

When does equilibrium state satisfy a variational principle?

Gibbs free energy $E[y] = \int_{\Omega} w(Dy) dx + \int_{\Omega} \psi(y) dx + \int_{\partial\Omega_2} \chi(y) dA(x)$

stored elastic energy
potential energy of body forces
potential energy of surface forces

A minimizer satisfies the Euler-Lagrange equation: for all smooth ϑ with $\vartheta=0$ on $\partial\Omega_1$,

$$0 = \delta_y E[y](\vartheta) = \int_{\Omega} w_{,A}(Dy) : D\vartheta + \nabla_y \psi \cdot \vartheta dx + \int_{\partial\Omega_2} \nabla_y \chi \cdot \vartheta dA(x)$$

$$= \int_{\Omega} (-\operatorname{div} T_R(x) + \nabla_y \psi) \cdot \vartheta dx + \int_{\partial\Omega_2 \cup \partial\Omega_3} (T_R(x) N(x) + \nabla_y \chi) \cdot \vartheta dA(x)$$

\Rightarrow equil. state satisfies var. princ. iff

- body force is conservative, i.e. $f = -\nabla_y \psi(y)$ (e.g. gravity $f = \rho R / \gamma \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -g \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \psi(y(x)) = \rho R(x) g y_3(x)$)
- surface load is conservative, $s = -\nabla_y \chi(y(x))$ (e.g. dead load $s_R(x) \Rightarrow \chi = -s_R(x) \cdot y(x)$)

Ex: gravity & dead load: equil. state minimizes $E[y] = \int_{\Omega} w(Dy) dx + g \int_{\Omega} \rho R(x) y_3(x) dx - \int_{\partial\Omega_2} s_R(x) \cdot y(x) dA$

"dead load": $T_R(x) N(x) = s_R(x)$; keeps direction and force per unit reference area

"live load": $T(y) n(x) = s(y)$

Existence theory for minimizers of E

Assume $w(F) \geq c \|F\|_2^p$, $p > 3$, $\hat{r} = \frac{\hat{r}}{\gamma}$ with $\hat{r} \in W^{-1,p}(\Omega)$, $s_R \in L^p(\partial\Omega_2)$, $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p^*} = 1$, Ω Lipschitz

Define $E[y] = \infty$ if $y \notin W^{1,p}(\Omega)$ or $y \neq y_0$ on $\partial\Omega_1$.

Direct method of calculus of variations

0) E is not identically ∞ & is bdd from below. Poincaré inequality

Here: $E[y] \geq c \|Dy\|_{L^p}^p - \int_{\Omega} \hat{r} \cdot y dx - \int_{\partial\Omega_2} s_R \cdot y dA(x) \geq c \|y\|_{W^{1,p}}^p - (\|\hat{r}\|_{W^{-1,p^*}} + \|s_R\|_{L^p}) \|y\|_{W^{1,p}}$

$\leq \| \hat{r} \|_{W^{-1,p^*}} \|y\|_{W^{1,p}} + \|s_R\|_{L^p} \|y\|_{L^p} \leq \| \hat{r} \|_{L^p} \|y\|_{L^p} + \|s_R\|_{L^p} \|y\|_{L^p}$

\Rightarrow bounded below

$E[y_0] < \infty$

- 1) Consider "minimizing sequence" y_1, y_2, \dots with $E[y_n] \rightarrow \inf E[y]$
- 2) Show that a subsequence converges in some special space (to be appropriately chosen).
In detail: Derive compactness of $\{y_n, x_n, \dots\}$ in that space from energy boundedness.
Here: The space will be $W^{1,p}(\Omega)$ with weak topology.
 $E[y_n] < C \Rightarrow \|y_n\|_{W^{1,p}} < C \Rightarrow$ a subsequence converges weakly, $y_n \rightharpoonup y^* \in W^{1,p}(\Omega)$
- 3) Show sequential lower semi-continuity of E in that space, i.e. $E[y^*] \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} E[y_n]$
This implies $E[y^*] = \inf_y E[y]$.

Here: $y_0 = y_n|_{\partial\Omega_1} \xrightarrow{L^p} y^*|_{\partial\Omega_1}$ (by trace thm)

$\int_{\partial\Omega_2} s_R \cdot y_n dA \rightarrow \int_{\partial\Omega_2} s_R \cdot y^* dA$ (by $y_n|_{\partial\Omega_2} \xrightarrow{L^p} y^*|_{\partial\Omega_2}$)

$\int_{\Omega} \hat{r} \cdot y_n dx \rightarrow \int_{\Omega} \hat{r} \cdot y^* dx$ (by weak conv.)

$\int_{\Omega} w(Dy^*) dx \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} w(Dy_n) dx$?? (X)

Example where (X) does not hold (2D): $g(x) = \int_0^{x_1+x_2} \chi_{[0,1/4]}(s) ds$, $y_n^{(k)} = \frac{1}{n} \begin{pmatrix} g(x) \\ g(x) \end{pmatrix}$

$\Rightarrow \delta y_n(x) = \chi_{[0,1/4]}(n(x_1+x_2)) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$y_n(x) \rightarrow y^*(x) = \frac{3}{4} \begin{pmatrix} x_1+x_2 \\ x_1+x_2 \end{pmatrix}$, $Dy^* = \frac{3}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

For $w(F) = (\|F\|_2 - 2)^2 \|F\|_2^2$, $\int_{[0,1]^2} w(Dy_n) dx = 0 > \int_{[0,1]^2} w(Dy^*) dx = (\frac{3}{2} - 2)^2 (\frac{3}{2})^2$

Definition: $W: \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called "polyconvex" if there is a convex $\hat{W}: \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3} \times \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $W(F) = \hat{W}(F, \text{cof} F, \det F) \forall F \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$. (9)

Thm: If W is non-negative, lower semi-continuous, and polyconvex, then $\int_{\Omega} W(Dy) dx$ is seq. lower semi-cont. wrt. weak $W^{1,p}$ -convergence ($p > 3$).

proof: Let $y_n \rightarrow y^*$ on $W^{1,p}(\Omega)$. Need to show $\int_{\Omega} W(Dy^*) dx \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} W(Dy_n) dx$.

By taking a subsequence, liminf can be replaced by lim.

Since Dy_n is bdd in L^p , $\text{cof} Dy_n$ is bdd in $L^{p/2}$ and $\det Dy_n$ in $L^{p/3}$.

\Rightarrow By taking a subsequence, $\omega_n := (Dy_n, \text{cof} Dy_n, \det Dy_n) \xrightarrow{L^p \times L^{p/2} \times L^{p/3}} (Dy^*, A, B) =: \omega^*$.

Upon taking another subsequence, conv By Mazur's lemma there exists a sequence of convex combinations $\hat{\omega}_n := \sum_{j=n}^{N_n} \alpha_j^n \omega_j$, $N_n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\alpha_j^n \in [0, 1]$, $\sum_{j=n}^{N_n} \alpha_j^n = 1$

with $\hat{\omega}_n \xrightarrow{L^p \times L^{p/2} \times L^{p/3}} \omega^*$ strongly. Upon taking a subsequence, convergence is even pointwise a.e., hence $A = \text{cof} Dy^*$, $B = \det Dy^*$. Now

$$\int_{\Omega} W(Dy^*) dx = \int_{\Omega} \hat{W}(\omega^*) dx \leq \int_{\Omega} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \hat{W}(\hat{\omega}_n) dx \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} \hat{W}(\hat{\omega}_n) dx$$

\uparrow weak + pointwise convergence
 \uparrow Fatou's lemma

$$\leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=n}^{N_n} \alpha_j^n \hat{W}(\omega_j) dx = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=n}^{N_n} \alpha_j^n \int_{\Omega} \hat{W}(\omega_j) dx = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} W(Dy_n) dx$$

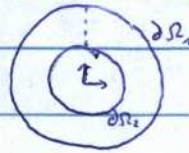
\uparrow \hat{W} convex

Rmk: • With additional conditions one can relax $p > 3$

• In fact, polyconvexity is too strong; one only needs " $W^{1,p}$ -quasi-convexity", but this notion is difficult to use/understand.

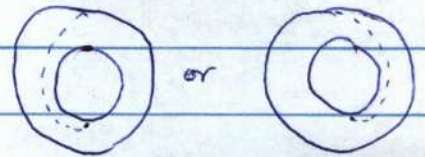
Non-Uniqueness of minimizers/equilibrium states

pure Dirichlet bc:
(Ex. by Fritz John)

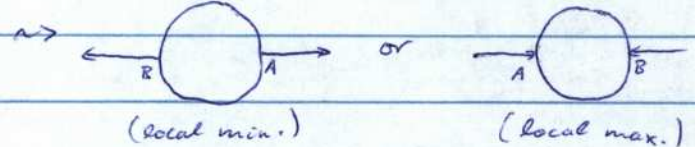
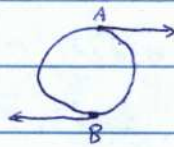


$$y(x) = x \text{ on } \partial\Omega_1$$

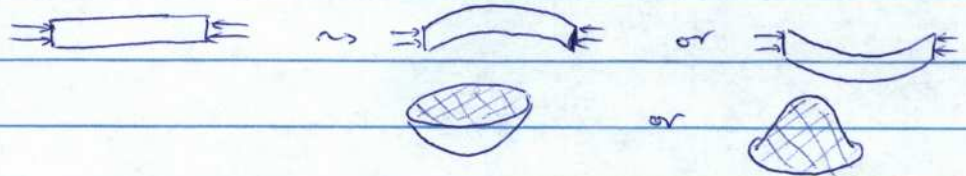
$$y(x) = -x \text{ on } \partial\Omega_2 \rightsquigarrow$$



pure traction:

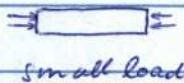


zero traction:

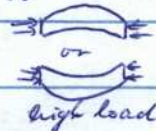


Buckling

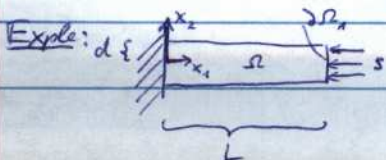
Often, non-uniqueness is associated with "buckling", a bifurcation phenomenon: By slowly increasing the load, a stable eq. state suddenly becomes an unstable saddle point, and two new energy minimizers occur.



small load



high load



$$E[y] = \int_{\Omega} W(Dy) dx - \int_{\partial\Omega_1} s \cdot y dA$$

$$W(F) = \mu + E^2 \text{ with } E = \frac{1}{2} (F^T F - I)$$

(St. Venant-Kirchhoff material with Poisson ratio 0)

$$W_{1A}(F) = \mu FE = \mu F(F^T F - I)$$

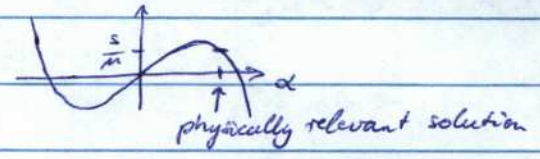
$$W_{1AA}(F)(M, N) = -\mu M:N + \mu(MF^T):(NF^T) + \mu(F^T M):(F^T N) + \mu(F^T M):(N^T F) \quad \text{with } A:B = \text{tr}(A^T B)$$

$$E-L\text{-eq.} : 0 = \partial_y E[\hat{y}](\hat{v}) = \int_{\Omega} W_{1A}(D\hat{y}) : D\hat{v} \, dx - \int_{\partial\Omega_s} s \cdot \hat{v} \, dA$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{div } W_{1A}(D\hat{y}) = 0 \text{ on } \Omega, \quad W_{1A}(D\hat{y})N = -s \text{ on } \partial\Omega_s$$

$$\text{ansatz: } \hat{y}(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha x_1 \\ * x_2 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow D\hat{y} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & * \end{pmatrix}$$

$$-s = W_{1A}(D\hat{y})N = \begin{pmatrix} \mu\alpha(L^2 - 1) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \hat{y} \text{ is solution for } \alpha \text{ satisfying } \alpha(L^2 - 1) = \frac{s}{\mu}$$



is \hat{y} energy minimizer?

$$\text{2nd order analysis: } \partial_y^2 E[\hat{y}](\hat{v}, \hat{\theta}) = \int_{\Omega} W_{1AA}(D\hat{y})(D\hat{v}, D\hat{\theta}) \, dx = \mu \int_{\Omega} -D\hat{v} : D\hat{\theta} + (D\hat{v} D\hat{y}^T) : (D\hat{\theta} D\hat{y}^T) + (D\hat{y}^T D\hat{\theta}) : (D\hat{v} D\hat{y}^T) + (D\hat{y}^T D\hat{\theta}) : (D\hat{v} D\hat{y}^T)$$

If quadratic form $-\partial_y^2 E[\hat{y}](\hat{v}, \hat{\theta}) < 0$ for some $\hat{\theta}$ (i.e. the associated Lax-Milgram operator has a negative eigenvalue for an eigenvector $\hat{\theta}$), then \hat{y} is a saddle!

Guessing critical eigenvector $\hat{\theta}$:

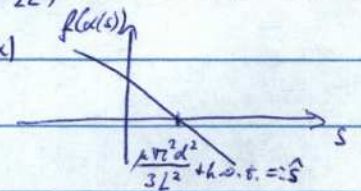


$$\hat{\theta}(x) = \varepsilon \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\pi x_2}{2L} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x_1}{2L}\right) \\ \cos\left(\frac{\pi x_1}{2L}\right) - 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (+O(\varepsilon^2))$$

$$D\hat{\theta} = \varepsilon \begin{pmatrix} \left(\frac{\pi}{2L}\right)^2 x_2 \cos\left(\frac{\pi x_1}{2L}\right) & \frac{\pi}{2L} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x_1}{2L}\right) \\ -\frac{\pi}{2L} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x_1}{2L}\right) & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial_y^2 E[\hat{y}](\hat{v}, \hat{\theta}) = \mu \varepsilon^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{2L}\right)^2 \left[(2\alpha^2 + \alpha - 1) \frac{\pi^2 d^2}{12L} + 2\alpha(\alpha - 1)Ld \right] =: f(\alpha)$$

for $s > \hat{s}$, symmetric eq. state becomes unstable!

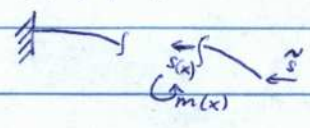


Analysis is simpler for 1D example

1D inextensible rod

kinematics: $\Omega = (0, L)$, $|Dy| = 1$ (i.e. $Dy(x) = (\cos \theta(x), \sin \theta(x))^T$)

kinetics/statics:



at each point x inside the rod there is a force $s(x)$ and a bending moment $m(x)$ (analogue to Cauchy stress hypothesis)

balance of lin. mom.: $s(x) = -\hat{s} = (-|\hat{s}|, 0, 0)$

balance of ang. mom.: $m(x) = \hat{s} \times (y(L) - y(x))$ or equiv. $Dm(x) = -\hat{s} \times Dy(x)$

constitutive law: $m(x) = C \theta'(x)$ (linear law is good approximation for thin rods and small deformations, $C = \frac{1}{3} \alpha^3$ can be derived)

$$\Rightarrow [C\theta']' = -|\hat{s}| \sin \theta \quad \text{with } \theta(0) = 0, \theta'(L) = 0 \quad (*)$$

This is Euler's elastica; there is also an associated variational principle:

$$E[\theta] = \int_{\Omega} \underbrace{C \theta'^2}_{\text{bending energy}} + \underbrace{|\hat{s}| \cos \theta}_{\text{potential energy of load}} \, dx$$

Symmetric equil. state $\hat{\theta} \equiv 0$ is critical pt. of energy - is it a minimizer?

$$\partial_{\hat{\theta}}^2 E[\hat{\theta}](\hat{v}) = \int_{\Omega} C \hat{v}''^2 - |\hat{s}| \cos(\hat{\theta}) \hat{v}^2 \, dx = \int_{\Omega} C \hat{v}''^2 - |\hat{s}| \hat{v}^2 \, dx = \int_{\Omega} \hat{v}^2 (-C \hat{v}'''' - |\hat{s}|) \, dx =: \hat{L} \hat{v}$$

This is < 0 for some \hat{v} (and hence $\hat{\theta}$ unstable) iff smallest eigenvalue of \hat{L} is < 0

Smallest eigenvalue $\frac{C \pi^2}{4L^2} - |\hat{s}|$, eigenvector $\hat{v} = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} \frac{x_1}{L}\right)$