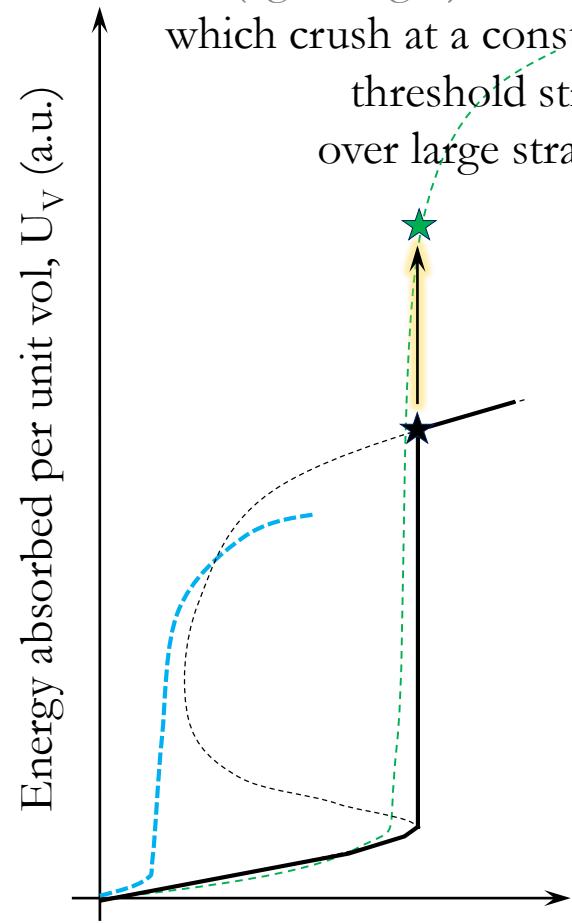
- High strength
- Low absorption efficiency

bending dominated



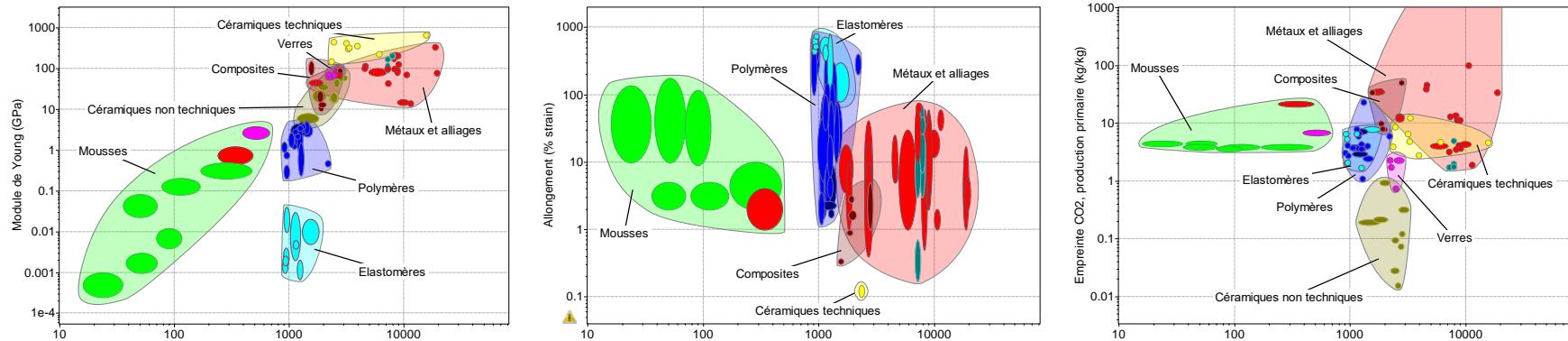
- Low strength
- High absorption efficiency

**Energy absorption** applications demand (lightweight) materials which crush at a constant threshold stress over large strains.

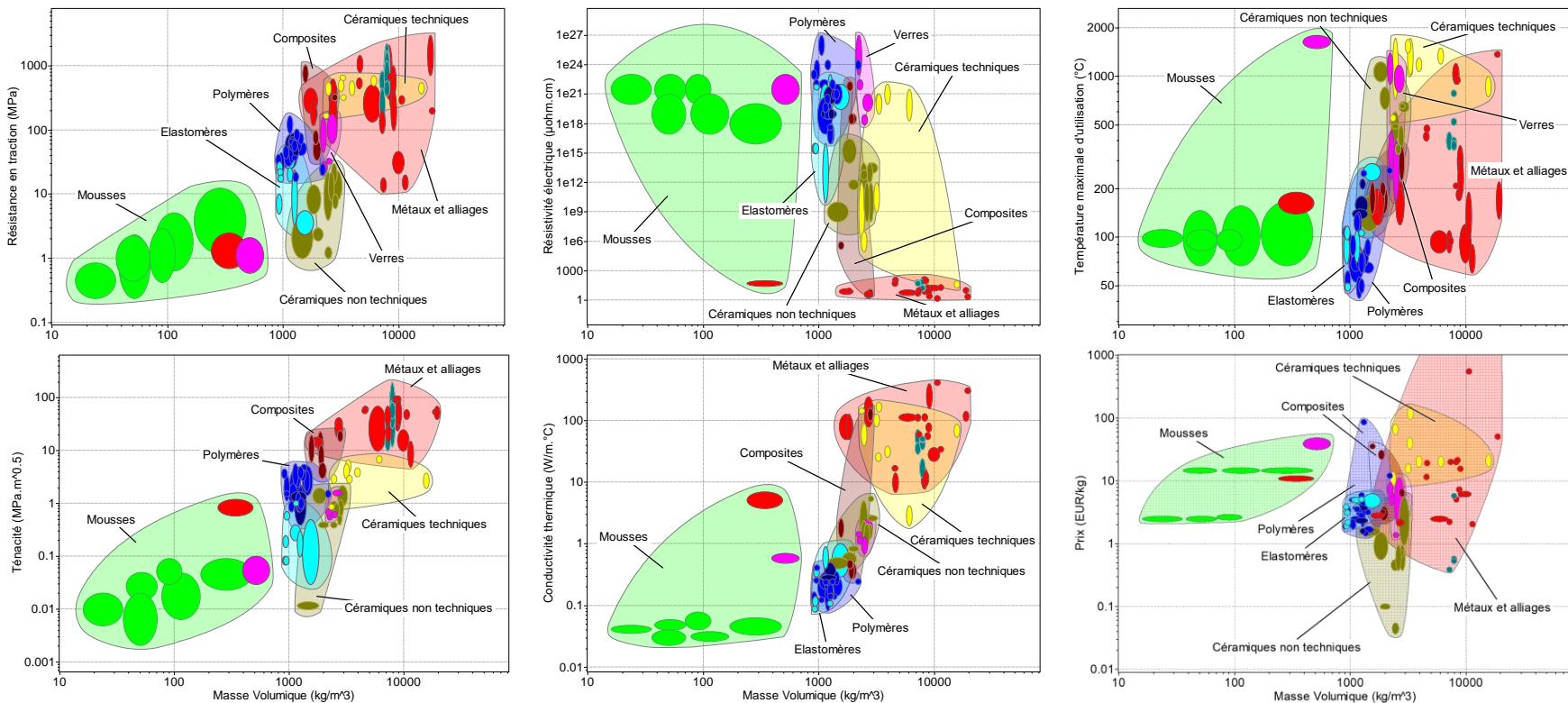


Max transmitted stress,  $\sigma_{mt}$  (a.u.)

## II. Generalities: Summary



Parent material properties & geometry trigger the cellular materials properties



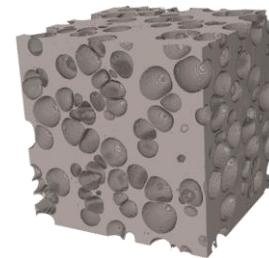
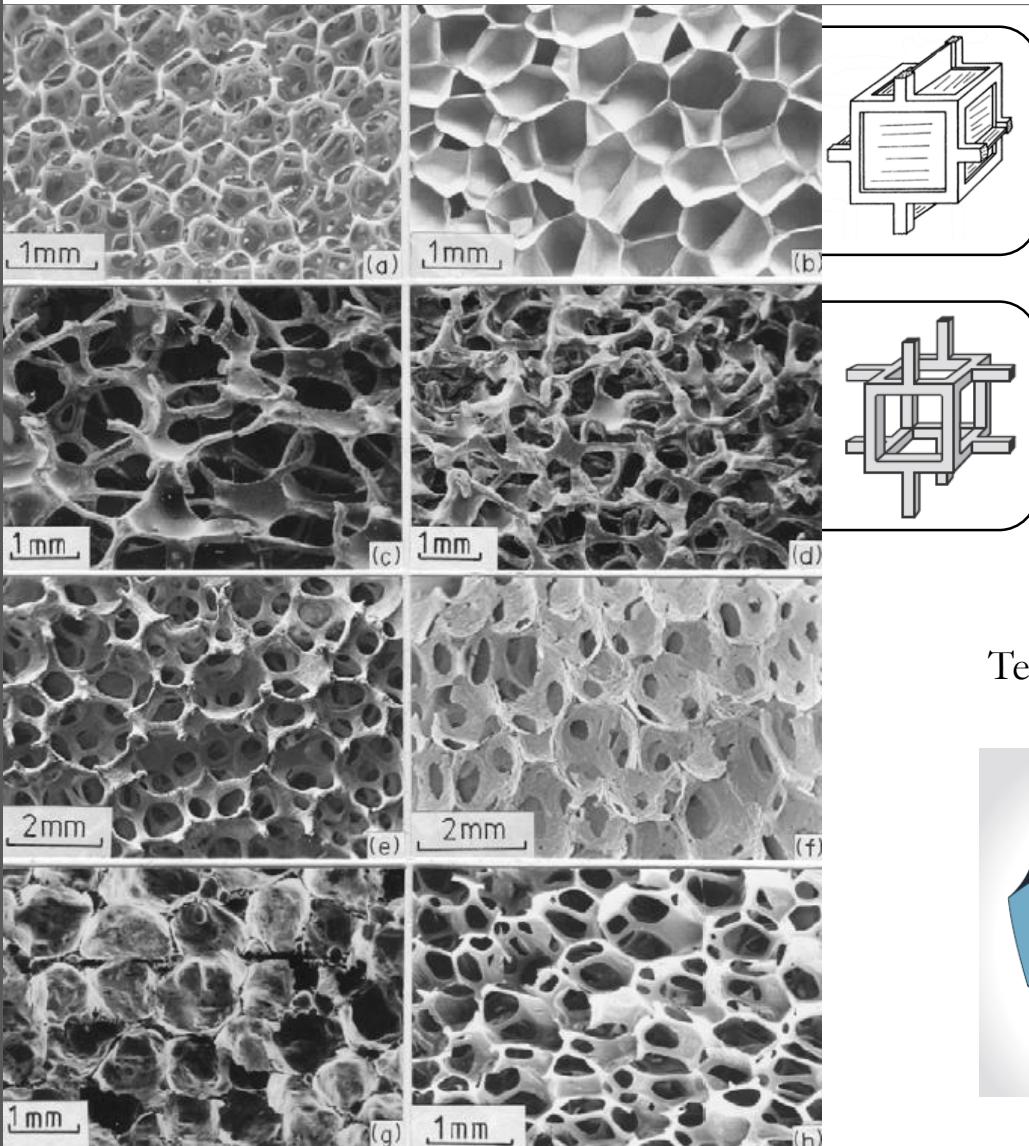
# Cellular (solids) materials

## GM5 – CE

### III - FOAMS

### III. Foams

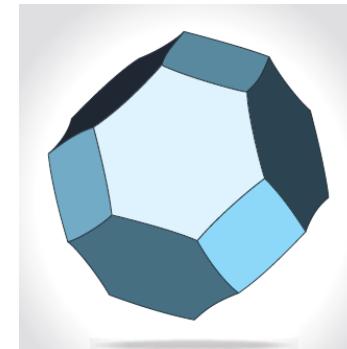
#### III.1. Examples



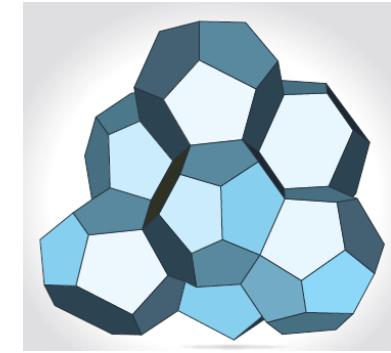
← Elastomeric foam of a table tennis racket pad

Various microstructures justifying the use/definition of different ideal unit cells (RVE)

Kelvin cell  
Tetrakaidecahedron  
(14 faces)

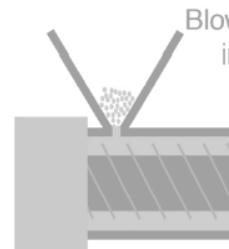


Weaire & Phelan cells  
(isovolume and maximized specific surface area)



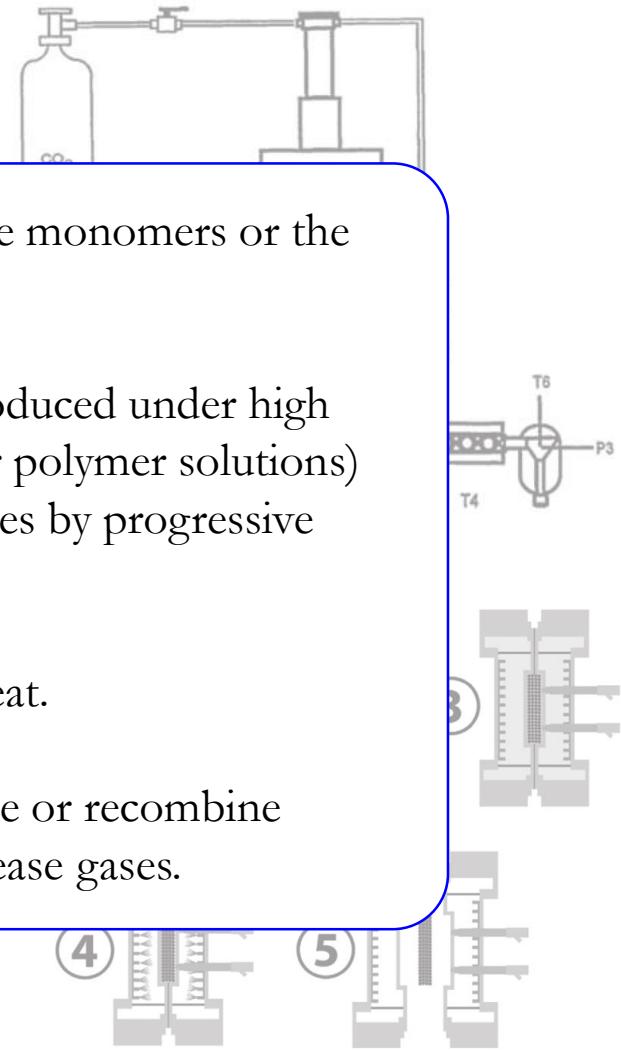
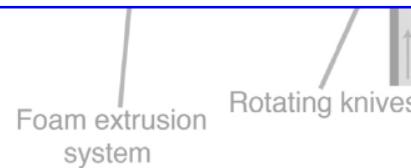
### III. Foams

#### III.2. Processing



Gas has to be incorporated within the monomers or the molten polymers  $\Rightarrow$  **blowing agent**

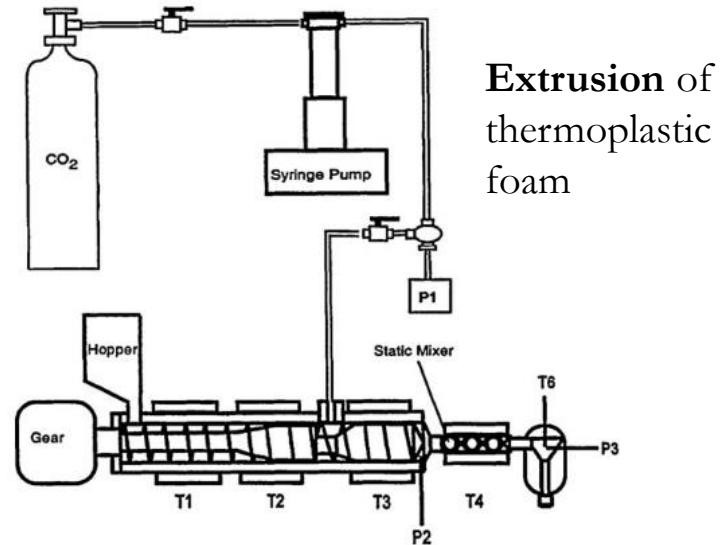
- **Physical agents** (e.g.  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{N}_2$ ) introduced under high pressure into molten polymers (or polymer solutions) which then expand to form bubbles by progressive pressure reduction.
- **Physical agents** vaporizing with heat.
- **Chemical agents** which decompose or recombine under the influence of heat to release gases.



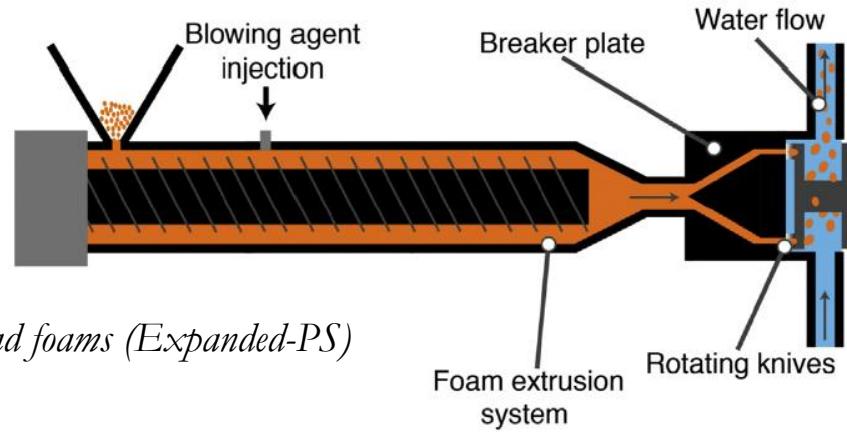
### III. Foams

#### III.2. Processing

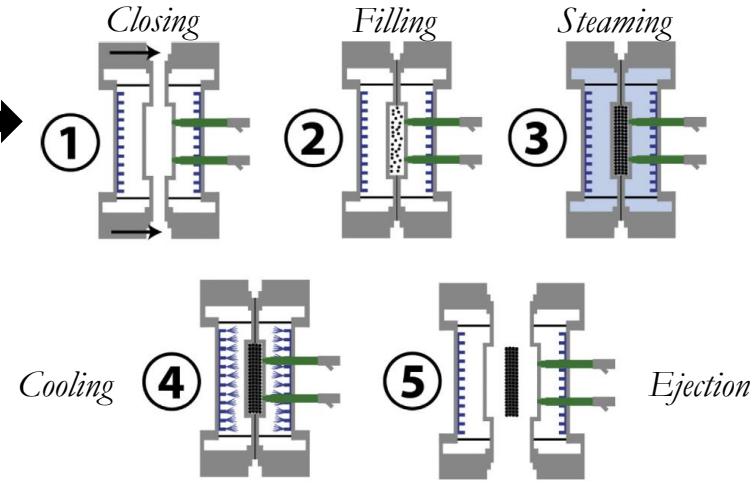
Part A & B are **mixed** + **blowing agent** + **heat** → **PU foam**



Steam chest molding



Bead foams (*Expanded-PS*)

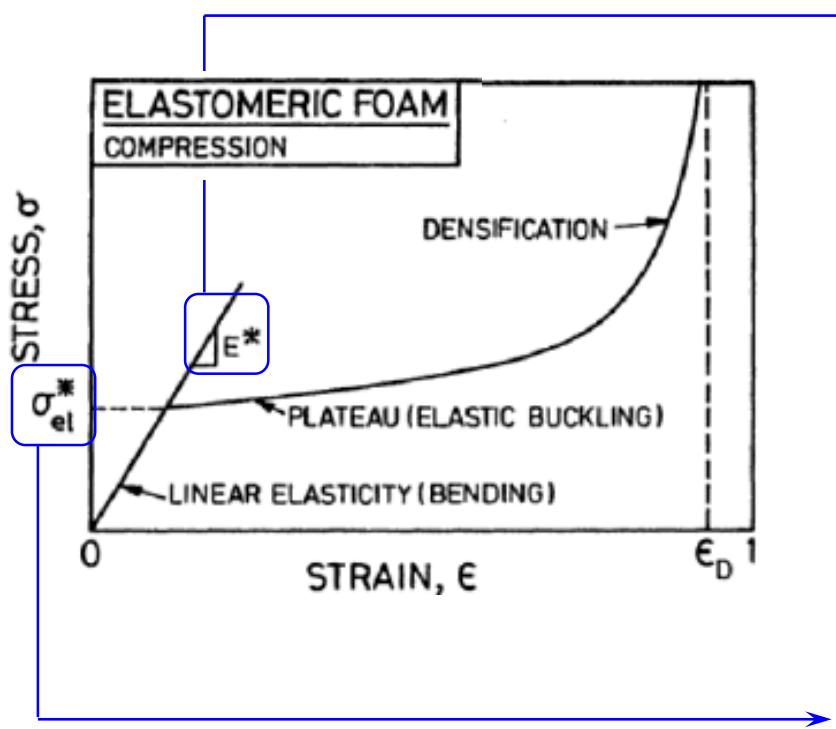


### III. Foams

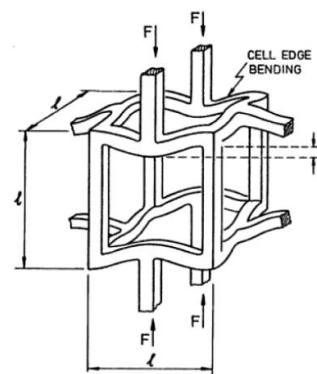
#### III.3. Mechanical properties: compression

##### Macroscopic behavior

3 regimes are evidenced:  
Linear, Plateau, densification



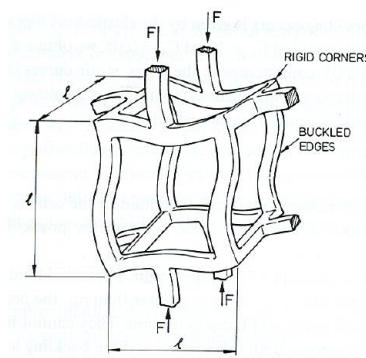
##### Micromechanical predictions



Bending of the edges

$$\frac{E}{E_s} = C_1 \left[ \frac{\rho}{\rho_s} \right]^2$$

$C_1 \approx 1$  (exp. data)



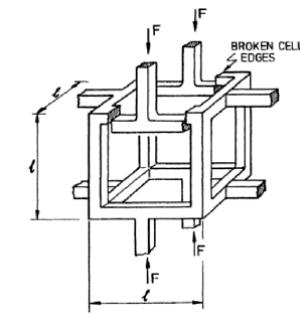
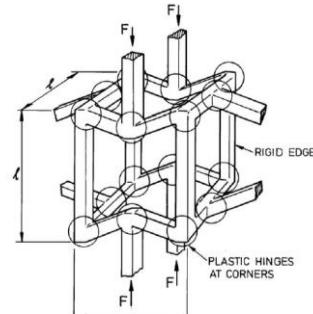
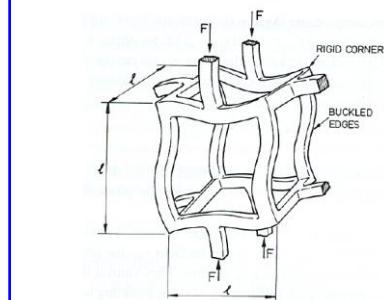
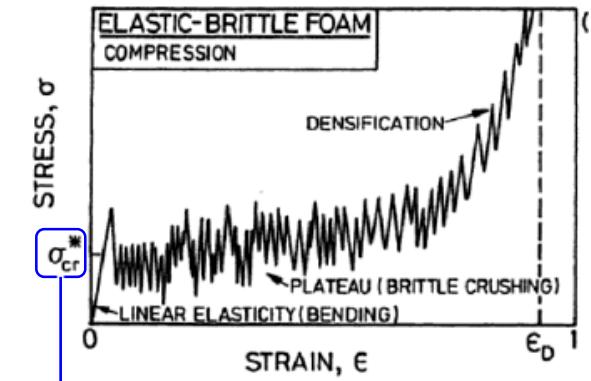
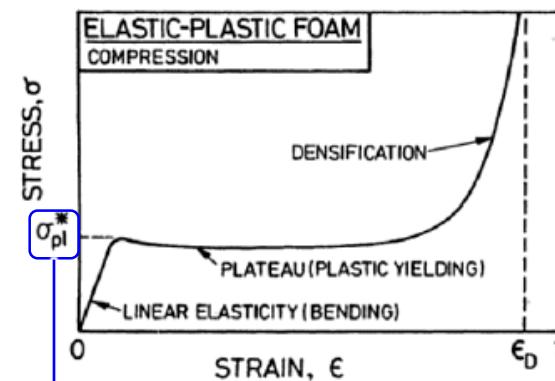
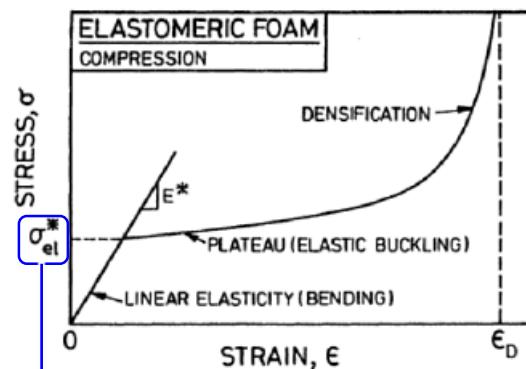
Elastic buckling of the edges

$$\frac{\sigma_y}{E_s} = C_4 \left[ \frac{\rho}{\rho_s} \right]^2$$

$C_4 \approx 0.05$  (exp. data)

### III. Foams

#### III.3. Mechanical properties: compression



Elastic buckling of the edges

$$\sigma_y = C_4 \left[ \frac{\rho}{\rho_s} \right]^2 E_s$$

$C_4 \approx 0.05$  (exp. data)

Plastic hinging of the edges

$$\sigma_y = C_5 \left[ \frac{\rho}{\rho_s} \right]^{3/2} \sigma_{ys}$$

$C_5 \approx 0.3$  (exp. data)

Brittle failure of the edges

$$\sigma_y = C_6 \left[ \frac{\rho}{\rho_s} \right]^{3/2} \sigma_{rs}$$

$C_6 \approx 0.2$  (exp. data)

# Cellular (solids) materials

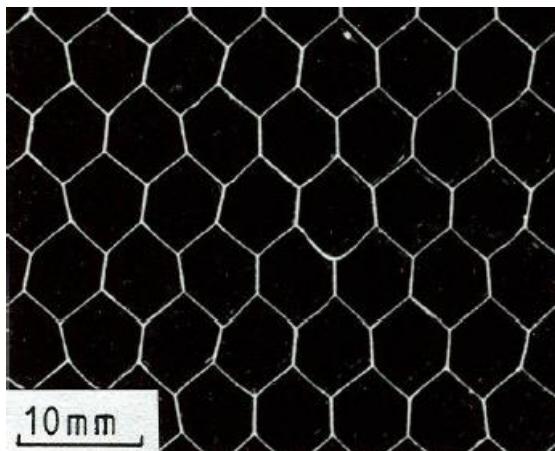
## GM5 – CE

IV - HONEYCOMBS

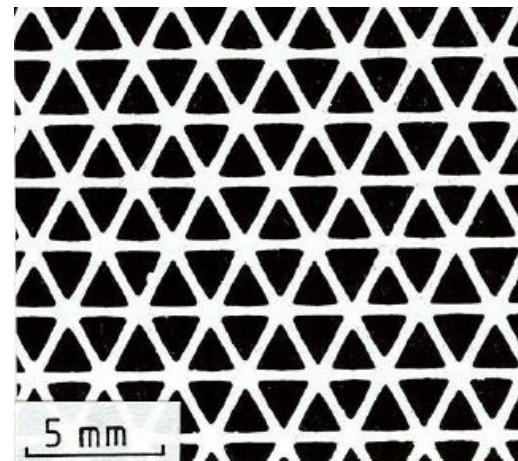
## IV. Honeycombs

### IV.1. Examples

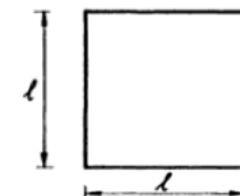
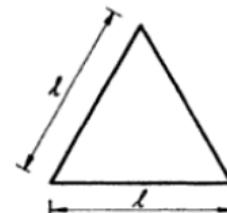
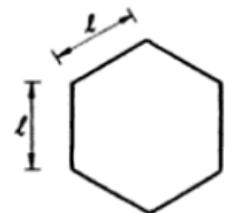
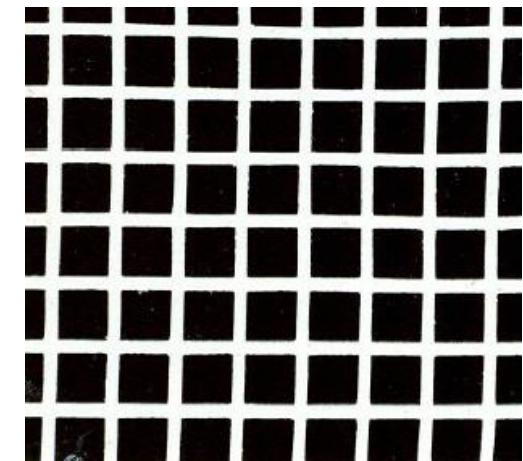
Hexagonal / Aluminium



Triangular / Aluminium



Cubic / Ceramic



Relative density:  $\phi = \frac{\rho}{\rho_s} = C_1 \frac{t}{l}$

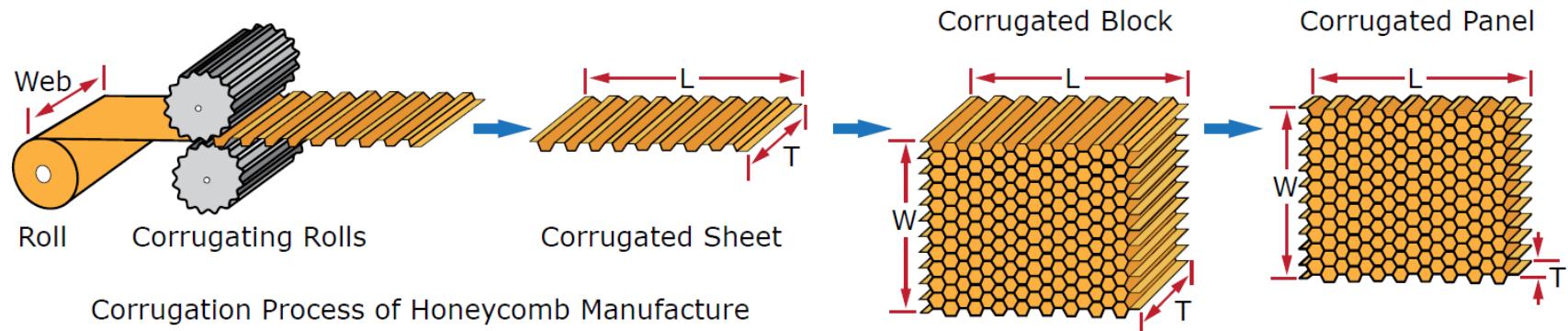
Walls thickness

Walls length

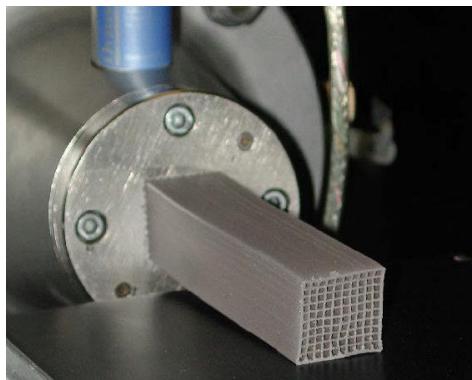
Constant depending on the cells geometry

## IV. Honeycombs

### IV.1. Processing



Extrusion



<http://ocw.mit.edu/help/faq-fair-use/>

Injection molding

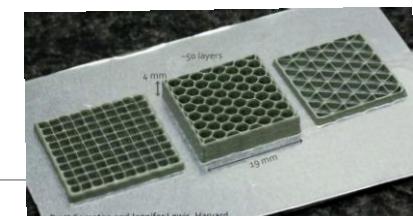


(BMW i3)

Casting, ...

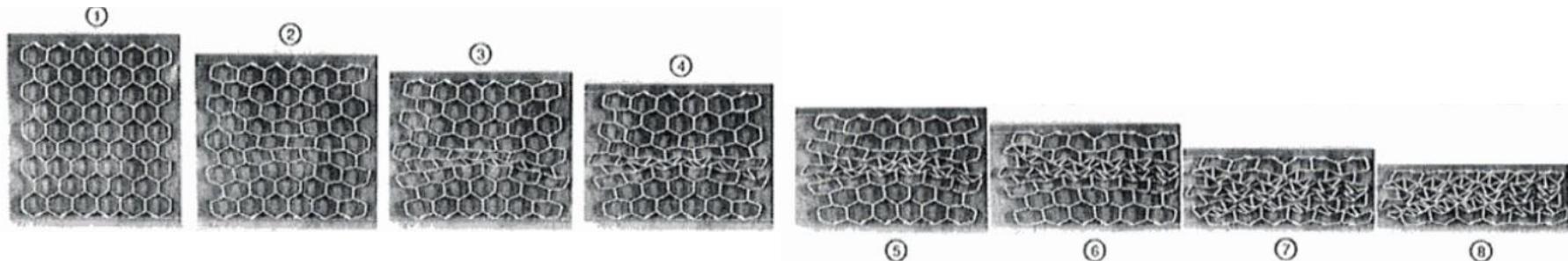


3D printing

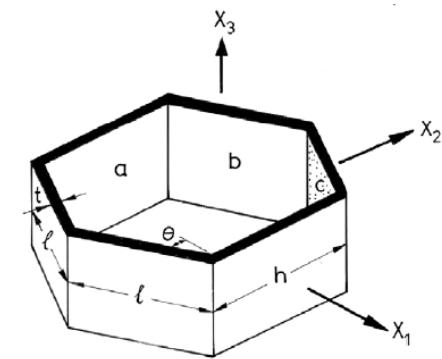
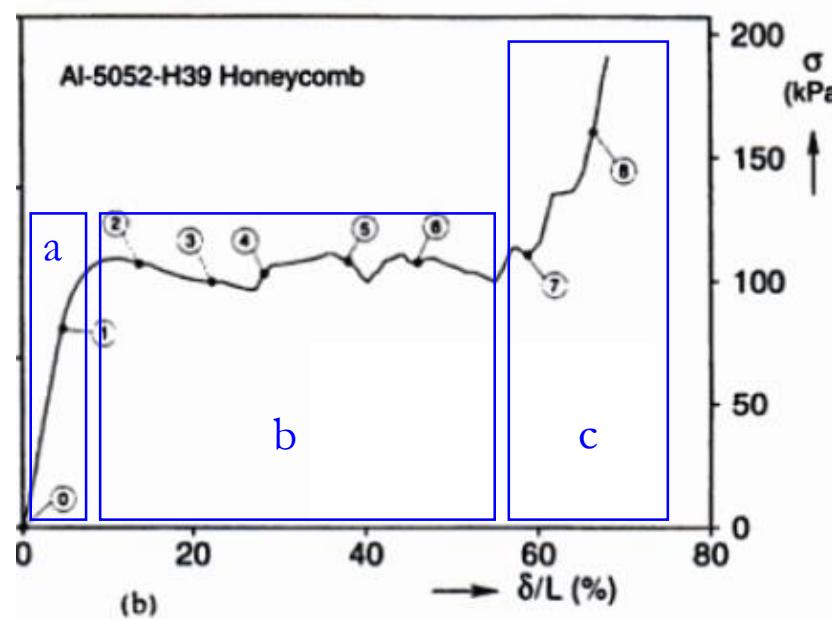


## IV. Honeycombs

### IV.1. Mechanical properties: compression



- a. Linear regime
- b. Plateau regime
- c. Densification



$$\frac{E_3}{E_2} \approx \left[ \frac{l}{t} \right]^2 \gg 1$$

Pronounced anisotropy

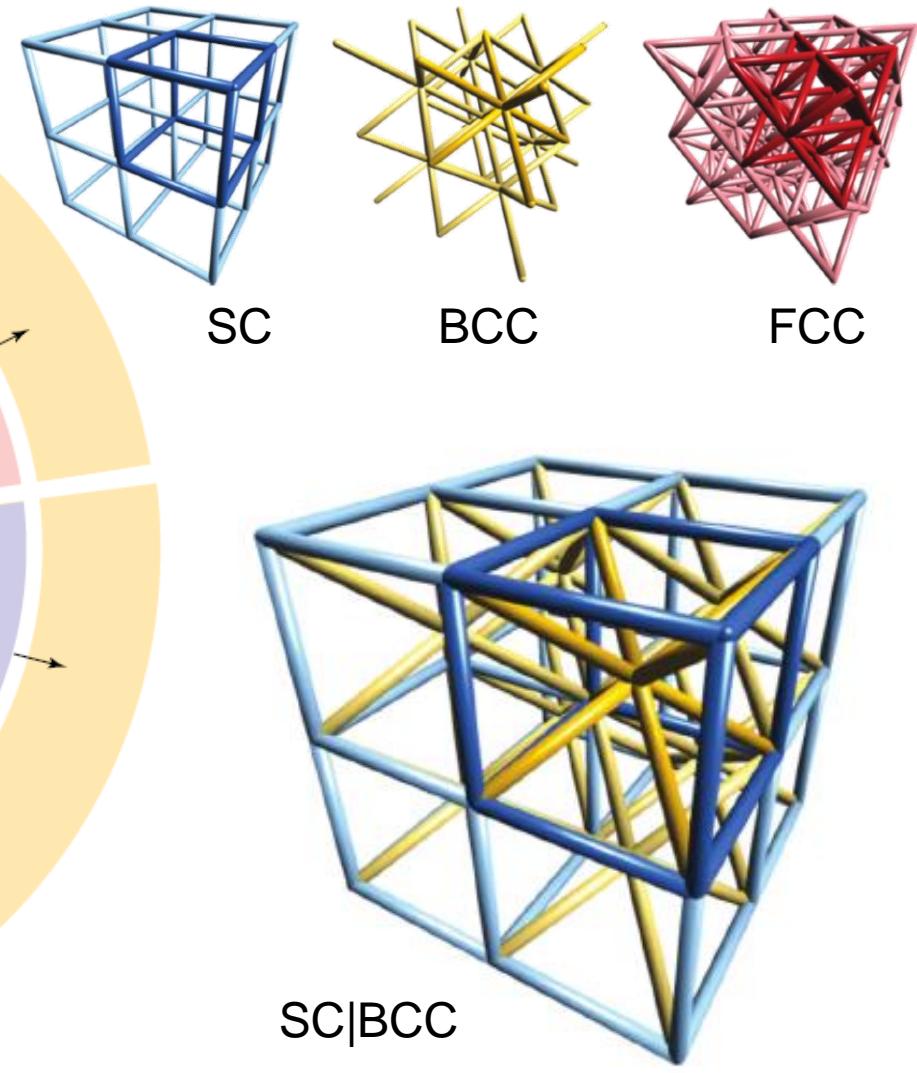
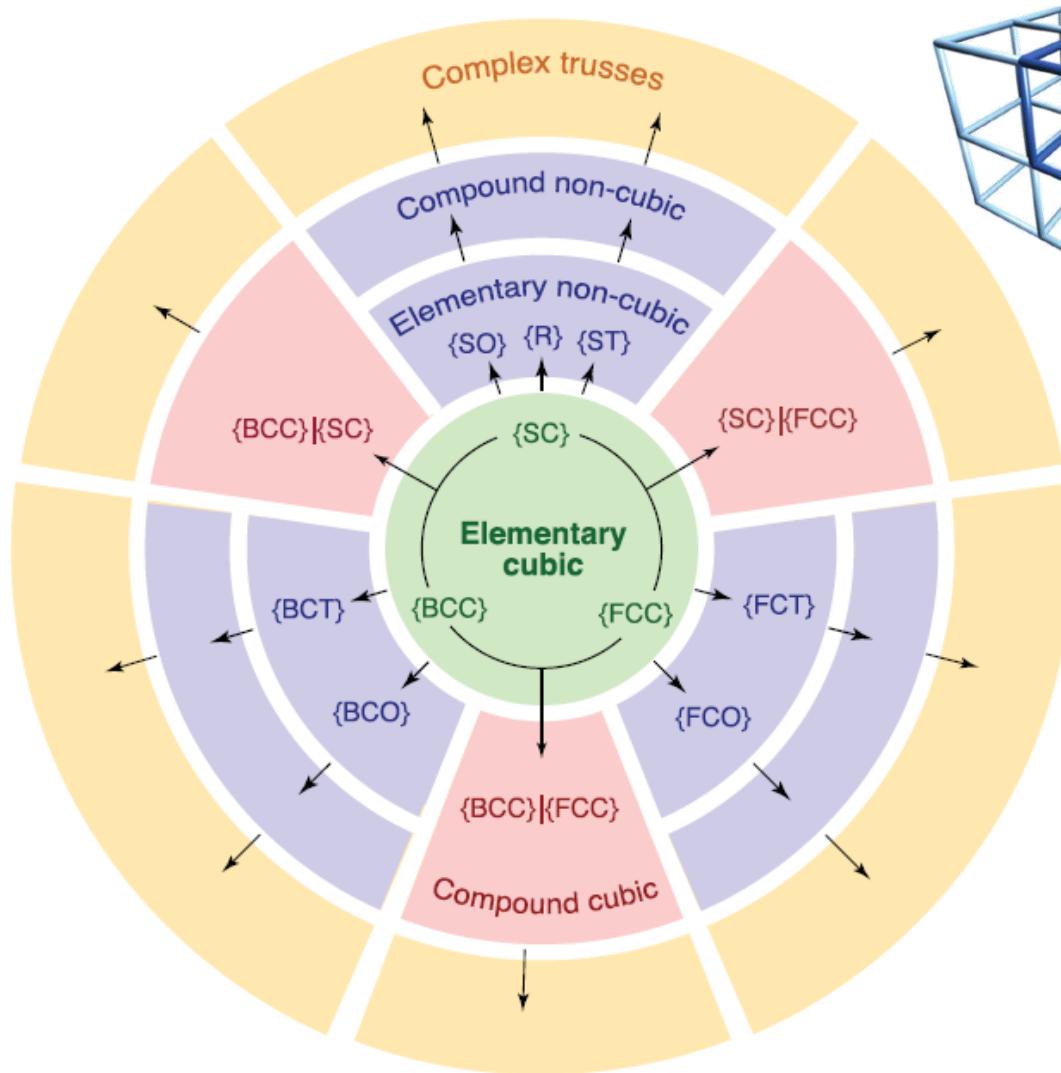
# Cellular (solids) materials

## GM5 – CE

### V - LATTICES

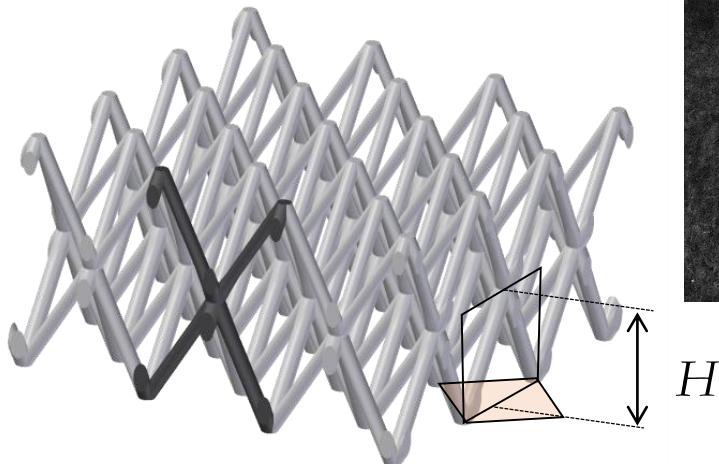
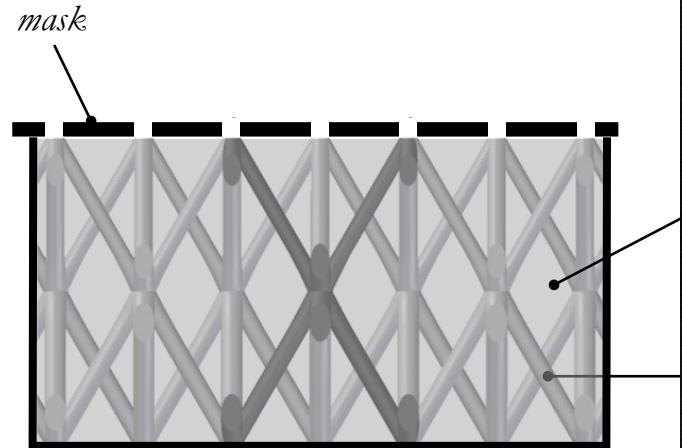
# V. Lattices

## V.1. Taxonomy



# V. Lattices

## V.2. Materials by design: an example



Mask (apertures, dispersion)

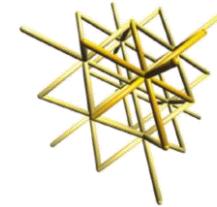
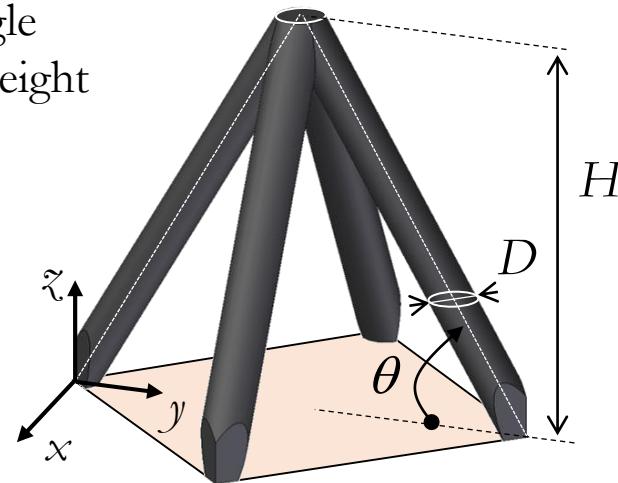
$N_l$ : Number of layers

$N_s$ : Number of merging struts

$\theta$ : Strut angle

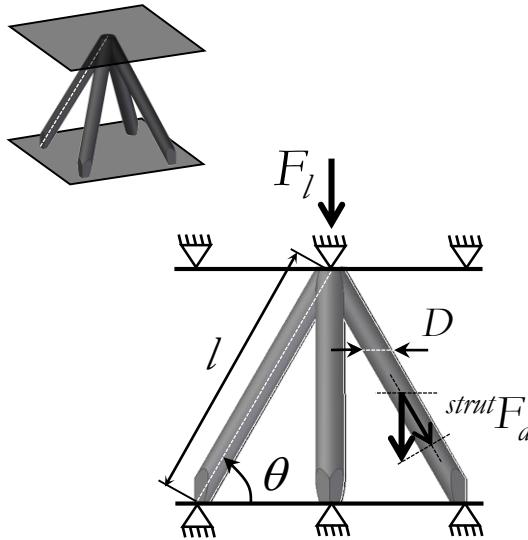
H: Lattice height

R.V.E.



# V. Lattices

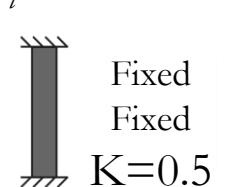
## V.2. Materials by design: an example



Buckling:

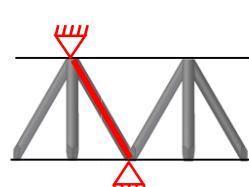
$$^{strut}F_{ax} = \frac{\pi^3 E D^4}{(8Kl)^2 \cos^3 \theta}$$

$$N_l = 1$$

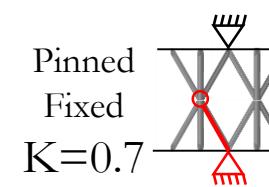


Fixed  
Fixed

$$K=0.5$$



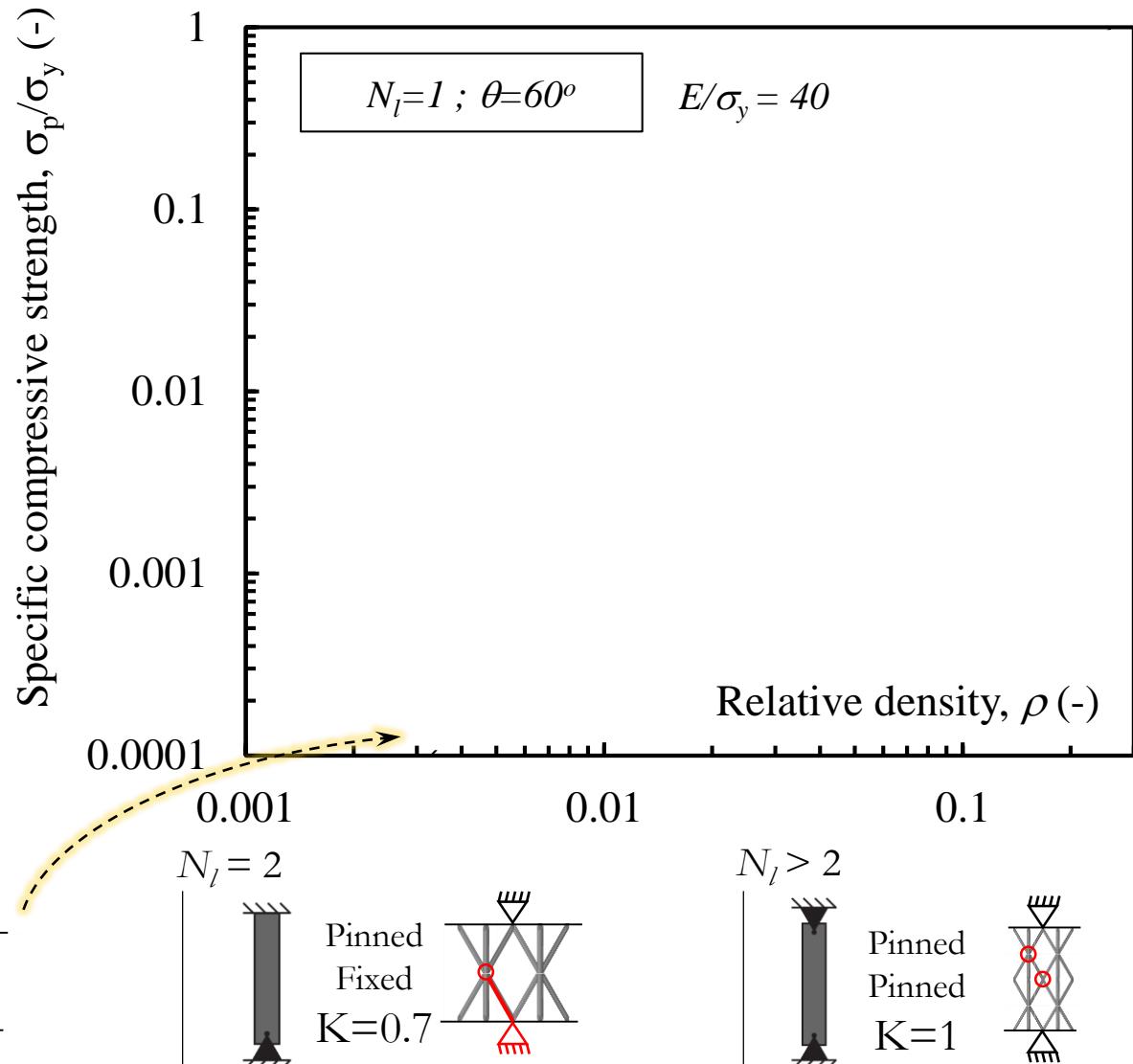
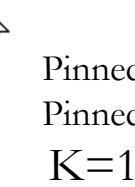
$$N_l = 2$$



Pinned  
Fixed

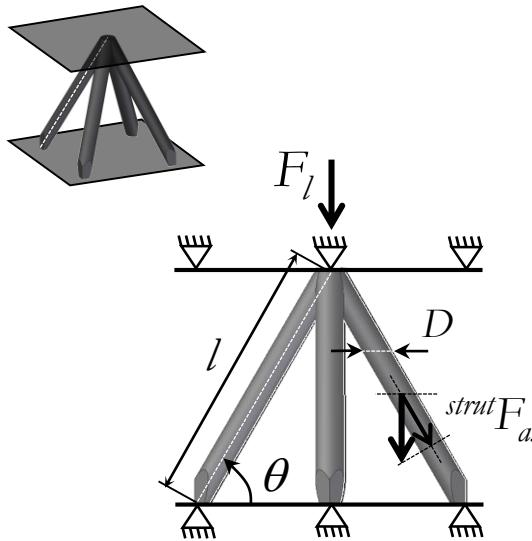
$$K=0.7$$

$$N_l > 2$$



## V. Lattices

### V.2. Materials by design: an example

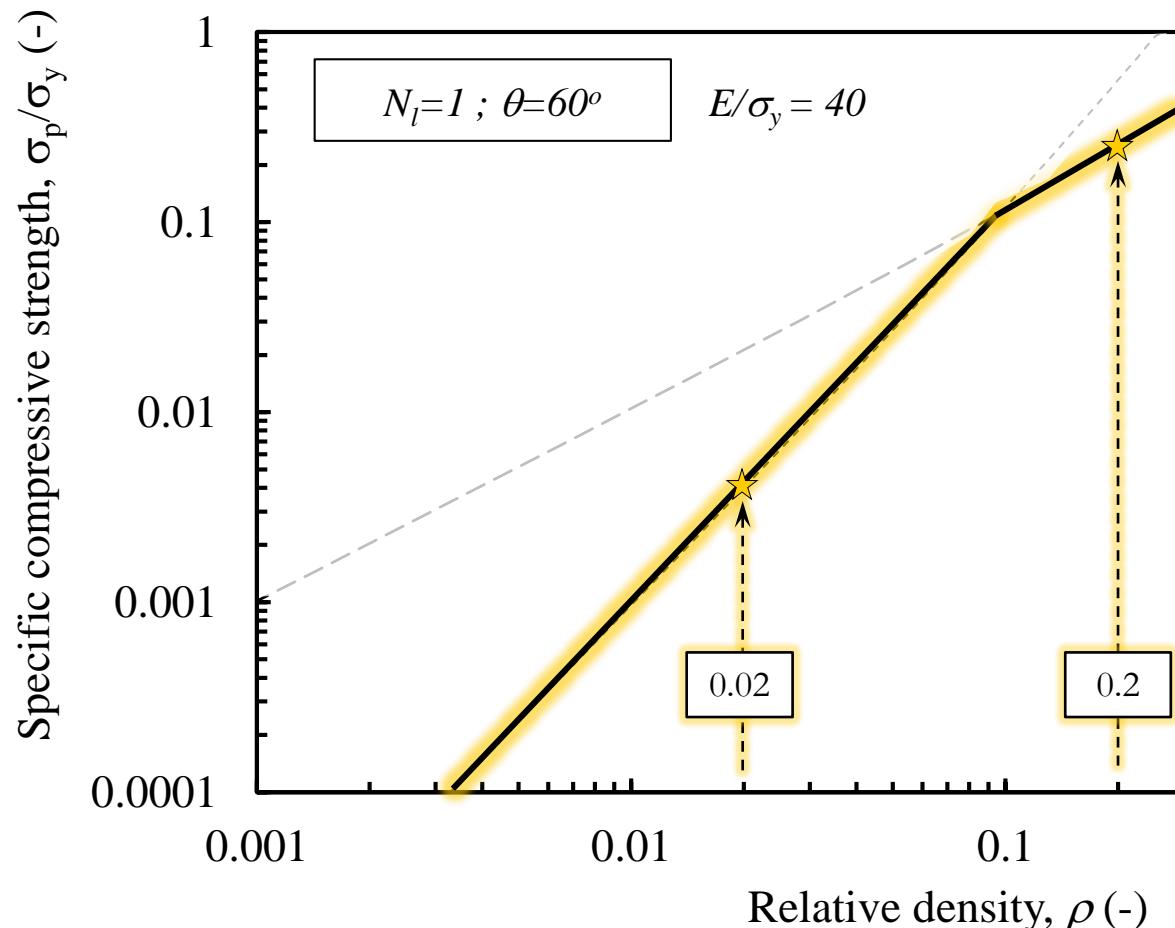


Buckling:

$$\text{strut } F_{ax} = \frac{\pi^3 E D^4}{(8Kl)^2 \cos^3 \theta}$$

**Yielding:**

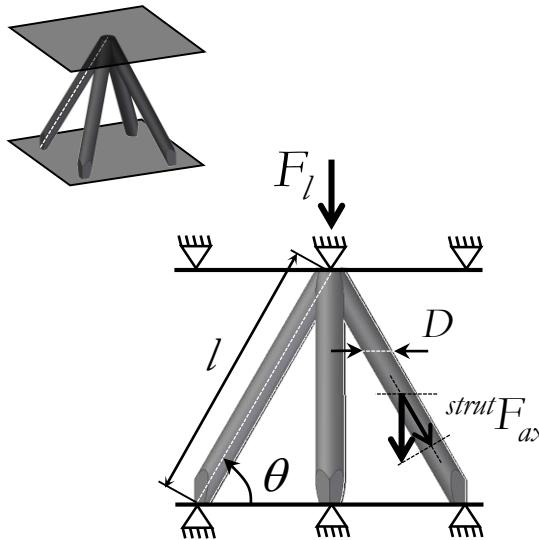
$$\text{strut } F_{ax} = \sigma_y \left( \frac{\pi}{4} D^2 \cos \theta \right)$$



The failure mode is triggered by the **geometry** of the lattice

## V. Lattices

### V.2. Materials by design: an example

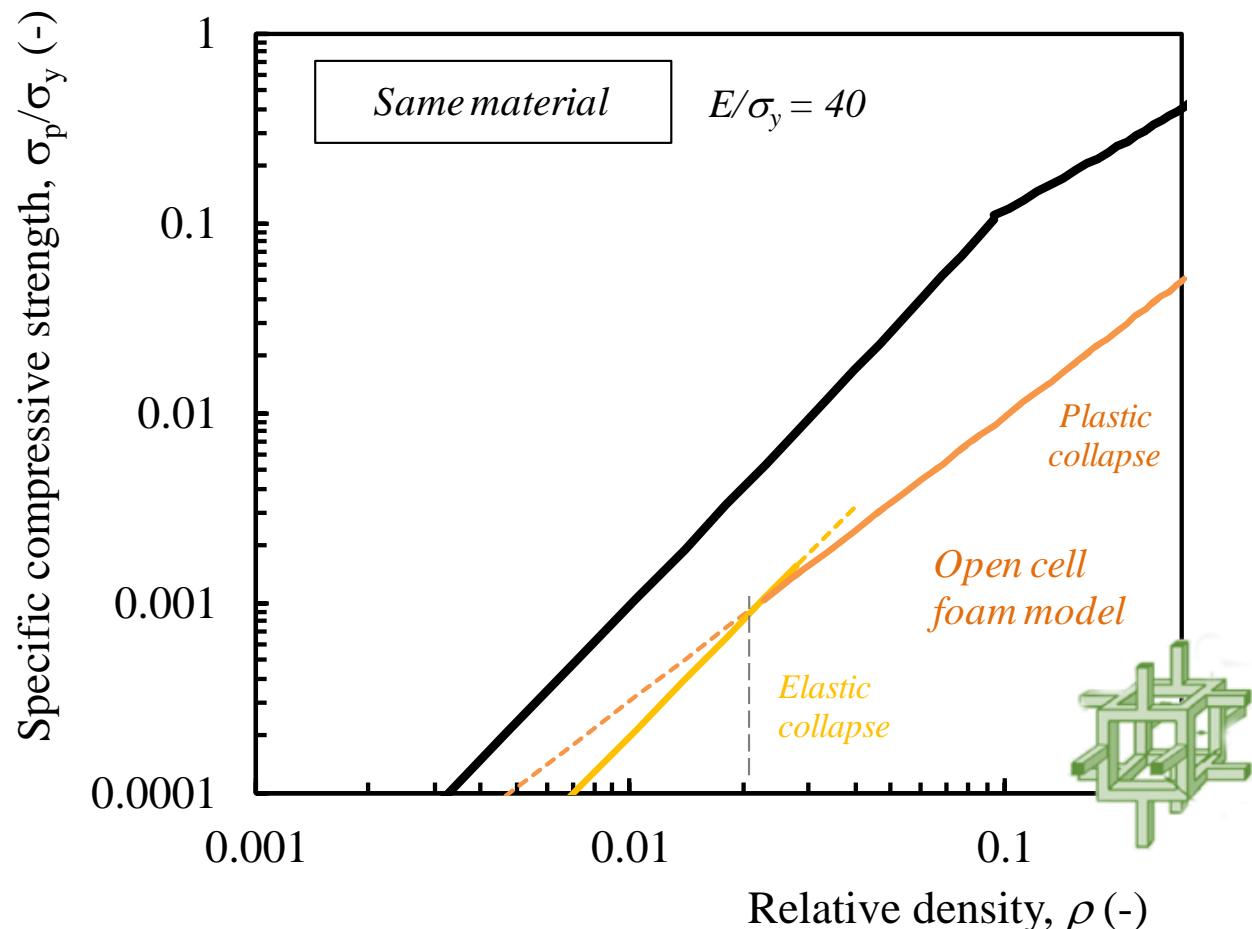


Buckling:

$$\text{strut } F_{ax} = \frac{\pi^3 E D^4}{(8Kl)^2 \cos^3 \theta}$$

Yielding:

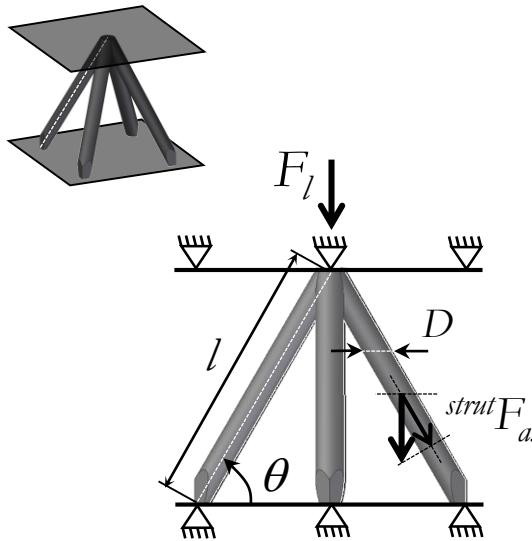
$$\text{strut } F_{ax} = \sigma_y \left( \frac{\pi}{4} D^2 \cos \theta \right)$$



The failure mode is triggered by the **geometry** of the lattice

## V. Lattices

### V.2. Materials by design: an example

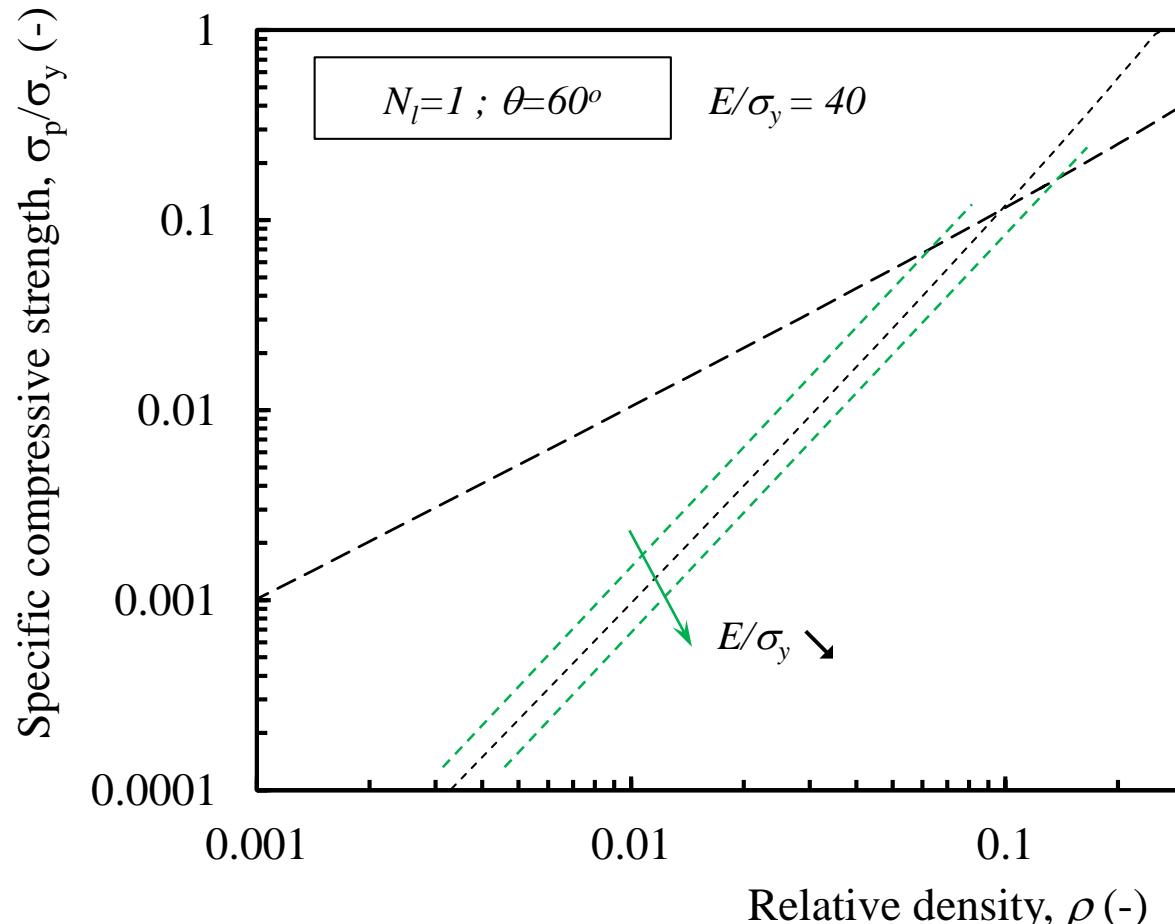


Buckling:

$$strut F_{ax} = \frac{\pi^3 E D^4}{(8Kl)^2 \cos^3 \theta}$$

Yielding:

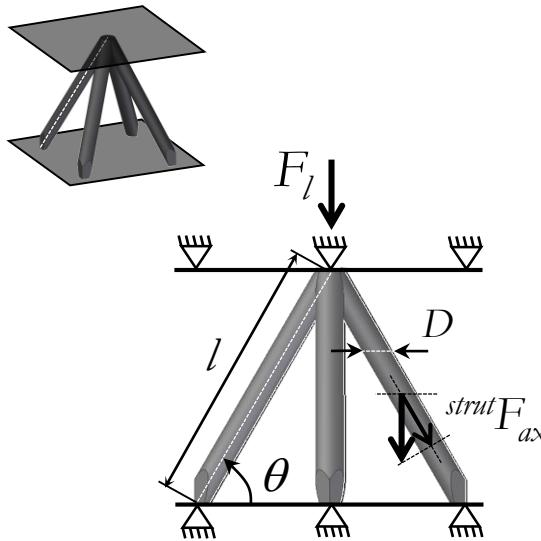
$$strut F_{ax} = \sigma_y \left( \frac{\pi}{4} D^2 \cos \theta \right)$$



The failure mode is triggered by the parent **material properties** (and its sensitivities)

# V. Lattices

## V.2. Materials by design: an example

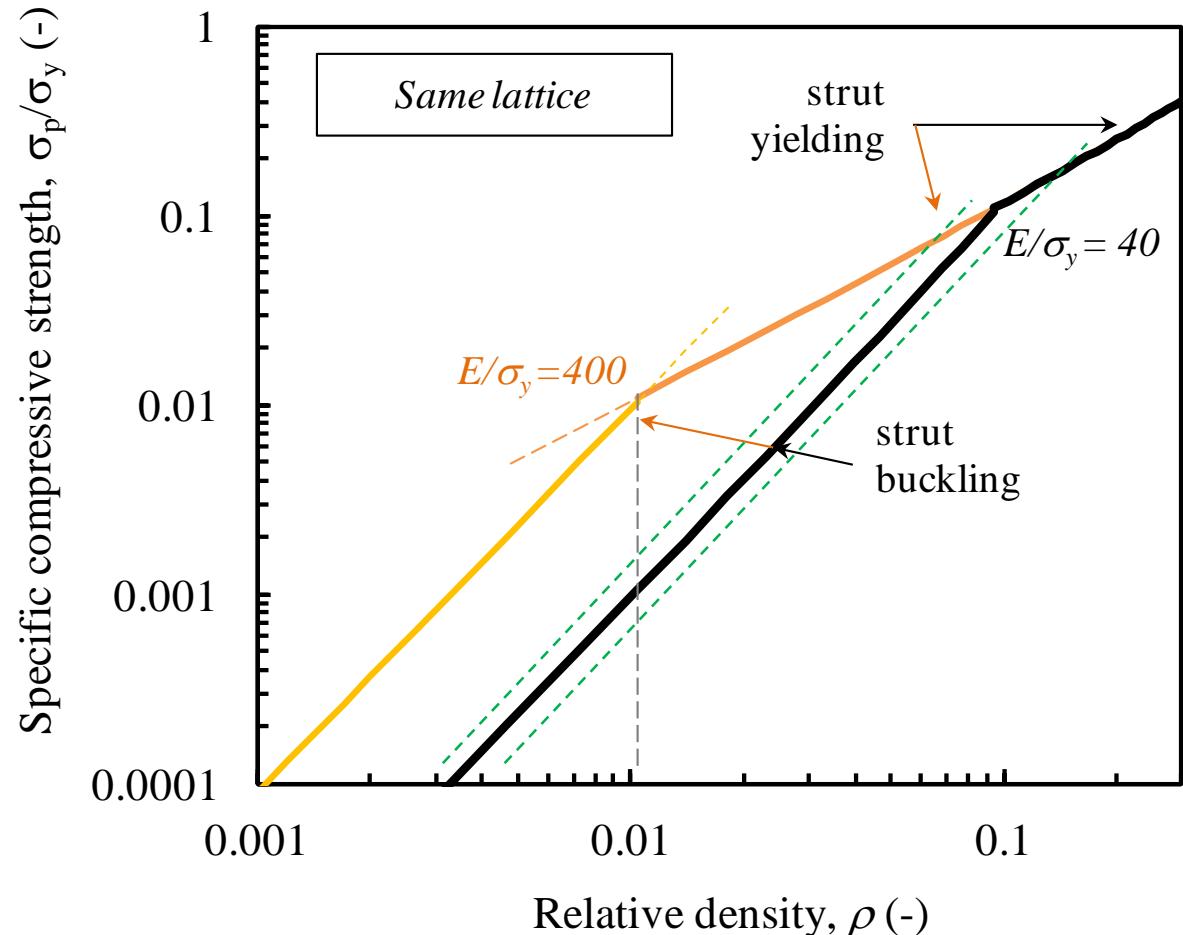


Buckling:

$$strut F_{ax} = \frac{\pi^3 E D^4}{(8Kl)^2 \cos^3 \theta}$$

Yielding:

$$strut F_{ax} = \sigma_y \left( \frac{\pi}{4} D^2 \cos \theta \right)$$

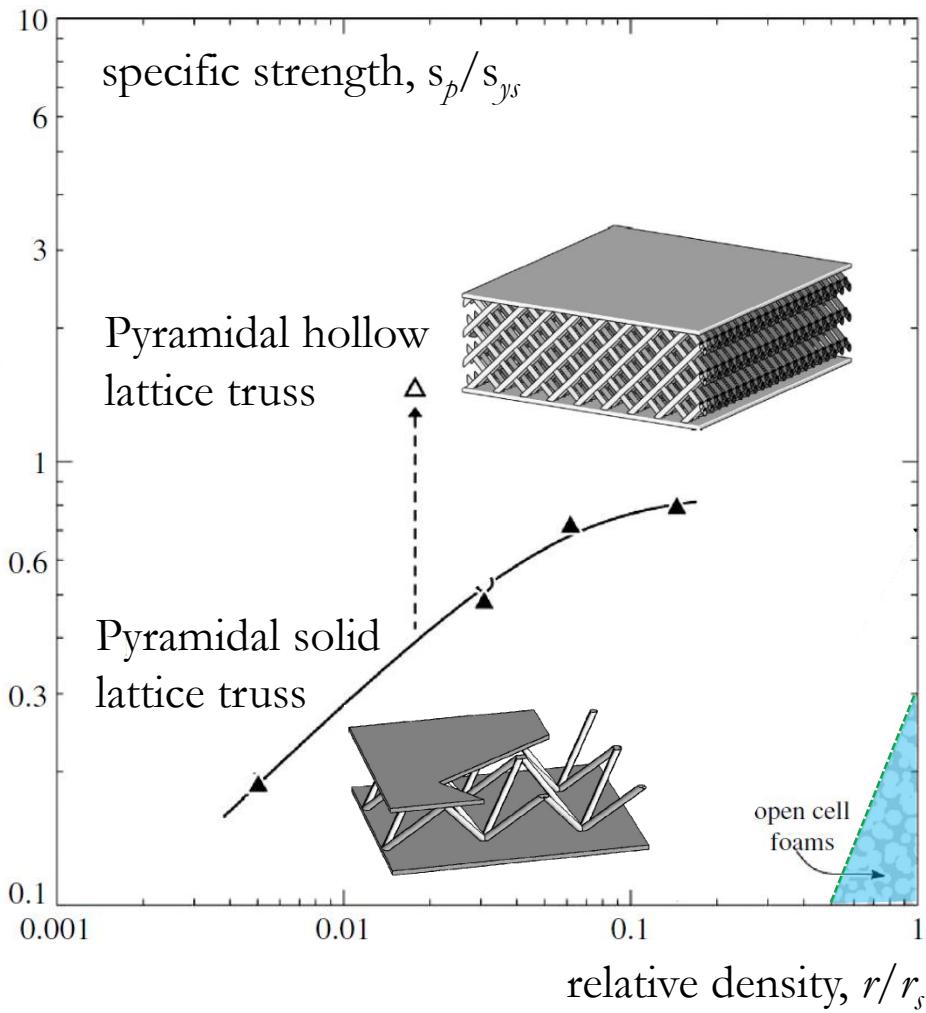


The failure mode is triggered by the parent **material properties** (and its sensitivities)

glassy polymer  
vs  
conventional metal

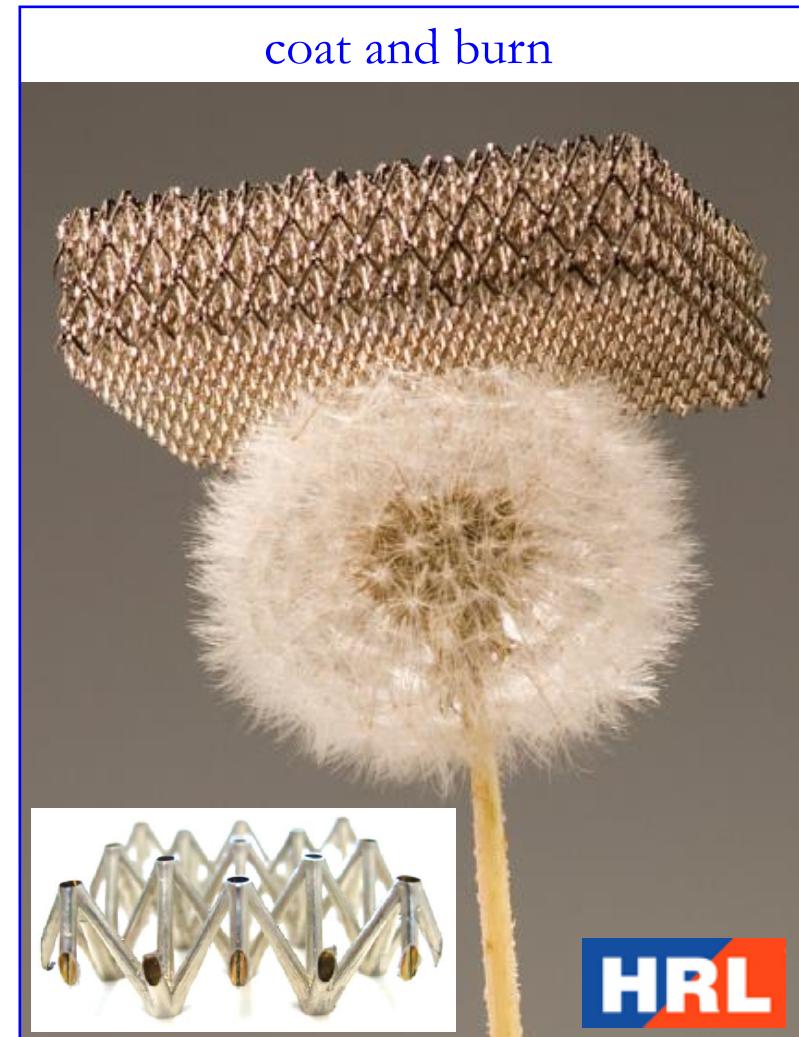
# V. Lattices

## V.2. Materials by design: an example



Absolute & Specific  
strength enhancement

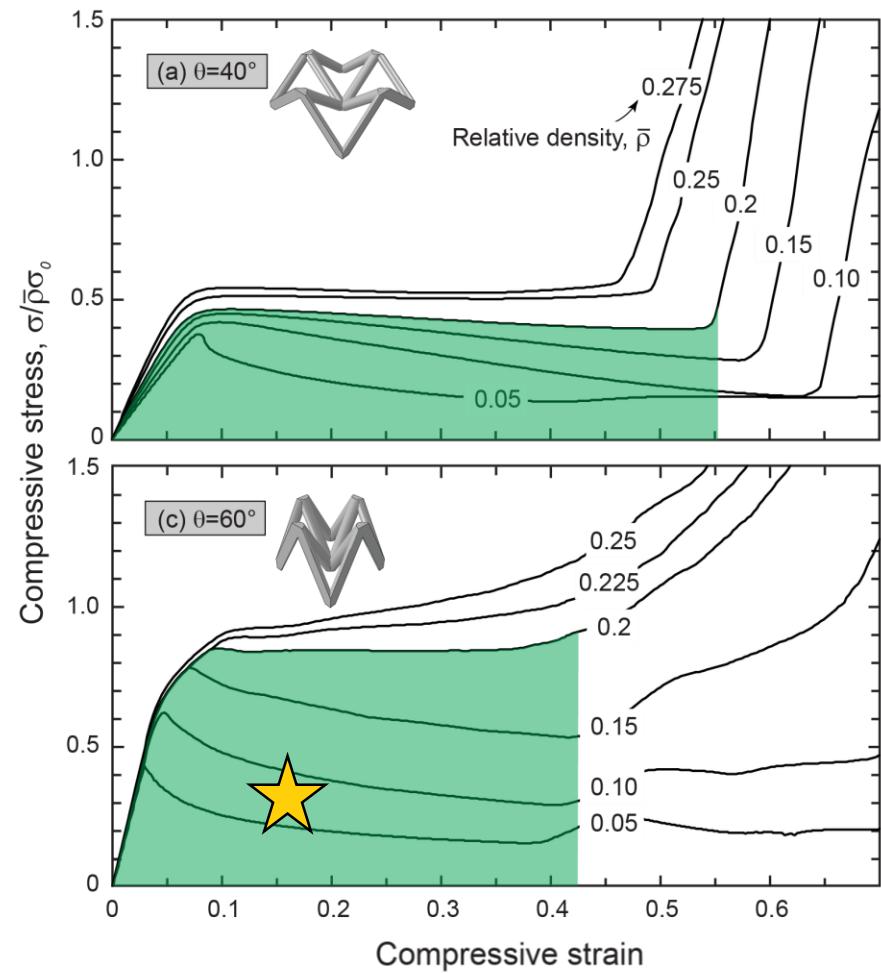
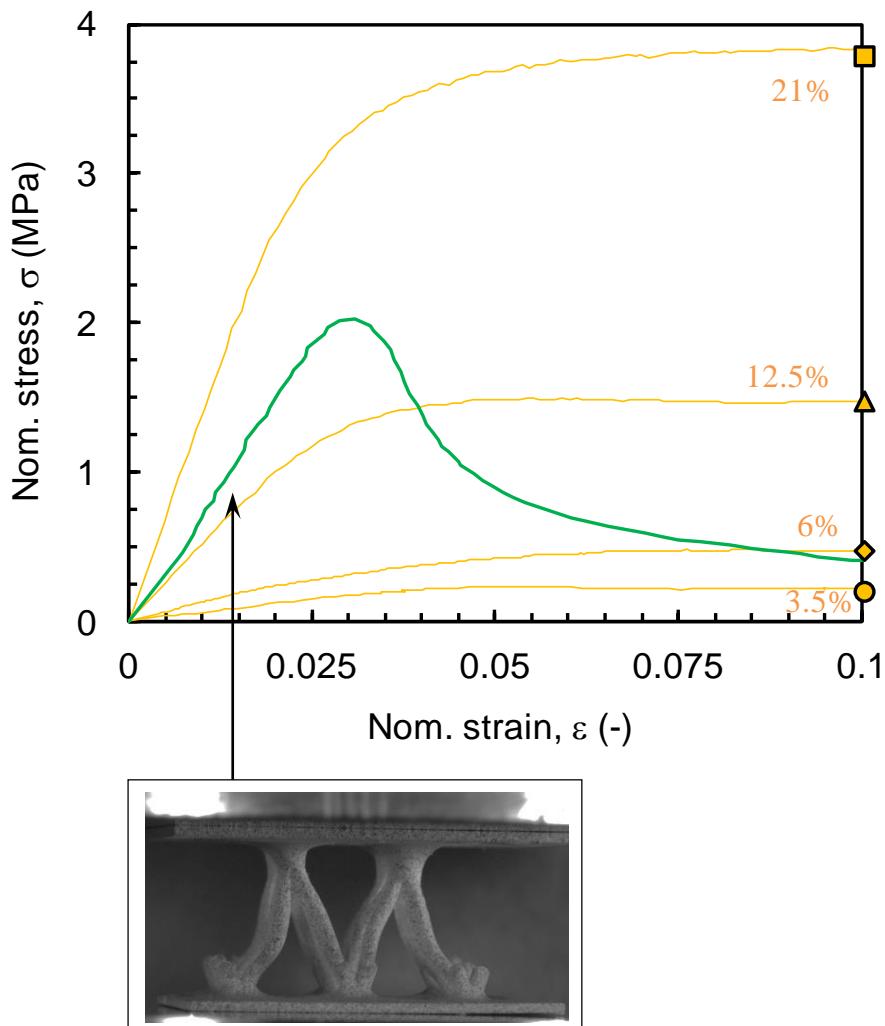
coat and burn



**HRL**

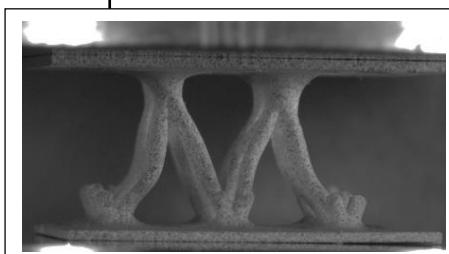
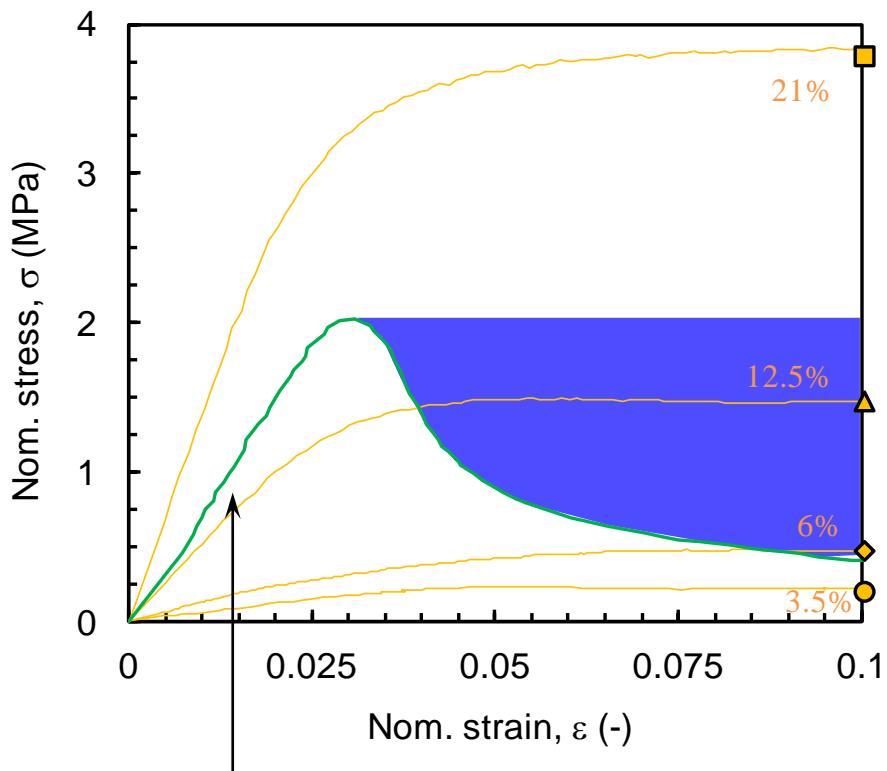
## V. Lattices

### V.2. Materials by design: an example

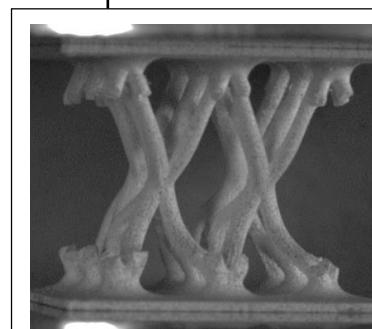
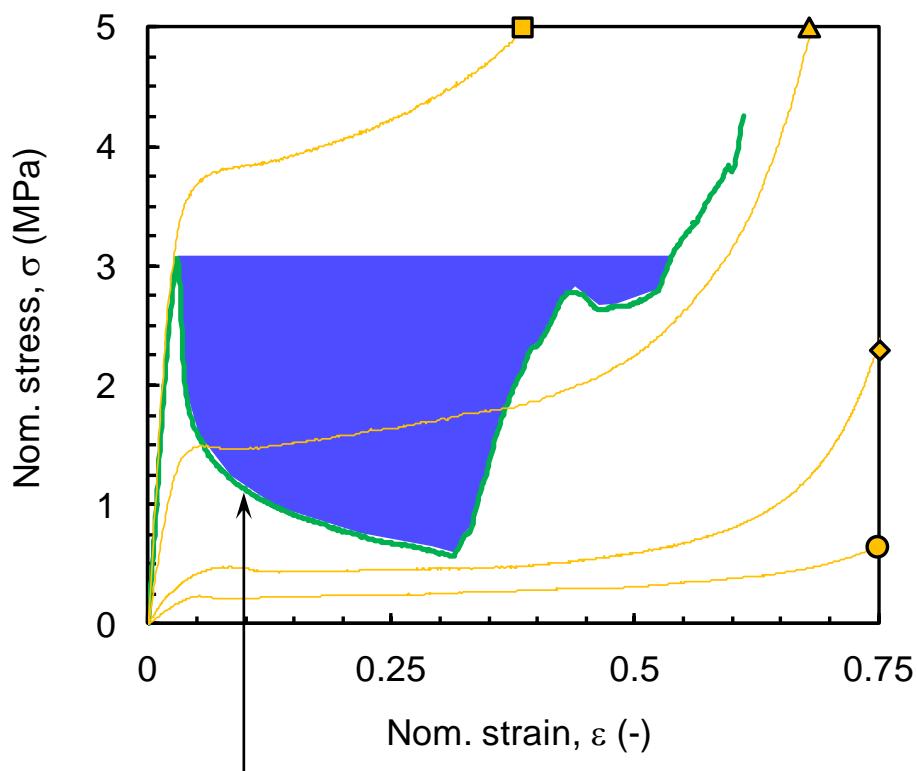


## V. Lattices

### V.2. Materials by design: an example



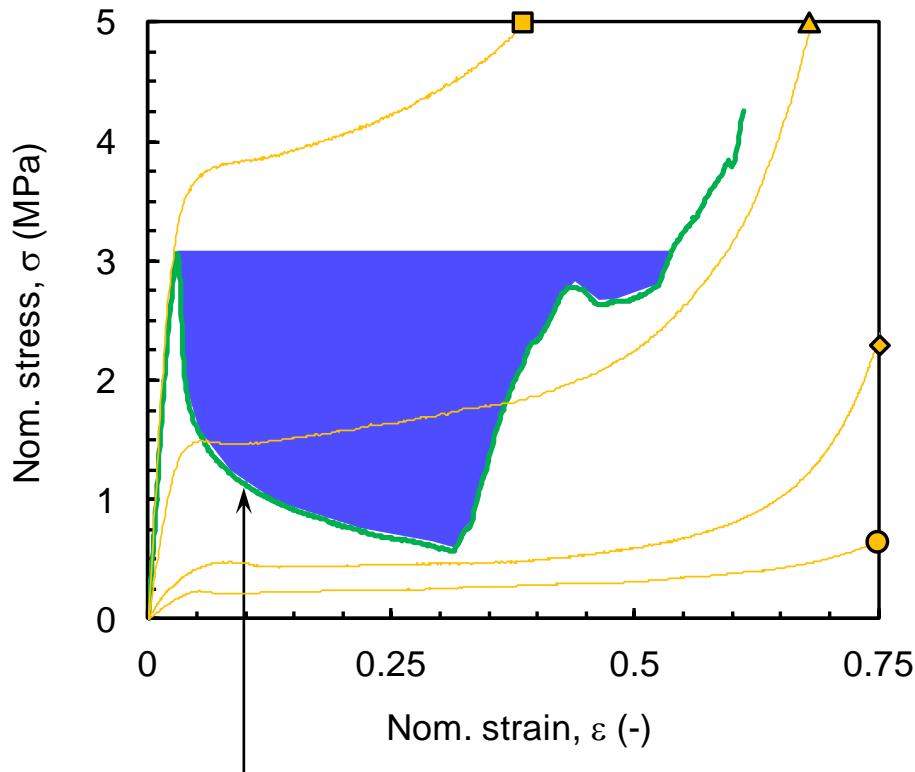
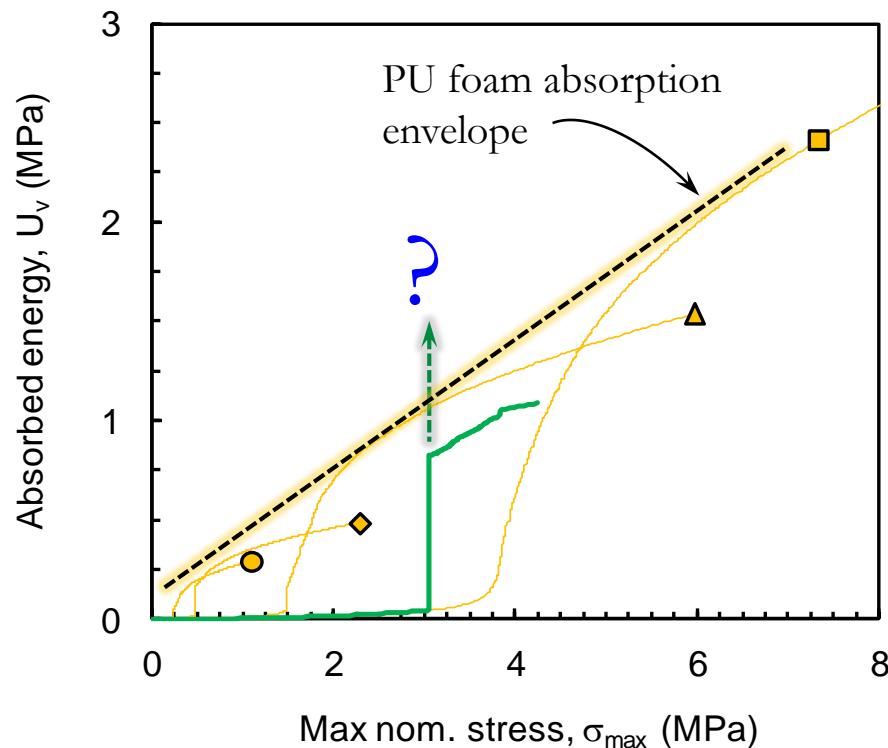
$$N_l = 1$$
$$\theta = 60^\circ$$
$$\rho = 8\%$$



$$N_l = 2$$
$$\theta = 60^\circ$$
$$\rho = 12\%$$

# V. Lattices

## V.2. Materials by design: an example

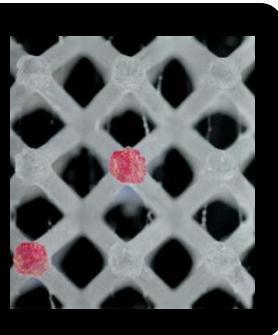
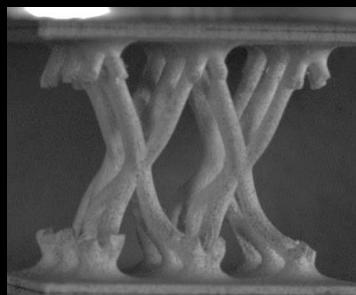


Exploring the possible adjustments to enhance the energy absorption capability of pyramidal lattice systems

$$\begin{aligned}N_l &= 2 \\ \theta &= 60^\circ \\ \rho &= 12\%\end{aligned}$$

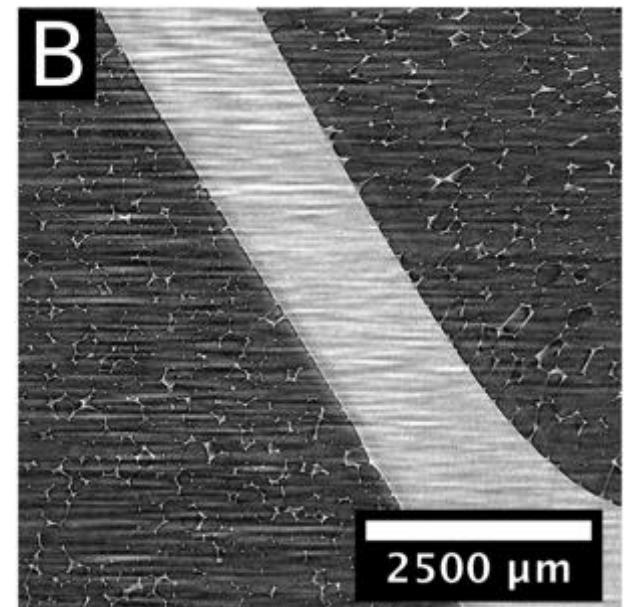
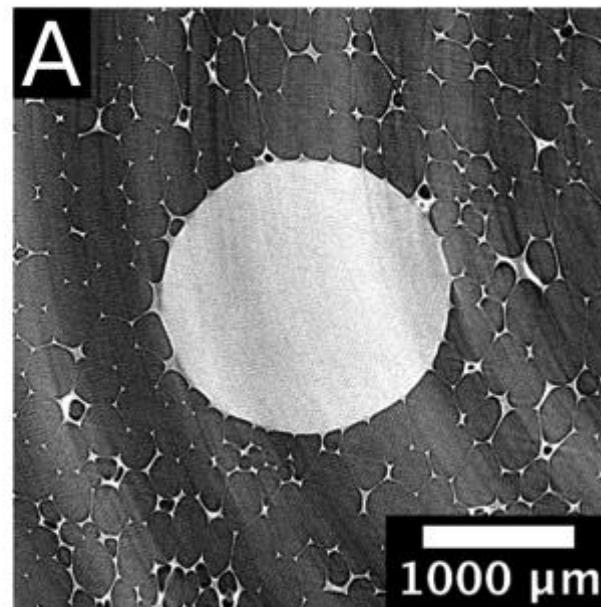
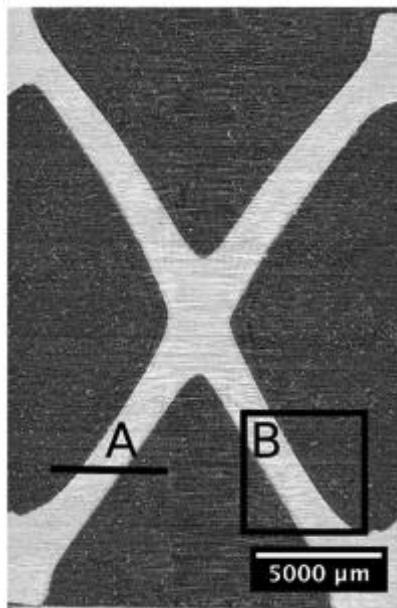
## V. Lattices

### V.2. Materials by design: an example



Macro-lattice

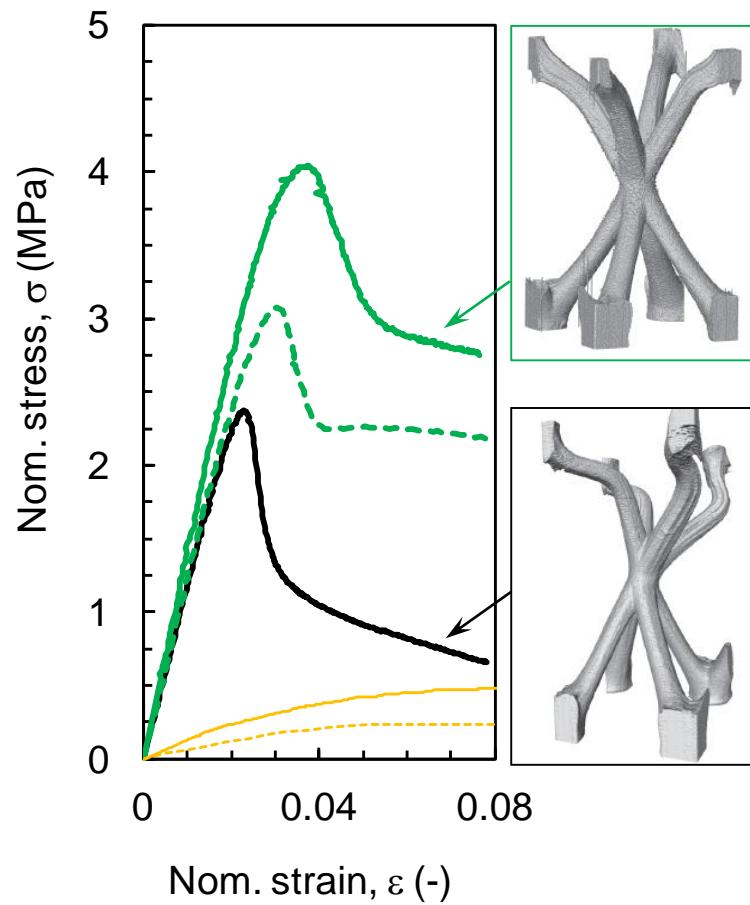
Foamed  
macro-lattice



## V. Lattices

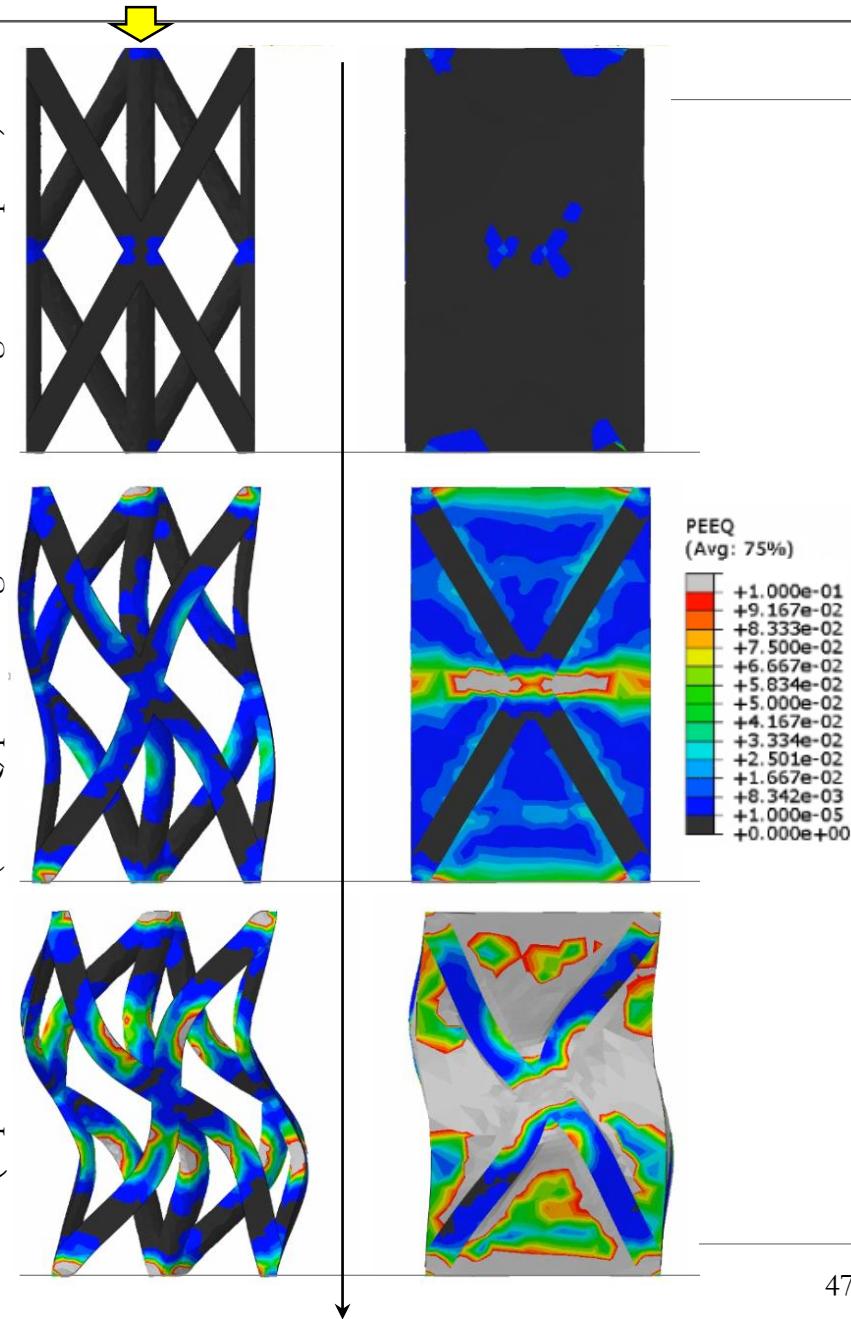
### V.2. Materials by design: an example

Experiments ( $\mu$ -CT characterization)



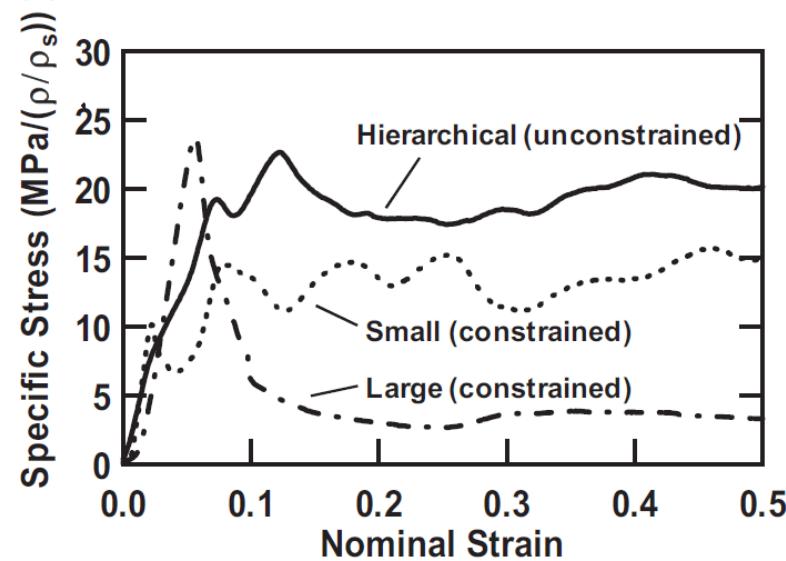
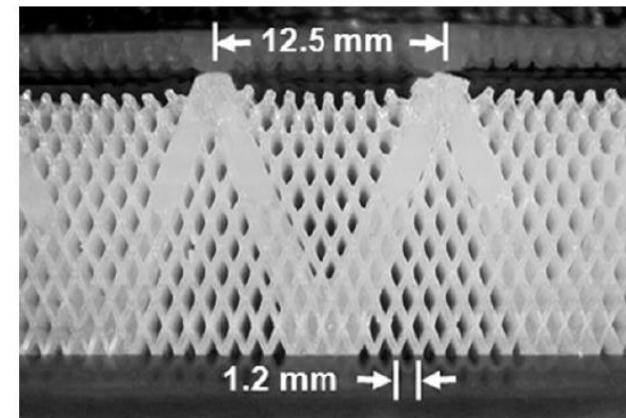
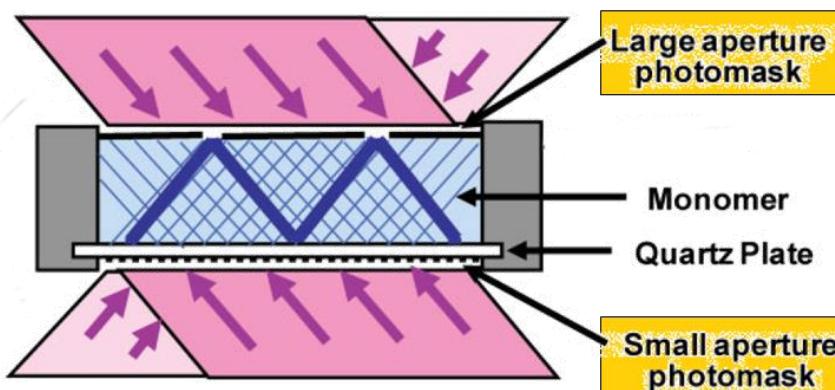
F.E. simulations

(Equiv. Plastic strain (PEEQ) profiles at given times along the comp test)



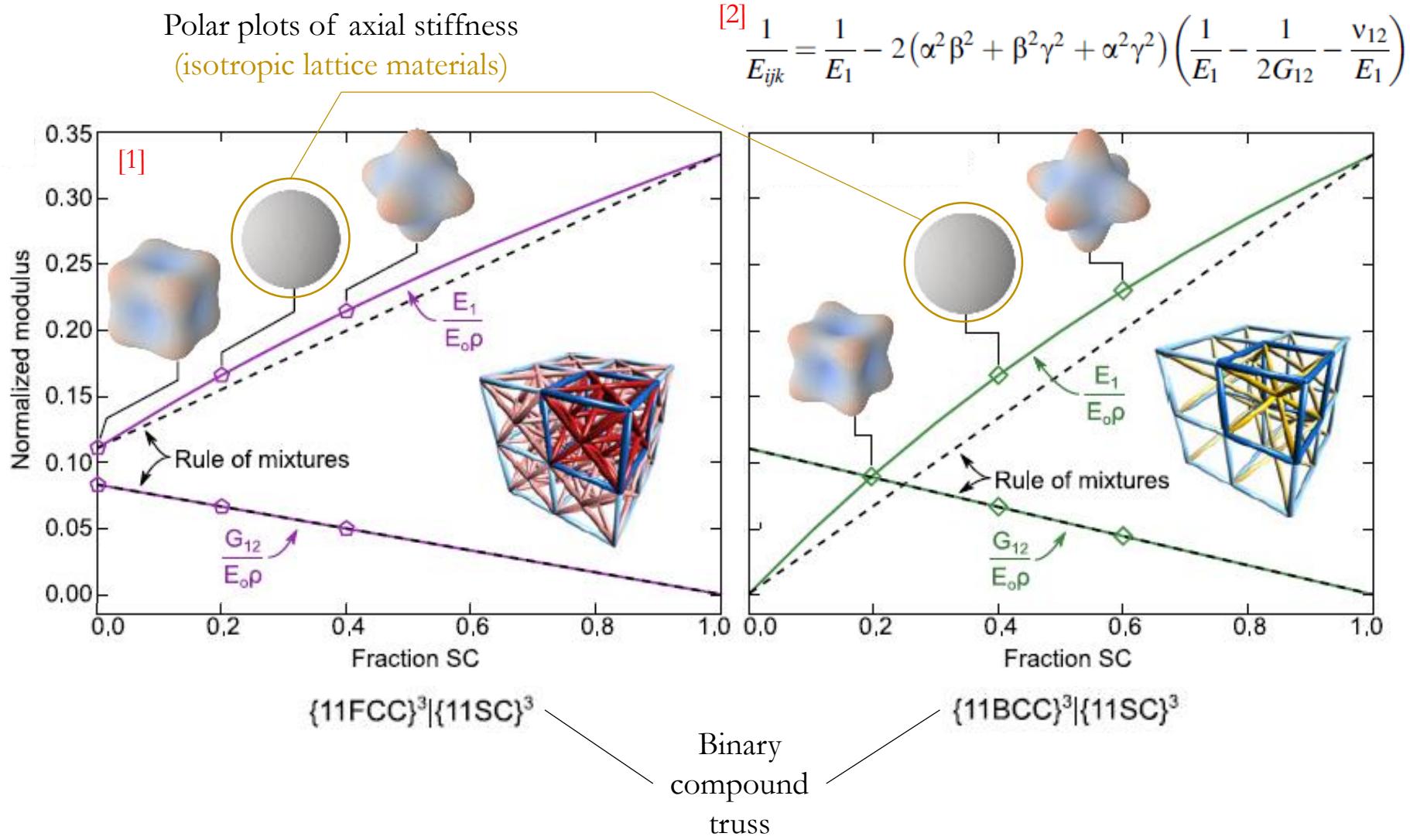
## V. Lattices

### V.2. Materials by design: an example



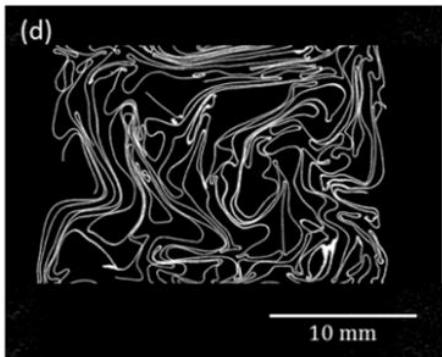
# V. Lattices

## V.3. Materials by design: Enhancement / Optimization



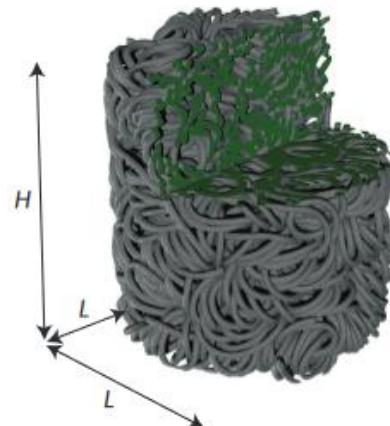
# Conclusion: Limited limitations

Crumpled material



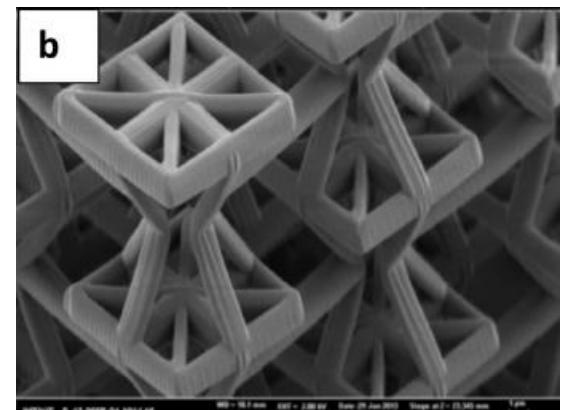
Martoïa et al., Mater&Design, 2017

Entangled monofilament



Rodney et al., Nature Materials, 2016

Auxetic materials



Saxena et al., Adv. Eng. Mater., 2016