

# Chapter 12: Structures & Properties of Ceramics

**Review:** 12.1-12.4

**Read:** 12.6-12.7 and 12.11

**Study:** 12.8-12.10

- Structures of ceramic materials:  
How do they differ from those of metals?
- Point defects:  
How are they different from those in metals?
- Impurities:  
How are they accommodated in the lattice and how do they affect properties?
- Mechanical Properties:  
What special provisions/tests are made for ceramic materials?



# Bonding in ceramics

- Bonding:
  - Mostly ionic, some covalent.
  - % ionic character increases with difference in electronegativity.
- Large vs small ionic bond character:

													0					He
IA												III A	IV A	V A	VIA	VII A	0	
H												B	C	N	O	F	He	
2.1												2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	-	
Li	Be																Ne	
1.0	1.5																-	
Na	Mg											Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar	
0.9	1.2											1.5	1.8	2.1	2.5	3.0	-	
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	VIII			Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr	
0.8	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.4	2.8	-	
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe	
0.8	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.5	-	
Cs	Ba	La-Lu	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn	
0.7	0.9	1.1-1.2	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.4	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.2	-	
Fr	Ra	Ac-No																
0.7	0.9	1.1-1.7																

CaF<sub>2</sub>: large

SiC: small

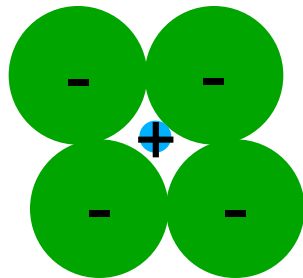
Adapted from Fig. 2.7, *Callister 7e*. (Fig. 2.7 is adapted from Linus Pauling, *The Nature of the Chemical Bond*, 3rd edition, Copyright 1939 and 1940, 3rd edition. Copyright 1960 by Cornell University.



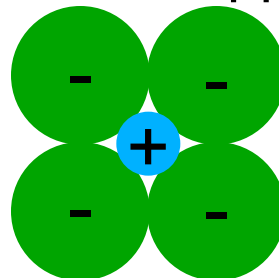
# Ionic Bonding & Structure

## 1. Size - Stable structures:

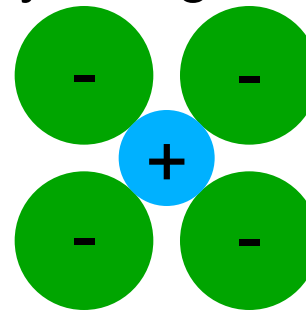
--maximize the # of nearest oppositely charged neighbors.



unstable



stable

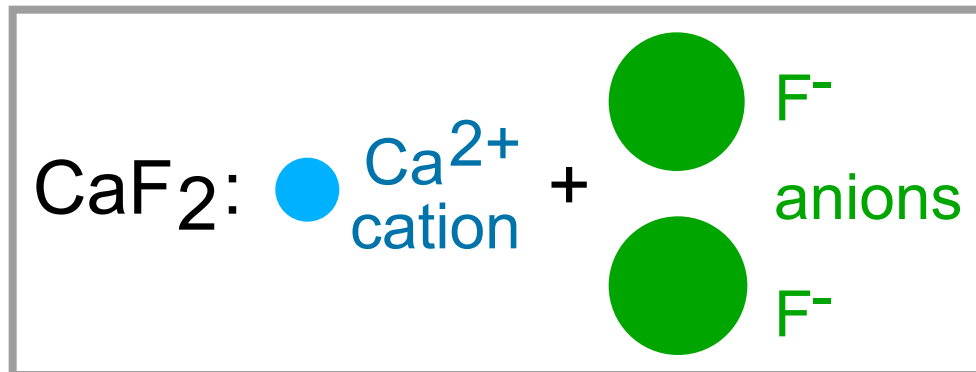


stable

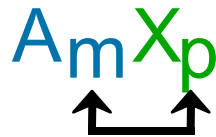
Adapted from Fig. 12.1,  
Callister 7e.

- **Charge Neutrality:**

--Net charge in the structure should be zero.



--General form:



m, p determined by charge neutrality



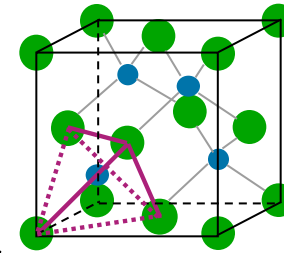
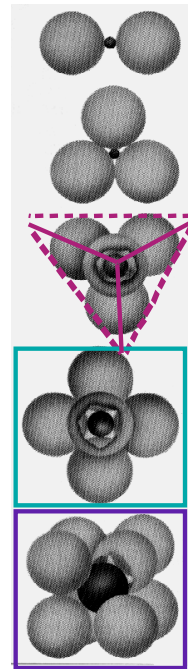
# Coordination # and Ionic Radii

- Coordination # increases with  $\frac{r_{\text{cation}}}{r_{\text{anion}}}$

**Issue:** How many anions can you arrange around a cation?

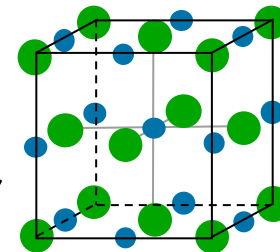
$\frac{r_{\text{cation}}}{r_{\text{anion}}}$	Coord #	
$< 0.155$	2	linear
0.155 - 0.225	3	triangular
0.225 - 0.414	4	$T_D$
0.414 - 0.732	6	$O_H$
0.732 - 1.0	8	cubic

Adapted from Table 12.2, Callister 7e.



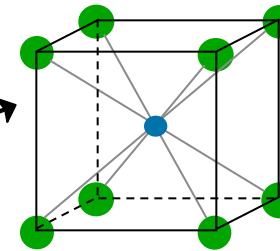
ZnS  
(zincblende)

Adapted from Fig. 12.4, Callister 7e.



NaCl  
(sodium chloride)

Adapted from Fig. 12.2, Callister 7e.



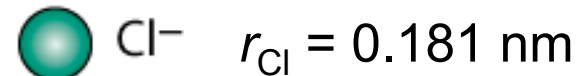
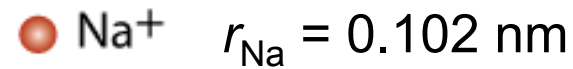
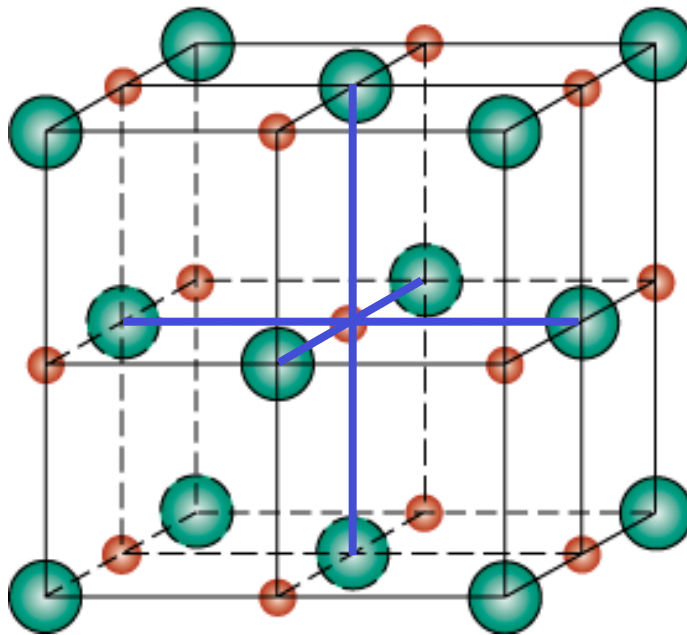
CsCl  
(cesium chloride)

Adapted from Fig. 12.3, Callister 7e.



# Rock Salt Structure

Same concepts can be applied to ionic solids in general.  
Example: NaCl (rock salt) structure



$$r_{\text{Na}}/r_{\text{Cl}} = 0.564$$

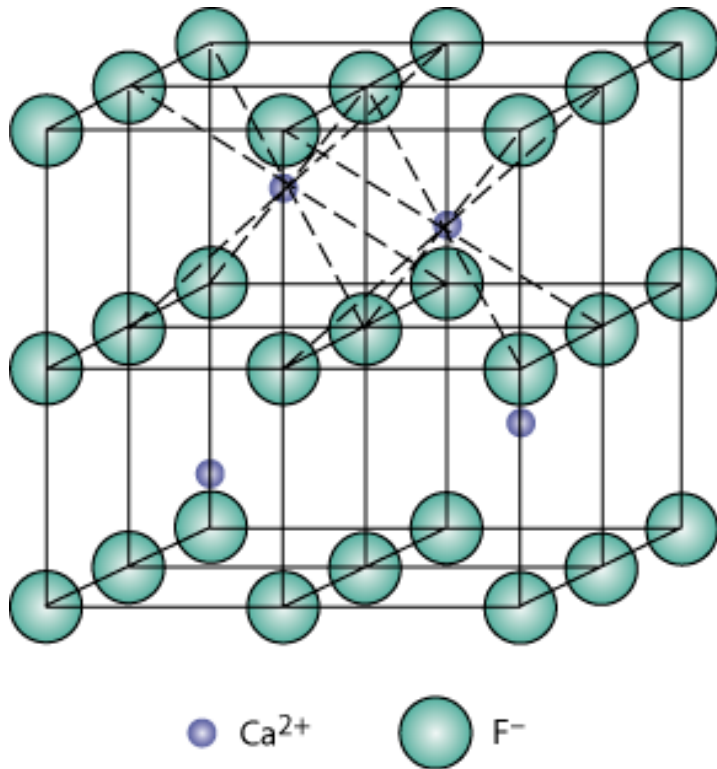
∴ cations prefer  $O_H$  sites

Adapted from Fig.  
12.2, *Callister 7e*.



# AX<sub>2</sub> Crystal Structures

## Fluorite structure



Adapted from Fig.  
12.5, *Callister 7e*.

- Calcium Fluorite (CaF<sub>2</sub>)
- cations in cubic sites
- UO<sub>2</sub>, ThO<sub>2</sub>, ZrO<sub>2</sub>, CeO<sub>2</sub>
- antifluorite structure –  
cations and anions  
reversed

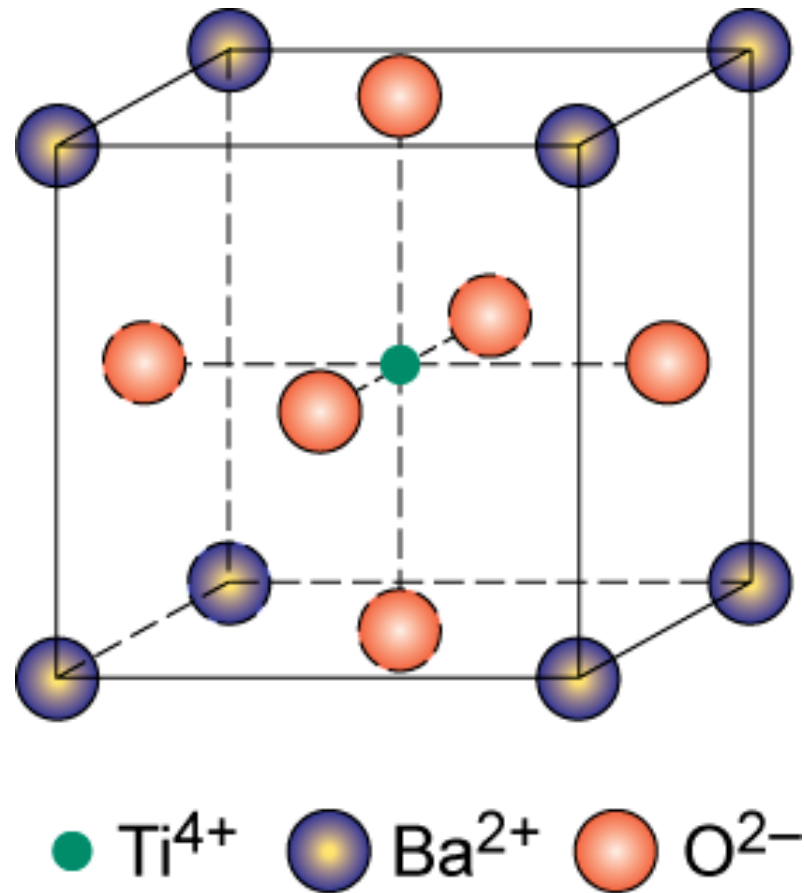


# ABX<sub>3</sub> Crystal Structures

- Perovskite

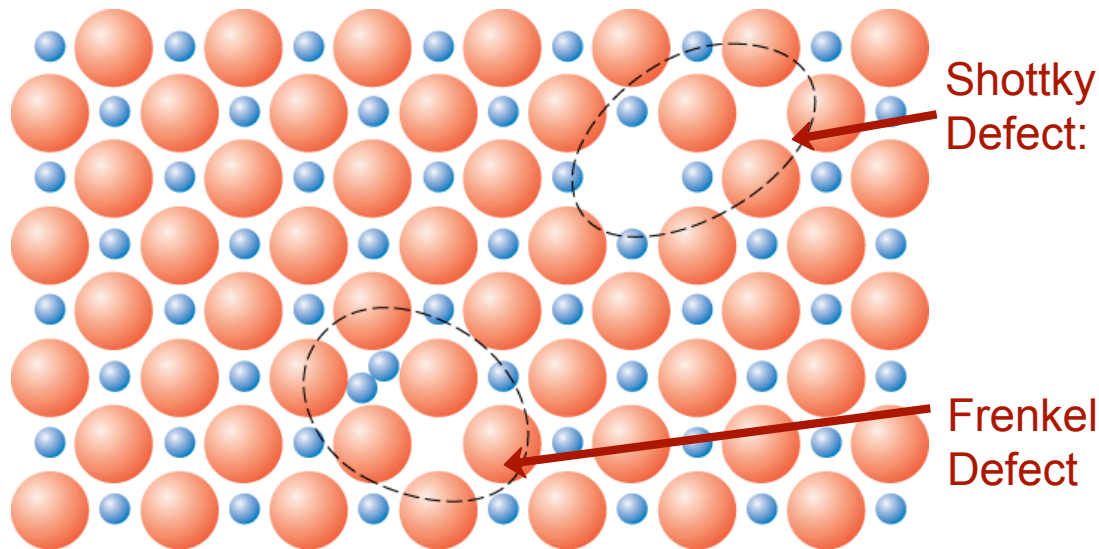
Ex: complex oxide  
BaTiO<sub>3</sub>

Adapted from Fig.  
12.6, *Callister 7e*.



# Defects in Ceramic Structures

- Frenkel Defect  
--a cation is out of place.
- Shottky Defect  
--a paired set of cation and anion vacancies.



Adapted from Fig. 12.21, *Callister 7e*. (Fig. 12.21 is from W.G. Moffatt, G.W. Pearsall, and J. Wulff, *The Structure and Properties of Materials*, Vol. 1, *Structure*, John Wiley and Sons, Inc., p. 78.)

- Equilibrium concentration of defects  $\sim e^{-Q_D / 2kT}$

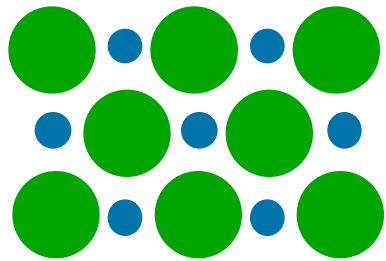


# Impurities

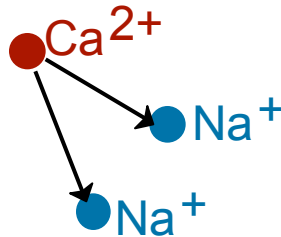
- Impurities must also satisfy **charge balance = Electroneutrality**



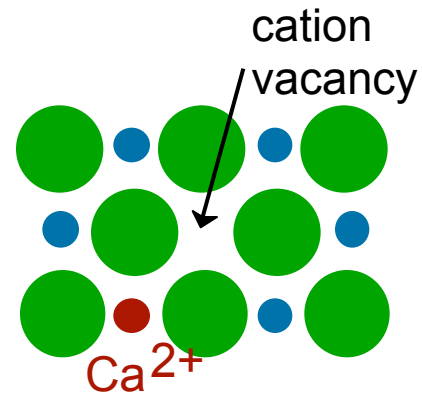
- Substitutional cation impurity



initial geometry

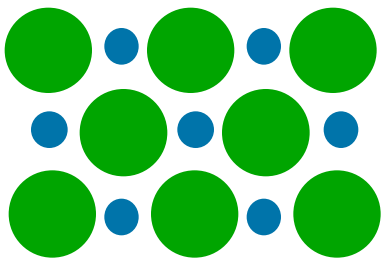


$\text{Ca}^{2+}$  impurity

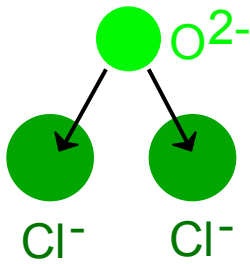


resulting geometry

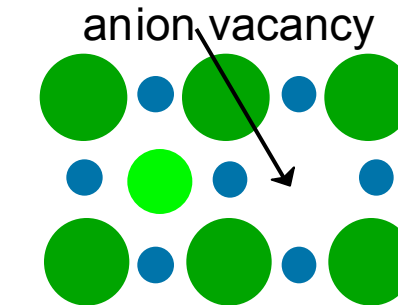
- Substitutional anion impurity



initial geometry



$\text{O}^{2-}$  impurity



resulting geometry



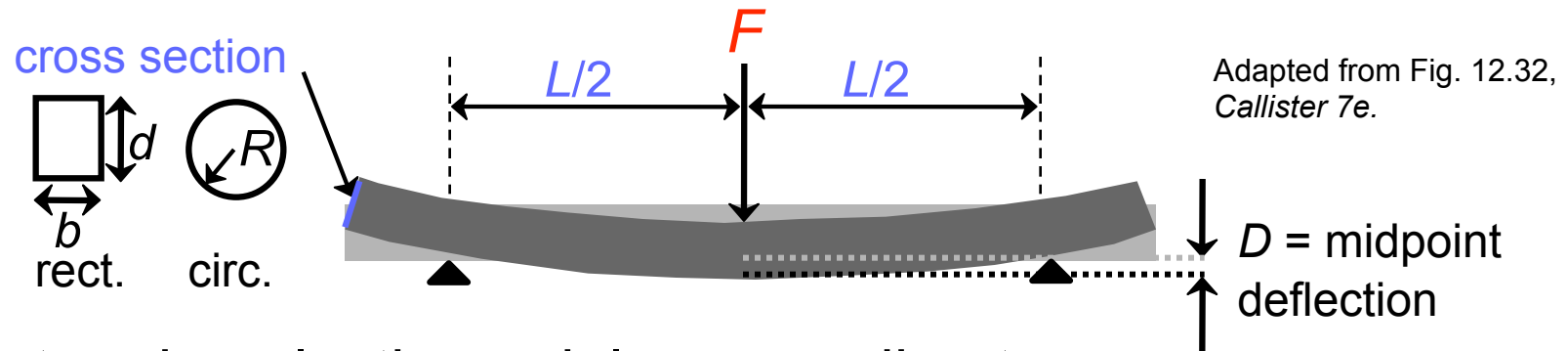
# Stress-strain behavior

- **Flectural testing replaces tensile testing**
- **Reasons not to perform a standard tension test**
  - difficult to prepare and test specimens having a required geometry
  - difficult to grip brittle materials without fracturing them
  - ceramics fail after only about 0.1% strain and samples are difficult to align without experiencing bending stress

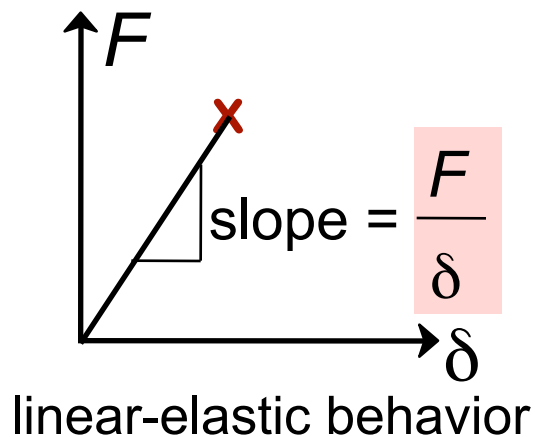


# Measuring Elastic Modulus

- Room  $T$  behavior is usually elastic, with brittle failure.
- **3-Point Bend Testing** often used.
  - tensile tests are difficult for brittle materials.



- Determine elastic modulus according to:



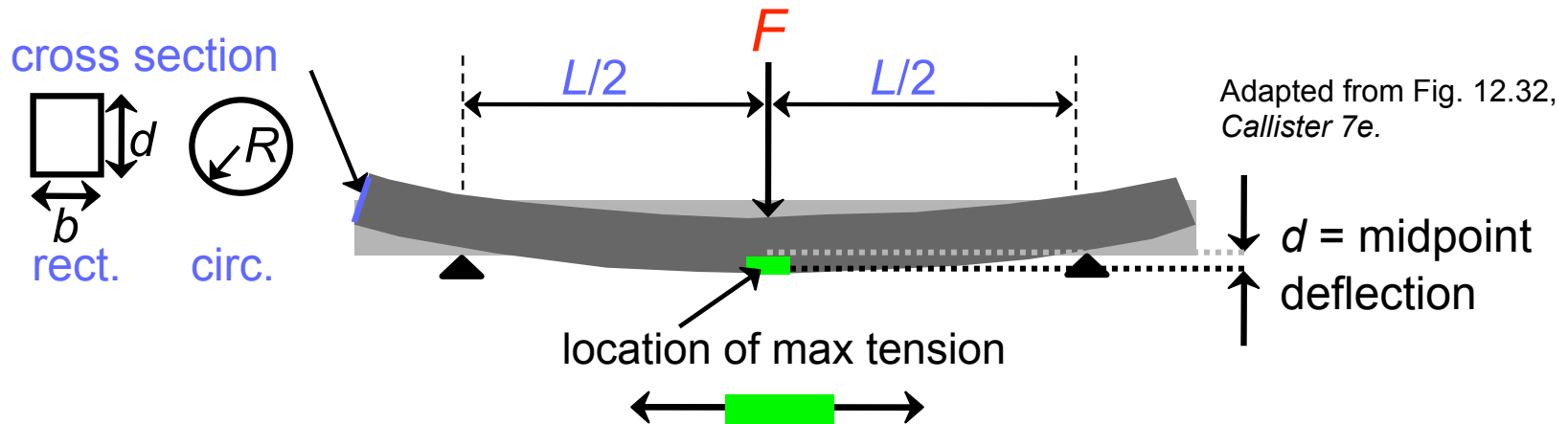
$$E = \frac{F}{\delta} \frac{L^3}{4bd^3} = \frac{F}{\delta} \frac{L^3}{12\pi R^4}$$

rect. cross section      circ. cross section



# Measuring Strength

- 3-point bend test to measure room  $T$  strength.



- Flexural strength:

$$\sigma_{fs} = \frac{1.5F_f L}{bd^2 \text{ rect.}} = \frac{F_f L}{\pi R^3}$$

$F$   $F_f$   $\delta$   $\delta_{fs}$

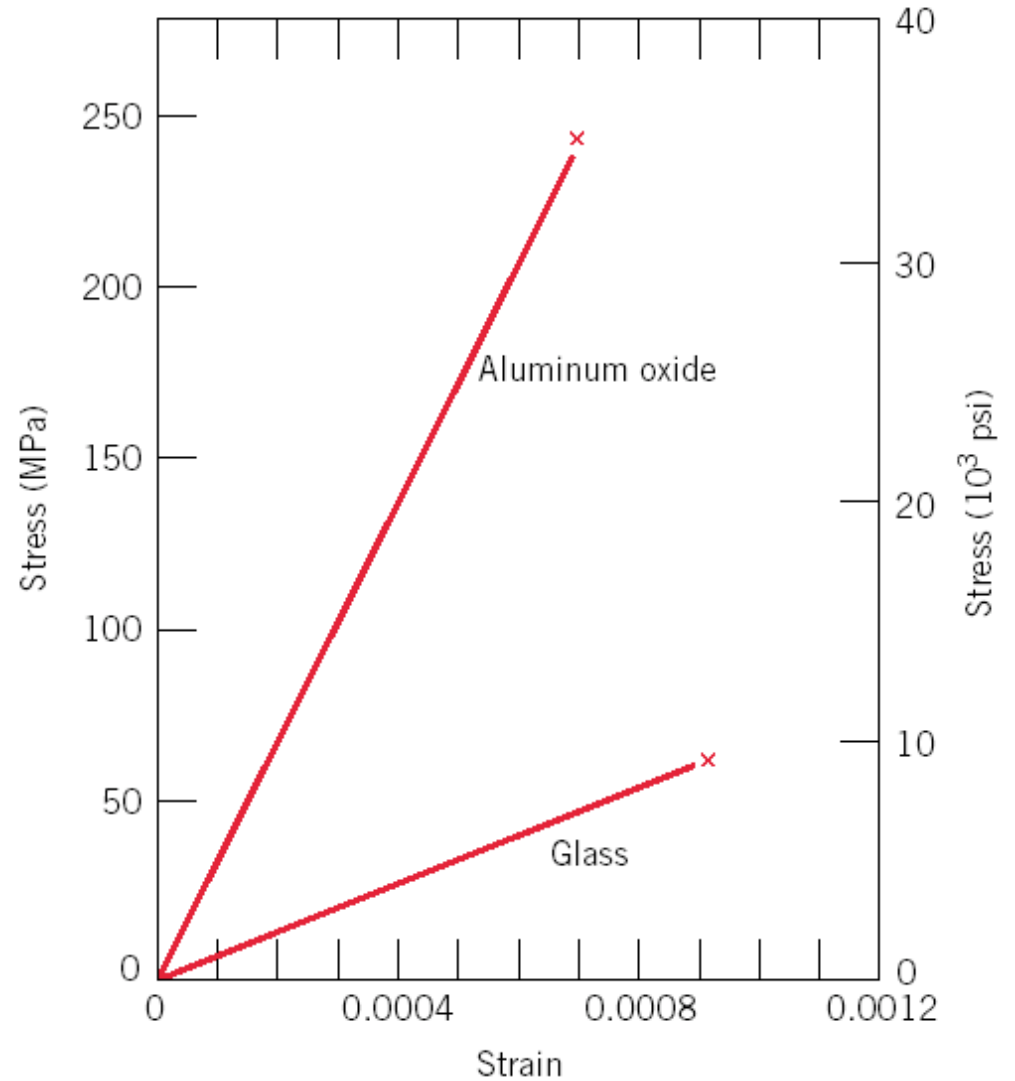
- Typ. values:

Material	$\sigma_{fs}$ (MPa)	$E$ (GPa)
Si nitride	250-1000	304
Si carbide	100-820	345
Al oxide	275-700	393
glass (soda)	69	69

Data from Table 12.5, Callister 7e.

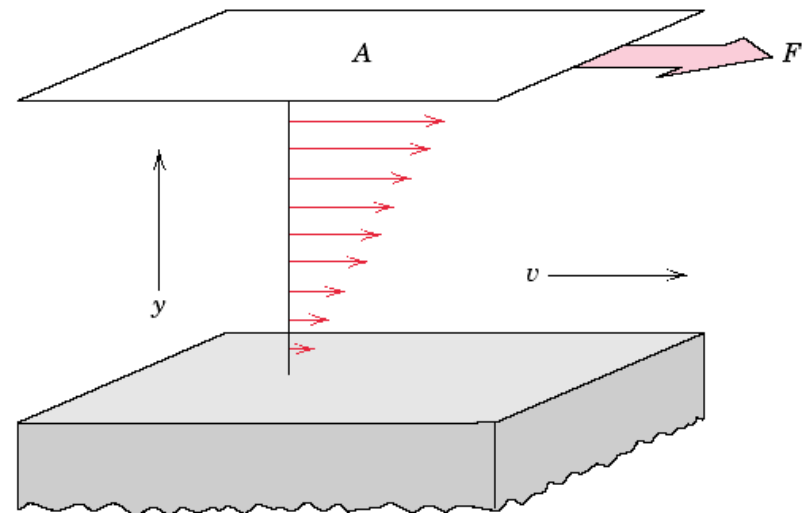
# Elastic behavior

- **Typical stress-strain behavior to fracture for aluminum oxide and glass**



# Mechanisms of plastic deformation

- **Crystalline ceramics are brittle**
  - Covalent bonds are relatively strong
  - There are limited numbers of slip systems
  - Dislocation structures are complex
- **Noncrystalline ceramics**
  - Plastic deformation does not occur by dislocation motion for noncrystalline ceramics
  - Viscosity is a measure of of non-crystalline material's resistance to deformation



# Hardness

**Table 13.6** Approximate Knoop Hardness (100 g load) for Seven Ceramic Materials

<i>Material</i>	<i>Approximate Knoop Hardness</i>
Diamond (carbon)	7000
Boron carbide ( $B_4C$ )	2800
Silicon carbide (SiC)	2500
Tungsten carbide (WC)	2100
Aluminum oxide ( $Al_2O_3$ )	2100
Quartz ( $SiO_2$ )	800
Glass	550



# Summary

- Ceramic materials have covalent & ionic bonding.
- Structures are based on:
  - charge neutrality
  - maximizing # of nearest oppositely charged neighbors.
- Structures may be predicted based on:
  - ratio of the cation and anion radii.
- Defects
  - must preserve charge neutrality
  - have a concentration that varies exponentially w/ $T$ .
- Room  $T$  mechanical response is elastic, but fracture is brittle, with negligible deformation.

