

The Euler-Plateau Problem with Elastic Modulus

Álvaro Pámpano Llarena

Elasticity Seminar *Texas Tech University*

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where *H* is the mean curvature and ν is the unit normal to Σ . So, the immersion is minimal if and only if $H \equiv 0$.

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However, physically, it can be improved: including a total Gaussian curvature term.

The Euler-Plateau Problem with Elastic Modulus For an immersion $X : \Sigma \to \mathbb{R}^3$ we consider the total energy

$$E[X] := \sigma \mathcal{A}[X] + \eta \int_{\Sigma} K \, d\Sigma + \oint_{\partial \Sigma} \left(\alpha \kappa^2 + \beta \right) ds \,,$$

where $\sigma > 0$, $\eta \neq 0$, $\alpha \ge 0$ and $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$.

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where τ_g denotes the geodesic torsion along the boundary.

• The vector field J is defined as (Langer & Singer, 1984):

$$J := 2\alpha T'' + (3\alpha \kappa^2 - \beta) T.$$

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- Using it, we rewrite the other boundary conditions as

$$\tau_{g} \left(2\alpha\kappa_{g} + \eta \right)^{2} = c,$$

$$2\alpha\kappa_{g}'' + \left(\alpha\kappa_{g}^{2} - 2\alpha\tau_{g}^{2} - \beta \right)\kappa_{g} - \eta\tau_{g}^{2} + \sigma = 0,$$

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FIGURE: (Wegner, 2019)

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- The condition $\beta < 0$ can also be obtained after rescaling.
- From now on, we will assume $\alpha > 0$ holds.

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Corollary

Axially symmetric critical surfaces are planar disks bounded by an area-constrained elastic circle.

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- Assume $\tau_g \neq 0$ everywhere on $\partial \Sigma$. By the Maximum Principle we have

Theorem

If $\tau_g > 0$ everywhere (or $\tau_g < 0$), then the critical surfaces of genus zero are topological annuli.

Let us go back to study equilibria with genus zero and, now, with m > 1 boundary components.

- Recall that if $\tau_g = 0$ on a boundary point (and we assume $2\alpha\kappa_g + \eta \neq 0$), then the surface is planar.
- Assume $\tau_g \neq 0$ everywhere on $\partial \Sigma$. By the Maximum Principle we have

Theorem

If $\tau_g > 0$ everywhere (or $\tau_g < 0$), then the critical surfaces of genus zero are topological annuli.

Proposition

If the surface is a topological annulus, then $\tau_g > 0$ (or $\tau_g < 0$) holds everywhere.

Non Planar Example

Non Planar Example

Consider domains in a minimal helicoid of the type (Palmer & —, 2020):



Non Planar Example

Consider domains in a minimal helicoid of the type (Palmer & —, 2020):



• They are critical for *E*[*X*] having partially elastic boundary.

THE END

• A. Gruber, A. Pámpano and M. Toda, Regarding the Euler-Plateau Problem with Elastic Modulus, *Submitted*, ArXiv: arXiv: 2010.00149 [math.DG]

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THE END

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Thank You!

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