

# Lecture 5, 3.054

## Honeycombs: Out of plane behavior

- Honeycombs used as cores in sandwich structures
  - carry shear load in  $x_1 - x_3$  and  $x_2 - x_3$  planes
- Honeycombs sometimes used to absorb energy from impact — loaded in  $x_3$  direction
- Require out-of-plane properties
- Cell walls extend or contract, rather than bend
- Honeycomb much stiffer and stronger

## Linear-elastic deformation

- Honeycomb has 9 independent elastic constants:
  - 4 in-plane
  - 5 out-of-plane

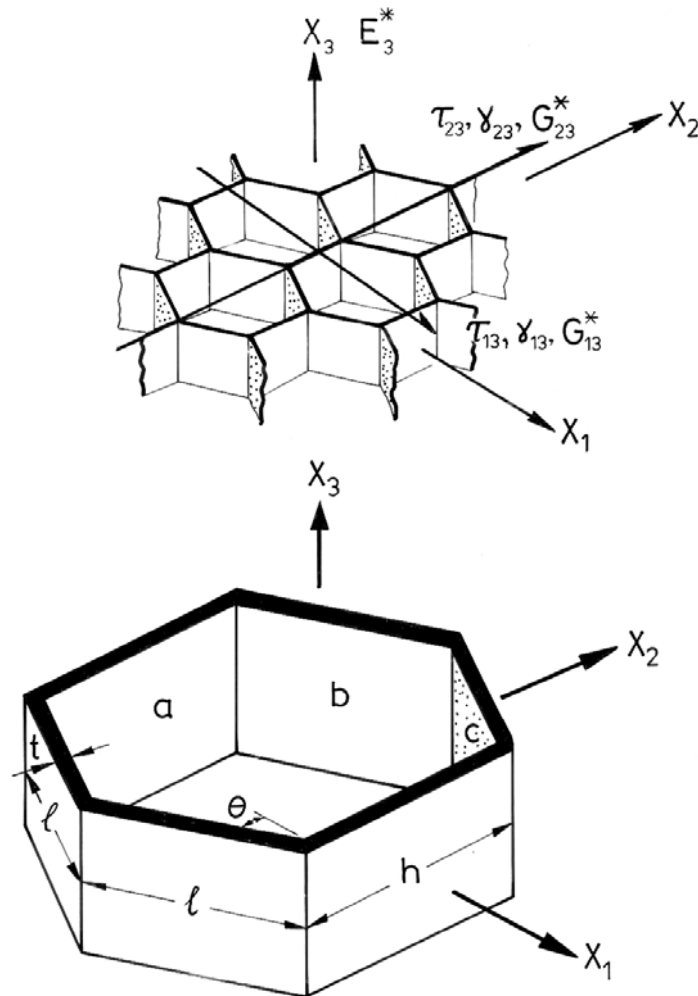
## Young's Modulus, $E_3^*$

- Cell walls contract or extend axially
- $E_3^*$  scales as area fraction of solid in plane perpendicular to  $x_3$

$$E_3^* = E_s(\rho^*/\rho_s) = E_s \left( \frac{t}{l} \right) \frac{h/l + 2}{2(h/l + \sin \theta) \cos \theta}$$

Notice:  $E_3^* \propto \frac{t}{l}$  and  $E_1^*, E_2^* \propto \left( \frac{t}{l} \right)^3$  Large anisotropy

# Out-of-Plane Properties



Gibson, L. J., and M. F. Ashby. *Cellular Solids: Structure and Properties*. 2nd ed. Cambridge University Press, © 1997. Figure courtesy of Lorna Gibson and Cambridge University Press.

## Poisson ratios

- For loading in  $x_3$  direction, cell walls strain by  $\nu_s \epsilon_3$  in  $x_1, x_2$  directions

$$\boxed{\nu_{31}^* = \nu_{32}^* = \nu_s} \quad \left(\text{recall } \nu_{ij} = -\frac{\epsilon_j}{\epsilon_i}\right)$$

- $\nu_{13}^*$  and  $\nu_{23}^*$  can be found from reciprocal relation:

$$\boxed{\frac{\nu_{13}^*}{E_1^*} = \frac{\nu_{31}^*}{E_3^*} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\nu_{23}^*}{E_2^*} = \frac{\nu_{32}^*}{E_3^*}}$$

$$\therefore \nu_{13}^* = \frac{E_1^*}{E_3^*} \nu_{31}^* = \frac{c_1 \left(\frac{t}{l}\right)^3 E_s \nu_s}{c_2 \left(\frac{t}{l}\right) E_s} \approx 0 \quad \text{for small } \left(\frac{t}{l}\right)$$

Similarly,  $\nu_{23}^* \approx 0$

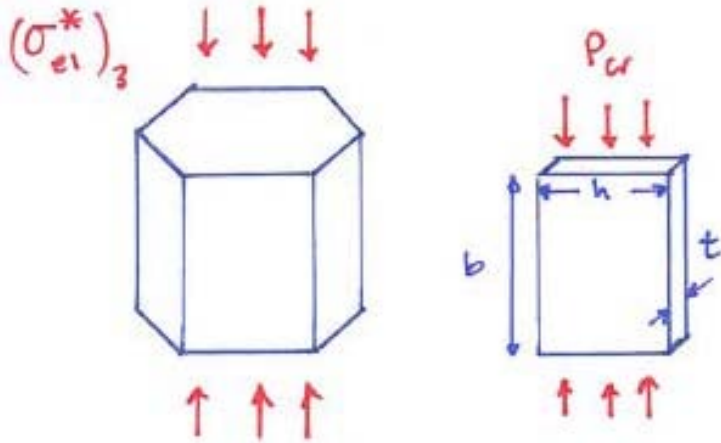
## Shear moduli

- Cell walls loaded in shear
- But constraint of neighboring cell walls gives non-uniform strain in cell walls
- Exact solution requires numerical methods
- Can estimate as:

$$\boxed{G_{13}^* = G_s \left(\frac{t}{l}\right) \frac{\cos \theta}{h/l + \sin \theta} = \frac{1}{3} G_s \frac{t}{l}} \quad \text{for regular hexagons } (= G_{23}^*)$$

- Note linear dependence on  $\left(\frac{t}{l}\right)$

## Compressive strength: elastic buckling



- Plate buckling

$$P_{cr} = \frac{K E_s t^3}{(1 - \nu_s^2) h} \quad \text{also for 1}$$

- $K$  end constraint factor depends on stiffness of adjacent walls

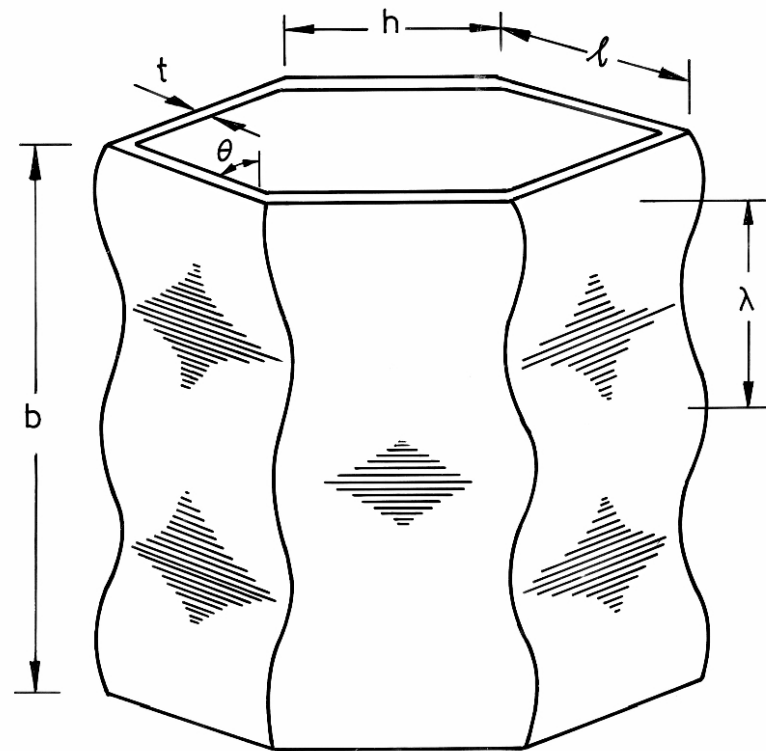
- If vertical edges are simply supported (free to rotate) and  $b > 3l$ :  $K=2.0$
- If vertical edges are clamped and fixed:  $K=6.2$
- Approximate  $K \approx 4$

$$P_{total} = \sum P_{cr} \text{ for each wall } (2l + h \text{ for each cell})$$

$$\boxed{(\sigma_{el}^*)_3 = \frac{E_s}{1 - \nu_s^2} \left(\frac{t}{l}\right)^3 \frac{2(l/h + 2)}{(h/l + \sin \theta) \cos \theta}}$$

- Regular hexagons  $(\sigma_{el}^*)_3 = 5.2 E_s \left(\frac{t}{l}\right)^3$
- Same form as  $(\sigma_{el}^*)_2$  but  $\sim 20$  times larger

# Out-of-Plane: Elastic Buckling



Gibson, L. J., and M. F. Ashby. *Cellular Solids: Structure and Properties*. 2nd ed. Cambridge University Press, © 1997. Figure courtesy of Lorna Gibson and Cambridge University Press.

## Compressive strength: plastic collapse

- Failure by uniaxial yield  $(\sigma_{pi}^*)_3 = \sigma_{ys} (\rho^*/\rho_s)$
- **But**, in compression, plastic buckling usually precedes this
- Consider approximate calculation, simplified geometry    isolated cell wall
- Rotation of cell wall by  $\pi$  at plastic hinge
- Plastic moment  $M_p = \frac{\sigma_{ys} t^2}{4} (2l + h)$     (note  $2l + h$  instead of  $b$  as before, for loading in  $x_1$  or  $x_2$ )
- Internal plastic work =  $\pi M_p$
- External work done is  $\frac{P\lambda}{2}$ ;     $\lambda$  is wavelength of plastic buckling  $\approx l$ ;  
 $P = \sigma_3(n + l \sin \theta)(2l \cos \theta)$

$$\therefore \frac{P\lambda}{2} = \pi M_p$$

$$\sigma_3(h + l \sin \theta)(2l \cos \theta) \frac{l}{2} = \pi \frac{\sigma_{ys} t^2}{4} (2l + h)$$

$$(\sigma_{pi}^*)_3 \approx \frac{\pi}{4} \sigma_{ys} \left(\frac{t}{l}\right)^2 \frac{(h/l + 2)}{(h/l + \sin \theta) \cos \theta}$$

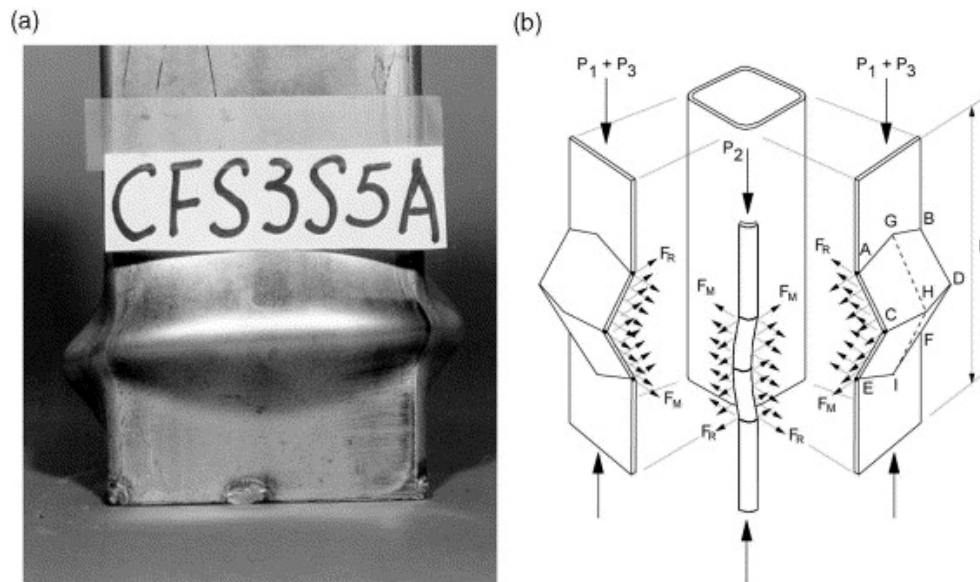
Note: misprint in book equation before 4.115

Regular hexagons:  $(\sigma_{pi}^*)_3 \approx 2\sigma_{ys} \left(\frac{t}{l}\right)^2$

Exact calculation for regular hexagons:  $(\sigma_{pi}^*)_3 = 5.6 \sigma_{ys} \left(\frac{t}{l}\right)^{5/3}$

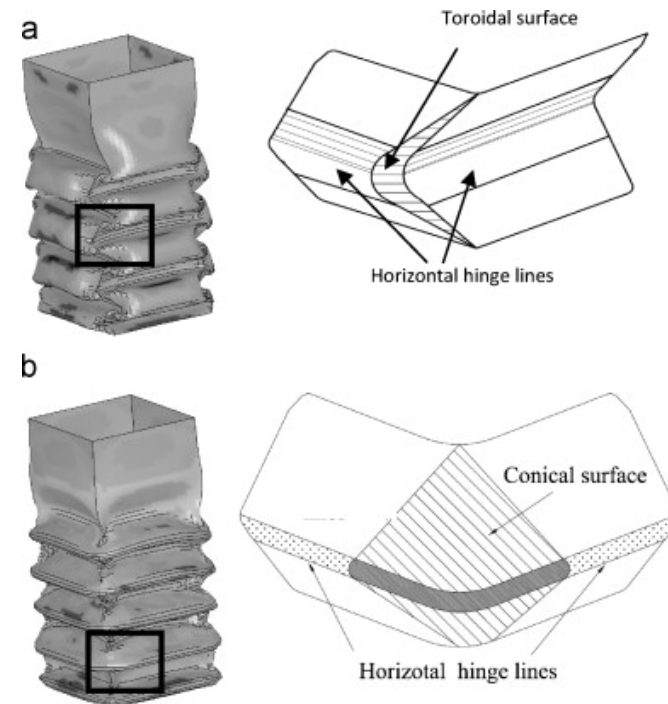


# Out-of-Plane: Plastic Collapse



Source: Zhao X. L., B. Han, et al. "Plastic Mechanism Analysis of Concrete-Filled Double-skin (SHS Inner and SHS Outer) Stub Columns." *Thin-Walled Structures* 40 (2002): 815-33. Courtesy of Elsevier. Used with permission.

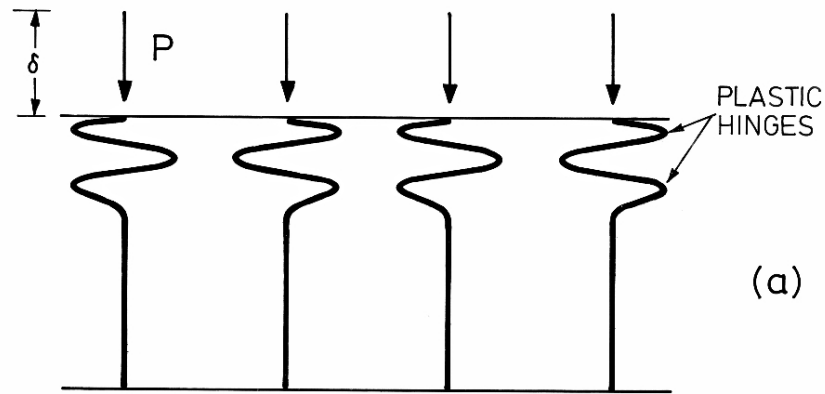
Zhao XL., Han B and Grzebieta RH (2002) Thi-Walled Structures **40**, 815-533



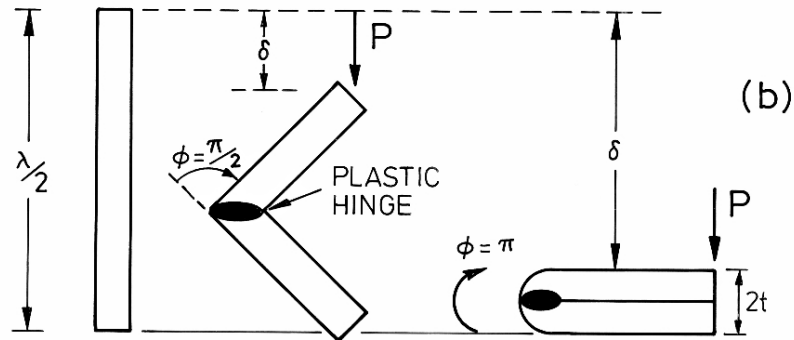
Source: Najafi, A., and M. Rais-Rohani. "Mechanics of Axial Plastic Collapse in Multi-cell, Multi-corner Crush Tubes." *Thin-Walled Structures* 49 (2011): 1-12. Courtesy of Elsevier. Used with permission.

Najafi A and Rais-Rohani M (2011) Thin-Walled Structures **49**, 1-12

# Out-of-Plane: Plastic Collapse



(a)



(b)

Gibson, L. J., and M. F. Ashby. *Cellular Solids: Structure and Properties*. 2nd ed. Cambridge University Press, © 1997. Figure courtesy of Lorna Gibson and Cambridge University Press.

## Out-of-plane brittle fracture (tensile failure)

- Defect-free sample, walls see uniaxial tension

$$(\sigma_f^*)_3 = (\rho^*/\rho_s)\sigma_{fs} = \frac{h/l + 2}{2(h/l + \sin\theta)\cos\theta} \left(\frac{t}{l}\right)\sigma_{fs}$$

- If cell walls cracked ( $a \gg l$ ) and crack propagates in plane normal to  $x_3$ :

- Toughness,  $G_c^* = (\rho^*/\rho_s)G_s$

- Fracture toughness,  $K_{Ic}^* = \sqrt{E^*G_c^*} = \sqrt{(\rho^*/\rho_s)E_s(\rho^*/\rho_s)G_{cs}} = (\rho^*/\rho_s)K_{Ics}$

## Out-of-plane: brittle crushing

$\sigma_{cs}$  = compressive strength of cell wall

$$(\sigma_{cr}^*)_3 = (\rho^*/\rho_s)\sigma_{cs} \quad \text{brittle materials:} \quad \sigma_{cs} \approx 12\sigma_{fs}$$

$$\approx 12(\rho^*/\rho_s)\sigma_{fs}$$

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3.054 / 3.36 Cellular Solids: Structure, Properties and Applications  
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