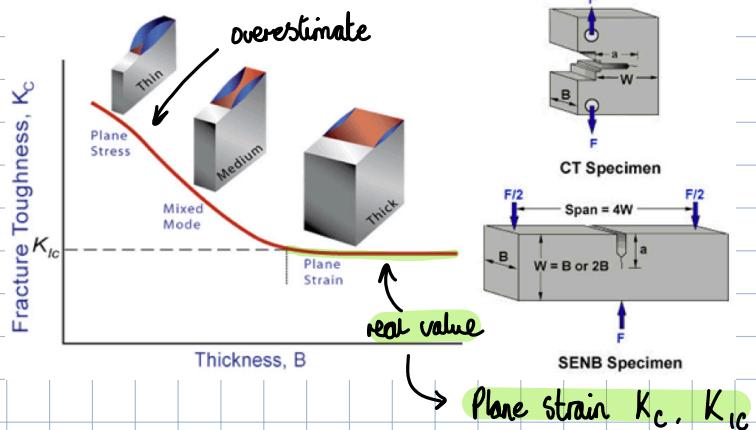


- Fracture toughness meant to be a linear material property but important to understand role of material thickness & application of loading direction when establishing fracture toughness.

→ Must understand :

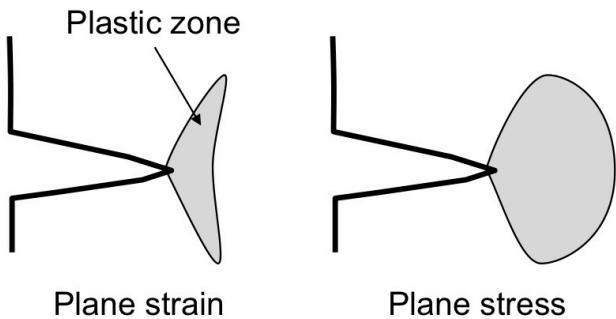
- Plane strain & stress
- Crack tip state of tension
- Isotropic vs. anisotropic toughness



↓ thickness = ↑ in plane plastic def ∴ ↑  $K_c$

Plastic zone / fracture process zone depends on nature of stress ahead of crack :

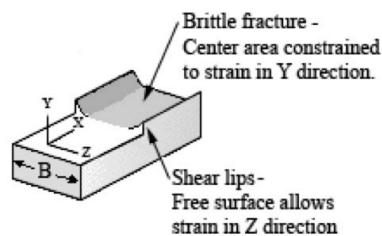
$$\rightarrow \text{Plane stress } r_p \approx 3 \times \text{Plane strain } r_p$$



**Plane Stress** :  $\sigma_{zz} = 0$  ,  $\epsilon_{zz} \neq 0$  ∴ biaxial stress state

→ results in fracture in characteristic ductile manner, with a 45° shear lip formed at each free surface

Plastic zone radius can be approximated by :  $r_p = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left( \frac{K_c}{\sigma_y} \right)^2$



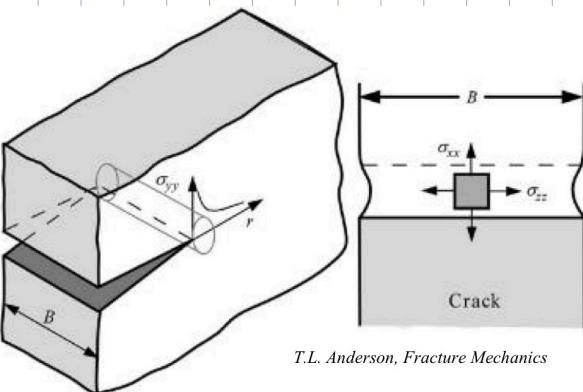
Thin Section

Predominately ductile fracture due to biaxial stress state.

Shear lips occupy a large percentage of thickness.

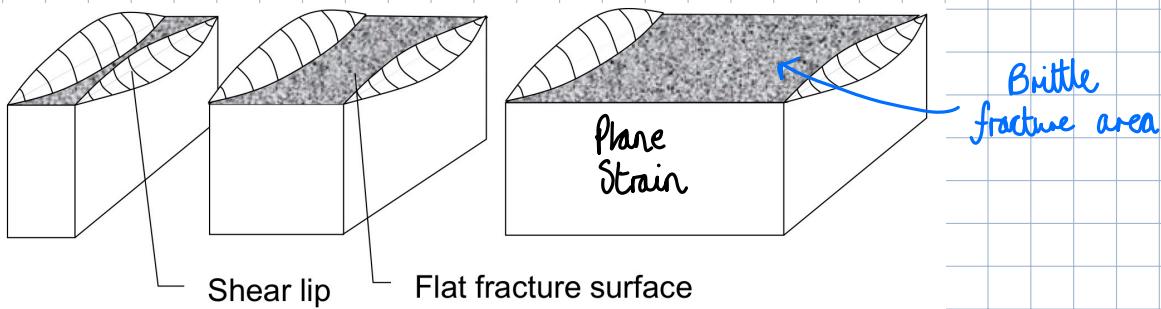
**Plane Strain** :  $\sigma_{zz} \gg 0 \therefore$  triaxial stress state ,  $\epsilon_{zz} = 0$

$$r_p = \frac{1}{6\pi} \left( \frac{K_{IC}}{\sigma_y} \right)^2$$



### Shear Lips :

- Form as crack approaches surface
- For small samples, shear lips are dominant failure mechanism.
- For very thick samples, contribution of shear lips is trivial  $\therefore$  valid measure of  $K_c$ .



### Mode I Fracture Toughness ASTM Standard :

- Must ensure plane strain  $\therefore$  thick specimens :

$$K_{IC} = \frac{P_c}{B\sqrt{W}} f\left(\frac{a}{W}\right)$$

$\hookrightarrow f\left(\frac{a}{W}\right) = \text{Slide 12}$

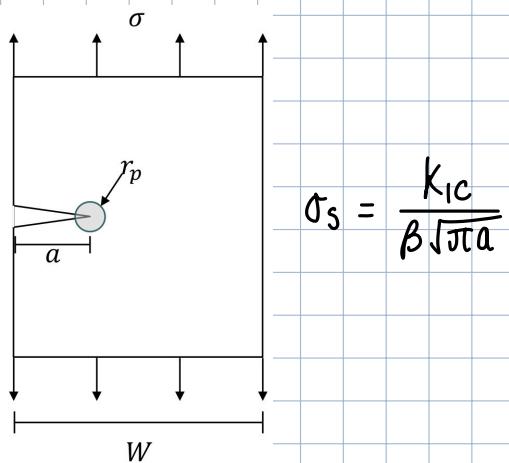
### LEFM Validity :

- For LEFM equations to be valid, ~ plastic zone ahead of crack must be  $r_p < \frac{a}{50}$

and  $r_p < (W-a)/50$

- Additionally for plane strain ,  $r_p < B/50$

$\hookrightarrow$  Thickness



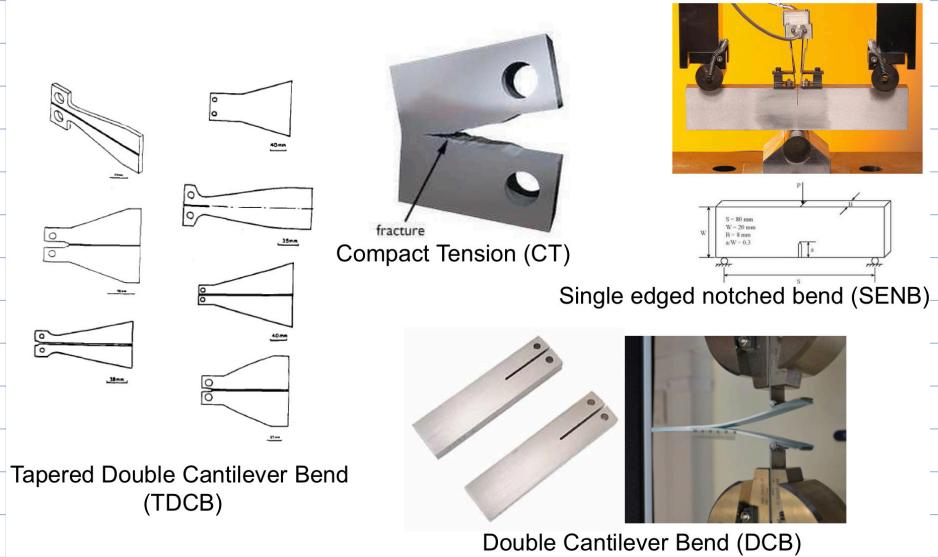
# Strain Energy, Compliance & Crack Growth:

$$G = \frac{P^2}{2B} \frac{dC}{da}$$

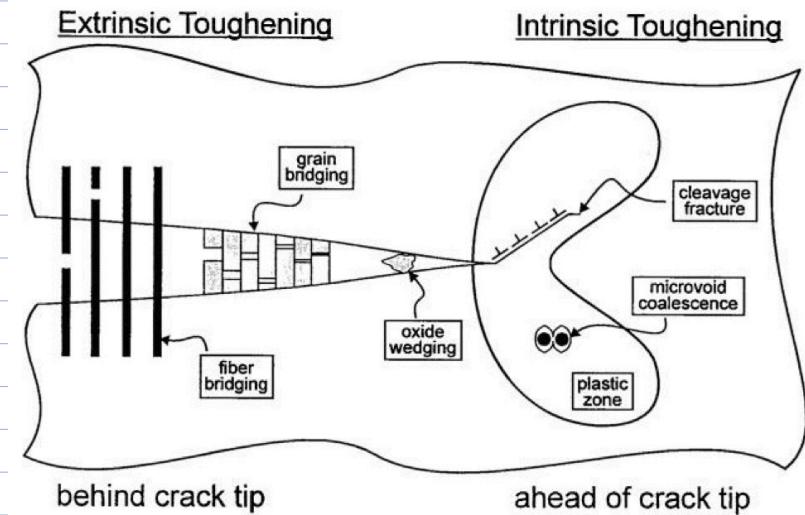
derivation in slides

→ Compliance,  $C$ , is the inverse of stiffness :  $\uparrow C = \uparrow$  deformation

## Test Configurations :



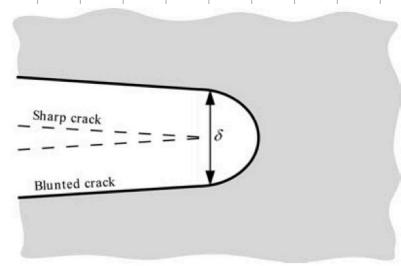
## Factors that Influence Fracture Toughness :



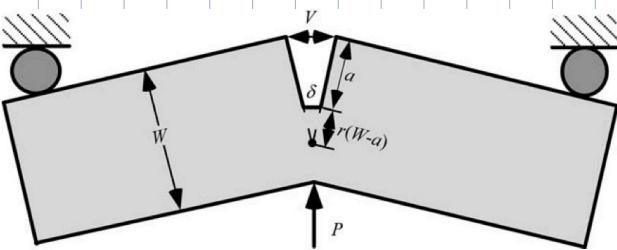
## Elastic Plastic Fracture Mechanics :

- Need to characterise a ductile or highly tough material
- to do this, a procedure developed called crack tip opening displacement
- Crack tip plasticity makes crack behave as if it were longer,  $a + r_p$

→ this method calculates displacement at physical crack tip.



**FIGURE 3.1** Crack-tip-opening displacement (CTOD). An initially sharp crack blunts with plastic deformation, resulting in a finite displacement ( $\delta$ ) at the crack tip.



**FIGURE 3.5** The hinge model for estimating CTOD from three-point bend specimens.

→ Separating elastic & plastic components of the CTOD :

$$\delta = \delta_e + \delta_p = \frac{K_I^2}{m\sigma_{ys} E'} + \frac{r_p (W-a) V_p}{r_p (W-a) + a}$$

dimensionless constant :

- ~1 for plane strain
- ~2 for plane stress

rotational factor 0.44

effective modulus :

$$E = E' \text{ for plane stress}$$

$$E = \frac{E}{1-\nu^2} \text{ for plane strain}$$

## Isotropic vs Anisotropic Materials :

Some  $E, \nu$  all directions

different "

## Failure of Composite Laminates :

