



UNIVERSITY  
OF TRENTO - Italy

# MECHANICS OF 2D MATERIALS

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Cambridge  
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# Outline

- **Stretching**
  - Stress }  
Strain } Stress-Strain curve
- **Mechanical Properties**
  - Young's modulus
  - Strength
  - Ultimate strain
  - Toughness modulus
- **Size effects on energy dissipated**

- Linear Elastic Fracture Mechanics (LEFM)
  - Stress-intensity factor
  - Energy release rate
  - Fracture toughness
  - Size-effect on fracture strength
- Quantized Fracture Mechanics (QFM)
  - Strength of graphene (and related materials)
- Bending
  - Flexibility
  - Bending stiffness
  - Elastic line equation
  - Elastic plate equation

## Exercises by me

1. Apply QFM for deriving the strength of realistic thus defective graphene (and related 2D materials);
2. Apply LEFM for deriving the peeling force of graphene (and related 2D materials).

## Exercises by you

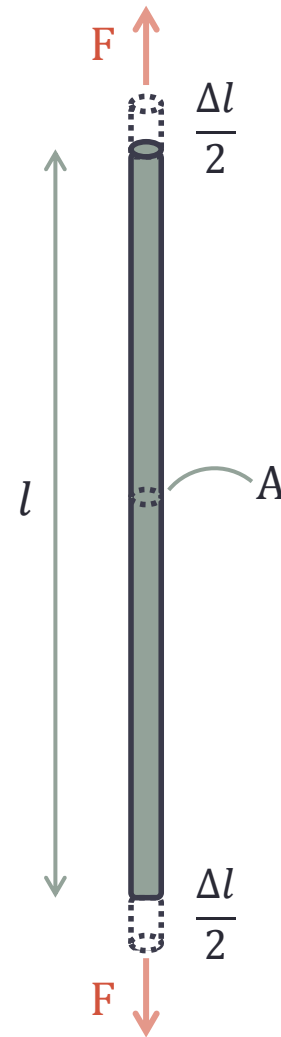
1. Apply LEFM for measuring the fracture toughness of a sheet of paper;
2. Apply the Bending theory for calculating the maximal curvature before fracture.

# Stretching

Fiber under tension

Stress:  $\sigma = \frac{F}{A}$

Strain:  $\varepsilon = \frac{\Delta l}{l}$



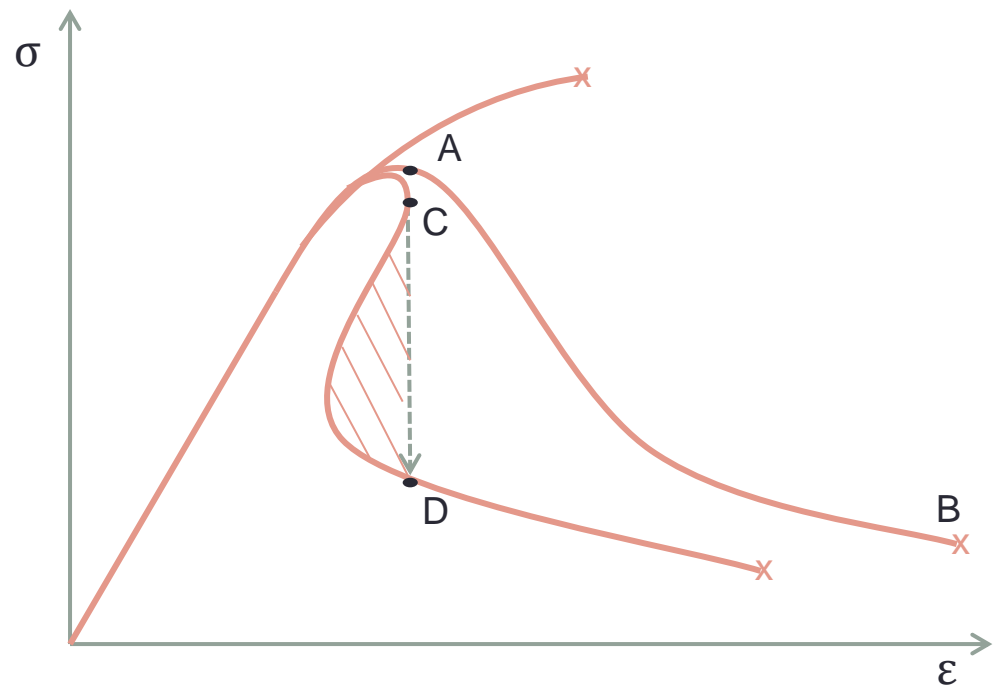
## Stress-strain curve:

Signature of the material and main tool for deriving its mechanical properties

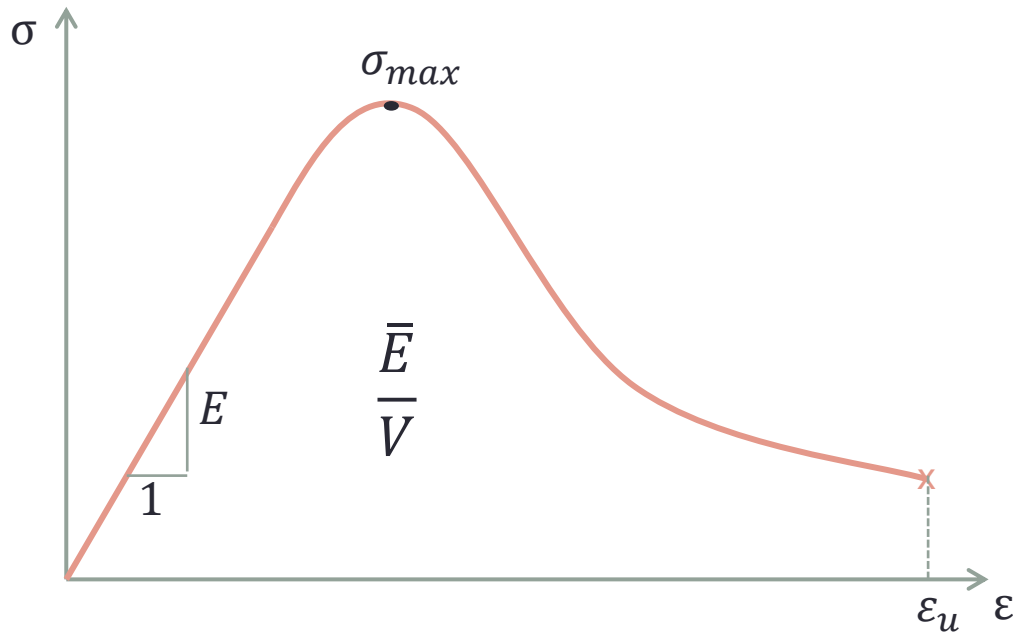
x = failure

If the curve is monotonic, a force-control is sufficient.

You can derive  $\widehat{AB}$  in displacement control,  $\widehat{CD}$  in crack-opening. The dashed area is the kinetic energy released per unit volume under displacement control.



# Mechanical properties



$$\left. \frac{d\sigma}{d\epsilon} \right|_0 \equiv E \equiv \text{Young's modulus}$$

$\sigma_{max}$  = maximum stress  $\equiv$  Strength

$\epsilon_u$  = ultimate strain

$$\int_0^{\epsilon_u} \sigma d\epsilon = \frac{\bar{E}}{\bar{V}} = \text{Energy dissipated per unit volume or Toughness modulus.}$$

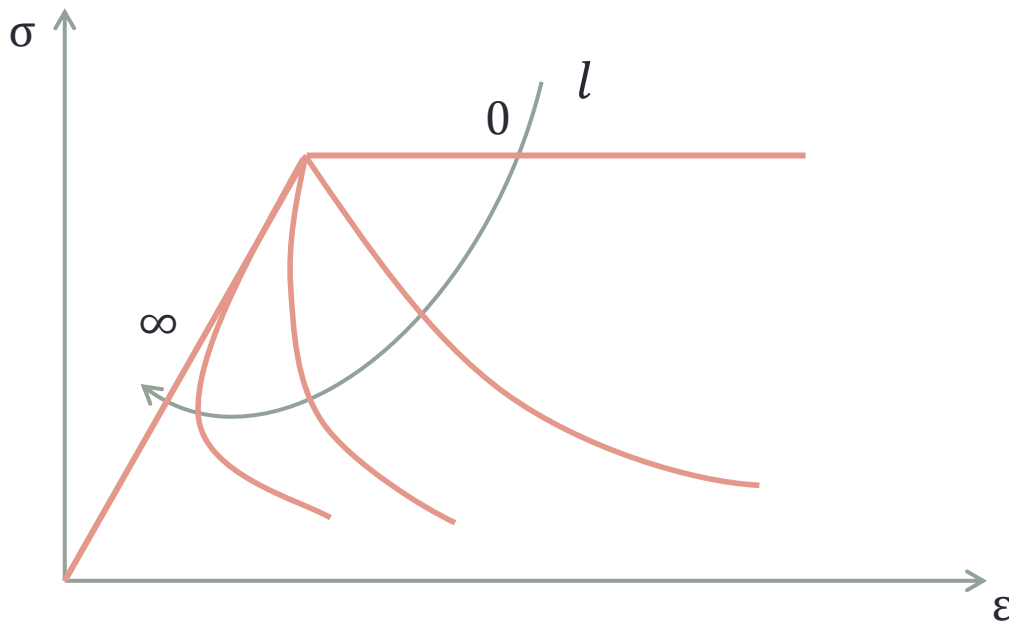
$$\bar{E} = \int F dl \quad V = Al$$

$$\frac{\bar{E}}{\bar{V}} = \int \frac{F}{A} \frac{dl}{l} = \int \sigma d\epsilon$$

The toughness modulus is a material property only for ductile materials.

# Size-effects

The post-critical behaviour is size-dependent especially for brittle materials.

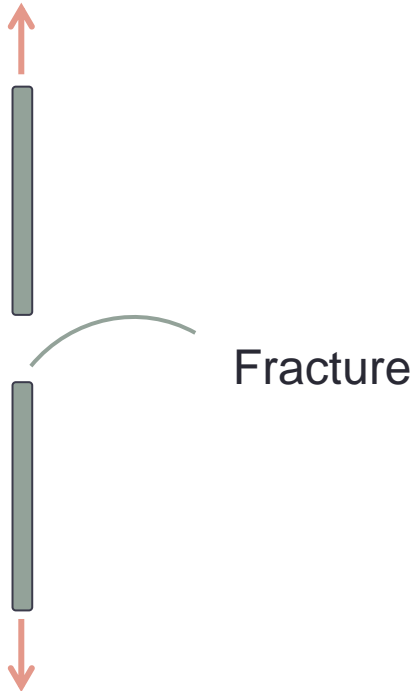


$l \rightarrow 0$  ductile

$l \rightarrow \infty$  brittle



For brittle materials  $\frac{\bar{E}}{V}$  has no meaning: instead of the toughness modulus we have to use the fracture energy.



$$\bar{E} = G_c A$$

$G_c \equiv$  fracture energy or energy dissipated per unit area

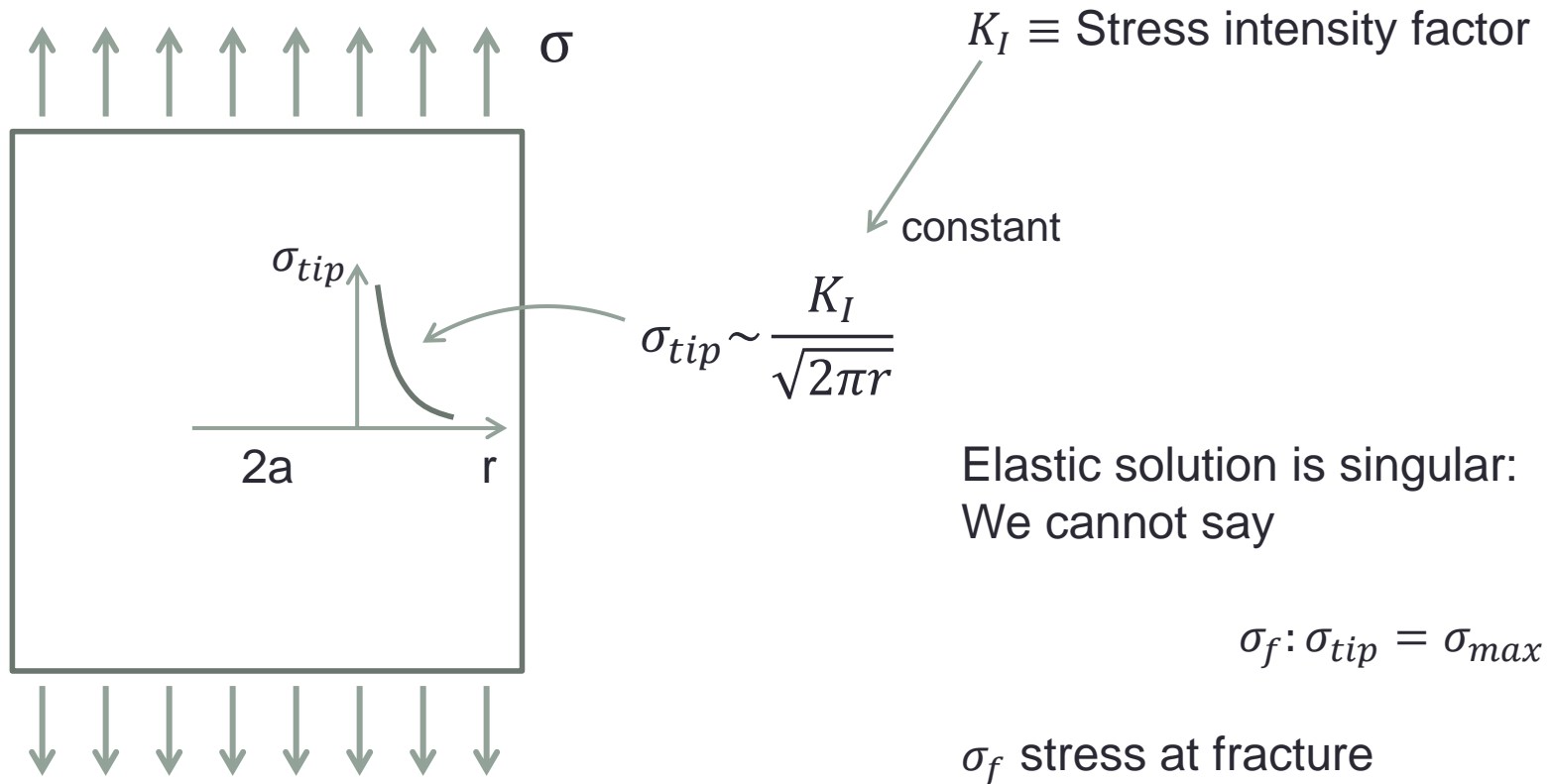
$$\int \sigma d\varepsilon \equiv \frac{\bar{E}}{V} = \frac{G_c A}{lA} = \frac{G_c}{l}$$

The reality is in between: energy dissipated on a fractal domain:

$$\frac{\bar{E}}{V} \propto \tilde{l}^{D-3} \quad \tilde{l} = \sqrt[3]{V}$$

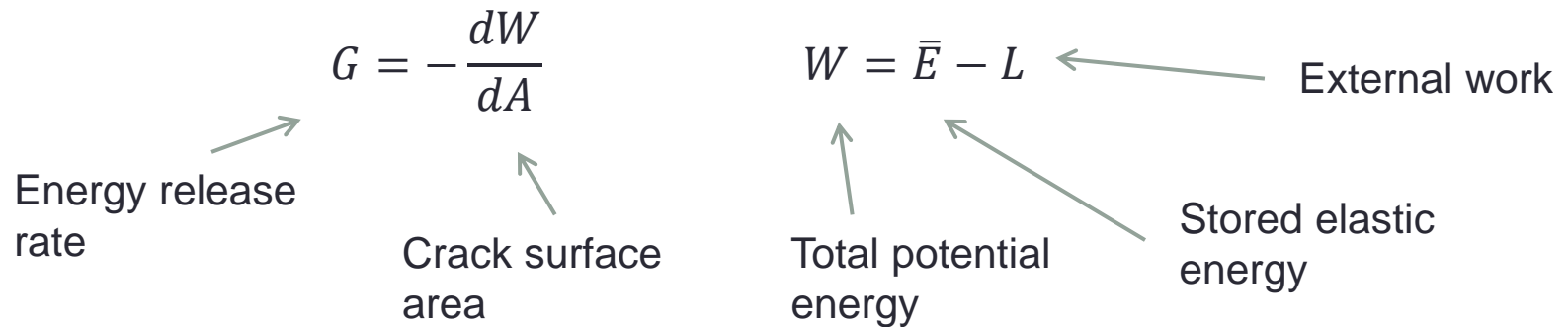
$D$  is the fractal exponent,  $2 \leq D \leq 3$

# Fracture Mechanics



# Linear Elastic Fracture Mechanics (LEFM)

Griffith's approach



Crack propagation criterion:

$$G = G_c$$

$G_c \equiv$  fracture energy

$$G = \frac{K_I^2}{E} \quad \text{Elastic solution}$$

$K_I$  only for a function of external load and geometry

$$K_I = K_{IC} \quad K_{IC} = \sqrt{G_c E} \quad \text{Fracture toughness}$$

$K_I$  values reported in stress-intensity factor Handbooks

E.g., infinite plate (i.e. width  $\gg$  crack length  $\sim$  **graphene**)

$$K_I = \sigma\sqrt{\pi a}$$

Strength of graphene with a crack of length  $2a$


$$K_I = \sigma\sqrt{\pi a} = K_{IC}$$

$$\sigma_f = \frac{K_{IC}}{\sqrt{\pi a}}$$

Assuming statistically  $a \propto \tilde{l} \equiv$  structural size:

$$\sigma_f \propto \tilde{l}^{-1/2}$$

Size effect on a fracture strength  larger is weaker

 problem of the scaling up....

# Paradox $\sigma_f \rightarrow \infty \quad a \rightarrow 0$

With graphene pioneer Rod Ruoff we invented Quantized Fracture Mechanics (2004).

The hypothesis of the continuous crack growth is removed: existence of fracture quanta due to the discrete nature of matter.

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## Quantized fracture mechanics

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[Received 28 May 2004 and accepted 30 May 2004]

### ABSTRACT

A new energy-based theory, quantized fracture mechanics (QFM), is presented that modifies continuum-based fracture mechanics; stress- and strain-based QFM analogs are also proposed. The differentials in Griffith's criterion

## Related papers:

N. M. Pugno, “*Dynamic quantized fracture mechanics*”, Int. J. Fract, 2006

N. M. Pugno, “*New quantized failure criteria: application to nanotubes and nanowires*”, Int. J. Fract, 2006

# Quantized Fracture Mechanics (QFM)

$$G^* = -\frac{\Delta W}{\Delta A}$$

↑  
Quantized energy  
release rate

$$\Delta A = \text{fracture quantum of surface area} = qt$$

$$G^* = G_c$$

↑  
Fracture  
quantum  
of length

↑  
Plate  
thickness

$$G = -\frac{dW}{dA}$$

$$\Delta W = -\int G dA = -\int \frac{K_I^2}{E} dA$$

$$G^* = -\frac{\Delta W}{\Delta A} = \frac{\int \frac{K_I^2}{E} dA}{\Delta A}$$

$$G^* = G_c$$

$$\frac{1}{\Delta A} \int \frac{K_I^2}{E} dA = \frac{K_{IC}^2}{E}$$

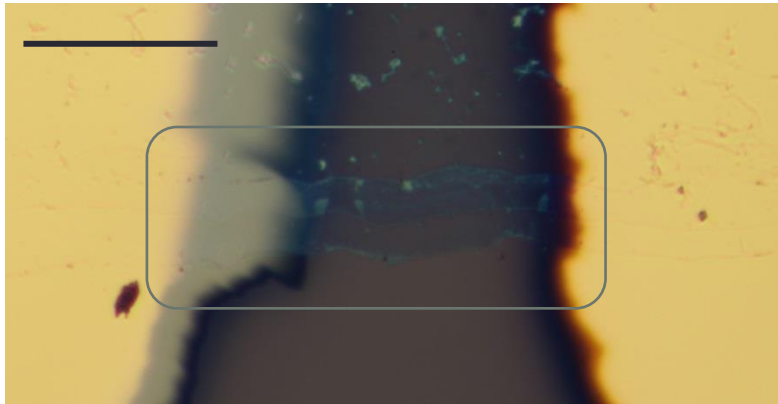
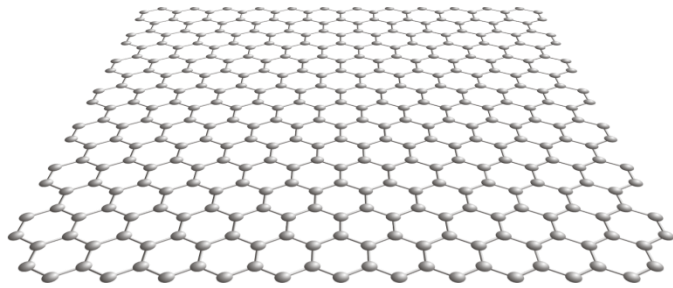
Quantized stress-intensity factor (generalized):

$$K_I^* = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\Delta A} \int K_I^2 dA} = K_{IC}$$

## Monolayer graphene and examples

C. Lee, X. Wei, J.W. Kysar, J. Hone,

“Measurement of the elastic properties and intrinsic strength of monolayer graphene”, Science, 2008 :



Monolayer graphene hanging on a silicon substrate (scale bar: 50 $\mu$ m)

Young's modulus  $\equiv E = 1$  TPa

Intrinsic strength  $\sigma_{int} = 130$  GPa

Ultimate strain  $\varepsilon_u = 25$  %



Tensile test on macro samples of graphene composites

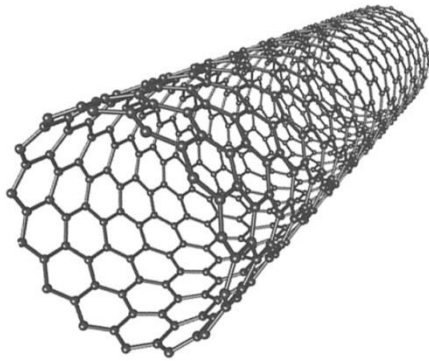


Tennis racket made of graphene (Head ©)



## Carbon nanotubes

Min-Feng Yu, Oleg Lourie, Mark J. Dyer, Katerina Moloni, Thomas F. Kelly, Rodney S. Ruoff, “*Strength and Breaking Mechanism of Multiwalled Carbon Nanotubes Under Tensile Load*”, Science, 2000:

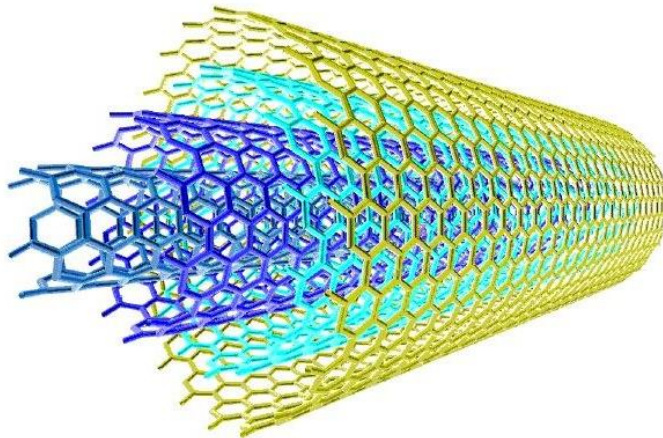


The singlewalled carbon nanotubes (SWCNTs) presents:

Young's modulus  $\equiv E = 1000$  GPa

Tensile strength  $\sigma = 300$  GPa

Ultimate strain  $\varepsilon_u = 30$  %



The MWCNTs breaks in the outermost layer (“sword-in-sheath” failure),

Young's modulus  $\equiv E = 250$  to 950 GPa

Tensile strength  $\sigma = 11$  to 63 GPa

Ultimate strain  $\varepsilon_u = 12$  %

Multiwalled carbon nanotubes (MWCNTs)

# Exercise 1

E.g., infinite plate

$$K_I = \sigma\sqrt{\pi a}$$

$$K_I^* = \sqrt{\frac{1}{qt} \int_a^{a+q} \sigma^2 \pi a t da} = \sigma \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2q} [(a+q)^2 - a^2]} = \sigma \sqrt{\pi \left(a + \frac{q}{2}\right)}$$

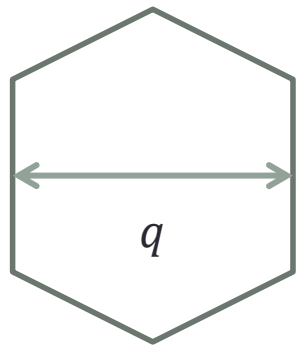
Strength of graphene  $K_I^* = K_{IC}$

$$\sigma_f = \frac{K_{IC}}{\sqrt{\pi \left(a + \frac{q}{2}\right)}} \quad a \uparrow \quad \sigma_f \downarrow \quad \text{Unstable crack growth}$$

$q \rightarrow 0$  Correspondence Principle  $QFM \rightarrow LEFM$

$a \rightarrow 0$   $\sigma_f = \sigma_{ideal}$

$$\sigma_{ideal} = \frac{K_{IC}}{\sqrt{\pi \frac{q}{2}}} \Rightarrow q = \frac{2 K_{IC}^2}{\pi \sigma_{ideal}^2}$$



$$\sigma_f = \frac{K_{IC}}{\sqrt{\pi \left(a + \frac{q}{2}\right)}}$$

Very close to predictions  
by MD and DFT

$\sigma_{ideal} \sim 100$  GPa

$\sigma_{ideal} \sim \frac{E}{10}$   $E \sim 1$  TPa

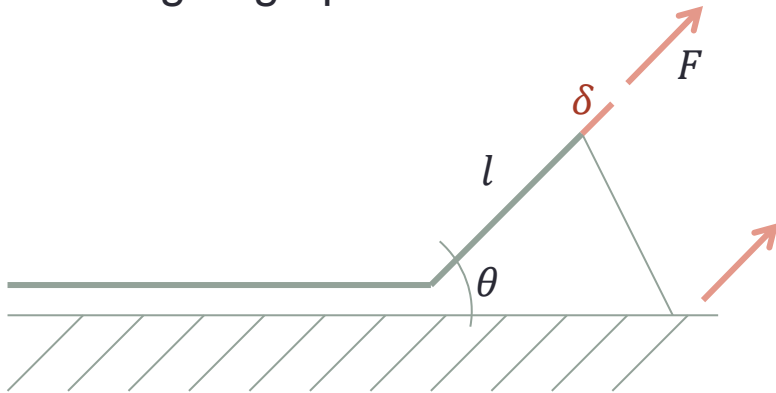
$K_{IC} \sim 3$  MPa $\sqrt{m}$   
(QFM 2004)

Very close to experimental  
measurement (2014)

P. Zhang, L. Ma, F. Fan, Z. Zeng, C. Peng, P. E. Loya, Z. Liu, Y. Gong, J. Zhang, X. Zhang, P. M. Ajayan, T. Zhu & J. Lou, *Fracture toughness of graphene*, Nature, 2014

# Exercise 2

Peeling of graphene



$$E \rightarrow \infty \quad \bar{E} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\delta = l - l \cos \theta$$

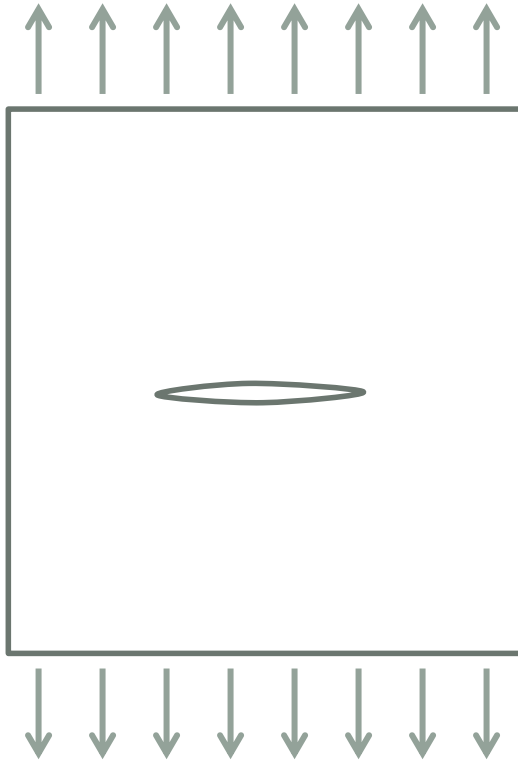
$$G = -\frac{dW}{dA} = \frac{dL}{dA} \quad L = Fd \quad dA = bdl$$

$$G = \frac{d}{bdl} Fl(1 - \cos \theta) = \frac{F(1 - \cos \theta)}{b}$$

$$G = G_C \quad \Rightarrow \quad F_C = \frac{bG_C}{1 - \cos \theta}$$

$F_C$  strongly dependent on  $\theta$

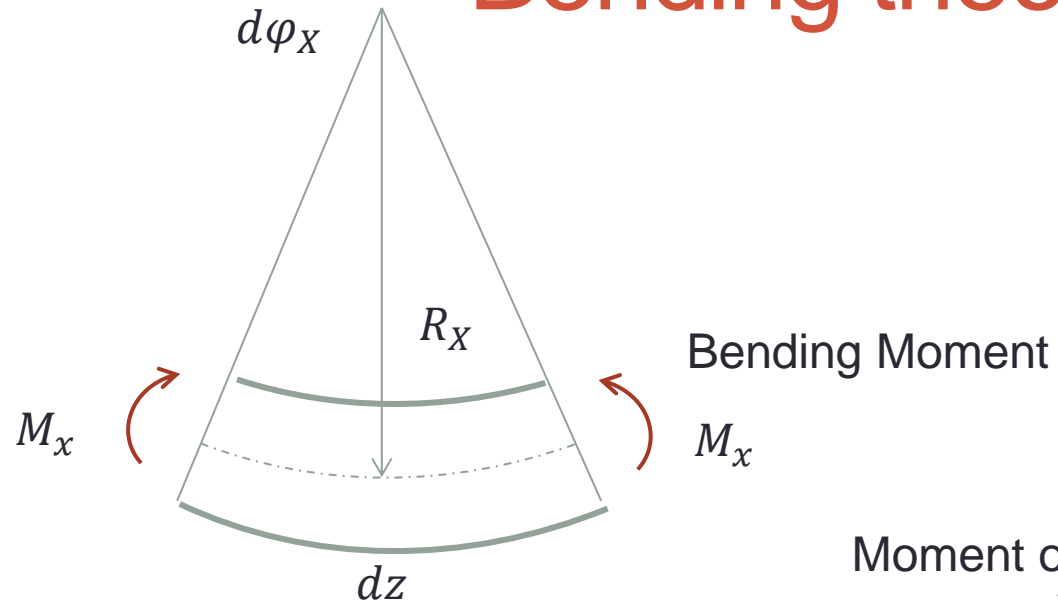
# Exercise 3



Apply LEFM for measuring the fracture toughness of a sheet of paper with a crack of a certain length in the middle:

# Bending theory

Bending of beams



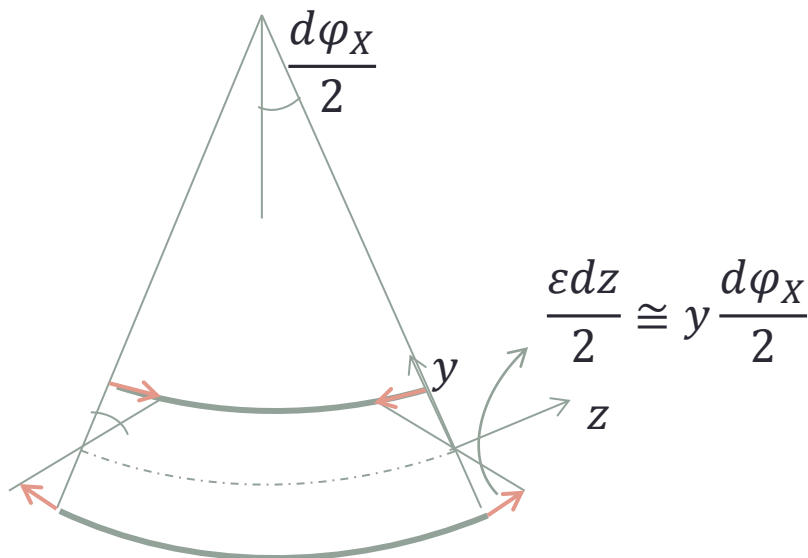
Bending Moment

$M_x$

Moment of inertia

$$I_x = \frac{bh^3}{12}$$

$$\sigma_z = \frac{M_x}{I_x} y \cong Ky \quad M_x = \int_{-\frac{h}{2}}^{\frac{h}{2}} \sigma_z y b dy = KI_x$$



$$\chi_x = \frac{1}{R_x} = \frac{d\varphi_x}{dz} = \frac{\varepsilon_z}{y} = \frac{\sigma_z}{Ey} = \frac{M_x}{I_x E}$$

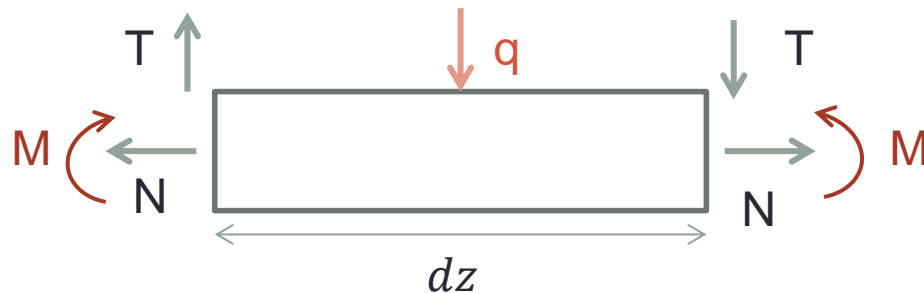
$$\chi_{max} = \frac{\varepsilon_{z,max}}{h/2}$$

# Exercise 4

Derive the maximal graphene curvature.

For graphene  $h = t \cong 0.34 \text{ nm}$   $\rightarrow \chi_{max}$  huge  $\rightarrow$  flexibility is more a structural than a material property

$$\varphi_x = -\frac{dv}{dz} \Rightarrow \frac{d^2v}{dz^2} = -\frac{M_x}{I_x E}$$



Load per unit length

$$\frac{dT}{dz} = -q$$

$$\frac{dM}{dz} = T$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^4v}{dz^4} = \frac{q}{I_x E}$$

Elastic line equation

For plates:  $\nabla^4 W = \frac{q}{D}$  ↗ Load per unit area

Elastic plane equation

Bending stiffness

$$D = \frac{Et^3}{12(1-\nu^2)}$$