

# Rigidity and compensated compactness in $L^1$

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**Tartar framework:** Sequence of maps  $u_j: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  with

$u_j \rightharpoonup u$  weakly/weakly\* in a Sobolev space or space of measures

and

**linear PDE constraint:**  $\mathcal{A} u_j = 0$

**nonlinear pointwise constraint:**  $u_j \in K \subset \mathbb{R}^m$

**Question:** Is there **unexpected (compensated) compactness** in the sequence  $(u_j)$ , e.g.,

$u_j \rightarrow u$  strongly

or at least convergence for some (nonlinear) functions of  $u_j$ ?

**Goal:** **Compensated compactness theory** with concentrations  
( $u \in L^1$  or  $u \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{loc}}$ ; weak\* convergence in the sense of measures)

**PDE constraints for vector measures**  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^N)$ ,  $\sigma \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^n)$ :

$$\mathcal{A}\mu := \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} A_\alpha \partial^\alpha \mu = \sigma \quad \text{in } \mathcal{D}',$$

where  $A_\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times N}$ ,  $\partial^\alpha = \partial_1^{\alpha_1} \dots \partial_d^{\alpha_d}$  for each multi-index  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d) \in \mathbb{N}_0^d$ .

**Example 1 – Functions of bounded variation:** For  $u \in \text{BV}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m)$ , we have that  $Du = (\mu_j^k) \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^{m \times d})$  satisfies

$$0 = \mathcal{A}(Du) := \text{curl}(Du) := \left( \partial_j \mu_i^k - \partial_i \mu_j^k \right)_{i,j=1,\dots,d; k=1,\dots,m}.$$

*Application:* Deformations with jumps and fractal parts.

**Example 2 – Functions of bounded deformation:** For  $u \in \text{BD}(\Omega)$ , we have that  $Eu := \frac{1}{2}(Du + Du^T) = (\mu_j^k) \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d})$  satisfies Saint-Venant's compatibility conditions (1864):

$$0 = \mathcal{A}(Eu) := \text{curl curl}(Eu) := \left( \sum_{i=1}^d \partial_{ik} \mu_i^j + \partial_{ij} \mu_i^k - \partial_{jk} \mu_i^i - \partial_{ii} \mu_j^k \right)_{j,k=1,\dots,d}$$

*Application:* Displacements (e.g., perfect plasticity).

**Example 3 – Normal 1-currents:** A vector measure  $T \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^d)$  is called a **normal 1-current** if

$$\partial T := -\text{div } T \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}),$$

thus:

$$\mathcal{A}T := \partial T = \sigma \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}).$$

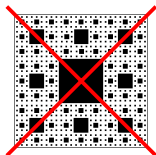
*Application:* Dislocations (they are loops within a crystal grain).

# Wanted: Fine structure theory

**Central question:** Restrictions on the *singular part*  $\mu^s$  of solutions  $\mu$  of  $\mathcal{A}\mu = \sigma$ .

$$\mu = g \mathcal{L}^d + \mu^s ?$$

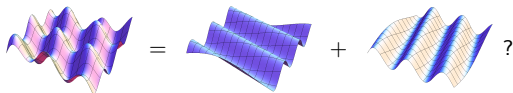
$\mu^s =$  jumps, fractals, Cantor measures, ... ?



**Major goal 1: Restrictions (rigidity)** on singularities:

**Major goal 2: Fine structure theory** for singularities:

- Shape?
- Dimensions?
- Local structure?



**Major goal 3: Compensated compactness theory**

Rigidity I (polar differential inclusions)

# Rigidity in BV

Let  $u \in BV(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m)$  ( $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  a Lipschitz domain). At  $|Du|$ -almost every  $x_0 \in \Omega$ , a blow-up  $v$  satisfies

$$Dv = P_0 |Dv|, \quad \text{where} \quad P_0 = \frac{D^s u}{|D^s u|}(x_0) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}.$$

Hence: Need to investigate the structure of solutions to

$$Dv = P_0 |Dv|, \quad v \in BV_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^m), \quad P_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}, \quad |P_0| = 1. \quad (\star)$$

## Lemma (Rigidity)

Let  $v \in BV_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^m)$  satisfy  $(\star)$ . Then:

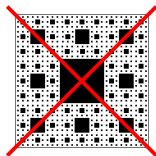
- (i) If  $\text{rank } P_0 \geq 2$ , then  $v$  is *affine*.
- (ii) If  $P_0 = a \otimes \xi$  ( $\Leftrightarrow \text{rank } P_0 \leq 1$ ), then  $v$  is *one-directional*, i.e. there exists  $\tilde{v} \in BV_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R})$  such that

$$v(y) = \tilde{v}(y \cdot \xi)a, \quad y \in \mathbb{R}^d \text{ a.e.}$$

## Theorem ( $\mathcal{A} = \text{curl}$ , Alberti's Rank-One Theorem 1993)

Let  $u \in BV(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^m)$ . Then, for the *singular part*  $D^s u$  of  $Du$ :

$$\text{rank} \left( \frac{dD^s u}{d|D^s u|} \right) = 1 \quad |D^s u| \text{-a.e.}$$



**Idea:** Investigate the structure of solutions to

$$Ev := \frac{1}{2}(Dv + Dv^T) = P_0|Ev|, \quad v \in \text{BD}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^d), \quad P_0 \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}, \quad |P_0| = 1.$$

**Would like to have (by analogy to BV):**

- (i) If  $P_0 \notin \{a \odot b : a, b \in \mathbb{R}^d\}$ , then  $v$  is affine.
- (ii) If  $P_0 = a \odot b$  for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{0\}$ , then there exists  $h_1, h_2 \in \text{BV}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $v_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and a skew-symmetric matrix  $R \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{skew}}^{d \times d}$  such that

$$v(x) = v_0 + h_1(x \cdot b)a + h_2(x \cdot a)b + Rx, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^d \text{ a.e.}$$

**But:** Both assertions are wrong in general!

- (i) Take  $P_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $v(x) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{x_1} \sin(x_2) \\ -e^{x_1} \cos(x_2) \end{pmatrix}$  (harmonic!).
- (ii) Take  $P_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & 0 \end{pmatrix} = e_1 \odot e_1$  and  $v(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 4x_1^3 x_2 \\ -x_1^4 \end{pmatrix}$ .



## Question

What is the general structure of a measure  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^N)$  with

$$\mathcal{A}\mu = 0 \quad (\text{or } \mathcal{A}\mu = \sigma \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^n))$$

and

$$\mu = P_0\nu,$$

where  $P_0 \in \mathbb{R}^N$  and  $\nu \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{loc}}^+(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ? In particular, when does it hold that

$$\mu = \tau_1 + \dots + \tau_N \quad \text{mod } C^\infty$$

with  $\tau_1, \dots, \tau_N$  of a “simple structure”?

**BD case:**  $N = 2$  (two one-directional parts) – R. '11, De Philippis–R. '17, De Philippis–R. '20

**Divergence:** Structure of boundaryless currents (e.g. Smirnov's theorem). Also: Garroni & Nesi '04 and Palombaro–Ponsiglione '04, Arroyo-Rabasa '19.

# Singular Density Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{A}\mu = \sigma$  distributionally for

$$\mathcal{A}\mu := \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} A_\alpha \partial^\alpha \mu.$$

**Principal symbol:**  $\mathbb{A}^k(\xi) := \sum_{|\alpha|=k} (2\pi i)^\alpha A_\alpha \xi^\alpha$

**Tartar wave cone:**  $\Lambda_{\mathcal{A}} := \bigcup_{|\xi|=1} \ker \mathbb{A}^k(\xi)$

**Rigidity/ellipticity:** If  $\mathcal{A}[P_0\nu] = 0$  with  $P_0 \notin \Lambda_{\mathcal{A}}$ , then  $\nu \in C^\infty$  ( $N = 0$  in Question).

**Theorem (De Philippis & R. '16)**

If  $\mu = g_{\mathcal{L}^d} + \mu^s$ , then

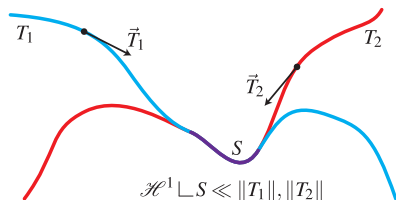
$$\frac{d\mu^s}{d|\mu^s|}(x) \in \Lambda_{\mathcal{A}} \quad \text{for } |\mu^s|\text{-a.e. } x \in \Omega.$$

**Corollary (Converse Rademacher Theorem)**

Let  $\nu$  be a positive Radon measure on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that every Lipschitz function  $f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is differentiable  $\nu$ -almost everywhere. Then,  $\nu \ll \mathcal{L}^d$ .

Rigidity II (dimensionality and rectifiability)

## Intersections of lines



**Question:** Given two smooth curves  $T_1, T_2$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  that intersect on a set  $S$  (but do not self-intersect). What do we know about  $\vec{T}_1, \vec{T}_2$  on the intersection  $S$ ?

**Answer:**  $\vec{T}_1 \parallel \vec{T}_2$   $\mathcal{H}^1$ -almost everywhere on the intersection  $S$  (“up to single points”).

**“The lines do not see the crossing points”:**

If  $\text{span}\{\vec{T}_1, \vec{T}_2\} = \mathbb{R}^2$  on  $S$ , then  $\mathcal{H}^1(S) = 0$ . Actually,  $\dim_{\mathcal{H}} S = 0$ .

# Singularity of $\nu$

**Theorem (De Philippis & R. '16)**

Let  $T_1, \dots, T_d$  be normal 1-currents in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , i.e.,

$$T_i \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^d) \quad \text{with} \quad \text{div } T_i = \sigma_i \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}),$$

and  $\nu \in \mathcal{M}^+(\mathbb{R}^d)$  a positive measure with

- (i)  $\nu \ll \|T_i\|$  for  $i = 1, \dots, d$ ;
- (ii) for  $\nu$ -a.e.  $x$ :  $\text{span}\{\vec{T}_1(x), \dots, \vec{T}_d(x)\} = \mathbb{R}^d$ .

Then,  $\nu \ll \mathcal{L}^d$ .

**Proof:** Put

$$\mathbf{T} := \begin{pmatrix} T_1 \\ \vdots \\ T_d \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{so} \quad \text{div } \mathbf{T} = \sigma \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^d).$$

By (ii),

$$\frac{d\mathbf{T}}{d|\mathbf{T}|}(x) \notin \Lambda_{\text{div}} = \left\{ M \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} : \det M = 0 \right\} \quad \text{for } \nu\text{-a.e. } x.$$

Now use  $\mathcal{A} = \text{div}$  in the Singular Density Theorem. This gives

$$\frac{d\mathbf{T}}{d|\mathbf{T}|}(x) \in \Lambda_{\text{div}} \quad \text{for } |\mathbf{T}|^s\text{-a.e. } x.$$

Since also  $\nu^s \ll |\mathbf{T}|^s$  by (i), we get  $\nu^s = 0$ .  $\square$

# Co-cancelling operators

## Definition (van Schaftingen '13)

The operator  $\mathcal{A}$  is called **co-cancelling** if

$$\Lambda_{\mathcal{A}}^1 := \bigcap_{\xi \in \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{0\}} \ker \mathbb{A}^k(\xi) = \{0\}.$$

**Example:**  $\mathcal{A} = \text{div}$  is co-cancelling.

## Theorem (van Schaftingen '13)

Assume that  $\mathcal{A}$  is homogeneous and co-cancelling. If

$$\mathcal{A}(P_0 \delta_0) = 0 \quad \text{for some } P_0 \in \mathbb{R}^m,$$

then  $P_0 = 0$ .

**Example:** There is no  $P_0 \neq 0$  such that  $\text{div}(P_0 \delta_0) = 0$ .

## Corollary

Let  $\mathcal{A}\mu = 0$  with  $\mathcal{A}$  co-cancelling. If  $\mu$  is “0-rectifiable”, then  $\mu = 0$ .

**Conclusion:** Other wave cones might give information about the dimension of  $\mu$ ...

## Definition

For  $\ell = 1, \dots, d$  we define the  $\ell$ -dimensional wave cone as

$$\Lambda_{sd}^\ell := \bigcap_{\pi \in \text{Gr}(\ell, d)} \bigcup_{\xi \in \pi \setminus \{0\}} \ker \mathbb{A}^k(\xi),$$

where  $\text{Gr}(\ell, d)$  is the Grassmanian of  $\ell$ -planes in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

**Inclusions:**

$$\Lambda_{sd}^1 = \bigcap_{\xi \in \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{0\}} \ker \mathbb{A}^k(\xi) \subset \Lambda_{sd}^j \subset \Lambda_{sd}^\ell \subset \Lambda_{sd}^d = \Lambda_{sd}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq \ell \leq d.$$

**Theorem (Arroyo-Rabasa, De Philippis, Hirsch & R. '19)**

Let  $\mathcal{A}\mu = \sigma$ . If  $\mathcal{H}^l(E) = 0$  for some  $l \in \{0, \dots, d\}$ , then

$$\frac{d\mu}{d|\mu|}(x) \in \Lambda_{\mathcal{A}}^l \quad \text{for } |\mu|\text{-a.e. } x \in E.$$

**Remark:** For  $l = d$ , this recovers the '16 Singular Density Theorem.

**Corollary**

Let  $\mathcal{A}\mu = \sigma$ . Define

$$l_{\mathcal{A}} := \max\{l \in \mathbb{N} : \Lambda_{\mathcal{A}}^l = \{0\}\}.$$

Then,

$$\mu \ll \mathcal{H}^{l_{\mathcal{A}}}.$$

**Remark:** For  $l = 1$ , this also improves the result of van Schaftingen '13 ( $\dim_{\mathcal{H}} \mu \geq 1$  as opposed to  $\dim_{\mathcal{H}} \mu > 0$ ).



Define the **upper  $\ell$ -density** of  $|\mu|$ :

$$\theta_\ell^*(|\mu|)(x) := \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{|\mu|(B_r(x))}{(2r)^\ell}.$$

**Theorem (Arroyo-Rabasa, De Philippis, Hirsch & R. '19)**

Let  $\mathcal{A}\mu = \sigma$  and assume

$$\Lambda_{\mathcal{A}}^\ell = \{0\}.$$

Then,  $\mu \llcorner \{\theta_\ell^*(|\mu|) > 0\}$  is concentrated on an  $\ell$ -rectifiable set  $R$  and

$$\mu \llcorner R = P(x) \mathcal{H}_x^\ell \llcorner R,$$

where

$$P(x_0) \in \bigcap_{\xi \in (T_{x_0} R)^\perp} \ker \mathbb{A}^k(\xi) \quad \text{for } \mathcal{H}^\ell\text{-a.e. } x_0 \in R \text{ (or } |\mu|\text{-a.e. } x_0 \in R).$$

Here,  $T_{x_0} R$  is the the approximate tangent plane to  $R$  at  $x_0$ .

**Remark:** Recovers rectifiability results for BV-maps ( $\mathcal{A} = \text{curl}$ ,  $\ell_{\text{curl}} = d - 1$ ) and for BD-maps ( $\mathcal{A} = \text{curl curl}$ ,  $\ell_{\text{curl curl}} = d - 1$ ).

# Rectifiability for divergence constraint

Theorem (Arroyo-Rabasa, De Philippis, Hirsch & R. '19)

Let  $\operatorname{div} \mu = \sigma$ . Assume that

$$\operatorname{rank} \left( \frac{d\mu}{d|\mu|}(x) \right) \geq \ell \quad \text{for } |\mu|\text{-a.e. } x.$$

Then,  $|\mu| \ll \mathcal{H}^\ell$  and there exist an  $\ell$ -rectifiable set  $R \subset U$  such that

$$\mu \llcorner \{\theta_\ell^*(|\mu|) > 0\} = P(x) \mathcal{H}_x^\ell \llcorner R, \quad \operatorname{rank} P(x) = \ell.$$

**Remark:** Recovers several known rectifiability criteria for varifolds (Allard '72, Ambrosio–Soner '97, Lin '99, Moser '03, De Philippis–De Rosa–Ghiraldin '18).

**Proof:** Let  $\tilde{\mu} := (\mu, \sigma)$  and  $\mathcal{A}(\tilde{\mu}) := \operatorname{div} \mu - \sigma$ . Then,

$$\Lambda_{\mathcal{A}}^\ell = \{ M \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} : \operatorname{rank} M < \ell \}.$$

□

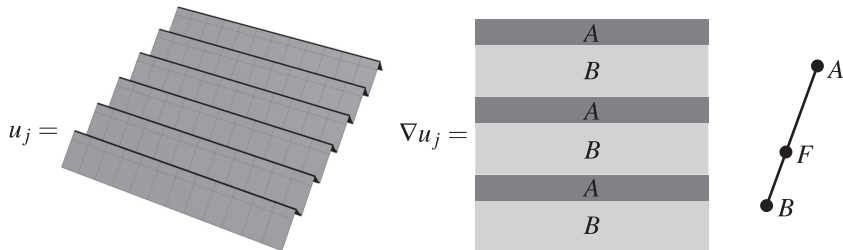
Question

Are these dimensionality/rectifiability results sharp?

## Compensated compactness I: Differential inclusions

# Laminates, I

- Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  with  $B - A = a \otimes n := an^T$  for  $a, n \in \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{0\}$ .
- Let  $\theta \in [0, 1]$  and  $F := \theta A + (1 - \theta)B$ .



- These  $u_j$  satisfy the **differential inclusion**

$$\nabla u_j(x) \in \{A, B\} \quad \text{for a.e. } x \in \Omega$$

and the convergence

$$\nabla u_j \xrightarrow{*} F \quad \text{in } W_{\text{loc}}^{1, \infty}.$$

## Theorem (Ball & James 1987)

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be an open, bounded, and connected set and let  $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$  with

$$\text{rank}(A - B) \geq 2.$$

(A) If  $u \in W^{1,\infty}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m)$  satisfies the differential inclusion

$$\nabla u(x) \in \{A, B\} \quad \text{for a.e. } x \in \Omega,$$

then either  $\nabla u \equiv A$  or  $\nabla u \equiv B$ .

(B) Let  $(u_j) \subset W^{1,\infty}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m)$  be a norm-bounded sequence such that

$$\text{dist}(\nabla u_j, \{A, B\}) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{in measure.}$$

Then, up to extracting a subsequence, either

$$\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u_j(x) - A| \, dx \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u_j(x) - B| \, dx \rightarrow 0$$

as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ .

# Two-state problem

Theorem (De Philippis, Palmieri & R. '18)

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a domain. Suppose that  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}^N$  with

$$\lambda - \mu \notin \Lambda_{\mathcal{A}}.$$

(A) If  $v \in L^\infty(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^N)$  is such that

$$\mathcal{A}v = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad v(x) \in \{\lambda, \mu\} \quad \text{for a.e. } x \in \Omega,$$

then either  $v \equiv \lambda$  or  $v \equiv \mu$ .

(B) Let  $(v_j) \subset L^1(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^N)$  be a uniformly norm-bounded sequence of maps such that

$$\mathcal{A}v_j = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} \text{dist}(v_j(x), \{\lambda, \mu\}) \, dx = 0.$$

Then, up to extracting a subsequence, either

$$\int_{\Omega} |v_j(x) - \lambda| \, dx \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \int_{\Omega} |v_j(x) - \mu| \, dx \rightarrow 0$$

as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Other work:** Garroni & Nesi '04 and Palombaro–Ponsiglione '04 ( $\mathcal{A} = \text{div}$ ), Barchiesi '03 (some first-order  $\mathcal{A}$ ), Sorella-Tione '21 (flexibility for 4-state problem).

## Conjecture

Suppose  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m)$  solve

$$\mathcal{A}\mu = \sigma \quad \text{in } \mathcal{D}'(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^n).$$

and its polar satisfies

$$\frac{d\mu}{d|\mu|}(x) \in K \quad \text{for } |\mu|\text{-a.e. } x \in \Omega$$

with  $K \subset (\mathbb{R}^m \setminus \Lambda_{\mathcal{A}}) \cup \{0\}$  a convex and closed (one-sided) cone. Then, we conjecture that

$$\mu \in L_{\text{loc}}^p(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m)$$

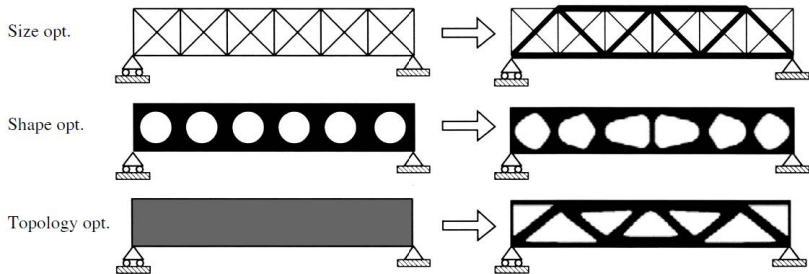
for every  $1 \leq p < \frac{d}{d-k}$  if  $k < d$  and all  $p \in [1, \infty)$  otherwise.

**Perturbative first results:** Bate & Orponen '20 (for  $\mathcal{A} = \text{div}$ ),  
Arroyo-Rabasa–De Philippis–Hirsch–R.–Skorobogatova '21.

## Compensated compactness II: Shape optimization



# Optimal structures



picture from Gebisa & Lemu 2017 IOP Conf. Ser.: Mater. Sci. Eng. 276 012026

**Objective:** Given a bounded domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  ( $d = 2, 3$ ), find the optimal shape  $\omega \subset \Omega$  of prescribed volume  $\mathcal{L}^d(\omega) = \varepsilon$  that is maximally strong:

Minimize the (rescaled) compliance 
$$\min_{\sigma \in L^2(\omega; \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d})} \left\{ \varepsilon \int_{\omega} j^*(\sigma) \, dx : -\operatorname{div}(\sigma \mathbb{1}_{\omega}) = f \right\}$$

over all shapes  $\omega \in \mathcal{A}_{\varepsilon} := \{ \omega \subset \Omega : \omega \text{ Lipschitz domain, } \partial\Omega \subset \partial\omega, \mathcal{L}^d(\omega) = \varepsilon \}$ .

“Light” structures: What happens in the **vanishing-mass limit**  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ ?

# Bouchitté's conjecture

$$\mathcal{C}_\varepsilon(\mu) := \begin{cases} \min_{\sigma \in L^2(\mu; \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d})} \left\{ \int j^*(\sigma) \, d\mu : -\operatorname{div}(\sigma\mu) = f \right\} & \text{if } \mu = \frac{\mathcal{L}^d \llcorner \omega}{\varepsilon} \text{ for } \omega \in \mathcal{A}_\varepsilon, \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Conjecture (*Bouchitté '01*)

The **limit compliance**  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$ , for which

$$\inf_{\omega \in \mathcal{A}_\varepsilon} \mathcal{C}_\varepsilon \left( \frac{\mathcal{L}^d \llcorner \omega}{\varepsilon} \right) \rightarrow \inf_{\mu \in \mathcal{M}^1(\bar{\Omega})} \bar{\mathcal{C}}(\mu) \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \downarrow 0,$$

is given as

$$\bar{\mathcal{C}}(\mu) = \min_{\sigma \in L^2(\mu; \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d})} \left\{ \int \bar{j}^*(\sigma) \, d\mu : -\operatorname{div}(\sigma\mu) = f \right\},$$

where the **infinitesimal-mass integrand**  $\bar{j}^*$  is defined as the convex conjugate to

$$\bar{j}(\xi) := \sup_{\substack{\tau \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d} \\ \det \tau = 0}} \{ \xi : \tau - j^*(\tau) \}, \quad \xi \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}.$$

# Main theorem

Theorem (Babadjian & Iurlano & R. 2021)

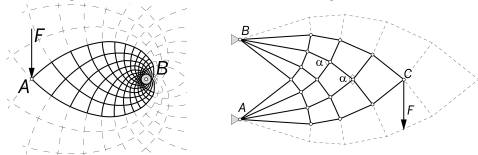
Assume that  $\Omega$  is a bounded  $C^2$ -domain in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Then, Bouchitté's vanishing-mass conjecture holds (near a minimum) for the integrand  $j(\xi) := \frac{1}{2}|\cdot|^2$ , that is,

$$\inf_{\omega \in \mathcal{A}_\varepsilon} \mathcal{C}_\varepsilon \left( \frac{\mathcal{L}^d \llcorner \omega}{\varepsilon} \right) \rightarrow \inf_{\mu \in \mathcal{M}^1(\bar{\Omega})} \bar{\mathcal{C}}(\mu) \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \downarrow 0.$$

Further:

- Approximate minimizers of  $\mathcal{C}_\varepsilon$  converge weakly\* to a minimizer of  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$ .
- Every minimizer of  $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$  is the limit of approximate minimizers of  $\mathcal{C}_\varepsilon$ .

**Corollary:** Justification of the theory of Michell trusses (Michell 1904, Prager 1970s)



Previous results: Olbermann '17, '20 (soft constraint)

All other cases of the conjecture: **open!**

Thank you!

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