

Auxetic polymers for medical device technology

“Medical and stretchy”



Andy Alderson

Professor of Smart Materials and Structures

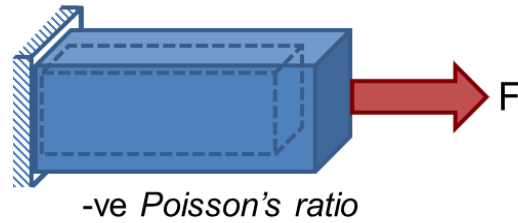
Director Industry & Innovation Research Institute

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+44 114 225 3523

<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/andrew-alderson/15/123/625>





Auxetic Materials

Naturally-occurring auxetic materials

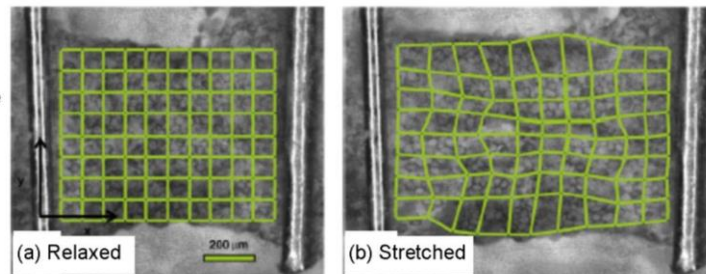
Biomaterials

- Cat skin
- Cow teat skin
- Carotid arteries
- Achilles tendon
- Stem cell nuclei
- Amphibian embryo tissue
- Annulus fibrosus

Minerals & polymers

- α -quartz
- α -cristobalite
- Mother-of-pearl
- Zeolites
- Talc
- Cellulose

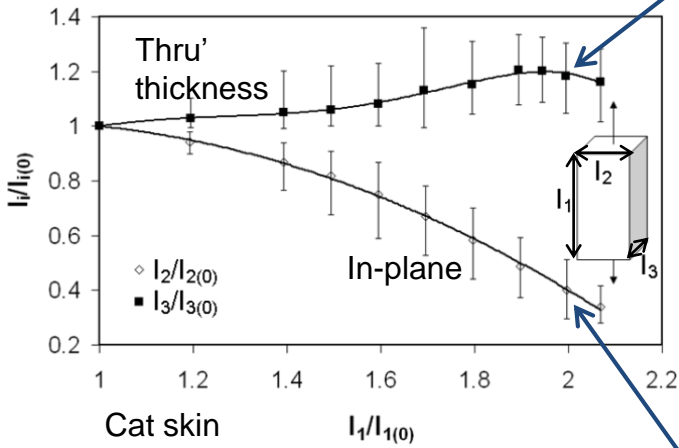
Auxetic soft tissue
(early-stage am-
phibian (axolotl)
epithelium)



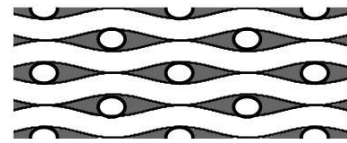
(Chen & Brodland, Journal of the
Mechanical Behaviour of Biomedical
Materials 2 (2009) 494-501)



Auxetic cat skin

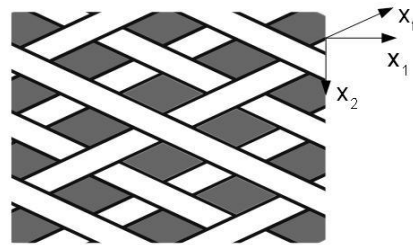


Veronda & Westmann, J. Biomechanics (1970)

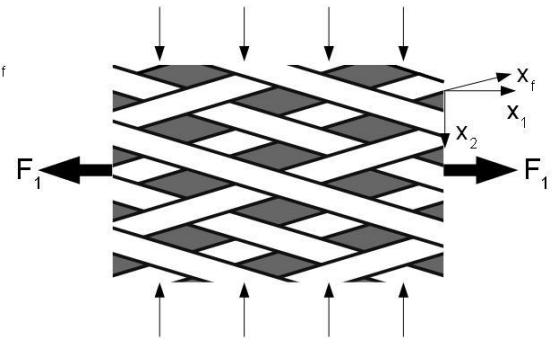
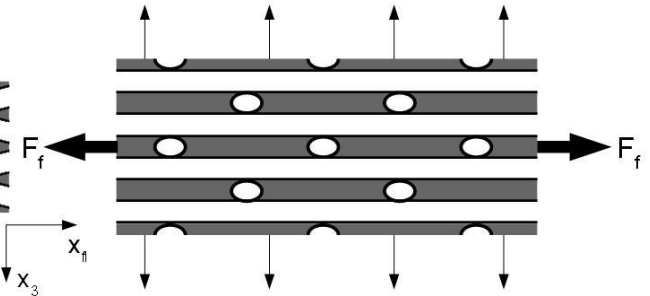


(b) x_f - x_3 plane

Veronda & Westmann, J. Biomechanics (1970)



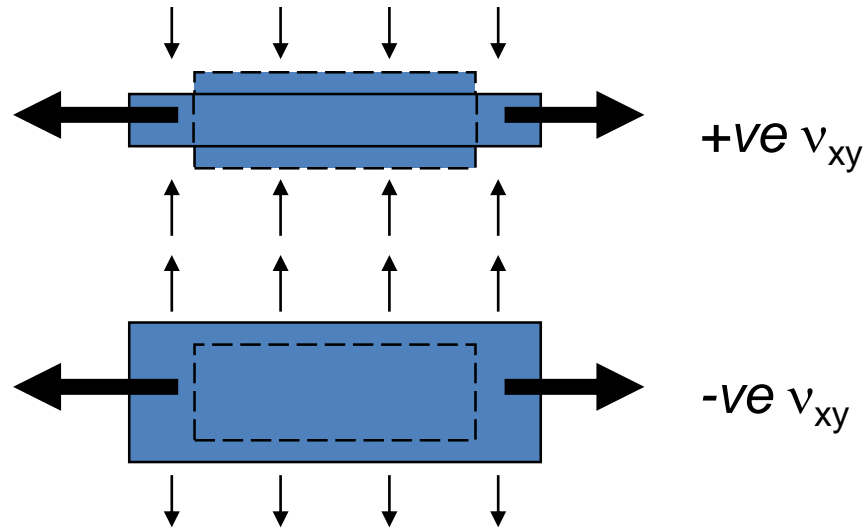
(a) x_1 - x_2 plane



Frohlich et al, J. Zool. Lond. (1994)



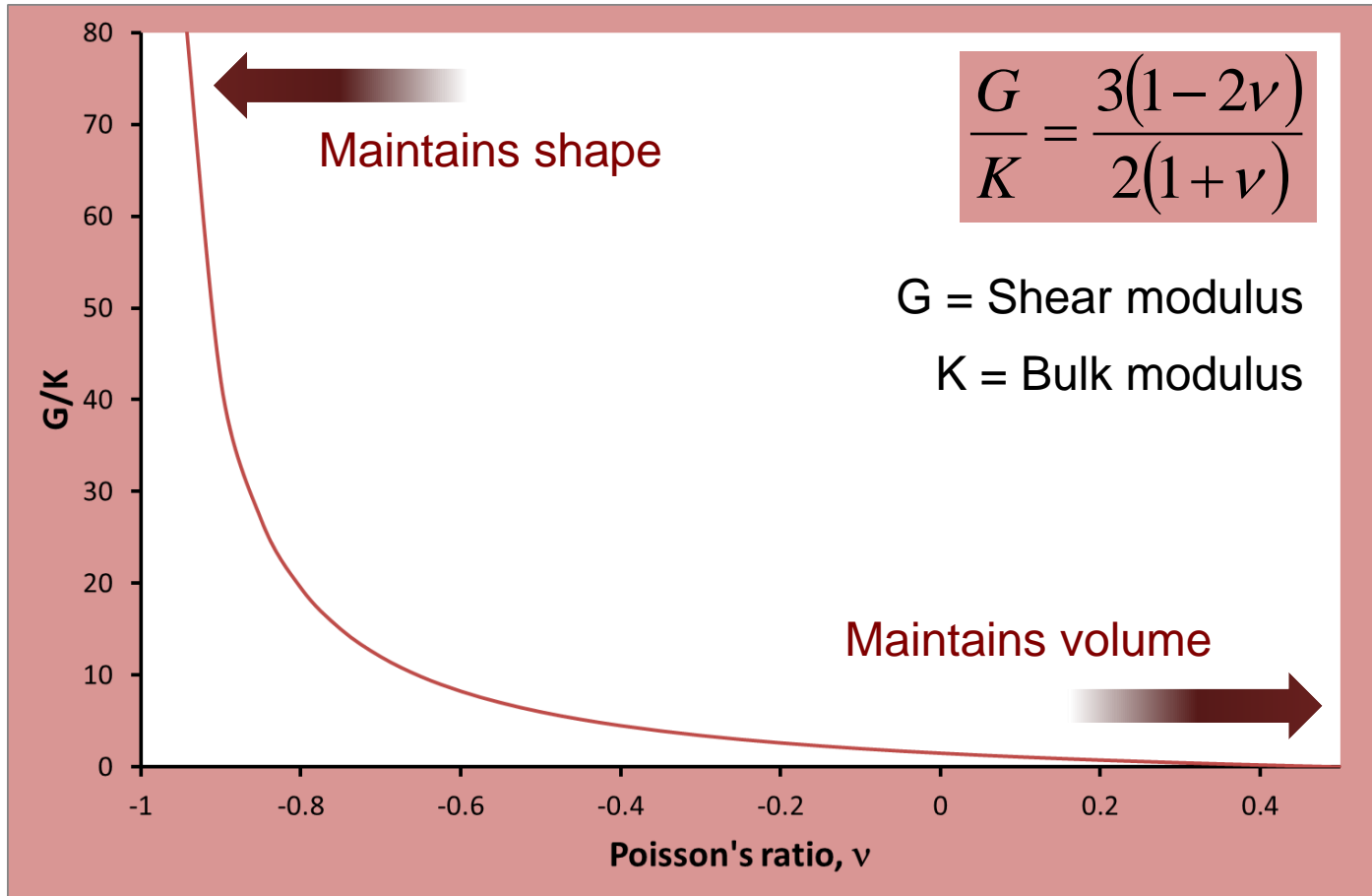
Poisson's ratio: $\nu_{xy} = -(\epsilon_y/\epsilon_x)$



Auxetic Material: Material with a negative Poisson's ratio

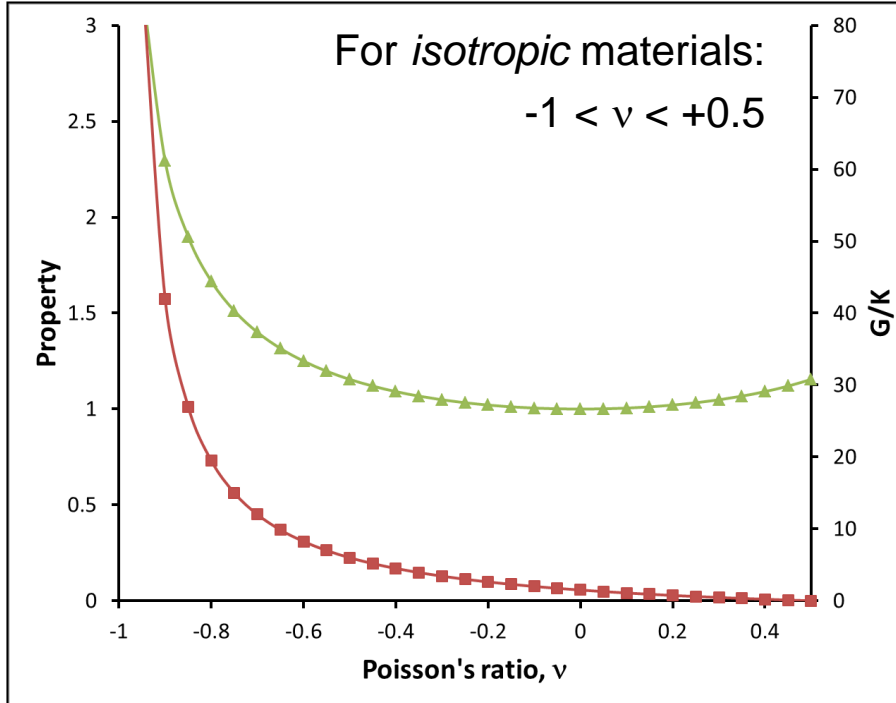


Auxetics: a route to enhancing other properties



For isotropic materials: $-1 < \nu < +0.5$

Auxetics: a route to enhancing other properties



$$\frac{G}{K} = \frac{3(1-2\nu)}{2(1+\nu)}$$

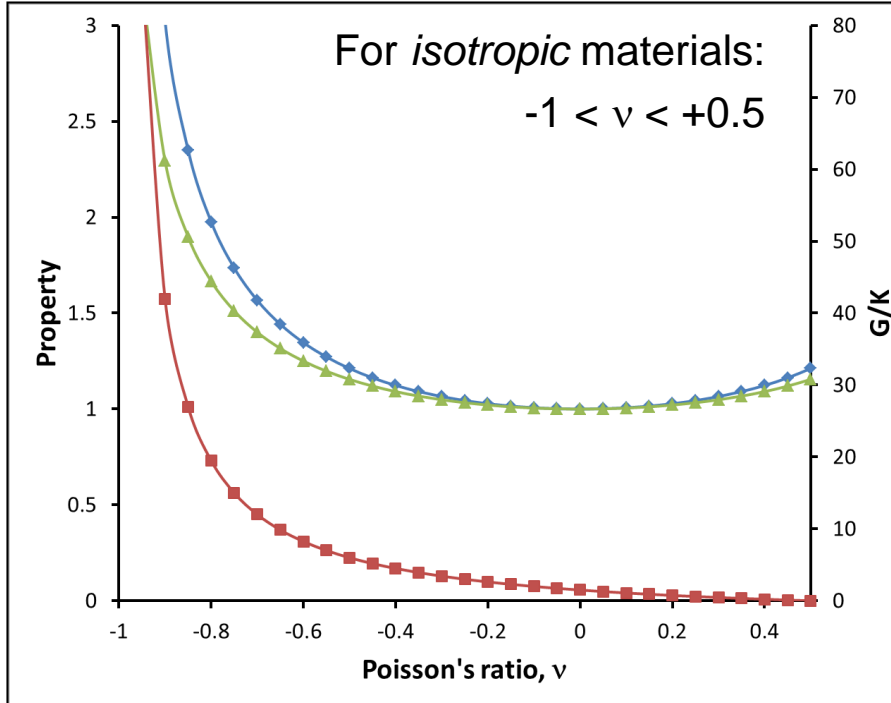
Shear rigidity

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\pi ET}{2r(1-\nu^2)}}$$

Fracture toughness



Auxetics: a route to enhancing other properties



$$\frac{G}{K} = \frac{3(1-2\nu)}{2(1+\nu)}$$

Shear rigidity

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\pi ET}{2r(1-\nu^2)}}$$

Fracture toughness

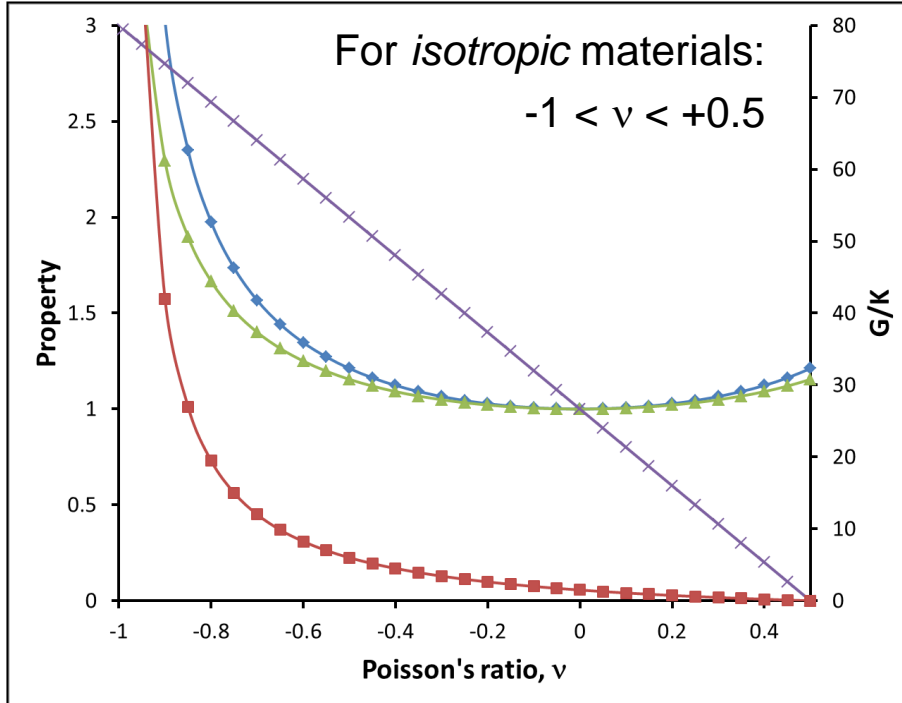
$$H \propto \left[\frac{E}{1-\nu^2} \right]^{2/3}$$

Indentation resistance



For *isotropic* materials: $-1 < \nu < +0.5$

Auxetics: a route to enhancing other properties



$$\frac{G}{K} = \frac{3(1-2\nu)}{2(1+\nu)}$$

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Indentation resistance

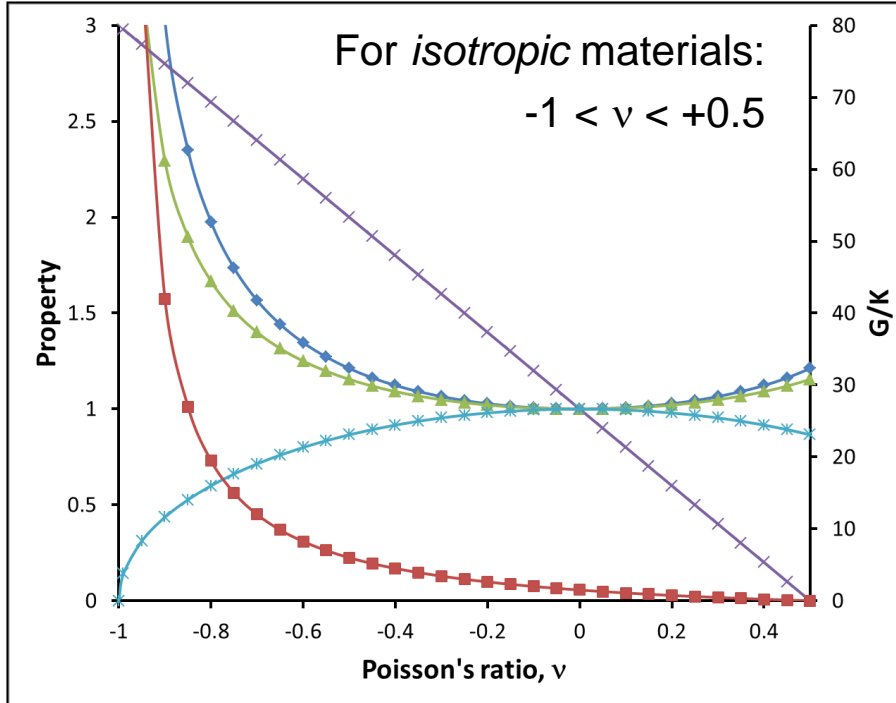
$$U_v = \frac{(1-2\nu)\sigma^2}{6E}$$

Volumetric strain energy dissipation



For *isotropic* materials: $-1 < \nu < +0.5$

Auxetics: a route to enhancing other properties



$$\frac{G}{K} = \frac{3(1-2\nu)}{2(1+\nu)}$$

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Volumetric strain energy dissipation

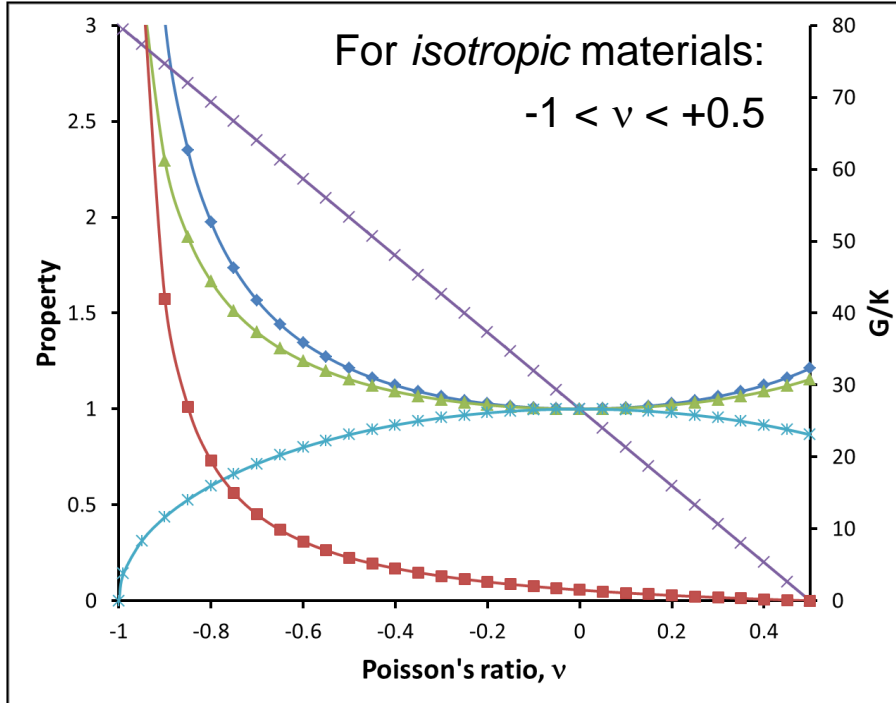
$$f_c \propto (1-\nu^2)^{1/2}$$

Critical resonance frequency



For *isotropic* materials: $-1 < \nu < +0.5$

Auxetics: a route to enhancing other properties



$$\frac{G}{K} = \frac{3(1-2\nu)}{2(1+\nu)}$$

Shear rigidity

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\pi E T}{2r(1-\nu^2)}}$$

Fracture toughness

$$H \propto \left[\frac{E}{1-\nu^2} \right]^{2/3}$$

Indentation resistance

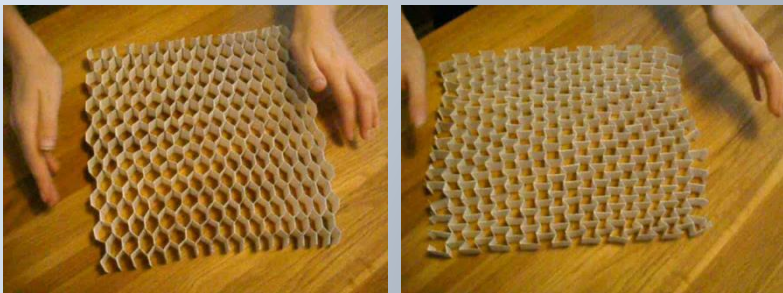
$$U_v = \frac{(1-2\nu)\sigma^2}{6E}$$

Volumetric strain energy dissipation

$$f_c \propto (1-\nu^2)^{1/2}$$

Critical resonance frequency

Curvature



Non-auxetic

Auxetic

$$R_2 = -\frac{R_1}{\nu_{12}}$$

Ability to naturally adopt dome shape when bent out of plane

For isotropic materials: $-1 < \nu < +0.5$

The 7-pad system fits most ground combat helmets. Each helmet pad in this replacement/upgrade system features a unique geometry that allows the pad to fit the shape of the head and offers superior deceleration under blunt impact tests vs. market leading competitors.

PRODUCT FEATURES

- High Performing
- Patented D3O® technology
- Comoposite Solution
- Unique auxetic geometry when stretched becomes thicker perpendicular to the applied force



WaveCel - Bontrager

https://wavecel.trekbikes.com/us/en_US/



D3O® TRUST HELMET PAD SYSTEM

D3O® unique patented and proprietary technologies provide both enhanced protection, versatile and flexible materials for a host of shock absorption and impact protection applications.

Constructed using D3O's newly engineered Dacel material, the helmet liner system provides extreme comfort and high performance protection which exceeds the required level of protection by 30% in the Advanced Combat Helmet (ACH) tests at 120kpsi.

The 7-pad system fits most ground combat helmets. Each helmet pad in this replacement/upgrade system features a unique geometry that allows the pad to fit the shape of the head and offers superior deceleration under blunt impact tests vs. market leading competitors.

PRODUCT FEATURES

- High Performing
- Patented D3O® technology
- Composite Solution
- Unique auxetic geometry when stretched becomes thicker perpendicular to the applied force
- Fully customizable with hook and loop attachment
- Lined with technical wicking fabric

PRODUCT CODE: 11970

PAD INTEGRATION EXAMPLE

FULLY CUSTOMISABLE

UNIQUE AUXETIC GEOMETRY

MOISTURE WICKING FABRIC FOR COMFORT

UNIQUE AUXETIC GEOMETRY

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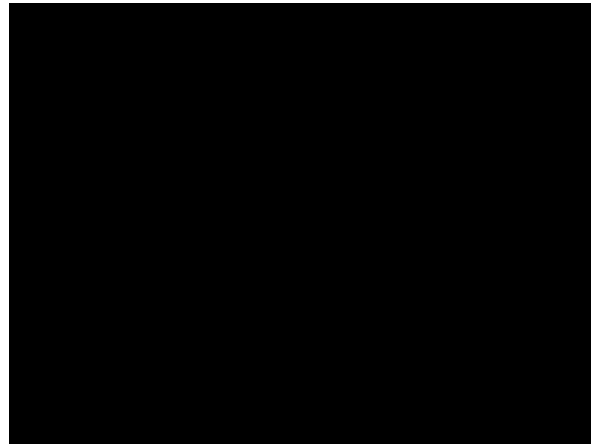
Nike Womens Free Run Flyknit

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3M5jEB4-H0M>



PUMA Calibrate Runner

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K8pahZAmAV0&feature=youtu.be>



Under Armour 3D-printed sports shoes

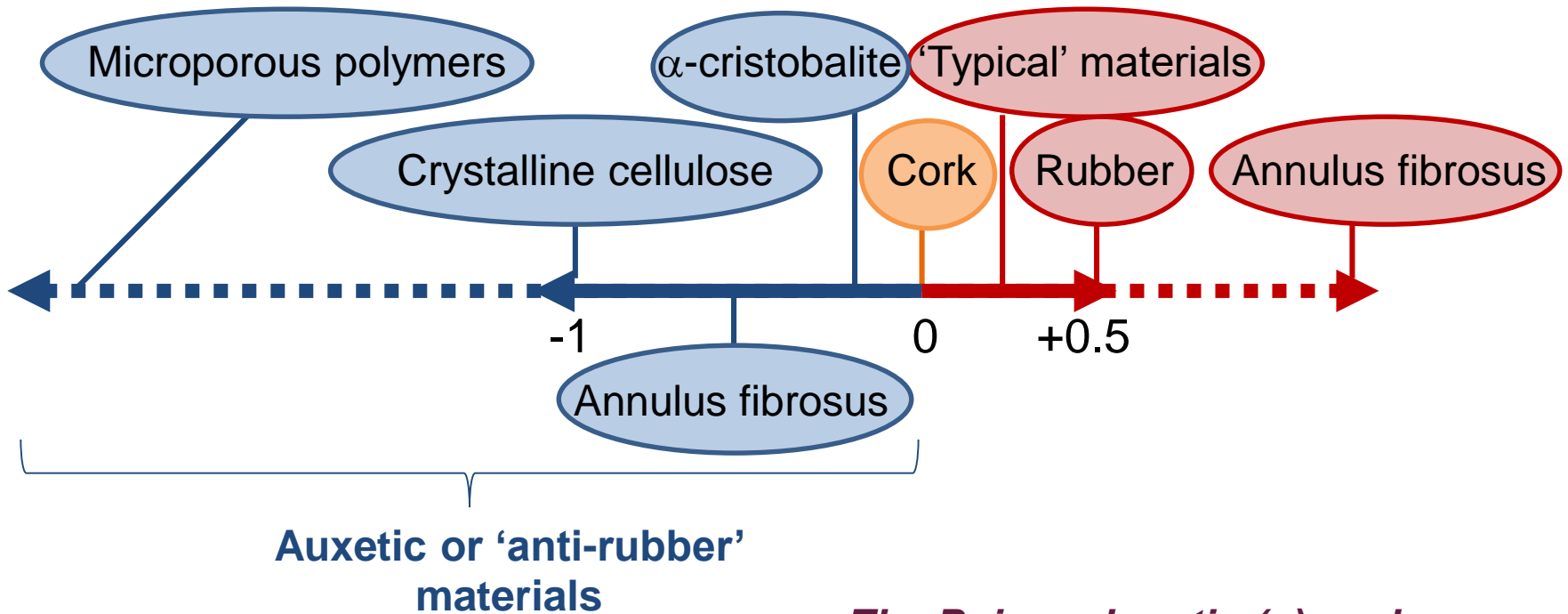
UA Architech - latticed upper made from Clutchfit Auxetic materials

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fH9UVEfLyo>





Am I in the right place?



The Poisson's ratio (ν) scale



Auxetic elastomer developments

- Auxetic fabrics containing elastomeric fibres
- Auxetic fibre-reinforced elastomer composites
- Auxetic Liquid Crystal Elastomers



Fabrics: *Auxetic fabric structure*

- Made on commercial warp knitting machine
- Commercially-available, conventional yarns
 - 480dtex Dorlastan V500
 - Polyester monofilament of 0.15 and 0.25mm diameters
- Apparel applications
 - Comfort, fit, breathable garments
- Healthcare applications
 - Breathable wound-healing bandages



Phys. Status Solidi B 249, No. 7, 1322–1329 (2012) / DOI 10.1002/pssb.201084216

Sara Lee Branded Apparel/Hanes
Brands Inc/Global Composites
Group
PCT Patent Publication Nos.
WO2008/016690; WO2010/125397



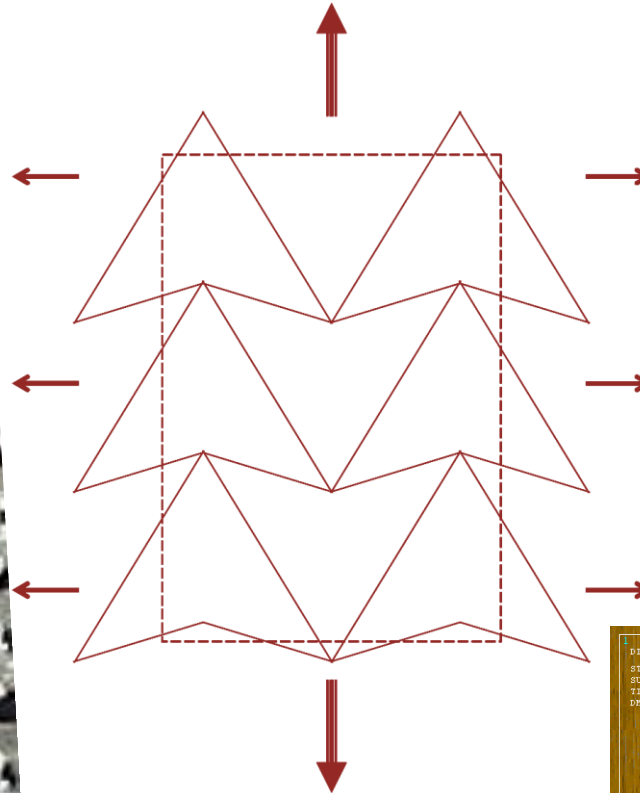
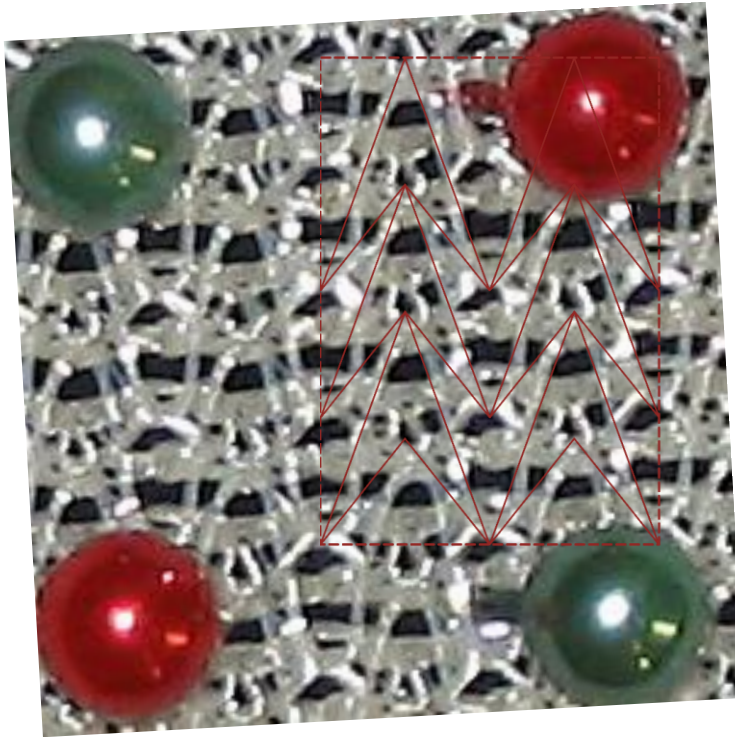
Auxetic warp knit textile structures

Kim Alderson*, Andrew Alderson, Subhash Anand, Virginia Simkins, Shonali Nazare,
and Naveen Ravirala

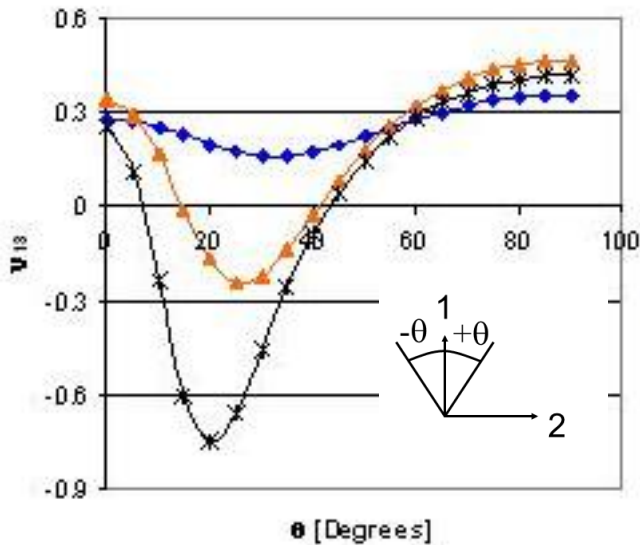
WARP KNIT STRUCTURES BASED ON TRIANGULAR LATTICE GEOMETRY



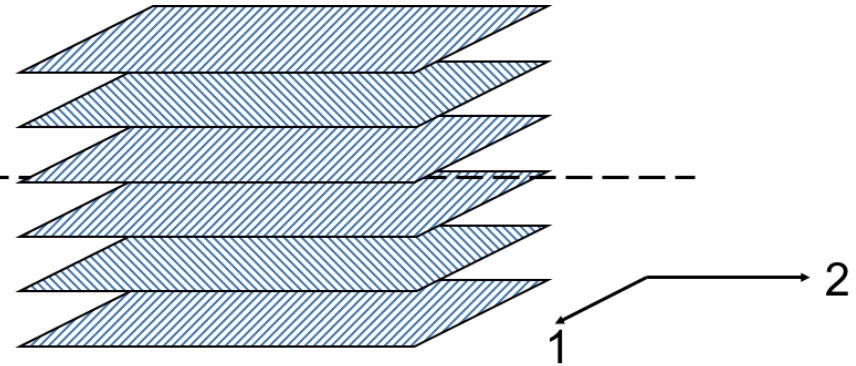
WARP KNIT STRUCTURES BASED ON TRIANGULAR LATTICE GEOMETRY



- Negative in-plane or out-of-plane Poisson's ratios possible for certain lay-up sequences



Symmetry Plane



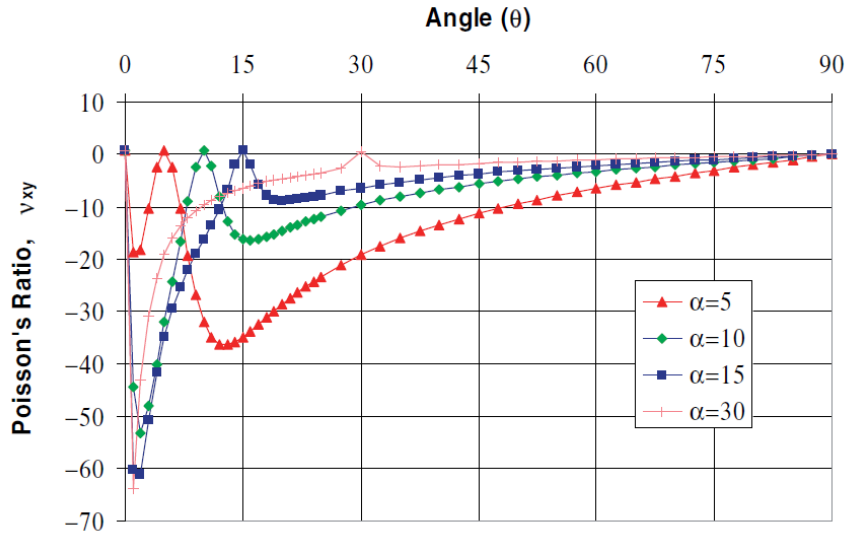
phys. stat. sol. (b) 244, No. 3, 883–892 (2007) / DOI 10.1002/pssb.200572707

Modelling the influence of the orientation and fibre reinforcement on the Negative Poisson's ratio in composite laminates

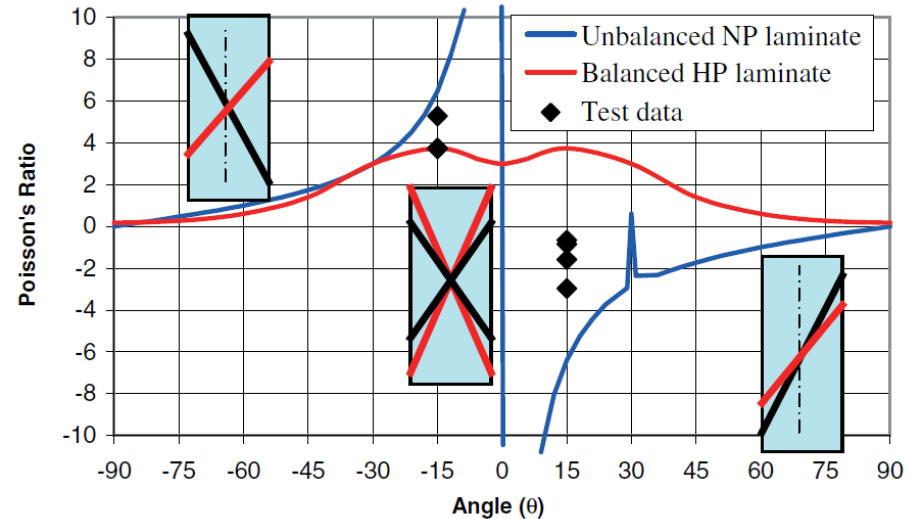
El Hadi Harkati^{***,1}, Abderrezak Bezazi^{*,**,2}, Fabrizio Scarpa², Kim Alderson³, and Andrew Alderson³



Auxetic fibre-reinforced elastomer composites

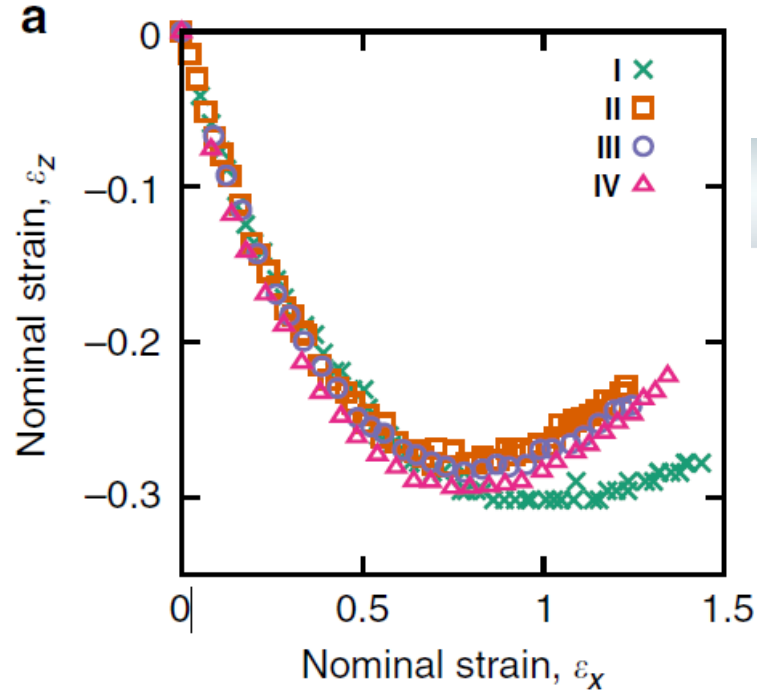


CLT predictions for in-plane Poisson's ratio ν_{xy} as a function of angle θ for various fixed angle α values in an unbalanced graphite/polyurethane laminate with a lay-up of $[\theta/\alpha]_s$



CLT predictions vs experiment as a function of angle θ for unbalanced $[\theta_2/30_2]_s$ and balanced angle-ply $[\pm\theta/\pm30]_s$ graphite/polyurethane laminates



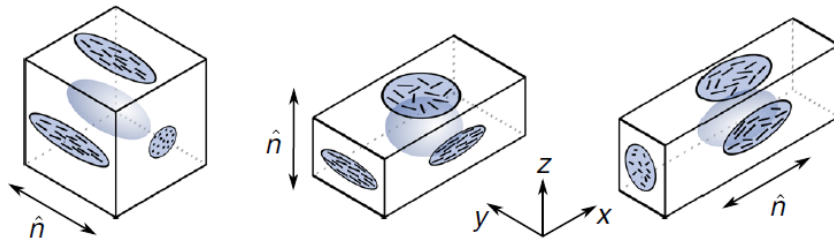


ARTICLE

DOI: [10.1038/s41467-018-07587-y](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-018-07587-y) OPEN

Coincident molecular auxeticity and negative order parameter in a liquid crystal elastomer

D. Mistry¹, S.D. Connell¹, S.L. Mickthwaite², P.B. Morgan³, J.H. Clamp⁴ & H.F. Gleeson¹



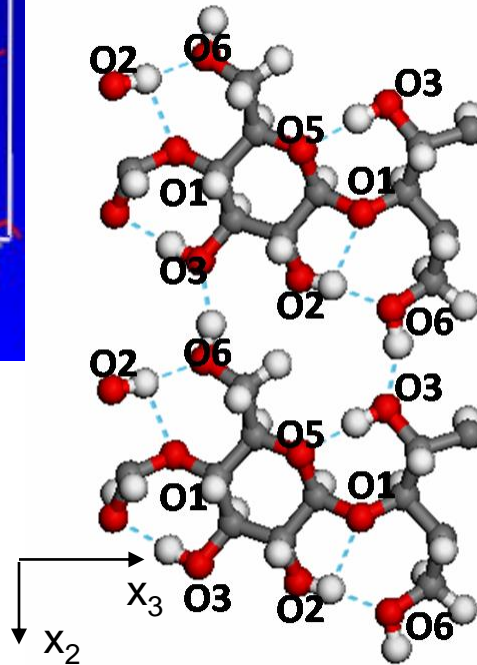
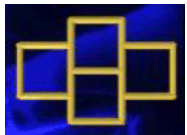
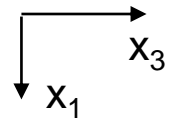
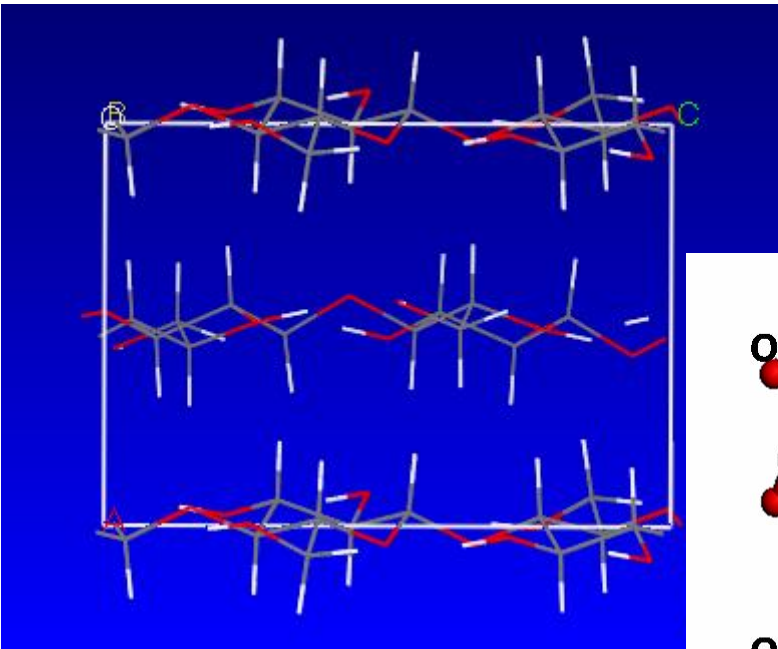
$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_x &= 0 \\ v_{xz} &> 0 \\ v_{xy} &> 0 \\ S &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_x &= \varepsilon_c \\ v_{xz} &\sim 0 \\ v_{xy} &> 0 \\ S &< 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_x &> \varepsilon_c \\ v_{xz} &< 0 \\ v_{xy} &> 0 \\ S &> 0 \end{aligned}$$



Crystalline cellulose – Kraft cooked spruce

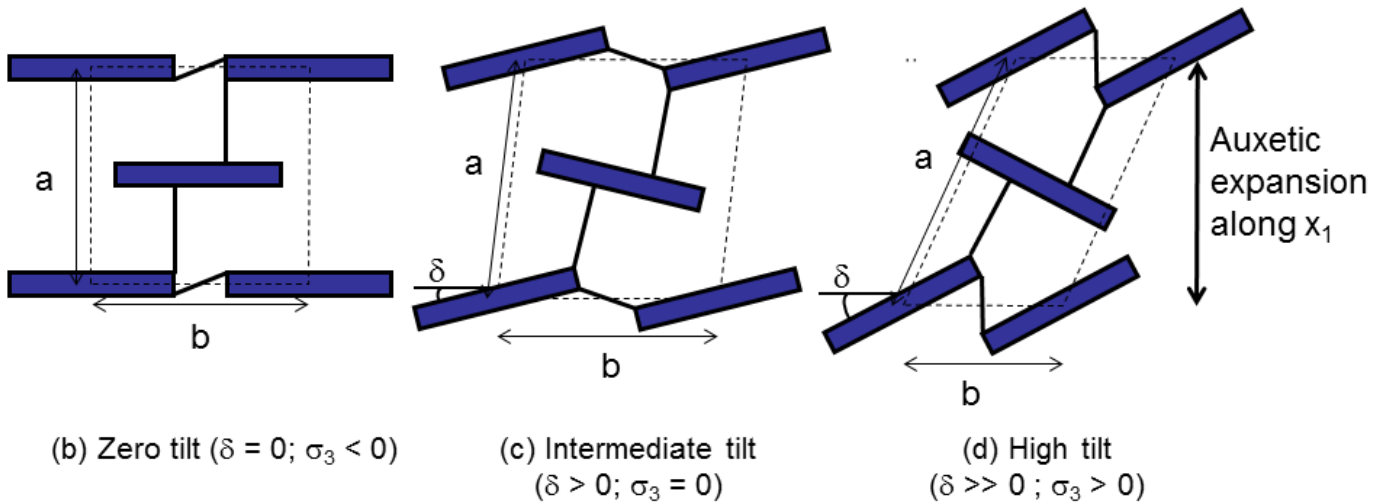
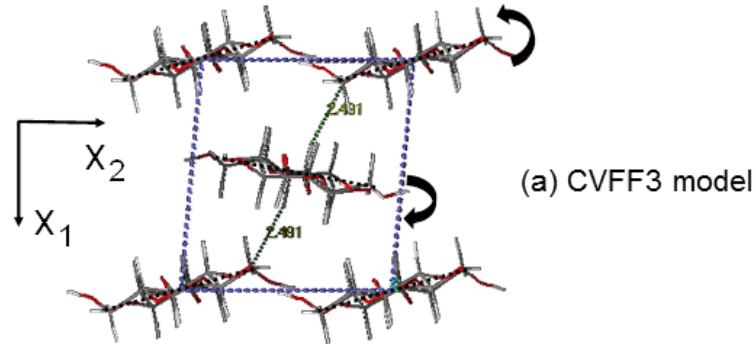


Experimental data		
Tc [min]	Poisson's ratios	
	ν_{31} (before yield)	ν_{31} (after yield)
120	-1.06 ± 0.53	-0.98 ± 0.46
150	-0.91 ± 0.25	-1.00 ± 0.25
180	-0.76 ± 0.3	-0.86 ± 0.25
210	-1.17 ± 0.26	-1.05 ± 0.26
240	-0.26 ± 0.15	N/A

**M. Peura, et al (2006),
Biomacromolecules, 7, 1521-1528**

Modeling of negative Poisson's ratio (auxetic) crystalline cellulose I_{β}

Yong T. Yao · Kim L. Alderson · Andrew Alderson



- $\sigma_3 (\epsilon_3) > 0$
- $\epsilon_1 > 0 \rightarrow \nu_{31} < 0$
- $\epsilon_2 < 0 \rightarrow \nu_{32} > 0$



Applying the cellulose chain model to mesogen rotation in auxetic LCEs

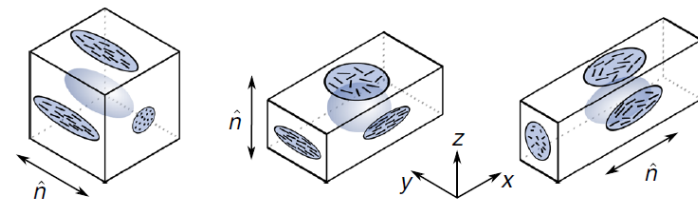
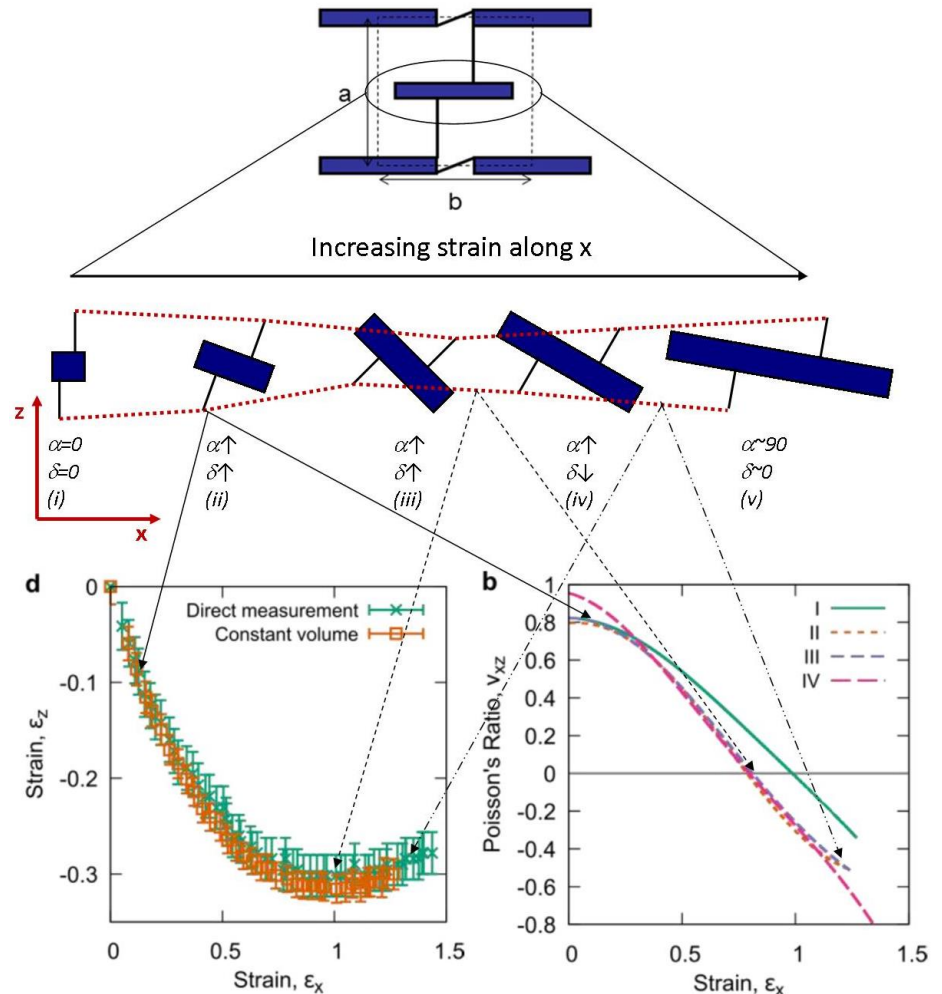
Shruti Mandhani
 MPG / RIEG Webinar - Elastomers and Polymers - Can the demand for improved sustainability be satisfied?
 16th November 2020



An 'anti-rubber' Elastomer

Shruti Mandhani
 PhD Researcher
 Sheffield Hallam University

Supervisors:
 Prof. Andy Alderson
 Prof. Doug Cleaver



$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_x &= 0 \\ \nu_{xz} &> 0 \\ \nu_{xy} &> 0 \\ S &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_x &= \epsilon_c \\ \nu_{xz} &\sim 0 \\ \nu_{xy} &> 0 \\ S &< 0 \end{aligned}$$

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MERI-BMRC-SCH collaboration: Auxetic scaffolds for tissue engineering

Cell growth & proliferation #1

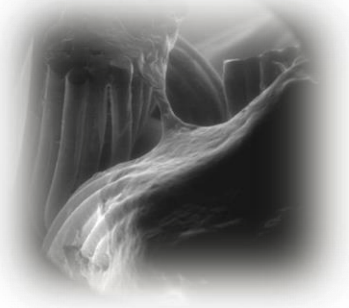
1yr u/g placement student: Jordan Roe
Supervisors:
C. Le Maitre (BMRC),
AA, N. Jordan-Mahy (BMRC) & P. Godbole (SCH)
2015-2016

Cell growth & proliferation #2

1yr RA: Paul Mardling
Supervisors:
C. Le Maitre (BMRC),
AA, N. Jordan-Mahy (BMRC) & P. Godbole (SCH)
2017

Tissue Engineering

VCS PhD student:
Paul Mardling
Supervisors:
C. Le Maitre (BMRC),
AA, N. Jordan-Mahy (BMRC)
Advisor: P. Godbole (SCH)
2018-2021



Why auxetic scaffolds?

- Increasing number of natural soft biological tissues reported to display auxetic behaviour
- Preliminary report (Park 2013) that auxetic PU foam scaffold under compression leads to enhanced physical stimulation for cellular proliferation during cell cultivation
 - 1.3 times higher cellular proliferation rate 3 days after cell seeding
 - 1.5 times higher amount of collagen produced by the cells after 3 and 5 days in culture



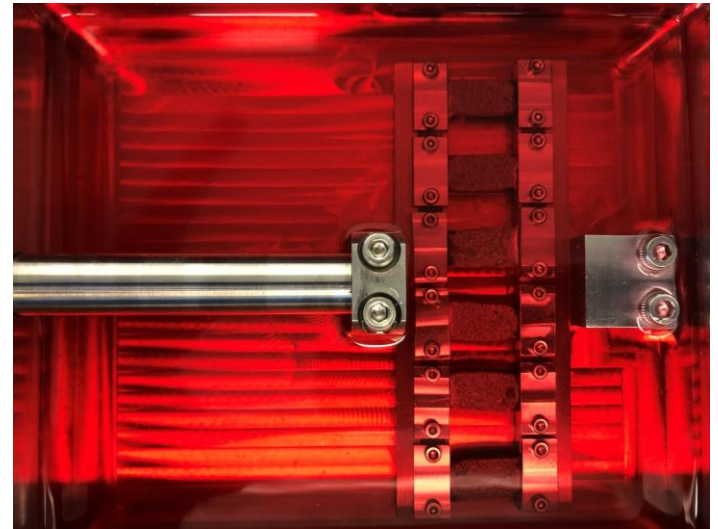
PhD: Investigating the Use of Auxetic Materials Within Tissue Engineering

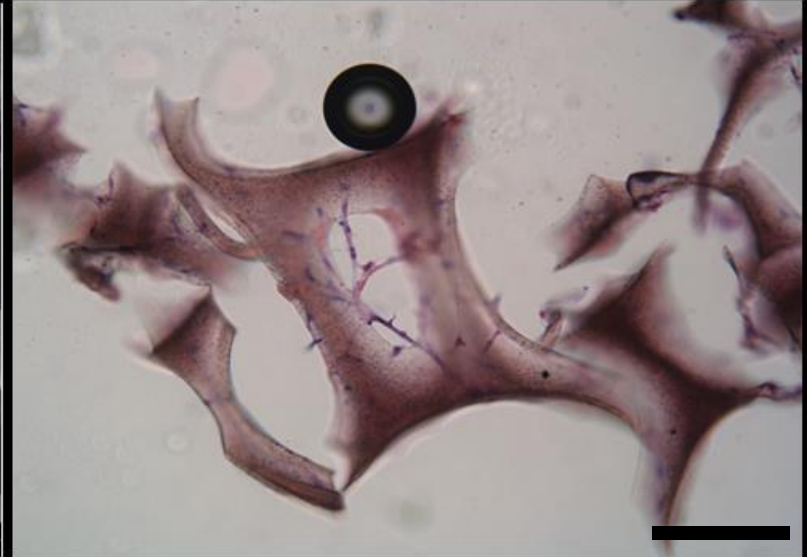
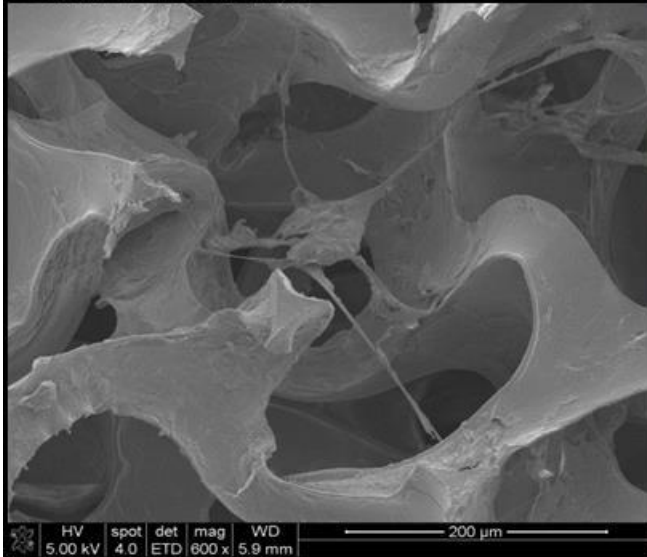
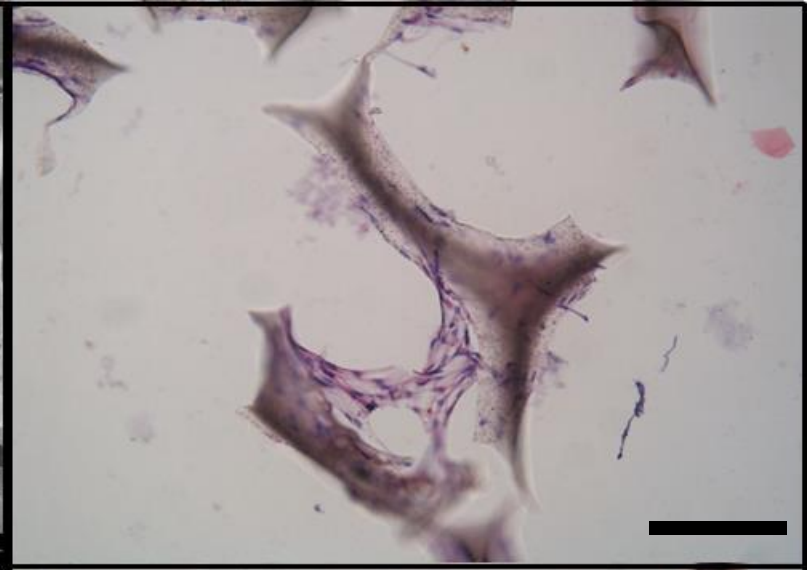
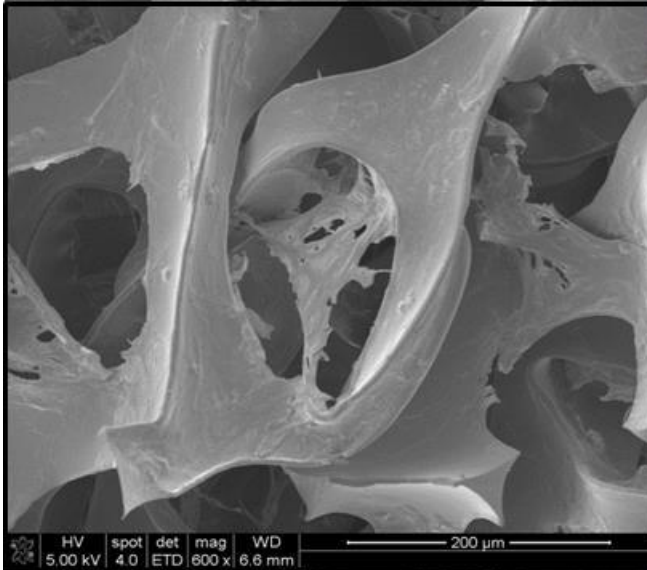
Aim/Objectives	Methodology
Create auxetic scaffolds	Thermomechanical triaxial compression
Assessment of mechanical properties	3D Digital image correlation
Culture human cells within auxetic scaffolds	Various primary cell types seeded within auxetic scaffolds and cultured for up to 4 weeks.
Assessment of cell culture	Histology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haematoxylin and Eosin : Cell morphology • Masson's trichrome : Extracellular matrix • Immunohistochemistry: Cell markers
Culture human cells within auxetic scaffolds under physiological load	Using a bioreactor to grow cell seeded scaffolds under cyclic physiological load.
Assessment of cell culture	Histology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haematoxylin and Eosin : Cell morphology • Masson's trichrome : Extracellular matrix • Immunohistochemistry: Cell markers

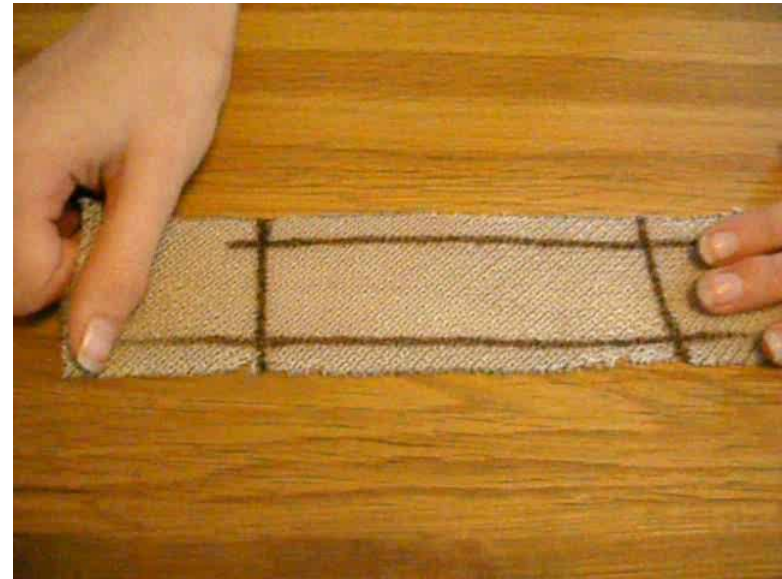
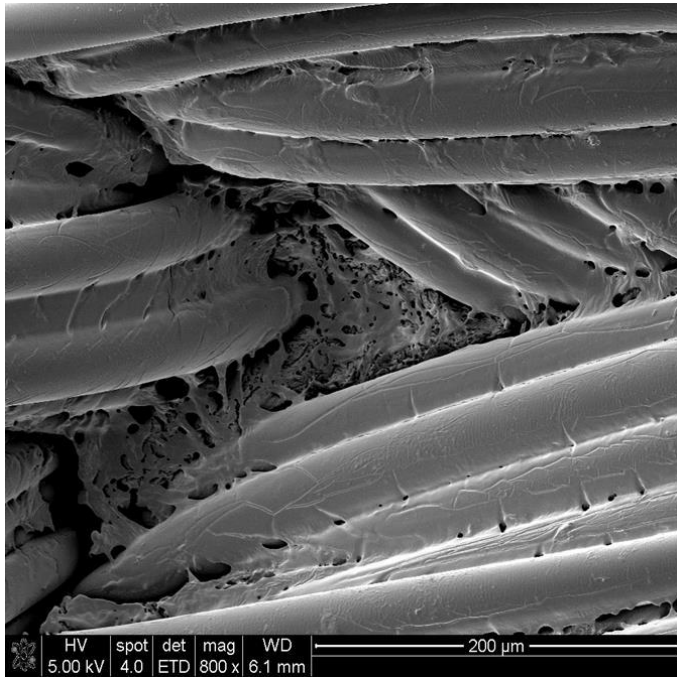


Key results and outcomes/conclusions to date

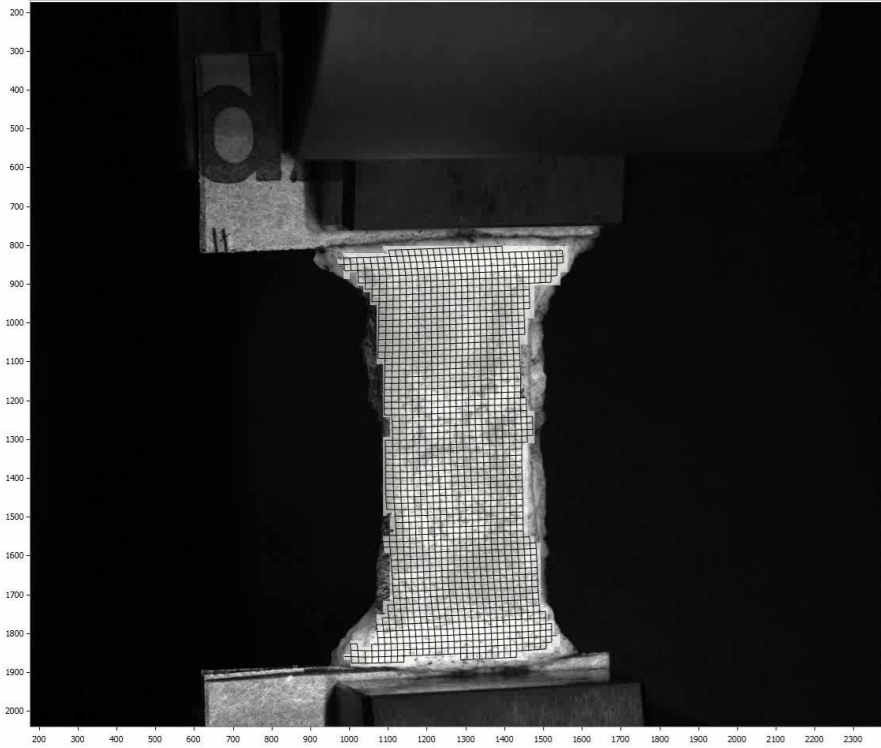
- Development of auxetic scaffolds successful
 - Another novel scaffold currently in development
- Cell culture of seeded scaffolds for 4 weeks
 - Cells attach
 - Proliferate
 - Currently checking differentiation status
- Cell culture under cyclic physiological load
 - ongoing



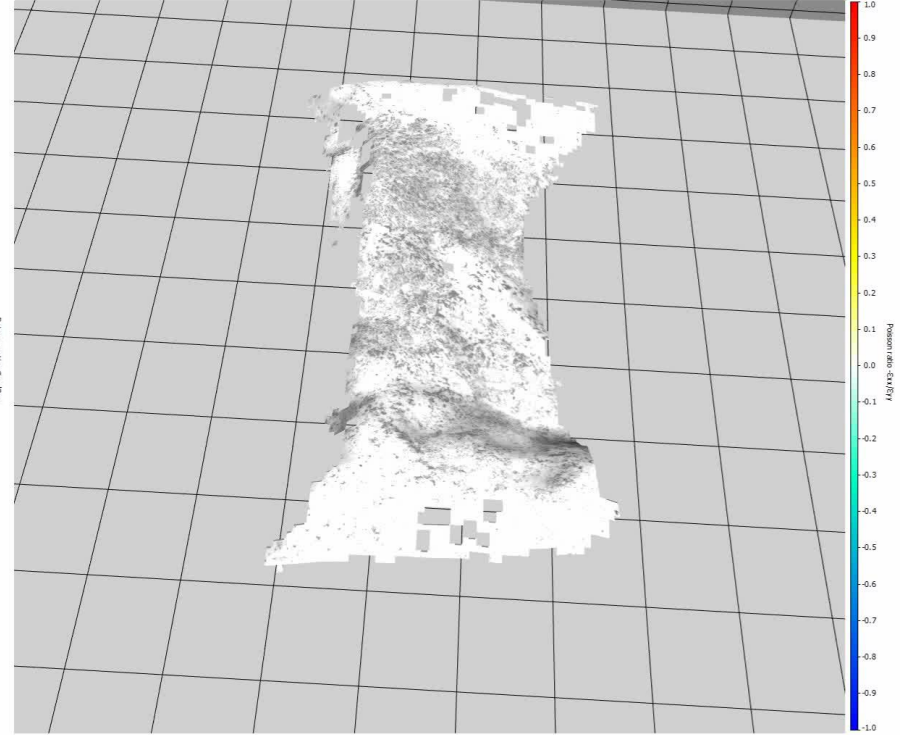




3D DIC Tissue samples

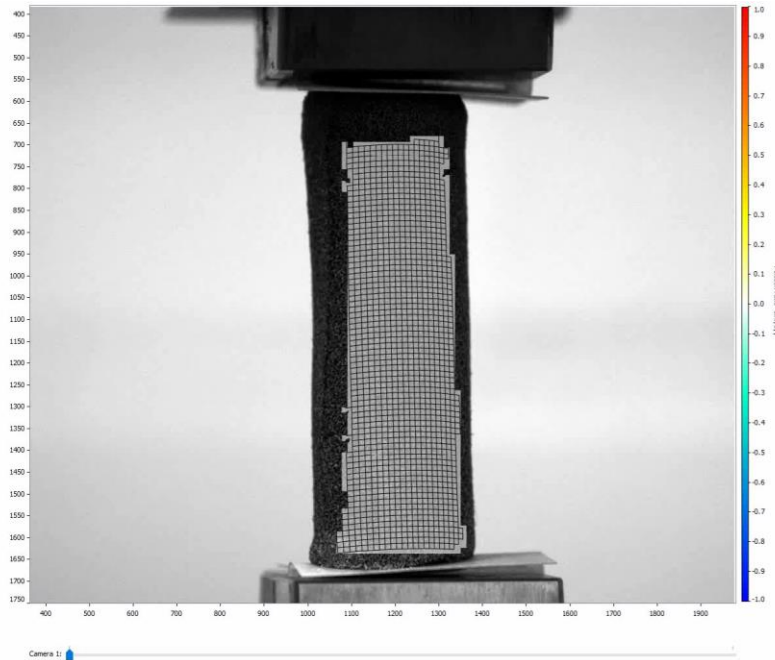


Camera 1:

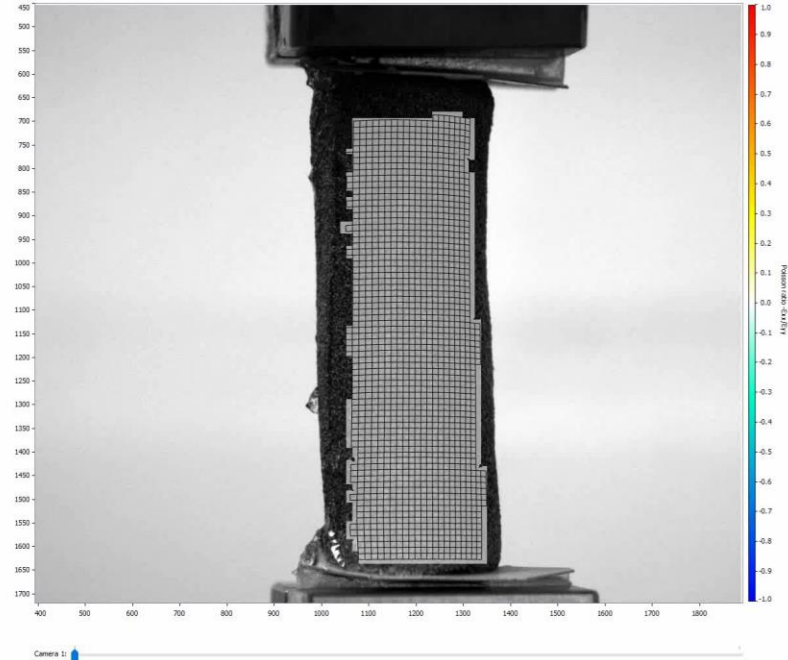


Composite Foam-Hydrogel Scaffold

Converted



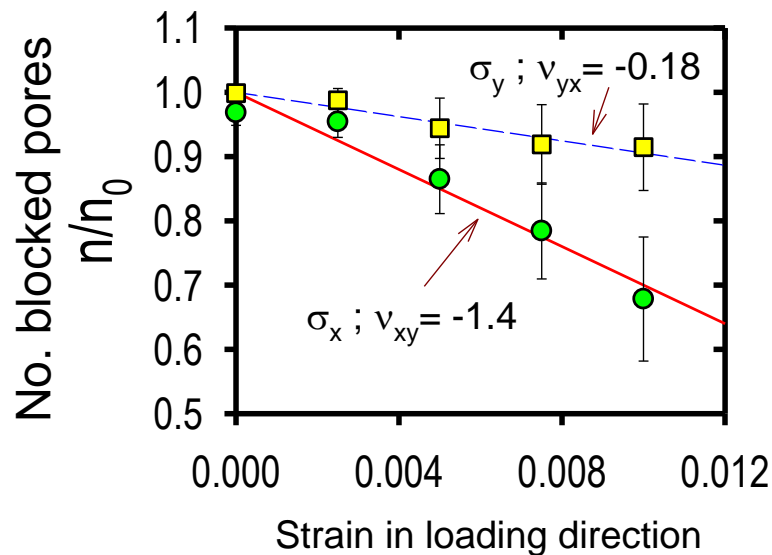
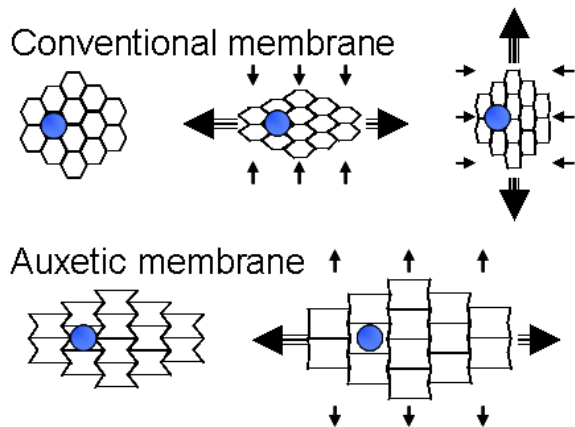
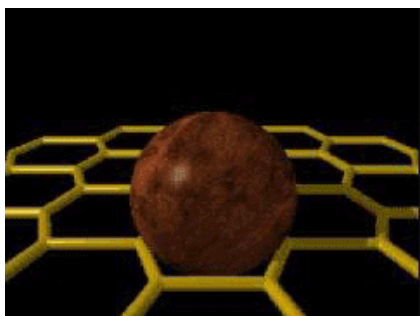
Converted containing Hydrogel



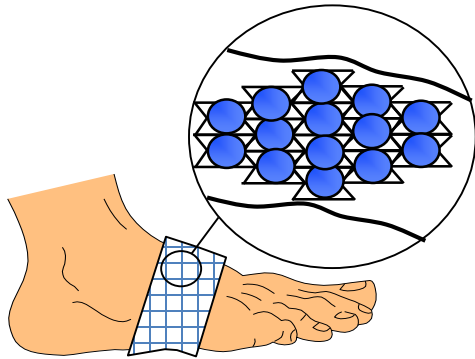
An Auxetic Filter: A Tuneable Filter Displaying Enhanced Size Selectivity or Defouling Properties

Andrew Alderson,^{*,†} John Rasburn,[‡] Simon Ameer-Beg,[†] Peter G. Mullarkey,[‡] Walter Perrie,[†] and Kenneth E. Evans[‡]

Storage and release of guest material:
High volume change (variable porosity membranes)

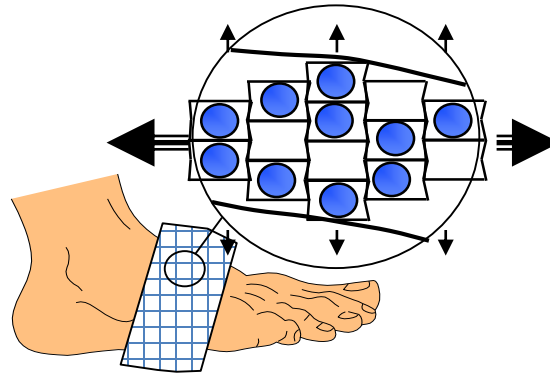


'SMART' BANDAGE: IMPREGNATED AUXETIC FILAMENTS



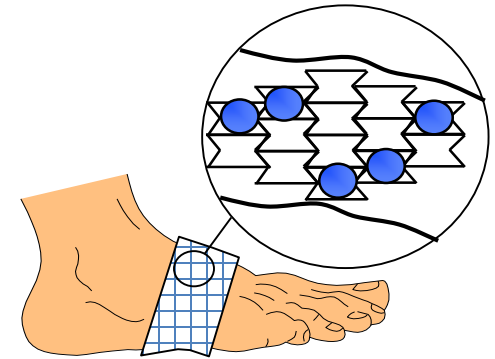
Bandage applied to wound

- bandage consists of auxetic filaments impregnated with wound-healing agent



Infected wound swells

- bandage stretches
- filaments stretch
- filament micropores open (auxetic effect)
- *release of wound-healing agent starts*



Wound heals

- swelling decreases
- bandage relaxes
- filaments relax
- filament micropores close
- *release of wound-healing agent stops*

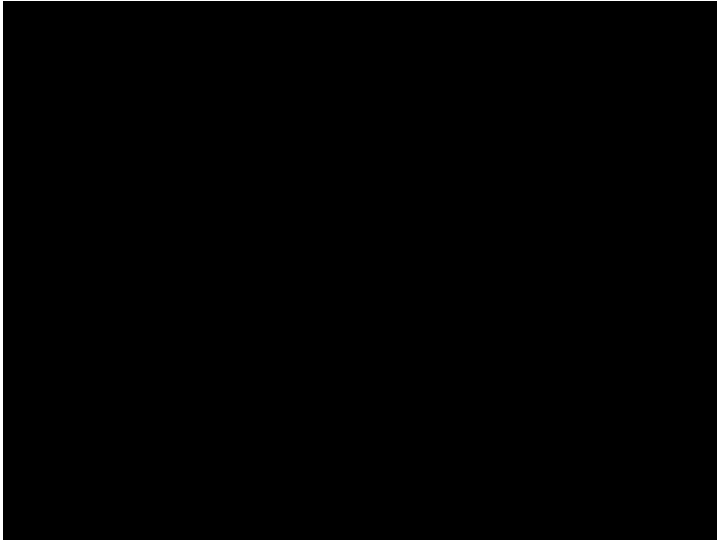


Healthcare case study: the LaparOsphere™

- 3 million abdominal laparoscopic (key-hole) procedures are undertaken each year
- Expect increasing use of laparoscopic techniques to reduce patient trauma, speed up operations and reduce healthcare costs
- CO₂ insufflation currently used to visualise the area of interest and create a space to operate within. Issues include:
 - Raised abdominal pressure can result in reduced heart and lung function, hypercapnia and hypoxaemia
 - CO₂ losses due to the use of suction devices and leakage
 - Difficulties in using electrosurgical and laser based cutting and sealing devices
 - Requirement for additional and frequent organ retraction



Innovative new device for space creation and organ retraction in laparoscopic surgery



- Provides improved access and visibility for the surgeon
- Eliminates patient side effects associated with CO₂ insufflation
- Enables use of suction without deflation
- Improved use of thermal cutting systems
- No need for multiple gas tight access ports
- Eliminates recurrent deflation caused by CO₂ leaks
- No requirement for medical grade CO₂
- With its innate retraction function on inflation, reduces need for additional instruments

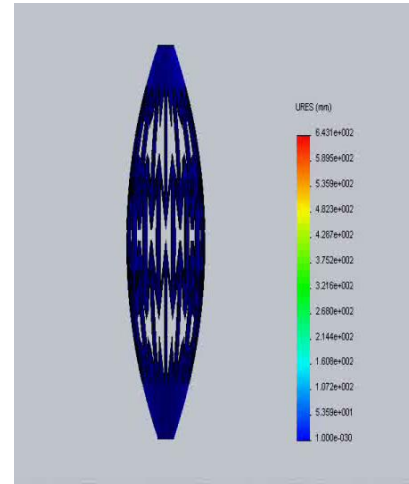
Potential to contribute to cost savings, reduced lengths of stay, reduced complications and reduced adverse events associated with laparoscopic procedures



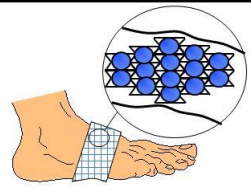
(Dr James Corden (TrusTECH), “Auxetic Technology in Improving Healthcare”, Materials KTN workshop, 4th September 2012)

Deployable auxetic cylinders

PhD student: Dignesh Shah

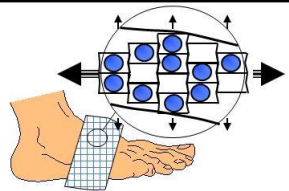


Sector case study: Healthcare



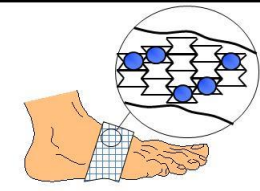
Bandage applied to wound

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Infected wound swells

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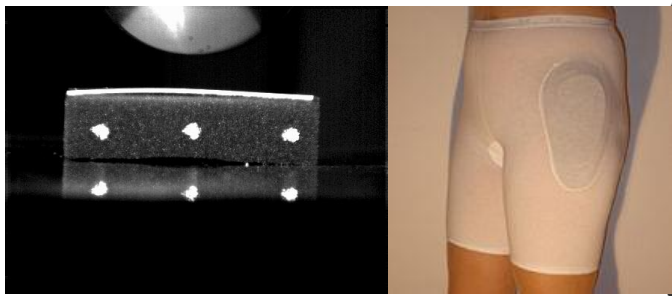
Wound heals

- swelling decreases
- bandage relaxes
- filaments relax
- filament micropores close
- release of wound-healing agent stops*

The 'smart bandage' concept delivers controlled drug release from wound dressings in response to swelling of the wound

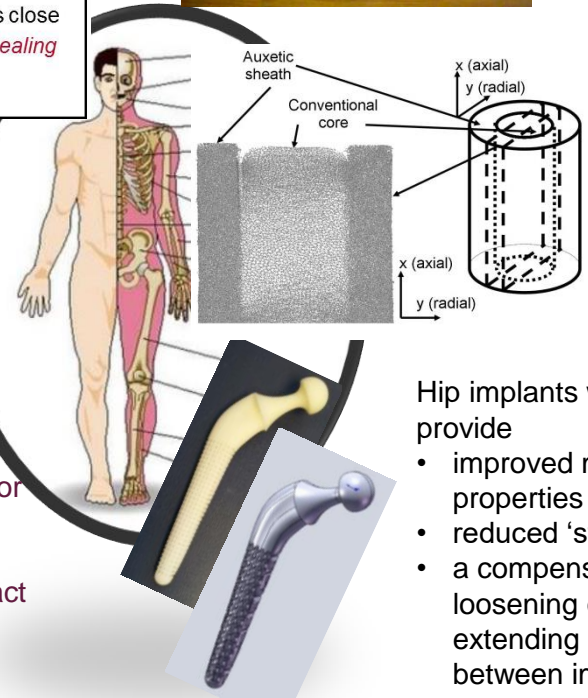


Deployable gradient auxetic structures for space creation and organ retraction in keyhole surgery



Auxetic foam pads will improve wearer acceptance and compliance in hip protector devices due to:

- improved comfort/fit (double curvature)
- enhanced energy absorption (impact response)
- lower device weight and/or volume



Gradient one-piece foams mimic the concentric core-sheath structure of the natural intervertebral disc. The auxetic sheath reduces disc bulge under compression to reduce lower back pain

Hip implants with auxetic mesh stems provide

- improved match to bone mechanical properties
- reduced 'stress shielding'
- a compensation mechanism for loosening of the stem over time - extending device lifetime and time between implant replacement operations