

How to Compute the Tenuous Force Networks in Amorphous Solids

Itamar Procaccia

Weizmann Institute of Science, Department of Chemical Physics, IL-76100 Rehovot, Israel

Compressed amorphous solids are held by a tenuous network of force chains. The computation of the forces between the constituents is considered an “insoluble problem” because the number of unknowns is larger than the number of constraints. I will show how to solve this problem and how to understand the implications of the solution to the statistical physics of jamming and the modes of failure of amorphous solids.