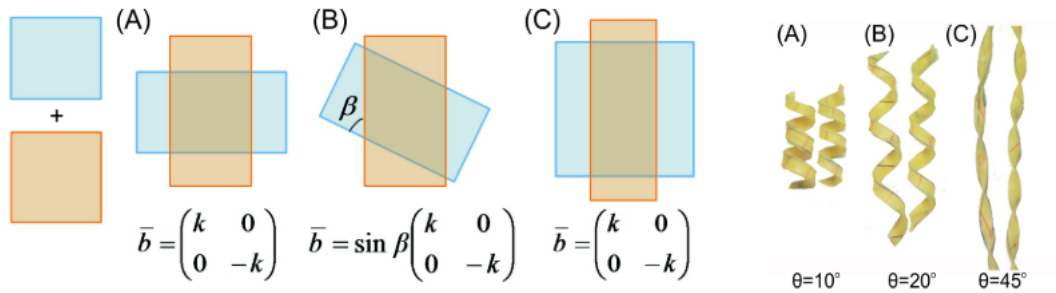


A ribbon is a rectangular strip whose thickness is much smaller than its width, which in turn is much smaller than its length.

This kind of thin elastic strips are interesting to mechanicians because they exhibit radical shape changes upon small changes of texture or environmental conditions.



From: S. Armon et al., Science, 2011.

This is not only an academic problem. Deployable structures are one of the many examples of applications of structures that can change their shape in a dramatic way:

