

Limiting strain models in elasticity theory and variational integrals with linear growth

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The talk is based on the following results

- M. Bulíček, J. Málek, K. R. Rajagopal and J. R. Walton: **Existence of solutions for the anti-plane stress for a new class of "strain-limiting" elastic bodies**, Calc. Var. Partial Differential Equations, 2015
- M. Bulíček, J. Málek and E. Süli: **Analysis and approximation of a strain-limiting nonlinear elastic model**, Mathematics and Mechanics of Solids, 2014
- M. Bulíček, J. Málek, K. R. Rajagopal and E. Süli: **On elastic solids with limiting small strain: modelling and analysis**, EMS Surveys in Mathematical Sciences, 2014.
- L. Beck, M. Bulíček, J. Málek and E. Süli: **Analysis and approximation of a strain-limiting nonlinear elastic model II**, ARMA 2017
- L. Beck, M. Bulíček, E. Maringová: **On regularity up to the boundary for variational problems with linear growth**, submitted

Linearized nonlinear elasticity

We consider the elastic deformation of the body $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ with $\Gamma_1 \cap \Gamma_2 = \emptyset$ and $\overline{\Gamma_D} \cup \overline{\Gamma_N} = \partial\Omega$ described by

$$\begin{aligned} -\operatorname{div} \mathbf{T} &= \mathbf{f} && \text{in } \Omega, \\ \mathbf{u} &= \mathbf{u}_0 && \text{on } \Gamma_D, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{T} \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{g} && \text{on } \Gamma_N. \end{aligned} \tag{EI}$$

where \mathbf{u} is displacement, \mathbf{T} the Cauchy stress, \mathbf{f} the external body forces, \mathbf{g} the external surface forces and $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ is the linearized strain tensor, i.e.,

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}) := \frac{1}{2}(\nabla \mathbf{u} + (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T)$$

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- The key assumption in linearized elasticity

$$|\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}| \ll 1.$$

(A)

Motivation for symmetric p -Laplace like operator for $p = 1$ or $p = \infty$

- $p = 1$: the model of the plasticity, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{T} \sim \frac{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}{|\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}|} \quad \text{for } |\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}| \gg 1$$

- $p = \infty$: the limiting strain model, i.e.,

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \sim \frac{\mathbf{T}}{|\mathbf{T}|} \quad \text{for } |\mathbf{T}| \gg 1.$$

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\implies contradicts the assumption of the model (A) \implies not valid model at least in the neighborhood of x_0 .

Limiting strain model

Limiting strain model

- Consider implicit models which a priori guarantees $|\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}| \leq K$:

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{T}) := \lambda_1(|\operatorname{tr} \mathbf{T}|)(\operatorname{tr} \mathbf{T})\mathbf{I} + \lambda_2(|\mathbf{T}|)\mathbf{T} + \lambda_3(|\mathbf{T}^d|)\mathbf{T}^d, \quad (\text{L-S})$$

where

$$\mathbf{T}^d := \mathbf{T} - \frac{\operatorname{tr} \mathbf{T}}{d}\mathbf{I}, \quad |\lambda_{1,2,3}(s)| \leq \frac{K}{3(s+1)}.$$

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- A priori estimates: from (L-S)

$$|\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}| \leq K.$$

From the equation, we may hope that

$$\int_{\Omega} \lambda_1(|\operatorname{tr} \mathbf{T}|) |\operatorname{tr} \mathbf{T}|^2 + \lambda_2(|\mathbf{T}|) |\mathbf{T}|^2 + \lambda_3(|\mathbf{T}^d|) |\mathbf{T}^d|^2 = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \leq C.$$

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- The reasonable assumptions (∞ -Laplacian-like problem):

$$\lambda_{1,2,3}(s) \geq \frac{\alpha}{s+1}. \quad \} \implies \int_{\Omega} |\mathbf{T}| \leq C.$$

Limiting strain model & monotonicity

- Apriori estimates for \mathbf{T} in L^1
- For the convergence at least some monotonicity needed, the minimal assumption:

$$0 \leq \frac{d}{ds}(\lambda_{1,2,3}(s)s). \quad (\text{M})$$

- If we would have a sequence fulfilling

$$\int_{\Omega_0} |\mathbf{T}^n|^{1+\delta} \leq C(\Omega_0) \quad \text{for all } \Omega_0 \subset\subset \Omega,$$

$$\implies \mathbf{T}^n \rightharpoonup \mathbf{T} \quad \text{weakly in } L^1_{loc}.$$

then using (M) we can identify the limit.

- Assume kind of uniform monotonicity, i.e., for some $\alpha, a, K > 0$

$$\frac{\alpha}{(K+s)^{a+1}} \leq \frac{d}{dt}(\lambda_i(s)s) \quad (\text{UM})$$

for example

$$\lambda_i(s) := \frac{1}{(1+s^a)^{\frac{1}{a}}}$$

for simplicity

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon^*(\mathbf{T}) := \frac{\mathbf{T}}{(1+|\mathbf{T}|^a)^{\frac{1}{a}}}.$$

Simplified setting - potential structure

We look for (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{T}) such that $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_0$ on Γ_D and $\mathbf{T}\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{g}$ on Γ_N such that in Ω there holds

$$\left. \begin{aligned} -\operatorname{div} \mathbf{T} &= \mathbf{f}, \\ \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}) &= \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{T}). \end{aligned} \right\} \Leftrightarrow \left\{ -\operatorname{div} \mathbf{T}^*(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u})) = \mathbf{f}. \right.$$

with

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{T}) := \frac{\mathbf{T}}{(1 + |\mathbf{T}|^a)^{\frac{1}{a}}} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{T}^*(\mathbf{W}) := (\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*)^{-1}(\mathbf{W}) := \frac{\mathbf{W}}{(1 - |\mathbf{W}|^a)^{\frac{1}{a}}}$$

for all $\mathbf{T} \in \mathbb{R}_{sym}^{d \times d}$ and $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}_{sym}^{d \times d}$ such that $|\mathbf{W}| < 1$.

Simplified setting - potential structure

First, we introduce the space of functions having bounded the symmetric gradient

$$E := \{\mathbf{u} \in W^{1,1}(\Omega)^d; \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}) \in L^\infty(\Omega)^{d \times d}\}.$$

and assume at least $\mathbf{u}_0 \in E$, $\mathbf{f} \in L^2(\Omega)^d$ and $\mathbf{g} \in L^1(\Gamma_N)^d$.

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- the set of admissible displacement

$$\mathcal{V} := \{\mathbf{u} \in W^{1,1}(\Omega) : \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_0 \in W_{\Gamma_D}^{1,1}(\Omega)^d, \mathbf{u} \in E\}$$

- the set of admissible stresses

$$\mathcal{S} := \left\{ \mathbf{T} \in L^1(\Omega)_{sym}^{d \times d} : \forall \mathbf{v} \in E \cap W_{\Gamma_D}^{1,1} \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{v}) = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \int_{\Gamma_N} \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{v} \right\}$$

Weak solution: Find $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{T}) \in \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{S}$ such that $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}) = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{T})$ a.e. in Ω .

Potential structure - primary formulation

Find potential $F : \mathbb{R}_{sym}^{d \times d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ such that $F(0) = 0$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial F(\mathbf{W})}{\partial \mathbf{W}} &= \mathbf{T}^*(\mathbf{W}) && \text{if } |\mathbf{W}| < 1, \\ F(\mathbf{W}) &= \infty && \text{if } |\mathbf{W}| > 1. \end{aligned}$$

Primary (variational) formulation: Find $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{V}$ such that for all $\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}$

$$\int_{\Omega} F(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u})) - \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{u} - \int_{\Gamma_N} \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{u} \leq \int_{\Omega} F(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{v})) - \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{v} - \int_{\Gamma_N} \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

Lemma

Let $\|\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}_0)\|_{\infty} < 1$ (*the safety strain condition*). Then there exists a unique \mathbf{u} solving the primary formulation. Moreover there exists $\mathbf{T} \in L^1(\Omega)^{d \times d}$ such that $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}) = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{T})$ and for all $\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}$ such that $\mathbf{T}^*(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{v})) \in L^1$ there holds

$$\int_{\Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}) \leq \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}) + \int_{\Gamma_N} \mathbf{g} \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v})$$

In addition, if there is a weak solution then it also solves the primary formulation. Similarly, if \mathbf{u} satisfies the safety strain condition, then (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{T}) is a weak solution.

Potential structure - dual formulation

Find potential $F^* : \mathbb{R}_{sym}^{d \times d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ such that $F(0) = 0$ and (note here that $F(\mathbf{W}) \sim |\mathbf{W}|$ at infinity

$$\frac{\partial F^*(\mathbf{W})}{\partial \mathbf{W}} = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{W}).$$

Dual (variational) formulation: Find $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{S}$ such that for all $\mathbf{W} \in \mathcal{S}$

$$\int_{\Omega} F^*(\mathbf{T}) - \mathbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}_0) \leq \int_{\Omega} F(\mathbf{W}) - \mathbf{W} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}_0)$$

Lemma

The existence of weak solution is equivalent to the existence of the minimizer to the dual problem. Moreover, if $\|\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}_0)\|_{\infty} < 1$ (the safety strain condition) then there exists a finite infimum of the dual formulation which may be attained by $\bar{\mathbf{T}} \in \mathcal{M}(\bar{\Omega})_{sym}^{d \times d}$.

Potential structure - relaxed dual formulation

- the relaxed set of admissible stresses

$$\mathcal{S}^m := \left\{ \mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{M}(\bar{\Omega})_{sym}^{d \times d} : \forall \mathbf{v} \in C_{\Gamma_D}^1(\Omega)^d \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{v}) = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \int_{\Gamma_N} \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{v} \right\}$$

Dual (variational) relaxed formulation: For $\mathbf{u}_0 \in C^1(\Omega)^d$, find $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{S}^m$ such that for all $\mathbf{W} \in \mathcal{S}^m$

$$\int_{\Omega} F^*(\mathbf{T}^r) + (\mathbf{W}^r - \mathbf{T}^r) \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}_0) + |\mathbf{T}^s|(\bar{\Omega}) + \langle \mathbf{W}^s - \mathbf{T}^s, \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}_0) \rangle \leq \int_{\Omega} F^*(\mathbf{W}^r) + |\mathbf{W}^s|(\bar{\Omega})$$

where $\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{T}^r + \mathbf{T}^s$ and \mathbf{T}^r is a regular part (i.e., absolutely continuous w.r.t. Lebesgue measure) and \mathbf{T}^s is a singular part (i.e., supported on the set of zero Lebesgue measure).

Lemma

Let $\|\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}_0)\|_{\infty} < 1$. Then there exists a minimizer to relaxed dual formulation. Moreover, the regular part \mathbf{T}^r is unique and satisfies $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}) = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{T}^r)$, where \mathbf{u} is (unique) minimizer to primary formulation. In addition, if \mathbf{T}_1^s and \mathbf{T}_2^s are two singular parts then for all $\mathbf{v} \in C_{\Gamma_D}^1(\Omega)^d$

$$|\mathbf{T}_1^s|(\bar{\Omega}) - \langle \mathbf{T}_1^s, \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}_0) \rangle = |\mathbf{T}_2^s|(\bar{\Omega}) - \langle \mathbf{T}_2^s, \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}_0) \rangle \text{ and } \langle \mathbf{T}_1^s - \mathbf{T}_2^s, \nabla \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0$$

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- Where is the singular measure supported? Is it really there? How do you explain that the regular part did not solve the balance equation? Is there some crack/damage possible region? Is there any influence of the shape Ω or the parameter a ? etc. etc.

Limiting strain model - anti-plane stress

We consider the following special geometry

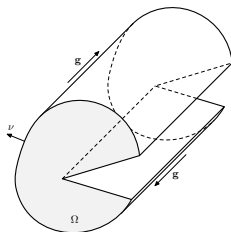


Figure: Anti-plane stress geometry.

and we look for the solution in the following form:

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}(x_1, x_2) = (0, 0, u(x_1, x_2)), \quad \mathbf{g}(x) = (0, 0, g(x_1, x_2)),$$

and

$$\mathbf{T}(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & T_{13}(x_1, x_2) \\ 0 & 0 & T_{23}(x_1, x_2) \\ T_{13}(x_1, x_2) & T_{23}(x_1, x_2) & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1)$$

Equivalent reformulation-simply connected domain

- Find $U : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ - the Airy stress function such that

$$T_{13} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} U_{x_2} \quad \text{and} \quad T_{23} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} U_{x_1}.$$

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- U must satisfy $(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{\mathbf{T}}{(1+|\mathbf{T}|^a)^{\frac{1}{a}}})$

$$\operatorname{div} \left(\frac{\nabla U}{(1 + |\nabla U|^a)^{\frac{1}{a}}} \right) = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega,$$

$$U_{x_2} \mathbf{n}_1 - U_{x_1} \mathbf{n}_2 = \sqrt{2}g \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega.$$

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- Dirichlet problem, indeed assume that $\partial\Omega$ is parameterized by $\gamma(s) = (\gamma_1(s), \gamma_2(s))$. Then

$$U(\gamma(s_0)) = a_0 + \sqrt{2} \int_0^{s_0} g(\gamma(s)) \sqrt{(\gamma_1'(s))^2 + (\gamma_2'(s))^2} ds =: U_0(x).$$

Consequences for U

- We look for $U \in W^{1,1}(\Omega)$

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$$\int_{\Omega} F^*(\nabla U) \leq \int_{\Omega} F^*(\nabla V).$$

- In general does not exist - relaxed formulation: fixed $\Omega \subset\subset \Omega_0$ and find $U \in BV(\Omega_0)$ such that $U = U_0$ in $\Omega_0 \setminus \bar{\Omega}$ and

$$\int_{\Omega} F^*((\nabla U)^r) + |\nabla U^s|(\bar{\Omega}) \leq \int_{\Omega} F^*((\nabla V)^r) + |\nabla V^s|(\bar{\Omega}).$$

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- We have the same result as before: (But consider $a = 2$ then we know that $(\nabla U)^s$ is supported only on $\partial\Omega$ and we have "half"-relaxed formulation: Find $u \in W^{1,1}(\Omega)$ such that

$$\int_{\Omega} \sqrt{1 + |\nabla U|^2} + \int_{\partial\Omega} |U - U_0| \leq \int_{\Omega} \sqrt{1 + |\nabla V|^2} + \int_{\partial\Omega} |V - U_0|.$$

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- $a \neq 2$ we cannot use all the geometrical machinery, but on convex domains we can prove $|\nabla U| \leq C$
- $a < 2$ we can localize and prove $\nabla U \in L_{loc}^\infty$
- $a \in (1, 2)$ the weak solution may not exist eg. for $\Omega = B_2 \setminus B_1$
- on the flat part of the boundary, one can extend the solution outside

Consequences for solution in general case/geometry

- Bildhauer & Fuchs (2001–): General theory for $a \in (0, 2]$ there exists $u \in W^{1,1}(\Omega)$

$$\int_{\Omega} F^*(\nabla U) + \int_{\partial\Omega} |U - U_0| \leq \int_{\Omega} F^*(\nabla V) + \int_{\partial\Omega} |V - U_0|.$$

i.e., smoothness locally in Ω , the trace may not be attained; for convex domains everything is nice up to the boundary

Consequences for solution in general case/geometry

- Bildhauer & Fuchs (2001–): General theory for $a \in (0, 2]$ there exists $u \in W^{1,1}(\Omega)$

$$\int_{\Omega} F^*(\nabla U) + \int_{\partial\Omega} |U - U_0| \leq \int_{\Omega} F^*(\nabla V) + \int_{\partial\Omega} |V - U_0|.$$

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- **But in all cases we need to face the problem with symmetric gradient contrary to the full gradient** as in Bildhauer & Fuchs
- **Is really the assumption $a \leq 2$ essential?** Counterexamples only for non-smooth data

Limiting strain - anti-plane stress geometry

Theorem (anti-plane stress)

Let U_0 be arbitrary. Then there exists unique weak solution U provided that one of the following holds.

- Ω is uniformly convex, $a > 0$ is arbitrary and U_0 smooth.
- $a \in (0, 2)$ and $\partial\Omega = \bigcup_{i=1}^N \Gamma_i$ such that either Γ_i is uniformly convex and U_0 is smooth on Γ_i or Γ_i is flat and U_0 is constant there.
- $a \in (0, 1]$, Ω arbitrary piece-wise $C^{1,1}$ and U_0 piece-wise in $C^{1,1}$. Moreover, if U_0 and Ω smooth then U is $C^{1,\alpha}(\bar{\Omega})$.

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Defining $\mathbf{T}_{13} := U_{x_2}$ and $\mathbf{T}_{23} := -U_{x_1}$ we have $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{T} = 0$ but $\mathbf{T} \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{g}$ is not attained but we have “best approximation”.

General result

Theorem (Beck, Bulíček, Maringová)

Let $F \in C^2(0, \infty)$ be increasing strictly convex fulfilling

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F(s)}{s} = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} F'(s) = K > 0.$$

Then the following is equivalent

- For any $\Omega \in C^{1,1}$ and any $u_0 \in C^{1,1}(\bar{\Omega})$ there exists unique $u \in W^{1,\infty}(\Omega)$ fulfilling

$$\int_{\Omega} F(|\nabla u|) \leq \int_{\Omega} F(|\nabla u_0 + \nabla \varphi|) \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in W_0^{1,1}(\Omega).$$

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The second condition is equivalent to the fact that

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow K_-} F^*(s) = \infty.$$

Result for particular model and general geometry

Consider $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{T}) = \mathbf{T}/(1 + |\mathbf{T}|^a)^{\frac{1}{a}}$:

Theorem (General result for $a > 0$)

Let $a > 0$ and \mathbf{u}_0 satisfy the safety strain condition. Then there exists a unique triple $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{T}, \tilde{\mathbf{g}}) \in \mathcal{V} \times L^1(\Omega)_{sym}^{d \times d} \times (C_0^1(\Gamma_N))^*$ such that for all $\mathbf{v} \in C_{\Gamma_D}^1(\bar{\Omega})$

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}) &= \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{T}) \\ \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w}) &\leq \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w}) + \int_{\Gamma_N} \mathbf{g} \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w}) \\ \mathbf{u} &= \mathbf{u}_0 \text{ on } \Gamma_D, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{V}$ is arbitrary such that there exists $\tilde{\mathbf{T}} \in L^1$ fulfilling $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{w}) = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\tilde{\mathbf{T}})$.

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where $\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{V}$ is arbitrary such that there exists $\tilde{\mathbf{T}} \in L^1$ fulfilling $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{w}) = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\tilde{\mathbf{T}})$. Moreover,

$$\int_{\Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \langle \mathbf{g} - \tilde{\mathbf{g}}, \mathbf{v} \rangle_{\Gamma_N}$$

Assumptions for general model

Assumptions on $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*$: Denote $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{T}) := \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{T})}{\partial \mathbf{T}}$.

- $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*$ is coercive, i.e.,

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{T}) \cdot \mathbf{T} \geq C_1 |\mathbf{T}| - C_2$$

- $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*$ is h -elliptic, i.e., there exists nonincreasing function h such that for all $\mathbf{W} \neq 0$

$$0 < h(|\mathbf{T}|) |\mathbf{W}|^2 \leq (\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{W})_{\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{T})} \leq \frac{|\mathbf{W}|^2}{1 + |\mathbf{T}|},$$

where

$$(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{W})_{\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{T})} := \sum \mathbf{A}_{\mu j}^{\nu i}(\mathbf{T}) \mathbf{W}^{\nu i} \mathbf{W}^{\mu j}, \quad \mathbf{A}_{\mu j}^{\nu i}(\mathbf{T}) := \frac{\partial (\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*)^{\nu i}(\mathbf{T})}{\partial \mathbf{T}^{\mu j}}.$$

- \mathbf{A} is asymptotically symmetric, i.e.,

$$\frac{|\mathbf{A}^s(\mathbf{T}) - \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{T})|^2}{h(|\mathbf{T}|)} \leq \frac{C_2}{1 + |\mathbf{T}|}.$$

- either h does not decrease faster than $|\mathbf{T}|^{-1-2/d}$ or $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*$ is asymptotically Uhlenbeck, i.e., there exists a function g such that $g(|\mathbf{T}|) \leq C(1 + |\mathbf{T}|)$ fulfilling

$$\frac{|g(|\mathbf{T}|) \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{T}) - \mathbf{T}|^2}{h(|\mathbf{T}|)} \leq C_2(1 + |\mathbf{T}|^3).$$

Assumptions for general models

Assumptions on data:

- $\mathbf{f} \in L^2$
- $\mathbf{g} \in L^1$
- \mathbf{u}_0 satisfies safety strain condition, i.e., there exists a compact set $K \subset \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbb{R}_{sym}^{d \times d})$ such that for almost all $x \in \Omega$

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}_0(x)) \in K$$

Result for limiting strain models

Theorem (General result)

There exists a unique triple $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{T}, \tilde{\mathbf{g}}) \in W^{1,1}(\Omega)^d \times L^1(\Omega)_{sym}^{d \times d} \times (C_0^1(\Gamma_D))^*$ such that for all $\mathbf{v} \in C_{\Gamma_D}^1(\bar{\Omega})$ and all

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{v}) &= \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \langle \mathbf{g} - \tilde{\mathbf{g}}, \mathbf{v} \rangle_{\Gamma_N} \\ \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}) &= \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{T}) \in L^\infty(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}) \\ \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w}) &\leq \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w}) + \int_{\Gamma_N} \mathbf{g} \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w}) \\ \mathbf{u} &= \mathbf{u}_0 \text{ on } \Gamma_D, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{w} \in W^{1,\infty}(\Omega)$ is arbitrary function being equal to \mathbf{u}_0 on Γ_D such that there exists $\tilde{\mathbf{T}} \in L^1(\Omega)_{sym}^{d \times d}$ fulfilling $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{w}) = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\tilde{\mathbf{T}})$.

Conclusion II

- The first result for the symmetric gradient, where the Uhlenbeck setting plays the crucial role
- The same result obviously holds also for the full gradient case
- For **any** C^1 strictly monotone operator being asymptotically symmetric and Uhlenbeck we avoided the presence of the singular part in the interior!
- At least in 2D and a simply connected domains, we can convert this setting to the minimal surface-like problems and get the same result. Improvement of the known results in a significant way!
- The method does not use the improved integrability result (which even may not be true)!
- The same theory for minimal surface-like problems and general geometries. **Sharp identification** of the cases when the theory can be built up to the boundary.

Scheme of the proof

We find a mollified problem for which we have a solution and then go to the limit. The approximation is of the form

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_n^*(\mathbf{T}) := \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\mathbf{T}) + n^{-1} \frac{\mathbf{T}}{(1 + |\mathbf{T}|)^{1 - \frac{1}{n}}}.$$

- The first a priori estimate

$$\int_{\Omega} |\mathbf{T}^n| \leq C, \quad \|\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}^n)\|_n \leq C.$$

-

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{T}^n &\rightharpoonup^* \bar{\mathbf{T}} && \text{in } \mathcal{M}(\bar{\Omega})_{sym}^{d \times d}, \\ \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}^n) &\rightharpoonup \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}) && \text{in } L^q(\Omega)_{sym}^{d \times d}, \text{ for all } q < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

and $\bar{\mathbf{T}}$ solves the equation but we do not know that $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u}) = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^*(\bar{\mathbf{T}})$

Scheme

- First we show that

$$\mathbf{T}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{T} \quad \text{a.e. in } \Omega,$$

where $\mathbf{T} \in L^1(\Omega)^{d \times d}_{sym}$ but we do not know that $\mathbf{T} = \overline{\mathbf{T}}$.

- Then due to the continuity of ε^* we have

$$\varepsilon(\mathbf{u}) = \varepsilon^*(\mathbf{T}) \quad \text{a.e. in } \Omega.$$

- Fatou lemma and monotonicity justifies the limit passage in

$$\int_{\Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \varepsilon(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w}) \leq \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w}) + \int_{\Gamma_N} \mathbf{g} \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w})$$

- the final step is to show that

$$\boxed{-\operatorname{div} \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{f}}$$