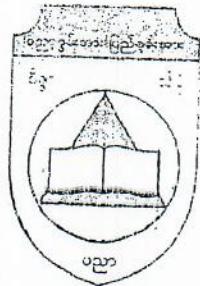


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## Mixed Variational Formulation of A Saddle Point Problem in Elasticity

Ohn Mar Myint

### Abstract

The objective of this paper is to present mathematical structures that are fundamental for solving elasticity equations. We discuss a classification of variational principle and of weak formulation. Then a variational equation of a saddle point problem is derived.

### Babuska's Theorem

Let  $\Sigma$  and  $V$  be two real Hilbert spaces with scalar products  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\Sigma}$  and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_V$  respectively. Let  $c(\tau, v)$  be a bilinear form on  $\Sigma \times V$  such that

$$|c(\tau, v)| \leq \alpha \|\tau\|_{\Sigma} \|v\|_V \quad \forall \tau \in \Sigma, \forall v \in V, \quad (1.1)$$

$$\inf_{\substack{\tau \in \Sigma \\ \|\tau\|_{\Sigma}=1}} \sup_{\substack{v \in V \\ \|v\|_V \leq 1}} c(\tau, v) \geq \gamma > 0, \quad (1.2)$$

$$\sup_{\tau \in \Sigma} c(\tau, v) > 0 \quad \forall v \in V, v \neq 0, \quad (1.3)$$

where  $\alpha < \infty$ . Then, for a functional  $g \in V^*$ , there exists a unique element  $\tau_g \in \Sigma$  such that

$$c(\tau_g, v) = \langle g, v \rangle_{V^* \times V}, \quad \forall v \in V, \quad (1.4)$$

$$\|\tau_g\|_{\Sigma} \leq \frac{1}{\gamma} \|g\|. \quad (1.5)$$

**Proof :** The proof consists of four steps.

**Step 1:** From (1.1) for every  $\tau \in \Sigma$ ,

$$\phi_{\tau}(v) = c(\tau, v)$$

is a linear functional on  $V$  with the norm

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where  $\alpha < \infty$ . Then, for a functional  $g \in V^*$ , there exists a unique element  $\tau_g \in \Sigma$  such that

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**Proof:** The proof consists of four steps.

**Step 1:** From (1.1) for every  $\tau \in \Sigma$ ,

$$\phi_{\tau}(v) = c(\tau, v)$$

is a linear functional on  $V$  with the norm

$$\|\psi_\tau\|_V = \sup_{|v| \leq 1} |c(\tau, v)| \leq \alpha \|\tau\|_\Sigma. \quad (1.6)$$

Thus we may write, by Riesz theorem,  $v_1 \in V$  and

$$\langle v_1, v \rangle_V = c(\tau, v),$$

i.e., there exists a mapping  $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\Sigma$  to  $V$  such that

$$\langle \mathcal{R}(\tau), v \rangle_V = c(\tau, v), \quad (1.7)$$

and

$$\|\mathcal{R}\| \leq \alpha. \quad (1.8)$$

We see that  $\mathcal{R}$  is linear and continuous.

**Step 2 :** Now we will show that  $\mathcal{R}(\Sigma)$  is a closed set in  $V$ . We have to show that  $\mathcal{R}(\Sigma) = \overline{\mathcal{R}(\Sigma)}$

Let  $v \in \overline{\mathcal{R}(\Sigma)}$ . Therefore  $v_n \in \mathcal{R}(\Sigma)$  such that  $v_n \rightarrow v$ .

There exist  $\tau_n \in \Sigma$  such that  $v_n = \mathcal{R}(\tau_n)$ .

$\{v_n\}$  is a cauchy sequence in  $\mathcal{R}(\Sigma)$ .

$$\|\mathcal{R}(\tau_m) - \mathcal{R}(\tau_n)\|_V = \|v_m - v_n\|_V$$

$$\text{Since } \|\tau_m - \tau_n\|_\Sigma \leq \frac{1}{\gamma} \|\mathcal{R}(\tau_m - \tau_n)\| = \frac{1}{\gamma} \|v_m - v_n\|.$$

$\{\tau_n\}$  is a cauchy sequence in  $\Sigma$  which is complete.

So there exist  $\tau \in \Sigma$  such that  $\tau_n \rightarrow \tau$ .

Thus  $\mathcal{R}(\tau_n) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}(\tau) = v$ .

Assume that the form  $a$  is symmetric and let

$$U_g = \{ \tau \in \Sigma \mid b(\tau, v) = \langle g, v \rangle_{V^* \times V} \quad \forall v \in V \}. \quad (2.3)$$

The problem defined by (2.1) and (2.2) can be viewed as a constrained optimization problem:

Find  $\sigma \in U_g$  such that  $\sigma$  is a point at which

$$\min_{\tau \in U_g} \left( \frac{1}{2} a(\tau, \tau) - \langle f, \tau \rangle_{\Sigma^* \times \Sigma} \right) \quad (2.4)$$

is attained.

Introducing a Lagrangian multiplier and calculating using variational method, we see that (2.1) and (2.2) will be satisfied if this minimum occurs, when

$$a(\sigma, \tau) - \langle f, \tau \rangle = -b(\tau, u) \quad \forall \tau \in \Sigma. \quad (2.5)$$

The minimization problem thus yields the system of equations defined by (2.1) and (2.2). The first component  $\sigma$  of this problem will be an optimal solution of (2.4).

Now we return to the weak formulation defined by (2.1) and (2.2). For a weak solution of these equations to exist and if so, to be unique, certain criteria have to be satisfied. The bilinear forms  $a$  and  $b$  induce linear continuous operators  $\mathcal{A}: \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma^*$  and  $\mathcal{B}: \Sigma \rightarrow V^*$ , defined by

$$\langle \mathcal{A}\sigma, \tau \rangle_{\Sigma^* \times \Sigma} = a(\sigma, \tau) \quad \forall \tau \in \Sigma, \quad (2.6)$$

$$\langle \mathcal{B}\tau, v \rangle_{V^* \times V} = b(\tau, v) \quad \forall v \in V. \quad (2.7)$$

We also define  $\mathcal{B}'$  the adjoint operator of  $\mathcal{B}$ , by

$$\langle \mathcal{B}'v, \tau \rangle_{\Sigma^* \times \Sigma} = b(\tau, v) \quad \forall \tau \in \Sigma. \quad (2.8)$$

Then (2.1) and (2.2) are equivalent to

$$\mathcal{A}\sigma + \mathcal{B}'u = f, \quad (2.9)$$

$$\mathcal{B}\sigma = g. \quad (2.10)$$

With reference to these operators, we are able to give necessary and sufficient conditions for a solution to exist.

### Theorem 2.1 (Babuska-Brezzi Theorem)

A solution  $(\sigma, u)$  to the problem defined by (2.1) and (2.2) exists provided that

- (i) The operator  $\mathcal{A}$  is coercive on the kernel of  $\mathcal{B}$ . That is, there exists a positive constant  $\alpha$  such that

$$a(\tau, \tau) \geq \alpha \|\tau\|_{\Sigma}^2 \quad \forall \tau \in U_0$$

where

$$U_0 = \{\tau \in \Sigma \mid b(\tau, v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in V\}.$$

- (ii) Given  $v \in V$  there exists a non-zero  $\tau \in \Sigma$  and a positive constant  $\delta$  such that

$$|b(\tau, v)| \geq \delta \|\tau\|_{\Sigma} \|v\|_V.$$

When a solution  $\sigma$  exists, it will be unique. Similarly,  $u$  will be unique up to an element in the kernel of  $\mathcal{B}'$ .

See: Ronges, M.E., for proof

### Theorem 2.2

Let  $g \in R(\mathcal{B}) = \text{range of } \mathcal{B}$  and let the bilinear form  $a(\cdot, \cdot)$  be coercive on  $\text{Ker } \mathcal{B}$ , that is, there exists  $\alpha_0$  such that

$$a(\tau_0, \tau_0) \geq \alpha_0 \|\tau_0\|_{\Sigma}^2 \quad \forall \tau_0 \in \text{Ker } \mathcal{B}. \quad (2.11)$$

Then there exists a unique solution  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  of

$$a(\sigma, \tau_0) = \langle f, \tau_0 \rangle_{\Sigma \times \Sigma} \quad \forall \tau_0 \in \text{Ker } \mathcal{B}, \quad (2.12)$$

and

$$(2.13)$$

Proof

$$\mathcal{B}\sigma = g.$$

The condition  $g \in R(\mathcal{B})$  is of course necessary. Let us suppose it is satisfied. Then there exists  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  with  $\mathcal{B}\sigma = g$ .

By setting  $\sigma = \sigma_p - \sigma_r$ , and taking  $\tau = \tau_0 \in \text{Ker } \mathcal{B}$ , we write (2.1) in the form

$$a(\sigma_p + \sigma_r, \tau_0) - b(\tau_0, \sigma) = (f, \tau_0) \quad \forall \sigma_r \in \text{Ker } \mathcal{B}, \tau_0 \in \text{Ker } \mathcal{B},$$

$$a(\sigma_r, \tau_0) = (f, \tau_0) - a(\sigma_p, \tau_0).$$

A sufficient condition for the existence and uniqueness of  $\sigma_0$  is therefore the coercivity condition (2.11). There remains to check that  $\sigma = \sigma_0 + \sigma_p$  does not depend on the choice of  $\sigma_p$ . Indeed if we had two solutions of (2.12) and (2.13) say  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$ , we would have  $\sigma_1 - \sigma_2 \in \text{Ker } \mathcal{B}$  and from (2.12)

$$a(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2, \tau_0) = 0, \quad \forall \tau_0 \in \text{Ker } \mathcal{B}.$$

and this implies  $\sigma_1 - \sigma_2 = 0$  by condition (2.11).

### Mixed Variational Principle

#### Definition 3.1

Let  $\mathbf{u}(x) \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , the gradient of a vector function  $\mathbf{u}$  is defined as

$$\text{grad } \mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_d} \\ \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_d} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial u_d}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial u_d}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial u_d}{\partial x_d} \end{bmatrix}_{d \times d} = \begin{bmatrix} (\text{grad } u_1)^T \\ (\text{grad } u_2)^T \\ \vdots \\ (\text{grad } u_d)^T \end{bmatrix}_{d \times d}$$

**Notation** The set of  $d \times d$  matrices will be denoted as

$$M^{d \times d} = \left\{ \tau = [\tau_{ij}]_{d \times d} \mid \tau_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}; i, j = 1, 2, \dots, d \right\}.$$

We denote  $S^{d \times d}$  as the space of real symmetric  $d \times d$  matrices.

### Definition 3.2

The divergence of a matrix function  $\tau \in M^{d \times d}$  is defined as

$$\text{div } \tau = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \tau_{11}}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial \tau_{12}}{\partial x_2} + \dots + \frac{\partial \tau_{1d}}{\partial x_d} \\ \frac{\partial \tau_{21}}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial \tau_{22}}{\partial x_2} + \dots + \frac{\partial \tau_{2d}}{\partial x_d} \\ \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \tau_{d1}}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial \tau_{d2}}{\partial x_2} + \dots + \frac{\partial \tau_{dd}}{\partial x_d} \end{bmatrix}_{d \times k}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \text{div } \tau_1 \\ \text{div } \tau_2 \\ \vdots \\ \text{div } \tau_d \end{bmatrix}_{d \times 1}$$

where  $\tau_i = [\tau_{i1}, \tau_{i2}, \dots, \tau_{id}]^T$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq d$ .

### Definition 3.4

We define the inner product between vectors and the inner product between matrices by :

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=1}^d u_i v_i \quad \text{for } \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

$$\sigma : \tau = \sum_{i,j=1}^d \sigma_{ij} \tau_{ij} \quad \text{for } \sigma, \tau \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}.$$

### Definition 3.5

We define the spaces  $(L^2(\Omega))^{d \times d}$  by

$$(L^2(\Omega))^{d \times d} = \left\{ \tau \in M^{d \times d} \mid \tau_{ij} \in L^2(\Omega), i, j = 1, 2, \dots, d \right\}$$

with the norm

$$\| \tau \|_{(L^2(\Omega))^{d \times d}} = \left[ \sum_{i,j=1}^d \| \tau_{ij} \|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right]^{1/2}.$$

with norm

$$\|u\|_{H(\text{div}, \Omega)} = \left[ \|u\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^d}^2 + \|\text{div } u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

### Definition 3.7

The space  $H(\text{div}, \Omega, S^{d \times d})$  is defined by

$$H(\text{div}, \Omega, S^{d \times d}) = \left\{ \tau \in S^{d \times d} \mid \tau \in (L^2(\Omega))^{d \times d}, \text{div } \tau \in (L^2(\Omega))^d \right\}$$

with norm

$$\|\tau\|_{H(\text{div}, \Omega, S^{d \times d})} = \left[ \|\tau\|_{(L^2(\Omega))^{d \times d}}^2 + \|\text{div } \tau\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

### Note

$H(\text{div}, \Omega)$  and  $H(\text{div}, \Omega, S^{d \times d})$  are Hilbert spaces.

We begin with the most classical example, the system of linear elasticity. The equations of linear elasticity consists of the constitutive equation

$$K \sigma = \epsilon(u) \quad \text{in } \Omega \tag{3.1}$$

and the equilibrium equation

$$\text{div } \sigma = g \quad \text{in } \Omega. \tag{3.2}$$

Here  $\Omega$  denotes the region in the two-dimensional space, occupied by the elastic body,  $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  denotes the displacement field.

$$\epsilon(u) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{grad } u + (\text{grad } u)^T \right)$$

denotes the corresponding infinitesimal strain tensor;  $g$  denotes the imposed volume load, and  $\sigma : \Omega \rightarrow S^{2 \times 2}$  denotes the stress field. The material properties are determined by the compliance tensor  $K$  which is a positive definite symmetric operator from  $S^{2 \times 2}$  to  $S^{2 \times 2}$ .

To determine a unique solution, we supplement the elasticity equation by the boundary condition .

$$\mathbf{u}|_{\partial\Omega} = \mathbf{u}_0.$$

Mixed methods for the elasticity problem are mostly based on the following mixed variational principle which is a form of the Hellinger-Reissner principle:

The solution  $(\sigma, \mathbf{u})$  of elasticity problem can be characterized as the unique critical point of the functional

$$\mathcal{J}(\tau, \mathbf{v}) = \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{1}{2} \tau : \tau + \operatorname{div} \mathbb{K} \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{v} \right) dx - \int_{\partial\Omega} \mathbf{u}_0 \cdot (\tau \mathbf{n}) ds \quad (3.4)$$

over the space of all symmetric tensor fields  $\tau$  and all vector fields  $\mathbf{v}$ .

Indeed, if we set the first variation of  $\mathcal{J}$  with respect to  $\tau$  equal to zero, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}(\sigma + \lambda \tau, \mathbf{u}) &= \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{K} (\sigma + \lambda \tau) : (\sigma + \lambda \tau) dx + \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} (\sigma + \lambda \tau) \cdot \mathbf{u} dx \\ &\quad - \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{u} dx - \int_{\partial\Omega} \mathbf{u}_0 \cdot (\sigma + \lambda \tau) n ds \end{aligned}$$

$$= \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{K} (\sigma : \sigma + \lambda \sigma : \tau + \lambda \tau : \sigma + \lambda^2 \tau : \tau) \right) dx$$

$$+ \int_{\Omega} (\operatorname{div} \sigma \cdot \mathbf{u} + \lambda \operatorname{div} \tau \cdot \mathbf{u}) dx$$

$$+ - \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{u} dx - \int_{\partial\Omega} \mathbf{u}_0 \cdot \sigma n ds - \int_{\partial\Omega} \lambda \mathbf{u}_0 \cdot \tau n ds$$

$$\mathcal{J}(\sigma, \mathbf{u}) + \lambda \int_{\Omega} \mathbb{K} \sigma : \tau dx + \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \int_{\Omega} \mathbb{K} \tau : \tau dx + \lambda \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \tau \cdot \mathbf{u} dx$$

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathcal{J}(\sigma + \lambda \tau, u) - \mathcal{J}(\sigma, u)}{\lambda} = \int_{\Omega} \mathbb{K} : \tau \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \tau \cdot u \, dx - \int_{\partial\Omega} u_0 \cdot \tau \, n \, ds.$$

So

$$\int_{\Omega} \mathbb{K} \sigma : \tau \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \tau \cdot u \, dx = \int_{\partial\Omega} u_0 \cdot \tau \, n \, ds. \quad (3.6)$$

But

$$\int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \tau \cdot u \, dx = - \int_{\Omega} \tau : \epsilon(u) \, dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} \tau \cdot n \cdot u \, ds.$$

Thus

$$\int_{\Omega} \mathbb{K} \sigma : \tau \, dx - \int_{\Omega} \tau : \epsilon(u) \, dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} \tau \cdot n \cdot u \, ds = \int_{\partial\Omega} u_0 \cdot \tau \cdot n \, ds.$$

From this, we obtain the constitutive equation and displacement boundary condition. Taking the variation of  $\mathcal{J}$  with respect to  $v$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}(\sigma, u + \theta v) &= \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{K} \sigma : \sigma + \operatorname{div} \sigma \cdot (u + \theta v) - g \cdot (u + \theta v) \right) dx \\ &\quad - \int_{\partial\Omega} u_0 \cdot \sigma \, n \, ds \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \sigma : \sigma \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \sigma \cdot u \, dx + \theta \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \sigma \cdot v \, dx \\ &\quad - \int_{\Omega} g \cdot u \, dx - \theta \int_{\Omega} g \cdot v \, dx - \int_{\partial\Omega} u_0 \cdot \sigma \, n \, ds \\ &= \mathcal{J}(\sigma, u) + \theta \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \sigma \cdot v \, dx - \theta \int_{\Omega} g \cdot v \, dx \end{aligned}$$

and consequently

$$\int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\tau}, \mathbf{v} \, dx = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{v} \, dx, \quad (3.7)$$

From we obtain the equilibrium equation  $\operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{g}$ . To make the variational principle precise, we state over what space of functions  $\boldsymbol{\tau}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  to vary. The appropriate choice for  $\boldsymbol{\tau}$  is the subspace of  $H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{R}^{2x2})$  and for  $\mathbf{v}$  the pair  $(\mathbf{v}, u)$ .

### Mixed Problem

A key point, which is characteristic of mixed variational principle, is that the pair  $(\boldsymbol{\sigma}, \mathbf{u})$  is not an extreme point of the Hellinger-Reissner functional. It is a saddle point. In fact

$$\mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}, \mathbf{v}) \leq \mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}, \mathbf{u}) \leq \mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{\tau}, \mathbf{u}) \quad (4.1)$$

for all  $\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{R}^{2x2})$  and all  $\mathbf{v} \in (L^2(\Omega))^2$ . It follows from this saddle point condition that

$$\sup_{\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{R}^{2x2})} \inf_{\boldsymbol{\tau} \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{R}^{2x2})} \mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{\tau}, \mathbf{v}) = \mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}, \mathbf{u}) \quad (4.2)$$

and

$$\inf_{\boldsymbol{\tau} \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{R}^{2x2})} \sup_{\mathbf{v} \in (L^2(\Omega))^2} \mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{\tau}, \mathbf{v}) = \mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}, \mathbf{u}), \quad (4.3)$$

Hence, because  $\mathbf{u}$  satisfies the constitutive equation,  $c(\mathbf{u})$  is square integrable. It follows from Korn's inequality that the gradient of  $\mathbf{u}$  is square integrable, i.e.,  $\mathbf{u} \in (H^1(\Omega))^2$ .

Mixed variational principles for linear elasticity can be written as:

**Mixed variational principle 1:** Among all tensor fields and all vector fields, the stress and displacement fields give the unique critical point of the Hellinger-Reissner functional  $\mathcal{J}$ . The critical point is a saddle point. That is,  $\boldsymbol{\sigma} \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{R}^{2x2})$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \in (L^2(\Omega))^2$ , and

$$\sup_{\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{R}^{2x2})} \mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}, \mathbf{v}) - \mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}, \mathbf{u}) = \inf_{\boldsymbol{\tau} \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, \mathbb{R}^{2x2})} \mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{\tau}, \mathbf{u})$$

$$\int_{\Omega} (\mathbb{K} \boldsymbol{\sigma} : \boldsymbol{\tau} + \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\tau} : \mathbf{u} + \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\sigma} : \mathbf{v}) dx = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{v} dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} u_n v_n ds$$

for all  $\boldsymbol{\tau} \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, S^{2 \times 2})$  and all  $\mathbf{v} \in (L^2(\Omega))^2$ .

### A Problem in Elasticity

For isotropic elastic materials the stress-strain linear relation reduces Hooke's Law:

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \lambda \operatorname{tr} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}(\mathbf{u}) \mathbf{I} + 2 \mu \boldsymbol{\epsilon}(\mathbf{u}), \quad (5.1)$$

where  $\mathbf{I}$  refers to the identity tensor and  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  denote Lamé elasticity constants, describing the incompressibility and the rigidity of the material respectively. For homogeneous media these are constants. For nearly incompressible materials, such as rubber,  $\lambda \gg \mu$ .

The combination of the equation of motion in  $\operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{g}$ , Hooke's Law for a homogeneous medium and the strain-displacement relation gives the following set of equations:

$$\operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{g}, \quad (5.2)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \lambda \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u} \mathbf{I} + \mu (\operatorname{grad} \mathbf{u} + (\operatorname{grad} \mathbf{u})^T). \quad (5.3)$$

Consider the linear elasticity problem, defined by the system of equations (5.2) and (5.3) on open, bounded domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ . In addition to these equations a set of boundary conditions must be enforced to complete the system. For simplicity, we will consider Dirichlet conditions for the displacement in the following, thus enforcing  $\mathbf{u}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$ . Boundary conditions for the stress, for instance specification of  $\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n}$  all or parts of the boundary conditions could be applied. In this section, we aim to derive an appropriate variational formulation of the resulting system of equations.

A simple calculation, based on (5.1) reduced to  $d = 2$ , show that

$$\operatorname{tr} \boldsymbol{\sigma} = 2(\lambda + \mu) \operatorname{tr} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}. \quad (5.4)$$

This observation enables the inversion of (5.1) resulting in the stress-strain relation in

If we let  $\gamma = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{u}$ , then by definition, the strain  $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$  can be decomposed in terms of the displacement  $\mathbf{u}$  and its rotation  $\gamma$ , as displayed in

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \operatorname{grad} \mathbf{u} - \gamma \mathbf{J} \quad (5.6)$$

$$\text{where } \mathbf{J} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

In order to obtain a weak formulation of (5.5), we multiply it by a test function  $\boldsymbol{\tau} \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, S^{2 \times 2})$ , and integrate over  $\Omega$ . Thus, the symmetry requirement on the stress tensor is enforced through a restriction of the space of test functions. Now we calculate

$$\int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{1}{2\mu} \boldsymbol{\sigma} : \boldsymbol{\tau} - \frac{\lambda}{4\mu(\lambda + \mu)} \operatorname{tr} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \operatorname{tr} \boldsymbol{\tau} - \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} : \boldsymbol{\tau} \right) dx = 0$$

to get

$$\int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{1}{2\mu} \boldsymbol{\sigma} : \boldsymbol{\tau} - \frac{\lambda}{4\mu(\lambda + \mu)} \operatorname{tr} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \operatorname{tr} \boldsymbol{\tau} \right) dx - (\boldsymbol{\tau}, \operatorname{grad} \mathbf{u}) = 0 \quad (5.7)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\tau} : \mathbf{J} = -\tau_{12} + \tau_{21}$ , since  $\boldsymbol{\tau}$  is symmetric. For brevity, we denote:

$$\langle \langle \mathcal{D}\boldsymbol{\sigma}, \boldsymbol{\tau} \rangle \rangle = \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{1}{2\mu} \boldsymbol{\sigma} : \boldsymbol{\tau} - \frac{\lambda}{4\mu(\lambda + \mu)} \operatorname{tr} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \operatorname{tr} \boldsymbol{\tau} \right) dx.$$

Integration by parts on the displacement term of (5.7), applying Dirichlet boundary conditions, we have

$$(\boldsymbol{\tau}, \operatorname{grad} \mathbf{u}) = - \langle \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\tau}, \mathbf{u} \rangle.$$

Thus (5.6) becomes,

$$\langle \langle \mathcal{D}\boldsymbol{\sigma}, \boldsymbol{\tau} \rangle \rangle = 0 \quad \text{for } \boldsymbol{\tau} \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega, S^{2 \times 2}).$$

Given  $g \in (L^2(\Omega))^2$ , find  $(\sigma, u) \in H(\text{div}, \Omega, S^{2 \times 2}) \times (L^2(\Omega))^2$  such

that

$$\langle \langle D\sigma, \tau \rangle \rangle + \langle \text{div } \tau, u \rangle = 0 \quad \forall \tau \in H(\text{div}, \Omega, S^{2 \times 2}) \quad (5.8)$$

$$\langle \text{div } \sigma, v \rangle = \langle g, v \rangle \quad \forall v \in (L^2(\Omega))^2 \quad (5.9)$$

hold. As  $H(\text{div}, \Omega, S^{2 \times 2})$  and  $(L^2(\Omega))^2$  are Hilbert spaces ensuring that form  $\langle \langle D\sigma, \tau \rangle \rangle$  and  $\langle \text{div } \tau, u \rangle$  are continuous, we observe that this set of equations fits into the framework for saddle point problems.

## References

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