

# Mechanics from Continuous and Localised Intrinsic Curvature Creation

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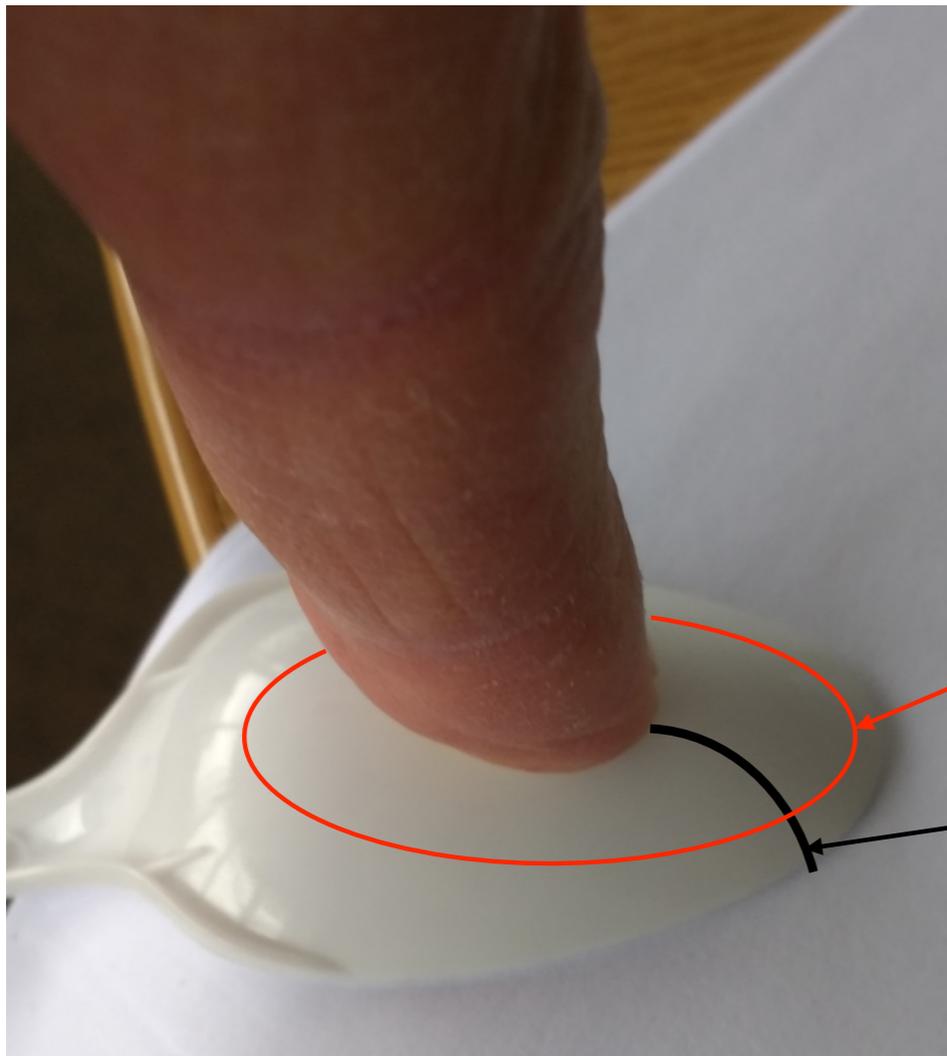
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**Max Planck Institute for Molecular Cell Biology & Genetics**  
**Center for Systems Biology Dresden**

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Cambridge, UK  
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## Why curvature from flat sheets?

- Strong actuation if developing curvature is blocked.
- Induce stretch & compression (not just bend).



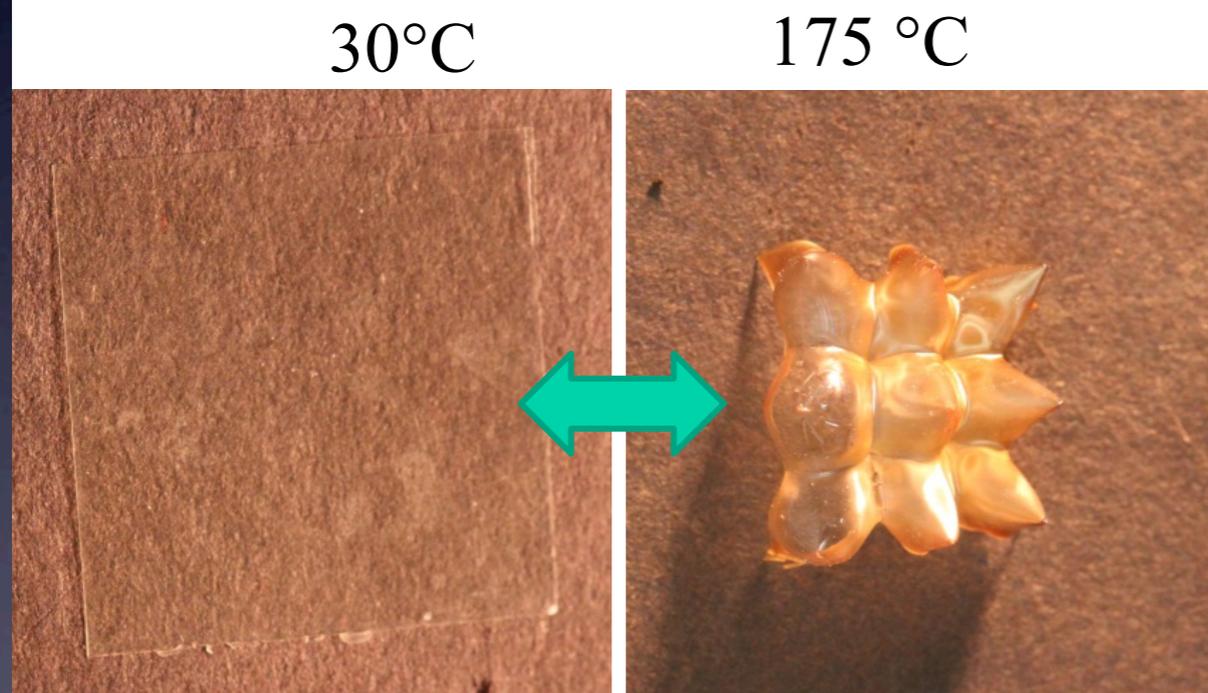
Bend of 2-D curved object difficult

- **cup of spoon**
- imagine it were developing against a load.

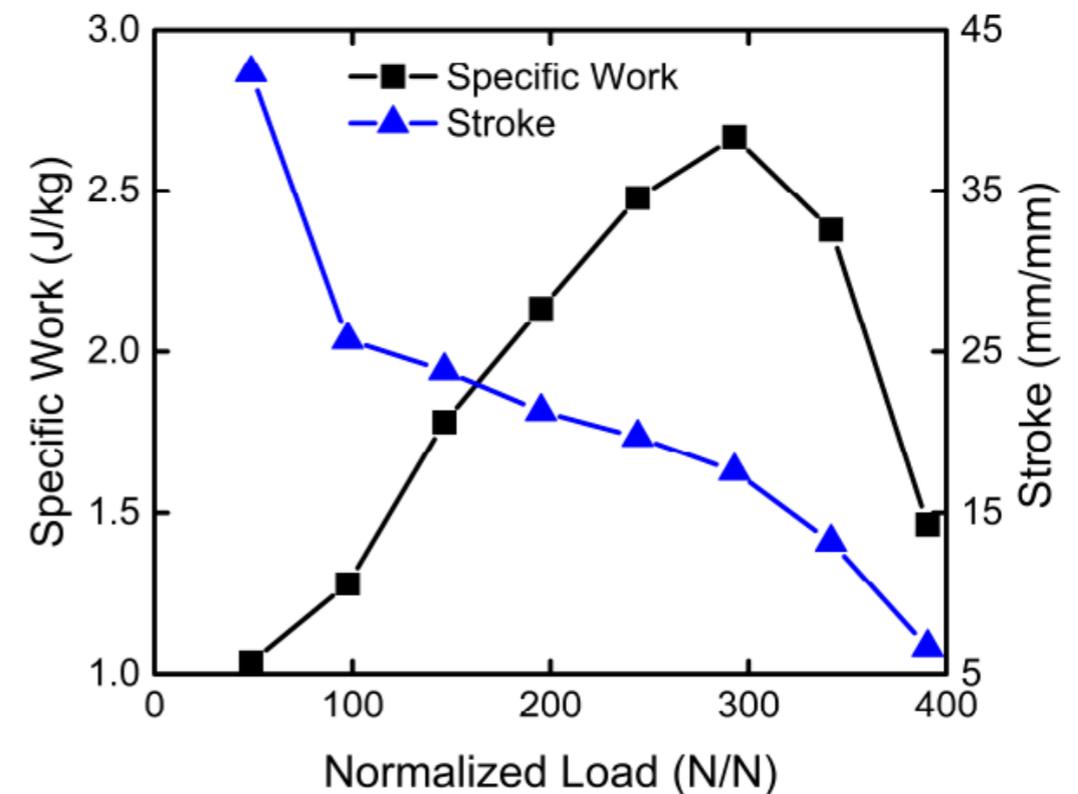
stretch

compression

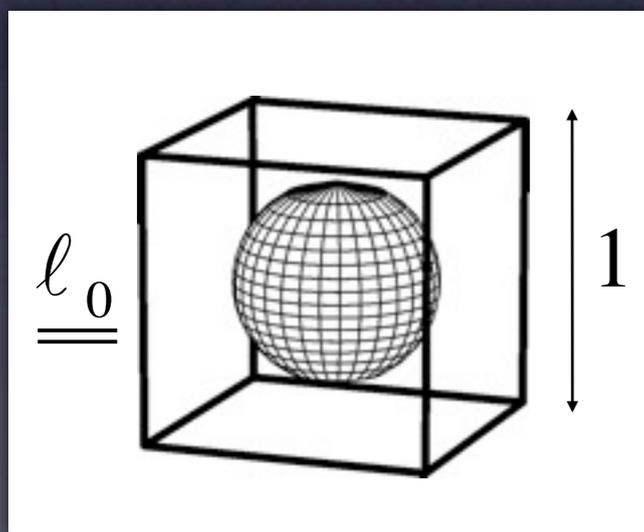
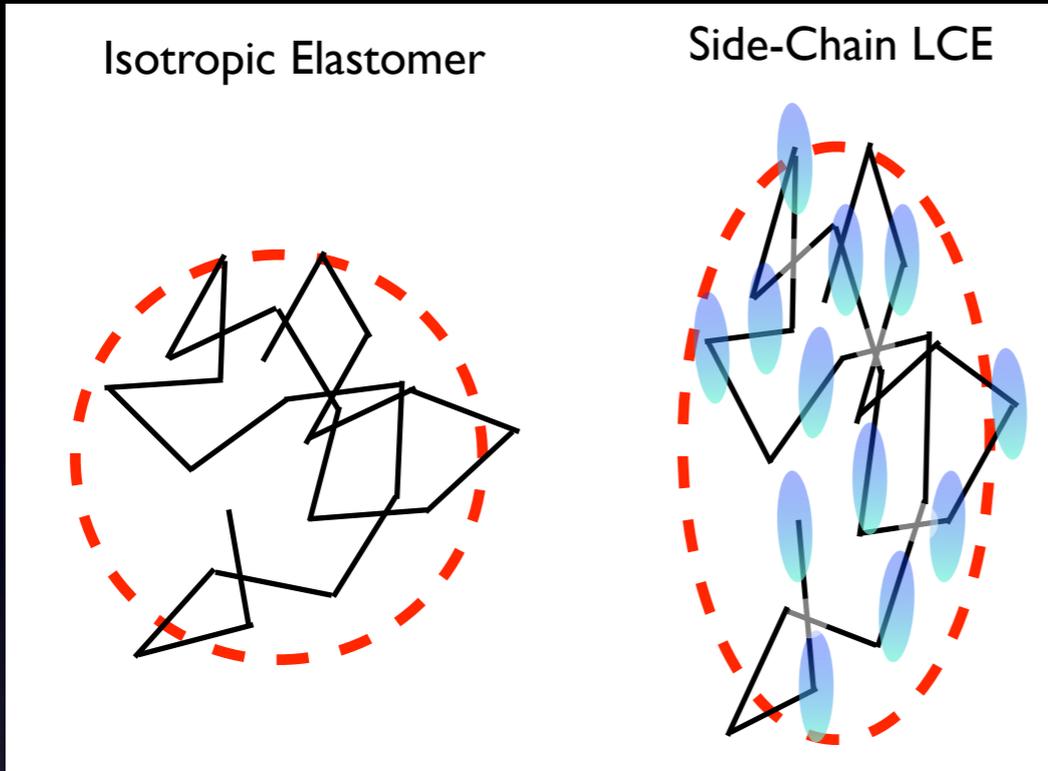
- Reversible, shape-changing materials.
- Imprint designs.
- Steerable with light, heat, . .



(Tim White *et al*)

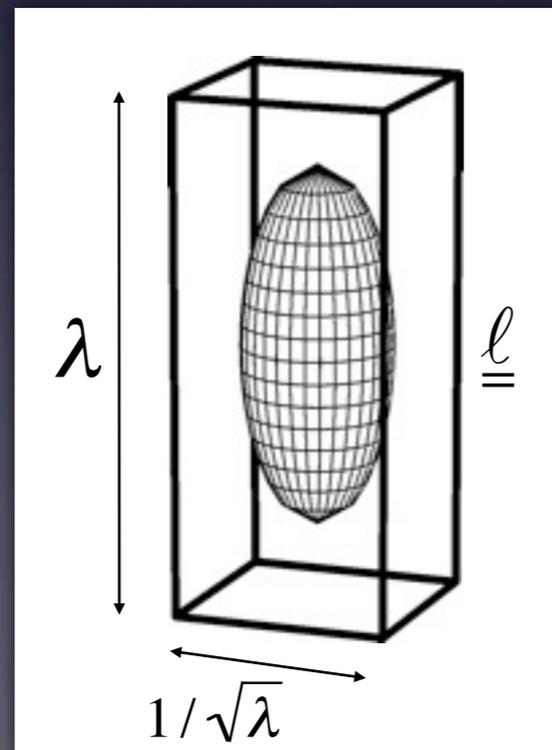


# Liquid Crystal Solids



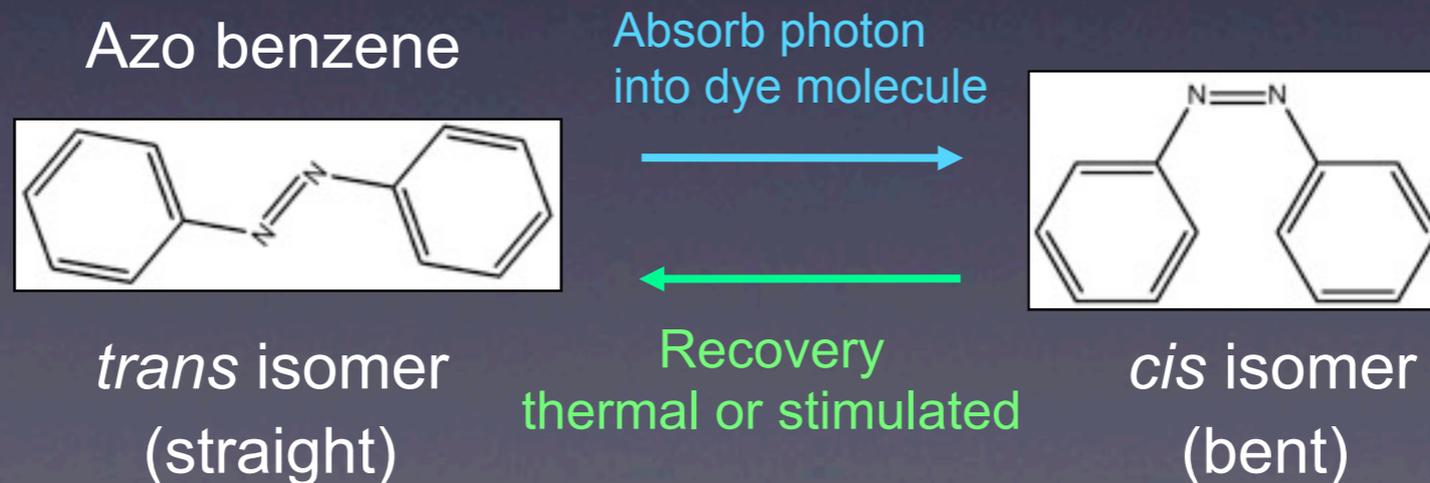
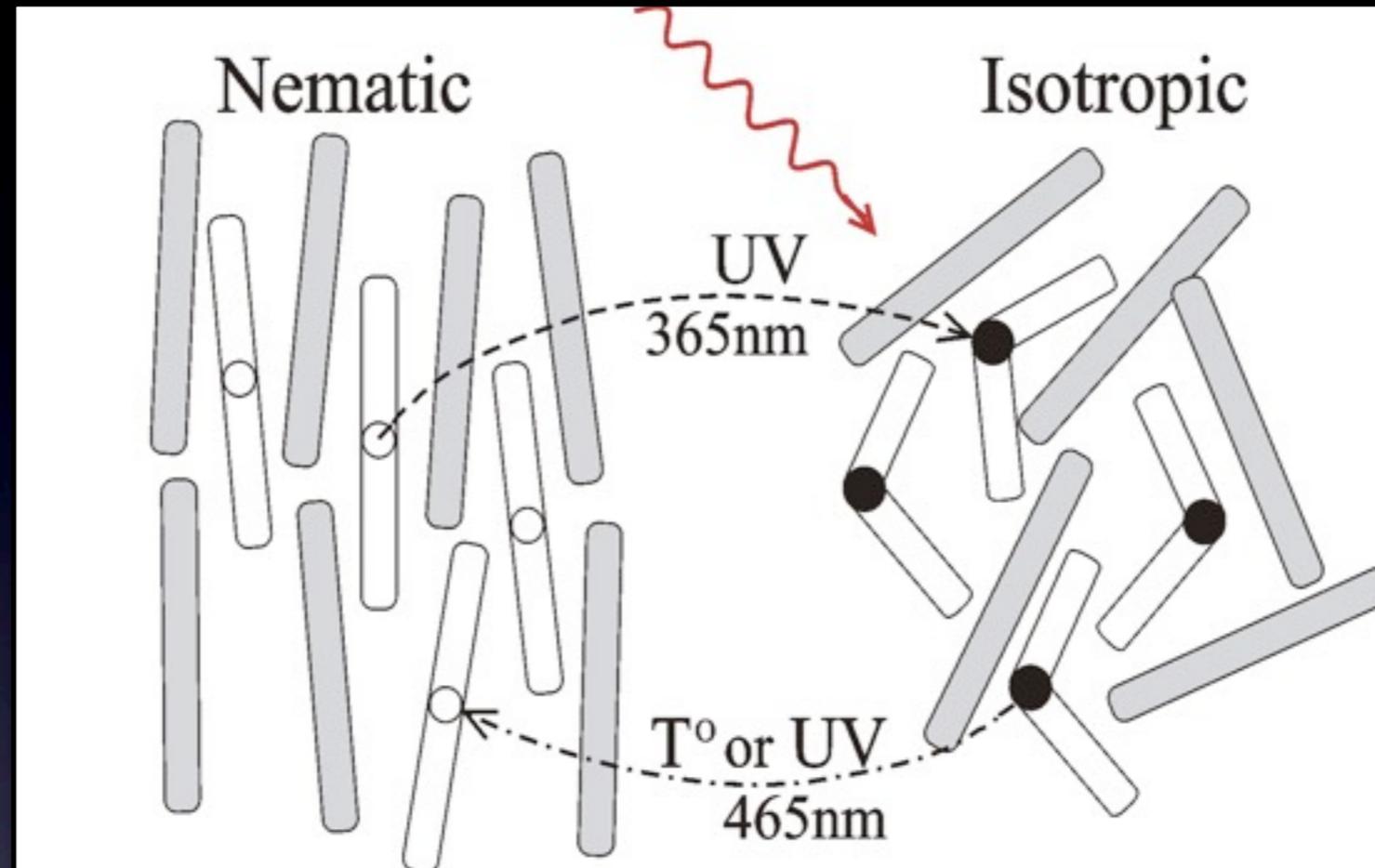
(dark)  
cool

heat  
(light)



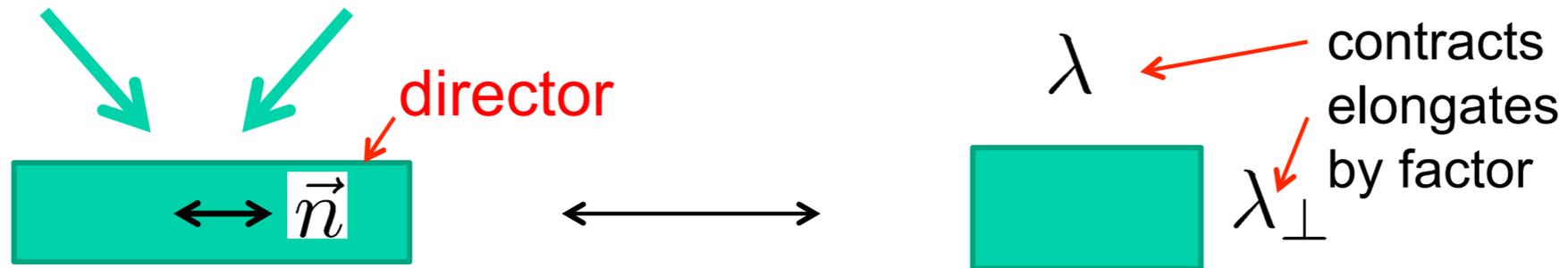
# Photo-Actuation as an Achievable Option

- Photo alternative to thermal disruption of order.



# Liquid Crystal Rubber & Glass

Heat and Light-induced, new, relaxed state:

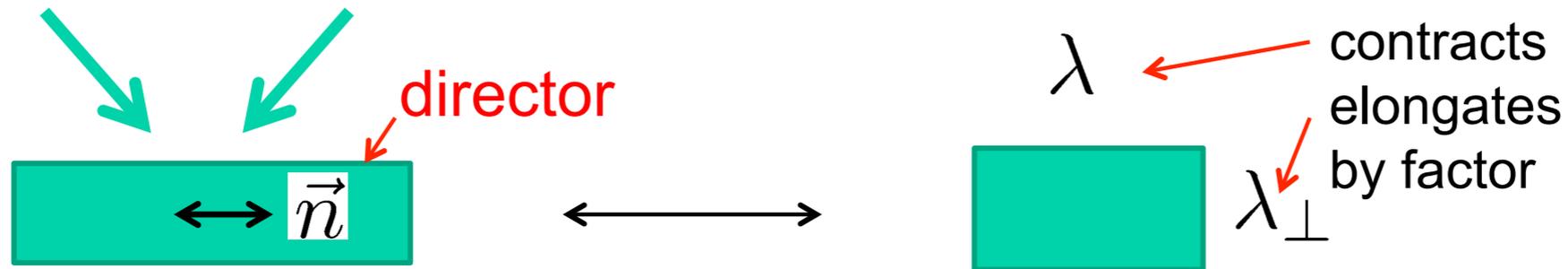


Parallel       $\lambda \sim 1.1 - 0.9$  (glass)       $\sim 4 - 0.25$  (rubber)

cool      heat                      cool      heat

# Liquid Crystal Rubber & Glass

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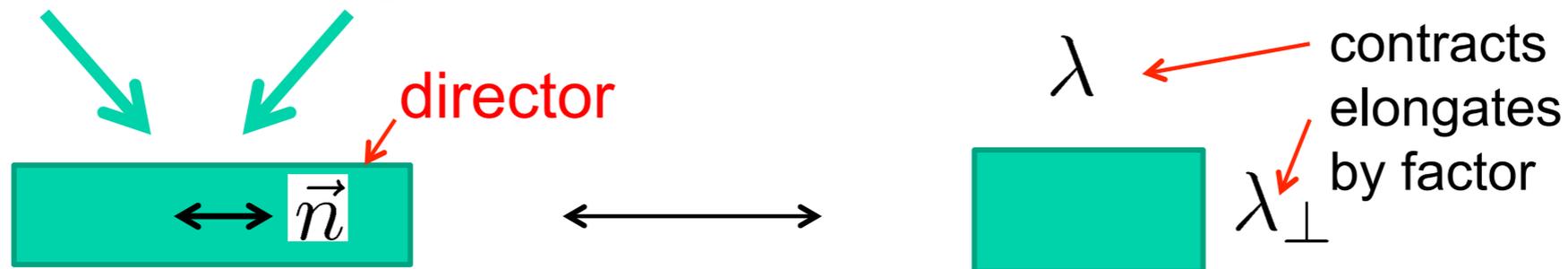
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Perp.       $\lambda_{\perp} \rightarrow \lambda^{-\nu}$        $\nu = 0.5$  rubber

opto-thermal Poisson ratio       $\nu \sim 0.5 \longleftrightarrow 2$  glass

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$$\underline{\underline{\lambda}} = (\lambda - \lambda^{-\nu}) \vec{n} \vec{n} + \lambda^{-\nu} \underline{\underline{\delta}} \quad \text{deformation gradient tensor}$$

Topography from in-plane variation of  $\underline{\lambda}$

via director variation:  $\vec{n}(\vec{r})$

Magnitude  $\lambda$  spatially constant, varies with  $T$  and light.

Aim: Gaussian-curved surfaces of revolution.

Aharoni *et al* (2014) – Cartesian patterns of  $\vec{n}(\vec{r})$ , also the inverse problem. Sharon, Efrati *et al.* (2010, 2007 – review, swelling, circular + Cartesian, leaves, plates, . . .)

Mostajeran *et al* (2015, 2016, 2018) – circularly symmetric director, anchoring, inverse problem, evolution of directors and material curves.

# Lengths

$$d\vec{R}^2 = dR_i dR_i \equiv \lambda_{il} dR_{ol} \lambda_{ik} dR_{ok}$$

space basis (flat)

$$= dR_{ol} \lambda_{li}^T \lambda_{ik} dR_{ok} \equiv dR_{ol} a_{lk} dR_{ok}$$

Metric tensor of  
current, relaxed state.

# Metric

$$\underline{\underline{a}} = (\lambda^2 - \lambda^{-2\nu}) \vec{n} \vec{n} + \lambda^{-2\nu} \underline{\underline{\delta}}$$

Spatial variation gives Gaussian Curvature.

# Metric Programming

$$\underline{\underline{\lambda}} = (\lambda - \lambda^{-\nu}) \underline{\underline{nn}} + \lambda^{-\nu} \underline{\underline{\delta}} \quad \underline{\underline{g}} = \underline{\underline{\lambda}}^T \underline{\underline{\lambda}}$$

In polar coordinates the metric then becomes:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda^2 \cos^2(\phi - \theta) + \lambda^{-2\nu} \sin^2(\phi - \theta) & (\lambda^2 - \lambda^{-2\nu}) \sin(\phi - \theta) \cos(\phi - \theta) \\ (\lambda^2 - \lambda^{-2\nu}) \sin(\phi - \theta) \cos(\phi - \theta) & \lambda^2 \sin^2(\phi - \theta) + \lambda^{-2\nu} \cos^2(\phi - \theta) \end{pmatrix}$$

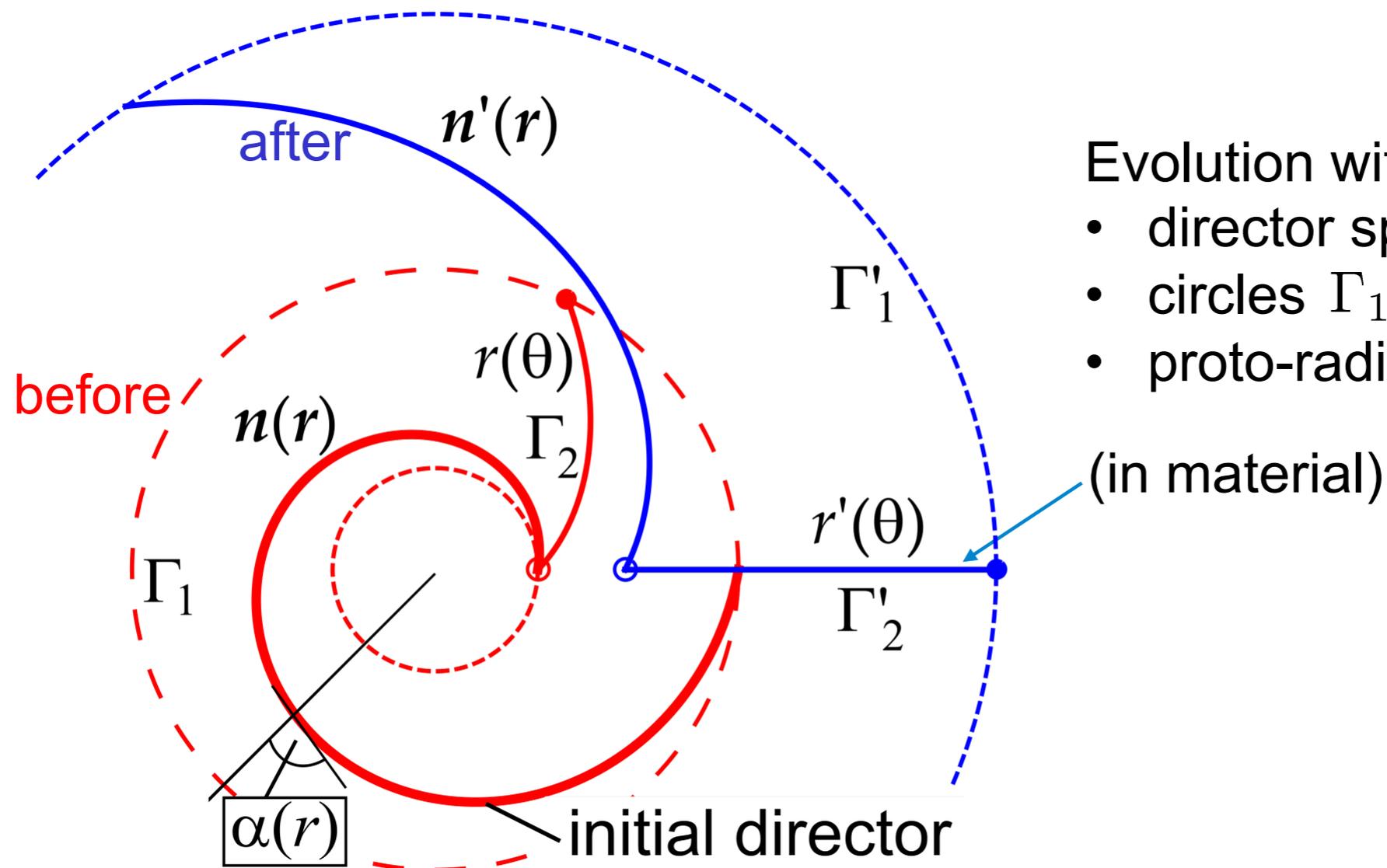
$$\Gamma_{jk}^i = \frac{1}{2} \sum_l g^{il} (\partial_j g_{lk} + \partial_k g_{jl} - \partial_l g_{jk})$$

$$K = -\frac{1}{g_{rr}} \left[ \Gamma_{r\theta,r}^\theta - \Gamma_{rr,\theta}^\theta + \Gamma_{r\theta}^r \Gamma_{rr}^\theta - \Gamma_{rr}^r \Gamma_{r\theta}^\theta + (\Gamma_{r\theta}^\theta)^2 - \Gamma_{rr}^\theta \Gamma_{\theta\theta}^\theta \right]$$

Substituting the form of a Frank minimizing texture for a single defect, for example, yields:

$$K = \frac{m(m-1)(\lambda^{2(1+\nu)} - 1)}{r^2 \lambda^2} \cos[2(m-1)\theta]$$

Example of director variation  $\vec{n}(\vec{r})$   
 Circularly symmetric – variation in  $\alpha(r)$ , angle of  $\vec{n}$  to radial.



Evolution with  $\lambda$  of

- director spirals  $\vec{n}(\vec{r})$
- circles  $\Gamma_1$
- proto-radii  $\Gamma_2$

(in material)

# Challenges

- Forward: given  $\alpha(r)$ , what shells result as vary  $\lambda$
- Inverse: given shell shape and  $\lambda$ , what  $\alpha(r)$

$a(\vec{r})$  does not directly give shell – need to construct surface.

Also questions of embedding, circular symmetry, anchoring.

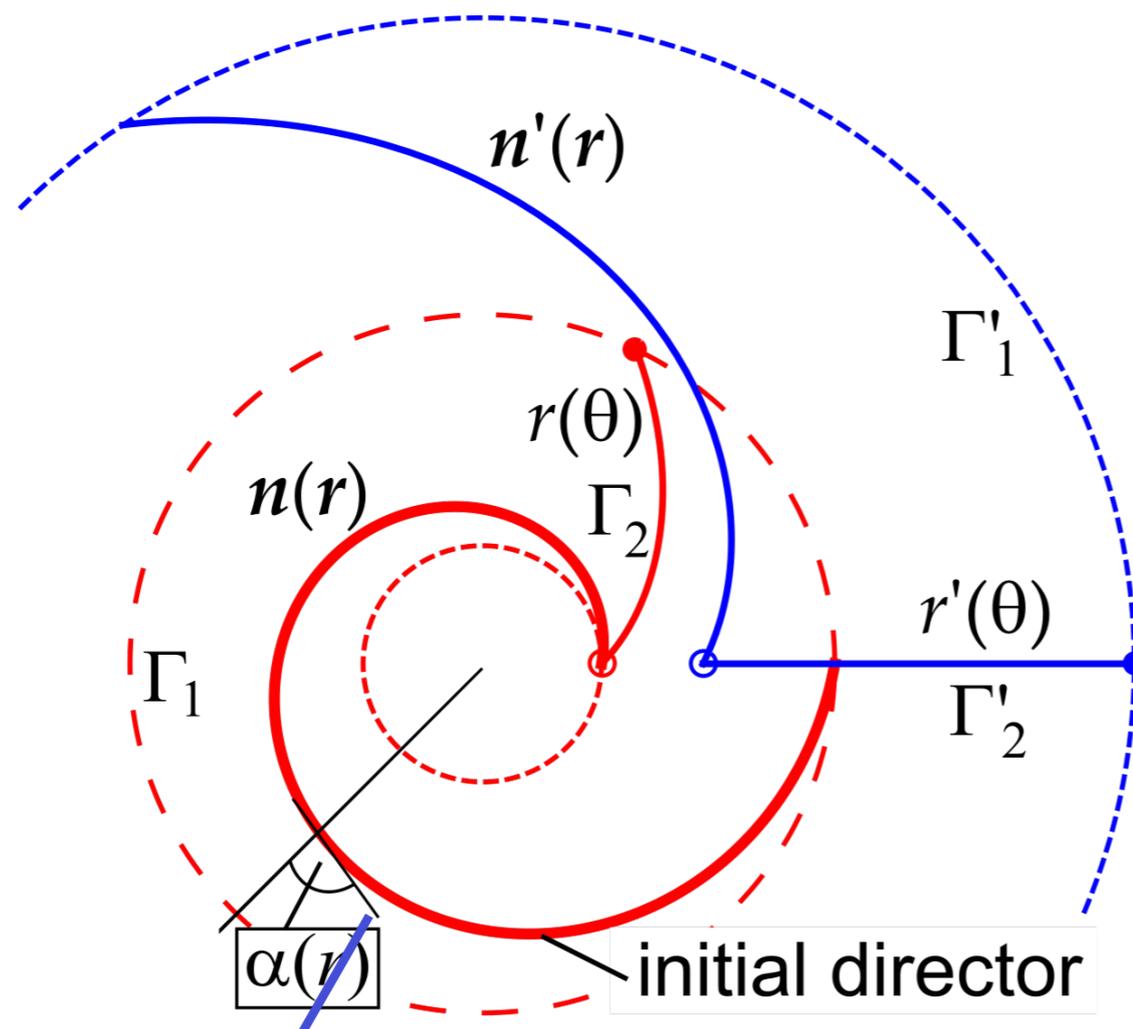
Mostajeran, MW

Cone – simplest – already subtle, even though  $GC = 0$ .

$\alpha = \text{const.}$  director curves are log spirals

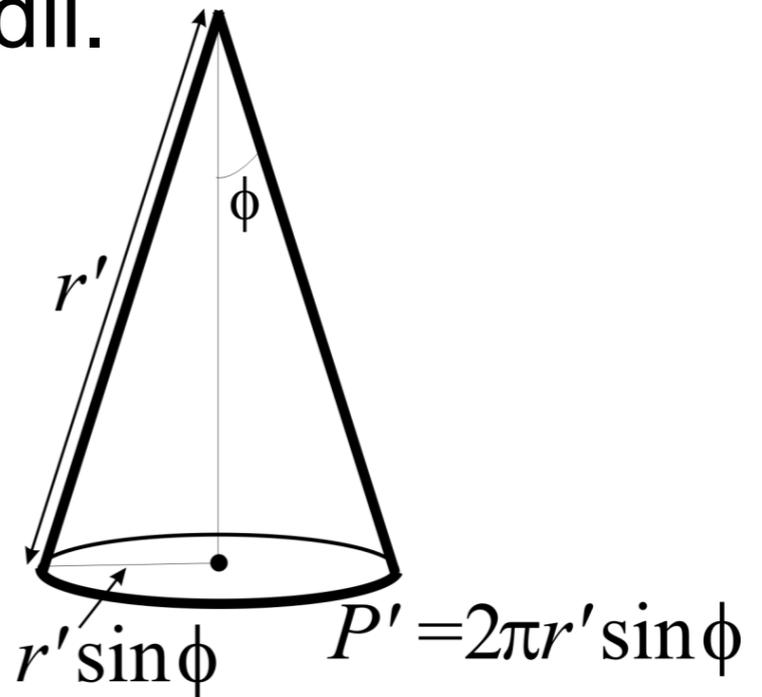
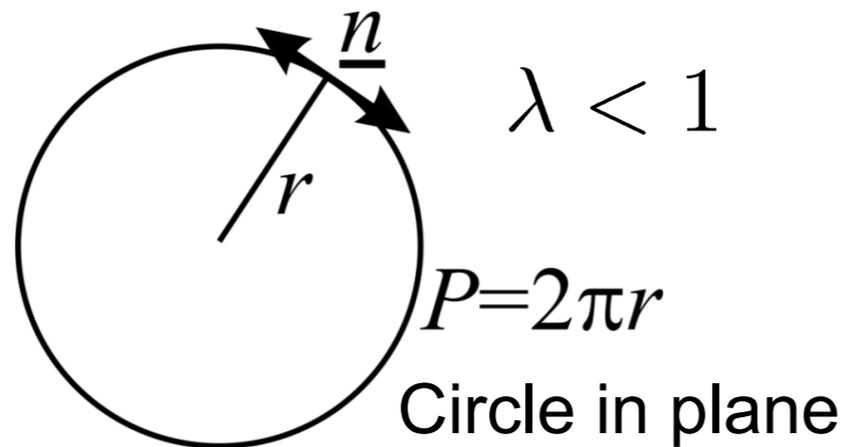
$K(r) = 0$  (except at tip)

Modes, Bhattacharya, MW (2010)



Change  $\lambda$  : geodesics  
don't remain geodesics

Azimuthal director; radii remain radii.



$P' = \lambda 2\pi r$  contraction

$r' = \lambda^{-\nu} r$  elongation ( $\rightarrow r = \lambda^{\nu} r'$ )

$P' = 2\pi \lambda^{1+\nu} r'$

but on cone

$P' = 2\pi r' \sin \phi$

$\Rightarrow \sin \phi = \lambda^{1+\nu}$

Cone angle depends on thermal contraction.

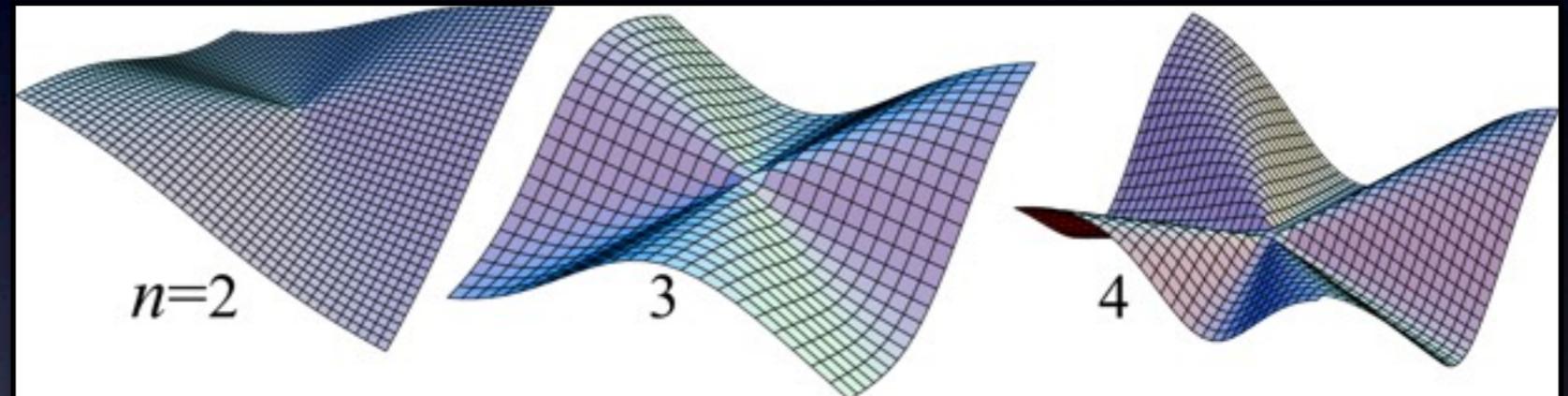
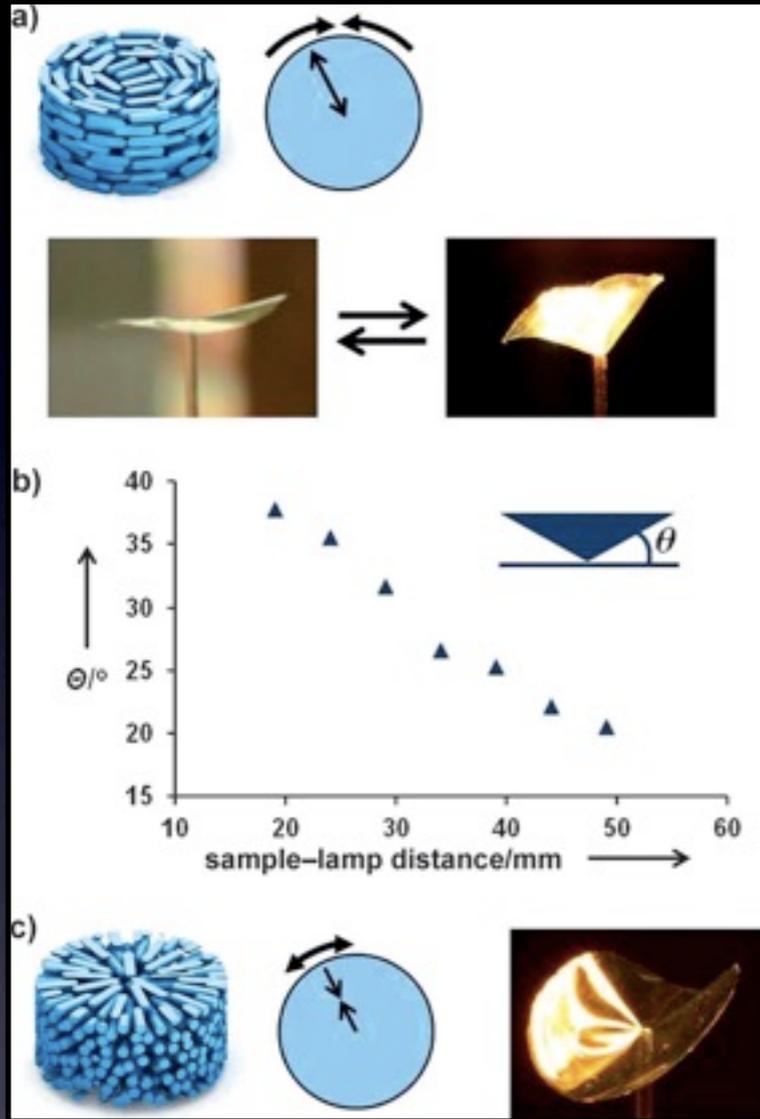
Nematic glass

$\lambda \approx .97$

$\nu \approx 2.0$

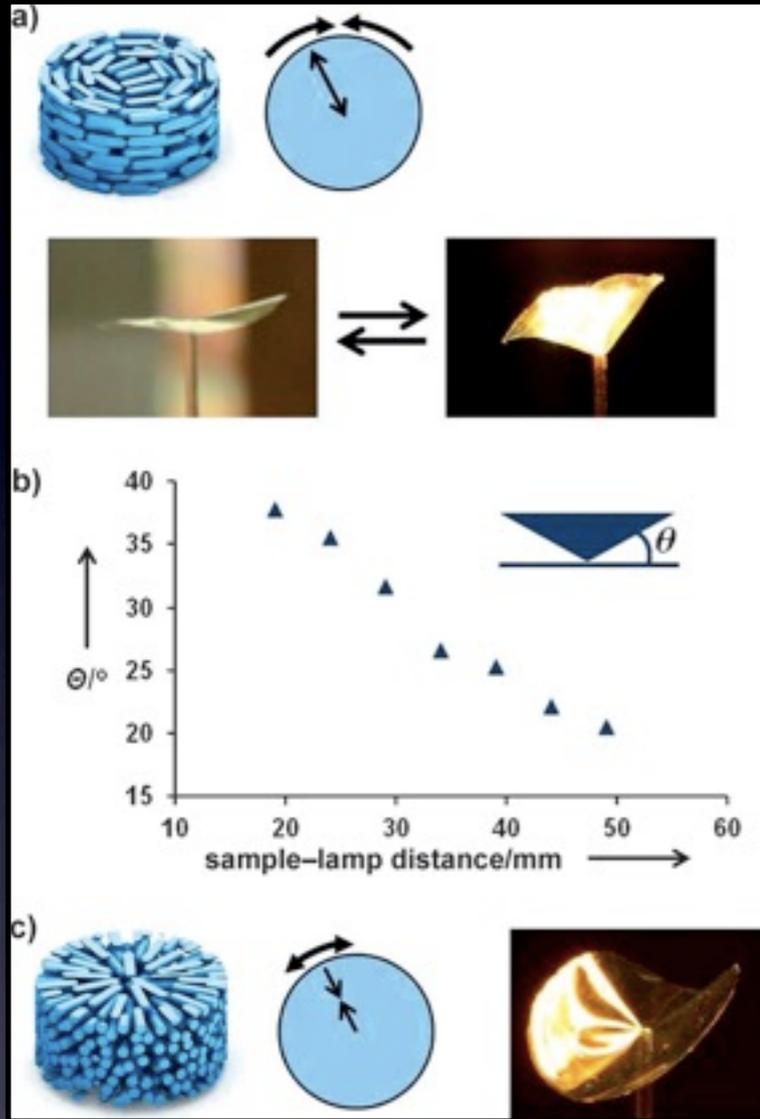
$\phi \sim 70^\circ$

# Quick Refresher: Anti-Cones

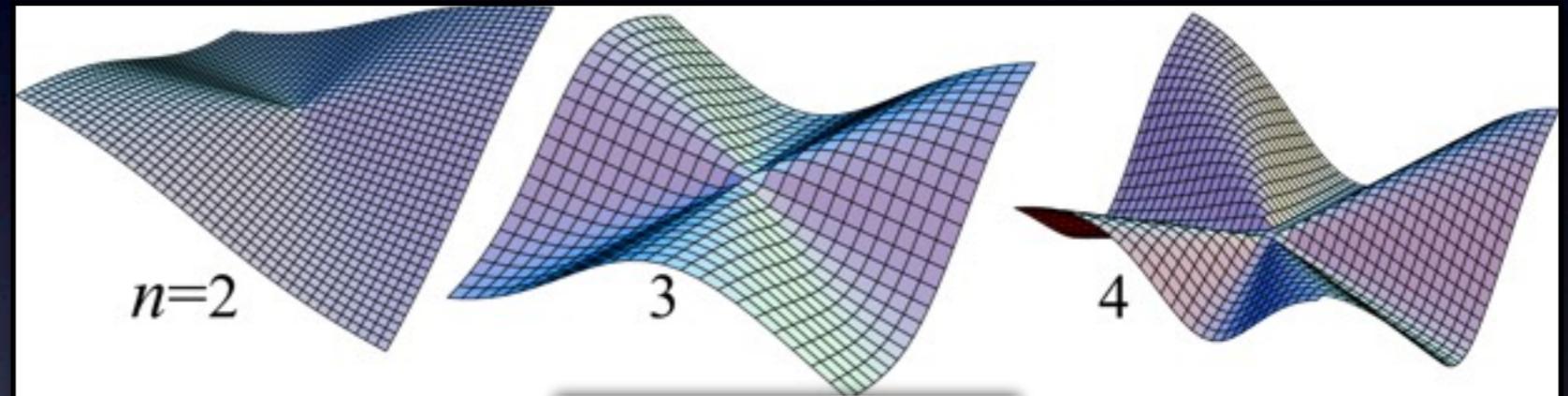


L.T. de Haan, C. Sanchez-Somolinos, C.M.W. Bastiaansen, A.P.H.J. Schenning, & D.J. Broer, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 51 12469 (2012)

# Quick Refresher: Anti-Cones



$$h(r; A, n) = Ar \sin n\phi$$



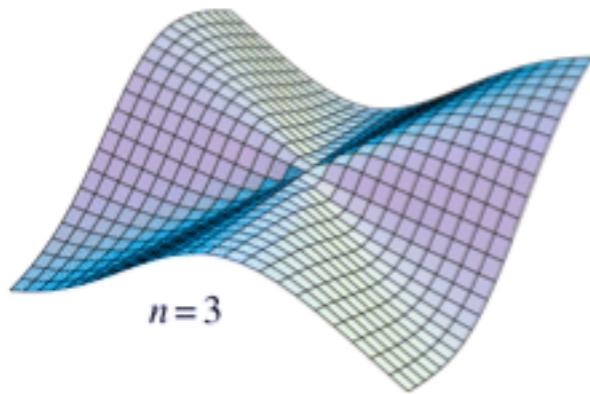
$$P' = 2\pi\lambda^{1+\nu} r'$$

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# Transforming to a Mathematically Analogous Problem

## Darboux Frame on the surface

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{T}(s) &= \underline{\gamma}'(s); \quad |\underline{\gamma}'| = 1 && \text{tangent} \\ \mathbf{u}(s) &\equiv \mathbf{u}(\underline{\gamma}(s)) && \text{unit surface normal} \\ \mathbf{t}(s) &= \mathbf{u}(s) \wedge \mathbf{T}(s) && \text{tangent normal}\end{aligned}$$



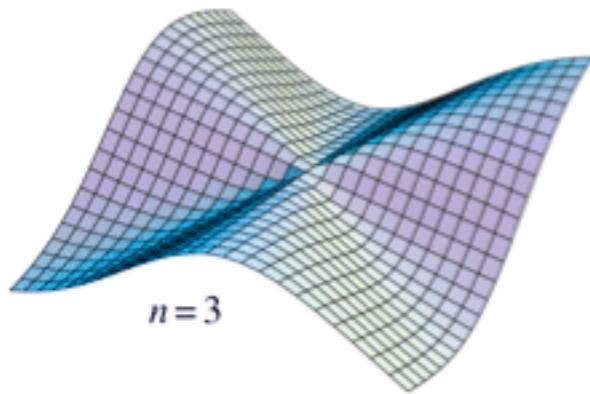
$$\mathbf{T}'(s) = \kappa_n \mathbf{u}(s) + \kappa_g \mathbf{t}(s)$$

$$\int dr.rds \left( (\hat{\mathbf{r}} \wedge \underline{\gamma}') \cdot \frac{\underline{\gamma}''}{r} \right)^2 = \int \frac{dr}{r} ds \left( (\hat{\mathbf{r}} \wedge \underline{\gamma}') \cdot \underline{\gamma}'' \right)^2$$

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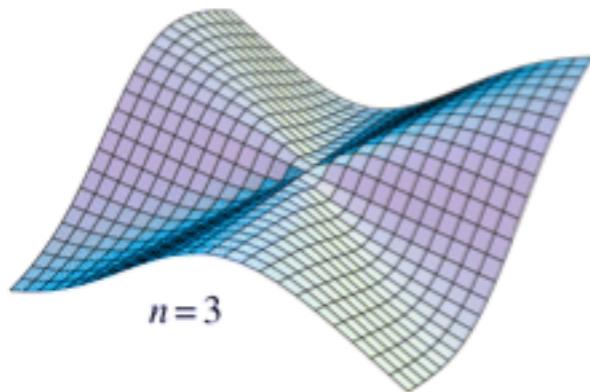
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But!

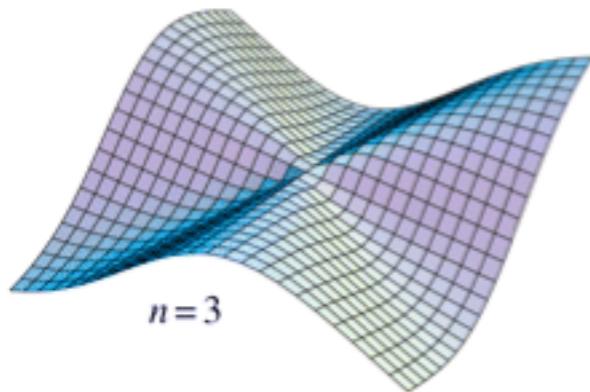
The curve as defined also lies on the surface of a sphere... what about the Darboux Frame of the curve w.r.t. the sphere?

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→ New Minimization Problem

$$\int dA \kappa_g^2$$

This is precisely the classical problem of an elastica on the surface of a sphere...