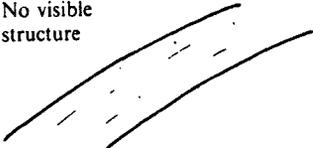
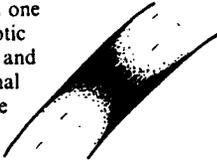
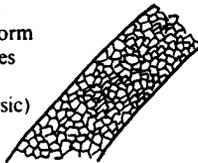
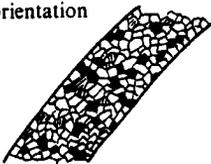
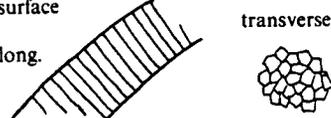
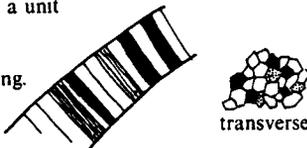
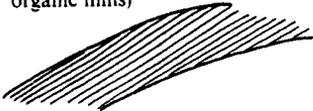
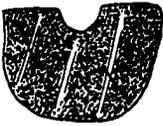


Table 4.2 The common types of skeletal microstructure in thin section seen in plane polarized light and crossed nicols under the microscope.

Microstructure Common minerals (rare minerals in parenthesis)	Appearance of thin section in ordinary transmitted light	Appearance of thin section under crossed polars	Examples
<i>Homogeneous prismatic</i> Calcite (Aragonite)	No visible structure 	Extinction in one direction. Optic axes parallel and usually normal to the surface of skeleton 	Trilobites. Ostracods
<i>Granular</i> Calcite Aragonite	Irregular grains (if fine and uniform in size sometimes referred to as sugary or sucrosic) 	Random orientation of optic axes 	Foraminiferans
<i>Normal prismatic</i> Calcite (Aragonite)	Polygonal prisms normal to outer surface long. 	Each prism extinguishes as a unit long. 	Punctate brachiopods <i>Inoceramus</i>
<i>Foliated</i> Calcite	Thin parallel leaves of calcite commonly having a wavy banded appearance 	Variable orientation of optic axes of leaves 	Bryozoans. pseudopunctate brachiopods. worm tubes. oysters
<i>Nacreous</i> Aragonite	Regular thin parallel leaves of aragonite (separated by organic films) 	Parallel extinction 	Molluscs
<i>Single crystal</i> Calcite	Coarse single calcite grain showing cleavage 	Grain extinguishes as a unit 	Echinoderms sponge spicules